

## 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.



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

## 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 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.

**Jatiya Shishu Purushkar Protijogita begins Feb 15**

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.

## 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, Kuku 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 Geneva, choreographer Delphine Phan Cao Bach, Faridur Reza Sagar of Channel i and Hanif Zakaria of Emirates were present at the press briefing.

## 42 Desa lines snapped

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A mobile court in a drive at city's Satmasjid area yesterday disconnected 42 electrical lines of defaulters and illegal connection holders, says a press release of Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (Desa).

The court filed 42 cases against the defaulters and illegal connection holders who owe Tk 39,95,517.

Three Desa magistrates Mejbahuddin Chowdhury, Sultan Alam and Ali Akbar led the drive to realize the dues of Desa.