



A giant sinkhole caused by the rains of Tropical Storm Agatha is seen in Guatemala City yesterday. More than 94,000 people have been evacuated as the storm buried homes under mud, swept away a highway bridge near Guatemala City and opened up sinkholes in the capital.

Tropical storm batter Central America: 150 die

BBC ONLINE

Emergency workers in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador are struggling to get aid to communities cut off by Tropical Storm Agatha.

The storm has left at least 150 people dead since Saturday, most of them in Guatemala.

Rescuers are digging through mud and rubble in search of dozens of people still missing after landslides destroyed entire communities.

The storm has passed but officials warn that swollen rivers still pose a risk.

The Guatemalan authorities said 123 people were known to have died, while in Honduras 14 people were killed, and nine in El Salvador.

All three countries have declared emergencies in an attempt to increase immediate aid and resources.

The storm dumped more than 3ft (1m) of rain on parts of Guatemala, the government said, causing rivers to burst their banks and hillsides to collapse.

In the capital, Guatemala City, a giant sinkhole opened up, reportedly swallowing a couple of buildings.

Officials initially said the storm was to blame, but now say they will carry out further studies to determine the exact cause, as a sinkhole appeared in the same area in 2007.

Tens of thousands of people are living in temporary shelters, either because their homes were destroyed or because they were evacuated from areas at risk of flooding.

Gunmen open fire at Pak hospital, 12 killed

AFP, Lahore

Gunmen opened fire at a Pakistan hospital where victims of attacks on Ahmadi mosques were being treated late Monday, killing 12 people in a shootout with security forces, a doctor said.

The attackers stormed the gate of Jinnah Hospital in the eastern city of Lahore, where at least 30 victims and one of the alleged attackers in Friday's suicide, gun and grenade attack on the minority sect were being treated.

"They started indiscriminate firing outside the emergency ward and intensive care unit," Doctor Javed Akram told reporters.

"As a result, 12 people were killed. Most of them were police officials. Some hospital guards and attendants were also killed," he said.

Akram told reporters that at least 30 wounded Ahmadis had been admitted to the hospital and that one of the alleged attackers of Friday's devastating attacks was being treated in a private room.

Armoured police vans raced to the scene as shooting continued, the doctor said. The identity of the attackers was not immediately clear.

"The fight is going on. We are tracing the attackers. We will not spare them," police official Sohail Sukhera said.

The assault came three days after suspected Sunni Muslim militants wearing suicide vests

burst into two Ahmadi prayer halls in two neighbourhoods of Lahore and killed 82 worshippers.

They were the worst attacks in Pakistan since a suicide bomber killed 101 people on January 1 at a volleyball game in Bannu, which abuts the tribal belt along the Afghan border that Washington calls al-Qaeda headquarters.

Pakistani police blamed Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan militants who trained in Waziristan, part of the lawless tribal badlands on the Afghan border.

Pakistan's leading rights group said the Ahmadi community had received threats for more than a year and officials blamed the attack on Islamist militants who have killed more than 3,370 people in bombings over the last three years.

A city of eight million people and widely considered Pakistan's cultural capital, Lahore has increasingly suffered Taliban and al-Qaeda-linked violence, with around 265 people killed in nine attacks since March 2009.

Lahore is a playground for Pakistan's elite and home to many top brass in its military and intelligence establishment.

Taliban and al-Qaeda-linked militants have orchestrated the three-year bombing campaign in Pakistan to avenge military operations and the government's alliance with the United States over the war in neighbouring Afghanistan.

US army to control UK troops in Afghanistan

BBC ONLINE

The US will take control of about 8,000 British troops in Helmand province, southern Afghanistan, later.

The move is part of a restructuring of Nato forces, with command and control in southern Afghanistan split into two.

Defence Secretary Dr Liam Fox welcomed changes he said were "based on sound military rationale" and in the interests of the coalition strategy.

The UK force level in Afghanistan is currently 9,500, and including Special Forces, totals some 10,000.

Until now, UK forces took their orders from British Major General Nick Carter, who was in charge of operations in the south.

But the region is being split to make it more manageable.

Gen Carter will oversee Kandahar and Maj Gen Richard Mills, of the US Marine Corps, will command forces in Helmand.

Maj Gen Gordon Messenger told BBC Radio 4's Today programme: "To the guys on the ground it will make very little difference at all.

"It's absolutely normal business when you are working on a Nato operation that officers of different nations will command you at one time or another."

