

Continuous rain submerges Jashore

Destroys Aman seedbeds, vegetable crops in the district

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Relentless rainfall over the past two days has left most parts of Jashore town and its outskirts submerged, damaging vegetable crops and Aman paddy seedbeds across 1,759 hectares of land.

In the last two days, 78mm rainfall was recorded in Jashore, according to the meteorological office at Jashore's Birshreshtha Matiur Rahman Airport.

Additionally, 25mm rainfall was recorded between 6:00am and 6:00pm on Wednesday while 53mm of rainfall was recorded from 6:00am to 6:00pm on Thursday.

Many areas — including Shah Abdul Karim Road, Stadiumpara, Pirtala, Narikelbaria, Shankarpur, Phayara Saheb Mor to Pipe Patti, Bezpara Chinamor, Bezpara Dhal, Police Lines, Rail Gate, Missionpara, Rail Station, Chachra Para, Tikapara, Palbari, TIC Clinic Mor, Puratan Kasba, Churamankathi, Airport Road, and Stationpara — went under the water due to the incessant rain.

A resident of Shankarpur, Zaki Hossain, said, "It rained on Wednesday night, and there was water inside our homes in the morning. For the last two days, we've been in great distress."

Amin Uddin, a farmer in the area, said, "The fields are now submerged, and all the crops and vegetables have been destroyed. Most of the fields are completely ruined."

Kamal Hossain, assistant engineer of Jashore Municipality Council, said, "Due to continuous rain, most of the areas in the town have been inundated. All measures have been taken to drain the water. The drains of the town are being cleaned quickly. I hope the water will recede soon."

Jashore District Agriculture Officer Razia Sultana said a total of 209 hectares of vegetables have been completely damaged in Jashore Sadar upazila.

Samaresh Biswas, additional deputy director of the department, said, "Aman seedbeds were prepared on approximately 13,000 hectares. Of these, around 1,550 hectares have been completely submerged and destroyed. The remaining seedbeds have suffered partial damage,

SEE PAGE 9 COL 3



DACOPE, BATIAGHATA UPAZILAS Erosion threatens key road in Khulna



DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Erosion caused by the Kazi Bacha River has put the main road connecting Dacope and Batiaghata upazilas in Khulna at serious risk. At least five major points along the road have already been severely damaged, and locals fear that if any section collapses completely, over 40 to 50 villages across Batiaghata and Gangarrampur unions could be directly affected.

The Dacope-Batiaghata road is the only direct communication route between the two upazilas and the city.

Recent visits to several erosion-hit locations — including Kismat Phultala's Boruitola area, Batiaghata Bazar, near the Pankhali ferry terminal, and Gopal Khali — revealed that the river has eaten into several parts of the road. In some places, the erosion has crept 7 to 8 feet into the road, leaving narrow stretches for vehicles and pedestrians.

"The river is now just a few feet away from our homes," said Beethika Mondal, a resident of Kismat Phultala. "If the erosion continues like this, the water will come right over our house.

We can't even sleep at night out of fear. Our land, just 3 to 4 kathas, is right next to the erosion site. If it collapses, not just us but over 50 bighas of surrounding land will be lost."

Swapon Biswas, another resident of Phultala and a retired bank officer, said during high tides, water already overflows onto their land. "The riverbed has risen due to siltation. When the tide is strong, water hits the base of the road directly, loosening the soil. If this continues without proper sandbag reinforcements or embankment protection, the road will collapse very soon."

"If this road breaks, it will cut off communication between Khulna and Dacope, and our agricultural economy will be devastated," he added. "Right now, it's the Aman season. This is our only rice crop. If that fails, we won't have anything to eat for the rest of the year."

At the Batiaghata Bazar section of the river, erosion has caused large cracks over a stretch of nearly 400 metres along the main Khulna-Chalna

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1



Justice Abu Sayeed's death anniversary

CITY DESK

Today is the 37th death anniversary of former president Justice Abu Sayeed Chowdhury, said a press release.

Justice Chowdhury, also a former vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, played a leading role in mobilising world opinion in favour of Bangladesh during the War of Liberation in 1971.

He was also elected chairman of the UN Human Rights Commission in 1985.

He authored several books — including "Probashe Muktijuddher Dinguli", "Manobadhikar", "Muslim Family Law in the English Courts" and "Human Rights in the Twentieth Century".

