



Pakistan's Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani (R) shakes hands with India's Foreign Minister S.M. Krishna in Islamabad yesterday. The foreign ministers of the South Asian neighbours were holding their first key talks in Islamabad since the 2008 Mumbai attacks derailed a peace process.

PHOTO: AFP

India, Pakistan extend talks amid hopes

IANS, Islamabad

The foreign ministers of India and Pakistan met here yesterday for the first time after the Mumbai terror attack, with their talks getting extended at mid-day amid signs that they were on way to putting ties back on track.

A senior Indian official said there was 'good news' to report after a Pakistani foreign ministry spokesman announced that the joint media briefing of ministers of SM Krishna of India and Shah Mahmood Qureshi had been postponed till evening.

Both Indian and Pakistani

sources said the discussions were proceeding positively notwithstanding differences on some of their known positions.

Krishna and Qureshi had been expected to end their interaction by afternoon and then address the press.

But it was announced that

the media briefing would take place only at 6:00pm, triggering a disappointing roar from the Indian, Pakistani and foreign journalists packing the briefing hall in the foreign ministry here.

Official sources said Krishna would stick to his schedule of calling on Pakistan Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani and President Asif Ali Zardari before returning to the foreign ministry for another round of discussions.

In a related development, Pakistan's powerful army chief, General Parvez Ashfaq Kayani, met Gilani before the two foreign ministers called on the Pakistani prime minister.

Yesterday's meeting is the most significant bilateral interaction since the prime ministers of India and Pakistan decided in Bhutan in April to normalise a relationship but badly after Pakistani terrorists ravaged Mumbai in 2008.

However, despite their vocal commitment for a new beginning, major areas of differences persist between the two nuclear rivals of South Asia.

Some of this was evident when the soft-spoken Krishna underlined after his arrival here Wednesday India's need to see Pakistan act firmly on confessions by terror suspect David Coleman Headley, a Pakistan-born American.

Pakistani officials have denied the charge.

Indian and Pakistani officials believe the two countries can still take some steps to improve their relations.

This includes easing their tight visa regime, promoting more people-to-people contacts, increasing border trade including across Jammu and Kashmir, upping the number of train and bus links, and making prisoner swaps easier.

Nepal parties to write new statute

IANS, Nepal

After frittering away 24 months, Nepal's major parties yesterday said they would start working on the new constitution from tomorrow.

The two biggest ruling parties--caretaker Prime Minister Madhav Kumar Nepal's Communist Party of Nepal--Unified Marxist Leninist as well as its main ally, the Nepali Congress--and the opposition Maoists also agreed to complete the much-awaited constitution one month before its scheduled deadline next year.

Instead of May 27, the parties have now pledged to complete the constitution by April 13, 2011.

However, the promise will not be taken seriously, given the parties' long record of constantly failing deadlines.

In the past, they were unable to hold elections in time, promulgate a new constitution in time or even dismantle the parallel army of the Maoists.

A test of their resolve will be the new commission that will have the task of restructuring Nepal into federal states.

Currently, the republic has five development zones and 75 districts.

Narayan Kaji Shrestha, deputy chief of the Maoists, said the State Restructuring Commission will start work from July 31 and complete its task in two months.

But before undertaking these tasks, the parties face the labour of electing a new prime minister July 21.

India and US discuss terror cooperation

IANS, New Delhi

India and the US focused on expanding counter-terror cooperation and discussed UN reforms yesterday, as US National Security Adviser James Jones wrapped up his two-day trip aimed at firming up deliverables for President Barack Obama's visit in November.

A day after talks with his Indian counterpart Shivshankar Menon that focused on the easing of high-tech exports, Jones met Home Minister P Chidambaram, Defence Minister AK Antony and Air Chief Marshall PV Naik, chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee.

Jones had also called on Prime Minister Manmohan Singh Wednesday.

New Delhi described the talks as "positive, constructive and forward looking".

During the visit, the two sides reviewed the status of the strategic partnership between India and the US, the prime minister's office (PMO) said in a statement yesterday.

They discussed preparations for the state visit of Obama to India later this year, the PMO said.

Apart from bilateral relations, regional and global issues, including the situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan, international terrorism, the global governance architecture and emerging threats to international security were also discussed, the PMO said.

Jones arrived in India Tuesday night for two days of talks, which are part of the institutionalised dialogue mechanism between the national security advisers of India and the US.

The visit saw India making a renewed push for the easing of exports of dual use technologies, widely seen in India as a potential deliverable during Obama's maiden visit here in November.

