TYPHOON VAMCO

Worst floods in yrs kill seven in Manila

REUTERS, *Manila*

Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte yesterday ordered government agencies to hasten relief efforts after a powerful typhoon killed at least seven people and unleashed some of the worst flooding in years in the capital Manila.

Duterte cut short his attendance of a virtual meeting of Southeast Asian leaders to inspect the damage from Typhoon Vamco, moments after a speech during which he urged his counterparts to urgently combat the effects of climate change.

The typhoon, the eighth to hit the Philippines in the past two months and 21st of the year, forced residents to scramble onto rooftops to await rescue after tens of thousands of homes were submerged.

Those killed across the main island of Luzon, home to half of the country's 108 million population, included people who drowned, an elderly man hit by a tree and three workers crushed when a warehouse collapsed.

It struck areas still reeling from Goni, the most powerful typhoon in the world this year, which killed 25 people and destroyed thousands of homes earlier this month.

Nearly 200,000 people were evacuated before Vamco arrived late on Wednesday packing winds of 155 kilometres per hour and gusts of up to 255 kph. It has since weakened and exited the mainland.

Nearly three million households in and around Manila were without power as people waded through waist-high floods, carrying valuables and pets.

Coastguard swam through brown floodwater as high as electricity poles in some areas, while rescue workers used rubber boats and makeshift floats to move children and the elderly to safety.

Rescuers pull a rubber boat carrying residents through a flooded street after Typhoon Vamco hit in Marikina City, suburban Manila, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

NEWS IN BRIEF

GOP adds another senate seat with Alaska win

President Donald Trump's Republican Party won another seat in the US Senate Wednesday, with a victory in Alaska that puts it one vote away from a majority in the upper house of Congress. Incumbent Dan Sullivan was easily reelected with more than 57 percent of the vote, according to CNN and NBC television projections. The Republicans now have 50 seats, compared to 48 for the Democrats in the 100-seat Senate. Two seats are still to be filled in runoffs scheduled for January 5 in the southern state of Georgia. The Democrats would have to win both seats to catch up with the Republicans and give Biden more room to implement his policies.

Afghan journo for US-funded radio killed in car blast

An Afghan journalist working for a US-funded radio network was killed in a blast in southern Afghanistan yesterday, officials said, just days after a former television presenter was murdered in Kabul. Radio Liberty reporter Aliyas Dayee was killed when a sticky bomb attached to his car exploded in the city of Lashkar Gah in Helmand province, said Omar Zwak, the spokesman for the province's governor. Targeted killings of prominent figures, including journalists, clerics, politicians and rights activists, have become more common in recent months as violence surges in Afghanistan, despite ongoing peace talks between the government and the Taliban.

Israel uncovers King David-era fortress in occupied Golan

Archaeologists on Wednesday unveiled a fortified structure from the time of the King David on the Israeli-occupied Golan Heights that sheds light on the borders of a Biblical Israeli ally. The 3,000-year-old fort, found near the Jewish settlement of Hispin ahead of works to build a new neighbourhood, is believed to have belonged to the Geshurites, King David's allies. Locally quarried basalt boulders form the metre-and-a-half (five-foot) thick walls of the hilltop complex. Barak Tzin, who directed its excavation for the Israel Antiquities Authority, estimated that it covered more than 1,000 square metres.

Donors to pledge $500m for vaccine at Paris forum

An international conference in Paris aims to raise more than $500 million towards ensuring fair access to coronavirus tests, treatment and vaccines for all, including poor countries, the organisers said yesterday. During the forum, several countries are expected to announce funding for the so-called ACT-Accelerator, a mechanism led by the World Health Organization that aims to ensure access to tests, treatments and vaccines for all. According to a statement by the organisers, France will be announcing a commitment of 100 million euros, Spain 50 million and the European Commission 100 million specifically for the vaccines part of ACT-A. The British government is also set to declare a contribution of one additional pound for each four dollars announced.

SOURCE: AFP, REUTERS

DEFENCE COMMITMENTS

Biden reassures Asian allies

AFP, *Sydney*

US President-elect Joe Biden rang round allies in Seoul, Sydney and Tokyo yesterday, vowing to repair frayed partnerships and reaffirming mutual-defence pacts thrown in doubt by the current White House.

A day after Biden's series of "America is back" calls with European leaders, the former vice president spoke to Australia's Scott Morrison, South Korea's Moon Jae-in and the recently installed Japanese leader Yoshihide Suga. All three men had already congratulated Biden on his recent election victory over Donald Trump, despite the incumbent's refusal to concede.

Biden's call with Suga included a stark warning from the Japanese prime minister that the "security situation is increasingly severe" around the region, according to an account of the call from Japanese officials.

