



Afghan children look at the place where a Western aid worker was kidnapped yesterday. Unidentified gunmen abducted a Western aid worker in a street in the Afghan capital and shot dead an Afghan who tried to rescue him, the government said.

# Gunmen kidnap Afghan govt adviser in Pakistan

## French national abducted in Kabul

AFP, AP, Peshawar

Gunmen have kidnapped an Afghan government official as he was visiting his in-laws in a Pakistani border town, police said yesterday.

Akhtar Kohistani, an adviser at the ministry of rural development, was whisked away from Chitral town late Sunday, hours after he arrived to see relatives in Pakistan, local police chief Sher Akbar told AFP.

Gunmen kidnapped a French aid worker off the street in Kabul yesterday and killed an intelligence agency employee who tried to stop the abduction, police said, the latest in a series of attacks against Westerners in the Afghan capital.

Three assailants tried to kidnap two French nationals, but after a

scuffle they got away with only one, said Mohammad Daud Amin, a police commander in the neighbourhood where the abduction took place.

"A resident tried to prevent this kidnapping. A kidnapper opened fire and killed him. They were able to kidnap one Frenchman," Amin told The Associated Press.

The Interior Ministry identified the resident as the driver of the intelligence chief of Panjshir province.

The abductions were the latest in a series since Afghanistan's ambassador-designate to Pakistan, Abdul Khaliq Farahi, was kidnapped in Pakistan in September.

"Unknown people knocked at his door late Sunday, requesting to meet Kohistani," but as soon as he came out he was bundled into a car

and taken away, the officer said.

"We are investigating the incident", which happened in a small village in the Darosh district of Chitral region, bordering the troubled Afghan province of Nuristan, he added.

Police were trying to identify the kidnappers, who could have come from Afghanistan. "He may have been taken to Afghanistan," the officer said.

No group has claimed responsibility and no demand has been received so far, police said.

Last Friday unidentified men kidnapped Zia ul-Haq, the brother of the Afghan revenue minister Anwar ul-Haq, who had been living in the northwestern Pakistani city of Peshawar, police said.

A professor of Jalalabad's

Aryana University, Abdul Haq Danishmal, was abducted from the tribal Khyber region last week.

Police say there has been a surge in kidnapping for ransom in the troubled North West Frontier Province and the rugged tribal region, and blame mainly militant groups.

Meanwhile, unidentified men have kidnapped an Afghan minister's brother who has been living in Pakistan's northwestern border city of Peshawar, police said Sunday.

Zia ul-Haq, 45, was whisked away from his home in suburbs of the capital city of North West Frontier Province, where Taliban and al-Qaeda-linked militants are active.

# Indian minister escapes bomb blast: Police

AFP, Kolkata

An Indian government minister escaped unhurt when a roadside bomb exploded seconds after his car had driven past, officials said yesterday, adding six policemen were injured in the blast.

Federal Steel Minister Ram Vilas Paswan was returning from laying the foundation stone at a steel plant in West Bengal state when the explosion occurred on Sunday.

"The blast took place seconds after Paswan's vehicle passed the spot," West Bengal home secretary Asoke Mohon Chakraborty told reporters in Kolkata.

Six people have been arrested and nearly a dozen detained for questioning, police said.

The attack happened in West Midnapore district bordering Jharkhand state, where Maoist rebels have a significant presence.

The landmine was packed in a plastic can so it could not be found by metal detectors, police officer Kuldeep Singh said.

# Dalai Lama admits Tibet autonomy drive failed

AFP, Tokyo

The Dalai Lama said Monday that the drive for greater autonomy for Tibet has ended in failure, urging Tibetans to be open to all options in negotiations with Beijing over the region's future.

The exiled leader is on a week-long visit to Japan for talks on spirituality as the latest negotiations between his envoys and Chinese officials were due to begin in Beijing.

He also hinted at his retirement and said he would ask Tibetans whether to continue the ancient tradition of appointing his successor by recognising his reincarnation.

"My trust in the Chinese government has become thinner, thinner, thinner. Suppression (in Tibet) is increasing and I cannot pretend that everything is OK," the Dalai Lama told a press conference here.

"I have to accept failure. Meantime among Tibetans in recent years, our approach failed to bring positive change inside Tibet, so criticism has also increased. So

there is no other alternative than to ask people," he added.

