



Palestinian villagers gather during clashes with Israeli soldiers in the West Bank village of Iraq Burin, south of Nablus, on Saturday. Jewish settlers in the occupied West Bank clashed with Palestinian villagers before Israeli security forces arrived to the scene.

Hillary fails to break ice on ME deadlock

AP, Marrakech

US Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton is praising Israel for "unprecedented" concessions in the interest of restarting peace talks with the Palestinians, but her shuttle diplomacy produced no sign of a breakthrough.

The Palestinians on Saturday rejected Israel's offer to show "restraint" in settlement construction in the West Bank, rather than completely halting building. Hillary spoke approvingly of the Israeli offer, knowing it is at odds with the prevailing Palestinian view.

After talks Saturday in the Persian Gulf with Palestinians and in Jerusalem with Israelis, Hillary flew to Marrakech to prepare for talks to include consultations with Arab foreign ministers. She arrived

Sunday at sunrise.

Palestinian leaders have said they will not return to peace talks with Israel unless it stops all settlement building on lands they claim for a future state, and they believe Israel has blatantly defied a US demand for a settlement freeze.

Speaking Saturday at a joint press conference with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Hillary said Israel is putting significant limits on settlement activity.

"What the prime minister has offered in specifics on restraints on a policy of settlements... is unprecedented," she said.

The issue has become the biggest sticking point in getting Israelis and Palestinians back to the negotiating table. Hillary made it clear that she wasn't pleased with Israeli settlement construction but that it was no

reason to hold up talks.

"There are always demands made in any negotiation that are not going to be fully realized," she said.

Hillary also agreed with a statement by Netanyahu that Palestinians had never demanded a settlement freeze in the past as a condition for sitting down with Israel.

Her comments represented a significant departure in tone from her previous statements demanding a total Israeli settlement freeze without exception. Israel has been resisting that demand for months, and has given no indication it would be willing to call a total freeze.

Hillary's main aim during her one-day visit to Israel was to resuscitate the Obama administration's flagging Middle East peace push by persuading the two sides to return to talks.

News in Brief

11 die as Russian plane crashes

AP, Moscow

A Russian heavy-lift military cargo plane crashed on takeoff yesterday in Siberia, killing all 11 crew members on board, officials said.

The crash was the second in less than a month to involve an Il-76, the mainstay of the Soviet and Russian air force since the 1970s.

Myanmar torches drugs worth \$20m

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar's junta has burnt more than 20 million dollars worth of drugs seized during a recent campaign against ethnic rebel forces in the remote northeast by the Chinese border, state media said yesterday.

Prime Minister Thein Sein attended the torching ceremony Saturday in Kokang, a mainly ethnic Chinese region of Shan state, where clashes broke out between the regime and rebels in August, the New Light of Myanmar newspaper reported.

Indian oil depot fire still raging

PTI, Jaipur

Two more bodies were spotted at the burning IOC fuel depot in Jaipur on Sunday, pushing the toll to 10, even as the fire died out in six of the 11 storage tanks but spread to the roof of a nearby private building.

8 killed in Iraq bombings

AFP, Hilla

A spate of bombings across Iraq, including two suicide attacks and a bicycle bomb, killed eight people and wounded more than 50 others on Sunday, police said.

In the deadliest attack, five people were killed and 37 wounded when a bomb hidden in a cooler on the back of a bicycle ripped through a market in the Shia city of Mussayib in Babil province at around 9:30 am (0630 GMT).

The two-wheeler had been parked at the market in Mussayib, 60km south of Baghdad, police said.

The western Iraqi city of Ramadi, capital of the predominantly Sunni province of Al-Anbar, a former rebel stronghold, was hit by two suicide bombings, police said.

One of the attackers detonated a car bomb

at the city's western entrance, killing two people and wounding four others, according to police Colonel Jabbar Ajaj.

Ajaj added that another suicide attacker blew himself up near a police station outside Ramadi, 100km from Baghdad, but killed only himself. No one was wounded.

In the Shia holy city of Karbala, 110km south of the capital, a magnetic bomb affixed to a bus detonated as the vehicle was approaching a security checkpoint, killing a woman.

The "sticky bomb" attack also wounded 12 people, including five women, medical and security officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The attacks come a week after twin suicide bombings in central Baghdad killed 153 people and wounded 500, the deadliest day of violence in Iraq in more than two years.

ONE YEAR ON FROM ELECTION 'Change is hard' in real world of Obama

AFP, Washington

The tale of the turbulent year since Barack Obama's historic election win is told by his evolving political theme: once he promised "Change We Can Believe In" and now he warns that "change is hard."

On November 4, 2008, Obama bathed in the adoration of a crowd of tens of thousands in a Chicago park, after beating Republican John McCain in the presidency in an election that promised to reshape his nation.

They chanted "Yes we can" on that clear hope-filled night in Obama's hometown, and tears streamed down thousands of cheeks as the president-elect proclaimed America was still a place where anything was possible.

"It's been a long time coming," Obama said. "But tonight, because of what we did on this date, in this election, at this defining moment, change has come to America."

