

# New suicide blasts kill 12 in Russia

AP, Makhachkala

Two suicide bombers including one impersonating a police officer killed at least 12 people and injured 18 others in the southern Russian province of Dagestan yesterday, officials said. Nine police officers were among the dead.

The blasts in the North Caucasus region came two days after a twin suicide bombing tore through the Moscow subway system, killing 39 people and wounding scores, and a day after Prime Minister Vladimir Putin vowed to drag terrorist "out of the sewer."

Dagestan borders Chechnya, where Russian troops have fought two full-scale wars against Islamic separatist rebels in the past 15 years.

In Wednesday's attacks, a suicide bomber detonated explosives in the town of Kizlyar near Dagestan's border with Chechnya, when police tried to stop the bomber's car, Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev said in televised comments.

"Traffic police followed the car and almost caught up at that time the blast hit," Nurgaliyev said, adding the car was heading toward the centre of Kizlyar.

As investigators and residents gathered at the scene of the blast, a second bomber wearing a police uniform approached and set off explosives, killing the town's police chief among others, Nurgaliyev said. A school and police station nearby were also damaged.

Grainy cell phone video footage posted on the life.ru news portal showed the moment of the second blast, with officials wandering past a destroyed building before a loud clap rings out and smoke rises in the distance.

The Moscow subway bombings on Monday shocked a country that had grown accustomed to such violence being confined to a restive southern corner such as Dagestan and marked the return of terrorism to the everyday lives of Muscovites after a six-year break. The North Caucasus provinces of Dagestan, Chechnya and Ingushetia are prone to

more frequent attacks, hosting an active separatist Islamist insurgency that government forces are struggling to contain. Police are the frequent target because they represent federal law enforcers the separatists' ideological enemy.

Critics claim that the Russian-backed authorities have been involved in many killings, kidnappings and beatings in the region, further alienating residents.

The violence continues despite Kremlin efforts to stem it. President Dmitry Medvedev, who recently said the separatists had spread through the region "like a cancerous tumour," earlier this year appointed a deputy prime minister to oversee the troubled region.

Rebels from the North Caucasus, which includes Dagestan and Chechnya, were blamed for masterminding the Moscow attack, but no claims of responsibility have been made. Speculation has been rife that the attacks were retaliation for the recent killing of high-profile separatists in the North Caucasus by police.



Russian forensic investigators and security personnel examine the site of a bomb attack in Kizlyar yesterday. A suicide bomber disguised as a police officer set off one of two blasts that killed 12 people in Russia's volatile North Caucasus, just two days after attacks in Moscow left 39 dead.

PHOTO: AFP



US President Barack Obama listens as his French counterpart Nicolas Sarkozy speaks during a joint press conference in the East Room of the White House in Washington on Tuesday following their meeting.

## Obama wants tough Iran sanctions within 'weeks'

AFP, Washington

US President Barack Obama said Tuesday he wanted tough new UN sanctions imposed on Iran within "weeks" as visiting French President Nicolas Sarkozy blasted Tehran's "mad" nuclear race.

But Obama admitted that key world powers had "not yet" closed wide gaps on the specifics of the biting new measures, as he and Sarkozy made an apparently coordinated effort to up pressure on China and Russia for action.

"My hope is that we are going to get this done this spring," Obama said, warning, as he faces rising domestic pressure on the issue, that he was not interested in waiting months for the new United Nations measures to be imposed.

"I am interested in seeing that regime in place within weeks," Obama said during a joint press conference with Sarkozy which saw both

leaders go out of their way to profess US-French friendship.

Sarkozy indicated after his closed Oval Office talks with Obama that months of diplomacy to prepare the way for sanctions must now come to fruition.

"The time has come to take decisions. Iran cannot continue its mad race," Sarkozy said, adding that Europe would stand united in the push for sanctions.

The joint presidential pressure came as G8 foreign ministers meeting in Canada urged "in the strongest possible terms" that Iran cooperate with five permanent UN Security Council members plus Germany.

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton predicted the next few weeks would see "intense negotiation" in the Security Council on Iran, which the West suspects of developing nuclear weapons, a charge Tehran denies.

