

# Pakistan approves new guidelines for US ties

AFP, Islamabad

Pakistan's parliament on Thursday unanimously approved new guidelines on relations with the United States which include a ban on transporting weapons through the country to Afghanistan.

The recommendations drawn up by a national security committee also include a call for an end to drone attacks in Pakistani territory and an unconditional apology for US air strikes in November that killed 24 Pakistani soldiers.

Western officials were keen for Islamabad to commit to reopening Nato supply lines closed in the wake of the air strikes before a summit in Chicago next month.

The guidelines were silent on the resumption of Nato convoys but said Pakistani territory must not be used for the transport of arms and ammunition to Afghanistan -- a demand of several political parties including opposition Islamists.

Pakistan was incensed by the American refusal to apologise for the November 26 killings and besides shutting its border, it ordered US personnel to leave a base report-

edly used in America's drone war against al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

The guidelines, backed by parliament after weeks of debate by the committee, demand that those responsible for the air strikes be brought to justice.

Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani told parliament his government would implement the recommendations in "letter and spirit".

"Our partnership cannot be at the cost of our sovereignty or territorial integrity," he said.

"We want to proactively engage with our international partners. Our resolve to combat extremism and terrorism remains unshakeable."

Drone strikes are resented in Pakistan as violations of sovereignty, despite the fact that they have at times worked in Islamabad's favour, such as killing Pakistani Taliban founder Baitullah Mehsud in August 2009.

The 14-point framework said no foreign fighters or bases should be allowed in Pakistan, nor should Pakistani territory should be used for attacks on other countries.

# Analysts see cautious approach

FROM PAGE 20

connection with irregularities in the appointment of the consultant for the project. The project is under the communications ministry.

Former caretaker government adviser Akbar Ali Khan said he does not think that the incident of Tk 70 lakh would directly affect the flow of donors' money into Bangladesh. He said the donors would be more cautious as "we have seen in the case of Padma bridge".

"Their caution in the case of projects has been on for a decade. In general, there will be no impact," he said.

Akbar Ali said the corruption problem was not new in Bangladesh and the donors were aware of it.

"The answer is simple: those who commit corruption do not face punishment in Bangladesh. Until we

bring them to book, this type of incidents will continue..."

He said the Anti-Corruption Commission must be strengthened to fight grafts. "I also think that the parliamentary standing committees should take a tough stance on the issue."

Ahsan H Mansur, executive director of Policy Research Institute of Bangladesh, echoed Akbar Ali.

"What will happen is that donors will be tougher in scrutinising projects during disbursement of funds to ensure proper utilisation."

The expert, however, said tougher scrutiny was not bad for the country. "There is no need to think that it is bad. But it will be bad for the nation if they do not impose control given the situation we are going through."

Mansur said the incident concerning Tk 70 lakh was a serious blow to the image of

the government. It should now take a moral stance on the issue.

He said it was good that the ACC was planning to launch an investigation into the incident.

Economist MA Taslim said it was a moral crisis of the government.

The government is doing nothing even though evidence of corruption exists, he alleged.

The alleged corruption by the railway minister, which triggered uproar, is feeding the allegation brought by the World Bank about the Padma bridge project, he added.

"Many could have had confusion that the World Bank suspended the financing for the bridge without adequate evidence of corruption. That confusion will now disappear."

Taslim, a former chief executive officer of Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute, said the corruption allegation was weakening the government's negotiation capacity. "It will now be difficult to convince people that corrupt practices do not exist in Bangladesh."

He said the government would have to bear some sacrifices and take steps

against corrupt people.

Economist Hossain Zillur Rahman said the incidents had dented the government's image. "There is a crisis of confidence," he said. "It is more [serious] than fund crisis."

He said there was a clear evidence of corruption, which became evident after the Monday's incident when the BGB men detained the four with Tk 70 lakh.

"In the past, we have seen procrastination in the name of investigation. Much was told on probe but nothing happened," said Zillur. "We want to see something different this time."

# Bribe money no less than Tk 10 crore

FROM PAGE 20

APS on Monday was a part of that "bribe money", alleged leaders of Bangladesh Railway Sramik Karmachari Sangram Parishad at a press conference here yesterday.

