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Local Daily News

October 13, 2017

PM Alkatiri calls on young Timorese to remain calm

GMN TV, October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri has called on all the young Timorese to remain calm and contribute to the peace and stability in the country. The prime minister made the comments after meeting with the President of the Republic on Thursday (12/10) at the Palace of the president. "It is better for the young Timorese to remain calm, as our country does not want to continue to live in this situation," he said. Meanwhile, Deputy Chief of defense, Brigadier General Filomena Paixao also called the young people to stay away from acts violence.

Maumeta primary school does not access to school feeding and proper sanitation

Televizaun Timor-Leste, October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

TVTL [the public television] has reported that children of Maumeta Primary School of Liquisa have not yet accessed school feeding program, the clean water and proper sanitation. Lusía de Jesus Martins, the school headmaster said the referred school had more than 590 children, but the school feeding program was only implemented in one month, from May until June. "The total children of the school are 590, the school feeding program in 2017 was only done in 30 days," she said. In response, Man in Charge of the Ministry of Education, Zito Martins said the budget for the school feeding program was centralized in the administration of Liquisa and was still in the process.

PLAN international commemorates International Day of the Girl

Radio Timor-Leste, October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

PLAN International on Thursday (12/10) commemorated the International Day of the Girl falling on (12/10) in the Municipality of Aleu aimed to empower the country's young girls. The Ambassador to girls, Isabel Ruak Ferreira said she took part in the commemoration of the day in order to motivate the Timorese girls to participate in Timor-Leste's development. "I am here to motivate and encourage them to take part in the development of the country, as well as in their families," she said. Representative of the PLAN International, Emilita da Cruz said the celebration of the girl day was also held worldwide.

Everyone's contribution to peace is necessary, Minister Somotxo says

Suara Timor Lorosae, October 13, 2017 Language source: Tetun

Minister of Defense and Security, Jose Agostinho Sequera Somotxo called on all Timorese to remain calm in order to contribute to peace and stability in the country. "Keeping the situation peaceful is not only the responsibility of Timorese National Police (PNTL) and the Timorese Defense Force (F-FDTL), but everyone's responsibility," Somotxo told journalists at F-FDTL Headquarter in Fatuhada, Dili, Thursday (12/10). Minister Somotxo made the comment regarding the increasing violent acts in Dili recently amid high political tension in the country. He added recently, there was organized group which tried to create instability by provoking young people to engage in confrontation and shot people with slingshot arrows in the night time.

KOP signing a petition to set up AMP, Alkatiri: if govt fails, better to have early election

Suara Timor Lorosae, October 13, 2017 Language source: Tetun

The Coalition of Oppositions in Parliament (KOP) formed by CNRT, PLP and KHUNTO has signed a petition and sent to President of the Republic to ask for chance to set up the Parliamentary Majority Alliance (AMP) government if the current minority government formed by FRETILIN and PD failed. Responding to the petition, Prime Minister (PM), Mari Alkatiri said if the programs of the Seventh Government did not pass in parliament, the only way to form another government was to have early election. "If the government's programs do not pass in parliament, we go for early election," Alkatiri told journalists after meeting with President of the Republic, Francisco Guterres Lu-Olo at Presidential Palace in Aitarak Iaran, Dili Thursday (12/10). The Seventh Government has submitted its programs and the State Budget to National Parliament last week to be discussed and approved. However, it is feared that the programs will not pass in National Parliament since the Seventh Government is a minority government of 30-seats against 35-seats of opposition in parliament.

