

PHOTO: ZAHEDUL I KHAN

Workers often paint a rosy picture to their families back home, hiding the harsh realities of their living conditions abroad.

He did not have a proper job all this while. An unscrupulous broker took heaps of cash from Mamun, promising a well-paid job in the UK. Upon his arrival, Mamun realised that there was no such job waiting for him. He illegally worked as a cooking help in restaurants to make ends meet.

He earned around Tk 28,000 every month, a decent sum for a family living in Bangladesh. But because of the high living expenses in the UK, he could not send any money back home.

Then a few months ago, Mamun's illegal resident status came under the nose of the UK Border Agency. After three nights in detention, he was deported.

Now he lives in Dhaka with some friends. "I didn't even dare to go back to my village, I feel too ashamed," he says. Due to lack of education, Mamun is facing troubles finding a job. With the help of an NGO, he is trying to set up a second-hand car business. But if there is a possibility to go