

## Bihar hit by deadly Maoist blast, 7 killed

AFP, BBC ONLINE, PTI, Patna

Five children and two adults were killed in India when a bomb planted by Maoist rebels exploded in the eastern state of Bihar as polling booths closed after local elections, police said yesterday. Police detected the bomb on Saturday evening but were unable to defuse it and had left it in a field for specialists to handle. It exploded the following day, while it was being examined by local villagers.

"The blast took place when curious villagers gathered to inspect the bomb," senior police officer PK Thakur said. "It is not certain what triggered the explosion."

Twelve people, who sustained splinter injuries, were admitted to hospitals in Deo and Aurangabad towns. The condition of five of them is stated to be critical.

However, the deceased were yet to be identified as angry villagers did not allow the police to approach the field.

Meanwhile, chief minister Nitish Kumar has directed Development Commissioner K C Saha and Director General Home Guard US Dutta to jointly probe the incident.

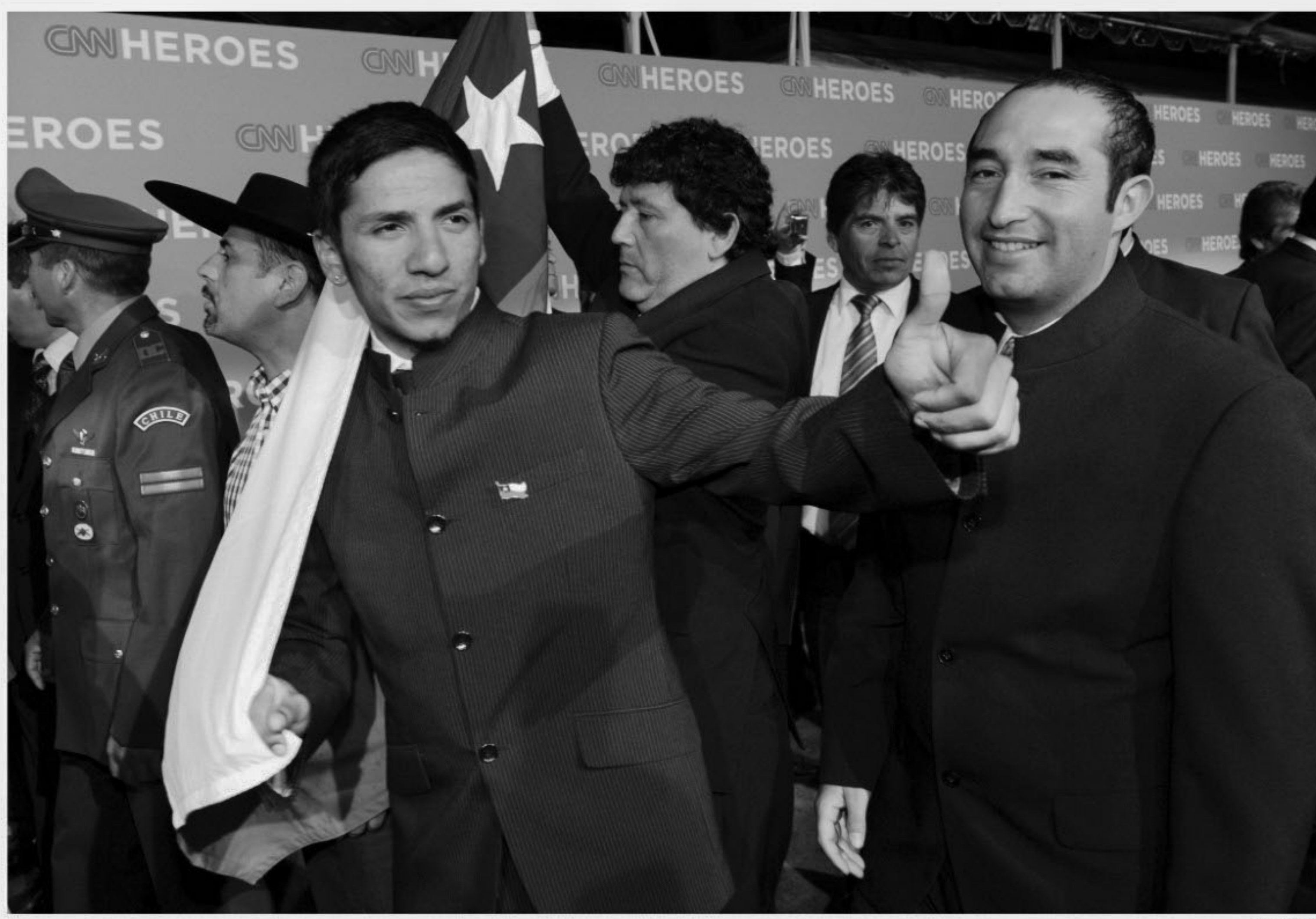
Bihar state elections have a history of violence but were mostly peaceful during the one month of staggered voting that began on October 21 despite a rebel call for boycott.

