



Sri Lankan opposition politicians and media activists stage a demonstration in the capital Colombo on Wednesday.

Lanka fails to probe war abuses, says Amnesty

AP, Colombo

The Sri Lankan government has never seriously investigated reports of human rights abuses during 25 years of civil war and needs to rapidly overhaul its justice system to bring peace to the country, Amnesty International said Thursday.

The London-based rights group said the problem is even more urgent in the wake of the government's defeat of the Tamil Tiger rebels last month in a bloody offensive that left more than 7,000 civilians dead, according to the United Nations.

Human rights groups and diplomats accused the government of shelling

heavily populated civilian areas and said the rebels held thousands of civilians as human shields, shooting those who tried to flee. Both sides denied the accusations.

"If communities that have been torn apart by decades of violence and impunity are to be reconciled, the Sri Lankan government should initiate internal reforms and seek international assistance to prevent ongoing violations and ensure real accountability for past abuses," said Sam Zarifi, Amnesty International's Asia-Pacific director.

In a report, the group called for the establishment of an international commission to investigate those allegations because past government probes into

abuses have gone nowhere.

The government has repeatedly brushed off such calls, saying an international probe would interfere with the country's sovereignty. Human Rights Minister Mahinda Samarasinghe declined to comment, saying he had not seen the report.

Last March, an international panel of experts established to advise the latest commission of inquiry resigned, saying the government lacked the political will to properly investigate alleged abuses, including the 2006 execution-style slaying of 17 aid workers for the French organisation Action Against Hunger.

The Amnesty International report

Food autarky

FROM PAGE 16
50 irrigation infrastructures," he said.

Muhith also emphasised the need for protecting land from salinity, freeing land from water-logging, and recovering of 20,000 hectares of land in coastal areas by building dykes and embankments.

He said irrigation with surface water will reduce dependency on underground water, continuous extraction of which for irrigation and drinking purposes may cause arsenic contamination and increase salinity of soil.

"We believe our farmers will soon reap the benefits from these initiatives," Muhith said.

With an allotment of Tk 280 crore Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) and Department of Agricultural Extension would work to produce more high-yielding seeds.

The minister also said the government plans to increase the seed storage capacity of BADC.

He also proposed allocation of Tk 185.21 crore for agricultural rehabilitation and agricultural research—a suggestion consistently given by analysts to develop new varieties of crops needed to face the impact of climate change, salinity and drought.

A Tk 3,600 crore overall subsidy to agricultural inputs such as fertiliser was proposed. Tk 4,285 crore was proposed in the outgoing fiscal year's budget, which was revised to Tk 5,785 crore.

Analysts said the reduction in farm subsidy will not hurt farmers since fertiliser prices dropped in the global market.

Mahabub Hossain, executive director of Brac, said, "It is positive on many fronts. But the question of proper implementation remains."

Mix of progress, protection

FROM PAGE 1
He has mentioned a raft of labour intensive sectors that would get priority in the government's book.

Although Muhith has not explicitly said anything about the export sector, he has mentioned a Tk 5,000 crore stimulus package in next budget, a cut of which would go to export industries. Such provision also shows his clear reading of the recession trends.

The emphasis on private sector's role was spelled out in the assessment that an investment of \$28 billion would be required to attain a projected growth of 8 percent by FY14 and this has to come from the private sector. His proposal for involving the private sector through Public Private Partnership and allocation of Tk 2,500 crore including Tk 300 crore seed money for risky involvement are well thought out.

But that the finance minister is genuinely concerned about his proposed big expenditure -- 21 percent higher than this year's revised budget -- has been explicitly spelled out in his speech when he said:

"We are particularly concerned about the possible implementation snags because of the ambitious size of ADP for the next fiscal year." The good side is he has also proposed some ways to strengthen the Tk 30,500 crore Annual Development Programme (ADP). His promise to monitor implementation of ADP of 10 ministries which spend 78 percent of the ADP is an overdue action. Such prioritised monitoring along with plan to increase efficiency of project directors (PDs) will go a long way. However, he remained a bit on the vague side regarding how he would enhance PDs efficiency. One reason that throws the spanner here is frequent transfers of PDs and he has not said whether he would check it.

