Garments Sramik Front forms a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in Dhaka yesterday, demanding payment of Eid bonus at least seven days ahead of the festival and Tk 18,000 as minimum wage.

PHOTO: STAR

RMG workers' wage not sufficient for decent living

Views-exchange meeting told

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

It is possible to fix Tk 16,000 as minimum wage for garment workers if factory owners and international brands bring down the amount of profits they earn now, speakers said at a views-exchange meeting yesterday.

The current minimum wage is not sufficient at all to ensure a decent living for the workers, said Dr Khandaker Golam Moazzem, director (research wing) of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

Bangladesh Garment Sramik Sanghati organised the meeting at Jatiya Press Club to publish their research paper on "Ki Kore Bache Sramik" (the living conditions of workers) and discuss the results, according to a press release.

The research was carried out on 200 workers of six factories of the country.

A garment worker earns only Tk 8,200 through salary, bonus and other allowances, said President of the Sramik Sanghati Taslima Akhtar while disclosing the findings.

On an average, the family of a garment worker having four members has only two earners, and their incomes add up to only Tk 15,863 a month, she said.

Around 61 percent of workers say their expenditure is higher than their earning. To adjust the deficit, they have to take loans or cut spending on food and accommodation, said Taslima.

Findings also show a garment worker has to do up to 60 hours of overtime duties in a month on an average which deprives them of an adequate amount of sleep and rest.

Different labour organisations have rejected the owners' offer of Tk 6,360 as minimum wage and demanded Tk 16,000, Taslima said.

Executive Director of Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies Syed Sultan Uddin Ahmed said, "We have weakness in the bargaining capacity in the international market, and workers are being the sole victim of it."

Ganasamhati Andolon leader Firoz Ahmed also spoke, among others.

The indigenous boy who drew a logo for UN

FROM PAGE 3

But what works behind a child's mind is far from what the state thinks.

After the boy's success in the global competition which brought the country honour, fear gripped his parents. They sent their young son away from where he wanted to grow up in nature just like every other Bangalee boy.

"The artwork came out of a child's mind. I drew it with the hope of getting a world where people from every community would live in peace, but in reality, two years after the global contest, I was sent to Comilla Ispahani School and College from my village home Bhedbhedi in Rangamati for the fear of repression on indigenous communities," said Rebang, now 24.

After he entered university, Rebang was elected general secretary of Bangladesh Indigenous Students' Organisation. He hardly visits the place of his birth in fear that he might be just another victim of repression on indigenous people.

The youth said, "My parents fear that one day I may not return home like Kalpana Chakma (an indigenous rights leader) if I stay in the hills."

Kalpana, then organising secretary of the Hill Women's Federation, was abducted from her Rangamati home on June 11, 1996, never to return again.

The story of Rebang resonates with the plight of indigenous communities in Bangladesh.

On September 13, 2007, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP) was adopted at the UN General Assembly. UNDRIP is a landmark accomplishment for the member-states recognising the rights of the world's indigenous population. The declaration encourages harmonious and cooperative relations between the states and indigenous peoples.

Eleven years into the adoption of UNDRIP, Canada, which voted against the declaration, recently reversed its position, and now supports the declaration while Bangladesh is one of the 11 countries that abstained from voting and has not changed its position yet. However, different governments have promised several times to work together with the indigenous communities for the implementation of UNDRIP.

In Bangladesh, indigenous communities are facing torture and discrimination over the years due to the state's refusal to identify them as "indigenous" in the constitution, lack of recognition of their traditional land rights, denial of access to justice, and lack of proper representation in decision-making levels, said Rebang.

The recent arson attacks in Longadu, alleged extrajudicial killing of Romel Chakma, the case of Santal farmers of Sahebganj-Bagda Farm in Gaibandha, rape and harassment of two Marma sisters, and murder of fourth grader Kritika Tripura after rape are some of the vivid examples of what these minority communities live through.

There are around three million indigenous people in the plain lands and the hills in the country, according to Bangladesh Adivasi Forum.

These ethnic communities saw a ray of hope after the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord was signed in 1997, but major provisions of the agreement, involving land disputes resolution, withdrawal of temporary military camps, and devolution of power to the local bodies, are yet to be fulfilled, said the student leader.

