

BARISAL DIVISION

Cyclone Roanu wreaks havoc on roads, bridges

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali

Cyclone Roanu, which hit the southern region on May 21, has caused serious damage to infrastructure in six districts of Barisal division.

At least 351.48 kilometres of roadway, 59 bridges and seven buildings belonging to the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) were badly damaged. LGED officials estimate the cost to repair their buildings alone to be Tk. 196.62 crore.

The cyclone-damaged infrastructure includes roadway and bridges in Patuakhali, Barguna, Pirojpur and Jhalakathi, as well as three buildings and 17 kilometres of roadway in Barisal. Barguna was particularly badly affected, with 48 bridges damaged.

The primary report on infrastructure damage has already been sent to the higher authorities, says Jamal Uddin, an executive engineer in LGED's Barisal office.

"Most of the damage was in rural areas, to roads affected by the cyclone caused tidal surge. Steps to repair these damaged roads and bridges will be taken after funding is allocated by



PHOTO: STAR

This road stretching from Ilisa Ferry Terminal to Rajapur Bazar in Bhola Sadar upazila was badly damaged by tidal surge during Cyclone Roanu on May 21. At least 351.48 kilometres of roadway were battered by the cyclone in six districts of Barisal division.

our higher authorities," said Abu Saleh Md Hanif, the executive engineer of Patuakhali LGED.

The natural disaster also damaged over 100 brick kilns in Patuakhali district.

Abdul Maleque, the manager of Fahim Brick Kiln at Itbaria village in Barisal Sadar upazila, says a total of

four lakhs raw bricks in the kiln were destroyed due to the heavy rainfall which accompanied cyclone Roanu.

Over Tk 20 crore damage has been reported in the around 100 kilns in the eight upazilas of Patuakhali, as raw bricks were ruined and rainwater deluged the

fireplaces, says Md Shafiqur Rahman, president of the Brick Kiln Owners Association in the district.

Several thousands of workers are involved in the industry, he says, adding that the government should provide help to the sector in recognition of its importance to national development.

Two stabbed to death at filling station

A CORRESPONDENT, Jessore

Two people were stabbed to death at a filling station in Charabhatta area under Bagharpara upazila of the district.

The deceased are Obaidur Rahman, 40, manager of the filling station, and Apu Khan, 25, a student of Jessore MM College.

Sayer Uddin, officer-in-charge of Bagharpara Police Station, said the two slept inside the filling station on Sunday night.

Informed by locals, police recovered the bodies from the filling station in the morning and sent them to Jessore Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Another staff, Sirajul Islam of the filling station, killed the victims over previous enmity, the OC said, adding that Sirajul went into hiding soon after the incident.

In Jhenidah, a former union parishad (UP) member was hacked to death allegedly by his nephew over a family feud at Dariapur village in Harinakundo upazila of the district yesterday.

The victim is Alfaz Uddin, 50, reports our correspondent.

5 Rohingya women held with Yaba

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Cox's Bazar

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) detained five Rohingya women and seized 7,924 Yaba tablets worth around Tk 23.77 lakh from these possession in Nhila union of Teknaf upazila on Sunday night.

The detainees are Solomon Khatun, 30, Hamida, 35, Nasima Khatun, 30, Setara Begum, 18, and Dildar, 30. They hail from different villages of Horipara upazila in Akiya district of Myanmar, said Lt Col Abujar Al Zahid, commander of BGB-2 Battalion in Teknaf.

JOYPURHAT, BAGERHAT

Two to die, 2 get life in two murder cases

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Two people were sentenced to death and two others to life imprisonment in two murder cases in Joypurhat and Bagerhat districts yesterday.

Our Dinajpur correspondent reported that a Joypurhat court sentenced a youth to death and two others to life imprisonment for killing a man over a feud in Sadar upazila in 2013.

The death penalty awardee is Anwar Hossain, 30, son of Abdul Mazid of Patwaripara under Joypurhat Municipality.

The lifers are Swapan Hossain, 22, and Mithu Mia, 20, of Patwaripara in the municipality. District and Sessions Judge Dr Abdul Mazid also fined the lifers Tk 20,000 each.

According to the prosecution, there had been a feud between Ziaul Hassan Sumon, 30, and his friend Anwar over repayment of money that Sumon took from Anwar.

As a sequel to that, Anwar with the help of Swapan and Mithu called Sumon out of his house on the night of June 22 in 2013. Later, the trio stabbed Sumon to death in front of Joypurhat Modern Hospital and

fled the scene.

Sumon's wife Merina Akhter filed a murder case with Sadar Police station the following day. After investigation, police arrested the three and pressed charges against them.

