



US President Barack Obama and German Chancellor Angela Merkel (R) tour Dresden's landmark, the Frauenkirche (Church of Our Lady) with Dresden Mayor Helma Orosz (R) and the bishop of the Protestant church of the state of Saxony Jochen Bohl yesterday at Dresden Castle in the centre of the eastern German town.

# Arabs like Obama's words but await the deeds

AFP, Cairo

Admiring Arabs cheered President Barack Obama's speech in Cairo, lapping up his quotations from the Quran and his greetings expressed in Arabic.

They loved his emphasis on the Palestinians and their right to statehood and they welcomed Obama's strong demand for Israel to halt building in settlements on occupied Arab land.

But many also felt the speech was short on specifics and they were dubious about its long term impact -- demanding action to back up his words.

"This is all just words. The US policy cannot be changed by just one man," Mohammed, an Egyptian in Dubai, told AFP. "I don't think that an enthusiastic man

like Obama will change the lasting bias towards Israel. But whoever addresses us by saying Assalamu Alaykum (an Islamic greeting meaning peace be upon you), we respond likewise."

Alawi Ati Salman, 50, a fruit and vegetable seller in Baghdad, said he was impressed by the tone of Obama's speech.

"He spoke about forgiveness and Islam, and this is a good thing. If he is respecting us, then we will respect him. He spoke good things."

Mukhaimar Abu Saada, political science professor Al-Azhar University in Gaza, said Obama's address was "a historic speech from several points of view."

"The fact that president Obama mentioned the two-state solution to put an

end to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is very important, especially as President Obama quoted verses from the Koran on four occasions," he said.

The speech opened new horizons, according to Kamal Habib, former Islamic Jihad leader in Egypt. "He spoke about the rights of Muslims in the United States, that's a very, very important topic. I hope he has the strength to follow up."

"This speech should provide al-Qaeda with an opportunity to seek dialogue with the West, to give him (Obama) a chance to resolve the problems in Afghanistan and elsewhere," Habib said.

Karim Makdisi, political science professor at American University of Beirut, admitted: "It impressed me more than I thought (it would)."

# Landslide in Chinese mining region buries 59

AP, Beijing

State media say an estimated 59 people have been buried by a landslide in an iron mining region of southwestern China.

The Xinhua News Agency gave no more details in an initial report about the disaster Friday in Chongqing, an area of steep hills rich in iron ore, natural gas and other mineral resources.

Similar accidents have been reported around China, often caused by illegal or unsafe mining operations where badly stored tailings crash down on local commu-

# US to slap sanctions on North Korea

AP, Seoul

The United States will impose its own financial sanctions on North Korea apart from punishments that the UN has been considering for Pyongyang's latest nuclear test, a news report said yesterday.

The US sanctions call for blacklisting foreign financial institutions that help the North launder money and conduct other dubious deals, South Korea's Chosun Ilbo newspaper

reported.

US Deputy Secretary of State James Steinberg briefed the South Korean president on the new sanctions at a meeting Thursday, the mass-market paper said, citing an unidentified official at the presidential office. The US Embassy in Seoul could not confirm the report.

Steinberg visited Beijing on Friday and met with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi, but no details about their discussion were immediately released.

# Labour hammered UK in council elections

THE INDEPENDENT ONLINE

British ministers conceded early yesterday that the government had suffered a hammering at the polls after early council election returns suggested Labour's vote was sliding.

After the first three councils were declared, the Conservatives had gained 18 seats while Labour had lost 23. The Liberal Democrats had gained one.

In the new unitary authority of Central Bedfordshire, the Conservatives gained control while Labour failed to win a seat. The Tories also strengthened their control of Lincolnshire County Council.

The early setbacks for the Government came amid signs that millions of voters had shunned the last big test of public opinion before the general election, suggesting the main political parties had been hit by a backlash over the expenses scandal.

Party officials agreed that turnout in yesterday's European and local council elections had fallen in most areas. They predicted last night that only about 30 per cent of electors would have cast a vote. The full results from councils will be announced today, with the European results declared on Sunday.



