



Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

# Report

on **Labour Market**

**Situation**

**Singapore 2015**





Report  
on **Singapore**  
Labour Market  
**Bangladesh**  
Aspect

Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment (MEW&OE)  
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# Singapore



## Employment Opportunity in Singapore

## Table of content

### Table of content

Introduction 05

Country Profile 06

Map 08

Labour Migration From Bangladesh 10

Labour Wing Set up 14

Opportunities 20

Labour migration diplomacy/visit 21

# Introduction

The Republic of Singapore is a global city and sovereign state in Southeast Asia and the world's only island-city-state. It gained independence from Britain in 1963, by uniting with other former British territories to form Malaysia, but was expelled two years later over ideological differences. After early years of turbulence, and despite lacking natural resources and a hinterland, the nation developed rapidly as an Asian Tiger economy, based on external trade and its human capital.

Singapore is a global commerce, finance and transport hub. Its standings include: "easiest place to do business" (World Bank) for ten consecutive years, most "technology-ready" nation (WEF), top International-meetings city (UIA), city with "best investment potential" (BERI), 2nd-most competitive country (WEF), 3rd-largest foreign exchange center, 3rd-largest financial centre, 3rd-largest oil refining and trading centre and one of the top two busiest container ports since the 1990s. Singapore's best known global brands include Singapore Airlines and Changi Airport, both amongst the most-awarded in their industry; SIA is also rated by Fortune surveys as Asia's "most admired company". For the past decade, it has been the only Asian country with the top AAA sovereign rating from all major credit rating agencies, including S&P, Moody's and Fitch. Singapore is a safe land for migrants workers. About 1.4 m foreign workers have been working in Singapore, among them 160 Thousand are Bangladeshi.

## Country Profile

<b>Capital</b>	Singapore (city-state)
<b>Largest PA</b>	Bedok <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Official languages</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li><li>• Malay</li><li>• Mandarin</li><li>• Tamil</li></ul>
<b>Official scripts</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Roman (Latin)</li><li>• Simplified Chinese</li><li>• Tamil</li></ul>
<b>Ethnic groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 74.1% Chinese</li><li>• 13.4% Malay</li><li>• 9.2% Indian</li><li>• 3.3% others</li></ul>
<b>Demonym</b>	Singaporean
<b>Government</b>	Unitaryparliamentary republic <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• President <b>Tony Tan</b></li><li>• Prime Minister <b>Lee HsienLoong</b></li><li>• Speaker of Parliament <b>HalimahYacob</b></li><li>• Chief Justice <b>SundareshMenon</b></li></ul>

## Legislature Formation

Parliament	
• Temasek	<b>c. 14th century<sup>[2]</sup></b>
• Kingdom of Singapura	<b>1299<sup>[3][4][5]</sup></b>
• British colonisation	<b>6 February 1819<sup>[6]</sup></b>
• Self-government	<b>3 June 1959<sup>[7]</sup></b>
• Independence from United Kingdom	<b>31 August 1963<sup>[8]</sup></b>
• Merger with Malaysia	<b>16 September 1963<sup>[8]</sup></b>
• Expulsion from Malaysia	<b>9 August 1965<sup>[8]</sup></b>

## Area

• Total 719.1 km <sup>2[9]</sup> (190th)	<b>278 sq mi</b>
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## Population

• 2015 <sup>[9]</sup> estimate 5,535,000 (113th)
• Density 7,697/km <sup>2</sup> (3rd) 19,910/sq mi

## GDP (PPP)

2014 <sup>[10]</sup> estimate
• Total \$452.686 billion
• Per capita \$82,762 (3rd)

## GDP (nominal)

2014 <sup>[10]</sup> estimate
• Total \$308.051 billion (36th)
▲ Per capita \$56,319

Gini (2014)

▲ 46.4<sup>[11]</sup> high • 30th

HDI (2014)

0.912<sup>[12]</sup> very high • 11th

Currency

Singapore dollar (SGD)

Time zone

SST (UTC+8)

Date format

dd/mm/yyyy

Drives on the

left

Calling code

+65

ISO 3166 code

SG

Internet TLD

.sg



# Singapore Map





# Labour Migration From Bangladesh

Labour Migration From Bangladesh



Labour Migration  
From Bangladesh **55,523**



# Labour Migration From Bangladesh



Year	No. of Migrants worker
2004	6945
2005	9581
2006	20139
2007	38324
2008	56581
2009	39581
2010	39053
2011	48667
2012	58657
2013	60057
2014	54750
2015	55523

