

Indian MPs jeered on Kashmir visit

BBC ONLINE

A delegation led by the Indian home minister has visited a town at the centre of recent violence in Indian-administered Kashmir.

Some members were heckled by protesters as they visited a hospital in Srinagar, prompting police to move in to clear the area.

The delegation faced hostile questions from people in the town of Tangmarg.

The home minister is leading the all-party delegation to assess the causes of recent violence in Kashmir.

Six people were killed in the town last week in violence triggered by reports that the Koran had been desecrated in the US and by anti-India resentment.

More than 100 people have been killed since June -- mostly in protests over Delhi's rule over the territory.

In last week's violence in Tangmarg, mobs set fire to a Christian missionary school, the office of the social welfare department and a police vehicle.

Asia faces rising cost from disasters, report says

REUTERS

China, India and Indonesia are likely to face much higher losses from natural disasters in coming decades as their economies grow faster than their capacity for disaster prevention and relief, a new report has forecast.

That means more foreign investment projects will be exposed to disaster damage as economic growth brings more factories, roads and other infrastructure to the region, which suffers the highest number of disasters in the world.

But the threat also brings opportunities for investors to help countries in the region with a poor track record of disaster management to improve their monitoring and relief capabilities. Political & Economic Risk Consultancy said in its latest report.



A Nepalese girl, dressed as Kumari -- living goddess -- perform a religious dance during Kumari Puja rituals in Kathmandu yesterday. Around 504 girls under the age of nine from across the country were brought to the temple for mass worship and protection from evil and good luck in the future.

India floods leave 2m homeless, destroy crops

REUTERS, Lucknow

At least two million people in northern India have been left homeless as the Ganges and other rivers, swollen by heavy monsoon rains, broke embankments and submerged villages, fields and religious sites.

State officials said 500,000 hectares of agriculture land in top cane growing state Uttar Pradesh were flooded and the heavy rains could affect cotton output from Punjab and Haryana states.

They said floods in Uttar Pradesh were the worst in years and were still assessing the damage to the cane.

Any output loss would reduce sugar supply in India, the world's top consumer and second-

largest producer of the sweetener, and could push up prices globally.

The Ganges, a dip in which Hindus believe washes away sins, and its tributary rivers have risen to close to their record-high levels and weather officials have forecast heavy rains in the region for the next two days.

"Agriculture fields and many roads are still water-logged... the real estimation would be possible when the water recedes," said K.K. Sinha, a senior Uttar Pradesh government official.

Television pictures showed people leaving villages on bullock carts through submerged roads, while several women and men were seen wading through waist-deep water, carrying children on their shoulders and belongings on their heads.

2010 the deadliest year of Afghan war

Nato chopper crash kills nine troops

APP, Kabul

Nine Nato troops were killed in a helicopter crash in the insurgent heartland of southern Afghanistan yesterday, making 2010 the deadliest year for international forces since the war began.

The Taliban, who have been waging an increasingly deadly insurgency against the Afghan government and foreign troops since the 2001 US-led invasion ousted them from power, immediately claimed responsibility.

The Nato-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said the cause of the crash was "under investigation", adding: "There are no reports of enemy fire in the area."

The helicopter came down in the Daychopan district of Zabul province, said provincial spokesman Mohammad Jan Rasoulyar.

"We don't know the cause of the crash or the number of casualties," he said.

Taliban spokesman Yousuf Ahmadi said the insurgents shot the helicopter down and killed "more than 10 foreign soldiers". The militia routinely exaggerate their claims.

Another Nato soldier, an Afghan soldier and a

US civilian were injured, ISAF said, but it did not identify the nationalities of the dead troops.

CNN television said the dead were Americans, quoting on its website an unnamed "Western defence source".

But ISAF was unable to comment and said the nationalities and other details would be released by the country of origin.

"We have no more details at the moment because the helicopter recovery operation is underway," an ISAF officer told AFP on condition of anonymity.

The incident brings to 529 the number of foreign troops killed this year, according to an AFP tally based on the count kept by icasualties.org, surpassing the previous record of 521 deaths in 2009.

A total of 2,097 coalition troops have now died since the US-led invasion of 2001, which ousted the hardline Islamist Taliban regime and set off a brutal insurgency which has also killed thousands of Afghans.

The US Marines and US Army dominate the foreign forces concentrated in hotspots of the southern provinces of Helmand, Kandahar and Zabul.

AFGHAN POLL Watchdog gets 'over 3,000 complaints'

AFP, Kabul

Afghanistan's electoral watchdog said yesterday it has received over 3,000 complaints about irregularities in the run-up to Saturday's parliamentary election and on polling day itself.

