

## Brown writes to Suu Kyi pledging support

AFP, London

Prime Minister Gordon Brown has written a personal letter to Aung San Suu Kyi, pledging his ongoing support for Myanmar's pro-democracy icon and praising her courage.

Brown also reiterated his call for Myanmar's military rulers to ensure elections promised for 2010 were free and fair, warning anything less would condemn the impoverished country to more hardship and isolation.

"If the scheduled elections proceed under a rigged constitution, with opposition leaders excluded and with no international oversight, the military rulers will be condemning Burma to more years of diplomatic isolation and economic stagnation," he said in the letter released by Downing Street Tuesday.

The PM said Britain stood "immovably" with the Nobel peace laureate, and urged the regime to start a "genuine dialogue" with her.

"Your continuing detention is only the most visible evidence of the bad faith of a

regime which has so far shown no signs of listening to regional or international calls for an end to its violent behaviour," he said.

"I continue to call upon the regime to engage with you and allow you further contact with diplomats in Rangoon, and to start a genuine dialogue that can give the Burmese people back their future and their hope," he said.

Brown's letter has been passed to authorities in Myanmar -- which has been under military rule since 1962 -- by the British embassy in Yangon.

Aung San Suu Kyi has been locked up for 14 of the past 20 years and was ordered in August to spend another 18 months in detention after being convicted over an incident in which an American man swam to her house.

The extension of her detention sparked international outrage as it effectively keeps her off the stage for the elections promised by the regime some time in 2010.

If the polls go ahead they will be the first since 1990, when the junta refused to recognise her party's landslide victory.

## Indian police file new cases in abuse scandal

AFP, New Delhi

Indian police have registered new complaints against a former officer who molested a teenage girl and then allegedly harassed her family in a case that has caused widespread outrage.

The case of Ruchika Girhotra, 14 at the time of her assault in 1990, has dominated Indian news over the last few days since 67-year-old SPS Rathore, a former top police officer in the northern state of Haryana, was found guilty.

He was given a six-month jail term and a 1,000 rupee (20 dollar) fine -- too lenient and too late, said the family's supporters who have revealed an alleged campaign of intimidation by Rathore to prevent his prosecution.

Police in Haryana filed two new "first information reports" (FIR) late Tuesday against Rathore and other officers for harassing the Girhotra family, the Press Trust of India reported.

## J&K CM discusses autonomy report with Manmohan amid employee strike

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, New Delhi/Srinagar

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah yesterday morning discussed the Justice Sageer Ahmad's report on centre-state relations vis-à-vis Jammu and Kashmir at a meeting here with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, official sources said.

Abdullah thanked the prime minister for getting the reports of all the five working groups - announced and constituted after the second round table conference on Kashmir in May 2006 - and urged him that a process to implement the reports should be undertaken.

He is reported to have told Singh that the implementation of the recommendations of the working groups would help connect the people of Jammu and Kashmir with the rest of the country in a big way. This, he feels, would bolster the confidence level and decimate the trust deficit that exists at the moment.

Abdullah also raised the subject of quiet talks with separatists.

Meanwhile, Government employees Wednesday struck work across the Kashmir Valley, demanding implementation of the

agreement signed between their representatives and the Jammu and Kashmir government this August.

Government offices in the state's summer capital Srinagar and other district headquarters in the Valley wore a deserted look as employees went on a day's protest strike.

"The state government signed an agreement with us Aug 18, confirming the implementation of our demands by October 2009," said Farooq Ahmad Trali, chief spokesperson of the government employees' joint action committee here.

"We have already waited for two months beyond the deadline, but our demands have not been met so far," he added.

Besides the implementation of the recommendations of the sixth pay commission, the state government, according to the employees' spokesperson, had agreed to enhancement of the retirement age from 58 to 60 years, release of 40 percent arrears of the pay commission, conversion of cost of leaving allowance into dearness allowance for those working in public sector undertakings and regularisation of employees working as daily wagers in various government departments.