But Muhith's proposed budget reads more like a strategic paper than a document that should have been more specific about the next year's target. This is disheartening to many to some extent when expectations are high, but then he has rationalised by saying "I can assure you that

this budget is only the beginning of the positive actions of the government".

Muhith has clarified some major issues and left unclear some others. He has dispelled the air of confusion about shifting to five-year planning from poverty reduction strategy, which he said would continue till 2011. This would clear the cloud about donor support. However he has left unexplained what the amendments to public procurement act and rules would be.

How sustainable are the 21 percent expenditure growth and a 15 percent revenue growth projections are open to discussion. And the projected 11.6 percent revenue-GDP ratio is also not very encouraging.

The proposed budget has rightly emphasised the agriculture sector and took in the reality of price decrease to subsidy to Tk 3,600 crore next fiscal year from this fiscal year's Tk 5,785 crore. And he has put in new ideas like expanding agricultural land, new seed development, agri research and storage. His

promise to increase agri loans and up procurement target will keep the farmers happy. His budget proposals reflect that the Awami League government does not want to gamble with food production and will go along way in this.

About energy, a key growth enabler, the budget speech does not make much clear promises about what to expect next year but goes on to explain the policy it is following like opting for importing power and going for coal-based power plants. Two specific steps -- introducing energy saving bulbs and advancing clock -- do not instil enough confidence.

The finance minister also showcased the socially gentle face of his government by enhancing allocations for various ongoing safety net programmes like allowances for poor lactating mothers and destitute women. He has however left it unclear whether the 100-Day Employment Generation Programme renamed 'Employment Generation for the Hardcore Poor' will be geographically targeted on prior-

ity basis as the finance ministry wants and opposed by the food ministry.

Despite his high pro-industrialisation policy, Muhith has thrown a somewhat dampening effect when he said state-owned enterprises may not be divested in the next fiscal year. His promise of arranging alternative jobs for displaced workers of any divested SOE may prove a double-edged sword. Recent privatisation experiences have shown displaced workers in poor countries suffer a lot leading to many social disorders. But the question remains whether and how ensuring alternative jobs is possible.

On the macro sides, the finance minister sounded logical when he predicted a lower GDP growth of 5.5 percent, lower than this year's expected 5.9 percent. If the recession fallout starts, growth would decline despite a high 21 percent projected expenditure. However, such high spending is unlikely because of an ADP implementation shortfall. And in such a case, his projected fiscal deficit of 5

percent of GDP would be lower.

But his projection of external financing to the extent of 2 percent of GDP looks ambitious and if it is not possible to rope in such a huge amount of foreign financing, the government's domestic financing will turn high. In times of recession, domestic savings growth is likely to slow down because of lower 5.5 GDP growth. This will lead to difficulty in non-bank borrowing that has been projected to increase by about 9 percent. In such a situation, bank borrowing will increase -- it has already been projected a huge 57 percent higher from this fiscal year's revised budget.

Now this may increase inflationary pressure despite a desired low fiscal deficit of 5 percent and lower private investment opportunities. Already, non-food inflation is again on the rise because of

global environment.

The budget's proposal to allow whitening undisclosed money will be a focal point of criticism for many reasons. First, this is always a discouraging move for honest taxpayers. Secondly, the meagre 10 percent tax payment on undisclosed money is too meagre. Thirdly, allowing this for three years and in a raft of sectors is questionable. And fourthly, it has not been cleared whether this opportunity is allowable for the wealth accumulated for the past years or it is also applicable for future income. If future income is included income tax collection will fall flat. Muhith himself has said import duty accounting for 42 percent of total tax may go down because of recession. If income tax also falters, revenue collection and an ambitious expenditure plan may all go haywire.

