

Bangladesh

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to broker a global climate-saving pact in Paris, the Bonn-based advocacy group Germanwatch released the 2016 Global Climate Risk Index, showing those nations most affected by the direct consequences of extreme weather events.

Honduras, Myanmar and Haiti top the new list of nations hardest hit by two decades of storms, floods and landslides that killed more than half a million people.

The three countries were the most affected by such disasters between 1995 and 2014, said the latest edition of the annual index.

Next were the Philippines, Nicaragua, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Pakistan, Thailand and Guatemala.

Altogether, more than 525,000 people died as a direct result of about 15,000 extreme weather events, the report said.

Losses amounted to more than \$2.97 trillion (2.8 trillion Euros), it said.

Honduras tops the list partly because it is in the Central American hurricane belt.

Although Honduras endured fewer extreme events than the Philippines, Bangladesh and some other disaster-prone nations, its financial losses were the highest.

MORE SEVERE EVENTS AHEAD
The analysis only looked at the direct results of extreme weather, the report stressed, whereas the indirect consequences of extreme weather such as drought and famine resulting from heatwaves can be much more deadly.

It shows only one piece of the puzzle and is not a comprehensive index of vulnerability to climate change, researchers said.

For example, the study does not take into account sea-level rise, glacier melting or more acidic and warmer seas.

Germanwatch urged negotiators at the UN climate conference underway in Le Bourget, outside Paris, to reach a universal deal to avert a climate catastrophe.

Looking at 2014 alone, the Germanwatch study showed Serbia, Afghanistan and Bosnia suffered most from extreme weather events.

They were followed by the Philippines, Pakistan, Bulgaria, Nepal, Burundi, Bolivia and India.

Most of the countries who made it in the top 10 for extreme weather in 2014 had suffered "exceptional catastrophes," Germanwatch said.

But "over the last few years another category of countries has been gaining relevance: countries that are recurrently affected by catastrophes such as the Philippines and Pakistan," it said.

Three 'Shibir' men

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user clicked on the links, their accounts were hacked. The three then posted anti-state propaganda on the walls of those hacked Facebook accounts," Didarul claimed.

'FACEBOOK TO BE UNBLOCKED SOON'
State Minister for ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak yesterday said that Facebook may be unblocked in the country "very soon".

"I don't know the exact time and date but I can say the ban will be lifted very soon," he said at a press conference at the National Press Club on the first national ICT debating competition.

On November 18, the government blocked access to the social networking site along with online messaging and calling apps WhatsApp and Viber, citing security reasons. But many, including some cabinet members and the prime minister's press wing staff, continue to use the apps using proxy servers.

Against this backdrop, the government, according to Palak, is contacting the Facebook authority so that the bar on its use in Bangladesh can be lifted without jeopardising the country's security.

Meanwhile, many users across the country could access Facebook off and on even though the bar on its use hasn't yet been lifted.

When asked how it happened, a senior official of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission said they were unaware of any such development.

"We haven't received any order from any ministry or intelligence agencies to unblock Facebook. And so, no such directives were issued to the telecom service providers," he said, wishing anonymity.

TARANA AGAIN WRITES TO FACEBOOK
State Minister for Posts and Telecommunications Division Tarana Halim yesterday again wrote to the Facebook authority asking it to block all the fake accounts that uses her name.

"I have learned that five to six new pages were created in the last few days using my name and photos. But they are not mine," Tarana told The Daily Star over the phone.

Those accounts regularly make objectionable posts that may confuse people, she said.

Earlier on November 30, Tarana Halim sent a letter to Facebook, saying the government was interested in signing a deal with the social

networking site on availing information about its users.

The next day, she said a Facebook delegation had agreed to visit Bangladesh on December 6 to discuss the proposal.

"We will arrange a joint meeting of the telecom and the home ministries with the Facebook team," she said.

Talks crawl

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More than 150 world leaders including President Barack Obama launched the talks Monday, seeking to build momentum for the tough negotiations ahead with lofty rhetoric about the urgency of the task.

