



VOLCANIC ERUPTION FEARS

75,000 flee Bali

AFP, Kuta
 Vehicles laden with food, facemasks and bedding have been sent to help more than 75,000 people who have fled a volcano on the tourist island of Bali, as the Indonesian president flew in to visit crowded aid centres.
 Mount Agung, 75 kilometres from the resort hub of Kuta, has been rumbling since August and threatening to erupt for the first time since 1963 – a potential blow to the country's lucrative tourism industry.
 Increasingly frequent tremors show the molten magma is still rising towards the surface, with the mountain entering a "critical phase", said the national disaster mitigation agency.
 Around 62,000 people lived in the danger zone before the evacuations, according to the agency, but residents just outside the area have also left as a precaution.
 The Indonesian Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation said there has been an increase in volcanic activity since the 1940s.
 Speaking in Klungkung district, President Joko Widodo told evacuees the government would do its best to reduce economic losses incurred during the evacuation.

Palestinian gunman kills 3 Israelis at West Bank

UN says settlements are expanding 'at high rate'

AFP, Har Adar, Palestinian Territories
 A Palestinian yesterday opened fire at Israeli security personnel at the entrance to a West Bank settlement where he had worked, killing three and wounding another before being shot dead, police said.
 The attack, which came as US envoy Jason Greenblatt was due in Jerusalem for talks on relaunching the moribund Middle East peace process, drew condemnation from Israeli officials who called for action from the Palestinian leadership.
 It also occurred in the middle of the Jewish high holiday period, when Israeli-Palestinian violence has erupted in the past, and led police to order reinforcements to prevent further unrest.
 Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu handed a clear condemnation of the attack from Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas, adding that the gunman's home would be demolished and Israeli work permits withdrawn from his extended family.
 The target of the attack was Har Adar, a well-to-do settlement northwest of Jerusalem, high in the hills close to the Green Line that separates the occupied West Bank from Israel.

The windows of the guard booth at its northeastern entrance, where Palestinian day labourers are required to undergo security checks, had been shattered by gunfire, an AFP spokesman reported.
 Police spokesperson Mickey Rosenfeld said that the gunman, who had a permit to work in the settlement and had previously worked there "many times", had concealed himself among them and then all of a sudden, several metres (yards) before a security check, pulled out a nine-millimetre weapon and opened fire directly at the two private security guards, who were shot and killed directly at the scene," Rosenfeld said.
 He also fired at a nearby border policeman, who was left dead, while two other officers shot and killed him.
 Israel's Shin Bet internal security service identified the gunman as Nimer Aljamal, a 37-year-old father of four from the nearby Palestinian village of Beit Surik with no previous "security background".
 Palestinian Islamist movement Hamas, which rules Gaza, hailed the attack as "an revenge for the crime of occupation against our people."



PHOTO: AFP
Indian Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks as US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis looks on as they issue a joint press statement in New Delhi, yesterday.

No boots on Afghan soil

Says Indian defence minister to her US counterpart

AFP, New Delhi
 India will not deploy troops to Afghanistan as part of a new US strategy for the war-torn country, the Indian defence minister said yesterday, but she promised to boost support for the recently unveiled effort.
 After talks with US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, Nirmala Sitharaman said India was prepared to increase training for Afghan personnel and help develop critical civilian infrastructure such as schools and hospitals.

Alghan National Army officers and provided helicopters to the Afghan Air Force.
 Unveiling his Afghanistan policy last month, Trump angred Pakistan by saying it offered safe haven to "agents of chaos".
 "There can be no tolerance of terrorist safe havens," Mattis said yesterday, without referring Pakistan. "As global leaders, India and the United States resolve to work together to eradicate this scourge."
 Under the plan, the US is sending more than 3,000 additional troops to Afghanistan to train and advise the country's security forces.
 There is no timeline on when the US may pull its troops out – a change from under Barack Obama, who set dates for when he wanted troops home.
 But critics have questioned what the extra US soldiers can accomplish that previous forces – who numbered some 100,000 at the height of the fighting – have not.
 Defence ties between India and US have expanded rapidly, with New Delhi buying US weapons worth \$1.5 billion over the last decade, moving away from Russia.
 Military experts say US weapons transfers aim at bolstering Indian capabilities to develop a counterweight against China's growing assertiveness in recent years.
 Indian and US negotiators are now trying to move forward with a deal to supply the Indian navy with 22 Sea Guardian drone aircraft, whose June approval by the US government was the



Turkish and Iraqi troops are pictured during a joint military exercise near the Turkish-Iraqi border in Silopi, Turkey, yesterday. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan yesterday warned the Iraqi Kurdish leader against pushing for independence after holding a non-binding referendum, saying such a move risks sparking an "ethnic war" in the region.

