

Victorious Merkel warns of hard work ahead



(From L) Christian Democratic Union's general secretary Ronald Pofalla, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, the chairwoman of the CDU in Brandenburg Johanna Wanka and Hesse State Premier Roland Koch celebrate prior to a meeting of the party's executive board at the party headquarters in Berlin yesterday, one day after parliamentary elections.

AFP, Berlin

Angela Merkel set to work yesterday on a new centre-right coalition after clinching a second term, but warned Germans of a hard road ahead to revive the sickly economy and rescue jobs.

Merkel secured a new four-year mandate Sunday with election results allowing her to dump the Social Democrats (SPD) for an alliance with the pro-business Free Democrats (FDP).

"We know that we want to use this opportunity in an economically difficult time to save jobs, create new jobs and boost growth decisively," an upbeat Merkel told reporters at the headquarters of her conservative Christian Democrats (CDU) Monday.

"I am very satisfied and happy with yesterday's results and intend to start the new legislative term with full of momentum and energy."

Voters rewarded the 55-year-old leader, dubbed most powerful woman on Earth by Forbes magazine, for shepherding Europe's biggest economy through its worst downturn since World War II.

Although the popular Merkel savoured her victory, the daily Tagesspiegel said the 33.8-percent result by the CDU and its Christian Social Union (CSU) affiliate, their worst since 1949, marked a "black eye" for the chancellor.

It took the FDP's record 14.6-percent score to give the new coalition a majority in parliament. The champions of free trade and lower taxes will return to power for the first time since conservative Helmut Kohl

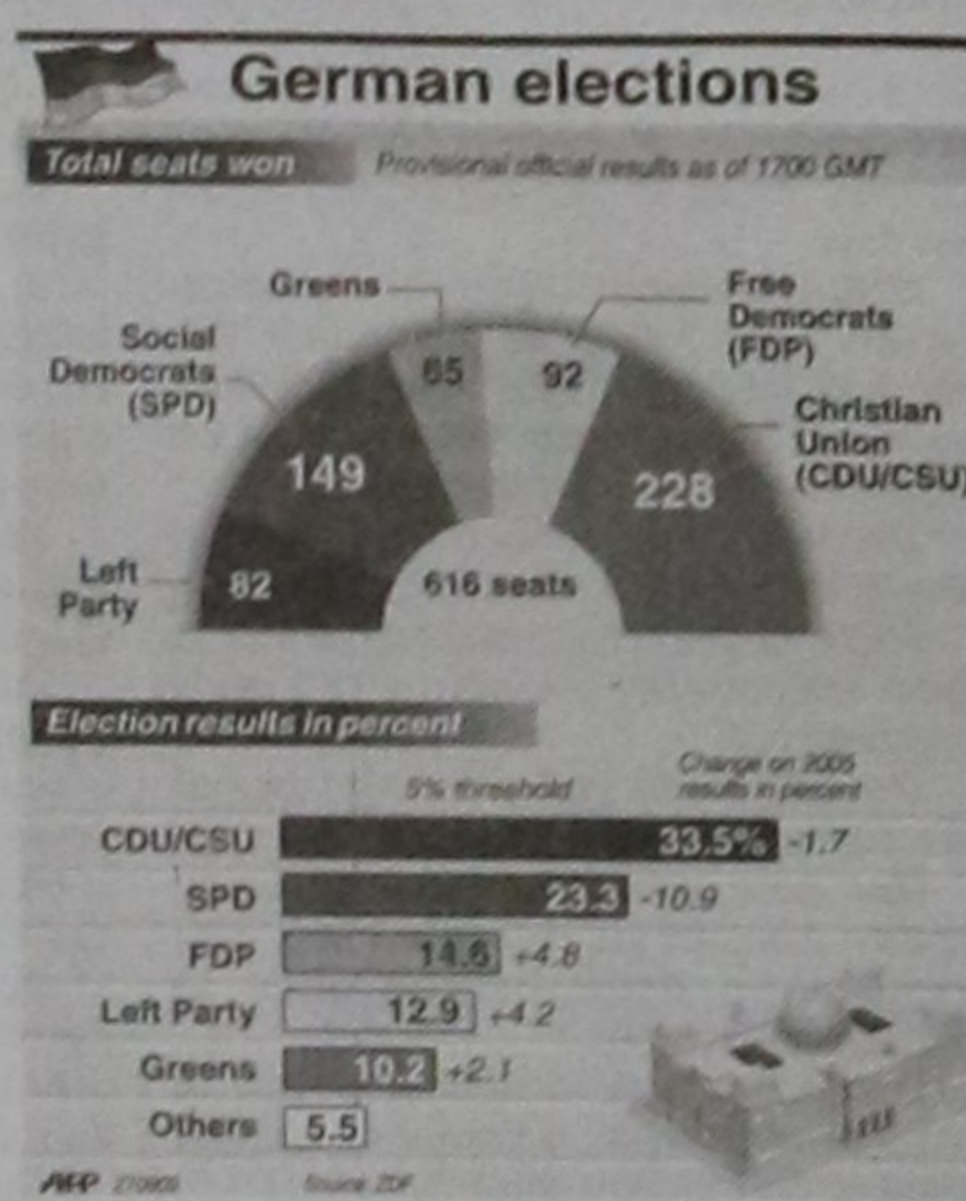
led Germany 11 years ago.

