

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

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1. COUNTRY REVIEW

A. SOUTH ASIA

AFGHANISTAN

- **Karzai comfortably in the lead; Kunduz Governor: NATO air strike kills up to 90, including 40 civilians; Gen. McChrystal visits site of the air strike; NATO orders probe; NATO Secretary-General calls for greater NATO-EU cooperation; CNN poll: Support for Afghan war in US at all time low**

Reports indicated that with three-quarters of votes counted, incumbent Hamid Karzai with 48.6 per cent of the votes was comfortably in the lead. He was followed by Abdullah Abdullah with 31.7 per cent. The Independent Election Commission official Daud Ali Najafi stated in a press conference in Kabul that out of 4.3 million valid votes, Karzai had secured 2.08 million while Dr. Abdullah won 1.36 million. Ramazan Bashardost was a distant third, with less than half a million votes.¹ Karzai was ahead in 19 provinces, Dr. Abdullah in 12 and Bashardost in three provinces.² Results from 447 of about 28,000 polling stations were annulled due to allegations of fraud.

Kunduz Governor Mohammad Omar stated that a NATO air strike on September 4 on two fuel tankers hijacked by Taliban militants in northern Afghanistan killed 90 people, including 40 civilians. NATO on its part confirmed that there was an air strike in Kunduz but did not give details of the casualty figures.³ However, the top US commander in Afghanistan, Gen. Stanley McChrystal visited the scene of the air strike the next day, given the criticism against past alliance activities that have resulted in civilian deaths. NATO also launched an investigation on the pre-dawn strike.⁴

NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen meanwhile urged closer cooperation between the NATO and the EU in Afghanistan and stated that the current lack of cooperation was endangering troops on the ground. Rasmussen stated that he would soon launch an initiative to address the problem.⁵

In other developments, a CNN opinion poll whose results were revealed on September 1 showed that US domestic support for the war in Afghanistan

¹ "Karzai closer to Afghan poll win," *BBC*, September 6, 2009, at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/south_asia/8240534.stm

² "Karzai leads vote count in 19 provinces," *Pajhwok Afghan News*, September 5, 2009, at <http://www.pajhwok.com/viewstory.asp?lng=eng&id=81052>

³ "NATO airstrike in Afghanistan kills up to 90," *Associated Press*, September 4, 2009, at <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hvWEqWq3CrRvaQCmt21MfoYhjZJQD9AGBES03>

⁴ "Gen. McChrystal visits Afghanistan site of deadly NATO air strike," *Los Angeles Times*, September 6, 2009, at <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/afghanistan/la-fg-afghan-violence6-2009sep06,0,1086419.story>

⁵ "NATO head calls for closer EU ties in Afghanistan," *Reuters*, September 4, 2009, at <http://www.reuters.com/article/asiaCrisis/idUSL4491843?sp=true>

had fallen to an all-time low. Fifty-seven percent of those surveyed stated that they opposed the war, while 42 percent backed the mission. The number of respondents opposing the war rose by 11 percentage points since April 2009 and was the highest since the conflict began in October 2001.⁶

PAKISTAN

- **Lahore Court asks authorities not to restrict movements of A.Q. Khan; Saudi King advises Musharraf to render 'unconditional apology' for 'unjust' acts during his tenure as president; PML-N relents on the issue of 17th amendment; Pak religious minister survives an attack; 16 police men killed in Mingora; 43 militants killed in Peshawar**

The Lahore High Court suspended the security protocol accorded to the notorious nuclear smuggler A.Q. Khan and asked authorities not to restrict his movements. It added that Khan was a free man who can go where ever he wants to go.⁷

Saudi authorities meanwhile urged the Pakistani government to follow the agreement which did not allow action against former presidents.⁸ During Musharraf's visit to Saudi Arabia, reports noted that King Abdullah advised him to render an 'unconditional apology' for unjust acts during his tenure as president.⁹ He however failed to convince Saudi leaders to ensure clemency for him.

