

India closely monitoring Saeed case

Says Krishna

ANI, New Delhi

External Affairs Minister SM Krishna has said that New Delhi is closely monitoring the case of Jamaat-ud-Dawa (JuD) chief Hafeez Muhammad Saeed, the prime accused of the November 2008 Mumbai attacks.

"I think that it is the internal matter of Pakistan, especially when courts are involved. We do not comment on those developments. But, we are closely monitoring the events in Pakistan," Krishna said.

Pakistan lodged appeals on Monday against a court decision to release Saeed.

Kashmir unable to tackle insurgency alone

Says chief minister

AFP, New Delhi

Indian Kashmir's chief minister warned yesterday against any large-scale pull-out of paramilitary forces, saying the police force alone could not cope with the Muslim insurgency in the region.

Omar Abdullah's comments came almost a month after New Delhi promised to phase out the presence of large numbers of paramilitary troops in towns across Muslim-majority Kashmir.

The chief minister argued that any major redeployment of the paramilitary Central

Reserve Police Force (CRPF) had to be very carefully planned.

"We have over 70 battalions (70,000 personnel) of the CRPF and the state police's strength is not even one-third of that," the Press Trust of India quoted Abdullah as saying.

"Any rash decision in this aspect can be detrimental to state security," he said, stressing that the Kashmiri police were "not immediately ready" to take over anti-insurgency operations.

Kashmir in May saw sustained protests sparked by the alleged rape and murder

of two Muslim women by soldiers, and Abdullah said his police force was in dire need of training and equipment to handle such situations.

New Delhi has not disclosed any timetable for a possible redeployment of troops, or the numbers involved.

The insurgency against Indian rule in Kashmir has left more than 47,000 people dead by official count since 1989. New Delhi has long accused Pakistan of arming and funding the rebels. Islamabad denies the charge.

Indonesians vote today to elect president

AFP, Jakarta

Indonesia votes Wednesday in only its second direct presidential election since the fall of the Suharto dictatorship, with incumbent Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono expected to win another five-year term.

The liberal ex-general is hoping to avoid a run-off in September by beating opposition leader Megawati Sukarnoputri and outgoing Vice President Jusuf Kalla with a clear majority in the first round.

Most opinion polls indicate he has enough support to avoid a run-off, although some have pointed to a much closer race with Yudhoyono facing either Megawati or Kalla in a second-round decider.



PHOTO: AFP
A man carries his child through floodwater in the flood-hit area at Kakaduwa village in Barpeta district, some 100km from Guwahati, the capital city of Assam state on Monday. One person died and 400,000 have been displaced when a rain-swollen river burst its banks five days ago, swamping hundreds of villages, officials said.

Over 4 lakh displaced by Assam floods

CNN-IBN, Guwahati

Over 4 lakh people have been displaced in floods triggered by heavy rainfall in Assam.

The flood situation in Assam is critical with the Brahmaputra river and its tributaries flowing above the danger mark.

Flooding in the past one week has marooned more than 500 villages in the four upper Assam districts of Lakhimpur, Dhemaji, Jorhat and Naogaon.

Central Assam's Morigaon, lower Assam's Barpeta, Guwahati (Kamrup district), Bongaigaon, Dhubri and Baksa have also been affected by floods.

Personnel of the National Disaster Rescue Force have been engaged in rescue operations.

Ulfa hit-squad enters Assam from Myanmar

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Guwahati

The outlawed United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa) is planning to stage violent strikes in the run up to Independence Day, with a four-member hit squad sneaking into the state from bases in Myanmar, rebel leaders said yesterday.

"We have information of at least four Ulfa militants, including a senior leader, already entering Assam from Myanmar and planning to carry out attacks ahead of Aug 15," Prabal Neog, leader of the pro-talk Ulfa faction, told IANS.

Neog is among 150 odd militants of the Alpha and Charlie companies of Ulfa's 28th battalion that

entered into a ceasefire with government last year. The 28th battalion is the most potent striking unit of the Ulfa.

"According to our information, the Ulfa group is planning to attack security forces by triggering landmines, blow up oil installations and pipelines, besides trying to target some of our leaders (pro-talk Ulfa)," said Neog, who was earlier a commander of the 28th battalion.

Security forces, meanwhile, stepped up patrol in vulnerable areas in eastern Assam's Tinsukia and Dibrugarh districts following the inputs provided by the pro-talk Ulfa leaders about possible attacks by Ulfa militants ahead of Independence Day.

Lashkar's Gulf based terror cells planning attack on India

ANI, Virginia

The threat perception on vital installations in three coastal states Gujarat, Maharashtra and Goa has been increased manifold following intelligence reports of the banned Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT) channelising huge amounts of money from its Gulf-based networks for terror strikes

against the country.

According to a report in the Terrorism Monitor, a periodical published by the Virginia based Jamestown Foundation, intelligence authorities have revealed that the LeT's marine wing is planning a repeat of the 26/11 Mumbai attack, and is on the look out for an incursion into India via the western sea-coast.

