

Huge loss to country's power sector

Cyclone damages 70 transformers, 1150 towers in coastal areas

Monday's cyclone, which left behind a trail of devastation on property worth crores of taka, also caused huge loss to country's dimming power sector, reports UNB.

Most part of Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts ran out of power soon after the storm hit the coastal belt of Bangladesh, damaging 1150 towers and poles, 70 transformers and 580-kilometers line conductor.

Meanwhile, gusty wind on Tuesday caused colossal damage to Bheramara-Iswardi 132 KV grid line damaging four huge towers that threw the entire Faridpur, Khulna, Jessore, Kushtia and Barisal region into a blackout, lasting about three hours from 5 pm.

Zillur, Tofael visit cyclone-hit southern region

LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Zillur Rahman and Industries and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed yesterday visited the cyclone-hit southern region of the country, reports UNB.

LGRD Minister Zillur Rahman and Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed extensively visited the storm-torn areas in Barisal, Patuakhali and Bhola districts, and talked to the affected people and enquired about the treatment of the injured.

State Minister for Jute and Textile AK Faejul Haque accompanied the ministers.

It said the ministers will stay at the affected districts for four days or more to oversee the relief activities there.

However, through an alternative arrangement, electricity in the areas was restored after 8 pm.

Energy Minister M Noor Uddin Khan, who rushed to Chittagong to see the extent of damage, directed the PDB men to repair the damaged lines and equipment in the shortest possible time.

A potential-transformer and 230KV busbar of Raosan Power Generation Plant-1, damaged in the cyclone, will take another

8 highway dacoits arrested

Police in their separate drives arrested eight highway dacoits, including their gang leader, in last two days, reports UNB.

The arrested highwaymen were identified as gang leader Sumon Ahmed Babu, 30, Raja Mia, 20, Delwar Hossain Dila, 22, Salahuddin, 28, Selim, 24, Alamgir, 23, Alamin, 21 and Mintu, 19.

Acting on a tip-off, police arrested Babu from Matlab in Chandpur district on Tuesday.

Following Babu's confessional statement, police later raided Mijmije in Demra and Sanarpar areas in Siddirganj yesterday and arrested his accomplices.

They also recovered looted goods, including gold ornaments and clothes from their possession. The arrested had long been wanted by police in several dacoity cases.

Babu confessed to the police that they had committed dacoity in two buses on Siddirganj-Bhairab road on May 15 and April 26 this year.

couple of days for repairs.

Of the eight sub-stations in Chittagong zone, which were damaged in the storm, seven were made operative while the 132KV grid line which supplies power to Cox's Bazar could not be mended as tele-link with the seabeach town remained cut off, preventing communication.

An Energy Ministry source said out of 112 feeder lines of Chittagong zone damaged during the storm, 38 were made operative, while PD through a special arrangement ensured power supply to important installations of Chittagong city, like hospitals, T&T, WASA pumps, port, circuit houses, cantonment, naval base, television station, radio station and railway.

The sources said a total of 52 teams headed by executive engineers were working round the clock to repair the damaged lines and restore power in the affected areas.

The ministry sources said Monday's cyclone equally damaged the lines and installations of Rural Electrification Board of the areas.

World leaders shocked at loss of lives in cyclone

Pakistan Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif yesterday expressed his profound grief over the loss of lives and havoc caused by the severe cyclone in Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and other coastal areas of Bangladesh, reports BSS.

In a message to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, he conveyed, on behalf of his government, and the people of Pakistan, their deepest sympathy and sincere condolences to the bereaved families.

In another message to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, President of Sri Lanka Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga expressed deep shock and sympathy over the loss of lives and property caused by the cyclone.

King of Bhutan Jigme Singye Wangchuck, in a separate message to Sheikh Hasina, expressed his shock and sympathy for the tragic incident caused by the calamity.

