

People in public life should work for others: Sonia

PTI, Kurukshetra

UPA Chairperson and Congress President Sonia Gandhi yesterday said people in public life should prove with their work that they are working not for themselves, but for others, specially the weak, the deprived and the oppressed.

"It is true not just for individuals but also for society, the country and the world," she said in her address at the 44th All India Oriental Conference, Kurukshetra University, in Kurukshetra.

She said in "this holy land, Lord Krishna had delivered the sermon of the Gita advocating balance in life in which there is struggle, sacrifice, gain and loss, all of which are for the human culture and its rebuilding".

Laying stress on education, she said that lack of knowledge leads to problems in society and the country.

OATH IN HINDI Protests against Nepal's vice president

AP, Katmandu

Protesters blocked traffic and held demonstrations yesterday in Nepal to protest the newly elected vice president's decision to take his oath of office in a foreign language.

Demonstrators called for Paramananda Jha to publicly apologize for taking his oath in Hindi during last week's swearing-in ceremony, while the new president spoke in Nepali.

Student groups burned tires to block traffic on the main streets of the capital, Katmandu, and chanted slogans against Jha. News reports said protesters had blocked the main highways in eastern Nepal, and markets and schools were also closed.



PHOTO: AFP

Pakistani protesters belonging to the Hizb-ut-Tahrir Wilayah chant slogans against the country's corrupt leaders as they take part in the anti-US rally in Lahore Sunday. Pakistani Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani is in Washington for talks with President George W Bush.

Lankan fighting kills 22 despite LTTE truce

AP, Colombo

Sri Lankan troops launched attacks on Tamil Tiger bunkers that killed 18 guerrillas and four soldiers, despite a rebel ceasefire, the military said yesterday.

The rebels said last week they would halt attacks for 10 days starting last Saturday as a goodwill gesture in honour of a summit of South Asian leaders to be held in Colombo.

However, the group said it would retain the right to defend

itself if the government pressed ahead with its offensive against their de facto state in the north.

Sri Lankan officials gave conflicting responses to the cease-fire declaration, with some military officials saying halting the offensive now, after several important victories in recent days, would give the rebels time to regroup.

On Saturday, as the cease-fire was to start, government forces killed 12 rebels across the battlefield, the military said.

Fighting continued Sunday,

with at least 16 different battles breaking out in the Welioya and Vavuniya regions, some of them sparked by government attacks on the rebels' bunker lines, the military said Monday. The rebels also carried out at least five roadside bombings against troops, the military said.

The violence killed 18 rebels and four soldiers, the military said.

"There's no response to the cease-fire. Our offensives are going on," military spokesman Brig. Udaya Nanayakkara said.

'Qaeda militant targeted in US strike in Pakistan'

Pak military warns US commander on strikes as 6 people killed

AFP, Peshawar

A suspected US missile strike in Pakistan's tribal belt Monday targeted a senior al-Qaeda militant, who may have been among the six people killed in the attack, security officials said.

Three missiles hit a house attached to a mosque in the South Waziristan tribal district, an area bordering Afghanistan that is viewed by Washington as a haven for al-Qaeda and Taliban extremists, officials said.

Pakistani officials said an unnamed Middle Eastern al-Qaeda operative in the second tier of the organisation, behind Osama bin Laden and Ayman Al-Zawahiri, was

the target of the attack.

"It is believed that a senior al-Qaeda operative was targeted and that the strike was successful, but confirmation is still awaited," a senior Pakistani security official told AFP on condition of anonymity.

Another official said earlier that three suspected Arab extremists and three Pakistani boys were among the dead in the attack in the village of Azam Warsak, some 20km east of the Afghan border.

Pakistani military spokesman Major General Athar Abbas said facts about the incident were still being confirmed.

"We are facing difficulties in getting to know what kind of incident it was," Abbas told AFP. "We have not

yet received any authentic information from the area from our teams."

Repeated US missile strikes in Pakistan could harm relations between the two countries, a top Pakistani military officer told a visiting US commander on Monday, a statement said.

The warning by General Tariq Majid, chairman of Pakistan's joint chiefs of staff, to Lieutenant General Martin Dempsey, head of US Central Command, came hours after a suspected US missile strike in Pakistan's tribal belt.

