

ILO report says

Women in rich, poor countries work for longer time, but get less pay

GENEVA, July 30: Women in rich and poor countries around the world work longer hours but are paid 25 per cent less than men doing the same job, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) said today. reports Reuter.

And although more women were entering the global labour market, they ran a higher risk of unemployment and had little success in mounting the ladder to top management posts, according to a new report by the ILO.

The bottom line is that while more and more women are working, the great majority of them are simply swelling the ranks of the working poor, said the report, written by UN Agency Analyst Lin Lean Lim.

Women's economic activities remain highly concentrated in low-wage, low-productivity and precarious forms of employment," she added.

The ILO said the majority of women earned about three

quarters of the male wage for the same work, outside the agricultural sector and in industrialised and emerging economies, and the gap was not decreasing.

In many richer countries, women's unemployment rates ran from 50 to 100 per cent more than for men and around the world women held less than six per cent of senior management posts, according to the report.

The ILO said there had been a surge of women entering the labour force in the richer countries of the north and in the poor and developing countries of the south.

Over the last decade and a half, the report indicated, the number of women taking up jobs for the first time in the 27 advanced countries of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) grew at more than twice the rate for men.

But in these countries — including the United States

and the 15 nations of the European Union — women worked at least two hours a week more than men, and often five to 10 hours more.

In the emerging economies of East and South-East Asia, women with their relatively cheap labour provided up to 80 per cent of the work force in the export industries that had given these states their new power and competitiveness.

At the same time, said ILO Director-General Michel Ansenne in an introduction to the report, "their willingness to give up home and family to become migrant workers has greatly increased some countries' foreign exchange earnings."

The report said women had made some real gains, especially in the richer countries as well as in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a strong trend upwards from a low starting point in their representation in managerial and professional jobs.

Japan sets lowest ceiling on foreign aid growth

TOKYO, July 30: Japan, the world's top aid donor, has set a record low ceiling of 2.6 per cent on increases in foreign aid spending for next year's budget, Japanese officials said yesterday, reports Reuter.

Finance Minister Wataru Kubo and Foreign Minister Yukihiko Ikeda agreed on the 2.6 per cent ceiling for growth for Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the fiscal year beginning in April 1997, foreign ministry officials said.

It was the lowest-ever ceiling to limit growth in Japan's ODA budget, the officials said.

The ceiling as expected to be approved at Tuesday's cabinet meeting, they said.

In August last year, Japan set a ceiling to limit growth in the ODA budget to seven per cent for the current fiscal year. But severe fiscal conditions forced the government to trim real budget growth to 3.5 per cent when it finalised the 1996/97 budget, which allocated 1.15 trillion yen.

Poultry farming in Manikganj badly affected by floods

MANIKGANJ, July 30: State-run carrier Indian Airlines is to increase its fares by about 10 per cent to offset a rise in fuel prices and a 60 per cent hike in airport charges, the Times of India newspaper said Tuesday. reports AFP.

Officials said the revised fares — envisaging a rise of between 10 and 12 per cent — was necessary to avoid an estimated additional burden of 800 million rupees (22.8 million dollars) annually, the Times said.

They said the new rates would be announced in September after cabinet approval.

The government raised fuel prices by about 20 per cent this month in the new federal budget.

Indian Airlines increased fares by 20 per cent in October



The prize giving ceremony of Titan Raffle Draw was held at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel on Friday. Shamsuddin Ahmed, Pubali Bank Ltd. Ghulam Mostafa, Kallol Group of Companies and Pankaj Shethi, Titan International Marketing Ltd. were present on the occasion.

Indian Airlines to raise fare by 10 pc

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Mitsubishi to launch Internet TV set

TOKYO, July 30: Japan's Mitsubishi Electric Corp said yesterday that it planned to launch a next-generation colour television set in the domestic market later this year that can also be used to surf the Internet, reports Reuter.

The new internet TV set will be the first of its kind to be produced by the Japanese electronics industry, Mitsubishi Electric said. Currently, connections to the Internet are usually made via a personal computer.

As well as watching standard TV programmes, users will be able to access the Internet and exchange electronic mail on the set thanks to a 32-bit processor, an in-built World Wide Web (WWW) browser and a communications modem.

Exchange Rates

Sonali Bank

The following are the Sonali Bank's dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies with Bangladesh Taka as on July 30th '96

	Selling		Buying		
	T.T. & OD	B.C.	T.T. (Clean)	O.D. Sight	O.D. Transfer
USD 1 B.TK.	42.0615	42.1015	41.7650	41.6075	41.5115
GBP 1 B.TK.	65.7167	65.7792	64.7445	64.5004	64.3515
DM 1 B.TK.	28.5427	28.6599	28.0406	27.9349	27.8704
FRF 1 B.TK.	8.4148	8.4228	8.2691	8.2379	8.2189
CAD 1 B.TK.	0.7924	0.8217	0.3061	0.31460	0.30764
SFR 1 B.TK.	35.0367	35.0700	34.4150	34.2853	34.2062
J.YEN 1 B.TK.	0.3933	0.3937	0.3825	0.3810	0.3802

A) T.T. (DOC) sporting Taka 41.6862

B) Usance export bill buying rates (B. Taka for one unit of US Dollar).

30 Days DA 60 Days DA 90 Days DA 120 Days DA 180 Days DA

40.3357 40.9877 40.6397 40.2916 39.5955

C) US Dollar sight export bill 3 months forward purchase Same as O.D. sight export bill. Indicative rates (B. Taka for one unit of foreign currency)

Currency Selling T.T. & O.D. Buying O.D. Transfer

Saudi Riyal 1= Tk 14.2158 11.0683

UAE Dirham 1= Tk 11.4531 11.3018

Kuwait Dinar 1= Tk 140.7681 138.8344

D. Guine 1= Tk 25.1489 24.8126

S. Krone 1= Tk 6.4022 6.3137

Malaysian Ringgit 1= Tk 16.9078 16.6833

Singapore Dollar 1= Tk 29.6940 29.2891

Janata Bank

The following are the dealing rates to public for some selected foreign currencies with Bangladesh Taka as on July 30 '96.

(Figures in Taka)

Selling Buying

Name of Currency T.T. & O.D. B.C. T.T. Clean O.D. Sight O.D. Transfer

US Dollar 42.0620 42.1150 41.7660 41.6000 41.4907

G.B. Pound 65.7641 65.8421 64.7713 64.5038 64.3347

D.M. 28.5415 28.5753 28.0526 27.9368 27.8656

F. Franc 8.4145 8.4244 8.2682 8.2340 8.2125

J.P. Yen 0.3939 0.3944 0.3846 0.3830 0.3820

C. Dollar 30.7933 30.8289 30.2651 30.1401 30.0611

S. Franc 35.0439 35.0854 34.4410 34.2988 34.2089

Janata Bank's selling and buying rates in cash currency for public

Selling US DLR G.B.P. S.Riyal UAE DH. K. Dinar

Buying 42.6500 65.7641 11.2500 11.3000 138.0000

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