

## Mukherjee calls for diaspora's support

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"We are both appreciative and humbled by the gesture and would like to place on record the tremendous support that was extended to us by the Indian diaspora.

A little over a month ago, Mumbai was attacked. Terrorist strikes in India are not unique or new. Yet, this attack in Mumbai will stand out because of the unique nature of its operation. Unlike what happened in Kabul where the Indian embassy was targeted through a suicide bomb blast, this will remain in the annals of international terrorist attacks as unique, because of the fact that a number of terrorists not only carried out a series of murderous attacks in multiple locations but because they chose to end their lives in an extended manner and not through a suicide attack. I believe this to be the singularly unique terrorist strike since 9/11 and hence, I believe that it is important that anti-terrorist wings in all countries take cognisance of this operation and bring the perpetrators to justice. Let us not forget that terrorism knows no borders. All of us are vulnerable to terrorist attacks.

Our job has been vastly facilitated by virtue of the fact that we have one of the terrorists in physical custody. He has told us quite categorically where he comes from, where he has received military and arms training from and where his handlers are located. Unfortunately, despite this, we have seen a consistent flip-flop in the reaction of the government in Islamabad.

I speak to you today as you are members of my family. As our ambassadors abroad, your words will be heard in multiple corners. I call upon all of you to join us in playing the important role of taking forward our concerns to the world stage because these are concerns that you also share."

# Take on LeT frontally: Miliband

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Encouraged by "overwhelming international support", India has called for sustaining "concerted international pressure on Pakistan to bring the perpetrators of the Mumbai carnage to justice" and hoped that Pakistan would hand over the "fugitives from Indian law."

Miliband also asked Pakistan not to focus on "historical rights and wrongs" but to concentrate on weeding out terrorism. He underlined that a stable Pakistan was necessary for the security of India, Afghanistan and the region. "The Pakistan government has said that they want to prosecute the 26/11 perpetrators. Terrorism is Pakistan's own battle which they need to fight on their own," he said. "It is essential that following on the agenda of criminal justice, Pakistan takes actions," he added.

Miliband also called on Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh and met Home Minister P. Chidambaram and discussed with them the Mumbai attacks.

Amid deepening tensions between India and Pakistan in the wake of the Mumbai attacks, Miliband, however, praised India for the "maturity," "wisdom" and "determination" for responding diplomatically rather than militarily to the attacks. "The response of India is exactly the right response," Miliband said. "We see India as the success story of

this region both politically and economically, a success story which has become a beacon to the world."

External Affairs Minister Mukherjee also allayed apprehensions about the impact of the economic meltdown on India and the fallout of the Satyam fraud. "We expect to maintain economic growth of 7 to 7.5 percent this fiscal on the basis of our domestic savings and investments and will overcome the meltdown."

The two ministers also discussed reforms of international financial institutions and the global economic crisis.

### 'Cooperation antidote to terrorism'

Later, writing in *The Guardian* on January 15, Miliband said: "The terrorist attacks in Mumbai seven weeks ago sent shock waves around the world. Seven years on from 9/11 it is clear that we need to take a fundamental look at our efforts to prevent extremism and its terrible offspring, terrorist violence. Since 9/11, the notion of a "war on terror" has defined the terrain."

Debating the notion, Miliband said, "The more we lump terrorist groups together and draw the battle lines as a simple binary struggle between moderates and extremists, or good and evil, the more we play into the hands of those seeking to unify groups with little in common. Terrorist groups need to be tackled at root, interdicting flows of weapons and finance, exposing the shal-

lowness of their claims, channelling their followers into democratic politics."

Calling for a non-military approach to terror, he said: "The "war on terror" also implied that the correct response was primarily military. But as General Petraeus said to me and others in Iraq, the coalition there could not kill its way out of the problems of insurgency and civil strife. This is what divides supporters and opponents of the military action in Gaza. Similar issues are raised by the debate about the response to the Mumbai attacks. Those who were responsible must be brought to justice and the government of Pakistan must take urgent and effective action to break up terror networks on its soil. But on my visit to south Asia this week, I am arguing that the best antidote to the terrorist threat in the long term is cooperation..."