"Expressing concern over repeated cross-border missile attacks/firing by coalition and Afghan forces, General Tariq said that our sovereignty and territorial

integrity must be respected," a Pakistani military statement said.

"Any violation in this regard could be detrimental to bilateral relations," it said.

Majid "also reemphasised that Pakistan armed forces are capable of handling any challenges to our security."

Residents said they heard US aircraft and pilotless Predator drones flying above the area before and after the strike, adding that there had been alarm over similar flights throughout the weekend.

A group of Arabs, believed to be Egyptians, had rented a compound containing the house and the madrassa from a local tribesman, Malik Salat, residents said.

Nato troops kill two Afghan children

AFP, Kabul

Nato-led soldiers killed two children after opening fire on a car that failed to slow down near a military patrol in southern Afghanistan, the alliance's force said yesterday.

The incident in the Taliban-troubled province of Kandahar on Sunday followed a similar one in neighbouring Helmand province on Saturday in which the troops killed four civilians.

In the latest incident, the troops "opened fire on a vehicle being driven in a threatening manner and ignoring warnings, killing two child occupants," Nato's International Security Assistance Force said.

Gujarat Muslims fear Hindu backlash after bombings

AFP, Ahmedabad

After serial bombings killed dozens of people here Muslim housewife Tahira Bi hopes history will not repeat itself in India's western state of Gujarat, where memories of Hindu rage are still fresh.

With the city of Ahmedabad hit by blasts claimed by a little-known Islamist group, the spectre of a fresh outbreak of communal violence or revenge attacks on Muslims is at the forefront of concerns.

"I first saw Hindu-Muslim riots when I was 10 years old. Then again

in 2002. I have no fear any more," Bi said at her home in the communally-sensitive Naroda-Patiya residential area, where many Muslims were killed in riots six years ago.

"How long are we going to live scared and running, like cats and dogs? What has to happen will happen, but we have to go on," said the mother of six who is in her 40s.

The riots in 2002 erupted after 59 Hindu pilgrims died in a train fire first blamed on a Muslim mob but which an inquiry later concluded was accidental.

Several investigations at the state and federal level have alleged police failed to protect Muslims, who accounted for most of the estimated 2,000 people killed in the pogrom.

After Saturday's bombings, federal authorities have been quick to take preventative action -- including the deployment of heavily-armed combat troops in potential flashpoint areas to deter riots.

At least 49 were killed and more than 160 wounded in the blasts, according to official figures.

More attacks feared as PM visits blast scene

AFP, Ahmedabad

India's prime minister vowed yesterday his government would "defeat" those behind a weekend bombing wave in two major cities, as the country feared more attacks by a shadowy Islamist group.

Bombs ripped through 16 crowded places in Ahmedabad, commercial hub of western Gujarat state, on Saturday, killing 49 people and injuring over 160 others. The targets included markets, buses and hospitals treating the victims.

The Gujarat attacks, claimed by a little-known group calling itself the "Indian Mujahadeen," came the day after a string of bombs also went off in the southern tech city of Bangalore leaving one dead and eight injured.

"We will rise to the challenge and I am confident we will be able to defeat these forces," Singh told reporters after visiting a bombed hospital in Ahmedabad and meeting victims of the attacks.

He urged all political parties, the state and central governments, and security forces to cooperate in the hunt for those responsible.

"In this hour of tragedy, my heart goes out to those who have lost their dear and near ones. I offer my sympathies to those

injured," said Singh, who visited the city with Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi and was ringed by heavy security.

Police in the city said they were questioning several people but no arrests had been made.

"Presently there are no arrests," said police official Ashish Bhatia. "Some interrogations are going on -- the figure must be around 10 or so."

Forensic reports confirmed the bombs were made from ammonium nitrate and fuel oil, Bhatia said.

Many of the victims were peppered with red-hot nuts, bolts and ball bearings that were packed into the bombs, which were clearly designed to cause maximum casualties.

The police official added that the situation was now "totally normal" in the city, which was the scene of major Hindu-Muslim riots six years ago. Leaders appealed for calm in the wake of the attacks, fearing new sectarian violence.

The army, which was deployed after the attacks to avert any fresh religious riots, were taken off the streets Monday as life began to slowly return to normal.

"It's been quiet for two days so my mother said it's all right to go to school," said 15-year-old Athar Kothawala as he walked to school.



