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OVERNIGHT DOWNPOUR

A third of Ctg under water

City people suffer for whole day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Heavy rainfall submerged one-third of the port city in knee-deep to waist-deep water yesterday, causing immense sufferings to its dwellers.

Beginning in the wee hours yesterday, the rain came down hard and continued for several hours.

Bishwajit Choudhury, forecasting officer of Chittagong Met Office, said 326.2 millimetres (mm) of rainfall in the city was recorded in 24 hours till 9:00am yesterday.

The rain is likely to continue for couple of more days due to a monsoon wind in the Bay and Chittagong port has been advised to hoist local cautionary signal number 3, he added.

Roads, lanes and bi-lanes in Bakalia, Bahaddarhat, Katalganj, Muradpur, Shulakbahar, Nasirabad, Bayezid, Sholashahar, Chawk Bazar, Halishahar, Agrabad and some other low-lying areas in the city were inundated.

The waterlogging again exposed the poor drainage system in the city.

Visiting these areas, this correspondent witnessed rainwater flooding houses, kitchen markets, slums and the ground floors of most buildings and markets. Residents were seen scooping out water from their houses and shops.

Almost all shops were closed and vehicles did not ply the streets while only a few rickshaws were seen.

Meanwhile, pedestrians and office-goers had to struggle hard to make their way to respective destinations.

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People try to get to work on rickshaw vans ploughing through over knee-deep water on a street in Muradnagar of Chittagong yesterday as overnight heavy showers that stopped around 10:00am inundate several areas of the port city.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS

Another war crimes suspect arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

Another war crimes suspect was arrested early yesterday by police from Rajshahi city in connection with 'Shankharikathi Bazar' massacre in Bagerhat's Kachua upazila during the Liberation War.

Akram Hossain Khan, 60, of Moreganj upazila in Bagerhat, went into hiding after an arrest order was issued against him by the International Crimes

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6



Russia to back Iraq against jihadists

Calls for PM Maliki's resignation get louder

AGENCIES

Russian President Vladimir Putin yesterday offered Iraq's Shia Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki Moscow's total support to counter Sunni jihadists.

"Putin confirmed Russia's complete support for the efforts of the Iraqi government to speedily liberate the territory of the republic from terrorists," the Kremlin said in a statement following a phone call between the two leaders.

Maliki told Putin about steps Iraq was taking to turn back a lightning offensive by the radical Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) that has overrun swathes of northern and central Iraq.

"It was noted that the activities of extremists conducting military operations on the territory of Syria have taken on a cross-border character and now threaten the security of the whole region," the statement said.

The conversation came after US President Barack Obama stopped short of acceding to Maliki's appeal for air strikes against the Sunni Muslim insurgents, prompting neighbouring Shia Iran to charge that Washington lacked the "will" to fight terror.

Russia has blamed the latest violence sweeping Iraq on the 2003 US-led invasion of the country and said that any strikes on jihadist forces would have to be authorised by the United Nations.

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ATTACK BY JP MEN

Rabbi among 10 injured in N'ganj

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

Rafur Rabbi, convener of Santrash Nirmul Taqi Mancha, and nine others were injured in an attack during an election campaign in Narayanganj yesterday.

The victims alleged that the attackers were loyal to Selim Osman, who is contesting Naryanganj-5 by-polls scheduled for June 26 with Jatiya Party ticket, and the incident had occurred in presence of police.

Several female campaigners were also

SEE PAGE 9 COL 5

Smartcane

It uses ultrasound to guide blind people

CNN ONLINE

A team of technologists in India developed a high-tech walking canes that use ultrasound to let blind people know about their surroundings.

"On the streets the sidewalks are cluttered with street vendors, animals, streetlights and other

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1



Cultural affairs secy injured in road crash

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore

Cultural Affairs Secretary Ranjit Kumar Biswas was injured in a head-on collision between his car and a truck on Bonpara-Hatikumrul highway in Natore yesterday.

His driver Deen Mohammad and bodyguard Rafiqul Islam also sustained injuries, Basudev Banik, superintendent of police in Natore, said.

The accident happened at Rajakar Moor in Baraigram upazila at about 1:30pm when Biswas was returning

SEE PAGE 2 COL 2




Tired of waiting for the authorities concerned to finish this half-built bridge in Dochhari of Naikkhangchhari in Bandarban, locals went ahead and built a hanging bridge themselves. The village committee puts a sign on the bridge, inset, asking people to be cautious while using the bridge.

PHOTO: ANURUP KANTI DAS



The Daily Star



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ONLINE POLL

Do you think political criminalisation and influence of government obstruct proper development of city corporations and municipalities?

Yes

93%

No

7%

TOTAL VOTES: 167

TODAY'S POLL

Do you think it was justified for fruit wholesaler and importers to threaten not to sell or import any fruits during Ramadan if the use of formalin detection device was not stopped immediately?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

War, crises displaced 50m worldwide: UN

Bangladesh 9th top refugee hosting country

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The number of people living as refugees from war or persecution exceeded 50 million in 2013, for the first time since World War II era, the UN refugee agency said yesterday.

Bangladesh had the ninth-highest number of refugees in relation to its national economy, said UNHCR in its report published in Geneva.

Pakistan has taken in the highest number of refugees in the world, which is 1.7 million.

The UNHCR annual global trends report, issued on the World Refugee Day, showed as many as 51.2 million people were forcibly displaced at the end of 2013, fully 6 million more than the 45.2 million reported in 2012.

Surprisingly, the report showed that half of the world's refugees in 2013 were children.

Bangladesh is one of the top 20 refugee hosting countries across the globe, the report said.

Currently there are 31,145 refugees from Myanmar registered in two official camps with an estimated 200,000 to 500,000 more unregistered living outside the camps.

In 2013, Bangladesh took up a strategy to list the undocumented Myanmar population, which the UNHCR described as a positive step towards recognising the existence of this population from Myanmar.

"If carried out in accordance with international standards, would be a positive step

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

Health card for poor

Says Nasim

BSS, Dhaka

Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday said the government would introduce health card system to ensure medical services for poor patients.

"The government will issue health cards so that poor patients get improved

SEE PAGE 9 COL 4

PRAYER TIMING			June 21
	Azan	Jamaat	
Fajr	4-05	4-40	
Zohr	12-45	1-15	
Asr	5-00	5-15	
Maghrib	6-52	6-55	
Esha	8-17	8-45	
Source: Islamic Foundation			



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