

# Lanka takes full control of Elephant Pass

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan troops fighting Tamil rebels captured Elephant Pass yesterday, a highly strategic causeway linking the Jaffna peninsula with the mainland, the president said.

The Tamil Tigers had held the pass since April 2000, and its loss is another huge blow to the rebels after the fall of their political capital Kilinochchi last week.

"Our forces have recorded another historic victory today," President Mahinda Rajapakse said in a televised

address to the nation. "That is the complete dislodging of the Tigers from Elephant Pass and the security forces establishing their authority there," he said.

The military now controls a 142-kilometre (88-mile) stretch of the vital A-9 highway and can supply troops and nearly half a million civilians in Jaffna, the president said.

Elephant Pass fell to government soldiers advancing northwards from Kilinochchi and another column that moved south from earlier army defences, military officials said.

"They have established full

control over Elephant Pass after entering the south of the area four days ago," an official said.

There was no comment from the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE).

Residents in the Sri Lankan capital Colombo took to the streets and set off firecrackers as radio stations announced the capture of the pass.

Separately Friday, four civilians and three security personnel were killed in the adjoining district of Trincomalee when a powerful roadside bomb struck their bus in an ambush by suspected Tiger rebels.

# Pakistan needs to do more to rid region of extremism: US

AFP, Mumbai

A top US diplomat yesterday praised Pakistan for its crackdown on Islamists blamed for the Mumbai attacks, but called for its government to go further to rid the region of the scourge of extremism.

Assistant Secretary of State Richard Boucher praised Islamabad for arresting key leaders of Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) and closing the offices of the charity Jamat-ud-Dawa, which is widely believed to be a front for the banned group.

But he told a news confer-

ence in Mumbai: "It's a promising start and there's a lot more to do."

Ten attackers allegedly trained, equipped and financed by LeT hit Mumbai on November 26-29 last year, leaving 165 civilians and security personnel dead and more than 300 others injured.

The strikes raised tensions between India and Pakistan, with New Delhi accusing Islamabad of not doing enough to tackle Islamist extremists based there and of state agencies giving tacit support to the groups.



Pakistan Premier Yousuf Raza Gilani (L) introduces the US vice president-elect Joe Biden (C) to officials at the Prime Minister's House in Islamabad yesterday.

# Lankan war-critic editor shot dead

AFP, Colombo

The editor of a Sri Lankan newspaper that has been highly critical of the island's hawkish government and its war on Tamil rebels was shot dead Thursday, in the second attack on the press in a week.

Gunmen on two motorcycles opened fire at Lasantha Wickrematunga, editor of the Sunday Leader, as he drove to work near the capital Colombo, police spokesman Ranjith Gunasekera said.

Wickrematunga, 52, was rushed to hospital but died after three hours of emergency surgery. Colleagues said he had been shot in the chest and head.



Residents mourn for their dead relatives at a hospital in Karachi yesterday killed by fire, which broke out in a shanty town. At least 40 people were killed and 25 wounded when a fire ripped through dozens of homes in Karachi.

# 40 killed in Karachi slum fire

AFP, Karachi

At least 40 people were killed, more than half of them children, when a fire tore through dozens of homes in a shanty town in Pakistan's largest city Karachi, officials said yesterday.

Initial reports indicated the blaze in the teeming southern port city was sparked by a power wire that fell onto the roofs of the huts, said the health minister of Sindh province, Saghir Ahmed.

City police official Majid Dasti told AFP that investigators were also looking into the possibility that residents had started a small fire to beat the cold, and that the wind whipped the flames out of control.

Twenty-two children were killed in the blaze, which broke out just before midnight (1900 GMT Thursday) when most residents were asleep, city police Waseem Ahmad said.

# Zardari-Gilani rift widens

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Islamabad

The US has asked Pakistan to withdraw the sacking orders of Mahmood Durrani as national security adviser, a move that laid bare the widening rift between President Asif Ali Zardari and Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani and the lack of coherence in tackling crucial issues like the Mumbai

attack probe. The issue has snowballed with officials disclosing that US Ambassador Anne Peterson on Thursday night met Zardari and Gilani at the presidency and "insisted on withdrawing dismissal orders of Durrani".

"Where's the government and who's running it? What type of government do we have? Where are the decisions

being taken?" asked Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) Hanif Abbasi, two days after Gilani sacked Durrani for not consulting him before announcing that the sole Mumbai attacker Ajmal Kasab was a Pakistani citizen.

