# INTERNATIONAL

#### Obama calls leaders, slams 'deplorable' WikiLeaks

AFP, Washington

US President Barack Obama called Turkey's prime minister and Mexico's president on Saturday to discuss the "deplorable action" by WikiLeaks, and said the cable releases should not harm bilateral ties.

"The president expressed his regrets for the deplorable action by WikiLeaks and the two leaders agreed that it will not influence or disrupt the close cooperation between the United States and Turkey," the White House said, referring to Obama's call with Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

Obama also telephoned his Mexican counterpart Felipe Calderon, and the pair "agreed (WikiLeaks') irresponsible acts should not distract our two countries from our important cooperation," according to a readout of the call.

Turkey in particular has been in the spotlight in the wake of the documents dump, which included 7,918 cables from the US embassy in Ankara, the post with the most cables in the leaked stash.

#### US 'tried to stop missile delivery to Venezuela'

REUTERS, Washington

The United States tried to stop delivery of Russian antiaircraft missiles to Venezuela in 2009 amid concerns it could pass them on to Marxist guerrillas in Colombia or Mexican drug gangs, The Washington Post said yesterday, citing diplomatic cables from WikiLeaks.

Venezuela, where President Hugo Chavez heads a strongly anti-American government, received at least 1,800 of the SA-24 shoulder-fired missiles from Russia, the Post said, citing UN arms control data.

Secret US cables said Washington was concerned about the acquisition by Caracas of Russian arms, including attack helicopters, Sukhoi fighter jets and 100,000 Kalashnikov rifles, the newspaper reported.

It quoted a US State Department cable on Aug. 10, 2009 to embassies in Europe and South America as saying Russian arms sales to Venezuela totalled "over \$5 billion last year and growing." Concern about Spanish plans to sell aircraft and patrol boats to Venezuela were also cited in the cable.

Russia reported to the UN Register of Conventional Arms earlier this year the purchase totalled 1,800 missiles, the Post said. US Air Force General Douglas Fraser said publicly this year Venezuela could be buying as many as 2,400 of the missiles, the newspaper said.



Supporters of WikiLeaks demonstrate in Amsterdam, on Saturday. The sign on the left reads: "Can the world work without leaking, without Wikileaks?", the sign in the centre: "Julian's place is not a jail cell. Wikileaks keep on!"

### Singapore's Asian allies 'corrupt, incompetent'

AFP, Singapore

Singaporean diplomats think the leaders of some close Asian allies including neighbouring Malaysia are corrupt, incompetent or stupid, cables from WikiLeaks revealed yesterday.

Confidential diplomatic notes given by the whistle-blower website to Australia's Fairfax media group contained unflattering assessments of key figures in Malaysia, Thailand, India and Japan.

"A lack of competent leadership is a real problem for Malaysia," permanent secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bilahari Kausikan, reportedly told US Deputy Secretary of Defence for East Asia David Sedney.

As a result, "the situation in neighbouring Malaysia is confused and dangerous" and there is a "distinct possibility of racial conflict", according to the cable dated September 2008.

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

SUPPLY OF POST WELD HEAT TREATMENT MACHINE

KAFCO - Karnaphuli Fertilizer Co. Ltd., an international joint

venture process industry producing Anhydrous Ammonia and

Urea Fertilizer located near the Chittagong seaport in

intends to procure the following item on FOB or CFR

Chittagong basis including commissioning, performance testing

One set of Post Weld Heat Treatment Machine with Temperature

6 point temperature control panel or 6 independent output

Primary Input: Maximum 63 A (preferable), 400 V, 3Ph 3 wire

· Application: Pipe and circumferential welds, area heating of a

Technical proposals are hereby invited from the eligible

manufacturers or their distributors (home or abroad). Tender

Documents for Technical Proposal will be forwarded to the

interested bidders upon receipt of their request on a company

letterhead addressed to the General Manager, Procurement by

courier or facsimile at +880-31-610512 or +880-31-619081 or

<Mahbub.Alam@Kafcobd.com> or <Marouf.Khan@Kafcobd.com>

on/before 27 December 2010. Distributors must submit the

Commercial proposals will be invited only from the technically

qualified bidders. Required conditions for eligibility are stipulated

in the Tender Documents. KAFCO reserves the right to accept

or reject any or all Tenders without assigning any reason

appointment letter of the manufacturer with the request.

and training under two stage bidding process for its plant.

