

Spain base on flood alert

ESPNFC.COM

The Brazilian city of Curitiba, where the Spain squad will be based during the World Cup, is on alert after receiving a flood warning according to local officials.

City Mayor Gustavo Fruet explained that heavy rain in the area since Friday has increased the risk of the rivers Barigui and Belem bursting their banks.

"The situation is worrying but it is under control. The Mayor is being extra vigilant and has started flood management controls in the affected areas to minimise the effects of the heavy rainfall for the local population," an official was quoted as saying on the regional government web page.

According to Civil Defence statistics reported by AS, a total of 15,243 inhabitants have been affected by recent flooding, with damage to 3,516 houses in the districts of Uberaba, Cajuru, Boqueirao, Tatuquara and Curitiba's industrial estate.

Spain arrived in Umbara, southern Curitiba on Sunday. Del Bosque's squad will train at the Caju training complex -- the home of Atletico Paranaense -- ahead of the tournament.



(L-R) Spain players Sergio Busquets, Jordi Alba, David Villa and Fernando Torres are seen upon their arrival at the Alfonso Pena International Airport in Curitiba on Sunday.

Suarez bringing extra shirts

AFP, London



FIFA WORLD CUP Brasil

Uruguay's star striker Luis Suarez says he will definitely be fit enough to play at the World Cup finals but he told The Guardian it was not certain it would be in time to play against England.

The 27-year-old -- who suffered a knee injury training with his Uruguay teammates and underwent an operation on May 22 -- added that even if he doesn't play on June 19th he will bring enough shirts so that he can exchange them with his Liverpool team-mates.

"I saw reports saying that I had told the Liverpool players I would make it for the game against England, for sure," he told The Guardian.

"But I didn't say that. The day of the operation I exchanged messages with Stevie (Gerrard) and Glen (Johnson). They said: 'Hope to see you in Brazil'. And I said: 'Yeah, see you there'. That's not exactly the same thing. I never said I'd definitely be there.

"I've already told Gerrard that we'll swap shirts. And Glen will ask for my shirt, I'm sure. Maybe Daniel (Sturridge) and Raheem (Sterling) will as well. I'll take a few with me," added Suarez, who hopefully will take an extra one as he forgot to mention another Liverpool team-mate in midfielder Jordan Henderson.

Suarez, who was inconsolable when Liverpool effectively saw their hopes of a first title since 1990 disappear in the penultimate game of the season as they let a 3-0

lead slip and ended up drawing 3-3 with Crystal Palace, has been down this road before with clubmates.

"When we played Holland in 2010 (he was suspended for the semifinal having been sent off for saving with his hands a goalbound effort by Ghana's Dominic Adiyiah in the quarterfinal), I was at Ajax and had friends in their team," he said.

"I had to tell the kit man I needed five shirts. Although I didn't play, they still wanted my shirt; they have the date and the match stitched into them, so it's a nice reminder of the match. So, yes, I'll swap shirts. I'm not sure I'll actually put it on though!"

Suarez, whose operation was conducted by the brother of his boyhood football idol Enzo Francescoli, said the group game with England had engendered the most remarkable level of interest.

"This is the game everyone is looking forward to most here," he said.

"It's incredible to see how Uruguayans have followed Liverpool; they've become fans and that makes me feel very proud.

"To see an entire country waiting on the Liverpool games is incredible or to see people angry because they can't watch it because it's only on satellite TV. People are getting up early in the morning to watch us play," he added.

Suarez, who finished top scorer in the Premier League last season with 31 goals, also rubbished reports he was playing games about his fitness after a photograph seemingly captured him walking without difficulty.

Immobile hits hattrick

REUTERS, Rio de Janeiro

Ciro Immobile scored a hattrick to help second string Italy beat Brazilian club side Fluminense 5-3 in an entertaining World Cup warmup match played in a festive atmosphere on Sunday.

Lorenzo Insigne scored twice in a lively Italy performance on a difficult, lumpy pitch, though there were question marks over the defence and third-choice goalkeeper Mattia Perin.

A capacity crowd of about 17,000 packed into the Raulino de Oliveira stadium in the steel town of Volta Redonda, providing fervent support for Fluminense and jeering Italy's Brazilian-born midfielder Thiago Motta whenever he touched the ball.

"We saw some interesting things and the two boys in attack did very well," Italy coach Cesare Prandelli told RAI television, referring to Immobile and Insigne.