## Zardari urges to wage 'Jihad' against Benazir's assassins, extremists

ANI, Lahore

Denouncing Monday's suicide attack on a Muharram procession, in which 40 people were killed, Pakistan President Asif Ali Zardari has vowed to punish the perpetrators of the deadly attack, including the assassin of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto by waging 'Jihad' against them.

"We will wage Jihad against those who murdered Benazir Bhutto, those who burnt Karachi and are killing our soldiers," The Daily Times quoted Zardari, as saying.

Referring to the Karachi violence, Zardari said it was a conspiracy against the country.

"My heart weeps over the loss of life in Karachi," he said, while asking the Sindh government to take action against the culprits, planners and financiers of the terrorist attack.



## It's already New Year in Nepal!

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Kathmandu

While the rest of the world has begun an eager countdown to the New Year, which will be ushered in from Thursday midnight, it is already 2010 in the exotic Himalayan land of Nepal.

For the Tamu or Gurung community of Nepal, an ethnic people believed by many to have migrated from western Mongolia, 2010 starts from this Wednesday, the last day of the lunar calendar they follow traditionally.

Colourful processions with women dressed in exotic long skirts and blouses of Chinese brocade and musicians playing drums and ethnic instruments began weaving through the busy streets of Kathmandu to party, basking under the government declaring the day a public holiday and President Ram Baran Yadav hailing the community in a public message.

## China to step up Nepal aid and trade

AFP, Beijing

China pledged to bolster aid and trade to Nepal yesterday, state media said, one day after Nepal's prime minister said his government would not tolerate anti-China protests in the Himalayan nation.

Beijing "will provide necessary support and assistance to the Nepalese side in hydropower construction, infrastructure development, health, education, human resources development and other fields," Xinhua news agency said.

China also pledged tariff reductions and other assistance, the report said, citing a joint government statement issued during the ongoing visit of Nepalese Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal.

The Nepalese leader's visit to China is his first since he took office in May. The prime minister on Wednesday met with President Hu Jintao, the last of his major official meetings before heading home to Kathmandu.

"The Nepalese government... believes that Taiwan and Tibet are inalienable parts of the Chinese territory," Nepal told Prime Minister Wen Jiabao Tuesday in comments reported on Chinese state television.

Nepal "will not allow any forces to use Nepalese territory to engage in anti-China activities," he said.

The Himalayan nation is home to around 20,000 exiled Tibetans, who began arriving in large numbers in 1959 after their spiritual leader the Dalai Lama fled Tibet following a failed uprising against the Chinese.

In recent months the exiles say their lives have become increasingly difficult, as Nepal -- reportedly under heavy pressure from Beijing -- has sought to restrict their activities.



This hand out picture released by Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) shows Pakistani Air Force and Swedish officials stand for photograph in front of Swedish Saab 2000 Airborne Early Warning and Control aircraft during an induction ceremony at Pakistan Aeronautical Complex Kamra yesterday. Pakistan Air Force introduced its first airborne warning and control system Saab 2000 aircraft into its fleet.

PROJECT DIRECTOR  
"EXPANSION OF BANGLADESH JATIYO ANDHA KALYAN SAMITY HOSPITAL, COMILLA"  
District Social Services Office, Police Line, Comilla.

### TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from contractors in accordance with the Public Procurement Regulations-2008 for the under mentioned work

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Social Welfare, Bangladesh
2	Agency	Department of Social Services and Bangladesh Jatiyo Andha Kalyan Samity, Comilla
3	Procurement Entity	Project Director, District Social Services Office, Comilla
4	Name of work	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 200KVA distribution Sub-Station.
5	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method
6	Eligibility of tenderer's	Supplier is Manufactured authorized representative/Manufacturer authorized agents who has registered office with facilities of Supply, installation and maintenances.
7	Budget and source of funds	Budget - Revenue fund: GOB.
8	Price of tender document	Tk 1000/- (One thousand) only by Treasury challan (Code No. 1293100002366)
9	Tender Security	Tk 35,000/-
10	Performance Security	10% (Ten percent) of the tender amount.
11	Name and address of the offices selling tender document	1) Department of Social Services office (Planning Division), Agargaon, Dhaka, 2) District Social Services Office, Police line, Comilla, 3) Bangladesh Jatiyo Andha Kalyan Samity Office at Shankarpur, Alekharchar, Comilla.
12	Name and address of the office receiving tender document	1) Department of Social Services office (Planning Division), Agargaon, Dhaka, 2) Deputy Commissioner Office, Comilla, 3) Police Supper Office, Comilla, 4) PWD Office, Comilla, 5) LGED Office, Comilla
13	Name and address of the office for opening	Deputy Commissioner Office, Comilla
14	Date for selling tender documents	31.12.2009 to 24.01.2010 during Office hours
15	Tender Submitting date & time	31.12.2009 to 25.01.2010 Up to 12-00 PM
16	Tender opening date & time	25.01.2010 at 4-30 P.M (Intending tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend. (If any.)

