



A man wades in floodwaters as he lifts a chair inside his house in Masantol town, Pampanga province, north of Manila yesterday. Rescue helicopters and boats distributed food, water and medicine to thousands of Filipinos marooned in flooded towns north of the capital on Monday and authorities said water levels were starting to recede, following Typhoons Nesat and Nalgae.

Karzai killing plot foiled

REUTERS, Kabul

Afghanistan's intelligence agency said yesterday it had thwarted a plot to assassinate President Hamid Karzai after arresting a bodyguard and five people with links to the Haqqani network and al-Qaeda.

The plotters, who included university students and a medical professor, had been trained to launch attacks in the capital Kabul and had recruited one of Karzai's bodyguards to kill the president, the National Directorate of Security (NDS) said.

"A dangerous and educated group including teachers and students wanted to assassinate President Hamid Karzai," spokesman Lutfullah Mashal told a news conference. "Unfortunately they infiltrated the presidential protection system and recruited one of the president's bodyguards."

Mashal said those detained had ties with three men, including an Egyptian and a Bangladeshi, who were all members of al-Qaeda and the Haqqani network which is based in Pakistan's

tribal region of North Waziristan, bordering Afghanistan.

Those arrested were part of a "most sophisticated" group who confessed to having been trained to use guns, rockets and suicide attacks, he said, with top government officials among the targets.

They also said they had received \$150,000 to fund their activities, and planned to kill Karzai during one of his trips outside the capital, Mashal added.

Karzai has been the target of at least three assassination attempts since becoming Afghan leader in 2002, most notably in April 2008, when insurgents fired guns and rockets at a military parade he attended near the presidential palace in Kabul.

Mashal said the bodyguard, Mohebullah Ahmadi, was from Karzai's home village of Karz in southern Kandahar province, and he had been shown al-Qaeda and Haqqani video propaganda to persuade him to take part in the assassination plot.

The Haqqanis are one of three Taliban-allied insurgent factions fighting

in Afghanistan. Perhaps the most feared, they are thought to have introduced suicide bombing to the country, and to be behind many high-profile attacks.

They have sworn allegiance to the Taliban, but have long been suspected of also having ties to Pakistan's spy agency, the Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) directorate.

Nato-led forces fighting in Afghanistan said yesterday that an airstrike had killed a senior Haqqani commander and two of his associates in eastern Khost province, near the Pakistani border.

Dilawar, known by only one name, was a "principal subordinate" to Haji Mali Khan, who was captured by Nato last week and said at the time to be the top Haqqani commander for Afghanistan.

Dilawar's death is "another significant loss for the insurgent group," the Nato-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said in a statement that described his responsibilities as including coordinating attacks on Afghan forces, and arranging weapons deliveries.

Afghan president reassures 'twin brother' Pakistan

REUTERS, New Delhi

Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai reached out to "twin brother" Pakistan yesterday in an effort to reassure an increasingly isolated neighbor that a deal to boost economic and security cooperation with rival India will not harm ties.

Islamabad has alienated both the Washington and Kabul governments over its suspected links with militant groups in Afghanistan and an agreement signed between Afghanistan and India on Tuesday appears to have further isolated Pakistan.

India is already one of Afghanistan's biggest bilateral donors, having pledged about \$2 billion since the 2001 US led-invasion for projects from the construction of highways to the building of the Afghan parliament.

"Pakistan is our twin brother, India is a great friend. The agreement we signed with our friend will not affect our brother," Karzai said in a foreign policy speech in New Delhi.

"This strategic partnership ... is not directed against any country ... this strategic partnership is to support Afghanistan."

Karzai's two-day visit to India comes

during rising Afghan anger with Pakistan and Afghan accusations of Pakistani involvement in militant attacks.

Karzai and Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sealed an agreement on Tuesday that spanned closer political ties to fighting terrorism and allowed India to help train its police and army.

It signals a formal tightening of links that may spark Pakistani concern that India is increasingly competing for leverage in Afghanistan.

Government officials in Pakistan, which has long feared a hostile India over its eastern border and a pro-India Afghanistan on its western border, have refrained from commenting on the India-Afghanistan agreement.

Senior Afghan officials accused Pakistan's intelligence agency of masterminding the assassination last month of Kabul's chief peace negotiator with the Taliban.

Karzai, who has spoken out strongly against Pakistan in recent weeks, said there was a Pakistani link to the killing and investigators he appointed believe the assassin was Pakistani and the suicide bombing was plotted in Pakistan.

US to help drought-hit NZ territory

AFP, Wellington

The US Coastguard will ship drinking water to a remote New Zealand territory in the Pacific which faces a state of emergency due to severe drought, Wellington said yesterday.

