

No crisis in US-Israeli ties, says Obama

Washington considers presenting own ME peace plan, one killed as Gaza rocket hits Israel

AFP, Washington/ Jerusalem

President Barack Obama denied a crisis was rocking US-Israeli relations as his top diplomatic aide arrived yesterday in Moscow for a meeting of the Middle East quartet.

Obama's first public comments on the show-down came Wednesday as his administration awaited a response from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about Washington's sharp complaints over the announcement of new settlements.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton arrived in Moscow early Thursday for a meeting of the international quartet on Middle East peace talks -- involving partners Russia, the United Nations and the European Union -- without holding her expected telephone call with Netanyahu.

"We're still looking forward to a response. It hasn't happened yet," Mark Toner, a State Department spokesman, told reporters in Washington after Hillary's departure.

Obama was conciliatory when asked in an interview with Fox News if there was a "crisis" in US-Israeli relations after the announcement on

1,600 new settler homes in annexed east Jerusalem, which embarrassed Vice President Joe Biden during a visit last week to the Jewish state.

Obama noted that the announcement on new settler homes was the work of the Interior Ministry in Israel and that Netanyahu had apologised.

The White House was also considering proposing a US plan to form the basis of Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, the Times reported, as US officials questioned the commitment of Netanyahu's government to peace talks.

Meanwhile, an al-Qaeda-inspired militant group fired a rocket from the Gaza Strip into a kibbutz in southern Israel on Thursday, killing a foreign worker.

The attack came as EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton was on an hours-long visit to the Gaza Strip.

It was the first fatal rocket strike since the end of the devastating 22-day offensive against Gaza which launched in December 2008 in response to rocket fire, and Israel vowed a "strong" response.



PHOTO: AFP

Palestinian schoolgirls wave flags to welcome EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton as she arrives in Jabalia refugee camp yesterday. Ashton condemned "any kind of violence" after Palestinian militants in the Gaza Strip, where she was on a brief visit, fired a rocket into Israel, killing one man.

US urges China not to let differences harm Iran cooperation

AFP, Beijing

Chinese-US differences over Taiwan and Tibet should not stop Beijing from backing strong sanctions against Iran or trip up cooperation on global issues, Washington's ambassador to Beijing said yesterday.

"Differences on Taiwan and Tibet cannot, must not, prevent us from working together to create jobs, address climate change, and prevent Iran from developing a nuclear weapons capability," ambassador Jon Huntsman said.

"We look to China to support strong sanctions should Iran continue to stall on the dialogue track," he told students in a speech at Beijing's Tsinghua University against a background of rising US-China tension.

China and the United States along with Britain, France, Germany and Russia have been pressuring Iran on its nuclear programme due to fears that Tehran is trying to build a nuclear weapon.

However, while Moscow has suggested it is toughening its stance on Iran, China has continued to resist fresh sanctions.

Washington angered Beijing in January by approving the sale of 6.4 billion dollars worth of weapons to Taiwan, and again when President Barack Obama met the Dalai Lama at the White House last month. On Thursday Beijing lashed out at what it called "groundless accusations" by the US House of Representatives of Chinese persecution of the Falungong spiritual group.

The two nations have also been at odds over Beijing's management of its yuan currency. US senators introduced legislation Tuesday that would impose tough new penalties on China if it failed to let the yuan rise in value.

Last week, Obama renewed calls for China to embrace a "market-oriented" exchange rate.

Pakistan 'not in a rush' to start new offensive

Says Gilani

ANI, Islamabad

Notwithstanding the pressure from the United States, Pakistan Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani has made it clear that his government is "not in a rush" to launch any new offensive in the country against extremists based in the tribal areas along the Afghan border.

During an interview with the Financial Times, Gilani said holding control and reconstruction of the region claimed back by the military from militants is on top of his priorities.

"We have to hold the areas we have reclaimed first and we should not be in a rush to launch new offensives. We have to consolidate first," Gilani said in response to a question regarding the next step in the 'war on terror' in the country.

"It's up to the military and political leadership to think about how to proceed and when to go to other areas," he said, adding that one of his priorities is to work on an "exit strategy" for military forces that have flushed the extremists out of the region and regained control of large areas in Malakand and Swat and South Waziristan, which was once considered as the Taliban's stronghold.

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Applications are invited from persons specialized on the following cuisines:

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Please email chef@bookreel.com for details.

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In 2006, Carnegie Mellon opened its Asia-Pacific campus in Adelaide, becoming the first foreign university on Australian soil. The Heinz College is consistently ranked among the top ten public policy programs in the US and is ranked first in information technology.

US News and World Report Graduate Speciality Rankings:

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Scholarship recipients will gain knowledge and skills that they can apply to the development of their home country upon completion of their study. Scholarships include full tuition, return economy airfares, a contribution to living expenses and basic medical insurance.

Australia Award applications for the January 2011 intake are now open. Information about the scholarships and degree programs at Carnegie Mellon can be found on the website heinz.cmu.edu.au or by contacting hznadmit-australia@andrew.cmu.edu, or information about the Australia Awards can be found at www.australiaawards.gov.au

For collecting our program brochure and flyers in Bangladesh please contact JOBS-ICT Private Limited (JIPL) in the following address: 5th floor, Plot#4, Road#12, Block J, Baridhara, Dhaka 1212. Phone: +88-02-8826154/8824416 Email: info@jipl.com.bd

Carnegie Mellon
www.heinz.cmu.edu/australia



Announcement for the 2011 Intake

Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) Scholarship

The Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) is pleased to invite applications to study in Australia under the 2011 Intake of the Australian Leadership Awards (ALA) program from interested candidates who are committed to contribute to the development of Bangladesh.

