

CLOSE SHAVE

Cyclone weakens on way to coast;
6 killed, 6 missing

STAR REPORT

Weakening Cyclone Komen made landfall in Cox's Bazar around 9:00 last night, causing heavy rain that saw vast areas of several upazilas of the coastal town inundated.

Over the last two days, six people died in coastal region in various incidents amid inclement weather while six more people remain missing. The cyclone hit St Martin's and Shaparir islands yesterday morning.

When this report was filed around 1:30am today, the cyclonic storm was crossing Chittagong coast near Sandwip.

It was supposed to cross the Chittagong coast by this morning and then weaken gradually, according to the Met office.

Under the influence of the cyclonic storm, the low-lying areas of the coastal districts of Cox's Bazar, Chittagong, Noakhali, Laxmipur, Feni, Chandpur, Bhola, Barisal, Patuakhali, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, Barguna, Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira and their offshore islands and chars were likely to be inundated by storm surge of three to five feet above normal tide.

However, when the cyclone made landfall in Cox's Bazar last night, there was no immediate report of any loss of life or property.

Throughout yesterday, the storm hovered over the Bay, some 55km from Chittagong Port, causing heavy rainfall and high winds in the region.

A boat, which was in the sea ignoring warnings, capsized, killing two

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Apprehending Cyclone Komen making a landfall, Chittagong City Corporation staff members near Patenga Beach use a horn speaker to urge people to move to safety yesterday afternoon.

PHOTO: STAR

When the clock strikes 12:00 tonight, around 52,000 inhabitants of 162 enclaves inside Bangladesh and India will taste freedom after living in a stateless limbo for 68 years. They will become citizens of either of the countries based on their choice, as the neighbour countries will exchange the adversely possessed territories, bringing an end to decades of isolation and deprivation of the people living there.

Trespasser in one's own country

INAM AHMED

It was like any other mundane day for Aziza Rahman, the sixty-year-old man - except that he landed in jail.

Life in the enclaves has little variations. You get up in the morning, if you have land to cultivate, then you go there and do the job.

Or you venture out to Bangladeshi territory, hang around the market place and look for a job. And jobs are hard to come by in this remote place of Dashiarchhara in Kurigram.

For Aziza it was time to find a job, because rice was running low at home for his family of five.

As he was sitting in a tea stall in the market on Bangladeshi territory, there was a commotion. Somebody pointed at him and said, "He is a Chhit people (somebody living in enclaves)."

He was alarmed. As a dweller of an Indian enclave, he was an Indian citizen and should not have crossed into Bangladesh. But all that is on papers. When you are stuck nowhere in a small

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A boundary pillar, set up during the British era, separates Indian enclave Banshkata from Bangladesh mainland at Patgram in Lalmonirhat. The pillar along with 91 others in 59 enclaves in the district is set to be removed as there will be no enclave after midnight today.

PHOTO: S DILIP ROY

Wait ends at the stroke of midnight

STAR REPORT

The residents of 111 Indian enclaves inside Bangladesh are all set to take up new identities tonight as the neighbouring countries exchange the adversely possessed pieces of land at the stroke of midnight.

To mark the end of 68-year-long life of statelessness, deprivation and obscurity, they will light 68 candles, release 68 balloons and explode 68 firecrackers.

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Separated again 68 years after

Enclave dwellers' freedom a few hours away

INAM AHMED

It is nothing compared to the greatest migration in history when people moved like ants to cross borders into Bengal and Punjab. There will be no violence and death stalking them at every footstep. And yet there will be many similarities.

Second time in the history of this sub-continent, a mass migration,

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

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শুভ উদ্বোধন...

ঢাকার অতি সন্নিকটে টঙ্গীতে ৮৮,০০০ স্পেন্ডেল বিশিষ্ট দেশের সর্ববৃহৎ
মিলাঞ্জ ও ব্লেভেড স্পিনিং মিলস্ এর শুভ উদ্বোধন।

প্রধান অতিথি

জনাব শেখ মোঃ ওয়াহিদুজ্জামান
চেয়ারম্যান, জনতা ব্যাংক লিঃ

বিশেষ অতিথি

জনাব মোঃ আবদুস সালাম
সিইও এন্ড ম্যানেজিং ডাইরেক্টর
জনতা ব্যাংক লিঃ

Blow Room : Rieter (Switzerland)
Carding : Rieter (Switzerland)
Draw Frame : Rieter (Switzerland)
Ring Frame : Rieter (Switzerland)
Simplex : Toyota (Japan)
Autoconer : Murata (Japan)

সময় : বিকাল ২:৪৫ (৩১শে জুলাই ২০১৫)

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মিডিয়া পার্টনার : ঢাকার ডাক

অর্থায়নে: জনতা ব্যাংক লিঃ