

NEWS IN brief

UN, US join appeal for captive Israeli soldier

AFP, United Nations



Gilad Shalit

UN leader Ban Ki-moon and the White House on Friday joined international appeals for the Hamas group to release him. Earlier, Israeli, Palestinian and international human rights groups issued a joint statement demanding that Gaza militants end "inhumane" treatment of the Israeli. Shalit was 19 when captured in southern Israel on June 25, 2006.

NY senate nods to gay marriage

AFP, New York

The New York state senate approved a same-sex marriage bill late yesterday, a powerful victory for gay rights advocates that makes New York the most populous US state where gay marriage will be allowed.

Cheers erupted in the galleries when the Republican-controlled senate voted 33-29 on the "Marriage Equality Act," finally approved after weeks of intense wrangling.

A March poll found that a 53 percent majority of Americans are in favour of allowing gay marriage.

Storms kill 10 in Vietnam

AFP, Hanoi

At least 10 people have been killed, seven of them struck by lightning, during several days of storms and heavy rain in northern Vietnam, the disaster authorities said yesterday.

Authorities have warned people of the danger of landslides in mountainous areas. Floods and storms claim hundreds of lives every year in Vietnam.

Blast at Afghan hospital kills 35

Death toll expected to rise

AP, Kabul

A bomb at an Afghan hospital yesterday killed at least 35 people including women and children, days after President Barack Obama said 10,000 US forces would leave the country this year.

The suicide car bombing in Logar province, about 75 kilometres south of the capital Kabul, also wounded over 20 people and officials warned the death toll could rise.

An eyewitness described horrific scenes of victims on fire and body parts scattered in all directions after a sports utility vehicle (SUV) blew up in the remote district of Azra, close to the border with Pakistan.

The attack was condemned "in the strongest terms" by the United Nations, which said the hospital's maternity ward was badly damaged in the attack and many of the victims were women and children.

Underlining chaos and confusion at the site, the ministry of public health initially put the death toll at 60 but later corrected its own figures.

A provincial official said the death toll could be significantly higher.

The Taliban denied it was behind the attack, with spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid saying: "We condemn this attack on a hospital... whoever has done this wants to defame the Taliban."

Southeast Asia a major drug hub: UN

Warns of 'designer' drugs in the region

AFP, United Nations

UN anti-narcotics agency sounded the alarm over soaring production and consumption of heroin and new designer drugs that are again making Southeast Asia a major drugs hub.

"The international community seems to have taken its eye off the ball on drug control in Southeast Asia," said Yury Fedotov, executive director of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The agency's World Drug Report 2011 warned that Myanmar has become a prime source of synthetic narcotic methamphetamine which it said is "sweeping" across East Asia.

A record 15.8 tons of methamphetamine pills were seized in 2009, the latest year for available figures, up by more than one third from 2008.

Afghanistan remains the world's top opium producer closely followed by Myanmar.

The world opium market is now said to be valued at more than \$68 billion a year.

Fedotov said that Southeast Asia -- and particularly the so-called "Golden Triangle" region where Laos, Myanmar and Thailand meet -- was again a big concern.

"The gains we have witnessed in the traditional drugs markets are being offset by a fashion for synthetic 'designer drugs' mimicking illegal substances," said the agency's chief.

The UN said that governments and experts in Asia had reported a "significant" increase in use of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) over the past year, particularly of methamphetamine.

UNODC said the first clandestine ATS laboratory in India was found in 2003 but more have been uncovered since. "Attempts at illicit ATS manufacture have also been reported from Bangladesh and Sri Lanka."

"South Asia has become one of the main regions used to obtain ephedrine and pseudoephedrine for the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine."

"India is one of the world's largest manufacturers of precursor chemicals and Bangladesh also has a growing chemical industry," warned the report.

Border survey not for land

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done according to the Land Boundary Agreement, 1974. However, final decision will be taken after completion of the survey and its report, said Mijarul.

Briefing diplomatic correspondents at the foreign ministry, Mijarul said the survey started after the two countries came to an agreement to resolve the disputes over 6.5 km stretch of border, exchange of enclaves or exclaves [pieces of a country's land within another country] and transfer of adversely possessed lands.