Nepalese Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand has expressed his grief at the loss of lives and property caused by the cyclone in Bangladesh, reports BSS.

In a message to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the Nepalese Prime Minister said "the people and government of Nepal join me in extending our heartfelt condolences and sympathies to you and through you to the government and people of Bangladesh."

Emeka Anyaoku In another message to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Commonwealth Secretary General Emeka Anyaoku also expressed his deep sorrow at the loss of lives and extensive damage to property caused by the cyclone.

He said "this is not the first time that Bangladesh has suffered nature's fury and I am confident that everything possible is being done to alleviate the difficulties which the cyclone has caused."

"I would like to convey to you the sympathy and solidarity of the Commonwealth and it is my hope that the international community, including member states of the Commonwealth, will want to provide every assistance to Bangladesh in dealing with the calamity," he added.

Nepalese FM Nepalese Foreign Minister Dr Prakash Chandra Lohani yesterday expressed shock at the loss of lives in Monday's devastating cyclone, reports BSS.

In a message to Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, the Nepalese Foreign Minister said, "I am saddened to learn the loss of life and property caused by the devastating cyclone in Bangladesh."



Members of two rival groups of Ghat Sramik Union clashed during a rally in front of the Jatiya Press Club yesterday. — Star photo

143 arrested on various charges

Police rounded up 143 people on various charges from different parts of the city in last 24 hours, said a DMP press release yesterday, reports UNB.

The arrested include 22 people held against warrants and 30 others accused of murder, dacoity, mugging, extortion and terrorism.

Weather

Rain, squally wind likely

Rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty or squally wind may occur at a few places over Chittagong, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna divisions in the next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met office said day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period. The country's highest temperature 40.2 degree Celsius was recorded at Chuadanga and the lowest 21.5 degrees at Sylhet. The sun sets today at 6:38 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:12 am.

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What's on today . . .

Workshop: A workshop on 'Reedlands afforestation study project,' organised by the Forest Department and Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies, will begin. Venue: Banabhaban auditorium, Mohakhali. Time: 10 am. Chief guest: Environment and Forest Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury.

Seminar: Shishu Adhikar Sangjog has arranged a seminar on Working for an alternative reality. Venue: WVA auditorium. House: 20 Rd: 27 (Old), Dhanmondi. Time: 9 am.

Launching ceremony: Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd will launch its 'medical information kiosk' at a ceremony. Venue: IPGM & R auditorium. Time: 12 noon.

Rotary Club of Dhanmondi: The weekly meeting of the club will be held. Venue: Family lounge of Dhaka Club. Time: 5:30pm.

What's on tomorrow . . .

Children's theatre workshop: People's Theatre Association in collaboration with 'Nethy-Netty Theatre Group of England, has arranged a day-long workshop on children's theatre. Venue: Shilpakala Academy. Time: 9 am-5pm. Registration by 8:30 am.

IUB convocation: The first convocation of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) will be held. Venue: Osmani Memorial Hall. Time: 10 am. Chief guest: Chancellor of the University President Shahabuddin Ahmed.

Two youngmen assaulted

By Staff Correspondent A group of people assaulted two youngmen as they reportedly parked their car near an apartment complex at New Eskaton in the city Monday night.

The injured youngmen identified as Omar Faisal Chowdhury and Hossain Fazel Elahi were admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) following the incident at about 10:30 pm Monday, said police and a relative of the victims yesterday.

The incident occurred following an altercation between the young men and a group of local people, allegedly some guards and dwellers of the apartment, Property Enclave. At one stage, the attackers dragged the young men inside the apartment complex and severely assaulted them. The young men, who work in a computer company in the city, went to the area to see a doctor.

TI award for investigative journalism

By Staff Correspondent Transparency International (TI) Bangladesh has announced an annual award for investigative journalism, a TI press release said.

The best pieces of investigative reports in Bangla and English, will be judged on the basis of revelation of either certain systemic corrupt practices or maladministration within government or non-governmental organisations.

