Canada knife rampage kills 10

Police hunt two men

REUTERS, *Weldon*

Two men suspected of killing 10 people in a stabbing rampage that devastated an indigenous community in Canada were at large yesterday as authorities tried to determine a motive for attacks that shocked a nation where mass violence is rare.

Police launched a manhunt for Damien Sanderson, 31, and Myles Sanderson, 30, after they allegedly stabbed people in 13 different areas across an indigenous community and its surrounding province on Sunday. At least 15 others were wounded.

The attacks in Saskatchewan province were among the deadliest in Canada's modern history. A statement by indigenous leaders indicated they may have been drug related. Police said some of the victims appeared to have been targeted, while others were apparently random.

The suspects were last seen traveling in a black Nissan Rogue and spotted on Sunday in the city of Regina, about 320 km (200 miles) south of the attacks in the James Smith Cree Nation and the village of Weldon, police said.

Britain's former Chancellor of the Exchequer and a contender to become the country's next Prime Minister and leader of the Conservative party Rishi Sunak (L) applauds as new Conservative Party leader and Britain's Prime Minister-elect Liz Truss (C) reacts next to her husband Hugh O'Leary as she hears the announcement of the winner of the Conservative Party leadership contest in central London yesterday. PHOTO: AFP

STRONG EARTHQUAKE

30 people killed in southwest China

AFP, *Beijing*

At least 30 people were killed when a strong earthquake struck southwestern China yesterday, state media reported, as violent tremors in a remote region damaged homes and left some areas without electricity.

The magnitude 6.6 quake hit about 43 kilometres southeast of the city of Kangding in Sichuan province at a depth of 10 kilometres, according to US Geological Survey.

The death toll now stands at "more than 30 dead", according to CCTV. Tremors shook buildings in the provincial capital of Chengdu -- where millions are confined to their homes under a strict Covid lockdown -- and in the nearby megacity of Chongqing, local residents told AFP.

"Some of my neighbours on the ground floor said they felt it very noticeably," said Chen, a resident of Chengdu. "But because Chengdu is currently under epidemic management, people aren't allowed to leave compounds, so many of them rushed out into their courtyards," she added.

Pak flooding death toll tops 1,300

Engineers breach lake to avert danger

AFP, *Fazilpur*

Engineers breached Pakistan's biggest freshwater lake to drain water threatening nearby towns, officials said yesterday, as heavy rain poured misery on millions affected by the country's worst floods in history.

Nearly a third of Pakistan is under water -- an area the size of the United Kingdom -- following months of record monsoon rains that have killed more than 1,300 people and washed away homes, businesses, roads and bridges.

Officials say the repair bill will top $10 billion for a country already in the grip of economic crisis, with hundreds of thousands homeless as the monsoon draws to an end and winter approaches.

"There is nowhere to shower or go to the bathroom," said Zebunnisa Bibi, sheltering near Fazilpur, in Punjab province, where 65 tents are now home to more than 500 people who fled their inundated villages for higher land. Similar tent camps have mushroomed across much of the south and west of Pakistan.

'Buck up' in enforcing Myanmar peace plan

Malaysia urges Asean; junta chief makes another visit to Russia

REUTERS, *Kualalumpur*

Malaysia's Foreign Minister Saifuddin Abdullah yesterday called on the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (Asean) to act more urgently in its efforts to provide humanitarian assistance and spur a peace process in junta-ruled Myanmar.

The 10-nation bloc has been pushing Myanmar's military rulers to follow a peace "consensus" they agreed to last year, with some member countries expressing disappointment over a lack of progress on the plan.

Myanmar has been trapped in a cycle of violence since the military overthrew an elected government last year and launched a bloody crackdown on protests and dissent.

Saifuddin said he had written to the Asean Secretary-General on Saturday to ask for updates on the situation in Myanmar, as he had yet to receive any reports from the bloc's leadership since the grouping met in Cambodia last month.

"The Asean Secretariat must have a sense of urgency to look into what is actually happening in Myanmar," he told reporters in Kuala Lumpur, adding that the bloc could not afford to wait until its next major summit in November. "They (the Asean secretariat) must have a full-time team working on the conflict, otherwise people get killed in between all of our meetings... We must buck up."

The Asean Secretariat in Jakarta did not immediately respond to an emailed request for comment.

Meanwhile, Myanmar's junta leader was on a visit to Russia yesterday, his second trip there in less than two months, as ruling military tries to shore up one of its few diplomatic alliances as it comes under growing international pressure.

Senior General Min Aung Hlaing has been barred from representing Myanmar at most international gatherings since leading a coup early last year against an elected government led by Noble laureate Aung San Suu Kyi.

University students protest against the government following raise in subsidised fuel prices by about 30 percent in Jakarta, Indonesia, yesterday. PHOTO: REUTERS

China accuses US of 'tens of thousands' of cyberattacks

AFP, *Beijing*

Beijing yesterday accused the United States of launching "tens of thousands" of cyberattacks on China and pilfering troves of sensitive data, including from a public research university.

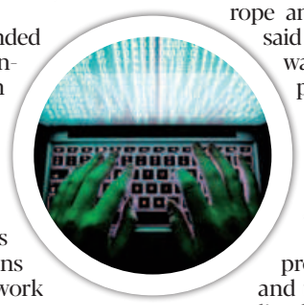
Washington has accused Beijing of cyberattacks against US businesses and government agencies, one of the issues over which ties between the two powers have nosedived in recent years.

