

RAIN LIKELY



Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at most places over Rangpur, Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at any places over Rajshahi, Khulna and Barisal divisions till 6:00pm today. Moderately heavy to heavy rainfall is also likely

at places over the country, Met Office said.

Day and night temperatures may remain unchanged over the country.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:25pm and rises tomorrow at 5:37am.

Country's highest temperature 35.4 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday in Rajshahi and lowest 24.7 degree Celsius in Cox's Bazar, Rangamati and Teknaf.

The highest and lowest temperatures and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Temperature in Celsius

	Max:	Min:
Dhaka	32.5	27.0
Chittagong	28.6	25.2
Rajshahi	35.4	26.0
Rangpur	30.0	25.3

Humidity in percentage

	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	81	82
Chittagong	88	83
Rajshahi	83	91
Rangpur	97	86

Temperature in Celsius

	Max:	Min:
Khulna	32.5	27.5
Barisal	31.0	26.4
Sylhet	29.8	25.6
Cox's Bazar	30.5	24.7

Humidity in percentage

	Morning	Evening
Khulna	82	93
Barisal	88	83
Sylhet	92	93
Cox's Bazar	87	86

Youth injured in police firing

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pirojpur



Shahidul in hospital.

PHOTO: STAR

A youth suffered severe bullet injuries in police firing at Bhoirompur village in Pirojpur sadar upazila yesterday.

Police claimed that Shahidul Islam Sheikh, a resident of the village, was injured when they had a "gunfight with a gang of robbers".

Villagers, however, said Shahidul went to a nearby shop to buy tea and sugar in the morning when he saw police and ran in panic; police then shot at him.

He is a fruit seller in Dhaka, and he came home a few days ago, said his brother Rashedul Sheikh. With at least four rubber pellets lodged in his belly, he was hospitalised in Khulna city.

Md Abdur Razzak Mollah, officer-in-charge of Pirojpur Sadar Police Station, said they were at the village to arrest some robbers. "As the robbers opened fire on the cops, they responded," he said, adding that Shahidul was found injured at the scene after the "gunfight".

STAR-ROBI ENGLISH IN SCHOOLS
Blue Bird School wins in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

Blue Bird School and College won the Sylhet divisional round of English in Schools, a joint programme of The Daily Star and Robi, yesterday.

Around 500 students of class VI to X from 25 schools of Sylhet, Sunamganj and Moulvibazar districts participated in the programme held at Scholarshome School and College in the city.

Sylhet Government Pilot High School was the runner-up, while Border Guard Public School and College took the third position. Each of the schools received certificates, bronze trophies, and English books worth Tk 10,000.

Prof Md Aminul Haque Bhuiyan, vice chancellor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, was present at the prize giving ceremony as chief guest and Md Abdul Mannan Khan, examination controller of the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education, Sylhet was present

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Students of winning schools and guests at the Sylhet divisional round of English in Schools, a joint programme of The Daily Star and Robi, held in Scholarshome School and College in Sylhet city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

Body of another Pinak-6 victim recovered



Mintu Molla
OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhalakathi

The body of another passenger of motor launch Pinak-6, which sank in the Padma near Mawa on August 4, was recovered from the Sugandha river in Nalcity of Jhalakathi yesterday.

The deceased was Mintu

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Most GPA 5 scorers fail DU admission tests

Professor claims at discussion on education system

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Referring to the loopholes in the current education system, a Dhaka University professor yesterday claimed that about 80 percent of the highest GPA achievers failed to get qualifying marks in the university's admission tests, and it had been going on for the last four to five years.

Dr Mamun Ahmed, professor of biochemistry and molecular biology, opined that qualitative improvement among students was not evident due to the introduction of the creative method in the education system, without pre-testing its applicability and a lack of comprehensive training among teachers on this method.

He was addressing a roundtable, "Anarchy in Education System: Bangladesh's

Future", organised by Shikkha Odhikar Andolon at the capital's Jatiya Press Club.

"We feel sad when we see a GPA-5 achiever who obtained on an average 80 percent of marks in SSC and HSC exams but fails to score 40 out of 120 in the admission test," the professor said. He did not give any source of this data.

Dr Ahmed claimed that politics was being introduced even in primary school, and due to the politicisation, the education system was falling apart.

Former vice chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Emaz Uddin Ahmad said, "If we want to build a progressive nation and modern human resources through education, we have to create a fantastic environment from top to bottom in the

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TANGENTS
BY IHTISHAM KABIR

Madhobkundo

To reach the waterfall at Madhobkundo, you take the road towards Borlekha from Moulvi Bazar. Go past Kulaura and the Juri intersection. Just before reaching Borlekha you turn right into a smaller road and follow it for eight kilometres to Madhobkundo Eco-park. The drive is ninety minutes from Moulvi Bazar.

