Nepal Maoists in talks with US to remove terrorist tag

PTI, *Kathmandu*

Emboldened by a spectacular showing in Nepal's landmark elections, the Maoists, who are set to head a new government, want the US not to brand the former rebels as terrorists any more.

A top Maoist leader said talks are underway with US officials for removing the "terrorist tag" which the Maoists got during their decade-long civil war.

"We are trying to establish close links with the US...Talks are going on in several fronts in this regard," said C P Gajurel, a central committee member of the Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist.

"We are requesting them (United States) to remove the terrorist tag that they have put for our party...Our doors are always open to all US officials if they want to talk to us," Gajurel, who is also chief of the international bureau of the party, was quoted as saying by the TelegraphNepal online.

Speaking at an interaction programme in the capital yesterday, Gajurel said the US may feel embarrassed in sticking to the "terrorist tag" for the Maoists.

Former US president Jimmy Carter, who was in Nepal to monitor the constituent assembly election on April 10, had said the results indicated a major transition for the Himalayan state.

"If the Maoists do gain a substantial share of power I hope the United States will recognise and do business with the government," Carter had said.

He stressed that the Maoists have changed their behaviour by resorting to peaceful democratic process. Carter hoped the American government will reconsider its "terrorist tag" on the Maoists as they have joined the democratic process.

Britain wants a long-term partnership with Pakistan

Says British foreign secretary

AFP, *Peshawar*

Visiting Foreign Secretary David Miliband yesterday said Britain wanted a long-term partnership with Pakistan to end militancy in its tribal area bordering Afghanistan.

Miliband was in Peshawar city in northwestern Pakistan, close to the Afghanistan border, for talks with new local government leaders. He is due to meet Prime Minister Yousaf Raza Gilani in Islamabad on Monday.

"Britain is going to be a partner for a long term. We are not here for a quick fix," Miliband told a press conference later.

"We are here for a long-term partnership with the country with whom we have very strong cultural, economic and political ties."

In Peshawar Miliband met provincial governor Owais Ghani and chief minister Amir Haider Hoti to discuss security issues and ongoing cooperation over development in Pakistan's tribal areas, officials said.

A new government comprising secular parties has replaced the Islamist-led administration of Muttahida Majlis-e-Amal which ruled the rugged and lawless North West Frontier Province between 2002-2007.

Britain is providing development aid for Pakistan, especially in its troubled tribal areas bordering Afghanistan, a known hideout for al-Qaeda and Taliban militants.

Miliband said that this area was of significant concern for his country because of its links with terrorist incidents in Britain.

"But there is no question that across the Afghan-Pakistan border it is an area that is of major interest to the United Kingdom because the origin of the significant amount of terrorism we face had links back to here," he said.

"So we want to work very closely with the authorities here on security issues."

Miliband also met Pakistanis who had been victims of terrorism.

"And no one meeting the survivors and the relatives of those killed in recent terrorist incidents as I have met today could fail to recognise that terrorism is a problem for Pakistanis, not just a problem for the outside world," he added.

Earlier this month Britain's Home Secretary Jacqui Smith visited Pakistan and said that her country was urgently looking at ways to enhance anti-terrorism cooperation with Pakistan's new national government.

Pakistan became a key ally in the US-led "war on terror" under President Pervez Musharraf in 2001, but its policies against Islamic militancy have come under scrutiny since Musharraf's allies were trounced in February polls.

