

World leaders greet Iajuddin on Ramadan

UNB, Dhaka

Many world leaders, including head of states and governments of Muslim countries, greeted President Iajuddin Ahmed on the occasion of the holy Ramadan.

In separate messages, they expressed sincere wishes for the welfare of the people of Bangladesh and hoped that the Ramadan would bring continued peace, progress and prosperity for the people and greater unity among the Muslim Ummah.

They also wished good health and happiness for the President.

The messages so far received from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, Indonesian President Dr Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, Jordanian King Abdullah II, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh Rais, UAE President Khalifa Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Sultan of Oman King Qaboos Bin Said, Amir of Qatar Hamad Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, UAE Vice President and Prime Minister and ruler of Dubai Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Prime Minister of Qatar Abdullah Bin Khalifa Al-Thani, Prime Minister of Bahrain Khalifa Bin Salman Al-Khalifa and Heir apparent of the State of Qatar Tamin Bin Hamad Al-Thani.



PHOTO: STAR

The National Front of Teachers and Employees (NFTE) Bangladesh takes out a procession at Muktangan in the city yesterday to mark the World Teachers' Day.

'4.37 lakh female migrants working abroad'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over 4.37 lakh Bangladeshi women are presently working abroad, but the official figure is much lower at 13,544, according to a study by Dristi Research Centre, a non-government organisation.

It is high time that the migrant women be recognised as workers to ensure their rights and the policies responsible for illegal migration be revised, the researchers recommended.

The report titled 'Documenting the undocumented: Female migrant workers from Bangladesh' was presented at a function in the city on Tuesday.

Under the leadership of Dr Thérèse Blanchet, Dr Abdur Razzaque of Dhaka University and Hannan Biswas conducted the study in 1,500 villages across the country.

Dr Razzaque said that periodic

restrictions imposed by the government on women taking certain types of jobs abroad have pushed their migration underground.

According to the study, 60 percent of female workers are now staying in the Middle East countries while 35 percent in India. Most migrant workers hail from Jessore, Gazipur, Dhaka, Manikganj, Narayanganj, Narail and Munshiganj districts, it said.

The study also revealed that 27,70,796 men are currently working abroad.

Dora Rapold, ambassador of Switzerland, Shahidul Haque, regional representative of IOM, Dr Atiur Rahman, chairman of Unnayan Shamannay, Nasreen Huq, country director of Action Aids, Gene George, mission director of USAID, and Susan Ward, chief of party of Bangladesh Human Rights Advocacy Programme, spoke at the programme.

INDECENT BEHAVIOUR

JU students postpone agitation till Nov 12

JU CORRESPONDENT

Agitating students of Jahangir-nagar University (JU) on Tuesday night postponed their programme till November 12 as the university authorities assured them of taking necessary

steps regarding their complaint by that time.

As the ultimatum of the students expired on Tuesday, hundreds of students gathered at 2:00pm in front of the administrative building where the second meeting of the probe body was being held.

A total of 28 students who lodged allegation against the teacher gave their statement to the probe body.

Vice-chancellor Prof Khandaker Mustahidur Rahman met the students at 10:00pm and assured them that if the allegations are found true action will be taken against the teacher by November 12.

"Strong evidences have been found against the teacher and he must be punished," said a member of the probe body on condition of anonymity.

The students threatened that tougher programme including fast unto death would be taken up if their demand remains unmet after the period.

Students of business administration department, however, decided to continue the boycott of their classes and examinations until the demand is met.

The students have been agitating since September 22 demanding the dismissal of a teacher for his indecent behaviour with the female students.