

Senior Kashmiri separatist leader Yasin Malik (C) is arrested by police as he approaches the proposed venue of an independence rally at Lal Chowk in Srinagar yesterday.

Troops open fire on Kashmir protesters: 4 killed

Key leaders detained, curfew continues

AFP, Srinagar

Indian security forces opened fire on pro-independence demonstrators in Muslim-majority Kashmir yesterday, killing at least four people, while more than 100 were hurt in clashes, police said.

The protesters were shot as troops struggled to disperse anti-India marchers who rallied across the dispute-hit region in defiance of a strict curfew.

Authorities also arrested three leading separatists ahead of a planned rally on Monday in the centre of Srinagar, the main city in Indian-ruled Kashmir.

One of the protesters killed Monday was a man shot on the

outskirts of Srinagar, while another man was killed in Pulwama town, 30km away, police said.

"Security forces had to open fire when protesters attacked them with stones and sticks," police officer Imtiaz Ahmed told AFP.

A young woman and a 16-year-old boy were killed in two villages north of Srinagar when security forces fired on hundreds of demonstrators who had "violated curfew restrictions," police said.

Police reported more than 100 people were injured Monday across the Kashmir valley in clashes between security forces and demonstrators.

The recent troubles have been triggered by a state government

plan announced in June to donate land to a Hindu shrine trust in the Kashmir valley. The decision was later reversed after massive Muslim protests, angering Hindus.

The strict curfew was imposed starting Sunday to "discourage separatist rallies during which residents have openly paraded green Islamic flags and chanted pro-militant and anti-India slogans," a police official told AFP.

Residents said shops and offices were shuttered and the streets were empty.

"We are not even being allowed to peep out through windows," said Fayaz Ahmed, 42.

"We have called in the army to assist the police in enforcing cur-

few," police Inspector General SM Sahai told reporters in Srinagar.

Thousands of troops were deployed Monday to the venue where protesters had planned to rally, Srinagar's Red Square, with fencing and barbed wire blocking entry points so people could not gather.

The square is where India's first prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru in 1948 promised Kashmiris the right to decide their future in a referendum on self-determination.

"It is very tense out here. There are only policemen visible on the streets," said Joginder Singh, a Red Square resident.

Police used loudspeakers to urge residents to stay indoors.

Nepal FM to visit India to smooth diplomatic ties

AFP, Kathmandu

The new foreign minister of Nepal plans to assure New Delhi this week that the Maoist premier's first foreign trip to neighbouring China was not a snub, an official said yesterday.

Prime Minister Prachanda, sworn in last week as head of Nepal's first post-party government, travelled to Beijing on Saturday to attend the Olympics closing ceremonies and meet China's leaders.

His visit marked a departure from previous tradition in Nepal, in which past new premiers made their first foreign visit to neighbouring India.

The Nepali foreign minister is due to arrive in New Delhi on Thursday for a regional economic meeting.

Judges will be restored, but no timeframe

Says Zardari

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Islamabad

The judges former Pakistani president Pervez Musharraf sacked after imposing an emergency last year will definitely be restored, Asif Ali Zardari, co-chair of the Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) that leads the country's ruling coalition, has said, without specifying the timeframe for this.

Zardari, his party's candidate for the president's post, also said Musharraf would only be given conditional amnesty for his various acts of omission and commission while in office.

"We will definitely restore the judges but after some debate in

parliament," Zardari told The News.

"It is difficult to debate this issue for one day and I am not sure if the judges could be restored on Monday (Aug 25)," he added, referring to the deadline set by coalition partner Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N).

Pakistan's ruling coalition appeared on the brink of collapse on Sunday with the PML-N staying away from a crucial meeting of a committee that was to draft a resolution to be tabled in parliament on reinstating the judges.

The PML-N had linked its participation to the PPP laying down a definite timeframe for restoring the

judges and extending the date of the presidential election, due Sep 17.

The News, however, noted that despite Zardari's statements, the judges' issue is "still not the main bone of contention" between him and PML-N leader Nawaz Sharif.

"The main issue is still the indemnity for Musharraf," it said.

According to the newspaper, the PPP has "assured" the PML-N that Musharraf "will give in writing to parliament that he did many wrong things in the past and that he will not participate in politics in the future. After getting his written assurance, parliament will provide him indemnity."

Zardari betrayed me, says Nawaz Sharif

THE DAILY TIMES, Lahore

The Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) called for the postponement of the presidential election for a month after a meeting on Sunday, and its chief Nawaz Sharif said Pakistan People's Party (PPP) Co-chairman Asif Ali Zardari had "hurt my confidence."