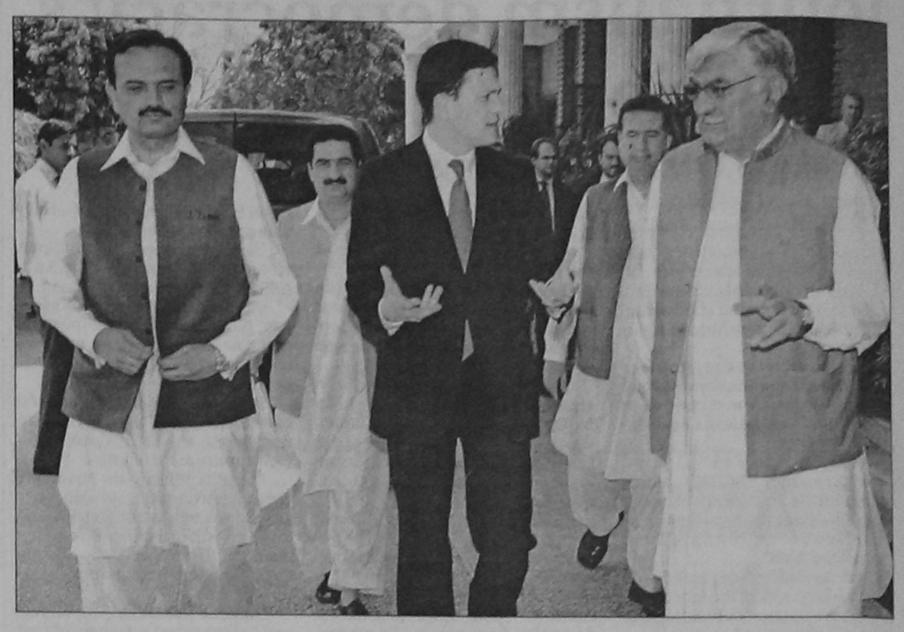

PHOTO: AFP

British Foreign Secretary David Miliband is (C) talking with Asfandyar Wali Khan (R), chief of Pakistani political party Awami National Party (ANP) and new government coalition partners at his residence in Peshawar yesterday. Miliband said that Britain wanted a long-term partnership with Pakistan to end militancy in its tribal area bordering Afghanistan.

PHOTO: AFP

A young demonstrator looks out during a protest organised by the Ethnic Catering Alliance Association at Trafalgar Square in London yesterday. The organisation, is formed by the Chinese, Bangladeshi, Indian, Pakistani and Turkish catering communities and aims to draw the government's attention to the problems they face as a result of current immigration policies. The group wants the British government to ease new restrictions on migrant workers for the ethnic restaurant market.

Tigers accuse Lanka of killing Catholic priest

Warplanes bomb speed boats operated by rebels

AFP, *Colombo*

Sri Lankan forces yesterday killed a Roman Catholic priest who was also a top human rights campaigner inside rebel-held territory, Tiger guerrillas said as fighting raged in the troubled north.

The rebel Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) said Father MX Karunaratnam was killed in a roadside bomb attack carried out by government troops, which infiltrated the Mallavi area.

The priest headed the North East Secretariat on Human Rights, a group active in guerrilla-held Wanni region in the north of the island, the Tigers said in a statement.

It said a "deep penetrating unit" of the Sri Lankan army carried out the assassination, but there was no immediate word from the military. Security forces routinely deny carrying out attacks inside rebel-held territory.

However, troops are leading a major offensive to break through rebel defences in the Wanni in a bid to dismantle the de facto mini state of the guerrillas.

Earlier Sunday, the defence ministry Sunday claimed its war planes bombed speed boats operated by Tamil Tiger rebels, but the guerrillas said only a village rebuilt after the December 2004 tsunami had been hit.

Aircraft carried out the bombing raid in the seas off Mullaitivu on Saturday evening after spy planes spotted the rebel boat formation, the defence ministry said in a statement.

"The air raid was successful," the statement said without giving details.

The LTTE said two civilians were wounded in the air attack.

"Many of the tsunami homes built with the assistance of the German Red Cross were damaged in this bombing," the Tigers said in a statement. "More than 20 boats and other fishing equipment belonging to the fishermen of the area were also destroyed."

The air strike came as ground battles raged along front lines in Wanni where the military reported that 30 rebels and one government soldier were killed since Friday.

al-Qaeda offers 'head of American' as gift to Bush

AFP, *Dubai*

A leader of al-Qaeda in Iraq has announced a one-month campaign in which the group will "offer the head of an American" as a gift to US President George W. Bush, according to an audiotape made public on Saturday.