Two years after India and the US signed a landmark nuclear deal in October 2008, India is upset that many Indian private and public sector entities continue to face technology sanctions. The Indian side is expecting a positive movement on this issue ahead of Obama's visit, official sources told IANS.

The Indian side conveyed its concerns over the fluid situation in Afghanistan against the backdrop of reports of Pakistan influencing a power-sharing deal with Taliban elements who are inimical to India's interests.

4 killed, 44 injured in Swat valley

IANS, Pakistan

A suspected suicide bombing yesterday ripped through a busy street outside a bus stand in Pakistan's north-western district of Swat, killing four people and injuring at least 44, police said.

The blast took place in Mingora, the main city of the mountainous district, where the military has been fighting Taliban militants since March 2009.

"It looks like a suicide bombing, but we'll give the final opinion once initial investigations are completed," district police chief Qazi Jamil said.

A health official at the Saidu

Sharif hospital said one woman was among the dead.

Television footage showed the street littered with burned-out vehicles and rescuers carrying the injured and dead.

Swat is located 140 km north-west of Islamabad in the militancy-plagued Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province. The picturesque valley was once a popular tourist destination.

Thousands of Pakistani troops moved into the region in March last year to regain control from the Taliban. Heavy fighting left around two million people displaced and killed hundreds of Taliban fighters and soldiers.

New symbol for Indian rupee approved

REUTERS, India

The Indian rupee has achieved parity with major currencies such as the dollar, euro, pound sterling and yen in one respect: it now has its own symbol.

The cabinet yesterday approved the adoption of the new symbol after holding a competition that drew more than 3,000 entries, which were evaluated by a deputy governor of the central bank as well as artists and designers.

The new symbol, an amalgam of the devanagari script of the Hindi language and the Roman letter "R", "reflects and captures the Indian ethos and culture", the cabinet said in a statement.

"The symbol for the rupee would lend a distinctive character and identity to the currency," it said, and better distinguish the currency from countries that also have the rupee or rupiah, including Nepal, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

The winning design, pulled from a shortlist of five, came from a post-graduate student who won \$5,000.



UNICEF Vacancy Announcement

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

Post Title: 1) Project Officer (Mymensingh), NO-A, Field Operations Section
2) Project Officer (Cox's Bazar), NOA, Field Operations Section

Last date of receiving applications: 29 July 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 with CV and a copy of filled in P-11 form should be forwarded to the Chief, Human Resources, BSL Office Complex, 1 Minto Road, Shahbag, Dhaka.

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

UNICEF is a non-smoking working environment

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UNICEF Vacancy Announcement

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is seeking applications from Bangladeshi Nationals to fill the following position.

Job Title: Human Resources Assistant (GS-4), HR Section

The successful candidate will be responsible for maintaining leave records; schedule of home leave entitlement for international staff and prepare quarterly status report. S/he will be responsible for up-dating/filing of circulars, policies and other official documents; prepare action plans for new comers and departing staff, issue of ID cards and operate electronic door access Security Manager System. The incumbent will also maintain office stationery and supplies for the Section. S/he will provide administrative support to recruitment unit and HRM group.

Educational Qualification:

A Higher Secondary Certificate at the minimum. A first university degree in social science, administration and management are desirable. Proficiency in the use of computers, especially word processing, spreadsheets, graphics, Lotus Notes and internet is a must. Specialized training in Office Administration desirable.

Work Experience:

Minimum four-years work experience in the relevant area.

Other skills and attributes:

Good drafting and communication skills. Ability to handle highly sensitive and confidential information. Ability to interact in a team environment. Ability to keep up-to-date with the latest skills and competencies in the field of Personnel Management, technical and administrative support.

Competencies and Core Values:

Drive for results; Working with people; Applying technical expertise; Coping with pressure and setbacks; Diversity and inclusion; Integrity; Commitment

Communication:

Application should be addressed to the Chief, Human Resources, BSL Office Complex, 1 Minto Road, Shahbagh, Dhaka. Last date of receiving applications: 25 July 2010. Please mark on the envelope the post applied for. Only short listed candidates will be called for written test.

