

## Pak kidnappers set four-day deadline to kill UN official

ANI, Lahore

The kidnappers of United Nations' official John Solecki have set a four-day deadline for the Pakistan Government to meet their demands.

The Balochistan Liberation United Front, the group that claimed responsibility for the abduction, have sent a letter to a news agency in Quetta warning that Solecki would be killed if their demands are not met.

"If our demands are not met, then we will kill him, and state agencies will be responsible for it," the group said in the letter.



A Sri Lankan Army Unicorn class armoured personnel carrier escorts a convoy of buses as they set off from the northern Omani area yesterday. The military opened a key road linking the northern town of Jaffna to the rest of the island after recently wresting parts of the highway that was controlled by Tamil Tiger rebels.

## Suicide bomber kills five in Pakistan

AFP, Quetta

A suicide bomber yesterday killed at least five people and wounded seven others at a religious school in a remote southwestern Pakistani town, police said.

The bombing took place inside a madrassa, an Islamic school, in Kili Karbala village in Pishin district, some 50 kilometres (30 miles) north of Quetta, where a political gathering was to take place, it said.

"Five people have died in the suicide blast," senior police official Akbar Raesani told AFP.

## Drone attacks in Pakistan part of Obama's policy

Says Mullen

ANI, Washington

Chairman US Joint Chiefs Admiral Mike Mullen said that the drone attacks inside Pakistan's tribal areas targeting al-Qaeda and Taliban militants were part of the Obama Administration's policy.

Asked if two suspected missile strikes were proof that President Barack Obama was escalating US attacks on al-Qaeda and Taliban militants in Pakistan, Admiral Mullen said: "Well, I'm not going to talk a lot about our operations specifically."

A private TV channel quoted the top US military official as saying that the Predator drone attacks inside Pakistan were part of policy of the Obama Administration.

Mullen said it is "extraordinarily hard" to find Osama bin Laden, against whom the Washington has launched a massive manhunt post 9/11, The Nation reported.

"He's, obviously, a very, very difficult individual to find, I mean, extraordinarily difficult. It's not as if we don't have a considerable amount of effort pursuing that, and I'm certain that will continue, but he hides pretty well," he added.

Admiral Mullen noted the Pakistani forces on their side of the border and the US-led international and Afghan forces on the Afghan side have pressured militants in the restive region.

At the same time, he recognised complexity of the challenge in the tribal border areas, where, he said, the issue of militant hideout needs to continue to be addressed.

## Tushar urges UK to return Kohinoor

ANI, London

Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson Tushar Gandhi has asked Britain to return the famous Kohinoor diamond to India after successfully spearheading a campaign to stop the sale of Gandhi's spectacles and sandals in New York.

Tushar Gandhi (49), urged the Indian Government to do more to return other treasures, including the Kohinoor diamond, which was presented to Queen Victoria in 1850.

## Congress, Trinamool form polls alliance in West Bengal

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kolkata

The West Bengal based Trinamool Congress and the Congress will fight the Lok Sabha election together against the state's ruling Left Front, leaders of the two parties said in Kolkata on Sunday night.

"We have decided to fight the elections together," state Congress president Pranab Mukherjee said at a joint

media conference with Trinamool Congress chief Mamata Banerjee late in the night after a 70-minute meeting.

However, the two leaders said the final contours of the alliance including the number of seats to be contested by each party will be decided in the coming days after further talks.

"We had good and useful discussions. But as we have some compulsions, we will

very soon tell you the final outcome of the talks," Congress Working Committee member and External Affairs Minister Pranab Mukherjee said at the brief media meet.

Asked whether it was an alliance or a seat adjustment, Mukherjee said: "That's upto you to say."

On how many of the state's 42 seats each party could fight, he said: "Finally when we announce you will get the numbers."

## Five-phase Lok Sabha polls schedule announced

CNN-IBN, New Delhi

The Election Commission yesterday announced dates for the 15th Lok Sabha elections, which will be held in five phases from April 16 to May 13.

The voting dates are April 16, April 22, April 23, April 30, May 7 and May 13 while counting will be held on May 16.

Announcing the dates Chief Election Commissioner N Gopalaswami said that though the voting will take place on six days, it will be counted as a five-phase election as voting in Manipur will take place on April 22 due to a local holiday on April 23.

Gopalaswami said that 124 constituencies would vote on April 16, followed by 141 on April 23, 107 on April 30, 85 on May 7 and 86 on May 13.

Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh will vote in five phases, Bihar will have four-phase elections while Maharashtra and West Bengal will vote in three phases.

Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Punjab will hold the elections in two phases. Fifteen states and seven Union Territories will go in for one-phase voting.

All election related procedures will be completed before May 28.

The dates were announced after the three-member Election Commission met under the chairmanship of Gopalaswami in New Delhi on Monday.



Indian photojournalists take pictures as Chief Election Commissioner N Gopalaswami (Z-R) talks with election commissioners Naveen Chawla (R) and SY Qureshi (C) in New Delhi yesterday. India will hold general elections over several stages from April 16 to May 13, the Election Commission announced.

## Improve Indo-Pak ties for normalcy in Kashmir

Says Omar Abdullah

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Gulmarg

Relations between India and Pakistan should improve so that 'complete normalcy' returns to Jammu and Kashmir, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said here Monday.

"I hope relations between India and Pakistan improve in the near future so that com-

plete normalcy returns here," Abdullah said while inaugurating a two-day ski event, Gulmarg Derby 2009.

The event at the popular resort town, 60 km from the state's summer capital Srinagar, is being attended by participants from about 40 countries and includes a free ski run, snow boarding and a cross country ski event.

