

Workplace casualties on the rise: report

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The number of casualties in workplaces increased in 2022 in comparison to the previous year, mainly due to lack of safety in the workplace, said a report.

The highest casualties were in the transport sector, it added.

Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (OSHE) revealed the data at a press conference held at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital yesterday.

Md Alam Hossen, director of OSHE, read out the research paper at the event.

He said, overall 1,195 casualties took place in 2022 with 967 deaths and 228 injuries in various sectors across the country.

According to the data, the casualties were 1,089 last year.

Hossen said country's transport sector has seen most deaths this year surpassing other sectors.

The number of casualties in this sector is 476. Among them, 425 workers died in 2022.

He said the casualties in transport sector accounts to 40 percent of total occupational casualties.

The second highest casualties were in the service sector, which ranges from utility services to workshops, restaurants

and hotels.

At least 221 people were killed and 59 injured in this sector this year, the data showed.

The agricultural sector was third in the list where 124 workers died followed by the construction sector, which ranked fourth, where 105 workers died.

The garment sector has seen 28 deaths in 2022, the lowest workers' death.

SECTORS	NUMBER OF DEATHS
Transport	425
Service	221
Agriculture	120
Construction	105
RMG	28

SOURCE: OSHE

The report was based on news reports and information gathered from the spots of the incidents.

According to Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation, laxity in ensuring workers' safety, lack of safety equipment and proper training were the major reasons behind the rising deaths of workers this year.



PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

FLIRTING WITH DANGER... Despite the rail gate being down, a biker and few pedestrians moved passed it only to stop just a few inches before a moving train. Protected or unprotected, accidents at level crossings continue to claim lives in the country where illegal movement of pedestrians and negligence of drivers are also to blame. This photo was taken from the capital's Khilgaon level crossing yesterday.

Utilise your expertise for country's progress

Foreign minister tells non-resident Bangladeshis at event marking 6th NRB Day

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday urged non-resident Bangladeshis (NRBs) to explore different avenues in Bangladesh to utilise their expertise for the country's progress.

"This will bring fortune to the country," he said, adding that non-resident Indians are making significant contribution for their country's progress.

The minister said this while addressing a programme celebrating "6th NRB Day", jointly organised by Center for NRB Foundation and Scholars Bangladesh Foundation at a city hotel.

Momen said the government has created various opportunities for Bangladeshi expatriates,



Guests at the event marking NRB Day yesterday. At the programme, five individuals and two institutions were given "NRB Day Award-2022" in different categories for their contributions to the country's development.

PHOTO: STAR

which many of them are not aware of.

Once they learn about the opportunities, they will be able to decide which one is appropriate for them, he added.

He hoped Bangladeshi expatriates will join the countrymen to march forward on the "grand avenue of development", commenced by the government.

In past 14 years, the country not only achieved one of the highest GDPs in the world but also bettered in different socio-economic indicators compared to neighbouring countries, said the foreign minister.

This was possible because of "targeted approach" and especially due to courage, sincerity and willingness of

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DU bus on wrong side kills man

Case filed, driver detained

DU CORRESPONDENT

A man died after being hit by a double-decker bus of Dhaka University on Thursday night. The bus was plying on the wrong side of the road.

The incident happened on the road in front of the Prime Minister's Office at Bijoy Sarani around 5:30pm when the "Khonika" bus of the Tongi-Gazipur route transporting DU students was on its way to Gazipur from the campus.

The deceased was identified as Al Amin Tutul. He worked in a private company located in Awlad Hossain Market at Bijoy Sarani.

Habibur Rahman, duty officer of Tejgaon Police Station, told The Daily Star that critically injured Tutul was taken to a private hospital in Malibagh, where he succumbed to injuries.

The victim's family has filed a case in connection with the incident, the officer informed.

The driver of the bus, Bazlur Rahman, was detained by Tejgaon police, he added.

"Yesterday, I boarded the bus around 4:30pm... and it took about 50 minutes to reach Farmgate due to gridlock... Suddenly, I heard a noise and came to know that a man got hit by the bus," DU student Imdadul Azad told this correspondent.

"The students then asked the driver to stop but he did not. Students managed to stop the vehicle in front of the PMO. Some of them then took the

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Dengue death toll **281**

Total number of patients **62,335**

349 still undergoing treatment

Number of recovered patients **61,705**

14 more hospitalised yesterday

SOURCE: DGHS

PRAYER TIMING

DECEMBER 31

Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrib	Esha
AZAN 5:30	12:45	4:00	5:27	7:00
JAMAT 6:05	1:15	4:15	5:30	7:30

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION



A local influential quarter has occupied this land, donated to a government college in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila, and build an office of the ruling Awami League.

PHOTO: STAR

ADITMARI GOVT COLLEGE LAND IN LALMONIRHAT

Donated for students' dorm, now an AL office

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

An influential quarter having ruling party clout has illegally constructed their party office and other structures after occupying land donated to a government college in Lalmonirhat's Aditmari upazila.

In 1999, farmer Dinesh Chandra Barman donated 18 decimals of land to Aditmari Government College to build a students' dormitory in the name of his father late Girish Chandra Barman.

Surprisingly, although a party office of the upazila Awami League (AL) and some other establishments have been built on the donated land, the college authorities yet to take any action to recover the land, worth around Tk 2 crore, in Bhadaï area of the upazila town.

Dinesh Chandra of Chandanpat village under Kamalbari union donated the land according to the consent of his father, who died in 2000.

"Although an office of the

ruling Awami League was built on the donated land, the college authorities didn't take any initiative to construct the dormitory there in all these years," Dinesh said.

Azizar Rahman, principal of Aditmari Government College, said despite repeated pleas they have failed to recover the land.

He also urged the authorities concerned to take immediate action to free the land from illegal occupation.

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Sheikh Hasina mourns death of Narendra Modi's mother

OUR CORRESPONDENT, New Delhi

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday condoled the death of Heeraben, mother of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

In a letter to Modi, Hasina said "Smt Heeraben was a proud mother. We have seen how instrumental her role was in every aspect of her life as a mother, motivator and mentor."

"Your most beloved relations with your mother and profound respect for her are exemplary to all in emulating generation after generation," the letter added.

"At this time of bereavement, our thoughts are with you and your family and friends and all those who have been touched by her glorious life and blessings," Hasina's letter said.



"With a heavy heart, I, on behalf of the people of Bangladesh and myself, express my deepest condolences on the sad demise of your beloved mother," the PM added in the letter to Modi.

The Indian PM's mother passed away at a hospital in Ahmedabad city of Gujarat state at the age of 99 yesterday, two days after she was admitted there.

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Application Deadline: 11 January 2023
Admission Test: 14 January 2023

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

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Application Deadline: 13 January 2023
MBA Admission Test: 14 January 2023

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