CNG

স্টেশন লীজ/ভাড়া

ঢাকা বা এর আশেপাশে সর্বোচ্চ গ্যাস ধারন ক্ষমতা সম্পন্ন সি.এন.জি স্টেশন লীজ অথবা ভাড়া নিতে চাই।

মিঃ শাহীম ০১৭১৬-৬০৬৯৩০, মিঃ নবী ০১৭১৬-৪৪৩৩৪৫

Investor Wanted

Would your money be still slipping...? when you're working hard... come & join with us...to earn more...which is more attractive than any other business...

1. A well reputed company looking for big investor for **expanding business**.
2. Minimum investment level Taka **50 Lac**.
3. Company invests your money in up coming **Mutual Fund Share**.
4. Company will give **100% guarantee against your investment on legal way or land Mortgage**. Please Contact **Mr. Samim 01716-606930**

ORIENTAL BUYING SERVICES LTD

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

The liaison office of "The Italian leader in Apparel Retailing" has been working its operation here with around 45 (forty five) top garments factory, located in Dhaka more than 14 years, is seeking for professional candidates to fill up the following positions, with the ultimate goal to strengthen its structure and to meet the growing garment business in Bangladesh.

TECHNICIAN FOR SWEATER PRODUCTS : Male

The candidate must have expertise in different kind of yarns for sweater product, capable to work in a team under the management supervision, capability to support the supplier's organization to get the products required, familiar with quality engineering and products developments, familiar with production follow up and controlling tools, consolidated experience in sampling/sample cycle process. Academic qualification should be minimum Graduate, fluently speaking & writing in English, good communications skills with well in computer operation, over 8/10 years practical experience on related position in garment field & age below 36 years.

MERCHANDISER: Male/ Female

The candidate must have an excellent knowledge in English language in order to communicate efficiently with buyers in Italy, a smart personality with a deep experience in garments products, order execution, shipment follow up, vast knowledge of costing (both woven & knit product), to have an experience to sourcing about accessories, fabric, yarn, factories etc. Academic qualification should be minimum Graduate. Age below 32 years old and 4/5 years practical experience in related field. Experience in foreign buying office will be preferable.

QUALITY CONTROLLER : Male

The candidate must have good knowledge in English as to communicate efficiently with the expatriate of the staff, has to be used to check the inline productions in the factories with the accuracy required by fashion country productions, with good knowledge in woven and knit product and their productions methodology. The position has to be young and dynamic, age below 32 years old, with minimum 4/8 years experience in an international context and preferably in an international garment-buying house. The candidates should be well literate in computer applications.

We offer the opportunity to join an international company, an attractive salary and the chance to take an important part in the growth of this challenging organization.

Send your CV with one photograph, contact telephone number and mention the position for with indicating salary to "Oriental Buying Services Ltd, Road-34, House-13 (5th Floor), Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan, Dhaka-1212" within 26th June'09.

JOBS DETAILS	Country Manager , for an European Liaison office at Dhaka, Bangladesh
Experience	Minimum 5 Years in similar position
No. of Opening	1 Gender Preference Any
Job Description	<p>The Candidate's Responsibility :</p> <p>Responsible for strategic merchandising activities in the country. Coordinates across businesses, developing / executing long term and short term sourcing strategies to support the overall business growth in the region. Build a strong team locally to support the company growth. Lead the development of budget and business objectives for Bangladesh. working with local teams to monitor key measures for business strategies that are consistent. Ensure financial analysis of operational results is performed to ensure progress against budget and key measures.</p> <p>The Candidate's Eligibility :</p> <p>5 years experience in managing a country office, accounting, financial planning & analysis. Strong market knowledge. Financial analysis & reporting. Very strong communication skills. Ability to clearly articulate goals and objectives. Strong information seeking skills and drive to make things happen. Ability to network, influence, and coach; particularly with remote teams. Ability to understand issues and concerns, share ideas and drive collaborative resolution of same, as well as keep higher management informed. High degree of professionalism. Some travel required.</p>
Job Location	Dhaka - Bangladesh
<p>COMPANY PROFILE</p> <p>The company is a 100% subsidiary to its European owners in Italy, Spain, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. Providing service and quality control for its purchase from Far East. The Owners have their own stores in respective countries, In Bangladesh the main focus is on Readymade garments but lot of other potential.</p> <p>PLEASE APPLY TO THE BOX NO-C-09, C/O- THE DAILY STAR, 19 KARWAN BAZAR, DHAKA ON OR BEFORE JUNE 20, 2009 WITH CV AND A RECENT COLOR PHOTOGRAPH</p>	

