

Pakistan army vows to hold fire in Swat

Pak car bomb kills five

AFP, Islamabad/Peshawar

Pakistan's military yesterday vowed to hold fire and respect a controversial agreement signed between the government and militants to enforce Islamic law in the violence-torn Swat valley.

"The army works on the government's orders. The government has given it orders to hold fire. The army will not take any offensive action," chief military spokesman Major General Athar Abbas told AFP.

The army will "certainly" respect the agreement, he said.

"The army went there (Swat) at the request of the government. Whenever the government feels normalcy has been restored and the writ of government has been re-established, it will leave," added Abbas.

Monday's deal, widely seen as a government concession but billed by the authorities as a chance to restore peace to Swat, was signed between provincial ministers and a pro-Taliban but relatively moderate cleric, Soofi Mohammad.

Meanwhile, a car bomb killed five people and wounded 13 on Tuesday near the home of a town councillor critical of militants in north-western Pakistan, police officials said.

The device detonated near a wing used by Fahim-ur-Rehman to entertain guests in the suburban town of Bazidkhel, just outside the city of Peshawar, the officials said.

"Five people were killed and 13 wounded when a bomb planted in a car exploded outside the guest house of Fahim-ur-Rehman," local police official Granullah Khan told AFP. He said earlier that three people were killed.

"The injured have been taken to a local hospital," he said.

"Rehman was at home at the time of the blast but is safe," police officer Liaqat Khan said.

Rehman is strongly opposed to Taliban militants and was instrumental in setting up a local force last month to check militant activities.

Police said the blast destroyed a nearby primary school and two houses. Two outer walls of Rehman's house were also damaged.

UN seeks direct contact with Pak kidnappers

AFP, Islamabad

The United Nations on Tuesday urged the Pakistani kidnappers of an American official to make direct contact, calling for his immediate release.

John Solecki, who heads the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) in Quetta -- the capital of Pakistan's restive southwestern Baluchistan province -- was abducted at gunpoint on February 2 while travelling to work. His driver was killed.

The shadowy Baluchistan Liberation United Front (BLUF), which claims to be holding Solecki, on Monday extended a 72-hour deadline for the government to meet demands for his release.

"The United Nations encourages the community leaders' continued engagement and again asks those keeping John to initiate direct contact so that dialogue can be started for his immediate safe recovery," the UN said.



Tamilian activists of 'Voice for Eelam Tamil' hold placards during a protest in New Delhi yesterday against the Sri Lankan army's actions against the Tamil community. The activists are demanding that the government of India stop helping the Sinhalese government in its war against the Tamil people and recognise their liberation struggle.

Lanka rebels sign up child soldiers for final battle: Unicef

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka's cornered Tamil Tiger rebels have intensified conscription of child soldiers, some as young as 14, the United Nations agency for children said yesterday.

Unicef's statement came as the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam prepared to take a last stand against advancing government forces.

"We have clear indications that the LTTE has intensified forcible recruitment of civilians and that children as young as 14 years old are now being targeted," Philippe Duamelle, Unicef's chief in Sri Lanka, said.

Sri Lankan troops appear on the verge of crushing the rebels' 37-year campaign for an independent Tamil homeland after a series of battlefield victories across the northeast of the island.

The Tigers, who are encircled in a small patch of jungle, lashed out at the United Nations on Tuesday after it accused them of shooting civilians who try to escape the bloody conflict.

The UN said the Tigers have detained tens of thousands of non-combatants inside rebel-held territory and "a growing number of people trying to leave have been shot and sometimes killed" as they seek safety.

Afghan civilian deaths rose 40pc in 2008: UN

AP, Kabul

The number of Afghan civilians killed in armed conflict rose 40 percent last year to a record 2,118 people, the UN said in a new report Tuesday.

The report said militants were responsible for 55 percent of the deaths, but that US, Nato and Afghan forces killed 829 civilians, or 39 percent.

Civilian deaths have been a huge source of friction between the US and President Hamid Karzai, who has increased demands that US and Nato troops avoid killing civilians during operations.

The US and Afghan militaries

ies this month announced plans to increase the number of Afghans who will take part in US operations, a step aimed at reducing deaths of ordinary Afghans.