Iranian women hold portraits of former Iranian prime minister and reformist presidential candidate, Mir Hossein Mousavi (R) and Iranian hardline President and presidential candidate Mahmoud Ahmadinejad during the Juma prayers at Tehran University yesterday.

# Iraq and Afghanistan to resume ties soon

AFP, Baghdad

Iraq and Afghanistan are planning to resume diplomatic relations "very soon", 12 years after they were severed during the days of Saddam Hussein and the Taliban, a senior Afghan diplomat said.

"We sent a message from our chief diplomat to his Iraqi counterpart about the resumption of diplomatic relations between our two countries and the reopening of four embassies in Kabul and Baghdad," Fazlerrahman Fazil, a senior Afghan consular official, told AFP late on Thursday.

"We have been received very well here, and we will discuss it when we return (to Kabul), and take a joint decision very soon," said Abdurraheeb Salim, a senior official in the Afghan foreign ministry's Arab countries division.

# Social Development Foundation (SDF) Request for Expression of Interest (Eoi) for Appointment of Local Consultants

The People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a grant under PHRD/Credit through the International Development Association (IDA) to implement the scaled-up programs of Social Investment Program Project (SIPP). Social Development Foundation (SDF) is implementing SIPP in Gaibandha and Jamalpur districts, and working with rural poor and hardcore poor to alleviate poverty as outlined in the PRSP. Now SDF is looking for self-motivated and innovative professionals for the following positions. The works involve extensive travel to the project areas and working in the field.

## (1) Consultant, Community Finance (1 Position)

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 suit the conditions of the affected community members.

**Qualification and Experience:** Master's Degree in any discipline with minimum 8 years practical experience in micro-credit/community financing and experience of working with NGOs; and community organizations.

## (2) Consultant, Livelihood/Business Development (1 Position)

The incumbent will be responsible for overall livelihood promotion and restoration strategy of the program; specifically exploring various employment and income generating opportunities for the poor and affected families; establishing linkages between the rural poor, and skill development providers, labor markets, and markets for their products.

**Qualification and Experience:** Postgraduate in Business Studies /Commerce/ Economics/ Finance; with minimum 8 years experience in the relevant field, especially dealing with the private sector agencies in developing products and markets.

## (3) Consultant, Preparation of Project Implementation Plan (PIP) - (1 Position)

The objectives of the assignment are to facilitate preparation of the Project Implementation Plan (PIP) in a participatory way involving the relevant stakeholders and incorporating findings of various preparatory studies undertaken under the PHRD.

**Qualification and Experience:** The consultant should have post-graduation in Sociology/Economics/Political Science/Business Studies or related field with more than 10 years of experience in rural development project planning and designing, and working with local government institutions.

## (4) Consultant, Training and Capacity Building (1 Position)

The objective of this assignment is to develop and implement a demand-driven and community-friendly capacity building strategy and plan for SIPP and SIPP additional financing projects (including flood and cyclone) and help the communities implement the program as per rules and guidelines and agreed timetable. This consultancy should result in a targeted and relevant field-oriented training for SDF staff, partner organizations, community resource persons and SIPP communities.

**Qualification and Experience:** The candidate should have post-graduation in Social Science or in a relevant field and a minimum 10 years of relevant, practical experience in the field of training/capacity building with specific experience in preparation, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs, including 3 years experience with the community in the rural area.

**(5) Junior Consultant, Social Accountability (2 Positions)**

The objective of the assignment is to facilitate implementation and operationalization 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. S/he will have to provide hands-on technical assistance to the community groups and cluster-level staff to help them understand both principles and practices of social accountability and good governance.

**Qualification and Experience:** The consultant should have post-graduation in any discipline, preferably in Law, with 5 years of relevant practical experience. Having clear knowledge about good governance and social accountability would be an added advantage.

## (6) Junior Consultant - Computer Programmer (1 position)

**Qualification and Experience:** The candidate should have Minimum Bachelor Degree in Computer Science or Master Degree in any discipline having at least 2 years field experience to handle database.