The Dalai Lama is calling a meeting later this month among Tibetans to decide on a future strategy towards the Chinese government, which accuses him of instigating unrest and secessionist ambitions in Tibet.

The first meeting in Dharamshala on November 17 will involve exiled Tibetan communities followed by another in New Delhi that will convene international supporters including lawmakers and former foreign ministers.

The meetings could mark a sea-change in the strategy for dealing with Beijing, which has ruled the Himalayan region since the early 1950s.

The Dalai Lama has long championed a "middle path" policy with China, which espouses "meaningful autonomy" for Tibet, rather than the full independence that many younger, more radical activists demand.

"I don't know what will happen," he said, refusing to state his own position.

# No govt action if Musharraf stays out of politics: Gilani

THE DAILY TIMES, Istanbul

The government will not make former president Gen (ret) Pervez Musharraf's life tougher as long as he stays out of politics, Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said on Sunday.

In an interview with a Turkish newspaper, Gilani said that the government "wanted a general reconciliation in the country and should focus on important issues such as terrorism, poverty, hunger, disease, health and education."

"Now, he (Musharraf) keeps a low profile. If he is not politically active, then we would not want to open too many fronts," he said.

"He (Musharraf) was convinced that he lacked the parliament's support, and he stepped down," said Gilani.

"Although parliament has not made a decision on his fate until now, the government is not seeking further punishment. He is a relic of the past. Why should we bother about him at the moment?" Gilani said.

# US should help resolve Kashmir issue: Obama

THE DAWN, Washington

The United States should try to resolve the Kashmir dispute, says US presidential front-runner Barack Obama while backing American efforts to promote a better understanding between India and Pakistan.

"We should probably try to facilitate a better understanding between Pakistan and India and try to resolve the Kashmir crisis so that they can stay focussed not on India, but on the situation with those militants," said Obama in an interview to MSNBC.

After the Sept 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the Bush administration adopted a new approach towards South Asia, urging Pakistan to review its traditional defence strategy that regards India as the main threat to its interests in the region.

Instead, the Americans want Pakistan to refocus its attention on fighting the militants operating along the Afghan border.

Although initiated by the outgo-

ing Republican administration, Senator Obama, a Democrat, also backs this policy.

"We also have to make the case that the biggest threat to Pakistan now is not India which has been the historical enemy," he said. "It is actually militants within their borders," said the senator in a separate interview with CNN.

In another interview on Sept 25, Obama had said that if elected president, he would "continue support of ongoing Indian Pakistani efforts to resolve Kashmir problem... to address the political roots of the arms race between India and Pakistan."

The statements won him an immediate praise from the Kashmiri American Centre whose Executive Director Ghulam Nabi Fai urged India to listen to the international community and resolve the 62-year-old dispute.

The Indian-American community, however, reacted angrily, urging Mr Obama to focus on domestic issues.



Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani (R) speaks to the new commander of US forces in the Middle East and Central Asia General David Petraeus (2nd L) and US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Boucher (L) during their meeting at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad yesterday. Pakistan voiced fears that further US missile strikes inside its territory could spark a violent backlash and severely hamper efforts to curb extremism.



A Sri Lankan reader looks at the state-run Daily News, which reports that the government will take a tough line against Tamil Tiger rebels in Colombo yesterday. Government forces are on a major offensive to dislodge the rebels from their northern stronghold of Kilinochchi.

# Razak set to be next Malaysian premier

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kuala Lumpur

Malaysian Deputy Prime Minister Najib Tun Razak has won the presidency of the ruling United Malay National Organisation (UMNO), which sets him on track to becoming the country's next premier.

Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmed Badawi, who is the outgoing UMNO chief, will make way for him in March next year for the twin posts.

Razak's victory, virtually unopposed, was expected, media reports said on Monday.

The 1953-born Razak is the eldest son of Abdul Razak, the second prime minister of Malaysia, and nephew of Hussein Onn, the third prime minister of Malaysia. He has been the deputy prime minister since 2004.

Razak had to win the party presidency to succeed Badawi as prime minister. By convention in the Barisan Nasional government, the UMNO president is prime minister.

