

Chinese research ship to make resupply call

Says Maldives ministry

AFP, Malé

The Maldives has granted permission for a controversial Chinese vessel to make a resupply call but it will not undertake any "research", the Indian Ocean archipelago nation's foreign ministry said yesterday.

China's Xiang Yang Hong 3, which has been reportedly turned down port entry by Sri Lanka, is due to call at Malé in early February, according to ship monitoring website MarineTraffic.

The vessel will "not be conducting any research while in the Maldivian waters", the foreign ministry said, following media reports from neighbouring India accusing Beijing of using the ship for "surveillance".

The Maldives said the vessel would stop only for "a port call, for rotation of personnel and replenishment". There was no immediate comment from China.

India is suspicious of China's increasing presence in the Indian Ocean and its influence in Sri Lanka and the Maldives.

Relations between Malé and New Delhi have plummeted since pro-China President Mohamed Muizzu won elections last year.



Rescue workers search for survivors in the debris yesterday after a landslide hit Liangshui village in Zhenxiang county of Zhaotong, Yunnan province, China on Monday. The death toll from the landslide rose to 31 yesterday, CCTV said. PHOTO: REUTERS

France logged record number of asylum requests in 2023

AFP, Paris

A record number of people sought asylum in France last year, a rise of more than eight percent on the previous year, the country's refugee protection authority said yesterday. The announced increase comes weeks after the government passed a tough new immigration law under pressure from the far right. Around 142,500 people applied in total -- including 123,400 for the first time -- and around a third of all requests for protection were accepted, the French Office for the Protection of Refugee and Stateless Persons (OFPRA) said in provisional figures. Just 131,000 people had applied in 2022, with a slightly lower proportion of 29 percent receiving a positive response. "This increase is not specific to France, but comes within a European context," OFPRA director Julien Boucher told AFP. "It is much lower than the European average" increase, he added. In Germany, first-time asylum applications rose by more than 50 percent last year to 329,120, official figures showed. In France, the largest number of first-time applicants last year were from Afghanistan for the sixth year in a row, with 17,500 Afghans seeking refuge away from their war-torn country.

India threatens to expel French journalist

AFP, New Delhi

A French journalist said yesterday she was facing expulsion from India after two decades for what authorities have termed "malicious and critical" reportage, days before a state visit by President Emmanuel Macron.

Critics say that press freedom in the world's biggest democracy is increasingly under attack, with journalists who touch on sensitive topics often subjected to government rebuke.

The latest is Vanessa Dognac, a contributor to several French-language publications including the weekly magazine Le Point, who has been based in India for 22 years.

RIGHTS RECORD

China undergoes rare scrutiny at UN meeting

REUTERS, Geneva

China underwent scrutiny of its human rights record at a key UN meeting yesterday, with Western countries calling for more protections for Xinjiang Uyghurs and greater freedom in Hong Kong while Beijing said it had made historic progress.

The review at the UN in Geneva is the first since the global body's top rights official released a report in 2022 saying the detention of Uyghurs and other Muslims in China's Xinjiang region may constitute crimes against humanity.

Beijing denies any abuses. China has

been lobbying non-Western countries to praise its human rights record ahead of the meeting by sending memos to envoys in recent weeks, diplomats told Reuters.

China's diplomatic mission did not comment on the reported lobbying. Its delegation in Geneva said yesterday it had made progress since its last UN review in 2018, saying it had lifted nearly 100 million people out of poverty.

"We embarked on a path of human rights development that is in keeping with the trend of the times and appropriate to China's national conditions and scored historic achievements in this

process," said Ambassador Chen Xu at the meeting.

Some 163 countries were set to speak at the session and countries had only 45 seconds each to speak.

Many countries lauded China's efforts on human rights, including Ethiopia and Cameroon. Western countries raised concerns including Germany, which cited human rights violations in Xinjiang and Tibet, and Canada which called for China to repeal a controversial Hong Kong national security law. Eric Chan, Hong Kong's chief secretary, praised the law.

