INTERNATIONAL

Japan, Russia discuss islands row

BBC ONLINE

Japanese Prime Minister Taro Dmitry Medvedev have held talks on resolving a decadesold territorial dispute.

inauguration of a Russian resolve the territorial dispute liquefied natural gas plant of without leaving it to future which Japan will be a key customer.

Island in Russia's Far East is ing of a Russian liquefied seen as symbolic in Japan.

He is the first Japanese PM

never signed a formal peace grounds. treaty because they have been in dispute over four other

What Russia calls the Southern Kurils are known in exports to Asia.

Japan as the Northern

They are between Sakhalin Aso and Russian President and the northern Japanese island of Hokkaido.

After the talks Aso said he and Medvedev had agreed to The two men met at the accelerate their efforts to generations.

The meeting was held as The visit of Aso to Sakhalin both men attended the opennatural gas plant.

Russia's state-run to set foot on the island, parts Gazprom took control of the of which were once in Sakhalin-2 project in 2006 Japanese hands, since World from Royal Dutch Shell after regulators threatened to close Japan and Russia have it down on environmental

Japan will be a major customer, keen to diversify its islands occupied by Soviet energy supply beyond the Middle East.

Russia aims to boost



US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton (L) speaks as Indonesian Foreign Ministry Hassan Wirajuda listens during their joint press conference in Jakarta yesterday. US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton yesterday tapped Indonesia -- as a democratic and mainly Muslim country -- for a key role in the new US administration's foreign policy.

N Korea nuke, missile Saudis applaud Syria urges better programmes "serious threat", says S Korea

AFP, Seoul

South Korea yesterday of State Hillary Hillary Friday described North Korea's for talks on ways to revive nuclear and missile development as a serious threat to the world, as a media report said the communist state is operating a secret atomic Japan any missile launch programme.

North Korea's missile is not a mere conventional weapon," said Foreign Minister Yu Myung-Hwan, two days after Pyongyang signalled it would go ahead with a missile launch as part of a "space development"

programme. "The combination of its long-range missile and nuclear capability will have a very serious impact on the world's peace and security," Yonhap news agency quoted

him as telling reporters. The communist state tested an atomic weapon in 2006 but experts are unsure whether it yet has the technol- said the real intention was to ogy to fit a nuclear warhead to - test the missile.

Cantt (yearly)

inviting tender

the same respectively.

tender

08Feb 2009

GD-854

ISPR/Misc/09/1997

Name of official inviting tender

Designation of official inviting

Address of official inviting tender

Contact details of official

its missiles. Yu will meet US Secretary stalled six-nation nuclear

and other issues. Hillary said Tuesday in "would be very unhelpful in moving our relationship

forward". South Korea says the North is preparing to test its longestrange missile, the Taepodong-2, which is theoretically capable of reaching Alaska.

On Monday the North signalled it would go ahead despite warnings from the United States, South Korea and Japan.

It said it has a right to pursue "peaceful" space research, a term it used in 1998 when it fired a missile over Japan.

The North said the 1998 exercise was a bid to launch a satellite, while its neighbours

turns self in

AFP, Riyadh

Saudi Arabia's rehabilitation programme for militants and ex-Guantanamo prisoners is working effectively, an official said yesterday after an Al-Qaeda operative handed himself in to the authorities.

disarmament negotiations Mohamed Atiq Awayd al-Awfi, who was a former Guantanamo detainee, turned himself in to the Yemeni authorities in Sanaa and was flown to Riyadh late on Tuesday, a week after his name appeared on a list of 85 men wanted by the government, the Saudi interior

ministry spokesman said. "The return of Awfi proves the effectiveness of the rehabilitation programme that the interior ministry carries out," Mansour al-Turki told AFP.

"The programme is capable of helping those (exmilitants) realise the truth that they were being abused by the terrorist groups."

Turki was referring to a rehabilitation programme launched by Saudi Arabia, where Al-Qaeda-linked fighters sporadically launch attacks, to help militants abandon violence.

ties with US

BBC ONLINE, London

President Bashar al-Assad of Syria has urged the US in a newspaper interview to engage in talks with Damascus and restore full diplomatic

He told the UK's Guardian newspaper the signs coming from the Obama administration had been "positive".

But he said there had not yet been a definite change of policy from the US. Former President George W

Bush largely shunned Syria, in protest at its support for militant groups such as Hezbollah and its friendship with Iran. But in his interview, Assad

said his country was vital to finding a solution to the conflicts in the Middle East. "We are a player in the

region. If you want to talk about peace, you can't advance without Syria," he told the Guardian.

After years of diplomatic isolation, Damascus has seen a flurry of visits in recent months by leaders including

And Assad said he was confident the Americans were also keen to engage in talks. "We have the impression

that this administration will be different and we have seen the signals. But we have to wait for the reality and the results." John Kerry, chairman of the

US Senate committee on foreign relations, is heading a US delegation to Damascus later this week - a move Mr Assad described as "important".

French President Nicolas

But he added: "We are still in the period of gestures and signals. There is nothing real On the possibility of

improved relations with Israel following recent elections there, he said: "Betting on the Israeli government is a waste of time.

