

'I was kidnapped', says Pak envoy to Afghanistan

AP, Cairo

Pakistan's ambassador to Afghanistan appeared in a video aired Saturday by an Arab satellite channel, saying he was kidnapped by Taliban militants more than two months ago.

Ambassador Tariq Azizuddin, flanked by his driver and his bodyguard, was shown sitting on the ground amid green brush in front of three masked men wearing traditional robes and holding automatic weapons.

"For 27 days, we have lived comfortably. They take care of us and they respect us," Azizuddin said, in comments dubbed over in Arabic. The roughly two-minute clip appeared on Al-Arabiya television.

It was the first video from Azizuddin since he disappeared Feb. 11 near Pakistan's volatile border with Afghanistan.

But his reference to having been held for 27 days suggests that the video was made more than a month ago.

Pakistan test fires long-range missile

AP, Islamabad

Pakistan successfully test fired a long-range ballistic missile capable of carrying a nuclear warhead on Saturday, the military said.

The Shaheen-2 missile was launched from an undisclosed location and has a range of 1,245 miles. The military said the missile has the capability to carry conventional and non-conventional warheads.

Saturday's launch was witnessed by new Prime Minister Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, who congratulated the scientists and engineers for "achieving an important milestone in Pakistan's quest for sustaining strategic balance in South Asia," the military said in a statement.

It quoted Gilani as saying that the defence needs of the country would remain a "high priority" for his elected government.

Although Pakistan routinely tests various versions of missiles in its arsenal, the latest one came weeks after a new government, dominated by the party of slain former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, took office after winning elections in February.

Maoists to lead new govt in Nepal

Prachanda wants talks with king

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's Maoists said yesterday they would lead the next government as they staged a victory rally with poll results showing them on track to emerge as the country's biggest party.

The April 10 polls were the climax of the 2006 peace deal between the Maoists and mainstream political parties, and the former rebels have confounded analysts and diplomats who forecast they would come in third at best.

"We will lead the next government after the final results of the elections. The people's mandate has clearly given us the responsibility to head the new government," Maoist information minister Krishna Bahadur Mahara told AFP.

Mahara's statements came as Maoist supporters feted the party's strong showing on the outskirts of the capital Kathmandu.

Earlier Nepal's Maoist leader said Friday he will meet the country's embattled king to try to persuade him to step down before the monarchy is abolished following a Maoist election win.

The ultra-leftists are ahead in last week's crucial polls for a body that will abolish the monarchy and rewrite the constitution.

"I will take the initiative to talk to the king in person," Maoist leader Prachanda said in an interview shown on state-run television.

"He should understand and respect the people's verdict and what the people want and leave the palace voluntarily."

Cheering supporters wreathed party leader Prachanda -- whose nom de guerre means the "fierce one" -- with marigold garlands and smudged red powder on his forehead as musicians beat drums in celebration.

A beaming Prachanda waded into crowds of supporters in the market place where the rally was held, shaking hands and waving to people watching from building windows above the crowds.

"Namaste, namaste," Prachanda said repeatedly to well-wishers, pressing his palms together and bowing his head slightly in the traditional form of salutation used in South Asia.

Until two and a half years ago, Prachanda, a former school teacher turned revolutionary, lived underground and was wanted by Interpol.

Along the route to the rally, the road was bedecked with signs featuring the traditional communist symbol of the red hammer and sickle -- and the words Comrade Prachanda -- which the Maoists had used as their campaign symbol.

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Pak govt bringing bill to maintain power balance of PM, president

PTI, Islamabad

Pakistan's new government is finalising a constitutional amendment bill to ensure the balance of power between the President and the Prime Minister, Law Minister Farooq Naek said yesterday.

The law ministry is preparing the draft of the bill that is aimed at curbing President Pervez Musharraf's sweeping powers, including the power to dissolve the parliament and to dismiss the elected Prime Minister and his government, officials said.

Naek indicated that the proposed amendment bill will address presidential powers that were inserted in the sixth and seventh schedules of the Constitution through controversial amendments made by Musharraf after he assumed power in 1999.

The sixth schedule contains

several laws that cannot be altered or repealed without the assent of the President, including the National Accountability Bureau Ordinance.