The UN's annual report on the protection of civilians noted that despite new battlefield rules meant to reduce civilian casualties, US, Nato and Afghan troops killed 31 percent more civilians in 2008 than in 2007, when the UN said those forces killed 629 civilians.

"As the conflict has intensified, it is taking an increasingly heavy toll on civilians," the UN said.

Militants increasingly rely on roadside bombs, car

bombs and suicide bombers, attacks that are "frequently undertaken regardless of the impact on civilians," the report said.

But US, Nato and Afghan operations also have resulted in an increase in civilian casualties, "notwithstanding efforts to implement policies and procedures to minimise the impact of their operations on civilians," the report said.

The UN report said militants were responsible for 55 percent of civilian deaths last year, or 1,160. About 130 deaths couldn't be accounted for because of issues like crossfire.



US marines load Chinook helicopters with equipment at FOB (Forward Operating Base) Morales-Frazier in Nijrab yesterday. The deterioration in security in Afghanistan has alarmed its Western allies and prompted a major US review of strategy in the "war on terror" launched with the 2001 invasion to oust the former Taliban regime.

Pak ruling parties ask US to stop drone attacks

ANI, Karachi

Leaders of the ruling coalition parties in Pakistan have expressed their anger towards terrorists and also on the violation of Pakistani territory by the United States.

Leaders of the Pakistan People's Party, Muttahidda Qaumi Movement and the Awami National Party said on Monday that the sovereignty of Pakistani territory should be observed, while strongly condemning the terrorists who have destroyed Pakistan.

"We have a clear position that attacks in Pakistani territory must be stopped," People's

Study Circle Chief and former federal minister Professor ND Khan stated.

Khan said that he has no information about the source of the US Senate's Subcommittee on Intelligence's statement that was printed in Pakistani newspapers. However, he said that he had read a report that even the Pentagon was unaware of the drone attacks. "One thing is clear that drone attacks were neither in the interest of Pakistan nor the interest of the US," he asserted.

"The Pakistani parliament has unanimously resolved against such attacks and it will not help the US in the war on terror," the Daily Times quoted him, as saying.

Musharraf was playing 'double game' with US

ANI, Washington

Washington sent Special Forces into Pakistan last summer after intercepting a call by the Pakistani army chief referring to a notorious Taliban leader as a "strategic asset," a new book has claimed, suggesting that former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf indulged in double dealings during his tenure.

The intercept was ordered to confirm suspicions that the Pakistani military were still actively supporting the Taliban whilst taking millions of dollars in US military aid to fight them, according to the "The Inheritance," by the New York Times correspondent David Sanger.

Former Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf has reacted angrily to Sanger's allegations relating to the said transcript that was passed to Mike McConnell, the Director of National Intelligence in May 2008.

"Get your facts correct, I have never double-dealt," Musharraf told Sanger. "There is a big conspiracy being hatched against Pakistan, to weaken the Pakistani army and the ISI to weaken Pakistan."

Meanwhile, the views expressed by former President Pervez Musharraf are tantamount to rubbing salt into the wounds of the nation because it is his dictatorship that pushed Pakistan towards political and constitutional anarchy.

JuD leader shifted from Rawalpindi to Lahore

PTI, Islamabad

Senior Jamaat-ud-Dawah leader Nazir Ahmed, who has been under house arrest since early December in the wake of the Mumbai terror attacks, has been shifted from Rawalpindi to Lahore.

Ahmed, a close aide of Jamaat chief Hafiz Mohammad Saeed, was shifted by the Pakistani law enforcement authorities from Rawalpindi to Lahore, media reports said.

A retired Colonel in the Pakistani Army, Ahmed was detained along with over 50 militant leaders in December last year when the government launched a crackdown on the Jamaat and its parent organisation, the outlawed Lashkar-e-Taiba, in the wake of the Mumbai attacks.

Pakistani militants talk peace amid criticism

AP, Mingora

Pakistan dispatched a pro-Taliban cleric to talk peace with militants in the former tourist haven of Swat yesterday, a day after it agreed to a truce with the extremists and pledged to implement Islamic law in the region as part of a widely criticised deal.

A US defence official called the agreement "a negative development" and a Pakistani civil rights activist dubbed it a surrender to militants believed to control up to 80 percent of the Swat Valley, which lies near the northwest tribal regions where al-Qaeda

and Taliban have long had strongholds.