Rebang once dreamt of becoming a painter. Now he wants to fight for indigenous people's rights to education, health, employment, and language for the rest of his life. He still believes what he believed as a child—the sun of friendship will rise one day.

Enduring hassles

FROM PAGE 3

Standing in a queue, Manowar Hossain said he had been at the station since the previous night.

"Hassle of buying Eid tickets is endless. When a crisis like server outage happens, frustration turns into anger," said Manowar, who was hoping to buy tickets to Chandpur.

Station manager Azad said the problem occurred after optical fibres were cut at three different places in the port city.

The railway authority could not reveal how and why the cables were cut.

"We contacted the service provider as soon as we identified the problem. The officials of the company went to the sites and fixed the problem," he said.

Railway officials in Chittagong said 8,831 tickets of 12 trains for August 19 were to be sold yesterday.

KILLINGS OF TWO PERSONS

Two murder cases filed in Dinajpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, *Dinajpur*

Two separate cases were filed over the killings of two people in Birganj upazila of Dinajpur on Thursday night.

Earlier in the day, a mob beat up and burned a 28-year-old man alive accusing him of killing a security guard and stabbing two others including a 5-year-old boy.

The killings took place beside Dinajpur-Panchagarh highway at Purba Jagdal village, police said.

The security guard was Suruz Ali, 40, son of Abul Kashem, and the man killed by villagers was Rabiul Islam, 28, son of Tara Mia. They were from Purba Jagdal village.

Hamidul Alam, superintendent of police in Dinajpur, said Suruz was stabbed to death while he was working near the highway early in the morning. Another security guard Shahid Hossain, 35, and his son Ekramul Haque, 5, were stabbed in Haatkhola area soon afterwards.

As the news spread, angry villagers blocked the highway at Purba Jagdal around 6:00am and burnt him to death, he said.

Suruz's sister Tara Banu filed a murder case with Birganj Police Station accusing five people, said Officer-in-Charge Shakila Parvin.

On the other hand, Atul Chandra Devnath, a member of village police, filed the other case against 300 unnamed people, she added.

It seems

FROM PAGE 3

"We would like to clearly say that BNP had no involvement in violence during the student movement. We demand arrest of those terrorists who, wearing masks and helmets, brutally attacked journalists and demonstrators in presence of police."

Fakhrul also demanded changes in the draft road transport bill in consultation with experts.

"The proposed bill will not help fulfill the students' demand for safe roads," he said.

BNP standing committee members including Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Goyeshwar Chandra Roy and Moudud Ahmed were present at the briefing.

Man arrested in capital

FROM PAGE 5

The girl later informed the incident to her father. The matter soon spread when the 10-year-old girl, who resides at the ground floor of the same building, also spoke out. She alleged that Shukkur also raped her 10 to 12 days ago. Neighbors caught Shukkur, beat him up and handed him over to police early on Wednesday. The guardian of one of the victims filed the rape case against Shukkur on Thursday, said the OC.

Contacted, Shukkur's family members said Shukkur was picked up by police, and they did not know anything about it.

"After the case was filed, we admitted both the victims to Dhaka Medical College Hospital yesterday for medical tests," Subash said.

Bangladesh plans

FROM PAGE 5

Nasrul Hamid also invited the Nepalese delegation including the Nepalese energy, water resource and irrigation affairs minister to visit Bangladesh for joining the "Power and Energy Week"-2018 which will be observed from September 6 to 8.

Meanwhile, Nasrul made a courtesy call on Nepalese Prime Minister Khadga Prasad Oli at his office in Kathmandu.

Bangladesh Ambassador in Nepal Mashfi Binte Shams, Joint Secretary of the Power Division Fayezul Amin, among others, were present.

Journalists demand justice for attacks on colleagues

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Over 100 journalists from different news organisations yesterday formed a human chain in front of Bangladesh National Museum in Dhaka demanding exemplary punishment of goons who attacked on-duty journalists covering the student protest for safe roads.

The human chain condemned the attacks allegedly by ruling party men and the silent role of law enforcers.