N.B. Procurement Entity reserves the right to accept any Tender or to reject all tenders without assigning any reasons whatever.

Project Director  
Expansion of Bangladesh Jatiyo Andha Kalyan Samity Hospital, Comilla

## Taliban claim Pakistan Shia parade attack

AFP, Peshawar

Pakistan's feared Taliban network claimed responsibility Wednesday for a suicide bombing that killed 43 people at a Shia parade in Karachi and threatened further attacks.

The claim was made by one of Pakistan's most wanted commanders in the Tehreek-e-Taliban (TTP) movement, which for two months has been targeted by a military offensive near the Afghan border.

Monday's attack in Pakistan's biggest city reduced events marking the Shias' holiest day, Ashura, to carnage and sparked riots, underlining the security challenge faced by the nuclear-armed Muslim country.

It was the deadliest militant attack in Karachi in two years and one of the deadliest sectarian-linked attacks in conservative Pakistan.

"We carried out the suicide bombing in Karachi," Asmatullah Shaheen, a top militant commander based in South Waziristan, told AFP by telephone from an undisclosed location.

"We did it to protect the honour of the companions of the holy prophet," he said, referring to a centuries-old disagreement between Sunni Muslims, who dominate the Taliban, and Shia Muslims over the succession to the Prophet Mohammed.

"We will carry out more such attacks and also target government installations," Shaheen added.

## Tender Notice

Sealed Quotations are invited from bonafide manufacturers /dealers/distributors & suppliers for supply of the following items of Pan Pacific Sonargaon. The detail Specifications, terms and conditions are mentioned in the Tender Schedule.

Sl. No.	Name of the Items.	Quantity
01.	Centrifugal Chiller (Capacity-450 TR)	01 No.
02.	Booster Pump (Re-tender)	01 No.

Interested bidders may obtain tender schedule from the Purchasing Department, PPSD and Assistant Manager Liaison, HIL on submission of a letter on their respective letterhead up to January 27, 2010 during office hours on payment of Tk. 5000 for SI no-1 and Tk 300 for SI no-2 (non-refundable). The bids will be received in both the places up to 02:30 p.m. on January 28, 2010 and will be opened on the same day at 03:00 p.m. in Purchasing Department, PPSD in presence of the bidders, if any.

Tender must be supported by an Earnest Money amounting to Tk. 250,000 (Two lakh fifty thousand) fixed for SI no-1 and 5% of quoted price for SI no-2 (refundable) in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule Bank in favor of Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka. Any tender, which is not accompanied by the required Earnest Money, Shall not be considered.

Pan Pacific Sonargaon / HIL authority reserves the right to accept / reject any tender in part or in full or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Purchase Manager, Tel (880) 2 8111005 (Ext: 4164)

PAN PACIFIC SONARGAON  
Dhaka

### TENDER NOTICE

For Supplying of MICR Compliance Security Cheque Books, Pay Order, Demand Draft, Foreign Demand Draft (on CBS-1 Paper) with MICR Code Line and Personalization

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Prime Bank Limited for the 'Procurement of MICR Compliance Security Cheque Books, Pay Order, Demand Draft, Foreign Demand Draft (on CBS-1 Paper) with MICR Code Line and Personalization' from the bonafide security printing press/firms (local/international) for printing and supplying of Cheque Books, Pay Order, Demand Draft, Foreign Demand Draft as per Bangladesh Bank's guide lines.

