

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hillary urges Myanmar to free Suu Kyi

AFP, PHUKET: US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton yesterday urged Myanmar to free democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, saying such a move could pave the way for investments from the United States.

"If she were released that would open up opportunities at least for my country to expand our relationship with Burma, including investments in Burma," she said, referring to Myanmar by its former name. Speaking after meetings in Phuket on the eve of Asia's biggest annual security forum, she said such opportunities were "up to the Burmese leadership".

13 dead in Egypt road crash

AFP, CAIRO: Thirteen people were killed and 26 were injured yesterday when a passenger bus and pick-up truck collided head-on on a road in Egypt's Western Desert, a police official said.

"One of the drivers lost control of the wheel, causing the crash. Thirteen people were killed immediately, and 26 injured were taken to hospital," in Wadi Gedeed province west of Cairo, the official told AFP.

Kyrgyzstan chooses new president today

AP, BISHKEK: The Central Asian nation of Kyrgyzstan hosts a key US military air base votes today in a presidential election that is almost certain to tighten the incumbent's grip on power in the former Soviet republic.

If re-elected, Kurmanbek Bakiyev is expected to continue his impoverished country's policy of playing Moscow against Washington in an effort to win aid from both. Bakiyev campaigned on a platform of stability, appealing to voter's desire to see an end to political turmoil. But the opposition accuses him of using intimidation to help ensure the continuation of his rule.



PHOTO: AFP

The world's only recipient of two full arms in a landmark transplant operation, Karl Merk (C), sits with surgeons Christoph Hoehnke (L) and Edgar Biemer in the garden of the clinical centre in Memmingen, southern Germany yesterday. Merk, who lost his arms during an accident in 2008, can one year after the 15-hour surgery, slowly move his arms again.

Chinese worker commits suicide over missing iPhone

AP, GUANGZHOU: An employee at a factory that makes iPhones in China killed himself after a prototype went missing, and Apple Inc responded yesterday by saying its suppliers are required to treat workers with dignity and respect.

The dead worker, Sun Danyong, 25, worked in product communications at Foxconn Technology Group, a Taiwanese firm that makes many Apple products at a massive factory in the southern city of Shenzhen, near Hong Kong. Although Apple and Foxconn have confirmed Sun's suicide, they have not provided details about the death's circumstances, which have been reported by the state-run Southern Metropolis Daily, one of the region's most popular papers.

Indonesia arrests wife of fugitive militant

AP, JAKARTA: One of the wives of Southeast Asia's most-wanted militants was detained for questioning yesterday after last week's bombings at two luxury hotels in the Indonesian capital that killed seven people, local television reported.

Anti-terrorism police detained Ariana Rahma, who is married to Malaysian fugitive Noordin Mohammad Top, the TVOne and MetroTV broadcasters said without citing sources. Sources said, police intended to take her to Jakarta.

Flu death toll mounts in South America

AFP, BUENOS AIRES: A mounting swine flu death toll in the South American winter launched a new warning yesterday on what to expect from the pandemic.

With the global swine flu toll now past 700, Argentina now accounts for 165 of the fatalities -- and is the world's second worst-affected country, behind the United States with 263 confirmed deaths.

Nigerian rebels free six foreign tanker crew

AFP, LAGOS: Nigerian militants have freed six foreign crew members of a chemical tanker seized more than two weeks ago in the restive Niger Delta, the rebels and the ship's owners said yesterday.

"All the six hostages comprising of three Russians, two Filipinos and one Indian were released at the same time last night to agents of their employers," the main armed group, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), said in an email.



PHOTO: AFP

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton meets with Japanese Foreign Minister Hirofumi Nakasone (R) in the Thai resort of Phuket yesterday prior to a bilateral meeting at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Post Ministerial Conference (PMC).

The US 'is back' in Asia, says Hillary Clinton

AP, Phuket

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived at a key security conference yesterday carrying a no-nonsense message that the United States is ready to re-engage with Asia after years of neglect.

Hillary, arriving from Bangkok, moved right into talks with Asian counterparts gathered for two days of international meetings to discuss North Korea, Myanmar and a range of other regional issues.

She said she will sign the seminal Treaty of Amity and Cooperation of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, a commitment to peacefully resolve regional disputes that already has been signed by more than a dozen countries outside the 10-nation bloc.

"The United States is back," she declared upon arrival in the Thai capital Tuesday.

And in an appearance Wednesday morning on a Thai TV talk show in Bangkok she said, "President Obama and I are giving great importance to this region," suggesting that the administration of former President George W. Bush neglected US interests in Asia.

of the new US approach, she said, is the fact that her first overseas trip, in February, was to Asia.

"I believe strongly the United States has to be involved in this region," she added. Her main aim in visiting Southeast Asia this time, she said, is to "work hard to try to bring a sense of future possibilities" for partnerships to ensure Hillary was asked whether she thinks the US image abroad has been improving under President Barack Obama.

