



PHOTO: AFP

An officer with the Galveston Police Department sets up barricades Saturday after an exterior wall of Yaga's Cafe collapsed from the effects of hurricane Rita in Galveston, Texas. Hurricane Rita gave the US Gulf Coast its second pounding in less than four weeks early Saturday, wreaking havoc and floods with driving sheets of rain and threatening domestic energy supplies already at crisis levels.

Texas residents ride out storm the hard way

REUTERS, Port Arthur

Hindsight was crystal clear for Trevor Cormier, who was among the handful of Port Arthur residents who ignored demands to evacuate and hunkered down through Hurricane Rita's violent landfall on Saturday.

"I scared myself to sleep," Cormier said as he tried to drive back home from a friend's house in town, impeded by waterlogged streets.

Rita took a damaging toll on this seaport in Texas' southeastern-most corner on the Gulf Coast. The storm crumbled buildings, stripped roofs, swamped streets and seemed to do at least some damage to virtually every structure in town.

Officials estimated more than 90 percent of the population, almost certainly spurred by the horrific images out of New Orleans of those left behind after Katrina struck, fled to higher ground ahead of Rita. As winds and rain continued to whip the city after daybreak, the streets were empty except for

the hurricane's debris.

Cormier, 25, and a carload of friends were among the few souls visible.

"It was terrifying," he said of his experience at a friend's house. "The ceiling tiles all fell down, Sheetrock fell down, the windows broke. (Advertising) signs were inside the house."

A friend, Jacelyne Patrick, 22, said a Port Arthur street sign crashed through a window.

Even after daybreak, when the hurricane's destructive forces had passed north, Patrick said she knew some fellow citizens were still petrified.

"There are people that are so scared they're still in their closets," she said about seven hours after Rita's overnight landfall near the mouth of the Sabine River separating Texas and Louisiana.

Damage was consistent across the city. The already depressed downtown, rife with vacant storefronts, had several wall collapses and broken windows in forgotten

buildings nobody bothered to protect against the elements.

The only electricity visible was the occasionally dangerous live power line. Natural gas leaks also were a concern.

Ashton Harrison, 38, rode out the storm in nearby Beaumont for part of the night before returning home to Port Arthur. He debated with himself over whether to try to make it to Houston, about 90 miles west, on a half tank of gasoline, knowing there was little fuel to be had in southeast Texas.

He also wondered about the construction site near his home, where items were left unsecured.

"There was a Port-A-Potty back there. I bet it's in Louisiana now," he said.

At the Holiday Inn on Jimmy Johnson Boulevard, named for the favourite son and former Dallas Cowboys coach, police and fire officials set up a makeshift headquarters where they could bunk down and be centrally located to respond to calls.

Looters detained in Texas 'Energy City'

AFP, Port Arthur

Hurricane Rita cut a path of destruction Saturday through this major oil refinery and chemical processing town, downing trees and ripping off roofs as it smashed into the US Gulf Coast.

As night fell on the stricken town, much of Port Arthur was cut off by waist-high floodwater with no power. Cars lay smashed beneath uprooted trees and the main refinery was out of reach.

Authorities detained nine people for looting and imposed a 4:00pm to 6:00am curfew to prevent a crime escalation, mayor Oscar Ortiz told CNN television.

More than 100 police cars were seen entering the town after the storm amid warnings that looters would take tough action to stop looting.

The town of 56,000 people near the Texas-Louisiana border took an almost direct hit from the eye of the storm.

"It was pretty scary," said John Harrison, whose wooden home in a poor neighbourhood was sur-

rounded by water and damaged in a night of howling winds and torrential rain.

"I didn't feel that running away would change anything but when the roof of the garage started coming off I thought it was time to go," he said.

"We won't stay next time," said Lynne Greenwell, visibly shaken after riding out the storm in her small apartment, where she heard trees crashing on her neighbour's homes.

Thomas Washington, who lost the roof off his house, said the storm was "worse than I expected."

