

Congress

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National Democratic Alliance (NDA) leader LK Advani yesterday asked the prime minister to quit "forthwith", and said he had lost the right to govern after what the leaked cable exposed.

"The NDA says this government has no moral right to continue, and it should quit," the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader told journalists.

Leader of the Opposition Sushma Swaraj said the newspaper expose has "shamed" Indian democracy.

The WikiLeaks cable says Nachiket Kapur, a political aide to Congress leader Satish Sharma, told the US Embassy's political counselor that four MPs from Ajit Singh's party Rashtriya Lok Dal were paid Rs 10 crore (about 2.5 million dollars) each by Congress party.

Sharma, a close associate of Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi, however, told television news channels yesterday he did not have an aide named Nachiket Kapur.

The cable is dated July 17, 2008 and was sent by US Charge d'Affaires Steven White, who said the embassy's political counselor visited Congress leader Satish Sharma at his home.

The cable also says Sharma's aide showed the US embassy employee two chests containing cash, and said the party had between Rs 50-60 crore to buy votes from different MPs.

The prime minister won the confidence vote after Left parties had withdrawn support opposing the Indo-US nuclear deal in July 2008, and Mulayam Singh Yadav-led Samajwadi Party had at that time bailed out the Manmohan Singh government in the parliamentary trial of strength.

The July 2008 vote, which came close to toppling Singh, has long been the subject of corruption claims. Three opposition BJP MPs waved wads of money in parliament, which they claimed the government was using to try to bribe them.

A Lok Sabha committee was set up to examine their allegations but it found that there was no evidence of BJP's claims.

Reacting to the WikiLeaks disclosures, senior opposition leader Arun Jaitley of BJP said, "The government survived on the strength of political sin".

Jahan Moni

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and was sailing at six to seven nautical miles per hour, said Capt Golam Mostafa, marine superintendent of Brave Royal Ship Management Limited.

He said the usual speed of the ship is 12 nautical miles per hour. But it is moving slowly as it was idle for over three months, which caused some technical faults.

"If everything goes well, the ship would reach the Salalah port on Friday night," he hoped.

A hired tugboat with three armed security guards of a private company was sent to help the ship pass the pirate-infested zone safely, Mostafa said. Medicines, food, drinking water, clothes and 10 tonnes of fuel were also sent on the tugboat.

On Tuesday, a French naval ship provided some medicines, food and drinking water, and escorted MV Jahan Moni for some distance.

Meanwhile, the owning company, SR Shipping Limited, arranged some phone cards for the crew to talk to their relatives.

Engine Cadet Shahriar Rabbi of the ship called his mother Bilkis Rahman yesterday night.

Rabbi told his mother that the ship was heading towards Salalah amidst security.

Khaleda

**FROM PAGE 20**  
president of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti, a 'murderer' and 'terrorist', which was later published in a national daily.

A joint statement, signed by the parishad's General Secretary Rana Dasgupta and the forum's General Secretary Sanjeeb Drong, said they were stunned and worried at the propaganda being spread against Santu Larma.

England win

**FROM PAGE 1**  
to South Africa on Saturday. If Bangladesh win, England can still go through if India beat West Indies on Sunday in the final match of Group B.

However, a West Indies win would see them into the last eight.

Russell, caught on 39 at long-on by Trott only to be awarded a six after the diving fielder just glanced the boundary marker, saw his 46-ball innings end when he was lbw to World Cup debutant Tredwell.

The spinner was named man-of-the-match for his four for 48 to spark the climatic slump.

England then saw Sarwan turn Swann (three for 36) straight to Ian Bell at short leg.

Two balls later Kemar Roach was caught by a diving Chris Tremlett off Swann to leave West Indies 223 for nine.

West Indies had seen fit-again opener Chris Gayle (43) make a typically rapid start as their fifty came up inside five overs.

