

# China's Hu urges N Korea to seek peace

AFP, Beijing

Chinese President Hu Jintao yesterday told a visiting North Korean official that the two countries should work towards "peace and stability" after a missile launch by Pyongyang, state media said.

Speaking in a meeting with Kim Yong-Il, a top official of North Korea's ruling Korean Workers' Party, Hu called for greater cooperation with its traditional ally, the state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

China is the sole major ally and a source of economic support for the isolated state.

"We will... strengthen strategic links and coordination on major international and regional issues for the purpose of safeguarding lasting peace and stability of the Korean peninsula," Hu was quoted as saying.

His remarks follow the April 13 launch of what Pyongyang says was a communications satellite, but which the United States has called a disguised ballistic missile test. It



said the rocket disintegrated minutes after launch.

The United States and other critics have said the launch violated United Nations restrictions imposed on North Korea. The UN Security Council strongly condemned it and said it would tighten existing sanctions.

The Xinhua report made no specific mention of the missile launch. However, China has previously voiced misgivings over its neighbour's defiant act.

Speaking before the launch, Hu expressed "serious concern" about the plan during a meeting last month with US President Barack Obama.

In yesterday's meeting, Hu praised North Korea's new leader Kim Jong-Un, saying he would lead the country to new achievements.

Kim Jong-Un took the reins of the poor and isolated state after the death in December of his father, longtime supreme leader Kim Jong-Il.



Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir addresses celebrating troops during his visit to Sudan's main petroleum centre of Heglig yesterday where Sudan's army says more than 1,000 Southern soldiers died in battle.

# Dutch cabinet quits after rift with far-right

AFP, The Hague

Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte's liberal government quit yesterday after the collapse of a parliamentary partnership with a far-right party, paving the way for early elections.

The under-pressure premier tendered his cabinet's resignation to Queen Beatrix at her Hague palace.

A few minutes after Rutte left, the Dutch government's information service said in a statement: "Prime Minister Mark Rutte has offered to her Majesty the Queen the resignation of all ministers and deputy ministers with immediate effect."

"The Queen is considering the resignation, but has asked all ministers to continue to do everything that is necessary in the interests of the kingdom," the statement added.

# Romney campaigns with potential VP pick Rubio

AFP, Washington

Presumptive Republican nominee Mitt Romney was campaigning in Pennsylvania ahead of the state's Tuesday primary with Marco Rubio in tow, the US senator widely discussed as a possible running mate.

Rubio is the latest among potential vice presidential picks to hit the campaign trail with Romney, but the first since the frontrunner's main rival Rick Santorum bowed out of the Republican race two weeks ago.

Romney has already pivoted toward President Barack Obama ahead of the November election, and he told a crowd in Greencastle that Americans needed to help him battle against the cancer that is big government.

"This president has a road that he's traveling down where government gets larger and larger and metastasizes into every aspect of American life," Romney said late Sunday.



Obama, he said, subscribes to "a view that somehow government knows better than free people. I disagree entirely."

Romney became the all-but-certain Republican flagbearer when Santorum, a former senator from Pennsylvania, called it quits earlier this month.

And while the frontrunner was focused on a Romney-Obama showdown, he was making a final sweep through the Keystone State as he seeks to secure the delegates needed to be declared the nominee.

Four other states also vote on today: Connecticut, Delaware, New York and Rhode Island.

Romney was to attend an event in South Park Township outside Pittsburgh early yesterday with former Homeland Security secretary Tom Ridge.

Rubio then joins Romney at a town hall event in Aston at 12:55 pm (1655 GMT) for what could be seen as a test run for a possible Romney-Rubio ticket.

# Crime generates trillions of dollars

Says a UN official

AP, Vienna

Criminality worldwide generates proceeds in the trillions of dollars each year, making crime one of the world's "top 20 economies," a senior UN official said yesterday.

With the scope of global crime - and particularly organised crime - threatening emerging economies and fomenting international instability, Yury Fedotov called for concerted world action to combat the trend.