US Marines clearing out key Afghan insurgent centres

AFP, Garmsir

Nearly a week after launching one of the biggest operations in post-Taliban Afghanistan, about 4,000 US Marines are holding key insurgent centres and making it clear they intend to stay, the forces say.

The Marines, working with around 600 Afghan security forces, have pushed far down the Helmand River valley, setting up in the key towns of Nawa and Garmsir and wresting control of Khanishin in the far south towards Pakistan.

They were clearing out areas around these points and meeting locals to explain their purpose, officials said.

Nawa and Garmsir had previously had some government presence. But the arrival of around 500 Marines had helped police restore govern-

ment control in Khanishin, a statement from the Marine Expeditionary Brigade said late Monday.

The extremist Taliban, which ran Afghanistan from 1996 to 2001, had established a proxy administration in the area, an important stopping point in a route through the desert from the largely open border.

"This is the first time coalition forces have had a sustained presence so far south in the Helmand River valley," the statement said.

Khanishin had been a Taliban stronghold for several years before Afghan and coalition forces arrived and began discussions with local leaders several days ago," it said.

Afghan officials reported earlier that the force had moved into the area easily on Thursday, hours after Operation Khanjar (dagger) was launched with relays of choppers dropping hundreds of troops into Taliban territory.



PHOTO: AFP
Supporters of former Nepalese king Gyanendra shout slogans during his 63rd birthday celebrations outside his residence at Nirmal Niwas in Kathmandu yesterday. Nepal's former king Gyanendra said on Tuesday he is "troubled and anguished" by the state of his country, breaking a long silence after Maoists threatened to take to the streets.

Nepal's ex-king 'troubled' by state of nation

AFP, Kathmandu

Nepal's former king Gyanendra said yesterday he is "troubled and anguished" by the state of his country, breaking a long silence after Maoists threatened to take to the streets.

A year after stepping down from the throne, Gyanendra said he had agreed to become a commoner in the hope that "peace and the law and order situation would improve."

But in a message released on his 63rd birthday, the former monarch said there had been "no improvement in the lot of my beloved fellow citizens, my brothers and sisters".

"I am very perturbed, very troubled and very anguished," he said, hours after Maoist leader Pushpa Kamal Dahal told Nepal's parliament he would launch a new street movement if it failed to address his concerns.

Gyanendra stepped down last year after Nepal's Maoists, who fought a decade-long civil war with the army, won landmark polls and legislated to do away with the world's last Hindu monarchy.

But the country was plunged into fresh political chaos on May 4 this year when Dahal resigned as prime minister after the president blocked his bid to sack the head of the army.

Govt rented out military to US for \$1.5b: Imran Khan

ANI, Islamabad

Cricketer-turned politician, Imran Khan has charged the PPP-led government of being subservient to the United States, saying that government has rented out the country's army to the US in exchange of 1.5 billion dollars.

"We have rented out our military out to US in exchange of mere 1.5 billion dollars while US is spending sixty billion dollars on its army comprising 55,000 troops in Afghanistan," The News quoted Khan, as saying.

Addressing party workers in Manshera, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief accused certain 'elements' in the government of forcing a war on people of the North West Frontier Province (NWFP) just for pocketing billions of dollars from the US.

6 killed in Philippines bomb attacks

AFP, Jolo

At least six people were killed and more than 40 wounded by twin bomb blasts in the Philippines Tuesday, in what officials described as coordinated attacks by al-Qaeda-linked militants.

The first bomb exploded in a commercial area on Jolo island, killing six people and wounding around 30, police said. It was followed around two hours later by a car bomb blast next to a parked military patrol jeep in Iligan city.

The second blast wounded at least 10 people, including three soldiers, the military said.

Jolo, in the southern Philippines, is a stronghold of Abu Sayyaf Muslim rebels and local anti-terror task force chief Major General Juancho Sabban was quick to point the finger at the militant group.

Request For Quotation (RFQ)

Procurement of 50 units Desktop PC, 50 units UPS and 50 units Laser Printer for UNDP

Sealed Bids are invited from interested manufacturer/ authorized agents/ Dealers & Distributors with the detailed specification and price in supplying of the following Lot's /items:

Lot/Item	Description	Quantity
Lot1.	Desktop Computer	50
Lot 2.	UPS	50
Lot 3.	Laser Printer	50

Submission of Bid: The envelope should state "Bid for 50 units Desktop PC, 50 units UPS and 50 units Laser Printer for UNDP" and should be marked as 'Confidential'. The selection of Bids will be done based on the UNDP procurement rules and regulations and only the successful bidder(s) will be contacted. However, UNDP, Dhaka reserves the right to accept or reject any bid(s) without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

The detailed bid documents are available: parvin.akther@undp.org. Bid must be dropped to the Procurement Cluster of UNDP, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka. Bids must be submitted before 12.30 hrs on 16 July 2009.

Vacancy Announcement

UNDP in partnership with the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) of the Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Co-operatives and UN-Habitat is implementing the Urban Partnerships for Poverty Reduction Project (UPPR) in Bangladesh with funding from the UK's Department for International Development and UNDP. The project is being implemented over the next 7 years and will be supported by a grant of approximately USD 120 million.

