

## Bhutan set for India, Pakistan meeting

AFP, New Delhi

The top diplomats of India and Pakistan are due to meet yesterday in Bhutan in the first high-level meeting between the two rival countries since July.

Indian foreign secretary Nirupama Rao and her Pakistan counterpart Salman Bashir were to hold talks on the sidelines of a South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) meeting in Thimphu, the Bhutanese capital.

India suspended a peace dialogue with Pakistan in the wake of the November 2008 Mumbai attacks, which claimed 166 lives, but the two countries last year began to explore a resumption of structured talks.



Thousands of people rallied across Pakistan yesterday to denounce Indian rule in Kashmir, the disputed Muslim-majority Himalayan state divided between the nuclear-armed rivals.

PHOTO: AFP

## Share price fall spark

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the area to a halt for more than three hours.

Vehicular movement on the road resumed at about 3:45pm after the lawenforcers dispersed the protesters.

The protesters were more focused on chanting slogans against the finance minister and the central bank governor than the market regulator or bourse authorities.

Some of them were calling for a "non-stop hartal" from today until the market rebounds to a satisfactory level.

BNP called the nationwide hartal today to press for a number of demands including withdrawal of cases filed against party chief Khaleda Zia and others over the Munshiganj clash, probe into the recent stockmarket crash and bringing the market manipulators to book.

The investors took to the streets the last time on January 20. The market nosedived 587 points in five minutes into the start of trading that day, despite having a circuit breaker to stop trading if the index dropped 225 points.

Market insiders said sale pressure began to mount from the opening bell making the retail investors jittery.

The downturn was fuelled further by margin calls, and in some cases by forced or trigger sales by the institutions that provide margin loans, a market insider said.

"The institutions called for additional funds from the investors who trade on credit, as their portfolio value came down to the lowest level. If they do not deposit additional funds against their portfolio, the institutions will have to go for a trigger sale to get the credit. Some of them have already done that," the person said, wishing anonymity.

The credit providers will be left with no alternative but to go for trigger sales unless the market bounces back. If the downturn continues, many other institutions will do that, he added.

Referring to trigger sales, Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Ziaul Haque Khondker said: "We will look into the matter and also try to find out any solution to avoid the trigger sales."

The investors looked jittery from the start on the trading floor. Panic sale quickened the slump with most sectors falling more than 5 percent. The day's turnover stood at Tk 705 crore, 4.26 percent lower than previous trading session.

Losers outnumbered gainers by 238 to 13, with four securities remaining unchanged on the DSE that traded more than 5.87 crore shares and mutual fund units.

Trading will continue tomorrow from 11:00am as usual, if enough members log in to the main server. It is mandatory that at least one third of the active members log in to begin trading.

## Get Bangla in Arabic script

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Muslim League. His successor Khwaja Nazimuddin could not lay claim to such unbridled authority. Besides, there was Prime Minister Liaquat Ali Khan, who was already making it known that power was now his to wield. As for Nazimuddin, he showed not the slightest trace of taking Pakistan to a new direction, but he did make it clear that under him Pakistan would remain firmly on the course its founder had set for it. That included the late founder's position on the language question.

Meanwhile, despite the political change in the country, the people of East Bengal showed little inclination toward softening their stance on the demand for Bangla being the state language of Pakistan. Liaquat Ali Khan visited the province over a period of ten days from November 18 to 28 1948. It is interesting that when the state language committee of action decided to present the case for Bangla before the prime minister, it authorised Golam Azam (later to collaborate with the Pakistan occupation army in 1971) to do the job. Azam at the time happened to be general secretary of Dhaka University Students Union (DUSU) and was chosen because the leaders of the

action committee felt that the president of the union, Aurobindo Basu, could not be asked to see the head of government since he was part of a religious community already under suspicion by the authorities. Golam Azam's role was thus confined to a presentation of the statement to the prime minister and no more.

On December 27 1948, Fazlur Rahman, the Bengali education minister of Pakistan, surprised everyone with his view that Bangla should be written in the Arabic script. He made his opinion known on the day at the inaugural session of the All-Pakistan conference of teachers.