Journalists said law enforcers are arresting student protesters who demanded safe roads while not doing anything about those who carried out brutal attacks on students and journalists.

School and college students began demonstrations demanding concrete government steps to improve road safety following the deaths of two of their peers in a city road crash on July 29.

Journalists were brutally attacked and harassed while covering the movement. Reporters and photographers were barred from taking photos or recording videos by thugs in front of law enforcers. Reporters of different private TV channels were also threatened.

Internationally recognised photographer Shahidul Alam was arrested after posting Facebook videos about the student protests in Bangladesh and giving an interview to Al Jazeera.

A group of journalists, including reporters and photojournalists, take part in a human chain in front of Bangladesh National Museum yesterday, demanding prompt arrest of those who attacked journalists during the recent students' demonstration.

PHOTO: STAR

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Royal Thai Restaurant situated in Banani Road 11, Dhaka requires highly motivated and experienced person for the following position:
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REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS (RFQ) - Shelter Repair Kit

(Tender Notice)

As per agreement with Danish Red Cross (DRC) the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society (BDRCS) requests to submit best firm offer for the following **Shelter items** for 2,250 families to distribute among displaced people of Myanmar in Cox's Bazar supported by Partner National Society (DRC)

SL No.	Item	Quantity	SL No.	Item	Quantity
1.	Rope (1kg, 6mm Dia)	2,250 kg	4.	Bamboo Borak	9,000 pcs
2.	Tarpaulin	2,250 pcs	5.	Bamboo Muli	135,000 pcs
3.	Plastic Floor Mat	4,500 pcs	6.	Packaging/Packet	2,250 pcs

Detailed information of "Request for Quotations (RFQ)" will be available at the Danish Red Cross Office located at BDRCS NHQ, Dhaka and BDRCS PMO Office at Kalatoli Road, Cox's Bazar during office time **(9:00 am to 5:00 pm) latest by 16 August, 2018** by non-refundable fee Tk. **1000/-** through application of your letter pad. Please contact Mr. Timothy Milon Halder, Admin/Logistic Manager, Cell # +880 172 65 11 574 for more information.

Quotations will be received at the DRC Office at the BDRCS NHQ, Dhaka during office time latest by **19 August, 2018 at 3:00 pm** and quotation must be accompanied by all the information/documents as per RFQ. **Quotations will be opened at 3:15 pm on 19 August,2018 at the conference room of BDRCS NHQ in presence of bidders, if any.**

The bidder(s) will have to deposit 2.5% of quoted value of the consignment as **Earnest Money** (refundable) in the form of a Demand **Draft or Pay Order** from the schedule bank in favour of **'Bangladesh Red Crescent Society'** at the time of submission of bids. This procurement will be done as Partner (DRC) procurement procedure.

The BDRCS' Partner National Society reserves the right to accept or reject any or all quotations or split the order without assigning any reason whatsoever and will not be bound to accept the lowest bid.

Md. Feroz Salah Uddin
Secretary General

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প্লট বিক্রয়

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পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ)
পিকেএসএফ ভবন, প্লট ই-৪/বি, আগারগাঁও প্রশাসনিক এলাকা, শেরে বাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭
ফোনঃ ৮৮০-০২-৯১২৬২৪০ ফ্যাক্সঃ ৮৮০-০২-৯১২৬২৪৪ Website: http://pksf-bd.org

প্রশিক্ষণ পরিচালনার জন্যে আগ্রহ ব্যক্তকরণ প্রস্তাবনা (Expression of Interest) আহবান

পল্লী কর্ম-সহায়ক ফাউন্ডেশন (পিকেএসএফ) কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টির মাধ্যমে দারিদ্র্য দূরীকরণে কাজ করার লক্ষ্যে গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার কর্তৃক ১৯৯০ সালে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হয়, যা বিভিন্ন ধরণের আর্থ-সামাজিক কার্যক্রম পরিচালনায় নিয়োজিত দেশের শীর্ষস্থানীয় একটি প্রতিষ্ঠান। গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার, এশীয় উন্নয়ন ব্যাংক এবং **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)**-এর যৌথ অর্থায়নে পিকেএসএফ ২০১৫ খ্রিস্টাব্দ থেকে **Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP)** শীর্ষক একটি দক্ষতা উন্নয়নমূলক প্রকল্প বাস্তবায়ন করছে। অর্থ মন্ত্রণালয়ের অর্থ বিভাগের সার্বিক তত্ত্বাবধানে এবং **Skills Development Coordination and Monitoring Unit (SDCMU)**-এর তত্ত্বাবধানে বিভিন্ন নির্ধারিত সংস্থা প্রকল্পটি বাস্তবায়ন করছে যার মধ্যে পিকেএসএফ অন্যতম বাস্তবায়নকারী সংস্থা।