US Republican health plan likely dead

Key senator defects

AFP, Washington
 The latest bid backed by US President Donald Trump to dismantle his predecessor's health care law likely unraveled Monday when a crucial third Republican formally came out against the plan.
 Senator Susan Collins, who has waffled for weeks on the latest measure that would overhaul Obamacare, joined the Republican-colleagues John McCain and Rand Paul as firm no votes on the legislation.
 Republican leaders had hoped to schedule a vote on the bill, which replaces the Affordable Care Act (ACA) with a system of block grants to states, before a September 30 deadline that would allow them to pass it with a simple majority.
 "This is simply not the way that we should be approaching an important and complex issue that must be handled thoughtfully and fairly for all Americans," Senator Susan Collins said in a statement announcing her opposition.
 The bill would make sweeping changes and cuts to Medicaid, with experts projecting a staggering \$1 trillion plus in cuts between 2018 and 2036 to the federal health program for the poor and the disabled under Obamacare.
 Republicans hold 52 seats in the 100-member Senate and can afford just two defections. Collins's opposition essentially sinks the Republican effort.
 It is sure to be yet another embarrassing blow to the Trump White House, which has yet to secure a major legislative victory more than eight months into its turbulent presidency.

Mattis says Washington, New Delhi to work together to fight terrorism

US expects more Indian efforts to promote Afghan stability

"India's contribution to Afghanistan has been for a very long time, and has been consistently on developmental issues," Sitharaman said at a news conference with Mattis.
 "The contribution has been on these grounds and we shall expand if necessary. However as we have made it very clear, there should not be boots from India on the ground."
 Mattis' trip to India is the first by any member of President Donald Trump's cabinet. It comes just after Trump unveiled a new Afghanistan strategy and urged New Delhi to help.
 "We applaud India's invaluable contributions to Afghanistan and welcome further efforts to promote Afghanistan's democracy, stability and security," Mattis said.
 India has long vied with arch-rival Pakistan for influence in Afghanistan, building dams, roads and a new parliament in the troubled country. Last year it offered some \$1 billion in aid.
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NEWS IN brief

China conducts first Djibouti military drills
AFP, Beijing
 China has staged military exercises in Djibouti after opening its first overseas military base there last month, official media said. State television CCTV showed armoured vehicles moving on a desert track, groups of soldiers firing automatic weapons and cannon pointing towards the horizon. It was unclear when the drills took place. China opened its base in Djibouti in early August.

POST-POLLS SEARCH FOR COALITION PARTNERS

Few options for Merkel

AFP, Berlin
 Chancellor Angela Merkel got down to work yesterday in the fractured political landscape left by Germany's "earthquake" election, seeking a ruling majority to help neutralise a newly empowered right.
 Merkel huddled with her conservative deputies in the Bundestag lower house, where their CDU/CSU group say its seats added to 246 from 309 following its worst poll showing in several years.
 Also at the glass-domed Reichstag parliament building for the first time were the 93 deputies of the Alternative for Germany, a party branded far-right by many German officials and media outlets.
 In Sunday's election, the AfD poached support from both mainstream camps, the conservatives and the Social Democrats (SPD), junior partners in the "grand coalition" that has led Germany for eight of

Merkel's 12 years in power.
 According to opinion polls, most of those voters pointed to anger over Merkel's border policy, which allowed more than one million asylum seekers into the country since 2015.
 After the SPD scored a humiliating 20.5 percent, a post-war record, it ruled out further cooperation with Merkel, meaning her search for a ruling alliance became infinitely more complicated.
 Commentators yesterday said that Merkel's only other option – trying a link-up with the pro-business Free Democrats (FDP) and the ecologist Greens – would be fraught with risk.
 Merkel has said she hoped to have a new government in place by Christmas but right-leaning daily Die Welt warned a stalemate could spark new elections.
 Few expert coalition talks to start in earnest until after a snap poll on October 15 in Lower Saxony state, home to Volkswagen.



BBC launches new Korean service
AFP, London
 The BBC yesterday launched a new Korean language radio and online service that will be available to listeners in North Korea if the signal is not blocked. The biggest, a part of the BBC's largest global network of staff, will have a dedicated team of journalists in Seoul.
Top Turkey journalist released after a yr
AFP, Istanbul
 An Istanbul court on Monday ordered the release of leading Turkish journalist Kadri Gursel in the controversial trial of staff from the Cumhuriyet opposition newspaper, but ruled that four other detained suspects must stay in jail.
 The judge ruled that Gursel, one of Turkey's most respected journalists, could go free after 11 months in jail though he remains on trial on charges of links to terror groups, an AFP correspondent said.