The Coastguard ship "Walnut" will depart American Samoa on Thursday for Tokelau, a New Zealand-administered territory of about 1,400 people which has less than a week's supply of water left, Foreign Minister Murray McCully said.

Tokelau was reliant on collecting rainwater for drinking and had been severely affected by the La Nina weather pattern, he said.

Both Tokelau and neighbouring Tuvalu have declared states of emergency as their water supplies dwindle.

McCully said a New Zealand air force plane would arrive in American Samoa yesterday carrying relief personnel and empty water storage units that would be shipped to Tokelau on the Walnut.

He said the US vessel had also used its on-board desalination plant to produce about 136,000 litres (30,000 gallons) of drinking water.

"The Coastguard vessel will travel to Tokelau's three main atolls. New Zealand estimates that this, plus current stocks, will be a sufficient supply in the short term," McCully said.

"We thank our American friends for their willingness to assist and the speed at which the Walnut is able to be deployed."

McCully said New Zealand was also continuing relief efforts in Tuvalu, one of the world's smallest independent states with less than 11,000 people.

Haqqani chief 'killed in Afghan strike'

AFP, Kabul

The Nato-led force in Afghanistan said yesterday it had killed another senior member of the al-Qaeda-linked Haqqani network in an air strike near the Pakistani border.

The International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) identified the militant as Dilawar, a lieutenant of Haji Mali Khan, said to be the senior leader in Afghanistan and whose capture the military announced last week.

Dilawar, who like many Afghans goes by one name, "was a principal subordinate to Haji Mali Khan... Dilawar was killed exactly one week following Khan's capture," ISAF said in a statement.

His death was "another significant loss for the insurgent group," it added.

Rahul's day-out

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Setting aside security concerns, Rahul Gandhi, the scion of the Nehru-Gandhi family seen by many as the future Prime Minister of India, took a ride in a metro train and then hopped into a hired taxi to reach the venue of a rally of ruling Congress party's youth wing here on Tuesday.

Rahul, one of the most protected persons, boarded the metro train at Race Course Road station in central Delhi at around 2pm and travelled to Rohini station in West Delhi from where he took a radio taxi, instead of the official car, to the rally venue at Japanese Park.

Rahul, the General Secretary of Congress, paid Rs 200 to the taxi driver to travel a distance of about three kilometres.

His metro train and taxi ride came a year after he had hogged the headlines by travelling in a local train in Mumbai, sending the security officials into a tizzy.

Meanwhile, senior Congress leader and India's Finance Minister Pranab Mukherjee said Rahul is going to be the "new leader" of the party.

"So far as Congress is concerned, the party is always having a new leadership. Rahul Gandhi is going to be a new leader," Mukherjee told mediapersons in his ancestral home in Paschimanga's Birbhoom district where he is spending Durga Puja holidays.

Several other Congress leaders had in the past hailed as the party's future leader and potential Prime Minister.



Rahul Gandhi

Ideological reorientation

Polls failure compel Indian communists to rethink policies

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

After being voted out of power in their traditional strongholds West Bengal and Kerala states, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) has embarked on ideological reorientation possibly focussing on Latin America where Centre-Left parties have of late been on ascendency.

A two-day meeting of the CPI(M) politburo, the party's highest decision-making forum, had last week kicked off the debate on a draft ideological resolution to be taken at the party Congress scheduled to be held early next year.

The last time the party had discussed an ideological resolution was in 1992 soon after the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The draft will be discussed again by the party's Politburo and the Central Committee in weeks ahead. Paschimanga CPI(M) leaders

may find it difficult to adhere to the Chinese line after a series of electoral drubbings the party received in the state climaxing their ouster from power after 34 years in legislative elections in April-May this year.

The breakup of the Soviet Union and the steady gravitation towards

NEWS ANALYSIS

market-driven models of economic development by Russia and China have made things complicated for the Indian Marxist party which is now in power in just one state, Tripura.

The main purpose of the need to revisit the party's ideological approach is, as party leaders say, "to keep CPI(M) in tune with changing

times". "The world has changed significantly in the last two decades in the wake of liberalisation and globalisation", said senior CPI(M) leader Sitaram Yechury.

Asked which model of communism the party is looking at, CPI(M) General Secretary Prakash Karat said "the party has its own understanding of how to apply Marxism."

He said the party has changed its politics over the years and "now we feel there is a need for a comprehensive ideological resolution".

The need for a fresh ideological approach assumes urgency as the party's plank of providing policy alternatives different from "pro-big capitalist" federal Indian government has taken a big knock after CPI (M) lost power in West Bengal and Kerala and failed to expand its bases outside two or three states, party sources said.