Abu Hamza al-Muhajir, better known as Abu Ayyub al-Masri, made the announcement in a speech entitled, "The Paths to Victory," monitored by the SITE Intelligence Group.

In the speech to Islamist forums, he said Mujahedeen, or holy warriors, would "offer the head of an American as a gift to the deceitful Bush, in any manner (they) see fit."

The campaign, to be called "Attack of Righteousness," was announced in "celebration" of Bush announcing that 4,000 Americans had died in the war in Iraq.

US commanders sought authority to attack inside Pakistan

AFP, *Washington*

US military commanders operating in Afghanistan have sought permission to attack Pakistani militants hiding in tribal areas inside Pakistan, but so far have been denied it because of diplomatic considerations, The New York Times reported on its website Saturday.

Citing unnamed US officials, the newspaper said senior officials in the administration of President George W. Bush fear that attacking Pakistani radicals may anger Pakistan's new government.

Pakistani military operations in the tribal areas have slowed recently to avoid upsetting the negotiations between the country's government and the militants.

US intelligence officials believe the threat emanating from Pakistan's tribal areas is growing, and that Pakistani Islamist groups there are becoming an ally of al-Qaeda in plotting attacks against Americans and their allies in Afghanistan, the report said.

In light of this, the US military's proposals included limited cross-border artillery strikes into Pakistan, missile attacks by Predator aircraft or raids by small teams of CIA paramilitary forces or Special Operations forces, the paper said.

The list of potential targets, which has been discussed with US Ambassador to Pakistan Anne Patterson, included a group commanded by Sirajuddin Haqqani, son of the legendary militant leader Jalaluddin Haqqani, as well as the network led by Baitullah Mehsud that is believed to have been behind Benazir Bhutto's assassination, The Times said.

Iran rejects 'baseless' bomb claims ahead of IAEA visit

AFP, *Tehran*

Iran yesterday rejected claims presented to the UN atomic watchdog that it may have been studying how to develop a nuclear weapon, a day ahead of a visit by a top International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) official.

"These are nothing but baseless and unfounded allegations," foreign ministry spokesman Mohammad Ali Hosseini told reporters. "The peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear programme has already been proven."

IAEA deputy director general Olli Heinonen is due in Tehran on Monday for talks with officials on the alleged weaponisation studies, the Vienna-based atomic agency announced on Saturday.

Heinonen gave a closed-door briefing to diplomats at IAEA headquarters on February 25 about evidence from member states suggesting that Iran could have been studying how to use its nuclear technology to make a warhead.

PHOTO: AFP

A Nepalese mother and child break stones at a quarry on the outskirts of Kathmandu on April 03, 2008. Nepal's Maoist leader Prachanda has promised "economic miracles" for the impoverished Himalayan country as the former rebels looked set to score a surprise victory in landmark polls.

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড
Bangladesh Power Development Board

ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন) দপ্তর
বড়পুকুরিয়া কয়লাভিত্তিক তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র
বিউবো, দিনাজপুর

