

campaigning, despite his claim to have been framed.

The commission also told the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to drop Mr Varun Gandhi as a candidate for polls which start on April 16. The BJP has refused.

— AGENCIES

FIRST FATAL CRASH AT NARITA KILLS 2

IN THE first fatal crash at Japan's biggest international airport, a FedEx cargo plane arriving from Guangzhou, China, crashed in high winds and exploded in a ball of flames yesterday at Tokyo's Narita airport, killing both pilots.

One of Narita's two main runways had to be closed and several flights were diverted or cancelled.

— AGENCY FRANCE-PRESSE

SPACEWALKERS MAKE PIN ERROR

ASTRONAUTS from the space shuttle Discovery made an elementary error last Saturday during a space-walk, inserting a restraint pin — used to clamp a toolbox to the outside of the International Space Station — upside down.

The box jammed and a final spacewalk yesterday was slated to include an unsticking exercise.

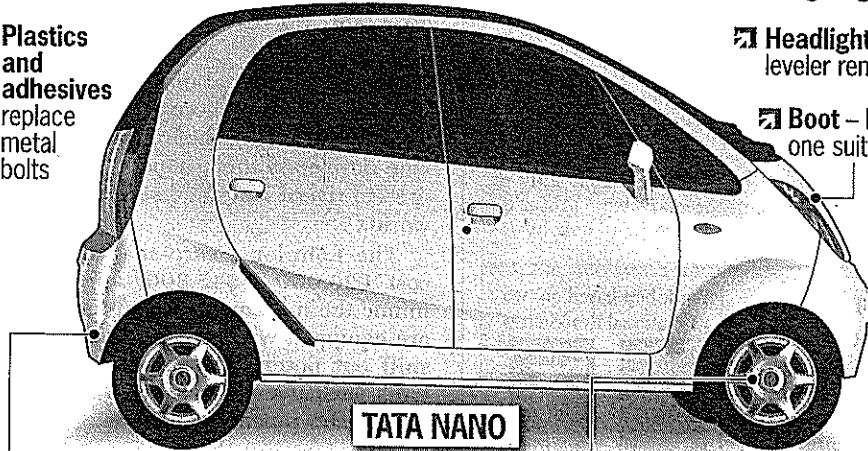
— AGENCY FRANCE-PRESSE

WORLD'S CHEAPEST CAR IS HERE

Tata Motors yesterday launched the 'People's Car', the Nano, which it unveiled in January 2008 with a dealer price of US\$1,900 (S\$2,865)

- Transmission — The four-door, five-seat hatchback uses continuously variable transmission, a lighter alternative to manual or automatic kinds
- Safety — Sheet-metal body, crumple zones, intrusion-resistant doors, seat belts, bonded rear tailgate glass

- Plastics and adhesives replace metal bolts
- Headlights leveler removed
- Boot — Fits one suitcase



- Engine — 623cc rear-mounted fuel-injected petrol engine
- Efficiency — High fuel efficiency of 20 km/litre
- Wheel bearings can withstand speeds up to 70 kmh before taking damage
- Dimensions 3.1 m (length) 1.6 m (height) 1.5 m (width)

WORLD'S CHEAPEST CARS

COMPANY	MODEL	MADE-IN	PRICE (S\$)
Tata Motors	Nano	India	\$2,865
Chery Automobiles	QQ3	China	\$7,540
Suzuki-Maruti	M800	India	\$7,841
Geely Automobiles	Merrie Star	China	\$8,294
Geely Automobiles	S-RV mini SUV	China	\$8,716

SOURCE: REUTERS, INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, BUSINESS STANDARD MOTORING

UK leaders briefed on UFO sighting in 1990

LONDON: Britain's Defence Ministry was so spooked by a startling unidentified-flying-object (UFO) sighting in 1990 that it scrambled to brief the country's top leaders, according to secret files released on Sunday.

The ministry had received negatives of photos showing a large diamond-shaped object hanging above a Scottish village for 10 minutes before rising at high speed. The photos were taken on Aug 4, 1990 by two men.

"Such stories are not normally drawn to the attention of ministers," an official noted in a memo.

But with the media sniffing around the event, ministers were asked to say that "no definite conclusions (were) reached" on the incident.

Meanwhile, officials were so alarmed they overrode rules against probes into UFO sightings not held to be immediate national-security threats.

For over a year, the mystery was thoroughly researched, but no satisfactory explanation was ever given.

British UFO sightings for the first two months of this year are the highest on public record.

— AGENCIES