

Text messages back in Kashmir, govt withdraws its order

ANI, New Delhi

The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) on Friday evening decided to withdraw its order imposing restrictions on SMS services in Jammu and Kashmir.

In a statement issued here, the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology stated: "The press release issued earlier during the day by PIB on the subject, 'DoT ISSUES DIRECTIVES TO UAS/CMTS SERVICE PROVIDERS IN J and K', therefore, stands withdrawn."

Earlier in the day, the DoT banned short message service (SMS) for post-paid subscribers in Jammu and Kashmir with effect from Friday midnight.

The DoT's decision left only prepaid customers to enjoy the SMS facility.

The Government's decision came in the

backdrop of increased security concerns.

The DoT had asked all the 12 operators including the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Essar, to withdraw text message service from their post-paid users in the State.

"In case of existing post-paid users, the service should be withdrawn immediately," a statement from DoT said.

In case of prepaid subscribers, the facility has been restricted to 10 SMSes per day per subscriber.

"SMS messages originated outside J and K service area in India and from the networks of International Long Distance (ILD) operators should not be delivered to mobile subscribers in J and K service area," the statement said.

The DoT had also asked all operators to immediately stop tariff packages offering free SMS service.

China quake dead cremated breaking tradition

AFP, Jiegu

Monks wearing face masks set ablaze piles of the blanket-wrapped bodies of China's earthquake victims on a mountaintop yesterday, as necessity forced local Tibetans to break with the tradition of leaving their dead out for vultures.

Hundreds of villagers sat on the hillside, watching as the flames leapt skyward, while monks chanted and prayed for the dead.

The mass cremation marked the start of the community's recovery even as rescue workers continued to pick through rubble and found at least one survivor in a remote corner of western China.

The death toll from Wednesday's quake rose to 1,339, officials told reporters at a briefing Saturday afternoon, with 332 still missing. Officials said 11,849 were injured, including 1,297 seriously.

Moved by the disaster in the over-

whelmingly Tibetan area, the Dalai Lama said Saturday he would like to visit the site. The Tibetan spiritual leader fled Tibet after a failed 1959 uprising against Chinese rule and has never returned.

"To fulfil the wishes of many of the people there, I am eager to go there myself to offer them comfort," the Dalai Lama said in the Indian hill town that is home to the Tibetan government-in-exile.

There was no immediate comment from China's government. It has accused the Dalai Lama of fomenting separatism in Tibetan areas, making it very unlikely that he would be allowed to visit.

The Dalai Lama also commended Chinese officials, especially Prime Minister Wen Jiabao, for their quick response to the earthquake.

Tibetans in the region traditionally perform "sky burials," in which bodies are chopped into pieces and left on a platform

to be devoured by vultures. But a monk, Zewang Jimei, said the large number of corpses made that impossible Saturday.

"There are not enough vultures for all these bodies, so the bodies will become very dirty and it is not good for the souls to rest in peace," Zewang said. "Therefore, we think for all these earthquake victims."

Monks at the cremation were not able to give an exact number of bodies burned.

In town, rescue workers pulled out a single survivor from a ruined hotel, China Central television reported.

Relief goods continued to arrive along the single, traffic-clogged main road from the Qinghai provincial capital, 12 hours away. However, Vice Transport Minister Gao Hongfeng told reporters in Beijing that it may rain and snow in the next few days, making it more difficult to transport the injured out and relief goods in.

Terrorist groups may be planning attacks in India: US

PTI, Washington

Terrorist groups may be planning attacks in India, the US has warned in its latest advisory and asked its nationals to exercise caution during their stay in the country.

Alerting US citizens, the Department of State said: "The US government continues to receive information that terrorist groups may be planning attacks in India."

The February 2010 bombing in Pune and the November 2008 attacks in Mumbai provide a vivid reminder that hotels, markets, trains and other public places in India are especially attractive targets for terrorist groups, it said in the advisory.

Poland holds memorial for air crash victims

AFP, Warsaw

Tens of thousands of mourners passed in a historic Warsaw square yesterday for a public memorial service for president Lech Kaczynski and the 95 others killed in an air crash a week ago.

The sombre ceremony came as a volcanic ash cloud from Iceland further disrupted air travel and threatened to keep world leaders, including US President Barack Obama, from Kaczynski's state funeral in Krakow on Sunday.

Sirens wailed at 8:56 am (0656 GMT) -- the exact minute when the presidential jet crashed in Russia last Saturday -- and again when the service started at noon, bringing cars and pedestrians to a halt in the streets.

A lone military bugler sounded a funeral air in front of the crowd thronging Pilsudski Square, the traditional site for national services such as the mass of late pope John Paul II when

he visited his deeply Catholic homeland in 1979 after his elevation to the papacy.

An actor then solemnly read out the name of each victim, starting with Kaczynski and his wife Maria.

