



PHOTO: AFP

Scientist from the National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL), SC Suraj tests a Micro Air Vehicle (MAV) at Manddur village, around 65km east of Bangalore yesterday. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) funded the NAL and Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE) to design and develop Micro and Nano Air Vehicles to be deployed in countering terrorism and insurgency during low intensity conflicts. The testing is in the final phase.

Floods expose civilian-military divide in Pakistan

AP, Islamabad

Massive flooding in Pakistan appears to be drawing support for the already-weak civilian government while boosting the powerful military, a blow to US and domestic hopes for a strong Pakistani democracy capable of undercutting the allure of al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

Even before the deadly deluge that began nearly a month ago, the civilian administration faced growing discontent as power shortages, security problems and economic mismanagement plagued the country. A military coup is seen as unlikely, but flooding is so large-scale that some fear serious political instability in the nuclear-armed nation.

About 20 million people have been affected by the floods across an area bigger than England. Flood victims are far more likely to have seen a Pakistani soldier dropping off relief or picking them up than a member of the civilian government. One state minister's car was pelted with stones after a visit some saw as long overdue, media reports said.

"The overwhelming majority of Pakistanis have always reposed confidence in the army as compared to elected governments," said Mehdi Hasan, a Pakistani political analyst. "People feel the army can do better as it is well trained, it has time and the courage to handle any crisis. It gives

an edge to the army over civilian administration."

The army ruled Pakistan for more than half of its 63-year history, thanks to coups that followed periods of political unrest or economic mismanagement by civilian leaders. The government today has been in place less than three years, after nearly a decade of army rule by then-Gen. Pervez Musharraf.

But the army has retained tremendous independence, to the point where many Pakistanis speak of the government and the military as separate entities. The army also has steadily regained the popularity it lost during Musharraf's tenure. In 2009, its operations against the Taliban in the Swat Valley and South Waziristan tribal region had broad public support.

The civilians' initial response appeared chaotic and confused as the flooding disaster unfolded. But symbolism seemed to matter more: President Asif Ali Zardari's decision to visit France and England as people fled their water-filled homes infuriated many and burned the image of an out-of-touch political elite.

More recently, the front pages of Pakistani newspapers have been filled with bickering between the ruling party and the opposition over how flood relief should be monitored, and whether additional layers of bureaucracy should be established to oversee aid.

India cabinet approves nuclear liability bill

BBC ONLINE

India's cabinet has approved a controversial draft law aimed at opening up its civilian nuclear power industry to private investment.

It came after the government dropped an addition to the bill which opposition parties said would limit the liability of companies in case of accidents.

The law sets out a framework for how any compensation claim will be managed.

The bill will now be introduced in parliament, where it is expected to be passed easily.

"After the bill is passed in parliament we will enter a series of negotiations for the purchase of equipment and we will see actual contracts being signed," Prithviraj Chavan, junior minister for science and technology, said.

The bill was approved after the authorities agreed to triple the compensation cap in the event of a nuclear accident to 15bn rupees (\$322m; £207m).

The bill is part of a landmark agreement with the US in 2008 which granted India access to foreign nuclear technology.

But some private firms, especially in the US, have been reluctant to set up nuclear power plants in India without a law that would limit their liability.

'Bold' plan for Mekong area rail link approved

AFP, Hanoi

A "bold" plan for a railway system connecting more than 300 million people who live around one of the world's great rivers, the Mekong, was approved yesterday, officials said.

Ministers from Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam adopted the plan which they called "a significant first step toward the development of an integrated... railway system".

The six nations' national railway systems do not link up except for a line that connects China and Vietnam, and Laos has no rail network at all.

The plan cites four possible ways of connecting the railways but it says the most viable route would stretch from Bangkok to Phnom Penh, then Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, and finally up to Nanning and Kunming, largely using existing lines or those already under construction.

