

Indian PM urges leading role for UN

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh yesterday said time has come for the United Nations General Assembly to resume its global leadership role at a time when the world is in the throes of economic slowdown and faces terrorism and non-traditional security threats like piracy.

In a statement shortly before leaving for New York to attend the 66th session of the United Nations General Assembly, he said the world body "is meeting this year at a time when the world is faced with multiple challenges. The global economy is in the midst of an economic slowdown coupled with all its attendant problems, including inflationary pressures."

"More than ever before, it is imperative for all countries to act in concert to address these challenges. This is the time for United Nations to resume its global leadership role," the Prime Minister said.



This handout photo shows General Secretary of India's Congress Party Rahul Gandhi meets with locals in Lumsey on the outskirts of Gangtok yesterday. Gandhi flew to the disaster zone to see the rescue and aid programme.

PHOTO: AFP

ALLEGED HAQQANI CONNECTION US slams Pakistan

AFP, Washington

The United States on Tuesday renewed blunt demands that Pakistan crack down on Haqqani militants based in the country, saying the network posed a serious threat to US forces in Afghanistan.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta told reporters that Washington would "put as much pressure as possible on the Pakistanis to exercise control from their side of the border."

"We've continued to state that this cannot happen, we cannot have the Haqqanis coming across the border, attacking our forces, attacking Afghanistan...and then disappearing back into a safe haven. That is not tolerable," Panetta said.

He added: "I think they've heard the message, but we'll see."

Panetta's comments reflect a tougher public US line in recent days amid growing frustration in President Barack Obama's administration over the role of the Haqqani network.

The stern warnings also coincide with increasingly strained relations with Pakistan, which was angered and embarrassed by a US raid in May that killed Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad.

The Americans blame the Haqqani network for a recent bombing attack that wounded 77 US troops at a base in Wardak province and for an elaborate assault on September 13 on the US embassy and NATO headquarters in Kabul.

Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said at an earlier event Tuesday the presence of the Haqqani sanctuaries potentially jeopardized the outcome of the war.

"Without that (Pakistani action), we can't succeed in the overall effort," he said.

Mullen said Pakistan's ISI intelligence agency had to sever all ties with the Haqqani militants, who operate out of sanctuaries in the country's northwest.

"I think that the ISI has to make the decision to strategically disengage. The ISI has been doing this, supporting proxies for an extended period of time," he told an audience at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Gas leak near Mumbai kills four

AFP, Mumbai

A poisonous gas leak at a pharmaceutical factory in the western Indian state of Maharashtra killed four workers and left 11 sick, the company and police said yesterday.

Preliminary investigations suggested that hydrogen sulphide gas escaped from a pipeline late Tuesday at the Sequent Scientific factory in Boisar, 120 kilometres north of Mumbai.

"There was an accident at our Tarapur facility. The effects were contained last night but resulted in the sad demise of four workers and injuries to a few others," the company said in a statement to the Bombay Stock Exchange.

The factory has been closed since the accident.

Three managers at the plant have been held for questioning, while the state government and the Department of Industrial Safety and Health have started investigating.

Mighty typhoon Roke hits Japan

AFP, Tokyo

A powerful typhoon smashed into Japan yesterday and headed for the stricken Fukushima nuclear plant, where workers raced to protect buildings and reactors that are leaking radiation.

The storm, which was packing winds of up to 198 kilometres per hour, has killed at least five people and a million were initially warned to leave their homes over fears torrential rains could cause widespread flooding.

At around 7:00pm Typhoon Roke was centred 63 kilometres northwest of Tokyo, heading northeast -- towards the area that was devastated by a record earthquake and tsunami on March 11 that sparked nuclear meltdowns at Fukushima.

Hundreds of flights were cancelled, ferry and rail services were suspended and roads closed as the country prepared for the full impact of the storm.

Roke comes less than a month after another vicious typhoon barrelled through Japan, killing around 100 people in one of the deadliest storms the country has seen in decades and heaping more misery on the disaster-weary nation.

Five people have so far been found dead in central and western Japan in the latest calamity, NHK reported, while four people are missing including a boy who disappeared on his way home from primary school.