In domestic developments, the PML-N relented on the issue of de-linking the 17th amendment with the constitutional reforms package and accepted that all amendments would be part of a "single comprehensive constitutional amendment package."¹⁰

The Minister for Religious Affairs, Hamid Saeed Kazmi survived an attack by two men armed with pistols in Islamabad on September 2. His driver was killed in the incident.¹¹

At least 16 police men were killed and 5 injured in a suicide bomb attack on a police station in Mingora on August 30. 43 militants were also reportedly killed in Bara in Peshawar on September 5 during Operation 'Bia Daraghlan.'¹²

⁶ "US support for war in Afghanistan at all-time low," *The Times of India*, September 2, 2009, at <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/world/us/US-support-for-war-in-Afghanistan-at-all-time-low/articleshow/4961929.cms>

⁷ "A.Q. Khan free man as court lifts curbs," *Deccan Chronicle*, August 29, 2009, at <http://www.deccanchronicle.com/international/aq-khan-%E2%80%98free-man%E2%80%99-court-lifts-curbs-877>

⁸ "Saudis come to Musharraf's rescue," *Daily Times*, September 2, 2009, at http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\09\02\story_2-9-2009_pg1_1

⁹ Muhammad Saleh Zaafir, "Seek apology to save your neck, Abdullah tells Musharraf," *The News*, September 3, 2009, at http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

¹⁰ Irfan Ghauri, "PML-N softens stance on 17th Amendment," *Daily Times*, September 4, 2009, at http://www.dailytimes.com.pk/default.asp?page=2009\09\04\story_4-9-2009_pg1_1

¹¹ Shakeel Anjum, "Kazmi escapes bid on life, driver dies in terrorist attack," *The News*, September 3, 2009, at http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

MALDIVES

- **President Nasheed meets Chinese delegation, reiterates support for One-China policy; Maldives urges US to include it in the Preferential Trade Scheme**

Maldives President Mohammad Nasheed met a delegation of the Communist Party of China on September 5. The deliberations focused on improving bilateral ties between the two countries as well as on promoting closer ties between the political parties of both countries (MDP and CPC) on issues of mutual interest. Mr. Nasheed reiterated his country's support for the One-China policy.¹³

Foreign Minister Ahmed Shaheed urged US Secretary of State Clinton to include Maldives in the US Preferential Trade Scheme. The United States had suspended Maldives from the General System of Preferences in 1995, on account of its human rights record.¹⁴

SRI LANKA

- **Pak PM Gilani: Attack on Sri Lankan cricketers in Lahore financed by Sri Lankan terror groups; Sri Lank to get about 1,000 MW of electricity over the next four years from India**

Pakistan Prime Minister Gilani, after visiting the injured Minister for Religious Affairs Hamid Saeed Kazmi, stated that Sri Lankan President Rajapakse, during their meeting in Libya, had handed over clues linking the attack on Sri Lankan cricketers in Lahore on March 2009 with terrorist groups based in Sri Lanka. He added that his government was pursuing a long-term and multi-pronged strategy to root out terrorism from the country.¹⁵

Pakistani Navy vessel Zulfikar meanwhile arrived in Sri Lanka on September 5. Both sides pledged to increase the level of naval cooperation in the future, including training of sailors.¹⁶

In another development, Sri Lanka's Anti Narcotic Bureau arrested two Pakistani citizens for smuggling 188 grams of heroine into the country.¹⁷

Reports noted that India and Sri Lanka would soon sign an agreement regarding the Indo-Sri Lanka Electricity Interconnection Project. Through this

¹² Nasrullah Afridi & Daud Khattak, "43 militants killed in Bara operation," *The News*, September 6, 2009, at http://www.thenews.com.pk/arc_default.asp

¹³ "Maldivian president meets Zhang Gaoli," *China View*, September 6, 2009, at http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2009-09/06/content_12006402.htm

¹⁴ "US to reassess Maldives for preferential trade," *Minivan News*, September 1, 2009, at http://www.minivannews.com/news_detail.php?id=7192

¹⁵ "Terror funds coming from Sri Lanka: Gilani," *Colombo Page*, September 7, 2009, at <http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/Politics/07-Sep-2009/Terror-funds-coming-from-Sri-Lanka-Gilani>

¹⁶ "Ties between the Sri Lanka and Pakistani Navies enhanced," Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation, September 6, 2009, at <http://www.slbc.lk/index.php/component/content/article/1146-ties-between-the-sri-lanka-and-pakistani-navies-enhanced>

¹⁷ "Sri Lanka Narcotic officials arrest two Pakistanis," *Colombo Page*, September 6, 2009, at http://www.colombopage.com/archive_091/Sep1252246903RA.html

agreement, Sri Lanka hoped to add about 1,000 MWs to the National Grid in order to meet the growing demand for electricity over a period of four years.¹⁸

