

TOWARDS BUILDING A MODERN ECONOMY



DHAKA **TUESDAY**
FEBRUARY 20, 2018
FALGUN 8, 1424 BS

45

Making migrants' life easier

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 36

employers from hiring appropriately skilled workers. In addition, data will also help programmes for extending credit and imparting financial literacy,

Vital Statistics initiative. There is also the need for including key migration-related information in the national census conducted by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. The Bangladesh Household Remittance Survey 2009 by IOM, and

SDC and RMMRU are currently conducting the second round of survey to generate a panel data.

Such open data sources are an important beginning for a robust database on migration in Bangladesh.

interoperable application centrally coordinated by a mandated and competent agency such as the BBS merits due consideration. Perhaps there is a lesson to learn from the good practice of collaboration of various

returnee migrants in their reintegration effort through loans and encourage expatriate Bangladeshis to invest in Bangladesh. Until October 2017 through its 54 branches the bank has disbursed Tk 250 crore among 25,374 migrants. Its performance in disbursing loan among returnee migrants though has been poor. Over the years only around 160 people have secured such loans. There has not been any assessment about its achievement in encouraging investment of expatriate Bangladeshis.

During its inception 95 percent of the capital of Tk 100 crore of the bank was sourced from the Wage Earners' Welfare Fund. In early November 2017 an inter-ministerial meeting decided that as the government has taken the move to turn the bank into a regular commercial bank onus lies on it to mobilise the required funds from its own resources. They further call for an evaluation of PKB performance by an independent commission.

Realising the significant contribution of labour migrants to their communities and the national economy successive governments in Bangladesh have set up necessary institutional frameworks to make labour migration process safe and efficient. With fresh challenges facing the sector there is an urgent need for reflection on past efforts. While successes of those initiatives should be celebrated and augmented, rational policymaking demands amendment of imperfect measures. It is hoped that concerned authorities will take cognisance of some of the issues raised in this commentary.

CR Abrar teaches international relations at the University of Dhaka.

There is a paucity of data on migration in Bangladesh. Although the BMET has been systematically preserving data on outbound migrant workers (countries of destination, skill level, medium of recruitment) and the Bangladesh Bank on remittance flows, there is a need for data on other issues.



Jobseekers through the Probashi Kallyan Bhaban at Eskaton in the capital to get registered with the Bureau of Manpower Employment and Training for employment in Saudi Arabia.

FILE PHOTO

training and business advisory services that migrants often need while setting up their own enterprises on return.

Recognising the importance of the issue Bangladesh has included migration in the Civil Registration and

SDC and RMMRU survey on Impact of Migration on Poverty and Development (2014) provide important data on concerned areas. In order to gain longitudinal perspective on impact of migration on the same households the

Future state efforts to generate and collate data on migration should be cognisant of appropriate contents as well as have clear guidelines about sharing and storage. A well-devised data gathering and storage strategy ensuring

ministries with the Department of Census and Statistics of the Government of Sri Lanka in this regard.

In 2011 the Probashi Kallyan Bank was established to extend migration loans to outbound unemployed youth, support



**REGISTRATION
FREE**
5600[৳]

**HEART
REVIVING
OFFER**



* অসম্ভাব্য সফল মডেলের জন্য প্রযোজ্য
৪ ফেব্রুয়ারী থেকে ২৬ ফেব্রুয়ারী পর্যন্ত চলবে

* শর্ত প্রযোজ্য



f /yamahabd

Authorised Dealer: Crescent Enterprise 01762877793 Dhaka | Meem Motors 01786348647 Chittagong | Motorcycle Gallery 01837607010, Chittagong | DNS Motors 01926139020 Dohar | Nabil Motors 01716134507 Cox's bazar | Firoz Autos 01674742525 Sylhet | M/s Khan Auto 01711047501 Jessore | M/s Amin Enterprise 01718990962 Mymensingh | K.R. Bike Center 01720667286 Rajshahi | Bike Corner 01611313855 Bogra | Guddu Motors 01939339447 Thakurgaon | Zia Motors 01978009444 Rangpur | RS Motors 01711673537 Sirajganj | Jom Jom Motors 01919972353 Narsingdi | Samia Motors 01553377085 Comilla | Javid Motors 01712534414 Chuadanga | RINS Consortia Ltd. 01923117711 Khulna | M/s Ratul Auto 01709634345 Barisal | Raju Traders 01711421593 Dinajpur | Star Bike Point 01713610803 Feni | Shahjalal Motors 01712714420 Kishoreganj | M/s. Mamun Motors 01616302539 Tangail | M/s. Suman Enterprise 01716425313 Chapainawabgonj | Chittagong Bikers 01854737478 Chittagong | Prestige Motors 01711080993 Satkhira | Bijoy Motors 01671193599 Kushtia | M/s. New Sarder Motors 01717643131 Rajshahi | M/s. Nila Enterprise 01712498442 Natore | M/s. Haque Motors 01712144276 Naogaon | Ararat auto 01718814535 Joypurhat | Crescent Enterprise 01742612143 Shonar Akhra Dhaka | Yamaha Showroom 01700701720 Gazipur | Bashir Motors 01721221400 Pabna | M/s Prova Enterprise 01716192250 Panchagarh | M/s. Jannat Motors 01791675067, 01757472777 Faridpur | FM Motors 01741498501 Jamalpur |