

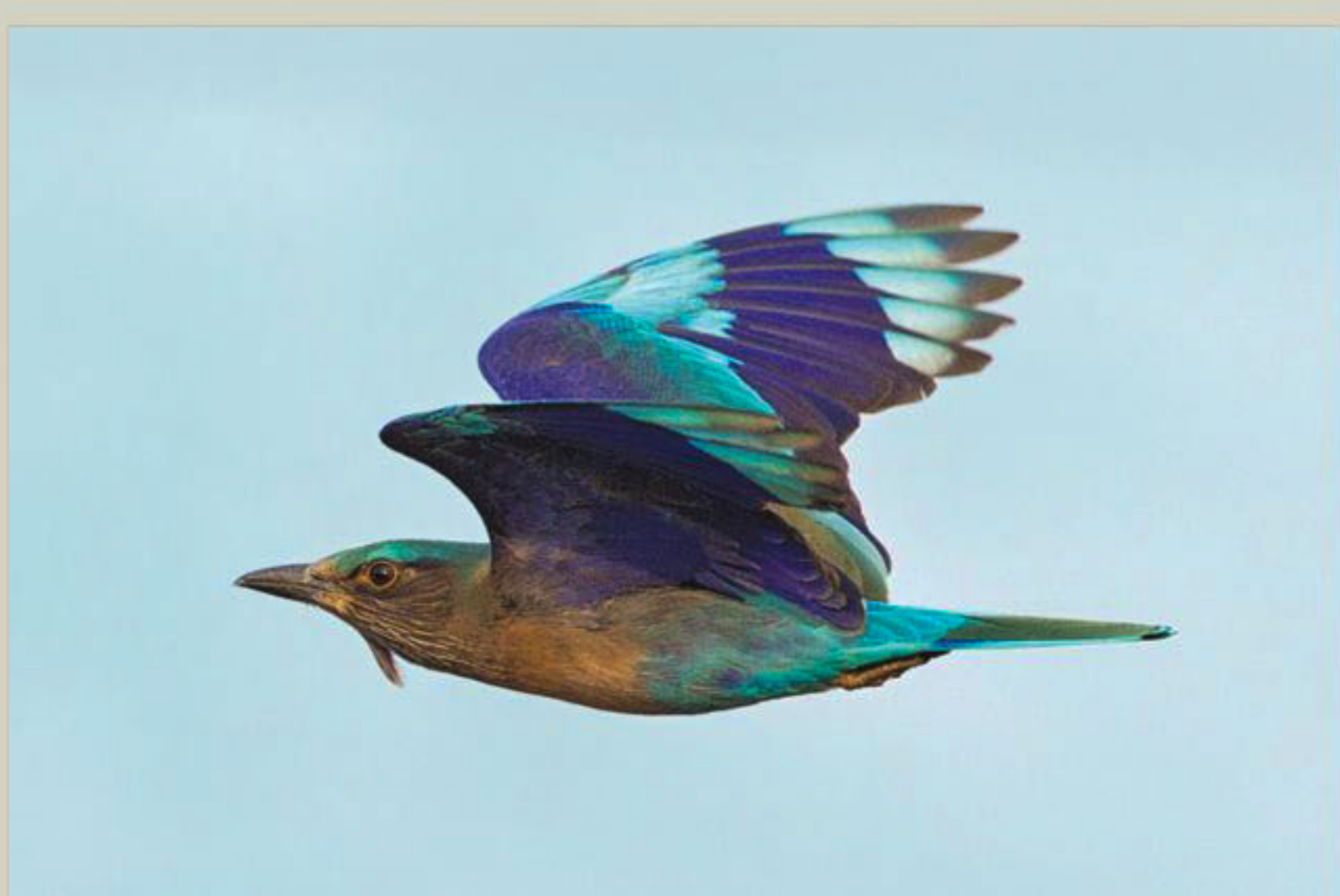
WEATHER FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES	DHAKA	CHITTAGONG	SYLHET	RAJSHAHI	KHULNA	BARISAL	RANGPUR	COX'S BAZAR
	H 33.6 L 21.8	H 31.5 L 20.8	H 31.2 L 19.4	H 33.4 L 16.5	H 34.8 L 21.4	H 33.9 L 19.8	H 29.0 L 18.0	H 32.8 L 21.2

Weather may remain dry with temporary partly cloudy sky over the country till 6:00pm today. Light to moderate fog may occur at places over the country during late night till morning, said Met Office. Night and day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country. The sun sets in the capital today at 5:56pm and rises tomorrow at 6:28am.

