

Request for emergency aid - Cyclone Bulbul in the Sundarbans

On the 9th of november a **large cyclone named Bulbul** struck down in the East Indian coastal region called Sundarbans, causing catastrophic damage to the area and its residents.

The Sundarbans is a **densely populated, poor rural area** and the vast majority of its inhabitants are farmers or fishermen. The cyclone is devastating for these people since it has **destroyed their housing, their livestock, their crops and fruit trees**. This will leave them impoverished and unable to pay off their loans.

The Times of India estimates that the cyclone has damaged 60.000 houses and that 460.000 people have been affected in total. In our surrounding area named Joythispur gram panchayat, we registered that **70-75% of crops and 65% of fruit and timber trees have been damaged**. The cyclone has struck in the beginning of harvesting season which has led farmers to despair.

We at the JGVK request your donation, so that we can deliver emergency aid to the affected people. We are a grass-root-organization residing in the center of the Sundarbans, closely embedded in the local community. Our staff has the tools and expertise to prevent the disaster from creating deep poverty, but **we lack the financial means to provide proper aid for everyone in the area.**

The donations will go directly to actions aimed at **rebuilding the local livelihood and wildlife**. This process revolves around supplying the farmers with **new seeds, fruit saplings and livestock** but will also include providing **'cash crop' seeds** for fast growing crops which can help compensate for the financial losses until the next harvest.

In addition, we aim to rebuild the **natural habitats of the many species of wildlife** which were also destroyed in the cyclone, to ensure that the ecosystem does not suffer further from the catastrophe. Maintaining a balanced ecosystem is crucial for the inhabitants as well as the fauna.

This is all possible because the JGVK has established a **large network of volunteers and organized village committees in the affected areas**, who have the crucial roles of collecting information, planning and implementing the emergency aid. We have also organized disaster management groups who will be active in this process.

With your help we can create a difference for the victims of the disaster.

We thank you for your time and hope that you will help.

- *Biswajit Mahakur, secretary of JGVK*

jgvksundarban@gmail.com

+91 97325 22848, +91 95641 64585

Donation details

If you would like to make a donation, please do this through the following account or Mobile Pay number:

Mobilepay: 934970

Konto: (Nordea) 2680 6875-298-893

Please write the following: "DISASTER AID [your name]" in your transaction description

Our Danish sister organization IGF will receive and send your donation directly to our disaster aid program.

We are very grateful for your help.

You can read more about our organization and the work we do here:

- <http://www.jgvksundarban.org/>

as well as the work of our Danish sister organization IGF here:

- <http://igfdanmark.dk/>

Below is attached pictures and articles from the disaster...

PICTURES OF THE BULBUL CYCLONE STORM AT SUNDARBAN VILLAGES



DAMAGE OF THE POLY HOUSE AT DEMONSRATION FARM BY UPROOTED TREES CAUSING LOSS OF WINTER SEASONAL VEGETABLES ALMOST READY FOR HARVEST IN A WEEK



ACRES OF PADDY READY FOR HARVEST DAMAGED DUE TO CONTINOUS RAIN FOR TWO DAYS PRIOR TO CYCLONE



HUGE UPROOTED ROOT BLOCKED THE VILLAGE ROAD, ELECTRIC CABLE TORN APART, POWERE SUPPLY COMPLETELY INTERUPPTED FOR WHOLE VILLAGE



**ELECTRIC POST FELL, CABLE TORN, SUPPLY
INTERUPPED FOR THE WHOLE VILLAGE**



**HOUSE COLLAPSED DUE TO TREE FALLEN ON THE
THACHED ROOF**



**ROAD BLOCKED BY FALLING OF BIG, MEDIUM SIZED
TREES**



BIG NUMBER OF FRIUT TREES DESTROYED



THE TIMES

INCLUSIVE OF CALCUTTA TIMES |

ACTING WHITE HOUSE CHIEF OF STAFF MULVANEY ATTEMPTS TO JOIN A LAWSUIT THAT WOULD PIT HIM AGAINST TRUMP 10

9 dead, 4.6L affected in Bengal as Bulbul heads for Bangladesh

PUBL. ANI & MERRIL SEAGRAMS

8 Fishermen From Trawler Still Missing

Monotosh Chakraborty & Saibal Gupta

Bakkhali/Kolkata: Cyclone Bulbul veered towards Bangladesh early on Sunday and steadily lost strength but left a trail of death and destruction in Bengal, claiming at least nine lives spread over three districts. According to late evening reports, as many as 4.6 lakh people were affected and 60,000 houses damaged. The toll, officials feared, could rise further; eight fishermen on board trawler MV Chandrani, which capsized off Mousumi, an island in the Bay of Bengal, are still missing.

FULL COVERAGE: P 2 & 5

Five persons (four in North 24 Parganas, one in East Midnapore's Nandigram) died after uprooted trees fell on them; one person died in North 24 Parganas in a building collapse. Two people died in Hooghly of electrocution early on Sunday morning and one person — Sanjoy Das (45) — died when the trawler capsized.