It also marked the end of multi-phase elections for Bihar's 243-member provincial assembly.

More than 50% of voters turned out in Aurangabad and Gaya districts, the Associated Press news agency reported.

Maoist rebels in India have stepped up attacks in response to a government offensive that began late last year in the forests of the so-called "Red Corridor" that stretches across north and eastern India.

The insurgency, which began in 1967, feeds off land disputes, police brutality and corruption and is strongest in the poorest and most deprived areas of India, many of which are rich in natural resources.



The rescued Chilean miners and their rescuers arrive on the red carpet of the "CNN Heroes: An All-Star Tribute" awards show at the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on Saturday. The rescued miners and their rescuers are on a CNN-sponsored tour of Los Angeles, for most of them their first trip outside of Chile.

## Ahmadinejad urges girls to marry at 16

AP, Tehran

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad urged young girls to marry at age of 16 in his latest rejection of the country's once effective family planning program, local newspapers reported yesterday.

Following record birth rates in the wake of the 1979 Islamic revolution, Iran implemented an internationally praised family planning program in the 1990s that dramatically reduced the growth rate. Ahmadinejad has criticized the program as an ungodly and a Western import.

"We should take the age of marriage for boys to 20 and for girls to about 16 and 17," he said, according to the state-owned Jam-e Jam daily. "The marriage age for boys has reached 26 and for girls to 24, and there is no reason for this."

Since coming to power in 2005, the Iranian president has sought to increase of the country's population, which is already at 75 million, with a third between the ages of 15 and 30.

In July, he inaugurated a new policy to encourage population growth with financial incentives for every new child born, having previously said the country could feed a population of 150 million.

## Lanka orders Red Cross to quit former war zone

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's government has ordered the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to close its offices in the island's former war zone, the Geneva-based humanitarian agency said yesterday.

The government told the ICRC to move out of two northern towns after the defeat of the Tamil Tiger rebels in May last year brought about the end of decades of civil war, spokeswoman Sarasi Wijeratne said.

"The government has asked the ICRC to close the Jaffna and Vavuniya offices and operate only from Colombo," she told AFP, adding that no reason had been given for the move.

## No letup in carbon emissions, scientists warn

AFP, Paris

Emissions of fossil-fuel gases that stoke climate change edged back less than hoped in 2009 as falls in advanced economies were largely outweighed by rises in China and India, scientists said yesterday.

For 2010, emissions are likely to resume their upward track, scaling a new peak, they warned.

Annual emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) from the burning of oil, gas and coal were 30.8 billion tonnes, a retreat of only 1.3 percent in 2009 compared with 2008, a record year, they said in a letter to the journal Nature Geoscience.

The global decrease was less than half that had been expected, because emerging giant economies were unaffected by the downturn that hit many large industrialised nations.

In addition, they burned more coal, the biggest source of fossil-fuel carbon, while their

economies struggled with a higher "carbon intensity," a measure of fuel-efficiency.

Emissions of fossil-fuel gases in 2009 fell by 11.8 percent in Japan, by 6.9 percent in the United States, by 8.6 percent in Britain, by seven percent in Germany and by 8.4 percent in Russia, the paper said.

