



(From left, clockwise)Glowing light of hot lava is seen during the eruption of Mount Agung as seen from Amed in Karangasem, Bali, yesterday; passengers ask staff about their flights after Ngurah Rai airport closed their operation due to the eruption; and villagers take shelter at a sport hall for safety.



PHOTO: REUTERS

## IMMINENT VOLCANIC ERUPTION FEARS

# Thousands flee as Bali on red alert

REUTERS, Denpasar

Indonesia closed the airport on the tourist island of Bali yesterday and ordered 100,000 residents living near a grumbling volcano spewing columns of ash to evacuate immediately, warning that the first major eruption in 54 years could be "imminent".

The airport was closed for 24 hours from yesterday morning, disrupting 445 flights and some 59,000 passengers, after Mount Agung, which killed hundreds of people in 1963, sent volcanic ash high into the sky, and officials said cancellations could be extended.

Plumes of smoke are occasionally accompanied by explosive eruptions and the sound of weak blasts that can be heard up to 12 km (7 miles) from the peak," the Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB) said in a statement after raising the alert from three to its highest level of four.

"The potential for a larger eruption is imminent," it said, referring to a visible glow of magma at Mount Agung's peak overnight, and warning residents to evacuate a danger zone at a radius of 8-10 km (5-6 miles).

Sutopo, a BNPB spokesman, said there had been no casualties so far and 40,000 people had left the area, but tens of thousands still needed to move.

Bali, famous for its surf, beaches and temples, attracted nearly 5 million visitors last year, and its airport serves as a transport hub for the chain of islands in Indonesia's eastern archipelago.

In 1963, an eruption of Agung killed more than 1,000 people and razed several villages by hurling out pyroclastic material, hot ash, lava and lahar.

## WAR IN SYRIA

# Russian strikes kill 53 civilians in Deir Ezzor

AFP, Beirut

At least 53 civilians, including 21 children, perished early Sunday morning when Russian air strikes hit "residential buildings" in a village held by the Islamic State group in eastern Syria, a monitor said.

The Britain-based Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said the strikes hit the village of Al-Shafah in Deir Ezzor province, on the eastern bank of the Euphrates River.

The Observatory relies on a network of sources inside Syria, and says it determines whose planes carry out raids according to type, location, flight patterns and munitions used. The monitor had initially given a death toll of 34 civilians but the number spiked after more bodies were recovered.

"The toll increased after removing the debris in a long day of rescue operation," Rami Abdel Rahman, head of the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights told AFP, adding the strikes hit "residential buildings".

At least 18 people were also wounded in the air raids, he added.

Russia is a close ally of Syria's President Bashar al-Assad, and in September 2015 began a military intervention in support of his government that has gradually helped Damascus regain territory.

Syria's Deir Ezzor is one of the last places IS jihadists hold territory in the country, after being driven from their major strongholds including their one-time de facto Syrian capital Raqa city.

# Is it love or terror?

## Opposition sees politics as India probes interfaith marriages

REUTERS, New Delhi/kochi

India's Supreme Court yesterday started hearing a case that prosecutors say shows how Islamic State sympathisers are using "Love Jihad" – marrying Hindu women and converting them to Islam – to win recruits and spread their message.

Over the past 28 months, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has picked up dozens of interfaith couples in the southern state of Kerala to question them about their marriages.

The women – all Hindus who married Muslims – were asked "extremely personal" questions during the interrogations, two police officers from the agency said: "Did you sleep with your husband before getting married? Did he suggest you visit Islamic shrines before marriage? Did he blackmail you before you converted to Islam?"

They were looking for cases of "Love Jihad", a term publicized by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and other hardline Hindu groups soon after they helped propel Prime Minister Narendra Modi to power in 2014. It refers to what these groups say is an Islamist campaign to convert Hindu women through seduction and marriage.

Police investigations at the time found no evidence of any organised strategy, and the claim was widely ridiculed. But since then, the NIA began focusing on Kerala – a state along the Arabian Sea with strong economic links to the Middle East.

It investigated 89 cases of "Love Jihad" and found nine to be alliances planned by people linked to the Islamic State, two NIA sources said, requesting anonymity because the investigation is going on. The NIA will present evidence in the nine cases to the Supreme Court.

The agency declined to disclose its evidence. Opposition parties say the investigation shows the government is allowing the RSS and others to use the state apparatus to further an agenda of establishing Hindu dominance in India, where 13 percent of the population is Muslim.

The RSS, which founded the first iteration of Modi's ruling Bharatiya Janata Party six decades ago, believes India is fundamentally a Hindu nation.

Since Modi's election in May 2014, the RSS has expanded its membership and influence across India and either it or its affiliates now run key ministries, such as the home ministry, which supervises the NIA, and the finance ministry.

Nearly half of Kerala's 33 million people practice Islam and Christianity. Police and the NIA said at least 100 people from Kerala have joined the IS in Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan.



## WAR IN YEMEN

# 11m children desperately need aid: UN

AFP, Amman

More than 11 million children in war-torn Yemen are in desperate need of humanitarian aid, the United Nations children's fund warned on Sunday.

"Today it is fair to say that Yemen is one of the worst places on earth to be a child," said Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF's regional director for the Middle East and North Africa.

"Two million children today in Yemen suffer acute malnutrition (and) almost every single Yemeni boy and girl" is in acute need of humanitarian assistance, he told a press conference in Jordan's capital Amman.

"Today we estimate that every 10 minutes a child in Yemen is dying from preventable diseases."