এইচ.এস.সি - এর পর  
ACCA স্কলারশীপ  
এবং HND ভর্তি

বিমস্ কলেজ: এসিসিএ লিমিটেড ও এডভেন্সেল এ্যাঞ্চরভড

১ম ধাপ (F1-F4 Exemption): ১ম ধাপে যুক্তরাজ্যের সর্ববৃহৎ শিক্ষাবোর্ড Edexcel-এর অধীনে HND Accounting সম্পন্ন করতে সময় লাগবে সর্বোচ্চ ১.৫ বছর। এই পর্যায়ে পেমপারসমূহ সফলভাবে সম্পন্ন করতে পারলেই শিক্ষার্থীরা একই সাথে HND Accounting এবং CAT এর সার্টিফিকেট অর্জন করতে পারবে।

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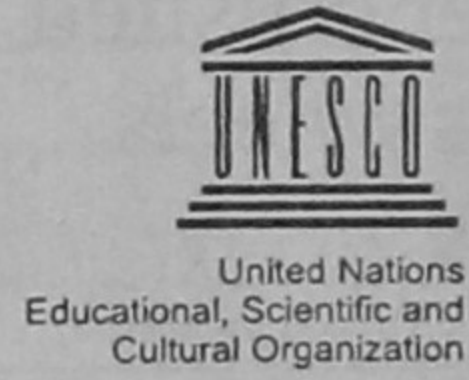
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# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



UNESCO Dhaka Office

Title: Administrative Assistant  
Grade: GS-07  
Contract Type: Fixed Term  
Duration: 2 years (renewable)

Vacancy Notice No.: BGD/FT  
Date of Issue: 04 November 2008  
Closing Date: 20 November 2008  
Duty Station: Dhaka, Bangladesh

## DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES

Under the authority of the Director of UNESCO Office in Dhaka - Bangladesh, the incumbent will assure the administrative and financial functions of the Administrative Unit of the office by carrying out the following tasks:

- Assist the Director and Programme staff of the office in the development of workplans and budgetary justifications for project and programme activities, assist in the establishment of the office's indirect costs budget. Monitor office expenditure to ensure compliance with financial rules and regulations, approve workplans and budget provisions; act as certifying officer within authorized delegated authority;
- Contribute to the preparation of project documents by establishing project budgets; ensure that all financial operations are in compliance with established rules and regulations;
- Monitor and report on budget implementation and expenditure of on-going programme activities/projects; review and revise the budget as necessary to reflect operational/financial requirements; provide input on an on-going basis for the preparation of financial progress reports and statements as required by donors;
- Monitor and review day-to-day personnel, financial and administrative operations of the office. Assist programme staff in preparing contracts, monitor availability of budget and its correct implementation; verify corresponding payment requests; be responsible for the use and recording of petty cash;
- Maintain liaison with officials of local banks and financial institutions and UNESCO counterparts in implementing the different programme activities; prepare imprest accounts and bank reconciliations;
- Ensure the correct maintenance of the personnel files and their confidentiality; provide advice and guidance to office personnel on administrative matters.
- Prepare administrative correspondence and special reports that may be of a confidential nature as required; assure administrative liaison and follow-up with appropriate central services and relevant sectors of the Secretariat on personnel and administrative issues;
- Ensure the provision of supplies, furniture and other contracted services, verifying their provision in the corresponding budget and workplans;
- Act as focal point for security and safety requirements of the office staff, equipment and premises;
- Provide occasional briefings and/or training with assistance from Headquarters or Regional Bureau for staff if necessary.
- Undertake any other relevant duty as required by the Director of Office.

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

### Education

At least an undergraduate degree and appropriate on-the-job training courses in Business Administration/ finance. Knowledge in accounting and operation of imprest accounts/bank reconciliation and ability to draft correspondence and reports on budgetary/financial matters.

### Experience

- At least 5 to 7 years experience in administrative/financial procedures, preferably in relations to the works of the United Nations Agencies and ability to absorb new financial and administration systems introduced in the organization.
- Knowledge and ability to use the word processing, spreadsheet, power point and data-base computer programmes.

### Language

Excellent knowledge of spoken and written English and Bengali.

## NOTE

Applicants should submit a brief resume of their relevant experience and other qualifications and send their applications by mail to: The Director & Representative, UNESCO Dhaka, House 68 (3<sup>rd</sup> floor), Road 1, Block I, Banani, Dhaka 12 13. Applications should reach to UNESCO latest by 20 November 2008.

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