government to conclude what is

During her visit to the region.

her 19th in two years, Rice will hold

talks with Israeli and Palestinian

leaders and attend a meeting in

peace mediators.

Egypt of the Middle East Quartet of

sides to define the progress made

Rice also hinted she wishes the

"I think at some point it will be

permit," Rice told reporters aboard constraint on the ability of any

"I think that whatever hap- the core conflict for Israel and

pens by the end of the year, the Palestinians ... But I think we

you've got a firm foundation for can sustain momentum," Rice

"Obviously Israel is in the important to work to wrap all of

quickly moving forward to a said.

played a key role in relaunching

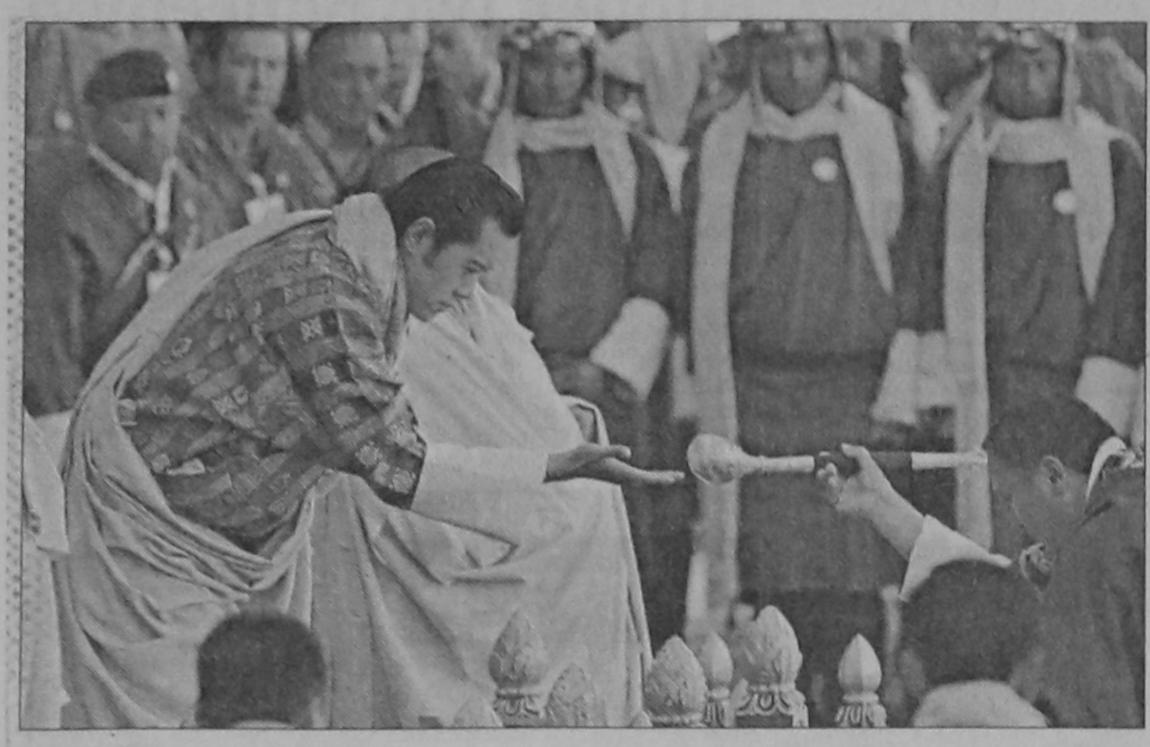
She admitted the peace process

which is now under a caretaker so far in the talks.

is affected by the decision to hold

state when political circumstances middle of elections and that is a that work up, one way or another."

THE WORLD



The new king of Bhutan, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck (L) takes part in a religious ceremony moments before his coronation in Thimphu yesterday. The isolated Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan crowned a new king, placing a charismatic Oxford-educated bachelor as head of state of the world's newest democracy.