FDP leader Guido Westerwelle aims to become the country's first openly gay foreign minister.

Merkel's bloc and the FDP have a comfortable 332 seats in the 622-member parliament. The chancellor and Westerwelle were to meet behind closed doors Monday, with the coalition expected to be formed within a month.

Leaders of both parties said they wanted to spur the economy with tax relief as soon as possible. They have also said they plan to postpone plans to abandon nuclear power by 2020.

The SPD with Frank-Walter Steinmeier, the outgoing foreign minister, as candidate for chancellor, crashed to 23 percent, its worst post-war result, and will be consigned to the opposition benches after 11 years in government.



Defiant Iran test-fires 2 long-range missiles

AFP, Tehran

Iran yesterday test-fired long-range missiles it says could hit targets inside arch-foe Israel, as the defiant Revolutionary Guards staged war games amid tension with the West over Tehran's atomic drive.

The UN nuclear watchdog revealed on Friday that Tehran was building a second uranium enrichment plant, ratcheting up tensions with the West which suspects the Islamic republic wants to acquire atomic weapons, a charge it denies.

On Sunday, the Guards launched the missile manoeuvres for "Sacred Defence" week, marking the start of the eight-year Iran-Iraq war in the 1980s.

Guards' air force commander Hossein Salami said the force test-fired on Monday the Sejil and Shahab-3 versions of the long-range weapons.

"An improved version of Shahab-3 and the two-stage Sejil, powered by solid fuel, were fired," Salami was quoted as saying by state-owned Arabic language Al-Alam television channel.

The Fars news agency said it was the first time the Sejil had been test-fired during a military exercise.

Press TV, a state-owned English-language channel, broadcast footage of a Shahab-3 blasting off in a ball of fire from a desert launch site.

Iran says both long-range weapons can travel for 2,000 kilometres (1,240 miles), which would put Israel, most Arab

states and parts of Europe, including much of Turkey, within range.

"These are long-range missiles and can hit any target in the region," Salami said.

On Sunday, the Guards fired several short- and medium-range missiles, some with multiple warheads, state media reported.

The medium-range Shahab-1 and Shahab-2, with a range of between 300 kilometres and 700 kilometres, were successfully launched,

fuel, have a range of between 100 and 400 kilometres.

On Monday, Salami issued a stern warning to Iran's foes.

"Our response will be strong and destructive to those who threaten the existence, independence, freedom and values of our regime. They will regret it," the official IRNA news agency quoted him as saying.

He said the missile exercise was aimed at practising for "long wars, moving the missile installations from one point to another as well as simulta-



An Iranian long-range Shahab-3 missile is fired in desert terrain at an unspecified location in Iran yesterday.

Salami said.

"The missiles shot have precisely hit the targets," he added.

Earlier, the Guards test-fired three types of short-range missiles -- the Tondar-69, Fateh-110 and Zelzal. All three weapons, powered by solid

neous and non-simultaneous shots at convergent and divergent targets."

On Sunday, Salami dismissed Israel as a potential threat, saying "that regime is not in a position that we need to comment about threats from it."

US involvement in ME unacceptable to Muslim world

Says Musharraf

ANI, Lahore

Former Pakistan president Pervez Musharraf has said that the Muslim world would not accept America's involvement in the Middle East peace process because the US has always been pro-Israel.