Operating temperature range: 0 to 1000 deg C

Preferred Origin: Japan, Germany, UK or USA.

Ref: 3100006.6600000000

Bangladesh.

Recorder.

Core Specification:

[without neutral] 50 Hz.

Control system: Fully Automatic

vessel, heat exchanger tube sheet etc.

connections.

whatsoever.

Such conflict would see ethnic Chinese flee

Malaysia and "overwhelm" Singapore, Bilahari was quoted as saying.

Another official, Peter Ho, reportedly described Malaysian Prime Minister Najib Razak as "an opportunist" who "would not hesitate" to be critical of Singapore if "it is expedient for him to do so."

Bilahari was also reportedly critical of the Thai government, labelling fugitive former premier Thaksin Shinawatra "corrupt" along with "everyone else, including the opposition".

In a 2009 memo, Singapore's ambassadorat-large Tommy Koh -- known for being mildmannered and eloquent in public -- was uncharacteristically blunt in his assessment of regional heavyweights Japan and India, the documents reveal.

"Koh described Japan as 'the big fat loser' in the context of improving ties between China and ASEAN," a leaked cable detailing a meeting between him and US officials stated.



Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim gestures while sitting with his wife Wan Azizah Ismail in Kuala Lumpur on August 9, 2010. Singapore leaders believe Ibrahim had sex with a male aide in a honey trap set by his enemies, according to US cables leaked yesterday.

Date: 13 December 2010

#### US 'aware of' Kenyan arms shipments

**BBC ONLINE** 

The US government has been aware of Kenyan arms shipments to Southern Sudan for years, the latest diplomatic cables released byWikileaksreveal.

The cables show that US diplomats under President Barack Obama asked Kenya to stop the shipments in 2009.

Kenyan officials reacted with anger because the government of President George W Bush had not objected to their support for Southern Sudan.

Wikileaks has so far released more than 1,100 of 251,000 secret US cables.

Many of the cables from the US embassy in Nairobi describe conversations about the Kenya-bound freight ship Faina that was seized by Somali pirates in the Gulf of Aden in September 2008.

The Ukrainian vessel, released after five months for a \$3.2m ransom was packed with weapons, including more than 30 tanks.

The Kenyan government publicly rejected accusations that the load on the Faina was an arms shipment for Southern Sudan's army, the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). However, cables published

by the New York Times show that US officials knew that the arms on the Faina were originally heading for Southern Sudan and were aware of Kenya's engagement in Southern Sudan.

#### Symbolic start to drive

Cable Operators' Association of Bangladesh (Coab).

however, managed to reconnect their cables through alternative routes in the evening, which made the situa-

Akhtaruzzaman Manju, president of Internet Service Providers' Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB), said several thousand users received poor Internet ser-

The city power authorities called the drive "symbolic" and said it is a message to the cable operators so they voluntarily remove their cables from the main roads from Uttara to Shahbagh via Jahangir Gate.

"We removed cables from in front of the Wasa Bhaban in Karwan Bazar," said Shahjahan Mia, general manager (Engineering and System Control) of Dhaka Electric

authorities -- Dhaka Power Division Company (DPDC) and Desco-- will hold a meeting today with the city municipal authorities, cable operators and ISPs to formulate a plan on how overhead cables can be removed

"Any cables hanging on the roadside poles after December 16 will be removed by DPDC and Desco the following day," says a written

Enamul Haque, state minister for power; Mohammad Abul Kalam Azad; secretary of the power ministry, and representa-

tives from Coab and ISPAB were present during yesterday's drive, Desco officials said.

During the inauguration of the drive, Towfiq-e-Elahi Chowdhury, energy adviser to the prime minister, urged the city dwellers to have patience while dealing with possible disruption to their Internet and cable TV services.

"There may be some problems during the introduction of new system. You should patiently wait for the result of the new system," he said.

DPDC and Desco planned to move the city's Internet and cable TV services underground, and in the first phase of implementing the plan, a drive has been launched to remove all unsightly overhead television and Internet cables from the thoroughfares from Uttara to Shahbagh.

