



Tajjul Islam (C) celebrates with Afif Hossain (L) and Mehedy Hasan Miraz after taking one of his five wickets during Bangladesh's third ODI against the West Indies at the Guyana National Stadium in Providence on Saturday. The left-arm spinner's efforts helped bundle the hosts out for 178. Bangladesh chased down the target with four wickets in hand and nine balls to spare to clinch the series 3-0. PHOTO: AFP

Malaysia starts process of hiring workers

Bangladeshi labourers can leave as early as the end of this month

PORIMOL PALMA

Malaysia has started the process of hiring workers from Bangladesh without settling the controversy surrounding the syndicate of 25 agencies chosen to conduct the recruitment.

"Yes, the process has started -- I think the workers can start flying from the end of this month," Imran Ahmad, the expatriates' welfare and overseas employment minister, told The Daily Star yesterday.

The recruitment cost per worker has been fixed at Tk 79,990, he said, without giving a breakdown.

The development comes after the Malaysian human resources ministry in a statement on July

14 said the attestation process involving more than 2,000 Bangladeshi workers has been completed by the Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur and the process was expected to pick up in the coming weeks.

The employers who had paid the levy and plan to hire Bangladeshi workers could now submit their applications for confirmation of employment and work visa documentation to the Bangladesh High Commission in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian news agency Bernama reported.

“However, the entry of Bangladeshi workers is subject to safety and health screening, including compliance with the

requirements of the Immigration Department," the statement added.

Department, the statement added. Dhaka and Kuala Lumpur signed a memorandum of understanding on labour recruitment on December 19 last year after a pause of more than three years following allegations of a ten-member syndicate that manipulated recruitment during 2017-18.

The Malaysian government halted recruitment in September 2018 because the high cost of recruitment was causing forced labour and human trafficking.

Workers during that time were charged up to Tk 4 lakh each to go to Malaysia for jobs. As per the then MoU, the recruitment cost initially

Man kills wife, children, turns himself in

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Benapole

A man, who turned himself in to police after murdering his wife and children, was sent to jail through a Jashore court yesterday.

The accused Zahirul Islam Babu, 40, son of Mashiar Rahman Biswas, went to Abhaynagar Police Station after killing his wife Sabina Yasmin Bithi, 28, and his daughters nine-year-old Sumaiya Khatun, 9, and two-year-old Safia, on Friday night.

Police then recovered the three bodies from



Zahirul

Crisis-hit Lanka moves to elect new president

AGENCIES

The Sri Lankan parliament yesterday met to begin choosing a new leader to serve the rest of the current term after the president fled abroad and resigned following mass protests over the country's economic collapse.

Parliament Speaker Mahinda Yapa Abeywardena promised a swift and transparent political process that should be completed within a week.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn in on Friday as interim president until parliament elects a successor to Gotabaya Rajapaksa, whose term ends in 2024.

Protesters in the crisis-hit island nation, however, insist the six-time prime minister too should step aside. The new president could appoint a legislator to replace Wickremesinghe.

Nominations for the presidential post will be heard on Tuesday, the parliament's secretary general Dhammika Dasanayake said during a brief session. If there is more than one candidate for the president, the legislators will vote on Wednesday.

Rajapaksa, 73, fled to the Maldives and then to Singapore this week to escape a popular uprising against his government.

During the proceedings, Dasanayake also formally read out Rajapaksa's resignation letter, the contents of which have not previously been made public.

In his letter, Rajapaksa said Sri Lanka's financial crisis was rooted in years of economic mismanagement that predated his presidency, along with the COVID-19 pandemic that drastically reduced Sri Lanka's tourist arrivals and remittances from foreign workers.

"It is my personal belief that I took all possible steps to address this crisis, including inviting parliamentarians to form an all-party or unity government," the letter said.

The protesters accuse Rajapaksa and his powerful political family of siphoning money from government coffers and of hastening the country's collapse by mismanaging the economy.

The family has denied the corruption allegations, but Rajapaksa acknowledged some of his policies contributed to Sri Lanka's meltdown.

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Saturday with
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