Xanana accepts Alkatiri's offer to assume AAF

Suara Timor Lorosae, October 13, 2017 Language source: Tetun

Timor-Leste's founding father and President of the National Congress for Timorese Reconstruction (CNRT), Xanana Gusmão has accepted Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri's offer of assuming the post of President of Timor-Leste's Boundaries Authority (AAF) and Southern Coast Development. "We have gotten positive response from Xanana Gusmão to the government's proposal," Alkatiri said after submitting the names of the new government members to complete the structure of the Seventh Government to President of the Republic, Francisco Guterres Lu-Olo at Presidential Palace in Aitarak Iaran, Dili Thursday (12/10). He added Xanana Gusmão's

position was not like a government member, so the Council of Ministers had approved a decree law to legalize Timor-Leste's Boundaries Authority and Southern Coast Development as an institution to have its own financial autonomy and the Seventh Government would present this to parliament to get approval.

Unknown group of people slash a young man in Kuluhun

Diario Nacional, October 13, 2017 Language source: Tetun

A young man named Rui Ivo Da Costa got cuts on his head and cheek in Kuluhun Village of Dili Wednesday (11/10) afternoon. After the incident, the victim Da Costa's family took him to hospital and later police arrived at the scene of crime to calm down the situation. The victim recalled he went to his brother home in Kuluhun and two of his friends following him cursing people, then people came out with machetes and two of his friends run away and he got cut on his head and cheek. "Yesterday (Wednesday afternoon, red) my friends and I went to my brother house in Kuluhun and I had entered my brother's house, but two of friends were still outside and they cursed people and provoked them, when people came out with machete they run away and these people cut my head," Da Costa said in Kuluhun, Dili Thursday (12/10). He called on police to capture those who cut him and take to court because it was a crime and he was attacked and cut with machete.

Oppositions oppose govt's programs before discussion, Alkatiri ready to have early election

Independente, October 13, 2017 language source: Tetun

Opposition parties through a Coalition of Parliamentary Majority Alliance (AMP) have declared to vote against the programs of the Seventh Constitutional Government even though the programs have not yet discussed. "We just want to be blunt; we will vote against the Seventh Constitutional Government's programs," KHUNTO's bench President Luis Roberto told journalists at JL Villa Hotel, yesterday (12/10) after signing a Coalition of Parliamentary Majority Alliance. Roberto said program and platform that had signed was to prepare for eighth government, aiming to valorize and dignify the constitution of the country. The Seventh Government is in a fragile situation because the majority opposition has declared to vote against the government programs. However, Prime Minister (PM), Mari Alkatiri said if the Seventh Government programs did not approve by parliament, the only way to form another government was to have early election. "I will not go to parliament to convince political parties to support me, but it is my obligation to present the programs to parliament if it is passed and approved, then it is good for us, but if not let's have early election," Alkatiri said.

Portuguese Ambassador to Timor-Leste meets with PM Alkatiri

Independente, October 13, 2017 language source: Tetun

The Portuguese Ambassador to Timor-Leste Manuel Goncalves de Jesus held a meeting with Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri at Government Palace to talk about the two countries cooperation. In the meeting, Ambassador Manuel Goncalves de Jesus also say farewell to PM Alkatiri as his mandate in Timor-Leste was about to end and shortly he would be replaced by another Portuguese diplomat. Both leaders talked about the cooperation programs that the two countries had been implementing and how to better strengthen the bilateral ties of the two countries.

Preparing human resources before joining ASEAN

Independente, October 13, 2017 language source: Tetun

Timor-Leste needs to prepare qualified human resources before joining the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Aurelio Sergio Cristovao Guterres said Timor-Leste needed human resources to fortify all sectors to be able to join ASEAN in the future. "ASEAN has three components such as economy, defense and security and social and cultural issues and Timor-Leste needs human resources to better develop this area," Guterres told journalists after held the meeting with President of the Republic at the Palace of President in Aitarak Laran, Dili yesterday (12/10).