Gilani has been quoted as saying that Durrani did not take him into confidence before making the announcement in a media interview.

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of Research Investigator (3 positions) and Research Investigator-Veterinary (2 positions) with the Infectious Disease and Vaccine Sciences Programme under the Health Systems and Infectious Diseases Division. We are seeking to identify and develop persons who are interested in a career in scientific research. The initial appointment will be made on a Fixed Term basis for 1 year, but we expect that successful investigators will be reappointed for a longer duration.

Duty Station - Dhaka

Salary - Annual Tk.660,060/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

Benefits/facilities- 14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, children allowance @Tk.1,420/= per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized transport, canteen, daycare facilities.

For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org). Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an online application by 25 January 2009.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.



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D-15

BRAC  
75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212  
Phone # 8824180 - 7, Ext. 2017.

**Invitation for Tender for Dairy Machinery**

Name of the project	BRAC Dairy & Food Project
Source of fund	BRAC Own Fund
Tender Package No.	BDFP-Mach /01-09
Invitation for tender ref. & date	IFT/BRAC/ BPD-BDFP/09-01 Dt. 04-01-2009
Time of completion of delivery	Within 120 days of issuing L.C. /Purchase Order
Price of tender documents	Tk 1,000.00 (Tk One thousand) only.
Amount of tender security	2.5% of tender value. (In the form of Pay Order)
Name & address of selling tender documents	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Annex Building, BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Time & date of selling tender documents	11-01-2009 to 25-01-2009 (Daily From 9.30 am to 2.30pm)
Name & address of receiving tender documents	Procurement Department, (Ground Floor) BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Date & Time of submission tender	10-02-2009 from 9.30am to 2.45pm
Date, time & place of opening tender	10-02-2009 at 3.00 pm at BRAC Staff Canteen (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor) BRAC 75, Mohakhali, Dhaka

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

### WETLAND & FOREST COLLABORATIVE MANAGEMENT

A new project entitled Integrated Protected Area Co-Management (IPAC), financed by USAID and implemented by International Resources Group, RDRS, CODEC, CIPD and other partners seeks to improve the productivity and biological diversity of our wetlands and forests through collaborative management. This project builds upon lessons learned from the Departments of Fisheries, Forest and Environment.

Applicants are requested for the following posts,

#### IPAC Communications Specialist and Team Leader (Dhaka):

Primary Responsibility: Provide leadership and technical support to the IPAC core team and partners in the development and implementation of the IPAC Communication Strategy.

- Additional responsibilities:
- Provide strategic guidance in development of communications messages
  - Monitor and report on work in progress in communications
  - Ensure quality control for communications products
  - Build relationships and promote communications messages with partners and field staff
  - Liaise with and manage media relations
  - Assist in planning and organization of communications and program events

Primary Qualification: Excellent skills in communications, outreach, events planning, development of partnerships, activity coordination

- Additional qualifications:
- Ability to represent IPAC in Bangladesh to different stakeholders, including media
  - Excellent written and oral skills - English / Bangla
  - Proficient computer skills
  - Excellent management and administrative skills; team player
  - Commitment to addressing environmental conservation and sustainable rural development challenges in Bangladesh
  - Familiarity with USAID preferred
  - Ability to undertake field visits as and when required
  - 8 or more years professional experience

**Site Coordinator (Field site):** Set the agenda for co-management site activities, including preparation of quarterly work plans. S/he will be the primary point of dialogue with stakeholders at all levels. Site Coordinators are expected to be problem solvers, but will take direction and guidance from the Chief of Party in Dhaka. S/he will manage finances and budget at site level with support of an accountant, and will oversee one or more Site Facilitators. Qualifications: Relevant MSS/MSc + 8 yrs experience, including work in community mobilization. Able to read, analyze and write in English and Bangla. Internet, E-mail, PowerPoint, Word and Excel skills essential.

**Site Facilitator (Field site):** Works under direct guidance of the Site Coordinator and in support of co-management organizations at wetlands and forests. Qualifications: MSS/MSc +5 years experience, although highly qualified Bachelor's degree holders will be considered.