A year on, the historic promise of America's first black president is being tested by the grim grind of governing a divided nation humbled by the worst recession in decades.

Abroad, Obama's policy of engaging US foes has so far yielded few breakthroughs, and the president who came to power vowing to end one war, in Iraq, must now decide whether to escalate another -- in Afghanistan.

Obama is battered, his political magnetism is dimmed and he stands accused by opponents of masterminding a disastrous government expansion.

But despite everything, he is still standing, with his approval rating above the crucial 50 percent barrier that defines a viable presidency, and some historic reforms tantalisingly within reach.

Before the end of the year, the president may be celebrating a landmark health care reform bill and a foreign policy victory with a US-Russia deal to trim nuclear stocks.

Hasina sees

FROM PAGE 1

She blasted lawmakers of the main opposition BNP for not participating in the discussion.

Parliament yesterday discussed the draft PRSP for the first time.

On propaganda, Hasina said many newspapers write at their will, some giving true information and others false. "I urge people to keep faith in us. I will honour people's trust even at the cost of my life," she said.

In her 38-minute speech, the ruling Awami League chief said her party presented an electoral manifesto that aims at building "digital Bangladesh" free from poverty.

"People accepted our manifesto and voted us to power. We are always sincere in and aware of the responsibility people vested in us in the last parliamentary election," she said.

"I always remember our electoral pledges. I even keep a copy of the manifesto in my bag. We want to continue working as per our pledges," Hasina said, adding that the PRSP was drafted in line with those pledges.

The PM sought cooperation of all for the implementation of the PRSP and building a golden Bangladesh by 2021.

Planning Minister Air Vice-Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandker, who placed the draft PRSP on September 15 in parliament, opened the discussion. Twenty-four lawmakers including the premier took part in the discussion, which continued for around four hours.

In the draft, the planning minister gave an estimated expenditure of Tk 3,108 billion to achieve the goals and targets set in the amended PRSP.

Maintenance of macro-economic stability and control over commodity price hike in the face of the present global economic recession, effective action against corruption, ensuring adequate power and energy, elimination of poverty and inequality, and establishment of good governance have been identified as the five priority areas in the document.

The amended PRSP titled "Steps towards Change: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction-II" has been proposed for implementation during 2009-2011.

Blasting opposition lawmakers for their absence from parliamentary proceedings, Hasina said, "I would have been happy had the opposition lawmakers partic-

ipated in the discussion. The PRSP was drafted for people's welfare. The opposition lawmakers could have criticised it and given good suggestions. But, in fact, they do not think about people and the country."

The premier said her government will build six flyovers soon to reduce traffic congestion in the capital.

On the daylight saving time, Hasina said if schools, colleges and offices find it difficult to maintain the new timetable, they can adjust it.

The prime minister said many people may have many opinions about her cabinet but none can say this government is corrupt.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith underscored the importance of PRSP while replying to the lawmakers who raised questions about the method of preparing PRSP.

Muhith said cooperative banks and societies have failed to attain success instead they have turned into hubs of corruption.

Awami League lawmaker Suranjit Sengupta came down heavily on NGOs saying many of them are doing business in Bangladesh capitalising on the issue of poverty.

He said it is not possible to eradicate poverty as per the prescriptions of World Bank, IMF, local and foreign NGOs or bureaucrats.

He termed the PRSP an abandoned property of the previous BNP government that prepared it on the advice of donor agencies.

"Political goodwill and national unity are required to eradicate poverty," Suranjit said. Agriculture sector must be given top priority to this end, he said.

"We don't want any PRSP that relies on consultants and NGOs. We need pro-employment and pro-agriculture strategy paper," Suranjit added.

AL lawmaker Sheikh Fazlul Karim Selim criticised the civil administration saying most government officials think themselves as masters of the people, not servants.

"It is not possible to implement the PRSP properly without an honest and efficient administration," Selim said.

He said in most cases, the government's development activities are hindered due to lack of sincerity of government officials.

Termining corruption the main obstacle to implementation of the PRSP, he said, "Corruption has to be checked."



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (L) chats with her Moroccan counterpart Taib Fassi Fihri upon her arrival at Marrakech airport early yesterday. She is scheduled to meet today and tomorrow with her Arab counterparts attending the sixth Forum for the Future, jointly organised by Morocco and Italy.

Nuclear fuel deal benefits Iran: Russian envoy

AFP, Tehran

Russia's ambassador to Tehran, Alexander Sadovnikov, said yesterday that a UN-drafted nuclear fuel deal benefits Iran as it helps resolve the overall controversy over its atomic drive.

Sadovnikov also said Moscow does not support fresh sanctions against Tehran as threatened by world powers.

In an interview with the official IRNA news agency, he said the UN-brokered deal to supply Iran with nuclear fuel for a Tehran research reactor is "beneficial" to the Islamic republic.

The deal envisages sending Iran's low-enriched uranium (LEU) to Moscow to be further processed and returned as nuclear fuel to power the internationally-supervised reactor.