"It certainly feels like it," she said. "There is a great sigh of relief in some places" she has visited this year.

Dozens wounded in Gaza wedding blast

AFP, Gaza City

Fifty-two people were wounded in Hamas-run Gaza after a blast ripped through a wedding of a relative of Mohammed Dahlan, an ex-strongman with the rival Fatah group, officials said yesterday.

The explosion came late on Tuesday under a street stage set up in the southern town of Khan Yunis for the marriage of Dahlan's nephew, Mahmud, Palestinian medics said. Dahlan himself was not present at the festivities.

The blast wounded 52 people, among them women and chil-

dren, and five were still listed in critical condition on Wednesday morning. The groom was among those badly hurt.

Ihab al-Ghoussein, a spokesman for the Hamas-run interior ministry in the coastal territory, said the preliminary results of an investigation showed the explosion was caused by what he described as "a sound bomb."

Dahlan, the hated one-time chief of Gaza's powerful preventative security force, fled the Palestinian territory in June 2007 after the Islamist Hamas seized power there, ousting forces loyal to secular Fatah.



PHOTO: AFP

An opposition legislator (C) tries to climb up to the parliament speaker's podium as other members try to stop him during scuffles at the parliament in Seoul on yesterday. Dozens of people were injured and one opposition lawmaker was taken to hospital.

5 Iranians killed in Iraq

AFP, Baquba

Gunmen have shot dead five Iranian pilgrims, including a woman, in an attack on a minibus near the restive Iraqi city of Baquba yesterday, police said.

"At least five people were killed in an attack by armed men against three buses carrying Iranian pilgrims in the Nabi Wais region," a police official at the provincial security command centre said.

He said the five victims were among about 30 pilgrims travelling on minibuses in the area northeast of Baquba, the capital of the province of Diyala north of the Iraqi capital.

The attack came a day after 21 people were killed in a wave of attacks across Iraq on Tuesday, one of the bloodiest days since US forces pulled out of towns and cities across the country on June 30.

Shiite faithful, including Iranians, have often been the target of attack during religious ceremonies in Iraq and pilgrimages to holy Muslim sites.

Despite the violence, hundreds of thousands of Iranians travel to Iraq every year to visit Shiite shrines since the Sunni-led regime of Saddam Hussein was toppled in the US-led invasion of 2003.

In April, 56 people were killed in a suicide bombing on a restaurant packed with Iranian pilgrims in Muqaddadiyah, north of Baquba in Diyala province, which remains one of the most dangerous areas of the country.

North and south Sudan accept int'l court ruling

AFP, Abyei

North and south Sudan have accepted yesterday's international arbitration court ruling altering the borders of the disputed oil-rich Abyei region, officials from the former foes said.

"This decision is final and binding for both parties," Mutrif Siddiq, undersecretary of foreign affairs and a senior member of the Khartoum government, told AFP.

Former southern fighter and Foreign Minister Deng Alor, who was in Abyei with other senior officials for the ruling, said his Sudan People's Liberation Movement would accept the decision of The Hague court.

"The PCA (Permanent Court of Arbitration) decision is binding on the parties: the SPLM and the people of this area will respect this decision," he said.

The SPLM fought a two-decade war with Khartoum, the longest civil war in Africa, before the foes reached a power-sharing deal in 2005.

Additional UN peacekeepers were deployed ahead of the ruling to the district bordering the Muslim north and the mainly Christian and animist south for fears of a repeat of violence that left 100 people dead there in May last year.

The 2008 clashes razed Abyei town and left tens of thousands homeless in what analysts described as the most

serious threat to the 2005 peace deal that ended the civil war.

The ruling, issued after Khartoum complained that a previous border commission had decided on the wrong frontiers, moved Abyei's eastern, western and northern borders.

"Both parties have agreed that this question is now settled," said the UN secretary general's special representative Ashraf Qazi, who had voiced concern about the buildup of fighters in the area ahead of the ruling.

"This decision clearly demonstrates that, even on the most difficult and sensitive of disputes, the parties can find a peaceful solution if they work together in good faith," said Qazi.

"I call on all involved to cooperate to implement the decision according to the plan the parties adopted in recent talks and to guarantee the long term interests of the people of the region."

Abdelbagi Gailaini, a member of President Omar al-Beshir's ruling National Congress Party and state minister for humanitarian affairs, said the NCP had accepted the ruling and that he doubted there would be any violent reaction.

"What we have seen today is a good compromise," Gailaini said in Abyei. "Everybody is committed, and everybody is standing by what this file case has reflected."

