

Indian PM offers \$500m in Afghan aid

Rules out US type operation in Pakistan

AGENCIES

India's prime minister yesterday offered \$500 million to Kabul in fresh aid in a move likely to raise Pakistani fears about Indian influence in Afghanistan in the wake of Osama bin Laden's killing.

Making his first visit to Kabul in six years, Manmohan Singh met President Hamid Karzai as calls grow in the United States for a quicker withdrawal of US troops from Afghanistan following the killing of the al-Qaeda chief.

Any rapid reduction of the US presence in Afghanistan would cause India concern, as it fears the country could become dominated by a Taliban-influenced government friendly towards its arch-rival Pakistan.

"India's development assistance commitment is approximately \$1.5 billion, but there are still gaps," Singh told a joint press conference with Karzai.

"We now have a better idea of where we can do more... We have made a fresh commitment of \$500 million over the next few years."

After more than two decades without sway in Kabul, India swiftly established diplomatic ties with the new government after the 2001 US-led invasion deposed the extremist

Taliban, which was allied to Pakistan.

Singh said priority areas for the fresh injection of aid would be social programmes, agriculture and infrastructure in the poverty-stricken country.

Earlier, he said he and Karzai would "exchange views on developments in the region and our common fight against the scourge of terrorism".

He demanded a thorough investigation into the presence of Osama bin Laden in Pakistan for several years, but ruled out a US-type operation by India to eliminate Pak-based terrorists wanted by it.

"One needs to go for a thorough investigation into the presence of Osama bin Laden for such a long time on the soil of Abbottabad," he said at a joint press conference here with Afghan President Hamid Karzai after their talks.

The killing of bin Laden was a "unique moment" in the history of the region, said the Prime Minister, who arrived here earlier on a two-day visit amidst highest levels of security.

Both India and Afghanistan have troubled relations with Pakistan, accusing its military intelligence of supporting and sheltering militant leaders who orchestrate attacks in the region.

'Pakistan wasn't bin Laden's only hideout'

Says Pak prime minister

TIME ONLINE

Osama bin Laden may have been found and killed in Pakistan, but that country's leaders believe it wasn't the only place where the al-Qaeda leader had travelled after fleeing Afghanistan in late 2001. Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani, in an exclusive interview with TIME on Wednesday one of the first he has given since the raid on Abbottabad thinks bin Laden may have visited his ancestral homeland, Yemen, in search of a new bride.

Just this past Tuesday, Gilani said a cable from Pakistan's Embassy in Syria, reporting that the sister of bin Laden's wife, a Yemeni national, was in Damascus, and had made contact with Pakistani diplomats there.

According to the diplomatic cable, the sister-in-law claimed that bin Laden had married Amal Ahmed in Yemen in 2002. "That was after 9/11," said Gilani. "And they say that they've got the proof." If the information contained in the cable is correct, he continued, that would put bin-Laden in Yemen in 2002.

The claim that bin Laden was in Yemen mere months after the 9/11 attacks could, of course, simply be an attempt to spread blame that Pakistan is currently attracting.

Bin Laden's discovery less than a three hours' drive away from Gilani's office has amplified allegations of either complicity or ignorance on the part of Pakistan's much-vaunted intelligence agencies.

But Gilani isn't buying it. The Prime Minister says he isn't even sure that bin Laden had been hiding in the Abbottabad compound for the past six years. The claim, Gilani said, "is not authentic," adding that "terrorists don't normally stay in one place for more than 15 days."

RHD engineer

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followers assaulted executive engineer KM Nur-e-Alam at his office after failing to realise toll from him, witnesses said.

Security guard Hazrat Ali, office peon Abdul Quddus and contractor Hakim also were also manhandled as they tried to resist, Nur-e-Alam said.

On information, police and Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members rushed to the spot, and the miscreants fled the scene.

Nur-e-Alam later submitted written complaints to the deputy commissioner, police super and director of Rab-12 describing the incident.

Mostafa Harun, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said Nur-e-Alam filed a case in this connection.

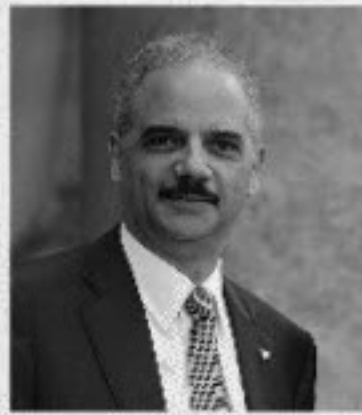
"A group of miscreants led by Babu demanded toll from me," Nur-e-Alam said, adding that they ransacked the office after failing to realise the toll.

Contacted, Babu told the correspondent over the phone that the incident occurred following a dispute over awarding the work order of a guide embankment of Karrota Bridge.