But Tredwell took his first one-day international wicket when, fifth ball, he had Gayle, pushing half-forward, lbw to end a 21-ball innings featuring a six and eight fours.

Tredwell, in only his fourth ODI, then had Devon Smith stumped by wicketkeeper Prior as he took two wickets for nine runs in eight balls.

Tredwell then had Darren Bravo edging to England captain Andrew Strauss at first slip.

Darren Sammy, the West Indies skipper, struck several sixes off Tredwell before playing out Ravi Bopara for 41 off 29 balls.

And when Devon Thomas also played on to Bopara, West Indies were 118 for five.

Swann had the big-hitting Kieron Pollard plumb lbw for 24, despite a desperate review, and West Indies were six down.

Earlier, Luke Wright kept England's hopes alive with 44 after they'd slumped to 134 for five.

Trott (47) was the only other England batsman who made more than Strauss's 31 in an innings where debutant leg-spinner Davendra Bishoo took three wickets and Russell claimed four.

**SCOREBOARD**  
Scoreboard of the World Cup Group B match between England and the West Indies at the Chidambaram Stadium on Thursday:  
**ENGLAND**  
Strauss c Gayle b Russell 31

Prior b Russell	21
Trott c Gayle b Bishoo	47
Bell b Roach	27
Morgan c Thomas b Bishoo	7
Bopara b Russell	4
Wright c Russell b Bishoo	44
Tredwell run out	9
Bresnan not out	20
Swann b Russell	8
Tremlett c Thomas b Roach	3

**Extras:** (b-1, lb-4, w-15, nb-2) 22  
**Total:** (All out in 48.4 overs) 243  
**Fall of wickets:** 1-48, 2-79, 3-121, 4-134, 5-134, 6-151, 7-192, 8-216, 9-238.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Roach	9.4	2	34	2
Benn	10	0	56	0
Russell	8	0	49	4
Sammy	3	0	28	0
Bishoo	10	0	34	3
Pollard	8	0	37	0

**WEST INDIES**

Smith s Trott b Tredwell	10
Gayle lbw b Tredwell	43
Sammy b Bopara	41
Bravo c Strauss b Tredwell	5
Thomas b Bopara	9
Sarwan c Bell b Swann	31
Pollard lbw b Swann	24
Russell lbw b Tredwell	49
Benn run out	2
Roach c Tremlett b Swann	0
Bishoo not out	0

**Extras:** (lb-8, w-3) 11  
**Total:** (All out in 44.4 overs) 225  
**Fall of wickets:** 1-58, 2-67, 3-91, 4-113, 5-118, 6-150, 7-222, 8-223, 9-223.

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Bresnan	7	1	46	0
Swann	10	1	36	3
Tremlett	5	0	47	0
Tredwell	10	2	48	0
Bopara	8.4	2	22	2
Wright	4	0	18	0

**Result:** England won by 18 runs.  
**Man-of-the-match:** James Tredwell.

Narsingdi OC

**FROM PAGE 20**  
Bhuiyan told newsmen that the action was taken in public interest.

On Tuesday morning, a gang of armed youths entered into Narsingdi Government College and opened fire and attacked the college unit JCD president Billal Hossain Roni.

Roni, also general secretary of the college students' union, was killed inside the union office and another student was bullet-injured at the time.

Local JCD enforced a day long hartal in Narsingdi protesting the killing on the following day. The deceased's brother Abul Fazal filed a case against 16, mostly JCD leaders and activists, for the murder.

After the arrest of accused Rubel on Wednesday, the SP had said that they would be able to nab the rest very soon.

Bangladeshi

**FROM PAGE 20**  
not send home the body, as the hospital was first controlled by the demonstrators and then by the military.

The military is not allowing anyone to enter the hospital on security grounds, Muhammad Ibrahim said.

Meanwhile, normalcy is returning among the Bangladeshi community in Bahrain after attacks on South Asians since Sunday.

