

Pakistan, US discuss future intel sharing framework

AFP, Islamabad

CIA chief Leon Panetta held talks with top Pakistani military and intelligence officials and discussed ways to strengthen future intelligence sharing, the Pakistani military said.

The talks were held Friday amid a crisis in relations after the unilateral US raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

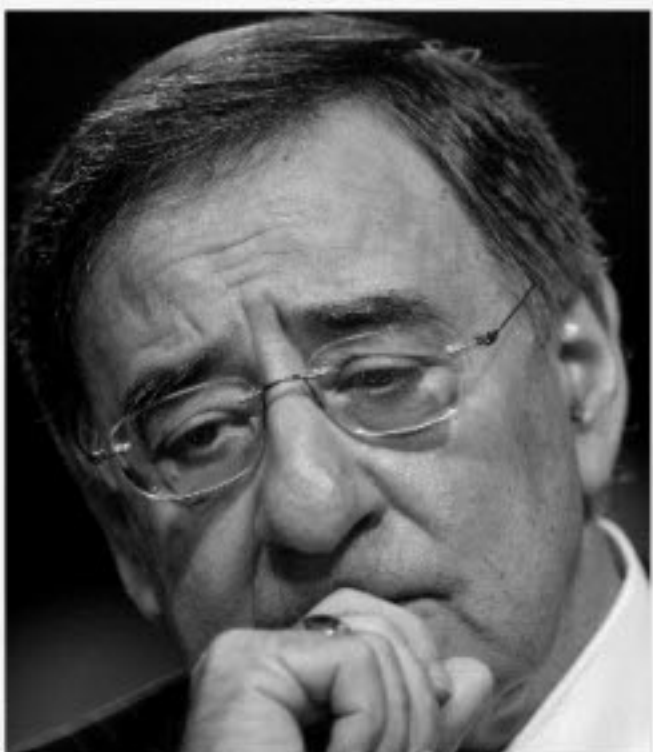
The difficult relationship between the two countries -- allies in the "war on terror" -- has come under severe strain since US commandos swooped on the al-Qaeda chief's compound in the city of Abbottabad, home to a military academy.

Panetta's visit to Islamabad came as the United States said it had nearly completed a drawdown in military personnel from Pakistan as demanded by Islamabad after relations plummeted over the May 2 killing of bin Laden.

Panetta called on army chief General Ashfaq Kayani. "Both sides discussed the framework for future intelligence sharing," the military said in a statement late on Friday after the meeting.

The CIA chief also discussed the security situation with Kayani and Lieutenant General Ahmad Shuja Pasha, the director general of Pakistan's powerful Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) agency, according to a Pakistani security official.

The official confirmed that issues arising from the bin



Leon Panetta

Laden operation, which was carried out without informing Islamabad, were also discussed.

A spokesman from the US embassy in Islamabad declined to comment.

Vice Admiral Michael LeFever, US defence representative in Pakistan, made the announcement about the troop drawdown in a statement released by the embassy, but left the door open to future security assistance.

The United States confirmed on May 25 that it had begun pulling some American troops out of Pakistan after the Pakistani military asked for a scaling back.

Pakistan faces mounting American pressure to open a ground offensive against insurgents in its lawless tribal region.

The Washington Post reported Friday that US intelligence officials had twice handed Islamabad tips about insurgent bomb-making factories in the area, only to find them abandoned before Pakistani troops arrived.

The vacated factories in North and South Waziristan have led US officials to question whether the information had been mistakenly leaked in recent weeks or whether the insurgents had been directly warned by the ISI, the report said.

India pushes Sri Lanka on Tamil rights

AFP, Colombo

India yesterday asked Sri Lanka to address the grievances of the island's Tamil minority two years after the Tamil Tiger separatist rebels were finally defeated, reports said.

Three top Indian officials held closed-door talks with President Mahinda Rajapakse during an overnight visit to Sri Lanka and urged a renewed effort to heal the island's deep ethnic divisions, the Press Trust of India reported.

