



PHOTO: AFP

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, with a "bindi" painted on her forehead, poses for photos with traditional Indian dancers as she arrives at her hotel in Chennai yesterday.

# Hillary urges India to play lead role in Asia

AFP, Chennai

US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton urged India yesterday to be more assertive in Asia, reflecting US desire for New Delhi to emerge as a counter-weight to Chinese power.

Speaking in the Indian city of Chennai -- a southern trading port looking out towards east Asia -- Clinton argued that India needed to play a bolder leadership role in building security and prosperity in the region.

"India's leadership has the potential to positively shape the future of the Asia-Pacific... and we encourage you not just to look east, but continue to engage and act east as well," she said in Chennai.

Washington has actively courted India, regarding the country as a natural ally because of the two countries' shared belief in democracy, human rights and

market-oriented economic policies.

China, militarily and economically superior to India, is Asia's dominant power and has been spreading its influence into India's immediate neighbourhood, notably in Sri Lanka and Nepal.

Beijing has also been involved in several incidents in the disputed South China Sea, which is believed to be rich in oil and gas, leading to fears it is prepared to assert its power more forcefully.

Clinton stressed that India should play a role as a US ally in regional forums such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and a planned East Asia Summit later this year.

She made only one explicit mention of China in the speech, saying that she was "committed to a strong, constructive relationship" between Washington, New Delhi and Beijing.

But alongside the praise and advocacy

for India, Clinton returned to the issue of New Delhi's stance on human rights abuses in Asia, which was also highlighted by US President Barack Obama in his visit to the country last year.

India has formed close ties with military-ruled Myanmar, a northeastern neighbour, and the US believes New Delhi should exert more pressure on it generals over the country's record.

On Tuesday, Clinton met Indian leaders in New Delhi including Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and Foreign Minister SM Krishna to push for easier access to the country's nuclear market and closer security cooperation.

She stressed that the US-India relationship, which President Barack Obama described as the "defining partnership of the 21st century", had made great progress in recent years, but was yet to fulfill its potential.

## Nato hands over key Afghan city

BBC ONLINE

British troops in Afghanistan's volatile Helmand province handed control of the city of Lashkar Gah to Afghan security forces yesterday.

In recent days Nato handed over the relatively peaceful province of Bamiyan and the eastern town of Mehtar Lam.

But correspondents say that maintaining stability in Lashkar Gah will be the sternest test yet for local forces.

The handover is seen as a critical step in a transition of power before foreign troops end combat operations in 2014.

A handover ceremony took place at the governor's palace in Lashkar Gah.

Afghan Minister of Defence Gen Abdul Rahim Wardak and the new commander of Isaf forces in Afghanistan, Gen John Allen, was present there.

## Taliban deny Mullah Omar death claim

AFP, Kandahar

The Taliban said yesterday that their reclusive one-eyed leader Mullah Omar was alive and accused the United States of hacking their mobile phones to claim that he was dead.

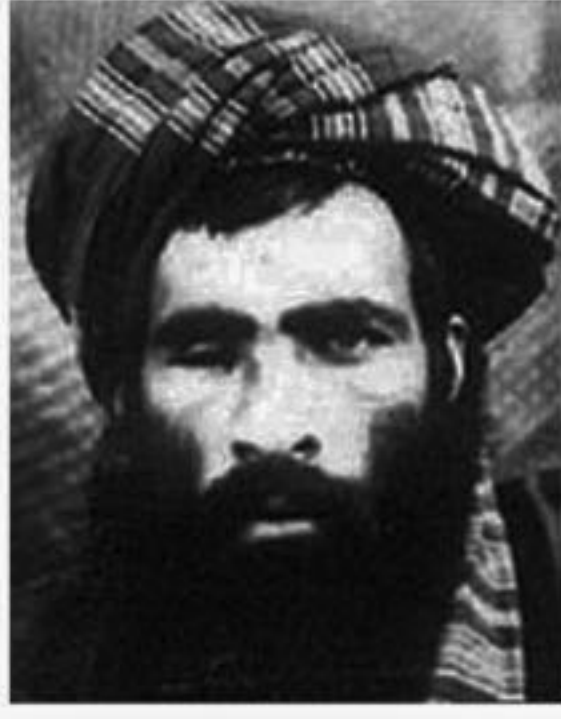
A text message sent to media from a phone belonging to a spokesman for the Islamists said: "Leadership council of IEA announces that Ameer-ul-Mumineen (Mullah Omar) has passed away. May mighty God bless him."