## US wants Jerusalem building freeze for just four months

AFP, Jerusalem

The US wants a four-month Israeli building freeze in occupied east Jerusalem, one of a series of demands from Washington aimed at reigniting dormant peace talks, media reports said yesterday.

In return for a Jerusalem freeze -- something Israel has refused to contemplate in the past -- the United States would pressure Palestinians to hold direct talks with Israel, the Haaretz daily reported.

The paper, quoting unnamed Israeli officials, said the four-month freeze would coincide with the period the Arab League had backed for talks between the Palestinians and Israel.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu returned last week from a tense visit to Washington that appeared to deepen a bitter row with the administration of President Barack Obama over the building of Jewish settlements, including in annexed Arab east Jerusalem.

## Photo show on 'crossfire'

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ended yesterday, Alam told a press conference at Pathshala, South Asian Media Academy and the educational wing of Drik.

"The exhibition was on and continued so far, but people could not enter the Gallery," he said.

He added they have taken an alternative measure to hold the exhibition in the building as they have to leave the gallery for other prescheduled exhibitions.

"We would not be able to hold the exhibition the way we have planned it. But we are trying to hold it in other way at the building," he said.

On the exhibition, he said, "Crossfire is a much-talked-about issue and we think we have something to say about it."

"Though the government

pledged to stop crossfire before and after the elections, it is still occurring which is a matter of worry," Alam said. He alleged the events of "crossfire" occurring in 2009 are higher than what happened during the army-backed caretaker government in 2008.

"When the exhibition could create such reaction only because of having the name 'crossfire', the meaning of the word comes clear," he said.

Besides, there is no reason to raise objection to the exhibition and those who raised objection know the relation between photographs and crossfire, he added.

"This sort of bar from the government is illegal and we protest against it," he said.

Meantime, the authorities of Pathshala at the press confer-

ence demanded immediate arrest and punishment of the people who gave death threat to its Principal Shahidul Alam twice for the exhibition.

Expressing concern, they demanded that security measures for Alam be ensured.

Pathshala Vice-principal Abir Abdullah said an anonymous man on March 26 and another on March 27 threatened Alam with death and asked about the reasons of the exhibition.

"We think every citizen of the country should have the freedom of expression," he said.

Regarding the threat, Alam said it is a matter of regret for the people when a citizen issued death threat to another in front of the law-enforcement agencies.

"I cannot even do the normal work now," he said.

## Serbia apologises for Srebrenica massacre

AFP, Belgrade

Serbian lawmakers issued an apology to the Bosnian Muslim victims of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre yesterday, ending years of denial in move seen as an important step on Belgrade's road to Europe.

In the early hours of Wednesday a small majority of Serbian lawmakers -- 127 out of 250 seats in the House -- voted in favour of text condemning the 1995 massacre of some 8,000 people and issuing an apology to the victims.

The resolution however stopped short of using the word genocide although it referred to an International Court of Justice decision, which does use the term.

"The parliament of Serbia strongly condemns the crime committed against the Bosnian Muslim population of Srebrenica in July 1995, as determined by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) ruling," the text says.

The lawmakers also formally extended "their condolences and an apology to the families of the victims because not everything possible was done to prevent the tragedy."

Human rights activists and observers hailed the apology, which ends years of denial by Serbian politicians about the scale of the killings, but in Bosnia survivors slammed it as meaningless because it avoids the word genocide.

## Fugitive Thaksin continues global wandering

AP, Bangkok

From Dubai to Sweden and now Russia: It's been a busy travel week for Thailand's fugitive former leader Thaksin Shinawatra.

As thousands of his rural supporters camp out in Bangkok, pressing the government to call fresh elections, the 60-year-old tycoon is trotting the globe in search of business ventures and rallying "Red Shirt" protesters from afar by video link.

"I am on a business trip in Russia," Thaksin told supporters Tuesday night, adding that he was meeting with a businessman "who is sitting on a big pile of cash. He is interested in investing in Asia. So when I return to Thailand I could bring him along with me." His remarks were carried by several Thai newspapers.

