

## China says N Korea ties 'survived' tempests'

REUTERS, SEOUL

China, pushed again by Washington to bring North Korea to heel after last week's artillery attack on the South, told Pyongyang their relationship had withstood international "tempests."

On Wednesday, South Korea's spy chief said it was highly likely the isolated North would attack its wealthy neighbor again. Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff, said last week's bombardment threatened the stability of the region, home to three of Asia's biggest economies.

China has refused to blame its ally for shelling the South Korean island of Yeonpyeong, which destroyed dozens of houses and killed four people, or for the sinking of a South Korean naval vessel in March.

"The traditional friendship of China and North Korea has withstood the tests of international tempests and changes and replenished itself over time," Wu Bangguo, China's chief legislator, told a visiting North Korean delegation, China's main official newspaper, the People's Daily, reported yesterday.

None of Wu's published remarks mentioned the recent confrontation between North and South Korea, or the long-running dispute over North Korea's nuclear activities.



Pigeons huddle together in the snow at St James's Park in central London yesterday. Airports were shut, trains were stranded and roads were closed in Britain amid a week-long freeze that has sparked questions about why the country grinds to a halt when snow falls.

## Britain gave US 'exception' on cluster bombs: WikiLeaks

AFP, London

Britain offered the United States a deal to keep stocks of cluster bombs on its territory despite London signing up to an international ban on the weapons, a US cable leaked by WikiLeaks said yesterday.

The diplomatic note dated May 2009 also reveals the two powers agreed to keep

the deal quiet to avoid "complicating" a debate over the ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions (CCM) in the British parliament.

The United States has refused to sign up to the convention, which was prompted by concerns of the impact of the bombs on civilians. It came into force on August 1 this year.

The leaked cable says ministers urged

the United States to move out all their stockpiles by a deadline of 2013.

But it said: "In answer to queries about the case-by-case temporary storage exception for specific missions... (Foreign Office officials) confirmed that the concept was accepted at highest levels of the government, as that idea has been included in the draft letter from Minister Miliband to Secretary Clinton."

## Climate talks hit bump as Lula expects no result

AFP, Cancun



World climate talks struck a sour note on their third day Wednesday as Japan was accused of weakening the campaign for a post-2012 treaty by retreating from the landmark Kyoto Protocol.

With negotiators labouring to unblock a complex, interlinked two-track process, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva meanwhile predicted the 12-day meeting "won't result in anything."

"No big leader is going, only environment ministers at best. We don't even know if foreign ministers are going. So there won't be any progress," Lula, who himself decided not to travel to Mexico, told reporters in Brasilia.

Green groups reacted with concern after Japan on Monday spelt out its opposition to renewing pledges under the Kyoto Protocol, the cornerstone UN pact on global warming.

It said it did not plan to renew its carbon-cutting pledges when Kyoto's current roster of promises expire at the end of 2012.

In an argument it has repeated over nearly a year, Japan says Kyoto's targeted carbon constraints are unfair and ineffective in the present arrangements for tackling global warming.

They only apply to rich countries, but not the United States, which abandoned the treaty in 2001, nor to China, the world's No. 1 polluter, which is a developing country. As a result, only 30 per cent of planet-wide emissions of greenhouse gases are covered.

"With this position, Japan isolates itself from the rest of the world. Even worse, this step undermines the ongoing talks and is a serious threat to the progress needed here in Cancun," said Yuri Onodera of Friends of the Earth Japan.

## Israeli forest fire kills 40

BBC ONLINE

About 40 people have been killed by a forest fire that is raging out of control in the Carmel Mountains near the northern Israeli city of Haifa, the ambulance service says.

Police are evacuating thousands of people, including hundreds of prison inmates.

There were reports that a bus carrying 50 people was trapped in the inferno after overturning.

Scores of people have been injured, the ambulance service said.

Police spokesman Micky Rosenfeld told the BBC that "thousands of acres" have been burnt.

"But at the moment we're dealing with a more major incident with a bus that is in fact trapped in one of the areas and what we know is that the bus overturned," Mr Rosenfeld said.

"At the moment emergency services are dealing with a lot of injuries that have taken place in that area."

There were media reports that many of the casualties had been passengers on the overturned bus; other reports said the bus had carried inmates from Damon Prison, which mostly holds Palestinian inmates.

None of these reports could immediately be verified.

Hundreds of firefighters are battling the flames on the ground and from the air amid heavy winds.

Officials have told the Jerusalem Post that firefighters have been unable to control the flames. The cause of the blaze is unknown.

## YESTERDAY'S KEY LEAKS

A mysterious blackout that hit Brazil last year, shaking the country's image ahead of the 2016 Olympics, was probably not an attack but it did highlight grid and security weaknesses.

Russian associates of alleged arms dealer Viktor Bout tried to block his extradition to America by bribing a key witness in the case.

