

FLOODS IN SRI LANKA

Near a million forced out of home

AFP, Colombo

Flooding in Sri Lanka has forced more than one million people out of their homes, the government said yesterday as it began distributing emergency food, clothing and bedding.

At least 23 people have died during a week of monsoon floods, with the centre and east of the island worst hit by rising water levels and mudslides.

A spokesman for the disaster management centre in Colombo said the eastern district of Batticaloa, which saw bloody fighting in the civil war that ended in 2009, was badly affected after heavier than usual seasonal rains.

"Some 541,000 people have been displaced in Batticaloa district alone where we have set up 275 camps to accommodate

them," the spokesman said, adding that a total of 1,081,000 people have been displaced.

More than 350,000 people have taken shelter in state-run relief camps while other displaced people have moved to higher ground, often staying with friends or relatives, he said.

Many homes which were devastated by the December 2004 tsunami were affected by floods.

Rising water and continued rain have swamped vast tracks of land and cut off villages, television pictures showed.

President Mahinda Rajapakse said in remarks published in the state-run Daily News that it was "the duty of all to join hands and help them (the victims) at this hour of need without any discrimination or petty considerations."

Ouattara denies charges of clashes

AFP, Abidjan

The government of Ivory Coast's internationally recognised president yesterday rejected strongman rival Laurent Gbagbo's charges that his camp was behind deadly unrest in parts of Abidjan.

"We reject these accusations," Alassane Ouattara's government spokesman Patrick Achi said after army chief of staff General Philippe Mangou accused his camp of orchestrating attacks on Gbagbo's Defence and Security Forces (FDS).

"It's the security forces who once more have sought to provoke the peaceful population. We will not respond to these provocations," Achi told AFP.

Nepal's speaker urges end to leadership crisis

AFP, Kathmandu

The speaker of Nepal's parliament yesterday urged lawmakers to find a way to end a political deadlock that has left the country without a government for more than six months.

Subash Chandra Nemwang said a parliamentary committee had been formed to look at how the house failed to elect a new leader last year despite 16 attempts, and recommend ways to break the stalemate.

The committee will make its recommendations next week, paving the way for a fresh attempt to form a government, he said.

Nepal has been without a government since June when former prime minister Madhav Kumar Nepal stood down under pressure from the opposition Maoist party.

Leaders of the troubled country's three biggest parties stood for election to succeed him, but none managed to win the necessary absolute majority in parliament in any of the 16 votes held.

On Wednesday the only remaining candidate, Ram Chandra Poudel of the centrist Nepali Congress party, withdrew from the race.

LATEST leaks

US cable predicted Vietnam PM to keep job

AFP, Hanoi

Vietnam's prime minister Nguyen Tan Dung was likely to be handed a second term despite criticism of his leadership, according to a leaked US diplomatic memo published by a British newspaper.

The cable, published on Wednesday, appeared to be written in late 2009 -- well before a five-yearly communist Congress which also began to decide the country's top leaders, including the prime minister.

"Most contacts suggest that Dung remains well positioned to remain prime minister; indeed, this may have been his goal all along," according to the cable, obtained by the Guardian from the WikiLeaks whistleblower website.

"Though stung by criticism, the prime minister has developed an unprecedented tight hold over the state bureaucracy," it said, in line with more recent observers who also expect Dung to keep his post.

He "retains strong backing" from the defence and security ministries, which has "likely only been reinforced during the most recent crackdown on political dissent," added the memo, referring to a wave of arrests of opponents.

The prime minister reportedly faced criticism over his early advocacy for Chinese investment in bauxite projects and "for his government's poor performance on corruption, education, and healthcare," said the cable.

"Ultimately, Dung's biggest weakness is the simple fact that his power base derives from efforts to strengthen the government/state, according to contacts," it added.

It suggested Dung's efforts to consolidate power in the government have reportedly "alienated

Obama to welcome Pakistan president

AFP, Washington

US President Barack Obama will today welcome Pakistani President Asif Ali Zardari to the White House for talks on ties between the uneasy war partners, spokesman Robert Gibbs said.