Thaksin was removed from office by a 2006 coup and fled the country two years later when he was convicted on a conflict of interest charge.

Yet the two-time premier remains at the centre of Thailand's political crisis.

## EC to lessen penalties

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months as executive magistrates cannot sentence a person to more than two years' imprisonment, officials at the EC Secretariat said.

In the draft, the EC had proposed that executive magistrates, who are administrative cadres, hold trial of offenders of corrupt practices in polls like taking or giving bribes and making false statements against candidates.

According to the rules, a person could be sentenced to imprisonment for minimum two years and up to seven years with fines for committing those offences.

The rules had also empowered executive magistrates to hold trial of offences like conducting electoral campaigns on election day within 400 yards of polling stations, and using loudspeakers on the day.

It suggested sentencing such offend-

ers to imprisonment for minimum six months and up to three years.

The EC had drafted the rules and suggested the sentences for the offences in line with the previous rules for conducting city corporation polls.

While scrutinising the proposals, the law ministry opposed the EC move and suggested that the penalties be lowered without specifically authorising executive magistrates to hold trial of some electoral offences, an official in the EC Secretariat said.

In the draft rules, the commission had specified the electoral offences to be tried summarily by executive and judicial magistrates.


In line with the law ministry's opinion, the EC brought the changes and sent it to the law ministry to have statutory regulatory order (SRO) number on it.

"On receiving the draft rules with SRO number, the Election Commission will promulgate the rules by issuing an official gazette," a senior official said.

He said changes would also be brought to the draft rules for conducting elections to union parishes and municipalities, lowering the penalties for the same electoral offences so executive magistrates can hold the trial.

Citing the changes in the draft rules for conducting city corporation elections, he said judicial magistrates can try all offences including those to be tried by executive magistrates.

There are some electoral offences for which an individual might be sentenced to imprisonment for up to seven years and judicial magistrates alone are empowered to hold trial of these offences.



### ফারইস্ট ইসলামী লাইফ ইন্স্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড

প্রধান কার্যালয়, টিকে ভবন (১৪ তম তলা), ১৩ কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫।

## কার ও মাইক্রোবাস ক্রয়ের বিজ্ঞপ্তি

ফারইস্ট ইসলামী লাইফ ইন্স্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড কর্তৃক প্রকৃত গাড়ী আমাদনীকারক/বিক্রেয়কারী/এজেন্ট/ডিলারের নিকট হতে নিম্নোক্ত বিবরণ মোতাবেক ১০০% রিকমিশন কার ও মাইক্রোবাস ক্রয়ের নিমিত্তে মুখবন্ধ খামে প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিজস্ব প্যাডে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে :-

**১। কার & টয়োটা - করোল্লা এক্স (Toyota Corolla X) :-**

ব্রান্ড	তৈরীর সন	মোড	সিসি	ইঞ্জিন	চেসিস	রং	ধরণ	দরজা	আসন	প্রস্তুতকারক	পরিমাণ
টয়োটা	২০০৫ অথবা ২০০৬	X	১৫০০	1NZ	NZE-121	সাদা	-	৪	৫	জাপান	০৮ টি


**২। মাইক্রোবাস & টয়োটা - ডিএক্স (Toyota - DX)**

ব্রান্ড	তৈরীর সন	মোড	সিসি	ইঞ্জিন	চেসিস	রং	ধরণ	দরজা	আসন	প্রস্তুতকারক	পরিমাণ
টয়োটা	২০০৫ অথবা ২০০৬	TOWNACE/ LIGHTACE	১৮০০	7K	KR-42	সাদা	লোকফ লোকেশোর	৫	৮	জাপান	৩২ টি