There are two ways of dealing with the adversely possessed lands-- one is legal procedure and another is transfer of the lands between the two countries. The issue also involves humanitarian grounds.

Mijarul said the JBWG teams are counting inhabitants of the enclaves. He, however, dismissed the notion of determining ownership of enclaves through referendum.

The foreign secretary said Indian External Affairs Minister SM Krishna will visit Dhaka on July 6-8, and Indian Home Minister Palaniappan Chidambaram and Water Resources Minister Salman Khurshid may come here before Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's Bangladesh visit at the end of the year.

Besides, Indian Congress Party chief Sonia Gandhi will be visiting Bangladesh to attend an International Conference on child autism in Dhaka at the

end of July.

Mijarul said he hopes that some landmark steps would be taken to resolve the bilateral issues during the Indian PM's visit.

"We expect a breakthrough in sharing the Teesta river water, demarcation of land, power grid connection and one billion dollar Indian line of credit," he noted.

Bangladesh-China Turning to Sino-Bangla affairs, the foreign secretary said the government is preparing a proposal seeking China's cooperation in the construction of Sonadia deep seaport in Chittagong.

Referring to Foreign Minister Dipu Moni's meeting with Chinese Vice-President Xi Jinping and Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi in Beijing on June 22, he said China during the meeting assured Bangladesh of its cooperation in the deep seaport construction.

China also offered 150 million renminbi to Bangladesh for the country's socio-economic development.

Bangladesh has decided to set up a consular office in Kunming and sought Chinese assistance in easing the visa regime.

Mijarul also said Kunming-Chittagong link through Myanmar is on the cards for setting up transregional connectivity. China gave assurance of more duty free access of Bangladeshi products to Chinese market to reduce the trade imbalance.

Govt set to accept unproven tech

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foundation stone of the project.

To be completed by August 2013, the plant will generate 412 MW power.

When the tender for it was floated late in 2009, the original EGCB bid documents left a scope for a bidder to sell unproven power generator.

As this triggered complaints, the Jica that gives concurrence to every step of this bid, sought the EGCB's clarification. In December 2009, the EGCB modified the bid documents saying that any power generators offered by a bidder must have at least two years' performance record.

The bidders also complained that a competitor was trying to pass an unproven generator by showing it as one that had evolved from a proven model. The EGCB clarified that there was no scope for a bidder to pass an unproven generator as a proven one by showing that it had "evolved" from an earlier model of the series.

In early 2010, the EGCB prequalified Japanese Sumiomo and Marubeni, Chinese Guang Dong, Spanish Cobra and Italian Ensaldo for the tender based on their technical and financial strength.

In the tender, the EGCB sought a power generator having a capacity range of 15 percent instead of the usual 10 percent; which meant that a bidder can offer a generator that produced power 15 percent more than the required 360 MW.

Only two bidders -- Sumitomo and Marubeni --

LPG PRICE HIKE Mamata cuts tax for WB consumers

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee yesterday took the lead in providing some relief to the people hit hard by federal Indian government's decision to hike cooking gas (LPG) price by Rs.50 per cylinder by withdrawing the tax on the commodity.

Mamata said in Kolkata that West Bengal state government would not collect the tax of Rs 16 per cylinder and this would effectively put the burden of hike at Rs 34 and not Rs 50 on consumers in the state.

Apparently taking a cue from Mamata's action, the federal Indian government asked all states to cut their separate levies on cooking gas, diesel and kerosene in a bid to soften the impact of the hike in their prices.

Laden weighed name change for al-Qaeda

Move triggered by organisation's 'wrong' image

AFP, Washington



Osama bin Laden was so worried about al-Qaeda's image that he proposed changing the group's name to try to improve its "brand," a US official said Friday.

In a letter found at his Pakistani compound, Bin Laden debated the name change because he was unhappy that the original name of his group -- al-Qaeda al-Jihad, or The Base of Holy War -- had been widely referred to only as al-Qaeda, dropping the reference to religious war, the US official said.

"It was sort of like brand-imaging," the official said.

Bin Laden's proposals for alternative names were not exactly dynamic.