According to Geo News, most of the PML-N leaders were "disappointed with the PPP" for not restoring the sacked judiciary following the procedure and the timeframe they had proposed.

"I had allied with the PPP to steer the country out of the prevailing crises," the PML-N chief told leaders of his party during a meeting at his Raiwind residence, according to a Dawn News report.

Opposition benches: Citing sources in the party, television

channels said some of the party leaders wanted the PML-N to quit the ruling coalition and sit on the opposition benches. They wanted the party to stay away from the presidential election, but Geo News said a final decision in this regard would be made in a meeting of the party's Central Working Committee in Islamabad on Monday.

Plan-B: The PML-N leaders also discussed the fate of the coalition government in Punjab if the party pulls out of the coalition in the centre. Geo News said the PML-N was likely to show flexibility in its stance towards the rival PML-Q to win them over for a possible plan-B.

The channel said PML-N leader Makhdoom Javed Hashmi strongly criticised Zardari and asked the party to form a new strategy.



This handout picture released by the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) shows former premier Nawaz Sharif (2R), head of the second-largest party in the ruling coalition, addressing the party central executive committee meeting in Islamabad yesterday.

Afghan cabinet demands review of int'l troops

AFP, Kabul

The Afghan cabinet demanded yesterday the renegotiation of agreements regulating the presence of the international community in Afghanistan after more than 90 civilians were killed in US-led air strikes.

The cabinet said the review should focus on the "limits of authority and responsibilities" of international troops and a halt on air strikes on civilians, illegal detentions and unilateral house searches, a statement said.

A government commission said Sunday that more than 90 civilians, most of them women and children, were killed in air strikes in the western province of Herat on

Friday.

It is one of the deadliest civilian tolls in international military action since US-led forces invaded in 2001 to topple the hardline Taliban regime after it did not hand over its al-Qaeda allies for attacks on the United States.

The US-led coalition says Friday's strikes were targeted at Taliban rebels and 30 of them were killed although it is investigating claims of civilian casualties.

The regular Monday cabinet meeting "expressed deep sorrow and condemned in the strongest possible terms" recent incidents of civilian casualties in Herat as well as the provinces of Laghman and Kapisa, the statement said.

A resolution adopted by the

ministers said they had tasked the foreign and defence ministries to meet international officials in line with Afghanistan's "right of national sovereignty."

"The presence of the international community in Afghanistan must be re-regulated based on bilateral agreements," said the statement carried by the government news agency.

"The limits of authorities and responsibilities of the international forces must be regulated under bilateral agreements based on international and Afghan laws," it said.

"Air strikes on civilian targets, unilateral searches of homes and illegal detentions of Afghan civilians must be stopped," it added.

Lanka military kills 10 rebels in fresh clashes

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lankan troops killed 10 Tamil Tiger rebels during fresh clashes in the north as the military inched towards the guerrillas' political capital, the defence ministry said yesterday.

The military said the 10 rebels died Sunday in clashes, while putting its own casualties at 15 wounded.

The fighting raised the number of rebels killed by troops since January to 6,088, according to defence ministry figures. The government says 567 of its troops have died over the same period.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) have not commented on the recent fighting. But the rebel Tamilnet.com website said two

soldiers were killed when an unidentified group fired at an army camp in Jaffna in the north early Sunday.

Casualty claims by the two sides cannot be verified since the military blocks media access to the front lines and rebel-controlled areas.

Troops are braced for a fierce battle as the military tries to dismantle the LTTE's de-facto state in the north after ejecting them from the east last July.

The defence ministry said last week that troops were 12 kilometres (seven miles) from the rebel's political capital of Kilinochchi.

Tens of thousands of people have died since the LTTE launched a separatist campaign in 1972 to carve out a homeland for minority Tamils in the majority Sinhalese island's north and east.

Tough task to strike ME deal by yr-end: Rice

AFP, Tel Aviv

US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice admitted Monday that the Israelis and Palestinians have a "lot of work ahead" if they are to strike a peace deal by year-end.

"We continue to have the same goal which is to reach agreement by the end of the year," Rice said on her seventh visit to the region since she helped launch a new peace process last November.

"We have a lot of work ahead to do that, and obviously it's a com-

plicated time, but it's always complicated out here," the top US diplomat told reporters on the plane from Washington to Tel Aviv.