The executive engineer was trying to give the work order to a contractor of Shahjadpur illegally, he added.

BIN LADEN AFTERMATH

Killing al-Qaeda chief 'not an assassination': US attorney general



Eric Holder

AFP, London

The US commando raid that killed Osama bin Laden was "not an assassination", US Attorney General Eric Holder said yesterday after the al-Qaeda leader's sons denounced the operation.

Holder told the BBC the raid on bin Laden's hideout in Pakistan on May 2 was a "kill or capture mission" and that his surrender would have been accepted if offered, but that the safety of US Navy

Pakistan will not share US helicopter wreckage with China

AFP, Washington

Pakistan said Wednesday it would not share the wreckage of a US helicopter used in the raid that killed Osama bin Laden with China, after speculation that the aircraft contained secret technology.

"Pakistan is not going to share any technology, and I don't think our friends in China have shown any interest in doing so," Pakistan's ambassador to the United

Bulgaria refused to arrest Zawahiri

AFP, Sofia

Bulgaria twice refused to arrest and extradite Ayman al-Zawahiri, the deputy of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden and now the world's most wanted man, former high-ranking security officials said yesterday.

In 1995, Bulgaria's counter-intelligence received tip-offs that Zawahiri was staying in a small mountain village, according to Vladimir Manolov, counter-intelligence chief in 1994-95 in an interview with Darik radio.



PHOTO: AFP

A family waits outside their resident after a 5.1 magnitude quake rocked the town of Lorca in southern Spain on late Wednesday killing 9 people. Thousands of terrified residents spent a night shivering in parking lots, public squares and playgrounds fearing more aftershocks.

Nato strikes on Gaddafi compound kill six

Rebels to open London office

AFP, Tripoli

Nato-led air strikes hit Muammar Gaddafi's compound yesterday, killing six people, the Libyan regime said as rebels celebrated the capture of Misrata airport and a British invitation to open their first foreign office.

The pre-dawn strikes in the capital Tripoli came just hours after Libyan state television showed what it said was footage of Gaddafi meeting tribal leaders, the first new video of him aired since an April 30 air strike that his government termed an attempt on his life.

"There were three dead here and three dead in another place" in addition to 10 wounded, said the official, gesturing to scattered sandbags next to a crater in a street of the Bab al-Azaziyah compound.

Both he and another regime minder escorting foreign media on a tour of the site said all the casualties were civilians.

An AFP correspondent heard four explosions in quick succession in the early hours as Nato-led jets flew overhead.

In London, the rebels' leader Mustafa Abdul Jalil held talks with British Prime Minister

David Cameron buoyed by their capture of Misrata airport on Wednesday which gave them full control of Libya's third city, their only significant stronghold in the west.

Cameron invited Abdul Jalil's National Transitional Council -- the rebels' provisional administration -- to open an office in London, their first foreign mission.

He said Britain would from now regard the council as "the legitimate political interlocutor" in Libya, and its "primary partner".

Previously Britain had described the council only as a legitimate interlocutor.

The prime minister said Britain was also boosting its diplomatic team in the rebel-controlled city of Benghazi, including by adding a new special representative to the council.

Earlier, the rebels' captured Misrata airport, first significant advance in weeks, which they celebrated into the night, an AFP correspondent said.

Rebel fighters were gearing up on Thursday for an assault on the town of Zlitan that would take them another step closer to the capital Tripoli.

Barack Obama's grandmother threatened by al-Qaeda

ABC NEWS ONLINE

Security has been increased around the home of President Barack Obama's step-grandmother in Kenya after an African al-Qaeda branch issued a personal threat against her, police said yesterday.

Kenyan police told ABC News they are patrolling round the clock after Al Shabaab, the Somalia-based branch of al-Qaeda, threatened the life of Sarah Obama.

Though security had been added to the elder Obama's house the day after bin Laden was killed in fear of reprisals, the



Sarah Obama

number of patrolling officers has ballooned since Al Shabaab's threat was issued. One police chief told ABC News he now had enough officers "to patrol the entire village."

But the 88-year-old seemed unconcerned about the threat and told ABC News she didn't mind the extra security.

"My life has not been affected in any way," Sarah Obama said. "It has not restricted my movement. If the government has decided to bring more security personnel, we are OK with it."

NEWS IN brief

Iran conservatives in bitter row over ministries

AFP, Tehran

A blazing row has erupted between President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and parliament speaker Ali Larijani over the restructuring of ministries, reports said yesterday, in a fresh sign of tension in Iran's ruling conservative camp.

The row comes shortly after an unprecedented rift surfaced between Ahmadinejad and supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei which saw the president disappear from public life for nearly two weeks.