Details of the notice are as follows.

- The interested bidders should fulfill the following minimum qualifications and requirements for their participation in the said tender.
  - Must have the infrastructure of MICR encoding job with efficient technical team to execute the work within the stipulated time.
  - Following papers/documents must be sent with the proposal:
    - Valid Trade License
    - Bank solvency certificate/documents
    - VAT Registration certificate
    - Up-to-date TIN certificate
    - Up-to-date copy of TAX payment receipt
    - Client list with goodwill certificate (If available)
    - Experience certificate (If available)
    - If the bidder is an authorized dealer/distributor of the said product they will provide the document of dealership/distributorship of the Manufacturer.
- Each tender must be submitted in sealed envelope. Earnest money (refundable) equivalent to 2.5% of the quoted value of works in the form of pay order/bank draft in favor of Prime Bank Limited issued by any of its branches shall have to be furnished along with each tender document without which the tender will be rejected out right.
- Interested bidder may collect the Tender Schedule by January 10, 2010 from the office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 5,000.00 (Taka five Thousand) during office hours (10:00 am to 4.00 pm).
- No tender document will be issued after last date of purchase as mentioned above.
- The successful bidder must maintain the completion period as mentioned in the tender document.
- The bidders must quote rates for items both in figures and in words clearly and legibly.
- Proposal/Offer is to be submitted in sealed envelope, which will be dropped in the Tender Box kept at office of the undersigned address by 03.00 PM on January 11, 2010 and be clearly marked 'Tender for Supplying of MICR Compliance Security Cheque Books, Pay Order, Demand Draft, Foreign Demand Draft (on CBS-1 Paper) with MICR Code Line and Personalization' at the top of the envelope. Tender may be opened at 03:30 pm on the same day in presence of the participants or their representatives, if any.
- Prime Bank Management reserves the right to accept, modify or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.
- The Bank shall not be bound or under any obligation to accept the lowest quotation.
- Please contact undersigned for any types of clarifications in regard to products/ services/works related clarifications only.
- Manipulation or any kind of unusual approach or failure to submit the proposal/offer within stipulated time frame will be treated as "Disqualification" to attend in the bidding.

Senior Executive Vice President  
Logistics & Support Services Division

Logistics & Support Services Division, Head Office  
29 Rajuk Avenue, Dhaka. Tel: 7161632, 9567265 (Ext.351)

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৩১ ডিসেম্বর রাত ১১.৫৯ টায়  
ঘড়ির কাঁটা এক ঘন্টা পিছিয়ে ১০.৫৯ করুন

শীতকালে দিনের দৈর্ঘ্য কমে আসায় ঘড়ির কাঁটা  
১ ঘন্টা পিছিয়ে আনার সিদ্ধান্ত নিয়েছে সরকার।

তাই ৩১ ডিসেম্বর ২০০৯ রাত ১১.৫৯ টায় আপনার  
ঘড়ির কাঁটা এক ঘন্টা পিছিয়ে ১০.৫৯ করুন।

- দিনের আলোতে আপনার প্রয়োজনীয় কাজ শেষ করুন। সন্ধ্যাকালীন পিক-আওয়ারে কম বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহার করুন।
- পিক-আওয়ারে ইলেকট্রিক মটর, ওয়েল্ডিং মেশিন, ইন্ড্রি, ওভেন ব্যবহার থেকে বিরত থাকুন।
- বিদ্যুৎ সঞ্চয়ী বাতি (CFL) এবং কম বিদ্যুৎ প্রয়োজন হয় এমন ইলেকট্রিক ও ইলেকট্রনিক সামগ্রী ব্যবহার করুন।
- রাত ৮ টার মধ্যেই দোকানপাট, শপিং মল ও বাণিজ্যিক প্রতিষ্ঠান বন্ধ করুন।
- নিজে কম বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহার করুন এবং অন্যকে কম বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারের পরামর্শ দিন।

বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড

বিদ্যুৎ/ঘন - ৯৪০ (১৪), ৩০-১২-২০০৯

GD-5888