

Options for India, China to resolve border stand-off

Says Indian army chief

REUTERS, New Delhi

Talks between Indian and Chinese diplomats have opened options for the rivals to resolve conflict on their Himalayan frontier, India's army chief said yesterday.

Ties between the neighbours have been strained since clashes between their troops on the frontier left 20 Indian and four Chinese soldiers dead in 2020.

Diplomatic and military talks to end the standoff have made slow progress and hurt business relations between the world's two most populous nations with New Delhi tightening scrutiny of investments from Chinese firms and halting major projects.

"The positive signalling is coming from the diplomatic side," General Upendra Dwivedi said at a defence think tank event. "But when it comes to the execution on ground ... it's dependent on the military commanders on both the sides to take those decisions."



Displaced Palestinians douse a burning car with water after it was hit in an Israeli strike in Khan Yunis in the southern Gaza Strip yesterday. More than 41,638 Palestinians have been killed and 96,460 injured in Israel's military offensive on Gaza since October 7, the Gaza health ministry said.

PHOTO: AFP

US ELECTIONS

NYT endorses Harris as 'only patriotic choice' for president

AFP, New York

The New York Times editorial board on Monday endorsed Kamala Harris, calling the Democrat "the only patriotic choice for president" in the race against Trump.

But the paper did not even mention the vice president's name until the fourth paragraph of its written endorsement — instead focusing attention on Trump's unworthiness for the presidency, calling him morally and temperamentally "unfit."

"This unequivocal, dispiriting truth — Donald Trump is not fit to be president — should be enough for any voter who cares about the health of our country and stability of our democracy to deny him re-election."

It's an "anyone but Trump" approach that The New Yorker took one day prior, with editors at the magazine saying the Republican represents the "ongoing assault on the stability, the nerves, and the nature of the United States."

The Times acknowledged Harris "may not be the perfect candidate for every voter, especially those who are frustrated and angry about our government's failures to fix what's broken."

ISRAEL'S INCURSION INTO LEBANON

US out of step as world reacts to offensive

AGENCIES

The United States appeared out of step with the rest of the globe as it pledged its support for Israel's ground incursion into Lebanon.

While voices from across the world yesterday urged a ceasefire and a step back from the brink of all-out war, Washington declared the "limited" ground offensive into southern Lebanon as "Israel's right to defend itself."

Israeli troops advanced into Lebanon overnight yesterday, in a widely anticipated move. The military said in a statement that the raids were "limited, localised and targeted" against Hezbollah.

However, the advance further raises the risk of a wider escalation in the fight with the Iran-backed armed group or even across the region, and the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Russia, Spain and Japan have all been quick to express deep concern.

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said that

he had told Israeli counterpart Yoav Gallant that Washington agrees on the need for a ground offensive to rid Lebanon's southern border area of Hezbollah weapons and other means it can use to carry out attacks across the border.



"I made it clear that the United States supports Israel's right to defend itself," Austin said. The White House National Security Council made a similar statement yesterday, justifying Israel's "limited operations", reports Al Jazeera online.

It also added that it remains against the expansion of the ground assault and that a diplomatic solution is the only way to achieve lasting stability along Israel's border with Lebanon.

Lebanon's caretaker Prime Minister Najib Mikati warned that his country is facing "one of the most dangerous phases of its history" and urged the United Nations to provide aid for one million people displaced by Israel's attacks over recent weeks.

5 AL lawmakers

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an end to the era of the financial institution's influential chairman Mazumder, also the founder of Nassa Group.

A close ally of the AL government, Mazumder had been serving the private bank owners' forum — Bangladesh Association of Banks (BAB) — since 2009.

Mazumder used his position as BAB chairman to change critical banking policies in favour of his businesses and took loans bypassing the rules and regulations, according to the people with knowledge of the matter.

Detectives held ex-home secretary Jahangir Alam from the capital's Gulshan area.

Jahangir was sent into forced retirement on August 14. He had also served as the secretary to the Election Commission.

After the arrest, the DMP, in a message, said Jahangir was the architect of the 2024 "dummy election".

Meanwhile, different Dhaka courts placed Gini, Jakob, and Jahangir on remand.

AL shouldn't

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younger generations due to its anti-people activities and heavy reliance on state forces and bureaucracy during its time in power.

He urged political parties to remain vigilant and act responsibly, expressing concerns about a potential 1/11-style depoliticisation plot by both local and international actors.