But after three days of grinding discussions over a hugely complex 54-page draft pact, bureaucrats unveiled a document just four pages shorter and with vast stretches of text yet to be agreed.

Ministers from around the globe will descend on Paris Monday to try to transform the draft prepared by diplomats into a universal climate accord to avert planetary overheating. The conference is scheduled to conclude on December 11.

"At this rate, when ministers arrive next week they will wonder what progress has been made since world leaders took to the podium in Paris," said Greenpeace's head of international climate politics Martin Kaiser.

At the core of the talks is the goal of limiting average warming to a maximum of two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit) over pre-Industrial Revolution levels.

Kaiser said long-term goals were now clearer in the draft, though it did not call for fossil fuels to be phased out by 2050 so as to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) -- a more ambitious target being pushed by low-lying island nations at risk of sinking into rising seas.

"On other parts of the text, there's been even less progress," he warned.

Despite the concerns, French Environment Minister Segolene Royal said negotiations were advancing.

"It is normal for it to take a day or two for negotiations to get into gear," she told AFP. "It is unthinkable to imagine failure."

Scientists warn time for action is running out, issuing ever-louder warnings that steadily growing carbon emissions will doom future generations to rising seas and worsening floods, storms and drought -- a recipe for hunger, disease and homelessness for many millions.

Wikipedia

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(AI) in the task of evaluating Wikipedia edits have not always been well received.

Some, for instance, have automatically downgraded the input of new editors, which has been seen as problematic for well-intentioned newcomers.

ORES aims to get around this by judging purely the content of an alteration.

"The thing to note is it doesn't judge whether the facts that people are adding are actually true, because fact-checking is immensely difficult, it's looking at the quality," said Prof John Carroll, a computational linguist at the University of Sussex.

His own start-up, iLexir, provides software to automatically check the quality of written English in essays by foreign language students.

6 militants

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According to detectives, members of the militant group communicate with each other through Facebook and other social media platforms. They have been trying to carry out militant activities across the country.

The pirs are the outfit's main target as it believes that the religious leaders have been "misleading people and their activities go against Islamic rituals", detectives said.

Some 30 members of the militant group have been active across the country for the last two years, said Monirul.

The DMP spokesperson said Mujahid of Bangladesh has no links with Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB), Harkat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (Huji), al-Qaeda and Ansar Ullah Bangla Team, but the outfit's literature and activities proves that it follows the ideals of the global militant outfit al-Qaeda.

About the financiers of the group, Monirul said almost all of its operatives are service holders. They donate part of their earnings to the organisation.

The militants are active on Facebook and other social media with different IDs like Moumasi, Ek Tukro Megh and Sada Patan. They use such IDs to dodge the law enforcement agencies, mentioned the DB joint commissioner.

The operatives make friendship with Facebook users who have Islamist mentality and fascination for Jihad. They send messages to their inboxes and also communicate with them in person, a DB official said.

After getting physical training, some of them also get trained in arms

Motive still a mystery

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San Bernardino Police Chief Jarrod Burguan said the motive remained unclear in the most recent US mass shooting. He and David Bowdich, an assistant regional FBI director, both said it had not been determined if terrorism was a motive.

Farook was US born while Malik's nationality was yet to be determined. A spokesman for the Muslim advocacy group Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) said both were Muslims.

Farook's family and co-workers also struggled to make sense of the shooting, the deadliest in the United States in three years. His brother-in-law said he had "absolutely no idea" why Farook would stage a massacre.

Burguan said Farook was a county public health employee who attended the party at the Inland Regional Center and, at some point, stormed out.

He and Malik later returned, both dressed in assault-style clothing, and placed several bombs at the scene, which police detonated.

Burguan said the manner in which the couple was equipped indicated there was "some degree of planning" behind the attack.

There have been more than 350 shootings this year, in which four or more people were wounded or killed

in the United States, according to the crowd-sourced website shootingtracker.com, which keeps a running tally of US gun violence.

The San Bernardino rampage was the deadliest US gun incident since the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, in December 2012, in which 27 people, including the gunman, were killed.