খোলা দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে মিতব্যয়ী হোন

০১।	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	ঃ	বিদ্যুৎ বিভাগ, বিদ্যুৎ জ্বালানী ও খনিজ সম্পদ মন্ত্রণালয়।
০২।	প্রকিউরিং এনটিটি	ঃ	বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড।
০৩।	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা	ঃ	ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন), বড়পুকুরিয়া কয়লাভিত্তিক তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, বিউবো, পার্বতীপুর, দিনাজপুর।
০৪।	কাজের এলাকা (জেলা)	ঃ	দিনাজপুর।
০৫।	কাজের নাম	ঃ	বড়পুকুরিয়া কয়লা ভিত্তিক তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্রের কোল, এ্যাশ এন্ড ফুয়েল হ্যান্ডেলিং সিস্টেম পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ, ১৪ (চৌদ্দ)টি ডিপ-টিউবওয়েল পাম্প পরিচালন এবং ওয়াটার ট্রিটমেন্ট প্ল্যান্ট ও রসায়ন বিভাগের পরিচালন কাজ করার জন্য ঠিকাদারের মাধ্যমে কর্মঘন্টা সরবরাহ কাজ।
০৬।	কাজের পদ্ধতি	ঃ	খোলা দরপত্র পদ্ধতি।
০৭।	অর্থের উৎস	ঃ	নিজস্ব অর্থে।
০৮।	টেন্ডার নং ও তারিখ	ঃ	বপুতাবিকে/এমও/এসি-৬/২০০৮/২৭৫ তারিখঃ ১২-০৪-২০০৮ইং।
০৯।	বায়নার টাকা	ঃ	২,৫০,০০০/- (দুই লক্ষ পঞ্চাশ হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (ফেরতযোগ্য), উপ-পরিচালক (হিসাব), আহিসেল, বিউবো, বড়পুকুরিয়া, দিনাজপুর বরাবরে যে কোন তফসিল ব্যাংক হতে ইস্যুকৃত ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার আকারে। নির্ধারিত অংকের আর্নেস্টমানি ছাড়া দরপত্র নন-রেসপনসিভ ও বাতিল বলিয়া গণ্য হবে।
১০।	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য	ঃ	৯,০০০/- (নয় হাজার) টাকা মাত্র (অফেরতযোগ্য) মূল্যমানের ব্যাংক ড্রাফট/পে-অর্ডার উপ-পরিচালক (হিসাব), আহিসেল, বিউবো, বড়পুকুরিয়া, দিনাজপুর বরাবরে জমা দিতে হবে।
১১।	দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তি স্থান	ঃ	ক) প্রধান প্রকৌশলী (পওস), বড়পুকুরিয়া তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, বিউবো, দিনাজপুর দপ্তরে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। খ) নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অনুমতি স্বাপেক্ষে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে সোনালী ব্যাংক, কয়লা খনি প্রকল্প শাখা, পার্বতীপুর, দিনাজপুর হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে। গ) তত্ত্বাবধায়ক প্রকৌশলী, পরিচালন ও সংরক্ষণ সার্কেল, বিউবো, সুইহারী, দিনাজপুর দপ্তরে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।
১২।	দরপত্র বিক্রয়ের শেষ তারিখ	ঃ	১৮-০৫-২০০৮ইং দপ্তর চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
১৩।	দরপত্র দাখিলের স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন), বড়পুকুরিয়া কয়লাভিত্তিক তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, বিউবো, পার্বতীপুর, দিনাজপুর। ১৯-০৫-২০০৮ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত দরপত্র দাখিল করা যাইবে।
১৪।	দরপত্র খোলার স্থান, তারিখ ও সময়	ঃ	ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন), বড়পুকুরিয়া কয়লাভিত্তিক তাপ বিদ্যুৎ কেন্দ্র, বিউবো, পার্বতীপুর, দিনাজপুর। ১৯-০৫-২০০৮ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকার সময় দরপত্রদাতাগণ/তাহাদের প্রতিনিধিগণ এর উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ থাকেন) খোলা হবে।
১৫।	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	ঃ	ক) পর্যাপ্ত দক্ষ/অদক্ষ/বিভিন্ন ক্যাটাগরীর জনবল সম্বলিত প্রতিষ্ঠান যাহাদের দক্ষ/অদক্ষ শ্রমিক সরবরাহ বিষয়ে পূর্ব অভিজ্ঞতা ও সুনাম আছে এবং উল্লেখিত ধরণের জনবল সরবরাহ কাজে প্রয়োজনীয় পেশাগত ও কারিগরী যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠান যাহাদের আর্থিক সঙ্গতি ও অন্যান্য ভৌত সুবিধাদি রহিয়াছে। খ) ভ্যাট রেজিষ্ট্রেশন, ট্রেড লাইসেন্স, ব্যাংক সলভেন্সী সার্টিফিকেট এবং আয়কর প্রদানের (টিআইএন) সনদপত্র হালনাগাদ থাকিতে হইবে। দরপত্র দাখিলের সময় উল্লেখিত কাগজপত্র দরপত্রের সঙ্গে দাখিল করিতে হইবে। গ) দরপত্র সিডিউল সংগ্রহের সময় উল্লেখিত দলিলাদি প্রদর্শন করিতে হইবে।
১৬।	বিশেষ নির্দেশনা	ঃ	ক) পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট রেগুলেশন ২০০৩ইং এর শর্তাবলী ছাড়াও সিডিউলে বর্ণিত এবং বিউবোর্ড কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত ও যে কোন সময় আরোপিত শর্তাবলী মানিতে বাধ্য থাকিবেন। খ) দরদাতাগণকে একক দরসহ সর্বমোট মূল্য অংকে এবং কথায় স্পষ্টাক্ষরে দরপত্রে লিখিতে হইবে। গ) দরদাতাগণকে দরপত্রের প্রতি পৃষ্ঠায় (সিডিউলসহ) সীলমোহরসহ স্বাক্ষর করিতে হইবে। ঘ) কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকেই যে কোন অথবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল বা গ্রহণ করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