Musharraf was referring to a recent tripartite meeting that US President Barack Obama hosted with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in New York.

The Daily Times quoted

Musharraf as saying that Israel would object to the inclusion of a non-Arab country in the Middle East peace process.

A joint international forum, consisting of Pakistan, Turkey, Malaysia, Indonesia and the European Union, could help push the process between the Palestinians and the Israelis in the right direction, he added.

Furthermore, Musharraf said that a give-and-take policy was best for any successful peace deal, adding that peace was necessary for the development of any society.

No rift between US military and civilian leaders: Gates

AFP, Washington

Defence Secretary Robert Gates on Sunday denied any rift between the US military and the White House over the war in Afghanistan, and suggested a possible radical shift in strategy was unlikely.

Asked if there was tension between military and civilian leaders over the pace of decision-making on the US-led mission, Gates said: "I don't think that's the case at all."

Citing "an extensive conversation on the telephone" on Wednesday with the top US

and Nato commander in Afghanistan, General Stanley McChrystal, Gates said the military leader supported President Barack Obama's preference to take time to review strategy before weighing in on more troops.

"General McChrystal was very explicit in saying that he thinks this assessment, this review that's going on right now is exactly the right thing to do," Gates told ABC television's "This Week" in an interview taped Friday and broadcast on Sunday.

Extremely fast computers come a step closer to reality

ANI, Washington

Physicists at UC (University of California) San Diego have successfully created speedy integrated circuits with particles called "excitons" that operate at commercially cold temperatures, bringing the possibility of a new type of extremely fast computer based on excitons closer to reality.

Their discovery follows the team's demonstration last summer of an integrated circuit—an assembly of transistors that is the building block for all electronic devices—capable of working at 1.5 degrees Kelvin above absolute zero.

That temperature, equivalent to minus 457 degrees Fahrenheit, is not only less than the average temperature of deep space, but achievable only in special research laboratories.

BBC stuns Brown with a pill taking question

ANI, London

A heated row has cropped up between 10 Downing Street and BBC after a reporter shocked the Prime Minister during a live television interview on the opening day of Labour's annual conference in Brighton by asking whether he took pills to help him "get through".

Brown's aides last night said they were amazed that despite issuing denials to an internet rumour in recent weeks, and specifically to the BBC, the reporter - Andrew Marr still went ahead and asked the question.

World hails Merkel win

AFP, Paris

US President Barack Obama and other world leaders hailed German Chancellor Angela Merkel's election triumph -- though international media highlighted the German right's worst vote tally for 60 years.

Obama said he looked "forward to continued close cooperation with Chancellor Merkel to address our common challenges in the years ahead," a White House statement said.

"The United States and Germany are close allies, and partner together around the world to promote freedom, security and prosperity," the statement read.

Britain's Prime Minister Gordon Brown said he wanted to extend "their close working

relationship," according to a Downing Street spokeswoman.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy said the resounding win was a result of the public confidence Merkel had won in the past four years. Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi telephoned Merkel to underscore their "common vision and engagement to building a strong and united Europe," ANSA news agency reported.

Spanish Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero hit back at suggestions however that the right's victory in Germany was a new sign that the left wing in Europe is in decline.

"Is the wind favourable for conservatives? It is not true," Zapatero told Cadena Ser radio. "Each country votes accord-

ing to its national circumstances," he added.

Zapatero said that Germany's Social Democrats (SPD) had "suffered a correction". But he blamed this on the SPD for taking part in a coalition with Merkel over the past four years.

"It is a situation in which, in the end you cannot define your own political identity and your project." He also said it was because the party had changed leader.

Zapatero contrasted the Germany result with that in Portugal where Socialist leader Jose Socrates won a new mandate, though without an absolute majority. The Spanish leader praised Socrates' "strong political leadership".

Honduras restricts liberties to prevent rebellion

AP, Tegucigalpa

Interim government leaders have suspended constitutionally guaranteed civil liberties in a pre-emptive strike against widespread rebellion Monday, three months to the day since they ousted President Manuel Zelaya in a military-backed coup.