"The quicker the Sri Lankan government can come to a political arrangement (with Tamils) the better," India's National Security Adviser Shivshankar Menon told Colombo-based Indian reporters after the talks.

Sri Lanka forces crushed the Tamil Tiger rebels in a massive military offensive that ended in May 2009.

Palin received death threats after 2008 nomination

AFP, Los Angeles

Sarah Palin received death threats after she was nominated as Republican John McCain's running mate in 2008 presidential elections, according to emails released Friday, reflecting her meteoric rise.

The then Alaska governor -- and now possible White House candidate -- also emerges as hard-working and very concerned about her image from the 24,000 pages of emails released under a Freedom of Information request.

"Can you believe it?" Palin wrote in late August 2008, responding to a congratulatory message after she was announced as McCain's surprise and controversial pick as vice-presidential nominee.

"He told me yesterday -- it moved fast! Pray! I love you," she added in an email highlighted by the New York Times, which along with other media outlets was rifling through the mass of exchanges released



Sarah Palin

by the state of Alaska.

In the weeks and months after she was catapulted onto the national political stage, she received a number of death threats, the emails reveal.

"She doesn't belong to the NRA (National Rifle Association) to support the right of each citizen to have weapons in an aim of self-defence, but just to support the right of every Southern white citizen to shoot all non-white people legally!" wrote a sender identified as Dominique Villacrouz.

"Sarah Palin MUST BE KILLED," said the email, highlighted by the Los Angeles Times.

In another message dated September 12, a resident in Antwerp, Belgium, also called for Palin to be shot, saying that "only on that moment justice will be accomplished," the LA Times said.

The emails also demonstrate Palin's deep-seated disgust with the media.

Say goodbye to cool summers: Study

AFP, Paris

By 2050, the coolest summers in the tropics and parts of the northern hemisphere will still be hotter than the most scorching summers since the mid-20th century if global warming continues apace, according to a new study.

Tropical regions in Africa, Asia and South America could see "the permanent emergence of unprecedented summer heat" even within the next decades, said the study, to be published later this month in the journal Climatic Change Letters.

Such dramatic changes in temperature would have a major impact on human health, food supplies and biodiversity, warn the researchers.

"Large areas of the globe are likely to warm up so quickly that, by the middle of this century, even the coolest summers will be hotter than the hottest summers of the past 50 years," said lead author Noah Diffenbaugh, a professor at Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment.

Scientists have long predicted that climate change driven by greenhouse gas emissions would cause more frequent heat waves, such as struck Europe in 2003, or the United States this week.

Many regions of the globe, they found to their surprise, can anticipate a "new normal" of summers that today would be classified a heatwave within a matter of decades.

The researchers also analysed historical data from weather stations around the world to see if the projected increase in temperatures had already begun.

"This extreme heat emergence is occurring now, and climate models represent the historical pattern remarkably well," Diffenbaugh said.

Results differed somewhat from region to region, with the tropics being hit earliest and hardest.

The likelihood of out-of-control fires such as raged across Australia and Russia in 2009 and 2010 increases dramatically with higher temperatures. Likewise loss of life: the 2003 heatwave in Europe killed some 40,000 people.

Blasts kill 20 in Afghan towns

Last May the deadliest since 2007

AFP, Kabul

A series of bombs and explosions killed 20 people in Afghanistan's southern and eastern flashpoints yesterday, among them at least eight children and four women, government officials said.

The attacks came as the UN said that May was the deadliest month for civilians in Afghanistan since at least 2007, with 368 deaths and 593 injuries of documented.

In yesterday's deadliest incident, a vehicle hit a mine in Arghandab district of the southern province of Kandahar.

"Today at 10:00am, 15 civilians were killed, including eight children, four women and three men," the ministry said.

The interior ministry said six civilians, including a woman and two children, were wounded by mortar bombs fired at a district police headquarters in the eastern province of Kunar.

In the eastern province of Khost, a suicide bomber yesterday killed three people including the commander of a provincial Afghan police rapid reaction force and wounded 12 others, officials said.

Two policemen were also killed and nine wounded when two successive blasts hit the eastern province of Laghman, in the border with Pakistan.