The IEA is the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan, the name the Taliban gave themselves while in power from 1996 to 2001.

Some journalists also received an email, also seemingly from the Taliban, saying Omar had died from a heart condition, giving a lengthy obituary and naming his successor as Gul Agha, described as a close aide.

But Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid denied Omar's demise and said his phone -- where the text message appeared to come from -- had been hacked.

"We strongly reject this claim. We are



not aware of such news. Americans have hacked our mobile phones with advanced technology and sent the message to the media," said Mujahid.

A second Taliban spokesman, Qari Yusuf Ahmadi, told AFP by telephone that the messages were false and made up by Westerners to "deceive the Afghan people".

In a subsequent email he denounced the hacking as "technical larceny" and claimed the Taliban's own technical wizards were on the case.

Abdul Wahab Salih, the deputy chief of intelligence for Kandahar city, birthplace of the Taliban, said the National Directorate for Security (NDS) had no reports of the Taliban leader's death.

A gun battle broke out early yesterday in the southern city after Afghan police mounted a raid on a house where at least two insurgents were holed up, killing both militants and three policemen.

One of the insurgents killed in the raid was described by interior ministry spokesman Siddiq Siddiqi as a well-known deaf Taliban commander.

## EC partisan

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is not possible for the party to join the EC's dialogue."

On June 13, BNP in a letter termed the EC 'controversial' and 'partisan' and refused to join the talk.

In response to BNP's allegation, the EC on July 5 sent a letter saying the allegations against the commission are baseless and again invited the party for the third time to sit in a dialogue yesterday.