Zelaya supporters said they would ignore the decree issued late Sunday and march in the streets as planned. Some already had arrived in the capi-

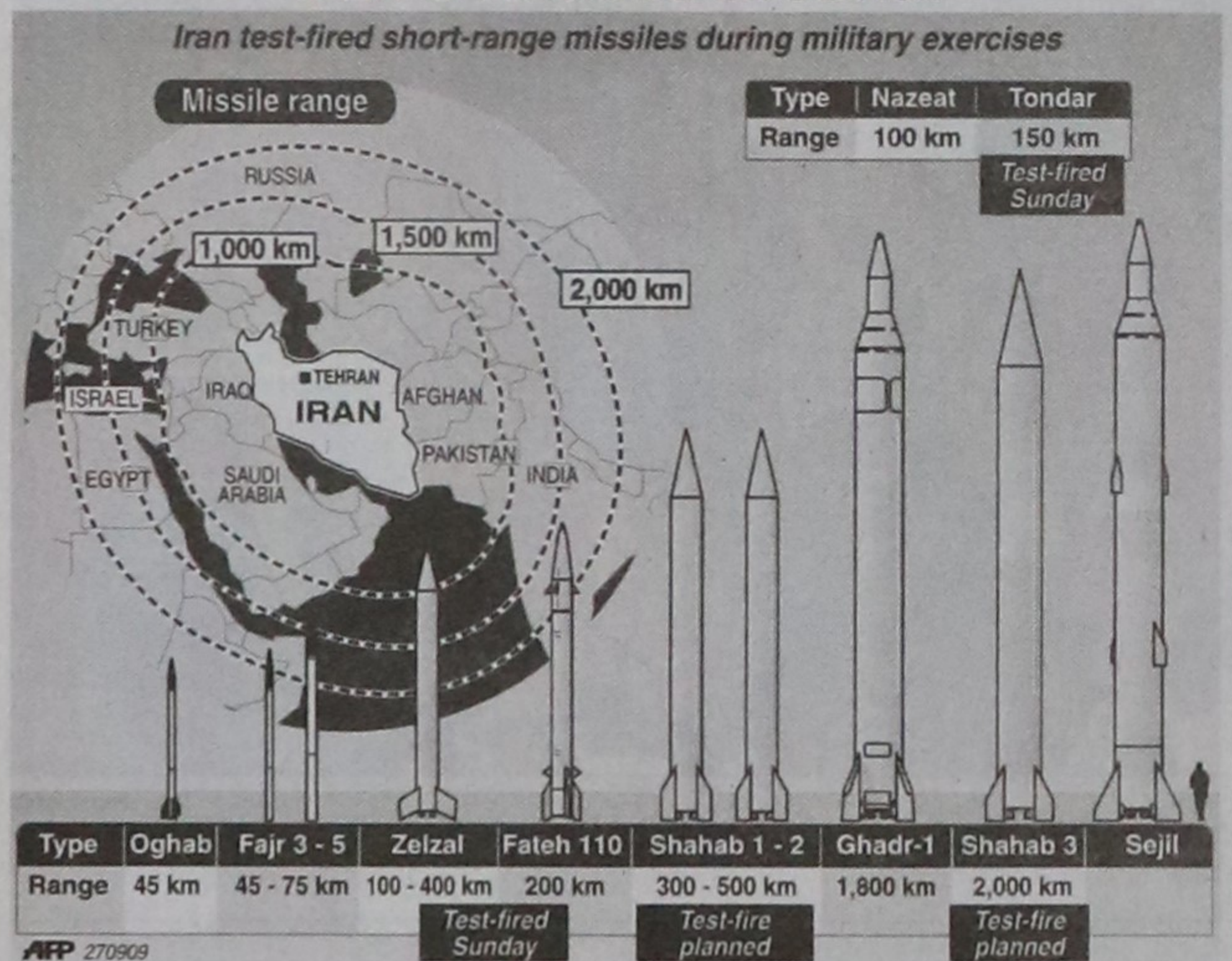
tal, Tegucigalpa, from outlying provinces.

The measures announced just hours after Zelaya called on his backers to stage mass protest marches in what he called a "final offensive" against the government are likely to draw harsh criticism from the international community, which has condemned the June 28 coup and urged that Zelaya be reinstated to the presidency and allowed to serve out his term, which ends in January.

Officials also issued an ultimatum to Brazil on Sunday, giving the South American country 10 days to decide whether to turn Zelaya over for arrest or grant him asylum and, presumably, take him out of Honduras. They did not specify what they would do after the 10 days were up.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva responded, saying that his government "doesn't accept ultimatums from coup-plotters."