Pakistan swaps four No ME peace deal in 2008 Taliban for 10 troops Admits Rice

The Kingdom of Bhutan

New king of the Buddhist nation crowned Thursday

AFP, Peshawar

Pakistani authorities yesterday freed an important Taliban comthe militants released 10 security operation in Hangu. officials in a northwestern town, local officials said.

tribal elders in restive Hangu district, local government official Khan Afzal said.

He said the authorities released said. Pakistani Taliban commander Maulana Rafiuddin with three of his men after the Taliban agreed to authorities kept him under detenseven paramilitary troops.

Hangu district, which has a history of violence between minority Shiite and majority Sunni sects, surrounded a police station and is close to tribal areas bordering Afghanistan where pro-Taliban militants are active.

unrest, with Islamist violence on the troubled region.

Population 670,000

Area 47,000 sq km

Economy

(roughly the size of Switzerland)

GDP US\$1.10 billion (2007)

and mining

19.1% growth in 2007

Services Agriculture

the rise involving suicide attacks, bomb blasts and abductions targeting security officials.

Raffuddin was arrested in July mander and three other rebels after after security forces launched an in her latest bid to push Middle

Officials at the time described sides may not achieve the goal of a conclusion," said Rice who him as a deputy of the Tehreek-i-The swap was negotiated by Taliban Pakistan's Baitullah

"We negotiated the deal with Taliban and the authorities," Afzal | presidency to Barack Obama on

Rafiuddin was granted bail by a local court in September but the release three army soldiers and tion under new charges, residents

> His arrest triggered trouble in the area and Taliban militants whisked away security officials.

The release was negotiated after tribal elders said Rafiuddin's Pakistan is facing growing release would help restore peace in

11 die in Russia blast

AFP, Moscow

AFP, Tel Aviv

January 20.

US Secretary of State Condoleezza

Rice arrived in Israel on Thursday

East peace, but tacitly admitted the

Annapolis process has laid ground-

work which should make possible

the establishment of a Palestinian

George W. Bush hands over the Maryland.

deal by the year's end.

Eleven people were killed by a and off an explosion occurred road around the badly damaged suspected terrorist blast that outside the vehicle," Interfax ripped through a minibus in the quoted an anonymous press officer southern Russian city of for the local branch of the interior Vladikavkaz on Thursday, security forces said, quoted by Russian news agencies.

street in the centre of the city, said it had opened a terrorism devastating 2004 school hostage region of the restive Russian Novostinews agencies reported.

packed with people at the time of had sought medical help.

Rice stressed the US-backed the peace process at a November

"It is our expectation that the February 20 elections in Israel,

peace process will continue after 2007 conference in Annapolis,

ministry as saying. The investigative committee of

the Russian prosecution service The blast occurred in a busy put the latest death toll at 11 and which lies in the North Ossetia investigation, Interfax and RIA

Interfax quoted emergency Witnesses said the bus was services as saying 28 injured people

In the immediate aftermath, "As passengers were getting on bodies could be seen lying in the white public minibus.

> Large crowds gathered around a police cordon to view the damage, television pictures showed.

> North Ossetia lies on Russia's southern border with Georgia.

> The region was the scene of the crisis at Beslan and lies close to several regions racked by instability in recent years, including Chechnya, Dagestan and Ingushetia.

Lanka unveils largest war budget

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka vesterday unveiled its biggest ever war budget, imposed a new tax to boost nationwide rebuilding efforts and downgraded its economic growth forecast to a four-year low.

who is also the commander-inchief and finance minister, announced a one percent tax on defence expenses rise to 1.6 billion most goods and services in a bid to fund war-related reconstruction expenses.

Nation Building Tax as a social contribution towards welfare of security forces, and to rebuild communities and infrastructure facilities affected by terrorism," he told parliament.

The government is fighting the accord priority for development percent in 2007.

Dhaka, Bangladesh

will be based in Dhaka, Chittagong, Barisal and Rangpur.

when required. The roster will remain valid for one year.

Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam and welfare, whilst seeking a politi-(LTTE), who have been trying to carve out a homeland for minority

on both sides since 1972. Sri Lankan troops are currently locked in a fierce offensive to dis-President Mahinda Rajapakse, mantle the Tigers' main stronghold in the north of the island.

claimed tens of thousands of lives

Rajapakse's new budget will see dollars in calendar year 2009, up from 1.5 billion dollars in 2008.

The president said Sri Lanka The president proposed "a needed to address the consequences of "terrorist activities" that had destroyed hospitals, schools, roads and railways in the past three decades.

> "The time has now come to rebuild these. As such we should

United Nations World Food Programme

Announcement for Developing

Recruitment Roster for Immediate

and Future WFP Vacancies

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Bangladesh will

develop a Roster of qualified, energetic, and experienced Bangladeshi

nationals who have experience in Emergency Relief operations, Food/Cash

for Work, Nutrition interventions etc. and are interested in field based

monitoring and reporting activities. The Roster will be used for immediate

and future engagement(s) under short-term contract as per WFP rules, for

WFP emergency Food-assistance programmes in Bangladesh. The positions

Graduation with social science background from recognized college/university with minimum 3 years of relevant field experience is essential for applying. The remuneration will be in the range of Tk 30,000 to

50,000 depending on level of experience. Eligible and interested candidates

are requested to send their recent curriculum vitae (with contact telephone

number, name & addresses of three references) along with a recent passport

size photograph in a sealed envelope to: Human Resources Officer, WFP, UN Offices, IDB Bhaban, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon, Dhaka,

Bangladesh or e-mail to: Bangladesh Vacancy Announcement@wfp.org

Note: Who can join work (if selected) with 7-10 days notice are

requested to apply. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted, as and

WFP is an equal opportunity employer and promotes principles to achieve

gender balance among its staff.

cal solution," he said.

He announced increased taxes Tamils, in a conflict that has on imported food, electrical and household goods. He also raised import and export cargo tax from three percent to five percent.

Official figures showed that state expenses for 2009 will increase 15 percent to 15.6 billion dollars, nearly twice the expected government revenue of 7.92 billion

The government hopes to bridge the deficit with local and foreign loans.

Rajapakse said the island's 2008 economic growth was downgraded to 6.5 percent, down from an earlier projected figure of 7.0 percent. The island's economy grew by 6.8

Putin preparing Kremlin comeback next year

AFP, Moscow

President Dmitry Medvedev's proposal to extend the presidential term in Russia paves the way for Vladimir Putin's return to the presidency in 2009, a newspaper reported Thursday, citing Kremlin sources.

The Vedomosti daily cited a source close to the presidential administration as saying that the proposal, made by Medvedev in a speech on Wednesday, would lead to elections and was part of a broader plan for Putin's comeback.

7 more Afghan civilians killed in US-led strike

Politics

is new head of state

Source: WB/Govt

▶ King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck

power for the king and ushered in a new

era of constitutional monarchy

(Fifth ruler of Wangchuck dynasty in power since 1907)

Historic elections in March 2008 ended absolute

Manufacturing,

power, construction

An airstrike in northwest Afghanistan killed 13 Taliban militants and seven civilians yesterday, Afghan officials said, a day after President Hamid Karzai demanded a halt to civilian casualties in USled coalition operations.

ducted missile strikes in and two children, were killed in the Afghanistan and in Pakistan's tribal areas along the border strikes US Gen. David H Petraeus tary in Afghanistan said they are said Thursday have killed three of aware of "possible civilian casualthe top 20 extremist leaders there.

another coalition airstrike in the south of the country killed 37 people, mostly woman and children.

The Thursday incident happened in Chormach district of Badghis province, where a three-hour long clash between the militants and Afghan and foreign troops preceded an airstrike that hit the house of a provincial council member, said deputygovernor Abdul Ghani Saburi.

061108 AFP

Thirteen militants and seven The United States has con- civilians, including two women attack, he said.

A statement from the US milities that may have occurred while The strike came just days after responding to an insurgent ambush on a route clearance patrol in the Ghormach district of Badghis province.'