But several Iranian officials have stiffly opposed the deal.

"This is not to trick Iran in order to take its low-enriched uranium out of its hands," Sadovnikov said.

"We believe that reaching this agreement

and signing the technical contract to produce fuel for the Tehran reactor is beneficial to Iran and will help in resolving the nuclear issue."

Moscow, Tehran's closest ally, is engaged in talks along with other world powers aimed at allaying Western concerns over Iran's galloping nuclear programme.

World powers led by Washington suspect Tehran is enriching uranium to be used in atomic weapons, a charge strongly denied by Iran.

US President Barack Obama has indicated that if Tehran does not come clean on its nuclear programme it could face a new round of sanctions.

Sadovnikov said threats of sanctions will not work.

"Russia believes that negotiations must be approached from a calculated position without threats and scare," he said.

"As Russian officials have repeatedly said, threats and sanctions will only complicate the situation and lead to a dead end."



IBA Executive MBA Program

INSTITUTE OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
University of Dhaka

Institute of Business Administration (IBA), University of Dhaka, offers the IBA Executive MBA Program for professionals who seek to augment their managerial skills. The program provides an interactive setting where the learning process is facilitated by academics and industry experts, while the participants share their first-hand experiences and insights.

ADMISSION (Fall 2009)

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ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Job Experience

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Academic Qualifications

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- No more than 1 (one) third division (or equivalent) in any examination.

For all certificates, equivalence will be determined by the Institute.

ADMISSION EXAM

The written examination will be held on Friday, December 18, 2009 at 10:00 am at IBA DU. Successful candidates will be asked to appear at an interview.

Applicants with foreign degrees, having a score of at least 550 in GMAT (minimum 45 percentile in verbal and 50 percentile in quantitative), may be exempted from taking the written examination. However, they will be required to appear at the interview.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application form may be downloaded from the IBA website (www.iba-du.edu) and printed out on separate pages, or collected from the IBA Executive MBA Program Office without any charge.

The filled-in application form along with a Bank Draft / Pay Order for Tk.1500, payable to "Executive MBA, IBA", should be submitted to the Program Office between 03:00 pm-08:00 pm on any day (including Friday) starting from Tuesday, November 10, 2009. The last date of submission is Tuesday, December 15, 2009.

For more information, please contact Executive MBA Program Office, Room # 405 (Third Floor) Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka, Dhaka 1000. Phone #8613490-91.

Director

IBA

Creating Horizons

EXECUTIVE MBA

aramit cement limited

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FINANCIAL POSITION FOR THE 3RD QUARTER ENDED ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2009

In compliance with the Gazette Notification of Securities and Exchange Commission, the 66th meeting of the Board of Directors of Aramit Cement Limited was held on 1 November 2009 at 4:30 pm at "Conference Room of Dhaka Office" (15th Floor, Unit-B), Red Crescent Concord Tower, 17 Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka-1212. The Board approved the Un-audited Financial Statements for the 3rd quarter ended on 30 September 2009.

Summarized Financial position are as follows:

	Up to 30.09.2009	Up to 30.06.2009
	Taka	Taka
Turnover	629,368,607	454,018,388
Net profit after tax	48,455,449	34,332,358
Earning per share (EPS)	34.61	24.52

By order of the Board

Sd/-

(Md. Ibrahim Khalil, FCMA, FCS)

Executive Director &
Company Secretary

1 November 2009



পূর্বালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালকের সচিবালয়

(জনসংযোগ সেল)

প্রধান কার্যালয়

২৬, দিলকুশা বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা।

২০১০ সালের ক্যালেন্ডার মুদ্রণ ও সরবরাহের জন্য

দরপত্র আহ্বান

পূর্বালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেডের ২০১০ সালের ক্যালেন্ডার মুদ্রণ ও সরবরাহের জন্য প্রকৃত মুদ্রণকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান/বিজ্ঞাপনী সংস্থাসমূহের কাছ থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে। মুদ্রণ ও সরবরাহ সংক্রান্ত বিস্তারিত তথ্য সম্বলিত সিডিউল ০২ নভেম্বর ২০০৯ তারিখ হতে ০৮ নভেম্বর ২০০৯ তারিখ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে ব্যাংকের জনসংযোগ সেল (৯ম তলা) থেকে প্রতিটি সিডিউল পূর্বালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড এর অনুকূলে টাঃ ১,৫০০/- (এক হাজার পাঁচশত টাকা) মাত্র পে-অর্ডারের বিনিময়ে (অফেরতযোগ্য) সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। আগামী ০৯ নভেম্বর ২০০৯ তারিখ বেলা ১২ টার মধ্যে ব্যাংকের প্রধান কার্যালয়ের সংস্থাপন বিভাগে (১৩ তলায়) রক্ষিত টেন্ডার বাস্তব দরপত্র ফেলতে হবে এবং ঐদিনই বেলা ১২.১৫ মিনিটে উপস্থিত দরপত্র দাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে।

কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ অথবা বাতিলের ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

জনসংযোগ কর্মকর্তা