

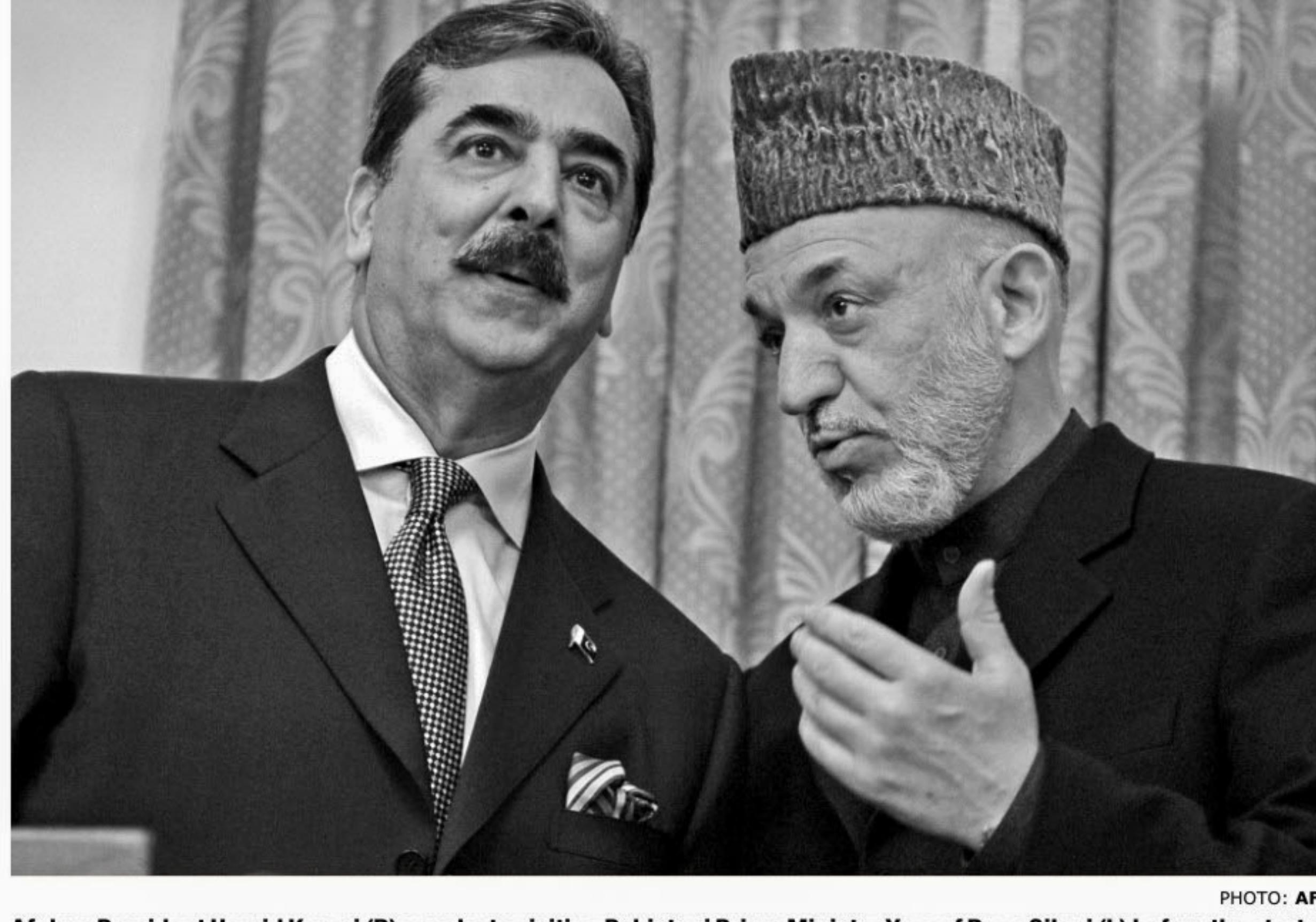
## Afghanistan, Pakistan upgrade peace efforts

REUTERS, Kabul

Afghanistan and Pakistan have upgraded a joint commission for peace in a bid to end Afghanistan's near-decade old insurgency, and have the support of the US for the move, leaders of the two countries said yesterday.

Pakistani Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani said he and former Afghan President and Peace Council chief Burhanuddin Rabbani would lead talks involving the military and intelligence chiefs from both sides of the border for the first time.

"Today's visit, I believe has been one of the most historical and unprecedented meetings, because all the stakeholders were with us," Gilani said, at a joint news conference with Afghan President Hamid Karzai.



Afghan President Hamid Karzai (R) speaks to visiting Pakistani Prime Minister Yusuf Raza Gilani (L) before the start of a press conference in the presidential palace in Kabul yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

## Nigeria votes in crucial presidential election

AFP, Lagos

Nigerians gathered at polling stations yesterday for a crucial presidential election as Africa's most populous nation bids to hold its cleanest polls for head of state in nearly two decades.

