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The rain in the capital yesterday inundates the Shanti Nagar intersection, right, triggering a traffic chaos. Students of schools and colleges take refuge, top left, on the central reservation near the intersection as they try to figure out how to get to school with the street flooded. In Motijheel, parked cars are seen in rain water.

PHOTO:
FIROZ AHMED

Floods spread further

Situation to worsen in 13 out of 16 affected districts; at least 2.5 lakh families hit hard

STAR REPORT

The flood situation in at least 13 districts may deteriorate slightly as water levels of three major rivers are likely to increase in the next three days, prolonging the woes of several lakh flood-hit people.

According to a rough estimation of Disaster Management Department, over 2.5 lakh families have been affected by the floods that started in mid-August.

Even though the flood-hit people complained of inadequate relief efforts, the department claimed that

there was "sufficient" relief allocation to tackle the situation.

About Dhaka, Flood Forecasting and Warning Centre (FFWC) yesterday said the rivers surrounding the city, with around 1.5 crore people, are swelling, but it sees little chance of floods in the capital in the next few days.

According to the latest bulletin of the FFWC at 6:00am yesterday, the flood situation of Lalmonirhat, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Rangpur, Gaibandha, Bogra, Jamalpur, Tangail, Shariatpur, Madaripur, Munshiganj, Rajbari and Faridpur may "slightly

deteriorate" in next 48 hours.

Water levels of almost all the major rivers were rising while water level of the Brahmaputra, Jamuna and the Padma could rise in next 72 hours, it says.

The rise of water level in the Brahmaputra and the Teesta in India caused the Brahmaputra, Jamuna, Padma and the Teesta in Bangladesh to swell and this could deteriorate the situation "slightly", Ripon Karmaker, duty officer of the FFWC, told The Daily Star last night.

However, flood situation in three

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A family with their precious belongings moving to higher grounds wading through over knee-deep water at Char Shiberkuti in Lalmonirhat yesterday as flooding in the north continues to cause sufferings.

PHOTO: STAR

The Daily Star



Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia that the government is restoring parliament's authority to impeach Supreme Court judges with an intention to conceal its misdeeds?

Yes (82%)

No (18%)

TOTAL VOTES: 230

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid that quality of education in Bangladesh is yet to improve at the desired level?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT

www.thedailystar.net

Life stirs in Gaza as ceasefire holds

AFP, Gaza City

Life in Gaza resumed some semblance of normality yesterday as a long-term truce took hold following a deal hailed by Israel and Hamas as 'victory' in the 50-day war.

Millions in and around the war-torn enclave enjoyed a welcome night of peace during which there were no strikes on Gaza, nor Palestinian rockets fired at Israel, the Israeli army said.

"We were able to sleep!" said a Gazan man, Alaa al-Jaro. "We had the best sleep

ever after the Israeli aggression ended."

The agreement, effective from 1600 GMT Tuesday, saw the warring sides agree to a "permanent" ceasefire which Israel said would not be limited by time, in a move hailed by Washington, the United Nations and top world diplomats.

Both Israel and the Islamist Hamas movement, the de facto authority in Gaza, hailed the ceasefire as a victory.

But commentators took a more realistic perspective. "A draw" was the headline in

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Woman kills leopard with a sickle

AFP, Dehradun

A 56-year-old Indian woman is recovering in hospital after killing a leopard that attacked her as she tended her fields armed only with a sickle.

The woman told Indian broadcaster CNN-IBN that she battled with the leopard for half an hour on Sunday

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Cops hunt for culprit

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police are yet to trace the newborn stolen from Dhaka Medical College Hospital a week ago.

Several law enforcement agencies have been working round the clock to nab the culprits and recover the stolen twin boy, Sub-inspector Ferdous Alam of Shahbagh Police Station told this newspaper.

The police early yesterday raided different places in

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PRAYER TIMING		August 28
Azan	4-30	Jamat
Fazr	5-05	
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	4-45	5-00
Magrib	6-33	6-36
Esha	8-00	8-30

Source: Islamic Foundation