The situation improves with the declaration of curfew and military crackdown since Tuesday following a series of demonstrations demanding political reforms in Bahrain where around 1.5 lakh Bangladeshis work.

"Until Wednesday, some families complained they could not buy water and baby milk, as shops were closed for the last few days. But the shops started opening yesterday," said Muhammad Ibrahim.

In the wake of such events in Manama, Pakistanis were being relocated. They are gathering at the Pakistan Club where more than 300 people took shelter, reported the Gulf Daily News yesterday.

The Philippines government was planning to send a team to Bahrain yesterday to assess the situation and strengthen its contingency measures should there be a need to evacuate its nationals.

While some western people are leaving, many are opting to wait and see, the newspaper reported.

Two crushed under trains

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two people were run over by trains and killed at Kuril Biswa Road level crossing area in the city Wednesday night and yesterday.

Government Railway Police (GRP) recovered the bodies of Jahurul Islam, 35, a rent-a-car trader and Humayun Kabir, 28, a worker of a plastic factory in Gazipur.

Sub-inspector Nazrul Islam of GRP Kamalapur quoting locals said when Jahurul was crossing the rail lines at Kuril Biswa Road, Mymensingh-bound Balaka Express hit him around 11:30am. He died on the spot.

Jahurul's elder brother Gias Uddin told The Daily Star that his brother was going to Shahjalal International Airport.

Khulna-bound Chitra Express hit Humayun Kabir when he was walking along the rail line in Joar Sahara area on Wednesday around 8:00pm. Kabir also died on the spot.

Mahmudur

**FROM PAGE 1**  
The SC convicted him for publishing a report on April 21 under the headline "Chamber manei sarkar er pakkhe stay" meaning "Chamber bench means stay order in favour of the government".

On June 1, 2010 the government cancelled the declaration of the Amar Desh citing that it has no authorised publisher. However, on July 18, the SC in an order cleared the way for publishing the newspaper.

Mahmudur was arrested on June 2, 2010 and on the same day the SC issued a contempt of court rule against him and four others following a petition.

He was accused in around 40 cases on corruption, defamation, fraud and other criminal charges, but he was granted bail in all those.

After stepping out of jail, Mahmudur alleged that the government only harassed him for "writing the truth".

"The government used all possible means of torture and even tried to kill me during the remand," he said, adding, "I will continue to write for the welfare of the country."

Columnist Farhad Mazhar, President of Jatiya Ganotantrik Party (Jagpa) Shanof Alam Pradhan, human rights activist Adilur Rahman and Amar Desh Director Prof Tasnim Alam were among others present during his release.

Delwar's body

**FROM PAGE 1**  
where thousands of party leaders and activists gathered to pay respects to the veteran politician.

The 78-year-old ailing BNP leader died at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore on Wednesday.

The body was first taken to the party's central office at Nayapalnta around 5:00pm.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia paid her last respects to the late leader by covering his coffin with a party flag and placing wreaths on it. Later, his body was taken to his residence at Armanitola where a namaz-e-janaza was held after the Esha prayers.

Delwar's body will be placed at the Central Shaheed Minar at 9:00am today for people to pay their tribute to the seasoned politician.

His second namaz-e-janaza will be held at the High Court at 10:00am today followed by another one at the South Plaza of the National Parliament an hour later.

Janazas will be also held at the Baitul Mukarram National Mosque and at the party's central office after Zohr and Asr prayers.

Delwar will be laid to rest in Manikganj on Saturday after the arrival of his daughter and son from abroad. BNP leaders and activists across the country wore black badges in the party offices yesterday. Party flags were lowered at half-mast as part of the five-day programme to mourn Delwar's death.

Repatriation at stake

**FROM PAGE 1**  
Chauzy said.

High-ups of IOM and the UNHCR, which jointly run a cell at the Choucha camp, will meet the donors in Geneva today, said the IOM spokesperson.

"If we do not get any funds soon, we shall either have to drastically reduce the operation or temporarily suspend it," Chauzy said.