Referring to Kashmir, Miliband said: "Although I understand the current difficulties, resolution of the dispute over Kashmir would help deny extremists in the region one of their main calls to arms, and allow Pakistani authorities to focus more effectively on tackling the threat on their western borders."

He further said, "Terrorists succeed when they render countries fearful and vindictive; when they sow division and animosity; when they force countries to respond with violence and repression. The best response is to refuse to be cowed."

## PM launches Global Indian Knowledge Network

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Yet, he has inside him the blood of his Indian ancestors. His leadership and contribution to public life are a testimony to the achievements of the sons and daughters of India who have travelled to distant lands, and excelled in their respective professions. We take great pride in their achievements. I welcome you, Mr. Vice President, to this ancient land of Bharat.

We feel proud of the great achieve-

ments of the people of Indian origin around the world. More than any other people, the people of India and of Indian origin know the meaning of tolerance and the art of living together regardless of caste, creed, religion or language.

Pluralism and the willingness to live with each other despite our differences is a deeply embedded trait of Indian culture. That is why I have often said that those who pursue the politics of exclusion, of monotheism, who divide people between "us" and "them", betray the very idea of India. Our civilisation was built on reason; on the willingness to engage in dialogue.

Despite the global economic downturn, the fundamentals of Indian economy continue to remain strong. We expect to achieve a growth rate of about 7 percent this year, which will be among the highest in the world. Much of India's growth is internally driven and I expect we can maintain a strong pace of growth in the coming years. That certainly will be our ambition.

India is actively involved in the meetings of the global G-20 countries, which are deliberating on the creation of a new global financial structure.

The Overseas Indian Citizenship Scheme which we had announced in 2006 has elicited an overwhelming response. I am therefore happy to announce that henceforth OCI card holders who are qualified professionals — doctors, dentists, pharmacists,

engineers, architects and chartered accountants — will have the benefit of practising their professions here in our country. Further operational details are being worked out.

I am happy to launch today a new initiative called 'The Global Indian Knowledge Network'. This Network will connect people of Indian origin from a variety of disciplines to users at the national, state and local levels in India. My hope is that the Network will facilitate transfer of knowledge and serve as a 'virtual think tank' to generate new ideas on issues such as development, education and healthcare.

I would like to say a few words about the five million Indian workers working in the Gulf. I have seen their contributions first-hand when I recently visited Oman and Qatar. I was amazed to see their grit, their determination, and how they are contributing magnificently to processes of wealth creation in these countries. I am happy to inform you that we have launched a comprehensive e-governance project on migration. Under this project, every worker will be issued a 'Smart Card' that will contain all details of the worker, his work contract, his employer, his insurance etc. This data will also be available to the Government of India as well as our missions overseas. The objective of this project is to transform emigration process into a simple, transparent, orderly and humane process.

### TENDER NOTICE

GOVT OF INDIA, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS  
DIRECTORATE GENERAL, NATIONAL SECURITY GUARD  
PROVISIONING DIRECTORATE (PROCUREMENT CELL)  
MEHRAM NAGAR, PALAM,  
NEW DELHI-110 037.  
☎: 011-2566 3256, 25663347 ☎: 011-2566 3177/2567 1528


Tender No. 24/08/M&E

Dated the: 28 / 11 / 2008

DG, National Security Guard, on behalf of the President of India invites sealed tenders under TWO BID SYSTEM (Technical & Commercial Bid) for the following equipment :-

ITEM	: Mini Remotely Operated Vehicles
Qty.	: 02 Nos
Earnest Money	: Rs. 3,12,000/-
Last date and time of receipt of tender	: 17.03.09 up to 12.00 Hrs.

Note: The complete tender documents can be accessed & downloaded from NSG Website [www.nsg.gov.in/tenders.html](http://www.nsg.gov.in/tenders.html). Please regularly check the website for any Changes/modification/amendment in the Tender Enquiry.

  
(Vivek Vaid)  
Group Comdr.(Prov)  
For and on behalf of President of India