



Workers abroad face hard time

Falling oil price, rising conflicts in ME cast shadow on remittance

FORIMOL PALMA and BELAL HOSSAIN BIPLAB

Mizanur Rahman, a mason at a construction firm in Saudi Arabia, is worried about losing his job. His employer has recently expressed inability to continue some of the ongoing projects due to financial crisis.

The lone breadwinner of a five-member family from Faridpur cannot even begin to imagine what would happen to his family if he loses the job.

"We are not getting our wages for the last six months. We are still working for the company, hoping the situation would change soon," said Mizamar, who has been working for Saudi Oger, one of the largest construction firms

COUNTRY-WISE REMITTANCE

	FY 16	FY 15
KSA	3,345	2,960
UAE	2,824	2,715
Qatar	910	432
Oman	915	911
Bahrain	554	466
Kuwait	1,078	1,038

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USA's Michael Phelps competes on his way to winning the gold medal in the Men's 200m Butterfly Final at the Olympic Aquatics Stadium in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on Tuesday.



21 and counting

ATIQUE ANAM from Rio de Janeiro

It was past 1:00am in the morning but the media tribune at the Olympic Aquatics Stadium in Rio de Janeiro was still buzzing with journalists from around the world. No one bothered to move; no one bothered to leave without having a piece of -- you guessed it -- Michael Phelps.

PHOTO: REUTERS

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BB moves to check terror financing

Asks banks to freeze accounts of terrorists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Bank has asked all banks and other financial institutions to freeze accounts if they belong to those whose names have come up in the media for alleged involvement in terrorism and terror financing.

It has also directed the financial bodies to send information on all such accounts to the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU).

The BFIU is responsible for analysing suspicious transaction reports, cash transaction reports and information related to money laundering received from reporting agencies and other sources.

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6 'suicide attackers' arrested in city

5 from JMB, 1 from ABT; Rab says they were planning subversive activities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab yesterday claimed to have arrested six suicide attackers who were planning to "carry out subversive activities" in the capital.

The six -- five from the banned Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and one from Ansarulh Bangla Team (ABT) -- were arrested from different areas in the capital on Tuesday night.

Rab said they recovered nine improvised explosive devices, five hand grenades, 13 detonators, two pistols, some machetes and knives and bomb-making materials from the arrestees.

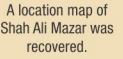
A map detailing the location of Shah Ali Mazar in Mirpur was also found in their possession, and Rab officials suspect the Mazar was on their hit list.

Three of the "militants" were detained from a house near the Mazar. They rented the house a couple of days ago, Rab said.

"We came to know that the six militants gathered in the capital for a 'suicide attack', Commander Mufti Mahmud Khan, Rab's legal and media wing director, told a press briefing at his headquarters in Uttara.

At the briefing, Rab gave a presentation of "secret communication" allegedly recovered from the militants' mobile phones.

Of the arrestees, ABT man Mostafizur Rahman alias Sifat, 27, had been



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Khaleda gets bail in 10 cases

COURT CORRESPONDENT

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday got bails in a sedition case and nine arson cases after she surrendered before two separate Dhaka courts.

The arson attack cases were filed with Darrusalam Police Station in January, February and March last year.

The same day Khaleda also appeared before two separate courts in connection with Niko and Barapukuria coalmine graft cases.

In the sedition case, Metropolitan Sessions Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah accepted the charge against the BNP chairperson and granted bail to her after she surrendered before the court and sought bail.

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HUMILIATION OF TEACHER High Court orders judicial probe

Rejects police probe report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rejecting a police probe report, the High Court yesterday ordered a judicial inquiry into the public humiliation of Narayanganj school teacher Shyamal Kanti Bhakta.

In a suo moto rule, the court directed the chief metropolitan magistrate in Dhaka to conduct a fresh inquiry in order to find out the offence committed in its entirety and identify the real perpetrators.

The report has to be submitted to it by November 3, the court said.

A bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das also fixed November 6 for passing a further order on the issue.

In the second week of May, a video clip went viral on the social media, showing how the headmaster of Piyar Sattar Latif High School in Narayanganj was humiliated and forced to squat holding his ears in the presence of local Jatraya Party lawmaker AKM Salim Osman.

The HC yesterday said the report submitted by police was "incomplete", "inconclusive", "highly deplorable" and



PHOTO: COURTESY

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Sharp rise in number of asylum seekers

18,000 Bangladeshis sought asylum in European countries last year

REAZ AHMAD

The number of Bangladeshis seeking asylum in Europe rose from 10,000 in 2014 to 18,000 last year. It was only 7,000 in 2013.

The surge in the number of Bangladeshis notified in European countries has been ascribed in a recent report by the Pew Research Center, a Washington-based fact tank.

According to the report, Bangladesh was 14th among the top 15 source countries of asylum seekers in Europe last year.

It, however, did not mention how many of the Bangladeshis eventually got citizenships of any of the European countries.

The Pew Research Center analysed data from Eurostat, an EU (European Union) statistical agency, to show that a record 1.3 million migrants applied for asylum in 30 European countries -- the 28 EU member states, Norway and Switzerland -- in 2015.

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Students walk on this bamboo bridge to return home from Kamargang Ideal High School in Munshiganj's Srinagar. The ground floor of the school building has remained under 2 to 3-foot water for the last one month due to rain and subsequent flooding in the area. Water flooded the office room as well. The photos were taken on Tuesday.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

Death penalty for Shakhawat

Besides the ex-MP, 7 others get jail until death for war crimes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

He had incited his cohorts to annihilate freedom fighters and pro-liberation Bangladeshes at a meeting in the Bangla month of Shraban in 1971. Two months later, Shakhawat Hossain led his men to abduct, confine, torture and kill people in Jessore.

As a commander of a Razakar camp at Chingra in Keshabpur, he directly took part in the killings and rape, while in some cases he unleashed his gang to commit similar crimes.

He did not express any remorse or repentance for his role in 1971 and instead of being punished for the heinous crimes, Shakhawat was rehabilitated after 1975.

He got involved with the politics of Jamaat, BNP and Jatraya Party and went on to become a lawmaker twice of a country whose very creation he and his men had vehemently opposed in 1971.

Forty-five years later, justice caught up with him as a special tribunal yesterday sentenced him to hang for the crimes. The International Crimes Tribunal-1 also sentenced seven of Shakhawat's cohorts to jail until death.

All the crimes proved are found to have had a causal relation to the inciting and provoking speech delivered by

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