The East Bengal Literary conference, the first of its kind to be organised in Pakistan and at the initiative of the health minister, Habibullah Bahar, was held on December 31 1948 and January 1 1949. The conference was quite revealing for a number of happenings and incidents that occurred during the two-day session. The most significant aspect of the conference, however, was the address delivered before the assembled delegates by the venerable scholar Dr. Shahidullah. He was unambiguous in his assertion that Bangla being a rich language qualified as a medium of instruction throughout East Bengal. He made it clear that Bangla

was the language of the people of both East and West Bengal. The highlight of his remarks came when he reminded his audience that though the people of East Bengal might be Hindus and Muslims by religious denomination, they were all Bangalis who were heir to a common cultural heritage.

Obviously, Dr. Shahidullah's forthright expression of views was not looked upon kindly by the political authorities and the adherents of Urdu.

### HC rallies

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Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain yesterday issued the rule following a report published on The Daily Star headlined "Lawful owner of river".

The report said the authorities did not evict the structures from the Buriganga in Shyampur due to a signboard, which reads that the Court of Fifth Assistant Senior Judge on May 1, 2005 issued a temporary injunction against any eviction on this land.

The deputy commissioner of Dhaka and the chairman of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority have to place the report including the survey report of the river to the court by February 13.

Advocate Manzill Murshid yesterday placed The Daily Star report before the HC bench for necessary orders.

Manzill had moved the writ petition upon which the HC delivered a verdict directing the government to remove structures from the Buriganga, Turag, Balu and Shitalakhy rivers.

He told the court that such injunction issued by the Fifth Assistant Senior Judge's Court of Dhaka is creating obstruction to implementing the SC verdict in respect of recovering the occupied areas of the Buriganga.

Manzill told The Daily Star that the matter over the signboard that contained the injunction order will be settled in the HC.

India detains 52 in pirate ship capture

APP, Mumbai

The Indian navy and coastguard captured a suspected pirate "mothership" and detained more than 50 people after a firefight yesterday off southwestern India, the defence ministry said.

"There were 52 people in all," defence ministry spokesman Captain M Nambiar told AFP but was unable to specify the numbers of suspected pirates and rescued hostages, nor could he give their nationalities.

All were found on board a Thai fishing vessel that had been hijacked up to six months ago off the coast of Somalia and is thought to have since been used as a floating base to mount attacks on shipping, a ministry statement added.

## Deal signed to supply Iran fuel to Afghanistan

Karzai to announce security transition March 21

AFP, Tehran

Iran said yesterday it has reached an agreement with Afghanistan to supply it with Iranian fuel and that it has started delivering the products to the neighbour's private sector.

Oil Minister Masoud Mirkazemi said "Afghanistan's private sector buys all its needed products from Iran," the oil ministry news service Shana reported.

"Oil products were already transited to Afghanistan and we hope from now on this country makes all its (fuel) purchases from Iran as there has been an agreement with Afghan officials," Mirkazemi said.

About one-third of Afghanistan's fuel needs, imported from Russia, Turkmenistan and Iraq, transit through Iran.

Tehran has hinted to Kabul that it suspected the transited fuel would supply US and other foreign troops fighting the insurgency in Afghanistan.

Iran, which is under international sanctions on its energy sector over its nuclear programme, has sought to increase its petrol

production capacity.

Higher prices have also reduced Iran's daily petrol consumption from 60 million litres to about 45 million.

Mirkazemi said the Iranian government has "authorised the export of a billion litres of petrol" of its strategic reserves by the end of the Iranian year in March 2011.

"As new refineries come on line and the production capacity increases the current reserves can be exported and replaced," with new production, he said.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai said yesterday he would announce the start of the transition of security responsibility from NATO to Afghan forces on March 21, his country's New Year.

The NATO-led military mission has decided to begin handing Afghan forces the lead in the battle against Taliban rebels this year with the aim of giving them full responsibility across the nation by 2014.

