



Pakistani Minister for Religious Affairs Hamid Saeed Kazmi (L), Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani (C) and Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi (R) attend a conference against terrorism and extremism in Islamabad yesterday. The conference aims at gaining support of religious scholars to speak with one voice against militants and extremists.

PHOTO: AFP

## Obama, Netanyahu bare Iran, Palestinian divides

AFP, Washington

During an intense first meeting as heads of state, President Barack Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu laid bare differing approaches on Iran and the US goal of a Palestinian state.

In blunt comments after more than three hours of talks Monday, Netanyahu offered discussions "immediately" with the Palestinians but stopped short of endorsing Obama's call for a two-state solution.

Both leaders also dwelt on Iran, with Obama defending his diplomatic outreach strategy and an impassioned Netanyahu voicing his fears before reporters that a nuclear-armed Tehran would pose a mortal threat to Israel.

The crucial first meeting between two leaders new to

power was Obama's deepest plunge yet into the labyrinth of Middle East peacemaking, which contrasted with his predecessor George W. Bush's initial hands-off approach.

Obama said after the talks, which included a 90-minute tete-a-tete, that he was "confident" progress on the Israel-Palestinian question was possible.

All international parties have an interest in achieving "a two-state solution in which Israelis and Palestinians are living side by side in peace and security," he said, pointedly referring to Israel as a "Jewish state."

Obama also said Palestinians would have to do a "better job" in providing security guarantees and called on Arab states to be "bolder" in moving towards normalization with Israel.

Netanyahu, who described the talks as "extraordinarily friendly," did not use the words "Palestinian state" but also warned against obsessing on "terminology."

"I want to make it clear that we don't want to govern the Palestinians -- we want to live in peace with them," Netanyahu said.

"We want them to govern themselves (minus) a handful of powers that could endanger the state of Israel," he said, referring, for example, to control of airspace and other areas related to security concerns.

The Palestinians slammed Netanyahu for failing to endorse the creation alongside Israel of a Palestinian state, which has been at the basis of all peace initiatives over the past nearly two decades.

## Pakistan races to deal with 1.5m refugees

Pak army kills 16 militants in Swat

AP, INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Islamabad

Pakistan said yesterday it was racing to help refugees fleeing a military offensive against the Taliban in its northwest an exodus of some 1.5 million of a speed and size the UN said could rival the displacement caused by Rwanda's genocide.

The humanitarian challenge comes as the military said another 20 militants and soldiers died as troops tried to re-conquer key towns from heavily armed militants in the Swat Valley.

Lt Gen Nadeem Ahmed, who leads a group tasked with dealing with the uprooted Pakistanis, said the government had enough flour and other food for the displaced but said it needed donations of fans and high energy biscuits. He also said the refugees would get money and free transport when it was safe enough to return.

A "camp is not a replacement for home," Ahmed told reporters, adding there are at least 22 relief camps operating.

The US has praised Pakistan's military operation in Swat and surrounding districts, which comes amid long-standing American pressure to root out al-Qaeda and Taliban hide-outs along the border with Afghanistan. Militants in those sanctuaries threaten American and Nato troops in Afghanistan and

Pakistan's own future, US officials warn.

On Tuesday, the army said its operation to clear Swat was "making headway as planned."

Troops were engaged in firefights in the towns of Matta and Kanju and near a strategic bridge as well as battling militants in the Piochar area, the stronghold of Swat Taliban chief Maulana Fazlullah, a military statement said.

Sixteen militants and four soldiers were killed, while 16 more troops were wounded, it said.

According to the authorities, the security forces are currently consolidating their positions in the valley. Three Pakistani soldiers were killed in the overnight clashes against the militants in the area, officials said.

The Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR) department said 16 soldiers, including an officer, were also injured in the operations.

Meanwhile, the security forces have surrounded the Swat town and are currently conducting search operations there, it said.

In another incident, 14 Taliban militants were killed in a gunfight in the Takhtaband area, where the security forces were conducting search operations. Two soldiers were killed and eight others injured in the fighting there, officials said.

Two more militants were killed and one soldier was injured in an operation in a different area, Geo TV said citing officials.

## Verdict comes with onerous responsibilities : Sonia

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, New Delhi

Congress chief Sonia Gandhi Tuesday said verdict 2009 is both "exhilarating and sobering" and that the mandate comes with "onerous responsibilities."

"We have won an election but also undertaken a serious obligation," she said while addressing the newly elected MPs at a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) here.

Sonia Gandhi, who proposed the name of Manmohan Singh as the CPP leader and the prime minister,

said: "We have awakened new hopes, and it is now our task to respond to the very aspirations that have brought to us this day to this hall in these numbers."

She said that a long and difficult election had come to an end, with a result that is "both exhilarating and sobering." "We have received a generous mandate, but one that comes with onerous responsibilities."

Sonia Gandhi stressed that the people crave honest and capable governance and decency in public life. "We must not disappoint them," she added.