But several Swat residents welcomed the prospect of peace after more than a year of fighting that has killed hundreds, sent up to third of the valley's 1.5 million people fleeing and ruined the tourist industry in a region less than 100 miles (160 kilometres) from the capital, Islamabad.

"May God protect this peace deal," said Haji Javed, 40, a shop owner in Swat's main town, Mingora. "We saw a lot of destruction during the fighting between the army and the Taliban. We are happy that they have agreed to give peace a chance."

Government of the People Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Additional Inspector General
CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka.

Tender Notice
Memo No. Admn/Ga Store/117-2008/Part-1/1228(2) Dated: 15/02/2009

Scaled tenders are hereby invited by the Office of the Additional Inspector General, CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka for Supply and Installation of equipments from reputed manufacturers, suppliers or their authorised local agents through National Open Tendering Method.

1. Ministry	Ministry of Home Affairs		
2. Agency	CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka.		
3. Name of procuring entity	CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka.		
4. Invitation for	Supply and Installation of equipments.		
5. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (NCT)		
6. Budget & Source of Funds	Revenue Budget (GOB)		
7. Tender Name	Supply and Installation of equipments		
8. Tender Publication date	18.02.2009		
9. Tender Last Selling date	04.03.2009		
10. Tender Closing date & time	05.03.2009 time 12.00 hrs.		
11. Tender Opening date & time	05.03.2009 time 12.30 hrs.		
12. Name & Address of the office	CID, Head Quarters Malibagh, Dhaka.		
13. Selling Tender Documents	A complete set of tender document may be Purchased by interested bidders on submission written application upon payment of non-refundable fee of taka 750/- (only Seven hundred fifty) in cash at Procurement section (Room no. 202, 1 st floor, CID Head Quarters Malibagh, Dhaka-1217.		
14. Receiving Tender Document	CID Head Quarters, Bangladesh Police, Malibagh, Dhaka.		
15. Opening Tender Documents	CID Head Quarters, Bangladesh Police, Malibagh, Dhaka.		
16. Place/date/time of Pre-tender Meeting	Conference Room, (1 st floor/CID Head Quarters, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka.	25/02/09	11:00 am
17. Eligibility of tenderers	The Bidders Should have valid Trade Licence & Financial Solvency Certificate, Income Tax Payee. The legal Capacity to enter the contract/ Qualified Staff & Equipment's / not blacklisted & Bankrupt. The tenderer Should have minimum 03 (Three) Years experience in similar nature of works.		
18. Brief Description of Goods or works	Supply and Installation of equipments		
19. Type of Payment for Security amount	In the form of Bank draft / Pay Order / Bank Guarantee from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh.		
20. Lot No	Identification of lot	Tender Security Amount in Taka	Completion
21. Lot-1 to Lot-3	Supply and Installation of equipments	As mentioned in the Tender document	30 (Thirty) days
22. Payment procedure	As mentioned in the tender document		
23. The Authority reserves the right to accept or reject all Lots or any Lot or any item or all items of the Lots put together.			

(Mohd. Obaidur Rahaman Khan)
Special Superintendent of Police (Admin)
For/Additional Inspector General of Police
CID, Bangladesh Police, Dhaka.



Australian Foreign Minister Stephen Smith (C) shakes hands with Pakistani Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani (R) prior to a meeting in Islamabad yesterday. Smith said Australia would substantially increase development assistance to help revive Pakistan's economy.

Prachanda warns against toppling Maoist-led govt

PTI, Kathmandu

Warning of "anarchism" if his Maoist led government is toppled, Nepal Prime Minister Prachanda today appealed to the fragmented communist parties to join hands to thwart the designs of the opposition. "It is the time for the communists and they show of their skills."

We are not in favour of pardoning the elements that are trying to inject ill practises again by dividing the leftist and progressive forces and we are ready to struggle against such attempts," Prachanda said while speaking at the eighth general convention of CPN-UML. Addressing a gathering Prachanda said he has a dream of forming a single communist centre, Kantipur reported. "It will be extremely difficult for us to tame the anarchism that will emerge after the collapse of the peace process," he said adding all the political parties have a historic responsibility to conclude the peace process as per the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA).

The combined strength of all communists with the support of pro-left groups of Terai will make two third majority in the Constituent Assembly. It will be instrumental in drafting a pro-people constitution as per their wishes, he said.

