

Taliban free captive Chinese engineer in Pakistan

AP, Islamabad

Pakistani Taliban militants have freed a Chinese engineer held captive for nearly six months, officials said Sunday, as fears rose over the safety of an abducted American threatened with imminent death by his kidnappers.

It was not immediately clear what prompted Long Xiaowei's release, including whether a ransom was paid or militants were freed in exchange, but the news that he was safe was a rare bright spot in a month of heightened security concerns for foreigners in Pakistan.

Prabhakaran alive and desperate: Bombers

His son commanding LTTE forces

IANS, PTI, Colombo

Sri Lanka's elusive Tamil rebel leader Velupillai Prabhakaran is still in the country's north, two suicide cadres who have surrendered to the military were quoted as saying yesterday.

Prabhakaran, facing the most serious crisis since Tamil insurgency broke out over a quarter century ago, remains holed up in the rapidly shrinking territory still held by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), the state-run Sunday Observer quoted them as saying.

"Prabhakaran is still in Wannai (LTTE

held area) and will continue to hold innocent civilians until the military captures him," one of the two suicide bombers said.

The daily said the two guerrillas, Kanakasuthasan Suthas alias Shanker and Thillainathan Thivakaran alias Thamil Alai, had made surprising revelations to the security forces.

"According to them, with the battle hotting up, Prabhakaran had sent his wife and their youngest son, 10-year-old Balachandran, to a safer location," it said.

The two 'Black Tigers' in their early 20s surrendered to the 57 Division on January 28 after failing to blast the bund of the giant

Iranaimadhu Tank in Mullaitivu district.

Prabhakaran's son Charles Anthony is commanding a contingent of the Tamil Tigers alongside other top rebel leaders like Banu and Lakshman, the arrested Black Tigers have revealed.

Anthony, who returned from Ireland in 2006, is believed to have got a degree in aeronautical engineering and is heading the air wing and computer unit of LTTE, according to the reports.

He is also believed to have played a key role in building the LTTE air wing, which surprised the world with a night raid on Sri Lankan military air base inside Colombo's international airport in March, 2007.



In this file picture released by Sri Lanka's ministry of defence on February 4, a government soldier looks at a portrait of Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) supremo Velupillai Prabhakaran at a camp believed to be used to train Black Tiger suicide bombers found by advancing troops in the northeastern district of Mullaitivu.

Mumbai terror suspects placed on 14-day remand in Pakistan

INDO-ASIAN NEWS SERVICE, Islamabad

Six suspects, including Zakiur Rehman Lakhvi, commander of the Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror group, allegedly involved in the Mumbai terror attacks were sent to 14-day remand by a court in Islamabad, Geo TV reported on Sunday.

Officials at Pakistan's foreign office said on Saturday that the Rawalpindi anti-terrorism court has issued a 14-day physical remand of the six alleged suspects, into the custody of Federal Investigation Agency (FIA).

The judge gave the order after reviewing the evidences produced by the agency against them, officials said, adding that the suspects' statements were also recorded in the court.



Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai (C) gestures as he speaks while US special envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan Richard Holbrooke (L) and Afghan Foreign Minister Ranganayak Spanta look on at the presidential palace in Kabul yesterday.

Pakistan may seek Kasab's custody if investigation demands

IANS, New Delhi

Pakistan may demand for the custody of Ajmal Kasab, the lone survivor among the accused of the Mumbai terror attacks, from India, Interior Minister Rehman Malik said on Saturday.

"So far, we have not asked India for the custody of Kasab. But we may seek it if the investigation demands," Rehman Malik said in the southern port city of Karachi, adding that at the moment, it would be premature to say anything else in the matter.

India was quick to react, saying there was no way this could happen.

"The crime was committed in India. There is no question of handing Kasab to them. In fact, Pakistan should hand over to India the other sus-

pects they've arrested because they were responsible for this terror attack. It can't be the other way around," sources in the Indian external affairs ministry said in New Delhi.

"On what basis do we send Kasab out there (in Mumbai), therefore logic and reasoning demands that the suspects who they've rounded up be sent here (to India)," the sources said.

