



SECOND EDITION

TODAY'S ISSUE 20 PAGES



REGD. NO. DA 781

VOL. XIV NO. 234

DHAKA TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2004

COMMITTED TO
People's Right to Know

www.thedailystar.net

BHADRA 30, 1411 BS

RAJAB 28, 1425 HJRU

16 PAGES PLUS STAR LIFESTYLE PRICE: TK 10.00

Rain paralyses life

Weather to improve this evening after depression dies out

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The unbroken spell of gusty winds and rains continued to lash Bangladesh for the third straight day yesterday, killing six people, swamping lowlands, shutting schools, offices and businesses and playing havoc with normal life.

The rains, riding on a land depression, sent most parts of Dhaka under knee- to waist-deep water, stranded hundreds of vehicles and thousands of commuters on roads, cut power and telephone links and kept day-workers from earning a living.

The meteorological office said the perils of rain, unheard of for years, will continue to hobble Bangladesh with a vengeance today as the depression was virtually stationary halfway between Faridpur and Dhaka. Weathermen said the situation will improve this

evening after the low dies out.

The low that pelted Dhaka with 309 mm of rains in 24 hours until 6:00pm yesterday rekindled the horror of the worst monsoon flooding in 15 years that brought Bangladesh to its knees this year.

Ferry services on many routes were suspended, stranding long lines of vehicles on highways.

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led launch services on 27 passenger routes from Barisal river port and on 13 routes from Patuakhali river port since Sunday afternoon.

The Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre said a rain-flood-like situation prevailed in Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal, Faridpur, Comilla, Bhairab Bazar, Noakhali, Sitakund and Feni

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