International aid workers, volunteers and Tunisian officials have expressed surprise at Bangladesh government's role in the repatriation.

They are working relentlessly to manage the Choucha camp of 17,000 stranded workers, including 7,000 Bangladeshis.

"From the very beginning we heard Bangladesh is diverting Biman aircraft to pick up its people. In reality, there is not a word from anyone about this," said an UNHCR official in Choucha.

IOM officials at the Djerba airport said four Bangladeshi officials were there to oversee the repatriation and maintain liaison with migrant workers.

But in reality, these officials keep aloof from the angry workers, who were badly treated by the Bangladeshi Embassy in Libya, said an IOM official at the airport.

"We heard about a secretary of the expatriates' welfare ministry from Bangladesh visiting the camp but he never talked to any aid worker," said Jumbe Omari, the IOM spokesperson in Choucha.

Jan-de-Wilde, senior adviser to the IOM in Choucha, said there is a grave resentment among the stranded Bangladeshis over the treatment they got from their own government.

"The government of Bangladesh once talked about sending Biman aircraft to pick up its nationals. It has not happened. They are quiet now," Jan-de-Wilde said.

Operation Searchlight

**FROM PAGE 1**  
previous day, orders had gone out from the regime to the army on the need for action against the Bangalee political leadership. General Yahya Khan instructed General Tikka Khan to prepare for action.

Against the background of such an order, on March 18, General Khadim Hussain Raja and General Rao Farman Ali prepared the blueprint of what would soon come to be known as Operation Searchlight. Under this euphemistically used term, the military

prepared to begin its harsh action against the Bangalees. The result would be genocide on a scale unprecedented in modern history.

But of this there was, at the time, not an iota of knowledge among the Bangalees, although informed observers of the scene noted the regularity with which the strength of the Pakistani forces in their restive eastern province was being augmented. On the streets, Bangalee militancy increased inexorably and

open calls were being made for Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to go for an outright declaration of independence.

Meanwhile, on March 18, Mujib rejected the commission of enquiry set up by the martial administrator, zone B (Tikka Khan) to 'go into the circumstances which led to the calling of the army in aid of civil power in various parts of East Pakistan between March 2 and March 9.' He stated that the people of Bangladesh would not cooperate with such a commission.

While the BBC's Chris Hogg in Tokyo says the helicopters can carry an enormous amount of water but given the high winds it is difficult to know whether it has been dropped accurately.

Washington and other foreign capitals have expressed growing alarm about radiation leaking from the plant, severely damaged by a magnitude 9.0 earthquake and tsunami a week ago that triggered a series of destructive explosions which compromised the nuclear reactors and spent fuel storage tanks.

Yukiya Amano, head of the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), was due back in his homeland later on Friday with an international team of experts after earlier complaining about a lack of information from Japanese authorities on the crisis.

Even if Tepco manages to connect the power, it is not clear the pumps will work as they may have been damaged by the natural disaster or subsequent explosions. Work has been slowed by the need to frequently monitor radiation levels to protect workers.

US officials took pains not to criticize Japan's government, but Washington's actions indicated a divide with its close ally about the perilousness of the world's worst nuclear accident since the Chernobyl disaster in 1986.

**WATER CANNON**  
Mr Andrew said reactor 4, which was inactive but being used to store spent fuel rods, was still a "major safety concern" and that water levels were also falling in the cooling pools of reactors 5 and 6.

But he said there had been no rise in radiation in Tokyo and that levels remained far below those dangerous to human health.

The head of the IAEA, Yukiya Amano, is en route to Tokyo to be briefed by Japanese officials.

Despite assurances, the streets of the capital - including its popular Ginza retail district - remain unusually empty, with many people continuing to stay at home or leaving the capital.

Japan's military CH-47 Chinook helicopters began spraying tonnes of seawater on reactors 3 and 4 at

are quiet now," Jan-de-Wilde said.