Bulbul's death toll in Bengal stands at 10. One of the deaths occurred in Kolkata on Saturday before the cyclone made landfall, when a 29-year-old chef working with the Calcutta Cricket & Football Club (CCFC) died after a deodar tree collapsed on him seconds after he had entered the club premises.

CM TO OVERSEE OPS, PM & HOME MIN ASSURE HELP



CM Mamata Banerjee has postponed her north Bengal visit. She will go on an aerial survey of affected areas around Namkhana and Bakkhali on Monday and review relief and rehabilitation measures. PM Narendra Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah called up Banerjee and assured her of all help



(Top) A woman rummages through the remains of her home in Bakkhali; (above) an uprooted tree in Salt Lake

Sanjay Naskar (45), a resident of Kolkata's Bagha Jatin, drowned in Digha when he ventured into the sea on Sunday morning immediately after restrictions were lifted

24 Parganas.

Chief minister Mamata Banerjee has postponed a scheduled north Bengal visit. On Monday she will embark on an aerial survey of the affected areas around Namkhana and Bakkhali and meet the Kakdwip administration to review relief and rehabilitation measures. On Wednesday she will visit affected areas at Basirhat, North

On Sunday morning, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called up the chief minister and assured her of all help. Union home minister Amit Shah, too, called up Banerjee, promising help. "Ten teams of NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) in West Bengal and six teams in Odisha have already been de-

People affected 4.6 lakh



Districts affected | 9

Evacuated | 1.8 lakh

Relief camps 471



Houses collapsed 60,000 (approx)



Deaths North 24 Prgns | 5 South 24 Prgns | 1 (8 missing)

East Midnapore | 1 Hooghly | 2



Rescue Ops | 10 units NDRF, 6 units SDRF, 429 personnel of Kolkata Police's DMG

Mobile towers damaged | 1,050



Power stns affected | 34 (30 restored)



ployed and are assisting the state administration in evacuation, restoration of roads and in distribution of relief. An additional 18 teams of NDRF have been kept on standby," Shah later said.

(Written with inputs from Suman Mondal in Tamluk and Sanjib Chakraborty in Kolkata)

LINE TOOLS TO GAUGE MOOD
AYODHYA JUDGMENT | 7

A SIX-MINUTE BUS RIDE ENDS 72 YEARS OF LONGING
FOR KARTARPUR SHRINE: A 1ST PERSON ACCOUNT | 7

Bulbul's tail hit caused maximum damage

7,000 Acres Of Betel Plantations Affected

Monotosh Chakraborty
& Saibal Gupta

Bakkhali/Kolkata: The most damage was reported from South 24 Paragans. "The landfall in Sagar Islands was around 8.30pm and the tail hit at 11.30pm," said P Ulganathan, the district magistrate. The intensity of the second hit took us by surprise and caused the maximum damage. We fear 7,000 acres of betel plantations could have been damaged. This will account for close to Rs 99 crore in losses alone. These, however, are preliminary estimates."



A woman peers out of broken bamboo poles of her house in Bakkhali on Sunday morning

Some damage was averted because it was low tide, according to Bankim Hazra, the Angasagar-Bakkhali Development Authority chairperson. "The waves were 2.5 metres high. But because it was low tide, they could not breach the embankments and dams," he said.

Rescue efforts to trace the missing fishermen had to be abandoned on Sunday evening because of inclement weather and the remoteness of the location, said Kakdwip fishermen's association secretary Bijan Maity. He said the trawlers—MV Chand-

on the Chinai river off Mousuni Islands, said a survivor, Nibaran Das.

The cyclone, he said, caused huge waves, which capsized the two trawlers. The 20 fishermen on MV Kamala and only three on MV Chandrani managed to swim ashore, Das said. The body of Sanjoy Das, a resident of Kakdwip's Steamer Ghat, floated ashore on Sunday morning. "The capsized trawlers have been spotted. The rescue effort will resume early on Monday," said Maity.

State disaster relief minister Jawed Ahmed Khan said the 1.76 lakh people who were evacuated ahead of the landfall are slowly returning to their homes, but state-run schools will remain closed on

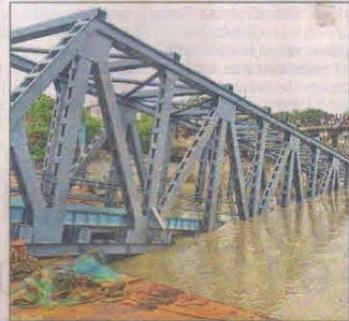
In the wake of Bulbul, all tourist permits in the Sunderbans Tiger Reserve area have been cancelled for 7 days, from November 11 to November 17

Monday, too. Khan remained sceptical of the Centre's assurances of help. "In 2015, there were severe floods in Bengal. A financial assistance of Rs 2,300 crore was sought by the state government, but the amount received from the Centre was only Rs 1,100 crore," he said. "In 2017, the Central government was not helpful as no monetary aid was provided and the whole burden was the state government's."