On the same day, a Bagerhat court sentenced a man to death for killing a young girl after rape in Kuchua upazila of the district in 2012, reports a correspondent.

The recipient of the death penalty is Azad Khan, 40, of Khalishakhali village in the upazila. Judge Rezaul Karim of the Court of Additional District and Sessions Judge also fined him Tk one lakh.

According to the prosecution, Azad, a married man, developed an illicit relation with Ayna Khatun, 18, daughter of Hossain Ali of Gaborkhali village, promising to marry her.

When Ayna became pregnant and was putting pressure on Azad to marry her, the latter killed the girl and dumped the body in a local water body on February 21, 2012.

Sub-inspector Ziaur Rahman, also the investigation officer of the case, arrested Azad and pressed charges against him on February 7, 2013.



PHOTO: STAR

People from all walks of life stage a demonstration in Jhenaidah's Shailakupa town yesterday, demanding immediate arrest of the killers of SP Babul Akhter's wife Mahmuda Khanam Mitu, who hailed from Shailakupa.

Post-poll clashes leave 70 hurt in Habiganj, Pabna

STAR COUNTRY DESK

At least 70 people were injured in post-poll clashes in Habiganj and Pabna sadar upazilas yesterday.

Our Moulvibazar correspondent reported that the supporters of the newly elected chairman of No 4 Poil Union Parishad under Habiganj Sadar upazila clashed with the defeated chairman candidate's men at Asampara village in the union, leaving at least 50 people from both sides injured.

Of the injured, 15 were admitted to Habiganj Sadar Hospital, 21 to Nabiganj Health Complex, and five to

private clinics. The rest nine were given first aid at Sadar Hospital.

Locals said the trouble began at around 1:00pm when the supporters of defeated chairman candidate Saheb Ali swooped on the victory procession of newly elected chairman Sayed Moinul Haque Arifat at the village.

Both sides used bamboo sticks and sharp weapons during the clash that continued for an hour.

Being informed, police from Habiganj Police Station rushed to the spot and fired rubber bullets and tear gas shells to disperse the clashing groups.

In Pabna, At least 20 people were injured as the supporters of two defeated member candidates clashed in Chorghoshpur area under Hemayetpur union of Sadar upazila yesterday morning, reports our correspondent.

The supporters of Afzal Hossain and Bokul Sardar locked in the clash at around 10:00am following an altercation over the election in the union held on June 4. The clashing groups used firearms and other weapons, leaving at least 20 people from both sides injured, police said. The injured were admitted to Pabna Medical College Hospital.

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Women's anxiety

FROM PAGE 16 more research is needed to find out which other communities are at high risk.

Published in the journal Brain and Behavior, the global review of 48 studies found that more than 60 million people were affected by anxiety disorders every year in the EU.

North America is thought to be worst affected, with eight in 100 people having anxiety, and East Asia least affected (three in 100).

Although the proportion of people suffering with this mental health problem stayed fairly constant between 1990 and 2010, the authors said it was a problem which was rarely researched, unlike depression.

Review author Olivia Remes, from the department of public health and primary care at the University of Cambridge, said anxiety disorders could make life extremely difficult.

"There has been a lot of focus on depression - which is important - but anxiety is equally important and debilitating; it can lead to the development of other diseases and psychiatric disorders, increase the risk for suicide and is associated with high costs to society."

She added: "It is important for our health services to understand how common they are and which groups of people are at greatest risk."

WHAT IS ANXIETY DISORDER? It's feelings of worry, fear and unease which persist for a long time and become overwhelming, affecting everyday life. Physical sensations such

as raised blood pressure, feeling nauseous and disrupted sleeping are common.

At this point, it becomes a mental health problem and a diagnosis of a specific anxiety disorder can be given.

The difference between anxiety and panic attacks Globally, women were found to be twice as likely to experience anxiety as men.

Ms Remes said this could be because of hormonal fluctuations or because women are more prone to stress in general, or because of their traditional role of caring for the young.

The review said people with a chronic health condition were at particular risk, "adding a double burden on their lives".

For example, 32% of people with multiple sclerosis have an anxiety disorder and 15 to 23% of cancer patients are affected.

The review noted that data on anxiety was particularly lacking in some populations, such as indigenous cultures, and some communities, like drug users, sex workers and lesbian, gay and bisexual people.

Pregnant women were also found to be particularly prone to obsessive compulsive disorder (OCD) - a form of anxiety disorder - before and immediately after the birth of their baby.

WHAT HELPS Before you begin any treatment you should discuss your options with your doctor.

There are self-help books and online courses that can offer ways to manage your anxiety. Your doctor may also recommend that you avoid too much caffeine and alcohol, and stop smoking.

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