Special public prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam said the state had gathered enough evidence to show that Kasab, the only surviving November 26 Mumbai terror suspect, had been a part of the criminal conspiracy hatched in Pakistan to orchestrate the terror strikes at pre-decided sites in Mumbai.

Hillary heads for Asia to deepen bonds

AFP, Washington

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is about to leave for Asia, pledging to deepen US bonds with the region in order to tackle the global economic crisis and climate change as well as prevent nuclear proliferation.

The new US secretary of state's choice of travel to Japan, where she is expected

on Monday, as well as to Indonesia, South Korea and China, reflects the quest for a long-term strategy to deal with the changing dynamic in world economic, political and military power, analysts say.

Her predecessors usually travelled first to Europe or the Middle East.

Two days ahead of her departure, Hillary Clinton said

she was "ready to work with leaders in Asia to resolve the economic crisis" and "strengthen our historic partnerships and alliances."

In her first foreign policy speech delivered before the New York-based Asia Society, Hillary Clinton said she also is "ready to help prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons in Asia."

Afghanistan to take part in US strategic review

AP, Kabul

The Afghan government will take part in a US strategic review of the war in Afghanistan, President Hamid Karzai said Sunday in a sign of increased cooperation at a time of strained relations.

Karzai recently sent President Barack Obama a letter with a proposal that Afghanistan join a war review currently under way.

The US special envoy to

Afghanistan and Pakistan, Richard Holbrooke, said at a joint news conference that Obama had "welcomed the suggestion."

Karzai said his foreign minister, Dadfar Ranganayak Spanta, would head the delegation. The US has several reviews of the situation in Afghanistan under way, and it was not immediately clear which one Afghan officials would take part in.

The US is studying the

situation in Afghanistan at a time of spiraling violence. Taliban attacks have spiked the last three years, and militants have swept up wide areas of countryside that the Afghan government has not been able to control.

Obama has said the US will increase its focus on Afghanistan and draw down forces in Iraq under his watch. The US is contemplating sending up to 30,000 more troops to bolster the 33,000 already in Afghanistan.

China, US to resume military talks

AFP, Beijing

China and the United States will resume military consultations this month that were postponed last year when Washington announced a planned weapons sale to Taiwan, state press said yesterday.

The defence consultations will be held in Beijing on February 27-28, the People's Daily reported on its website, citing an unnamed official with the US Department of Defence.

"We want to continue

exchanges with China and are expecting positive cooperative ties," the official was quoted as saying.

The defence talks will resume only days after US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton makes her first visit to China from February 20-22 as the top envoy of the new administration of US President Barack Obama, the report said.

The talks will take place once a year and could include discussions on the fight against global terrorism, it said.

Afghan president now on the defensive

AFP, Washington

Once the toast of Washington, Afghan President Hamid Karzai now finds himself on the defensive here, dogged by criticism of government corruption and questions about whether he still has friends in the White House.

With problems mounting in Afghanistan, officials, commentators and, most importantly, President Barack Obama are taking a sharper look at the man who has been the public face of the faltering seven-year-old Afghan project.

"They've got elections coming up, but effectively, the national government seems very detached from what's going on in the surrounding community," Obama said this week in a comment that has set the tone for the new US

scepticism.

Karzai responded in kind in an interview with CNN on Sunday, saying he was "surprised to hear that statement."

"Perhaps it's because the administration has not yet put itself together. Perhaps they have not been given the information yet. And I hope as they settle down, as they learn more, we will see better judgment," he said.

It's not just Obama, though, who is pointing fingers at Karzai's tenure.

A US intelligence assessment delivered this week by retired admiral Dennis Blair, the new director of national intelligence, warned that Karzai's government was losing legitimacy because of endemic corruption and an inability to deliver basic services.

Servility is Congress culture, says Amar Singh

CNN-IBN, New Delhi

It's still not clear which way the Congress-Samajwadi Party alliance is headed.

Samajwadi Party General Secretary Amar Singh says that his party's relations with the Congress is very bad, but has also added that he won't break relations till the point Sonia Gandhi asks him to leave.

He also says that he has no problems with Sonia and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, but other senior leaders in the Congress have made the Samajwadi Party feel unwanted.

