

ROW WITH JUDICIARY Protests grip Maldives

AFP, Colombo

Hundreds of protesters have taken to the streets in the Maldivian capital Male amid a standoff between President Mohamed Nasheed and the judiciary, officials and residents said on Thursday.

Anti-government activists demonstrated overnight keeping up pressure on Nasheed who initiated the arrest Monday of the head of the country's criminal court on charges of misconduct and favouring opposition figures.

The government on Wednesday raised fears of Islamic extremism taking hold in the Indian Ocean atoll nation, which is best known for its upmarket tourism and as a destination for honeymooners.

No backtracking on reform

Says Myanmar president

AFP, Yangon

Myanmar's president has promised that his country will not turn back from the path to democracy and called on Western nations to end sanctions which he blamed for hindering reform efforts.

"My message is that we are on the right track to democracy," Thein Sein said in an interview with the Washington Post published yesterday.

"Because we are on the right track, we can only move forward, and we don't have any intention to draw back."

The country formerly known as Burma now has a nominally civilian government following a controversial November 2010 election, but its ranks are filled with former generals including Thein Sein.

The regime has surprised observers with



Thein Sein

practices, we still have very little experience and practice," Thein Sein was quoted as saying.

"If you would like to see democracy thrive in our country, you should take the necessary actions to encourage this by easing the sanctions that were placed on our country."

The April 1 by-elections, where democracy icon Aung Sung Suu Kyi will participate, are seen as a major test of the regime's reform credentials.

a series of reforms, including talks with democracy icon Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been allowed to stand in an April by-election, and the release of hundreds of political prisoners.

"Our government is only about nine months old. In terms of democratic experiences and

TIB-TII, AI slate BSF atrocities

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Dr Iftekharuzzaman and TII Executive Director Anupama Jha said, "It is extremely regrettable and absolutely unacceptable that members of a security force of a democratic country can abuse power so despicably and indiscriminately to collect bribe".

Welcoming the immediate suspension of the jawans by the BSF authority, they called upon the BSF and the Indian government to ensure justice in a manner that would deter any future recurrence of such inhuman brutality for shameless act of bribery. Failure to do so will grossly undermine the democratic credentials of India.

The statement said, "Allegation of the victim's probable involvement in smuggling can never justify the kind of extra-judicial torture and violence that BSF frequently resorts to, causing killings, injuries and other forms of injustices in the

border on a regular basis."

It said this particular incident graphically reinforces the perception that elements within the BSF, being corrupt beneficiaries, are not only responsible for alleged illegal activities across the Indo-Bangladesh Border, but also for systematic and indiscriminate violation of human rights.

The top officials of Transparency International further said, "The departmental court of inquiry that has been taken up is important, but not enough because of potential conflict of interest".

They demanded that a judicial probe be immediately constituted to ensure the fullest possible justice.

Commending the role of the India media in bringing the incident to public attention, TIB and TII said, "As the world's largest democracy and as a state party to the UN Convention against Corruption, India has the responsibility to demon-

strate that it is committed to human rights and justice as well as to effectively control corruption".

A video clip of nearly five minutes was aired on January 18, on some Indian TV channels, including NDTV showing a Bangladeshi young man being beaten by some uniformed BSF members in Murshidabad district of Paschim Banga.

The video showed the victim pushed to the ground, stripped, kicked and tortured indiscriminately.

AI SAYS SUSPENSION NOT ENOUGH

The suspension of eight guards of the BSF for torturing a Bangladeshi caught on the border "is not a sign that human rights violations are being addressed", the Amnesty International said yesterday.

"This incident of apparent torture is only the tip of the iceberg - dozens of Bangladeshis are believed to be tortured or ill-treated after

being picked up by Indian border security guards every month," said AI's Bangladesh Researcher Abbas Faiz.

"That eight Indian guards have been suspended is not in itself a sign that BSF officials are on the look out to address human rights violations - these guards were suspended only after the video footage was aired by Indian TV, embarrassing the BSF.

"Many such incidents take place with no action taken against the Indian border guards because the victims do not dare to speak out for fear of repercussions."

"Many of the people who cross this border have families on both sides. The Bangladeshi government has lodged a complaint with the Government of India but this should not be the end of the story Bangladesh must keep the pressure on India to take decisive steps to protect Bangladeshi citizens, and prevent such incidents recurring," the AI official added.

Parliament to decide on Nato supplies resumption Says Gilani

DAWN ONLINE

Pakistan's Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani yesterday said that while former ruler Pervez Musharraf gave into US demands on a single telephone call, the decision to resume Nato supplies would be made by the parliament, Dawn News reported.

Speaking to media representatives in Lahore, the prime minister said that as opposed to the appeasing attitude of the Musharraf government, not only had the current democratic government suspended Nato supplies to Afghanistan, it had also boycotted the Bonn conference.

