

Market for skilled workers opening up in Canada, Poland, Russia

UNB, Dhaka

The opportunities for employment of skilled Bangladeshi workers are opening up in North American and European countries such as Canada, Poland and Russia, according to latest official disclosure.

Foreign Adviser Dr Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, also in charge of the Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment, expressed his happiness at the good news.

He said: "We are pleased, because this is in line with our 9-Point labour-export policy. These numbers for Canada, Poland and Russia are as yet small, but still a new beginning has been made."

According to a Foreign Ministry's release, as of now, 1,156 skilled workers have been pre-selected for recruitment for Poland, two engineers have already been selected and some others' recruitment is expected by BOESL, the official recruiting agency for overseas jobs.

Currently, it said, a high-power delegation is visiting Russia to explore market opening.

So far this year, 365,000 emigration clearances have been issued for overseas employment. At this rate, the number could even reach a million this year, ministry officials said.

During the past year, 832,000 workers found employment cleared--an "all-time record", said the release.

Remittances received last year amounted to US\$ 6.56

billion, also a record. This year already US\$ 3 billion has been received during the first four months.

"However, I have always asserted that our workers are not a remittance-generating machine. Their welfare is a priority," the foreign adviser said.

"I would also urge them to abide by host-country rules and regulations. The tragic incident in Bahrain is an example that must be avoided," he added.



Abdus Sattar, chairman of GMG Airlines Limited, and PK Halder, deputy managing director of IIDFC, sign a memorandum of understanding for raising syndicated working capital facility of Tk 70 crore comprising of funded facility of Tk 50 crore and non funded facility of Tk 20 crore from the local financial market. Chairman of the Industrial and Infrastructure Development Finance Company Limited (IIDFC) Matiul Islam was also present.

Sarkozy calls for fuel tax cut

AFP, Paris

European leaders are struggling to defuse growing anger over soaring fuel prices, as fisherman and truck drivers staged protests in several countries, with more strikes planned in coming days.

The protests came as French President Nicolas Sarkozy called for a Europe-wide cut in oil taxes to help consumers and European ministers appealed for direct EU economic aid to help the hard-hit fishing industry.

Fishermen and truck drivers were in the vanguard of the protests across western Europe over rising fuel costs, amid recent record global oil prices over 130 dollars a barrel.

French riot police cleared blockading fishermen from an oil depot at Fos-sur-Mer near Marseille, but off the north coast of France, fishing fleets resumed blockades of ports and cross-Channel ferries over high fuel prices.

In London meanwhile, hundreds of angry haulage truckers, horns blaring, drove their lorries in a rolling protest through the centre of the capital.

Future IMF chief economist upbeat on global economy

AFP, Washington

The International Monetary Fund's future chief economist, Frenchman Olivier Blanchard, says he is "relatively optimistic" about the global economy, despite a financial crisis and surging oil prices.

"I am relatively optimistic," Blanchard said Tuesday in a phone interview with AFP after being named the top IMF economist by his compatriot,

IMF managing director Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

"I have the impression that the problems facing us are little understood," he said, citing the collapse of the US housing bubble, the credit squeeze and skyrocketing commodity prices.

After the initial phase which lasted during the second half of last year, during which time one was a bit lost... I believe that policies were put in place that were appropriate," said this specialist in macroeconomics, an economics professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

Blanchard is to take up his position at the 185-nation institution on September 1.

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives
Local Government Division
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Invitation for Tenders for Goods (Single Lot)

Memo No. LGD/Admin-1/T-2000/875

Dated: 25/05/2008

KEY INFORMATION

1 Procurement method/document NCT-National Competitive Tendering (Open Tendering Method-OTM).

FUNDING INFORMATION

2 Source of funds Revenue Budget (GOB).

3 Development partner NA

PARTICULAR INFORMATION

4 Project/programme code NA

5 Project/programme name NA

6 Tender package No. NA

7 Tender package name Supply and Installation of Router.

8 Tender publication date On or before 01/06/2008.

9 Tender last selling date 14/06/2008.

10 Tender closing date and time 15/06/2008: 2:00pm

11 Tender opening date and time 15/06/2008: 2:30pm

12 Name and address of the office(s)

-Selling tender document (principal) Senior Assistant Secretary (Admin-1), LGD (Room No. 610/A, Bldg. No. 7), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

-Selling tender document (others) PD, Sylhet Division Rural Infrastructure Development Project, LGED Bhaban, Level-6, Agargaon, Dhaka.