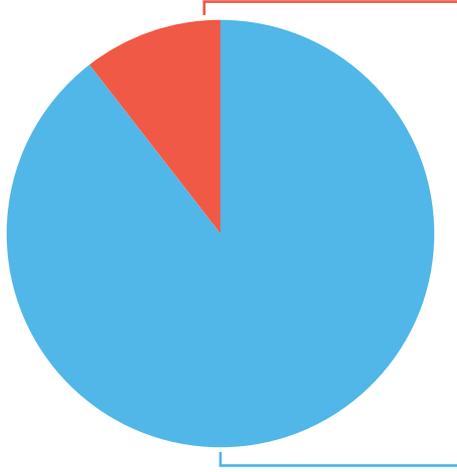
Year	Amount (Crore)
2004	21286.52
2005	27304.34
2006	38366.56
2007	45337.35
2008	61587.83
2009	73981.46
2010	76639.97
2011	90240.85
2012	115816.93
2013	108066.93
2014	115969.62
2015	USD 373.73 m.



## Remittance sent by Bangladesh Migrants Workers

upto November 2015.

- Migrants workers in **Singapore**
- **Bangladeshi** Migrants workers



**Bangladeshi**  
Migrants workers

Migrants workers  
in **Singapore**



# Employment Opportunity in Singapore;

Construction and Ship building are the main source of job opportunity for the migrants workers in Singapore. Besides these the following sectors also consider as good opportunity for migrants workers in future;

- Whole sale trade sector
- Food and beverage services sector
- Professional services sector
- Transportation and storage sector
- Fabricated metal products sector
- Machinery and equipment sector
- Petroleum, chemical and pharmaceutical products sector
- Administrative and support services sector
- Electronic and computer products sector



The following job sectors are operated and directed by Ministry of Manpower (MoM), Singapore;

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Manufacturing   | Skilled/Unskilled |
| 2. Construction    | Skilled           |
| 3. Marine          | Skilled/unskilled |
| 4. Process         | Skilled/unskilled |
| 5. Service         | skilled/unskilled |
| 6. Domestic worker | concessionary     |

# Labour Wing Activities;

## 1. Meeting/discussion held with various recruiting agents, employer;

Particulars of the person met	Organization	Issues Discussed	Outcome
Chan MuiSim	Association of Employment agencies (Singapore)	Assuring and enhancing to bring Bangladeshi workers minimize the migration cost, safety issue and other problems of the workers in Bangladesh specially for Construction and Shipyard sector	Assuring to be reliable partner to bring Bangladeshi workers to Singapore and the agency will consider all the matter related to Bangladeshi migrants workers in future.
Puli S saravanan	Envoy Internation LLP	Discuss about enhancing the house maid from Bangladesh.	Assuring us ato help in this regard and consider the matter of possibility for the skilled house maid from Bangladeshi and the wanted to visit the Training Center in Bangladesh for the domestic workers.
Vincent Choo	Operations executive, SCAL Resources Pte. Ltd.	Assuring and enhancing to bring Bangladeshi workers minimize the migration cost, safety issue and other problems of the workers in Bangladesh	Assuring to be reliable partner to bring Bangladeshi workers to Singapore and the agency will consider all the matter in future.
James HenrichGoh	General Manager (Changi Lodge-2)	Discuss about enhancing and upgrading the total number of foreign workers especially the Bangladeshi worker and also discuss about the potentiality of Bangladeshi workers in Singapore	Assuring us to help in this regard and consider the matter of possibility for domestic workers.

## 2. Participation in relevant conferences/seminar etc.

Details of the Seminar/ Conference	Topic/Issues discussed	Outcome/Comments made
Association of Singapore manpower agencies program.	Welfare, right and migration cost	To protect and ensure reliable atmosphere for the foreign workers and also help them to develop as skill workers in Singapore as well as uphold their rights, welfare and way out to reduce the migration cost.
Regional consultation and labour rights for women migrants workers	Labour rights and irregular migration issues of migrants	Raising awareness and proposing some regarding the topic.
Association of Singapore manpower agencies program	Welfare, right and migration cost	To protect and ensure reliable atmosphere for the foreign workers and also help them to develop as skill workers in Singapore as well as uphold their rights, welfare and way out to reduce the migration cost.
Regional Consultation and Labour rights of women migrants workers	Labour rights and irregular migration issues of migrants	Raising awareness and proposing some recommendations to solve the problems regarding the topic