President Goodluck Jonathan is the clear favourite in the election.

His main challenger is ex-military ruler Muhammadu Buhari, who benefits from significant support in the country's north and has developed a reputation as an anti-graft figure.

Actual voting was to begin at 12:30pm local time.

More than 73 million people registered to vote in the vast West African nation.

The first attempt at holding parliamentary polls on April 2 had to be called off as material and personnel failed to arrive in a large number of areas.

## SRI LANKA WAR CRIMES REPORT Leaked UN report calls for independent probe

AFP, Colombo

A UN panel has called for an independent inquiry into "credible" allegations that Sri Lanka committed war crimes and crimes against humanity in its final 2009 offensive against Tamil Tiger rebels.

The panel of experts, appointed by UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon, submitted its report last week, and leaked excerpts were published yesterday in Sri Lanka's pro-government Island newspaper.

The leaked report detailed "credible allegations" which, if proven, indicate a wide range of violations by both the government and the rebels, "some of which would amount to war crimes and crimes against humanity".

Specifically, it cited charges of government shelling that knowingly targeted civilians, hospitals and humanitarian targets in "no-fire zones", as well as the denial of humanitarian assistance to victims of the fighting.

It said that "tens of thousands" of people died between January and May 2009 in the final government offensive that resulted in the defeat of the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), ending a brutal, decades-old ethnic conflict.

"Most of the civilian casualties in the final phases of the war were caused by government shelling," the leaked document said.

It also listed alleged violations by the rebel forces, saying they had intentionally used civilians as a human shield.

A copy of the panel's report, which the UN had scheduled for release next week, had been sent to the Sri Lankan government which responded last Wednesday by calling it "fundamentally flawed" and "biased".

## Syria's emergency law to end Says Assad

AFP, Damascus

President Bashar al-Assad said yesterday the emergency law in force in Syria for nearly 50 years will be abolished within a week, and expressed his sadness at the deaths of protesters.

"The judicial commission on the emergency law has prepared a series of proposals for new legislation, and these proposals will be submitted to the government, which will issue a new law within a week at the most," he said.

The emergency law, in force since 1963, imposes restrictions on public gatherings and movement, authorises the interrogation of any individual and the monitoring of private communications and imposes media censorship.

In a televised address, Assad also expressed his sorrow over the deaths of an estimated 200 people killed in a month long protests.

"In the markets of other countries, it is observed that preference shares are issued when the market goes through a bearish trend or floatation of IPO is not supportive. Sometimes, a new

## Investors swindled thru'

FROM PAGE 1

properties of both equities and a debt instrument. It usually carries no voting rights, but may carry a dividend, and may have priority over common stock in payment of dividends and in the event of liquidation.

A rush to issue preference shares by listed companies was seen in 2009 and 2010. Eight companies raised Tk 1,182.98 crore by issuing convertible preference shares last year, the report said.

They include Beximco Pharma, Summit Power, Aftab Automobiles and People's Leasing and Financial Services Ltd. These companies raised Tk 410 crore, Tk 300 crore, Tk 180 crore and Tk 120 crore from the capital market by selling convertible preference shares.

"In the markets of other countries, it is observed that preference shares are issued when the market goes through a bearish trend or floatation of IPO is not supportive. Sometimes, a new

company or an old one floats preference shares to create confidence among investors in the company. But in Bangladesh, the issuer companies resorted to manipulation to raise money from people, not to create confidence among investors in their companies," the report said.

"Although the companies were not qualified to issue right share or premium share, some of them raised money from the market by preference shares. All these were possible for the weakness in the guidelines of the Securities and Exchange Commission."

The features of convertible preference shares are not uniform as the SEC has no specific guideline on issuance of preference shares. There have been allegations that the compa-

nies took approval from the SEC to their own benefit in absence of a guideline.

Company directors took away money by converting preference shares into ordinary shares. There are also allegations of shoddy conversion and illegal placement trading of preference shares, mostly during their maturity period.

Conversion of preference shares with short maturity period is not seen in other countries in the world, the report said.

In most cases, debenture with maturity period of several years and preference shares with a condition for conversion are floated in the capital market, and the holders of debenture or preference shares get interests or profits at a certain rate.

But in Bangladesh's capital market, most preference shares are issued for only 2-3 months. Summit Power and People's Leasing and Financial Services Ltd raised money by issuing preference shares only for a month, the report said.

months. Summit Power and People's Leasing and Financial Services Ltd raised money by issuing preference shares only for a month, the report said.

A commission of 25-45 percent has been given during conversion of preference shares into ordinary ones. But the comparative conversion rate has been fixed in such a way that the issuer company gets a higher premium. For instance, 10 preference shares are convertible to three ordinary shares after the maturity period. It means the conversion ratio is 10:3.

One or two companies set the conversion rate and a premium price directly to avoid the complex process. For example, Summit Power fixed the conversion price of each preference share at Tk 118.27 against a face value of Tk 10, the report said.

## Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha

Rajuk Bhaban, Dhaka-1000  
[www.rajukdhaka.gov.bd](http://www.rajukdhaka.gov.bd)

Memo No. RAJUK/PD(MIS)/04-31/10/Admn.

Date: 10-4-2011

## Invitation for Re-Tender

Notice No. RAJUK/MIS/Tender-02/2010-2011 (Re-Tender-1<sup>st</sup>)

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Housing and Public Works.
2.	Agency	Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (RAJUK).
3.	Procuring entity name	Chief Engineer, Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (RAJUK).
4.	Procuring entity code	Tender for goods.
5.	Procuring entity district	RAJUK/MIS/Tender-02/2010-2011 (Re-Tender-1 <sup>st</sup> )
6.	Invitation for	Date
7.	Invitation reference No.	10/04/2011
8.	Date	Procurement method
9.	Procurement method	Open tendering method (OTM).
10.	Budget and source of fund	Source of funds
11.	Development partners (if applicable)	Project name
12.	Tender package No.	Computerization and Management Information System (MIS) in RAJUK.
13.	Tender package name	Tender publication date
14.	Tender publication date	18/04/2011
15.	Tender last selling date	Tender schedule last selling date
16.	Tender submission date and time	08/05/2011 (during office hour).
17.	Tender opening date and time	09/05/2011, 03:00pm.
18.	Name and address of the office(s)	Tender opening date and time
	EME Branch	Tenderers or their authorized representatives are allowed to attend.
	Selling tender document	Name & address of the office(s)
	Receiving tender document	Selling tender documents
	Opening tender document	Receiving tender documents
19.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Address
20.	Eligibility of tenderer	Member Dev./Admin & Land/Planning/Estate/Finance, Chief Engineer/Superintendent Engineer (P&D), Project Director (MIS), Executive Engineer-Design/Central/South Dhaka (RAJUK) Division, Dhaka.
21.	Brief description of goods	Place of opening tender documents
22.	Brief description of related services	Eligibility of tenderer
23.	Price of tender document	Price of tender documents (Tk)
24.	Lot	Name of the tender
	Description of goods	Location
	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)
	Tender security amount	Completion time (in days) (product upgrade & support services start)
	Completion time in weeks/months	
25.	Name, designation, address and contact details of official inviting tender	Supply & installation of professional grade large/wide format (Map) Scanners and Mid Range & High Range Automatic Document Feeder (ADF) Scanners for MIS Section under the Project of Computerization & Management Information System (MIS) in RAJUK (under package-GD3)
	Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Ayub Chowdhury, psc, EME CEME	MIS Section, RAJUK (5 <sup>th</sup> floor), Dhaka-1000
	EME Br, Admin Directorate, HQs Border Guard Bangladesh, Peelkhana, Dhaka-1205.	Tk 85,000/-
	Telephone No: 9650001 Extension-127	45
	Fax No: 9650245 (attention CEME)	
	CEME	
	For Director General	

GD-1763

Engr. Khondkar Salahuddin  
Chief Engineer, RAJUK

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Headquarters Border Guard Bangladesh

Peelkhana, Dhaka

## Invitation of Tender (National)

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Home Affairs.
2.	Agency	Border Guard Bangladesh.
3.	Procuring entity name	Director General, Border Guard Bangladesh.
4.	Procuring entity code	Not applicable.
5.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
6.	Invitation for	Tender (National) Goods Single lot
7.	Invitation reference No.	900/7(Vehicle)/Purchase-04/EME.
8.	Date	11 April 2011.

### KEY INFORMATION

9.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).
----	--------------------	------------------------------

### FUNDING INFORMATION

10.	Budget and source of fund	GOB.
-----	---------------------------	------

### PARTICULAR INFORMATION

12.	Tender package No.	G-4 (Veh 2010-2011).
13.	Tender package name	Procurement of vehicle.
14.	Tender publication date	16 April 2011.
15.	Tender last selling date	05 May 2011 (office hour).
16.	Tender submission date and time	08 May 2011, 1100 am.
17.	Tender opening date and time	08 May 2011, 1130 am.
18.	Name and address of the office(s)	EME Branch
	Selling tender document	HQ Border Guard Bangladesh
	Receiving tender document	Peelkhana
	Opening tender document	Dhaka-1205
19.	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	If necessary to be intimated later.

### INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

20.	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender document.
-----	-------------------------	-------------------------

### PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

21.	Name, designation, address and contact details of official inviting tender	Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Ayub Chowdhury, psc, EME CEME
		EME Br, Admin Directorate, HQs Border Guard Bangladesh, Peelkhana, Dhaka-1205.
		Telephone No: 9650001 Extension-127
		Fax No: 9650245 (attention CEME).

### Important Notes:

- a. The procurement entity reserves the right to cancel all or any of the tender without assigning any reason and information whatsoever.