Though Rita packed maximum winds of 195km (120 miles) an hour, Brandon Allen said: "I expected the storm to be a heck of a lot worse." The 32-year-old real estate agent was one of the few residents on the streets as rescue workers tried to reach isolated homes.

One office building was gutted by fire during the storm as it was out of reach of firefighters. Several other buildings collapsed, leaving furniture, clothes and roofing floating in the floodwater.

Millions of animals face death in Australia

AFP, Sydney

Millions of exotic animals -- from camels to cane toads, horses and foxes -- face extermination in Australia under recommendations by a parliamentary committee.

A population explosion of species introduced to this isolated continent since European settlement began more than 200 years ago is a growing threat to agriculture and native wildlife, the committee of inquiry has found.

"The exotic species need to be eradicated," committee chairman Alby Schultz told AFP. "That's the first point I make."

Shooting and poisoning would be among methods recommended by the committee, which has been investigating the problem for more than a year and will present its report to parliament by early November, he said.

The Department of the Environment lists animals of "significant concern" as including feral camels (500,000), horses (300,000), donkeys (five million), pigs (up to 23 million), cane toads, European wild rabbits, European red foxes, cats and goats.

Iraq insurgency worse than anticipated: Blair

Labour Party opens conference

AFP, London

Prime Minister Tony Blair admitted yesterday that the insurgency in Iraq was more ferocious than he had anticipated, but insisted British troops would remain until the job of nation building was done.

"I didn't expect quite the same sort of ferocity from every single element in the Middle East that came in and was doing their best to disrupt the political process," Blair said when asked by BBC television if he had expected the task to be so difficult.

However, Blair said he would have taken the same decision now as before to join the US-led invasion to overthrow Saddam Hussein because the future of Iraq was "crucial for our own security and world."

Blair did not confirm a report in the Observer newspaper that Britain and the United States

would present a document to the Iraqi parliament next month for British troops to begin withdrawing as early as May.

"I have not heard that," Blair said.

He said the report may just be referring to long-held discussions between the US-led coalition and Iraqi government about the level of multinational troop contributions as Iraq's own security capability grows.

"The timescale (for withdrawal) is when the job is done," Blair said.

He said the strategy has long been for Britain and other coalition partners to help Iraqi democratic institutions develop and allow Iraq to build up its own security forces so "we don't have to do it."

He also denied Britain had informed Japan that it was pulling out, as reported in the Observer.

"There's no arbitrary (pullout) date being set. The allies are all in the same position," he said.

The Observer reported that a blueprint to be presented next month to the Iraqi parliament will "lay out a point-by-point 'road map' for military disengagement by multinational forces," with the first steps possibly going into effect soon after the December polls.

Meanwhile, Britain's governing Labour Party kicked off its annual conference yesterday with everyone wondering just how long Prime Minister Tony Blair will stay on the job.

The divisive issue of Iraq also loomed large among Labour delegates in Brighton, on England's south coast, as a debate intensified over how much longer British troops should remain in the country.

Security was tighter than ever in the wake of the London bombings last July, with 1,300 police officers -- armed with unprecedented stop and search powers -- on duty in the otherwise laid-back seaside town.

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ISLAMIC FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED

Head Office: "Chand Mansion", 66, Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka-1000

Public offering of 1,000,000 ordinary shares of Tk. 100.00 each (at par) Totalling Tk.100,000,000.00

Opening Date For Subscription: September 25, 2005 Prospectus Published on July 03, 2005 in "The Daily Naya Diganta"

Closing Date For Subscription: September 29, 2005 The Company Is Likely to be Placed In "A" Category

For Non-Resident Bangladeshi Quota, application for subscription closes on October 8, 2005

If you have any queries about this document, you may consult your stockbroker or dealer, bank manager, lawyer, professional accountant or other professional adviser.

Statutory Declaration

As per provision of the Depository Act, 1999 and regulations made thereunder, shares will only be issued in dematerialized condition. All transfer/transmission/spitting will take place in the Central Depository Bangladesh Ltd. (CDBL) system and any further issuance of shares (right/bonus) will be issued in dematerialized form only.