"We need to recognize that the problem requires a global solution," Fedotov, the head of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, told reporters outside an international conference focused on preventing the exploitation of illegal migrants and other crimes linked to human trafficking. "No country can handle this problem alone."

Fedotov said that "criminal business" earns those behind it \$2.1 trillion - nearly 1.6 trillion euros - a year, which he said is equivalent to nearly 7 percent of the size of the global economy.

In separate comments inside the meeting, he said that as many as 2.4 million people may be victims of human trafficking worldwide at any given time, calling it "a shameful crime of modern-day slavery."

Corruption is another concern of the meeting. Fedotov told the opening session that estimates put the amount of money lost through corruption in developing countries at \$40 billion annually.

# Breivik offers apology to his non-political victims

AFP, Oslo

Anders Behring Breivik, who killed 77 people last July, said yesterday he wanted to apologise for killing "innocent" people in his Oslo bombing, but offered no similar apology for the Utoeya massacre.

He also insisted that not only his victims and their families had their lives ruined on July 22: "I also lost everything," he lamented to the court, maintaining he was the victim of "clear racism."

For the first time since his trial started on April 16, the 33-year-old right-wing extremist voiced a small ounce of regret for his actions.

"I would like to offer a large apology" to those who were injured or killed in the bombing of an Oslo government building as they were just passing by and had no political connections, he said.

But when prosecutor Inga Bejer Engh asked if he wanted to say the same to any of



the 69 people -- mainly teens -- slaughtered in his shooting massacre on the nearby island of Utoeya after the bombing, Breivik said: "No, I do not."

He reiterated that youngsters attending a summer camp hosted by the ruling Labour Party's youth wing were "legitimate targets", as "political activists" working for

the "deconstruction of Norwegian society" through the multiculturalism he insists is leading to a "Muslim invasion" of the country.

Instead, he insisted that "everyone who is linked to the (government) and the Labour Party ... should issue a large apology" to the Norwegian people.

In his own apology, Breivik mentioned in particular Kai Hauge, a 32-year-old man who was killed as he walked past the government building when it was bombed.

Hauge's mother Soelvi rejected the apology. "It is of course not enough," she told the Aftenposten daily's online edition, adding: "We will never get Kai back."

# An open letter

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power and wealth. If the motive were something like that then I would have still clenched to the position of minister and MP. I pray to Almighty Allah to keep me above such greed for the rest of my life.

I was elected a Member of Parliament for the first time in 2001 election supported by love of the people of Kapasia towards me, overcoming several complexities created by my own party and the then caretaker government. It was unfortunate that, BNP-Jamaat alliance came to power through domestic and international conspiracies. Consecutive attack and repression continued on the people of Kapasia by the alliance after the election. In protest, I along with the general people of Kapasia built up protection against the BNP-Jamaat alliance. My close political figure and Jubo League President Jalal Uddin Sarker was brutally killed by BNP-Jamaat men. Jamal Fakir was also killed by police during the tenure. I also fell victim to police attack time and again as I organised peaceful protests against such incidents. I had to spend much of my time on the street and court campus to resist the attacks and aggressions during the five-year tenure of BNP-Jamaat alliance. I did not involve in any kind of business.

I had to bear my political expenses through the income of my paternal property. Even I sold my paternal property for political purpose. I used to live a plain life. Although the two-year tenure of the last caretaker government frustrated me, I was encouraged by the party's timely electoral manifesto in 2008 general election. It was a progressive and historic commitment for the charter of change.

I was optimistic of a healthy political culture which would help establish

the rule of law in the country and ensure justice for the people. Trial would be held for war criminals, killing of Bangabandhu and four national leaders, Udichi and August 21 massacre, former finance minister AMS Kibria and Ahsan Ullah Master killing and 10-truck arms haul. I dreamed of a terrorism and militant free country. So, I took the charge of the ministry averted by many with assurance of all-out cooperation from the prime minister. The charge was not only of a ministry being a minister but it was a challenge because the role of law enforcement agencies is significant in establishing good governance and the rule of law. I was always trying to establish police as a disciplined professional force and ally of the people. Besides, I assisted in starting the process of war crimes trial.