Wednesday's carnage amplified concerns about gun violence and security after deadly assaults at a Planned Parenthood clinic in Colorado Springs last week and the attacks in Paris three weeks ago by Islamic State militants that killed 130 people.

President Barack Obama called for gun law reform to reduce the likelihood of mass shootings.

"We have a no-fly list where people can't get on planes but those same people who we don't allow to fly could go into a store right now in the United States and buy a firearm and there's nothing that we can do to stop them," he said in an interview with CBS News on Thursday.

The attack in San Bernardino, a largely working-class city 60 miles (100 km) east of Los Angeles, appeared to differ from other recent US killing sprees in several ways, including the involvement of two people rather than a lone perpetrator.

Refugees now 60m

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Cooperation, Bangladesh lags behind only Maldives and Sri Lanka in terms of life expectancy.

The report says one billion people or about 14 percent of the world's population live in areas of conflict, and an estimated 59.5 million people have been displaced due to crises.

The UNFPA yesterday launched its State of the World Population 2015 Report titled "Shelter from the Storm: A Transformative Agenda for Women and Girls in a Crisis-Prone World."

More than 100 million people across the globe are in need of humanitarian assistance -- the highest number since the end of World War II. An estimated 26 million of them are women and adolescent girls of reproductive age.

"Protecting the health and rights of women and adolescents is not only critical to weathering the worsening storm of wars and natural disasters, but can also accelerate recovery from crises," it says.

The report also projects some pleasant facts about youths in Bangladesh and beyond.

Currently, 24.5 percent of the world population of 7.34 billion is young and most of them live in developing countries.

In Bangladesh, around 30 percent of the 161 million people are young (10-24 years).

And the fertility rate was 2.2 in the last five years.

The adolescent birth rate in Bangladesh is still high, with 83 births per 1,000 women (aged 15-19), while the global average is 51 births per 1,000.

Contraceptive prevalence rate of women (aged 15-49 years) using any method is 64 percent in the country, meaning these women or their partners are practising any form of contraception.

It says skilled health staff attended around 42 percent births in Bangladesh from 2006 to 2014 against the global average of 71.

The report called for a four-point transformative agenda for humanitarian assistance, including recognising women's health and rights, stepping up investment in prevention and preparedness, and removing the wall between humanitarian assistance and development.

Playmates kill 11-year-old

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recovered in the early hours of yesterday, two days after he had gone missing.

Sajal had just taken his primary terminal examinations from a local school.

Victim's uncle Nur Ahmed alleged that Arafat, Sajal's cousin, 14, and Musa, their playmates, 16, called Sajal out of his home around 7:30pm on Tuesday, asking him to attend a *milad-mehfil* nearby. Sajal was studying at that time.

No-one of them returned home that night. The next morning, Arafat and Musa came back without Sajal, Nur said.

When locals asked Arafat about his cousin, he claimed that they were attacked and chased by some robbers near a cucumber field that night and had got separated. Since then, he had no idea where the victim was.

On Wednesday, Sajal's family filed a general diary with Anwara Police Station over the matter. Both Arafat and Musa went into hiding

by that time, Nur added.

Later, locals searched the entire village and found the body at a canal just after midnight Wednesday. Police recovered it later.

Sub-Inspector Nazmul Hossain of Anwara Police Station said the body bore multiple stab wounds in the head, face, chest, hand and other private body parts.

Police said Musa was caught by locals from a place in the village yesterday noon. Based on his information, Russel, 16, one of his friends who allegedly took part in the killing, was also held. They were handed over to police afterwards.

Visiting the spot, Shamim Hossain, assistant superintendent of police (Patiya Circle), told The Daily Star that during primary interrogation, Musa confessed to have murdered Sajal for "behaving badly with them on an earlier occasion".

He, however, said the real

motive behind the murder could be known only after a detailed investigation.

37kg gold

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left the gold bars abandoned there to let the aircraft cleaners take those out of the airport using their security pass.

Investigation is on to find the smugglers and their accomplices, he said.

A customs official said they were trying to find the passengers who travelled in the three seats.