UN officials have warned that Yemen could face the world's largest famine in decades unless a crippling blockade by a Saudi-led coalition battling Huthi rebels is lifted.

## FIRST MEET OF ISLAMIC MILITARY COUNTER TERRORISM COALITION

# S Arabia vows to 'wipe terrorists from earth'

AFP, Riyadh

Saudi Arabia's crown prince vowed to "pursue terrorists until they are wiped from the face of the earth" as officials from 40 Muslim countries gathered Sunday in the first meeting of an Islamic counter-terrorism alliance.

"In past years, terrorism has been functioning in all of our countries... with no coordination" among national authorities, Prince Mohammed bin Salman, who is also Saudi defence minister, said in his keynote address to the gathering in Riyadh.

"This ends today, with this alliance."

The summit is the first meeting of defence ministers and other senior officials from the Islamic Military Counter Terrorism Coalition, which officially counts 41 countries and identifies as a "pan-Islamic unified front" against violent extremism.

The alliance was announced in 2015 under the auspices of Prince Mohammed, whose rapid ascent since his appointment as heir to the throne in June has shaken the political scene across the region.

The alliance groups largely, although not exclusively, Sunni-majority or Sunni-ruled countries.

It excludes Saudi Arabia's arch-rival, Shia-dominated Iran, as well as Syria and Iraq, whose leaders have close ties to Tehran.

The alliance meeting in Riyadh brings together Muslim or Muslim-majority nations including Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Afghanistan, Uganda, Somalia, Mauritania, Lebanon, Libya, Yemen and Turkey.

Retired Pakistani general Raheel Sharif, who has been appointed commander-in-chief, also insisted that the coalition was not against any religion or state.

The alliance aims to "mobilise and coordinate the use of resources, facilitate the exchange of information and help member countries build their own counter-terrorism capacity," Sharif said.

While the alliance officially includes Qatar, which is the target of a six-month boycott led by Saudi Arabia, organisers in Riyadh said no Qatari officials were present at the meeting. Qatar's flag was also absent.

Egypt, which sent a military official and not its defence minister to Sunday's meeting, is reeling from a Friday attack on a mosque that killed more than 300 people during prayer time.

While IS has not claimed responsibility, Egyptian authorities say the organisation is the main suspect as the mosque is associated with followers of the mystical Sufi branch of Sunni Islam, whom IS has branded heretics.

Prince Mohammed said Friday's "painful event" was a reminder of the "danger of terrorism and extremism".



Miss South Africa Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters reacts as she is crowned by Miss Universe 2016 Iris Mittenaeere during the 66th Miss Universe pageant at Planet Hollywood hotel-casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, US on Sunday. PHOTO: AFP

# UNHRC session on Rohingya on Dec 5

REUTERS, Geneva

The UN Human Rights Council is expected to hold a special session on killings, rapes and other crimes committed against Rohingyas in Myanmar that have driven more than 600,000 into Bangladesh since August, UN sources said yesterday.

"There will be a special session on December 5," a senior United Nations source told Reuters.

Council spokesman Rolando Gomez could not confirm the date but said: "There are moves to convene a special session to address the human rights situation in the country."

At least 16 of the 47 member states must request holding a special session of the Council, which are rare. Bangladesh and Muslim-majority countries were expected to back the call.

## Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology

Directorate of Planning and Development

No. BUET/P&D/(S-3)/REC-01/17/GCE-02/DR-61(2)

Date: 26 Nov. 2017

## e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concerned that the following tender has been published through e-GP Portal.		
Tender ID, Package No. & date of publishing	Name of goods	Last selling and closing date & time
Tender ID: 132959 Package No. GD-3/GCE Publishing Date: 26/11/2017	(a) Supply and Installation of Online UPS for the Department of Glass and Ceramic Engineering, BUET, Dhaka.	17/12/2017; 16:00 18/12/2017; 13:00
The interested persons/firms may visit the website <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">www.eprocure.gov.bd</a> for further details. This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. Registration in the National e-GP Portal ( <a href="http://www.eprocure.gov.bd">http://www.eprocure.gov.bd</a> ) is required to submit e-Tender. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk ( <a href="mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd">helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd</a> ).		

GD-2584

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## Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)

Allenbury, Old Airport Road, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1215

Memo No. 35.03.0000.003.08.003.17-3898

Date: 23 November 2017

## Corrigendum

The following amendment to the IFT No. 35.03.0000.003.08.003.17-3692, dated: 13 November 2017 for "Supply of Vehicle Fitness Certificate (FC) Form with high security features" have been made.

Sl No.	Original content	Reference	Amended content
1.	Information for tenderer • Eligibility of tenderer	IFT Serial No. 22 The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods of minimum BDT 120 or equivalent USD under maximum 2 (two) contracts in the last 5 (five) years	The satisfactory completion of supply of similar goods of minimum BDT 120 million or equivalent USD under maximum 2 (two) contracts in the last 5 (five) years
2.	D. Preparation of tender	Tender document page No-29, ITT 29.3: The amount of the tender security shall be 1.5 million BDT or equivalent	The amount of the tender security shall be 2 million BDT or equivalent.
3.	Specification Submission and Compliance & Section: 7 Technical Specification	Tender document page No-57, Serial No-2.1.2 & page No-67. The paper should tear and water resistance.	The paper should be water resistant.
4.	Specification Submission and Compliance	Tender document page No-58, Serial No-3.6: Code: P	Serial No.- 3.6: Code: I
All other terms and conditions of the tender document will remain same.			

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Director (Engineering)