Though Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gillani had announced in parliament that the NAB would be abolished, the government has not been able to make headway in this matter as it cannot take any step without Musharraf's concurrence.

Speaking to reporters here this morning, the Law Minister said, "As far as the constitutional amendments are concerned, we have got to (ensure) the balance of power between the President and the prime minister."

"And we have got to see the sixth schedule (of the Constitution) which gives the power to the President not to let any amendment be made in the constitution with regard to the laws."

IAEA official to fly to Tehran for more nuclear talks

AFP, Vienna

The deputy director general of the UN's atomic watchdog will fly to Tehran next week for new talks on sensitive areas of Iran's disputed nuclear programme, a spokeswoman said Friday.

Attisee are the so-called "alleged studies" handed over to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), suggesting discrepancies in Tehran's declared programme and possible weaponisation work.

"A team led by Olli Heinonen will travel to Tehran early next week for meetings with Iranian officials about the 'alleged studies'," said IAEA

spokeswoman, Melissa Fleming. The so-called alleged studies are the one outstanding issue that the IAEA insists still needs to be cleared up.

The studies include: charts on a uranium conversion process different from Iran's declared activities; a document on the casting and machining of uranium metal into the shape of warheads; schematics of a Shahab-3 missile re-entry vehicle that in the opinion of the IAEA "is quite likely to be able to accommodate a nuclear device"; and remote explosives testing, including plans for underground detonations facilities and a separate firing facility 10 kilometres (six miles) away.

Helen Keller International Bangladesh

Vacancy Announcement

HKI is an international NGO has been working in Bangladesh since 1978. HKI is working in partnership with the Government of Bangladesh on a national nutrition and health surveillance program and collaborates with NGOs on homestead food production programs. HKI in Bangladesh is seeking a Food Security Manager starting immediately.

Required Knowledge and Skills: A minimum of a Master's degree in agriculture, development management; social sciences, public health, nutrition, or related field. At least 5 years of program related experience, preferably in an NGO setting. Good oral and written English language skills, including the ability to quickly synthesize complex technical and programmatic issues into concise communications. Demonstrated experience and skills in leadership, staff management, program development and management, monitoring and evaluation and public speaking. Strong computer skills including use of word-processing, spreadsheet and statistical software; experience in data analysis and interpretation is highly desirable.

Interested candidates should submit: (1) cover letter; (2) current curriculum vitae in English not more than 5 pages; and (3) a short writing sample (2-3 pages) in English, to: Admin Manager, HKI at E-mail: amin@hkidhaka.org by April 30, 2008. Please note HKI Food Security in the header/subject line. All correspondence should include physical and e-mail addresses as well as contact telephone number(s). Only E-mail applications will be accepted.

"Helen Keller International is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from qualified women and minorities candidates. The organization has a smoke free working environment"



Indian activists of the right-wing Hindu Shiv Sena organisation burn an effigy of Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh during a demonstration in Amritsar yesterday, held to protest rises in the cost of basic commodities. The protestors urged the central government to halt steep rises in the prices of vegetable, rice, cooking oil and other essential commodities.

Pak militants warned of stern action

Malik meets NWFP governor, tribal MNAs

THE DAWN, Islamabad

Prime Minister's Adviser on Interior Rehman Malik has informed NWFP Governor Owais Ghani that the federal government has decided to deal sternly with militants in tribal areas.

A meeting held here on Friday and jointly chaired by Malik and Ghani reviewed the law and order situation in the Federally Administered Tribal Areas (Fata), an official of interior ministry said.

The meeting, which was also attended by federal Interior Secretary Syed Kamal Shah and Fata's members of the National Assembly, deliberated upon the future strategy about peace and security in the region.

The meeting firmly resolved that no one would be allowed to take law into his own hands and violators would be severely dealt with. The meeting decided to solve the problems of Fata but, at the same time, establish the writ of the government, while respecting tribal traditions.

The meeting decided to examine the Pakistan-Afghanistan trade and to eliminate smuggling and extortion.

"People of Fata are our brothers. Their firm and supportive role will be remembered forever," Malik said, adding that the government would ensure absolute protection of their life and property.

Earlier PPI report said Malik held a meeting with Jamaat-i-Islami amir Qazi Hussain Ahmed at

latter's residence and sought his advice on maintaining law and order.