USAID Job Opportunity Care



CARE Bangladesh invites applications from qualified candidates for SHOUHARDO program for the following position, to be based at CARE Bangladesh Headquarters, on contract up-to May 2010.

Technical Coordinator- Empowerment

Job Summary: The incumbent is responsible to strengthen technical capacity needed to enhance the empowerment of women, girls and adolescents from poorest households living in the vulnerable areas of chars, haors, costal regions and urban slums. Ensure that program participants are participating in enhanced education or functional education opportunities and life skills development program. Facilitate strategies to ensure participation of women in School Management Committees, Parent-Teacher Associations, different standing and general communities of Union Parishads/Pourasavas to increase the community and Local Support Structures responsiveness to women and girls, to ensure effective voicing of concerns, mobilization of resources and influencing decisions. Sensitize males, elders and leaders in the community on women's entitlements. Enhance capacity of women's groups to identify, analyze problems and opportunities and develop action plans to access and mobilize resources. Create linkage between regional and national women's networks for greater voice in policy and law making for reproductive rights, family laws and violence against women.

Core Qualifications and Competencies:

· Masters in Social Sciences, Gender and Development. Minimum 5 years professional experience in the relevant field. · Experience in Advocacy for women and girls at the local and national levels. · Awareness and understanding of the condition and position of women and girls in the chars, haors and costal areas and urban slums and the factors that influence this.

· Experience of using "Reflect Circle", "life skills development" approach and participatory development approaches. · Excellent verbal and written communication skills.

Should have good understanding of MS office applications.

Compensation: Gross Salary for above position is Tk. 45,000.00 per month, plus other admissible benefits as per organizational policy.

Interested candidates who fulfill the above requirements are requested to drop or mail their CVs (with cover letter, recent passport size photograph, and names/addresses of two non-relative referees) at: CARE-Bangladesh, 20-21, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka by addressing Manager, HRD&M Department or e-mail at hr@carebangladesh.org on or before November 16, 2008.

Note: > Women are particularly encouraged to apply > Any persuasion will disqualify the candidates > Internal and external applicants shall be treated equally in the entire selection process . Applicants who have relatives in CARE are discouraged to apply > Only short listed candidates shall be invited for the interview > Please write the position applied for at the top right hand corner of the envelope. Visit CARE web-site on: www.carebd.org

We seek a world of hope, tolerance, and social justice, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity and security

care°

by 20 November 2008.