The broadcaster said 55 people had been injured as torrential rain battered some areas and caused flooding in others.

Prefectures across eastern Japan issued landslide warnings, telling people to stay away from areas at risk.

Around 450 flights were cancelled, grounding more than 45,000 passengers, Jiji Press reported.

East Japan Railway was suspending a number of services, including some bullet trains, but did not know how many passengers would be affected, a spokesman said.

Vacancy Announcement



Bangladesh

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces the vacancy for the following post for the Civil Service Change Management Programme Project.

Community Participation Assistant- SC (SB2) - 1 Post

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than 17:00 pm, 8 October 2011. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

VACANCY NOTICE



Bangladesh

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the position of Learning & Development Specialist (Service Contract, SB-4) with "Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP), Phase-II" project.

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply for the above position, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than on Sunday, 9 October, 2011.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

VACANCY NOTICE



Bangladesh

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces a vacancy for the position of Monitoring & Evaluation Specialist (Service Contract, SB-4) with "Early Recovery Facility (ERF)" project.

The duration of the Service Contract is one year initially, subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance and availability of funds.

For details of the Job Description and instructions to apply for the above position, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Applications should be received no later than on Sunday, 9 October, 2011.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Female candidates are encouraged to apply.

India-Nepal quake toll crosses 100

AFP, Mangan

The death toll from the weekend earthquake in the Himalayas crossed 100 yesterday as rescue workers struggled to reach remote villages and helicopters airlifted the injured and stranded.

Sunday's 6.9-magnitude quake struck the border of India's northeastern state of Sikkim and Nepal, bringing destruction to towns and villages on both sides as well as in southern Tibet and the tiny kingdom of Bhutan.

From a helipad in Mangan in northern Sikkim, military and private helicopters flew regular sorties, taking food and medical supplies to outlying villages and bringing back injured survivors and a number of foreign tourists.

In the state capital Gangtok, 70 kilometres southeast of the epicentre, Chief Minister Pawan Chamling confirmed 68 deaths in Sikkim and said there was still no contact with a number of villages in the quake zone.

Rescue efforts began in earnest after emergency teams and relief workers spent two days braving heavy rains, damaged roads and landslides to reach the worst-affected areas.

SK Pradhan, the district magistrate of Chungtang, close to the epicentre, said he saw signs of badly damaged villages as he flew over the sparsely populated area.

"We could see bodies lying in the debris, but for now our priority is to evacuate the injured and then we will take stock of the dead," he said.

"We are still not able to contact many remote villages."

Doctors at Mangan district hospital said most of the seriously injured had badly crushed limbs and bodies after being caught in rockfalls or building collapses.

A company building a huge hydroelectric plant in Chungtang said 18 of its employees had been killed.

In Mangan, relatives of people living in and around the epicentre gathered in groups, sharing what little information they could glean about the fate of their family members.

Most had heard nothing from their families since the quake hit on Sunday evening.

In Nepal, eight people were killed and hundreds of homes destroyed or damaged in the east of the country, where rescuers faced the same problems as their Indian counterparts with rains and mudslides blocking routes to the affected areas.

Eighteen other people died in the Indian states of Bihar and West Bengal, while China's official Xinhua news agency said seven people had been killed in southern Tibet, near the border with Sikkim.

Russia makes fresh proposal

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Petrobangla Chairman Hussain Monsur however told The Daily Star that he did not receive any fresh offer from Gazprom.

"Gazprom had sent us an offer before the Eid holidays. If they send us a new offer, I am the first person to see it. But I have not seen it," he said yesterday.

The GTCL's on-going tender for gas compressors faced a long delay because Petrobangla slowed down the tender process for several months while promoting Gazprom's unsolicited offer. But Petrobangla's enthusiasm was watered down late last month when Gazprom's offer was opened.

The Russian company sought \$ 297 million for the

two compressors and \$200 million more for drilling 10 gas wells in the existing national gas fields. In contrast, GTCL's tender drew an offer of \$122 million from Korean Hyundai.

