North Korea defector sites report cyber attack

March 26 2013

A man studies internet security at the Korea Information Technology Research Institute in Seoul, February 14, 2013. Specialist anti-North Korean websites and organisations run by defectors in South Korea say they have been victims of a coordinated cyber attack.

Specialist anti-North Korean websites and organisations run by defectors in South Korea said they were the victims of a coordinated cyber attack Tuesday.

Free North Korea Radio, Daily NK and North Korea Intellectuals Solidarity, all operated by defectors from North Korea, said their servers crashed simultaneously on Tuesday afternoon, paralysing their websites.

The apparent intrusion followed last week's large-scale cyber attacks on South Korean broadcasters and banks, which was widely suspected to be the work of organised North Korean hackers.

Lee Sang-Young, an official with Daily NK, said the Internet news provider's server was down for 50 minutes. "We lost all the stories filed this morning," he said.

Last week, the website of the Washington-based Committee for Human Rights in North Korea was disabled for several hours.

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