

Iraq premier's rivals move to replace him

■ Nouri al-Maliki:

Shia prime minister whose excessive marginalisation of non-Shias, since U.S. forces left Iraq in 2011, is seen as key factor in Al-Qaeda inspired **Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIS)** militants' bid to seize power. Age: 64



■ Adel Abdul-Mahdi:

Former vice president resigned in 2011 to distance himself from Maliki's dysfunctional government. Moderate, French-educated economist has called for Shias and Sunnis to support each other against terrorism. Age: 72



■ **Ayad Allawi:** Iraq's U.S.-backed interim prime minister after ousting of Saddam. British-trained neurosurgeon. Secular Shia has support of disaffected Sunnis and Shias across Iraq, but is opposed by Iran. Age: 69



■ **Ahmad Chalabi:** America-educated former leader of exiled **Iraqi National Congress** was favourite among neoconservatives calling for 2003 invasion. After rift with Washington over bogus intelligence sources, American policymakers are once again reaching out to Chalabi. Age: 70

■ **Bayan Jabr:** Former Interior Minister. Accused of turning Iraq's police into Shia death squads

■ **Hakim al-Zamili:** Outsider from political bloc loyal to anti-U.S. cleric **Muqtada al-Sadr**