As a result of this price difference, Petrobangla was forced to backtrack from Gazprom's offer for now. At the same time, it cleared the GTCL to send its tender recommendation to the ADB for its concurrence to award the contract to Hyundai for setting up the two compressors in Ashuganj and Elenga. The recommendation was sent on September 14 and the authorities are expecting ADB's clearance within this month.

"The Gazprom proposal had many additional components which would have been useful for us in the long run. But since everybody wants the Hyundai compressors, we are going for that," said the Petrobangla chairman. "We are hoping that the ADB will soon give us its concurrence."

He added that Petrobangla would negotiate with Gazprom over its offer for drilling the 10 wells to reduce the cost. Gazprom's drilling offer seeks a cost more than double of that by Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration Company.

Petrobangla sought Gazprom's cooperation in drilling development wells in Titas, Rashidpur, Semutang, Begumganj, Shahbazpur and Sundalpur gas fields.

Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd

HEAD OFFICE,
BDBL BHABAN (Gr-7th Floor)
8, Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT

INVITATION FOR TENDER

Subject: Supply, Installation, Testing & Commissioning of Router, Server, Computer, Printer & UPS at BDBL Head Office, Dhaka.

As per terms & conditions of the Open Tendering Method of the Public Procurement Rules' 2008 Sealed and Signed proposals are hereby invited from reputed manufacturers of Router, Server, Computer, Printer & UPS or their authorized agents/dealers in Bangladesh for Supply, installation and commissioning of Router, Server, Computer, Printer & UPS at BDBL Head Office on Turn-Key basis.

1. Procuring Entity	Bangladesh Development Bank Limited (BDBL)
2. Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method (OTM)
3. Source of Fund	BDBL own Fund
4. Invitation for Tender No.	Tender No BDBL/ICT/OTM/2011/05
5. Brief Description of the Goods an Services	Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of 11 Nos Router, 01 no Server, 63 nos Brand Computer, 11 nos Printer, 51 nos UPS.
6. Name & Address of the Office Selling Tender Document.	Information & Communication Technology Department, Bangladesh Development Bank Limited (BDBL), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level-6), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
7. Name & Address of the Office Receiving Tender.	Information & Communication Technology Department, Bangladesh Development Bank Limited (BDBL), Head Office, BDBL Bhaban (Level-6), 8, Rajuk Avenue, Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.
8. Last Date & Time for Selling Tender Documents.	09-10-2011 during office hours.
9. Last Date & Time for Submission Tenders.	10-10-2011 on or before 3:00 p.m.
10. Date & Time for Tender Opening.	10-10-2011 at 3:15 p.m. (Intending Tenderer or their authorised representative are allowed to attend the Tender Opening).
11. Eligibility of Tenderer	Supplier/Bidder having 03 (Three) years overall business experience and also having experience in successful completion of similar work comprising of minimum supply of following Goods in any Govt./semi-Govt./Autonomous organizations or any Registered Limited Companies in Bangladesh. For Lot 1: Total 10 (Ten) numbers of Router. For Lot 2: Total 100 (One Hundred) numbers of Server & Computer, 50 (fifty) nos Printer. For Lot 3: Total 200 (Two hundred) numbers of UPS. Other terms & conditions can be found in the tender schedule.
12. Price of Tender Document	Tk. 1,000.00 (One Thousand) Only.
13. Time for completion of the work.	Within 06 (Six) weeks from the date of issue of Notification of Award.
14. Tenders Security money.	In form of Pay Order/ Demand Draft / Bank Guarantee from any schedule bank of Bangladesh as per amount in Lot basis: For Lot 1: Tk. 45,000.00 (forty five thousand only) For Lot 2: Tk. 100,000.00 (One lac only) For Lot 3: Tk. 15,000.00 (Fifteen thousand only)

BDBL reserves the right to accept or reject any or all Tenders either in part or full without assigning any reason whatsoever.

If any unavoidable circumstances arise at the date of receiving/opening of the tender, the next working day will be scheduled for receiving/opening of the tender at the same venue & time.

Sd/-

(G.K.D. Banik)

Deputy General Manager

Information & Communication Technology Department

BDBL, Head Office, Dhaka.

Ph: 9558464