Iran's missile arsenal



TICI Tender Notice

Sealed tender are hereby invites (single envelope system) by the Executive Director, Training Institute for Chemical Industries (TICI), Polash, Narsingdi, from the bonafide Importer / Sole Agent / Stockist / Manufacturer for Supply of Multifunction Lube Oil Purifier :

SI No.	Tender number and date	Description of goods	Cost of Tender Security	Price of Tender documents
01	TICI/PUR-17/09-10 dated 24-09-2009	Supply of Multifunction Lube Oil Purifier, (Details Specification, terms & Conditions as per Tender schedule).	Tk. 29,000/-	Tk. 300/- per set (non-refundable)

Tenders will be received up to 11-30 A.M. on 20-10-2009 in the Tender Box kept in the purchase office of TICI, Polash, Narsingdi & will be opened on the same day immediately thereafter in presence of tenderers or their authorized representatives (if any). Tender documents will be available on all working days from (1) Controller of Accounts, BCIC, 30-31, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, (2) BCIC Branch Office, 6, Agrabad C/A, Chittagong and (3) Accounts Division of TICI, Polash, Narsingdi. No tender document will be sold on the date of opening of Tender. Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof. Due to unforeseen reason if the tenders are not possible to open in schedule time and date the same will be opened on the following working day the same time.

(Kamal Chandra Dhar)
Dy Manager (Purchase)
For Executive Director



KRISHI GOBESHONA FOUNDATION
NATP Phase-1, AIC Building, BARC Campus (3rd floor), Farmgate, Dhaka-1215

Invitation for Tenders

Dated: 27-09-09

No. KGF/1-11/2009-PC	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Agriculture
1. Procuring Entity Name	Executive Director, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (KGF)	
2. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka	
4. Procuring Entity Code	N/A	
5. Invitation for	Supply and Installation of Computer with Accessories (Desk top Computer, Laser Printer, UPS and Voltage Stabilizer)	
6. Invitation Ref No	KGF/1-11/2009-PC	
7. Date	27-09-2009	
8. Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM) / National Competitive Bid (NCB)	
9. Source of Funds	IDA/IFAD/GOB	
10. Development Partners (if applicable)	IDA & IFAD	
11. Project / Programme Code (if applicable)	43-4305-7310	
12. Project/Programme Name (if applicable)	National Agricultural Technology Project, Phase-I, KGF unit	
13. Tender Package No.	GD-KGF/12	
14. Tender Package Name	Supply and Installation of Computer with Accessories	
15. Tender Publication Date	On or before 30-09-2009	
16. Tender Last Selling Date	18-10-09 up to 4:00 p.m.	
17. Tender Submission & Closing Date and Time	19-10-2009	12:00 noon
18. Tender Opening Date and Time	19-10-2009	12:05 noon
19. Name & Address of the office(s)	Executive Director, Krishi Gobeshona Foundation (3 rd floor), Room No. 421, AIC Building, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council Campus, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	
- Selling Tender Document	Accounts Officer, KGF, Room No. 426, AIC Building, BARC Campus, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	
- Receiving Tender Document	Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, Room No. 419 (Meeting Room), 3 rd floor, AIC Building, BARC Campus, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	
- Opening Tender Document	Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, 3 rd floor, AIC Building, BARC Campus, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	
20. Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional)	Not Applicable	
21. Eligibility of Tenderer	The tenderer should submit valid & updated the following attested photocopies of documents with the tender: Valid trade license, 5 years of experience certificate supplying similar types of equipments & goods, Income Tax certificate with TIN number, VAT registration certificate & Bank solvency certificate.	
22. Brief Description of Goods	As per description in the tender documents.	
23. Brief Description of Related Services	As per description in the tender documents.	
24. Price of Tender Document (Tk.)	Tk. 500/=	
25. Package No.	Identification of Package	Tender Security Amount (Tk.)
GD-KGF/12	Supply and Installation of Computer with Accessories	9,000/-
		Completion Time in months
		01 month
26. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. M. Nurul Alam	
27. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Executive Director	
28. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Krishi Gobeshona Foundation, NATP Phase-1, Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council Campus, Farmgate, Dhaka-1215	
29. Tel. No.		Fax No.
30. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	88-02-9111041	88-02-8113032
31. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept any or reject all tenders		c-mail: barc@bdmail.net

Executive Director
Krishi Gobeshona Foundation