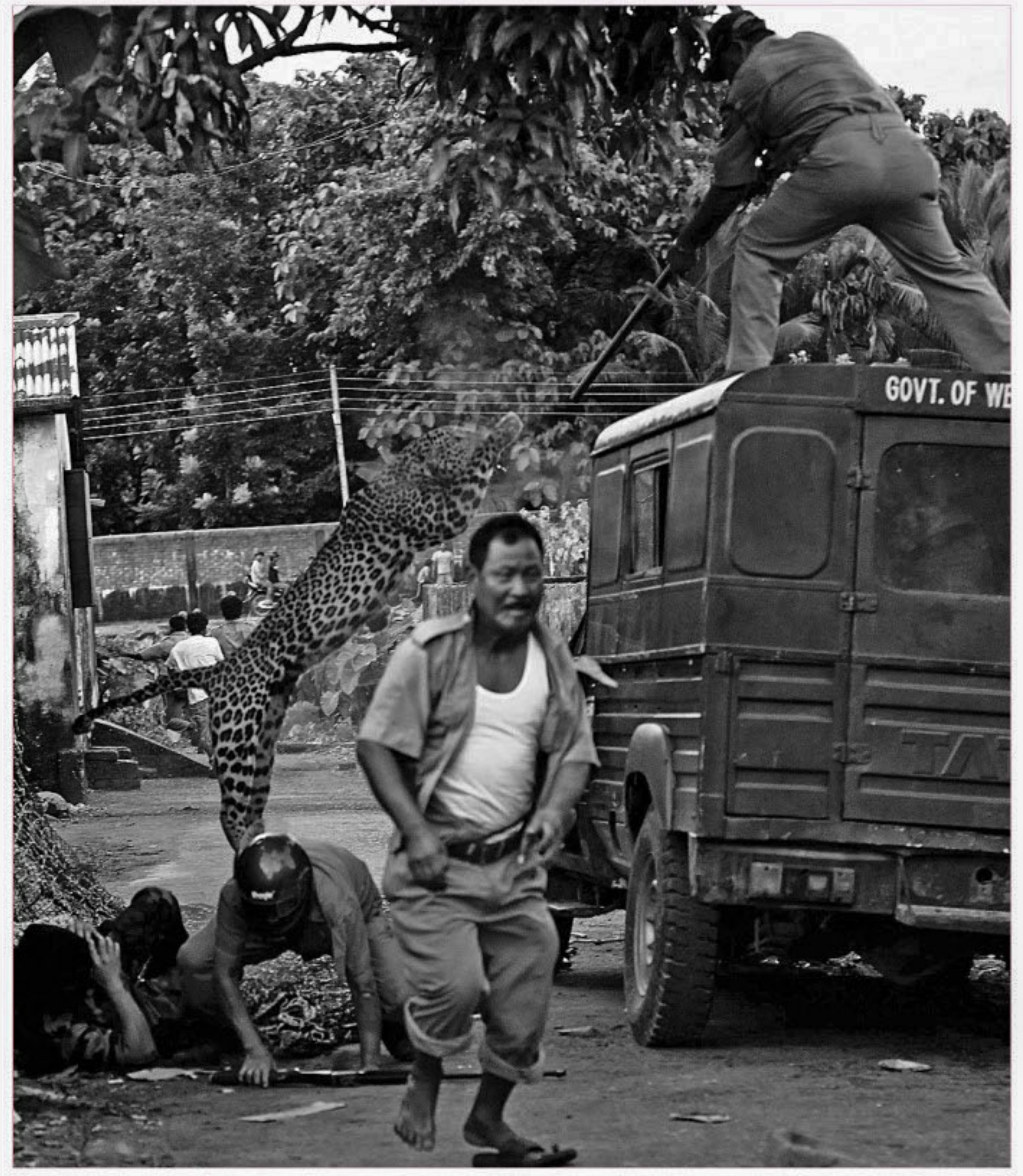
Earlier on Tuesday, Chief Election Commissioner ATM Shamsul Huda said BNP would not get any more chance to join the ongoing session of dialogue if it skipped yesterday's talk.

The EC invited BNP for the dialogue on June 13, for the second time any day between June 19 and 22 and for the third time yesterday.

Talking to The Daily Star, Election Commissioner M Sakhawat Hussain yesterday said, "We have invited them [BNP] three times. But they rejected. We will later discuss whether the commission will invite them again."

The EC on June 7 launched dialogues with the registered political parties for their opinion on some key issues like the RPO; laws on demarcation of constituencies and appointment of election commissioners; and introduction of electronic voting machine (EVM).

Jamaat-e-Islami also skipped the dialogue.



An unidentified forest guard aims his rifle as he is attacked by a wild leopard (Panthera pardus) at Prakash Nagar village near Salugara on the outskirts of Siliguri on Tuesday. 11 people were injured by the leopard before it was caught by forestry department officials. The leopard died later of wounds.

PHOTO: AFP

## Mercy, not revenge

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were Middle Easterners who had come to the USA."

One of the men he shot was Rais Bhuiyan, who lost an eye in the brutal violence but against all odds survived.

But the Bangladesh-born Bhuiyan is seeking mercy, not revenge. He is demanding clemency for Stroman and is set to appear in court just hours before the convict is scheduled to be put to death.

The hearing was scheduled for yesterday in the state capital Austin, where Bhuiyan has sued Texas Governor Rick Perry and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) in a bid to halt Stroman's execution.

Bhuiyan says his rights as a victim have been violated, and he wants the chance to speak with Stroman so that he can have a "healing dialogue," said a source who is working with the victim and

his organisation, "World Without Hate."

"The big question is, why some victims are heard when they cry for revenge, but other victims who cry for mercy are not?" said the source, who wished to remain anonymous.