The defence secretary said British forces had made "real progress in Helmand", adding that they would "continue to do so working alongside Afghan, American and other Isaf partners making up an international effort of more than 45 nations".

Maj Gen Messenger said that providing security was the "bedrock" on which a peaceful Afghanistan would be built, but that had to be followed up by good governance in the country.



Qaeda's no 3 leader dead

Confirms al-Qaeda

AFP, Kabul

al-Qaeda has announced the death of Mustafa Abu al-Yazid, its number three leader and Osama bin Laden's one-time top money man, in what would be a major blow to the global terror network.

US monitoring groups said the death of Yazid, who was the leader of al-Qaeda in Afghanistan and its liaison with the Taliban for three years, was announced by the group in a message to jihadi websites on Monday.

"We have strong reason to believe that's true, and that (Yazid) was killed recently in Pakistan's tribal areas," a US official said. "In terms of counter terrorism, this would be a big victory."

Yazid, one of a number of Egyptians in the higher echelons of al-Qaeda, was a founding member of the network and a former treasurer to bin Laden who was accused of channelling money to some of the September 11 hijackers.

Yazid, also known as Sheikh Said al-Masri, would be one of the top al-Qaeda leaders to be killed since US President Barack Obama took office in January last year.


"Al-Masri was the group's chief operating officer, with a hand in everything from finances to operational planning," the US official said.

"He was also the organisation's prime conduit to bin Laden and Zawahiri," he said referring to al-Qaeda number two and fellow Egyptian Ayman al-Zawahiri. "He was key to al-Qaeda's command and control."

The al-Qaeda message carried by the SITE group that monitors Islamist websites did not give details about the circumstances of the death of Yazid other than to speak of his "martyrdom".

But it said the message posted on jihadi forums on May 31 said his wife, three of his daughters, his granddaughter, and other men, women and children were killed.

"His death will only be a severe curse by his life upon the infidels. The response is near. That is sufficient," according to the message translated by SITE.



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1	Research Officer (one post)	Post-graduate degree in Business Administration, Economics or Statistics with at least two First Classes/Divisions or a minimum of GPA of 3.3. 2-3 years experience in Socio-economic research and data bank management is necessary. Knowledge about WTO and different preferential trading regime will be an additional qualification. Must have the ability to work in a multicultural and multidimensional setting. Person should demonstrate dynamism, vision, innovativeness and creativity & shall possess good health. He/She should have the ability to assist top management in preparation of reports and analytical evaluation. Necessary computer skills (both English & Bangla-Bijoy Keyboard) are a must. Age must not exceed 35 years.
2	Public Relations Officer (one post)	Postgraduate degree preferably in Journalism with at least 2 First Divisions/Classes or GPA of 3.3. Must have 3 to 4 years experience in Public Relation work including very good interactions with Press and Electronic media. He/She should have the ability to prepare Press Releases, organize Press Briefings, arrange/fix appointment for top management with high Govt. officials/Head of International Institutions, arrange Visa for BTMA members from Foreign missions stationed in Bangladesh. Receive and See-off BTMA Top brass upon arrival or departure for abroad. Computer literacy (both English & Bangla-Bijoy Keyboard) are a must. He/She shall possess good health and will have to undertake off the office activities to promote BTMA's mission and vision. Must have good command over both Written and spoken English & Bangla. Age must not exceed 35 years.
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Attractive compensation package commensurate with qualification & experience will be offered to the deserving candidates for all posts.

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Richmond Concord (5th floor)
68 Gulshan Avenue, Gulshan-I, Dhaka-1212**

Kashmir clashes kill six rebels

AFP, Srinagar

Indian troops have shot dead six suspected Islamic militants during two gun battles in revolt-hit Kashmir, the military said Monday, as a top separatist ruled out talks with New Delhi.

The fresh fighting came amid heightened tensions in the region over the alleged staged killing of three Muslims by the security forces late last month.

Monday's gun battles erupted in northern Baramulla district when Indian troops launched two separate operations against rebels.

"During the ensuing gun battles six militants were killed," an army spokesman said, adding an Indian army soldier was also injured.

The influential separatist politician Mirwaiz Umar Farooq said on Monday that no talks would be held with New Delhi to find a solution to the unrest in Indian Kashmir as "killings and talks cannot go together."

Farooq's moderate faction of the main separatist alliance has held several rounds of talks with New Delhi despite opposition by hard line separatists and threats and attacks by armed rebels.