"We think it's realistic to do one of the routes by 2020," said Lawrence Greenwood, a vice-president with the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

"Having said that, it is certainly bold and ambitious," he told reporters.

The only missing link on that route would be between Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh, the 25-page railway plan says, estimating a cost of 1.09 billion dollars for completion.

This does not include roughly seven billion dollars in additional funding needed to upgrade the existing lines.

By 2025, an estimated 3.2 million passengers and 23 million tonnes of freight are forecast for the completed route, the document says.

The goal coincides with an effort by Mekong nations to develop "economic corridors" around new road links, which would help to reduce poverty and would be complemented by railway connections, the ADB said.

Creating the corridors of investment and development will require a smoothing of procedures for cross-border transport and trade, the ministers said in a joint statement.

Business leaders and other experts have said there are still too many bureaucratic hurdles to a free flow of regional goods.

Greenwood said ministers at the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) conference "very importantly" agreed on a plan to smooth cross-border movement, which is supported by six million dollars in funding from Australia.

US official denies 'threat' over loan and Bhopal leak

BBC ONLINE

A senior US official has denied making any link between India's request for a loan from the World Bank and continuing anger over the Bhopal gas leak issue.

Deputy National Security Adviser Mike Froman was accused of making a veiled threat to Planning Commission Deputy Chairman Montek Singh Ahluwalia.

In an e-mail, Mr Froman warned of a "chilling" of investment ties.

Thousands of people died in 1984 after the leak from American firm Union Carbide's plant in the city of Bhopal.

In June, an Indian court finally convicted seven former managers at the plant, handing down minor fines and brief prison

sentences.

But many victims and campaigners feel justice has still not been done against Union Carbide, which is now owned by Dow Chemicals.

Earlier this week, the Mumbai-based Times Now network obtained an e-mail exchange between Mr Froman and Mr Ahluwalia, initiated by India seeking US backing on a loan from the Washington-based World Bank.

Mr Froman, a key aide to President Barack Obama, is quoted as saying that the US "will look into it".

"While I've got you, we are hearing a lot of noise about the Dow Chemical issue. I trust that you are monitoring it carefully," Mr Froman was quoted as telling Mr Ahluwalia.

"I am not familiar with all the details, but I think we want to avoid developments which put a chilling effect on our investment relationship."

The e-mail exchange caused uproar in India, which President Obama is due to visit in November.

In a media release issued by the US embassy in Delhi on Thursday, Mr Froman said: "With regard to recent reports about my private correspondence with Mr Ahluwalia, I want to make clear that I was not making any link between what are two separate and distinct issues nor issuing a 'threat' of any sort."

"Any assertion to the contrary is absolutely wrong, both in intent and in fact," he said.

Pakistan accepts Indian aid for flood relief

AP, Islamabad

Islamabad has accepted \$5 million in aid from India for flood victims, a rare expression of goodwill between the feuding neighbours at a time when Pakistan is reeling from one of its worst ever natural disasters.

The floods have affected about one-fifth of Pakistan's territory, straining its civilian government as it also struggles against al-Qaeda and Taliban violence. At least 6 million people have been made homeless and the economic cost is expected to run into the billions.

The head of the World Health Organization in Pakistan said Friday that there had been "sporadic cases" of cholera among 20 million people affected by the disaster, many of them living in crowded and unsanitary conditions.

But Guido Sabatinelli told reporters "I am optimistic that there is no immediate threat of a cholera epidemic."

The United Nations has appealed for \$460 million in emergency assistance.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi told Indian NDTV television station that the government had accepted the money from India. Such is the difficult relationship the two nations have that it took several days for Islamabad to reach the decision.

"It is highly appreciated in Pakistan and we have recognized it," he said in New York.

BNP quickly

FROM PAGE 1

successes". She said the successes of her government made AL leaders worried about their future.

BNP lawmaker Shamsuzzoha Khan made the same allegation saying the explosion was part of AL's "conspiracy against the government". He demanded that the then foreign minister Morshed Khan take stern actions against AL.

