

NEWS IN brief

UAE to fund \$15m monthly to Gaza
 AFP, Gaza City

The United Arab Emirates will provide \$15 million a month to Gaza, a Palestinian politician said yesterday, as its rulers Hamas move closer to a UAE-based rival to Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas. Mohammed Dahlan has been based in exile in the UAE since falling out with Abbas.

Belgium orders trial for Abdeslam
 AFP, Brussels

Belgium yesterday ordered Paris terror suspect Salah Abdeslam to stand trial over a shootout in Brussels last year with Belgian and French police officers who had been tracking Europe's most wanted man for four months. Abdeslam was arrested three days after the shootout on March 15 last year.

Iran reform leader on hunger strike
 AFP, Tehran

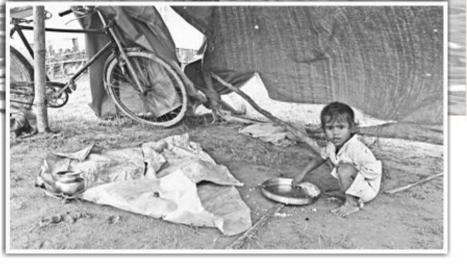
Iranian opposition leader Mehdi Karroubi, under house arrest for the past six years, was hospitalised yesterday after going on hunger strike to demand a trial, his family told local media. Karroubi, 79, and fellow reformist leader Mir Hossein Mousavi were candidates in Iran's disputed 2009 presidential election.

Trinamool sweeps WB civic elections
 PTI, Kolkata

The Trinamool Congress yesterday swept the municipal polls in West Bengal capturing all the seven civic bodies while the BJP finished second in most places. The election results were indicative of a paradigm shift in the state politics with the BJP emerging as the main challenger to the TMC.



Indian residents wade through flood waters in Balurghat in West Bengal yesterday. Inset, A young Nepali flood victim looks on while eating at a makeshift shelter in Gaur, in Rautahat district. At least 221 people have died and more than 1.5 million have been displaced by monsoon flooding across India, Nepal and Bangladesh, officials said, as rescuers scoured submerged villages for the missing.
 PHOTO: AFP



Don't deport Rohingyas

Human Rights Watch, Amnesty Int'l urge India as 40,000 living illegally in the country

AFP, New Delhi

Rights groups urged India yesterday to abide by its international legal obligations after the government said it was looking to deport tens of thousands of Rohingya migrants.

India's junior home minister Kiren Rijiju told parliament last week the government had asked state authorities to identify and deport the Rohingya, a stateless ethnic minority who mostly live in neighbouring Myanmar, where they face discrimination and violence.

In recent years, thousands have fled across the border to Bangladesh and on to other countries including India, which does not recognise them as refugees even though the United Nations says they are.

Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International said India should abide by its international obligations.

"Indian authorities should abide by India's international legal obligations and not forcibly return any Rohingya to Burma without first fairly evaluating their claims as

refugees," said Meenakshi Ganguly, the South Asia director at Human Rights Watch, in a statement yesterday.

The number of Rohingya migrants has swelled in recent years. Rijiju said in a written response to parliament that around 40,000 were living illegally in India.

Thousands fled Myanmar after a military crackdown last October in Rakhine state launched in response to an armed attack on border posts.

Witnesses brought stories of soldiers raping and murdering Rohingya and of entire villages being burned to the ground in a campaign the UN has said may amount to ethnic cleansing.

"Characterising Rohingya refugees and asylum-seekers as illegal immigrants... takes no account of the reasons why they had to flee their homes and the grave risks they may face if forcibly returned," said Raghu Menon, advocacy manager at Amnesty International India.

"Indian authorities are well aware of the human rights violations Rohingya Muslims have had to face in Myanmar and it would be outrageous to abandon them to their fates."



Alleged Gulen links Turkey places 9 more journos under arrest

AFP, Istanbul

A Istanbul court has placed under arrest nine journalists on suspicion of links to the alleged mastermind of the failed 2016 coup, the latest in a series of measures against Turkish media workers that have alarmed the West.