PHOTO: AFP

Congress Party President Sonia Gandhi (L) presents a bouquet to Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh as senior party leader Karan Singh (R) looks on after he was elected the leader of the Congress parliamentary party at Parliament House in New Delhi yesterday.

JOINING CABINET

## Only time will show, says Rahul

ANI, New Delhi

As the television studios discussed the possibility of Rahul Gandhi's inclusion in the Cabinet, the man at the centre of it all said only time will show whether he would join the Ministry or work for the party.

"Only time will show," Gandhi told reporters here.

His statement came after many Congress leaders, including Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh, invited Rahul Gandhi to join the Cabinet.

On May 16, Singh had said that he would try to make Rahul a part of the new cabinet.

## India test fires nuclear-capable Agni II missile

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Bhubaneswar

India Tuesday successfully tested the nuclear-capable Agni-II missile from a defence base in Orissa, official sources said.

The surface-to-surface missile with a range of over 2,000 km was test fired from the Wheeler's Island near Dhamara in the district of Bhadrak, some 150 km from here at 10.06 am.

"It was a user trial," the sources said, adding that the aim of the test was to give the Army confidence to fire the missile on its own.

## 'Photos show Pakistan expanding nuke sites'

AFP, Washington

Satellite photos released yesterday show Pakistan has expanded two sites crucial to its nuclear program as part of an effort to bolster the destructive power of its atomic arsenal, a US arms control institute said.

The commercial images reveal a major expansion of a chemical plant complex near Dera Ghazi Khan that produces uranium hexafluoride and uranium metal, materials used to produce nuclear weapons, said analysts at the Institute for Science and International Security.

At a site near Rawalpindi, photos suggest the Pakistanis "have added a second plutonium separation plant adjacent to the old one," the ISIS report said.

Pakistan in recent years also has been building two new plutonium production reactors, it said.

"All together, these recent expansion activities indicate that Pakistan is indeed progressing in a strategic plan to improve the destructiveness and deliverability of its nuclear arsenal," the report said.

The expansion would enable Pakistan to build smaller, lighter plutonium-fission weapons and thermonuclear weapons that employ "plutonium as the nuclear trigger and enriched and natural enriched uranium in the secondary," it said.

The satellite photos follow confirmation from the top US military officer, Admiral Mike Mullen, on Friday that Pakistan was expanding its nuclear arsenal.

Mullen on Monday said US assistance to Pakistan was not being used by Islamabad to bolster its nuclear weapons program.

Given turmoil in Pakistan with the army waging war against Taliban militants in the northwest, the ISIS said the "security of its nuclear assets remains in question."

"An expansion in nuclear weapons production capabilities needlessly complicates efforts to improve the security of Pakistan's nuclear assets," it said.



## Request for Expression of Interest for "A Comprehensive Study on the Furniture Sector of Bangladesh"

Katalyst, a market development project under the Ministry of Commerce, requests expressions of interest from consulting firms to carry out a comprehensive study on the furniture sector of Bangladesh.

Katalyst has been working to facilitate the growth of the furniture sector since 2004. The work has concentrated on certain industry clusters. Katalyst now intends to work nationally, basing its strategy on the findings of this comprehensive study. Therefore, Katalyst invites expressions of interest from interested firms, to study the current status, constraints, and opportunities for the sector and make recommendations for improvements. The tasks include, among others:

- Exploring the potential for the sector and identifying factors that facilitate and hinder growth
- Assessing the demand and supply of the following areas of production: technology, consultancy services, inputs, skilled workforce, and promotion
- Assessing government policy issues that impact the growth of the industry

Interested firms are requested to send in their expressions of interest along with the organization profile and resource persons' profiles. The firm must fulfill the following conditions:

- Experience in carrying out similar sector studies
- Sufficient manpower to complete the study by 15 July 2009
- Research capacity with expertise in statistics

Short-listed firms will be notified of a discussion on the study by May 31, 2009, where the research scope and methodology will be further detailed. Following that, technical and financial proposals will be sought and the firm that will carry out the study will be selected.

The Expression of Interest with profiles should be delivered to **The Division Manager, Industry & Rural Sectors Division, Katalyst, House 20, Road 6, Baridhara, Dhaka** by 26 May 2009, mentioning "EOI for a Comprehensive Sector Study on the Furniture Industry of Bangladesh" on the envelope. Telephone enquiries will not be entertained.

## REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

### APPOINTMENT OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT COMPANY/CONSULTING FIRM FOR A.K.KHAN TOWER, AGRABAD, CHITTAGONG

#### Background:

A.K. Khan & Co. Ltd. intends to appoint a well reputed Project Management Company/Consulting Firm for providing professional management services for the construction of an intelligent high rise commercial building in the port city of Chittagong, Bangladesh.

The proposed building's architecture will embrace 21st century outlook with design concepts that make a signature statement and meets or exceeds all international quality and safety requirements with minimum environmental impacts. The proposed building will function with energy efficiency systems with effective use of natural lighting, providing a healthy environment for the occupants including improved indoor air quality and water quality. A well laid out design that will incorporate ergonomics to increase operational efficiency, productivity and operational costs effectively throughout the entirety of the building life cycle.

