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WATERLOGGING Commuters face trouble

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many parts of the city remained inundated for hours after a downpour yesterday, exposing the poor drainage system of the capital.

The waterlogging caused immense suffering to commuters, especially office-goers and students, as traffic congestion resulted in tailbacks on many city streets.

After the rain, some areas in Rajarbagh, Mouchak, Malibagh, Shantinagar, Kakrail and Fakirapool went under ankle-deep to knee-deep water.

Road digging at several places in the Moghbazar-Mouchak flyover construction site tormented the travelers.

Visiting the site yesterday morning, it was seen that some rickshaws flipped over with passengers hitting potholes hidden under stagnant water

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Due to construction of a flyover, these roads in the capital's Malibagh and Rajarbagh are already in a mess with trenches and potholes. And now, rains have caused waterlogging, leading to untold sufferings of daily passengers. The photos were taken yesterday.



PHOTO: SK ENAMUL HAQ



Jamaat calls 48-hr hartal from today

'Shibir man' killed in clash with police after death penalty for Kamaruzzaman upheld

STAR REPORT

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday called a 48-hour country-wide hartal from this morning protesting government's "conspiracy" to kill its leader Muhammad Kamaruzzaman while an alleged Shibir activist was killed in a clash with police in Noakhali.

A key component of the BNP-led 20-party alliance, Jamaat, announced the shutdown immediately after the Supreme Court upheld its previous verdict on Kamaruzzaman, rejecting his petition to review his death sentence.

On May 9, 2013, the ICT-2 had sentenced Kamaruzzaman to death for his crimes against humanity committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

Jamaat acting Ameer Moqbul Ahmed, while announcing the strike in a statement yesterday, said ambulances and vehicles

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Verdicts come thru' hurdles

3 war crimes cases completed so far

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

With the Supreme Court's dismissal of Muhammad Kamaruzzaman's review petition yesterday, trial of three war criminals has completed in the last five years amid different hurdles, including violence and a Skype scandal.

The apex court affirmed its previous verdict that upheld the death penalty, rejecting the Jamaat leader's plea for reviewing the sentence for his crimes against humanity committed during the Liberation War in 1971.

Earlier on December 12, 2013, the SC upheld the death penalty of Abdul Quader Mollah for his wartime offences.

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CITY CORPORATION ELECTIONS 2015 Mintoo out, son in focus

Khaleda wants Tabith in Dhaka north as Mintoo's plea against nomination cancellation rejected

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

BNP chief Khaleda Zia last night asked Tabith Awal to get ready for the mayoral race in the Dhaka North City Corporation (DNCC) polls, party insiders said.

Elder son of BNP chairperson's adviser Abdul Awal Mintoo, Tabith met Khaleda at her Gulshan residence. His mother Nasrin Awal, younger brother Tafsir Awal and their wives were present.

They entered Khaleda's residence around 10:30pm and stayed there for about an hour.

The BNP might give its final decision in this regard within a day or two, said party sources.

Earlier, there were reports that BNP would back Mahi B Chowdhury, joint secretary of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh, for the DNCC mayoral race as Tabith was unwilling to contest the April 28 polls.

Talking to The Daily Star, a BNP leader close to Khaleda said the party was going to extend its support to Tabith as many BNP and 20-party alliance leaders are against backing Mahi, son of former

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Two Dhaka city projects dropped

Ministry decides not to go ahead on EC request

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Planning Ministry yesterday dropped two development projects of Dhaka city from the agenda of today's Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) meeting.

The decision came following an Election Commission directive that approval of any development project for that electoral area

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BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia breaks down in tears at Banani grave of her younger son Arafat Rahman Koko. She is accompanied by, among others, Koko's wife, on her left, and a senior party colleague, on her right.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

CTG CITY POLLS Complaints filed against Hasan, Nasir

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Chattagram Unnayan Andolon, a pro-BNP professionals' platform, yesterday filed two complaints against the ruling party-backed mayor aspirant AJM Nasir Uddin and AL leader and former Environment and Forest Minister Hasan Mahmud bringing allegations of violating electoral code of conduct.

The platform, which is backing Manjur Alam Manju for the mayoral race in the Chittagong City Corporation elections, expressed fear about a congenial atmosphere required for fair elections.

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Back home, at last

Two Bangladeshis abducted in Libya return after release

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two Bangladeshi migrant workers, who were abducted in Libya by unknown militants a month ago, returned home yesterday, bringing smiles to faces of their relatives.

Helal Uddin, 46, and Anwar Hossain, 35, arrived at Shahjalal International Airport on an Emirates flight at 5:16pm. They worked for Value Added Oilfield Services (VAOS) Ltd, an Austrian oil company.

The two reached Malta on Friday. Yesterday morning, they left Malta and had a stopover in Dubai before reaching Dhaka, Anwar's brother-in-law Mahmud told The Daily Star.

Hailing from Noakhali, Anwar went to his brother's residence in the capital's Uttara while Helal left for his village home in Jamalpur.

Anwar is physically well, but depressed mentally, said Mahmud. "We are very happy now as he [Anwar] is among us again."

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Big challenge for big bunny

MAIL ONLINE

The world's biggest bunny is preparing to see his heavyweight title challenged - by his giant son.

Darius, who measures over four feet long and weighs in at a whopping three and a half stone, is

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ONLINE POLL
Do you see positive signs in the country's political scenario following Khaleda Zia's securing bail in graft cases, her return to home and withdrawal of police from in front of BNP's central office?
Yes (67%)
No (33%)
TOTAL VOTES: 79
TODAY'S POLL
Do you agree with the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) that the government's move to seek budgetary support from the World Bank would undermine the policy-making independence of the government?
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