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Extend amnesty by three months

Dhaka urges Riyadh on legalising irregular Bangladeshi workers

PORIMOL PALMA

Bangladesh has requested Saudi Arabia to extend by three months the amnesty period for legalising status of its irregular migrants in the kingdom.

Foreign Minister Dipu Moni on Wednesday had made the appeal at a meeting with Saudi State Minister for Foreign Affairs Nizar Obaid Madani in Jeddah, Emdadul Haque, labour minister of Bangladesh High Commission in Riyadh told The Daily Star.

Dipu Moni is now on a five-day visit, from June 18 to 22, to Saudi Arabia leading a seven-member delegation.

In response to Bangladesh's request, Saudi State Minister Madani assured her of forwarding the appeal to the highest authority for consideration.

Declared on May 10, the amnesty allows irregular foreign workers to have their job status legalised or return home without being penalised.

The Saudi authorities had warned that illegal workers staying in the kingdom after the amnesty period was over would be fined SR 100,000 and jailed for two years.

But the deadline, which expires on July 3, made labour-exporting countries worried, as several lakh foreign workers

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5



A trader shows a jatka (young hilsa) at a wholesale fish market in Barisal. Despite a ban, fishermen are catching jatka from rivers across the country and selling those to traders. The picture was taken recently.

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

'GUNFIGHT' WITH RAB 3 robbers killed in Sundarbans

STAR REPORT

Three suspected robbers were killed in a gunfight with Rapid Action Battalion at Parshutala Bharani in Satkira range of western Sundarbans yesterday morning.

In another incident, an alleged robber was killed in Cox's Bazar in the early hours yesterday.

Two of the three robbers killed in Satkira are Mahabub alias Saiyya, 40, chief

STEPS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING Bangladesh still lacks standards

US report sees institutional weaknesses

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

The United States said lack of enforcement of law and institutional weaknesses in Bangladesh were to blame for continued trafficking of Bangladeshi migrant workers abroad.

"Bangladesh is a source country for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking," according to the 2013 Annual

SEE PAGE 17 COL 3

SQC continues deposition

Says Pak army was 'occupying marauding forces'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

War crimes accused Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, who abetted the Pakistan army in at least 20 incidents of war crimes according to different charges, now terms the Pakistan army as 'occupying marauding forces'.

Forty prosecution witnesses, including the seizure list witnesses, gave deposition

SEE PAGE 2 COL 5

Pak army killed 450 with Nizami's help Witness tells war tribunal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prosecution witness said yesterday the Pakistan army shot dead around 450 people after a signal from war crimes accused Motiur Rahman Nizami and other collaborators on May 14, 1971 during the Liberation War.

Shamsul Haque alias Nannu told International Crimes Tribunal-1 that

people of three villages in Pabna fell victim to the army that day. "They did

[the killing] to annihilate Bangalees partially or totally," he added.

The 11th witness of the war crimes case against the Jamaat-e-Islami ameer

SEE PAGE 17 COL 1



A girl in a school in Beijing asks Chinese female astronaut Wang Yaping, top right, questions as Wang delivers a lesson to students from Tiangong-1 space module yesterday morning.

Teaching from space

AFP, Beijing

A Chinese astronaut orbiting more than 300 kilometres above the Earth's surface delivered a video class to children across China yesterday.

Wearing a blue space suit, Wang Yaping, the second Chinese woman in space, demonstrated how a variety of objects -- from a bubble of water to a spinning toy -- behave in zero gravity.

Wang's class -- delivered from China's orbiting space module Tiangong-1 -- was shown in classrooms across China, state broadcaster CCTV said.

The astronaut smiled as she pushed a fellow astronaut into the wall of the module with the merest touch of her finger, and went on togulp down a

SEE PAGE 17 COL 6

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অর্পিত সম্পত্তি সংক্রান্ত বিশেষ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

অর্পিত সম্পত্তি প্রত্যার্পণ আইনের আওতায় আবেদন দাখিলের সময়সীমা বৃদ্ধি করার বিষয়ে বিভিন্ন দৈরিক পত্রিকায় প্রকাশিত সংবাদ নিবন্ধ অত্র মন্ত্রণালয়ের নজরে এসেছে। এ বিষয়ে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, গেজেটে তালিকা প্রকাশের পর থেকে ৩০০ (তিনশত) দিনের মধ্যে আবেদন দায়ের করার বিধান আইনে রয়েছে। অনেক ক্ষেত্রে আবেদন করার নির্ধারিত সময়সীমা এখনও অতিক্রান্ত হয়নি। যাদের আবেদন করার সময়সীমা অতিক্রান্ত হয়েছে, তাদের জন্য আবেদন দাখিলের সময়সীমা সরকার ইতোমধ্যে ৩০শে জুন, ২০১৩ পর্যন্ত বৃদ্ধি করেছেন। নির্ধারিত সময়ের মধ্যে আবেদনের জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় কাগজপত্রাদি সংগ্রহের অপারগতা প্রদর্শন করে যারা জেলা কমিটি বরাবর আবেদন করতে ইচ্ছুক, তাদের আবেদন গ্রহণ করার জন্য ভূমি মন্ত্রণালয় থেকে জেলা কমিটিকে প্রয়োজনীয় নির্দেশনা প্রদান করা হয়েছে। যাদের সময়সীমা অতিক্রান্ত হয়ে গেছে, জরুরী ভিত্তিতে তাদেরকে আগামী ৩০শে জুন, ২০১৩ এর মধ্যে জেলা কমিটি বরাবর আবেদন দাখিলের জন্য পরামর্শ প্রদান করা হলো।

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The Daily Star

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ONLINE POLL

Do you agree with NBR Chairman Md Ghulam Hussain that the TiCfa will widen Bangladesh's opportunity to discuss different trade issues with the United States?

Yes (48%)

No (51%)

TOTAL VOTES: 151

Do you think it was justified for outgoing Chairman of the Anti-Corruption Commission Ghulam Rahman terming the World Bank's claim 'irrational' over the Padma bridge project corruption?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.netYOU MAY ALSO VOTE AT facebook.com/dailystarnews

PRAYER TIMING June 21

Azan Jamaat

Fajr 4:05-4:40

Juma 12:30-1:15

Asr 5:00-5:15

Maghrib 6:52-6:55

Esha 8:17-8:45

Source: Islamic Foundation

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