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**PRESS RELEASE**

**U.S. CHARGÉ D’AFFAIRES, A.I.  
MEETS WITH JAMAAT-E-ISLAMI AMEER**

**DHAKA, MARCH 16 --** Geeta Pasi, the U.S. Chargé d’Affaires, a.i., met with Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Maulana Motiur Rahman Nizami and other party leaders. This is a continuation of Ms. Pasi's meetings with Political Party leaders.

Ms. Pasi and the Jamaat-e-Islami leaders discussed the current political situation in Bangladesh and the status of implementation of the electoral roadmap. She reiterated the United States Government’s desire to see free, fair and fully participatory elections by the end of 2008 as promised by the Caretaker Government and underscored the important role the political parties will play in this process. Ms. Pasi noted the importance of dialogue between the political parties and the government in order to establish the proper conditions for holding elections.

U.S. Embassy officials meet regularly to discuss current issues in Bangladesh with political party leaders as well as with members of the government and civil society. Ms. Pasi will meet with the leadership of the Jatiya Party and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party in the coming days.

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*Note: A Bangla translation of this article is also available at the American Center. If you are interested in the translation, please call the American Center Press Section, Tel: 8837150-4, Fax: 9885688; e-mail: [DhakaPA@state.gov](mailto:DhakaPA@state.gov); Website: <http://dhaka.usembassy.gov>*