"We have received more than 1,388 complaints so far since election day," Electoral Complaints Commission (ECC) spokesman and commissioner Ahmad Zia Razaft told AFP.

He said a total of more than 3,000 election-related complaints had been received since the electoral process began in April, relating to a wide range of issues.

These included 1,700 complaints which had been received before polling day, mostly relating to the line-up of candidates.

Dalai Lama hopeful of returning to Tibet

PTI, Dharamsala

Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama, living here in exile for the past 51 years, has expressed optimism about his return to his homeland one day with a Chinese passport.

"I'm an optimist, I think I will return to Tibet with a Chinese passport," the Tibetan leader, currently on tour in Hungary, was quoted by his officials here as telling the Hungarian Parliament in Budapest yesterday.

"At 16 I lost my freedom and at 24 I lost my country and for the last 51 years, I remained a refugee," said Dalai Lama who was conferred the honorary citizenship recently by the Mayor of Budapest, the Hungarian capital.

First 40 years of MI6 detailed in new book

BBC ONLINE

A book detailing the first 40 years of the UK's foreign intelligence service has been published.

Author Professor Keith Jeffery was given access to the archives at MI6, which has the official title of the Secret Intelligence Service.

Prof Jeffery said that in researching MI6: The History of the Secret Intelligence Service 1909-1949 he was allowed to view all files.

He said his only restriction was not to name some traitorous agents.

Among the controversial files he was able to study was an account of MI6 agents sabotaging ships due to carry Jewish refugees to the then British Mandate of Palestine, immediately following the end of World War II.

'HOLY GRAIL' Prof Jeffery, from Queen's University in Belfast, said his research uncovered MI6 failures as well as successes.

He added: "[MI6] had a really bad start to the war but then so did every other part of the British machine, except perhaps the air force.

"But, like the rest of the British war effort, it builds on its successes throughout occu-



The book reveals the various gadgets used by spies

ried Europe and across the world where German intelligence was ruled up by MI6 successes."

Prof Jeffery - the first historian to be allowed access to the archive - told BBC security correspondent Gordon Corera it was a fascinating experience to examine the accounts of the real people involved with MI6.

He said: "This archive is the holy grail of British archives - it is closed tight to everyone, so when I got in there, I was like a child in a sweetshop.

"It was a cornucopia, an extraordinary Aladdin's cave of historical materials.

"It's very patchy - quite a lot of stuff has been destroyed over the years. It hasn't all survived but there are enough files there to tell the stories of the real people at the real sharp end doing real brave stuff. "The reality is actually more difficult than the fiction. Because you're dealing with real people, you realise that they have their weaknesses and their strengths."

'EXTRAORDINARY MOMENTS' The book tells the story of one of MI6's more controversial operations - the aptly titled Operation Embarrass, which agents launched just after World War II.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT (Re-Advertisement) ICDDR,B invites applications from suitable candidates for the position of Senior Research Investigator with the Chronic Disease Unit under the Health Systems and Infectious Diseases Division in Matlab, Chandpur District. The appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis for 2 years, which may be renewed depending on satisfactory performance and availability of funds. Salary - Annual - Tk.813,620/- inclusive of house rent and conveyance allowances with other admissible benefits. Benefits/facilities - 14.8% retirement fund contribution by the Centre, children allowance @Tk.1,420/- per child per month, medical facilities for dependent spouse and children, free group life insurance, and canteen facilities. For detailed job profile and requirements, please visit our website: www.icddr.org. Interested candidates who fulfill the requirements should submit an online application by September 29, 2010. Candidates who applied before need not apply. Only short-listed candidates shall be invited for the interview.

