

WEATHER FORECAST

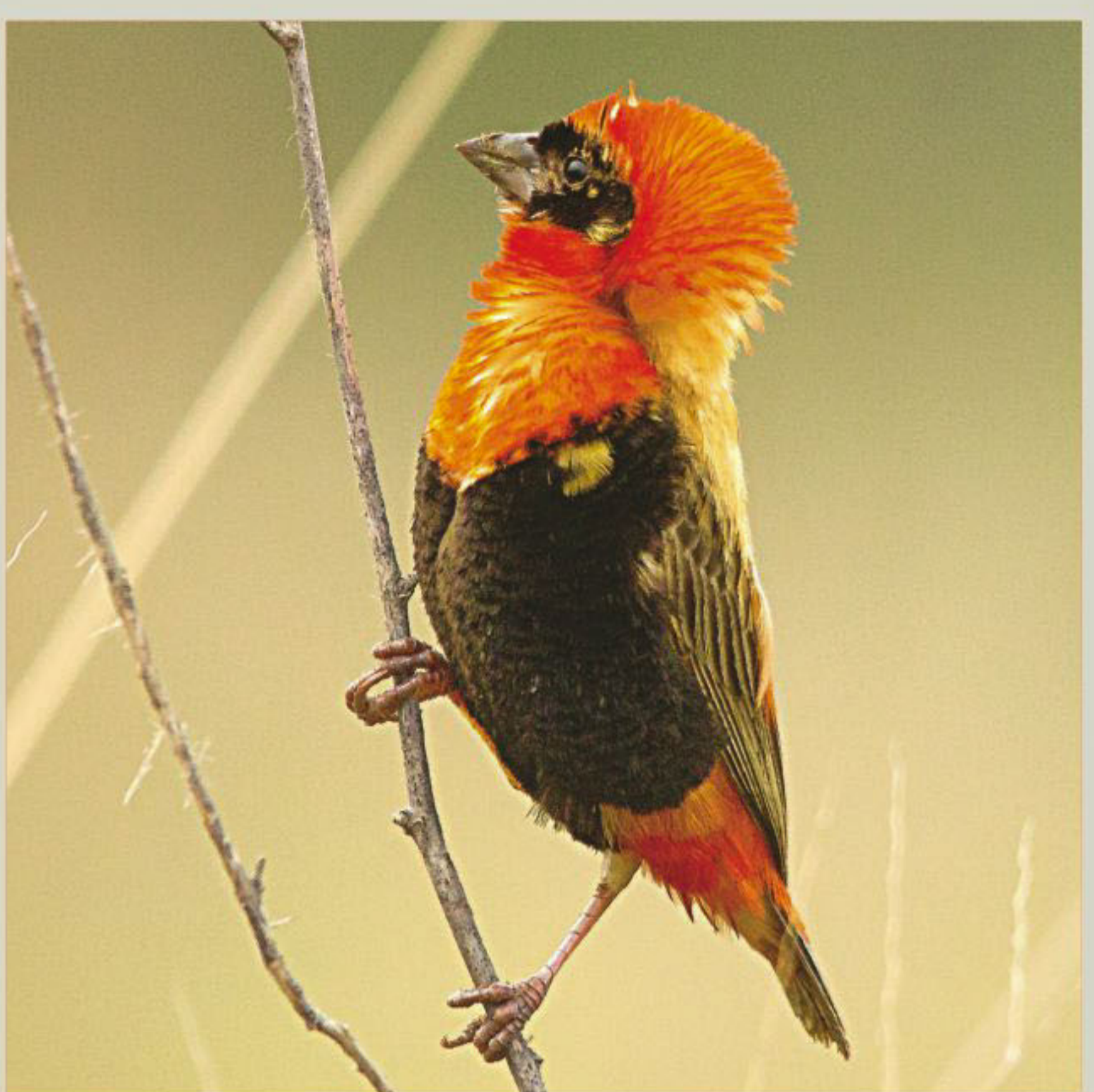
YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES

DHAKA H 33.3 L 23.2	MYMENSINGH H 28.2 L 19.3	CHITTAGONG H 31.5 L 23.8	SYLHET H 32.0 L 16.9	RAJSHAHI H 35.2 L 24.0	RANGPUR H 24.0 L 21.0	KHULNA H 34.0 L 24.6	BARISAL H 33.0 L 23.8	COX'S BAZAR H 32.0 L 23.2
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Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur few places over Rangpur, Rajshahi, Mymensingh and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions with hails at isolated places till 6:00pm today, reports UNB. The sun sets in the capital today at 6:14pm and rises tomorrow at 5:52am.