-Receiving tender document Senior Assistant Secretary (Admin-1), LGD (Room No. 610/A, Bldg. No. 7), Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

-Opening tender document Conference Room (Room No. 601), Local Government Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

13 Place/date/time for pre-tender meeting Pre-tender meeting shall not be held.

INFORMATION FOR TENDERER

14 Eligibility of tenderer Tenderers from all countries except Israel.

15 Brief description of goods or works Supply and Installation of Router.

16 Brief description of related services Supply and Installation of Router.

17 Tender document price B. Taka 500.00

18 Lot No. Identification Location Tender security amount in Taka Completion time in weeks/months

1 Supply and Installation of Router Local Government Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka 4,000.00 2 weeks

PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS

19 Name of official inviting tender Saleh Ahmed Mujaffor.

20 Designation of official inviting tender Senior Assistant Secretary (Admin-1)

21 Address of official inviting tender Local Government Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

22 Contact details of official inviting tender Tel. No: 7169179, Fax: 7169179

The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all tenders.

23 Senior Assistant Secretary (Admin-1)

Local Government Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

GD-2520

Bangladesh single country trade fairs in Malaysia, S'pore in June

UNB, Dhaka

Two Bangladesh single country trade fairs will be held in Malaysia and Singapore in June next.

In Malaysia, the fair will be held at Putra World Convention Centre in Kuala Lumpur on June 19-22 while at Sheraton Plaza in Singapore on June 27-29, said a press release of Dhaka International Exhibition Company.

Sri Lanka to sell \$200m bonds

AFP, Colombo

Sri Lanka plans to sell 200 million dollars worth of bonds to foreign and local investors shortly, the island's central bank said Wednesday.

The issue, known as Sri Lanka Development Bonds, will be sold in maturities ranging from two to five years, C.J.P. Siriwardena of the bank's public debt department said.

The issue will be open for subscription from June 16 to 23.

The latest issue comes as the island is in the process of raising another 300 million dollars through a syndicated loan from Standard Chartered Bank and Deutsche Bank to pay for a raft of infrastructure projects.

Last October, the island raised 500 million dollars through a five-year sovereign bond issue, with the assistance of HSBC, JP Morgan and Barclays.

Sri Lanka, battling ethnic Tamil Tiger rebels since 1972, is pouring in a record 1.5 billion dollars into the war effort this year, hoping for a quick end to the conflict that has left tens of thousands dead.

The global economy is facing the third great oil shock of recent decades, he wrote in the The Guardian newspaper.

"As every country faces increased costs, it is now understood that a global shock on this scale requires global

Japan pledges to help Africa double rice production

AFP, Yokohama, Japan

Japan vowed Wednesday to use its technological prowess to help African nations double rice production within a decade and ease the burden of soaring food prices.

Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda also pledged to double aid to the continent and offered billions of dollars in loans as he opened a three-day summit here of African leaders.

The gathering in Yokohama, near Tokyo, is seen as a bid by Japan to expand its clout in Africa, where China has been rapidly sealing political alliances and business deals.

Fifty-two African nations are taking part in the summit, 40 of them represented by senior leaders -- including South

African President Thabo Mbeki, who faced criticism for going abroad amid anti-immigrant violence at home.

Fukuda opened the conference by pledging to double aid by 2012 and offering four billion dollars in low-interest loans to develop infrastructure.

Amid spiralling food prices that have triggered unrest in some parts of the world, Fukuda also promised to devote Japanese technology to help Africa double rice production over the next 10 years from the current 14 million tonnes.