কেয়ার বাংলাদেশ উহার কিছু ব্যবহৃত পুরানো দ্রব্যাদি যেমনঃ কম্পিউটার, विनोत, इड नि धन, कारमता, नानिन, उधहिन, निक्यान, স্টেবিলাইজার, ফার্নিচার, স্পেয়ার পার্টস, স্ক্র্যাবস, টায়ারটিউবস, মবিল ক্যান এবং ইলেকট্রক্যাল দ্রব্যাদি ইত্যাদি যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে ভিত্তিতে বিক্রয়ের উদ্দেশ্যে আগ্রহী ক্রেতাদের নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আহবান করছে। আগ্রহী ক্রেতাগণ প্রতিসেট দরপত্র নগদ ১০০.০০ (একশত) টাকা মাত্র অফেরৎযোগ্য প্রদানপূর্বক কেয়ার-বাংলাদেশ হেড অফিসের "Reception desk" (প্রগতি আর, পি,আর সেন্টার, ৯ম তলা, ২০-২১, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-) হতে আগামী ৯, ১০, ১১, ১২, ১৩, ১৬ এবং ১৭ ইং নভেম্বর তারিখে সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা হতে বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে (মধ্যাহ্ন বিরতি ১:০০-১:৩০ বাদে) সিডিউল সংগ্রহ করতে পারবেন। পুরানো দ্রব্যাদি ট্রান্সপোর্ট সার্ভিসেস ডিপার্টমেন্ট, কেয়ার বাংলাদেশ ১/সি ফ্রি স্কুল স্ট্রীট, পান্থপথ, ঢাকা (হোটেল সুন্দর বনের উত্তর পাশে) এবং সেন্ট্রাল ওয়ারহাউজ, কেয়ার বাংলাদেশ, ৪২৯, ৪৩০, ৪৩১, ৪৩২ তেজগাঁও শিল্প এলাকা এই ঠিকানায় উপরোল্লিখিত তারিখে সকাল ১০:০০ ঘটিকা থেকে বিকাল ৩:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত (মধ্যাহ্ন বিরতি ১:০০-১:৩০ বাদে) সরেজমিনে দেখা যাবে। সীলমোহরকৃত দরপত্র আগামী নভেমর ১৮, ২০০৮ইং তারিখে সকাল ৯:০০ ঘটিকা হতে দুপুর ১:৪৫ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত প্রগতি আর,পি,আর সেন্টার, ৯ম তলা, ২০-২১, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫ ঠিকানায় রক্ষিত দরপত্র বাব্রে দাখিল করতে হবে এবং ঐ দিনেই বেলা ২:৩০ ঘটিকায় দরদাতা বা তাহাদের প্রতিনিধিদের উপস্থিতিতে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) দরপত্র খোলা হবে। দরপত্রের সহিত প্রদত্ত দরের ১৫% এর সমত্ল্য (ফেরতযোগ্য) বায়নার টাকা (আর্নেষ্ট মানি) কেবলমাত্র রাষ্ট্রায়ত্ত বা তফসীলি ব্যাংক কর্তৃক ইস্যুক্ত পে-অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট আকারে কেয়ার বাংলাদেশ এর অনুকলে অবশ্যই দাখিল করতে হবে। এ ক্ষেত্রে কোন প্রকার ব্যাংক গ্যারান্টি গ্রহণযোগ্য নহে। প্রয়োজনীয় বায়নার টাকা ব্যতীত দাখিলকৃত দরপত্র বাতিল বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

কর্তপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যাতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিল অথবা পুনঃ বিবেচনার অধিকার সংরক্ষন করেন।

এ্যাডমিনিস্টেটিভ অফিসার জেনারেল সার্ভিসেস সেকশান কেয়ার-বাংলাদেশ

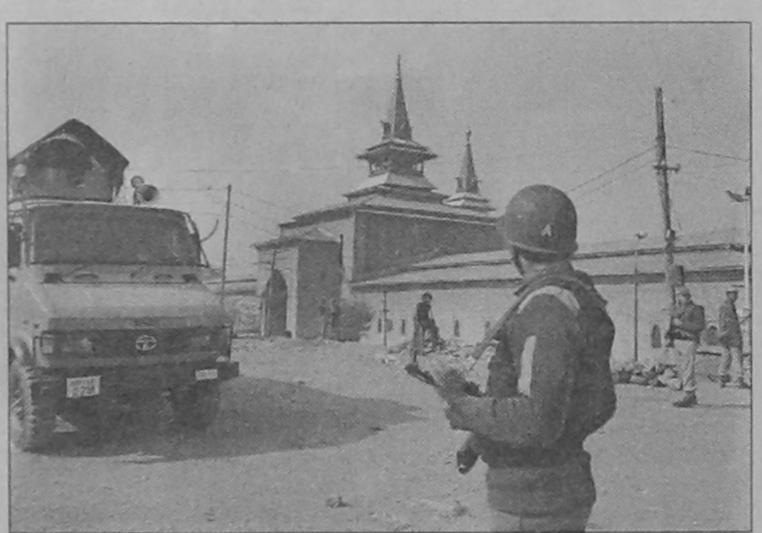


PHOTO: AFP

Indian Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel enforce a curfew outside the Jamia Masjid grand mosque in downtown Srinagar yesterday to prevent a rally planned by separatists. Thousands of troops were deployed in Indian-held Kashmir to prevent a protest rally called by separatist leaders against Indian rule in the Muslim-majority region.

