

Rainfall causes waterlogging in capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Many areas of Dhaka city were submerged by water after incessant rain yesterday causing misery to commuters.

The rain caused heavier traffic than usual as submerged roads slowed down vehicular movement.

Green Road and parts of Mirpur, Mohammadpur, Jatrabari, Shahjahanpur, Shantinagar, Khilgaon, Demra, and Badda were inundated.

One Surendra Shekhar said it took him an hour to get to Green Road from Tejuri Bazar, a trip that usually took around 15 to 20 minutes.

"It took me an hour and a half to get to Farmgate from Mohammadpur," said Sabir Ahmed, another commuter.

The duty forecasting officer at Dhaka Met Office said they recorded 79mm rainfall in the city till 6:00pm yesterday.

Twelve millimetre of rain fell from 6:00am till noon, but from noon to 6:00pm 67mm rain fell, he said.

According to Dhaka Wasa, the existing drainage system of the city has the capacity to get rid of 20mm rainfall at a time. The drainage system gets clogged if rainfall exceeds 40mm.

JU BCL men beat up senior students

JU CORRESPONDENT

Some activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League of Jahangirnagar University (JU) beat up three general students including a female yesterday because the latter protested a BCL man's misbehaviour.

Md Shahjahan Badsha and Indrajit Bhoumik Shawon, both master's students of history, suffered minor injuries while one of their female friends got hurt trying to save them.

Badsha suffered injuries in the head and his nose bled. He was treated in the university medical centre and Enam Medical College Hospital in Savar.

Badsha and Shawon were chatting with two female friends at the guest room of Shahid Rafiq Jabbar Hall, while BCL activist Md Kamrul Hassan, a second-year law student and resident of the hall, entered the room and asked them why they were sitting there, according to the victims.

He spoke rudely, and when they asked him why he was talking like this with the seniors, he hurried away and came back with seven to eight activists, they said.

"Though we said sorry...they beat us up mercilessly with sticks and iron rods. We don't know why," said Shawon, adding that onlookers came to their rescue.

Kamrul denied attacking anyone and instead accused the four of forcing him out of the room.

The proctorial team visited the injured and assured them of taking action against the attackers.

Corruptionists in health sector to face stern action

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health Minister Mohammad Nasim yesterday warned that stern actions would be taken against those to be found involved in corruption in health sector organisations.

The cabinet approved in principle the draft law to upgrade Chittagong Medical College and Rajshahi Medical College into universities, Nasim told parliament while replying to lawmakers' queries.

He said out of 8,340 posts, around 3,393 posts of doctors remain vacant in public medical colleges adding that the government is trying to fill up these vacant posts.

The health minister said two more new state-run medical colleges – one in Muga of Dhaka and another in Habiganj – will be opened next academic year. He said the government gave permission to set up 66 more private medical colleges in the country.

Nasim said the government would undertake various health programmes for the enclave people after implementation of the Land Boundary Agreement with India.

The minister said budget allocation for health sector is decreasing every year.

Obituary

CITY DESK

Dr Shamsul Islam died in Bredford, UK on June 9.

He had been serving in a few hospitals in the UK from 1974 and finally retired as a general practitioner in Bredford, UK. Earlier he served as a resident surgeon at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

He left behind his wife Mehrun Islam, two sons --- Joy Islam and Katan Islam - and only daughter Milli Islam.

He hailed from Bajitpur of Kishoreganj.

M Nayeb Ali

CITY DESK

M Nayeb Ali, a professor of physiology and former principal of different government medical colleges of Bangladesh, died due to old-age complications at a private clinic in Uttara on June 19. He was 91.

Born in 1924 in Sunamganj, he left behind his wife, five daughters, three sons, and grandchildren to mourn his death.

He was buried in Banani Army graveyard on June 20. A doa mahfil for him will be organised soon.

Death anniversary

CITY DESK

Tomorrow is the ninth death anniversary of Syed Nurul Huq, former director of Power Development Board.

On this occasion, doa mahfils will be held at the Dhaka residence of his eldest son Syed Ziaul Huq and at the Barisal residence of his youngest son Syed Maksumul Huq.

Relatives and well-wishers are requested to pray for the departed soul.

NEWS IN brief

Order on Khaleda seeking expunge of IO's testimony in graft case June 29

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday fixed June 29 for passing an order on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's petition seeking expunge of the investigation officer's deposition in the Zia Orphanage Trust corruption case because it was taken in her absence.

She also prayed for recording a fresh statement of the IO, Harun-or-Rashid, also Anti-Corruption Commission's director, in her presence.

The ACC filed the case against her in 2009 for embezzlement of over Tk 2.1 crore.

Ctg cop detained for extortion attempt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

An assistant sub-inspector of Industrial Police was detained for his alleged attempt to extort money from an officer of an insurance company in Chittagong city yesterday.

ASI Mahbubur Rahman was held with his associate Md Farid by Kotwali police in Jubilee road area, said police and witnesses.

