

Bdjobs.com names best employers

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

Bdjobs.com, one of the largest job portals in the country, yesterday announced the winners for the Bdjobs.com Best Employer Award 2012.

Standard Chartered Bank won the annual award, now in its third year, in the banking sector, and BRAC, the largest non-governmental organisation in the world, in the development sector.

Rahimafrooz Electronics secured the laurel as the electronics and consumer durables products producer and the same group's Rahimafrooz Superstores, which runs popular brand Agora, won the award in retail and trading sector.

Viyellatex bagged the award in the garments and textile category and Square Pharmaceuticals, one of the leading medicine-makers, won in the pharmaceuticals category.

Grameenphone, the leading mobile operator in the country, won the award in the telecommunication sector, said top officials of Bdjobs.com at a press conference in Dhaka.

British American Tobacco won the award in the category of fast-moving consumer goods, Channel i, a popular private



AKM Fahim Mashroor, chief executive officer of Bdjobs.com, a job portal, speaks at a press meet on Bdjobs.com Best Employer Award 2012 in Dhaka yesterday.

television station, in the media category and Samsung in the IT category.

These sectors, from which the winners have been chosen, have been selected based on their importance in the national economy and overall employment creation, Bdjobs.com

said in a statement.

Bdjobs.com Chief Executive AKM Fahim Mashroor, Chairman Ahmad Islam Muqpit and General Manager Prokash Roy Chowdhury spoke at the media briefing, according to the statement.

Industrial products' fair begins on Jan 23

STAR BUSINESS DESK

An exhibition on industrial products, technologies, and services will begin at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in the capital on January 23.

Over 250 exhibitors will take part in the four-day show: Bangladesh International Plastics, Packaging, Printing, Food Processing Industry Fair 2013.

There will be 350 booths from Bangladesh, China, India, Italy, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey and Switzerland.

Local companies, including Bengal Group, Partex, Luna, Saj, Sunflower, Talukder Group and RFL, will showcase their products and solu-



BANK ASIA

Md Mehmod Husain, president and managing director of Bank Asia, speaks at a seminar on "manager, management and business" at the bank's training institute in Dhaka on Saturday.

World atlas on renewable energy launched

AFP, Abu Dhabi

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) on Sunday launched the world's first atlas on clean energy which will offer open-access information on countries' renewable energy potential.

"The Global Atlas is the largest ever initiative to help countries assess their renewable energy potential, and companies bringing together data and maps from leading technical institutes and private companies worldwide," IRENA said.

"It currently charts solar and wind resources, and will expand to other forms of renewable energy over 2013 and 2014," the agency announced as it began its two-day annual general assembly in Abu Dhabi.

The online atlas is available on www.irena.org. GlobalAtlas IRENA said the atlas will also help companies looking to invest in new markets.

"Over the next decade, we expect an enormous increase in investment in the field of renewable energy. GlobalAtlas will help us make the right decisions," said Danish Climate and Energy Minister Martin Lidegaard, who chaired a session at the gathering.

IRENA director Adnan Amin said that by 2014 the atlas will include information on bio-energy, geother-

Turnover on DSE touches 6-month low

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Among the major sectors, banks lost 0.48 percent, followed by telecom 0.38 percent, power 0.37 percent and pharma 0.15 percent. Non-bank financial institutions gained 0.54 percent. A total of 0.42 lakh trades were executed with 4.15 crore shares and mutual fund units changing hands on the Dhaka bourse.

Of the 263 issues that traded on the DSE floor, 80 advanced, 142 declined and 41 remained unchanged.

United Airways featured in the most traded stock chart with 53.23 lakh shares worth Tk 11.35 crore changing hands. Generation Next Fashions and Beximco were the next popular stocks of the day.

Linde Bangladesh was the highest gainer of the day, as it accelerated a gain of 6.30 percent, while AB Bank First Mutual Fund was the worst loser, plunging by 7.07 percent.

CSX, the selective categories index of the port city bourse, finished the day at 8,014 points, after declining 26.43 points or 0.32 percent.