South Korea detains 16 Timorese workers

Timor-Post October 13, 2017 language source: Tetun

South Korean Government through its immigration authority has detained 16 Timorese workers to be deported to Timor-Leste shortly as they committed irregularity. Based the information that Timor-Post accessed from website of Timor-Leste Liaison officer in South Korea, Mauricio Borges on Thursday (12/10) stated that south Korean Government was going to deport 16 Timorese workers to Timor-Leste this week. "There are 16 Timorese workers who captured by the immigration to be deported back to the country shortly as they committed irregularities," Borges stated through his website. On the other hand, a Timorese Worker in South Korea, Usman Jaros Kmanek Araujo through his social media account, Facebook, said many Timorese workers in South Korea were illegal because they had run away from companies that contracted them before they went to Korea and worked for other companies.

Australian Ambassador meets with the President of PN

Timor-Post, October 13, 2017 language source: Tetun

The Australian Ambassador to Timor-Leste, Peter Doyle met with the President of the National Parliament (PN) Aniceto Guterres talking about the bilateral cooperation between the two countries on Tuesday (10/10). According PN's media office, in the meeting the two leaders talked about the cooperation programs that were currently implementing and how to better improve it in the future. In the meeting, PN President Guterres thanked Australian for supporting Timor-Leste for years and called on the Australian government to continue strengthen the bilateral ties in the future.

October 12, 2017

Deputy Chief of defense calls on young Timorese to contribute to peace

Radio Timor-Leste, October 11, 2017 language source: Tetun

Deputy Chief of Defense, Brigadier General Filomeno Paixao has called on all the young Timorese to contribute to the peace and stability in the country and should stay away from acts of violence. Commander Pixao made the comments after meeting with the president of the republic on Wednesday (11/10) at the Palace of the president. He affirmed that the young Timorese's contribution to the peace and stability would help facilitate the newly-established government in developing the country forward. "Do not make

trouble, please trust in our leaders to rule the country to move forward with the development. On the basis of this, I am calling the populations, especially the young people to remain calm,” he said.

MS to prioritize medicine supplies for health centers

Radio Timor-Leste, October 11, 2017 language source: Tetun

Minister for Health, Rui Maria de Araujo said the Ministry of Health would put medicine supplies for all health centers throughout the country as its top priority. Mr. Araujo made the comments during his short notice visit to the Timor-Leste's Medical and Pharmaceutical Supply Agency (SAMES) on Wednesday (11/10). “As we all know that SAMES is an institution, which is under the auspicious of the Ministry of Health to be responsible for supplying medicines and equipment to be distributed to all hospitals,” he said. He added that there must be an agreement with the vendors and suppliers to provide the medicine regularly at least within three years.

Two men detained for sexual assault against a Chinese girl

Radio Timor-Leste, October 11, 2017 language source: Tetun

Lautem Municipality Police have detained two men who are suspected of being engaged in sexual assault against a 28-year old Chinese girl who visited the referred municipality as tourist. The police of Lautem have taken these two actors to the Public Prosecution Office Baucau for legal proceedings. Lautem Police Commander, Marcus Sequeira said the incident happened in Sawarica of Lospalos, Lautem on Monday evening. He affirmed that one of the actors of the sexual assault was a bus driver and the other actor was his assistant.

FRETILIN is confident govt's programs pass

Suara Timor Lorosae, October 12, 2017 Language source: Tetun

FRETILIN Bench at National Parliament (PN) is confident the programs of the Seventh Government will pass in PN since the government's programs reflect people's needs. The minority government of 30-seats has submitted its programs to parliament with majority opposition of 35-seats last Friday (06/10) and currently parliament is learning the programs before discussing it with the government. According to FRETILIN Bench member, Antoninho Bianco, the programs of the Seventh Government are to respond to people's needs, so parliament will approve it.

“I am confident the programs of the government will pass since the programs are for people and the country not for a group of people or a political party,” Mr. Bianco told STL at PN on Wednesday (11/10). At the same place, Jose Agostinho, PN member from one of the opposition parties, KHUNTO, said the three opposition parties such as CNRT, PLP and KHUNTO had set up an opposition block to do ‘checks and balances’ to government's programs.