Spanish prosecutor Jose Gonzalez told US officials that "he considers ... Russia to be a virtual 'mafia state'" where "one cannot differentiate between the activities of the government and organised crime groups."

Russian military leaders remain guarded in talks with their US counterparts and defense cooperation has not progressed much since the end of the Cold War.

French President Nicolas Sarkozy called Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov a "liar" during negotiations with Moscow following the August 2008 conflict with Georgia.

A senior US diplomat believed Russian Prime Minister Vladimir Putin likely knew about a plot to kill dissident Alexander Litvinenko.

French officials advised their US counterparts that the best way to secure the release of its citizens held in Iran was to "make a noise".

The United States questioned if Sri Lanka would thoroughly probe war crimes allegations as the accusations involve President Mahinda Rajapakse and other top leaders.

## Indian media stars caught up in graft scandal

AFP, New Delhi

India's feisty media claim to be guardians of national democracy, but a scandal involving high-profile journalists and telephone taps has given the country its own WikiLeaks-style controversy.

At the centre of the storm is India's best-known television journalist, Barkha Dutt, who is accused of acting as a power broker in negotiations involving big business and the government over allocation of cabinet seats.

Tapes recorded by the police have emerged as part of a major row over the cut-rate sale of mobile phone licences in 2007-2008 which is estimated to have cost the treasury as much as 40 billion dollars in lost revenues.

Transcripts of the 104 tapes, many of which have been printed by two news magazines, have brought question marks over the reputations of Dutt, veteran newspaper columnist Vir Sanghvi and other big media names.

The tapes are a treasure trove for close followers of New Delhi's interwoven media, business and political scenes.

A number of them, which record the conversations of about 30 journalists, date back to 2009 when the re-elected Congress party was patching together its current coalition government.

Dutt and Sanghvi are heard in separate conversations discussing who should be in the cabinet with influential lobbyist Niira Radia, who was pushing for A. Raja, a south Indian regional politician, to be reinstated as a minister.

## US initiates security crackdown

REUTERS, Washington

The White House has set up a special committee to assess the damage from the flood of classified cables leaked by WikiLeaks and organise efforts to tighten security measures in government agencies.

White House officials said President Barack Obama's national security staff had created an interagency panel to coordinate the response to the leaks and come up with new ways to keep classified documents secret.

The State Department cables, which follow similar document leaks by the WikiLeaks on the Iraq and Afghan wars, cast a glaring, and sometimes embarrassing light on the inner workings of U.S. diplomacy when they were leaked in the last few days.

This prompted concern that, under procedures developed after the September 11 attacks to share intelligence more widely, too much sensitive data was being made available, including to relatively low-level U.S. military analysts.

We seek a world of hope, tolerance, & social justice, where poverty has been overcome and people live in dignity & security

**Care** CARE Bangladesh invites applications for the following position for its **HR Department**; based in Dhaka. The duration of the proposed contract will be **5 years**.

**HR Director (01 Position)**

Further details of the position and instructions for the candidates wishing to apply are available on CARE Bangladesh's website at [www.carebangladesh.org](http://www.carebangladesh.org); last date of application submission is **December 11, 2010**.

Note:  Women are particularly encouraged to apply,  Any persuasion will disqualify the candidates.  Internal and external applicants shall be treated equally in the entire selection process,  Applicants who have relatives in CARE must mention it in the application form  Please write the position name at the top of the envelope.

## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (Re-Advertisement)

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of **Senior Manager, Recruitment** with the Human Resources under Executive Director's Division. The appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 2 years, which may be extended for a further period depending on satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

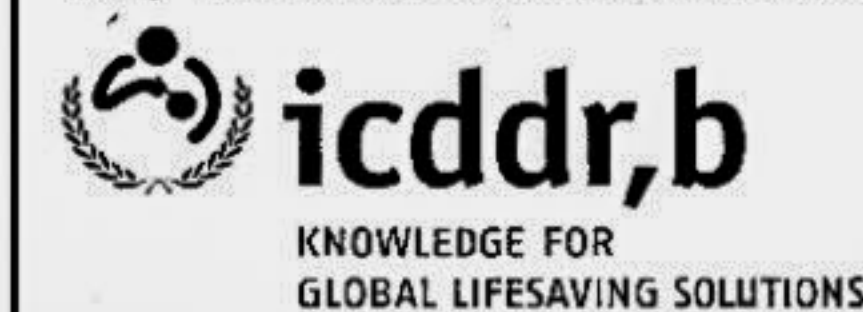
Duty Station - Dhaka.

Salary - Annual Tk.1,231,944/- inclusive of HR rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

Benefits/facilities - 14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, children allowance @Tk.1,420/- per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized transport, canteen and daycare facilities.

For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org). Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an **online application** by **December 18, 2010**.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of **Research Investigator (2 positions)** with the Programme on Infectious Diseases and Vaccine Sciences under the Health Systems and Infectious Diseases Division. The appointment will be made on a fixed term basis for 1 year, but we expect that successful investigators will be reappointed for a longer duration.