B. EAST AND SOUTHEAST ASIA

JAPAN

- **Obama congratulates Hatoyama on his electoral victory; Adm. Keating says no major changes expected in Japan's defence policies after Hatoyama's election; Ozawa to be made DPJ's Secretary General; Japanese Ministry of Defense releases 4.85 trillion yen budget plan for the next fiscal year; Member of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) arrested on suspicion of selling personal information on 140,000 GSDF personnel**

US President Barack Obama telephoned the newly elected Japanese Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama on September 2 and congratulated him and his Democratic Party of Japan on the landslide electoral victory. Obama stated that he looked forward to meeting Hatoyama at the UN General Assembly in New York and at the upcoming G20 summit in Pittsburgh, which will be the Japanese leader's first exposure on the world stage after being elected.¹⁹

Hatoyama on his part stated on September 4 that the G20 finance ministers meeting in London on September 5-6 and its discussions on improving financial regulation was an indication that world leaders were seriously reflecting on addressing the excesses of market fundamentalism.²⁰

The US's top military officer in the Pacific, Adm. Timothy Keating on September 2 stated that he did not expect major changes to his country's defense relationship with Japan in the aftermath of the election of Mr. Hatoyama, who has vowed to re-evaluate his country's ties with Washington.²¹ Reports however noted that the incoming government's plan to move thousands of US Marines off Okinawa will likely be the first test of the country's strong relationship with Washington.²²

Hatoyama meanwhile announced that acting DPJ President Ichiro Ozawa will be appointed as Secretary General of the party, which is the No. 2 post of the

¹⁸ "Asian Shippers Council shifts permanent Secretariat to Sri Lanka," *Sunday Times*, September 6, 2009, at <http://www.sundaytimes.lk/090906/FinancialTimes/ft39.html>

¹⁹ "Obama congratulates next Japanese PM," *News on Japan*, September 3, 2009, at <http://newsonjapan.com/html/newsdesk/article/76027.php>

²⁰ "UPDATE 1-Japan's Hatoyama welcomes G20 regulation debate," *Reuters*, September 4, 2009, at <http://www.reuters.com/article/usDollarRpt/idUST31962620090904>

²¹ "US not expecting big change in alliance with Japan," *Associated Press*, September 3, 2009, at <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5i2TvlPv9T4CEx0P9PREAWe0WQFgD9AF682O1>

²² "Relocation of US troops will test new Japan leader," *Associated Press*, September 2, 2009, at <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hlQO-kyvIEyrc0I90V5l0LFN7JTwd9AEMETO0>

party. Reports noted that the appointment is expected to further strengthen Ozawa's clout within the party.²³

The Japanese Ministry of Defense on August 31 released its 4.85 trillion yen budget plan for the next fiscal year, including provisions for upgrading the nation's missile defence system and purchasing a new helicopter carrier. The current PAC-3 missile interceptor system, which currently covers the Tokyo metropolitan area and vicinities between the Tokai and Kansai regions, is to be expanded to include Hokkaido, Tohoku and Okinawa. The system will also be extended to northern Kyushu in the coming year. The planned expansion is estimated to cost about 94.4 billion yen.²⁴

In other developments, a member of the Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) has been arrested on suspicion of selling personal information on GSDF members. Military police accused Captain Yasunari Tokunaga, 46, of the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) Kagoshima Provincial Cooperation Office, of sneaking out personal data on some 140,000 GSDF personnel, in violation of laws on the protection of personal information held by administrative agencies.²⁵

SOUTHEAST ASIA

- **Malaysia urges India to play leadership role in taking Doha Development Agenda forward; West Java jolted by earthquake measuring 7.3 on Richter Scale; Military officers from China and Myanmar meet on August 31 to discuss the junta's military offensive against the ethnic Kokang ceasefire group**

During the two-day WTO Informal Ministerial meeting held at New Delhi from September 3-4, Malaysian International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Mustapa Mohamed urged India to play a leadership role in seeking compromises from major powers in taking the Doha Development Agenda process forward. Mustapa also called for accelerated efforts to deal with the current impasse.²⁶

West Java was jolted by an earthquake measuring 7.3 on the Richter scale on September 2. The epicentre of the quake was reportedly about 140 kilometers southwest of Tasikmalaya in West Java itself and had originated 30 kilometers below the seabed.²⁷ The death toll as a result of the quake reached over 70.²⁸

²³ "Ozawa set to be DPJ secretary general," *Japan Times*, September 4, 2009, at <http://search.japantimes.co.jp/cgi-bin/nn20090904a1.html>