ALA Scholarships are academically prestigious awards, offered to high achievers having the potential to assume leadership roles that can influence social and economic policy reform, development and governance in their home countries and region. The purpose of ALA scholarships is to develop leadership in the Asia Pacific region. ALA scholars are expected to return to their home country after they have completed their studies. Recipients should also be willing to make a commitment to the exclusive AusAID alumni programme.

Scholars can apply for the following fields of study for a Masters or a Ph. D degree: Disability, Economic Growth, Education, Environment, Food security, Gender, Governance, Health, Human rights, Infrastructure, Regional stability, Rural development, Water and sanitation.

Mandatory requirements for eligibility for ALA Scholarships:

- Must have an IELTS score of 6.5 or above (with no band less than 6) taken no longer than two years prior to the date of application;
- Must have an unconditional offer letter from an Australian university for entry into full time studies in the nominated subject area for masters or doctoral studies;

You will not be eligible if you:

- (a) Are holding or have been nominated to receive another Australian Government scholarship;
- (b) Have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application;
- (c) Are a permanent resident or have applied for permanent residency in Australia;
- (d) Are married or engaged to be married to a person who holds or who is eligible to hold Australian or New Zealand citizenship or permanent residence status.

Applications are now open for commencement at an Australian university from January 2011. Please note that the deadline for receiving hardcopy and online applications is 30 June 2010. To apply online and for further information please visit the following website <http://www.ausaid.gov.au/scholar/ala.cfm>

From Intake 2011, Australia Awards in the South Asia region are administered locally through the South Asia Scholarships Program (SASP). Hard copy applications can also be submitted at the SASP office. For any assistance or enquiries, please contact SASP Dhaka Office during business hours 9:00 - 5:00 pm.

South Asia Scholarships Program (SASP)
5th Floor, Plot # 4, Road # 12, Block-J, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212
Telephone: (02) 8824416/8826154, Mobile: 0173 0338495
Email: info@southasiascholarship.org, Web: <http://www.southasiascholarship.org>

Note: AusAID actively encourages enquiries from females, people with disability, applicants working outside Dhaka and indigenous applicants.

VACANCY NOTICE



Bangladesh

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces vacancy for following positions for "Barrier Removal for Cost-effective Development & Implementation of Energy Standards & Labeling (BRESL)" project.

1. Project Manager - SB4
2. Admin & Finance Assistant - SB2
3. Programme Assistant - SB2
4. Office Assistant - SB1

The duration of the Service Contract is twelve months initially, extendable upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be submitted no later than 17:00 pm, Wednesday, 31 March 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

UNICEF Vacancy Announcement

(re-advertisement)

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following position. For detailed Job Descriptions, please visit our website: www.unicef.org.bd

Social Protection Officer (OVC), NO-B

Last date of receiving applications: 31 March 2010

Please mark on the envelope the post applied for. Only short listed candidates will be called for written test/interview. Any attempt to unduly influence UNICEF's selection process will lead to automatic disqualification of the applicant.

Application should be addressed to Chief, Human Resources, BSL Office Complex, 1 Minto Road, Shahbagh, Dhaka.

UNICEF IS COMMITTED TO GENDER EQUALITY IN ITS MANDATE AND ITS STAFF. WELL QUALIFIED CANDIDATES, PARTICULARLY FEMALES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.

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www.unicef.org.bd

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Concern values diversity in the workplace and is a committed equal opportunity employer. We encourage applications from all suitable candidates regardless of gender, race, family or marital status, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, disability, class, caste or religion.

For applying: Please forward an application letter, together with a CV and details of three referees to: Human Resource Department, Concern Worldwide, House: 15sw (D), Road-7, Dhaka-1212 or by e-mail to recruitment.bgd@concern.net. For information please visit: www.concern.net/bangladeshjobs

Any canvassing will result in disqualification.

Closing date for application: March 31, 2010.

CONCERN worldwide

Career Opportunity

A USA-based Joint Venture Garments Industry in CEPZ looking for appropriate people for the following posts: 1) Name of the post: Quality Technician: 2 posts. Cutting Technician: 1 post. Technician, Industrial Eng: 1 post. 2) Qualification: As required (English & Computer fluency is must); 3) Experience: Minimum 10-12 years. Interested candidate from home & abroad are requested to apply on or before 21.03.2010 to the following address. Head of HR, JMS Garments Ltd, Plot: 1-4, Sector: 6, CEPZ, South Halishahar, Chittagong-4223. D-196

Opportunity at Steel Accessories Ltd.

Steel Accessories Limited (A sister concern of KDS Group) is looking for personnel to fulfill the following positions.

Machine Operator :

Academic Qualification: Diploma/B.Sc. Engg. (Mechanical in Refrigeration and Air Condition)

Experience: 5-6 years experience in CNC wire cut, Steel Echo cut, Maxi cut, Punch cut, Spring cut,

Engineer (Tool Room):

Academic Qualification: Diploma in Mechanical Engg.

Experience: 4 -5 years experience in steel cutting tool and parameter for HSM & CNC wire cut, Design of fixture clamping & setting sequence in new product, Handling of Makino VMC& Makino wire cut & Makino Spark.

Sincere & result oriented candidates should apply. Application with C.V. and 2(two) copies recent PP size photograph need to reach us to the following address on or before 24th March 2010.

Head of HR & Admin, Steel Division, KDS Group.
255 Nasirabad I/A, Chittagong-4211.
E-mail: info.kdssteel@kdsgroup.net



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