"If I were to liken the history of African development to a volume of literature, then what we are about to do now is to open a new page entitled 'the century of African growth,'" Fukuda said.

"In the future, Africa will become a powerful engine driving the growth of the world," he said.

World Bank president Rob Zoellick also gave an upbeat assessment of Africa's potential.

"I believe Africa can become a new pole of global growth, just as we have seen over the last 15 years China and India and others have become complementary poles of growth to the developed countries," Zoellick said.

The summit, called the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV), comes little more than a month before Japan hosts the annual Group of Eight summit of the world's top industrial powers.

Eastern Bank okays 34pc stock dividend

Eastern Bank Ltd (EBL) has declared 34 percent stock dividend (bonus share) and one rights issue against two existing shares at par for the year that ended on 31st December 2007, says a press release.

The declarations came at the 16th annual general meeting (AGM) of the bank held on Sunday in Dhaka.

AQI Chowdhury, chairman of the bank, presided over the meeting. Ali Reza Iftekhar, managing Director & CEO of the bank, was also present at the meeting.

According to the AGM, the year 2007 saw an impressive growth in operating profit by about 37.72 percent and total assets of the company stood at Tk.42.58 billion at the end of

solutions."

Brown said the creation of global strategy should top the economic agenda at July's G8 summit in Japan.

"The way we confront these issues will define our era," he said.

Brown was due to meet top oil executives in northeast Scotland later Wednesday to push for greater output from Britain's North Sea oil fields and find out what government help they may need to do so.

His call for global action comes after oil prices vaulted to record levels above 135 dollars per barrel last week.

The price of oil on international markets has surged by a third since the start of 2008, and traded at 50 dollars per barrel 18 months ago -- and just 10 dollars a decade ago.

16th Annual General Meeting 2008

১৬তম বার্ষিক সাধারণ সভা



AQI Chowdhury, chairman of Eastern Bank, presides over the 16th AGM of the company. Among others, directors Ahmed Jamal, Mahbuba Hossain, Aneela Haque and Asif Mahmood, Managing Director and CEO Ali Reza Iftekhar and Company Secretary Sufiyan Rahman were present.



Chittagong Stock Exchange Ltd. MEMBERSHIP FOR SALE

The Board of Directors of Chittagong Stock Exchange Ltd. has decided to sell three (three) Membership through open bidding system.

Sealed Applications from Corporate Entities are invited as per terms and conditions given in the tender schedule, available from the CSE's following addresses on payment of non-refundable Pay Order/Demand Draft of Tk. 15,000/- (Fifteen Thousand Taka) only in favour of Chittagong Stock Exchange during the CSE office hours 9.00 a.m to 3.00 p.m from June 2, 2008 to July 3, 2008.

The application should be made in "two-envelope" system. One envelope should contain a Completed application form for membership, information and documents required as per schedule and an earnest money of Tk. 5.0 Million (Taka Five Million) only in the form of Pay Order/D.D favoring Chittagong Stock Exchange Ltd., and the other envelope should contain a price offer in the form of a letter. The envelopes should be sealed and be marked as "Membership offer as per Schedule" and "Membership Price Offer" respectively on the top left corner of the face of the envelope. Both the envelopes (stapled together or put together in a large envelope, sealed and marked as "Application/Bid for Membership"), addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, CSE Building, 1080, Sk. Mujib Road, Agrabad, Chittagong, must reach CEO on or before 4.00 p.m of 3rd July, 2008.

The membership bids will be opened in presence of applicants, or their authorized representatives, if any, on the same day i.e 3rd July, 2008 at 4.30 p.m at the Head Office of CSE in Chittagong.

The Board of Directors reserves the right of accepting or rejecting any application/bid without showing any reasons whatsoever.

By order of the Board

Abu Bakar Siddique

Chief Executive Officer

CSE Registered Office

CSE Building

1080, Sk. Mujib Road, Agrabad

Chittagong, Bangladesh

Tel: 88 031-714632-3, 720871-7