Turkish authorities had on August 10 issued arrest warrants for 35 media employees accused of using the Bylock messaging app allegedly used by US-based cleric Fethullah Gulen to mobilise followers in Turkey and of belonging to a "terror" group.

A total of 11 were detained at the time and late on Wednesday an Istanbul court placed nine under arrest ahead of trial and released two under judicial supervision, the state-run Anadolu news agency said.

Among the nine remanded in custody is the website editor at the leftist opposition Birgun daily Burak Ekici and the former news editor of the TV channel of Turkish football side Fenerbahce, Yasir Kaya.

Those released include a prominent former columnist for the Turkiye daily, Ahmet Sagirli. Anadolu said searches are continuing for the remaining 24 suspects, who are likely to have fled abroad.

TIMBUKTU RAMPAGE ICC rules jihadist liable for damages

AFP, The Hague

War crimes judges said yesterday that a Malian jihadist was liable for 2.7 million euros in personal damages for destroying Timbuktu's fabled shrines in 2012, as they ordered reparations in a landmark ruling.

The International Criminal Court ordered that the victims of the razing of the fabled west African city's historic treasures be paid "individual, collective and symbolic" reparations.

But the judges at The Hague-based tribunal also recognised that Ahmad Al-Faqi Al-Mahdi -- jailed last September for nine years -- was penniless, saying it was now up to the Trust Fund for Victims to decide how the outstanding amount will have to be paid.

The fund was created in 2004 by the ICC's state parties with the aim of addressing harms resulting from genocide, crimes of humanity and war crimes.

It implements any reparations ordered by the court -- including financial payments -- and aids victims. Funding comes from public and private donors as well as court-ordered fines and forfeitures.

The fund now has until February 16 to come up with a plan how to implement yesterday's reparations award.

Judges further ordered the Malian state and the international community be compensated with a symbolic amount of one euro each for damages suffered.

Jihadists used pickaxes and bulldozers against nine mausoleums and the centuries-old door of the Sidi Yahya mosque, part of a golden age of Islam after over-running northern Mali in 2012.

The assault on the Unesco world heritage site triggered global opprobrium, but also led to a legal precedent.

Mahdi's case was the first to come before the Hague-based ICC as a crime of cultural destruction.

COURT ORDERS INDIVIDUAL, COLLECTIVE AND SYMBOLIC REPARATIONS TO VICTIMS

MAHDI'S CASE WAS THE FIRST TO COME BEFORE ICC AS A CRIME OF CULTURAL DESTRUCTION

China 'racist' video on India sparks fury

NDTV ONLINE

In an agitprop video that has amused more than angered Indians, China's official news agency Xinhua has accused India of committing "seven sins" in the two-month-long Doklam standoff near Sikkim and embellished its comments with poorly spelt subtitles and racial stereotypes.