On the occasion of his death anniversary, a doa mahfil will be held at Dabail Jamia Ashrafia Madrasa in Tangail. His family requested all of his relatives, friends and well-wishers to pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Ganosamhati calls for overhaul of state structure



DU CORRESPONDENT

The existing state structure of Bangladesh does not serve the people but protects the interests of a privileged group, said speakers at an event organised by Ganosamhati Andolon at Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka yesterday.

They demanded justice, reforms, and participatory national elections.

Zonayed Saki, chief coordinator of Ganosamhati, said, "The state is built upon enforced disappearances, killings, land grabbing, and a deep-rooted system of repression. This must be dismantled."

Saki said the current state system has long been

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

Man kills wife, surrenders to police

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

A man surrendered to police in Patuakhali early yesterday, confessing that he had killed his wife during a family dispute before fleeing with their minor son.

The accused, Sarwar Hossain, 40, walked into Bauphal Police Station around midnight and admitted to killing his wife, Salma Akhter, 32, said Officer-in-Charge Mohammad Akhtaruzzaman Sarkar.

Police later recovered Salma's body from their house and sent it to Patuakhali Medical College Hospital morgue for autopsy.

SEE PAGE 9 COL 1

Advertisement

Beauty Industry reaches New Height through Aesthetica Bangladesh 2025 by The Aesthetic Dermatology Society of Bangladesh (ADSB). Chief Guest Dr. AZM Maidul Islam inaugurated the event. Dr. Nazmul Hossain and Dr. Md. Abu Jafor were present as special guests. Others at the ceremony were Secretary General of ADSB Dr. Jahanara Ferdous Khan Jhuma, Organizing Secretary, Dr. Matiur Rahman Chowdhury, Organising President, Dr. Imrose Mohit. Chief Patron Dr. M.U. Kabir Chowdhury delivered his insightful address. The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt vote of thanks by the ADSB President Dr. Sarker Mahub Ahmed Shamim.

To-Let

Residential from September-Banani, Block-E, Road 19/A, 2350 sq ft, 3 beds, attached baths. Study room, servant room-bath, drawing-dining, common bath, verandahs. Cell: 01312-533364

We may boycott polls

FROM PAGE 3
implementation. Several minority rights organisations also expressed solidarity with these demands.

However, Sushmita noted that the interim government formed the National Consensus Commission without including any representatives from minority communities.

"Consensus cannot be reached under this commission since it is not inclusive," she said, adding that no political party has raised any questions over this exclusion.

"It is quite disappointing for us to wonder whether the political parties are only thinking of using the eight percent [population] as a vote bank, or whether they

are genuinely concerned about our rights," she said. Sushmita said although two advisers in the interim government represent minority communities, they have remained silent on issues affecting the minorities, which is disheartening.

Sushmita stressed that minorities are now more aware of their rights and warned that if the interim government or political parties fail to address their concerns before the election, the eight percent population could boycott the polls.

At the press conference, Torun Roy, the platform's northern unit representative, alleged that political parties still lack genuine commitment to upholding minority rights.

He read out the eight-point demand, which also includes the formation of a minority affairs ministry and a minority commission.

He also called for the trial and punishment of those responsible for communal violence, along with compensation and rehabilitation for victims.

Other demands include upgrading the existing religious welfare trusts for Hindus, Christians, and Buddhists into full-fledged foundations; enacting laws to recover and protect Debottor (religious endowment) properties; and ensuring full implementation of the Vested Property Return (Amendment) Act-2013. The platform also demanded an extension of the Durga Puja holiday to five days.

Two drown in Gazipur beel

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

Two persons drowned when they fell into Panchua Beel from a boat in Gazipur's Kapasia upazila yesterday.

The deceased are Mahim, 16, son of Nur Alam of Tengra Tepir Bari in Gazipur, and Bayojid, 35, said Kapasia Police Station Sub-inspector Zahid.

An eyewitness, Sharif Mia, said five friends went to the beel around 8:00am to collect water lilies, hiring a small boat. Mahim and Bayojid fell into the waterbody when the boat suddenly tilted.

Police went to the spot, rescued Mahim, and took him to Kapasia Upazila Health Complex where the doctors declared him dead, said SI Zahid.

Bayojid's body was recovered from the waterbody later.

Veggie

FROM PAGE 3
beans at Tk 80 to Tk 100 per kg, up from Tk 60 to Tk 80 a week earlier.

Bitter gourds were priced at Tk 70 to Tk 100 per kg, compared to Tk 60 to Tk 80 last week.

Eggplants were being sold at Tk 60 to Tk 100 per kg, up from Tk 50 to Tk 80, while ridge gourds were selling at Tk 60 to Tk 80 per kg, compared to Tk 50 to Tk 60 last week.