China has consistently denied the claims and in turn lashed out against alleged US cyber espionage, but has rarely made public disclosures of specific attacks.

But a report released yesterday by its National Computer Virus Emergency Response Center (CVERC) accused the US National Security Agency (NSA) of carrying out "tens of thousands of malicious attacks on network targets in China in recent years".

It specifically accused the NSA's Office of Tailored Access Operations (TAO) of infiltrating the Northwestern Polytechnical University in the city of Xi'an.

The university is funded by China's Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, and specialises in aeronautical and space research.



CVERC alleged that TAO infiltrated the university's networks and took "control of tens of thousands of network devices" including servers, routers and network switches.

Using dozens of cyber weapons and exploiting previously unknown flaws in the SunOS operating system, the unit gained access to "core technical data" including passwords and the operations of key network devices, the report said.

TAO has "stolen over 140 gigabytes of high-value data" in recent years and received assistance from groups in Europe and South Asia, CVERC said in the report, which was co-authored by the private Chinese cybersecurity firm Qihoo 360.

The foreign ministry in Beijing yesterday condemned the alleged hack.

"We ask the US to provide an explanation and urge them to stop immediately this illegal move," Mao Ning, a spokeswoman for the foreign ministry, said at a regular press conference.

The NSA did not immediately respond to an AFP request for comment.

Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project 1:
National Single Window Implementation and Strengthening Customs Modernization
National Board of Revenue (NBR)
IDEB Bhaban (10th Floor), 160/A, Kakrail, Dhaka -1000, Bangladesh

Memo No. 1 (29)/Customs ICT and NSW/Misc./2018/995 Date: 5th September 2022

Request for Expressions of Interest (REOI) for National Procurement Consultant
(Contract Package No. NBR-SD5B)

The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received an USD 150 million Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) - a member of the World Bank Group - for financing the cost of the Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project 1(BRCP-1), being jointly implemented by the Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA), National Board of Revenue (NBR) and Ministry of Commerce. Now the NBR intends to apply part of the IDA Credit for procuring the services of a National Procurement Consultant (NPC) for its Project Implementation Unit (PIU).

2. Scope of Services:

The NPC will work as a full-time member of the procurement team in PIU and will be responsible for assisting NSW and Customs Modernization Plan component so that the procurements will be done as per the relevant regulations. The NPC will have a significant role in assuring the integrity, fairness, and overall quality of procurement in conformance with the requirements of the Procurement Regulations under new procurement framework of the World Bank and the procurement laws of Bangladesh. He should not have any conflict of interest while working and should keep all the project information confidential. Detailed scope of works (Terms of Services) and other information will be available upon request from the address provided below, either through email or in person. ToR is also available in National Board of Revenue's website (www.nbr.gov.bd).

3. General Qualification and Experience:

a. At least graduate in engineering/ procurement/ supply chain management/ commerce / finance/ business/ management/ law/environmental science or suitable equivalency.

b. Minimum 7(seven) years of general experience out of which 5 (five) years of experience as Procurement Specialist/Procurement Consultant or have had responsibilities with a substantial content of his / her position in the procurement area (use of internationally accepted contract documents for works, goods and services) in World Bank/Donor assisted projects.

4. Specific skills and Experience:

a. Specialized knowledge of procurement of IT goods; various forms of selection/ contracting of consultant services; preparation of bidding / contract documents for the international procurement of goods, works, services; public procurement policies; sustainable procurement; advanced contract management, etc.

b. Basic knowledge and understanding of e-Government Procurement (e-GP).

c. Knowledge and experience in technical, commercial and legal aspects of procurement of the World Bank- financed project will be an added advantage.

d. Strong communication skills in presenting, discussing and resolving difficult issues. Ability to work efficiently and effectively in a multidisciplinary team.

e. Good Computer skills in Windows operating Systems (Word, Excel, Access and Power Point).

5. Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project 1 (BRCP1), Component 3: Implementation of National Single Window (NSW) Project now invites eligible Applicants to indicate their interest in providing the services. The Applicants are requested to submit their: (a) CV (Curriculum Vitae), which will indicate that they are qualified to perform the assignment; (b) expected remuneration and (c) submission letter as per prescribed format.

6. The National Procurement Consultant (NPC) will be selected in accordance with the "World Bank Procurement Regulations for IPF Borrowers (July 2016)". It is expected that the Consultant's service will be commence from the First week of October 2022 at Dhaka. Duration of the consultancy services would be for 15 (fifteen) months, depending on the need of the client and satisfactory performance of the consultant, the contract period may be extended through mutual agreement.

7. Expression of Interest (EOI) shall be submitted 02 (two) hard copies and electronic/soft copy (CD/DVD) by **20th September 2022 up to 3:00 PM** either in sealed envelope clearly marked "Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of National Procurement Consultant" in the email's subject line or on top of the envelope or through email sent to the following undersigned address.

8. The Project authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOI without assigning any reason, whatsoever.

(Zakia Sultana)
Project Director
Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project-1:
National Single Window Implementation & Strengthening Customs Modernization
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