There remain untold words behind those told. However, I want to say this much that I have resigned as a Member of the Parliament and as a minister for a plausible reason. I performed my duties with honesty and sincerity during the days I was a minister. I was against corruption, irregularities and mismanagement even at the last moment. When I thought that I was unable to keep my commitment given to the people with the constrained authority I had, I willingly resigned. Because I have not embarked on politics for position or power. Otherwise, I would not have opted for a service holder's life abroad leaving the lucrative ministerial position at home.

I want to say to the people of Kapasia that I gave much thought before deciding to leave the position of the Member of Parliament. I was compelled to resign considering the reality despite feeling repeatedly the sacrifice of the people, their emotions and love for me. I had no option but this to keep

the prestige of the people of Kapasia up. Because I believed that the prestige and honour of the people of Kapasia are also mine; I am a son of the soil of Kapasia.

My father Tajuddin Ahmed was brought up on the soil of Kapasia. The smell of the same soil is in my body. I wanted to end my expatriate life for a dream of doing something for the people of Kapasia. I got a lot of love from the people of Kapasia. In exchange, I could give them as much. I want to say that I will be beside you always even if I have stepped down from the position of Member of Parliament. I promise it.

My final destination is Awami League, established with the ideals of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and my father Tajuddin Ahmed, although there is little possibility for me to come back into politics. Because my father's blood is intimately linked with the party. He gave his last drop of blood for the ideal of Bangabandhu. He did not bow to any conspiracy. He proved this by sacrificing his life.

I would tell my long-time political colleagues of Kapasia who sacrificed many things for me that, politics for self interest should be avoided. We should do the politics that was pursued by Bangabandhu and Tajuddin Ahmed. It is upon you to ensure that the leadership of the historic Kapasia is taken by an honest and upright person. Like all of you, I am also looking forward to the future. Perhaps, good governance will be established in the country in the days to come through a healthy political culture. Bangladesh will be a culturally and economically enriched country.

With regards,  
Tanjim Ahmad Sohel Taj  
(The original statement was in Bangla. The Daily Star translated it into English)

# Qatar keen

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enjoy better relations than any time of the past. He lauded Bangladesh's continued economic development and progress under the leadership of Hasina despite the global recession.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni, Ambassador-At-Large M Ziauddin, Principal Secretary Sheikh M Wahid Uz Zaman and Bangladesh Ambassador to Qatar M Shahdat Hossain were also present.

Earlier, Unctad Secretary-General Supachai Panitchpakdi called on Hasina at Qatar National Convention Centre in Doha. They discussed issues relating to trade and development as well as Unctad's cooperation and future plan.

Bangladesh's Permanent Representative in Geneva Md Abdul Hannan was present on the occasion.

The prime minister in the morning addressed a high-level session on "Macroeconomic Policy: Does Gender Matter" at the Unctad XIII Conference at Qatar International Convention Centre.

Hasina and members of her entourage is scheduled to land at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka at 5:40am local time today after winding up her four-day official visit to Qatar.

The Unctad is a permanent intergovernmental body of the UN General Assembly dealing with trade, investment, and development issues.

The Bangladesh delegation also included Industries Minister Dilip Barua, Commerce Minister GM Quader and State Minister for Women and Children Affairs Shirin Sharmin Choudhury, and senior officials of the commerce ministry and the Tariff Commission.

The conference was held at Qatar National Convention Centre with the

theme "Development-centred Globalization: Towards Inclusive and Sustainable Growth and Development".

Hasina, apart from attending the events of the Unctad XIII Conference, held bilateral meetings with Qatari Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani.

