



Indian supporters of Congress party and Trinamool Congress (TMC) take part in a joint election campaign rally for TMC-supported Congress party candidate Dawa Nabula for the Darjeeling constituency in Naxalbari village, some 25 km from Siliguri on Sunday.

Indira Gandhi was my idol, says Priyanka

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Amethi

Priyanka Gandhi Monday said her grandmother and late prime minister Indira Gandhi was her 'idol' and also underlined that staying away from active politics was her own decision.

"She was absolutely my idol at that time," Priyanka Gandhi, who is often compared with her grandmother, said here when asked what memories she had of Indira Gandhi as a child.

Priyanka Gandhi also added though people remember Indira Gandhi as a tough leader, for her and her brother

she was a 'gentle and sweet' grandmother.

"People I suppose remember her as tough but for her grandchildren she was the gentlest and sweetest grandmother," Priyanka Gandhi fondly told English news channel Times Now. She was in Amethi constituency to campaign for her brother and Congress candidate Rahul Gandhi.

She also said her family was not responsible for keeping her away from active politics.

"It does not come from within. It is absolutely nothing else. My family will fully support me if this is what I want to do, but I simply do not want to," Priyanka Gandhi said.

NDA will cross magic figure of 272

Says Swaraj

PTI, Bhopal

Senior BJP leader Sushma Swaraj on Monday expressed confidence that the NDA would definitely cross the magic figure of 272 in the Lok Sabha elections.

Not only would the NDA get a majority on its own, the BJP would also emerge as the single largest party, Swaraj said while addressing a press conference at the Madhya Pradesh BJP office.

Asked to specify the number of seats that the BJP was likely to win, she said that the party would win anything between 180 to 200 seats on its own.

INDIAN ELECTION More Bollywood faces hit campaign trail

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, New Delhi

Crowds waiting patiently at a political rally in Shirdi in Maharashtra were rewarded when actress Urmila Matondkar came on stage. Urmila drew more cheers and catcalls than the Republican Party of India (RPI) candidate Ramdas Athawale for whom she had come to campaign.

In Mumbai, a star-turned daughter-in-law dutifully came out to campaign for her father-in-law and drove the crowds crazy.

Ayesha Takia, now married to Farhan, son of Samajwadi Party state chief Abu Asim Azmi, came for a road show in the Mumbai North-West constituency. The senior Azmi was seen grinning from ear-to-ear.

Bollywood's bad boy Salman Khan has campaigned for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party. So now the question being asked is will he or won't he campaign for the Shiv Sena.

Tamils call for truce at London demo

AFP, London

Thousands of Tamils blocked some of London's busiest roads yesterday, demonstrating outside the Houses of Parliament for an immediate ceasefire in the war between Tamil rebels and Sri Lanka's government.

The protestors, who have held a two-week vigil, staged a sit-down protest, chanted and waved flags and banners in the roads opposite Parliament after their numbers swelled from hundreds to thousands overnight Sunday.

Police said around 3,500 people were taking part.

They want Britain, the former colonial power, to intervene in Sri Lanka to stop the conflict.

One demonstrator, who has gone on hunger strike, entered his third week of fasting Monday and has pledged to die for his cause if necessary.

British Prime Minister Gordon Brown's official spokesman said the premier was "deeply concerned" at the conflict in Sri Lanka.

"The government is making clear that there must be an immediate ceasefire," he said, adding: "We want to see a durable political solution."

Pakistan govt plans to combat 'Bad Taliban'

ANI, Islamabad

The Pakistan Government has decided to track down and combat the "Bad Taliban," which is held responsible for targeting law-enforcement agencies in the NWFP and FATA.

According to The Nation, the recent increase in suicide bombings targeting the NWFP police has forced the government to start a hunt operation against the anti-state "Bad Taliban."

Recently, two consecutive suicide-bombing attacks at Charsadda and Hangu District have killed three dozen police personnel.

The identical pattern of the bombings and preliminary investigation revealed that the attacks were carried out by 'Bad Taliban' with help of local criminals.

According to the sources, the Zardari Government is also planning to seek the help of

what is described as "Good Taliban" in tracking down and combating the elements involved in destabilising the country.

Some government sources supported the new plans, by saying that new strategy could greatly help to identify the elements targeting the law enforcement agencies in NWFP and FATA.

"Good Taliban are people following just Islamic agenda and were not involved in the anti-state activities", a source said.

However others were not inclined to buy the idea because, they said that the Taliban were targeting the law enforcement agencies as reaction to the CIA operated drone strikes against a-Qaeda and Taliban hideouts in FATA.

"All the Taliban are the same and there should be no distinction between good and bad Taliban and it was need of the hour that government tackles them with an iron hand", said another source.



