

আপনার বিআরটিএ ফি এবং সকল ইউটিলিটি বিল এসআইবিএল এর যে কোন শাখার মাধ্যমে জমা দিন



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যে কোন প্রয়োজনে ০৯৬৯২০০৯২২

Star BUSINESS

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Denmark to train 283 factory inspectors

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Denmark's employment ministry yesterday rolled out a programme to train labour inspectors in Bangladesh to ensure better and safe working conditions in garment factories. The training programme was inaugurated by Jørn Neergaard Larsen, Danish minister for employment, and Mujibul Haque, state minister for labour and employment of Bangladesh, at the capital's Westin Hotel. Over the next three years, experts from Denmark will train 283 labour inspectors, Haque said at the launch ceremony. The Danish experts will impart training on five areas: machinery safety, structural safety, chemical safety, accident prevention and ergonomics.

Industries to pay VAT on environmental clearance certificates

SOHEL PARVEZ
Industrialists and brick kiln owners will now have to pay value-added taxes on fees for environmental clearance certificates issued by the Department of Environment. Since environmental clearance certificates create prospects of economic activities, a 15 percent VAT at source will be applicable to their issuance and renewals, the revenue authority said in a letter to its field offices last week. However, there will be no VAT on the compensation realised by the Department of Environment from polluters. But VAT will be applicable to fees for testing samples of water, liquid waste and air, according to the letter.

YEAR	FRESH CERTIFICATES	RENEWAL
2009	3,865	4,122
2010	4,987	5,298
2011	5,436	7,464
2012	6,282	6,647
2013	6,803	7,123
2014	5,867	9,314

ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE CERTIFICATES ISSUED TO INDUSTRIAL UNITS
SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT
Currently, the department charges fees on industrial units and brick kilns according to the amount of investment riding on the ventures. For industrial units and projects,

the department charges fees in 12 slabs of invested amount, beginning with Tk 1 lakh and ending with more than Tk 1,000 crore. For example, an entrepreneur whose investment is between Tk 1 lakh and Tk 5 lakh will have to pay Tk 1,500 for fresh environmental clearance certificates. For projects with investments of upwards of Tk 1,000 crore, the fee is Tk 5 lakh. For renewal of environmental clearance, one-fourth of the fee is applicable. The department charges fees on brick kilns based on four slabs of invested money. Fee of some Tk 15,000 is applicable to investment between Tk 1 lakh and Tk 50 lakh.

Stocks close higher for second day

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
Stocks closed higher for a second day yesterday with a mixed performance of the major sectors. DSEX, the benchmark index of Dhaka Stock Exchange, rose 10.3 points or 0.21 percent, finishing the day at 4,697.5 points. IDLC Investments said the market saw enthusiasm from the beginning of the session, pushing the DSEX to cross the psychological level of 4,700 points. "As a result, investors opted to book quick profit in the latter part of the day," the merchant bank said. LankaBangla Securities in its regular analysis said investors were injecting fresh money into the market. "Large cap stocks such as cement, telecom and power sectors were on the buying list of investors, while bank, engineering and textile stocks saw profit booking," the stockbroker said. Turnover, another important indicator of the market, rose 16.3 percent to Tk 720.73 crore, with 24.05 crore shares and mutual fund units changing hands on the DSE.

New e-commerce site takes off

STAR BUSINESS REPORT
State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak yesterday said Bangladesh is in the process of establishing digital economy, and e-commerce will play an important role towards that goal. "Transaction-wise, the e-commerce market size is very nominal now, but it will be much higher after two to three years, and by 2021, Bangladesh will reach a notable position," Palak said at the launch of a new e-commerce site -- soldier71.com. India started e-commerce ten years ago, and its transactions will hit the \$100-billion mark within two years, he said. "We have just started the online trading process. The country has more than two crore middle-income and affluent consumers who are ready to take the benefits of e-commerce." There will be at least five crore such customers in five years, he said, adding that currently there are 500-700 e-commerce sites in Bangladesh. "Try to expand your market so you can meet demands from abroad as well," Palak said. "You can target expatriates." There are about one crore Bangladeshi expatriates in different countries. Razib Ahmed, president of e-commerce Association of Bangladesh, said: "Despite challenges, some of our members will expand operations abroad within a few years." Trust is a key factor to expand the e-commerce market, and entrepreneurs need to prove their credibility first, said Md Helal Uddin, a former vice-president of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The site will give priority to the products of ethnic people, said Md Sharif-Ul-Alam, chief executive of soldier71.com.

FDI still in slow lane, soul-searching needed

The AmCham president calls for efforts to boost investment
STAR BUSINESS REPORT
The government and the private sector should team up to find the reasons for the weak flow of foreign direct investment into the country, a top chamber leader said yesterday. Nurul Islam, president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh, said Bangladesh has taken a series of initiatives over the years to attract FDI and yet the flow is not up to par. "It's time for the government and the private sector to join hands for some soul-searching over the reasons for that, to assess whether our legal framework is really pro-FDI or not." It is important to find whether the government's policy and legal provisions need to be updated, Islam said at a dialogue on "foreign direct investment and legal environment" in Bangladesh. The key components of an enabling environment are political and macroeconomic stability, sound policy and regulatory framework supported by efficient institutions to enforce relevant laws and regulations, and adequate physical and social infrastructure, he added. Bangladesh has attracted \$1-\$1.5 billion in FDI a year over the past few years.

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