The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI)
Federation Bhaban, 60 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka 1000, Phone: 9560102-3, Fax: 9560588
E-mail: fbccl@bol-online.com, Website: www.fbccl-bd.org

FBCCI/GoB/IDCB/08/105 February 16, 2009.

Invitation for Tenders

1.	Name of procuring entity	FBCCI		
2.	Invitation for	Construction of 39 (approx.) District level Chamber buildings under FBCCI in 39 districts.		
3.	Invitation ref. no.	FBCCI/GoB/IDCB/08/105		
4.	Date	February 15, 2009		
5.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method		
6.	Budget and source of funds	GoB (Budget allocation in the fiscal year 2008-2009)		
7.	Project name	Infrastructure development & capacity building of district level Chambers under FBCCI		
8.	Tender publication date	February 16, 2009		
9.	Tender selling date and time	Within February 16, 2009 and March 1, 2009 during office hours (from 9:30 to 4:30 on Sundays to Thursdays & from 9:30 to 2:30 on Saturdays).		
10.	Tender submission date and time	March 2, 2009 up to 12:30 pm		
11.	Tender opening date and time	March 2, 2009 at 2:30 am		
12.	Name and address of the office for selling tenders	Office of the Project Coordinator FBCCI Federation Bhaban (3rd Floor) 60 Motijheel C/A Dhaka 1000.		
13.	Names and addresses of the offices for Tender submission	FBCCI Federation Bhaban (3rd Floor) 60 Motijheel C/A Dhaka 1000.	Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry 65-66 Motijheel C/A Dhaka 1000.	Bangladesh Chamber of Industry BCIC Bhaban (3rd Floor) 30-31 Dilkusha C/A Dhaka 1000.
14.	Eligibility of tenderer	As per Public Procurement Regulations, 2008.		
15.	Brief description of works	Construction of 39 District level Chamber buildings under FBCCI at 39 districts (approx.).		
16.	Brief description of related services	Total work is to be completed within 90 days from awarding the contract.		
17.	Package No.	Names of sites	Tender Security	Tender Price
	1	(i) Thakurgaon, (ii) Panchagarh, (iii) Lalmonirhat and (iv) Nilfamar	2,25,000	1,500
	2	(i) Kurigram, (ii) Jaipurhat, (iii) Naogaon, (iv) Natore	2,25,000	1,500
	3	(i) Netrokona, (ii) Tangail, (iii) Jamalpur	1,75,000	1,200
	4	(i) Meherpur, (ii) Chuadanga, (iii) Jhinalda	1,75,000	1,200
	5	(i) Magura, (ii) Jessore, (iii) Narail	1,75,000	1,200
	6	(i) Laxmipur, (ii) Noakhali, (iii) Cox's Bazar	1,75,000	1,200
	7	(i) Shariatpur, (ii) Gopalganj, (iii) Madaripur, (iv) Rajbari	2,25,000	1,500
	8	(i) Munshiganj, (ii) Narshingdi, (iii) Gazipur, (iv) Manikganj	2,25,000	1,500
	9	(i) Potuakhali, (ii) Bhola, (iii) Borguna	1,75,000	1,200
	10	(i) Pirojpur, (ii) Bagerhat, (iii) Jhalokathi	1,75,000	1,200
	11	(i) Sunamganj, (ii) Moulavibazar, (iii) Habiganj, (iv) Kishoreganj	2,25,000	1,500
18.	Name of the official inviting tender	Mir Shahabuddin Mohammad		
19.	Designation of the official inviting tender	Secretary General		
20.	Address and/or contact details of the official inviting tender	Office of the Secretary General, FBCCI Federation Bhaban (2nd Floor) 60 Motijheel C/A, Dhaka 1000.		
* Tenderers can correct, replace or withdraw their tenders within the last date of tender submission.				
* FBCCI reserves the right to reject or accept any or all tenders.				
Masuma Tabassum, Project Coordinator				
Mir Shahabuddin Mohammad, Secretary General, FBCCI				

Eastern Refinery Limited
(A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
North Patenga, Post Box No # 35
Chittagong-4000
Bangladesh