He further said that the parliament would decide the issue of resuming supplies to Nato forces.

The premier said the government was functioning in accordance with the mandate bestowed upon it by the people.

He said that his appearance before the Supreme Court showed that he respected the judiciary and its orders.

The prime minister reiterated the pledge that the Pakistan People's Party-led coalition government would come up with solutions of issues faced by the public on a day-to-day basis.

AFTER 'HUMAN ZOO' ROW

India questions tribal 'isolation' policy

AFP, New Delhi

Many of India's protected tribal groups live in "beastly" conditions and the government should review long-standing laws that keep them in isolation, the country's tribal affairs minister told AFP.

His comments were prompted by the "Human Zoo" scandal involving a video of naked Jarawa tribal women on the tropical Andaman Islands being told to dance for tourists, who had allegedly bribed a policeman to gain access to their reserve.



A Jarwa youth poses in front of camera

Contact with several tribes on the islands, set deep in the Indian Ocean, is illegal in a bid to protect their indigenous way of life and shield them from diseases against which they have no protection.

The policy means that while economic development is surging ahead in India's main cities, there remain pockets of the country where conditions have hardly evolved in centuries and modernity is deliberately kept out.

"As far as my personal view is concerned it will be unfair to leave them like

that in a beastly condition forever," Tribal Affairs Minister Kishore Chandra Deo told AFP in an interview.

"At the same time I would add that I am certainly not one who would like to expose them to shopping mall and junk culture."

Not all of India's vast number of indigenous groups are protected or live in reserves, but they consistently rank bottom in terms of human development alongside "untouchables" at the bottom of India's caste system.

Deo, who has vowed to visit the Andaman Islands on a special trip within weeks, said that the issue of how to deal with protected tribal groups was highly divisive and that the government needed to listen to tribal people.

"We have to start a dialogue," he said.

But other groups and campaigners, such as Survival International, say tribes such as the 402-strong Jarawa tribe should be left alone.

The London-based Observer newspaper, which first published the video that triggered the controversy, said its journalist saw tourists toss bananas and biscuits to tribespeople on the roadside.

Other tribes on the Andamans, such as the Sentinelese, shun all contact with the outside world and are known to be hostile to any encroachers.

Their last remaining territory, North Sentinel island, is out of bounds even to the Indian navy in a bid to protect its reclusive inhabitants who number only about 150.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)



Bangladesh

Drafting Energy Standard and Labeling (ES & L) legislation rules and regulations, reviewing capacity of Barrier Removal to the Cost Effective Development and Implementation of Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling (BRESL) on ES & L and reviewing ES & L technical capacity.

UNDP Bangladesh seeks proposals from interested and qualified organizations for **Drafting Energy Standard and Labeling (ES & L) legislation rules and regulations, reviewing capacity of Barrier Removal to the Cost Effective Development and Implementation of Energy Efficiency Standards and Labeling (BRESL) on ES & L and reviewing ES & L technical capacity.** All interested Bidders may request the Bidding documents (RFP) from manzurul.hasan@undp.org by a formal request to UNDP.

Submission of Proposal: The envelope should state the tender subject stated above and should be submitted to the **UNDP Procurement Unit**, IDB Bhaban (12th Floor), Begum Rokeya Sharani, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207.

The deadline for submission of proposal is **February 02, 2012, 12.30 p.m. Bangladesh Time.**

EDCL ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED 395-397, Tejgaon Industrial Area Dhaka 1208

INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL invites International Tender for Supply of Pharmaceutical Raw Material on C&F© Dhaka by Air & Chittagong by Sea and Benapole by Road basis :-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & opening
01	IMP/RM/SEM/40/2011-2012 dated 18/01/2012	Pharmaceutical Raw Materials: 01)Lactose Monohydrate BP'10 02)Maize Starch BP'10 03)Magnesium Stearate BP'10 04)Povidone K-30 BP'10 05)Ranitidine HCI BP'10 06)Doxycycline HCL BP'10 07)Ibuprofen BP'10 08)Wincoat WT MP-02005 (With) Pharma Grade 09)Dextrose Anhydrous BP'10 10)Potassium Chloride BP'10 11)Sodium Chloride BP'10 12)Tri-Sodium Citrate BP'10	Tk. 2400/set Equivalent to US\$ 30.00 Non- refundable	Closing : 27/02/2012 at 11. 00 AM Opening : 27/02/2012 at 11. 15AM

Tender schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt Holidays) No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(Md. Ali Mukarram)
Manager, Planning &
Procurement Deptt.
For : Managing Director.