"As far as we are concerned, we are suspending the operation from Saturday, if there is no response from the donors by Friday," he said.

Against the backdrop of the ongoing Libyan crisis, the IOM has been running operation in four border areas in three countries -- Egypt-Libya border of Saloum, Tunisia-Libya border of Ras Jdir and Niger-Libya border of Dirkou.

The organisation has directly financed repatriation of over 15,000 people from different countries and also paid for air tickets of nearly 3,000 people since February.

The IOM initially started the programme with \$27 million it received from developed countries. With this fund, it also gave cash to migrant workers, who were sent back home.

The offer, made at talks between North Korean officials and visiting Russian envoy Alexei Borodavkin, was seen as a diplomatic concession as international efforts intensified to resume the stalled six-nation talks.

Pyongyang triggered security fears in November when it disclosed an apparently functional uranium enrichment plant to visiting US experts.

The North said it was a peaceful energy project, but experts said the facility could hand Pyongyang a second route to making atomic bombs in addition to its existing plutonium stockpile.

Russia, along with Washington and Tokyo, has backed Seoul's call for the UN Security Council to debate Pyongyang's uranium programme.

But China, the North's strong ally, said the uranium program should be handled at the six-party forum.

Three bodies were recovered on that day, and were subsequently brought back home. Eleven Bangladeshis were missing since.

The latest three bodies were found in the Souda Bay of Hania, Crete on Wednesday.

Another nine bodies of Bangladeshis are in the mortuary of the General Hospital of Hania, said the ministry.

According to latest reports, 25,971 Bangladeshi workers have been brought home so far.

Of them, 21,788 were brought back under IOM arrangement and 3,287 by their employers while 896 by Bangladesh Biman flights.

A foreign ministry press release said the number of Bangladeshi nationals at Al Salloum border in Egypt has reduced to 200 with the majority being repatriated.

Only 40 Bangladeshis arrived at Al Salloum yesterday, the release added.

Some 5,000 more are stranded at Ras Jdir border of Tunisia.

In Algeria, 189 Bangladeshi nationals are trapped in its southeast city of Ain-Amenas.

According to the press release, Chinese construction company CSCCE has evacuated all the Bangladeshi workers from Benghazi, and it will pay their salary soon.

**Bail forgery**  
**FROM PAGE 20**  
or phone, read the circular signed by SC Registrar M Ashrafur Islam.

The lower courts concerned, it added, will not release an accused until confirmation that the HC order is genuine.

The telephone numbers designated for deputy registrar-6 are 7171481 and 01715-058268. The assistant registrar-11 can be reached at 9562941, 9562942, 9562944 and 9567304 with extension No. 2320 and at mobile No. 01714-263326.

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S Korea rejects N Korea nuclear talks offer

AFP, Seoul

South Korea yesterday rejected an offer from North Korea to discuss its new nuclear programme and return to six-party disarmament talks, saying its neighbour must first show peaceful intentions.

Foreign Minister Kim Sung-Hwan said Pyongyang should demonstrate its commitment to denuclearisation "not through words, but through action".

"This (offer) is insufficient and does not fit the position of the (five) other countries that the right conditions should be created," he told reporters.

North Korea had said Tuesday it was willing to return to the six-party forum "without any pre-condition", and to discuss its new uranium enrichment programme and the suspension of nuclear tests.

The offer, made at talks between North Korean officials and visiting Russian envoy Alexei Borodavkin, was seen as a diplomatic concession as international efforts intensified to resume the stalled six-nation talks.

Pyongyang triggered security fears in November when it disclosed an apparently functional uranium enrichment plant to visiting US experts.

The North said it was a peaceful energy project, but experts said the facility could hand Pyongyang a second route to making atomic bombs in addition to its existing plutonium stockpile.

Russia, along with Washington and Tokyo, has backed Seoul's call for the UN Security Council to debate Pyongyang's uranium programme.

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