The two sides formally relaunched the peace process after a seven-year hiatus at a US-hosted conference in November, with the goal of signing a full peace deal by the time President George W. Bush leaves office in January 2009.

But they have made little tangible progress on resolving the core issues of the conflict, including

final borders, the status of Jerusalem and the fate of the 4.5 million UN-registered Palestinian refugees.

The process has been marred by the seizure of the Gaza Strip by the Islamist Hamas movement in June 2007 and Israeli settlement expansion in the occupied West Bank, including annexed east Jerusalem.

But in a goodwill gesture to US-backed Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas, Israel released 198 Palestinian prisoners just hours before Rice landed in Tel Aviv.



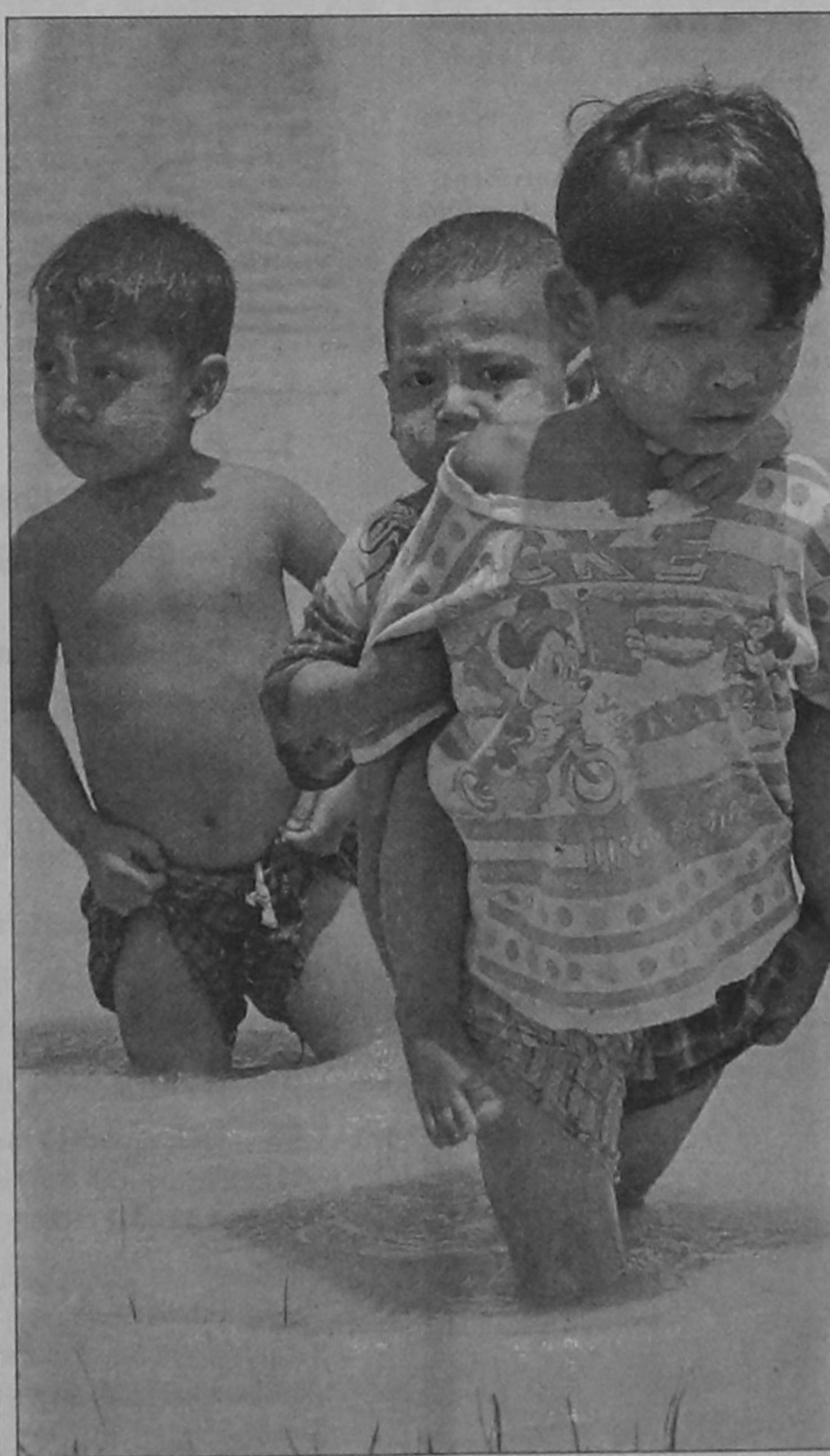
Bangladesh Power Development Board Invitation for International Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources/Power Division.
2	Agency	Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB).
3	Procuring entity name	Director, Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present.
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka, Bangladesh.
6	Invitation for	Procurement of Condenser Tube for Unit-4 of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
7	Invitation Ref. No.	Pur-308/2008.
8	Date	20-08-2008.
KEY INFORMATION		
9	Procurement method	Open tendering method.
FUNDING INFORMATION		
10	Budget and source of funds	Revenue budget (cash foreign exchange allocation) of BPDB.
11	Development partners (if applicable)	Not applicable.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	Not applicable.
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Not applicable.
14	Tender package No.	06 (FY 2008-2009).
15	Tender package name	Procurement of Condenser Tube for Unit-4 of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
16	Tender publication date	20-08-2008.
17	Tender last selling date	On 06/10/2008 during office hours.
18	Tender closing date and time	On 07-10-2008 at 11.00am (BST).
19	Tender opening date and time	On 07-10-2008 at 11.30am (BST).
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Selling tender (principal)	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Selling tender document (others)	Nil.
	Receiving tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.
	Open tender document	Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, WAPDA Building (9th floor), 12, Motiheel C/A, Dhaka.
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting	Nil.
INFORMATION FOR TENDERER		
22	Eligibility of tenderer	As per tender document.
23	Brief description of goods or works	Procurement of Condenser Tube for Unit-4 of Ghorasal Thermal Power Station, BPDB, Palash, Narsingdi.
24	Brief description of related services	As per tender document.
25	Tender document price	Non-refundable BD Taka 10,000/- (ten thousand) only in the form of Pay Order in favour of Director, Directorate of Purchase, BPDB, Dhaka.
26	Lot No.	Identification of lot
	1	Procurement of Condenser Tube for Unit-4
		Location
		Ghorasal Thermal Power Station
		Tender security amount
		US\$ 40,000.00 or BDT 28,000,000/-
		Completion time in weeks/months
		150 days from the date of opening of LC
27	N/A	N/A
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
28	Name of official inviting tender	
29	Designation of official inviting tender	
30	Address of official inviting tender	
31	Contact details of official inviting tender	
32	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.	