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Indian roller (neelkantha) in flight, Hail Haor. PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

Birds in Flight

A flying bird is a beautiful sight. Yet, before the emergence of modern digital cameras, it was extremely difficult for photographers to capture sharply detailed photographs of birds in flight (BIFs). This is because a BIF presents many difficult technical challenges: a fast-moving subject with unpredictable trajectory; difficult lighting often with the bright sky as background; and small, far-away objects requiring the use of heavyweight, long-range telephoto lenses. Thus the early pioneers of bird photography had little luck with making detailed, sharp photographs of flying birds.

guess, smaller birds fly the fastest. Larger birds such as raptors (kites and eagles) are usually slower. Herons and egrets are slow fliers, but some wild ducks such as pintails and gadwalls are incredibly agile. Most birds look graceful in flight, but the flight of the purple swamphen (*kalem*) is clumsy. It makes up for its clumsiness with its beautiful blue feathers which mushroom out like a parachute during takeoff and landing.

When photographing a BIF, everything happens so fast that I often wish I could slow down time. Even with the camera ready, it is a challenge to attain focus on the bird before the photo can be taken. If I can find the bird in a sitting or floating position, I try to anticipate when it will fly. For example, if it defecates from its perch or if its body tenses, chances are it will fly soon. This gives me a warning to prepare myself.

Flocks are often easier to photograph than individual birds because there are more things to focus on. The challenge then becomes finding the exact moment when the birds are aligned in a nice instantaneous arrangement or pattern. For example, if one bird overlaps another, that destroys the photograph for me, so I try to wait for a moment when no bird overlaps another as I look through my viewfinder.

Photographing BIFs has become such a popular photographic activity that BIF workshops in exotic locations led by renowned bird photographers routinely sell out a year or two in advance. We are lucky that here in Bangladesh we can see a profusion of BIFs in many places, particularly in the haors, Sundarban and the coastal belt.

Of course, not all birds fly in the same manner or speed. As you can

www.facebook.com/tangents.ikabir

Rules defied in pre-primary school teacher postings

Distance gives some a hard choice in Chapainawabganj

RABIUL HASAN, Chapainawabganj

Motiur Rahman and Israt Jahan have been recently appointed pre-primary school teachers. But the secure government jobs have brought them more worries than joy, because both face an almost insurmountable barrier—distance.

After doing an MA at Rajshahi University, Motiur had wondered what kind of job would suit him best since he was slightly club-footed.

Last month when he received the appointment letter, he was utterly cheerful, and soon his heart sank when he saw he was posted to Chataidubi Government Primary School in Islampur union under Chapainawabganj sadar upazila, about 15km from his village, Kichnidaha, of Sundarpur union. Motiur said, "I have some prob-

lem in the legs since birth... As I did not get a favourable posting in my own union as per the rules, I will leave the job when I get another."

Not only Motiur, many newly recruited teachers, out of the total 134 in the district, have been posted in disadvantageous locations, violating the rules of the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE). Victims alleged that there was money and influence involved.

Israt Jahan has to cross about a 5km field on foot on the way to her workplace, Chandara Government Primary School in Monakasha union under Shibganj, about 15km from her village where there are two primary schools within half a kilometre.

"It is very difficult for me to cross the long sugarcane and corn field alone every day," said Israt. "If anything bad happens, the

district education office must take the responsibility," she added.

The rules of the Directorate of Primary Education, issued on January 5, say, "The selected candidates in the posts, created for pre-primary education, have to be posted in schools, which are advantageous for them and close to their permanent residence. In this case, female candidates will get preference. If any appointment order is issued defying this directive, legal action will be taken against the official concerned."

The Daily Star talked to at least five new teachers, posted in far-away schools. They said the district primary education office favoured some people in exchange for money.

The district primary education officer, Dilruba Begum, denied

SEE PAGE 4 COL 1

5 Indian cyclists to pay tribute to language heroes

UNB, Faridpur

Six young men have come to Bangladesh from Kolkata by riding bicycles and running to pay tributes to the martyrs of the Language Movement ahead of the International Mother Language Day.

Their journey will be fulfilled through placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar in Dhaka on February 21.

"We have named our journey 'Akkhorjatra' because of the ardent respect we have for Bangla," said Chandan Biswas, leader of the group.

The other cyclists are Angur Barman, Rahul Sen, Rajat Saha, and Subrata Chatterjee. The sixth member Rensodol Manuel made his journey by running.

After reaching Faridpur on Thursday, the six adventurers placed wreaths at the Shaheed Minar on Faridpur Government Rajendra College. Later they started for Manikganj, said Mahabubur Rahman, principal of the college.

They left for Dhaka from Kolkata Press Club by riding bicycles and running on February 14, and placed wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar of Jessore, Magura, and Faridpur, along their journey.



A student of the Faculty of Fine Arts of Dhaka University writes, "I am a Bangalee, Bangla is my country, Bangla is my language", on a wall near the Central Shaheed Minar in the capital yesterday ahead of International Mother Language Day on February 21.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Child killings proof of law, order collapse

Alleges BNP leader Fakhrul

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Condemning recent killings of children, BNP yesterday alleged it was a proof that Bangladesh's law and order situation had collapsed.