"It is a shame that three innocent people were killed and later passed off as militants," he told a news conference, demanding an end to human rights violations in Kashmir.

JS budget

FROM PAGE 16

Salauddin Quader Chowdhury, a member of BNP's national standing committee, told The Daily Star yesterday.

The BNP-led opposition did not join the budget session last year raising various demands.

A few BNP leaders said the party has yet to decide whether it would join the session or not.

It is almost certain that the opposition lawmakers belonging to BNP, Jamaat-e-Islami and Bangladesh Jatiya Party will not join the House that goes into session at 5:00pm.

The party has been demanding withdrawal of 'false cases' against BNP chief and other leaders and stopping unpleasant remarks on late president Ziaur Rahman and his family.

Talking to reporters yesterday Opposition Chief Whip Zainul Abdin Farooque said BNP parliamentary party will

decide whether they would join the budget session or not.


MK Anwar, a member of BNP's national standing committee, told The Daily Star over phone he did not know anything whether the party lawmakers would join the House today.

BNP-led opposition lawmakers had staged a walk out of the House on April 4, a day before the last session was prorogued opposing the passage of the bill raising remuneration and allowances of lawmakers.

We hope the opposition lawmakers would join the House, said ruling party Chief Whip Abdus Shahid yesterday.

They would get adequate time to speak, he added.

Meanwhile, the Business Advisory Committee led by Speaker Abdul Hamid sits an hour before the House sitting to decide on duration of time for business in the session.



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Chittagong Water Supply and Sewerage Authority

Invitation for Tender (National)

1.	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Local Govt, Rural Development & Co-operatives, Local Govt. Division.				
2.	Agency	Chittagong Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (CWASA).				
3.	Procuring entity name	Executive Engineer, Procurement Division, Chittagong WASA, Dampara, Chittagong.				
4.	Procuring entity district	Chittagong.				
5.	Invitation for	Tender, Goods.				
6.	Invitation Ref. No.	No. 21/2010.				
7.	Date	30/05/2010.				
8.	Procurement method	Open tendering method (national).				
9.	Budget and source of funds	CWASA Revenue Budget.				
10.	Tender publication date	30-05-2010				
11.	Tender last selling date	16-06-2010				
12.	Tender closing date and time	17-06-2010 at 12.30pm.				
13.	Tender opening date and time	17-06-2010 at 1.30pm.				
14.	Name & address of the office(s)	<div>- Selling tender document (principal)<div>Office of the Executive Engineer, Procurement Division, CWASA, Dampara, Chittagong.</div></div> <div>- Selling tender document (others)<div>1. Accounts Section, WASA Bhaban, Dampara, Chittagong. 2. Janata Bank, WASA Branch, Dampara, Chittagong.</div></div> <div>- Receiving tender document<div>i. Office of the Executive Engineer, Procurement Division, CWASA, Dampara, Chittagong. ii. Office of the Executive Engineer, MOD-1, Agrabad, CWASA, Chittagong.</div></div> <div>- Opening tender document/ place/date/time of<div>Office of the Executive Engineer, Procurement Division, CWASA, Dampara, Chittagong.</div></div>				
15.	Eligibility of tenderer	Bonafide supplier.				
16.	Brief description of goods	1. Supply of Car (1 No.) 2. Supply of Double Cabin 4 WD Pick-up (3 Nos.) 3. Supply of Microbus (2 Nos.)				
17.	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Price of tender document (Tk.)	Tender security amount (Tk.)	Completion time
	1.	Supply of Car (1 No.)	CWASA Store	1000.00	40,000.00	From ready stock within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of Notification of Award.
	2.	Supply of Double Cabin 4 WD Pick-up (3 Nos.)	CWASA Store	2000.00	1,70,000.00	
	3.	Supply of Microbus (2 Nos.)	CWASA Store	2000.00	1,40,000.00	
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS						
18.	Name of official inviting tender	Md. Nurul Absar.				
19.	Designation of official inviting tender	Executive Engineer.				
20.	Address of official inviting tender	Procurement Division, WASA Bhaban, Dampara, Chittagong.				
21.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel. 88-031-614141, Fax: 88-031-610465 E-mail: cwasa@globalctg.net.				
22.	The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders.					
SPR 69/30/5/10		Executive Engineer Procurement Division CWASA, Chittagong				
GD-2596						