



## CHATTOGRAM DIVISION Floods damage 577 educational institutions

STAR REPORT

At least 577 educational institutions were affected by the recent floods in three districts of Chattogram division, according to education officers.

Although flood waters have receded, academic activities in many schools could not resume till yesterday.

In Chattogram district's Satkania upazila, around 88 percent of the educational institutions were affected and have been closed for over a week and half.

Academic activities have resumed in only 34 of the 270 educational institutions, including primary schools, high schools and madrasas, according to the upazila education office.

Though the water has gone down, the school buildings are not fit yet for academic activities to resume. I will take

**Although flood waters have receded, academic activities in many schools could not resume till yesterday.**

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## Moderate earthquake jolts parts of country

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 5.3-magnitude earthquake jolted parts of the country, including Dhaka, Chattogram, and Sylhet yesterday at 8:49pm.

Its epicentre was 31km east-northeast of Sylhet at a depth of 35km, according to the Euro-Mediterranean Seismological Centre.

Speaking to this newspaper, Zahirul Islam, an assistant meteorologist at Bangladesh Meteorological Department, said the tremors were distinctly felt in Dhaka, Sylhet, Moulvibazar, Cumilla, Kurigram, Chattogram, and Mymensingh.

Out of fear, people in many parts of the country,

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Eleven-year-old Farhana Rashid has been in Dhaka Shishu Hospital for around four days, after being diagnosed with dengue. To help keep her distracted and entertained, her elder sister comes with colouring pencils and notebooks every day, and the two spend time together drawing to their heart's content. The photo was taken yesterday.

PHOTO: RASHED SHUMON

## War criminal Sayedee dies



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Convicted war criminal and Jamaat-e-Islami leader Delawar Hossain Sayedee died at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University last night.

"He died at 8:40pm," Brig Gen Md Rezaul Rahman, director (hospital) of BSMMU, told The Daily Star.

Sayedee, 83, former Jamaat jayeb-e-ameer, had been jailed until death for committing crimes against humanity during the Liberation War.

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another week to start classes, education officers said.

"Most of the schools in our upazila were affected by the floods. The environment is not yet conducive for activities ... The schools are being cleaned up at the moment," said Golam Mahub, primary education officer of Satkania upazila.

Salim Uddin, the upazila's secondary education officer, said it will take two to seven more days for classes to resume.

"Moreover, some institutions have suffered infrastructural damages. It will take longer to restart classes in them."

However, academic activities in almost all the educational institutions in Chattogram city and some other upazilas resumed on Sunday, said Uttam Khisa, district education officer.

In Cox's Bazar, some 236 educational institutions were affected by the floods. But classes in all of them have already resumed, said teachers and education officers.

Golam Mostafa, head teacher of HM High School in Chakaria upazila, said, "We were compelled to shut our school down when it went under waist-deep water. Over a week later, we reopened the school on Saturday."

Much of the school's furniture have been damaged, he added.

In Rangamati, some 71 primary schools were affected and classes could not resume in some of them till yesterday, according to education offices concerned.

"Water is receding from the school premises. But some are filled with puddles and mud. So academic activities could not be resumed in those," said Md Sazzad Hossain,

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## WATERLOGGING IN CTG Mayor blames it on the residents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chattogram City Corporation Mayor Rezaul Karim Chowdhury yesterday said irresponsible city dwellers are one of the reasons behind waterlogging in the port city.

People throw polythene and plastic wastes into drains and canals, cut hills and occupy canals, which cause waterlogging, he said.

Talking in a press conference after a meeting over waterlogging, he told reporters, "As the canals and drains are filled up with polythene and plastic waste, rain water cannot recede quickly, causing waterlogging."

"A polythene layer of seven-metre deep has been created on the Karnaphuli river bed; so it cannot contain rain water," he said. "Dredging the river has become difficult due to that," he added.

There used to be 72 canals in the city, but now the number has declined to 57, he said. Many of those were occupied by influential people, he added.

The mayor also criticised the Department of Environment (DoE) for failing to stop hill cutting.

When journalists asked him why the CCC conservancy workers

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## EGG PRICE HIKE Shady traders made crores of taka in a week

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dishonest traders pocketed crores of taka within a week by sending the egg price to an unprecedented level on the pretext of low production, inclement weather, and supply chain disruptions, said the chief of consumer rights watchdog.

At a meeting with stakeholders of poultry industry yesterday, AHM Shafiguzzaman, director general of the Directorate of National Consumers Right Protection (DNCRP), said businesses on different occasions claimed that Bangladesh requires 4 crore eggs a day.

The price of 4 crore eggs was Tk 48 crore on August 5 when an egg was

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## Nasa telescope spots cosmic question mark



CNN ONLINE

A cosmic object in the shape of a glowing question mark has photobombed one of the latest images captured by Nasa's James Webb Space Telescope -- and scientists think they know what it might be.

The original near-infrared image, released July 26, depicted a pair of young stars named Herbig-Haro 46/47. Found 1,470 light-years away in the Vela constellation within the Milky Way galaxy, the stars are still actively forming and closely orbiting each other.

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Rescuers work at a site of a shopping mall destroyed during a Russian military strike, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Odesa, Ukraine yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

## Ukraine pushes back Russian troops

AFP, Kyiv

The Ukrainian military yesterday said it had pushed Russian forces out of pockets of territory along front lines in the east and south of the country, building on a gruelling counter-offensive launched two months ago.

The gains -- announced by Ukraine's deputy defence minister -- came as Russia claimed its forces had progressed in the eastern Kharkiv region, undermining Kyiv's highly anticipated campaign.

Ukraine kicked off its counter-offensive against Russian forces in June after building up assault battalions and stockpiling Western-donated weapons.

But Kyiv has acknowledged that

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