CREDIT CONTROLLER

Job Characteristics

- Review the company credit control procedure and develop and implement enhancements where required.
- To manage the outstanding sales balances falling due and contact customers before the balances become overdue to confirm payments.
- Set and monitor credit limits.
- To monitor all the costumers outstanding on monthly basis.

Required Profile

- M.Com / M.B.A (Accounting) with CA/ CMA qualified/ partly qualified.
- Minimum 3 years experience in credit management in a reputed company.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Good knowledge in MS office & Accounting Software.

How to Apply

Please send your application along with detailed CV, active contact telephone number and 2 copies of recent passport size photographs by 21st June, 2009 to HRD, GPO Box # 197, Dhaka-1000.

SGS IS THE WORLD'S LEADING INSPECTION, VERIFICATION, TESTING AND CERTIFICATION COMPANY

WHEN YOU NEED TO BE SURE

শিক্ষা বোর্ড কম্পিউটার কেন্দ্র

১২/এ, ধানমন্ডি আ/এ, ঢাকা-১২০৯

বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বিষয়ঃ নং-শা-৩(৬)/১৩বিবিধ-১৮/২০০৯/৬৪৭-শিক্ষা তারিখঃ ০৮/০৬/২০০৯ অনুযায়ী জারীকৃত উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক স্তরে ভর্তির নীতিমালা-২০০৯ এর ৩ (৬) অনুচ্ছেদ মোতাবেক সংশ্লিষ্ট শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধানগণকে প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি প্রদানের দায়িত্ব প্রদান প্রসঙ্গে।

সূত্রঃ নং-শিবা/কম্প/ফলাফল/(পাট-১)/০১-০৪/১০৪, তারিখঃ ০৮/০৬/২০০৯ই।

এতদ্বারা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের জ্ঞাতার্থে অবহিত করা যাচ্ছে যে, ২০০৯-২০১০ শিক্ষা বর্ষে একাদশ শ্রেণীতে ভর্তির লক্ষ্যে প্রণীত নীতিমালা-২০০৯ এর ৩ (৬) নং অনুচ্ছেদে বর্ণিত বিষয়ে প্রার্থী বাছাইয়ের ক্ষেত্রে উদ্ভূত সমস্যা সমাধান করে আবেদনকারী ছাত্র-ছাত্রীদের পারস্পরিক মেদাক্রম প্রাপ্তির জন্য প্রকৌঃ মোঃ মনজুরুল কবীর, সিনিয়র সিস্টেম এনালিস্ট, মাধ্যমিক ও উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক শিক্ষা বোর্ড, ঢাকা এর বরাবরে সকল কর্মদিবসে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে লিখিতভাবে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান প্রধানগণকে অনুরোধ করা হ'ল।

প্রফেসর মোঃ ইউসুফ
চেয়ারম্যান
শিক্ষা বোর্ড কম্পিউটার কেন্দ্র ও
চেয়ারম্যান
বাংলাদেশ মাদরাসা শিক্ষা বোর্ড, ঢাকা

জিডি-২৯৮২