Ziaul Karim of Sonali Life Insurance informed police that Mahbub demanded Tk 50,000 from him and if he did not pay the money, he would arrest him over possessing illicit drugs, said Kotwali police.

5 more billboards, 35 signboards brought down in port city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A mobile court of Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) brought down five illegal billboards and 35 signboards in Bahaddarhat area of the city yesterday.

Earlier, a total of 25 mega and 41 small billboards were brought down in the city since CCC started drives on June 1 after making a list of 1,033 illegal billboards.

Savar upazila chairman removed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Savar

Savar Upazila Parishad chairman Md Kafil Uddin has been removed for his absence in the monthly general official meetings from January to May.

Local Government Division under the Ministry of LGRD and Cooperative passed the order on him according to the local government law 13 (2).

Md Kamrul Hasan Mollah, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Savar, said they got an ordinance in this regard yesterday. He, however, could not explain the removal.

Kafil, a pro-BNP upazila chairman, is an accused in many cases filed over violence.

Data bank on migration can

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children.

However, Save the Children and its two partners Uddipan and BNWLA, through a European Union-funded rural-urban child migration project tried to keep track of children by initiating a registration system.

The project conducted between September 2011 and June 2015 registered 52,600 children who are at risk of migration from 10 urban wards and 24 rural unions.

In 2014, the government asked all union parishads to register children migrating elsewhere including data on where the child is going, to whom and with whom.



Navy Chief Vice Admiral Muhammad Farid Habib, left, and Air Force Chief Air Marshal Abu Esrar adorn the newly-appointed army chief, Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiqul Huq, with the rank badge of general at Gono Bhaban in the presence of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday. Story on page 3.

WAR CRIMES TRIAL

Taher, Nani implicated again in Netrakona-6 murder

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Another prosecution witness yesterday linked war crimes accused Obaidul Haque Taher and Ataur Rahman Nani to the murder of six people, including the witness's brother, in Netrakona during the Liberation War.

Amir Uddin, elder brother of martyr Siddiqur Rahman of Kamalgati village in Netrakona, told the International Crimes Tribunal-1 that he had seen Taher and Nani torture his brother and others, who were later killed, in Netrakona town on November 15, 1971.

Earlier, Ayesha Akhter, sister of another victim, and her son Abdul Mannan Sabuj of Nagendra Nagar village in Netrakona gave almost similar accounts of the incident.



Taher

Amir, 11th prosecution witness in the case against Taher and Nani, said he heard gunshots around 11:00am on the day from Birmapur Bazar, where his brother Siddiqur was. When he went there, he saw that Taher and Nani detained his brother, Badiuzzaman Mukta, Abdul Malek Shanta, Islam Uddin, Ismail and Lebu and took them to the town, Amir said.

Amir said he saw Taher shoot Lebu dead near Laxmiganj Ferry Ghat as they thought Lebu was a Hindu.

The 82-year-old witness said he along with some others saw that Taher and Nani torture the detainees in Old Session Court area. When they went there again the following morning, they heard that the detainees were shot dead and saw Taher and Nani rejoicing by shooting blanks, Amir said.

Amir said they found Siddiqur's body two days later. After the defence completed Amir's cross-examination, the tribunal adjourned the case proceedings till July 26.

Taher and Nani face six charges. They, however, pleaded not guilty before the tribunal.

Ctg woman murdered in her house

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A woman was killed in her house in Bhatiyar of Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong yesterday.

Layla Begum, 70, of Imamnagar, used to live in a room of the house of Switzerland expatriate Mozammel and worked as its caretaker.

Her hands and legs were tied and injury marks were found in her face.

Police said her almira was ransacked but nothing was missing.

Police arrested her domestic help Rina, 25, in this connection.

SC to decide June 28 on govt

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28 last year and January 4 and 6 this year.

Three days later the government filed three petitions with the SC seeking stay on the HC orders.

The BNP leader was detained from Jatiya Press Club on January 5, and later on, he was shown arrested in seven cases.

Meanwhile, the HC granted permanent bail to BNP leader Gayeshwar Chandra Roy in a vandalism and arson case.

Police filed the case on December 24 last year on charges of vandalising and setting fire to the car of Netrakona-1 MP Chhabi Biswas and preventing law enforcers from discharging their duties at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Gayeshwar, however, cannot get release from jail as the SC has stayed a HC order that earlier granted him bail in another vandalism case, his lawyer Nitai Roy Chowdhury told The Daily Star.

Gayeshwar was arrested by police on December 26 last year in a case filed on the charge of planning subversive acts.

Sust VC opponents publish

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The Daily Star could not independently verify the allegations, while the VC declined to talk.

Prof Syed Shamsul Alam, convener of the protesters' platform Mohan Muktijuddher Chetonyar Udbuddha Shikkhak Parishad, said demonstrations would continue until the VC stepped down.

The protesters said the students who called for a stop to their movement were mainly leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL).

When asked Sust BCL unit's general secretary Imran Khan said, "We are supporting the programme of the general students."

All classes and examinations were held as per the schedule yesterday.

Farah Ghuznavi
Fragments of Riversong

Fragments of Riversong

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