

Eleven die in stampede in DR Congo

AFP, Kinshasa

A stampede left nine spectators and two police officers dead during a packed concert by African music star Fally Ipupa at the biggest stadium in DR Congo's capital, the interior minister said yesterday, blaming the organisers.

Too many people had been allowed into Kinshasa's 80,000 capacity Martyrs' stadium on Saturday night, Interior Minister Daniel Aselo Okito told the Actualite.cd news website.

The organisers "went beyond 100 percent capacity... they must be punished", the minister said.

"It was a stampede," that caused the deaths, a policeman on the scene told the official Congolese Press Agency ACP.

Singer-songwriter Fally Ipupa, "like all Congolese singers", had arrived several hours after the show had been scheduled to start, the agency noted.



Light illuminates a devotee worshipping the Sun god on the bank of the Bagmati River, during the Hindu religious festival of Chhath in Lalitpur, Nepal, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

SOMALIA TWIN BOMBINGS Death toll climbs to 100; 300 hurt

AFP, Mogadishu

The number of people killed in twin car bombings in the Somali capital Mogadishu, claimed by Al-Shabaab Islamists, has risen to 100, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said yesterday.

"So far, the number of people who died has reached 100 and 300 are wounded, and the number for both the death and wounded continues to increase," he said after visiting the blast location.

Two cars packed with explosives blew up minutes apart near the busy Zobe intersection, followed by gunfire in an attack targeting Somalia's education ministry.

The afternoon explosions tore through walls, shattered windows of nearby buildings, sending shrapnel flying and plumes of smoke and dust into the air.

The victims included women, children and the elderly, police spokesman Sadik Dudishe said.

The attack took place at the same busy junction where a truck packed with explosives blew up on October 14, 2017, killing 512 people and injuring more than 290, the deadliest attack in the troubled country.

Al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack in a statement, saying its fighters were targeting the ministry of education.

The bloody siege drew international condemnation from Somalia's allies, including the United Nations, Turkey as well as the African Union force tasked with helping Somali forces take over primary responsibility for security by the end of 2024.

The UN mission in Somalia UNSOM vowed to stand "resolutely with all Somalis against terrorism."

BOLSONARO VS LULA

Brazil votes for president



AFP, Rio de Janeiro

Brazilians yesterday voted in a white-knuckle presidential runoff election, choosing between wildly different visions of their future offered by far-right incumbent Jair Bolsonaro and his leftist arch-rival, Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva.

Lula, a charismatic former president tainted by graft charges, narrowly won a first-round election and enters the finale the slight favorite with 52 percent of voter support, according to a final poll from the Datafolha institute Saturday.

However, Bolsonaro, who scored 48 percent in the poll, performed better than expected four weeks ago, and many pundits see the election as too close to call.

The president himself was among the first to vote, casting his ballot wearing a T-shirt in the yellow and green of the Brazilian flag -- a symbol he has adopted as his own.

"God willing, we'll be victorious later today. Or even better, Brazil will be victorious," said the ex-army captain, grinning as he greeted supporters in Rio de Janeiro's Vila Militar neighborhood.

The electoral showdown caps months of mud-slinging and personal attacks, in a dirty campaign plagued by disinformation that has deeply polarized the nation of 215 million people.

Both candidates have their die-hard supporters, but many will merely vote for the candidate they detest least -- or spoil their ballots.

Brazil's 156 million voters will cast their ballots until 5:00 pm (2000 GMT). The result of the electronic vote is expected in a matter of hours.

HALLOWEEN STAMPEDE IN SEOUL

South Korea mourns as death toll rises to 153

20 foreigners among dead; president vows thorough probe

AFP, Seoul

More than 150 people were killed in a stampede at a Halloween event in central Seoul, officials said yesterday, with South Korea's president vowing a full investigation into one of the country's worst ever disasters.

The crowd surge and crush hit in the capital's popular Itaewon district, where estimates suggest as many as 100,000 people -- mostly in their teens and 20s -- went to celebrate Halloween Saturday night, clogging the area's narrow alleyways and winding streets.

President Yoon Suk-yeol declared a period of national mourning yesterday, telling the country in a televised address that "a tragedy and disaster occurred that should not have happened".

He said the government "will thoroughly investigate the cause of the incident and make fundamental improvements to ensure the same accident does not occur again in the future".

"My heart is heavy and it is difficult to contain my sorrow," he added, before he visited the scene of the disaster and spoke to emergency workers.

Seoul mayor Oh Se-hoon, who rushed back to South Korea from a work trip in Europe, said his office would set up a memorial altar at Seoul Plaza so the public could pay their respects to the victims, starting Monday morning.

"Most of the casualties are young people like our sons and daughters, which makes it even more sad," Oh said while visiting the site of the disaster.

Eyewitnesses described being trapped in a narrow, sloping alleyway, and scrambling to get out of the suffocating crowd as people piled on top of one another.

Seoul's interior ministry told AFP that 153 people had

died, including 20 foreigners, in the stampede, which occurred around 10:00 pm local time (1300 GMT).

Most of the victims were young women in their 20s, it said, adding that 133 people were injured.

An official from Seoul's defence ministry said three military personnel were among the dead, including one soldier.

Seoul authorities said they had also received 2,642 reports of missing people.

Officials yesterday said they had no clear idea of what caused the crush, while eyewitnesses described scenes of chaos after a vast crowd panicked in a narrow alleyway.

Local shopkeepers told AFP that the number of people at the annual celebration was "unprecedentedly large" this year -- the first event to be held without Covid-19 restrictions since the pandemic began.

As questions began to emerge over the lack of security at the event, interior minister Lee Sang-min told a briefing that the police force had been occupied on the other side of town.