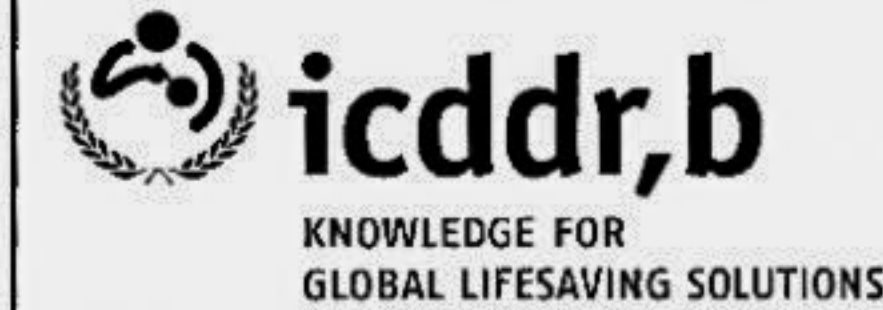
Duty Station - Dhaka, though the investigators will spend up to 30% of their time in the community overseeing the study implementation.

Salary - Annual Tk.660,060/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits.

Benefits/facilities - 14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, children allowance @Tk.1,420/= per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and subsidized transport, canteen, daycare facilities.

For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: [www.icddr.org](http://www.icddr.org). Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an **online application** by **December 19, 2010**.

Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.



IWM is established by the Govt. under the Trust Act to work as a Centre of Excellence in the field of water modelling, computational hydraulics and allied sciences.

## Invitation for Tenders

Installation of Production Well at Deeper Aquifer and Aquifer Test of the Newly Installed production Well in Godagari/Sapahar/Patnola under Rajshahi and Naogaon Districts.

Tender Notice Number: (A) 50815/1/715, (B) 50815/2/716

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from eligible Tenderers as defined in the tender documents for under mentioned works as per terms and conditions stated below and in tender documents:

1. Agency	Institute of Water Modelling (IWM)
2. Invitation for	Tenders are invited for the following works: (A) Installation of 01 (One) Production Well including gravel pack at Deeper Aquifer depth 244m-320m in High Barind area at Godagari / Sapahar / Patnola upazilas under Rajshahi & Naogaon Districts. Capacity of the Production Well should be around 56 L/S. (B) Conducting 01 (One) Nos. Aquifer test using the Installed of Production Well and installation and development of 03 (three) Observation Wells of depth 244m-320m in Godagari / Sapahar / Patnola under Rajshahi & Naogaon Districts.
3. Invitation Ref. No.	IWM/P-50815/ 715 & 716
4. Date	3/12 / 2010
5. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method
6. Budget and Source of Funds	Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA)
7. Project/Programme Name	Groundwater Resource Studies for Barind Integrated Area Development Project- Phase III
8. Tender Publication Date	03.12.2010
9. Tender Selling Start Date	05/12 / 2010
10. Tender Last Selling Date	15/12 / 2010 during office hours
11. Tender Closing Date & Time	06/01 / 2011 at 12:00 pm
12. Tender Opening Date & Time	06/01 / 2011 at 3:00 pm
13. Name & Address of the Offices:	Institute of Water Modelling, House#496, Road #32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka
a) Selling Tender Document	Assistant Manager (Admin), Institute of Water Modelling, House 496, Road 32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka
b) Receiving Tender Document	Same as above
c) Opening Tender Document	Same as above
14. Eligibility of Tenderer	(A) The Tenderer shall have proven experience of A) conducting at least 20 nos. of production well at deeper Aquifer at a depth of above 280m by Reserve/Direct Circulation Method and for B) Conducting at least 10 aquifer tests over the period of last 5 years.
15. Name of Tender	Price of Tender Document
A) Installation of Production Well at Deeper Aquifer	(Tk.)1,500/-
B) Aquifer Test & Installation of Observation Well	(for each work)
	2.5% of quoted rate (for each work)
	A) 90 days B) 90 days
16. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Dr. AFM Afzal Hossain, PEng
17. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	Director, Irrigation Management Division, IWM, Dhaka.
18. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Institute of Water Modelling, House 496, Road 32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206.
19. Contact details of Official Inviting Tender	Telephone: 8822105-6, 8824590-1; Fax: 8827901

Quoted cost should be valid for a period of 180 days and be accompanied by (i) tender security specified above, (ii) experience certificate on relevant works (iii) Bank transaction certificate (statement should be of within 28 days from the tender submission date). In case of qualified Govt. organizations item (i) and item (ii) may be relaxed. Tenderer can quote any of the above 2 items separately. Other terms and condition will be provided in schedule. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever. Interested tenderer may purchase the tender documents in cash from the place mentioned below. The tenderer or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders.

Assistant Manager (Admin), Institute of Water Modelling  
House # 496, Road # 32, New DOHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1206, Tel: 8822105-6/ Extn. 114; Fax: 8827901