

# Iran hosts UN nuke watchdog

AFP, Tehran

Officials from the UN atomic watchdog began a visit to Iran yesterday to discuss Tehran's suspect nuclear drive, amid a backlash by furious Iranian lawmakers at a looming EU oil embargo.

The three-day International Atomic Energy Agency mission is to address evidence suggesting Iran's activities include nuclear weapons research.

The visit was seen as a rare opportunity to maybe alleviate a building international showdown over Iran's nuclear programme that has seen a ratcheting up of sanctions and talk of possible Israeli military action.

Iran, which maintains its programme is exclusively for peaceful purposes, is increasingly furious at the Western measures aimed at getting it to halt uranium enrichment.



PHOTO: AFP

Protesters from Occupy Oakland, the local offshoot of Occupy Wall Street, knock down fences to escape from the police after they were surrounded to be detained on a vacant lot in Oakland on Saturday. Police have fired tear gas and arrested more than 200 people as anti-Wall Street protesters tried but failed to take over downtown buildings, including city hall, in Oakland, California.

# 'Code of life' read in hours!

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If they have cancer and their doctors will know immediately what kind of disease they have, allowing them to target therapies precisely and to avoid harmful delays or mistakes.

Health officials confronted by superbug outbreaks will be able to identify the bug's strain and begin planning treatment within hours rather than days or weeks, potentially saving thousands of lives.

Soon, researchers in the developing world will take portable DNA sequencers into the field to identify new viruses and verify water quality.

And police investigators will be able to develop a suspect's DNA profile as quickly as their fictional counterparts do in glossy television dramas, while

commandos on the battlefield will identify the bodies of friend and foe.

The man behind the revolution is Jonathan Rothberg, master biotechnician and CEO of Ion Torrent, owned by US firm Life Technologies, which produces the Ion Proton -- the world's first desktop semiconductor-based gene sequencer.

Business and political leaders at this year's Global Economic Forum were gripped by pessimism over the economy, but -- at a summit boycotted by Mick Jagger -- Rothberg was received in Davos like a rockstar of science.

"He's a genius. I want to buy his machines," Sami Sagol, a leading Israeli neuroscientist and research sponsor, told passengers on

a minibus ferrying delegates through the snowbound streets of the Swiss resort.

"I was sat next to him at dinner. He's amazing," declared a young investment banker swigging beer in a nearby bar, admitting he had found Davos' scientific programme more uplifting than the headline economic debates.

The man himself, geekily excited in a woolly ski hat and loud striped shirt, bursts with enthusiasm for a machine that has brought the once laborious task of gene-sequencing to the era of the semi-conductor microchip.

With no false modesty, he compares the revolution to the transition from the era of room-sized computing machines to desktop microprocessors, and predicts

that his technology will follow the computer into laptop and hand-held forms.

"It's the first machine that can do an entire human genome for less than 1,000 dollars. It's the first machine that can read the genome in two hours," he told AFP in an interview in Davos.

"Previously machines would cost more than half a million dollars and it would take weeks to get information on your genome," he said. A genome is the complete DNA code, unique to each individual, which shapes our organism.

"The Proton instrument is designed to do discovery -- find new genes that are involved in cancer, find new genes that are involved in autism, find new genes that are involved in diabetes," he

said.

"But it's also designed to be used in a clinical practice to make sure that you give the person the right medicine or the right medicine to the right person. And to help diagnose new born children with ailments."

The Desktop Ion Proton was making its European debut, but the technology is not a pie in the sky dream. It is based on a larger predecessor that is already the world's best selling sequencer.

"Last year in Germany there was a terrible outbreak and a number of people died," he said, referring to an enterohaemorrhagic E.coli (EHEC) infection from contaminated food that killed 52 people and left more than 4,000 sick.

# Forces battle to retake Damascus suburbs

Arabs urge Russia, China to change stand

AGENCIES

At least 66 people were killed in fighting between Syrian soldiers and rebels over control of Damascus suburbs and other parts of the country yesterday, activists said, a day after the Arab League suspended its monitoring mission in Syria because of mounting violence.

