

ILO helps migrant Bangladeshi workers

BSS, Dhaka

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has started working on a Tk 28 crore project to create suitable jobs and security for Bangladeshi workers abroad.

This practice will help expatriate Bangladeshis in availing their rights, security and safe employment in foreign countries, Hazrat Ali, project coordinator and additional secretary of expatriate welfare ministry, told BSS.

The project titled 'Promoting Decent Work Through Improved Migration Policy and Its Application in Bangladesh' was formally launched on July 5 following approval by the planning ministry.

During the project launch, an action plan was presented at a meeting of the project steering committee with Zafar Ahmed Khan, expatriate welfare secretary, in chair.

Representatives from ILO, UN Women, International Organisation for Migration (IOM), Swiss Agency for Development and Corporation (SDC) and local agencies concerned attended the meeting.

The project coordinator said ILO, SDC, IOM and UN Women will jointly implement the project in fiscal 2012-13. The expatriate welfare ministry and concerned local agencies will extend all cooperation.

As per the action plan, the project will help amend the Migration Policy-2006, finalise the Overseas Employment Act and research on migration.

The overall objective of the project is to contribute to sustainable economic and social development by creating suitable job opportunities for expatriate workers and ensuring security for them and their families.

The project includes a programme to explore overseas job opportunities for women by analysing job markets. There is also a motivational programme, under which television programmes would be made.

Creating awareness among the migrants, furnishing them with relevant information and ensuring security and social support are parts of the project.

It will assist the migrants and their families through reintegration system after their return home.

Hazrat Ali said under the project, a database would be made for workers who returned home from abroad. Those who would seek new jobs would be asked to apply.

Following the formation of proper policy and efficient management, the cost of migration will be reduced and scopes will be created for exporting more manpower.

Bangladesh received US\$ 12 billion from expatriate workers in 2011, which is three times higher than the earning from the garment sector, the main export earner.



PHOTO: STAR

Prof Anisuzzaman goes through photographs on display at a 10-day exhibition, "Seeing Mishuk through Mishuk's eyes", on the life and works of noted cinematographer and broadcast media personality Mishuk Munier at Dhaka Art Centre in the capital's Dhanmondi yesterday.

Exhibition on Mishuk Munier's works begins

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A 10-day exhibition on the life and works of noted cinematographer and broadcast media personality Mishuk Munier began in the capital yesterday.

The exhibition, "Seeing Mishuk through Mishuk's eyes", at Dhaka Art Centre in Dhanmondi will remain open from 3:00pm to 8:00pm, showcasing Munier's photography and cinematography.

The exhibits include Munier's photographic documentation on SM Sultan's life, some random photography of Bengal subalternity and items he used such as glasses, books, camera, spoons and spatula.

Prof Anisuzzaman inaugurated the exhibition at 5:00pm, while Prof Abdul Momin Chowdhury lit the "mangal

pradeeps".

"I closely witnessed how a creative soul grew up gradually within Mishuk," said Prof Anisuzzaman, commemorating Munier's childhood and notable works.

Munier pioneered broadcast and photo journalism in Bangladesh and his charismatic presence in every sector delighted us all, he added.

The exhibition begins three weeks prior to the first death anniversary of Ashfaque Munier Mishuk, popularly known as Mishuk Munier, a former chief executive officer of ATN News.

Munier, a teacher at the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism in Dhaka University, died in a road accident on Dhaka-Aricha Highway in Ghior upazila of Manikganj on August 13, 2011.

Filmmaker Tareque Masud and three others were also killed in the accident.

EMPLOYERS-WORKERS RELATIONS PM for amicability

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday stressed maintaining good relations among government, employers and workers for the country's rapid economic development.

The prime minister said this when the newly elected president, executive president and general secretary of Sramik League along with other Sramik League leaders met her.

Sramik League president Shukkur Mahmud led the delegation.

The prime minister said her government after assuming office resumed the operation of many closed mills across the country and asked the Sramik League leaders to take care of these mills so that those do not turn into losing units again.

She said they (BNP-Jamaat) never think about the welfare of workers.

She said hers is a pro-workers government and will do whatever possible for their welfare.

About Sramik League's new committee, she said the size of the committee should be small as per the ILO convention.



PHOTO: STAR

Students and teachers of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) observe a token hunger strike on the campus yesterday demanding removal of the vice chancellor and pro-vice chancellor.

Buet teachers, students continue sit-in

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Teachers and students of Buet yesterday staged a two-hour sit-in on the campus demanding the removal of its VC and his deputy.

On Saturday, the teachers said they would resign en masse on July 30 unless VC Nazrul Islam and Pro-VC Habibur Rahman resign or are removed.

However, they had issued similar ultimatum before which ended on Saturday.

Twenty-five teachers, including faculty deans, department chairpersons and institute directors, resigned en masse on July 12.

On April 7, the teachers began their agitation bringing 16 allegations against the VC and his deputy, including irregularities in appointing the pro-VC and the deputy registrar of the university on political consideration.