"It does not mean that those passengers smuggled the gold into the country, as in many cases smugglers concealed gold under others' seats," the official said, preferring anonymity.

With yesterday's haul, around 750kgs of gold had been seized at the airport this year, customs officials said.

Rescuers race to reach victims

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situation in Chennai," Home Minister Rajnath Singh told parliament after days of torrential downpours led to a dramatic worsening of the weeks-long crisis.

Modi yesterday said he had witnessed "the damage and misery caused by the extremely heavy rainfall" after touring the area by helicopter, and announced Rs 1,000 crore for Tamil Nadu flood relief.

Hundreds of residents in the city waved frantically from rooftops of flooded homes to helicopters hovering overhead, television footage showed.

Thousands of stranded passengers were evacuated from Chennai's international airport, which remained closed for a second day, its runway under water.

National carrier Air India said it would operate special flights from a nearby military airbase to help get stranded passengers out.

Rescuers took advantage of a lull in the rains to pour into the state, joining thousands already there in a race against time to reach those who are stranded.

"The situation has improved but we are sending more teams so that we can cover as many areas as possible," National Disaster Response Force director general OP Singh told reporters.

Many in the tech-savvy city took to social media to offer shelter and assistance to victims, or ask for information about loved-ones caught up in the floods.

Facebook, which has its second highest number of users in India, activated its "safety check" feature, which allows users to check whether friends are safe after attacks or natural disasters.

Experts at the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) in New Delhi said the floods were "a reminder of increasing frequency of such freak weather events across the Indian sub-continent".

But they said poor urban planning had likely exacerbated the scale of the disaster.

"We have forgotten the art of drainage. We only see land for buildings, not for water," said CSE director general Sunita Narain.

The prime minister had cited the floods as a consequence of climate change in his weekly radio address on Sunday, a day before meeting other world leaders at a global climate summit in Paris.

He has repeatedly called on developed countries to do more to combat the impact of global warming on the world's poor, who experts say will be disproportionately affected.

A naval warship loaded with inflatable boats, medical supplies and diving equipment arrived in Chennai yesterday.

Poor phone networks were hampering rescue efforts, while washed out bridges were slowing delivery of relief supplies, National Disaster Management Authority senior official Anurag Gupta said.

"Our top priority is to rescue marooned people on the first and second floors and getting them to safer, drier places," he told AFP.

Factories for Hyundai, Ford and Renault had already reportedly been forced to halt operations as the waters rose.

বাংলাদেশ তৈল, গ্যাস ও খনিজ সম্পদ করপোরেশন (পেট্রোবাংলা)

প্রশাসন বিভাগ
পেট্রোসেন্টার (৩য় তলা), ৩, কাওরান বাজার, বাণিজ্যিক এলাকা, ঢাকা-১২১৫

বিদ্যুৎ ও জ্বালানি নিরাপত্তা সর্বোচ্চ অগ্রাধিকার

সূত্র নং- ২৮.০২.০০০০.০১৬.৮৩.০০১.১৪ (অংশ)/ তারিখঃ ১০/১১/২০১৫

সংশোধনী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

আউটসোর্সিং (Outsourcing)-এর মাধ্যমে পেট্রোবাংলায় জনবল সরবরাহকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান নিয়োগের লক্ষ্যে ১৩.১১.২০১৫ তারিখে দি ডেইলি স্টার, ১৫.১১.২০১৫ তারিখে দৈনিক ইত্তেফাক ও ১৬.১১.২০১৫ তারিখে দৈনিক প্রথম আলো পত্রিকায় উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশিত হয়। প্রকাশিত বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লেখিত দরপত্রসমূহ গ্রহণ ও খোলার তারিখ ০৫.১২.২০১৫-এর পরিবর্তে ০৬.১২.২০১৫ তারিখ বেলা ১১:০০ ঘটিকা পর্যন্ত গ্রহণ এবং ০৬.১২.২০১৫ তারিখ বেলা ১১:৩০ ঘটিকায় খোলা হবে। দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তির অন্যান্য শর্তাবলী অপরিবর্তিত থাকবে।

