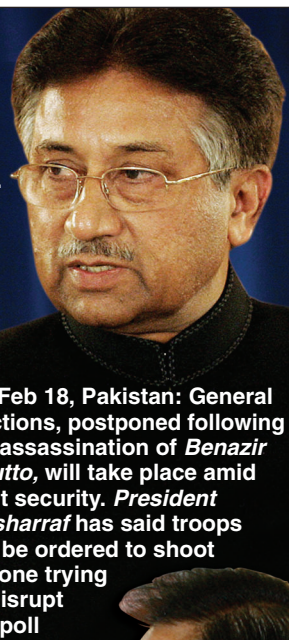


WORLD AGENDA

FEBRUARY 2008



1 Feb 5, United States: *Super Duper Tuesday* in the U.S. presidential election campaign could seal the Democratic and Republican nominations. Primaries take place in over 20 states including California, Illinois and New York



2 Feb 18, Pakistan: General elections, postponed following the assassination of *Benazir Bhutto*, will take place amid tight security. *President Musharraf* has said troops will be ordered to shoot anyone trying to disrupt the poll



3 Feb 25, Seoul: *Lee Myung-bak*, whose promise of an economic boom won him one of South Korea's biggest ever election victories, is inaugurated as president



4 Feb 24, Hollywood: Organisers insist the 80th *Academy Awards* ceremony, tinsel town's most glamorous event, will go ahead despite the ongoing writers' strike

6 Feb, Baghdad: A six-month ceasefire by the powerful *Mehdi Army*, credited with improving security in Iraq, may not be renewed. Shia militia leader *Muqtada al-Sadr* has accused the government of supporting criminal gangs



5 Feb, Africa: A 3,500-strong EU peacekeeping force is due to be deployed to *Chad* and the *Central African Republic* to protect refugees from Sudan's Darfur region and other civilians displaced by internal fighting



8 Feb, Alaska: The United States' environmental record comes under the spotlight when bidding begins for oil and gas exploration rights in the *Chukchi Sea* between Alaska and Siberia. Campaigners fear the effects on wildlife, in particular polar bears



7 Feb 8, Paris: A verdict is due in the case of *Jean-Marie Le Pen*, accused of "conspiring to justify war crimes" following comments the far-right leader made in 2005