"CONSENT OF THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS BEEN OBTAINED TO THE ISSUE/OFFER OF THESE SECURITIES UNDER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE ORDINANCE, 1969 AND PUBLIC ISSUE RULES, 1998. IT MUST BE DISTINCTLY UNDERSTOOD THAT IN GIVING THIS CONSENT THE COMMISSION DOES NOT TAKE ANY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS OF THE COMPANY, ANY OF ITS PROJECTS OR THE ISSUE PRICE OF ITS SHARES OR FOR THE CORRECTNESS OF ANY OF THE STATEMENTS MADE OR OPINION EXPRESSED WITH REGARD TO THEM, RESPONSIBILITY FOR WHICH LIES WITH THE ISSUER, ITS DIRECTORS, INVESTMENT ADVISER, ISSUE MANAGER, VALUER AND/OR AUDITOR. IT IS, HOWEVER, THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION'S RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THAT FULL AND FAIR DISCLOSURES ARE MADE IN THE PROSPECTUS IN TERMS OF THE PUBLIC ISSUE RULES, 1998, SO THAT THE INVESTORS CAN MAKE INFORMED INVESTMENT DECISIONS."

DECLARATION ABOUT THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY "ISLAMIC FINANCE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED" IN RESPECT OF PROSPECTUS.

This Prospectus has been prepared, seen and approved by us and we collectively and individually accept full responsibility for the authenticity and accuracy of the statement, information given in the Prospectus, documents, financial statements exhibits, annexure, papers submitted to the Commission in support thereof, and confirm, after making all reasonable inquiries, that all conditions and requirements concerning this Public Issue and Prospectus have been met, and that there are no other information or documents the omission of which make any information or statements therein misleading, for which the Commission may take any civil, criminal or administrative action against us as it may deem fit. We also confirm that full and fair disclosure has been made in this Prospectus to enable the investors to make an informed decision for investment.

Sd/- Directors and Officers of Islamic Finance and Investment Limited.

Application for listing with the stock exchange(s)

Applications have been made to the DSE and CSE on July 05, 2005 for permission of the share of the company for dealing in the stock exchanges and for quotation on the stock exchanges.

Manager to the Issue

AAA Consultants & Financial Advisers

Amin Court, 4th Floor, 62-63, Motijheel C/A., Dhaka-1000.

Name of Underwriters

Southeast Bank Ltd.	The Trust Bank Ltd.
Union Capital Limited.	Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited
ICB Capital Management Ltd.	Bay Leasing & Investment Ltd.
Green Delta Insurance Company Ltd.	Prime Finance & Investment Ltd.
Swadesh Investment Management Ltd.	Export Import Bank of Bangladesh Ltd.