### 3. Visits:

#### 3.1. Company Visit:

Name and Address of the company	Outcome
Director Citiwall Engineering Pte. Ltd. 34 Kaki Bukit Crescent # 04-00, Singapore 416263	Satisfactory
Director Main_Kleen Pte Ltd. 18 Kaki Bukit Road 3 # 04-19, Singapore 415978	Satisfactory
AKHH Air-Conditioning & Construction Pte. Ltd. 89 Short street # 05-10	Satisfactory
WEID Engineering Pte. Ltd. 190 Moddle Road, # 19-05 Fortune center, 188979	Satisfactory

#### 3.2. Residence/Dormitory Visit:

Name and Address of the company	Outcome
Westlite Dormitory (Toh Guan) Pte. Ltd. 28 Toh Guan Road East # 02-01, Singapore 608596	Outreach Awareness Program
Cochrane Lodge 2 49 Admiralty Road West, Singapore 757444	Outreach Awareness Program
Jurong Penjuru Dormitory 1 58 Penjuru Place, Singapore 608562	Outreach Awareness Program
Homestay Residences 39 Kaki Bukit avenue 3, Singapore 415920	Outreach Awareness Program

#### 3.3 Jail Visit;

Name and Address of the company	No. of Bangladesh worker in the jail	Month
Changi Prison Complex Cluster B2 984 Upper Changi Road North, Singapore 969	92	February
Admiralty West Prison, 21 Admiralty road west, Singapore 757698		
Changi Prison Complex Cluster B2 984 Upper Changi Road North Singapore 506969	76	May
Admiralty West Prison, 21 Admiralty road west, Singapore 757698		

#### 4. Assistancess provided to the Migrant workers and Bangladeshi Community;

##### 4.1. Legal Assistancess provided to the community members;

Legal Issues	Name of the Person	Assistance provided
Community members are very good enough to solve their personal problems in Singapore.	N/A	N/A

#### 5. Liaison with the expatriates association abroad

No. of meeting held	Outcome
14 (February)	Job market in Singapore explore for Bangladeshi workers and Singapore become the second most popular destination to Bangladeshi workers as well.
11 (May)	Job market in Singapore explore for Bangladeshi workers and Singapore become the second most popular destination to Bangladeshi workers as well

#### 6. Labour Market Promotional activities;

##### 6.1. Opportunities identified and materialized in the potential employment sectors;

Category	Expected number	Action taken
Construction sectors Shipyards sectors Domestic workers Medical nurses/care givers	Significant number of Bangladeshi workers will come to Singapore	Visit companies and employment agencies and remain mutual relationship with Ministry of Manpower in Singapore and manpower related organizations.

##### 6.2 Market assessment activities;

Activity	Outcome	Remarks
Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory

### 6.3 Initiatives of enhance employment for Bangladeshi workers:

Type	Outcome	Remarks
Regular meeting and contact with MOM and other labour related organizations in Singapore	Satisfactory	Singapore has been maintained a quota system for receiving workers from various receiving countries. We are trying to enhance the quota for Bangladeshi workers and every month we have two meeting with different high officials of Ministry of Manpower regarding the issue and other issues as well.

## 7. Service, Salary and work place related activities;

### 7.1 Various problems solved

Types of the problem	Number of Problem
Joblessness, non-payment, low payment of salary, conflict with employers, agencies and early repatriation	14

### 7.2 Arbitration & Disputes issues between the workers and the employers

Type	Quantity	No. of resolved cases	Month
Work injury compensation, Non payment salary, early repatriation	16	09	February
Work injury compensation, Non payment salary, early repatriation	14	08	May

### 7.2 Arbitration & Disputes issues between the workers and the employers

Category	Number	Present status	Remarks
Industrial Death cases		Compensation cases are pending on MOM, WEWB and under investigation by Singapore police	All cases are maintained by local law

## 8. Publicity and action made to remit FC through official channels;

Type	No.	Outcome
Money Exchange House (Govt. Approved)	05	Satisfactory

## 9. Work plan for the next 6 months; (to be provided in January and July only)

Plan	Expected result
1. Every month a bilateral meeting with Ministry of Manpower /Building and Construction Authority (BCA) and Ministry of National Development.	Labour Counsel office are hopeful that after doing the activities the total number of migrated workers will be increased rapidly and ensured the welfare of the workers.
2. Every month visit two companies and justify their work environment and opportunity to recruit our workers.	
3. Every month visit different migration related NGO's / Foreign organization and agencies to discuss about the possibility welfare of recruiting Bangladeshi workers.	
4. Labour office have been tried to ensure that Bangladeshi workers can get MRP passport in November 2015.	
5. Making more awareness to the workers to send remittance through proper channel and to become a proud citizen of the country.	