Zardari was heading to Washington to take part in a memorial service for Richard Holbrooke, the US special envoy for Afghanistan and Pakistan who died last month at age 69.

The meeting comes just after Vice President Joe Biden paid a visit to Pakistan, which has been a key but complicated partner in the US-led campaign against Islamic extremism.



PHOTO: AFP

Indian supporters of the Gorkha People's Liberation Front shout slogans as they burn an effigy of Urban and Rural development minister of West Bengal Ashok Bhattacharya, as part of a protest on the outskirts of Siliguri yesterday on the second day of its 27-day long strike. Normal life in Darjeeling, Kalimpong, Mirik and the nearby hills came to a grinding halt as GJM and supporters protest for a separate state within India named Gorkhaland.

Violence continues despite curfew in Tunisia

AFP, Tunis

Eight protesters were killed in overnight clashes with security forces around the Tunisian capital, a rights group said yesterday, taking its death toll in weeks of mounting unrest to 66.

Several hundred demonstrators tried to march in the city again yesterday, after the lifting of a dusk-to-dawn curfew, but were dispersed when security forces fired tear gas, AFP reporters said.

The overnight clashes broke out in defiance of the curfew with troops deployed into the capital as the authoritarian regime struggled to deal with the worst unrest in the country in more than 20 years.

Senior Finance Officer

The ADB-Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM) was established to assist its Headquarters in the implementation of projects and programs, in project processing, country programming, and economic and sector work. It also coordinates ADB's activities with other resident diplomatic and donor missions, NGOs, academic institutions, local think tanks, private sector and other members of the civil society.

Description of Responsibilities

To perform a full range of financial, accounting and treasury functions for the smooth operation of the Resident Mission.

For more details about the position, visit www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp

Reporting Arrangement

The position reports to the Country Director

Selection Criteria

Specific criteria include

- professional accounting qualification (Chartered Accountant or equivalent);
- Master's degree in finance, accounting, or business would be advantageous
- at least 5 years of professional experience in financial management and analysis including accounting and auditing systems and budgeting and budgetary control

- an understanding of ADB's guidelines and provisions on various finance, accounting and auditing issues
- effective report writing and communication skills
- proficiency with financial spreadsheet programs and word processing software; good knowledge of information technology is preferred
- has the commitment to achieve results
- able to liaise and work effectively with clients
- able to act as a mentor; provide guidance on projects and processing of loans/technical assistance
- able to work collaboratively with teams as a constructive team member
- able to act as a coach to develop the capabilities/potential of more junior colleagues

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from over 50 member countries. The advertised position is a local staff position with a local remuneration package. It is open only to persons who are nationals and residents of Bangladesh. The position is for a 3-year fixed term appointment. ADB offers a competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for the Bangladesh Resident Mission, ADB staff may be required to serve in any location outside the Resident Mission at the discretion of Management.

To apply, visit <http://www.adb.org/Employment/Local/default.asp>. Deadline for applications is on 28 January 2011.

Vacancy Reference Number: ADB-HR-11-0048.

Asian Development Bank
FIGHTING POVERTY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC



CAREER OPPORTUNITY

An international humanitarian organization invites applications from suitable candidates for the following positions:

National Coordinator - Knowledge Management:

The purpose of the position is to help champion organization-wide knowledge sharing, so that the organization's know-how, information and experience is shared inside and (as appropriate) outside the organization with communities, partners, and other relevant stakeholders. This position actively network, coordinate and collaborate at national and divisional level with GoB/DPs (Development Partners)/national/international NGOs/institutions and disseminate updated information to projects on latest developments and practices in the assigned sector. It facilitates national strategy formulation and develops guidelines and processes to projects for its alignment with development programs and special projects thus contributing to the well being of children, families and communities.