He suggested possibly Taifat al-Tawhed Wal-Jihad, or Monotheism and Jihad Group, and Jama'at'l'Adat al-Khilafat al-Rashida, translated as Restoration of the Caliphate Group, the official said.

"What he was being frustrated by was that most people were seeing the fight against al-Qaeda for what it really is -- it's an effort stop a violent organisation not a war on religion," he said. "That bothered him."

It was not clear who the letter was addressed to or whether or not it was delivered, but the document appeared to be written in the last couple of years "based on the context of it," according to the official.

The Daily Star last week requesting anonymity. He also said that as per the agreement, the bidder could not supply an unproven generator.

But 701F is the name of the series, and not of the model. This series offers four models - the latest one is unproven.

When asked, Jica senior representative Mayumi said the Japanese financier will not accept this if it finds that the gas turbine has been bought breaching terms and conditions of the agreement. "At the moment, we know that they have not breached terms and conditions of our guidelines," she said. "They have already submitted their written note of acknowledgement of compliance. In effect, they have promised that they will carry out the services in compliance with the guidelines."

Jica formally told The Daily Star on June 9 that as per its agreement with the government, the EGCB is the authority responsible for approving the procurement while Jica reviews the process at every stage. Following its own guidelines, Jica gave its no-objection to EGCB's selection.

A Marubeni representative in Dhaka, requesting anonymity, claimed to The Daily Star that there was no such scope to bypass the contract to provide an unproven generator. When pointed out that the contract documents talk of an unproven generator, he said "We do not know what documents you have got. But there is no scope for us to bypass the contract."

They claimed that their bid was flawless and their Siemens generator was more efficient than the Marubeni MHI generator. They also alleged that Marubeni was selling the government an unproven MHI generator of "701F4" model.

They argued that in order to sell the newly developed model internationally, Mitsubishi needed to have a foreign installation through Marubeni to create a record of experience. The Haripur projects its proving ground.

The Daily Star obtained some parts of the Marubeni bid documents. In most part

নর্থ-ওয়েস্ট পাওয়ার জেনারেশন কোং লিঃ
North-West Power Generation Co. Ltd.
 (An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)
 বিদ্যুৎ ভবন (১৪-তলা)
 ১নং আঃ গণি রোড
 ঢাকা-১০০০

Career Opportunity

North-West Power Generation Company Limited (an Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board) is looking for energetic and promising persons for immediate appointment on contractual basis to the following posts and invites applications with CV from Bangladeshi Nationals:

S/R	Name of the Post & Initial Pay	Number of Post	Required Qualification	Experience	Age
01	Deputy Manager (Technical) Group-Mechanical	04	Candidates must be graduate in B.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering from a recognized institution/university.	At least 05 years of working experience as Assistant Engineer or Assistant Manager (Technical) preferably in a large public power utility organization in multi-disciplinary environment. Candidates having working experience in the power projects, design & planning and operations & maintenance of power plant(s) will get preference.	Age should be between 30 (thirty) to 40 (fourty) years as on 01/07/2011.
02	Deputy Manager (Technical) Group-Civil	03	Candidates must be graduate in B.Sc. in Civil Engineering from a recognized institution/university.		

Compensation Package: Company is offering an excellent & attractive compensation package (Basic Salary, House Rent Allowance, Medical Benefits, Festival Bonus, Transport Facilities, Electricity Rebate, Gas Charges, Gratuity, Other Fringe Benefits & Allowances) as per pay structure and the rules of North-West Power Generation Co. Ltd.