Losers beat gainers 114 to 40 with 19 securities remained unchanged on the CSE floor that traded

Apparel accessories fair kicks off in Dhaka to boost exports

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Commerce Minister GM Quader inaugurated the exposition. BGAPMEA organises the expositions in association with ASK Trade & Exhibition and Zakaria Trade & Fair International, Chowdhury said.

Companies from China, India, Pakistan, Taiwan, Australia, Germany, UAE, Thailand and Japan are participating in the fairs, he said.

About 1,200 members of the association are displaying export-oriented accessories, he said.

A total of 350 companies are displaying their products at the 560 booths at the fair which will remain

ঢাকা শহরে ফ্ল্যাট কেনার এখনই সময়!

REHAB এর এক তথ্য (Financial Express, 10th November 2012) জন্য যার বর্তমান রাজধানীতে ৩৫ হাজার নেভি ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রির অঙ্কের, আরো ৬২ হাজার ফ্ল্যাট নির্মাণাধীন।

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China economy to rebound in 2013

AFP, Beijing

China's economy is poised finally to end a long downward trend in 2013, economists polled by AFP say, as the new communist leadership vows to retool the nation's investment-led development model and promote a "happy life" for all.

The world's second-largest economy is not expected to return to double-digit growth, but the economists' predictions are a welcome spot of good news in a financial world assailed by the eurozone



Md Anisul Hoque, chairman of Social Islami Bank, and Md Shafiqur Rahman, managing director, attend the annual business conference 2013 of the bank at BRAC Centre in Savar recently.

Greece 'past danger' but risks remain: PM

AFP, Athens

Greece has overcome the danger of an ignominious euro exit, but it must stay the course of tough reforms to avoid a "relapse", Prime Minister Antonis Samaras said Sunday.

"I believe the great danger (of a euro exit) has passed," Samaras said in an interview with the To Vima weekly. "Drachmaphobia seems to have receded completely."

But Samaras, whose three-party government faces another reform hurdle in parliament next week, warned the nation: "There can be no letup in our effort, because there is the risk of a relapse."

The government last week pushed through parliament a tax bill introducing new annual income thresholds for salaried taxpayers and scrapping tax breaks for the self-employed, a category blamed for a large part of the tax evasion that has plagued state finances for decades.

On Monday, it will seek approval for another round of reform legislation tied to Greece's next slice of EU loans.

Minister sees links between TICFA delay and GSP shock

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The US wants immediate elimination of child and forced labour from all sectors and permission for trade unionism at factories, but Bangladesh wants to implement them in phases, he said.

Bangladesh is now following the labour standards of both International Labour Organisation (ILO) and its own labour laws, and is currently in the process of implementing ILO's 'better work programme' at the factory level.

Meanwhile, Bangladesh's garment sector has been declared free from child labour by the US Department of Labour.

The TICFA is a proposed platform for Bangladesh and the US to discuss bilateral trade issues, including trade barriers and opportunities in the two countries.

Four core factors -- security, protection of investment, intellectual property rights and labour rights -- have been widely discussed in the negotiations.

Ahead of the US Secretary General Hillary Clinton's visit to Bangladesh in May last year, the Bangladesh government finalised a draft of the TICFA.

Although many issues were discussed, the draft was not signed during the visit.

The TICFA is now on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's table for her final approval.

Bangladesh, as a least developed country, enjoys duty-free access to the US market for 97 percent of its products -- but readymade garment items are not included in the scheme.

At present, Bangladeshi garment exporters have to pay 15.30 percent duty to enter the US market.

Petrol stations threaten strike from Jan 20

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"We issued a seven-day ultimatum to the government to hike the commission on January 6. But they did not pay any heed. So, we are giving the fresh and final ultimatum," Haq said.

The government increased the prices of four types of fuels and distributors' commission on January 3.

The government's negligence in implementing its promises is frustrating petrol pump and tank-lorry owners and workers, he said.

They also demanded formulation of a policy guideline for approving petrol pump business, construction of tank-lorry terminals at fuel depots and introduction of insurance coverage of Tk 5 lakh for tank-lorry drivers.

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