



Migrants on France’s Channel coast undeterred by latest deaths

Sidelined Arabs fear outcome of Zionist entity’s legal overhaul



SATKANIA: Flood affected people take shelter on a railway track after heavy rains in Satkania on August 13, 2023. At least 55 people have been killed and more than a million affected by two weeks of torrential rains causing floods and landslides. — AFP

55 killed in Bangladesh floods in August

More than a million affected by two weeks of torrential rains

CHITTAGONG: At least 55 people have been killed and more than a million affected by two weeks of torrential rains causing floods and landslides in southeast Bangladesh, officials said Sunday. Administrators of four of the worst-hit districts said floods and landslides since August 1 killed 21 people in Cox’s Bazar, 19 in Chittagong, 10 in Bandarban and five in Rangamati.

“These are some of the heaviest rains in recent years,” Bangladesh Meteorological Department chief Azizur Rahman told AFP. He said 312 millimetres (12 inches) of rainfall was recorded on August 7 alone. Officials said heavy rains lashed the region until August 11, triggering flash floods that caused rivers to burst their banks and inundate hundreds of villages.

It was only possible to confirm how many were

killed after the floodwaters began to recede. The summer monsoon brings South Asia around 80 percent of its annual rainfall, as well as death and destruction due to flooding and landslides.

The rainfall is hard to forecast and varies considerably but scientists say climate change is making the monsoon stronger and more erratic, while deforestation and building on hillsides has made flash floods worse.

Villages swamped

“In Cox’s Bazar some 600,000 people were affected by the floods,” district administrator Shaheen Ibrahim told AFP. Bangladesh is home to one million Rohingyas who fled a military crackdown in Myanmar and now live in some three dozen camps built on

cleared forest and hill slopes in Cox’s Bazar.

“At least 21 people were killed”, Ibrahim said. Refugee commissioner Mizanur Rahman said four Rohingyas were killed, including a child and her mother who were buried under a landslide. “We have relocated around 2,000 people to safe places who are at risk of landslides in the camps,” he told AFP.

Hundreds of villages were swamped in Chittagong, Bangladesh’s second-largest city and home to its biggest port, in what residents said was some of the heaviest flooding in decades. “The flood damaged at least 5,000 thatched houses,” district administrator Abul Bashar Mohammed Fakhruzzaman told AFP.

“At least 19 people have died from the floods. We recovered some bodies from the Sangu river after floodwater receded in the past few days. Some

450,000 people were affected by the floods.” Transport between Chittagong and Cox’s Bazar was cut for a few days and newly laid railway tracks were damaged, he said.

The rains also triggered a major flash flood in the hill district of Bandarban, where administrator Shah Mujahid Uddin said at least 10 people were killed. Five people were killed in the Rangamati hill district, where heavy rains cut off some 23,000 people, administrator Mosharraf Hossain said. Bangladeshi authorities have sent food and relief to the worst-affected region, said Shahina Sultana, a senior government official in Chattogram region, the new name for Chittagong. Five people were still missing, she said. “The government is doing everything in its power to support people,” she said. — AFP

China landslide death toll rises sharply to 21

BEIJING: The death toll from a landslide triggered by heavy rains in northern China has risen sharply to at least 21, authorities said on Sunday, with six others missing. China has faced deadly floods and historic rainfall in recent weeks, with dozens killed in storms in the northern part of the country.

“Twenty-one people were found dead so far, and six others are still missing,” the Xi’an emergency management bureau said in an online statement about the landslide on Sunday. State media had put the toll at four earlier on Sunday.

A mountain flash flood in the village of Weiziping, south of Xi’an in Shaanxi province, caused a landslide on Friday that swept away two houses and damaged roads, bridges, electricity supply and other infrastructure, national public radio CNR reported earlier.

A hundred soldiers as well as firefighters were mobilized for the relief operations “which are continuing” on Sunday, according to CNR. CNR broadcast images on Weibo showing rescuers clearing rocks and trees from the edge of a river and carrying victims on stretchers.

According to the Xi’an emergency management bureau statement, more than 980 people were mobilized for the rescue effort, using life detectors and search dogs. The landslide “destroyed” two houses and caused power cuts in 900 homes, it said.

“According to experts, the cause of the disaster is a flash flood mud-rock flow caused by short-term torrential rain,” the statement said. “Up to now, a total of 186 people have been relocated and resettled... 49 communication base stations in the disaster-stricken area have resumed service, and power supplies have been resumed in 855 homes.”

The recent record-breaking downpours followed weeks of historic heat, with scientists saying such extreme weather events are being exacerbated by climate change. State media reported on Friday that 29 people died from flooding in Hebei province after Storm Doksuri — which hit mainland China as a typhoon in late July — brought on the most severe rainfall since records began 140 years ago. — AFP

Climate skeptic Vivek Ramaswamy on fire in White House race

WASHINGTON: He calls climate activism a “religious cult,” but White House hopeful Vivek Ramaswamy is enjoying a moment in the sun as his provocative rhetoric heats up the US Republican primary contest. And while some candidates are beginning to aim their fire at former president Donald Trump, the 38-year-old Ramaswamy has moved toward the front of the chasing pack by placing himself firmly in the frontrunner’s slipstream.

“I think I’m best positioned to advance our America First agenda, take it even further than Trump did, but also unite the country in the process,” the multimillionaire biotech entrepreneur recently told public broadcaster PBS.

Ramaswamy trails Trump by a seemingly unbridgeable gap, but he has spent millions of his own money in his bid to be best placed should the presumptive nominee fall by the wayside amid his growing tangle of legal problems. And the first-time candidate, a father of two young children, has been rewarded with higher poll numbers than most of his more experienced rivals.

