

# Indian PM meets, invites Suu Kyi

The democracy icon leaves Myanmar for Thailand ending 24 years of isolation

AFP, Yangon

In the highest-level contact between India and Aung San Suu Kyi, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh yesterday held talks with Myanmar's democracy icon in Yangon, just hours before she left for Thailand in her first foreign visit in 24 years.

The Indian PM handed over to her an invitation from UPA chairperson Sonia Gandhi to visit India which has a "long-standing association" with her.

Manmohan Singh, the first Indian premier to visit in a quarter of a century, said he "sincerely" hoped the Nobel laureate would visit, in a joint press conference in Yangon ahead of Suu Kyi's first trip abroad in 24 years.

"We in India are very proud of our long-standing association with her and members of the family, including her parents," he said. Suu Kyi has a strong personal tie to India, where she studied while her mother was ambassador there.

New Delhi has faced international criticism in the past for its engagement with Myanmar's former junta, which kept the democracy activist locked up and silenced under house arrest for 15 of the past 22 years.



Indian PM Manmohan Singh talks with Aung San Suu Kyi in Yangon yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

But India has since pointed to recent dramatic reforms under a new quasi-civilian regime, including Suu Kyi's election to parliament in April by-elections, as a validation of its stance.

Just hours after the meet, ending an era of isolation and cementing her arrival on the

global stage, Suu Kyi headed to Thailand for her first trip abroad in more than two decades.

Suu Kyi, who last left the former army-ruled nation in 1988, landed in the Thai capital around 10:00pm after the short flight from Yangon.

She is expected to meet the Thai prime minister during her stay in Bangkok and attend the World Economic Forum on East Asia and meet Myanmar migrant communities during several days in the country.

Speaking to AFP just before her departure Suu Kyi said she "didn't feel anything special" about the landmark foreign trip.

"It's a part of my job. I'm going to stay for four or five days... I will visit one refugee camp," she added, without providing further details.

Suu Kyi, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, has embraced an increasingly global role as Myanmar sheds its pariah status under a quasi-civilian government, meeting world dignitaries in Yangon and accepting overseas invites.

Foreign travel will give her greater access to a global community eager to see her in person and allow her to meet ordinary people as well as world leaders.

Suu Kyi, fearful that she would never be allowed to return, had refused to travel abroad in the past, even when the former junta denied her dying husband a visa to visit her from Britain.

Suu Kyi is also scheduled to travel to Switzerland, Norway and UK later in the year.



PHOTO: AFP

Myanmar Opposition Leader Aung San Suu Kyi smiles as she leaves the airport terminal upon her arrival in Bangkok last night.

## NEWS IN brief

### Iranian VP visits Cuba

AFP, Havana

Iranian Vice President Ali Saeedlu began an official visit to Cuba Monday, following up on a trip to the communist-ruled island earlier this year by President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

Saeedlu, Ahmadinejad's deputy for international affairs, met with Cuban Vice President Jose Ramon Machado, after which they stressed the "excellent state of bilateral ties," an official statement said.

The Iranian official related to his Cuban counterpart an invitation for President Raul Castro to attend the Non Aligned Movement summit in Tehran in

### Mine clashes kill 2 in Peru

AFP, Lima

At least two people were killed in Peru when police used tear gas to put down a violent demonstration against Swiss-owned Xstrata staged by striking miners and townspeople, officials said.

Prime Minister Oscar Valdes declared a state of emergency late Monday, saying it was needed to "safeguard public security and allow free transit" after the two were killed and a provincial prosecutor was briefly kidnapped.

Fifty people were wounded on Monday, including 30 police, according to Interior Minister Wilver Calle.

### 6 generals remanded in Turkey

AFP, Ankara

A Turkish court yesterday ordered the detention of six former generals accused of involvement in a military coup in 1997, the Anatolia news agency reported.

