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DEATH ABROAD IN ACCIDENTS

Compensation hard to get

Families suffer for govt's lack of coordination

BELAL HOSSAIN BIPOB

Families of at least 6,000 expatriates who died abroad in accidents are yet to receive compensations even after years of waiting. And a lack of coordination among the government agencies concerned is mainly blamed for this.

Officials of the Bangladesh missions in different labour receiving countries, however, blamed legal complexities in those countries as well.

Omar Faruk of Laxmipur's Charvoga village went to Saudi Arabia in 2001, leaving his seven-month-pregnant wife at home, in search of a better luck. But only 47 days after his arrival in the Gulf state, he was killed in a road accident.

His wife did not receive any compensation in the last 13 years, though she submitted all necessary documents to get it.

Having lost the sole breadwinner of the family, the widow, Shahina Yasmin, and her three children had been living on her parents' assistance and charities of their neighbours all these years.

"In the last 13 years, we didn't get any compensation. In 2009, I sent all the required papers to the authorities concerned, but we are yet to get anything -- either from the government or from the Saudi employer," Shahina told The Daily Star last week.

Halima Akhter of Manikganj's Singair upazila has been waiting for compensation since her husband Yunus Ali died in a lorry crash in Saudi Arabia in 2006.

"For the last eight years, I have been trying to secure compensations so that I can bring up my little son properly. But now I'm very frustrated and dismayed over the hassles that I have been going through in the process," she told The Daily Star recently.

"I didn't marry again, considering my son's well-being ... But I'm getting tired now," Halima said with a sigh.

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We need vultures

DR REZA KHAN

In our childhood during early 1950s our pastime included chasing vultures eating carcasses. Between our para -- Ballia Bora Boro and the Zamindar Bari of Ballia under Dhamrai, Dhaka -- there was a football pitch. A narrow canal connected the Bangshi river that originated in the then Dhaleshwari near Kedarpur under Tangail and the Dhaleshwari river just below Savar to the *Sraddher Beel* lying between several villages under the Ballia union. Boats could use the canal from June to October but by winter the canal

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PHOTO: DR REZA KHAN

2 brothers abducted in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gunmen abducted two brothers at Bholartek in the capital's Darussalam early Friday.

Omar Faruk, 32, and Firoz, 27, were picked by a group around 10 people around 2:30am, said their father Hakim Ali.

"They came in a microbus and hit the front door of my house so hard that they nearly broke it. When I opened the door, four to five men barged in, went to Faruk's room, dragged him out and bundled him onto the microbus," he added.

When Hakim asked them about their identities and the reason for the raid, they replied, "Old man, you will know about it later."

About six to seven armed men were waiting outside the house. When Hakim came out of the house a little later, he heard that the gang also picked up his younger son Firoz, who lives next door.

The two brothers have been running a bookshop, Nobojatra Library, in the city's Nilkhet for the last six-seven years. They were not

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Meet the youngest ever computer specialist

Aged 5, schoolboy passes Microsoft Windows exam

MAIL ONLINE

A schoolboy has become the world's youngest qualified computer specialist after passing a Microsoft Windows exam at the age of just five.

Ayan Qureshi has only just started primary school, but passed the test at

SEE PAGE 2 COL 4

Obama warns against Asia 'intimidation'

Says Asian territorial rows could 'spiral into confrontation'

AGENCIES

US President Barack Obama yesterday warned of the dangers of outright conflict in Asia, as China squares off against rival claimants over disputed territories, but vowed that Washington would remain anchored in the region.

Obama said that Asia's security must not be based on intimidation of small nations by big ones. He insisted that security in the region must depend on mutual alliances.

In a speech at Brisbane's University of Queensland, ahead of the G20 summit, he also insisted that his

"pivot" of US policy back to Asia was real and here to stay.

The two-day G20 summit will focus on promoting economic growth. World leaders are expected to expand on plans agreed by G20 finance

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RUSSIA CHILL PERMEATES G20 -- PAGE 8

The Daily Star

Integral Energy Limited

ONLINE POLL

Do you think that the Myanmar government would respond to the call of President Barack Obama to allow Rohingya Muslims to become its citizen?

Yes (17%)

No (83%)

TOTAL VOTES: 197

TODAY'S POLL

Do you agree with BNP that the recent remarks of prime minister's adviser HT Imam about the January 5 polls have substantiated its allegation that the then government had used the administration to hold the election?

PLEASE CAST YOUR VOTE AT www.thedailystar.net

PRAYER TIMING November 16

	Azan	Jamaat
Fazr	5-00	5-35
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-22	5-25
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার
অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়
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www.nationalsavings.gov.bd

জরুরী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, সরকার ১০/- (দশ) ও ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা মূল্যমানের বাংলাদেশ প্রাইজবন্ডের সকল কার্যক্রম আগামী ৩১ জানুয়ারী, ২০১৫ খ্রিঃ তারিখ হতে চূড়ান্তভাবে বন্ধ ঘোষণা করেছেন।

এমতাবস্থায়, আগামী ৩১ জানুয়ারী, ২০১৫ খ্রিঃ তারিখের পূর্বে সুবিধাজনক সময়ে পূর্বের ন্যায় ১০/- (দশ) ও ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা মূল্যমানের বাংলাদেশ প্রাইজবন্ড নগদায়ন অথবা ১০/- (দশ) ও ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রাইজবন্ডের বদলে সমমূল্যের ১০০/- (একশত) টাকা মূল্যমানের প্রাইজবন্ড বিনিময় করে নেয়ার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। উক্ত সময়ের পর ১০/- (দশ) ও ৫০/- (পঞ্চাশ) টাকা মূল্যমানের বাংলাদেশ প্রাইজবন্ডের কোন দাবী (নগদায়ন বা বিনিময়) গ্রহণযোগ্য হবে না।

এ বিষয়ে সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা কামনা করছি।

বিঃ দ্রঃ বিস্তারিত তথ্যের জন্য নিকটস্থ সঞ্চয় অফিস / ডাকঘর / ব্যাংকের সাথে যোগাযোগ করুন।

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Branch OPENING

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Mr. M. A. Hashem, Hon'ble Chairman, United Commercial Bank Limited will inaugurate the Branch as the Chief Guest.

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