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Food & Disaster Management
Directorate General of Food
Inspection, Development & Technical Services
16, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000
www.dgfood.gov.bd

INVITATION FOR TENDER (WORKS)

Tender Package No. 02/2009-2010

1. Ministry/Division : Ministry of Food & Disaster Management
2. Agency : Directorate General of Food
3. Procuring Entity Name : Director General of Food
4. Procuring Entity District : Dhaka
5. Invitation for : Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities.
6. Invitation Ref. No & Date : IDTS/Dev-94/2009/1165 Dated : 21/07/2009
7. Procurement Method : Open Tendering Method (OTM)
8. Budget and Source of Funds : Government of Bangladesh
9. Tender Package No. : Package No. 02/2009-2010
10. Tender Package Name : Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Dhaka Division.
11. Tender Publication last Date : 28/07/2009
12. Tender Last Selling Date & Time : 23/08/2009 up to office hour
13. Tender Closing Date & Time : Dated: 24/08/2009 Time : 1.00 pm
14. Tender Opening Date & Time : Dated: 24/08/2009 Time : 2.00 pm
15. Name & Address of the office (a) Selling Tender Document. : Cashier, Accounts and Finance department, (Room No. 419 4th Floor) of Directorate General of Food, 16, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000.
- (b) Receiving Tender Document : The Tender will be received in the Tender Box to be kept in front of the office of the Director General of Food Room No.101, 1st Floor, Khaddya Bhaban, 16, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000.
- (c) Opening Tender Document : The Tenders will be opened in the conference room (Room No. 604, 6th Floor) of the Directorate General of Food, Khaddya Bhaban, 16, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000.
16. Eligibility of Tenderer : a) As per TDS & Qualification criteria of PPA-2006 & PPR-2008
b) Liquid asset certificate issued by the schedule bank not before 28 days from the date of tender opening. As per lot mentioned in serial no. 20
c) Average Annual Turnover last three years. As per lot mentioned in serial no. 20
17. Brief Description of Works : Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities.
18. Brief Description of Related Series : As per Tender Schedule
19. Price of Tender Document (Tk) : Tk.1500.00 (Taka One Thousand Five Hundred) each only.

20. Identification of lot :

Lot no.	Description of works	District	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Completion Time in Days	Liquid Asset (Tk in lakh)	Average Annual Turnover (Tk in lakh)
1	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Shinghajani LSD, Jamalpur.	Jamalpur	1,20,000.00	180 Days	24.00	100.00
2	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Islampur LSD, Jamalpur.	Jamalpur	24,000.00	180 Days	5.00	20.00
3	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Nokla LSD, Sherpur.	Sherpur	30,000.00	180 Days	6.00	23.00
4	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Porakandulia LSD, Mymensingh.	Mymensingh	60,000.00	180 Days	12.00	50.00
5	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Barhatta LSD, Netrokona.	Netrokona	70,000.00	180Days	13.50	55.00
6	Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities at Kishorgonj Sadar LSD, Kishorgonj.	Kishorgonj	50,000.00	180 Days	10.00	42.00
7	Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities of at Vatiapara LSD, Gopalganj.	Gopalganj	68,000.00	180 Days	13.50	55.00
8	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Angaria LSD, Shariatpur.	Shariatpur	1,45,000.00	180 Days	29.00	120.00
9	Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities at Kapasia LSD, Gazipur.	Gazipur	53,000.00	180 Days	10.50	43.00
10	Repair of Food Godown with ancillary facilities at Manikgonj Sadar LSD (Beutha Campur), Manikgonj.	Manikgonj	82,000.00	180 Days	16.50	66.00
11	Repair of Food Godown with Ancillary Facilities at Ghior LSD, Manikgonj.	Manikgonj	50,000.00	180 Days	10.00	40.00

21. Name of official Inviting Tender : Abdur Rouf
22. Designation of official Inviting Tender : Director, IDTS
23. Address of official Inviting Tender : 16, Abdul Ghani Road, Dhaka-1000.
24. Contact details of official Inviting Tender : 02-9559988.
25. The Procuring Entity reserves the right to accept any or reject all tenders. If government will ratify the PPA 2006 that ratification will be applicable for this tender.

(Abdur Rouf)
Director

GD-3516

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'I'm not a saint', says Berlusconi

AFP, Rome

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi, facing a snowballing call girl scandal, yesterday urged his detractors to understand that he is no saint, the ANSA news agency reported.

"I'm not a saint," the billionaire leader said at the inauguration of a highway construction project in northern Brescia.

"You understand that, and let's hope the people at La Repubblica understand that," he added, referring to the left-leaning daily that has carried an unending stream of reports on the prime minister's alleged peccadilloes since late April.

A Liquid Chromatography LC-SCHOOL was operated from 15-17 July '09 with participants from Beximco, Renata, Popular & Incepta Pharmaceuticals, conducted by Dr. Jeenat Jayachandran of Waters India Pvt. Ltd. Foreign Certificates were distributed by Mr. Syed Munawar Husain, MD in presence of Mr. M.A. Baten, General Manager of Technoworth Associates Ltd. in Dhaka.