



Don't Kill the Guest

During the winter migratory birds such as Bali Duck, Samukal, Bright, Rose King, Bali Lenja, Chity, Boikal, Nilshir, Piyang, Pankouri, Rangamuri, and Pintail flock to the country's beels, haors, marshy lands and major rivers. These birds come from various regions of the world including the Himalayas, Siberia, Nepal, China and Mongolia. They come for warmer weather. They are good for the ecosystem. But after coming here, they face harsh realities. We catch or kill them for food, although the law forbids us to do so. There is a great demand for migratory birds in Bangladeshi markets. Let us show compassion to these creatures that sometimes fly thousands of miles to be here for a warmer shelter. And let us implement the laws against killing or catching them.

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Stop this madness

The recent remarks by a senior minister while referring to Nisha Desai Biswal, US assistant secretary of state, and Dan Mozena, the US ambassador to Bangladesh, is outrageous. He called Nisha Biswal a "two pennyworth of a minister". He also mocked her ethnicity, age, gender, and marital status. The minister's comments about the US ambassador were even more hurtful. He told an audience in Khulna that that he has a domestic servant called "Morzina" who now wants to change her name after he had told her that Dan Mozena was trying to remove the AL from power. Does the minister have any sense of decency? More important, is he in his right mind? Does he understand the importance of a visiting US diplomat and a US ambassador? In the recent past, other ministers also have taken cheap shots at the World Bank and the US, violating diplomatic etiquette. Whenever the government faces any criticism, they come up with

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these ridiculous comments. This needs to stop. It is hurting our image as a country.

Anonymous

Undaunted spirit

A few days ago, after saying jumma prayer I was returning home and I noticed a vegetable vendor selling vegetables on his van. He was about 30 years old. One of his hands was amputated from the knee joint. But that did not seem to be much of a problem for him. Though holding a weight scale is not an easy task for him but he mastered the technique with a lot perseverance and determination. Every day I see so many physically fit persons begging on the streets. They should learn from this vegetable vendor. Begging robs one of his or her dignity. If someone is physically capable of working, he or she must do something to earn a livelihood. No work is small if it is done with honesty and dignity.

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