Considered Poland's worst peacetime tragedy, the air disaster scythed through the nation's political and military elite as they headed to a memorial for Polish officers massacred by Soviet forces in World War II.

"We needed to be here in this tragic time," said Jan Szyborski, who came from a small town on buses organised by Solidarity, the trade union that helped bring down communism in Poland in 1989 and in which Kaczynski was an activist.

"We're showing what values are important to us, Christian and patriotic values," Szyborski told AFP.



A man holds a portrait of late Polish President Lech Kaczynski during a public memorial service held on Pilsudski square in Warsaw yesterday for the 96 victims of last April 10's air crash in Smolensk that killed Poland's President Lech Kaczynski. More than 100,000 Polish mourners massed in Warsaw's historic main square at the emotional memorial service for president and 95 others who died in an air crash in Russia.

PHOTO: AFP

Karzai announces election panel chief

AP, Kabul

Afghan President Hamid Karzai has named a new head for the country's election commission, replacing a chairman accused of ignoring fraud during last year's presidential election.

Presidential spokesman Waheed Omar announced Fazel Ahmed Manawi would run the Independent Election Commission on Saturday. The appointment of Manawi, who was a member of the commission during last year's vote, comes as the nation starts preparations for parliamentary elections in September.

Cameron warns of hung UK parliament

BBC ONLINE

David Cameron has warned of the dangers of a hung parliament and said only a "decisive" Conservative government would "get the job done".

He spoke as a poll suggested a big rise in Lib Dem support after the TV debate.

Their leader Nick Clegg claimed "something exciting" was happening in politics as he campaigned in Surrey.

Gordon Brown did not mention the Lib Dems in his speech to Labour activists, instead attacking the Tories who, he said, would "wreck" the recovery.

Cameron warned of the consequences of a hung parliament - seen as more likely if there is a big rise in Lib Dem support - as he addressed people in Gloucester.

"A hung parliament would be a bunch of politicians haggling, not deciding".

UN concerned about Australia's asylum freeze

AFP, Sydney

The United Nations has raised concerns about Australia's decision to freeze asylum applications from Afghanistan and Sri Lanka, saying it could leave people in detention for prolonged periods.

Australia this month suspended applications from Afghans and Sri Lankans, saying the situation in their war-torn homelands had improved and fewer nationals of these countries would likely be considered refugees in the future.

"UNHCR is concerned that Australia's mandatory detention regime will apply to affected Sri Lankan and Afghan asylum-seekers for prolonged periods, without clear guidelines or effective judicial oversight," the UN agency said Friday.

It said that while there were situations in which the freezing of applications could be appropriate, the new system -- which has been criticised as discriminatory -- needed safeguards to protect asylum seekers.

Regional representative Richard Towle, who is the UNHCR's representative for Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and the Pacific, said the treatment of asylum seekers should not be punitive or discriminatory.

Hundreds of Sri Lankans and Afghans have made the perilous sea journey to Australia this year seeking asylum, many of them in wooden fishing boats departing from Indonesia and other Asian countries.

All illegal boat arrivals face mandatory detention in Australia until their visa claims are processed.

Under the new rules, asylum seekers from Afghanistan will be unable to apply for a visa for six months and Sri Lankans for three months and will have to remain in detention for this time.

Bakiyev supporters seize TV station in Kyrgyz city

Interim Interior Minister beaten up

AFP, Bishkek

Supporters of deposed Kyrgyz president Kurmanbek Bakiyev have seized control of the local television station building in the southern region of Jalalabad, a report said yesterday.

The group broke into the office of the station's director Balykan Azhymatov and demanded to be given air time to make a statement which they then recorded, reported Radio Azattyk, the Kyrgyz station of US-funded Radio Free Europe.

Kyrgyzstan remains tense after protests that left 84 dead, toppled Bakiyev and brought the interim government to power in Bishkek. The city and region of Jalalabad was one of Bakiyev's strongest areas of support.

The interior minister of Kyrgyzstan's interim government was beaten up Saturday as scuffles erupted at a protest against the new authorities in the south of the country, reports said.

Bolotbek Sherniyazov was seeking to talk to 500 local policemen in the southern city of Jalalabad who were protesting against the actions of the new authorities when he was attacked, radio Azattyk, the Kyrgyz station of US-funded Radio Free Europe reported.