Suga's unusually frank analysis was met with Biden expressing his "deep commitment to the defence of Japan" and to decades-old treaty obligations, according to his transition team.

During the four-year Trump administration, America's regional allies often questioned whether the mercurial president would uphold long-standing promises to defend them in the event of a military conflagration.

In a move likely to cause protest in Beijing, Biden reportedly confirmed this defence commitment extended to the Senkakus, an uninhabited island chain claimed by both Japan and China which has been a potential flashpoint for decades.

In a separate 14-minute call with Moon, Biden was said to have described the US-South Korea alliance as "the linchpin of security and prosperity" in the region, and vowed to work together on "shared challenges" such as North Korea and climate change.

Trump had publicly mulled withdrawing troops from Japan and South Korea, where more than 20,000 US military personnel are currently stationed to deter any North Korean military action.

South Korea's presidential Blue House said Moon and Biden had agreed to meet "as soon as possible" after the American's inauguration.

In his call with Australia's leader, Biden received an invitation to visit next year for the 70th anniversary of a security treaty between the two countries.

Biden also reportedly noted the importance of "confronting climate change", which Australia's conservative government has been notably slow to tackle, despite being party to the Paris climate accord.

Morrison described the call as "very warm" and said Biden did not raise the issue of net-zero carbon targets, focusing instead on "emissions reduction technologies".

Biden served for decades on the US Senate foreign relations committee -- which saw him travel around the world meeting foreign leaders.

He also served as vice president to Barack Obama, who spent much of his presidency promoting America as a "Pacific power". Obama's much vaunted "Pivot to Asia" and painstaking alliance-building at regional Asean, APEC and East Asian summits was replaced by Trump's more transactional approach.

BREACHING HONG KONG TREATY

UK considering China sanctions

REUTERS, *London*

Britain yesterday said China had broken its main bilateral treaty on Hong Kong by imposing new rules to disqualify elected legislators in the former British colony, cautioning that it would consider sanctions as part of its response.

The British flag was lowered over Hong Kong when the colony was handed back to China in 1997 after more than 150 years of British rule - imposed after Britain defeated China in the First Opium War.

Hong Kong's autonomy was guaranteed under the "one country, two systems" agreement enshrined in the 1984 Sino-British Joint Declaration signed by then Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

"Beijing's imposition of new rules to disqualify elected legislators in Hong Kong constitutes a clear breach of the legally binding Sino-British Joint Declaration," Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said.

Britain summoned China's ambassador, Liu Xiaoming, to express its deep concerns and Raab's deputy, Nigel Adams, told parliament that it was considering possible sanctions on individuals over China's actions.

"We will continue to consider designations under our Magnitsky-style sanctions regime," said Adams, Britain's minister for Asia. He was asked by lawmakers if Britain would sanction Hong Kong Chief Executive Carrie Lam.

The European Union called on Beijing to immediately reverse the new rules which it said undermined Hong Kong's autonomy.

Hong Kong's pro-democracy opposition lawmakers said on Wednesday they would resign in protest against the dismissal of four of their colleagues from the city assembly after Beijing gave local authorities new powers to further curb dissent. The Chinese parliament earlier adopted a resolution allowing the city's executive to expel lawmakers deemed to be advocating Hong Kong independence, colluding with foreign forces or threatening national security, without having to go through the courts.

A man pushes a boat in the polluted Yamuna river covered with foam in New Delhi, yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Saudi king urges world to take 'firm stance' against Iran

AFP, *Ryad*

Saudi Arabia's King Salman yesterday urged world powers to take a "firm stance" against its arch-rival Iran, as expectations mount that US President-elect Joe Biden will seek to revive a 2015 nuclear deal with Tehran.

Riyadh appears wary of Biden's pledge to revisit the nuclear pact between major powers and Iran, a landmark deal that was negotiated when he served as vice president under Barack Obama.

The king's remarks come a day after the UN nuclear watchdog, the IAEA, warned that Iran's stockpile of enriched uranium has risen to more than 12 times the limit permitted under the 2015 deal since President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from it.

"The kingdom calls on the international community to take a firm stance towards the Iranian regime," the king said in his annual address to the Shura Council, the top government advisory body.

"This firm stance must guarantee that the Iranian regime is prevented from obtaining weapons of mass destruction, the development of its ballistic missile programme and threatening peace and security," he added in a speech delivered in the early hours.

The king did not directly address Biden in his speech.

Trump quit the deal in 2018, launching a "maximum pressure" campaign against Iran -- including crippling unilateral sanctions -- that was welcomed by the kingdom.

Sunni powerhouse Saudi Arabia and Shia Iran are locked in a decades-old tussle for supremacy in the Middle East, and are on opposing sides in regional conflicts from Syria to Yemen.

The International Atomic Energy Agency warned on Wednesday that Iran's explanations over the presence of nuclear material at an undeclared site in the country were "not credible."