#### Scope of Work:

**Feasibility Phase:** Executive summary, Project analysis (market need/demand, project costs, assessment of risks and opportunities), Government/legal approvals, Able to liaise with contractors, government body & statutory board, Financial planning, Business plan.

**Design Phase:** Technical analysis, Establish construction schedule, Conceptual project design options, Architectural conceptual design capabilities and structural detail design capabilities, Technical architecture options and considerations, Engineering and structural options.

**Selection Phase:** Prepare Request for Proposal (RFP), Evaluation and selection of construction firm/company. Capabilities in selection and awarding contracting works for construction (piling, civil & structural works) and all related services (HVAC, mechanical, electrical, instrumentation, firefighting and plumbing works).

**Implementation and Contract Phase:** Contract/agreement preparation, Construction phase supervision, Capable to oversee testing & commissioning of all services, Warranty/undertaking, and Delivery/handover.

#### Expressions of Interest (EOI):

EOIs are invited from interested experienced local/international leading Project Management company/Consulting firm or Joint Ventures of reputed having similar experiences in construction management. The selected Company/Firm will be required to undertake complete supervision of the project from concept to completion.

#### EOI Procedure:

Interested companies/firms are requested to submit the following information with its EOI:

1. Corporate overview/profile of company, including history, financial audited accounts, number of employees, date of establishment, management background - accredited Professionals, including project executives, project managers. Include resumes of key staff you anticipate using on this project.
2. Describe approach from concept to completion of the project and list how many bid categories and bid phase for the project. Identify ability and approach to get multiple qualified and competitive contractor bids on this project.
3. Describe quality control processes, and list all services that will be provided during the selection, design, construction, delivery and handover phase of this project. Describe approach to on-site construction supervision.
4. Any other information that is appropriate to this proposal. Also include fee/payment structure and schedule. Briefly discuss the availability of all key personnel for the scheduled time-frame of the proposed project.
5. List a minimum of five (5) recent projects with full details including:
  - Owner contact information
  - Project construction budget, pre-bid & post-bid
  - Final project cost
  - Year of award
  - Cost variance with budget and construction expressed in a percentage (plus/minus). If a joint-venture or other form of association, provide the information for each member firm on separate sheets and their role in the project (joint consultant/sub-consultant).
6. Provide three (3) most recent clients that most closely relate to this project, include client name, address, and telephone number and client's project representative contact details.

#### Address:

Interested Companies/Firms are requested to submit their EOI to the address below by not later than 5:00 pm 21st June, 2009:

Managing Director  
Project : AK TOWER  
A.K. Khan & Co. Ltd.  
9th Floor Uday Tower,  
Gulshan 1, Dhaka-1212, Bangladesh

#### Note:

This publication does not create any legally binding obligation in any manner or bind A.K.Khan & Co. Ltd. to enter into a contract with any organization or entity that submits EOI in response to this publication. A.K. Khan & Co. Ltd. reserves the right to accept/reject any EOI in part or in full or all EOIs with or without assigning any reasons whatsoever at any time.

## careers@avery dennison



Paxar Bangladesh Ltd., a subsidiary of Avery Dennison Corporation is one of the latest manufacturing facilities in Avery Dennison's Asia Pacific operations. Established in 2003, our state of the art production complex is located in Dhaka Export Processing Zone. The company serves as a one-stop shop for all types of Garment labels for the vibrant Bangladesh Garment industry as well as several other countries in the region. To support our expanding operations we are looking for the following personnel to be based at our factory complex in Dhaka EPZ.

### Production Engineer

The exciting position is for achievers, who are smart, result and team oriented. This role should ensure that the company objectives, in terms of reliability and the quality of the product are met through proper production and machine planning. Another major responsibility will be to do the work-study at the factory, and to study production processes to find solutions to improve the current practices and to recommend improvement in the efficiency of operations in a variety of commercial, industrial and production environments. The ideal candidate should have a Bachelor degree in Industrial/Mechanical Engineering from a reputed university with at least 2-3 years of experience in a production/manufacturing related field. Excellent communication skills and working knowledge of Microsoft Office is essential.

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### Production Supervisor

This role requires an experienced and technically capable person to lead the production team by ensuring the proper working instruction and the quality control measures is followed in every step of the production process in the department. Therefore strong supervisory and interpersonal skills are necessary for the position. The ideal candidate should have 2/3 years of experience in a similar position in a reputed manufacturing concern, having a graduate degree in any discipline. The candidate must be energetic, hardworking and be ready to work in shifts.

If you are committed to make a difference and ready to work in an innovative and challenging environment, then the opportunity is there to join. The successful candidate will be offered an attractive remuneration package and world class working environment. Please send your resume to Paxar Bangladesh Ltd. 3/F Uday Tower, 57 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan 1, Dhaka -1212. Your detailed resume should include a recent photograph and names of two non related referees and reach us before 30 May 2009.