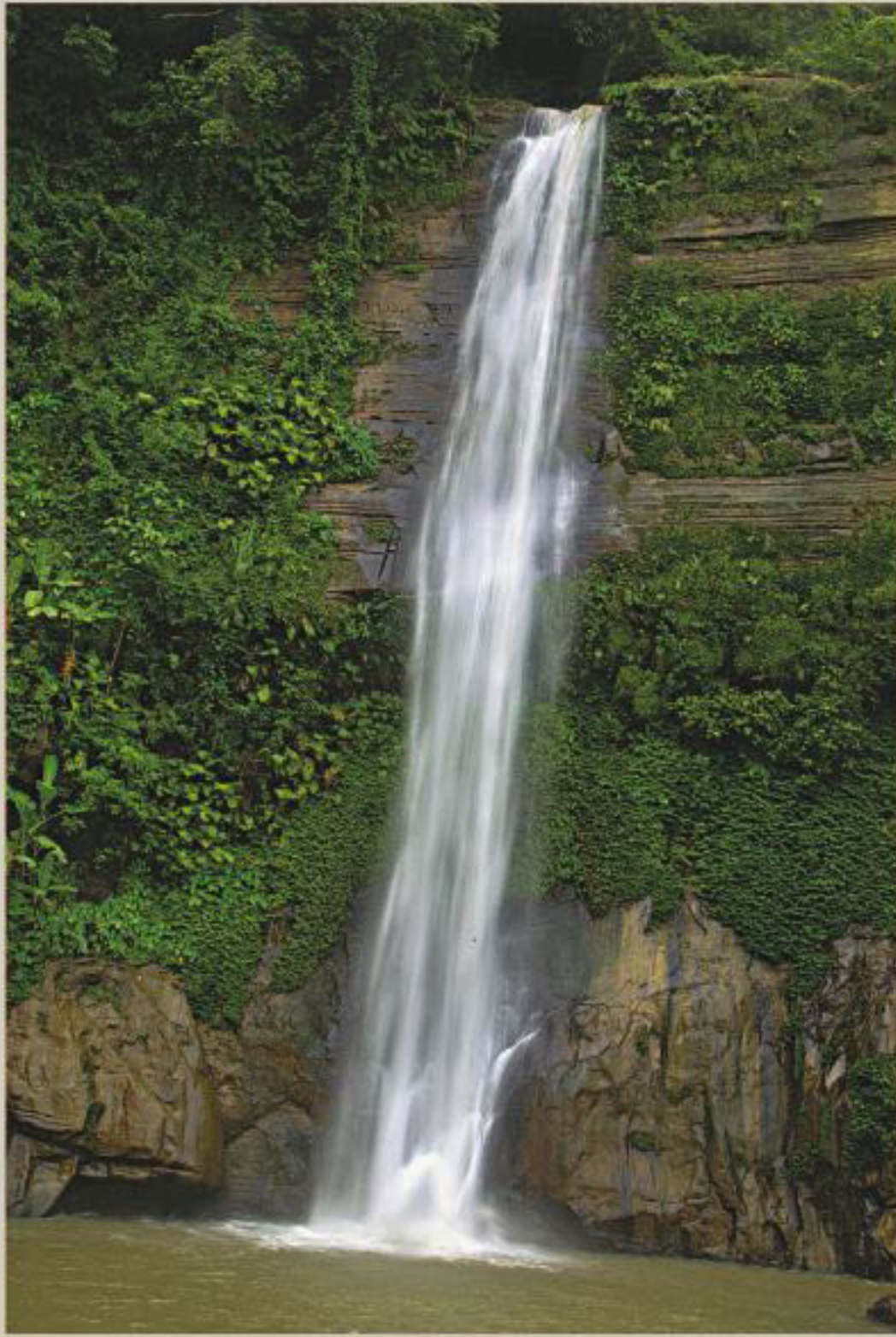
I set out very early on a monsoon morning. Soon the pastoral fields near Moulvi Bazar gave way to the well-kept tea gardens along Kulaura Road. Turning north at Kulaura, I travelled parallel to the Patharia Hills far to our right. Monsoon's saturated greenery surrounded us: tea hills, rice fields, or well-tended groves of hardwood trees. As we approached Borlekha the vegetation changed subtly as Agar trees replaced the usual hardwood trees.

The final eight-kilometre stretch was a smaller road in poor repair. The 265-hectare park entrance was at its end. Entry was ten taka per person; mandatory parking at a nearby lot cost fifty taka.

From the entrance it was a fifteen-minute walk to the falls. The walkway was lined with trees on both sides of the well-kept path. There was a Parjatan café, public toilets and a changing room.