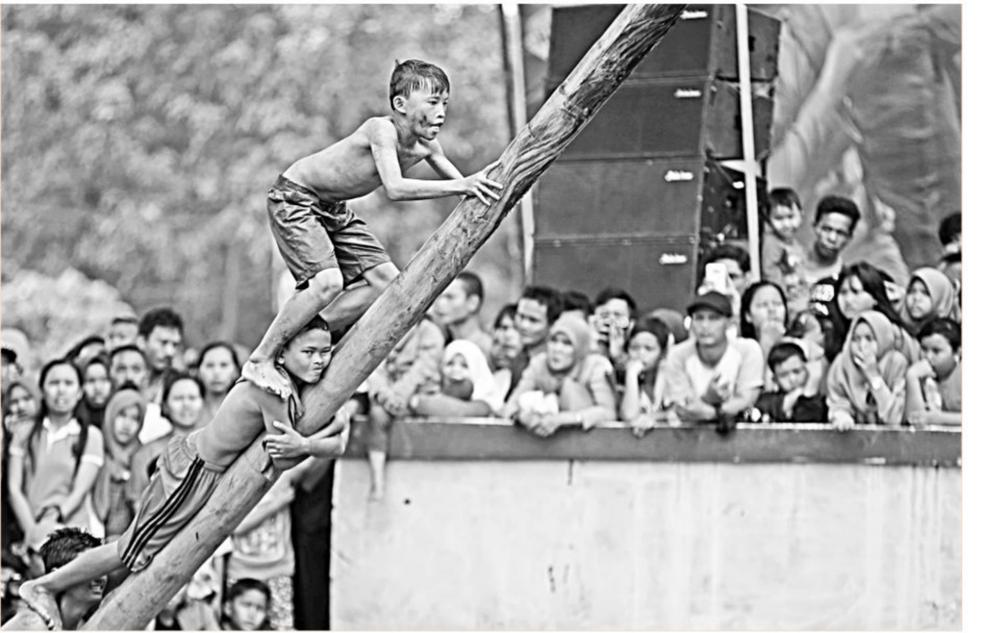
The video, an edition of Xinhua's new "Spark" show, features anchor Dier Wang accusing India of "sins" that include "trespassing, confusing right and wrong, putting the blame on the victim, hijacking a small neighbour and sticking to a mistake knowingly."

The three-minute video has been posted through Xinhua's English-language account on Twitter; the micro-blogging site is blocked in China.

An actor with a stick-on beard and heavily-accented English parodies Indians to canned laughter.

"Do you negotiate with a robber who had just broken into your house... You just call 911 or just fight him back, right?" says Wang. 911 is an emergency hotline only in the US.

The actor apparently representing a Sikh answers: "Why call 911 - don't you wanna play house, bro?"



Boys climb a greased pole placed over a river to win prizes during Independence Day celebrations in Jakarta, Indonesia, yesterday.
 PHOTO: REUTERS

At least 37 die in jail riot in Venezuela

AFP, Caracas

At least 37 people died in an hours-long jail riot in Venezuela's southern state of Amazonas, officials said Wednesday.

The prosecutors' office said an investigation had been launched into "the deaths of 37 people" in the facility in the town of Puerto Ayacucho.

Governor Liborio Guarulla had earlier tweeted that a "massacre" took place with at least 35 corpses counted.

Prosecutors said 14 officials were wounded in the violence which ran from Tuesday into early Wednesday, but did not say if any were among the dead.

Two prison-monitoring groups, A Window to Freedom and the Venezuelan Prisons Observatory, said the 37 killed were all inmates.

"This is the worst riot we've had in a preventative detention facility," Carlos Nieto of A Window to Freedom told AFP.

"In this one, detainees are only supposed to be held for up to 48 hours, but there were prisoners who have been there for years," he said.

The jail was holding 105 prisoners at the time of the riot, Guarulla said.

The deadliest riot in a prison in Venezuela was in 2013, when 60 people died and more than 150 were wounded in a facility in Uribana, in the western state of Lara.

Over one million S Sudan refugees in Uganda: UN

AFP, Arua

The number of South Sudanese who have fled to Uganda has hit one million, the UN said yesterday, with no end in sight to the war behind the world's fastest-growing refugee crisis.

The nearly four-year civil war has pushed an average of 1,800 South Sudanese into neighbouring Uganda every day for the past year, many of them women and children fleeing "barbaric violence", according to the UN's refugee agency (UNHCR).

Another one million have sought refuge elsewhere in the region, but it is Uganda -- one of the world's poorest countries and the size of the United Kingdom -- that has borne the brunt of the crisis.

the new arrivals," said Bik Lum, head of the UNHCR in Arua in northern Uganda, home to Bidibidi, the world's largest refugee camp with around 270,000 residents.

Many who arrive have harrowing stories, such as Jasmine Ramadan, a refugee now working as a shopkeeper in Uganda, who told AFP how her car was stopped by armed men who took her 13-year-old daughter into the woods to rape her.

She pleaded with them to take her instead. They gave in and she ended up being raped by six men. Her daughter, hiding in the bush nearby, witnessed everything.

