

Stop meddling in Thailand's internal affair

Says FM to int'l community

AFP, Jakarta

Thailand yesterday warned the international community not to meddle in its political affairs as anti-government Red Shirts called for EU observers on the streets of Bangkok.

Foreign Minister Kasit Piromya told reporters after meeting his Indonesian counterpart, Marty Natalegawa, that the Thai government was "in control" of the situation and did not need foreign assistance.

"There is no need for international intervention at this point in time," Kasit told a press conference when asked if Thailand needed outside help to deal with its political turmoil.

"I think we're very much in control of the situation and it's still very much an internal affair of Thailand."

Red Shirt leaders on Thursday made a further attempt to broaden the month-long dispute that has several times erupted in violence, killing 27 people and injuring almost 1,000 in Bangkok.

The movement -- which wants immediate elections -- released a letter it sent to EU ambassador David Lipman making an "urgent request" for Europe to send monitors to Bangkok to prevent another crackdown.

The letter followed an invitation issued by Red leaders to Bangkok's diplomatic community asking them to visit the sprawling protest last week.

Kasit said his government had been "concerned" that some diplomats had taken up the offer, although he did not specify who.

"We do not want to see that happen again," he said.

"We're trying to solve the problem within the confines of the rules of law, and trying to avoid the use of force and trying to talk to the protesters for them of course to come to the negotiating table and... disarm," Kasit said.

He said he was visiting Indonesia, a fellow founding member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean), to express his government's gratitude for Jakarta's expressions of concern.



PHOTO: AFP
This handout photo taken and released shows the coffin of one of the three RNZAF Iroquois helicopter personnel killed in an accident near Wellington on April 25, being carried to a military service funeral at Ohakea Air Force Base yesterday. The helicopter crashed en route to a flyover for an ANZAC service in Wellington.

Ahmadinejad applies for US visa

BBC ONLINE

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has applied for a visa to visit the United States next week, the US says.

The application is apparently motivated by his wish to be at the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) review conference starting on Monday.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton will be among more than 30 foreign ministers attending the opening day of discussions at the United Nations.

The US says Iran is trying to build a nuclear weapon, but Tehran denies this.

The US ambassador to the United Nations, Susan Rice, said: "My understanding is that as of today he (Mr Ahmadinejad) has filed an application for a visa."

Tehran says its nuclear energy programme is for peaceful, civilian purposes.

But the US and five other powers - Britain, China, France, Russia and Germany - are discussing proposed new UN sanctions against Iran for its refusal to halt uranium enrichment, a key step on the road to creating nuclear weapons.

US MILITARY BASE ROW Hatoyama asks for TU's support

AFP, Tokyo

Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama, whose political future has been threatened by a row over a US military base, yesterday called on major trade unions to continue supporting his government.

"There is a growing force to turn back the clock but, we must move the hands of the clock further in the right direction," Hatoyama told a mass rally organised by Japan's biggest labour confederation, Rengo.

About 33,000 people, according to Rengo's count, gathered at a central Tokyo park for rally, held coincide with day.

The government make a society those who Hatoyama, left Party of Japan in a landslide victory last year, century of ken conserva-

"I am that you are the country is said. B u t approval rating has plunged, from over 70 percent into the 20-percent range, while he and his party head were embroiled in political fund scandals and he was seen lagging on his promises.

The rate stood at 20.7 percent, down 12.3 points from three weeks earlier, according to the latest opinion poll released by Kyodo news agency Thursday. The disapproval rating rose 11.1 points to 64.4 percent.

Hatoyama has vowed to "stake his job" on settling by the end of May the issue of relocating a US Marine base on Okinawa, amid criticism from opposition parties and the media just months before upper-house elections in the summer.



Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama

change of which rewards work," said whose centre-Democratic swept to power election vic- ending a half-almost unbro- tive rule. con- veyed feeling how changing," he

Hatoyama's

Land Sale

11 Bighas and 4 Kathas of land within the Tongi Municipality will be sold. Road, electricity & gas line are available along with the land. Mobile: 01711-523342

JOB OPENING

Assistant Finance Manager

The Promoting Governance, Accountability, Transparency and Integrity (PROGATI) program is a four-year program funded by USAID and implemented by Development Alternatives, Inc. The project objective is to promote principles of accountability, transparency, and responsiveness to decrease the level of corruption in Bangladesh. PROGATI is seeking highly qualified and motivated candidates to apply for the following position. **Female candidates strongly encouraged to apply.**

Responsibilities:

- Prepare and or review all payment requests and associated documentation, ensuring compliance with DAI policies and procedures;
- Prepare documentation for and calculate travel advances requested by staff, deliver to Finance and Administrative Manager for approval and action;
- Review and maintain grantee/subcontractor payments in an appropriate manner;
- Complete cash and check payments to grantees, vendors and staff (e.g., for travel related expenses), including liaison with the bank regarding daily transactions and recording these transactions in a tracking log; and
- Maintain documentation, receipts and customs declaration for all fixed assets.

Required Qualifications:

- Advanced university degree in finance, accounting or related field;
- Completion of Chartered Accountancy course highly preferred;
- Minimum of five years of experience working in the finance field;
- Strong communications skills in English and Bangla, reading, writing and speaking.
- Experience working for donor-funded projects, USAID experience strongly preferred.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter, CV and three references to progatijob@yahoo.com by May 10, 2010. All candidates will be reviewed but only finalists will be notified. No phone calls or in-person applications will be accepted. Please reference the job title in the subject line. Salary will be based on USAID requirements.

aramit limited

Registered Office : 53 Kalurghat Heavy Industrial Estate, PO: Mohara, Chittagong-4208
Share Office : Red Crescent Concord Tower, 15th Floor, Unit-B, 17 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka-1212

PRICE SENSITIVE INFORMATION

This is for information of our valued Shareholders that the Board of Directors of Aramit Limited in its 172nd Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, 28th April 2010 at 6.00 pm at "Conference Room of Dhaka Office"(15th Floor, Unit-B), Red Crescent Concord Tower, 17, Mohakhali Commercial Area, Dhaka-1212 has taken the following decision :

- Recommended Dividend : Stock Dividend 50% i.e. (1 Share for 2 Shares held) & Cash Dividend 15% per share of Tk. 10 each for the year ended 31st December, 2009.
- Date & Time of 39th AGM : 26th June 2010 at 12:15 P.M.
- Venue of the 39th AGM : The Peninsula Chittagong, Chittagong.
- Record Date for AGM : 10th May, 2010.

Financial Highlights :

1. Earning per share (EPS)	:	Tk. 20.70
2. Net Assets Value (NAV)	:	Tk. 419,601,979
3. Net Assets Value per Share	:	Tk. 104.90
4. Net Operating Cash Flow per Share	:	Tk. 6.66

The Shareholders whose names will appear in the Register of Members on 'Record Date' i.e. on 10th May 2010 will be eligible to attend the AGM and qualify for dividend.

By order of the Board
Sd/-
(Md. Ibrahim Khalil, FCMA, FCS)
Executive Director & Company Secretary

28 April 2010

Vow to build green

FROM PAGE 1
technologies for economic growth, and that promotion of climate resilience will promote both development and poverty eradication in a sustainable manner.

The separate statement was issued as Climate Change was designated as the key theme of the 16th Saarc Summit, in the wake of the vulnerability faced by member states from global warming.

Expressing deep concern over the adverse effects of climate change, the statement called for the commissioning of a Saarc Inter-governmental Climate-related Disasters Initiative, on the integration of Climate Change Adaptation with Disaster Risk Reduction.

The statement said the Saarc member states face the dual challenge of addressing the negative impacts of climate change and pursuing socio-economic development.

It noted that South Asia is especially prone to the ill effects of climate change and related disasters, making the need for a regional response to meet the challenge more urgent and compelling.

It said South Asia could benefit from cooperative regional initiatives and exchange of knowledge, as well as transfer of technologies to address the challenges.

It recognises that the preservation of the environment and mitigating the impacts of climate change are mutually reinforcing.

The Thimpu Statement on Climate Change also agreed to review the implementation of the Dhaka Declaration and Saarc Action Plan on Climate Change, with a view to ensuring its timely implementation.

