

Rain disrupts normal life in Ctg

CU CORRESPONDENT

The port city yesterday experienced heavy rains throughout the day, which disrupted normal life.

Commuters, especially students and women garments workers, suffered a lot as the number of vehicles on the streets was small.

According to sources in the Met office, a depression caused the rain that began on Sunday night, and also brought squally wind. The weather office recorded 77mm rainfall in the past 24 hours as of 3:00pm yesterday.

The city also experienced a hailstorm in the early hours of yesterday.

The rain also brought down the temperature. The highest temperature recorded in Chittagong yesterday was 19 degree Celsius while the lowest temperature was 15.8 degree Celsius.



Prof Rashid honoured

Prof Rashiduddin Ahmad has recently been made honorary president of the Asian Australasian Society of Neurological Surgeons, the apex body of neurosurgical societies in the Asian and Australian zone, says a press release.

Prof Rashid was also the president of the South Asian Association of Neurosurgeons from 2001 to 2004. In November 2000, he moderated the inaugural session of 3rd Asian Conference of Neurological Surgeons in Nagoya, Japan.

He was selected as a member of the scientific committee of the 5th meeting of Pan African Association of Neurological Sciences held in Cairo in 2002.

He was also elected a member of the audit committee of the WFNS (World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies) at its conference held in Morocco in June 2005.

Prof Rashid, who was the founder-secretary and president of Bangladesh Society of Neurosciences and founder-president of Bangladesh Society of Neurosurgeons, has presented more than 40 scientific papers in conferences at home and abroad.



A man in raincoat cycles to his destination amid heavy rain, which disrupted normal life in Chittagong city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Jatiya Shishu Purushkar Protijogita begins Feb15

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jatiya Shishu Purushkar Protijogita 2007 (National Children's Award Competition), organised by Bangladesh Shishu Academy, will begin across the country from February 15, says a press release.

Children under 12 years and having an height below four feet and eight inches are allowed to participate in the competition scheduled to take place at upazila level from February 15-19.

The competition at district and regional level (except Dhaka) will take place from February 23-26 and April 6-9 respectively.

The regional level competition in Dhaka will be held at the central office of Bangladesh Shishu Academy on April 10 from 10:00am to 5:00pm.

The national level competition will take place at the same venue from April 15 to 17.

The award giving ceremony will be held at Ziaur Rahman Auditorium of Bangladesh Shishu Academy in the city on April 18.

The academy has been organising the competition since 1978 under 62 categories including sports, debate, essay, art, music, recitation and science.

'Remove confusion over arrest of corrupt people by joint forces'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK) has urged the government to take steps to remove all confusions regarding the arrest process of the joint forces during their recent drives against corrupt people.

A statement of the ASK yesterday said the Constitution guaran-

tees that arrested persons should be apprised of the reason of his/her arrest, but from the media reports " We learnt that in their recent drives the law enforcers did not apprise the arrestees of the causes of arrests in most of the cases."

"They [law enforcers] are conducting raids in plain clothes, and as

a result relatives of the arrested persons are not clear about the identity of the raiders," it added.

"Some of the arrestees were taken to custody with their faces covered by black cloth," said the statement, adding, "This process of the arrest has raised questions demanding formal statement from the government in this regard."



Elisabeth Yearbury, coordinator of the French Fashion Show 2007, speaks at a press conference in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

French fashion show begins Feb 9 in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A two-day French fashion show titled 'Paris Comes to Dhaka 2007' will begin at Sonargaon Hotel in the city on February 9.

The show will give an opportunity to the city dwellers to enjoy the sights and sounds of a Parisian catwalk featuring 14 international models, the organisers said at a press conference yesterday.

Over 100 dresses will be showcased while the international models dressed by famous fashion designers will walk the ramp, Elisabeth Yearbury, coordinator of the fashion show, said.

Four local design schools -- Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) School of Design, Fashion Institute of Design, Shanta Mariam University and National Institute of Fashion Design -- will take part in the show.

Besides, noted Bangladeshi designers Bibi Russell, Anila Haque, Kuhu and Rina Latif will also participate in the fashion show.

The show will help enrich the knowledge about fashion designing through the exchange of designs between Paris and Dhaka, Elisabeth said.

The funds raised through the show will be donated to an NGO,

Cooperation for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), for the empowerment of women, she said.

Sonargaon Hotel, Coats Bangladesh Ltd, A Positive, Emirates Airways, Brilliant Jewellery Ltd, HRC and Ashian City have sponsored the show while Channel i is its media partner.

French art director Charlotte Genevoy, choreographer Delphine Phan Cao Bach, Faridur Reza Sagar of Channel i and Hanif Zakaria of Emirates were present at the press briefing.

Deal signed to relocate RMG units from city

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and the Department of Environment will soon sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to relocate all the garment factories from the capital city for a planned growth of the export industry.

The decision was taken in a meeting between Director General of the Department of Environment Khandakar Rashidul Huq and BGMEA leaders at the department office yesterday.

BGMEA President SM Fazlul Huq said it will take five years to relocate all the garment industries from the capital city. "It will not be possible for the garment owners to relocate their factories if they aren't given adequate time," he said.

Huq urged the authorities to be more cautious in taking any decision regarding the garment factories on which the economy of the country mostly depends.

"BGMEA thinks that the factories should be relocated, but it is not possible overnight. It involves a huge amount of money," he

apprised the director general for environment.

He also pointed out that the garment owners, most of the time, have to pay extra money for getting clearance certificate from the Environment Department.

The DG listened to the BGMEA leaders attentively, and said: "The garment factories which don't have clearance certificate must collect their certificate within a short time to avert legal actions."

He also suggested allocating money for each garment factory to maintain environmental balance.