I heard the waterfall for some time, but when I finally saw it at the end of the path, I was pleasantly surprised at its proximity. The viewing point was at the edge of a pool. Across the pool, about a hundred feet away, the hillside – in the Patharia range – rose vertically two hundred feet. The stream fell from the top. It was a generous flow, powerful and frothy, brimming with monsoon's promise.

Except for a tourist family frolicking in the water, the park was empty – my reward for the early start.



Madhobkundo waterfall.

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

As I photographed the waterfall, a young man appeared next to me. He introduced himself as Shaikhul, a guide. "There is another waterfall nearby where you can get much closer to the falling water," he said.

I took my time photographing the waterfall, enjoying the fine mist more than my camera did. When I finished, I asked Shaikhul to show me the other spot. We crossed the stream flowing from the pool and walked up a second streambed for ten minutes. The water sparkled and cascaded over rocks. As promised, there was a second waterfall at the mouth of the stream. Perhaps 150 feet tall, it was called Merukundo.

Shaikhul was sure-footed and confident during our detour,

helping carry my cameras. Perhaps as a caution not to wander away without a guide, he narrated stories about past accidents. A woman had waded into the large pool underneath the main waterfall during the monsoon. While she was there, the water's flow increased unexpectedly, raising the water level. The woman was not a swimmer. She was unconscious when finally rescued, later dying at Borlekha hospital.

As I left the park, droves of visitors had started arriving. On the way out I chatted with park personnel who said that peak season attendance is four thousand visitors every day.

They had a request for me: "Please mention the road's poor condition when you write. It discourages many from visiting this place." Indeed, a better road would certainly enhance the traveller's experience at Madhobkundo, a beautiful place.

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

NEWSIN
brief

US, Bangladesh relations to see new height: Nisha Desai

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Ambassador to the US Mohammad Ziauddin met with Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Nisha Desai Biswal at the US Department of State on Wednesday.

Biswal welcomed the newly appointed ambassador and expressed her hope, based on the existing strong bilateral bond achieved over the years, that the relations between the two countries would see a new height during Ziauddin's tenure.

The courtesy call discussed a wide range of issues of mutual interests, said a press release of Bangladesh Embassy in Washington DC.

D-8 chief's 4-day visit starts today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

D-8 Secretary General Dr Seyed Ali Mohammad Mousavi is scheduled to pay a four-day visit to Bangladesh from today.

During his visit, Mousavi will attend the eighth D-8 meeting of Directors-General and Expert Group on Civil Aviation on August 24-25 in Dhaka.

Mousavi is expected to call on the prime minister, the foreign minister, the finance minister, the commerce minister, the industries minister, the civil aviation and tourism minister, the state minister for foreign affairs and the foreign secretary.

D-8 countries are Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan and Turkey.

Bangladesh to get ITPEC membership

BSS, Dhaka

Bangladesh is set to get Information Technology Professional Examination Council (ITPEC) membership that would enable it to give internationally recognised certificate to IT professionals and graduates, official sources said.

They said Japan based Information Technology Promotion Agency (IPA), a regulatory body for evaluating the Information Technology Engineers Examination (ITEE), will confer the ITPEC membership on Bangladesh at a function to be held on September 1 at the auditorium of Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC).

Employer kills domestic help's son

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Pabna

A woman strangled a son of her domestic help in Shara Gopalpur village in Ishwardi upazila of Pabna yesterday.

Mehedi Hassan, 3, was crying as his mother Jhumur Begum went outside. Failing to soothe the baby, Asia Khatun, 32, wife of Kepen Hossain, first beat him up and then strangled him, said Iswardi police.

Asia was sent to Jail. The body was sent to Pabna Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy.

Scholastica kids to join event in India

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Five class IX students of the Mirpur campus of Scholastica are attending the 6th Odyssey International 2014, a platform to enhance English literary and linguistic skills to develop aptitude for English.

The four-day event, organised by the City Montessori School of India, will begin in Lucknow today, said a press release.

The objective of Odyssey is to widen the importance of English language and relationships irrespective of cultural and language barriers.

Freedom fighters' interviews available on mjgobeshona.org

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

The Research Centre of Bangladesh Freedom Struggle and Liberation War, Chittagong, is preserving the interviews of 1,000 freedom fighters and organisers.

Till now, the interviews of 34 have been uploaded on the centre's website: www.mjgobeshona.org

Dr Mahfuzur Rahman, chairman of the research centre, told The Daily Star that they had launched the website to protect the 1971 Liberation War history from distortion and to let the present generation know the fact.

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MIRZA AZIZUL ISLAM

Chief Guest: A.M.A. Muhith
(Honourable Finance Minister)

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Venue: A.S. Mahmud Seminar Hall
The Daily Star Centre, Dhaka.

Date: 23/08/2014 (Saturday) Time: 4.30 pm
Event Open for All