Taj Mahal may collapse in 5 yrs

AFP, London

The Taj Mahal will collapse within five years unless urgent action is taken to fix its rotting foundations, campaigners

warn. The 358-year-old marble mausoleum is India's most famous tourist attraction, bringing four million visitors a year to the northern city of Agra.

But the river crucial to its survival is being blighted by pollution, industry and deforestation.

Campaigners believe the foundations have become brittle and are disintegrating.

Cracks appeared last year in parts of the tomb, and the four minarets, which surround the monument, are

showing signs of tilting.

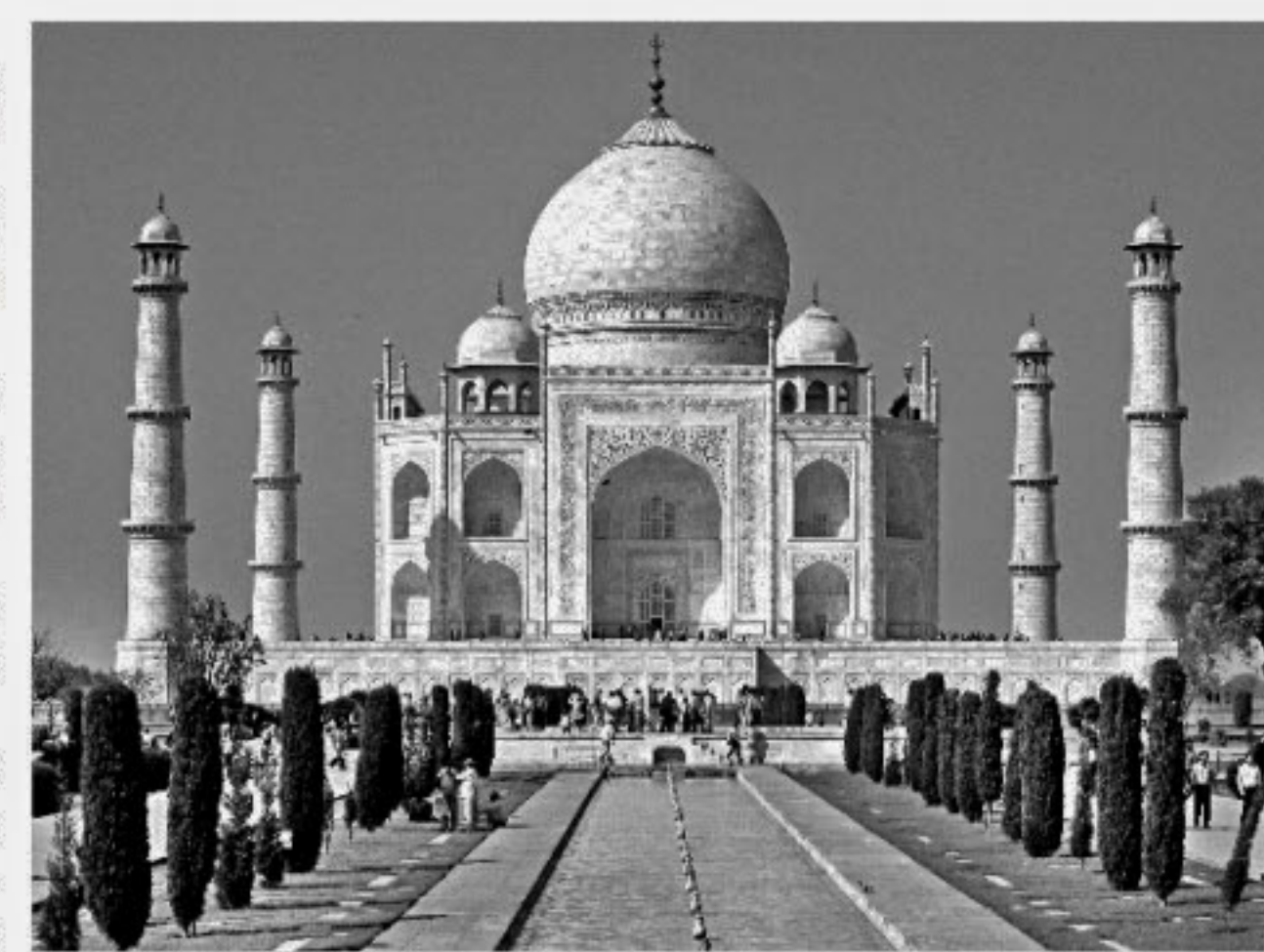
The Taj Mahal was built by Mogul emperor Shah Jahan, who was grief-stricken by the death of his wife Mumtaz

Mahal in childbirth.

A campaign group of historians, environmentalists and politicians say time is running out to prevent a 'looming crisis'.