**Communication, Outreach & Governance Facilitator (Field site):** Provide systematic support to communicate the existence of a national network of wetlands and forests managed by and for stakeholders. This Facilitator will have a key role at cluster level in ensuring that coordinated messages are communicated. S/he will also ensure that advocacy campaigns in support of governance and empowerment are integrated into communications activities. S/he will take direction and work plan guidance from the Dhaka-based Communications team. Qualifications: MSS/MSc + 6 years and experience in communication campaigns. Excellent English and Bangla oral and written communication skills, and experience with local dialects. Familiarity with behavioral change communications and/or marketing an asset.

Project Cluster Offices are to be located in Srimongal, Modhupur, Khulna, Rangamati and Cox's Bazar, although Site offices may be at other field locations. Short-listed applicants will be tested and interviews. To apply, send cover letter indicating the desired post with CV to Box No. C-01 c/o The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215 or to [ipac@irgbd.com](mailto:ipac@irgbd.com), no later than January 22, 2009. Applications from women and members of ethnic minorities are strongly encouraged.

**Uttara Finance And Investments Limited**  
Jibon Bima Towar (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), 10 Dilkusha C/A,  
Dhaka-1000. Ph.: 9568207-9

## Auction Notice for Selling Mortgaged Property

**Uttara Finance And Investments Limited,**  
Jibon Bima Towar (6<sup>th</sup> Floor), 10 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000.  
.... Auction Seller (Mortgagee)

**Haji Abdul Monayem, S/o, Late, Md. Abdul Motin, Address; 7/1, Pushparaj Shaha Lane, Thana; Lalbag, District; Dhaka; Managing Director, Phoenix Sweater Bangladesh Limited, 144 Mithford Road, Al-Falah Plaza (4<sup>th</sup> floor), Dhaka, Bangladesh.**  
.... Debtor & Mortgagor

Hereby, Open Auction Bids are invited from the interested bidders to recover Tk. 1,96,77,232/= (One Crore Ninety Six Lac Seventy Seven Thousand Two Hundred & Thirty Two Taka Only) from the above mentioned Debtor by selling the under described Mortgaged Property as per given Schedule according to the "Artho-Rin Law/ 2003".

01. The Bidders should have to submit their Bids on plain paper or on their own Letter Head Pad mentioning their Name, Father's Name and full address with the full description of issued Bank Draft/ Pay Order, along with the said Bank Draft/ Pay Order in original worth of 25% of the offered Total Price in favour of "Uttara Finance And Investments Limited" in a Sealed Envelop by Registry Post or have to submit in the Tender Box Kept at the above mentioned address by 02:00 PM. on or before 25.01.2009.

02. The rest of the Total Offered Price should have to be paid by Next 15 (Fifteen) days of acceptance of the Bid.

03. The Offered Bids will be Opened in presence of the Bidders (if available) on the above mentioned date at 04:00 PM. The Auction Seller, Uttara Finance And Investments Limited reserves the Right to accept or reject any offer without assigning any reason there against.

### Description of Mortgaged Property (Schedule) :

(A) All that piece or parcel of land situated within District; Dhaka, P.S and Sub-Registry office; Dhaka-Sadar, Dhaka, Touzi No. 15564, J.L. No. 4, Word No. 7, C.S. sheet No. 9, C.S. Khatian No. 5974, R.S. Khatian No. 6189 & 6190, R.S. 5910 and Metropolitan City Survey: 5866, Mutation Khatian No. 6189/1, C.S. Plot No. 87, S.A Plot No. 1746 & 1747, R.S Plot No. 2177, Metropolitan Plot No. 5933 measuring: 0413 decimals of land.

(B) All that piece or parcel of land situated within District; Dhaka, P.S and Sub-Registry office; Dhaka-Sadar, Dhaka, Touzi No. 15564, J.L. No. 4, Word No. 7, C.S. sheet No. 9, C.S. Khatian No. 5974, R.S. Khatian No. 6189 & 6190, R.S. 5910 and Metropolitan City Survey: 5866, Mutation Khatian No. 6189/1, C.S. Plot No. 69, S.A Plot No. 1744 & 1748, R.S Plot No. 2176, Metropolitan Plot No. 5923 measuring: 0412 decimals of land.

The Total measurement of land: 0825 decimals which is equivalent to 05 Katha with the Building and Structures thereon having Registered Deed Number: 1528 Dated: 05.05.2002.  
- Assistant Vice-President