



Pakistani internally displaced persons (IDPs) gather outside the World Food Programme distribution centre in Peshawar yesterday. Pakistan vowed to take "full care" of more than two million people displaced by a military operation in the northwest as it said it had regained a key town from Taliban fighters.

Pakistan vows to take 'full care' of displaced people

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan yesterday vowed to take "full care" of more than two million people displaced by a military operation in the northwest, as it said it had regained a key town from Taliban fighters.

Some 2.4 million people have been displaced in a punishing military assault against the Taliban in the northwestern districts of Lower Dir, Buner and Swat, in the biggest exodus since Pakistan's 1947 partition from India.

"We will take full care of displaced people, who have sacrificed for our future," Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani said while addressing a ceremony in Islamabad.

He said the government had embarked on a "comprehensive" policy for relief

and rehabilitation for the displaced persons.

"We will not allow a handful of people to destabilise the country and derail democracy," he said in reference to Taliban militants, adding that the nation wanted an end to militancy.

Under US pressure, Pakistan launched an offensive last month to crush militants in the northwest, which Washington said threatened the existence of the Muslim country and posed the greatest terror threat to the West.

On Saturday Pakistan's military said it had won back control of the main town in a key northwestern district from Taliban fighters in what would be a major achievement in a month-long offensive.

The announcement came three days

after the military vowed to wipe out the Taliban from Mingora, the administrative and commercial hub of the mountainous Swat valley -- a region torn apart by a two-year Taliban uprising.

The extremists' advance came despite a February deal with a pro-Taliban cleric, which put three million people in the northwest under sharia law in a bid to end the two-year Taliban insurgency -- a deal which now lies in tatters.

The military says more than 1,200 militants and 80 soldiers have died in the onslaught, launched in the districts of Lower Dir on April 26, Buner on April 28 and Swat on May 8, but those tolls cannot be confirmed independently.

There has been little official word on any civilian casualties during the offensive.

Nepal Maoists lose another battle

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kathmandu

After losing its battle with the army and being forced to step down from power, Nepal's Maoist party suffered a second reverse yesterday with the chairman of the interim parliament refusing to allow them a debate in the house.

"I held consultations with the lawmakers, who were polarised on the issue. The Maoist motion for a debate can't be allowed," said Subhash Nembang, chairman of the constituent assembly that also serves as Nepal's interim parliament.

The refusal comes as a second blow for the former ruling party that is now virtually isolated in the house where it once reigned supreme.

Pak war against Taliban will be 'tough fight'

Says Gen Petraeus

PTI, Washington

As Pakistani military intensified operations against the Taliban in Swat valley and adjoining areas, a top US General has said that it is going to be "a tough fight" for the country whose "very existence" is threatened by the militants. "Well, clearly, there's going to be a tough fight."

But clearly, as well, the Pakistani military has taken on this fight," Gen David Petraeus, Commander of the US Central Command, told Fox News channel. He was responding to a question about the success of current military operation against the Taliban in the Swat valley and adjoining areas of Pakistan.

"They (Pakistani Army) are doing it because of the threat that the Taliban poses to them and to their country, not because of American interests. The people have come to recognise the Taliban for their repressive practices," Petraeus said.

The Pakistani army is fighting the militants "because the Taliban has come to represent a threat to the very existence of their state." In fact, Gen Petraeus said: "They very much want to be seen as not fighting our war."

They'll take certain assistance, but by no means anything that directly affects the combat operations. There is a fierce pride in their own ability.

And a good bit of that is justified."

Resentment in Congress over few ministerial berths

INDO ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Guwahati/Imphal

There is resentment among a section of the Congress in the northeast over the poor representation from the region in the Manmohan Singh ministry.

A Congress ally in Assam has also threatened to withdraw support to the Assam government over the issue.

"Despite our requests, none of the Congress MPs from Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram was included in the ministry though the Congress won all five Lok Sabha seats in these states," a Congress leader said in the Manipur capital Imphal on condition of anonymity.

Only three MPs have been inducted as ministers in the central ministry, from two of the region's eight states -- Assam and Meghalaya.

Some Congress workers burnt Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi in effigy in different parts of eastern Assam Friday to register their protest over the non-inclusion of more party MPs from Assam, where the Congress won

seven of the 14 Lok Sabha seats.

Only one - Bijoy Krishna Handique - has found a cabinet berth while both MPs from Meghalaya - one from the Congress, Vincent H. Pala, and Agatha K.

Sangma of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) - have been inducted in the ministry.

In the previous United Progressive Alliance (UPA) government, there were two cabinet ministers and one minister of state from Assam and Meghalaya.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh represents Assam in the Rajya Sabha.

Meanwhile, the Bodoland People's Front (BPF), a junior partner of the ruling Congress in Assam, has threatened to withdraw support to the Tarun Gogoi government in protest against the non-inclusion of its lone Lok Sabha member, Sansuma Khungur Biswamuthiary, in the central ministry.

"This is clear betrayal as assurances had been given to all pre-poll partners regarding allotment of ministerial berths," BPF leader Hagrama Mohilary said.



Supporters of the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) give the red salute during celebrations of the first anniversary of Republic Day in Kathmandu on Friday. The 240-year old Hindu monarchy was abolished by the 601-member constituent assembly a year ago making Nepal the world's youngest republic.

Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh
Headquarter, Kurmitola, Dhaka

Invitation for Tender

1	Name of the work	Construction of drain, fencing in/c. footpath at both sides of main approach road at Cox's Bazar Airport (SH: Installation of steel grill fencing at main approach road, car park and front area of Passenger Terminal Building).			
2	Source of fund	Capital expenditure (Investment of fixed assets) Code No-100.			
3	Tender package No.	04/2008-2009 (Cox's Bazar).			
4	Invitation for tenders Ref. No. and date	CAABW-319/part-12 (Gha)/1731 date: 30/03/2009.			
5	Eligibility of tenderers	CAAB enlisted A-special (civil) or above class contractor/contractor having license of equivalent or above class in any gov't/semi-gov't/autonomous and who have experience in successfully completed of civil work valued Tk. 15 (fifteen) lac in a single work order during last 5 (five) years in any gov't/semi-gov't/autonomous organisation can apply for purchasing tender documents.			
6	Name and address of the offices selling tender document	a) Superintending Engineer, P&D/QS Circle, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. b) Executive Engineer, Civil Division-3, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka. c) Accounts Officer, CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka. d) PA to Member (Ops. & Pns), CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka. e) PA to Chief Engineer, CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka. f) Airport Manager, Shah Amanat Int'l Airport, Chittagong.			
7	Name and address of the office receiving tenders	Chief Engineer, CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka.			
8	Name and address of the office opening tenders	Office of the Chief Engineer, CAAB, HQ, Kurmitola, Dhaka in presence of the contractor or their representative (if any).			
9	Last date & time for selling tender document	08/06/2009 up to 12.00 hours.			
10	Last date & time for submission of tenders	10/06/2009 up to 12.00 hours.			
11	Date and time for opening of tenders	10/06/2009 at 12.30 hours.			
12	Special instructions	At the time of purchasing tender schedule, attested copy of affidavit/articles of memorandum/joint venture agreement/partnership agreement to be enclosed along with the application.			
13	Brief description of goods and services (works and services)				
Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document in Taka	Tender security amount in Taka (Refundable)	Time for completion in days/weeks/months
	Installation of steel grill fencing at main approach road, car park and front area of passenger terminal building (as per description of schedule attached with the tender document)	Cox's Bazar Airport	Tk. 1000/= (one thousand) (non-refundable)	Tk. 65,000/= (sixty-five thousand) only to be furnished in the shape of Bank Draft/Pay-Order/irrevocable Bank Guarantee from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh in favour of the Superintending Engineer, P&D/QS Circle, CAAB, Kurmitola, Dhaka	25 (twenty-five) days
14	Special conditions	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tender(s) within assigning any reason whatsoever.			

CAAB/PR-88/2009/775
Date: 24-5-2009
GD-2731

Md. Harunur Rashid Bhuiyan
Chief Engineer (C.C.)
Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh

Sharif not eyeing PM's post

ANI, Karachi

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) senior vice president Makhdoom Javed Hashmi has said that party chief Nawaz Sharif is not eyeing a return to the Prime Minister's office.

Talking to media persons at the Jinnah International Airport here, Hashmi said his party does not want to destabilize the present government.

Hashmi, however, blamed the PPP led government of still

aping the policies of former President General Pervez Musharraf, and said that if it continues to do so, then it would become difficult for the PML-N to cooperate with the government.

He said the PML-N wanted the supremacy of law and constitution to be established in the country.

Commenting on the Swat exodus, Hashmi said it was due to the government's faulty strategies that such a huge number of people have been forced to flee.

Warlords back Karzai in polls

AFP, Kabul

Two warlords leading ethnic minority groups in Afghanistan declared their support for incumbent Hamid Karzai in the nation's presidential elections due in August, Karzai's office said Saturday.

General Abdul Rashid Dostam and Haji Mohammad Mohaqiq announced their support for the Western-backed Karzai after meeting him at his palace on Friday, Karzai's office and one of the factions said.

"Hezb-i-Wahdat party... and Junbish-i-Milli... party declared their support to Hamid Karzai in the elections," Karzai's campaign office said.

Pakistan must dismantle terror set up for peace process, says Krishna

ANI, Bangalore

External Affairs Minister SM Krishna on Friday said that peace process with Pakistan could only resume if Pakistan dismantled the terrorist infrastructure that has been built up in Pakistan, on Pakistan soil.

Addressing media persons here, Krishna said Pakistan is expected to take certain step to show India and the rest of the world that it is actually serious about fighting terrorism.

"Pakistan has to take cer-

tain steps to convey India as well as the outside world that they are serious to fight terror. The first thing that they (Pakistani authorities) have to do is to dismantle the terrorist infrastructure that has been built up in Pakistan, on Pakistan soil.

I think that will be the first induction of their seriousness. Then only I can think in terms of continuing the dialogue which has been halted after 26/11," said SM Krishna.

Kashmir separatist denounces Taliban

AFP, Srinagar

"Acts of terrorism" by Taliban extremists in Pakistan are un-Islamic, a hardline Muslim politician campaigning for Kashmir's independence from India said yesterday.

Referring to Thursday's spate of bomb attacks in Pakistan's northwestern cities, in which 15 people were killed, Syed Ali Geelani told reporters that, "such attacks are forbidden in Islam as innocents are killed."

"Islam is a religion of peace and such attacks defame the religion," said the 79-year-old Geelani, who supports a two-decade insurgency against India's rule over half of Kashmir.

Fareast Islami Life Insurance Company Ltd.

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- Consulting services include all Interior Decoration design & electrical layout & AC diffuser layout plan. This will include preparation of tender documents for construction and supervision of the project till handing over.
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