Observers warn that Iran's actions could trigger a nuclear arms race in the Middle East.

The kingdom's de facto ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, declared in 2018 that if Iran develops a nuclear bomb, "we would follow suit as soon as possible".

US intelligence agencies are examining efforts by Saudi Arabia, which has vast uranium ore reserves, to build up its capacity to produce nuclear fuel that could help the kingdom develop a bomb, the New York Times reported in August.

Ethiopia PM claims victory in west Tigray

REUTERS, *Addis Ababa*

Ethiopia's military has defeated local forces in the west of Tigray state, Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said yesterday, accusing his foes of atrocities during a week of fighting that threatens to destabilise the Horn of Africa.

Air strikes and ground combat have killed hundreds, sent refugees flooding into Sudan, stirred Ethiopia's ethnic divisions and raised questions over the credentials of Abiy, Africa's youngest leader who won a Nobel Peace Prize in 2019.

"The western region of Tigray has been liberated," tweeted Abiy, 44, who comes from the largest ethnic group the Oromo and once fought with the Tigrayans against neighbouring Eritrea.

"The army is now providing humanitarian assistance and services. It is also feeding the people," he added.

The Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which rules the mountainous northern state of more than 5 million people, announced a local state of emergency against what it termed an "invasion by outsiders".

Abiy accuses the TPLF of starting the conflict by attacking a federal military base and defying his authority, while the Tigrayans say his two-year rule has persecuted them.

More than 10,000 Ethiopian refugees have crossed into Sudan since fighting started and aid agencies say the situation in Tigray is becoming dire. Even before the conflict, 600,000 people there were reliant on food aid.

রামগতি পৌরসভা কার্যালয়
রামগতি, লক্ষ্মীপুর
স্থাপিত-২০০০খ্রিঃ
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স্মারক নং-রাপৌ/প্রকৌঃশাঃ/২০২০-৩০৩ তারিখঃ ১১/১১/২০২০খ্রিঃ

দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি নং-০১/২০২০-২০২১

রামগতি পৌরসভার নিয়ন্ত্রণাধীন ২০২০-২০২১ অর্থ বৎসরের উন্নয়ন সহায়তা তহবীল এর আওতায় নিম্নবর্ণিত প্রকল্পগুলি বাস্তবায়নের জন্য পাবলিক প্রকিউরমেন্ট (২য় সংশোধনী) আইন, ২০০৯ এর বিধিবিধান অনুযায়ী দরপত্র দলিলে উল্লেখিত যোগ্যতাসম্পন্ন ঠিকাদার/ঠিকাদারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের (অত্র পৌরসভার হালনাগাদ তালিকাভুক্ত ঠিকাদার) নিকট থেকে সীলমোহরকৃত খামে দরপত্র আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

১	মন্ত্রণালয়/বিভাগ	স্থানীয় সরকার বিভাগ।
২	সংস্থা	রামগতি পৌরসভা।
৩	যে কাজের জন্য দরপত্র আহবান করা হলো	রাস্তা/ড্রেন/গাইড ওয়াল কাজ।
৪	দরপত্র আহবানের সূত্র	অক্টোবর ২০২০ মাসিক সভার সিদ্ধান্ত।
মূল্য তথ্যঃ		
৫	ক্রয়/সংগ্রহ পদ্ধতি	সীমিত দরপত্র পদ্ধতি (LTM)
৬	বাজেট ও তহবিলের উৎস	এডিপি তহবিল।
সুনির্দিষ্ট তথ্যাদিঃ		
৭	টেন্ডার প্যাকেজ নং	রাপৌ-০১/২০-২১ হইতে রাপৌ-১৪/২০-২১
৮	টেন্ডার প্যাকেজের নাম	১৫নং ক্রমিকের সংযুক্ত তালিকা মোতাবেক।
৯	দরপত্র বিক্রির শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	০২/১২/২০২০খ্রিঃ বিকাল ৫.০০ ঘটিকা (অফিস চলাকালীন সময়)।
১০	দরপত্র গ্রহণের শেষ তারিখ ও সময়	০৩/১২/২০২০খ্রিঃ বেলা ১.০০ ঘটিকা।
১১	দরপত্র খোলার তারিখ ও সময়	০৩/১২/২০২০খ্রিঃ বেলা ২.০০ ঘটিকা।
১২	প্রি টেন্ডার মিটিং	২২/১১/২০২০খ্রিঃ
১৩	(ক) দরপত্র দলিলাদি বিক্রয়	১. জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয় (স্থানীয় সরকার শাখা), লক্ষ্মীপুর। ২. উপজেলা প্রকৌশলীর কার্যালয়, রামগতি, লক্ষ্মীপুর। ৩. রামগতি পৌরসভা কার্যালয়, রামগতি, লক্ষ্মীপুর।
	(খ) দরপত্র দলিলাদি গ্রহণ ও খোলার স্থান	রামগতি পৌরসভা কার্যালয়, রামগতি, লক্ষ্মীপুর।
১৪	দরদাতার যোগ্যতা	দরপত্র দলিলের টেন্ডার ডাটাশীট মোতাবেক।
১৫	প্যাকেজ বিবরণঃ	