Coab leaders complained that the underground optical fibre network is designed to provide technological support for ISPs and telecommunication companies but not for cable operators.

They said a letter will be sent to the energy secretary tomorrow demanding a solution to this problem.

Two Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network (NTTN) corporations, Fiber @ Home Ltd and Summit Communications Ltd, are responsible for establishing and managing the underground optical fibre network. , Fiber @ Home Ltd and Summit Communications Ltd, are responsible for estab-

## Kosovo holds historic polls

**BBC ONLINE** 

Kosovo is holding its first parliamentary election since unilaterally declaring independence from Serbia almost three years ago. The ethnic Albanian majority and small Serb minority

remain largely estranged, more than a decade after a Nato-led conflict broke Belgrade's control. Serbia has not recognised Kosovo's independence and most

Serbs are expected to boycott the elections. The EU says the election is important for Kosovo's hopes of

During the campaign, institutionalised corruption and the

dire state of Kosovo's economy have consistently topped lists of voter concerns. Opinion polls have suggested that the Democratic Party of

Kosovo (PDK) of the outgoing Prime Minister, Hashim Thaci, is in the lead but is unlikely to win an outright majority. Its former junior coalition partner, the Democratic League of

Kosovo (LDK), is mounting a strong challenge. Polls were due to close at 1900 (1700 GMT) yesterday. An early election had to be called after the LDK pulled out of

Mr Thaci's government in October in a row over its then leader, Fatmir Sejdiu, who was also Kosovo's president. After Mr Sejdiu stepped down as president, he was ousted

from the LDK leadership by the mayor of Pristina, Isa Mustafa. Another party, the Alliance for the Future of Kosovo, has been weakened because its leader, former rebel Ramush Haradinaj, is

being retried by the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague. Among Kosovo's most daunting challenges are an unemployment rate of 45% - even higher among young people - and one of and Western governments as the weakest economies in Europe.

#### Suu Kyi to 'persevere' for dialogue with junta

AFP, Tokyo

Myanmar's democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi has vowed to remain patient in seeking dialogue with military rulers following last month's controversial poll that has kept them in power.

"I think the credibility of the government does not depend on statistics. It depends on the will of the people. It depends on the genuine support of the people," she said in a recent interview with Japan's public network NHK broadcast yesterday.

"And we have to wait to find out how genuine that is."

The democracy icon has spent most of the past 20 years locked up but was freed from her latest seven-year stretch of confinement on November 13.

She was under house arrest during the November 7 election, Myanmar's first in two decades, that was widely criticised by democracy activists anything but free and fair.

## Sugarcane sale

FROM PAGE 16

The prime minister opened the programme through sending SMS by mobile phone to 40 sugarcane growers.

She talked to the sugarcane growers through online video chat in Natore from her office.

From now on, some 2.5 lakh growers across the country will no more depend on middlemen to sell their sugarcane to the mills and they will get fair price as none will get chance to do corruption.

Under the new e-purji system, the growers will be issued permits through SMS while the information on bills will also be sent to the growers through

"From now on, the farmers will get the purji within seconds," the prime minister said. Regarding the investment in

small and medium industries, Hasina said Bangladesh is still an agriculture-based country. "So investment in larger volume is a must for sustainable development," she said.

The prime minister directed the authorities concerned to introduce multi-purpose economic activities of the stateowned sugar mills to save these from getting ruined.

Hasina also requested the researchers to produce seeds of sugarcane which will produce

sugar of higher quantity and quality.

Besides, she said the government has taken initiative to setting up two sugar refineries, second distillery and compost fertiliser factory at Keru and Company.

Industries Minister Dilip Barua, A2I programme's project director Nazrul Islam Khan, UNDP's Resident Representative in Dhaka Stefan Priesner, Chairman of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation Ranjit Kumar Biswas and sugarcane growers' representative Akram Hossain Miah also addressed the function.



#### **Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited ADC Division**

Peoples Insurance Bhaban (18<sup>th</sup> Floor) 36 Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka, Web: www.dbbl.com.bd

### Tender Notice

Sealed tenders are hereby invited in two envelope system from authorized developers /business partners for supply, installation and commissioning of an ATM Monitoring Software for Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited.