Dated: 09 February, 2009

Invitation for International Tenders

Sealed tenders are hereby invited from the bonafide manufacturers/ suppliers/agents for supply of the following material as per specification, terms and conditions mentioned in the relevant tender documents:-

01	Ministry/Division	Power, Energy & Mineral Resources.		
02	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).		
03	Procuring entity name	Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL).		
04	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.		
05	Invitation for	Goods.		
06	Invitation tender Ref No. & date	(a) ER/PUR/IT-05/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (b) ER/PUR/IT-06/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (c) ER/PUR/IT-07/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (d) ER/PUR/IT-08/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (e) ER/PUR/IT-09/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (f) ER/PUR/IT-10/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009 (g) ER/PUR/IT-11/2009 (Re-Tender) dt. 09-02-2009		
07	Procurement method	Open tendering with international competition (OTM).		
08	Budget and source of funds	ERL's own source.		
09	Eligibility of tenderer	As stated in the tender document.		
10	Tender last selling date & time	22-03-2009 up to 16:00 hours BST.		
11	Tender closing date & time	23-03-2009 up to 15:00 hours BST.		
12	Tender opening date & time	25-03-2009 up to 15:00 hours BST.		
13	Tender document selling address	(i) Accounts Department, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong, and (ii) DGM (DLO), ERL, YMCA Bhaban (2nd floor, West side), 1/1 Pioneer Road, Kakrail, Dhaka.		
14	Tender dropping/submission place	(i) Purchase Department, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong and (ii) DGM (DLO), ERL, YMCA Bhaban (2nd floor, West side), 1/1 Pioneer Road, Kakrail, Dhaka.		
15	Opening address of tender	Purchase Department, Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong.		
16	Brief description of goods:			
	Name of Materials	Price of tender document	Tender security (Tk)	Shipment validity
(a)	Welding Set-Rectifier Type (for manual electric ARC welding)	Tk. 400.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 20,000.00 (twenty thousand)	90 days
(b)	Flexible Metallic Hose (for crude oil tank)	Tk. 400.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 20,000.00 (twenty thousand)	90 days
(c)	Diesel Engine Driven Water (Vertical) Pump	Tk. 500.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 1,00,000.00 (one lac)	90 days
(d)	Various Steel Pipe Fittings	Tk. 400.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 40,000.00 (forty thousand)	60 days
(e)	Pressure Gauge	Tk. 400.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 15,000.00 (fifteen thousand)	60 days
(f)	Safety Valves	Tk. 500.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 50,000.00 (fifty thousand)	90 days
(g)	Vertical Hollow Shaft Squirrel Cage Induction Motor	Tk. 500.00/Set (non-refundable)	Tk. 60,000.00 (sixty thousand)	90 days
17	Name of official inviting tender	Md Shafiqul Islam.		
18	Designation of official inviting tender	Asstt. General Manager (Purchase).		
19	Address of official inviting tender	Eastern Refinery Limited, North Patenga, Chittagong.		
20	Contact details	PABX (City): 88-031-2501261-67 Ext.-380 Dhaka (DLO): 88-02-8313074, 8313118. Fax: 88-031-2501269 E-mail: sirajul@erl.com.bd; md-office@erl.gov.bd Website: www.erl.gov.bd		
21	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without showing any reason.			

GD-850



A project financed by the European Union

Vacancy Announcement

Promotion of Development and Confidence
Building in the Chittagong Hill Tracts



Bangladesh

United Nations Development Programme in Bangladesh announces vacancies for the following position for "UNDP-Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility" under "Service Contract" modality. The duration of the contract is one year initially and subject to renewal on an annual basis upon satisfactory performance.

1. Telecommunication Assistant - 01 position
2. Security Clearance Assistant - 01 position

For details of the Terms of Reference and instructions to apply, please visit our website: <http://www.undp.org.bd/jobs>. Hard copies of the TOR's can be collected from UNDP-CHTDF Offices of Dhaka, Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban. Applications should be submitted no later than 2nd March, 2009.

"Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Submitted documents will not be returned to the applicants"

"Women are strongly encouraged to apply"