

LOCAL MEDIA MONITORING

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LOCAL NEWS :

***Horta to announce his candidacy after visiting US** President Jose Ramos Horta said he would decide whether to nominate himself in the presidential election or not after holding an official visit to the US. Horta was referring to the public opinions about his candidacy in the presidential election this year. Horta said he would announce this week whether he would run for the next president of the republic or not.

He affirmed that he would also announce his last visit to New York next week. "I have not yet made decision. But will announce it when returning from the US," Horta said. The president was invited by a Hollywood film producer to take part in a seminar which is promoting Timor-Leste. *"Radio Timor-Leste, January 23, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Govt to purchase a ship for PNTL** The Government is planning to purchase one ship for the Timorese National Police (PNTL), State Secretary for Security, Francisco da Costa Guterres said. Guterres affirmed that the Government would purchase the ship using the general state budget for 2011 totally more than US \$ 1 million. He said the referred ship would help facilitate the national police to control Timor Sea and prevent people from doing illegal fishing. He explained that tender for the ship purchase was included in international category and Indonesia Company called PT Palma had won the tender for processing its purchase. *"Radio Timor-Leste, January 23, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Political party leaders and presidential candidates to sign peace pact** National Election Commission (CNE) has decided to set the upcoming February 28 as the day of signing peace and unity pact for the political parties and presidential candidates. Speaking to journalists, CNE Commissary Martinho Gusmao said before presidential election CNE would explain the form of the peace pact to the presidential candidates and political parties before elections. Gusmao said the political parties and presidential candidates should show their political maturity through such a peace pact. He added that CNE was only a bridge for the pact and was independent body to facilitate, but the owners of the pact were political parties and presidential candidates. *"Radio Timor-Leste, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Japanese Government ready to lend money to TL Govt** President of the Republic, Jose Ramos Horta said the Japanese Government was ready to lend money to the Timorese Government in order to better improve the country's infrastructures. "I made a dialog with Japanese Prime Minister and the Japanese Parliamentarians and they are ready to support us and even though there are many things that are not my competence to talk about them," "The Japanese Prime Minister said that they have capability to lend money to Timor-Leste when we are ready to contribute to the country's infrastructure development," President Horta said. President Horta said the money would be lent to Timor-Leste was positive as it could be used for repairing the main roads from Dili to Baucau without spending Timorese Petroleum Funds. *"Radio Televisaun de Timor-Leste, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***CNE holds meeting with political leaders and presidential candidates** The National Commission for Election (CNE) yesterday held a meeting with the political leaders and presidential candidates in order to talk about public debate and peace pact for presidential election that will be held on March 17. The objective of the meeting was also to talk about the political parties' symbols that will be used by each candidate during their political campaign. Commissioner of CNE Faustino Cardoso said that the peace pact was about pacific elections and it would be signed on February 28. "This is aimed at reflecting political forces and the figures that will compete in the presidential election. There are three things; first is about signing peace pact and second is public debate about presidential election because it is possible for us to have first and second round elections," Cardoso said. He added that the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) was making efforts to reduce numbers of electoral card duplications. *"Radio Televisaun de Timor-Leste, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Lautem Student Movement - Rejects Mother-tongue Policy** The University Student and Youth Movement of Lautem District [Movimentu Estudantes Universitariu no Joventude Distritu Lautem [MEUJ-DL]] made a public declaration rejecting the policy of Mother-tongue as the main language of instruction for students in pre-school through 4th year primary school in Lautem District to start in February 2012. The University Student and Youth Movement of Lautem District - MEUJ-DL made the statement in a press conference on Monday (23/01) at the National University of Timor Lorosa'e campus - UNTL. During the press conference MEUJ - DL asked the Ministry of Education and Culture to halt the implementation of the policy to use Mother-tongue as the language of instruction - Devide et Impera. "We, the University Students and Youth of Lautem District consider this policy for program implementation as creating/developing racism and 'sucu-ism' in Timor-Leste and it will affect national unity" said the spokesperson for MEUJ-DL. They also declared and affirmed that they reject and are fully against the policy of the Ministry of Education and UNESCO to initiate Mother-language in the learning process at the level of basic and secondary education in Lautem District. They also requested the National Parliament, in particular Committee F for education issues to study and deeply analyze the implementation of the mother-tongue program as it may make it difficult for students to use Tetun as communication in school and the community. "If this demand is not considered or addressed by the competent body, we will mobilize those in the community, students, youth and University movements to protest against the Ministry of Education," said the spokesperson Mario "Kabitan" Soares. *"CJITL - Monday, 23 January 2012*