Clashes in Dili, F-FDTL Deputy Commander Paixão calls on youth to remain calm

Diario Nacional, October 12, 2017 Language source: Tetun

Recently confrontation between young people in Dili is increasing. Young people stoned each and shot people with slingshot arrow in the night time. On Monday (09/10), police reported unknown people shot three men with slingshot arrows in Taibesi and Palapaso of Dili, meanwhile on Tuesday (10/10) clash between young people in Hudi Laran of Bairro Pite, Dili has left a house and two cars damaged including a police. Responding to the increasing acts of crimes in Dili in the last few days, the Timorese Defense Force (F-FDTL) Deputy Commander, Brigadier General, Filomeno Paixão called on young Timorese to remain calm and stay at their homes instead of hanging around and provoking each other to give chance to government to develop this country forward.

“I am calling on all Timorese, particularly young people to remain calm not to create instability in the country. We have to trust our leaders and let them develop this country forward,” Brigadier General Paixão made the call after meeting with President of the Republic at Presidential Palace yesterday (11/10).

F-FDTL to expand cooperation with TNI

Diario Nacional, October 12, 2017 Language source: Tetun

The Timorese Defense Force (F-FDTL) Command will expand its cooperation with the Indonesian National Armed Forces (TNI) in the future. Chief of Staff of F-FDTL Command, Colonel Falur Rate Laek said there was a possibility for F-FDTL and TNI to expand their cooperation of Army Terrestrial Component. In 2013, F-FDTL Command signed an agreement with TNI's Land Forces called INAMOR and some of F-FDTL officials had followed physical and administration training in Indonesia as a result of the INAMOR Agreement. In an official meeting with TNI Commander, Major General Jhony Tobing at F-FDTL Headquarter yesterday (11/10), F-FDTL and TNI's leaders agreed to expand the cooperation to other components of F-FDTL and TNI not only terrestrial and land components. “The concept is to continue expand the cooperation of the two forces in the future,” Colonel Falur Rate Laek said after the meeting with Major General Tobing. TNI Commander Tobing and his delegation are in Dili for a two-day official visit and scheduled to return to Indonesia on Friday (13/10) this week.

Promoting gender equality, PM Alkatiri thanks UN Women

Diario Nacional, October 12, 2017 Language source: Tetun

Prime Minister (PM), Mari Alkatiri appreciates the cooperation of the Timorese Government and UN Women to promote gender equality in Timor-Leste. “The United Nations Agency's activity of promoting gender equality and empowering women has been conducting since 2001 and in 2015 the activity is under Prime Minister office, so today we meet with PM Alkatiri to strengthen UN Women's cooperation to continue promoting gender equality and empowering women,” Head of UN Women in Timor-Leste, Sunita Caminha said after meeting with PM Alkatiri at Government Palace on Wednesday (11/10). She added PM Alkatiri appreciated and thanked UN Women for cooperating with the Timorese government to continue promoting gender equality and empowering Timorese women.

Guterres stuns with KOP petition

Independente October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

President of National Parliament Aniceto Guterres is stunned with the opposition parties' petition to President of the Republic with the logo of National Parliament without his knowledge. Guterres added the petition letter was used the logo of PN but he knew about the letter through social media. "I did not know about it even though the letter was using the logo of PN," Guterres told journalists at the Palace of President in Aitarak Laran, Dili yesterday (11/10). When asking to comment on the petition letter of the opposition parties, he said President of the Republic had consult with all elected parties before forming the Seventh Government and all political parties at that time pledged to be constructive oppositions in parliament, but now they prepared for forming the Eight Government was ridiculous.