²⁴ "Missile defense system upgrade, new helicopter carrier part of defense budget," *Mainichi Japan*, September 1, 2009, at <http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/national/news/20090901p2a00m0na012000c.html?inb=rs>

²⁵ "GSDF member arrested for selling private info on 140,000 personnel," *Mainichi Japan*, September 1, 2009, at <http://mdn.mainichi.jp/mdnnews/national/news/20090901p2a00m0na013000c.html?inb=rs>

²⁶ "Mustapa asks India to seek Compromises from Major Powers," *Bernama.com*, September 5, 2009, at http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v5/news_lite.php?id=438372

²⁷ "7.3 magnitude jolts West Java, may lead to tsunami," *The Jakarta Post*, September 2, 2009, at <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/09/02/73-magnitude-jolts-w-java-may-lead-tsunami.html>

Military officers from China and Myanmar met on August 31 to discuss the junta's recent military offensive against the ethnic Kokang ceasefire group - the Myanmar National Democratic Alliance Army (MNDAA) in Kokang territory bordering China's Yunnan province. The meeting was held a week after the capture of Laogai, Kokang's capital, by Myanmar troops, despite Chinese protests against a military action. Reports noted that Myanmar authorities captured Laogai on the pretext that MNDAA was violating its 20-year old ceasefire agreement by involving in heroin and weapon smuggling activities.²⁹

C. WEST ASIA

IRAN

- **Khamenei vows that Iran will prosecute anyone who has committed crimes such as rape and torture in the aftermath of the election unrest; Iran's chief nuclear negotiator says Tehran has a new nuclear proposal; Iranian parliament approves 18 out of 21 ministers proposed by Ahmadinejad; Argentina and US criticize Vahidi's appointment**

In the wake of allegations that detainees in the aftermath of the election unrest were raped and tortured, Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei vowed that Iran will prosecute anyone who has committed such crimes. Reports noted that Khamenei appeared to have softened his stance on the issue. He had recently stated that he was not convinced that foreigners were behind the demonstrations.³⁰

Iran's chief nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili stated that Tehran had put together a new nuclear proposal and that it was ready to resume talks with world powers on its nuclear programme. US President Obama had given Iran until September to take up the offer of talks.³¹

Iran's parliament meanwhile approved 18 out of the 21 nominees in the cabinet proposed by President Ahmadinejad that includes the country's first woman minister as well as Mr. Vahidi, a man wanted in connection with the bombing on a Jewish cultural centre in Argentina. The candidates who failed to secure the required majority of votes were two other women nominees and Ahmadinejad's pick for energy minister. The Argentine Jewish community representative Julio Schlosser, commenting on Mr. Vahidi's appointment, stated that Mr. Ahmadinejad and Iran were "rewarding a person accused of

²⁸ "Quake death toll hits 72," *The Jakarta Post*, September 6, 2009, at <http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2009/09/06/quake-death-toll-hits-72.html>

²⁹ "Top Chinese and Burmese military officers in one-day meet", *Burma News International*, September 2, 2009, at <http://www.bnionline.net/news/kng/6961-top-chinese-and-burmese-military-officers-in-one-day-meet.html>

³⁰ "Iran's Khamenei vows to prosecute post-vote crimes," *Khaleej Times*, August 31, 2009, at http://www.khaleejtimes.com/DisplayArticle08.asp?xfile=data/middleeast/2009/August/middleeast_August770.xml§ion=middleeast

³¹ "Iran 'has new nuclear proposal'," *BBC News*, September 1, 2009, at http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/middle_east/8231763.stm

committing one of the most horrendous attacks ever experienced in Argentina.” The US on its part stated that Vahidi’s appointment was a “step backward” for US-led efforts to end Iran’s international isolation.³²

IRAQ

- **Series of shooting in Mosul; Iraqi PM requests UN for action against August 19 Baghdad truck bombings perpetrators allegedly in Syria**

Five people, including a two-year-old child were killed in a series of shootings in the restive northern city of Mosul. Three Iraqi security force members, including two policemen and a soldier were also killed in separate shooting incident at a checkpoint in central Mosul.³³

Prime Minister al-Maliki meanwhile urged the UN to act on his request for an international tribunal to try suspects responsible for the August 19 suicide truck bombings on the foreign and finance ministries in Baghdad, which killed over 100 people. He briefed the UN Special Envoy on the escalating dispute with neighboring Syria as a result of the attacks. Baghdad charged that two wanted members of Saddam Hussein’s Baath Party who had fled to Syria at the start of the war planned and financed the August 19 attacks. Syria has however refused to hand over these suspects.³⁴

II. MISSILES AND SPACE REVIEW

- **Technical review of moon mission to be undertaken; Orbiter may have suffered a ‘heat stroke’**

ISRO Chief K. Madhavan Nair stated that scientists from India and abroad who played a crucial role in developing the payloads aboard the Chandrayaan-I lunar mission would meet soon to undertake a technical review. Out of the eleven scientific payloads on board the craft, five were designed and developed by Indian institutions.³⁵ The rest were designed by the European Space Agency (ESA), Bulgaria and the United States.