In contrast, they rose by eight percent in China, by 6.2 percent in India and 1.4 percent in South Korea.

As a result, China strengthened its unenvied position as the world's No. 1 emitter of fossil-fuel CO2, accounting for a whopping 24 percent of the total.

The United States remained second, with 17 percent.

Fossil fuels account for 88 percent of all emissions from CO2, the principal "greenhouse gas" blamed for trapping the Sun's rays and causing global warming, the driver of potentially catastrophic changes to

Earth's climate system.

Concentrations of CO2 in the atmosphere from all sources reached a record high of 387 parts per million (ppm), the study said.

"The 2009 drop in CO2 emissions is less than half that anticipated a year ago," said Pierre Friedlingstein, a professor at the University of Exeter in Britain, which led the study.

"This is because the drop in world gross domestic product was less than anticipated and the carbon intensity of world GDP, which is the amount of CO2 released per unit of GDP, improved by only 0.7 percent in 2009 -- well below its long-term average of 1.7 percent."

There was one spot of good news, though.

CO2 emissions from deforestation fell sharply, thanks to slowing forest loss in tropical countries and to a pickup in reforestation in Europe, temperate zones of Asia and North America.

## Yemen cargo bomb plot cost only \$4200: al-Qaeda

THE NEW YORK TIMES, AFP, Sanaa Hong Kong

In a detailed account of its failed parcel bomb plot last month, al-Qaeda's branch in Yemen said late on Saturday that the operation cost only \$4,200 to mount, was intended to disrupt global air cargo systems and reflected a new strategy of low-cost attacks designed to inflict broad economic damage.

The Yemen-based branch of al-Qaeda has vowed further small but frequent attacks against the West such as last month's cargo plane parcel bombs, in a "strategy of a thousand cuts" that will "bleed the enemy to death", a monitoring group said.

al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) said the packages it put aboard freight planes bound for the US in late October were never intended to cause mass casualties, but were aimed at creating maximum economic damage.

The group, al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, released to militant Web sites a new edition of its English-language magazine, called Inspire, devoted entirely to explaining the technology and tactics in the attack, in which toner cartridges packed with explosives were intercepted in Dubai and Britain. The printers containing the cartridges had been sent from Yemen's capital, Sanaa, to out-of-date addresses for two Chicago synagogues.

The attack failed as a result of a tip from Saudi intelligence, which provided the tracking numbers for the parcels, sent via United Parcel Service and FedEx. But the Qaeda magazine said the fear, disruption and added security costs caused by the packages made what it called Operation Haemorrhage a success.

"Two Nokia mobiles, \$150 each, two HP printers, \$300 each, plus shipping, transportation and other miscellaneous expenses add up to a total bill of \$4,200. That is all what Operation Haemorrhage cost us," the magazine said.

*The Yemen-based branch of al-Qaeda has vowed further small but frequent attacks against the West*



## Pope says condoms acceptable

AFP, Vatican City

The Vatican emphasised that the use of condoms was acceptable only in 'exceptional' cases, after an apparent U-turn by Pope Benedict XVI on a blanket ban on their use.

Vatican spokesman Federico Lombardi said the 83-year-old pope was speaking about "an exceptional situation" when he said in an interview that condom use was acceptable to the Roman Catholic Church in "certain cases".

"The pope considered an exceptional situation in which the exercise of sexuality is a real danger to the life of another," said Lombardi.

In a book of interviews due out on Tuesday, Benedict says that condom use is acceptable "in certain cases", notably to reduce the risk of HIV infection, apparently softening his once hardline stance.

The pope used the specific example of a male prostitute using a condom to illustrate his apparent shift in position.



One of two Israeli soldiers from the Givati Brigade (C) is seen leaving a military court in Castina, close to the city of Kiryat Malachi yesterday, after being given suspended sentences of three months imprisonment and demoted for using a Palestinian a nine-year-old boy as a human shield by making him check for bombs during the 2008-2009 Gaza war, army radio said.

## PM pledges welfare of war heroes' families

FROM PAGE 16

for the cause of their beloved motherland.