- General Conditions:**
- Persons employed in Government, Semi-Government or Autonomous organization(s) should apply through proper channel.
 - The candidate should be fluent in spoken and written Bengali and English languages, and should be excellent in computer application, especially in MS Word, Excel and Power Point. Auto-Cad expertise will get preference. The candidate should also be capable of working in challenging and stressful situations.
 - Candidates having 3rd Division(s)/Class(es) in the academic career or CGPA below 3.00 on the scale of 5 points or below 2.50 on the scale of 4 points in education life from SSC to graduation need not apply.
 - Incomplete application will not be considered. Only short-listed candidates will be called for written examination/interview or both.
 - Candidates must be ready to work in any project area / power plant(s) of North-West Power Generation Company Limited.
 - Persuasion of any kind will disqualify the candidate.
 - North-West Power Generation Company Limited management reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of posts and cancel any or all applications without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Submission of Application: Application (cover letter) with detail CV and attested copies of all educational and experience certificates and mark sheets/transcripts including training and other activities, National ID Card, Nationality Certificate, 3 copies recent PP size photograph along with a crossed postal order/pay order / bank draft of the value of TK. 200/- payable to North-West Power Generation Company Limited must reach by 15.07.2011 (within office hour) to 'The Managing Director', North-West Power Generation Company Limited, Bidyut Bhaban (Level-14), 1 Abdul Gani Road, Dhaka-1000. The CV chronologically must include (A) Name, (B) Father's Name, (C) Mother's Name, (D) Permanent Address, (E) Present / Mailing Address, (F) Contact Number(s), (G) National ID Card Number (if any), (H) Date of Birth, (I) Age on 01.07.2011, (J) Educational Qualification stating (i) Name of Examination, (ii) Board/Institute/University, (iii) Group/Subject, (iv) Passing Year and (v) Division/Class/CGPA obtained, (K) Professional Qualification & Membership (if any), (L) Experience in Detail, (M) Publications in any Journal (if any), (N) Training (if any), (O) Special Works/Activities Performed (if any) (P) Two References (non-relative), (Q) Signature of the Applicant.

Md. Mamunur Rahman Mondal
 Manager (HR)
 Human Resource Division
 North-West Power Generation Company Limited

HAC SECURITIES LIMITED
 MEMBER # 74, DHAKA STOCK EXCHANGE LIMITED

Career Opportunity

HAC Securities Limited is one of the leading brokerage houses in Bangladesh capital market. Though HAC is operating as a broker since 1980, it has achieved fabulous growth since corporatization of its business operation in 2006. At present HAC has 35,000+ clients. We have one of the largest branch networks among all the brokers with 10 branches and extension offices. Very soon we are going to initiate another major expansion of our business operation. That is why we are looking for some energetic team members to lead our business to new heights.

We at HAC are strong believers in Human Resources and it is our people who will ultimately determine our success. Feel free to contact us if you believe you can join us as a team member in the following positions:

Sl. No.	Designation	Academic Caliber	Experience
1.	Manager- Marketing and Sales	MBA/BBA in Finance and Banking.	Minimum 3 years experience in a brokerage house/merchant bank preferably backed by bank/financial institutions. In-depth knowledge about Bangladesh capital market is a must.
2.	Manager-IT	B.Sc in CS, IT or CSE from any reputed University	Minimum 2 years experience. Educational Qualification may be relaxed based on qualification & experiences.
3.	Manager/Assistant Manager- Accounts	CA (Inter)/CMA(Level-3)	Minimum 3-5 years experience preferably in any financial institution in accounting department. Basic knowledge on Bangladesh capital market operation is a necessity
4.	Manager- Customer Service	MBA/BBA in HR/MIS/Management from any reputed university	Minimum 2 years experience preferably in any financial institution. Basic knowledge on Bangladesh capital market operation is a necessity.
5.	Sales Executive	Bachelor Degree preferably from Finance	Basic knowledge on Bangladesh capital market operation is a necessity. Experience is not a must but preferable.
6.	Officer - Research	BBA in Finance from any reputed university. MBA/CFA Level-I will be given preference	Experience is not mandatory but experienced candidates will be given preference.
7.	Authorized Representative	Bachelor Degree preferably from Business Studies background	The candidates must be a certified authorized representative.

Proficiency in English language and MS Office is a must for all the managerial positions. Besides the requirements mentioned above candidates should be self-starter, proactive, extrovert and creative. Competitive compensation package will be offered to deserving candidates. Sales team will get commission on the sales generated by them. Candidates drawing salary less than BDT 25,000/- are requested not to apply for the managerial positions. If you believe you are a team player with leading attitude please mail your detailed Curriculum Vitae with scanned photographs to info@hacsecurities.com within 10 July 2011 or mail us your CV with a cover letter to **Managing Director, HAC Securities Limited, 4-5 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1216.** In case of e-mail write the desired post in the subject line and in case of post write the desired post on the envelope.