A selection board will scrutinize the entries and then select the best contributions, one from English and one from Bangla print media, the release said.

The award comprises two cash prizes of Tk 50 thousand. Interested participants have been requested to send their published investigative pieces to the office of TI-B at Insurance Academy Bhaban, 5th floor, 53 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.

Cultural activists urged to aid cyclone victims

State Minister for Information Prof Abu Sayeed has called upon the country's cultural activists to come forward in aid of the cyclone affected people, reports UNB.

"It's our moral obligation to stand beside the affected people," he said while addressing an award presentation ceremony of Bangladesh Betar artistes at the Mahila Samity auditorium in the city yesterday.

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LEGAL NOTICE

In the Supreme Court of Bangladesh High Court Division (Original Civil Jurisdiction)

Matter No. 32 of 1997

In the matter of:

An application under Section 12(2) read with Section 13 and 14 of the Companies Act, 1994.

In the matter of:

Bangladesh Marine Fisheries Association.

.....Petitioner.

Notice is hereby given that a Petition under Section 12(2), 13 and 14 of the Companies Act was moved on 6.5.1997 on behalf of Marine Fisheries Association for obtaining confirmation and direction for incorporation of Amendment in the Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association of Bangladesh Marine Fisheries Association. The Court was pleased to admit the petition which will come up in the cause list on 5.6.1997 for hearing. Any person interested in the matter and desirous of opposing the application should appear at the time of hearing by himself or through his duly authorised Advocate for that purpose. A copy of the petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undersigned on payment of the necessary charges.

MAHBUBUR RAHMAN
Advocate, for the petitioner
9/K, United Nations Road, Baridhara, Dhaka-1212.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Today on the 22nd May '97

Katkhal Branch, Kishorgonj has been shifted from its previous address of

Mouja-Gandabpur, J.L. No. 438, Dag No. 336, Khatian No. 24, P.O. Katkhal Bazar, Union : Katkhal, Thana : Mitamoin, Dist : Kishorgonj

To

Mouja-Katkhal, J.L. NO. 439, Old Dag No. 5960, New Dag No.68, Old Khatian No. 46, New Khatian No. 24, P.O. Katkhal Bazar, Union : Katkhal, Thana : Mitamoin, Dist : Kishorgonj

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Tender Notice No. 44/96-97

Sealed tenders are hereby invited by Biman Bangladesh Airlines from the interested manufacturers/distributors/suppliers for the supply of the items mentioned below as per details/specifications mentioned in the schedule:

01. RAIN COAT (FOR LADIES)	- 200 PCS
02. TYRE WITH TUBE 6.50-14 (8 PLY)	-50 SET
03. TYRE WITH TUBE 8.75-16.5 LT	-100 SET
04. TYRE & TUBE 500-12 (6 PLY)	-24 PCS
05. MASKING TAPE	-1200 ROLL
06. POLYTHENE BAG	-42000 PCS
07. PRESENSITIZED OFFSET POSITIVE PLATES	-500 PLATES

Tender schedule mentioning full details/specifications of items, terms and conditions will be available from the Accounts Officer, Cash Payment Unit of Finance Directorate, Biman Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka on payment of Tk 100/= (Taka one hundred) per set (non-refundable) by applying own letterhead pad during any working day up to 14.06.97.

Sealed tenders should be dropped in the tender box kept in Local Purchase Section, Stores & Purchase Directorate, Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka and Biman Press Building, Farmgate, Tejgaon, Dhaka latest by 1030 hours (BST) on 15.06.97 & will be opened on the same day at 1130 hours at the premises of Stores and Purchase Directorate, Admin Building, ZIA, Dhaka in presence of the tenderers (if any).

Biman Management reserves the right to increase or decrease the quantity of the items and can accept or reject any or all the tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Dy General Manager (S&P) Commercial Stores & Purchase Directorate

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