The pair scored a goal apiece in the first half but Fluminense, second in the Brazilian championship, pegged Italy back each time through Chiquinho and Carlinhos, whose toe-poked effort slipped through Perrin's hands.

Pass it to Neymar

AFP, Teresopolis

Brazil striker Fred says his team-mates have a simple game-plan if things don't go their way during the World Cup: get the ball to Neymar.

The Brazilians got back to work at their plush Granja Comary training base in Teresopolis on Sunday after a laboured 1-0 win over Serbia in Sao Paulo on Friday.

The match saw Brazil booed by pockets of fans, but the players trained with the enthusiastic backing of local fans on Sunday at their camp in the mountains above Rio de Janeiro.

The positive mood was reflected by Fred as he looked back at the host nation's preparations with satisfaction.

"We have played two friendlies and had two wins. It's been two very good weeks," said the 30-year-old, recalling the 4-0 win against Panama in Coiania as well as the defeat of Serbia, earned thanks to his solitary goal.

"Mistakes were made but it was good they were made now so that we can correct and analyse them and find solutions in order to improve.

"We have a game on Thursday now and we need to prepare well. Everyone is confident," he said referring to Brazil's Group A opener against Croatia.

"We are now coming up to the competition. The players felt tired at the end of the friendlies because of the amount of hard work put in during training but we know the work has been well done."

While Fred expressed delight at his emergence as an integral part of Luiz Felipe Scolari's plans, the striker said he was in no doubt as to the identity of Brazil's most important player.

"Everyone knows that the real star in our squad, the player who can make the difference, is Neymar," said Fred.

"When things are going bad on a difficult day, we try to do everything to get the ball to Neymar."

While Brazil is simmering with discontent over the \$11 billion cost of the tournament, the town of Teresopolis has certainly caught World Cup fever.

National flags are draped from almost every building while murals depicting the stars of the Selecao are omnipresent.

But Brazil begin their quest to finally be crowned world champions on home soil in the less cosy environs of Sao Paulo.

Paraplegic in Iron Man suit to open WC

AFP, Sao Paulo

The first kick at the World Cup opening ceremony will be made by a paraplegic wearing an Iron Man-like robotic bodysuit controlled by signals from the brain.

Brazilian doctor Miguel Nicolelis led a team of 156 scientists from around the world to create the futuristic exoskeleton, which was designed to enable paralysis victims to walk.

At the World Cup opening ceremony Thursday in Sao Paulo, a paraplegic whose identity has been kept secret will leave behind his or her wheelchair to take to the pitch in the suit and give the tournament's first kick.

Electronic circuits in the device's "feet" will send a return signal to the user via an artificial skin worn on the arm, conveying the sensation of movement and contact.

"It's the first time an exoskeleton has been controlled by brain activity and offered feedback to the patients," Nicolelis, a neuroscientist at Duke University, told AFP.

"Doing a demonstration in a stadium is something very much outside our routine in robotics. It's never been done before."

J Lo pulls out of opening ceremony



AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Pop superstar Jennifer Lopez has pulled out of the World Cup opening ceremony in Brazil, FIFA said Sunday, four days before the tournament kicks off.

Lopez, who recorded the official World Cup song, "We Are One," with rapper Pitbull and Brazilian singer Claudia Leite, had been due to perform with them at the opening ceremony in Sao Paulo but had to cancel, said the football governing body.

"For production issues, Jennifer Lopez, one of the artists of the official song 'We Are One,' will not be able to perform at the FIFA World Cup opening ceremony," it said in a statement.

The 25-minute ceremony will feature 600 artists including acrobatic gymnasts, trampolinists, marshal arts-style capoeira performers and stilt walkers.

The grand finale will be a performance of "We Are One" -- now minus Lopez -- accompanied by Brazilian drumming collective Olodum.

Pitbull did not let J-Lo's withdrawal dampen his enthusiasm.

"To be performing 'We Are One' to the world, especially in such a beautiful country like Brazil, is going to be a lot of fun. But more than this, it is going to show the world that music is the universal language," he said in a statement released by FIFA.

More than 60,000 people will be in Sao Paulo's Corinthians Arena to watch the ceremony and kick-off match between Brazil and Croatia. Around a billion people are expected to tune in on TV worldwide.

France feast on Jamaica

AFP, Lille



AFP, Lille

Karim Benzema hit two spectacular goals as France romped to an 8-0 victory over Jamaica in a bid to ease the blow of losing star striker Franck Ribery for the World Cup.