প্রকল্পটির আওতায় দ্বিতীয় মেয়াদে পিকেএসএফ কর্তৃক দেশের ৮টি বিভাগের বিভিন্ন জেলার নিম্ন আয়ের পরিবারভূক্ত সক্ষম ও কর্মক্ষম তরুণদের ৩ মাস ও ৪ মাস মেয়াদী সম্পূর্ণ আবাসিক কর্মভিত্তিক প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানের উদ্যোগ নেয়া হয়েছে। এ প্রকল্পের প্রধান উদ্দেশ্য হচ্ছে দক্ষতা উন্নয়ন প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানের মাধ্যমে বাজার চাহিদার সাথে সঙ্গতি রেখে জনসম্পদ তৈরি করা এবং প্রশিক্ষণ শেষে আরও উৎপাদনশীল মজুরীভিত্তিক কর্মসংস্থান এবং আত্ম-কর্মসংস্থানের ব্যবস্থা নিশ্চিত করে প্রশিক্ষণার্থীদের আর্থিক সক্ষমতা বৃদ্ধির মাধ্যমে পরিবার ও ব্যক্তির মানব মর্যাদা প্রতিষ্ঠা করা যাতে তারা টেকসইভাবে নিজ জীবনমান উন্নয়ন করতে সক্ষম হয়। এই লক্ষ্য পূরণে **SEIP** প্রকল্প হতে প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্তদের প্রশিক্ষণ প্রদানকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানের মাধ্যমে অন্তত ৬০%-এর দেশে-বিদেশে মজুরীভিত্তিক ও আত্ম-কর্মসংস্থান নিশ্চিত করা হবে। উক্ত প্রকল্পটির আওতায় দ্বিতীয় মেয়াদে ২০১৮ খ্রিস্টাব্দ হতে ২০২০ খ্রিস্টাব্দ সময়কালে কারিগরি ও বৃত্তিমূলক বিভিন্ন ট্রেড/কোর্সে প্রশিক্ষণ পরিচালনার লক্ষ্যে দক্ষ ও অভিজ্ঞতা সম্পন্ন প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট থেকে আগ্রহ ব্যক্তকরণ প্রস্তাবনা **(Expression of Interest)** আহবান করা যাচ্ছে।

বিস্তারিত তথ্য পিকেএসএফ-এর কার্যালয়ে অথবা ওয়েবসাইটে **(http://pksf-bd.org)** পাওয়া যাবে। আগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে আগামী ০৫ সেপ্টেম্বর, ২০১৮ তারিখের মধ্যে প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যসহ আগ্রহ ব্যক্তকরণ প্রস্তাবনা **(Expression of Interest)** নিম্নস্বাক্ষরকারী বরাবর প্রেরণ করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা হলো। নির্ধারিত সময়ের পর প্রাপ্ত এবং অসম্পূর্ণ প্রস্তাবনা বাতিল বলে গণ্য হবে। পিকেএসএফ প্রতিটি ট্রেড/কোর্সের প্রস্তাবনা পৃথকভাবে/সম্মিলিতভাবে মূল্যায়ন করবে। প্রাথমিকভাবে বাছাইকৃত প্রতিষ্ঠানসমূহের সাথে পরবর্তীতে যোগাযোগ করা হবে। প্রশিক্ষণ পরিচালনাকারী প্রতিষ্ঠান নির্বাচনের ক্ষেত্রে পিকেএসএফ-এর সিদ্ধান্তই চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে।

উপ-ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক (প্রশাসন)