

FLOOD, LANDSLIDE

Tropical storm death toll tops 600 in Southeast Asia

Over 4m people affected

REUTERS, Jakarta

The death toll mounted to over 600 from floods and landslides caused by torrential rains across three countries in Southeast Asia, officials said yesterday, as relief efforts for tens of thousands of displaced people continued over the weekend.

Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand faced large-scale devastation after a rare tropical storm formed in the Malacca Strait fuelling heavy rains and wind gusts for a week. There were 435 dead in Indonesia, 170 in Thailand, and three deaths reported in Malaysia.

Rescue and relief officials in the Southeast Asian countries were still trying to get access to many flood-hit areas yesterday even as flood waters receded and tens of thousands of people were evacuated across the three



People with their belongings wade through a flooded street after heavy rainfall in Wellampitiya on the outskirts of Colombo yesterday. Sri Lankan authorities battled rising floodwaters in parts of the capital after the powerful Cyclone Ditwah left a trail of destruction, killing at least 334 people across the country.

PHOTO: AFP

Israeli fighter jets pound east of Rafah

4 Palestinians, holed up in Gaza tunnels, killed

AGENCIES

Israeli fighter jets yesterday carried out strikes east of Rafah in Gaza, while forces demolished structures east of Khan Younis.

The army said it had killed four Palestinians coming out of the tunnels in Rafah. Dozens of Hamas fighters are holed up in southern Gaza's tunnels, underneath areas controlled by the Israeli military, reports AFP.

Israeli naval vessels fired shells towards the city's coastline, local sources and witnesses told the Anadolu news agency. Israeli artillery shelled eastern Khan Younis, while helicopters fired on buildings amid demolitions in the area.

An air raid hit east of the Bureij refugee camp in Deir el-Balah, central Gaza.

» Israeli naval vessels fire shells towards Gaza's coastline

» Qatar say Israel must not block 2nd phase of truce

Venezuela blasts Trump airspace threat

AGENCIES

Caracas on Saturday slammed US President Donald Trump's warning that Venezuelan airspace should be considered closed, calling it a "colonialist threat."

"Venezuela denounces and condemns the colonialist threat that seeks to affect the sovereignty of its airspace, constituting yet another extravagant, illegal and unjustified aggression against the Venezuelan people," the Foreign Ministry said.

Trump administration is piling pressure on Venezuela, with a military deployment in the Caribbean that includes largest aircraft carrier.

Fish stocks in the Bay drop nearly 80%

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the Bay; that number has now risen to 273.

He said the decline in the number and size of commercially important fish is alarming, and urged the government to reduce the number of commercial trawlers to prevent further damage. Ecosystem disruption and environmental degradation have also contributed to the decline, he added.

The survey was conducted from August 21 to September 21 across Bangladesh's entire exclusive economic zone of 118,813 sq km.

It included oceanographic measurements, fisheries trawling, plankton and jellyfish studies, and microplastic sampling. The work is part of the EAF-Nansen Programme, carried out using the research vessel Dr Fridtjof Nansen.

The 2019 Department of Fisheries report stated that the current management system allows excessive and increasing fishing pressure, and called for urgent steps

to stop fleet growth and gradually reduce total fleet size.

Preliminary results from the new survey recorded 65 marine species for the first time in Bangladesh, including five possibly new to science.

According to the ministry data, the Bay of Bengal has 475 species of fish, 36 species of shrimp, five species of lobster, more than 15 species of crab, five species of turtles and 13 species of coral.

Abdullah Al Mamun said researchers have sent samples to a laboratory in South Africa for further analysis.

The survey also found that jellyfish, once more abundant in deep-sea areas, are now appearing in much larger numbers along the coast.

For the first time, the presence of Skipjack tuna and other tuna species has been scientifically confirmed within Bangladesh's exclusive economic zone.

Skipjack tuna were caught by trawls and hook-and-line, and scientists also observed tuna schools inside the exclusive economic zone. Skipjack tuna is a small, highly migratory species found in tropical and subtropical oceans worldwide, known for being the most abundant commercial tuna. Of the country's 20 major fish species, nine were commercially viable for harvest in 2018, but that number has now fallen to just five, according to the survey.

During the survey, 34 CTD stations were completed, and 275 water samples were collected for pH, alkalinity, and nutrient analysis. Plankton sampling at 32 stations identified 9,794 fish larvae -- including tuna larvae -- and 418 microplastics.