Police had also not expected such a large crowd at the Halloween event, he said.

The interior ministry said the 20 foreigners killed included people from the United States, Uzbekistan, Austria, Norway, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Iran, and Sri Lanka. Russia said three of its nationals had died.

China also confirmed that four of its nationals had died, with President Xi Jinping sending his country's "deep condolences for the victims" to Seoul.

Seoul's staunch ally, US President Joe Biden, said America "stands with" South Korea after the tragedy, while Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said he was "hugely shocked and deeply saddened" by the disaster.



Biden votes in US midterm elections

AFP, Wilmington

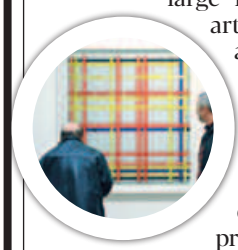
President Joe Biden cast his ballot in the US midterms Saturday, participating in early voting ahead of elections that could cost his Democrats their Congressional majority. Accompanied by his granddaughter Natalie, who was voting for the first time, Biden cast his ballot in his hometown of Wilmington in the eastern state of Delaware. The vast majority of polls predict that the Republican opposition will regain control of the House of Representatives. All 435 seats in the House of Representatives are on the ballot, as well as 35 Senate seats, just over a third of the upper chamber. Votes will also be cast for governors in dozens of states, as well as thousands of other county and state positions.

Mondrian painting hanging upside down for 77 years

AFP, Berlin

A painting by Dutch abstract painter Piet Mondrian has been hanging upside down for 77 years, says a curator at the German museum. A large retrospective of the avant garde artist's work went on display Saturday at the Kunstsammlung museum in Dusseldorf, and one of the pieces on show is "New York City I", painted in 1941. But as she prepared for the exhibition, curator Susanne Meyer-Buser discovered the painting had been presented upside down to the public.

The painting, consisting of several lines in blue, red and yellow intersecting at right angles, has been displayed the wrong way at MoMA in New York, and then then Dusseldorf museum.



ESSENTIAL DRUGS COMPANY LIMITED
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Dhaka-1208



INTERNATIONAL TENDER NOTICE

EDCL invites Two Envelope System International Tender for Supply of Plastic Pallet for Dhaka Plant on C&FC Chittagong by Sea and Dhaka by Air basis:-

S.L No.	Tender No. Date	Name of the Item	Cost of Tender Schedule	Last date of Closing & Opening
01.	IMP/Plastic/Pallet/SEM /29/2022-2023 dated 30/10/2022	Supply of Plastic Pallet (specification as per tender schedule): (Dhaka) (Double Envelope System) 01. Plastic Pallet-800 Pcs	Tk. 1500.00/ set Equivalent to US\$ 15.00 Non-refundable	Closing : 29/11/2022 at 11.00 AM Opening : 29/11/2022 at 11.15AM

Tender Schedule will be sold from the Accounts Department of Essential Drugs Company Limited, Dhaka on payment as stated above during office hours on all working days (except Friday, Saturday and Govt. Holidays). No tender schedule will be sold on the opening date of the tender.

The Tender will be accompanied by an amount of Earnest Money in the form of Bank Draft/Pay order/Bank Guarantee from any Schedule Bank of Bangladesh in favour of "Essential Drugs Company Ltd" without which the tender will be considered as non-responsive.

EDCL authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

N.B: This Information is also available at our Website: www.edcl.gov.bd

(6 inch. x4 colum)

General Manager
Procurement
For: Managing Director.

Republic of Bangladesh

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Memo No. 35.01.6800.542.07.001.22-১১৯৬

Dated: 30/10/2022

e-Tender Notice

e-Tender is invited the National e-GP Portal (www.eprocure.gov.bd) for the procurement of works as stated below.

Sl. No.	Tender ID & Package No.	Name of work	Publication and closing date & time
01	746634, e-GP/EE/NRD/MR-28/2022-2023	Estimate for Supplying labour for Clearing & Grubbing at 3rd(p) & 4th(p) km of Tanstation (Ghorasal)-Dhaladia (Palash)-Gabtuil-Fulbaria (Charsindur) Road (Z-2037) under Narsingdi Road Division Narsingdi during the year 2022-2023	30-Oct-2022 09:00:00 14-Nov-2022 14:30:00
02	746633, e-GP/EE/NRD/MR-29/2022-2023	Estimate for Supplying labour for Clearing & Grubbing at 28th(p) & 29th(p) km of Tongi-Kaligonj-Ghorashal-Pachdona (R-301) under Narsingdi Road Division Narsingdi during the year 2022-2023.	30-Oct-2022 12:38:00 14-Nov-2022 14:20:00
03	746632, e-GP/EE/NRD/MR-30/2022-2023	Estimate for Supplying labour for Clearing & Grubbing at 20th (p) & 21th (p) km of Dhaka (Katchpur) - Bhairab - Jagadishpur - Shaistagonj - Sylhet - Tamabil - Jaffong Road (N2) under Narsingdi Road Division Narsingdi during the year 2022-2023.	30-Oct-2022 09:00:00 14-Nov-2022 14:10:00
04	746534, e-GP/EE/NRD/MR-31/2022-2023	Estimate for Supplying labour for Clearing & Grubbing at 13th (p), 14th (p) & 15th (p) km of Itakhola-Motkhola-Katiadi Road (R-211) under Narsingdi Road Division Narsingdi during the year 2022-2023.	30-Oct-2022 12:43:00 14-Nov-2022 14:00:00

The interested persons/firms may visit the website www.eprocure.gov.bd to get the details of the tender. 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. To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Khad 30.10.22
Md. Hamidul Islam
ID No. 602240
Executive Engineer, RHD
Narsingdi Road Division

GD-1991