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Fresh areas flooded as embankment collapses in Satkhira

From Our Correspondent
SATKHIRA, Oct 11: Fresh areas in three upazilas of the district have been inundated due to collapse of Harkata Embankment in Tala upazila today.

The flood situation in Satkhira town further deteriorated with inundation of some new areas.

Flood waters entered BDR headquarters, Mudhumallandanga, Itagachha, Kamannagar, Madhyakatia and several other government and private offices, paralysing normal life of the residents.

The Collectorate and Court buildings premises are now under knee-deep water. Activities at the Magistrates' courts remained suspended for the third day.

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Tremor shakes Dhaka, Ctg, CHT

A mild tremor shook the capital city and country's southeastern region, including Cox's Bazar, Bandarban and Chittagong, at about 3.42 pm yesterday, reports UNB.

However, there were no reports of any casualty or damage.

In Cox's Bazar, panic-stricken people came out of their houses, shops and offices during the tremor.

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STAR MAGAZINE



In spite of the shopping centres mushrooming all over the city, Eastern Plaza remains one of the most popular to city dwellers. This week's cover story of the Star Magazine looks into this 8-year-old shopping centre and what makes it so attractive.

Inside Today

Article

Poverty in Pockets of Plenty

Column: Beneath the Surface
by Abdul Bayes
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Focus

Balkans brace for troubled time
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	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Oct 12		5:35 pm
Oct 13	5:55 am	

Prayer Timings

October 12		
	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:45	5:20
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	4:15	4:30
Maghrib	5:42	5:47
Esha	7:30	8:00

Source: Islamic Foundation

Post-flood operation

Donors annoyed as govt fails to place need assessment

By Staff Correspondent

Representatives of the international donor agencies have expressed dissatisfaction at the government's failure in preparing its need assessment for the post-flood operation in the southwestern districts of the country.

They expressed their dissatisfaction at a meeting yesterday between the government and the representatives of the World Bank, Asian Development Bank and different organisations under the UN system in Dhaka.

Meeting sources said some of the participants also expressed their annoyance at convening of a meeting with a two-day short notice while the government had no concrete post-flood need assessments in hand.

Earlier on Monday, Secretary to the External Relations Division (ERD) of the Finance Ministry Dr Mashur Rahman sent urgent letters to the donor agencies inviting their representatives in yesterday's meeting.

Representatives of different ministries of the government directly linked with the process of post-flood need assessments told the meeting that they could not complete their estimation as yet.

The ERD secretary requested the ministries concerned to ready their flood appraisal in a week, meeting sources said.

Representatives from the ministries of food, agriculture, relief and disaster management, education

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Probe into causes of deluge ordered

By Shehab Ahmed

The government has ordered investigation into the causes of the deluge in the south-western region, geologically known as a 'moribund delta' where there was no flood in last 100 years.

The Water Development Board has been entrusted with the task. It is expected to submit a report within a month to design a 'flood model' for the region for future, highly placed officials sources said yesterday.

The region is not included in the national flood forecasting model as it never experienced floods. The rivers in the area are also not monitored to assess flood.

The Board will study the rainfall pattern in the region between June and September. The region covering Rajshahi and Khulna divisions experienced a combination of low and high rainfall this year. The rainfall was more than average, particularly in September.

It will also study the rainfall pattern in Indian states bordering Bangladesh and satellite images to prepare the model, the sources said.

The Indo-Bangladesh Joint Rivers Commission will take up the flood issue and the causes, particularly the opening of embankments, in its next meeting, the sources said.

So far the causes of the deluge this year has been attributed to a freak late monsoon downpour that caught everyone by surprise.

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Laden Bahini dance party!

COX'S BAZAR, Oct 11: At least 30 people including five cops were injured in a clash when police stormed into a dance party arranged by an alleged terrorist group called 'Laden Bahini' in a jungle in Ramu thana Tuesday night, reports UNB.

Condition of three police constables who suffered bullet wounds was stated to be 'critical'. Among them, Nizam, 28, was admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital and Mokshed, 25, and Syed Noor, 26, to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital.

Police took four female dancers, hired from Chittagong, into custody. They are Selina, 18, Sheela, 16, Beauty, 20, and Ayesha, 21.

Five others including Rashidnagar Union Parishad

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Policy brief for PM's visit to US

Ideal time to pursue greater access of apparel exports

Star Report

Bangladesh should argue that its apparel exports be given greater access to the US market since it has not been benefited much from the multi-fibre arrangement (MFA) integration, said a policy brief prepared for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's official visit to the US.

"Now is possibly the most opportune time for Bangladesh to pursue its case for greater access of its apparel exports to the US market," it said.

The brief, prepared by Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Executive Director and Dr Mustafizur Rahman, Research Director of the Center for Policy Dialogue (CPD) at the request of commerce ministry, has been submitted to the ministry.