***MPs and Civil society urge state to take strong action against STAE's staffs** MP Duarte Nunes from the National Congress for the Timorese Reconstruction (CNRT) has called on the State to take the necessary action against staffs of the Technical Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) regarding electoral card issues. "If someone has two electoral cards then they were provided by STAE and therefore STAE should resolve this case why they provided two electoral cards?," MP Nunes said. Director for the Timorese Human Rights Association (HAK) Rogerio Vicente Viegas, said it was important for the state to investigate 600 foreigners who were holding electoral cards. He added that staff of STAE, who provided electoral card for foreigner, has no national spirit. The Timorese Youth Council President Levogildo Hornai, said that electoral card should only owned by the Timorese and therefore it was important to investigate this case immediately. *"Independente, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Media should be free during elections** Secretary-General of Timor-Leste Press Club (TLPC) Mouzinho Lopes de Araujo, said that media in the country should be free to cover news stories during the presidential and parliamentary elections. He said that journalists had their own rules to be followed when they were covering news stories in the field. "Journalists have their own ethical code and they are subject to it. They know how they publish a balanced report or news, neutral, and accountable," de Araujo said. Araujo was responding to the recent comments made by Commissioner of the National Commission for Election (CNE) Priest Martinho da Silva Gusmao, saying STAE and CNE had produced a code of conduct to regulate journalists when covering stories during general election. *"Independente, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***PNTL to set up security post at CNE and STAE offices** Timorese Police Commander, Commissioner of Police Longuinhos Monteiro affirmed that they would set up security post at the office of the Technical

LOCAL MEDIA MONITORING

Secretariat for Electoral Administration (STAE) and the National Commission for Election (CNE) during the general elections. "We have a plan to deploy our officers in the office of STAE and CNE in order to guarantee security for the staffs of STAE and CNE so that they can carry out their work effectively," Monteiro said. He added that would also deploy their people to ensure security for the staff of STAE and CNE who would carry out their work during general election in 13 districts, 56 sub-districts and 442 villages. *"Independente, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Logistics for PNTL is sufficient for general election** Deputy Commander for Timorese Police Commissioner of Police Afonso de Jesus affirmed they had sufficient logistics that would support them in carrying out their work effectively during the general elections. The Timorese Police Commander Commissioner of Police Longuinhos Monteiro had recently said that PNTL was ready to ensure the security in during the political campaign up to the end of the general elections. Secretary-General of UNDETIM, Francisco "Manu Buti" Guterres, has called on the police to provide a neutral protection to the people, because as he observed that the police only guard the veterans when they went down anywhere even at their homes. "What I want is they should treat us fairly," Manu Buti said. The Parliamentary Committee B for Defense and Security President Duarte Nunes said that they had held a meeting with the State Secretary for Security (SES) talking about PNTL's preparations for ensuring the security during the presidential and parliamentary elections. *"Independente, January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

***Timor-Leste threatened to lose Greater Sunrise** The contract with the Certain Maritime Arrangements in the Timor Sea (CMATS) will end in 2013, therefore it needs national consensus from the authorities to renew the contract. "CMATS' contract will end in 2013, and Australia said they had no problem with the CMATS and they had other natural resources to develop their country, but it would cause Timor-Leste to lose its Greater Sunrise gas and oil field," said Director for Luta Hamutuk Mericio Akara. Akara added Timor-Leste got 50% from the CMATS and the country failed to bring the Greater Sunrise pipeline to Timor-Leste. The civil society wants to call on the Government to guarantee the contract and maintains the jurisdiction area of the Greater Sunrise, because the Parliamentary Majority Alliance (AMP) Government promised to bring the pipeline of the Greater Sunrise to Timor-Leste but it failed, he said. *"Diario Nacional, January 24, 2012, Language source: Tetun*