"We are determined to demonstrate Afghan leadership and ownership of the transition process," Karzai said.

## Climate fallout to trigger migration

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Change and Migration in Asia and the Pacific finalised in 2011 and to be released soon.

The existing patterns include rural-urban migration, mainly to the mega cities, cross-border migration to India, migration of semi-skilled labourers to the Southeast Asian and Middle East Asian countries and widespread poverty, could worsen the socioeconomic situation in Bangladesh and undermine the capacity of communities to adapt," the study said.

"Greater frequency and intensity of changes in the climatic situations at the regional and local level may facilitate the development of new semi-urban areas that will provide resettlement options to displaced populations," the ADB study said.

The study said inundation due to sea-level rise, landlessness and loss of livelihood will encourage increased migration from both rural and other densely populated urban regions such as Dhaka and Chittagong to these new urban centres.

Careful planning and infrastructure development at the institutional level may further encourage displaced communities to settle in these new semi-urban areas rather than exacerbate socioeconomic and environmental pressure on existing mega cities.

Increasing drying in winters and resulting water stress for agriculture as well as home



Naval Headquarters  
Banani, Dhaka-1213

1. Bangladesh Navy Ships will carry out live missile firing from 07 to 09 Feb 2011 (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) from 0700 AM to 1700 PM in the Bay of Bengal in the area as shown in the map (also mentioned below):



BANGLADESH NAVY SHIPS WILL CARRY OUT LIVE MISSILE FIRING FROM MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY (07 TO 09 FEB 2011)

### Coordinates

	Latitude	Longitude
'A'	21°39.0'	North 090°57.6' East
'B'	22°01.8'	North 091°35.5' East
'C'	21°55.2'	North 091°41.5' East
'D'	21°21.0'	North 091°17.5' East

2. All types of ships, craft and aircraft are hereby warned and requested to refrain from entering, plying or engaging in any other activity in the area during the said period. Danger height for the firing area during firing will be 3,000 (three thousand) meters and safety ht is 12,000 meters.

3. Cooperation of all concerned is solicited in this regard.

Director  
Naval Operations

## Be a Proud Team Member .....



● Act as an advisor to the medical executive committee in all professional matters of the proposed Medical College and Hospital.

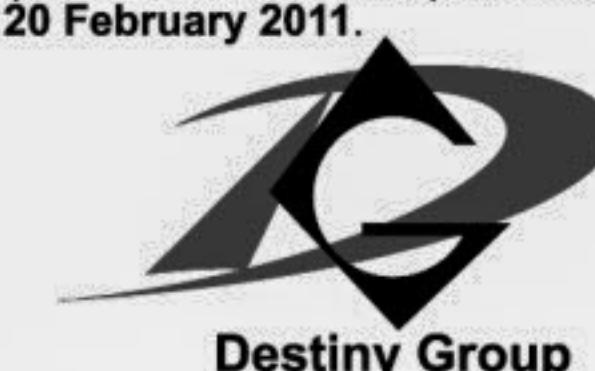
● Carry out such additional duties as are specified:  
- In the medical staff bylaws and rules and regulations.  
- In the position description established by the board.  
- By the board or the executive committee of the board by resolution or any other decision process.

### ADDITIONAL JOB REQUIREMENTS

- Demonstrated ability to conceive project designs and write proposals.
- Experience in Medical Equipment planning and procurement.
- Demonstrated excellence in developing, managing and supervising professional staff.
- Demonstrated effectiveness in building and maintaining strong partnerships with public health agencies.
- Demonstrated project management and technical skills.
- Proven ability to build and maintain strong partnerships with public health agencies, donors, project partners and government agencies.
- Successful experience managing milestone-based projects within budget and time constraints.

### HOW TO APPLY:

Please send your complete CV including passport size color photograph addressing "Head of HR"-Destiny Group, Inner Circular (VIP) Road, 38, Kakrail, (2nd Floor), Dhaka-1000 on or before 20 February 2011.



Destiny Group