## Pak parties make efforts to patch up between PPP and PML-N

PTI, Islamabad

Smaller parties in Pakistan have launched a bid to patch up differences between President Asif Ali Zardari and opposition PML-N chief Nawaz Sharif before matters reach a point of no return.

Though Sharif appears to be in no mood to patch up, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam chief Maulana

Fazlur Rehman and Awami National Party leader Asfandyar Wali Khan have initiated efforts to get the two main parties to resolve their differences.

"We have convinced Zardari to sit down with Nawaz Sharif and resolve the issue through dialogue," Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam chief Maulana Fazlur Rehman told reporters after he and Khan met the President on Sunday.

### 6th INTERNATIONAL POULTRY SHOW & SEMINAR 2009

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### Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO)

House-3, Road -24, Block-K, Banani Model Town, Dhaka-1213.

**Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)**  
for providing consultancy services in preparing reports and recommendations to meet up power shortage in DESCO area

The Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) intends to apply a part of its own revenue budget toward the cost of Consultancy Services to examine and determine the opportunities of availing adequate power supply to provide uninterrupted supply to its consumers against the existing power shortage situation and meet the load demand growth in DESCO area by a reputed Consulting Firm.

The services include preparation of a report with recommendations on determination of the appropriate source (s) and the process following "Policy Guidelines for Enhancement of Private Participation in the Power Sector, 2008" and other Government Policies pertinent to power generation/ purchase in order to meet up the power shortage and load demand growth in DESCO area.

The Experience and Resources of the Consulting Firm required are:

- At least ten (10) years experience in consultancy services in the power sector.
- Experience in providing consultancy services for at least two (02) nos. of contracts in the field of power generation/distribution with financial analysis.
- In house availability of Electrical/ Mechanical Engineer (s) adequately experienced in Consultancy Services in the Power Sector and Financial Experts.
- Firm's Average Annual Turnover of at least Taka three (03) Crores in the last three (03) years.

The Dhaka Electric Supply Company Ltd. (DESCO) now invites eligible Consulting Firms to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested Consulting Firms are invited to provide information, indicating that they are qualified to perform the services. This shall require substantiation through submission of brochures and other documents describing similar assignments, experience, availability of appropriate professional competence, experience, etc.

An applicant may associate with other Consultant (s) to fulfil the qualification requirement.

A shortlist of Consulting Firms will be prepared upon evaluation of EOIs of the eligible Consulting Firms and "Request for Proposal" document will be issued in their favour. A Consulting Firm will be selected using the Quality and Cost-Based Selection (QCBS) method. It is expected that the services will commence on April 30, 2009 and be completed within forty five (45) days from the date of commencement of services.

Interested Consulting Firms may obtain further information on the requirements including the criteria of short-listing by applying to the address below during normal office hours upto 17/03/2009.

Expressions of Interest shall be submitted by 12:00 Noon on 18/03/2009 in sealed envelope delivered to Manager (Procurement), DESCO and be clearly marked "EOI for providing services in preparing reports and recommendations to meet up power shortage"

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Ref. No.: DESCO/Procurement/Local Tender/2009/115  
Date: 02/03/2009

Khandaker Najibul Alam  
Manager (Procurement & CM), DESCO

### Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd.

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#### DEPARTMENT: CORPORATE AFFAIRS

**LEGAL COUNSEL** - Based at the Head Office in Dhaka, the incumbent will report to the Company Secretary. S/he will be responsible for assisting the Company Secretary in all legal matters, drafting the Contracts, managing all litigations of the Company, managing all land related issues of the Company, updating and maintaining the permission/permits/authorizations. S/he will also be responsible for ensuring compliance with all statutory requirements, applicable laws, contractual obligations and Group policies.

Those who applied in response to the Advertisement on 20 & 21 August 2008 published in The Daily Star & Prothom Alo respectively for the same post, do not require to apply.

**Requirements:**

- LL.B. (Honors), LL.M. from any reputed university.
- Experience as In-house Lawyer, Company Secretarial works in any company, and /or legal practice in the courts shall be an added advantage.
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skill.
- Excellent drafting, planning and organizing skill.
- Good documentation and communication skill. The candidate must be excellent in Bangla and English both in writing and speaking.
- Maximum age limit 35 years.

#### DEPARTMENT: PLANT

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The incumbent will be based at Chhatak, Sunamganj and will be responsible for providing Security and Risk Management support through implementation of personnel and asset protection measures, conducting investigation and other actions required to minimize risks to achieve smooth operation of the business. S/He will also be responsible to supervise and coordinate Risk Management function of the Company in different locations in Bangladesh.

**Requirements:**

- Bachelors Degree in any discipline.
- Ten years experience in related field or Ex Defense personnel of the rank of Major / Lieutenant Colonel or their equivalents (Maintaining excellent relations with law enforcement agencies, military and Para military forces will be preferred).
- Extensive experience in evaluating potential threats, risk analysis, investigation skills, conducting security audits, facilitating Corporate Social Responsibility objectives.
- Excellent communication skills in Bangla and English.

If you meet the requirements, please send your application along with a recent passport size photo to the following address within 15 March 2009. Please mention on the envelope the position you are applying for. You can also email your application at [recruitment@bd.lafarge.com](mailto:recruitment@bd.lafarge.com)

Human Resources Department,  
Lafarge Surma Cement Ltd.,  
Suvastu Imam Square  
65 Gulshan Avenue,  
3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Gulshan - 1,  
Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh.

*Only short-listed candidates will be called for an interview*