This is the first instalment of a three-part series based on the interview with Fakhru, in which he has talked on many issues, including the current political situation, government's reform initiatives, the national election, BNP's future plans, and the party's council.

"Why should the Awami League be excluded from the polls if we truly want democracy? If an old political party like the Awami League wants to participate in the polls, people should have the chance to determine their fate," Fakhru said, in a sharp disagreement with those advocating for barring the AL from the next national election.

Based on his understanding and perceptions of the Awami League, the BNP leader said it is likely that the party will take part in the election under the current interim government. "After such a big incident and a changeover in 1975, Awami League didn't boycott the election. It joined the polls, and I think that was the right strategy."

Fakhru said boycotting elections is not always the right approach for democratic parties. "Elections can sometimes be boycotted as part of a movement, as we have done, and that was a valid decision. However, when a party faces challenges, there are several avenues for recovery and participating in elections is one of those."

He also said the tendency to demand the banning of political parties or to exclude particular parties from elections stems from a flawed political culture. "For instance, banning Jamaat-e-Islami was not a justified decision. What has been the outcome? Jamaat has now returned to politics. So, I don't believe it was a right move for the government to impose such a decision."

Fakhru, however, said he believes people will reject the AL, even if it joins the polls, for what he said were its nefarious activities and brutal suppression of democratic movements.

In response to a query about the possibility of banning the AL for 10 years under a draft amendment to the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, he acknowledged that this action

has been proposed within a legal framework, suggesting that Sheikh Hasina's party could be banned for crimes against humanity.

"However, I am not sure how appropriate this would be from a democratic perspective," he added.

The BNP leader recalled that both the Nazi Party in Germany and Mussolini's National Fascist Party in Italy were banned. "In my opinion, democracy should function in a democratic manner, and democratic practices must remain operational. While a fascist party can be banned, how can we guarantee that it won't resurface in a different guise? Look at what is happening in the Western world; pro-Nazi parties are coming to the fore."

Fakhru stated that if political practice is unhindered, people will respond to any party's misdeeds and will find ways to address the actions of a fascist party. "Personally, I am not in favour of banning the Awami League, nor do I support the banning of any political party."

The interim government has recently prepared a draft to amend the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973, which introduces a provision that allows the banning of a political party for up to 10 years for committing crimes against humanity and genocide.

Fakhru said the AL's greatest loss is its diminishing connection with people and their trust, particularly among the younger generation. "While the Awami League may continue to engage in politics, it remains uncertain whether the party can effectively reconnect with the public and regain their trust in the near future."

He said no single party can take credit for the student-led mass uprising, as it was a spontaneous movement involving people from all walks of life, driven by their pent-up anger against the regime.

He also noted that certain political parties and factions are attempting to malign the BNP in various ways. "This is a result of conspiracies by both local and international actors. We once again sense depoliticisation and malicious plots reminiscent of 1/11. We, therefore, must remain vigilant, as a government in Bangladesh cannot operate effectively without the involvement of politics."

The BNP leader stated that the country should be governed by those who have a genuine connection with people, rather than by a select group of intellectuals, bureaucrats and technocrats.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (15th Floor)
71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.
www.sicip.gov.bd

Ref. No. FD/SICIP/BGMEA-PIU/108/2024-701

Date: 16 Ashshin 1431
01 October 2024

Recruitment Notice

Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Finance
Agency	:	Finance Division
Program Name	:	Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Scheme Name	:	Expansion of Skills for Employment and Socially Inclusive Training for Priority and Emerging Sectors.

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
Position	No.	Minimum Qualification and Experience

Program Implementation Unit (PIU) for SICIP-BGMEA Program

Chief Coordinator	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters in any discipline or Bachelor of Science in Engineering. At least 15 years' working experience in relevant field. Experience in skills development fields will be preferred. Working experience as the head of the training institute/project implementation unit of any project will be an added advantage. Strong communication, interpersonal and computer skills.
Coordinator (Training, Assessment and Monitoring)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters in any discipline or Bachelor of Science in Engineering. At least 10 years' working experience in relevant field. Experience in skills development fields will be preferred. Strong communication, interpersonal and computer skills.
Coordinator (Finance & Procurement)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master's in accounting/finance or MBA majoring in Finance or Accounting. At least 10 years' working experience in relevant field. Experience in skills development fields will be preferred. Strong communication, interpersonal and computer skills.
Coordinator (Job placement & Database)	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masters in any discipline or Bachelor of Science in Engineering. At least 10 years' working experience in relevant field. Experience in skills development fields will be preferred. Strong communication, interpersonal and computer skills.

