

Iran pressing ahead with enrichment

A new report from the UN nuclear watchdog says Iran appears determined to expand its uranium enrichment programme and is hindering UN efforts to establish whether the country has a secret atomic bomb project. The findings could lead to punitive measures by the UN Security Council

KEY FINDINGS

URANIUM ENRICHMENT

- Iran has recently begun feeding uranium gas into 10-centrifuge “cascade” – which spins gas into enriched uranium – and testing 20-centrifuge version at **Natanz**

- Plans to start assembling 3,000 centrifuges by late 2006 – eventually wants 50,000 to power nuclear reactor at **Bushehr**

Experts say 3,000 centrifuges needed to yield 20kg of highly-enriched uranium – enough for one nuclear bomb



Satellite image of Natanz plant, Jan 2, 2006



SUSPECTED BOMB BLUEPRINT

- Repeated refusal to provide copy of document, located by IAEA inspectors, showing how to cast fissile uranium into shape to fit warhead

MILITARY LINKS

- Iran evasive over links between **Green Salt Project** – precursor of uranium enrichment – with high explosives and warhead design

INSPECTIONS

- No trace of nuclear materials found at **Parchin** military site

- Doubts persist over work carried out at **Lavizan** military research facility – bulldozed in 2004

Mohamed ElBaradei
IAEA chief