HYSAWA

(A Company Limited by Guarantee without share capital, incorporated under the Companies Act, 1994)

Ref. No. HYSAWA/FMO/005/2012/111

Date: 18/01/2012

Request for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

for Short-listing of Training Organizations to provide 'Training Courses' to Union Parishads (UPs) and other Stakeholders in the anticipated HYSAWA (Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply) Project (2012-2015)

- HYSAWA** (Hygiene, Sanitation and Water Supply) Fund has applied for grants from the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), Australian AID and the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) towards the cost of the HYSAWA Fund Project (2012-2015). The HYSAWA Fund has been established as a non-profit company registered under the Companies Act, 1994. HYSAWA Fund, upon receiving formal proposals and/or applications from eligible Local Government Institutions (LGIs), Union Parishads (UPs) in particular, and subject to certain conditions, provides grants to these LGIs to implement demand-driven and community-based hygiene, sanitation and safe water supply projects. HYSAWA Fund intends to apply part of the proceeds of these grants to pay towards the eligible payments under 5 (five) service packages for providing training to Union Parishads (UPs) and other stakeholders.
- The overall objective of the assignment is to develop technical, financial and management capabilities of participating UPs and other stakeholders. The training organizations of each package will provide 'Foundation and Refresher's Course' for UP chairman, members and secretary, covering the following courses: (i) Sub-Project Planning, Implementation and Monitoring (ii) Public Procurement & Contact Management (iii) Accounting and Book Keeping (iv) Cross Cutting Issues (v) Admin. & Office Management (vi) Supervision, Monitoring & Reporting; and for Support Organization (SO) and Partner NGO (PNGO) staff (i) Hygiene Promotion and Community Led Sanitation course. Detailed Terms of Reference (TOR) will be provided in the Request for Proposal.
- HYSAWA Fund now invites eligible organizations with experience in providing training to Local Government Institutes (LGIs), to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) for short-listing as Training Organization for providing following Training Courses to UPs and other stakeholders for the following packages:

Package no.	Region/ Division	Districts	No. of Union (Approx.)	Courses to be conducted (for each package)
Trg-1	Rangpur	Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Thakurgaon, Gaibanda, Nilphamari	50	1. Three (3) days Foundation Course for UP Chairman and Members.
Trg-2	Rajshahi	Rajshahi, Naogaon, Natore, Joypurhat, Pabna, Sirajganj, Tangail	100	2. Five (5) days Foundation Course for UP Secretaries and UP level SO staff.
Trg-3	Dhaka	Faridpur, Madaripur, Gopalganj, Shariatpur, Rajbari	75	3. Seven (7) days Foundation course on Hygiene Promotion, Sanitation and Water Supply for PNGO and SO staff
Trg-4	Khulna/ Barisal	Khulna, Bagerhat, Satkhira, Barisal, Jhalokati, Pirojpur	75	4. Two(2) days Refresher's Course for UP Chairman and Members.
Trg-5	CHT	Rangamati, Bandarban, Khagrachari	50	5. Two (2) days Refresher's Course for UP Secretaries and UP level SO staff

The actual number of unions per package may vary depending on the interest expressed by UPs and meeting of eligibility criteria for enlistment.

- The EOIs, on receipt, will be evaluated on the basis of following documents:

- Legal Status of the Organizations: Registration, VAT/TIN certificate (attach supporting evidence)
- Should have 10 (ten) years of overall experience in providing training. (max. 5 pages) (successful completion certificate from previous clients/employers should be provided with the EOIs.)
- Minimum 5 (five) years experience in providing training to Water Supply, Sanitation and Hygiene Promotion related project/programme personnel. (max. 3 pages) (provide evidence).
- Experience in providing training to Union Parishad or other Local Govt. Institutions (provide evidence)
- Well equipped training centre with facilities (dormitory, training room, food facilities, multi-media, etc.) in the region it apply.
- Availability of key trainers in the core competency areas described above (provide list of trainers with qualifications and year of experiences related to the assignments).
- Financial reports of last 2 years (attach audit report).
- Experience in designing and conducting participatory training course using PRA approach (provide evidence).

- Organization for each package will be selected using the Public Procurement Rules (PPR)-2008 and HYSAWA Procurement Manual. One organization should submit separate EOI for separate packages. **Applicants may associate with other Applicants to enhance their qualifications**, and though not mandatory, association with foreign firms is not encouraged in this instance. Information provided by the organizations may be physically verified with the appropriate authorities, as and where applicable.

- Five (05) sets of EOI shall be submitted by 5:00 PM on 15/02/2012, in a **Scaled Envelope** delivered to: **HYSAWA Fund, Chaklader House (Level-7), House No. 22 Road No. 113/A, Gulshan- 2, Dhaka-1212**, Bangladesh and be clearly marked the **'Package no.'** and **'EOI for short-listing as Training Organization'**. EOIs received after the deadline will not be considered for short-listing.

- Interested organizations may obtain further information relating to HYSAWA from our website: www.hysawa.org Awarding of this task is completely subject to availability of fund from the donors. The authority may amend any or part of the short-listing criterion.

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs without citing any reason.

Managing Director