The London-based rights group said 26 soldiers, five other members of the security forces, nine army deserters were also among those killed as the regime cracked down on protesters and rebels.

Around 2,000 soldiers in buses and armoured personnel carriers, along with at least 50 tanks and armoured vehicles, moved at dawn into the Ghouta area on the eastern edge of Damascus to reinforce an offensive in the suburbs of Saqba, Hammouriya and Kfar Batna, activists said.

The army pushed into the heart of Kfar Batna and four tanks were in its central square, they said, in a move to flush out rebels who had taken over districts just a few kilometres from President Bashar al-Assad's centre of power.

"It's urban war. There are bodies in the street," said one activist, speaking from Kfar Batna. Activists said 14 civilians and five insurgents from the rebel Free Syrian Army were killed there and in other suburbs.

The Arab League suspended the work of its monitors on Saturday after calling on Assad to step down and make way for a government of national unity. It said Arab foreign ministers would discuss the Syria crisis on February 5.

Arab League chief Nabil Elaraby left for New York yesterday where he will brief representatives of the UN Security Council on Tuesday to seek support for an Arab peace plan that calls on Assad to step aside after 10 months of protests.

Speaking shortly before he left Cairo for New York, Elaraby said he hoped to overcome resistance from China and Russia over endorsing the Arab proposals.

A Syrian government official was quoted by state media as saying Syria was surprised by the decision to suspend operations.

Assad blames the violence on foreign-backed militants.

# Govt used lawmen

FROM PAGE 1

and Rab, carried out planned attacks on our processions in many areas to create anarchy in the country. Three of our leaders and supporters have been shot dead and many more were injured," he said, addressing a press conference at the party's central office in Naya Paltan.

Condemning the killings, Fakhrul demanded the punishment of the killers and claimed that about 1,234 activists of his party had been arrested and 1,175 injured across the country yesterday.

The BNP held mass processions at the district level yesterday to press home its demand for the restoration of the caretaker government system.

He urged the government to withdraw its "counter programme" and not impose any ban on today's

mass procession so that his party could peacefully carry out its scheduled programme of demanding a restoration of the caretaker government system.

"The Awami League has called a counter rally, violating all sorts of democratic norms. I hope it will cancel it. I also hope no more bans will be imposed on Monday [today]," he said, adding that Khaleda Zia would lead a peaceful procession.

On Saturday, the BNP deferred today's mass processions in the metropolitan cities, including the capital, after police imposed a ban on rallies and processions.

The party organised the programme at the district level since there had been no ban there. "Our programme in almost all districts was successfully held with the spontaneous

participation of the people," said the BNP acting secretary general.

# 11 grenades

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under Naikhyangchhari upazila of the district yesterday.

Naikhyangchhari BGB sources said Captain Kamrul Hassan, leading a 20-member team, raided a terror den under Dishari union of Naikhangchhari in the morning.

They recovered 11 hand grenades, 27 bullets, 50 sharp weapons, over hundred blankets, huge medicines, one television set and huge amount of Zihadi books from the spot.

The BGB members damaged the den, which was allegedly used by Arakan Rohingya Solidarity Organization (ARSO) members.

# Seize books with distorted history

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The books have to be seized from markets, institutions, libraries, students and individuals within the date, said the court.

Responding to a writ petition filed yesterday by a freedom fighter, Anamul Haque, the court also asked the IGP to immediately stop publication of the textbook titled "Nimno Madhyamik Bangla Byakaran O Rochona (Junior School Certificate Bangla Grammar and Essay)".

In the petition, Anamul said the history of the country's independence had been distorted in the textbook.

Pragati Press and Publications published the book in 2010. Petitioner's

counsel Belal Hossain Joy said the publication had been recommended by the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) for class VII and VIII students and was being taught at almost all schools, colleges and madrasas across the country.

In a page, the book reads that patriot Maj Gen Ziaur Rahman proclaimed the country's independence from Chittagong Betar Kendra on March 26, 1971.

In another page, it says Maj Zia declared the independence on behalf of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 27 of that year from Kalurghat Betar Kendra (radio centre) in Chittagong.

