



Crowds fill the Mall as they attend the "We are One" Inaugural Celebration at the Lincoln Memorial on Sunday in Washington, DC. A galaxy of stars including Bruce Springsteen, U2 and Stevie Wonder ushered Obama into the White House, with a half-million people attending the concert braving the cold to celebrate the inauguration of the first African-American president.

# Stars rock to usher in the Obama era

AFP, Washington

Under the watchful eye of Abraham Lincoln, hundreds of thousands gave a rapturous welcome Sunday to Barack Obama at a star-studded concert, which rocked the heart of wintry Washington. Obama's election triumph was the fruition of "the Irish dream, the European dream, the African dream, the Israeli dream and also the Palestinian dream," said Irish rock star Bono, backed by his band U2, as he shouted out "let freedom ring" at the end of his song "Pride," about slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. "On Tuesday, that dream comes to pass," Bono said, referring to Obama's inauguration on the steps of the US Capitol. The white columned Lincoln Memorial, with its imposing statue of the slain president who abolished slavery, shone against steely-grey winter skies as performers paid tribute to the incoming president and his vice president elect Joe Biden.

AFP, Washington

A smiling Obama and his wife, Michelle, both wrapped up warmly against the bone-numbing cold, walked hand in hand down the monument's famous steps at the start of the "We Are One" concert to huge cheers from the crowds spilling down the National Mall. Then as the performances got underway, a smiling president-to-be clapped and bopped along with oldest daughter Malia, 10, snapping away with her camera to record the galaxy of top musicians and actors serenading the next first family. The line-up for the concert read like a "who's who" of the best and brightest in Hollywood and the music world today. Music legend Stevie Wonder joined R&B star Usher, dripping cool in dark sunglasses and a black trenchcoat, and Shakira -- black leather pants, a gilded brassiere -- for a rendition of Wonder's "Higher Ground," which got the Obama clan off their feet and grooving.

Bruce Springsteen, U2 and cowboy-hat-clad country music titan Garth Brooks joined soul divas Beyonce and Mary J. Blige and a host of other stars -- Jon Bon Jovi, John Legend, will.i.am and James Taylor, among many others. Actors Denzel Washington, Queen Latifah and Tom Hanks, and golfer Tiger Woods were among those who read passages from the speeches of past presidents, or recited other historical anecdotes recalling the country's past and present struggles. Even a bald eagle -- the national bird -- made an appearance on the memorial's steps to promote a sense of optimism and unity two days before Obama's inauguration as the country's first African-American president. The event was cocooned in an impressive security operation, with attendees passing through checkpoints, helicopters passing overhead, and Secret Service agents manning key spots including on the frieze atop the Lincoln Memorial.

# Taliban militants blow up five Pakistan schools

AFP, Peshawar

Taliban militants on Monday blew up five schools in Pakistan's troubled northwestern Swat valley, police said, one day after a government minister promised to keep them open. The fresh attacks, one after another, follow a threat last month by a local Taliban commander to kill any girls attending classes after January 15 and blow up schools where they are enrolled. "Four boys' schools and one girls' school were blown up by militants," district police official Anwer Khan told AFP from Mingora, a bustling town in the scenic Swat valley, which used to be a popular tourist destination. "No one was injured in the bombings, but the school buildings were badly damaged," Khan said. Mingora schools were empty on Monday because of holidays. Pakistan's Information Minister Sherry Rehman on Sunday vowed to keep open all girls schools in Swat and the North West Frontier Province (NWFP). "From March 1, all closed schools in Swat and NWFP will be reopened after the winter break," Rehman told reporters in the southern city of Karachi. "The non-state actors are challenging the writ of the government in the name of Sharia, but Islam does not allow to close down women's schools," Rehman said, pledging to provide full security. The scenic area of snow-capped mountains, once Pakistan's only ski resort, has been rocked by a violent campaign for Islamic Sharia law waged by radical cleric Maulana Fazlullah, who has links to Pakistan's Taliban movement.

# Railway HQ

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The suspended staffs are sub-inspector Anwar Hossain Dewan, Habildar Sayedul Alam, guards Monju Miah, Shami Ahmed, Shamsul Alam, Mokammel Huq and Monjur Miah. The authorities formed a four-member committee to probe the Railway Bhawan incident. Habib Ahmed, joint director of Bangladesh Railway, was made chief of the probe committee which was asked to submit its report within three days. An official handout says that another three-member probe committee was formed headed by Joint Secretary of Bangladesh Railway Nasrin Akhter to probe the incident. This committee is supposed to submit its report within two working days. To probe the mysterious theft incidents in Chittagong, the authorities formed another three-member committee headed by Mohammad Omar Faruq, assistant transport officer of Bangladesh Railway. The committee was asked to submit the report immediately. Other members of the committee are Assistant Commercial Officer Snehshis Das Gupta and Assistant Commandant Abdur Rob. According to sources in the Dhaka office, criminals broke the locks of 56 room-doors between the first and sixth floor of the building and left the rooms upside down. They could not say whether important files and documents are missing. Bangladesh Railway officials so far detected that Tk 86,219, a laptop and three cellphones are missing. Belcet Hossain, director general (DG) of Bangladesh Railway, said the incidents might have taken place sometime between 9:00pm on Sunday and 8:00am yesterday. He said his personal secretary

