



Pedestrians use a rope to stay on course as floodwater rushes across the Dhaka-Chattogram highway in Feni's Lalpool area yesterday. Vehicles heading for Chattogram are seen crawling their way through. PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Flash floods wreak havoc in 12 dists

Five killed, 10 go missing as vast areas inundated in Sylhet, Chattogram divisions



FAMILIES affected: 5.86 lakh
PEOPLE affected: 37 lakh

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Flash floods induced by heavy rains and rush of water from upstream have caught millions of people off guard, giving them no time to evacuate their homes across Chattogram and Sylhet divisions over the last two days.

At least five people drowned and 10 others went missing as rivers burst their banks submerging vast swathes of land.

Railway communications in the two divisions were suspended yesterday and the authorities cancelled 26 trains.

The situation in Cumilla, Noakhali and Feni was particularly worrying as the Muhuri and Feni rivers kept swelling throughout yesterday.

All the major rivers in the northeastern and eastern regions were overflowing.

The other affected districts are Laxmipur, Brahmanbaria, Chattogram, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Sylhet, and Cox's Bazar.

It is likely that there will be less rain today and the level of water will begin to fall tomorrow or the day after tomorrow, according to Sarkar Uday Raihan, executive engineer at the flood forecasting centre.

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Jt initiative needed to deal with floods

Chief adviser tells Indian envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus yesterday proposed a high-level collaboration between Bangladesh and India to manage floods and emergencies.

He put forward the proposal when Indian High Commissioner Pranay Verma paid a courtesy call on him at the State Guesthouse Jamuna in the capital.

Chief Adviser's Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam briefed the media at the Foreign Service Academy after the meeting.

Yunus said Bangladesh and India share many rivers and high-level collaboration between the two countries would help dissemination of information fast and prompt decision-making.

The Nobel laureate also emphasised the need for the two countries working

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NBR seeks bank details of 5 business tycoons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The National Board of Revenue yesterday asked banks to provide account details of the chiefs of five business giants who benefitted much during the Awami League rule of 15 years to scrutinise their tax compliance.

The revenue authority's Central Intelligence Cell (CIC) sought the details of Salman F Rahman, vice-chairman of Beximco; Nazrul Islam Mazumder, chairman of Nassa Group; Mohammed Aziz Khan, chairman of Summit Group; Ahmed Akbar Khan, chairman of Bashundhara Group; and Mohammad Obaidul Karim, chairman of Orion Group.

The NBR sought information on term deposits, savings accounts, current accounts, loan accounts, foreign currency accounts, credit cards, lockers and vaults owned by the tycoons are their family members beginning July 1, 2015.

In a notice, the tax administration said its CIC has started a special inquiry

into the allegation of tax evasion by the persons who made a lot of wealth.

As such, the cell has prepared a list of tax dodgers based on specific information and by analysing media reports.

The move comes days after NBR's two field offices asked banks to provide

TYCOONS UNDER SCANNER

BEXIMCO VICE-CHAIRMAN
Salman F Rahman

NASSA CHAIRMAN
Nazrul Islam Mazumder

SUMMIT CHAIRMAN
Mohammed Aziz Khan

BASHUNDHARA CHAIRMAN
Ahmed Akbar Khan

ORION CHAIRMAN
Mohammad Obaidul Karim

account details of Chattogram-based businessman Mohammed Saiful Alam, the chairman of S Alam Group, and his family members, and the VAT Commissionerate Chattogram formed four teams to audit the VAT compliance of 18 concerns of S Alam Group.

The NBR said it would detect tax evasion through its special investigation into those who made huge wealth under the Income Tax Act 2023 and the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2012.

The tax detectives also requested the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission, the National Savings Directorate and the other related offices to provide information.

The CIC said its special investigations to hunt tax dodgers will continue.

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'Opening of dam gates sans notice inhuman'

Adviser Nahid blames India for flash floods here

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Opening the gates of a dam by India without any prior notice is "inhuman", Information and Broadcasting Adviser Nahid Islam said yesterday.

He asked the neighbouring country to stop its "anti-people policy" towards Bangladesh, saying that India should change its approach so that the two countries can build fairer relations.

"We can see the upstream water coming in and causing a flood situation. India has

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