Sri Lankan demonstrators march in protest towards the Norwegian embassy in Colombo yesterday. Demonstrators, led by the all Buddhist party, the JHU, demanded that Colombo shut down the embassy following the government's decision to dismiss Oslo as a peace broker.



Pakistani activists of Pakhtun-khwa Milli Awami Party march during a peace rally in Lahore on Sunday. The protesters staged the peace rally for rights of Pakhtun-Khwa who are living in Punjab province.

NZ wants exit plan for commandos in Afghanistan

AP, Wellington

New Zealand's prime minister said yesterday that he wants an exit strategy before sending the country's elite Special Air Service combat troops back to Afghanistan as the US has requested.

Prime Minister John Key said that sending the commandos for a fourth tour of duty in Afghanistan "would be a very hard" decision, not something we would take lightly.

Pak cops net 6th Mumbai attacks suspect

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Lahore

Pakistan has arrested a sixth suspect in the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks and is conducting a 'sincere investigation' into the carnage, the country's interior minister says.

Speaking to reporters at the wedding ceremony here Sunday night of a ruling Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader here, minister Rehman Malik however refused to provide details of the fresh arrest.

At the same time, he said India had not provided all the details to the queries Pakistan had posed on the dossier New

Delhi had provided pointing to the involvement of elements from this country in the Nov 26-29, 2008 Mumbai attacks that claimed the lives of over 170 people, including 26 foreigners.

Underlining the need for India's cooperation in connection with the Mumbai probe, he said: "The accused cannot be awarded punishment in the absence of concrete evidence."

He also asked for a certified copy of the confession made by Ajmal Amir Kasab, the lone gunman captured during the carnage and whose trial has begun in a heavily-guarded Mumbai court.

8 killed in Kashmir

AFP, Srinagar

Weekend violence claimed eight lives in troubled Indian Kashmir, police said yesterday, as the region prepared for another round of voting in general elections.

Two security force personnel and a Muslim militant were killed during a fierce gunbattle in southern Doda district late Sunday, a police statement said.

A Muslim woman injured in the cross-fire later died in hospital.

In the districts of Kupwara and Baramulla, two militants and a member of the security

forces were killed during two separate gunbattles.

"Four policemen were hurt during the fighting," the statement said.

Meanwhile suspected militants late Sunday shot dead a former rebel who had reportedly renounced violence after his release last year from an Indian jail.

Violence linked to the long-running Muslim insurgency against Indian rule in Kashmir has increased in the past month, with the disputed region participating in a general election boycotted by most separatist leaders.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH Cabinet Division Common Service Section				
Ref : CD/CSS/4(14)/2007/495.		Date : 20 April 2009.		
Invitation for Tenders				
1	Ministry/Division	Cabinet Division		
2	Procuring Entity Name	Cabinet Division		
3	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka, Bangladesh.		
4	Invitation for	Tender	Goods	Double lot
KEY INFORMATION				
5	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method.		Open
		PPR/2008.		
FUNDING INFORMATION				
6	Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue Budget (2008-09)		Government
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
7	Tender Package No.	02.		
8	Tender Package Name	Procurement of Stationary Goods & Computer Accessories		
9	Tender Publication Date	21/04/2009		
10	Tender Last Selling Date	04/05/2009		
11	Tender Closing Date and Time	05/05/2009	02.00 PM	
12	Tender Opening Date and Time	05/05/2009	02.10 PM	
13	Name & Address of the office(s)	Address		
14	Selling Tender Document	Cabinet Division, Bldg. # 1, Room # 208 (2nd. Floor), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.		
15	Receiving Tender Document	Cabinet Division, Bldg. # 1, Room # 208 (2nd. Floor), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.		
16	Opening Tender Document	Cabinet Division, Bldg. # 1, Room # 210 (2nd. Floor), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.		
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER				
17	Eligibility of Tenderer	Manufacturer/Importer/General merchant/Suppliers		
18	Brief Description of Goods	Stationary Goods & Computer Accessories (As per specification/sample).		
	Lot No	Identification of Lot	Location	Price of Tender Document (Tk)
19	01	Stationary Goods (As per specification/sample).	Cabinet Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000.	lot-1 Tk. 300/-
	02.	Computer Accessories (As per specification/sample).		lot-2 Tk. 500/-
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
20	Name of Official Inviting Tender	Md. Osman Gony.		
21	Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Senior Assistant Secretary.		
22	Address of Official Inviting Tender	Bldg. # 1, Room # 208 (2nd. Floor), Cabinet Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka - 1000.		
23	Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: 717 1552	Fax: 716 2016	
24	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders			
Md. Osman Gony Senior Assistant Secretary Phone: 717 1552				

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The following Training Courses will be offered by BIM in MAY, 2009.