But he said he expected peace talks between Israel and Syria to resume "in the end"

Israeli cabinet links Gaza truce to release of soldier

AP, AFP, Jerusalem

Israel's security cabinet voted yesterday to condition a Gaza truce on the release of a captive soldier, a move that risked further complicating Egyptian efforts to broker a lasting ceasefire.

The 12-member security cabinet voted unanimously to back outgoing Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's insistence that Gilad Shalit should be released as part of a deal with Hamas, a stance that the Islamists have already rejected.

"The security cabinet unanimously decided that the release of the soldier Shalit is a condition to any agreement of border crossings," Interior Minister Meir Sheetrit told journalists after the meeting.

Meanwhile, Israel's

Khaled Meshaal, who again accused Israel of backtracking on the terms of a proposed long-term truce by linking the lifting of the blockade to the soldier's release.

"There can be no truce unless the (Gaza) blockade is lifted and the crossings are opened. The truce issue should not be linked to the issue of prisoner Schalit," he said Tuesday.

Olmert first made the demand that Shalit, a soldier seized by Gaza militants in June 2006, be released as part of a truce deal at the weekend, drawing furious criticism from Hamas.

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud with Hamas and the opening Olmert is eager to work out a deal before leaving office. The country held a parliamentary election last week.

by Hamas's exiled leader several weeks before either of the top two vote-getters, Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni or opposition leader Benjamin Netanyahu, can form a new coalition government.

Israel and Egypt clamped a blockade on Gaza after Hamas overran the crowded sliver of territory in 2007, allowing in little more than basic humanitarian supplies.

"Israel is responsible for blocking Egypt's efforts to broker a truce by adding a new condition at the last minute," Meshaal said after Damascus talks with Arab League chief Amr Mussa.

"A truce can come about only in exchange for a lifting of the blockade and the reopening of the crossing points. It is unacceptable to combine the truce issue with the question The results were inconclu- of Israeli prisoner Gilad demand was swiftly rejected sive and it is expected to take Shalit," Meshaal said.



A picture dated February 17 shows a Palestinian girl playing with a ball near tents housing those who lost their homes during Israel's 22-day offensive in the northern Gaza Strip refugee camp of Beit Lahia. The Israeli Prime Minister has reiterated that the blockade of Gaza will be lifted only after captive soldier Gilad Shalit is released. His demand was swiftly rejected by exiled Hamas leader Khaled Meshaal.

Office of the CMES (Army) Chittagong Chittagong Cantonment, Chittagong Notice for Invitation of Tender

	Notice t	or invi	tatio	n of lende	er	
1	Ministry/Division		Ministry	Ministry of Defence		
2	Agency		Military Engineer Services.			
3	Procuring entity name			(Army) Chittagong.	A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	
4	Procuring entity district		Chittago		TANK TOWNER	
5	Procurement method			endering Method (OT	M).	
6	Budget and source of f	Budget and source of funds		ue Budget and Govt	of Bangladesh	
7	Tender invitation Ref N		(GOB) 4012/80	0/E-4 Date 08-2-2009		
8	Tender publication date		22-2-20			
9	Tender last selling date		08-3-20			
10	Tender closing date an			009 at 12.00hrs		
11	Tender opening date a	Tender opening date and time		009 at 12.30hrs.		
12	Name & address of the office for selling, receiving and opening tender documents		CMES	CMES (Army) Chittagong, Chittagong Cantonment.		
13	Eligibility of tenderer	Eligibility of tenderer		nlisted 'D' & 'E' class	contractors and	
			enlisted	enlisted with other govt/semi-govt/other organisation having security clearance from DGFI.		
14	Brief description of goo	Brief description of goods or works		SI/No-17(a) & (b)		
15	Brief description of services		-NA-			
16	Price of tender docume	ent (Tk)	As show	n in Sl/No-17(a) & (b)		
17	Name of work & location	Tender Security in the form of Bank Draft/Pay Order in favour of CMES (Army) Ctg. Cant (Tk)		Price of tender document (non-	T	
a.	Supply of different materials for internal/external water, gas and sanitary under SDO E/M-III at GE (Army) Chittagong Cantt (yearly)	19,000.00		500.00	01 (one) year	
b.	Supply of different materials for internal electric, AC & Refrigerator under SDO E/M-1 at GE (Army) Chittagong	19,000.00		500.00	01 (one) year	

CMES (Army) Chittagong.

Superintendent Engineer.

Tel Mil No. 3046

If the date of selling, submission and opening is disturbed under any unavoidable

circumstance, next working day at same time and same place will be applicable for

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

Chittagong Cantonment, Chittagong.

NA

CMES (Army) Chittagong

NA

UK may deport Abu Qatada to Jordan

AFP, Amman

Abu Qatada, a radical Muslim cleric once described as Osama bin Laden's righthand man in Europe, faces a retrial in Jordan on terror charges, an official said yester-

Britain's top appeal court ruled yesterday that Abu Qatada can be deported to Jordan despite his fears of torture.

"By law, he will be put on trial again once he arrives in Jordan because he was sentenced in absentia in 1998 and 2000 for 15 years of hard labour for terrorist activities," the official told AFP.