For Bangladesh, the ideal option is to have a "totally quota-free regime" in the US market with immediate effect. The second best solution is to have "immediate access to the US market

under enhanced quota facility," it suggested.

"Saturation of quota, coupled with growth performance in non-quota items, indicate that the country can increase its apparel exports to the US market if the authorities there agree to enhance the currently applicable quota limits to Bangladesh," it said.

The recent US Trade and Development Act 2000 (TDA)

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Kiwis stun Pakistan

NAIROBI, Oct 11 (Internet report): Brave Kiwi Craig McMillan held his nerve in a pulsating climax today against World Cup finalists Pakistan to see New Zealand through to Sunday's ICC Trophy final with just six balls to spare.

McMillan hit an unbeaten 51

off 56 balls to clinch a desperately tight contest that went right to the wire after Azhar Mahmood had sparked a middle-order collapse with 4-65.

New Zealand have lost their last three one-day internationals against Pakistan - and missed out to Wasim Akram's side in last

year's World Cup semi-final - but they weren't to be denied this time despite the brilliance of Saad Anwar's 19th one-day hundred.

Kiwi opener Roger Twose made his fifth half-century in as many one-day innings to build the platform, but it was McMillan and

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Today's Match

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Tomorrow's match
India v South Africa
(Second semifinal)

Both BTV and ESPN will telecast the match live from 12.45pm (BST).

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2 of kidnapped tribal youths murdered

From Our Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, Oct 11: Bodies of two of the three tribal youths who were kidnapped by gunmen from Rangunia in Chittagong on Monday were recovered from a trench in a dense forest area of Jarulchhari under Kaokhal in Rangamati yesterday evening.

The victims are Ratna Sen Chakma and Binoy Moni Chakma, sons of one Laxmi Kumar Chakma. The other young man, Jagodish Dewan Tongchonga, returned home as he was freed by the kidnappers.

Ramchandra Chakma, uncle of Ratna and Binoy, lodged a gen-

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Amit doing well after surgery

By Staff Correspondent



A smiling Amit at the hospital yesterday.

Shahkat Rahman Amit regained consciousness at around 6 a.m. yesterday after 24 hours of the implant of a breathing pacemaker and is doing well.

Doctors allowed him to take liquid food after a pause of about 36 hours since the surgery. The 12-year old school boy is supported by a ventilator for breathing again.

"Amit has a slight fever as expected before, but I am not at all worried. Fever on the first day after any surgery is normal," said Prof. Md. Saiful Islam who operated upon Amit for the critical implantation at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University Hospital (BSMMUH) on Tuesday.

Referring to Amit's complaints of pain, Prof. Islam said, "We have given Amit Morphine, the strongest painkiller. Still he is complaining of chest pain which is quite usual at his age especially after such a surgery."

All his vital parameters that is, blood pressure, respiration, pulse rates, urine output etc. are absolutely normal, the doctors said yesterday.

Meanwhile, biomedical engineer from Dobelle Institute in New York Dilys Gore had a conference with local experts regarding technology transfer for management of post-surgery care and the pacing.

"We had an exclusive meeting with the British engineer who explained and showed us how to handle the device in case of emergency," said one of the anesthetists.

Before leaving Dhaka for London last night Gore made all necessary adjustments and checked the parameters. She also showed how to initiate the pacing procedure and handed over the (testing) apparatus to the team of surgeons.

A children's park indeed!

By Staff Correspondent

Believe it or not, the children's park of the Shishu Academy (children academy) in the city is now a dumping ground for rubbish!

All the facilities of the park, swings, slides and seesaws have been broken down and are now a dangerous proposition. Hundreds of children who come to the academy only look at the park with sadness in their eyes. Some who still venture into it run the risk of injury and serious health hazard.

The rubbish is dumped at the site by none other than the employees of the Shishu Academy, which is situated in a large area in front of Curzon Hall near the Doel Chatter.

The Shishu Academy has an indoor and an outdoor auditorium to hold children's functions. The area also houses office buildings for dozens of high officials deputed by the Women and Children Affairs Ministry. It has four full-time cleaners, four security guards and unspecified funds

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FBCCI polls postponed

Star Report

The Election Board of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) has postponed today's scheduled election, failing to appeal against a stay order to the Supreme Court Appellate Division, which is now on vacation.

A Vacation Bench of the High Court on Tuesday stayed the election until October 22 following a writ petition filed by Abul Khair Murselin of Gaibandha Chamber.

The FBCCI also tried to appeal to the vacation bench of Justice Aminul Kabir Chowdhury, who issued the stay order. But the Justice didn't take the case on the ground that he issued the stay

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14 October 2000 10am-8pm
VENUE Dhaka Sheraton Hotel

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Alliance Francaise:
8611557, 505865
CAI Gulshan:
8824380, 8824275

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