APB, Brazilia
 The Brazilian government backed off a controversial proposal to authorize private companies to mine a sprawling Amazon reserve Monday after blistering domestic and international criticism.
 President Michel Temer's office will issue a new decree Tuesday that "restores the conditions of the area, according to the document that authorized the reserve in 1984," the Ministry of Mines and Energy said in a statement.
 Last week, environmental activist group Greenpeace said at least 14 illegal mines and eight clandestine mining strips were already being used by miners in the Demarkized reserve known as Renca in the eastern Amazon.
 Greenpeace said this showed the risks faced by Renca even without Temer's earlier proposal for ending a ban on large-scale foreign mining in the mineral-rich region.
 Temer's decree signed on August

25 on opening up Renca – rich in gold, manganese, iron and copper – was suspended days later after an international outcry.
 The president had argued that lifting restrictions would allow Brazil to boost its struggling economy and also push the hugely destructive illegal mining operations out of business.
 The rainforest has a wealth of valuable commodities but has been protected for decades from private industry and is home to several indigenous tribes. It has vast swaths of untouched forest, covering more than 17,800 square miles.
 Environmental groups say opening up Renca, part of the "world's lung," to mining would accelerate the advance of private mining and deforestation of preserved areas.
 "The cancellation of the decree shows that, no matter how bad it is, no governing politician is absolutely immune to public pressure," said Marcio Astrini, public policy coordinator for Greenpeace Brazil.
 "It's a victory of society over those who want to destroy and sell our forests."



Mongla Port Poursava

Office of the Assistant Engineer, Mongla Poursava, Mongla, Bagerhat Project Implementation City Region Development Project (CRDP)

Memo No. MOP/POUR/PH/17/1-777 Date: 25/09/2017
 Loan No. and Title : 2895-BAN(SF): City Region Development Project (CRDP)
 Contract No. and Title : CRDP/IGED/MONGLA/NCB/2017/04

Road and Drain works
 Deadline for submission of tender: Date: 30 October 2017, Time: 1:00pm

1. The Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh has received a loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) towards the cost of City Region Development Project (CRDP) ADB Loan No. 2695 BAN (SF). Part of this financing will be used for payments under a tender for the contract mentioned above. Bidding is open to all tenderer from eligible source countries of the Asian Development Bank.

2. The Mongla Port Poursava, Bagerhat (The Employer) invites sealed tenders from eligible tenderer for the procurement of the following works:

Package No.	Description
CRDP/IGED/MONGLA/NCB/2017/04	i) Construction of 24.0m long RC Bridge on Marine Drive Road at Cr. 85.0m over Sela Khal under Mongla Port Poursava. ii) Construction of 1.5mX1.5m Box Culvert (2 Nos) at Cr. 205.0m & Cr. 305.0m on Marine Drive Road under Mongla Port Poursava

3. One-Envelope bidding procedure (NEB) will be conducted in accordance with ADB's Single Stage; One-Envelope competitive bidding and is open to all tenderer from eligible source countries.

4. The qualification criteria include the following:

- General Experience: The minimum number of years of general experience of the tenderer in the construction works as Prime Contractor or Subcontractor or Management Contractor shall be (five) years.
- Contractual Experience: The minimum specific experience as a Prime Contractor or Management Contractor in construction works of at least 1 (one) number of contract of similar nature, complexity and methods/construction technology successfully completed within the last 5 (five) years.
- Average Annual Construction Turnover: The required average annual construction turnover shall be greater than Tk. 375.00 lac over the last 5 (five) years.
- Financial Position: The minimum amount of liquid assets or working capital or credit facilities of the tenderer shall be Tk. 65.00 lac.

5. To obtain further information and inspect the tender documents, tenderer should contact the following address during normal office hours (from 9:00am to 5:00pm) on all working days: Office of the Assistant Engineer, Mongla Port Poursava, Mongla, Bagerhat, Bangladesh
 Telephone : +8804658-78490
 Fax: +8804658-73495
 Email: poursavamongla@yahoo.com

6. To purchase the tender documents in English, tenderer should:

- write to the office of
- The Assistant Engineer, Mongla Port Poursava, Bagerhat / or
- The Deputy Commissioner, District: Bagerhat / or
- The Superintendent of Police, District: Bagerhat / or
- The Executive Engineer, LGED, District: Bagerhat / or
- The Project Director, City Region Development Project, Level-4, RDEC Bhaban, LGED, Dhaka.

• on or before the deadline: Date: 30 October 2017, Time: 1:00pm.
 • together with a tenderer security as described in the tender document.
 Tender letters shall be rejected.

7. Deliver your tender:

- to the office of
- The Assistant Engineer, Mongla Port Poursava, Bagerhat
- on or before the deadline: Date: 30 October 2017, Time: 1:00pm.
- together with a tenderer security as described in the tender document.

8. The Mongla Port Poursava will not be responsible for any costs or expenses incurred by tenderer in connection with the preparation or delivery of tender.
 9. The invitation for tender (IFT) will be available at the LGED and CPTU website (www.lged.gov.bd and www.cptu.gov.bd).
 10. The Mongla Port Poursava reserves all the rights to accept any tender or to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Lenders will be opened at 1:30pm on 30 October 2017 in the presence of the tenderer or their authorized representative who choose to attend at the office of the Assistant Engineer, Mongla Port Poursava, Bagerhat.
 Ratan Kumar Mondal
 Assistant Engineer (In-charge)
 Mongla Port Poursava, Bagerhat
 Telephone : +8804658-78490
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 Email: poursavamongla@yahoo.com