She joined a reception accorded by expatriate Bangladeshis living in Qatar and a luncheon meeting organised by Business Association of Bangladesh (BAB) in Doha, Qatar, and also visited Bangladesh MMH School and College, a Bengali medium secondary and higher secondary school under Dhaka Education Board in Doha.

# Violent cops closed

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beat up Mahmudul Haque alias Tito, a student of BL University College, and Ferdousur Rahman alias Munna, a student of Govt Azam Khan Commerce College.

Tito, former joint secretary of KJCD, pro-BNP student organisation, and Munna were hung from the ceiling and blindfolded while being beaten, the report said.

Police picked up the two during a clash between pro-hartal pickets and law enforcers at Tutpara Central Road intersection in the city around 10:00am Sunday, said eyewitnesses.

Informed by relatives of the duo, a horde of journalists rushed to the police station and took photographs of the

two being tortured. Fearful of media coverage, the OC had ordered his junior officers to persuade the journalists not to publish any stories on the matter but to no avail.

Kamruzzaman, however, denies the allegation and claims that Munna and Tito were involved in a petrol bomb attack on a police team during hartal hours on Sunday. None of the cops, however, was injured.

Talking to The Daily Star, he also added, "We hung and blindfolded the two only to scare them into giving us the names of the people who were involved in the clash."

The metropolitan magistrate's court in Khulna yesterday afternoon sent Tito and Munna to jail and permitted police to interrogate

them for only one day. The injured activists told The Daily Star that they were not involved in hurling bomb at the police on Sunday.

Meanwhile, Khulna City BNP President Nazrul Islam Manju, also a lawmaker, yesterday demanded immediate removal of OC Kamruzzaman from police service.

At a press briefing, he also demanded unconditional withdrawal of all "false" cases against detained leaders and workers of Khulna BNP.

**ASK CONDEMNNS**  
Human rights organisation Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) yesterday expressed grave concern over the incident of torture at the police station.

In a press release, it also called for punitive measures against the cops responsible.

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EoI) for providing certain consultancy services relating to carbon finance activities**

- IDCOL currently manages two key carbon finance programs in Bangladesh: (i) the Bangladesh Solar Home Systems (SHS) program; and (ii) Efficient Lighting Initiative of Bangladesh (ELIB).
- The SHS program is the most successful of its kind in the world, installing approximately 500,000 solar home systems per annum. IDCOL is the overall Coordinating Managing Entity (CME) and a CPA Implementer. Grameen Shakti is the other key CPA Implementer under the program. The program is in the process of registration under UNFCCC for Carbon Credit and expected to be registered by June 2012.
- The first phase of ELIB was registered with CDM Board in May 2011. IDCOL is the CME on behalf of the CPA Implementers (REB, BPDB, DESCO, DPDC and Western Zones, who undertake actual ICL and CFL implementation activities). The first phase of ELIB has been implemented. The Government of Bangladesh has committed to procure another 7 million CFLs for Phase-II of ELIB. This will result in preparation of approximately 10 CPAs.
- There is some financial support available under the 2<sup>nd</sup> Additional Finance of the World Bank for IDCOL's SHS program to engage a consultant/firm to deliver certain carbon finance related services under the said programs.
- Terms of Reference (ToR) include among others: (i) Prepare CPAs, (ii) Review monitoring systems, (iii) Prepare CPA monitoring reports, (iv) Preparing PDDs, (v) Update templates for household, (vi) Provide training and training materials, etc.

Please visit [www.idcol.org](http://www.idcol.org) for detail ToR for the proposed contract and eligibility criteria of the consultant/firm. The contract will be for a period of 3 months, which may be extended by one month at the sole discretion of IDCOL.

**Responses to this EoI are due by May 15, 2012.** Submittals concerning this EoI be directed to:

S. M. Formanul Islam, Director (Legal Affairs and Financial Relations)

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*IDCOL reserves the right to accept or reject any EoI without assigning any reason.*