France ready to support Timor-Leste's economy

Independente, October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

The French Ambassador to Timor-Leste Jean Charles Berthonnet said the French government was ready to support the government of Timor-Leste to develop Timor-Leste's economy. Ambassador Berthonnet made the comment during a meeting with Prime Minister Mari Alkatiri to discuss bilateral cooperation between two countries at Government Palace on Wednesday (11/10). Mr. Berthonnet said the bilateral cooperation between Timor-Leste and France was started long time ago; France had been supporting Timor-Leste in the area of health, economic development, particularly cooperative activity. "I am here to discuss with Prime Minister of the Seventh Constitutional Government to strengthen the cooperation of the two countries to better develop the economy of the two countries," Berthonnet told journalists at Government Palace yesterday (11/10).

IMF recommends Timor-Leste exercise restraint in the use of oil fund

Independente October 12, 2017

International Monetary Fund (IMF) has urged Timor-Leste to take seriously its reliance on funding from diminishing oil reserves or risk putting the future economic stability of the country in jeopardy. The final balance of Timor-Leste's oil fund fell to US\$ 5.8 billion (about 570% of GDP) in 2016, the second year of a net reduction, and the IMF report in a statement released in Washington. The statement issued at the end of an IMF team visit led by Ms. Yu Ching Wong said the medium-term outlook for Timor-Leste "Is critically dependent on economic diversification as the oil field currently in production will be depleted by around 2022." In addition to noting that the oil fund is being reduced due to significant withdrawal to finance the public investment program, the IMF team said it was necessary to know whether these large projects will generate sufficient economic return, leading to an increase in tax revenues and, therefore, improving fiscal sustainability.

The team noted that internal revenue collection is the key and welcomed the creation of the customs authority and the tax authority, as well as the action plan to increase compliance with tax obligations. "Equally critical will be added tax (VAT) legislation and the introduction of this tax by 2020, in order to stimulate the mobilization of more internal revenues," the statement said.

Timor-Post attend the 19th national congress party in China

Timor-Post October 12, 2017

The 19th communist party of china (CPC) national congress will review the party's work over the past five years and summarize precious experience that the party has gained from the historical process of uniting and leading people of all ethnics under the leadership of the CPC central committee with Xi JingPing at the core since the 18th CPC national congress. One representative from Timor-Post also participate in this congress, it will thoroughly examine the current international and domestic situation, and take into account the new requirements for the development of the party and the country as well as new expectation from the people.

China-East Timor relations were established following East Timor's independence on May 20, 2002. However, china had establish a representative office in Dili in 2000, when was still under United Nations administration. Since east Timor independence, China has paid for the construction of the Presidential palace in Dili, as well as the ministry for foreign affairs and the residential head quarter of the defense force.

In 2003, Beijing signed a deal with the community of Portuguese language Countries, of which East Timor is a member, to increase trade and economic development among the countries. In 2006, the then President Xanana Gusmao called China "a reliable friend" and had committed East Timor to a one china policy. In 2014, the two countries issued a join communiqué reaffirming that east Timor recognizes the government of the people of China as "the sole lawful government representing the whole of china that Taiwan was inalienable part of the Chinese territory, and that east Timor would not establish any form of official relationship or conduct any form of official contacts with Taiwan. When east Timor was under Portuguese rule, Taiwan as the republic of china had a consulate in Dili. Whoever when Fretilin unilaterally declared the territory's independence as the democratic Republic of East Timor, on 28 November 1975, the people republic of china was one of the few countries in the world to recognize the new state.

UNICEF Representative hands over credential letter to MNEK

Timor-Post October 12, 2017 language source: Tetun

The Representative of the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) in Timor-Leste Valerie Taton has handed over a credential letter to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation (MNEK) Aurelio Guterres at MNEK's office in Praia dos Coqueiros, Dili Monday (10/10). "I am honored to serve the children and their families in Timor-Leste," Taton said when meeting with MNEK Guterres. Taton affirmed the new country Timor-Leste had made notable progress to help improve children's lives, therefore, UNICEF in partnership with the government, civil societies and private sectors would continue working together to develop collective progress to protect children's right, infant's health and nutrition including accessing good quality of education and early development of the children.