Sardar Sahadat went to his office around 8:00am yesterday and found the rooms ransacked. Later other official rushed to the office and found the 56 rooms burgled. The communications minister, communications secretary and DG of Bangladesh Railway visited the spot. A Criminal Investigation Department (CID) official wishing not to be named said perhaps a group of 10-12 thieves committed the crime. Officer-in-charge (OC) Rezaul Karim of Shahbagh Police Station said they seized an iron rod from the spot and it was apparently used for breaking the locks. Following the incident members of different intelligence agencies visited the spot including a 16-member CID team that collected fingerprints and other evidence. Our staff correspondent in Chittagong reports: Unidentified criminals took old documents and a few control charts (registers) from the first floor office room of Masudul Arefin, divisional transport officer (DTO), sometime between late Sunday night and early yesterday. Deputy Director (Public Relations) Shafiuddin Ahmed said the thieves took only some old documents and control charts of "closed matters" and nothing valuable were stolen. "The documents neither had any relevance to financial matters nor those contained any financial information," he told The Daily Star citing preliminary investigation findings. He said the thieves might have entered the room breaking the windowpane since the door lock was found untouched. He said some of the papers and a sheet of timetable were recovered yesterday morning from the nearby transport office.



(L-R) President-elect Barack Obama greets actress Marisa Tomei, singer Shakira, and Bono and The Edge of U2 after "We Are One: The Obama Inaugural Celebration at the Lincoln Memorial" on Sunday in Washington, DC.

# Pakistan briefs Indian envoy on Mumbai probe

PTI, Islamabad

Pakistan yesterday briefed India on its probe into the Mumbai terror attacks, including the follow-up steps it plans to take in the coming days, even as New Delhi said it will wait for the "positive outcomes" of the measures by Islamabad. During a meeting here, interior ministry chief Rehman Malik told Indian High Commissioner

Satyabrata Pal about the inquiry being conducted by a three-member team into the information provided by New Delhi on the Mumbai attacks and other aspects of Pakistan's probe, official sources said. Pal, who sought the meeting with Malik, told PTI that the interior ministry chief had briefed him on the steps "already taken by the government by Pakistan as well as the steps it plans to take".

# Obama must shoulder weight of global expectations

AFP, Washington

Barack Obama will enter the White House today with a crushing burden of expectations both at home and abroad. How he manages those expectations will go a long way to defining his presidency. Incoming White House press secretary Robert Gibbs pleaded for time, as new polls showed that America's first black commander-in-chief is

the most popular incoming president since Republican icon Ronald Reagan in 1981. "We did not get into the situation overnight. The problems and the challenges that our country face didn't happen all last week. It's going to take us some time," Gibbs said on "Fox News Sunday." The expectations game is "more of a curse than a blessing, but it's manageable," said William Galston, a former

White House adviser who analyses the presidency at the Brookings Institution. "He's done a pretty good job of telling the American people that however wise his policies are, economic recovery is not going to come quickly or easily," he said. Internationally, Galston said, "last November we conducted something like the first global election in history, in terms of the universal interest."

Bangladesh Power Development Board Invitation for International Tender	
1	Ministry/Division: Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Power Division.
2	Agency: Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).
3	Procuring entity name: Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.
4	Procuring entity code: Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district: Dhaka.
6	Invitation for: Supply of Measuring Instrument for 5th & 6th Unit of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
7	Invitation Ref No.: Pur-313/2009.
8	Date: 13-01-2009.
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>	
9	Procurement method: Open tendering method.
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>	
10	Budget and source of funds: Revenue budget (cash foreign exchange allocation) of BPDB.
11	Development partners (if applicable): Not applicable.
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>	
12	Project/programme code (if applicable): Not applicable.
13	Project/programme name (if applicable): Not applicable.
14	Tender package no.: 196 (FY 2008-2009).
15	Tender package name: Supply of Measuring Instrument for 5th & 6th Unit of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
16	Tender publication date: 13-01-2009.
17	Tender last selling date: 08-03-2009 during office hours.
18	Tender closing date and time: 09-03-2009 at 11.00am (BST).
19	Tender opening date and time: 09-03-2009 at 11.30am (BST).
20	Name & address of the office(s): Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Selling tender document (principal): Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Selling tender document (others): Not applicable.
	Receiving tender document: Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Opening tender document: Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting: Not applicable.
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>	
22	Eligibility of tenderer: As per tender document.
23	Brief description of goods or works: Supply of Measuring Instrument for 5th & 6th Unit of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
24	Brief description of related services: As per tender document.
25	Price of tender documents (BDT): Non-refundable BD Taka 5,000/- (five thousand) only in the form of Pay Order in favour of Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.
26	Identification of lot: Location: Tender security amount: Delivery period (validity of shipment):
Lot-1	Supply of Measuring Instrument for 5th & 6th Unit: Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, PDB, Palash, Narsingdi. USD 14,000.00 or BDT 9,80,000/- 180 days from date of L/C opening.
27	Validity of tender and tender security: As per tender document.
28	Name of official inviting tender: Md. Abduhu Ruhullah.
29	Designation of official inviting tender: Director.
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>	
30	Address of official inviting tender: Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka.
31	Contact details of official inviting tender: Tel. 7126144, Fax: 7126151
32	Special instruction: Any tender received by the purchaser after the deadline for submission of tenders shall be declared late, will be rejected and returned unopened to the tenderer. The purchaser reserves the right to accept any tender, to annul the tender process, or to reject any or all tenders, at any time prior to contract award.
33	This tender will be performed according to: "The Public Procurement Rules-2008"
Director Directorate of Purchase BPDB, Dhaka	