Must have experience in SQL language and Scripting Language: HTML, JAVA Script, PHP. Experiences to work on Oracle, MySQL database are desirable. Knowledge in GIS is preferable;

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 and English.
- Experience of working with international agencies, donor-funded projects and NGOs and GoB would be an advantage.
- The academic qualification may be relaxed in case of highly experienced candidates.
- Candidates having more than one 3<sup>rd</sup> Division / Class / Grade at any level of examinations are not eligible to apply.
- The tenure of the above position will be initially of 12 months and it could be extended following evaluation of performance.
- Having the experience of working with rural communities will be an added advantage.
- The incumbents should be willing to travel to remote areas extensively, and will be spending minimum 20 days per month in the project area.
- Only short-listed candidates will be called for interviews.

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 candidates are requested to send their application along with their detailed CVs mentioning the proposed position and work undertaken that best illustrates capacity to handle the assignment, including the copies of all certificates with two passport-size photographs to the following address on or before 28 June, 2009 from 9am to 5 pm. They also are requested to write the position applied for on the top of the envelope. No TA/DA will be allowed for attending the interview. Further details are available in the SDF website: www.sdfbd.org.

Managing Director  
Social Development Foundation (SDF)  
House # 4, Road # 21, Sector # 4,  
Uttara Model Town, Dhaka-1230, Bangladesh.

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& we are hiring... the only four star hotel in the town is introducing a world class SPA for the first time in Chittagong

**SPA MANAGER**  
Requirements: Fluency in English is mandatory. Multilingual ability will be encouraged. Ability to ensure smooth operation of the SPA. Provide operational information, customer service and flow between different areas of the Spa. Ability to handle clients in an efficient and professional standard of excellence. Ability to ensure the maintenance of a first class environment and positive first impression. Posses a complete understanding of and adhere to the hotel's policy relating to

**SPA THERAPIST / SENIOR SPA THERAPIST**  
Requirements: Fluency in English is mandatory. Multilingual ability will be encouraged. Practical Spa Experience at home or abroad. Ability to ensure that all guests receive treatments and service as per request and in accordance with the Spa's Standards of Excellence. Ability to ensure cleanliness and tidiness according to health & safety standard. Ability to provide first class facial, body treatment and massage. Promote the sales of products within Spa. Ensure smooth operation and cooperate with the reception & reservation desk. Participate in on going training within or outside the Spa. Ability to ensure the Spa's standards of service and facilities are met at all times.

**SPA RECEPTIONIST / ATTENDANCE**  
Requirements: Fluency in English is mandatory. Multilingual ability will be encouraged. Ability to ensure smooth operation of reservation system. Provide operational information, customer service and flow between different areas of the Spa. Ability to handle clients in an efficient and professional standard of excellence. Respond to all telephone calls and enquiries. Ability to ensure the maintenance of a first class environment and positive first impression. Posses a complete understanding of and adhere to the hotel's policy relating to hygiene, health and safety. Actively promote and sell all available services.

Applications from interested candidates along with CV and a recent photograph should reach the following address by 20 June 2009 or should be emailed to hr@peninsulaactg.com

Human Resources Department  
The Peninsula Chittagong  
"Subul Centre" 46th O.R. Nizam Road, CDA Avenue  
Chittagong-4100, Bangladesh.

The Peninsula Chittagong  
Best Business Hotel In Town

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার  
পুলিশ সুপারের কার্যালয়  
গাজীপুর  
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

নিম্নলিখিত সরবরাহ কাজের জন্য অগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠান/সরবরাহকারীগণের নিকট হইতে পিপিআর/২০০৮ অনুযায়ী দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে।