ক্রঃ নং	প্যাকেজ নং	কাজের বিবরণ	প্রাক্কলিত মূল্য	দরপত্র জামানত	দরপত্র দলিলের মূল্য	কাজ সমাপ্ত করার সময়
০১	রাপৌ-০১/২০-২১	১নং ওয়ার্ডে মহিলা কলেজ সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৩,০৩,০০০.০০	৭,৬০০.০০	৮০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০২	রাপৌ-০২/২০-২১	২নং ওয়ার্ডে প্রভাত পন্ডিত বাড়ী/মহাদেব সেবাশ্রম সড়ক সলিং কাজ এবং হাবিব উল্যা সড়কে গাইড ওয়াল নির্মাণ কাজ।	২,৫৯,০০০.০০	৬,৫০০.০০	৬০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৩	রাপৌ-০৩/২০-২১	৩নং ওয়ার্ডে আশ্রম সড়ক (২য় অংশ) সলিং কাজ।	৬,৫২,০০০.০০	১৬,৩০০.০০	১৩০০.০০	৯০ দিন
০৪	রাপৌ-০৪/২০-২১	৪নং ওয়ার্ডে দূর্গা মন্দির সড়ক/এ. আখের সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৩,১৪,০০০.০০	৭,৯০০.০০	৭০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৫	রাপৌ-০৫/২০-২১	৫নং ওয়ার্ডে মুক্তিযোদ্ধা এম. অজিউল্যাহ মিয়া সড়ক সলিং কাজ ও নজির খন্দকার সড়ক গাইড ওয়াল নির্মাণ কাজ।	২,৮৫,০০০.০০	৭,২০০.০০	৬০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৬	রাপৌ-০৬/২০-২১	৫নং ওয়ার্ডে সাহাপাড়া সড়ক সংলগ্ন আর.সি.সি ড্রেন নির্মাণ কাজ।	৪,৭৫,০০০.০০	১১,৯০০.০০	১০০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৭	রাপৌ-০৭/২০-২১	৭নং ওয়ার্ডে বাকলাই বাড়ী সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	২,২৪,০০০.০০	৫,৬০০.০০	৬০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৮	রাপৌ-০৮/২০-২১	৭নং ওয়ার্ডে কামাল মাষ্টার সাড়ী/লুৎফুর রহমান হাওলাদার বাড়ীর সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৪,২১,০০০.০০	১০,৬০০.০০	১,০০০.০০	৬০ দিন
০৯	রাপৌ-০৯/২০-২১	৮নং ওয়ার্ডে মুন্সী বাড়ী সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	২,২০,০০০.০০	৫,৫০০.০০	৬০০.০০	৬০ দিন
১০	রাপৌ-১০/২০-২১	৮নং ওয়ার্ডে গণি মুন্সী সড়ক ও সামছু হাজারী বাড়ীর সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৫,০৫,০০০.০০	১৬,৭০০.০০	১,২০০.০০	৬০ দিন
১১	রাপৌ-১১/২০-২১	৮নং ওয়ার্ডে জলিল মাষ্টার সড়কে গাইড ওয়াল নির্মাণ কাজ।	৩,৬৪,০০০.০০	৯,১০০.০০	৭০০.০০	৬০ দিন
১২	রাপৌ-১২/২০-২১	৯নং ওয়ার্ডে শিক্ষাগ্রাম সড়ক (৮ ও ৯নং ওয়ার্ডে সীমানা সড়ক) সলিং কাজ।	৩,৮৫,০০০.০০	৯,৭০০.০০	৮০০.০০	৬০ দিন
১৩	রাপৌ-১৩/২০-২১	৯নং ওয়ার্ডে দিশারী সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৬,০৬,০০০.০০	১৫,২০০.০০	১২০০.০০	৯০ দিন
১৪	রাপৌ-১৪/২০-২১	৯নং ওয়ার্ডে হামিদ খাঁন সড়ক/মোয়াজ্জেম হাওলাদার বাড়ীর সড়ক সলিং কাজ।	৪,৯১,০০০.০০	১০,৫০০.০০	১০০০.০০	৬০ দিন

মোঃ কামরুল হাসান
সহকারী প্রকৌশলী
রামগতি পৌরসভা, লক্ষ্মীপুর

জিডি-১৮১১