PHOTO: AFP

Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh (C) and Chief Minister of Gujarat Narendra Modi (R) visit a blast victim at a civil hospital in Ahmedabad yesterday. Manmohan visited the hospital which was bombed during the string of attacks in the western Indian city of Ahmedabad that left 49 people dead and over 160 injured.

Moro Muslim resume peace talks

AFP, Manila

Peace talks between the Philippine government and Muslim separatists have resumed after the rebels initially rejected a draft agreement on the sharing of natural resources, the two sides said yesterday.

Two days after the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) warned that the talks have "collapsed", chief MILF negotiator Mohaqer Iqbal said the two sides resumed discussions on Sunday in Malaysia, which has been hosting the talks for several years.

The two sides later signed a joint communiqué on the issue of "ancestral domain," with a formal signing tentatively set for next month, Iqbal told AFP by telephone.

British seaside pier goes up in flames

AFP, Weston-Super-Mare

An inferno laid waste yesterday to a historic pier in the southwest English resort of Weston-Super-Mare, dealing a further hammer blow to the seaside town's economy.

About 30 firefighters fought the massive blaze at the part-wooden Grand Pier, but there were no immediate reports of any injuries, Avon Fire and Rescue said.

The pier, which opened in 1904 at a time when British beach resorts were booming, stretches a quarter of a mile (400 metres) into the Bristol Channel.

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Appointment as IT Solution Provider for Data Center & Network System.

Ref. ICDDR,B/Mohakhali/Gyanaloy/08-02, dated: March 06, 2008, Package No. 22, Date : 29-07-2008

International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh: ICDDR,B has been allocated IDA/GoB Fund from Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (GoB) towards the cost of the "Appointment as IT Solution Provider for Data Center and Network System" and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this fund to payment under the contract packages for the provision of such services by a IT Solution Provider.

Brief Description of Assignment

a. Data Center

- To plan, prepare and submit detailed technical architecture (Physical and Logical) design of the ICDDR,B Data Center following telecommunications infrastructure standard for data centers TIA-942.
- To plan, prepare and submit detailed environmental design of the ICDDR,B Data Center following telecommunications infrastructure standard for data centers TIA-942.
- To provide total Data Center solution, which includes establishment of ICDDR,B Data Center consisting of supply, installation, acceptance testing, configuration, commissioning, maintenance of various equipments and components (like routers, switches, HVAC, raised floor, UPS, fire protection, cabling infrastructure, cable management, interior decoration and facilities, security and access control, water intrusion protection, racks and cabinets, pathways and spaces etc.)
- To undertake data centre structured cabling necessary for system integration and overall solution as per the commercial building telecommunications cabling standards TIA-568-B.1, TIA-568-B.2, TIA-568-B.3, commercial building standard for pathways and spaces TIA-569-B, administration standard for telecommunications infrastructure of commercial buildings TIA-606-A, commercial building grounding and bonding requirements for telecommunications TIA-607 ensuring 20 (twenty) year Extended Product Warranty and System Assurance Warranty and certification by OEM of the structured cabling system.
- To prepare and submit technical hands on and guide of cable plan and documentation of newly constructed data center.

b. Network

- To plan, prepare and submit detailed network architecture (Physical and Logical) design for establishment of local area network (LAN) at the ICDDR,B premises.
- To provide total structured cabling solution, which includes establishment of local area network (LAN) consisting of supply, installation, configuration, acceptance testing, labeling, commissioning, maintenance of various equipments and components (like switches, cables, cabling path/channels, connectors, wall plates, patch panels, racks and cabinets, and frames for patch panels/switches etc.).
- To undertake LAN structured cabling necessary for system integration and overall solution as per the commercial building telecommunications cabling standards TIA-568-B.1, TIA-568-B.2, TIA-568-B.3, commercial building standard for pathways and spaces TIA-569-B, administration standard for telecommunications infrastructure of commercial buildings TIA-606-A, commercial building grounding and bonding requirements for telecommunications TIA-607 ensuring 20 (twenty) year Extended Product Warranty and System Assurance Warranty and certification by OEM of the structured cabling system.
- To provide centralized power backup solution for all IT equipments, this includes capacity planning, supply, installation and maintenance of UPS satisfying the identified requirement.
- To prepare and submit technical hands on and guide of cable plan and documentation of newly constructed network system.