Governor Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday appreciated the efforts taken by the state and its agencies as well as Central outfits to minimise the damage caused by Bulbul. "The directional efforts of the state government, its agencies as also Central outfits like the NDRF, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Coast Guard, Navy and others have prevented



AFP, Reuters, PTI, TOI



(Clockwise from top) A man clears debris from his house in Bakkhali on Sunday. A collapsed latrine on the



OVERHEAD CABLES REMOVED IN SEC-V POCKETS, UNDERGROUND DUCTS ON THE CARDS | 3

FESTIVE SEASON SOAK IN JAGADD

Broken Branches On Carriageways, Flyers Stuck For Lack of Flights, But Cyclone

Cyclone uproots 42 trees, damages cars & injures 2

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Kolkata: The city lost close to 42 trees in the wake of cyclone Bulbul. Between Saturday evening and Sunday, as strong winds lashed the city when Bulbul made landfall 135km away near Sagar Island, incessant rain and gusty winds uprooted trees in areas like Sunny Park, Jadavpur, Garden Reach, Behala, Anandapur and Regent Park.

Times View

Cyclonic weather conditions will fell trees. But we also need to be more careful so that we do not make the job — of countering gale-force winds — more difficult for trees.

Apart from the death of a CCFC chef, who was rushed by a falling branch on the club premises, there were no reports of death in the city related to the cyclone. However, a woman was injured when a branch fell on her scooter; another was trapped under a shed and the entrance to a housing complex in Sunny Park, and a few cars parked along the kerb, were damaged when a tree fell on them.

The cops, KMC officials and disaster management personnel worked through Sunday to remove the trees and branches to de-clog carriageways and repair pavements. The damaged vehicles were also towed away.

Around 2.45am on Sunday, an 85-year-old woman was injured when a tree fell on the temporary shed she was sleeping under inside Topsia Hindu Burial Ground in Park Circus. Lalbati Mullick was rescued by cops, disaster management personnel and KMC officials, and taken to a hospital. "She was sleeping under the shed and got trapped inside.

TAKING STOCK OF LOSS



(Clockwise from top left) Uprooted trees being cleared in Kankurgachhi, Regent Park and Khanna crossing; civic workers remove the branches from the entrance to 10, Sunny Park on Sunday; the shed in the Topsia Hindu Burial Ground on which a tree fell on early on Sunday morning, trapping a woman inside

► Between Saturday and Sunday, a man was crushed by a branch, a woman was injured when a tree fell on her scooter and another

woman sustained leg injuries after she got trapped under an uprooted tree

► There were reports of at least eight cars being

damaged after trees or branches collapsed on them

► Surface transport, Metro and ferry services resumed normal operations on Sunday

de. The rescue operation took close to 1.5 hours since it was raining heavily. She was taken to NRS Hospital with a leg injury, but there was no bleeding wound. Her condition is stable," said an officer.

Around 2am, a tree fell on a parked taxi in Anandapur. It was finally removed around 4.05am. "Nobody was trapped or injured," said an officer. It was a close shave for the driver of another vehicle when a tree

fell on the car on Alipore Road. A portion of a dilapidated building on CR Avenue collapsed early on Sunday and the area was cordoned off by the cops.

Earlier, on Saturday, an uprooted tree fell on the main entrance of 10, Sunny Park, smashing the iron grille gate. The front portion of an SUV parked nearby was smashed and two other vehicles were also damaged. "It was pouring when we heard a loud sound.

On rushing out, we saw an uprooted tree had smashed a few vehicles and the main gate of the building was completely broken. We immediately checked if anybody was trapped under the tree and informed the cops," said a private security guard.

After limited run on Saturday, surface transport and ferry services were normal throughout Sunday. The Metro, too, witnessed usual footfall.

A DAY AFTER STORM



Potholes filled with rainwater have emerged on Bypass

Rain count

Alipore | 57.1mm between 8.30am and 5.30pm on Saturday; 74.5mm in 24 hours till 5.30pm on Saturday

Dum Dum | 76mm between 8.30am and 7.30pm on Saturday

Wind strength

Peak speed | 50km/hr

Avg speed | 35km/hr

Morning speed | 15km/hr-20km/hr

Hit land at | 110km/hr-120km/hr

What happened to Bulbul

| It moved east-northeastward at 9km/hr across coastal Bangladesh and weakened into a deep depression; it eventually turned into a depression

Prediction | Kolkata will remain dry and turn cooler since the mercury is expected to drop once the cloud cover goes. Bulbul has sucked out moisture from the region, paving the way for a mercury slide. The Met office expects minimum temperature to drop to 21°C on Tuesday/Wednesday. However, it will be a temporary slide and moisture will return, pulling the temperature up