ক্রম নং	বিবরণ	বিবরণ
০১।	দরপত্রের উৎস	স্বল্প মূল্যায়ন, পুলিশ বিভাগ।
০২।	দরপত্র আহবানকারী	পুলিশ সুপার, গাজীপুর।
০৩।	ক্রয় পদ্ধতি	পিপিআর/২০০৮ অনুযায়ী।
০৪।	কাজের নাম	১। পুলিশ বিভাগীয় জাকারের ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের বিবিধ মালামাল সরবরাহ। ২। পুলিশ অফিস এর ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের স্টেশনারী মালামাল সরবরাহ। ৩। পুলিশ হাসপাতালের ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের ঔষধ ও চিকিৎসা সামগ্রী সরবরাহ।
০৫।	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	৩/৬/০৯ইং তারিখের পূর্বে।
০৬।	বাজেট এবং তহবিলের উৎস	পুলিশ হেডকোয়ার্টার হইতে প্রাপ্ত বরাদ্দ।
০৭।	দরপত্রের দলিল প্রাপ্তির স্থান	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হইতে।
০৮।	দরপত্রের দলিল বিতরণের তারিখ	বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশনার তারিখ হইতে ২৯/৬/০৯ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
০৯।	দরপত্রের দলিল বিতরণের শেষ তারিখ	২৯/০৬/০৯ইং তারিখ অফিস চলাকালীন সময় পর্যন্ত।
১০।	দরপত্র গ্রহণ, খোলার তারিখ, সময় ও স্থান	৩০/৬/০৯ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.৩০ ঘটিকা নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিসে।
১১।	দরপত্র গ্রহণ ও মূল্যায়ন	পিপিআর/২০০৮ অনুযায়ী।
১২।	দরপত্র সিডিউল এর মূল্য	প্রতি ক্রয়ের জন্য ৪০০/- (চারশত) টাকা অফেরতযোগ্য।
১৩।	দরপত্রদাতার যোগ্যতা	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর অফিস হইতে প্রাপ্ত বরাদ্দ।
১৪।	বিশেষ নির্দেশাবলী	নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর মাধ্যমে সিডিউল ক্রয় করিতে হইবে।
১৫।	দরপত্র আহবানকারীর নাম ও ঠিকানা	মোঃ আব্দুল বাতেন, পুলিশ সুপার, গাজীপুর।
১৬।	শর্তাবলী	কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন না করিলে যে কোন অর্থবা সকল দরপত্র বাতিল বা গ্রহণ করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

ক্রম নং	কাজের নাম	বায়নার টাকা	যোগ্যতা
১।	পুলিশ বিভাগীয় জাকারের ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের বিবিধ মালামাল সরবরাহ	১০,০০০/-	টাকার পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হইবে।
২।	পুলিশ অফিস এর ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের স্টেশনারী মালামাল সরবরাহ	৫,০০০/-	টাকার পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হইবে।
৩।	পুলিশ হাসপাতালের ২০০৮-১০ অর্থ সনের ঔষধ ও চিকিৎসা সামগ্রী সরবরাহ	৫,০০০/-	টাকার পে-অর্ডার দরপত্রের সাথে জমা দিতে হইবে।

মোঃ আব্দুল বাতেন  
পুলিশ সুপার  
গাজীপুর

ক্রিডি-২৮২৭

# US lawmakers seek to ease family immigration

AFP, Washington

US lawmakers on Thursday unveiled legislation to help reunite families split apart for years by the creaky immigration system -- including, controversially, same-sex partners.

The bill was a salvo in an upcoming battle to reform immigration in the United States -- an issue which President Barack Obama is expected to take up within weeks.

Representative Mike Honda, who heads the caucus of Asian Americans, said that some families are split apart for decades due to the severe backlog in US immigrant visas for relatives of some nationalities.

# Heartburn drugs increase risk of hip fractures

ANI, Washington

Even short-term use of popular acid-reducing heartburn drugs could increase the risk of hip fractures, a new study has found.

The study, presented at this year's Digestive Disease Week 2009, suggests that older patients should avoid using proton pump inhibitors drugs to spare their bones from fractures.

Proton pump inhibitors include Prevacid and histamine-2 receptor antagonists, or H2RAs, such as Zantac and Tagamet.