Uganda's Museveni sworn in for fourth term

AFP, Kampala

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni was sworn in for a fourth term yesterday after a comfortable win in February elections that opposition groups said was fraudulent.

The 66-year-old Museveni, who has been in power since 1986, took an oath to protect the constitution before a crowd of supporters and several African

Regime gunmen kill 3 protesters in Yemen

AFP, Sanaa

Gunmen loyal to Yemen's embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh shot dead three demonstrators in the southern town of Al-Bayda on Thursday, witnesses and protest organisers said.

Armed men on the roof of the ruling party's headquarters in Al-Bayda, 210 kilometres southeast of Sanaa, opened fire at demonstrators who had been

German court convicts then frees Nazi guard

REUTERS, Munich

A German court convicted John Demjanjuk yesterday for his role in the killing of 27,900 Jews in the Sobibor Nazi death camp during the Holocaust, then set the 91-year-old free because of his age.

Holocaust survivors welcomed the Munich court's verdict that Demjanjuk, who was exonerated in another war crimes case in Israel two decades ago, was an accessory to mass murder as a guard at Sobibor camp in Poland during World War Two.

Russian sect sees Putin as St Paul



Vladimir Putin

AFP, Moscow

A new Russian religious sect worships Vladimir Putin as the reincarnation of Paul the Apostle whose career follows in the footsteps of the early Christian missionary, a news report said Wednesday.

"According to the Bible, Paul the Apostle was a military commander at first," the sect's founder told the weekly.

"In his days in the KGB, Putin also did some rather unrighteous things. But once he became president, he was imbued with the holy spirit, and just like the apostle, he started heading his flock," she said.

"It is impressive that they think so highly of the prime minister's work," prime minister's spokesman Dmitry Peskov told Sobesednik.

"But I would like to recall another of the main commandments: thou shalt not worship false idols," Peskov said.

Withdraw cases against

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Limon in the left leg while he was on his way to bring back a herd of cattle home on March 23 at Chhaturia village in Jhalakathi. The leg had to be amputated.

The same day, Rab-8 Deputy Assistant Director Lutfur Rahman filed two cases against Limon and several others with Rajapur Police Station on charges of possessing arms and ammunition, obstructing law enforcers from discharging their duties and attempting to murder.

"According to the collected information and documents, those cases seem to be false. So, I request the home ministry to withdraw the cases," Mizanur said.

He made the remark while addressing a discussion meeting titled "Torture of BNP-Jamaat and a culture of evading trial" organised by the Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee in the capital.

Noted academician Muntasir Mamun in the meeting said, "Limon issue may be one of the reasons of failure of Awami League in the next polls."

In response those remarks, State Minister for

Home Shamsul Haque Tuku said the ministry will take decision following the findings of several probe bodies.

Talking on the post election violence in 2001, Muntasir Mamun demanded a government fund for either compensation or rehabilitation of the victims, especially the minorities, of torture during BNP-Jamaat tenure.

He also demanded restoration of secularism in the constitution and accelerating the process of war crimes trial.

Speaking as the chief guest, Law Minister barrister Shafiq Ahmed said as the government wants to ensure transparency in the trial, so it takes time.

"The government will surely try the perpetrators of violence during BNP-Jamaat government tenure," he also said.

National Prof Kabir Chowdhury chaired the function, while Nirmul Committee executive president Shahriar Kabir, its vice president Shamoli Nasrin Chowdhury, Bangladesh Hindu-Buddha-Christian Oikkyo Parishad General Secretary Ranadas Gupta, among others, spoke.

Career with

Head of Security

The person will be responsible for the overall security related functions of Beximco Textiles Division, which is South-East Asia's largest vertically integrated Yarn, Fabric (Woven, Knit, Denims) & Garments Manufacturing capacities. The Responsibilities will be but not limited to as follows:

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- Supervise and monitor all security and access control functions done at a Big Industrial Park premises that contains a huge number of production units of various types
- Assist in recruitment & selection of Security Personnel
- Monitoring the day to day security functions and supervise the staffs involved
- Supervise, Monitor & Undertake Security and access control related trainings
- Implement company's policy and procedures under his/her functional area in every possible way

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- Thorough knowledge of the current happenings in the area of security design and control
- Persons having extensive professional trainings in related area will be given preference
- Must possess a outstanding investigative abilities and huge experiences
- A sound knowledge of Industrial and Corporate Security and other related trainings
- The position requires an excellent Report Writing ability and a Strong analytical ability

Age : 35-50 years

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Interested and suitable candidates are requested to apply with their detail CVs by E-mail to : hrd@beximtex.com or by regular mail to : **Head of Human Resources**, Beximco Textiles Division, BEL Tower, House # 19, Road # 1, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1205 by **May 27, 2011**