BANKERS TO THE ISSUE

Prime Bank Limited	3. Gulshan Corporate Branch, Dhaka.	Arab Bangladesh Bank Limited	7. Motijheel Br., Motijheel C/A, Dhaka
1. Motijheel Br., Dhaka.	4. Agrabad Branch, Chittagong	1. Principal Br., Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka	8. Kawan Bazar Br., Dhaka
2. Khatungonj Br., Chittagong	5. Dhanmondi Branch, Dhaka	2. Merchant Banking Wing, Dhaka	9. Banani Branch, Banani, Dhaka
3. Mouli Bazar Br., Mouli Bazar	6. Comilla Cantonment Br. Comilla	3. Kawan Bazar Br., Kawan Bazar, Dhaka	10. Bangshal Br., North South Rd, Dhaka
4. Khulna Br., Khulna	7. Rangpur Cantonment Br. Rangpur	4. Kakrai Branch, Kakrai, Dhaka	11. New Ekaton Br., Ramna Dhaka
5. Islamic Banking Br. Dhaka	8. Social Investment Bank Limited	5. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka	12. Agargaon Br., Mohammodpur Dhaka
6. Sylhet Br., Sylhet-3100	1. Principal Br. 15, Dilkusha, Dhaka	6. Mohakhali Br., Dhaka	13. Bandar Bazar Br., Sylhet
7. Mohakhali Br. 69, Dhaka	2. Panthapath Br. Dhaka	7. Gulshan Br. Gulshan Dhaka	14. Shanjahaj Upashanar Br. Sylhet
8. Barisal Br., Barisal	3. Agrabad Br. Chittagong	8. New Elephant Rd. Br., Dhaka	15. Lashgarpur Br., New Market, Sylhet
9. Rajshahi Br., Rajshahi	4. Khulna Br. Dhaka	9. Nawabpur Br., Nawabpur Rd, Dhaka	16. Chowhatta Br. Chowhatta, Sylhet
10. Kawan Bazar Br. Dhaka	5. Sylhet Br. Sylhet	10. Uttara Branch, Uttara Dhaka	17. Mouli Bazar Br., Mouli Bazar
11. Elephant Road Br. Dhaka	6. Rajshahi Br. Rajshahi	11. Mirpur Branch, Mirpur-1, Dhaka	18. Kulara Br., Mouli Bazar
12. Narayanganj Br. Narayanganj	7. Gulshan Br. Dhaka	12. Rokeya Sharani Branch, Dhaka	19. Agrabad Br., Agrabad C/A Chittagong
13. Court Rd Br., Mouli Bazar, Sylhet	8. Bata Bazar Br. Dhaka	13. Khulna Branch, KDA C/A, Khulna	20. Jubilee Road Br., Chittagong
14. Mouchak Br., Road Dhaka	9. Mouli Bazar Br.	14. Modhuban Branch, Bandar Bazar, Sylhet	21. Khatungonj Br., Khatungonj, Chittagong
15. Gulshan Br., Dhaka-1212	10. Bogra Br. Bogra	15. Agrabad Br., Agrabad C/A, Chittagong	22. Halishahar Br., Chittagong
16. Narayanganj Br. Narayanganj	11. Sirajgonj Br. Sirajgonj	16. CDA Avenue Br., Pachlaish, Chittagong	23. Cox's Bazar Br., Bazar Ghat, Cox Bazar
17. Agrabad Br., Chittagong	12. IDB Bhabani Br. Dhaka	24. Chagapaya Br. (Islami Banking) Feni	25. Feni Branch, Feni
18. Jubilee Rd Br., Chittagong	13. Khatungonj Br. Chittagong	26. Feni Branch, Feni	27. Khulna Br., Sirajgonj Road, Khulna
19. Bangshal Br., Dhaka	14. Chandakona Br. Sirajgonj	27. Khulna Br., Sirajgonj Road, Khulna	28. National Credit and Commerce Bank Limited
20. Jessore Br., Jessore	15. Sonargaon Br. Narayanganj	28. National Credit and Commerce Bank Limited	1. Motijheel Br., Dhaka
21. Gonakbari Br. Dhaka	16. Foreign Exchange Br. Dhaka	2. Dilkusha Br., Dhaka	2. Dilkusha Br., Dhaka
22. Uttara Br., Dhaka	17. Halishahar Br. Chittagong	3. Mirpur Br. Dhaka	3. Mirpur Br. Dhaka
23. Foreign Exchange Br. Dhaka	18. Hasnabad Br. Keraniganj	4. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka	4. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka
24. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka	19. Dhanmondi Br. Dhaka	5. Sylhet Br., Zinda Bazar, Sylhet	5. Sylhet Br., Zinda Bazar, Sylhet
25. Ekaton Br. Dhaka	20. Nawabpur Road Br. Dhaka	6. Bogra Br., Bogorola, Bogra	6. Bogra Br., Bogorola, Bogra
26. Bogra Br., Bogra	21. Jubilee Road Br. Chittagong	7. Jessore Br. 37, M.K Road, Jessore	7. Jessore Br. 37, M.K Road, Jessore
27. Machabdi Br. Narsingdi	22. Uttara Br. Dhaka	8. Elephant Road Br., Dhaka	8. Elephant Road Br., Dhaka
28. Banani Br. Dhaka	23. Fatullah Br. Narayanganj	9. Malibagh Br., Malibagh, Dhaka	9. Malibagh Br., Malibagh, Dhaka
29. IBP Mirpur, Dhaka Br. Dhaka	24. Mirpur Br. Dhaka	10. Ashulia Br. Jangpasa, Saver	10. Ashulia Br. Jangpasa, Saver
30. IBP O.R. Nizam Road Br. Chittagong	Investment Corporation of Bangladesh	Southeast Bank Limited	1. Principal Br., Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka
31. Pragati Sarani Br. Dhaka	1. Head Office, 8, DIT Avenue, Dhaka	1. Principal Br., Dilkusha C/A, Dhaka	2. Imamgonj Br., Mirpur Rd, Dhaka-1100
32. IBP Br. B.S Plaza Panahoti, Chittagong	2. Local Office, Nayapattan, Dhaka	2. Imamgonj Br., Mirpur Rd, Dhaka-1100	3. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka-1205
33. Shimrahi Branch, Narayanganj	3. Chittagong Br. Agrabad C/A, Chittagong	3. Dhanmondi Br., Dhaka-1205	4. Uttara Br., Uttara Model Tower, Dhaka
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35. Tongi Br., Tongi, Gaspur	5. Khulna Br., 25-26, KDA C/A, Khulna	5. New Elephant Rd. Br. Dhaka	6. Gulshan Br., Dhaka-1212
36. Fatichchari Br. Chittagong	6. Barisal Br., Barisal	6. Gulshan Br., Dhaka-1212	
The Trust Bank Limited	7. Sylhet Br., Jail Road, Sylhet		
1. Principal Branch, Dhaka-1206	8. Bogra Br., Salmathia, Bogra		
2. Sana Kalyan Bhabani Branch, Dhaka			