The PM's adviser took the FI chief into confidence about the government's political strategy.

Later briefing the media, Qazi Hussain said he was ready to provide consultation to government on maintaining law and order. However, he said, the government should take action against groups conspiring to disturb peace in Karachi.

"The government is seriously considering to pull out forces from Balochistan, Swat and Fata," he quoted Mr Malik as saying.

He said the APDM would not take part in the by-elections in the presence of President Pervez Musharraf.

Iraqi troops take control of Basra militia bastion

13 killed in Sadr City clashes

AFP, Basra/Baghdad

Iraqi forces took control yesterday of a district of the southern city of Basra which has seen intense firefighting between troops and Shia militiamen, the interior ministry said.

Iraqi troops entered the northern Hayaniyah district of the city and took control of the area in an operation lasting several hours, ministry spokesman Major General Abdel Karim Khalaf said.

"We launched an operation in the morning. There was some exchange of fire. The operation is now over in Hayaniyah without any strong resistance," Khalaf told AFP.

"Our troops are deployed on the rooftops of tall buildings in the area," he added.

Hayaniyah, a stronghold of fighters loyal to anti-American cleric Moqtada al-Sadr, has seen intense firefighting since March 25 when Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki ordered a crackdown on militiamen in the southern port city.

Since then US warplanes have carried out several air strikes in the district targeting Shia militiamen. Dozens of people have been killed.

In a statement released in Baghdad, the US military said the operation in Hayaniyah was phase three of the Sula al-Fursan (Charge of the Knights) assault launched by Maliki last month.

Saturday's operation was backed by British artillery and US aircraft which bombed known

"criminal rocket and mortar sites west of Hayaniyah", the US statement said.

British military spokesman Major Tom Holloway said: "As with the earlier phases of Operation Charge of the Knights, this remains an Iraqi led, planned and executed mission."

Meanwhile, at least 13 people were killed in overnight clashes between Shia militiamen and security forces in Baghdad's militia bastion of Sadr City, medics and witnesses said on Saturday.

Medics in two hospitals in the Shia district confirmed the death toll and said 80 other people were also wounded, while witnesses said exchanges of fire could be heard throughout the night.



বেসিক ব্যাংক লিমিটেড

প্রধান শাখা, ৭৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা।

নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অর্থ স্বর্ণ আদালত আইন ২০০৩-এর ধারা ১২ অনুযায়ী এনায়েত কবির, স্বত্বাধিকারী-আলতাতিমিয়া, পিতা- মরহুম আফসার আলী, মাতাঃ মিসেস মমতাজ বেগম, ব্যবসায়িক ঠিকানাঃ বাড়ী নং ৩৯, রোড নং-০২, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। কারখানা ঠিকানাঃ বাড়ী নং ৩৬৬, রোড নং ২৮, নিউ ডিওএইচএস, ঢাকা-এর নিকট ৩১.০৩.২০০৮ইং তারিখ পর্যন্ত সুদসহ টাকা ৬২,২১,৫৬১.৭৮, মামলা ও অন্যান্য বরচ এবং আদায়কালকৃত সুদ আদায়ের জন্য নিম্ন তফসিলভুক্ত বরকীকৃত নিম্নবর্ণিত সম্পত্তিসমূহ বিক্রয়ের জন্য নিম্নবর্ণিত শর্তাদিতে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আবেদন করা যাইতেছে।

১। স্বর্ণ গ্রহীতার নাম ও ঠিকানাঃ এনায়েত কবির, স্বত্বাধিকারী-আলতাতিমিয়া, ব্যবসায়িক ঠিকানাঃ বাড়ী নং ৩৯, রোড নং-০২, ধানমন্ডি, ঢাকা। কারখানা ঠিকানাঃ বাড়ী নং ৩৬৬, রোড নং-২৮, নিউ ডিওএইচএস, ঢাকা।

২। বরকীকৃত স্থাবর সম্পত্তির তফসিল বর্ণনাঃ

১) জেলা ঢাকা, থানা সাবজেক্টেড অফিসঃ সুলতান, মোজাঃ দক্ষিণ খান, জে এল নং সাবজেক্ট-১৯৩, হাল-৩৪, দাগ নং-৩৮৭৩ সিএস বতিয়ান নং ৭৫৬, এস এ বতিয়ান নং ৪৯৪. জমির পরিমাণ ৮০ শতাংশ।