Velupillai Prabhakaran

# Lanka's most wanted Tiger running out of options

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's top Tamil Tiger, who inspired hundreds of followers to stage suicide bombings in the fight for a separate state, is facing his biggest challenge yet and is fast running out of options. To his followers, Velupillai Prabhakaran is seen as a "Sun God" who formed a formidable and feared guerrilla organisation out of a ragtag group of separatist rebels in the 1970s. But to his enemies, he is considered a ruthless killer, outlawed around the world as a terrorist kingpin and wanted on charges of mass murder. At the height of his military success, Prabhakaran's Tigers inflicted heavy losses on the government forces of Sri Lanka and neighbouring India. But since Sri Lankan forces mounted their biggest ground, sea and air campaign so far to dismantle the de facto Tiger state in the north of the island, Prabhakaran has seen his territory crumble rapidly. "Prabhakaran is facing the biggest military setback in his career and it is unlikely he can recover," said former rebel-turned-politician Dharmalingam Sithadthan.

**ASHUGANJ POWER STATION COMPANY LTD.**  
(An enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)  
**Ashuganj, B.Baria-3402, Bangladesh**

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**Employment Notice**

The Company is looking for an energetic and promising person for immediate appointment to the post of **Company Secretary** and invites applications from the Bangladeshi Nationals.

The **Company Secretary** is responsible for providing support services to the Board of Directors ensuring the compliances of Laws, Rules and Regulations and good Corporate Governance. He/she should also be responsible for convening meetings of the Board and Members, recording minutes of these meetings, writing relevant reports and ensuring that the decisions made are communicated to all concerned, contributing to discussions and reminding members about the legal, governance, accounting and tax implications of the policies proposed in the meeting, monitoring changes in relevant regulatory environment and taking appropriate action.

**Qualification & Experience:** Candidates should have Masters/ CA/ CMA/ LLB with at least 10(ten) years of experience in Company Secretarial Job, or Masters/ CA/ CMA/ LLB plus **Chartered Secretary** (preferably ACS) with at least 7(seven) years of experience in Company Secretarial Job, well conversant with practical knowledge in computer and required legal matters and fluent in English and Bangla to work independently. Candidates having knowledge in Companies Act, Industrial and Labour Laws, Financial Laws, Tax Laws, etc and having multidisciplinary qualifications and experience will get added advantage.

**Age Limit:** Maximum 45 years on 01 February 2009.

**Remuneration/ Compensation Package:** Initial Basic Pay @ Tk. 30,000/=, Power Station Allowance @ 20%, Dearness Allowance @ 20%, Free Medical Support for self, spouse and children (cost at actual will be reimbursed), Residential Accommodation at site, Full-time Transport with driver and limited fuel and other Fringe Benefits as per Company's Rules.

**Term of Appointment:** The appointment will be made initially for 5(five) years and this is renewable after evaluating the performance.

# Candidates having 3rd Division/Class in any level of education need not apply.  
# Incomplete Application(s) will not be considered.  
# Application (cover letter), with (i) complete CV, (ii) 2 recent PP size duly attested photographs, (iii) attested copies of supporting documents in favour of educational and other qualifications and experience(s) and (iv) Nationality Certificate, must reach by **01 February 2009** to:  
"The Managing Director, Ashuganj Power Station Company Ltd., Ashuganj, B-Baria-3402".

# CV must include (i) Name, (ii) Father's Name, (iii) Mother's Name, (iv) Present Address, (v) Permanent Address, (vi) Contact Phone No(s), (vii) Mailing Address, (viii) Date of Birth, (ix) Age (yrs, mths & days) on 01 February 2009, (x) Sex, (xi) Marital Status, (xii) Educational Qualification stating Name of Exam, Year of Passing, Group/Subject, Board/University, Course Duration, and Division/Class in every level/exam, (xiii) Professional Education and Membership/Registration (if any), (xiv) Experience in detail stating Name of Organisation, Post/Position, Duration, Duties/Responsibilities and Achievements (if any), (xv) Training Obtained (if any) and (xvi) Special works/ activities performed (if any) (**furnishing chronologically**).

# The post applied for must be marked on the top of the Envelope.  
# Candidates may also apply **On-line** using the web address [www.apscl.com](http://www.apscl.com) by **01 February 2009 (04:00 PM)**. In this case they will submit necessary documents and photographs before the interview.

N.B.: Only short listed candidates will be called for interview.

- Managing Director