Karzai calls on Pakistan to eradicate militants

AFP, Islamabad

Afghan President Hamid Karzai called on Pakistan to eradicate militant sanctuaries at "detailed" talks yesterday about a peace process with the Taliban that inaugurated a joint peace commission.

"The facts are so bare and the wound is so clear and hurting that it requires both of us to work diligently and extremely aggressively and effectively to curb terrorism and radicalism in the region," Karzai said.

In another effort to improve ties, a transit trade agreement between the countries signed last year, is due to come into effect on Sunday, Islamabad said.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani (2nd R, rear) and Afghan President Hamid Karzai (L, rear) attend an agreement signing ceremony by the foreign ministers of the two countries in Islamabad yesterday. The Afghan president called on Pakistan to eradicate militant sanctuaries to restore peace in the region.

Hartal aims for anarchy

FROM PAGE 1
trying to create anarchy in the name of hartal, reports BSS.

She urged the opposition to place in parliament if they have any proposal or formula regarding the caretaker government.

"We did not make any proposal to scrap the care-

taker government system. The country's Supreme Court has declared the system illegal," the PM said.

She questioned why the opposition leader likes the caretaker government so much, though it had taken her to jail and banished her sons?

Referring to the country's hard-earned democracy, the PM called upon all to remain vigilant so that none can snatch away the people's democratic rights in future.

UNB reports: Ruling AL has urged the opposition BNP to decide through dialogue over the system under which next parliamentary election will be held.

Addressing a press briefing at the AL President's Dhanmondi office yesterday, AL General Secretary Syed Ashrafu'llah said the system under which the next parliamentary polls would be held has to be settled on the basis of national consensus.

The doors are still open for BNP to take part in working out the issue of caretaker government, he added.

Ashrafu'llah also urged the opposition to come to parliament instead of enforcing "illogical" hartal. "Please come to parliament. This is the only place for holding discussions and placing your demands," he said.

Replying to a question about BNP's demand to the government for withdrawal of cases against Khaleda Zia,

the AL general secretary said the opposition leader should come to parliament to place this demand.

He, however, said that the cases which were not filed by the present government cannot be withdrawn. "Law will take its own course."

The AL general secretary regretted that Khaleda Zia is saying no to everything - dialogue with the Election Commission and Electronic Voting.

Labeling the BNP-called hartals as unnecessary, Ashrafu'llah said the caretaker government system will not be cancelled on the basis of the report by the parliamentary special committee. "The committee has only placed its report in parliament for discussion by the lawmakers. The report will be sent to the parliamentary standing committee on Law and Parliamentary Affairs Ministry. It may even be sent to the cabinet."

The AL spokesperson said, "It will take a long time to enact law on the caretaker issue. But BNP has called hartals just after the primary process."

He said the people do not support hartal.

"You can call hartal when you've no other way. But all the ways are open. Why are you causing sufferings to mass people through enforcing hartal?" Ashrafu'llah asked the opposition party.

Compromise mulled

FROM PAGE 20
government is looking after their interest, noted the minister.

The tax exemption privilege has been withdrawn in the proposed national budget for the 2011-12 fiscal year.

The government officials will have to pay tax at a rate of 10 to 15 percent of their basic pay and it will be deducted at source, according to the ministry source.

Different quarters raised questions about the tax exemption facility offered to the government high-ups and officials, the finance minister said in his budget speech.

This also stands against the principle of equality between the public and private sector employees in terms of collecting tax, observed Muhith.

Some government officials, however, said they are paid lower wages than those in the private sector. Moreover, if they have to pay the income tax on their own, their living standard will become worse.

Earlier, several business leaders during budget discussions with the finance minister claimed the tax exemption privilege of the government officials is an injustice.