Name of Course	Duration with Time	Venue/ Course Fee	Course Coordinator & Contact Number
1. Human Resource Management for Executives	May 03-14 17:00-21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Akhund A. Shamsul Alam E-mail : alam_shamsul@yahoo.com Cell : 01715-356717
2. MS Office and Internet for Professional Excellence	May 04-15 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 4,250/-	S. M. Ariful Islam Cell : 01715-179829
3. Management Techniques and Gender Issues for Women Employees	May 10-14 09:30-13:30	Chittagong Tk. 3,300/-	Salma Sultana Saleh Ejaz
4. Salesmanship for the Sales Representatives and Sales Officers	May 17-28 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	Dr. Uttam Kumar Datta Cell : 01715-762054 E-mail : uddatta@gmail.com
5. Executive Development Preparing for the Future	May 17-28 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 5,500/-	AH Mostafa Kamal Khan
6. Office Management with Computer Applications	May 17-June 4 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 8,500/-	Mohammad Nazim Newaz Cell : 01715-356717
7. Research Methodology with the Application of SPSS	May 24-June 4 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 6,600/-	Md. Mahbul ul Alam & A A Shamsul Alam Cell : 01819-113406 E-mail : mahbulabb@gmail.com
8. Practical Income Tax	May 24-June 11 17:00 - 21:30	Dhaka Tk. 7,200/-	Md. Manzur Hossain Cell : 01818-063135

Courses mentioned above are suitable for Managers/Executives of public and private sector organizations including NGOs and interested educated young people not yet in service but want to develop managerial abilities.

Please send your nominations to Coordinators. If you need further information you can also contact them. For more information please visit our website www.bim.org.bd

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Vacancy Announcement

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh invites applications from highly qualified, energetic and experienced professionals who wish to join UNDP's dynamic working environment, for recruitment in the following positions for the 'Support to the Electoral Process in Bangladesh'.

1. Junior Programmer (Web Management)
2. Junior Programmer (Network and Database)

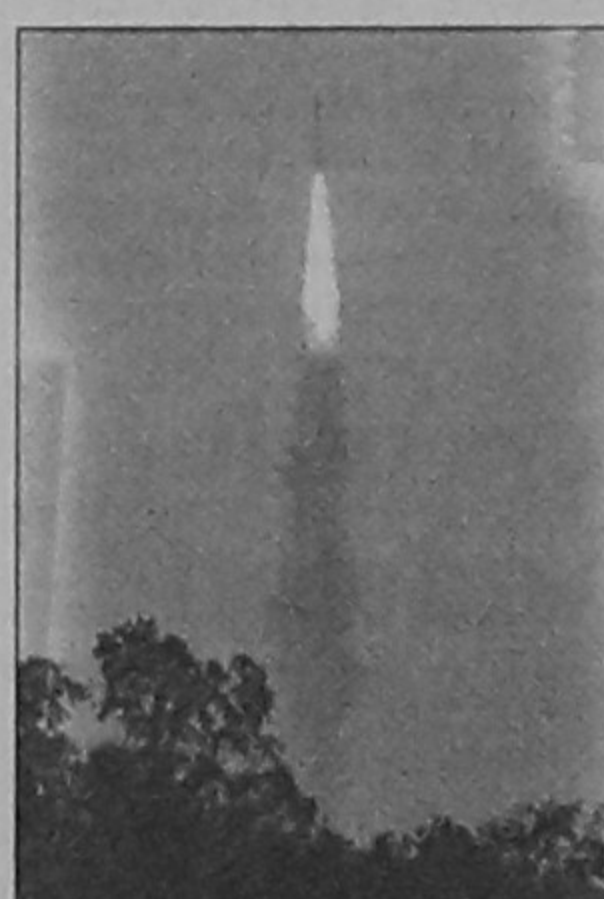
For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 4 May, 2009.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicants.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) UN Canteen Service

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested and well qualified organizations to provide full UN Canteen Service along with food.

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "Proposals for UN Canteen Service" and should be marked as 'Confidential' and addressed to the **UNDP Procurement Unit**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207. Please note that interested vendors should visit the UN Canteen Premises on **Apr 23, 2009 at 10:30am** contacting at the mentioned e-mail address and attend the **pre-bid meeting** on the same time. The deadline for submission of Proposal is **May 3, 2009, 14:30**. To collect detail bidding documents please contact at fahim.khan@undp.org



The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) rocket, carrying the RISAT 2 spy satellite as payload, blasts off into space from its launch pad in Sriharikota yesterday.

India launches spy satellite

AFP, Bangalore

India put an Israeli-built spy satellite into orbit Monday, aimed at boosting its defence surveillance capabilities in the aftermath of the Mumbai militant attacks.

The satellite, which can see through clouds and carry out day-and-night all-weather imaging, has been a long-standing demand of the Indian military.

Its acquisition was fast-tracked after the November 26-29 Mumbai siege in which 10 gunmen went on a shooting spree, killing 165 people.