TANGENTS

BY IHTISHAM KABIR



Red bishop, Uganda

PHOTO: IHTISHAM KABIR

To Catch A Bird

Several years ago I visited Uganda on the invitation of a friend posted in Kampala. It was the trip of a lifetime: we drove cross-country to Bwindi Impenetrable Forest and watched mountain gorillas in their home turf. We also visited several sites including Queen Elizabeth National Park and Lake Mutanda and saw wildlife of all kinds.

It was my first trip abroad since I took up bird photography and I was eagerly looking out for birds. We saw many colourful and unusual ones, including the magnificent grey-crowned crane. During a long drive, we ran into a large flock of these cranes on a hillside and I was able to get up close to some of them. Another memorable bird was the whydah with a very long tail.

But recently, looking through my bird photographs of Uganda, I was disheartened. My gear consisting of a Sigma 150-500mm lens and a Canon 1D Mark 4 camera had been perfectly adequate, but I was still learning the skills needed for bird photography. Hence, I had messed up shots that I really should have caught. Over the years I have learned to improve those skills, and if I were to make the same trip today I would end up with a few more "keeper" photographs.

Incidentally the same mistakes show up in many of the bird photographs I see people sharing on Facebook, Instagram and other forums. To see those birds they might have made journeys long and difficult, perhaps using up their holiday. But then bird photography is a challenging hobby.

What were some of those mistakes I made?

First, I often photographed the bird in the wrong position: its head was

turned away, or part of its body was covered by an obstructing branch. I used to think that as long as I got a photograph of the bird, I should be happy. But now I realise that bird must be in the right position and the entire body should be visible. If the bird looks directly towards the camera, it establishes contact with the viewer. While this is rare, it is often possible to catch the bird in a friendly pose. This of course requires luck and patience. But sometimes, if the photographer moves even a little distance, it might yield a better pose.

Second, I should have used faster shutter speeds. Birds are mostly fidgety and to stop their movement and get a sharp and clear photograph requires shutter speeds of 1/1000 or faster.

Third, I did not always try to focus on the eye, instead using the camera's autofocus system to get a general focus on the bird's body.

Fourth, I relied too much on the camera's automatic exposure system. This resulted in the camera giving me correct exposure for the entire scene where the bird occupied a small space. So the bird was often underexposed. And when you underexpose a photograph while shooting, no matter how much Photoshop you throw at it, you will never get the sparkle of a correctly exposed photograph.

Sometimes I got it right. I vividly recall the moment I saw this beautiful bird called red bishop. For once I had waited and waited until I got the right pose.

I still wish I knew then what I know today about photographing birds. But learning never stops, does it?

www.facebook.com/ikabirphotographs or follow [ihkabr](https://www.instagram.com/ihkabr) on Instagram

Protecting children in cyberspace

Unicef, Facebook launch yearlong awareness campaign to enable them to fend off bullying, other perils

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Although the internet is a resourceful tool, it can turn out to be destructive for children if its usage is not checked and monitored.

On the other hand, despite children's massive online presence, too little has been done to protect them from the perils in cyberspace.

To make children and their parents aware of the negative aspect of internet, Unicef and Facebook yesterday launched a yearlong mass awareness campaign at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre in the capital.

Around 10,000 students from more than 100 educational institutions gathered there.

Sumaia Aktar and her daughter Sabnam Ahmed, among the visitors, were listening to the campaigners talking about cyber bullying

at the stall of Bangladesh Institute of ICT in Development (BIID).

"I had no idea about bullying, although I had to face uncomfortable situations in social media once or twice. From now on, I'll refrain from posting personal information in cyberspace," said Sumaia.

BIID, a business initiative supporting development and promotion of ICT-based services, has taken an initiative to build awareness among women and girls to address the emerging issues of cyberbullying.

However, to focus on the positive aspects, Surjo Mukhi, an apps development organisation, participated in the exhibition with their tutorial apps.

It has an app to introduce little children to Bangla alphabet on android handsets.

Four-year-old Turjo was found playing an alphabet game

at the stall.

Talking to the correspondent, his father Sahabuddin said, "It will help my child learn Bangla easily."

"The internet was designed for adults, but it is increasingly used by children and young people -- and digital technology often affects their lives and future.

So, digital policies, practices, and products should better reflect children's needs, perspectives and voices," said Edouard Beigbeder, Unicef Bangladesh representative, during the inaugural ceremony.