ISRO officials meanwhile maintained that nearly 95 percent of the mission’s core tasks have been accomplished. Chandrayaan-I was expected to have a life span of two years, but the mission lasted only a little over ten months

³² “Iran gets first woman minister,” *Khaleej Times*, September 4, 2009, at http://www.khaleejtimes.com/Displayarticle08.asp?section=newsmakers&xfile=data/newsmakers/2009/September/newsmakers_September9.xml

³³ “Five killed in Mosul shootings,” *Khaleej Times*, September 6, 2009, at http://www.khaleejtimes.com/displayarticle.asp?xfile=data/middleeast/2009/September/middleeast_September132.xml§ion=middleeast&col=

³⁴ “Iraq presses UN envoy on bombings tribunal, Syria,” *Khaleej Times*, September 6, 2009, at http://www.khaleejtimes.com/displayarticle.asp?xfile=data/middleeast/2009/September/middleeast_September129.xml§ion=middleeast&col=

³⁵ “Chandrayaan-I masterminds assemble in Bangalore for tech review,” *Times of India*, September 6, 2009, at <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Chandrayaan-I-masterminds-assemble-in-Bangalore-for-tech-review/articleshow/4978328.cms>

following a radio contact failure. Evidence suggested that the satellite orbiter may have suffered a 'heat stroke'. Dr T.K. Alex, Director, ISRO Satellite Centre stated that ISRO scientists had "assumed that the temperature at 100km above the Moon's surface would be around 75 degrees Celsius. However, it was more than 75 degrees and problems started to surface. We had to raise the orbit to 200km."³⁶

III. ENERGY SECURITY REVIEW

- **China reportedly to sign an oil and gas agreement with PetroBangla; China also interested in co-funding a major crude oil trans-shipping and processing terminal on the west coast of Malaysia**

The China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) has reportedly finalised an agreement with Bangladesh's government-controlled PetroBangla to search for oil and gas both inside the country as well as off shore. Negotiations on the agreement commenced following a visit by senior CNPC officials to Bangladesh earlier in the year and Chinese government also promised a loan of \$1 billion to help such exploratory activities. Analysts believed that the Chinese move was geared towards securing energy supplies to feed its unstoppable energy needs.

Reports also noted that China has expressed interest in co-funding a major crude oil trans-shipping and processing terminal on the west coast of Malaysia. This pipeline would offer Beijing an alternative route for its Middle East imports should relations with Burma sour or if a change of regime occurs there.³⁷

- **South Korean firm to invest \$1.7 b in Myanmar gas exploration consortium; OVL and GAIL also have stakes in consortium; Myanmar earned over \$2 billion by exporting natural gas in previous year**

Reports noted that South Korea's Daewoo International Company will invest \$1.7 billion in gas exploration and production projects in western Myanmar. Two Indian companies also have a combined stake of 25 percent in these projects. The gas produced from the Rakhine offshore area will be exported to China in 2013. While Daewoo holds 51 percent of stake in the consortium, ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) had 17 percent, GAIL 8.5 percent, Korea Gas Crop 8.5 percent and Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise (MOGE) 15 percent.

The China National Petroleum Corp (CNPC) will also import 7.3 billion cubic feet (206 million cubic meters) of natural gas daily from Shwe, Shwe Phyu and Mya fields at the blocks developed by a consortium of companies by 2013.