"We know better who sheds crocodile tears at meetings with foreign envoys and from where the money for the treatment comes," Morshed Khan said in parliament promising to fulfil his colleague's demand.

Lutfuzzaman Babar, the then state minister for home, told reporters the day after the attack that the attackers are not the enemies of Awami League or BNP alone; they are the enemies of the country. He also sought help from all the quarters to provide the government with information about the attackers.

In addition, he had declared a reward of taka one crore for disclosing the names of the people or groups responsible for the attack. "The government has decided to announce the reward since the government gives highest priority to the matter," he told reporters a week after the deadly incident.

Replying to BNP lawmakers Dildar Hossain Selim and Ilias Ali, who asked the government to take steps against the then opposition AL, Babar on September 15, 2004 said in parliament, "We'll take actions as per the law against the people creating disorder."

Babar, now detained in a number of cases, was however shown arrested in the grenade attack murder case on October 26 last year and was remained for nine days in two phases. Police sources said he disclosed "vital" information on the attack.

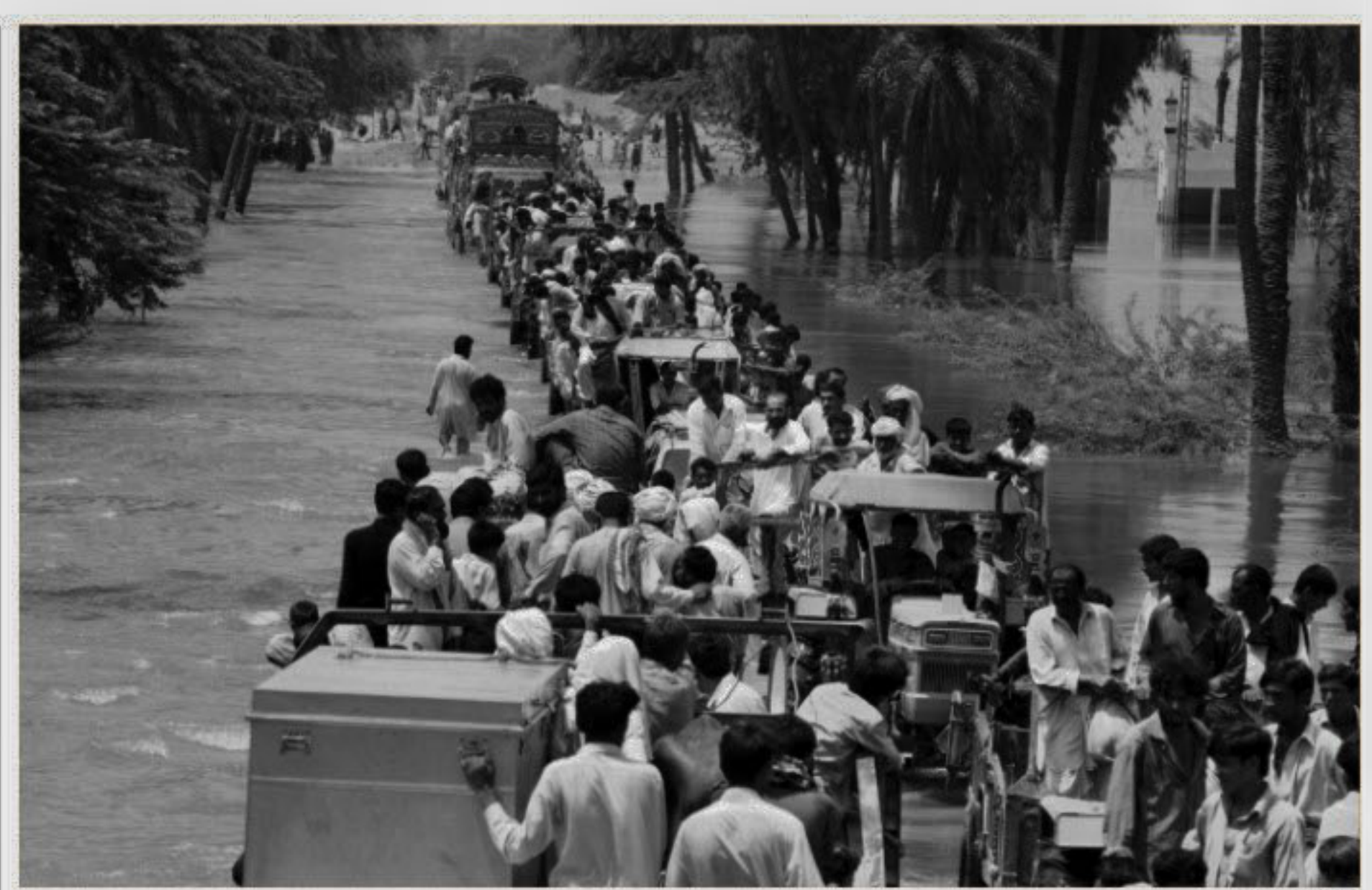


PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani flood-affected families travel through water as they return home to Bassera village in Punjab province yesterday as floodwaters recede. Around 4.6 million people are still without shelter following the wave of destruction wreaked by the worst flooding in Pakistan's history, the UN said.



বাংলাদেশ তাঁত বোর্ড

বিটিএমসি ভবন (৫ম তলা)