A political novice by any measure, Ramaswamy started his campaign with no national profile but has shocked primary watchers by rising to third in the Republican primary field, five months ahead of the first vote in Iowa. He is even snapping at the heels of Florida Governor Ron DeSantis, who is lagging around 40 points behind Trump but until recently looked relatively secure in the runner-up spot. On the ground, Ramaswamy has styled his politics on the agendas of the two men he hopes to usurp, making his stand against the “woke” ideology of the American left his signature policy issue.

“We are in the middle of a national identity crisis,” he says darkly, accusing the country’s elites of metastasizing a “cultural cancer” — particularly when it comes to LGBTQ issues. His message has found an appreciative audience, and his book, “Woke, Inc.,” in which he develops this thesis, is currently near the top of the New York Times list of bestselling nonfiction.

In an increasingly crowded field - 17 candidates have declared so far - Ramaswamy has been able to grab attention and headlines with a policy program that might be dismissed as too radical were his polling numbers lower.

The vegetarian pianist wants to raise the voting age to 25 and lay off 90 percent of the staff at the US central bank and the Department of Justice. And his ready-made solution for reviving growth in the United States? Burning coal “unapologetically.”

Still, he faces a steep uphill fight. “Like all the other candidates, Ramaswamy’s only chance is if Trump collapses,” political scientist Kyle Kondik told AFP. It is not



DES MOINES: US entrepreneur and 2024 Presidential hopeful Vivek Ramaswamy speaks during a Fair Side Chat with Governor Kim Reynolds, at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines, Iowa. — AFP

unusual for Republican presidential candidates to pull their punches when it comes to Trump, who has always managed to retain the loyalty of at least a third of the party regardless of the prevailing political winds.

But Ramaswamy has bumped the deference up a level, turning up at the courthouses in Miami and the capital Washington where Trump was appearing with pledges to pardon the 77-year-old ex-president and demands that his rivals follow suit.

“We fought a revolution in this country, in 1776, for a simple idea that we the people determine how we select our leaders and have a government that is accountable to its people, rather than the other way around,” he said in a video filmed this month outside Washington’s federal court complex. Trump, who is more accustomed to trampling his opponents underfoot, was quick to notice and showed his appreciation. “He’s doing well,” the Republican billionaire said recently of his young rival.

Born in working-class Ohio, Ramaswamy is the son of Hindu immigrants from India. Educated at Catholic schools, he studied biology at the prestigious Harvard University, where he honed his rhetorical skills in debates and by performing libertarian rap music as his alter ego, “Da Vek.” “If you think that debater-extraordinaire Vivek G. Ramaswamy ‘07 is intense, you obviously haven’t met ‘Da Vek,’” his university newspaper enthused in a humorous profile. — AFP

E-Auction – Punj Lloyd Limited (In Liquidation)					
Sale of assets of the Company the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016					
The Liquidator of Punj Lloyd Limited (“Company”) is announcing the fresh round of public auction for sale of lots of movable assets owned by the Company and located in the Countries of Oman and Kuwait on a collective basis: on ‘as is where is basis’, ‘as is what is basis’, ‘whatever there is basis’, and ‘without recourse basis’, in accordance with the provisions of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, as amended and the rules and regulations made thereunder.					
Interested applicants may refer to the detailed E-Auction Process Information Document uploaded on website of the Company http://www.punjlloydgroup.com/liquidation-documents and also on E-Auction website www.eauctions.co.in .					
The Auction Sale will be done through the E-Auction platform: www.eauctions.co.in .					
Asset Lot	Asset Description	Manner of Sale	Date and time of E-Auction	Reserve Price (in USD)	EMD Amount (in USD) & Submission deadline
A	Movable Assets owned by the Company and located in the Country of Oman	Collective Basis	18 September 2023 from 10:00 hours GST to 18:00 hours GST	USD 3,694,000/-	USD 369,400/- On or before 14 September 2023
B	Movable Assets owned by the Company and located in the Country of Kuwait	Collective Basis	18 September 2023 from 10:00 hours GST to 18:00 hours GST	USD 4,000/-	USD 400/- On or before 14 September 2023
Further, as per the provisions of the IBBI (Liquidation Process) Regulations, 2016, as amended, all interested bidders are required to submit the Expression of Interest along with the requisite eligibility documents on or before 28 August 2023 as provided in the E-Auction Process Information Document. The Liquidator reserves the right to amend the key terms of the sale process including timelines for the e-auction to the extent permissible under the applicable laws and regulations. Any information about amendments / extension of any of the timelines will be available on the Company’s website and communicated to the Qualified Successful Bidder.					
Nothing contained herein shall constitute a binding offer or a commitment for sale of assets of the Company pursuant to this e-auction.					
Please feel free to contact Mr. Ashwini Mehra at LQ.PUNJ@in.gt.com or Mehra.ashwini@gmail.com or Mr. Surendra Raj Gang at Surendra.raj@in.gt.com in case any further clarification is required.					
Sd/- Ashwini Mehra Liquidator (Regn No: IEBNIPA-001/IP-P00388/2017-18/10706) Punj Lloyd Limited - in Liquidation Authorization for Assignment valid till -23 March 2024 Correspondence Address: Mr. Ashwini Mehra, Liquidator Punj Lloyd Limited C/O Mr. Surendra Raj Gang, GT Restructuring Services LLP L-41, Connaught Circus, New Delhi - 110001, E: LQ.Punj@in.gt.com					
Date: 14 August 2023 Place: New Delhi					