Biddyt/Jana-103/4/21-8-08
GD-3877

Md. Abduhu Ruhullah
Director
Directorate of Purchase
BPDB, Dhaka

Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh Directorate General of Health Services Disease Control Unit Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212		
Addendum/Corrigendum		
Following Addendum/Corrigendum have been made for Tender No.: DGHS/CDC/29/Tender/Proc/HNPSP/2008-2009 Issued on: 04/08/2008 for the procurement of 30 Computers, 10 Note Book Computers, 10 Printers, and Other Accessories		
ITT 13.1(a)	The minimum supply value of goods under a single contract in the last five years is Tk. 35 Lacs	
ITT 13.1(b)	The minimum amount of liquid asset or working capital or credit facility is Tk. 75 Lacs	
ITT 33.1	The Tender opening shall take place at: Address: Conference Room (1st Fl.), Directorate General of Health Service, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 On Time & Date: 01:00 PM Date: 10/09/2008	
ITT 27.1	The amount of the Tender Security shall be Tk 50,000/- (Fifty thousand only) Must be paid only through DD/P.O/Bank Draft in favour of: Director, Disease Control, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212	
ITT 29.2(b)	For Tender submission purposes only, the Purchaser's address is: Attention: Director, Disease Control and Line Director Address: Directorate of Health Services Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 The deadline for submission of Tenders is 12:30 PM on 10/09/2008	
GCC 26.1	3 Rest 10% payment shall be made after expiring the warranty period.	
Amendment of Technical Specification: Section 7		
For Desk Top PC	Sl. No	New Specification
	03	Processor: Intel Core 2 Duo
	05	Bus Speed: Min 800 MHz FSB
	16	17" LCD Colour Monitor
For Colour Laser Printer	04	Print speed: 22 to 25 PPM (A4)
(Prof Dr. Moazzem Hossain) Director, DC & Line Director, CDC, DGHS, Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212		



Myanmar children cross a flooded stretch of a road in Thongwa, about 90km east of Yangon on Sunday. Over the past week, torrential rains have caused floods in some areas of Myanmar, prompting local residents to evacuate and close down schools temporarily in the affected areas.