BANGLADESHI JOBSEEKERS

KSA to reopen labour market after 7 years

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

After a seven-year ban on manpower recruitment from Bangladesh, the Saudi Arabian government has decided to open its labour market for Bangladeshi jobseekers soon.

"The Saudi government has agreed to resume the recruitment of our people in all its sectors after our discussion with them," Shahidul Islam, ambassador of Bangladesh embassy in Riyadh told The Daily Star over the phone yesterday.

The country's overall manpower export started declining significantly after the Saudi government imposed a ban on the recruitment of workers from Bangladesh in 2008. The Saudi authorities then brought allegations of anomalies in the recruitment process.

Around one lakh Bangladeshis used to migrate to Saudi Arabia every year before the restriction.

Only a few Bangladeshis could obtain labour visas for cleaning jobs in the Kingdom before, the Bangladesh envoy said, adding that Bangladeshis will now be able to get visas for all sectors, including construction and services.

After meeting with Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain on Monday in Riyadh, Saudi Labour Minister Adel Fakeih said SEE PAGE 11 COL 1



A fire extinguisher being installed inside a bus at Mohakhali Bus Terminal yesterday. This is a precaution the bus owners are taking with incidents of petrol bomb attacks on buses on the rise since the nationwide indefinite blockade was enforced earlier this month.

Bus owners take safety measures

Fire extinguishers installed in buses STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Against the backdrop of widespread arson attacks on vehicles in the last few days, several transport owners started keeping fire extinguishers inside their buses as a precautionary measure.

Some of them even kept sacks of sand inside vehicles to put out fire in case of any arson attack by miscreants. Several other bus service

providers have also taken initiatives to avert losses from fire damage, Khandaker Enayetullah, secretary general of Bangladesh Sarak Paribahan Samity, told The Daily Star yesterday.

Mohammad Nasir, a driver of Sylhet-bound ENA Paribahan at Mohakhali Bus Stand, told The Daily Star they had started to keep fire SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Amnesty Int'l for probe into killings, arson

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Expressing concern at the ongoing political violence, the Amnesty International has urged the government to "carry out thorough and impartial investigations into all instances of arson attacks and killings, and bring those responsible to justice in fair trials".

In a statement dated January 20, the London-based rights watchdog said the SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Tender floated to build 3 bridges

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government yesterday floated an international tender for building three four-lane bridges alongside the existing two-lane bridges of Kanchpur, Meghna and Gumti on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway.

The old bridges, which are not in good shape, would also be rehabilitated, according to the Roads and Highways Department (RHD) officials.

Approximately Tk 8,400 crore would be spent on the project. Of the amount, Japan would provide around Tk 6,400 crore as soft loan while the government would bear the rest, they said.

The construction of the new bridges has become essential as the existing ones have two lanes and cannot handle the heavy traffic flow on the SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

seeks order to eliminate BNP

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League lawmaker Shamim Osman yesterday raised the question why the BNP chief was not being arrested although she was ordering her party men to kill people.

During an unscheduled point of order in parliament, the AL lawmaker claimed that AL activists alone could root out BNP-Jamaat men from the country and sought directives from the AL high command to this end.

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Shamim Osman ISIS now executing educated women

Says UN human rights office

AFP, Geneva

The UN has decried numerous executions of civilians in Iraq by the Islamic State group, warning that educated women appeared to be especially at risk. The jihadist group is showing a "monstrous disregard for human life" in

the areas it controls in Iraq, the UN human rights office said on Tuesday. The group, which controls large swathes of territory in Iraq and in neighbouring war-ravaged Syria, last week published pictures of the "crucifixions" of two men accused of being bandits, and of a woman being stoned to

death, allegedly for adultery. Numerous other women have also reportedly been executed recently in

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PARIS ATTACK

France honours 'Hero' Muslim

MAIL ONLINE

The Muslim employee at a kosher supermarket who saved several shoppers' lives during the Paris attack has been granted French citizenship.

Lassana Bathily, 24, was praised for his 'courage and heroism' by Interior Minister Bernard Cazeneuve during a ceremony in the presence of Prime Minister Manuel Valls.

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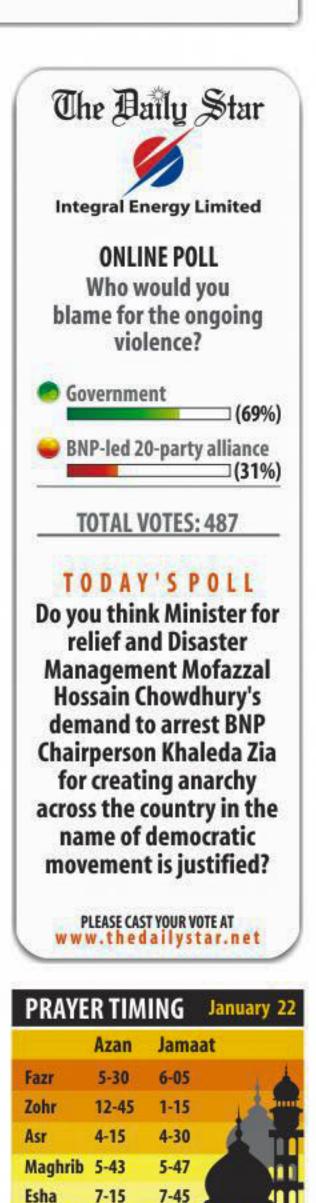




has an approximate yearly turnover of Tk. 4,500 crore. In-shallah, we will put our best to

make the association more lively, bright, effective and colorful.

Courtesy: Labib Group



Source: Islamic Foundation