Demanding expulsion of Mridha, the Parishad leaders urged proper investigation into the corruption either by the Anti Corruption Commission or under a judicial probe body and demanded that all the culprits be brought to book.

The platform comprises railway workers and staff of seven organisations.

Addressing reporters, Chief Coordinator of the Parishad's central unit Mokhesur Rahman said if involvement of Railway Minister Suranjit Sengupta is found in the corruption, he should be tried too.

"The bribed money cannot be less than Tk 10 crore," he said adding that if Mridha

is interrogated in police custody more about it could be known.

Mridha very often used the name of the minister and asked his cohorts to collect higher amount of bribe saying that "he needs to give the minister a percentage of the amount".

The bribery nexus collected money ranging from Tk 2.5 lakh to Tk 6 lakh, as much as they could manage from major portion of the job seekers who qualified in the written tests for over 2,700 posts in 28 categories, alleged Mokhesur.

They even took money from the railway employees' children who applied under the "dependent quota", he claimed.

Mentioning that they had no idea whether the minister is involved or not, Mokhesur said had the GM or the minister's APS utter the minister's name in a bid

to save themselves, they should be tried.

He demanded disclosure of the actual amount of money that was seized by the BGB men.

Central Convener of the Parishad Abdur Sabur, Mohammad Ali, Rafik Chowdhury, Kazi Anwarul Hoque, Rizwanur Rahman Khan and Divisional Coordinator SK Bari Khokan were present at the conference.

**MINISTER, DG ALERTED**

Reading a written statement at the press meet, Divisional Convener of the Parishad, Harunur Rashid said that on October 31 last year they arranged a rally at Central Railway Building protesting bribery centring recruitment. They also submitted a memorandum to the east zone GM.

The Parishad also sent a fax message to the railway director general on February 9 this year and another to the

railway minister on February 12 informing that the GM was talking about the involvement of the minister in the 'recruitment trade', said the statement.

A 14-member team of the Parishad also met with Suranjit at the conference room of Railway Building on March 28 and informed him about the issue. "But no step was taken," said Harunur.

He alleged that the railway authority fixed the time limit of recruiting 7,414 people upto February 11 this year but the GM delayed the process "only to do his business".

**MRIDHA NOT CLEAN**

A central leader of the pro-government workers-staff-organisation admits having knowledge about "corruption" in the recruitment procedure.

Joint General Secretary of Sramik League Lokman Hossain said the gross alle-

gations of corruption are not true, but "we have heard that there have been grafts and bribery in the recruitment process".

Asked about the involvement of east zone's GM in bribery, Lokman told The Daily Star that Mridha, a pro-BNP person, became general manager with the blessings of former communications minister Syed Abul Hossain.

"He [Mridha] cannot be termed transparent," said the Sramik League leader.

He also refuted the claims that the top central leaders of the pro-government workers' organisation were involved in corruption in the recruitment process.

"As part of the ruling government, we sometimes request the authorities in favour of candidates who apply for jobs under different quotas. But we do not do it in exchange of money," claimed Lokman.

# Suranjit now says

FROM PAGE 1

illegal money by railway ministry officials, Transparency International, Bangladesh (TIB), has called upon Suranjit to step down immediately.

During an interview to the BBC yesterday, Suranjit said, "You mentioned that a railway officer was involved in the incident along with the APS and his car and if it is so, then where is my involvement? Why is there the question of resignation?"

He said in his life-long fight for a state that was democratic and secular, there had been friends and foes, and the foes were calling for resignation taking advantage of the situation, reports our staff correspondent.

"On the question of investigation... investigation is on... militia investigation is going on... the Anti-

Corruption Commission is investigating... a parliamentary sub-committee has been formed."

When the BBC asked if he could guarantee the independence and impartiality of the two probe bodies he formed whilst he is in charge of the ministry, the minister said, "In England, parliamentary committees function independently... it is a matter of executive power... And the allegation is not against me."

He said, "The Border Guard Bangladesh headquarters is a restricted area after 10:00pm. How did the car enter that area? Who let them in? Why did they stay there the whole night? The answers to these questions are needed. Who gave the money, where was it given, where did it come from?"