ন্যাশনাল হেলথকেয়ার নেটওয়ার্ক (এনএইচএন) মেডিকেল, রিএজেন্ট ও টেশনারী সামগ্রী সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের তালিকাভুক্তির বিজ্ঞপ্তি এনএইচএন এর ২০১০-২০১১ অর্থ বছরের জন্য (পরবর্তী বছরের জন্য নবায়নযোগ্য) নিম্নলিখিত বিষয় সমূহ ও শর্তাবলী পূরণ সাপেক্ষে তালিকাভুক্তি করা যাবে। ১। প্রধান নির্বাহী কর্মকর্তা এনএইচএন এর বরাবরে প্রস্তাব পেশ করতে হবে প্রস্তাবের সাথে "ড্যাভ-ন্যাশনাল হেলথকেয়ার নেটওয়ার্ক" এর বরাবর ফি ব্যাক ৫,০০০/- (পাঁচ হাজার) টাকার পে-অর্ডার (অ-ফেরৎযোগ্য) জমা দিতে হবে। ২। প্রস্তাবের সাথে (ক) ট্রেড লাইসেন্স এর সত্যায়িত ফটোকপি (খ) ব্যাংক ব্যালান্স সত্যায়িত কপি (গ) সি.আই.এন নং সহ তিন বছরের সর্বশেষ আয়কর পরিশোধের সত্যায়িত কপি (ঘ) কমপক্ষে তিনটি প্রযুক্তি প্রতিষ্ঠানের প্রত্যয়ন পত্র সংযুক্ত করতে হবে। ৩। সকল তথ্য সংবলিত প্রস্তাব এ বিজ্ঞাপন প্রকাশের ১৫ (পনের) দিনের মধ্যে রেজিস্ট্রি ডাকযোগে বা কুরিয়ার সার্ভিসের মাধ্যমে জমা দিতে হবে। দেহীতে প্রাপ্ত আবেদন এবং কোন প্রকার ব্যক্তিগত যোগাযোগ গ্রহণযোগ্য নয়। ৪। খামের উপর বড় অক্ষরে "মেডিক্যাল, রিএজেন্ট ও টেশনারী সামগ্রীর তালিকাভুক্তির আবেদন" কথাটি লিখতে হবে। ৫। তালিকাভুক্তি কাজ পাওয়ার নিশ্চয়তা নয়। তালিকাভুক্তি প্রতিষ্ঠান থেকে সাধারণত দরপত্র গ্রহণকারে যুক্তিসংগত সর্বনিম্ন দরদাতাকে প্রয়োজন অনুসারে কার্যাদেশ দেয়া হবে। ৬। এনএইচএন কর্তৃপক্ষ কোন কারণ প্রদর্শন ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন প্রস্তাব গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা রাখেন। সিইও, এনএইচএন

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH Purchase Office Block # B, Plot # 16, Aftabuddin Ahmed Road, Bashundhara, Dhaka 1229. Tel: 8401648, 8401651, Ext: 107, 108 Tender for the IT equipment Scaled quotations are invited from the bonafide suppliers for supply, installation, testing & commissioning of Server. The detailed specifications, quantity, terms & conditions are mentioned in the tender schedule. Interested bidders are requested to purchase tender schedule from the Purchase Office on payment of Tk.500/- (non-refundable) in the form of cash between the office hrs. of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. till September 30, 2010. The sealed bids will be received up to 2:30 p.m. on October 4, 2010 and will be opened on the same day at 2:45 p.m. in front of the bidders who wish to remain present. The bid must be accompanied by 2.5% of the total quoted value as earnest money in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft from any scheduled bank in favour of Independent University, Bangladesh without which the bid shall be rejected. The university authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the bids and increase or decrease the quantity of the above mentioned item without assigning any reason whatsoever and also is not bound to accept the lowest quotation.

OPENS TODAY AT 10.30am Inauguration by Advocate Lutful Hai, MP, Hon'ble Chairman Standing Committee on Ministry of Commerce, Bangladesh Parliament ATTN : Electrical Contractors & Engineers & Consultants, Manufacturers of Electrical Products & Merchandise, Distributors, Wholesalers & Dealers. ATTN : Architects, Builders & Developers, Civil & Electrical Contractors & Engineers, Consulting Engineers, Fabricators - Aluminium & Steel, CPWD & Govt. Departments 4th International Electrical Products & Technology Fair ELPROTECH BANGLADESH 2010 Highlights : Pavilion of 25 Indian Companies offering Electrical Products Technology & Building & Construction Products & Technology Visit of Trade Delegation from Thailand 22-25 Sept 2010 Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Organised by : ASK, Zakaria Trade & Fair International, In Collaboration with : bpcc, SME 2nd International Exhibition on Building, Architecture, Construction & Engineering Technology BACE Bangladesh Architecture Construction Engineering EXPO 2010 on Display - Adhesives, Aluminium Panels, Bricks, Building Construction Materials, Cables, Cement, Ceramic and Sanitary, Concrete Mixer, Construction Machinery, Cooling System, Doors & Windows, Generators, Glass & Glazing, Hand Tools, Hardware, Hardware Fittings, Lift & Escalators, Marbles, Material Handling Equipment, Paints, Particle Board, Plastic Materials, Pumps, Ready to Mix Concrete, Renewable & Solar Energy, Steel Structure, UPVC Fittings & Materials, Infrastructure Equipment, Light & Fittings and many more BLOCK YOUR DATES & MAKE SURE TO VISIT !!! ENTRY FREE !!! - TIMINGS 10.30AM TO 7.00PM