South Sudan's civil war erupted in December 2013 just two years after it obtained independence, when President Salva Kiir accused his former deputy Riek Machar of plotting a coup.



Raped Indian victim, 10, delivers baby

AFP, New Delhi

A 10-year-old rape victim whose plea for an abortion was rejected by India's Supreme Court has given birth to a baby girl, a doctor said yesterday.

The girl, who cannot be named for legal reasons, was raped several times allegedly by an uncle who has since been arrested.

Last month her parents asked the country's top court to allow her to have a late-term abortion but the request was turned down.

Indian law does not allow medical terminations after 20 weeks unless there is a threat to either the life of the mother or her child. "She gave birth through C-section today. Both the girl and her baby are doing fine," doctor Dasari Harish said.

Jamuna Oil Company Limited
 (A Subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation)
 Jamuna Bhaban, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong

Invitation for Tender: 07/2017-2018

SI No.	Jamuna Oil Company Ltd., a subsidiary of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC), hereby invites sealed tender under PPR-2008 from reputed firms/contractors duly experienced in civil construction work.		
01.	Ministry/division	Energy & Mineral Resources Division.	
02.	Agency	Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation.	
03.	Procuring entity name	Jamuna Oil Company Limited.	
04.	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.	
05.	Invitation for	Construction of Internal Road at Chittagong Terminal.	
06.	Invitation No.	28.24.0000.250.10.111.17. Date 02-08-2017	
07.	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method (OTM).	
08.	Budget and source of funds	Company's Own Fund.	
09.	Publication date	17.08.2017	
10.	Tender last selling date	10.09.2017	Time Up to office hour.
11.	Tender closing date and time	11.09.2017	Time 03.00pm.
12.	Tender opening date and time	11.09.2017	Time 03.15pm.
13.	Name & address of the office(s)		
14.	Selling tender document (principal)	Chief Cashier, Jamuna Oil Company Ltd., Jamuna Bhaban, Agrabad Commercial Area, Chittagong.	
15.	Selling tender document (others)	DGM (DLO) Office, Plot # 02, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.	
16.	Receiving and opening tender document	Engineering & Development Department, Jamuna Oil Company Limited, Jamuna Bhaban (3 rd Floor), Agrabad, Chittagong.	
17.	Eligibility of tenderer	a) A minimum 5 years of general experience in the construction of civil works as Prime Contractor. b) The satisfactory completion of civil work of minimum Tk 55.00 lac in a single work order in Government, semi-government, autonomous organization within last 5 years. c) VAT registration certificate, up-to-date enlistment as 1 st class contractor (Civil Construction) in any govt./semi-govt./autonomous organization, up-to-date trade license & TIN certificate, original money receipt of purchasing tender schedule are to be submitted with the tender. d) Tenderer must submit completion certificate from the respective purchaser mentioning amount along with work order/contract as proof of experience. e) The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities from any schedule bank of Bangladesh of the tenderer shall be Tk 50.00 lac. Credit line to be issued by any schedule bank of Bangladesh as per format (Form PW2a-3) attached in tender document to be submitted. f) Other required eligibility and conditions of the tenderer are shown in Tender Data Sheet (TDS) of tender document.	
18.	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tk 3,000.00 (three thousand) only non-refundable.	
19.	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location Tender security amount (Tk.) Completion time in days
20.	1	-	Chittagong Terminal Tk. 2,50,000.00 (Taka two lac fifty thousand only) to be submitted with the tender in the form of PO/DD favouring Jamuna Oil Company Ltd. 150 days
21.	Name & designation of official inviting tender	Md Mahidur Rahman, DGM (Engg & Dev), Jamuna Oil Company Limited, Jamuna Bhaban, Agrabad, Chittagong. Phone No: 721568	
22.	Due to any unavoidable circumstances, if the tender cannot be dropped in the stipulated date, the tender will be unopened and opened on the following working day at the same time and same venue.		
23.	The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.		

Md Mahidur Rahman
 DGM (Engineering & Development)

GD-1659