CHINA-KYRGYZSTAN 3 dead, dozens hurt as quake hits border

AFP, Almaty

Three people were killed and dozens injured after a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck along the mountainous China-Kyrgyzstan border yesterday, authorities said. The major quake was registered just after 2:00 am at a depth of 13 kilometres in China's Xinjiang region, about 140 kilometres west of the city of Aksu. Local authorities dispatched a team to the quake's epicentre, Beijing's Xinhua state news agency said, while around 800 people were on standby for any large disaster relief mission. The earthquake caused three deaths, while five other people sustained injuries, CCTV reported yesterday evening.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Superintending Engineer
Gopalganj PWD Circle, Gopalganj
Phone No. 02-478821326
E-mail: se_gopal@pwd.gov.bd

Memo No. 25.36.100.05.23.23- 510(2) Dated: 23-01-2024

Tender Notice -2023-2024

e-Tender has been invited in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of the following works.

SL No.	Tender ID No.	Name of work
1.	940660	1) Installation of Medical Gas Pipeline System at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical College Hospital, Faridpur for Obstetrics 5 bed ICU.
2.	940683	2) Installation of Medical Gas Pipeline System at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical College Hospital, Faridpur for 20 Bed One Stop Emergency Care Center.
3.	940706	3) Installation of Medical Gas Pipeline System at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical College Hospital, Faridpur for 5 bed Pediatric ICU.

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted through the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.
Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP Portal.

Md. Bahadur Ali
Superintending Engineer
Gopalganj PWD Circle
Gopalganj

GD-117

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Director
Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, Sylhet

Ref: SOMCH/MSR(Medicine)/e-Gp/2024/2575 Date: 22/01/2024

e-GP Tender Notice

This is an online tender, where only e-Tenders will be accepted in e-GP Portal and no offline/ hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, please register on e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>). For more details, please contact support desk contract numbers. e-Tender are invited in e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) by Director Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, Sylhet for the Procurement of:

Tender/proposal	Name of goods	Tender/proposal last selling date & time	Tender/proposal closing date & time	Tender/proposal opening date & time
939676	Procurements of Biochemical Reagent(lot-02) FY 2023-2024	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939652	Procurements of MSR Biochemical Re-agent Lot-01(ERBA XL) FY 2023-2024	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939616	Procurement of Medicine Lot14 (Povidone Iodine solu.) FY 2023-2024	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939585	Procurements of Chemicals reagents Lot-6(Easy Lyte Plus(Electrolyte Analyzer)	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939584	Procurements of Chemicals reagents Lot-5(Humanex AIC(Auto HbA1C Analyzer) Human GmbH, Germany)	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939502	Procurement of MSR Medicine Lot-11 (Syrup, Suppository, solution) for FY 2023-24	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939501	Procurement of MSR Medicine Lot-10 (Drop Ointment/Cream) for FY 2023-24	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939490	Procurement of MSR Medicine Lot-2 (Antibiotics & Antiviral Drugs) for the FY 2023-24	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00
939452	Procurement of MSR, Medicine Lot-5 (Anti Cancer Durg) for FY 2023-24	07 Feb 2024 16.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00	08 Feb 2024 14.00

e-Tender details can be downloaded on e-GP System Portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for pursuer. e-Tender will be accepted only as stated in above list accept. e-Tenders will be opened online immediate as stated in above list.

Director
Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital, Sylhet
E-mail: magomch@hospi.dghs.gov.bd

GD-119

Zila Parishad, Sylhet
www.zp.sylhet.gov.bd

শেখ হাসিনার মূলনীতি
গ্রাম শহরের উন্নতি

Memo No. 46.60.9100.001.01.002.24-500(40) Date: 23-01-2024

e-Tender Notice No. 05/2023-2024 (OTM)

e-Tenders are invited for 01 (one) No. package in National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of following works under Zila Parishad, Sylhet.

SL No.	e-Tender ID & Package No.	Name of works
01.	Tender ID: 939335 e/zpsylhet/2023-24/OF-09	Construction of Sylhet Zilla Parishad Own Land "Zilla Parishad Natural Park" under Sylhet Zilla Parishad, Sylhet.

Tender publication date & time :22-January -2024 14:00
Tender documents last selling date & time :20-February-2024 11:00
Tender closing & opening date & time :20-February -2024 13:00

These are online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP System Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd). The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks branches. The Authority reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Assistant Engineer
Zila Parishad, Sylhet
Mobile No. 01711-358513

GD-118