## Steps & Opportunities to increase Bangladeshi Migrants workers;

Labour wing of Bangladesh mission in Singapore has been trying to keep in touch with Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Singapore. Singapore authority also have good interest to recruit more Bangladeshi workers. It seems that, various company of construction and shipyard sector have keen interest on Bangladeshi workers. Singapore government has taken long term and short term various development projects. Bangladeshi workers also involved directly or indirectly with these development works. There is a good demand of Bangladeshi workers to built infra-structural development in Singapore. Labour wing of Bangladesh mission in Singapore is giving effort and keep in touch with Ministry of Manpower (MOM) Singapore, Building and Construction Authority (BCA), Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA), Bangladesh community in Singapore, NGO's and other socio & cultural organizations in Singapore, recruiting agencies in Singapore and companies to increase the volume of Bangladeshi migrants workers in Singapore. Shipyard and construction are the main sectors in Singapore

Steps & Opportunities  
to increase  
Bangladeshi Migrants workers;



# Labour migration diplomacy/Visit

## High Level Visit:

Bangladesh and Singapore enjoy friendly relations. Although bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Singapore have strengthened through visits and initiatives at mostly official levels, there had been no exchange of high level visits since H.E. GohChok Tong, the then Prime Minister of Singapore paid an official visit to Bangladesh in June 2004 and the then Prime Minister of Bangladesh visited Singapore in March 2005.

## VIP visits from Bangladesh to Singapore and from Singapore to Bangladesh in 2014

### Bangladesh to Singapore

H.E. Mr. Gowher Rizvi, Hon'ble Adviser for International Affairs visited Singapore to attend the Asia Security Summit (Shangri-La-Dialogue) in the year 2014.

- Hon'ble Adviser met 2nd Minister of Defence of Singapore and discussed with him the issues of mutual interests like Climate Change, Human Security and Disaster Reduction in Asia Pacific.

Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs Mr. Md. ShahriarAlam, MP attended the Asia Security Summit in 2014.

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare Mr. Mohammad Nasim, MP paid an official visit to Singapore from 3 - 10 July 2014. He met Singapore Health Minister Mr. Gan Kim Yong for enhancing cooperation in the field of training the Bangladeshi doctors and nurses in Singapore

H.E. Mr. GowherRizvi, Hon'ble Adviser for International Affairs visited Singapore on 04 September 2014 for attending the 2nd Investment Summit on Bangladesh, held in Singapore.

Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid paid an official visit to Singapore from 03 - 04 October 2014 and a MOU was signed between the Nanyang Polytechnic International, Singapore and Directorate of Technical Education of Bangladesh. Under the MOU, Singapore will offer 22 training programmes for 420 selected participants from Bangladesh's Technical Institutions.

### Singapore to Bangladesh

H.E. Masagos Zulkifli, Hon'ble Senior Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Home Affairs of Singapore visited Bangladesh from 12 - 17 October 2014. He led a business delegation to Bangladesh. During the visit, he called on the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Housing and Public Works Minister and Hon'ble Minister of Commerce.

Bangladesh to Singapore	Singapore to Bangladesh
<p>Dr. Dipu Moni, MP, Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, visited Singapore on 16 October 2014 for attending the Asian Women Parliamentarian Conference (AWPC).</p>	
<p>Hon'ble Health and Family Welfare Minister Mohammed Nasim visited Singapore to attend the Ministerial Meeting on Universal Health Coverage-The Post 2015 Challenge held in Singapore from 10-11 February 2015.</p>	
<p>Hon'ble Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP visited Singapore on 27 March 2015 to attend the 'Lying in State' ceremony after the death of Lee Kuan Yew, the first Prime Minister of Singapore.</p>	
<p>Engineer Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, M.P, Minister, Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare &amp; Overseas Employment paid an official visit to Singapore from 29 March to 01 April 2015 and met Dr. Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State of the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Manpower, Singapore.</p>	
<p>Hon'ble State Minister for Power Mr. Nasrul Hamid visited Singapore from 14-16 April 2015 to attend Asia Singapore Infrastructure Roundtable. During his visit, a MoU was signed between Bangladesh and Singapore on the cooperation in the development of 700MW coal based power plant in Matarbari, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh.</p>	
<p>Md. Abdul Hamid, Hon'ble President of Bangladesh visited Singapore in November 2014 and May 2015 for medical treatment.</p>	
<p>Hon'ble Commerce Minister Tofael Ahmed, Hon'ble Adviser of Hon'ble Prime Minister on International Affairs GowherRizvi and Foreign Secretary Md. ShahidulHaque visited Singapore on 27 August 2015 to attend the Bangladesh Trade and Investment Summit 2015 which was jointly organized by Bangladesh High Commission, Singapore and Midas Touch Asia Institute, Singapore.</p>	
<p>Foreign Secretary Md. Shahidul Haque accompanied by a 5-member delegation visited Singapore on 27 October 2015 to attend the 2nd FOC held in Singapore on 28 October 2015</p>	
<p>Md. Abdul Hamid, Hon'ble President of Bangladesh visited Singapore from 01-05 December 2015 for medical treatment.</p>	