Moreover, nearly six months into his arrest, MK Anwar, an 86-year-old BNP standing committee member, was finally released on bail from jail in the evening.

His lawyer Sagir Hossain Leon told The Daily Star that MK Anwar was in jail over 21 cases and got the final bail on February 16 from the High Court.

"In recent times, I know about 40 children who have been killed. What brutal and cruel incidents these are!" BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir told journalists at BNP founder Ziaur Rahman's grave in the capital.

Placing wreaths there with a full-fledged committee of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD), he said the situation was suffocating across the country due to the government's repressive policy.

"This unselected current regime has snatched all democratic rights, freedom of association and freedom of speech. Now we do not even get permission to hold rallies," he said.

He dismissed a ruling party MP's allegation that Zia "conspired to reunite Pakistan and create a confederation", saying it was politically motivated.

Most Sarsha education instts have no Shaheed Minar

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole

Most of the educational institutions in Sarsha upazila of Jessore are without Shaheed Minar on their premises, depriving students the opportunity to pay tributes to the language movement heroes.

Md Abdur Rab, education officer of Sarsha upazila, said out of total 126 primary schools, only 13 have their own Shaheed Minar, while 28 madrasas, out of 32, and 10 colleges, out of 12, were still deprived.

The community urged the local administration and public representatives to come forward to build a Shaheed Minar at each educational institute to highlight the importance of the International Mother Language Day.

Ekushey spirit must to avert 'aggression' of foreign languages

Teachers, students tell Star discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Use of native languages in all matters enriches a country and the spirit of February 21 or the Language Movement Day is essential to protect Bangladesh from the "aggression of foreign languages", speakers told a discussion yesterday.

Mehedi Ullah, a teacher of Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, said use of a mixture of Bangla and English by many private university students was a matter of concern.

"Pollution of language is one of the main worries of Amar Ekushey's spirit," he told the discussion on the International Mother Language Day, organised by The Daily Star in the capital's The Daily Star Centre.

One of Amar Ekushey's central goals is to ensure the survival of every language in the world, he added.

Associate Prof Binoy Barman of Daffodil International University said languages moved on, were sustained by revolutions and died out if "their pace was blocked".

"Mixing one language with another is nothing bad as the Bangla language used at present is a mixture of many foreign languages. But we have to be aware of how much we will accept and reject," he said.

SEE PAGE 5 COL 4

Three killed in Dhaka road accidents

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Two men and a woman were killed in three separate road accidents in the capital yesterday, said police.

In Gabtoli, Golam Mostafa, 45, a bus helper, was killed as the vehicle hit him while it was turning to park at the bus terminal in the area, said the victim's son Mohammad Sabuz.

In another accident, a truck ran over an unidentified woman, aged around 80, in Nayapaltn. Police seized the truck and arrested its driver.

In another accident, a 50-year-old man

died as he was hit by an unknown vehicle in front of Birdem hospital.

His identity could not be known immediately.

The man was declared dead by the on-duty doctors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said inspector Mozammel Hoque, in-charge of DMCH police camp.

The bodies have been kept at Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.

Our Bogra correspondent adds, a passer-by died as a human hauler hit him on the Bogra-Dhaka highway in Majhira area of Shajahanpur upazila on Thursday night.

The dead is Badsha Mia, 40.



Locals under the banner of Prajanma Club form a human chain yesterday to protest the recent abductions and brutal killings of four school students in Bahubal upazila of Habiganj.

PHOTO: STAR

Dr. Iqbal Murshed Kabir
has joined us!
 MBBS (DMC), FCPS (Medicine), MD (Gastroenterology)
 1 year Fellowship in Gastroenterology (Japan)
Consultant - Gastroenterology
 • 20 years of experience as clinician.

• Dr. Iqbal secured 2nd in SSC and 3rd in HSC (Combined merit list) from Faujdarhat Cadet College under Comilla Board. He was awarded Chancellor Prize from the President of Bangladesh. He graduated from Dhaka Medical College (DMC) with high score.

• He obtained FCPS (Medicine) from BCPS and MD (Gastroenterology) from BSMMU. He did 1 year Fellowship in Gastroenterology in Yamanashi Medical University, Japan. Subsequently he attended several workshops and training programs in Bangladesh, India, Malaysia, China, Turkey and Australia.

• He worked in the Department of Gastroenterology at BIRDEM Hospital for 8 years. Before joining Apollo Hospital Dhaka, he was serving in Bangladesh Medical College and Hospital, Dhanmondi as Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Gastroenterology.

• Dr. Iqbal has vast exposure and skill in patient management and all Therapeutic Endoscopic procedures including ERCP.

Appointment & Emergency
10678

apollodhaka.com
 feedback@apollodhaka.com
 facebook.com/apollodhaka

Plot - 81, Block - E
 Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka-1229

There is no need to go abroad anymore