

## Brazil court orders 48-hour WhatsApp block

SAO PAULO, BRAZIL: A court in Brazil on Wednesday ordered cellular service providers nationwide to block the popular WhatsApp smartphone application for two days.



The unprecedented 48-hour blockage was to implement a Sao Paulo state court order and was to take effect at 02:00 GMT on Thursday, although it was not immediately clear if service providers would acquiesce to the order.

The court said WhatsApp had been asked several times to cooperate in a criminal investigation, but had repeatedly failed to comply.

A judge in Piaui state tried but failed earlier this year to block the app.

Authorities say they cannot disclose details of the criminal investigation because it is an ongoing case.

*Source: AFP*

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