Blaise Matuidi and Antoine Griezmann also scored twice in France's final World Cup warm-up game before 49,000 fans in Lille.

While Jamaica barely put up any serious opposition, the result was a welcome boost for Didier Deschamps' team two days after being rocked by Ribery's withdrawal with a back injury.

"Ribery is a loss, but we have to stop talking about it and get on without him," said Paris St Germain's Matuidi, who scored his first brace for France.

Coach Deschamps insisted that France remained united even without star Bayern Munich striker Ribery, who said that leaving the squad was like "a death in my soul."

"We have lost a world class player," said Deschamps. "The French team is stronger

with him when he is at 100%, but there are other players. They form a collective."

"A victory was what we needed before leaving. It gives us confidence," added Real Madrid's Benzema. "Everyone is happy. We showed a lot of good things."

Benzema and Matuidi scored a goal in each half of the festive farewell to their French fans before heading to Brazil on Monday. France play their first World Cup Group E game next Sunday against Honduras, who held England 0-0 on Saturday.

Benzema's first goal was a curling shot from the corner of the penalty area. The second was another shot from the edge of the area past hapless Jamaica goalkeeper Jacomeno Barrett.

Benzema also hit the post and made a goal for Matuidi and Arsenal's Olivier Giroud.

Griezmann, a rival to Giroud for Ribery's place, came on as a second half substitute and scored twice in 12 minutes. Yohan Cabaye opened the score in the 17th minute.

France are now unbeaten in five games and looked strong.

নাম পরিবর্তন

সর্বসাধারণের জ্ঞাতার্থে জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, ফুন্ডাশিয়ন ইন্টারভিডা / (FUNDACION INTERVIDA) এনজিও বিষয়ক ব্যুরো কর্তৃক নিবন্ধন নং ১৪৫২ এবং নিবন্ধন এর তারিখঃ ০৫ ডিসেম্বর ১৯৯৯ ইং এর সকল প্রকল্প, সম্পদ-সম্পত্তি, দায়-দায়িত্ব বর্তমান নাম বাংলাতে 'এডুকেশন এন্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট ফাউন্ডেশন - এডুকো' এবং ইংরেজীতে 'Education and Development Foundation - Educo' এর উপর বর্তাবে।

উল্লেখ্য এই বিজ্ঞপ্তি ইতিপূর্বে গত ৫ জুন ২০১৪ তারিখে দৈনিক প্রথম আলো ও The Daily Star এ প্রকাশিত এ সংক্রান্ত বিজ্ঞাপন এর সংশোধনী হিসেবে গন্য হবে।

বর্তমান নাম	নতুন নাম
বাংলায় 'ফুন্ডাশিয়ন ইন্টারভিডা' ইংরেজীতে 'FUNDACION INTERVIDA'	বাংলায় 'এডুকেশন এন্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট ফাউন্ডেশন - এডুকো' ইংরেজীতে 'Education and Development Foundation - Educo'

ঠিকানাঃ বাড়ী নং ৫০৪, রাস্তা নং ৩৪, ডিওএইচএস (নিউ), মহাখালী, ঢাকা - ১২০৬, বাংলাদেশ
ফোনঃ ০০৮৮ ০২ ৮৮১৩২৪৬, ৮৮১৬৩৬৭, ফ্যাক্সঃ ০০৮৮ ০২ ৮৮৩৭৮৮৫



THE WORLD CUP SELFIE CONTEST 2014 SELFIES DON'T LIE

Show us your true colour

Send us your selfies showing your passion for the greatest game on earth

Post your selfies on our Facebook page

www.facebook.com/selfiecontest2014

and win smart phones, digital cameras and lots of Mi Amore Premium Dairy ice cream

Contest starts from 12th June 2014 and continues till 13th July 2014

Terms and Conditions

1. Three winners will be selected everyday.
2. Each daily winner will receive gift vouchers courtesy of Mi Amore.
3. Best (and also the craziest) selfie of the day will be published in the World Cup Special Sports Page of The Daily Star.
4. Best five selfies from the entirety of the contest will win smart phones and digital cameras courtesy of Mi Amore.
5. Disrespectful, culturally sensitive or humiliating pictures will not be accepted and will be eliminated.

For details please visit www.facebook.com/selfiecontest2014

The Daily Star



presents

THE ULTIMATE FAN