Fisheries and Livestock Adviser Farida Akhter said due to overfishing, illegal and unregulated fishing, and the use of harmful nets, the marine fish stock is

declining, which is a matter of serious concern.

She said out of 273 industrial trawlers, 72 are using technology, but since it is not being used properly, bycatch and wastage are increasing.

In the Bay of Bengal, oxygen levels are low in some areas and high in others, there is a high concentration of microplastics, and an abnormal proliferation of jellyfish, she added.

These warning signs clearly indicate that Bangladesh's marine environment is facing serious risks, she mentioned.

She urged that the issuance of licenses for industrial trawlers be strictly limited and strict control be imposed on trawler-based fishing.

The adviser further said after receiving the final report in mid-December, the government will hold meetings with all relevant stakeholders and then take the necessary measures.

GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS
URBAN DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
Barishal Regional Office,
834 Police line Road, Barishal
Website: www.udd.gov.bd

Memo No. 25.45.1000.000.104.07.0003.25.820
Date: 30, November 25

Invitation of Tenders

| GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH | | | | |
|---|---|---|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Ministry/Division | Ministry of Housing and Public Works (MoHPW). | | |
| 2 | Agency | Urban Development Directorate (UDD) | | |
| 3 | Procuring Entity Name | Project Director, "Preparation of Strategic Plan for Barishal Metropolitan Area" Project | | |
| 4 | Procuring Entity Code | 1320401 | | |
| 5 | Procuring Entity District | Barishal | | |
| 6 | Invitation for | Hiring of Vehicle | | |
| 7 | Invitation Ref No | 25.45.1000.000.104.07.0003.25.820 | | |
| 8 | Date | 30, November 25 | | |
| KEY INFORMATION | | | | |
| 9 | Procurement Method | Time Based | | |
| FUNDING INFORMATION | | | | |
| 10 | Budget and Source of Funds | Development Budget (GOB) | | GoB |
| 11 | Development Partners (If Applicable) | N/A | | |
| PARTICULAR INFORMATION | | | | |
| 12 | Project/Program Code | 222020600 | | |
| 13 | Project/Program Name | Preparation of Strategic Plan for Barishal Metropolitan Area | | |
| 14 | Tender Package No. | Vehicle-01 | | |
| 15 | Tender Package Name | Hiring of Vehicle for the Project Work | | |
| 16 | Tender Publication Date | 01, December, 25 | | |
| 17 | Tender last Selling Date | 11, December, 25 | | |
| 18 | Tender Closing Date and Time | 14, December 25; Time: 10:30 AM | | |
| 19 | Tender Opening Date and Time | 14, December 25; Time: 11:30 AM | | |
| 20 | Name & Address of the Office(s) | Office of the Senior Planner, Urban Development Directorate, Barishal Regional Office, 834 Police Line Road, Barishal | | |
| INFORMATION FOR TENDERER | | | | |
| 21 | Eligibility of Tenderer | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Tenderers shall have the legal capacity to enter into the Contract under the Applicable Law.Tenderers shall be enrolled in the relevant professional or trade organisations registered in Bangladesh.Tenderers shall have fulfilled its obligations to pay taxes under the provisions of laws and regulations of Bangladesh | | |
| 22 | Brief Description of Services | Hiring of vehicle (One nos) as monthly contractual basis with fuel, toll, parking, maintenance etc. | | |
| 23 | Price of Tender Document (TK) | 1500 TK | | |
| 20 | Package No | Identification of Package | Location | Tender Security Amount (TK) |
| | Vehicle-01 | - | Barishal Metropolitan Area | 60000.00Tk |
| | | | | Completion Time in Weeks/Months |
| | | | | 20 Months |
| PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS | | | | |
| 21 | Name of Official Inviting Tender | Asaduzzaman | | |
| 22 | Designation of Official Inviting Tender | Senior Planner Urban Development Directorate, Barishal Regional Office | | |
| 23 | Address of Official Inviting Tender | Office of the Senior Planner, Urban Development Directorate, Barishal Regional Office, 834 Police Line Road, Barishal | | |
| 24 | Contact details of Official Inviting Tender | Phone no: 01732122258 | | |
| 25 | The Procuring entity reserves the right to reject all the Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings | | | |

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GD-2598

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Project Director

"Preparation of Strategic Plan for Barishal Metropolitan Area"

Project

Urban Development Directorate,

Barishal Regional Office, Barishal