³⁶ "Chandrayaan-I was 'killed' by heat stroke," *Times of India*, September 7, 2009, at <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/news/india/Chandrayaan-I-was-killed-by-heat-stroke/articleshow/4979818.cms>

³⁷ "China Hedges its Energy Bet with Move into Bangladesh," *The Irrawaddy*, September 2, 2009, at http://www.irrawaddy.org/print_article.php?art_id=16706

Statistics revealed that foreign investment in Myanmar's oil and gas sector reached \$3.398 billion in 89 projects by May 2009. The country earned \$2.384 billion from exporting natural gas. With three main large offshore oil and gas fields and 19 onshore ones, Myanmar has proven recoverable reserve of 18.012 trillion cubic feet (TCF).³⁸

- **Oil India Ltd. to start drilling in Libya from October 2009; OIL's IPO to raise nearly Rs. 3,000 crore from the market; OIL to develop Iran gas field at an investment of over Rs. 4,500 crore**

Reports noted that Oil India Ltd (OIL) will start drilling oil blocks in Libya from October 2009 for exploring an estimated two trillion cubic metres of reserves. OIL Executive Director for Corporate Affairs Narendra Bhalla told reporters that the company will "drill four wells in Libya by 2010-11." OIL and its partners - Algeria's Sonatrach and the Indian Oil Corporation - entered into a Rs. 5,500 crore agreement with the National Oil Corporation of Libya for drilling rights in four exploration blocks.

Bhalla also stated that the \$7.4-billion Iran-Pakistan-India (IPI) gas project was likely to be operational by 2012-13.

OIL is scheduled to come out with an IPO on September 7 to raise Rs. 2,800 crore from the market. The company was also partnering with Iran to jointly develop the world's largest gas field with an investment of over Rs. 4,500 crore over the next two years.³⁹

IV. INTERNAL SECURITY REVIEW

JAMMU AND KASHMIR

- **5 infiltrators killed in J and K**

Five militants were killed in the Gurez sector of Bandipora district near Line of Control on September 2 as the Indian Army foiled a major infiltration bid by the militants to enter into the Kashmir valley from Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The previous three months have seen militants making a determined effort to sneak into the Valley in large numbers. More than 70 militants have been killed in over 20 foiled infiltration attempts from March to August of this year alone. Sources indicated that at least 1500 militants were waiting at various launch pads across the LoC in PoK, ready to infiltrate into the Valley after undergoing rigorous training in subversive activities in the tribal areas of Pakistan and the part of Kashmir under Pakistani occupation.⁴⁰

³⁸ "South Korean firm to invest \$1.7 bn in Myanmar on gas exploration," *Asiaenergy*, September 3, 2009, at <http://asianenergy.blogspot.com/2009/09/south-korean-firm-to-invest-17-bn-in.html>

³⁹ "Oil India to start drilling in Libya from October," *Asiaenergy*, September 3, 2009, at <http://asianenergy.blogspot.com/2009/09/oil-india-to-start-drilling-in-libya.html>

⁴⁰ "5 infiltrators killed in Gurez sector," *Daily Excelsior*, September 3, 2009, at <http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09sep03/news.htm#2>

Militants also killed 2 security personnel and injured over 25 others in twin strikes on August 31 in Srinagar.⁴¹

NORTHEAST DEVELOPMENTS

- **Centre sets surrender deadline for DHD-J**

The central government on September 1 gave DHD-J ultimatum till September 15 to formally surrender. Reports noted that the government's strategy was agreed upon at a meeting chaired by Union Home Minister P. Chidambaram and attended among others by Assam Chief Minister Tarun Gogoi. Gogoi told reporters that if the DHD-J surrendered by September 15 and "follow our pre-conditions, we are willing to accept their offer for ceasefire."⁴²

Nagaland Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio on September 2 stated that around 1040 persons were killed in factional fighting among the Naga insurgent groups during the cease-fire period.⁴³

MAOIST INSURGENCY

- **Maoists kill four civilians in Chhattisgarh**

Bodies of four villagers killed by the Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist) cadres were recovered from a forest in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur District on September 4. The extremists had attacked Kandulnar, Gudipal and Aaded villages in the district on September 2 and had abducted four villagers.⁴⁴

⁴¹ "Two CRPF jawans shot dead, 26 hurt," *Daily Excelsior*, September 1, 2009, at <http://www.dailyexcelsior.com/web1/09sep01/news.htm#1>

⁴² "Centre sets surrender deadline for DHD (J)," *Assam Tribune*, September 2, 2009, at <http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/details.asp?id=sep0209/at04>

⁴³ "Factional clashes claimed 1040 lives during cease-fire, says Nagaland Chief Minister," *SATP*, September 4, 2009, at http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news3.asp?date3=2009%2F9%2F4#15

⁴⁴ "Maoists kill four civilians in Chhattisgarh," *SATP*, September 5, 2009, at http://www.satp.org/satporgtp/detailed_news3.asp?date3=2009%2F9%2F5#3