The tender schedule with detailed specifications and terms &

conditions will be available from the ADC Division of the Bank during the office hours from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. up to December 29, 2010.

Sealed The quotations have to be submitted in the Tender Box at the ADC Division on or before the December 30 by 4:00 p.m. and will be opened on the same date at 4:10 p.m. in presence of the bidders or their authorized representatives, if any. The technical and financial evaluation of the offers will be made later on.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the offers, in part or full without assigning any reason.

**Head of ADC** 



#### ন্যাশনাল াঢডবস লোমটেড (বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশনের একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান)

১৩১-১৪২ টংগী শিল্প এলাকা টংগী, গাজীপুর-১৭১০। আদমজী পাইপ নামে খ্যাত এনটিএলের জিআই/এমএস/এপিআই পাইপ

ব্যবহার করুন যা দীর্ঘস্থায়ী, পুনঃ ব্যবহারযোগ্য, নির্ভরযোগ্য ও নিরাপদ।

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### টেভার বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক, **ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড,** টংগী, গাজীপুর কর্তৃক নিম্নেবর্ণিত দ্রব্যসামগ্রী সরবরাহকারীর নিজ দায়িত্বে ও খরচে অত্র কারখানার ভাভারে সরবরাহের জন্য প্রকৃত সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট হইতে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাইতেছে ঃ

कः नः	টেভার নং ও তারিখ	দ্রব্যের নাম ও বিবরণ	আর্পেষ্ট মানি (ফেরৎযোগ্য)	টেভার দলিলের মূল্য (অক্ষেরতযোগ্য)	টেভার খোলার তারিখ ও সময়
(د	বাণিজ্য (স্থাঃ ক্রয়)- ০৯/১০-১১/ তাং- ১২-১২-২০১০	বাৎসরিক ইউনিফর্মের কাপড়, শাড়ী ইত্যাদি।	টাঃ ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার)	টাঃ ২০০/- (দুইশত) মাত্র।	২৭-১২-১০ ভারিবে সকাল ১১-১৫ ঘটিকায় টেভার বাব্র বন্ধ হইবে এবং একই ভারিখে সকাল ১১-৩০ ঘটিকায় খোলা হইবে।
ર)	বাণিজ্য (স্থাঃ ক্রয়)- ১০/১০-১১/ তাং- ১২-১২-২০১০	বাৎসরিক ইউনিফর্ম সংশ্লিষ্ট চামড়ার জুতা, গরম কাপড় ইত্যাদি।	টাঃ ৬,০০০/- (ছয় হাজার)	টাঃ ২০০/- (দুইশত) মাত্র।	

টেভার সিডিউল নির্ধারিত মূল্য পরিশোধ সাপেক্ষে অফিস চলাকালীন সময়ে হিসাব বিভাগীয় প্রধান, ন্যাশনাল টিউবস লিমিটেড, টংগী শিল্প এলাকা, গাজীপুর এবং হিসাব নিয়ন্ত্রক, বাংলাদেশ ইস্পাত ও প্রকৌশল করপোরেশন, বিএসইসি ভবন, ১০২, কাজী নজকুল ইসলাম এভিনিউ, ঢাকা-১২১৫ হইতে পাওয়া যাইবে। অনিবার্য কারণ বশতঃ টেভার খোলার দিন অফিস ছুটি / বন্ধ থাকিলে পরবর্তী কার্যদিবসে একই সময়ে উভয় স্থানে টেভার গ্রহণ ও খোলা হইবে। টেভার খোলার দিন কোন দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয় করা হইবে না।

> (ডঃ মোঃ আমিরুল মমিন) অতিঃ প্রঃ প্রকৌশলী (বাণিজ্য) ফোন নং ৯৮০২৭৩৭

General Manager, Procurement Karnaphuli Fertilizer Co. Ltd. Rangadia, Anowara Chittagong, Bangladesh

Md. Mahbub-Ul-Alam

#### FROM PAGE 16 yesterday, said SM Anwar Parvez, former president of

Some cable operators,

tion somewhat better, he said. About Internet services,

vices because of the drive.

Supply Company Ltd (Desco).

He said the two power in the most efficient way.

statement by the power minis-

lishing and managing the

underground optical fibre network.