৭-৯, কাওরান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫

নং-বাতাবো/সংস্থ/৩৯(অংশ-২২)/২০১০

তারিখ: ১৮-০৮-২০১০ খ্রি:

নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশ তাঁত বোর্ডের নিম্নবর্ণিত সরাসরি পূরণযোগ্য এবং মুক্তিযোদ্ধা কোটায় সংরক্ষিত পদগুলো পূরণের লক্ষ্যে শুধুমাত্র বাংলাদেশের প্রকৃত মুক্তিযোদ্ধা ও শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সন্তানদের নিকট হতে দরখাস্ত আহ্বান করা যাচ্ছে।

| ক্র:নং | পদের নাম | পদ সংখ্যা | বেতন স্কেল (জা: বে: কে: ২০০৯) | প্রয়োজনীয় যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা |
|--------|--|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| ১. | অফিস সহকারী-কাম-কম্পিউটার মুদ্রাক্ষরিক | ৪(চার)টি | ৪৭০০-৯৭৪৫ | উচ্চ মাধ্যমিক সার্টিফিকেট পাশ। তৎসহ Word Processing/Data Entry ও Typing -এ নিম্নরূপ গতি সম্পন্ন হতে হবে: (ক) বাংলা: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ১৫ শব্দ (খ) ইংরেজি: প্রতি মিনিটে সর্বনিম্ন ২০ শব্দ |

আবেদনকারীর নাম, পিতা/স্বামীর নাম, মাতার নাম, স্থায়ী ও বর্তমান ঠিকানা, জন্ম তারিখ, বয়স (০১-৯-২০১০ তারিখে) শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা ও অভিজ্ঞতা, সংশ্লিষ্ট ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌর সভার তথ্যাদি, জাতীয়তা, ধর্ম ইত্যাদি উল্লেখপূর্বক আবেদনপত্র সরাসরি অথবা ডাকযোগে ০১-৯-২০১০ তারিখের মধ্যে নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারীর দপ্তরে পৌঁছাতে হবে।

আবেদনপত্রের সাথে ৩(তিন) কপি সাম্প্রতিককালের পাসপোর্ট সাইজের ছবি, শিক্ষাগত যোগ্যতা, প্রশিক্ষণ ও অভিজ্ঞতা সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত ছায়াছবি, সংশ্লিষ্ট ইউনিয়ন পরিষদ/পৌর সভার চেয়ারম্যান/সিটি কর্পোরেশনের ক্ষেত্রে ওয়ার্ড কমিশনারের নিকট হতে নাগরিকত্ব সনদপত্র এবং প্রথম শ্রেণীর গেজেটেড কর্মকর্তার নিকট হতে চারিত্রিক সনদপত্র আবেদনপত্রের সাথে সংযুক্ত করতে হবে।

