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INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

Homeless to Clean Streets

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St. Petersburg Governor Valentina Matviyenko said students and even the homeless should be employed by communal services to clean up streets after blizzards that left the city paralyzed for the second winter in a row, RIA-Novosti reported Tuesday.

Matviyenko banned city officials from going on vacation until the city is cleared of snow. She accused district administrations of not doing enough to solve the problem, but also said the city lacks some 3,000 street cleaners.

About 30 people have been injured in St. Petersburg by falling icicles this winter, and two killed by snowplows, prompting public outrage.

(MT)

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