National University Gazipur Invitation for Tender			
1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Education.	
2	Agency	National University, Gazipur.	
3	Procuring entity name	Deputy Registrar & In-charge, National University.	
4	Procuring entity code	Not applicable.	
5	Procuring entity district	Gazipur.	
6	Invitation for	Supply & Installation of Computer, UPS, Server, Line Printer, Laser Printer, OMR Machine etc. at National University, Gazipur.	
7	Invitation Ref. No.	13/292\N.U./Engg./2011/1/5318	
8	Date	07/06/2011	
KEY INFORMATION			
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.	
FUNDING INFORMATION			
10	Budget and source of funds	GOB	
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION			
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.	
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.	
14	Tender package No.	Not applicable.	
15	Tender package name	Not applicable.	
16	Tender publication date	09/06/2011.	
17	Tender last selling date	26/06/2011.	
18	Tender closing date and time	Date	Time
19	Tender opening date and time	27/06/2011	12:00 noon
20	Name & address of the office(s)	27/06/2011	12:30pm
	- Selling tender document	Address	
	- Receiving tender document	Director, Finance & Accounts.	
	- Opening tender document	Office of the Registrar, National University.	
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Office of the Registrar, National University.	
		Not applicable.	
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER			
22	Eligibility of tenderer	Bonafide manufacturers/distributors /dealers/agents.	
23	Brief description of goods or works	Supply & Installation of Computer, UPS, Server, Line Printer, Laser Printer, OMR Machine etc. at National University, Gazipur.	
24	Brief description of related services	Not applicable.	
25	Price of tender document (non-refundable) Tk.	Tk. 1,000/- (one thousand) only for Lot 1-3 & Tk. 500/- (five hundred) only for lot 04 as DD or Pay-Order of any branch of Sonali Bank Ltd.	
26	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location
	01	For Supply & Installation of Computer, UPS, Server etc. at National University, Gazipur	National University at Gazipur
	02	For Supply & Installation of Line Printer, Laser Printer etc. at National University, Gazipur	National University at Gazipur
	03	For Supply & Installation of OMR Machine at National University, Gazipur	National University at Gazipur
	04	For Supply & Installation of CCTV System & Dehumidifier at National University, Gazipur	National University at Gazipur
27	Name of official inviting tender	Tender security amount (Tk)	
28	Designation of official inviting tender	Completion time	
29	Address of official inviting tender	01 (one) month	
30	Contact details of official inviting tender	01 (one) month	
31	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.		02 (two) months
	Md. Abu Hanif.		01 (one) month
	Deputy Registrar & In-Charge, Engineering Division.		
	National University.		
	Tel. 9291034		
	GD-2684		

রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক			
প্রধান কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী			
সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ			
দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি			
১.	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	:	অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়।
২.	এজেন্সী	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক।
৩.	ক্রয়কারীর নাম	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।
৪.	ক্রয়কারীর কোড	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
৫.	ক্রয়কারীর জেলা	:	রাজশাহী।
৬.	দরপত্র আহ্বানের বিষয়	:	মিতসুবিশি পাজেরো জীপ গাড়ি নং-বগড়া-ঘ-১১-০০১৫ তে সিডিউল অনুযায়ী নতুন ইঞ্জিন এসেম্বলী এবং পিয়ার ব্রজ এসেম্বলীসহ সকল যন্ত্রাংশ সংযোজন ও মেরামত কার্যাদি সম্পাদনের মাধ্যমে জীপটি সম্পূর্ণরূপে চালুকরণ।
৭.	দরপত্র স্মারক নং	:	প্রকা/সাসেবি-১২(২)/২০১০-২০১১/৯১৬।
৮.	তারিখ	:	০৭-০৬-২০১১ইং।
মূল তথ্য			
৯.	ক্রয় পদ্ধতি	:	খোলা দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (OTM)।
তহবিল সংক্রান্ত তথ্য			
১০.	বাজেট এবং তহবিলের উৎস	:	ব্যাংকের নিজস্ব বাজেট এবং তহবিল।
১১.	উন্নয়ন অংশীদার (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
নির্দিষ্ট তথ্য			
১২.	প্রজেক্ট/প্রোগ্রাম কোড (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
১৩.	প্রজেক্ট/প্রোগ্রাম-এর নাম (প্রযোজ্য ক্ষেত্রে)	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
১৪.	দরপত্র প্যাকেজ সংখ্যা	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
১৫.	দরপত্র প্যাকেজ-এর নাম	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
১৬.	দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের তারিখ	:	১৩-০৬-২০১১ইং তারিখের মধ্যে।
১৭.	দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের সর্বশেষ তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৭-০৬-২০১১ইং তারিখ বিকাল-৪.০০টা পর্যন্ত।
১৮.	দরপত্র জমা দেয়ার তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৮-০৬-২০১১ইং তারিখ বিকাল-৪.০০টা পর্যন্ত।
১৯.	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	:	২৯-০৬-২০১১ইং তারিখ বিকাল-৪.০০মঃ।
২০.	অফিস-এর নাম ও ঠিকানাঃ -দরপত্র সিডিউল প্রাপ্তির অফিস	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, স্থানীয় মুখ্য কার্যালয়, কাজীহাটা, রাজশাহী/ঢাকা শাখা, আমিনকোট ভবন (৫ম তলা), ৬২-৬৩, মতিঝিল বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা/বগড়া শাখা, বগড়া।
	-দরপত্র সিডিউল গ্রহণের অফিস	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী/ ঢাকা শাখা/জোনাল কার্যালয়, বগড়া (উত্তর)।
	-দরপত্র সিডিউল খোলার অফিস	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।
২১.	প্রাক-দরপত্র সভা অনুষ্ঠানের স্থান/তারিখ/ সময় (ঐচ্ছিক)	:	প্রযোজ্য নহে।
দরপত্রাদাতার জন্য তথ্য			
২২.	দরপত্রাদাতার যোগাযোগ	:	গাড়ি মেরামতকারী প্রতিষ্ঠিত ফর্ম/প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহ।
২৩.	দ্রব্য অথবা কাজের সংক্ষিপ্ত বর্ণনা	:	মিতসুবিশি পাজেরো জীপ গাড়ি নং-বগড়া-ঘ-১১-০০১৫ তে সিডিউল অনুযায়ী নতুন ইঞ্জিন এসেম্বলী এবং পিয়ার ব্রজ এসেম্বলীসহ সকল যন্ত্রাংশ সংযোজন ও মেরামত কার্যাদি সম্পাদনের মাধ্যমে জীপটি সম্পূর্ণরূপে চালুকরণ।
২৪.	সংশ্লিষ্ট সেবার সংক্ষিপ্ত বর্ণনা	:	নতুন যন্ত্রাংশ সংযোজনসহ গাড়ি মেরামত ও চালুকরণ।
২৫.	দরপত্র সিডিউলের মূল্য (প্রতিসেট)	:	১,০০০.০০ (এক হাজার) টাকা মাত্র।
	লট সংখ্যা	লট-এর পরিচিতি	অবস্থান
২৬.	একক	মিতসুবিশি পাজেরো জীপ গাড়ি নং-বগড়া-ঘ-১১-০০১৫	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, প্রশিক্ষণ ইনস্টিটিউট, বাড়ি নং-২৬২/২, সেক্টর-০২, উপশহর, রাজশাহী।
			২১,০০০/- (একশ হাজার) টাকা মাত্র
			কার্যদেশে প্রাপ্তির তারিখ হতে ৬০ (ষাট) দিনের মধ্যে।
ক্রয়কারীর বিশদ বিবরণ			
২৭.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার নাম	:	মোঃ এমদাদুল হক।
২৮.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার পদবী	:	সহকারী ব্যবস্থাপক (বিভাগীয় দায়িত্বে)।
২৯.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার ঠিকানা	:	রাজশাহী কৃষি উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক, সাধারণ সেবা বিভাগ, প্রধান কার্যালয়, রাজশাহী।
৩০.	দরপত্র আহ্বানকারী কর্মকর্তার সঙ্গে যোগাযোগের মাধ্যম	:	টেলিফোন-০৭২১-৭৭৫৯৩৪।
মোঃ এমদাদুল হক সহকারী মহাব্যবস্থাপক (বিভাগীয় দায়িত্বে)			
জিডি-২৬৭১			