***Fretilin agrees with CNE's policy of removing political parties' symbols** Deputy secretary-General of Fretilin party, Jose Reis said their party agreed with the National Election Commission (CNE) policy of removing all political parties' symbols in which were put publically in many places. "I want to remind all of us that Fretilin is supporting CNE to remove all parties' symbols in the public," said Reis. Reis added that since 2007 Fretilin's flags were raised throughout the territory was an expression of showing to the world that Fretilin won the majority of votes in general elections in 2007. Secretary-General of Frente Mudanca party, Jorge Teme said there was a positive and negative things in showing the parties' symbol, positive because people would know all the parties and negative because it breached the electoral law. *"Diario Nacional, January 24, 2012, Language source: Tetun*

***PNTL asks for more time to arrest suspects** The Timorese National Police (PNTL) has asked for the Public Prosecution to add time for arresting nine suspects of Zumalai case. "We are sending this dispatch to ask for more time, one up to two months to arrest the nine suspects who involved in Zumalai case," said Head for criminal investigation, Calistro Gonzaga. Gonzaga added the objective of asking for time was because the time for arresting the suspects had ended therefore the police extra time. Talking about the suspect who stabbed BOP [special police] member Gonzaga said actually the court applied house arrest for the suspect. *"Diario Nacional, January 24, 2012, Language source: Tetun*

***PNTL asks for judicial authorities to create law** Deputy Commander of the Timorese National police (PNTL), Afonso de Jesus has called on the country's judicial authorities to produce a law which would help PNTL to remove the political parties' symbols in the public sites. "We always ask for the juridical authorities to create law which will help PNTL to execute its mandate in the field for not appearing threats from any groups," he said. De Jesus also called to the political parties' leaders not to disseminate their symbols in the public when the time has not yet come. De Jesus stressed if they would not remove their parties' symbols PNTL would remove them itself, but they had to cooperate with the PNTL. *"Diario Nacional, January 24, 2012, Language source: Tetun*

***Security for general election is important** The leaders of the political parties have called on the Timorese National Police (PNTL) to maintain the security for electoral campaign and general election period. President of the Timorese Democratic Party (PDT), Aliansa de Araujo in her speech giving the security for the political parties' campaigning were very important. "I am calling on the PNTL to say maxim security in the political parties' campaigning so that people could attend the elections," Araujo said. Araujo also called on the political parties' leader to contribute to the peace and stability during the campaigning period, she said. "I think when the political leaders to strengthen love, peace and national unity and our people and the party's follower will follow us and will not create instability in the country," Araujo said. *"Suara Timor Lorosa'e January 24, 2012, Language Source: Tetun*

***PN calls on PNTL to control security in the country** In relation to the problems that is still happening in the country, especially the young gangs that continue provoking one another and creating instability in the suburbs, National Parliament called on the Timorese National Police (PNTL) to control such a situation at night time. "About the problem such as throwing stones at each other in each suburb, we are calling on the PNTL to control the situation at night, so that it can reduce numbers of violence in the country," said MP Martins. MP Joaquim Amaral from Fretilin party said the security of the country was important; therefore PNTL should control its. "I think the state is saying that the security of the country is very important because we are talking about the peace, security and reconciliation," MP Amaral said. *"Suara Timor Lorosa'e, January 24, 2012, Language Source: Tetun*

***PNTL Manatuto continues to control GAM's activity** The Timorese National Police of Manatuto District continue to control the activity of the Martial Arts Group (GAM) in the area. Criminal Investigation Service (SIC) commander, Calistro Gonzaga said "we continue to control the activity of GAM and the gambling in all the territory, including Mananatuto District." "If we see any GAM to hold their activity in the country we will arrest and sanction them based on the approved resolution made by the Council of Ministers," he said. Based on the political decision of the Council of Ministers Minister, the activity of the GAM will halted for one year, but if they continue to open their activity the PNTL have a competence to take any legal process against them. Deputy Commander for Manatuto Police Station Superintendent, Pascoal Guterres said the decision of PNTL command was to control the activity of GAM and gambling, the PNTL also built good relations with the leaders of the community and the leader of the youths in Manatuto District. *"Suara Timor Lorosa'e January 24, 2012 language source: Tetun*

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From 'The Comedian's Quote Book

You show me a sculptpr who works in the basement, and I'll show you a low-down chiseller

Soupy Sales