Bachelor degree in Social Sciences or other relevant field. At least 3 years experience in Program Management/ Sector Coordination in an international organization preferably in NGO context. Competent in Ms. Word, Excel and PowerPoint. Understanding of Humanitarian industry, knowledge management & development standards is essential. Expertise in Gender and child rights program. Understanding of poverty and development is preferable. Training and facilitation, Strong written and oral communication skills, Critical thinking, Creative and innovative thinking skills are required. Proven experience as a team player. Work involves need-based field visit - 40% visit to Regional offices and Projects in pro-multiethnic/multicultural/multi-religious environment. The position is based in its National Office, in Dhaka.

Monitoring and Evaluation Officer:

The purpose of this position is to collect, process, maintain and manage program related data and produce information for effective program intervention and tracking of targets. Specific responsibilities include designing M&E systems and processes in projects, facilitating data collection techniques, providing technical support in conducting quantitative and qualitative surveys and assessments, data analysis and using monitoring tools for different socio-economic indicators. Candidate must be a graduate with 2 years experience in the field of community development. He/she should have strong analytical and written communication skills both in English and Bangla. Working knowledge of Microsoft Office is essential. The position is based in district/upazila level.

Project Officer: Health / Health Program Specialist-Doctor:

The purpose of this position is to implement and monitor health programs and provide health services in projects. Candidate must possess MBBS with at least 2 years experience in health care management. Postgraduate in public health will be an added advantage. The position is based in district/upazila level.

Health Programs Organizer-(Nurses / Paramedics):

The purpose of this position is to facilitate and implement the process of primary health care related interventions in development projects with active participation and ownership of community. Candidate must be diploma in nursing/paramedics with 2 years work experience. He/She should possess excellent interpersonal and communication skills. Must have the ability to train and develop the community. The position is based in district/upazila level.

- Salary for the positions commensurate with qualification and experience.
- Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.
- Please mention the position applied for at the top of the envelope.
- Any personal persuasion will result in disqualification.
- Mention your contact number and / or e-mail address in your CV.
- Women candidates are encouraged to apply.

We have a responsibility to ensure the protection and safety of children while they are in contact with staff members. Recruitment to jobs involving regular contact with children will include specific checks and procedures in accordance with our Child Protection Policy.

Interested candidates are requested to send their applications along with CV, a recent passport size photograph and attested photocopies of academic certificates before/by January 27, 2011 to:

P.O. Box No - 9071,
Banani, Dhaka 1213,
Bangladesh.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES



University Research Co. LLC (URC) invites applications for the following positions for its USAID supported TB CARE II Bangladesh project. TB CARE II is a 5-year project to assist country programs to improve tuberculosis prevention and control.

Team Leader: The applicant must have demonstrated experience in leading and managing TB programs in Bangladesh. Must have abilities to liaise and coordinate project activities with Bangladesh Government counterparts, USAID, and local implementing partners. A medical degree is required. Post-degree work or Master's Degree in Public Health is preferred.

Program Specialist (Clinical TB): The incumbent will have overall responsibility for planning, coordinating and managing TB DOTS activities through partner organizations. A medical degree is required.

Program Specialist (MDR-TB): The candidate should have proven experience in planning and managing programs on MDR TB. Knowledge and experience in community based management of MDR TB will be an added advantage. A medical degree is required.

Program Specialist (Lab Support): Provide technical support to NTP and other implementing partners to strengthen lab facilities and services for TB control program.

Program Specialist (M&E): Take lead in planning and implementing monitoring and evaluation activities of the project.

District Support Coordinators (10 positions): Based at the district level, the incumbent will work with the district level government and NGO managers to coordinate and facilitate TB service delivery.

Finance Officer: Responsible for budgeting, accounts management, voucher examination and financial reporting.

Admin Assistant: Provide administrative and logistics support to implement project activities.

Driver (2 positions): Must have experience in working with international organizations.

Excellent proficiency in written and spoken English and computer skills are essential for all technical positions. Interested candidates are requested to forward their resume along with a cover letter by January 31, 2011 to TBCARE@urc-chs.com.

URC is proud to be an Equal Employment Opportunity employer.
We value and seek diversity in our workforce.