Referring to the sufferings of freedom fighters after the brutal assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on August 15, 1975, Hasina said her previous government took a number of programmes for the welfare of freedom fighters.

She said her previous government in 1996 had provided gallantry awards and certificates to the freedom fighters and took initiatives so that they could get state honour after their death.

Apart from this, she said the amount of allowances for freedom fighters has been increased from Taka 1,500 to Taka 2,000 along with raising numbers of the beneficiaries.

The retirement age of the freedom fighters in government services has been enhanced and the quota of the freedom fighters in the government job has been extended to family members of the freedom fighters along with their offspring, she said.

The PM said five percent admission quota has been kept reserved for the children of the freedom fighters in different educational institutes.

Process is underway to prepare a list of freedom fighters of 65 years old and above to provide more facilities including free journey in buses, trains and launches and getting medicare facilities, she added.

Listing various steps taken for the welfare of the freedom fighters, Hasina announced that Mukti Joddha Complexes would be built at all district and upazila headquarters and a

modern hospital at Tejgaon for them.

She also mentioned the construction of Mujibnagar Liberation War Memorial Centre and completion of first phase of the construction of Independent Monument at Suhrawardy Uddyan.

Besides, she said the government has a plan to preserve all historic places of freedom struggles across the country so that the new generation could know actual history of the country's great liberation war.

The government is working relentlessly to reduce sufferings of the countrymen where freedom fighters would get special priority, she said.

Reiterating her government's firm commitment to build a hunger, poverty and illiteracy free prosperous Bangladesh attuned to the ideal and spirit of liberation war, she called

upon all to supplement the government efforts to this end.

In this context, she said the present government is working relentlessly to turn Bangladesh into a most peaceful nation free from all sorts of terrorism and militancy in South Asia.

Earlier, the PM presented gifts among 53 gallantry award winning freedom fighters and their successors.

In the morning, she placed wreath at the "Shikha Anirban" at 8:30am where she stood in solemn silence for some time as a mark of respect to the memories of the martyrs of Liberation War in 1971.

State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt (Retd) A B Tajul Islam, Defence Adviser to the PM Maj Gen (retd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique and the chiefs of the three services were, among others, present.

### INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH

17 Years of Progressive Higher Education

## ADMISSION SPRING 2011

#### MBA & EMBA

**Master of Business Administration (MBA)**

■ Finance ■ Marketing ■ HRM ■ Banking

**Eligibility**

- 4-year Bachelor Degree or 3-year Bachelor Degree along with at least one year of work experience.
- A CGPA of at least 2.50 at undergraduate or graduate level.
- No admission test required if GMAT score is 500+.

#### M.Sc. in Economics

**M.Sc. in ECONOMICS**

**Eligibility**

- A CGPA of at least 2.50 or 2nd class at undergraduate in economics or in relevant disciplines from any reputed University.
- Acceptable score in the IUB Admission Test or combined score of 1000 in GRE.

#### Executive MBA (EMBA)

■ HRM ■ Finance ■ Marketing

■ Entrepreneurship Development & Management

**Eligibility**

- 4-year Bachelor Degree or 3-year Honour's Degree or a Master's Degree in any discipline.
- At least Second Class in all exams or a minimum CGPA of 2.50 on a 4 point scale.
- At least three years of continuous work experience as an executive.

**Admission Test (M.Sc. in ECONOMICS): Written & Viva**  
**Friday, December 10, 2010**  
**at 3:00 PM**

**Last date for Application: December 8, 2010**

**Admission Test (MBA): Friday,**  
**10 December 2010 at 10:00 AM**

**Interview (EMBA): Friday,**  
**10 December 2010 at 5:30 PM**

FORM SALE: ALL DAYS OF THE WEEK FROM 10:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.

Please Contact: **School of Business**

83 Suhrawardy Avenue, Block-K  
 Baridhara, Dhaka-1212

Tel: 9862386 - 90, 9881917, 9881681, 9884498 Ext: 254  
 Fax: 880-2-8823959, 8850226 E-mail: info@iub.edu.bd

iub

www.sb.iub.edu.bd