Qualification and Experience

Please ensure your Expression of Interest (EOI) is accompanied by a short description of your company including:

- Articles of incorporation and structure.
- Number of employees including CVs of key technical staff.
- Reference list of previous clients for similar contracts completed during the past 3 years.
- Work orders/purchase orders for similar works completed during the past 3 years including value of the work orders/purchase orders in monetary terms.
- Current audited financial statements including a balance sheet, an income statement, year-end financial statement as well as turnover of the last 3 years.
- Certification from principal/manufacture.
- The responder shall be the single point of contact for ICDDR,B and shall be solely responsible for all maintenance, warranties, upgrades and guarantees etc. offered by the original equipment manufacturer (OEM). An undertaking to this effect should be submitted by the responder.

ICDDR,B reserves the right to undertake a pre-qualification exercise of the interested companies. The pre-qualification will be made using such criteria as company's capacity, experience and references, financial and organizational strength and stability etc. The qualified companies will then be invited to participate in the subsequent bidding exercise governed by the rules and procedures of ICDDR,B. The participation of the interested companies in this exercise would be at no costs to ICDDR,B.

Expressions of Interest shall be submitted in sealed envelope delivered to "Procurement Specialist", Procurement & Materials Unit, Finance Department, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 and clearly marked "Request for Expressions of Interest for Appointment as IT Solution Provider" by August 25, 2008 within 11:00 A. M.

The Procurement Entity reserves the right to accept or reject all Expressions of Interests.

M. Alam
Procurement Specialist.
GYANALOY Project.

ঢাকা মহানগরীর খান জলাশয় রক্ষা ও জলাবদ্ধতা দূরীকরণে সহায়তা করুন ড্রেনেজ লাইনে কঠিন বর্জ্য না ফেলার অনুরোধ।

- বর্জ্যবালু-ভূগর্ভস্থ টর্ম স্যুয়ার লাইনের মাধ্যমে বৃষ্টির পানি খালে পতিত হয়ে নদীতে নিষ্কাশিত হয়। সরকারী খালের উপর অবৈধ বসতি/স্থাপনা, অপরিষ্কৃত ব্রীজ/সাঁকে, যত্রতত্র রাস্তা, বাশের মাঁচা, বস্তি ও মাঁচা ট্যাংকি নির্মাণসহ বিভিন্ন পন্থায় অবৈধ দবলের মাধ্যমে খালের প্রবাহ বিঘ্নিত হয়। ফলে বৃষ্টি হলে জলাবদ্ধতার সৃষ্টি হয়।

- ভূগর্ভস্থ টর্ম স্যুয়ার লাইনে (ড্রেনেজ) কঠিন বর্জ্য ফেলার কারণে বৃষ্টির পানি নিষ্কাশন পথ সমুচিত/বদ্ধ হয়ে যায়। ফলে জলাবদ্ধতা দেখা দেয়।

এমতাবস্থায় ঢাকা মহানগরীতে বসবাসকারী সকল নাগরিকের প্রতি ঢাকা ওয়াসার আবেদনঃ

- খোলা ড্রেনে অবৈধ ভূগর্ভস্থ ড্রেনেজ লাইনে কঠিন বর্জ্য নিক্ষেপ করবেন না;
- খালের জমিতে/সীমানায় অবৈধ স্থাপনা ও সাঁকে নির্মাণ করবেন না;
- ড্রেন বা খালের গতিপথে শিল্প বর্জ্য/আবর্জনা/বাড়ি-ঘরের তাসা অংশ ফেলবেন না;
- কোন অবস্থাতেই খালের উপর মাঁচা ট্যাংকি নির্মাণ এবং ড্রেন ও খালে বসতবাড়ির ট্যাংকি/ট্যাংকি প্রদান করবেন না।
- জলাবদ্ধতামুক্ত ঢাকা মহানগরীর লক্ষ্যে ঢাকা ওয়াসার ড্রেন ও খালের স্বাভাবিক প্রবাহ নিশ্চিতকরণে সর্বাত্মক সহযোগিতা করুন।

আপনার সেবায় নিয়োজিত

ঢাকা ওয়াসা

ওয়াসা-জরতঃ-৫৬১/২০০৮

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