মুক্তিযোদ্ধা/শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধাদের সন্তানের প্রমাণক স্বরূপ সর্বশেষ নীতিমালা অনুযায়ী উপযুক্ত কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রদত্ত সনদপত্রের সত্যায়িত কপি আবেদনপত্রের সাথে দাখিল করতে হবে। ০১-৯-২০১০ তারিখে আবেদনকারীর বয়সসীমা অনূর্ধ্ব ৩২ বছর হতে হবে।

সরকারী/আধাসরকারী ও স্বায়ত্বশাসিত সংস্থায় কর্মরত/বিভাগীয় প্রার্থীদের অবশ্যই যথাযথ কর্তৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে আবেদন করতে হবে এবং আবেদন নির্ধারিত তারিখের মধ্যে বোর্ডে পৌঁছাতে হবে। অসম্পূর্ণ, ত্রুটিপূর্ণ বা স্বাক্ষরবিহীন এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট কাগজপত্র নাম ও সিলবিহীনভাবে সত্যায়িত হলে উক্ত আবেদন পত্র বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে।

(মো: মোয়াজ্জেম হোসেন)
সচিব



Export Promotion Bureau

TCB Bhaban, 1, Kawran Bazar

Dhaka

Notice

National Export Trophy for the year 2009-2010.

Export Promotion Bureau invites applications from exporters for award of National Export Trophy for the year 2009-2010.

02. The Trophy will be product-specific on the basis of the following classifications and that exporter will be an eligible applicant who has an export earning (million US Dollar) mentioned against the product:

(1) Readymade Garments (Woven)-12.00 (2) Knitwear-10.00 (3) Yarn-5.00 (4) Textile Fabrics-5.00 (5) Home and Specialized Textiles-5.00 (6) Frozen foods-8.00 (7) Jute-2.00 (8) Jute goods-3.00 (9) Leather (Crust/Finished)-10.00 (10) Leather Goods-2.00 (11) Footwear (all kinds)-2.00 (12) Tea-2.00 (13) Agricultural Products-2.00 (14) Agro Processing Products (except tobacco)-2.00 (15) Flower & Foliage-2.00 (16) Handicrafts-2.00 (17) Melamine/Plastic Products-2.00 (18) Ceramic ware-4.00 (19) Light Engineering Products-2.00 (20) Electronic & Electronic Products-2.00 (21) Other Industrial Products-2.00 (22) Pharmaceutical Products-2.00 (23) Other Chemical Products-2.00 (24) Computer Software-2.00 (25) Miscellaneous Products-2.00.

03. The intending exporters are to apply in the prescribed pro-forma available at Export Promotion Bureau's Head Office (Commodities Development Division-PABX: 9144821-24, Fax: 88-02-9119531, E-mail: dir-commodity@epb.gov.bd, Website: www.epb.gov.bd) in Dhaka, Regional Offices at Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi and Branch Offices at Comilla, Sylhet and Narayanganj as well as offices of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Bangladesh Chamber of Industries, Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Divisional Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Barisal, Sylhet and Rangpur Prescribed Pro-forma may also be obtained from Export related Trade Associations of Bangladesh.

04. Application in prescribed pro-forma duly filled in and signed, must reach the undersigned on or before 23-09-2010. For further information, Export Promotion Bureau may be contacted.

05. For Readymade Garments and Knitwear, group wise application is not acceptable. Intending applicants are to apply for individual unit.

06. Application has to be submitted product wise, if any unit deals with more than one product.

Director
Commodities Development Division