The HC in the ruling summoned Ratan Siddique, writer of the book, and four others to appear before it on February 2 to explain why they had named Ziaur Rahman as the proclaimer of independence.

The four others are the NCTB chairman, publisher of the book Tofazal Hossain, and co-editors Shahid Uddin Ahmed and Mohammad Abdul Jalil.

The HC bench of Justice A H M S h a m s u d d i n Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Salim also issued a rule upon the government to explain in three weeks why the writer, the NCTB chairman, publisher and co-editors of the book should not be punished for distorting the coun-

try's history.

Petitioner's counsel Joy said the HC in a 2009 verdict ruled that it was Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who proclaimed Bangladesh's independence in 1971. At that time, the HC also declared illegal all publications that described late president Ziaur Rahman as the declarer of independence.

Ziaur Rahman was not a major general during the liberation war, Joy said.

During the hearing on the petition, senior lawyers Humayun Hossain Khan, Yusuf Hossain Humayun and Abdul Matin Khasru told the court that Ziaur Rahman himself had never claimed he was the declarer of independence.

# Major power deal inked

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Once built over 1,834 acres of land, located 14-km north of the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove forest, the plant will be the country's largest power plant.

Under the deal, a joint venture company will be set up to construct the plant based on imported coal.

Of the \$1.5 billion estimated cost, 70 percent will come from bank borrowing, while PDB and NTPC will contribute equally the rest of the amount, the PDB chief told The Daily Star.

Indian Power Secretary P Uma Shankar said the plant would help Bangladesh meet the growing demand for electricity. "It will also open a great platform for cooperation between the two countries," Shankar added.

Finance Minister AMA Muhith, who was present at the signing ceremony, said new technology would be introduced at the plant, the first joint venture in the public sector in Bangladesh, so that it becomes more environmentally sustainable.

Kabir said a study by a local consultation body has named Australia, Indonesia and South Africa as potential sources for coal import.

The tariff of per kilowatt hour electricity could be between Tk 5 and Tk 7, he said.

The PDB chief said the plant would use supercritical pressure technology that offers high efficiency and less coal consumption in order to keep the emission level as low as possible.

Kabir said the NTPC has completed the feasibility study of the project. "We have also got clearance of the site from the Department of Environment. The land development work will commence in February," he added.

Shankar also said the NTPC is looking into its all possible power stations to export 250MW of power to Bangladesh as part of a two-year old deal between Dhaka and New Delhi.

The Indian secretary could not give the rate the Indian company will charge for selling power to Bangladesh.

NTPC will sell electricity at a rate it charges to any

Indian state, he added. SEVEN MORE POWER PLANTS

The approval for seven more power plants in private sector came at a meeting of the cabinet committee with the finance minister in the chair yesterday.

This is the first time the bidders for the furnace-oil based power plants have offered their tariff quotations in taka instead of dollar. It means the tariff rate will not go up if the price of the dollar soars in future, the Power Division said in its proposal.

The Power Division also said it has approved the work order for the gas-based power plants on condition that 70 percent of their cost will come from foreign investment.

A consortium of SNPC-Kushira-DBPL got the order of installing 100MW to 170MW gas-based combined cycle power plant at Fenchuganj in Sylhet.

Two 50-MW furnace oil-based power plants will be set up by a consortium of Rupali Engineers and Traders Ltd of Bangladesh (lead firm) and PT Priamanaya of Indonesia at

Singair of Manikganj and Daulatpur in Nawabganj, Dhaka.

Another 50-MW power plant will be set up in Kamalaghat Bazar of Munshiganj by a consortium of Samuda Chemical Complex Ltd (lead firm), Samuda Power Ltd and ASM Chemical Industries Ltd.

Three more power plants will also be set up in Keraniganj of Dhaka, Bhairab of Kishoreganj and in Satkhira.

Mutiara-Power Pac Consortium will install a 150-MW plant in Keraniganj while a consortium of Aitken Spence Plc, & Alliance Holdings Ltd, Bangladesh a 50-MW plant in Bhairab and Consortium of Confidence Cement & Energy Power Generation a 50-MW power plant in Satkhira.