He finally managed to flee to his jeep and leave the scene as the protestors hurled bottles at his car, the report said.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH National Institute of Mass Communication Ministry of Information 125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.				
Invitation for Tenders				
1. Ministry/Division	Ministry of Information		National Institute of Mass Communication	
2. Agency	National Institute of Mass Communication		National Institute of Mass Communication	
3. Procuring Entity Name	N/A		N/A	
4. Procuring Entity Code	N/A		N/A	
5. Procuring Entity District	Dhaka		Dhaka	
6. Invitation For	Procurement of: (1) Technical Van (Double Cabin Pick-up) with carryboy (2) Sedan Car		NIMC/Adm-147/2009/3067	
7. Invitation Ref No.	N/A		15-4-2010	
8. Date	N/A		N/A	
KEY INFORMATION				
9. Procurement Method	OTM (National)		N/A	
FUNDING INFORMATION				
10. Budget and Source of Funds	Revenue Budget Own Funds		N/A	
11. Development Partner	N/A		N/A	
PARTICULAR INFORMATION				
12. Project/Program Code	N/A		N/A	
13. Project/Program Name	N/A		N/A	
14. Tender Package No.	N/A		N/A	
15. Tender Package Name	(1) Technical Van (Double Cabin Pick-up) with carryboy (2) Sedan Car		N/A	
16. Tender Publication Date	N/A		N/A	
17. Tender last selling date	9-5-2010 At 4:00 PM		N/A	
18. Tender Closing date & time	10-5-2010 At 11:00 AM		N/A	
19. Tender opening date & time	10-5-2010 At 11:30 AM		N/A	
20. Name & Address of the office	National Institute of Mass Communication		125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	
Selling Tender Document	National Institute of Mass Communication		125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	
Receiving Tender Document	National Institute of Mass Communication		125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	
Opening Tender Document	National Institute of Mass Communication		125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	
21. Pre-Tender Meeting (Optional) Place, Date, Time	N/A		N/A	
INFORMATION FOR TENDER				
22. Eligibility of Tender	Only authorized dealer/Manufacturer/Supplier/Importer.		N/A	
23. Brief Description of Goods or Works	Procurement of: (1) Technical Van (Double Cabin Pick-up) with carryboy (2) Sedan Car		N/A	
24. Brief Description of Related Services	Registration, fitness, front & rear bumper installation each of the vehicle.		N/A	
25. Tender Document Price	1000.00 (Tk. One thousand) Only		(Not Refundable)	
Lot No.	Identification of Lot & Description	Location	Security Amount (Refundable)	Completion Date
01.	01 (One) Brand new minimum 5 (five) seater including driver Technical Van (Double Cabin pick-up) with carryboy 4 (four) wheel drive petrol engine latest from the production line as per specification (2300-2700 CC)	National Institute of Mass Communication 125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	60,000.00 (Tk. Sixty thousand) only	30 days from the date of signing agreement
02.	01 (One) Brand new Sedan Car minimum 5 (five) seater including driver, petrol engine latest from the production line as per specification (1300 CC) Std.	National Institute of Mass Communication 125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	40,000.00 (Tk. Forty thousand) only	30 days from the date of signing agreement
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS				
26. Name of Official Inviting Tender	Moinur Rahman Molla		Deputy Director (Finance)	
27. Designation of Official Inviting Tender	National Institute of Mass Communication		125/A, A.W. Chowdhury Road, Darus Salam, Dhaka-1216.	
28. Address of Official Inviting Tender	Phone: 8033187, 9007410-4, Fax: 880-2-9005580		N/A	
29. Contact Details of Official Inviting Tender	A) The provision laid down in the public procurement regulations 2008 shall be in strict compliance		B) The procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance. If tender opening day happens to be holiday or unavoidable circumstances the next normal working day will be treated as valid day for dropping and opening the tender. No tender document will be sold on the day of opening and no tender will be received through Telex / Fax / Post / Courier etc.	
30. Special Instructions	A) The provision laid down in the public procurement regulations 2008 shall be in strict compliance		B) The procuring Entity reserves the right to reject all tenders prior to acceptance. If tender opening day happens to be holiday or unavoidable circumstances the next normal working day will be treated as valid day for dropping and opening the tender. No tender document will be sold on the day of opening and no tender will be received through Telex / Fax / Post / Courier etc.	

GD 1847

(Moinur Rahman Molla)
Deputy Director (Finance)
Phone: 8033187

ER Eastern Refinery Limited (A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation) North Patenga, Post Box No 35 Chittagong-4000 Bangladesh Dated: 12 April, 2010				
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-07/2010 (Re-Tender) dt. 12-04-2010 (b) ER/PUR/IT-08/2010 dt. 12-04-2010		
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	(a) 16-05-2010 up to 16:00 hours BST. (b) 23-05-2010 up to 16:00 hours BST.		
11	Tender closing date & time	(a) 17-05-2010 up to 15:00 hours BST. (b) 24-05-2010 up to 15:00 hours BST.		
12	Tender opening date & time	(a) 19-05-2010 up to 15:00 hours BST. (b) 26-05-2010 at 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)	Centrifugal Pump with electric motor	Tk. 500.00/set (non-refundable)	Tk. 70,000.00 (seventy thousand)	90 days
(b)	White ceramic fibre blanket	Tk. 400.00/set (non-refundable)	Tk. 20,000.00 (twenty 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 (Ctg): 88-031-2501261-67 Ext. 0380 Dhaka (DLO): 88-02-8313074, 8313118. Fax: 88-031-2501269 E-mail: 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-1820