বিশেষ দ্রষ্টব্যঃ দরপত্রের সাথে যে সকল দলিলপত্র দাখিল করতে হবে তার বিবরণসহ শর্তাবলীর অন্যান্য বিবরণ সিডিউলে বর্ণিত আছে।

মোঃ আকবর আলী
ব্যবস্থাপক (পরিচালন)
আইডি নং-০১-২৯৩
বপুতাবিকে, বিউবো, দিনাজপুর

বিদ্যুৎ/জন-১১৩৯(৪)/১৫-৪-০৮
জিডি-১৮৯৫

ওয়াসা

Invitation for Tenders

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Local Government Rural Development and Co-operative/Local Government Division.
2.	Agency	Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA).
3.	Procuring entity name	Project Director, Emergency Rehabilitation & Expansion of Water Supply System Project (EREWSSP).
4.	Invitation for	Procurement of 200 mm, 150mm, 100 mm C-Class PVC pipes for water line within MODS Zone-1 & NG areas.
5.	Invitation No	TA/163/EREWSSP Date: 13/04/2008.
6.	Procurement method	National open tendering method (NOTM).
7.	Budget and source of funds	GOB
8.	Project code	
9.	Tender document last selling date	12.05.2008 during office hours.
10.	Tender closing date and time	13.05.2008 at 12.00 noon.
11.	Tender opening date and time	13.05.2008 at 2.00pm.
12.	Price of tender document	Tk 3,000/- (three thousand) only.
13.	Amount of tender security	Tk 5,00,000/- (five lac) only.
14.	Name & address of the offices selling tender document	1. Janata Bank, Kawran Bazar Corporate Branch/Fakirapool Branch/Posta Branch/ Mohammadpur Corporate Branch/Mirpur Section-1/Mohakhali Corporate Branch, Dhaka. 2. Agrani Bank, WASA Branch, Dhaka. 3. Uttara Bank, Kawran Bazar Branch, Dhaka.
15.	Address of the office receiving & opening tenders	Office of the Superintending Engineer & Project Director, EREWSS Project, Dhaka WASA, WASA Bhaban (5th Floor), 98, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215.
16.	Eligibility of tenderer	(i) The tenderer shall have a minimum 5 (five) years of overall experience in the supply of goods and (ii) The tenderer shall have a minimum 2 (two) years of specific experience in the supply of similar goods.
17.	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of 200 mm, 150 mm, 100 mm C-Class PVC pipes for water line within MODS Zone-1 & NG areas.
18.	Special instruction	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

Superintending Engineer
and
Project Director
EREWSS Project
Dhaka WASA, Dhaka

WASA-PI-369/2008
GD-1863