RMG workers block Dhaka-Sylhet highway

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Workers of a ready-made garment factory in Narayanganj blocked the Dhaka-Sylhet highway for about three hours early yesterday and vandalised at least seven vehicles, demanding payment of their wage arrears.

The workers withdrew the blockade around 11:45am after the authorities concerned agreed to pay off the arrears today, said Mahub Alam, director of Industrial Police-4 of Adamjee.

Around 6,000 workers of Harvest Rich staged a demonstration inside the factory at Bhulta in Rupganj upazila around 8:00am, Atiqur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Rupganj Police Station, quoted witnesses as saying.

The agitating workers threw stones at the glass windows of the factory building and those of Rupali Bank's Bhulta branch office, the OC said.

Police tried to disperse them with tear gas shells when they took to streets around 9:00am and threw brickbats at police, added the OC.

The workers were also demanding an increase in attendance allowance from Tk 150 to Tk 300.

Dead siblings in capital identified as Maya Hazarika's sons

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police identified the two siblings, whose bodies were recovered from a house in the capital's Joar Sahara on Saturday, as the sons of late Bangladeshi film actress Maya Hazarika.

Police recovered the passport, prescriptions and other documents of Maya from the tin-shed house where Javed, 55, and his brother Jamshed, 50, lived as tenants.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Joar Sahara Police Station Ziauzzaman said they found two passports at the house, one belonging to Maya and the other belonging to Jamshed.

"In Maya's passport, her husband's name is written as Sirajul Islam while, in Jamshed's passport, his father's name is also written as Sirajul Islam. That is why we think that the duo were the sons of Sirajul and Maya," he said.

Quoting locals, the OC said, the siblings

had been living in the house for two and a half years and both of them were suffering from mental problems.

"Locals said the two brothers didn't interact with neighbours that much and regularly quarrelled among themselves. No visitors came to their house," he said.

Jamshed worked at a buying house while Javed stayed in the house, he added.

Visiting the address at Boro Maghbazar in the capital that was mentioned on the two passports, police did not find anyone who knew the siblings.

"Locals, however, said they knew Maya who collected money from the area during her illness in 1996," said Inspector of Joar Sahara Police Station. Kripa Sindhu Bala.

A building was under-construction at the address, he said.

Morgue sources said Jamshed was strangled to death while Javed was poisoned first and hanged later.

UAP holds research, development exposition

METRO DESK

University of Asia Pacific (UAP) has organised a three-day long research and development exposition recently.

'UAP Research and Development Exposition 2012' was inaugurated by AA Kamruzzaman, chairperson of the Board of Trustees of UAP, said a press release.

Two seminars on energy and environment issues were arranged respectively where keynote speakers were Prof M Nurul Islam, Institute of Appropriate Technologies, Buet, and Prof Ainun Nishat, vice-chancellor, Buet.

Among others, vice-chancellor of UAP Prof Jamilur Reza Choudhury and ex-vice-chancellor of the university Prof AM Patwari were also present at the seminars.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Creative artists, subject matter specialists, university teachers and creative writers from different organisations and institutes at a daylong creative camp jointly organised by Bangla Communications Ltd and Save the Children in Brac CDMA auditorium at Rajendrapur on Saturday. The camp was arranged to develop communication materials on early childhood development and pre-primary schooling.

TAX EVASION CASE

Hearing against Babar again Aug 28

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday adjourned till August 28 the hearing on charge framing against former state minister for home Lutfozzaman Babar in connection with a tax evasion case.

The court passed the order as jail authorities failed to produce Babar before it yesterday.

However, Babar was produced before the Speedy Trial Tribunal-1 of Dhaka yesterday in connection with the August 21 grenade attack cases.

Jamaat hosts Iftar for foreign diplomats

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami hosted an Iftar party in honour of foreign diplomats at a hotel in the capital yesterday, says a press release.

The party's Nayeab-e-Ameer AKM Nazir Ahmed and ambassadors, high commissioners and representatives of the USA, UK, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan, Indonesia, Turkey, UAE, Russia, Germany, Japan, Iran, India and Canada attended the Iftar party.

Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dr Nurul Momen, a professor of philosophy department at Jagannath University, died of cardiac arrest early yesterday.

Jagannath University Progressive Teachers' Association's Blue Panel, the central committee of Amra Muktiyoddhar Sontan and Jagannath University Journalist Association expressed deep shock at his death.

Death anniversary

METRO DESK

Today is the first death anniversary of AKM Fazlul Huque, ex-employee of DESSA.

On the occasion, Qurankhwani, doa mahfil and feeding of orphans will be held at his Iqbal Road residence in the capital

Qulkhwani

UNB, Dhaka



A doa mahfil and qulkhwani for Munier Alam, a BBA student of

Jagannath University, will be held at Paltan Community Centre after Asr prayers today.

All relatives, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the doa mahfil to pray for eternal peace of the deceased.

Munierin, 23, wife of Imranul Haq, an assistant professor of Jagannath University, died in a road accident in the capital's Kamalapur on Thursday.