The Saarc leaders agreed to establish an Inter-governmental Expert Group on Climate Change to develop clear policy directions for regional cooperation as envisaged in the Saarc Plan of Action on Climate Change.

The leaders directed the Saarc secretary general to commission a study aimed at accreditation of Saarc with the Kyoto Protocol's Adaptation Fund as a regional entity for undertaking adaptation projects in South Asia.

They also decided to commission a study on Climate Risk in the region to find ways to comprehensively address the related social, economic and environmental challenges.

Another study was commissioned to explore the feasibility of establishing a Saarc mechanism, which would provide capital for projects that promote low-carbon technologies and renewable energy, and a Low Carbon Research and Development Institute at the South Asian University.

The statement said 10 million trees will be planted over the next five years as part of a regional forestation and reforestation campaign in the member states.

South Asian leaders also

decided to commission a Saarc Inter-governmental Marine Initiative to strengthen the understanding of shared oceans and water bodies in the region.

They stressed the importance of conservation of bio-diversity and natural resources and monitoring mountain ecology in the region.

The statement said the Saarc leaders also agreed on commissioning a Saarc Inter-governmental Monsoon Initiative on the evolving pattern of monsoons to assess member states' vulnerability due to climate change. This will be implemented with the support of the Saarc Meteorological Research Centre.

It called for completing the ratification process for the Saarc Convention on Cooperation on Environment at an early date to enable it come into force.

The leaders said the Inter-governmental Expert Group on Climate Change shall meet at least twice a year to periodically review the implementation of this statement and make recommendations to facilitate its implementation. The group will then submit its report through senior officials of Saarc to the Saarc environment ministers.

Schoolboy killed

FROM PAGE 1
Mukul told reporters that he fed Oli as per his wish and took Oli wherever he wanted to go in the city after the abduction.

"On Monday night when he wanted to go home, I took him to the maize field and strangled him to death. Before I killed him he was crying and asking me to take him to his mother," said Mukul.

Mukul, also father of a daughter, told reporters that he abducted Oli on instruction of Shaheb Ali who feared that he would get less wealth from Oli's father if he stays alive.

Mukul, however, said he had no plan to kill him other than abduction for ransom. Later, he decided to kill Oli as police were informed of the matter and trying to rescue Oli. "I thought none will suspect me if I can kill him and conceal the body by burying," he added.

He said he abducted Oli for ransom of Tk 10 lakh but his father Abdur Rab, a retired army sergeant and also a wealthy person in the village, did not pay the ransom.

After police produced Mukul before the second court of senior judicial magistrate. He was sent to jail after recording his statement under section 164, said Shakil, sub-inspector of Mohonpur Police Station.

However, Shaheb Ali, brother-in-law of the victim, was not brought at the press conference. He was produced before a court that granted seven days' remand for him.

Earlier, the victim's father filed a case with the police. Hearing the news, Oli's mother was fainting frequently.

Australian Government Australia Awards AUSTRALIAN LEADERSHIP AWARDS

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:

- Are holding or have been nominated to receive another Australian Government scholarship;
- Have held a foreign scholarship in the 24 months preceding the application;
- Are a permanent resident or have applied for permanent residency in Australia;
- 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.

Australian Government Australia Awards AUSTRALIAN DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Announcement for the 2011 Intake

Australian Development Scholarships (ADS)

Applications for qualified individuals to study in Australia under the Australian Development Scholarships (ADS) are open now and will close on **16 May 2010**.

ADS places are targeted for the candidates from the following institutions only:

- Government of Bangladesh*
- ICDDR,B

*Candidates from all Government departments such as autonomous, public service commission, corporate and constitutional institutions are also eligible to apply for ADS. However, public university employees are not eligible to apply for ADS.

From Intake 2011, Australia Awards in the South Asia region are administered through the South Asia Scholarships Program (SASP). For detailed information on all matters relating to AusAID scholarships in Bangladesh (i.e. candidate registration, full eligibility criteria, counselling session, IELTS requirements, application form), please visit our website www.southasiascholarship.org or contact SASP Dhaka Office during business hours 9:00 - 5:00 pm, Sunday through Thursday.

South Asia Scholarships Program (SASP)
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