Okra was priced at Tk 50 to Tk 60 per kg, an increase from Tk 40 to Tk 50 a week ago.

Meanwhile, the price of locally grown onions rose to Tk 70 per kg, up from Tk 55 to Tk 60.

Sabuj Sheikh, proprietor of wholesale onion shop Matri Bhandar at Karwan Bazar, said wholesale onion prices increased by Tk 10 to Tk 15 per kg within a week, which in turn affected retail prices. He said he primarily sources onions from farmers in Pabna and Faridpur and sells them at wholesale rates in Karwan Bazar.

Md Roni, a grocer at Shewrapara, said the price of eggs has increased by Tk 15 per dozen in the past two to three days. Yesterday, he sold farm-produced brown eggs at Tk 140 per dozen.

Fascism research institute

FROM PAGE 3
Looting continued for days, and furniture and metal fixtures were taken away.

Afterwards, the building turned into a public toilet, used by homeless people, rickshaw pullers, and labourers. It also became a gathering place for drug users and vagrants, locals alleged.

Amir Hossain, an employee at a shop in Ramna Bhaban opposite the AL office, said the new banner was put up on Wednesday. "Since then, many journalists and curious people have come to see what's happening," he said.

He said water had accumulated on the ground floor, which was being cleared by Wasa. "After August 5, the building was used as a public toilet, and drug addicts stayed there at night," he said.

Dulal Patowari, a security guard at Ramna Bhaban, recalled, "When I started this job 16 years ago, the building was full of activity. It was a powerhouse. But after August 5, it became the opposite."

Contacted, Shahriar Ali, deputy commissioner of the Motijheel Division of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, said a police team has been

stationed at the site since November last year.

He confirmed that work on the site is ongoing with support from Wasa and the city corporation.

"We do not know exactly who they [the youth overseeing the work] are, but they introduced themselves as 'July Fighters,'" he said.

The previous party office in Gulistan was demolished to make way for this 10-storey building. It was officially inaugurated on June 23, 2018, by AL president and then prime minister Sheikh Hasina. The new building cost around Tk 15 crore.

Army to probe involvement

FROM PAGE 3
The ISPR reiterated that the Bangladesh Army is strictly apolitical, disciplined, and professional institution. "There is no scope for political activities within the force. Any member found engaged in such activities will face legal action under military law," it stated.

Earlier, police arrested 22 people — including several leaders and activists of the Awami League and the banned Chhatra League — from a "secret meeting" held at the KB Convention Centre near the capital's Bashundhara Residential Area on July 8.

The officer in question, Major Sadikul Haque, was reportedly taken into army custody for his alleged involvement in the meeting.

The matter came to light at a press briefing at the Army Headquarters on Thursday, where Col Shafiqul Islam, colonel staff at the Military Operations Directorate, said, "We are aware of Major Sadikul Haque's alleged involvement. An investigation is ongoing. Until the investigation is complete, we cannot provide further details on the matter."

On July 12, police filed

a case over the "secret meeting" with Bhatara Police Station.

Meanwhile, briefing reporters at the DMP Media Centre yesterday, Deputy Commissioner (Media) of DMP Talebur Rahman said arrests are being made based on specific allegations.

"The individuals were attempting to create anarchy in the city. Twenty-two people were arrested, and a case was filed. The investigation is being conducted with due importance, and we will soon be able to disclose the names of those involved," he said.



We mourn the demise of Mrs. Yasmeen Murshed, Founder Trustee of Independent University, Bangladesh, who passed away on July 31, 2025. Inna Lillahi Wa Inna Ilaihi Rajiun.

Yasmeen Murshed was born on May 19, 1945, in Calcutta, India. She had her early education at the Viqarunnisa Noon School in Dhaka and earned her bachelor's degree in English and master's in Economics in 1969 at the University of the Punjab.

She founded Scholastica School in 1977. She played a key role in founding Independent University, Bangladesh in 1993 as a member of the Education Science Technology and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT) — the founding trust of the university.

Mrs. Murshed was in charge of several ministries in 2006-07 as an Advisor to the former caretaker government. In 2007 she was made the High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Pakistan. She was married to Late Syed Tanweer Murshed and is survived by a daughter and a son.

The IUB community — including members of the Board of Trustees, ESTCDT, faculty, administration, students and alumni — expresses deepest condolences to the bereaved family and prays for the salvation of her departed soul.

Independent University, Bangladesh