According to the TDCJ, a victim has "the right to request victim-offender mediation coordinated by the victim services division." The source says Bhuiyan has never spoken with Stroman but he has a lot of questions for the man who shot him nearly 10 years ago.

Just before 9/11 Stroman worked as a stonemason and was a fan of the southern rock group Lynyrd Skynyrd, said his attorney Lydia Brandt during a final court appeal.

But after Stroman's sister allegedly died in the attacks, he became "emotionally overwhelmed," fed by a pain that was quickly replaced by "rage."

"He became obsessed with 'fighting back' against the Muslims who attacked America," said Brandt.

But according to Brandt, Stroman "would not know the difference between a Sikh and a Muslim, or between Arabic and Urdu."

Four days after the attacks, Stroman killed his first victim in Dallas: Waqar Hasan was a Pakistani Muslim, and Stroman shot him without asking any questions. Hasan died instantly.

On September 21, Bhuiyan found himself face to face with Stroman at a gas station where Bhuiyan was working in the Dallas area. Seriously wounded, Bhuiyan miraculously survived a gunshot wound to his face, but lost the use of one eye.

The third and final victim of Stroman's rampage was Vasudev Patel, a Hindu.

It is for Patel's death that Stroman was sentenced to capital punishment in April

2002. During his sentencing, according to images shown on CBS, Stroman did not hesitate to brandish an American flag and claim his affiliation with the Aryan Brotherhood, a group of white supremacists.

Nearly 10 years later and days before his scheduled execution in Huntsville, The New York Times interviewed a transformed Stroman.

"The hate has to stop, we are all in this world together," he told the paper in its Tuesday edition. "We need more forgiveness and understanding and less hate."

Stroman said he was touched by Bhuiyan, the immigrant he had tried to kill and who is now leading the efforts to save Stroman's life.

"Mr Rais Bhuiyan, what an inspiring soul," told the Times.

Bhuiyan, a practicing Muslim, is campaigning to stop the execution and commute Stroman's sentence to life in prison.

In the Times, Bhuiyan attributed his views to his upbringing. "My parents raised me with good morals and strong faith. They taught me to put you in others' shoes."

"Even if they hurt you, don't take revenge," he said. "Forgive them. Move on. It will bring something good to you and them."

But appeals have failed, and on June 27 the US Supreme Court refused an additional delay to Stroman's execution, which was scheduled to be carried out at 2300 GMT yesterday.

Last week Bhuiyan brought about his lawsuit in an effort to stop the execution, and the yesterday morning hearing was set to go before a federal judge in Austin.

Appearing on the verge of tears in a story aired by CBS late Monday, Bhuiyan pleaded, "Please show mercy. Please spare the life of Mark Stroman."

### Tender Notice

Sealed Quotations are invited from bonafide manufacturers /dealers/distributors & suppliers for supplying the following items of Pan Pacific Sonargaon. The detail Specifications, terms and conditions are mentioned in the Tender Schedule.

Sl. No.	Name of the items.	Quantity	Schedule Price
01	HP Desktop Computer	15 Nos	Tk 1500
02	HP Notebook	05 Nos.	Tk 700
03	HP Server	02 Nos.	Tk 1000
04	HP Laser Jet Printer	07 Nos.	Tk 1000
05	Online UPS	03 Nos	Tk 700
06	Sedan Car (Re-tender)	02 Nos	Tk 3000
07	Micro Bus (12 Seater) (Re-tender)	01 No.	Tk 2000
08	Arm Chair (Re-tender)	60 Nos	Tk 1500

Interested bidders may obtain tender schedule from the Purchasing Department on submission of a letter on their respective letterhead up to **August 10, 2011** during office hours. The bids will be received up to **11:30 a.m. on August 11, 2011** and will be opened on the same day at **12:00 noon** in presence of the bidders, if any.

Tender must be supported by an Earnest Money amounting to 5% of quoted price in the form of Bank Draft or Pay Order from any schedule Bank in favor of Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka.