"There is so much talk regarding the driver but it is

not a mystery that he cannot be traced?"

Meanwhile, a TIB statement issued yesterday read, "We call upon the railway minister to resign immediately by taking the responsibility--at least on moral grounds--and create a space for an absolutely independent investigation free from any influence so that punitive measures can be taken without fear or favour to anyone."

The anti-graft body also demanded harshest-possible punishments of those who are guilty, reports UNB.

It said the event is an ominous indicator of impending capture of the state by corruption, and comes as a challenge for the government to demonstrate that it has the capacity to prevent such capture.

"The midnight episode that involved sharing of tens

of thousands of taka collected through illegal transactions, including extortion, for appointment to public offices under the ministry clearly indicates patronage of corruption by high political and public office," TIB Executive Director Iftekharuzzaman said in the statement.

"More disturbing is the sheer lack of appropriate action amounting to connivance--whether under influence or not--by the Border Guard

Bangladesh, as well as inaction of the police authority," he said.

Iftekharuzzaman went on: "We're also disturbed by the lack of information of whereabouts of the driver of the vehicle, the key witness to the event, and demand that the government and its relevant agencies take all possible measures immediately to find the witness and ensure his security."

Describing the event as a tip of the iceberg, he said the government that came to power with a strong commitment to control corruption, including specific commitment against unearned income, extortion and bribery, has a challenge now to demonstrate that it has the political will and capacity to restore the trust of people by preventing capture of the state by the ominously powerful corrupt elements within the institutions of politics, administration and law enforcement.

"With less than two years before the next national election, we also urge upon the prime minister to take a hard look at the government's delivery against their electoral pledges to fight corruption and demonstrate that the government is sensitive to the expectations of the people who voted them to power," TIB said.

# Cops fire

FROM PAGE 20

in Santhia upazila, said the Shiva worshippers cannot even speak a word before reaching the destination.

He condemned the attack on the devotees and demanded proper investigation into the incident.

A primary investigation has found that police had mistakenly shot the devotees taking them for robbers, Superintendent of Pabna police Jahangir Hossain Matobbar told The Daily Star.

ASI Mojibar has been closed to the police lines. A committee comprised of two assistant superintendents of police has launched a probe into the matter, he mentioned adding, departmental action will be taken if any law enforcer is found guilty.

Local lawmaker and State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku visited the victims at Santhia Upazila Health Complex and assured the Hindu leaders of proper inquiry into the incident.

in Santhia upazila, said the Shiva worshippers cannot even speak a word before reaching the destination.

He condemned the attack on the devotees and demanded proper investigation into the incident.

A primary investigation has found that police had mistakenly shot the devotees taking them for robbers, Superintendent of Pabna police Jahangir Hossain Matobbar told The Daily Star.

ASI Mojibar has been closed to the police lines. A committee comprised of two assistant superintendents of police has launched a probe into the matter, he mentioned adding, departmental action will be taken if any law enforcer is found guilty.

Local lawmaker and State Minister for Home Shamsul Hoque Tuku visited the victims at Santhia Upazila Health Complex and assured the Hindu leaders of proper inquiry into the incident.

## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government Engineering Department  
Office of the Upazila Engineer  
Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali  
Memo No. LGED/Chat/Noa/Tender/2011-12/331  
Dated: 08.04.2012

## Invitation for Tender (NCB) Tender Notice No. 08/2011-12

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the eligible tenderers as defined in the tender documents for the undermentioned work(s) as per terms & conditions stated below:

Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives (Local Government Division)				
Local Government Engineering Department				
1.	Procuring entity & code	Upazila Engineer, Upazila: Chatkhil, Dist: Noakhali.		
2.	Procuring entity district	District: Noakhali		
3.	Invitation for	Works.		
4.	Invitation Ref No.	LGED/PEDP-3/D-01/2011(Part-1)/1310(352), Date: 25/03/2012 LGED/PEDP-3/D-01/2011 Part-2/1365(228), Date: 01/04/2012		
6.	Procurement method	National Open Tender Method (NOTM).		
7.	Source of funds	GOB		
8.	Development partners	ADB, IDA, DFID, EU, AUSAID, JICA, CIDA, SIDA		
9.	Program name (code)	Third Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-III)		
10.	Tender publication date	Date: 15/04/2012	11. Tender last selling date: 21/05/2012, Time: 5.00pm.	
12.	Tender closing date	Date: 22/05/2012	Time: 1.00pm.	
13.	Tender opening date	Date: 22/05/2012	Time: 2.00pm	
14.	Name & address of selling tender documents	Office of Executive Engineer, LGED District: Noakhali.	Office of Upazila Engineer, LGED: Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.	Upazila Engineer Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.
15.	Name & address of receiving tender documents	Office of Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.		
16.	Name & address of opening tender documents	Office of Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.		
17.	Place of pre-tendering meeting	Office of Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.	Date: 10/05/2012	Time: 11:00am
18.	Eligibility of tenderer	As described in tender document.		
19.	Description of work			

19.	Description of work				
	Name of work	Package No.	Bid security	Price of tender documents	Time for completion
1	Construction of Vertical Ext of Baikunthapur, B) Chandpur Rudrarampur GPS	PEDP-III/NKL/CHA/2011 /W1. 0517	179000/-	2000/-	12 months
2	Construction of A) Hat Pukuria, B) Abu Torab Nagar GPS	PEDP-III/NKL/CHA/2011 /W1. 0518	179000/-	2000/-	12 months
3	Construction of Horizontal Ext of A) Ramapur Alia GPS, B) Narayanpur Balika GPS	PEDP-III/NKL/CHA/2011 /W1. 0990	311000/-	2500/-	12 months
20	Name of official inviting tender		KM Mostak Ahamed		
21	Designation of official inviting tender		Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.		
22	Address of official inviting tender		Upazila Engineer, LGED, Upazila: Chatkhil, District: Noakhali.		
23	Contact detail of official inviting tender				
	Email:	ue.chatkhil@lged.gov.bd	Phone:	03222-75037	
Tender shall be valid for a period of 120 days after tender opening and must be accompanied by the tender security specified above. The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any of all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever. Interested tenderers may obtain further information from the undersigned and purchase the tender documents in Cash/Treasury Chalan/Bank Draft from the place mentioned above. The tenders of their authorised representatives are allowed to attend the opening of tenders.					
<b>KM Mostak Ahmed</b> Upazila Engineer Chatkhil, Noakhali					
GD-1577					



**বাংলাদেশ বিদ্যুৎ উন্নয়ন বোর্ড**  
**Bangladesh Power Development Board**  
Office: Central Secretariat  
BPDB, Dhaka

বিশ্বাসযোগ্য বাস্তবায়ন করুন

Memo No. 817-BPDB (Sectt). Dev.-196/2009  
**Addendum No. 02**  
Time Extension Notice for Submission of Tender for Construction of Shahjibazar 300MW±20% Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Plant Project  
Last date for submission of tender for construction of Shahjibazar 300MW±20% Gas Based Combined Cycle Power Plant Project (Tender Invitation No.: 3561-BPDB (Sectt.)/Dev-196/2009 date: 26/12/2011) is hereby extended as mentioned below:

Sl No.	Reference clause of tender document	Item description as per tender document	Amendment
1.	Tender notice Sl. No. 16, 17 & 18	Last date and time for selling the tender document: Date: 29/04/2012 Time: 17.00 hours (BST) Last date and time for submission the tender document: Date: 30/04/2012 Time: 11.00 hours (BST) The tenders shall be opened at 11.30 hours (BST) Date: 30/04/2012	Last date and time for selling the tender document: Date: 29/05/2012 Time: 17.00 hours (BST) Last date and time for submission the tender document: Date: 30/05/2012 Time: 11.00 hours (BST) The tenders shall be opened at 11.30 hours (BST) Date: 30/05/2012

By order,  
**Secretary**  
Bangladesh Power Development Board  
WAPDA Building (1<sup>st</sup> Floor)  
Motijheel C/Area, Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh  
Fax: 880-2-9564765

Biddiut/Jana-1301(6)/11/4/12  
GD-1638