If all the communists come together then the regressive forces (forces close to the former King) and those who favour status-quo (Nepali Congress) will never dream of coming to the power, he claimed.

জাতীয় শিক্ষাক্রম ও পাঠ্যপুস্তক বোর্ড
"পাঠ্যপুস্তক তবন"
৬৯-৭০, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১০০০।

বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং: বিত-৬৭০/০৫/৫৫ তারিখ: ১২/০২/২০০৯

মাধ্যমিক স্তরের ছাত্র-ছাত্রী, অভিভাবক এবং শিক্ষকবৃন্দের দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণ

এতদ্বারা ৬ষ্ঠ থেকে ৯ম-১০ম শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত নিম্ন মাধ্যমিক ও মাধ্যমিক স্তরের ছাত্র-ছাত্রী, অভিভাবক এবং শিক্ষকবৃন্দকে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ২০০৯ শিক্ষাবর্ষের মাধ্যমিক স্তরের নিম্নবর্ণিত পাঠ্যপুস্তকসমূহে অধ্যয়নভিত্তিক নমুনা হিসেবে সৃজনশীল প্রশ্ন অন্তর্ভুক্ত করা হয়েছে-

৬ষ্ঠ, ৭ম ও ৮ম শ্রেণী-
বাংলা, বাংলা দ্রুতপঠন, গণিত, সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান, সাধারণ বিজ্ঞান, ইসলাম শিকা, হিন্দুধর্ম শিকা, বৌদ্ধধর্ম শিকা, খ্রিস্টধর্ম শিকা, কৃষিশিক্ষা ও গার্হস্থ্য অর্থনীতি।

৯ম-১০ম শ্রেণী-
বাংলা গদ্য, বাংলা কবিতা, বাংলা সহপাঠ, মাধ্যমিক বীজগণিত, মাধ্যমিক জ্যামিতি, ইসলাম শিকা, হিন্দুধর্ম শিকা, বৌদ্ধধর্ম শিকা, খ্রিস্টধর্ম শিকা, মাধ্যমিক অর্থনীতি, মাধ্যমিক পৌরনীতি, ইতিহাস, সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান, সাধারণ বিজ্ঞান, কৃষিশিক্ষা, গার্হস্থ্য অর্থনীতি, উচ্চতর বীজগণিত, উচ্চতর জ্যামিতি, পদার্থ বিজ্ঞান, রসায়ন বিজ্ঞান, জীববিজ্ঞান, ব্যবসায় পরিচিতি, ব্যবসায় উদ্যোগ, বাণিজ্যিক ভূগোল, মাধ্যমিক ভূগোল, হিসাব বিজ্ঞান ও কম্পিউটার শিকা।

অনুশীলনী ব্যতিত এসব পাঠ্যপুস্তকের বিষয়বস্ত্তে কোনো পরিবর্তন নেই। বিগত বছরের পুরাতন বইগুলো ব্যবহার করা যাবে।

এছাড়া নিম্নবর্ণিত পাঠ্যপুস্তকসমূহে সৃজনশীল প্রশ্ন অন্তর্ভুক্ত হয়নি-
৬ষ্ঠ, ৭ম ও ৮ম শ্রেণী-
ইংরেজি, ইংরেজি গ্রামার, র‍্যাপিড রীডার, শারীরিক শিকা, চারু ও কারুকলা, বাংলা ব্যাকরণ, বাংলা রচনা, আরবি, সংস্কৃত ও পালি।

৯ম-১০ম শ্রেণী-
ইংরেজি, ইংরেজি গ্রামার, বাংলা ব্যাকরণ, বাংলা রচনা ও উচ্চতর ব্যবহারিক গণিত, আরবি, সংস্কৃত, পালি, চারু ও কারুকলা এবং কর্মমুখী শিকা।

উল্লিখিত পাঠ্যপুস্তকে সৃজনশীল প্রশ্নের অন্তর্ভুক্তি না থাকায় বিগত বছরের পুরাতন বইগুলো ব্যবহার করা যাবে।

(প্রফেসর ড. মো: সিরাজুল হক)
সদস্য (পাঠ্যপুস্তক)
জাতীয় শিক্ষাক্রম ও পাঠ্যপুস্তক বোর্ড, ঢাকা।

GD-892