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Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
Vacancy Announcement

Issued on: 16 July 2010
Dead line for application: 05 August 2010

The FAO Representation in Bangladesh is inviting applications of qualified candidates to the following vacant position in Dhaka (with in-country travel) under the project GCP/BGD/038/EC "Improving Food Safety, Quality, Hygiene and Food Control in Bangladesh". Incumbents will be recruited as a National Project Personnel:

1. National Project Administrator - 1 position
(UN Salary scale and benefits for similar position apply).

Interested qualified candidates will find the post descriptions, the link to the Personal History Form (PH-Form) and the information on how to apply in the following web link: www.bdjobs.com. Hard copies of the completed PH-Form must reach the **FAO Representation in Bangladesh, House#37, Road#8, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205** in a sealed envelope by close of business on **5 August 2010**.

VACANCY NOTICE

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces vacancy for following positions for "Improving Kiln Efficiency in the Brick Making Industry" project.

1. Project Manager - SB4
2. Monitoring Officer - SB3
3. Communications Officer - SB3
4. Admin & Finance Assistant - SB2
5. Research Assistant - SB2

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, Saturday, 31 July 2010. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Admission Fall 2010

WHY EAST WEST?

- * In 2007 and 2008 it ranked number-1 among the private universities of Bangladesh as per **Webometric** survey
- * East West is the top ranked private university in research achievements as per survey by **Research Bangla**
- * EWU maintains a large team of very high standard faculty members of whom 97 hold Ph.D degrees
- * EWU offered about 3 crore taka as scholarship/aid last year, more will be offered this year to deserving students

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

- ▶ B.Sc. in CSE
- ▶ B.Sc. in EEE
- ▶ B.Sc. in ICE
- ▶ B.Sc. in ETE
- ▶ BBA
- ▶ BSS in Economics
- ▶ BA in English

Admission Eligibility:

1. Minimum GPA of 2.50 in both SSC and HSC Examinations. or, at least one first division either in SSC or in HSC. No third division is allowed.
2. University of London & Cambridge GCE "O" Level in Four subjects with a minimum GPA of 2.50 and "A" Level in Two subjects with a minimum GPA of 2.50 (in the scale of A=5, B=4, C=3, D=2 and E=1); or
3. American High School Diploma, and
4. Acceptable EWU Admission Test Score.
5. Final selection for admission will be based on the total scores obtained out of 100 weightage as follows: (a) Admission Test Score (50%), (b) Results of SSC/O' level (20%) and (c) Results of HSC/A' level/Equivalent exams (30%)

Admission Test Waiver:

Candidates having a total minimum score of 1500 in SAT or GPA 5.00 excluding 4th subject marks in the latest SSC & HSC exams or 7 'A' in 'O' level (at one sitting) and 3 'A' in 'A' level.

Merit Scholarship/Tuition Fee Waiver:

Following will be awarded 100% merit scholarship at entry level for 4 years subject to maintenance of minimum GPA of 3.50 in each semester:

- (a) Candidates scoring GPA 5.00 (excluding 4th subject) in the most recent SSC & HSC examinations or
- (b) Candidates scoring 7 'A' in 'O' Level (at one sitting) and 3 'A' in 'A' Level (in one year)
- (c) Top 5 scorers in the Admission Test (with minimum score of 75%)

Moreover, based on the academic performance after each year, a large number of students will be awarded merit scholarship/tuition waiver/financial aids.

Undergraduate Admission Test & Application Deadline

Date of Admission Test	Application Deadline
24 July 2010	19 July 2010

For Application Form and detail information, please visit our website: www.ewu.edu or contact:
Admission Office, EAST WEST UNIVERSITY, 43 Mohakhali C/A, Dhaka 1212, Bangladesh
Phone: 9882308, 9887989 Fax: 880-2-8812336, E-mail: admissions@ewu.edu

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- ▶ MBA (60 Credits, waiver available)
- ▶ EMBA (42 Credits, waiver available)
- ▶ MBM (60 Credits, waiver available)

Admission Test will be waived for MBA, EMBA & MBM programs for the BBA graduates of East West University with CGPA of 3.80 and above.

- ▶ Master of Development Studies (MDS)
- ▶ MS in CSE
- ▶ MA in English
- ▶ MA in ELT
- ▶ MS in Applied Physics & Electronics
- ▶ Master of Population, Reproductive Health, Gender and Development (MPRHGD)
- ▶ M.Pharm in Clinical Pharmacy and Molecular Pharmacology

Admission Eligibility and Admission Test Waiver:

Varies from program to program details of which may be obtained from the website or the contact address mentioned at the bottom.

Graduate Admission Test & Application Deadlines

Programs	Date of Admission Test	Application Deadline
1. MBA, EMBA & MBM	30 July 2010	27 July 2010
2. M. Pharm	16 July 2010	14 July 2010

Foreign students are encouraged to apply