৩। দরপত্রের শর্তাবলীঃ

ক) দরদাতার নাম, পিতার নাম, পূর্ণাঙ্গ স্থায়ী ও বর্তমান ঠিকানা দরপত্রে উল্লেখ করিতে হইবে।

খ) দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার সময়সীমাঃ ০৫-০৫-২০০৮ইং দুপুর ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে সরাসরি কিংবা বেলিভিকৃত ডাকযোগে বেসিক ব্যাংক লিঃ, প্রধান শাখাঃ ৭৩, মতিঝিল বা/এ, ঢাকা-তে রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাস্তব দাখিল করিতে হইবে এবং এদিনই ১০ ঘটিকায় দরদাতাদের সামনে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হইবে।

গ) প্রত্যেক দরদাতা, উক্ত দর অনর্গল দশ লক্ষ টাকা হইলে উহার ২০% উক্ত দর দশ লক্ষ টাকার অধিক এবং অনূর্ধ্ব পঞ্চাশ লক্ষ টাকা হইলে উহার ১৫% এবং উক্ত দর পঞ্চাশ লক্ষ টাকার অধিক হইলে উহার ১০% সম পরিমাণ টাকার, জামানত স্বরূপ ব্যাংক ড্রাফট বা পে-অর্ডার বেসিক ব্যাংক লিঃ, প্রধান শাখার অনুকূলে দরপত্রের সহিত দাখিল করিতে হইবে।

ঘ) অনূর্ধ্ব দশ লক্ষ টাকার উক্ত দর গৃহীত হইবার পরবর্তী ৩০ দিনের মধ্যে এবং পঞ্চাশ লক্ষ টাকার অধিক উক্ত দর গৃহীত হইবার পরবর্তী ৯০ দিনের মধ্যে, দরদাতা সমুদয় মূল্য পরিশোধ করিবেন এবং তাহা করিতে ব্যর্থ হইলে জামানতের টাকা বাজেয়াপ্ত হইবে। তবে শর্ত থাকে যে, সুদৃষ্টি ভিত্তিক-আর্থিক প্রতিষ্ঠান লিখিত দরখাস্ত দাখিল করিয়া দায়িকের সুবিধার্থে সময়সীমার অনূর্ধ্ব ৬০ দিন পর্যন্ত বর্ধিত করিতে পারিবে।

ঙ) দরপত্রে বরকীকৃত সম্পত্তিসমূহের প্রত্যেককৃত মূল্য অস্বাভাবিকভাবে অপর্যাপ্ত বা কম প্রতীয়মান হইলে, ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ দরপ্রস্তাব বাতিল করিতে পারিবে। কোন কারণ দর্শানো ছাড়া অত্র ব্যাংক কর্তৃপক্ষ যে কোন দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা যে কোন/কল দরপত্র বাতিল করার অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করিবে।

চ) দরপত্রে মাধ্যমে নিলামে অংশগ্রহণে ইচ্ছুক ব্যক্তিগত বিস্তারিত তথ্য অবগত হইবার জন্য নিম্ন স্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে যোগাযোগ করিতে পারিবেন।

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ফোন নং ৯৫৬৩০৮৯

Chattagram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital

Agrabad, Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh.
Phone 718521, 718525, 711236, 2520063 Fax: 2525409 E-mail: cmosh@globalctg.net

Election Notice (2008-2011)

It is hereby notified for information to all valued Life Members of Chattagram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital that the date of election of the Executive Committee of Chattagram Maa-O-Shishu Hospital has been fixed on **Saturday June 07, 2008 (8 A.M to 4 P.M) at Hospital Campus.** Voter list (including donor voter list) will be hung on the Notice Board of the Hospital on **April 22, 2008.** Life members enlisted on or before March 31,2008 are eligible for voting.

Voters are requested to collect their identity cards. Identity card holders only are eligible for casting their votes.

Election shall be conducted as per election schedule.

Dr. Anjuman-Ara Islam
General Secretary, Executive Committee.

BIFC BANGLADESH INDUSTRIAL FINANCE CO. LTD.

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