FC account No: 1510000019 for NRB application in USS or UK£ or Euro(€) with Southeast Bank Ltd., Motijheel Branch (Islamic Banking) Dhaka-1000, Bangladesh.



PHOTO: AFP

Sheehan (C) walks away from the White House with civil rights leader Reverend Jesse Jackson (R) during an anti-war rally demanding immediate pullout from Iraq on Saturday in Washington, DC.

Bombings, clashes kill 18 people in Iraq

AP, Baghdad

A suicide car bomber struck an Interior Ministry convoy in Baghdad yesterday, killing seven police commandos and two civilians. Earlier, a bomb mounted on a bicycle blew apart a music store in Hilla, south of the capital, killing one, officials said.

In the early hours Sunday, US and Iraqi forces clashed with gunmen loyal to radical Shia cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, killing at least eight Iraqis in an east Baghdad slum. The clash was certain to raise tension between US and Iraqi security forces and followers of al-Sadr who is building opposition to the country's new constitution, which will be voted on in a national referendum Oct. 15.

The attack on the three-vehicle convoy of commandos, also wounded 19, including at least 11 members of the elite unit, said Capt. Nabil Abdel-Qader.

The bombing in Hilla, a mixed

Sunni-Shia city about 100km south of Baghdad, wounded 48 people near the music shop, according to Dr. Mazen Abdul-Sada of Hilla General Hospital.

Ultraconservative religious figures have deemed some music on sale in the country offensive to their interpretation of Islam.

The fighting in Baghdad's Sadr City, a Shia slum in the eastern part of the capital, erupted before dawn on Sunday. Police Maj. Falah al-Mohamadawi said a US patrol came under fire as it entered the district to arrest members of the al-Mahdi Army, the militia loyal to al-Sadr. He said US forces returned fire, killing at least eight Shia gunmen and wounding five.

Shia cleric Amer al-Hussaini, a top al-Sadr aide in Baghdad, said, however, that only three gunmen were killed. The five other deaths were civilians including a woman who were struck by stray rounds, he said.