## Bangladesh to Singapore

## Singapore to Bangladesh

Hon'ble State Minister for Telecommunications, Ms Tarana Halim made an official visit to Singapore from 13-16 January 2016. During the visit, she called on the Minister for Communications and Information H.E Mr. Yaacob Ibrahim and had meetings with officials of Google and Microsoft.

Hon'ble Foreign Minister, H.E. Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali, MP visited Singapore from 24-28 January 2016. During his visit, he had a meeting with his counterpart on 27 January 2016 to discuss issues of mutual interest in the wake of deportation of 27 alleged Bangladeshi terrorists to Bangladesh.

H.E. Rashed Khan Menon, MP-Hon'ble Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism visited Singapore from 13-18 February 2016 to attend Singapore Air Show 2016.

H.E. Nurul Islam Nahid, Hon'ble Minister for Education visited Singapore from 14-17 February 2016. During his visit, an Agreement was signed between the Nanyang Polytechnic International, Singapore and Directorate of Technical Education of Bangladesh. Under the Agreement, Singapore will train 1150 selected participants from Bangladesh's Technical Institutions for the period from February 2016- June 2019.

H.E. Khondokar Moshaharraf Hossain, Hon'ble Minister for LGRD visited Singapore from 17-19 February 2016. During his visit, Hon'ble Minister met Minister for Environment and Water Resources of Singapore H.E Mr. MasagosZulkifli to discuss issues of mutual interests.

Hon'ble Minister for Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment Mr. Nurul Islam, Bsc visited Singapore from 24-28 February 2016. During his visit, Hon'ble Minister met his counterpart Minister of Manpower of Singapore H.E. Lim Swee Say and discussed recruitment of more Bangladeshi skilled and unskilled workers from Bangladesh and other labour related issues.

H.E. Shajahan Khan, Hon'ble Minister for Shipping visited Singapore from 17-18 March 2016 to attend the ReCaap ISC 2016

H.E. Surendra Kumar Sinha, Hon'ble Chief Justice of Bangladesh, visited Singapore from 21-25 April 2016. During the visit, Hon'ble Chief Justice met his counterpart and also visited Singapore International Arbitration Center to exchange views on mutual interests.

Bangladesh to Singapore	Singapore to Bangladesh
<p>H.E. Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, Hon'ble Minister of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives visited Singapore from 23-25 April 2016 and visited Tuas Incineration Plant in Singapore to gain first-hand experience of Singapore's state-of-the-art waste management system to replicate the system for waste management in Bangladesh</p>	
<p>H.E. Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh, MP &amp; Mr. Tanveer Imam, MP visited Singapore from 16-25 May 2016 to attend RSIS – WTO Parliamentarians Workshop that was held in Singapore from 17-19 May 2016</p>	
<p>H.E. Hasanul Haq Inu, Hon'ble Minister for Information visited Singapore from 29 May to 01 June 2016 to attend the CommunicAsia 2016 from 31 May to 03 June 2016.</p>	
<p>Major General Md. Shamsul Haque, DG NSI Bangladesh visited Singapore from 03 to 05 June 2016 to attend the Shangri-La Dialogue held in Singapore from 3-5 June 2016</p>	
<p>Hon'ble Speaker Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury visited Singapore from 3-10 June 2016 for medical treatment</p>	
<p>Apart from the above-official visits, many Hon'ble Ministers and Members of Parliaments, Cabinet Secretary, Foreign Secretary, Secretariat from other Ministries, Chairman of Petro-Bangla and senior officials of the Government of Bangladesh also visited Singapore for various official engagements and in private capacity.</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No official documents in High Commission</li> </ul>	