"If the crisis is not tackled on a war-footing, the Taj Mahal will cave in between two and five years," the Daily Mail quoted Ramshankar Katheria, the MP for Agra who is leading the campaign, as saying.

"The architectural wonder of the world is losing its shine, and if this persists the minarets may also collapse since the wooden foundation - beneath the wells - is rotting due to lack of water."



Dhaka Shishu Hospital
Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207

No. Admn/ 2084 /DSH/2011 date: 05/10/2011

Circular

It is for inform of all concerned that the PABX Telephone Numbers of Dhaka Shishu Hospital has been changed as follows:

Old Numbers	New Numbers
8116061	9104211 9104216
8116062	9104212 9104217
8114571	9104213 9104218
8114572	9104214 9104219
9124737	9104215 9104220
9124078	

Prof. Manzoor Hussain FRCP
Professor & Director
Dhaka Shishu Hospital

TELANGANA STATE BID Continuous strikes hassle commuters

AFP, Vishakhapatnam

Ongoing strikes in Andhra Pradesh over the demand for the creation of a separate Telangana state are inconveniencing commuters.

Passengers waiting at railway station complained that trains were overcrowded, since state-run buses were not plying due to the strike.

Some passengers were seen hanging from the doorway of overcrowded trains.

"Because of this Telangana problem, all the buses from APSRTC (Andhra Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation) are cancelled. It is creating a lot of problem and great inconvenience to all people," said Alexander Viswas.

Viswas also said that, Telangana agitators have been targeting commuters and harassing them, as they were making their way to the offices.

ঢাকা পাওয়ার ডিস্ট্রিবিউশন কোম্পানি লিমিটেড
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বিদ্যুৎ ব্যবহারে সশ্রমী হউন "বিদ্যুৎ বন্ধের বিজ্ঞপ্তি" নিয়মিত বিদ্যুৎ বিল পরিশোধ করুন

তারিখ ও সময়	ফিডারের নাম	বিদ্যুৎ বিল্লিত এলাকার নাম	মন্তব্য
০৯/১০/১১ ১০:০০-১১:০০	সার্কিট-১ পার্ক রোড	সিক্বেস্ট্রী লেন, বেইলী রোড, সিক্বেস্ট্রী গার্লস কলেজ, সিক্বেস্ট্রী বয়েজ স্কুল পানির পাম্প, মহিলা সমিতি, গাইড হাউস, সিটি এসবি অফিস।	
০৯/১০/১১ ১১:০০-১৪:৩০	সার্কিট-২ যমুনা ও সুগন্ধা	যমুনা ও সুগন্ধা রেস্ট হাউজ	কাকরাইল উপকেন্দ্র হতে নির্গত মজীপাড়া ১১কেভি ফিডারের মাধ্যমে চালু থাকবে। লোড চেঞ্জ ওভারের সময় ১০মিনিট বন্ধ থাকবে।
০৯/১০/১১ ১১:০০-১৪:৩০	সার্কিট-২ রমনা থানা	মাননীয় কৃষি মন্ত্রী, রমনা থানা, কাজির গলি, ভিকারুল্লাহ স্কুল, রমনা টাওয়ার, রমনা এস্টেট, স্ট্যান্ডার্ডফোর্ট ইউনিভার্সিটি।	বিকল্প কোন উৎস না থাকায় বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ বন্ধ থাকবে।
০৯/১০/১১ ১১:০০-১৪:৩০	সার্কিট-২ মিন্টু রোড	মাননীয় সমাজ কল্যাণ মন্ত্রী, খাদ্য মন্ত্রী, শিল্প মন্ত্রী, টেলিযোগাযোগ মন্ত্রী, প্রাণী ও মৎস্য মন্ত্রী, শিক্ষা মন্ত্রী, স্বাস্থ্য মন্ত্রী, ভূমি মন্ত্রী, সচিব মহোদয়ের বাসভবন, আইজির বাসভবন ও ঢাকা বিভাগীয় কমিশনারের বাসভবন।	বিকল্প কোন উৎস না থাকায় বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ বন্ধ থাকবে।
০৯/১০/১১ ১১:০০-১৪:৩০	সার্কিট-২ পদ্মা ও মেঘনা	পদ্মা-মেঘনা রাষ্ট্রীয় অতিথি ভবন, হলি ফ্যামিলি হাসপাতাল।	বিকল্প কোন উৎস না থাকায় বিদ্যুৎ সরবরাহ বন্ধ থাকবে।

(প্রকৌঃ মোঃ এ.এফ.এম মবিন)
ম্যানেজার (টেক.)
এনওসিএস কাকরাইল, ডিপিডিসি।