The detentions are part of a probe into the bloodless coup that toppled the country's first Islamist-led government and come amid a growing standoff between the powerful military and the current Islamist-led rulers.

Among those held is Ilhan Kilic, former secretary general of the National Security Council, a joint military and civilian body that has played a key role

### Cops arrest 84 at Canada protest

AFP, Quebec City

Talks between students and the Quebec government aimed at ending more than three months of protests over tuition fee hikes were set to resume yesterday after the arrest of 84 protesters.

The demonstrators were arrested near the talks venue in Quebec City, the capital of the mostly French-speaking Canadian province, shortly after the negotiators had adjourned for the night.

Since February, hundreds of protesters have been arrested and clashes have erupted sporadically as more than 165,000 students have refused to attend class and tens of thousands have protested the planned increase in school fees.

A tentative deal was reached after marathon talks a month ago but soon fell apart, and nightly protests

## Jamaat calls

FROM PAGE 20

trial act in connection with torching vehicles at Wasa intersection of the port city on May 13.

On Monday, Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate's Court granted Shamsul Islam bail until yesterday, when the next hearing was also scheduled.

After the court's yesterday's move, the Chittagong unit Jamaat-e-Islami organised sporadic protest processions at different areas of the city in the afternoon. Khairul Bashar, party's assistant secretary general of the city unit, declared the hartal from a short rally in Jamal Khan area.

Contacted, Mahmud Ullah, publication secretary of Chittagong unit Jamaat, confirmed today's hartal from 6:00am to 12:00 mid-day.

On May 21, the High Court granted Shamsul Islam seven days' ad-interim bail and ordered him to surrender to the lower court. In compliance with the order, Shamsul surrendered to the Chittagong Metropolitan Magistrate's court on

Monday.

Shamsul's counsel Abdus Sattar termed yesterday's court order unprecedented. He alleged that the government was interfering in judicial affairs.

On May 23, Kotwali police submitted charge sheet to the magistrate's court accusing 23 people, including the Jamaat lawmaker, in the arson case.

On May 13, at least 100 people including police personnel and journalists were injured during a series of clashes between law enforcers and BNP-Jamaat supporters. Three cars were set ablaze and around 50 vehicles were vandalised during the two-hour-long clashes, which took place between Almas Cinema and Enayetbazar areas.

Six cases were lodged against more than 2,000 leaders and activists of BNP-led 18-party opposition alliance in connection with the violence. Four of the cases were filed with Kotwali Police Station on May 13 while the other two cases with Khulshi Police Station on May 13 and 14.

## Facebook phone

FROM PAGE 20

operate it, according to a string of reports from Silicon Valley to Taiwan.

The social network has hired former Apple software and hardware engineers, and one who worked on the iPad, the New York Times reported. Employees and engineers approached by recruiters say the company hopes to release its own smartphone next year.

Facebook chief technology officer Bret Taylor is said to be leading the project, and the new recruits will expand a group working with Taiwanese phone manufacturer HTC on a project codenamed Buffy a reference to the vampire slayer TV series.

News of the Buffy phone first emerged in November. It is expected, like Amazon's Kindle reader, to run on a

customised version of Android, according to Digitimes.

Facebook could be looking to stake Google, which dominates the budget end of the smart phone market with its Android software. Google last week won approval for a \$12.5bn takeover of Motorola Mobility, which could see the software company designing its own handsets.

Zuckerberg is worried that if he does not create a mobile phone soon Facebook will simply become an app on other mobile platforms, a Facebook employee said.

Facebook has been assembling the elements needed to create a phone. Besides its alliance with HTC, it is to launch its own app store, where phone versions of Pinterest, Spotify

## PM for fighting poverty jointly

FROM PAGE 20

The Ritz Carlton Hotel in Doha yesterday evening.

At the forum, Hasina emphasised on opening minds and hearts of all in assessing the needs of others, and be willing to compromise and make sacrifice on the basis of justice and fairness, and thereby achieve a world of peace and harmony for the future generations.