The project aims to improve the livelihoods and living conditions of three million urban poor and extremely poor people, especially women and girls, living in 30 towns and cities in Bangladesh. It will achieve this aim through providing support for participatory community upgrading through community contracting, supporting viable and sustainable livelihoods and social and economic development activities, addressing issues of security of tenure and the needs of the extreme poor and working with others to create a more pro-poor urban policy environment. The project will support the development of town-wide poverty reduction and economic development strategies poverty reduction and economic development strategies through partnerships with urban poor communities, civil society and local government.

UNDP is looking for potential candidates to fill the following posts of UPPR project:

1. Procurement Expert (1 post)
2. Settlement Improvement Expert (2 posts)
3. Settlement Improvement Assistant (2 posts)
4. Socio Economic Expert (6 posts)
5. Socio Economic Assistant (12 posts)

For Details of the Terms of Reference and applying online, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 18th July, 2009.

HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA Dhaka, Bangladesh

Invitation for Tender

Sealed tenders are invited from eligible contractors/ Architects/ fabricators/sculptors for the under mentioned works as per the terms and conditions set forth in the Tender Documents.

1. Ministry	Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India
2. Agency	High Commission of India, Dhaka
3. Procuring entity name	High Commission of India, Dhaka
4. Invitation Ref. No. & Date	No. Rath/02/2009-2010 Dated 11.07.2009
5. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method
6. Source of Fund	Government of India
7. Project Name	Construction of a New Rath for Sri Jashomadhav Mandir at Dhamrai, Bangladesh
8. Tender Package No.	RATH/ 02 / 2009-2010
9. Tender Name	Construction of a New Rath for Sri Jashomadhav Mandir at Dhamrai, Bangladesh
10. Time for Completion of the works	180 (One Hundred Eighty) days from the date of Notification for Award.
11. Price of Tender Document	Tk. 2,000/- (Taka two thousand only) per set of Tender Documents.
12. Tender Security Amount	Tk. 2,00,000 (Taka two lacs only) in the form of P.O or D.D or Bank Guarantee from any Scheduled Bank of Bangladesh. (Note that Fixed Deposit receipts will not be considered as security money).
13. Tender Last Selling Date & Time	07.08.2009 during office hours.
14. Tender Submission Date & Time	16.08.2009 at 12.00 Noon.
15. Tender Opening date and Time	Tenders will be publicly opened on 16.08.2009 at 3.00 P.M. at High Commission of India, House # 2, Road # 142, Gulshan-1, Dhaka. Intending tenderers or their authorized representatives may attend the opening of tenders.
16. Eligibility/Qualification of Tenderers	This invitation for Tenders is open to all eligible Tenderers as mentioned below: i. The Tenderer shall be a legal entity. ii. Tenderer must have experience in steel fabrication, wood work including carvings, wooden engraving, sculptures, generating artistic impressions etc. iii. Tenderer must have up-to-date Income tax clearance certificate from the Concerned Department. iv. Tenderer must have valid VAT Registration certificate from the Concerned Department. v. Tenderer must have up-to-date Trade License. vi. The tender documents must have been purchased from the stated source.
17. Liquidity Damage	The liquidated damages for the whole of the Works are 0.1% (zero point one percent) of the final Contract Price per day. The maximum amount of liquidated damages for the whole of the Works is 10% (ten percent) of the final Contract Price.
18. Defect Liability	The Defects Liability Period is 365 (Three hundred sixty five) days, after completion of the project.
19. Performance Guarantee	The Performance guarantee shall be of an amount equal to 10% of the Contract Price stated in the Letter of acceptance & shall be valid until a date 60 days from the date of expiry of Defect Liability Period.
20. Retention Money	The proportion of payments retained is Five (5) percent from each interim payment certificate subject to a maximum of Five (5) percent of the total Contract Price.
21. Name and address of the Office Receiving Tenders	Office of the First Secretary (PI&C) High Commission of India, House # 2, Road # 142 Gulshan - 1, Dhaka, Bangladesh
22. Name and address of the Office for Opening Tenders	Office of the First Secretary (PI&C) High Commission of India, House # 2, Road # 142 Gulshan - 1, Dhaka, Bangladesh
23. Name and address of the Office(s) Selling Tender Documents:	Consulting Engineering Services (India) Pvt. Ltd House # 413 (1st Floor), Road # 30 New DOHS, Mohakhali Dhaka, Bangladesh Tel: +88 02 9886142
24. Special Instructions :	i. The tenderers shall duly fill in the form W-1 as per format given in tender Submission Sheet (TSS) and form W-2 as per format given in Tender information Sheet (TIS). ii. Rates must be quoted both in figures & in words for each item of works where the Provision for quoting rates by the Tenderers has been kept in the Tender Schedule of items attached herewith. iii. The authority reserves the right to ask for analysis for all or any items of work. iv. The Agency/procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
25. Brief Description of Works and Related Services	MS frame work, Wood Work, Carvings, Art & Sculptural Work etc.

High Commission of India
House # 2, Road # 142, Gulshan-1, Dhaka.