The cabinet body also approved proposals for importing 25,000 tonnes of sugar and 18 lakh tonnes of various types of petroleum products from Egypt, Kuwait, the UAE, the Philippines and Malaysia through state-to-state arrangement.

**Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH)**  
Plot No. 3, Embankment Drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230.

## Invitation for Tender

A	Sponsoring Ministry	Ministry of Social Welfare.
2.	Executing Agency	Department of Social Services & Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)
3.	Procuring Entity Name	Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)
4.	Procuring Entity Site	Plot No. 3, Embankment drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
5.	Invitation for the project	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2Nos. 1250KVA, 415VAC, 50Hz, 1500RPM, Prime capacity Diesel Generating sets with synchronizing panel & Sound Proof room Canopy for Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH)
KEY INFORMATION		
6.	Procurement Method	Open Tender Method (OTM)
FUNDING INFORMATION		
7.	Budget and Source of Funds	Department of Social Services & Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
8.	Tender Publication Date	30/01/2012
9.	Tender selling Date	30/01/2012 to 20/02/2012
10.	Tender submission date & Time	22/02/2012 up to 3:00 PM
11.	Tender Opening date & time	22/02/2012 on 3:30 PM
12.	Name & Address of the office for selling the tender document	Director, (Engineering Procurement & Maintenance), Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Plot No. 3, Embankment Drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
13.	Name & Address of the offices for receiving the tender document	Director, (Engineering Procurement & Maintenance), Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Plot no. 3, Embankment drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230 & Director General, Dept of Social Services(DSS), E-8, B-1, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.
14.	Name & Address of the office for opening the tender document	Director, (Engineering Procurement & Maintenance), Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Plot No. 3, Embankment Drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
15.	Eligibility of Tenderer	a. Minimum work experience of 10 (ten) years in supply, installation, testing & commissioning of Diesel Generating sets with ATS including sound proof canopy in Bangladesh with reputation. b. The Tenderer must have experience during last 5 (five) years in satisfactory completion of minimum 500KVA Diesel Generating sets with ATS including sound proof canopy. The experience certificate shall be accompanied by the respective "Work Order" and experience certificate must be attested by the Officer not below the rank of Executive Engineer. c. Having valid Trade License, Up-to-date Income Tax Clearance Certificate, VAT Registration certificate, valid "ABC" contractory & supervisory License for Electrical Works etc. d. Financially Solvency & must enjoy Credit facilities (Current) from any schedule Bank of Bangladesh. e. Having authorization from manufacturer/local agent(s) to offer the Diesel Generating set & ATS including Sound Proof Canopy.
16.	Brief Description of Works.	Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2Nos. 1250KVA, 415VAC, 50Hz, 1500RPM, Prime capacity Diesel Generating sets with ATS & Sound Proof Canopy.
17.	Brief Description of related services.	Installation, Testing & Commissioning of 2 Nos. 1250KVA, 415VAC, 50Hz, 1500RPM, Prime capacity Diesel Generating sets with ATS & Sound Proof Canopy complete in all respect.
18.	Price of tender document	Tk. 2,500.00 (Two thousand five hundred) only (Non-refundable)
PROCUREMENT ENTITY DETAILS		
19.	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Sushen Chandra Roy
20.	Designation & address	Project Director, Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Ministry of Social Welfare, Dhaka.
21.	Name, designation, address and contact details of official for any further information or clarification regarding this tender	Chowdhury Ziaur Rasul, Director, (Engineering Procurement & Maintenance), Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Plot No. 3, Embankment Drive Way, Sector-10, Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230. Tel: 02-8932284, 02-89331141. E-mail: zrc123@gmail.com
22.	This tender notice may also be viewed in the web site	a. www.cptu.gov.bd b. www.ahsanijobs.com c. www.ahsaniacancer.com
23.	a. The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any/all Tender without assigning any reason, what so ever. b. Furnishing of any false, fraud and misleading document by the tenderer shall result in rejection of his/her tender. c. Authority reserves the right not to accept the lowest tender.	