"Our excellent relations with the neighbours, based on mutual respect, reciprocity and justice, have helped us all make good progress in developing connectivity in South Asia," she said.

The regional cooperation against terrorism is also excellent, she said adding, "My effort to eliminate terrorism from Bangladesh has been fully endorsed and supported by our good friends around the world."

Hasina also stressed the need for support from resourceful and developed nations for the least developed countries like Bangladesh in tackling the problems like green house gas emissions, economic migration and terrorism.

She thanked the organisers for the impeccable arrangements made, and for selecting this forum's theme, 'New Voices New Directions,' emphasising the challenges of change.

Hasina said that after half a century in politics for people, she now believes that justice is the key to peace, and peaceful change is best for societies, states, and the world.

Hasina said it has, therefore, been for justice, a basic tenet and character of democracy, in all spheres of life that led to the birth of Bangladesh.

The premier said Bangladesh's foreign policy dictum is "Friendship towards all, Malice towards none".

"Thus, followers of all religions in our country have found harmony and peace in living together," she said.

In this respect, Hasina

said Bangladesh is similar to the United States, and this is the basis of the two countries' friendship.

"The United States is also our strong partner in democracy, rule of law, women empowerment, education, social safety nets, and countering terrorism, etc.

"There is no doubt that the United States, the Islamic and the entire world have understood the need to live together and face unitedly the new and deadly challenges of change, threatening our global village," she said.

Hasina said climate change challenges are being met by a 134-point adaptation and mitigation plan which includes, dredging of rivers, green belts on coastal and river embankments, promoting renewable energy, etc.

"Climate change is not our doing, but of the developed and emerging economies. The problem should,

therefore, be solved by relocating the migrants to their countries," she said.

The three-day forum is being organised by the State of Qatar and the Brookings Institute.

Martin Indyk, vice president and director, Foreign Policy at Brookings, United States made the introductory remarks at the yesterday's forum.

Qatar's Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Hamad Bin Jassim Bin Jabr Al-Thani and Secretary General of Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) Ekmeleddin Ihsanoglu also spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Sheikh Rashed Khalifa, Assistant Minister for Service Department at Qatar's Foreign Ministry, received Hasina on

her arrival at Doha International Airport at 10:50am (local time).



### Social Islami Bank Limited

Logistic Support Division

Corporate Office

103 Motijheel C/A, City Center, Dhaka-1000.

Ref: SIBL/HO/LS/D/2012/420

Date: May 28, 2012

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4	Invitation for Quotation Ref. & Date	SIBL/HO/LS/D/2012/420, date- May 28, 2012
5	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method
6	Source of Fund	Social Islami Bank Limited
7	Tender Last Selling Date	Not Applicable
8	Date & Time for Submission, Closing & Opening of Tenders	Submission Date 05.06.2012 Closing time 3 pm Opening Time 3:30 pm
9	Name and address of the Office for receiving tender(s)	Senior Vice President Logistic Support Division Social Islami Bank Limited Level-21, City Centre, 103 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
10	Time for Completion of Delivery	From Ready Stock is preferable.
11	Place of opening tender documents	Social Islami Bank Limited, Level-21, City Centre, 103 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000
12	Eligibility of Tenderer(s)	Mentioned in the detail in website.
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14	Refundable Tender Security	Tk. 50,000/- (fifty thousand) in the form of Payment Order favoring "Social Islami Bank Limited".
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16	Contact Details	Telephone No. 09612001122- Ext 50290, email: <a href="mailto:lsd@sibl-bd.com">lsd@sibl-bd.com</a>
17	Special Instruction	The tender process will be guided as per Tender Bidding Policy of the bank and as per specific instructions and terms & conditions mentioned in the bank's website <a href="http://www.siblbld.com">www.siblbld.com</a> . The Bank Authority reserves the right to reject any or all quotation prior to acceptance and is not bound to select the lowest bidder.

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