Troops deployed in Kashmir to scuttle anti-India protests

AFP, Srinagar

Thousands of troops were deployed in Indian Kashmir Thursday to prevent a protest rally called by separatist leaders against New Delhi's rule in the Muslimmajority region.

"Heavy deployment has been made in Srinagar and other major towns of the valley to foil the separatist rally," a police official told

Protesters had planned to march to an important mosque in downtown Srinagar, but awoke to tight security with heavily-armed police manning street corners and checking vehicles.

The police official said no curfew was in place but restrictions on movement had been imposed to "maintain law and order."

Moderate separatist leader Mirwaiz Umer Farooq, who was to lead the rally, criticised the government for crushing the "voice of the

"I have been placed under house arrest since yesterday," Farooq, Kashmir's head cleric, told AFP from his residence on the outskirts of the city.

In the past few months, Kashmir has witnessed the biggest proindependence demonstrations "The Indian police are not since an insurgency erupted in 1989. The protests have been met allowing anyone out of their homes," said local resident Javid with a tough crackdown by Indian Ahmad, who lives near the securityforces,

Islamic Relief seeks a caring world where the basic requirements of people in need are fulfilled.



Islamic Relief is an International Development Organization based in UK and working in Bangladesh since 1991. Islamic Relief seeks to promote sustainable economic and social advancement by working with local communities through relief and develoment programs. IR aims to help the needy regardless of race, religion and gender.

IR is seeking highly motivated professionals to apply for the following post;

1. Programme Evaluation and Developoment Advisor (PEDA): Country Office Dhaka, with frequent field visit:

Responsibilities: The PEDA will be responsible for program development of IR Bangladesh, designing projects and writing quality project proposals, initiate new programs, providing the necessary advise to sector managers in the field of program development and evaluation and conducting necessary studies and surveys.

Competencies: Professionalism: knowledge and understading of theories, concepts and approaches relevant to programme designing, planning, monitoring and evaluation, etc; practical experience in programme planning, good research, analytical and problem soliving skills, good communication skills, including the ability to draft/edit a variety of written reports, studies and other communications and to articulate ideas in a clear, concised style. Technology Awareness- Proficient computer skills and use of other statistical applications. Teamwork -Good interpersonal skills. Good financial planning ability and fund raising skills.

Qualification: Post graduation degree in development studies, social science or other relevant discipline, or equivalent combination of education and experience in a related area.

Work Experience: At least five years of experience in a simillar position and preferebly ten years of working experience in the NGOs sector.

2. Programme Manager - Emergency and Disaster Risk Reduction (EDDR): Country Office Dhaka, with frequent field travelling:

Responsibilities: The Programme Manager - EDDR will be responsible for the management of all the Emergency & Seasonal Program of IRB including facilitating Training on Disaster Management, Preparedness such as search, rescue, first aid and humanitarian relief distribution.

Competencies: The incumbent should have management, monitoring and report writing skill, eexperience in development of training Module, skilled in training techniques and PRA with strong networking ability. Should have the capability to work in difficult and stressful situation and should have skill in preserving track record in management of different types of emergency and disaster situation. Analytical and problem solving skills, good communication skills, including the ability to draft/edit a variety of written reports, studies and other communications and to articulate ideas in a clear, concised style. Technology Awareness- Proficient computer skills and use of other statistical applications. Teamwork - Good interpersonal skills. Good financial planning ability and fund raising skills. Qualification: Post graduation degree in social science or other relevant discipline, or equivalent combination of education and

experience in a related area from a recognized university. Work Experience: At least five years of experience in a simillar managerial position and preferebly ten years of working experience in the NGOs sector.

Language: Fluent in written and spoken English

Remuneration: IR will provide a compititive package depending on experience and professional background

Application Deadline: 27th November 2008 Interested persons are requested to send their letter of interest with detailed CV and a passport size photograph to the following

address: HR Officer - ISLAMIC RELIEF, House no. 21, Road no. 12, Block-K, Baridhara, Dhaka 1212. Only short listed Candidates will be contacted

Islamic Relief is an equal opportunities