Pan Pacific Sonargaon authority reserves the right to accept / reject any tender in part or in full or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Purchase Manager, Tel (880) 2 8140401 (Extn : 4161)

**PAN PACIFIC SONARGAON DHAKA**

### ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড

### DHAKA POWER DISTRIBUTION COMPANY LTD

(An Enterprise of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh)

#### Invitation for Tender

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Power Energy & Mineral Resources/ Power Division.		
2	Agency	Dhaka Power Distribution Company Ltd. (DPDC).		
3	Procuring Entity Name	DGM(Tech), Network Operation & Customer Service Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC.		
4	Procuring Entity District	Dhaka.		
5	Invitation for	Yearly Repair and Maintenance of 11/0.4 KV, 0.4 KV Overhead Line & Distribution Transformer under NOCS, Bangshal for FY 2011-2012.		
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>				
6	Procurement Method	Open Tendering Method.		
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>				
7	Budget and Source of Fund	Revenue Budget of DPDC.		
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>				
8	Tender Enquiry No	DGM(Tech)/NOCS Circle/ Banglabazar/ DPDC/2.07/2011/01. Date: 14.07.2011.		
9	Last Selling, Closing, Opening Date & Time of Tenders	16-08-2011 (up to 5.00 P.M)	Closing & Opening Date	17-08-2011
			Closing time	12.00 Noon
			Opening time	12.30 P.M.
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDER</b>				
10	Name and Address of the office for selling, receiving & opening of Tender Documents	Selling Office of the: i) GM (Tech.), NOCS (South), DPDC . 12/1/B Motijheel C/A.Dhaka-1000. Phone: 7123133 ii) DGM (Tech.), NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC, 12/1/B Motijheel C/A. Dhaka.		Receiving & Opening Office of the: Deputy General Manager (Tech.) NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC. 12/1/B Motijheel C/A.Dhaka-1000.
11	Eligibility of Tenderer	i) Reputed Contractors who have experience of at least 2(two) successful completion of yearly repair & maintenance works of 11/0.4 KV over head distribution lines each over last 5(five) years any organization of power sector in Bangladesh. ii) Tenderers shall have available competent manpower and logistic supports to complete the work. They have to provide the list of manpower and logistics in support.		
12	Price for the tender Document	Tk.1000.00 (one thousand) only (non refundable) for each group through Pay order/ Bank Draft issued by any schedule Bank in favour of DGM(Technical), NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC.		
13	Tender Security Amount (Tk)	Tk 24,000.00(Twenty Four Thousand) only have to be submitted with Bid in favour of DGM (Technical), NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC Pay Order/Bank Draft from any schedule Bank.		
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>				
14	Name and Designation of the Official inviting Tender	Engr. K.M.Khalequzzaman, DGM (Technical.), NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC.		
15	Address of the official inviting Tender	12/1/B Motijheel C/A, Dhaka-1000.		
16	Contract Details of official inviting Tender	Tel. No. 7121516	E-mail: dgmbanglabazar@dpdc.org	
17	Special instructions	i) The Tenderers shall have to apply in their original letter pads (Photocopy will not be accepted) for purchasing tender document. The Tenderers shall have to show up-to-date valid original copies of Trade license, income Tax Certificate, Vat Registration Certificate and ABC license (Electrical) while purchasing the tender document and submit the attested copies of above documents with the tender document. ii) All documents /Certificates must be attested by an officer of DPDC not below the rank of Manager. iii) The Tenderers shall have to submit the experience certificate from not below the rank of Manager or equivalent officer for similar type of works in single contract which will not less than Tk.4,00,000.00 (Four Lac) along with work order as a supporting . iv) Procuring agency reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders in any stage without assigning any reason thereof. v) If it is not possible to receive/open the tender on the schedule date for any unavoidable circumstances, the same will be received / opened on the next working day at the same time. vi) The Tenderers shall have to satisfy the other criteria laid down in the tender Document.		

(Engr. K.M Khalequzzaman)  
DGM (Technical)  
NOCS Circle, Banglabazar, DPDC