Applications shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Program Director on or before 4.00 pm by 17 October 2024 in sealed envelope clearly marked "Application for the Selection of [Name of Position], SICIP-BGMEA Program". Contact address with email and mobile number of the applicant should be written on the left side of the A4 Size Envelope. Necessary documents in support of educational qualifications, experiences and skills have to be submitted.

Name & Designation of Official Inviting Recruitment: Mohammed Walid Hossain, Executive Program Director, Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP), Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (14th - 15th Floor), 71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.
Address of official Inviting Recruitment: Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (14th - 15th Floor), 71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.
Contact details of official Inviting Recruitment: Phone: +880255138753-5 Ext: 100, E-mail: epd.sicip@gmail.com

The recruitment entity reserves all the right to accept or reject any or all the application without assigning any reasons whatsoever.

Mohammed Walid Hossain
Executive Program Director
Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program (SICIP)
Finance Division, Ministry of Finance,
Probashi Kallyan Bhaban (14th - 15th Floor), 71-72 Eskaton Garden, Ramna, Dhaka-1000.

GD- 586

Vacancy Announcement

Projahno Research Foundation (PRF), a Bangladeshi NGO, in association with Johns Hopkins University, USA, has a long and illustrious history of conducting research in Bangladesh. PRF is seeking qualified and motivated applicants from Bangladeshi nationals for the position of Director Research.

Name of the Position	Education and experience	Responsibilities	Duty Station
Director Research	Bachelor's in medical science (MBBS) with master's in public health. Candidates with PhD will be given preference. At least ten years of professional experience with at least five years in a senior position, including project/research management experience. Experience in research program management and administration, financial management, award compliance, and tracking activity performance and costs. Strong in written and verbal English and Bangla communications. Excellent computer skill in MS Office and Excel and experience in archiving will be preferred. Must have a track record of performance, possibly some publications.	The Director Research will be responsible for the overall management of all ongoing research projects. As a member of the Senior Management Team, the Director Research, under the direction of the project PI and PRF Executive Director (ED) will be responsible for planning, execution, and study-related communications with the study managers/focal persons and the PI and other investigators (the team of investigators). S/he will assist in preparing and reviewing study reports, identifying gaps and potential solutions, and communicating with PI. S/he will be also responsible for administrative management of staff and the team of investigators. S/he will have to ensure effective and efficient use of the project's resources and materials. The Director Research will be reportable to the PIs on technical matters and to the PRF ED on administrative matters.	Dhaka

The appointment will be made on a fixed term basis. Projahno Research Foundation (PRF) is an equal opportunity employer and particularly welcomes applications from women candidates. Any persuasion will disqualify the candidature. Only short-listed candidates will be invited for an interview. To learn more about PRF, please visit www.prfd.org and job responsibilities of this position, please visit: <https://jobs.prfd.org/jobs/103>.

Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit the electronic application in <http://jobs.prfd.org/> and send a hard copy application which includes cover letter, updated CV, current and expected salary, copies of all certificates, and two copies photograph to the HR Officer, Projahno Research Foundation, Level 7, House 97A, Road 25, Block A, Banani, Dhaka 1213, Bangladesh with name of the position over the top of the envelop by 10 October 2024.

D-19



Office of the Mirkadim Paurashava

District: Munshiganj

Memo No. MIR/PAURO/ENGR-10-110/24/484

Date: 29/09/2024

e-Re-Tender Notice (OTM) No. 04/2024-25

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of:

Sl No.	Tender ID No.	Package No.	Name of the work	Closing and opening date & time
1	1021884	IUGIP/MIRK/UT-DR/01/2023	Construction/Improvement of Roads 2671.00m in 7 location, RCC Drains 1285.00m in 4 locations, RCC Cross Drain One (01) number, Palisading Work 1042.00m & installation of Street Light 80 Nos. at Mirkadim Paurashava, Munshiganj District.	23.10.2024 Time: 13.00

This is online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration to the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Mohammad Quayum Chowdhury
Executive Engineer
Mirkadim Paurashava

GD-584