**সাধারণ শর্তাবলী :-**

- গাড়ীর সাথে যাবতীয় ফিটিংস অবশ্যই থাকতে হবে। যেমন: Standard fitting with new Crom rim (Car)/Alloy rim (Microbus) & new tyres, Bilt in single/Dual A/C, Power steering, Manual mirror, All power with retake mirror, Audio C/D, Cassette player, Speaker, Radio, Air bag, C/Lighter, Ashtray, Digital Clock, Digital Mileage, ABS, Head Rest, Rain Shed- 4, Floor Mat, Spare wheel, Jack with handle and set of standard tools etc.
- দরপত্রের সিডিউল এর প্রতিটির মূল্য ১,০০০/= (এক হাজার) টাকা অফেরৎ যোগ্য। কার (করোল্লা এক্স) ও মাইক্রোবাসের জন্য আলাদা আলাদা সিডিউল ক্রয় করতে এবং জমা দিতে হবে।
- আর্নেট মানি প্রতি কার/মাইক্রোবাসের জন্য দরপত্র মূল্যের ২.৫০% টাকা পে অর্ডার/ব্যাংক ড্রাফট এর মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হবে যা ফেরৎযোগ্য, তবে কার্যাদেশে নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে গাড়ী সরবরাহ করতে ব্যর্থ হলে উক্ত আর্নেট মানি বাজেয়াপ্ত হবে।
- দরপত্রের মধ্যে সরকারী নিয়ম অনুযায়ী ভ্যাট, ট্যাক্স ইত্যাদি সংযুক্ত থাকতে হবে যা সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান বহন করবে। কার/ মাইক্রোবাসের মূল্য পরিশোধের সময় উক্ত ভ্যাট, ট্যাক্স কর্তন করে রাখা হবে এবং ব্যাংক জমা দিয়ে চালানের কপি সরবরাহ করা হবে।
- রেজিস্ট্রেশন ফি কোম্পানী বহন করবে।
- দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের স্থানঃ ফারইস্ট ইসলামী লাইফ ইন্স্যুরেন্স কোম্পানী লিমিটেড, প্রধান কার্যালয়, পরিবহন পুল টিকে ভবন (১৭তম তলা), ১৩, কারওয়ান বাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৫।
- দরপত্র সিডিউল বিক্রয়ের তারিখ ০৩/০৪/২০১০ হতে ১১/০৪/২০১০ পর্যন্ত অফিস চলাকালীন সময় (সকাল ১০.০০ থেকে বিকাল ৫.০০ টা পর্যন্ত)।
- দরপত্র সিডিউল জমা দেয়ার শেষ তারিখ ১২/০৪/২০১০ সময় বেলা ১১.৩০ টা এবং খোলার তারিখ ঐ দিন সময় দুপুর ১২.০০ টা। দরপত্র দরদাতাগণের সম্মুখে (যদি কেহ উপস্থিত থাকেন) খোলা হবে।
- অন্যান্য শর্ত ও তথ্যাবলী দরপত্রের সিডিউলে উল্লেখ থাকবে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতীত কেহ কোন বা সকল দরপত্র গ্রহণ বা বাতিলের অধিকার সংরক্ষণ করে।
- কর্তৃপক্ষ প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী গাড়ী সংখ্যা হ্রাস/বৃদ্ধি করতে পারেন।

কোম্পানী সেক্রেটারী



### Request for Proposal (RFP)

**RFP for the provision of Climate Adaptive Alternate Livelihood Recovery Support for the Aila Affected Families at Kedarbazar village of Padmapukur union under Shaymngar upazila, Satkhira district.**

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested and well qualified organizations/vendors for "provision of Climate Adaptive Alternate Livelihood Recovery Support for the Aila Affected Families".

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state "Proposal for provision of Climate Adaptive Alternate Livelihood Recovery Support for the Aila Affected Families." and should be marked as 'Confidential' and addressed to the **UNDP Procurement Unit, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.** The deadline for submission of Proposal is **April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 before 11.00 AM. Proposals should be submitted in the Bid Box** of the Procurement Unit in IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

All interested organizations may request the Bidding Documents from [procurement.bc@undp.org](mailto:procurement.bc@undp.org) by formal request to UNDP that will register firm on the list of participants, so that any correspondence, questions regarding the bidding documents and their respective answers can be sent to all bidders.

Submission Procedure: The offer should comprise of 2 separate sealed envelopes of technical and financial proposals.