Amman has repeatedly urged London to extradite him.

Arab novelist Tayeb Salih dies in London

AFP, Khartoum

Sudanese writer Tayeb Salih, one of the most respected Arab novelists of the 20th century, has died in London where he spent most of his life, one of his friends said yester-

Salih, who wrote the classic Season of Migration to the North" about a Sudanese man's experiences of life and love in Britain in the 1960s, died on Tuesday night, aged 80, his friend Ali Mahdi told

Born in a village in northern Sudan in 1929, Salih studied in Britain where he went on to work for the BBC's Arabic service as well as for the UN's cultural organisation UNESCO in Paris. Published in the late 1960s,

"Season of Migration to the North" was banned by Sudan's Islamist regime in the 1990s because of its descriptions of a Sudanese intellectual's sexual experiences in Britain.

The Damascus-based Arab Literary Academy in 2001 declared the book "the most important Arabic novel of the 20th century."

His works were translated into more than 20 languages.

Social Development Foundation (SDF)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR APPOINTMENT OF LOCAL CONSULTANT FOR DRMU, BARISAL

Government of Bangladesh has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA)] to implement two new programs under Social Investment Program Project (SIPP) through Social Development Foundation (SDF) to help restore the livelihood of rural communities affected by the 2007 floods and by Cyclone Sidr. SDF is a pro-poor organization that aims at social and economic empowerment of the poor and disadvantaged people in Bangladesh by addressing the poverty, livelihoods and empowerment issues of the rural poor. SDF is looking for motivated and innovative professionals for the following positions in its new Disaster Risk Mitigation Unit (DRMU) to be set up as a Regional Branch of SDF, in Barisal. The DRMU will be responsible for managing the implementation of the new programs. Successful candidates have to respect the poor, open to learning and should have an aptitude for community driven development. The work involves extensive travel to the affected areas and working in the field.

(1) Social Accountability Specialist

Job Description:

The incumbent will facilitate implementation and operationalizing of various downward accountability tools and methods that SDF has developed and ensure that project activities are carried out in a transparent and inclusive way and that they achieve impacts for the poor, hardcore poor, women, and other marginalized stakeholders.

Qualification and Experience: Postgraduate in Social Science; with minimum 8 years practical experience in the relevant field; especially dealing with community institutions and governance aspects.

(2) Environmental Specialist

Job Description:

The incumbent will help communities and project staff understand the environmental issues affecting the lives and livelihoods of the poor and ensure that investments have no negative environmental impact; and are carried out in accordance with the Environmental Management Framework. The incumbent would be responsible for the environmental aspects in the northern area as well. As this involves both SIPP normal program and the cyclone project, this position would be based in Dhaka but will involve extensive travel to the project areas.

Qualification and Experience: Postgraduate in environmental science, economics or engineering or natural resources; with minimum 8 years practical experience in the environmental field and excellent knowledge of the sector.

(3) Financial Management Specialist

Job Description:

The incumbent will manage funds for flood and cyclone programs, ensuring efficient, transparent and accountable Financial Management Systems, at all levels of project implementation including Community Level. Qualification and Experience: Postgraduate in Accounting/Finance or ACA or ACMA or MBA Major in Accounting/Finance with minimum 8 years experience in the relevant field, including 4 years in any donoraided project and knowledge in Computerized Accounting System having experience in CDD approach.

(4) Community Finance Specialist Job Description:

The incumbent will be responsible for implementation of community financing (revolving fund) at the community level and facilitating setting up and functioning of community institutions for managing the fund. He/she would liaise closely with other micro-credit agencies and adapt SDF's model of community financing to the suit the conditions of the affected community members.

Qualification and Experience: Master's Degree in social science with minimum 8 years practical experience in micro-credit/community financing and experience of working with NGOs; and community organizations. For all the posts:

· Attractive remuneration package commensurate with the qualifications, skill and experience will be offered. . The candidates must have strong computer literacy, high level of interpersonal skill, excellent report writing skill and strong ability in oral and written communication in both Bangle & English.

· Experience with international agencies, donor funded projects and NGO and GoB would be an advantage. . The tenure of the above position is up to 36 months following satisfactory performance evaluation.

 Only short listed applicants will be called for interviews. • The incumbents should be willing to travel to remote areas extensively, and will be spending minimum 20

days per month in the project area. The above mentioned Specialists / Local Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997, January 1999 and May 2004 and Public Procurement

Regulations dated October, 01, 2008 and recipient's Public Procurement Act 2006). Interested persons are requested to send their detail CV indicating proposed position, name, address (present & permanent, Telephone /Cell Number), date of birth, nationality, membership in professional societies, education, other training, languages & degree of proficiency, countries of work experience, employment records and work undertaken that best illustrates capability to handle this assignment. The interested candidates are requested to send their applications including copies of all certificates with two passport size photographs to the following address on or before 5 March 2009 during office time. Details will be available in the SDF website: www.sdfbd.org. Candidates are requested to write the position applied for on the top of the envelope. No TA/DA will be provided for attending interview.

Managing Director Social Development Foundation (SDF) House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4

Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230