According to Unicef's report titled, "State of the World's Children 2017: Children in a Digital World", a lack of adequate knowledge about proper internet use increases children's vulnerability to risks and harms, including misuse of their private information, access to harmful content, and

cyber bullying.

The ubiquitous presence of mobile devices, the report notes, has made online access for many children less supervised -- and potentially more dangerous.

Children are increasingly spending more time online, and it is important to teach them how to protect themselves and remain safe, said Ritesh Mehta, head of programs, India and South Asia, Facebook.

The yearlong campaign aims to reach altogether 25 million Bangladeshi children along with their parents and teachers to ensure Children's Internet Protection from "Online Risks" by elaborating the issues relating to children's wellbeing in this digital era.

State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak inaugurated the ceremony.



To make children and their parents aware of the negative aspect of internet, Unicef and Facebook launched a yearlong mass awareness campaign at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre in Dhaka yesterday. Clockwise from top, children being taught how to use internet at a stall. Visitors at the venue. Schoolchildren displaying the emojis of Facebook at its stall. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



Alleged fraudster Donatus Emeka Onijiwa, a Nigerian national, being taken to the Sylhet Metropolitan Police headquarters in the city's Nairpul area yesterday morning. He was arrested from a restaurant next to Dhaka-Sylhet Highway at Madhabpur upazila in Habiganj on Thursday. Police also seized fake currency-making machine, passports, fake notes and some other documents from him. PHOTO: STAR

Professor fleeced out of \$5,000

Nigerian man held in Sylhet

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Nigerian was arrested in Habiganj on Thursday for allegedly cheating a professor out of money and tricking him into transporting a fake money printing machine from Dhaka to Sylhet.

According to the case statement, the professor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) received an invitation letter of a conference on "Sexually Transmitted Diseases and Infection" at the United States via email in February.

The teacher then deposited a total of US\$ 5,000 "as various fees" into several bank accounts as he was directed in the emails.

As per the last email, the professor on March 27 went to the capital to collect his necessary documents where an African man met him outside Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport and gave him a briefcase.

The professor was told that all his documents, needed for the conference, were in a password-protected box inside the briefcase, and a man in Sylhet would meet him and unlock the box to hand him the documents.

Accordingly, the next day, the teacher got a call and went to meet Donatus Emeka Onijiwa, who introduced himself as one of the organisers, before Rose View hotel in Sylhet city.

Donatus got in the professor's car and unlocked the small box which was indeed a fake dollar printing machine.

Inside the car, the Nigerian instantly printed two fake notes of the US\$100 denomination using the

More genocide spots found in survey

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Exceeding previous estimations, a recent survey in 10 districts of the country has found a staggering 2,107 genocide spots of the 1971 Liberation War.

The genocide spots include 1,752 mass murder spots, 204 killing fields, and 151 mass graveyards. The survey also identified 342 torture cells in the districts.

"1971: Genocide-Torture Archive and Museum", South Asia's first such museum established in Khulna city in 2014, conducted the survey from May 2017 till March 2018.

A total of 11 researchers took part in the survey in Khulna, Narayanganj, Rajshahi, Bogra, Natore, Pabna, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Bhola and Satkhira.

The findings of the survey, compiled in 10 books, were revealed at a seminar at Bangla Academy in the capital yesterday.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor, the chief guest, inaugurated the day-long programme before unveiling the survey reports.

The survey discovered the highest number of genocide spots, 1,155 in total, in Khulna, while it found 37 killing fields, the highest in all the 10 districts, in Nilphamari. While surveying mass graveyards, the researchers recorded the most, a total of 26, in Rajshahi.

Once thorough surveys are conducted in

the remainder of the country, the genocide figure during the Liberation War might also surpass the current estimated figure of 30 lakhs, the survey report said.

Commenting on whether the current estimated genocide figure will be revised in future, the chief executive of the museum, Kajal Abdullah, told The Daily Star that since the primary result of the survey, done in only 10 districts, is already showing a larger number of genocide spots than identified previously, the genocide figure will most likely rise too.

"A massive number of people were killed. But right now, we cannot yet give you the exact figure of the killings," he said, adding that the exact figure can only be estimated once the survey is completed in the remaining districts of the country.

Speaking at the programme, eminent historian Prof Muntasir Mamun, also the chairman of the museum's trustee board, said the survey will gradually be conducted in other districts and many more books are to be published on its findings.

The survey report reveals that the mass murder and torture committed by the then Pakistan army were beyond the perception and knowledge of people, he added.

Cultural Affairs Minister Asaduzzaman Noor said the people of the country, especially the youths, as well as the people all over the world should be made aware of the

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