

Hasina declares productivity move

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday declared 'productivity' as the national movement and called upon all to involve with it to reach the desired goal.

"I would like to take the opportunity to declare productivity as the national movement and I hope we would reach our desired goal by involving all in this movement," she said while inaugurating a conference at Ruposhi Bangla Hotel in the city.

The National Productivity Organization (NPO) and APO Society for Bangladesh jointly organised the "Multilateral Conference on Productivity Movement in Bangladesh: Strategy for 2021."

Hasina said improvement of productivity is not possible through a unilateral effort.

"Everybody, including the government, owners, workers, politicians, planners, researchers, professionals, civil society and mass media, has to come forward to turn productivity improvement activities to a

national movement."

She announced that from now on October 2 will be observed as "Productivity Day" every year.

The prime minister also declared the introduction of 'Productivity and Quality' award for the best industries and entrepreneurs to accelerate the movement.

She said the government has decided to turn BGMEA-run Institute of Fashion and Technology (BIFT) into a full-fledged university.

She urged both the owners and workers to improve their relations and said desired productivity does not come if there is no harmonious relation between the owners and workers.

"We have been able to add over 2200 MW of electricity to the national grid in the last 32 months," she said.

The government, she added, has planned to produce 7,000 MW of electricity by 2013 and 8,000 MW by 2015. "In this process, we have set a target of producing 20,000 MW power by the year 2021," she said.



Hawker dies in bamboo fall

Eight held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A betel leaf vendor was killed and another person injured after a piece of bamboo fell on them from a multi-storey under-construction building in the city's Segunbagicha.

The deceased, Babul Hossain, 40, son of Abdur Rahim of Munshiganj, lived on Topkhana road of the area. The injured, Md Rustam, 48, was taking tea at a roadside stall near the building.

Witnesses said Babul was also taking tea around 5:30pm at the same stall near Noor Mosque, when the bamboo fell on him from the rooftop of the nine-storey building named Navana Mukhles of Navana Real Estate.

Locals rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead.

A worker at the building said asking for anonymity that the bamboo slipped away from the rooftop while dismantling a construction frame.

Locals beat eight staff and workers of the construction site and handed them to Shahbagh Police Station. Site officials fled the scene but police seized the bamboo as evidence.

There was protective scaffolding at four-storey height but the bamboo fell beyond it on the ground.

A site official of Navana told The Daily Star requesting anonymity that they were trying to negotiate the death incident with financial compensation.

120 lynched in 9 months

Says Odhikar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Around 120 people were allegedly lynched during January to September this year, said a report of Odhikar, a human rights body, yesterday.

Some 66 other people were killed extra-

judicially by law enforcement agencies, it said. Of them, 49 persons were killed in "crossfire/encounters/gunfights."

The report said 115 persons died in custody. Of them, 84 persons died in jail.

Indian BSF killed as many as 21 Bangladeshi nationals along the borders.

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