জিডি-৩৭৭৭

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
বেসামরিক বিমান পরিবহন ও পর্যটন মন্ত্রণালয়
হোটেল ও রেস্টোরা সেল।

গণবিজ্ঞপ্তি

বাংলাদেশের সকল তারকা মানের হোটেল ও রেস্টোরা সমূহের সম্মানিত মালিক/ব্যবস্থাপককে তাদের হোটেল রেস্টোরা ২০১৬ খ্রিঃ এর বৎসরিক লাইসেন্স নবায়নের জন্য নির্ধারিত সরকারী ফি ট্রেজারী চালানের মাধ্যমে ১-৫৩০১-০০০১-১৮১৮ নবায়ন খাতে এবং জাতীয় রাজস্ব বোর্ড নির্ধারিত ১-১১৩৩-০০১০-০৩১১ নং কোডে ১৫% ভ্যাট বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক/সোনালী ব্যাংক লিঃ এ জমা প্রদানপূর্বক বিধি অনুসারে ৩১শে ডিসেম্বর ২০১৫ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রসহ নিয়ন্ত্রক/সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা প্রশাসক এর নিকট আবেদন করার অনুরোধ করা হলো।

এক ও দুই তারকামানের (দশ থেকে নিরানব্বই শয়নকক্ষ পর্যন্ত) হোটেল এবং (ত্রিশ আসন থেকে তদুর্ধ্ব আসন পর্যন্ত) রেস্টোরা সমূহের নিবন্ধন, লাইসেন্স ইস্যু, নবায়ন সংক্রান্ত বিষয় বিধি মোতাবেক সংশ্লিষ্ট জেলা প্রশাসকের কার্যালয় হতে সম্পন্ন হবে। তিন, চার এবং পাঁচ তারকামানের (একশত শয়নকক্ষ থেকে তদুর্ধ্ব) হোটেল এর লাইসেন্স ইস্যু, নবায়ন সম্পর্কিত কার্যক্রম প্রভৃতি নিয়ন্ত্রক, হোটেল ও রেস্টোরা সেল, বেসামরিক বিমান পরিবহন ও পর্যটন মন্ত্রণালয়, বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয় হতে সম্পন্ন হবে।

যদি কোন আবেদনকারী বর্ণিত সময়সীমার মধ্যে লাইসেন্স নবায়নের আবেদন করতে ব্যর্থ হন, তবে প্রত্যেক মাস বা ইহার কোন অংশের জন্য অতিরিক্ত পাঁচশত টাকা পরিশোধ করিবেন এবং এই অতিরিক্ত অর্থসহ নবায়নের মেয়াদ ৩১শে মার্চ ২০১৬ পর্যন্ত বহাল থাকবে। তবে সংশ্লিষ্ট বৎসরে প্রয়োজন অনুযায়ী ৩১শে মার্চের পর প্রত্যেক মাস বা ইহার কোন অংশের জন্য অদুর্ধ্ব এক হাজার টাকা বিলম্ব ফি-সহ সরকার নবায়নের সময়সীমা বৃদ্ধির ঘোষণা দিতে পারবেন।

বাংলাদেশ হোটেল ও রেস্টোরা আইন, ২০১৪ এর মোতাবেক লাইসেন্স গ্রহণ বাধ্যতামূলক। লাইসেন্সবিহীন সকল হোটেল ও রেস্টোরা মালিক/ব্যবস্থাপককে বিধি অনুসারে অনতিবিলম্বে লাইসেন্সগ্রহণ ও নবায়নপূর্বক ব্যবসা পরিচালনার অনুরোধ করা হলো।

শামীম আহমেদ
সহকারী নিয়ন্ত্রক
(উপসচিব)
ফোনঃ ৯৫৪০৯২

GD-3763

Testimony

FROM PAGE 5
recording testimonies.
Four out of 171 witnesses, including complainant Awami League Habiganj district unit's general secretary Abdul Majid, made depositions so far before the court.

Five people, including Kibria, were killed and 70 others injured in a grenade attack on a public rally of local Awami League at Baiddar Bazar in the Sadar upazila on January 27, 2005.