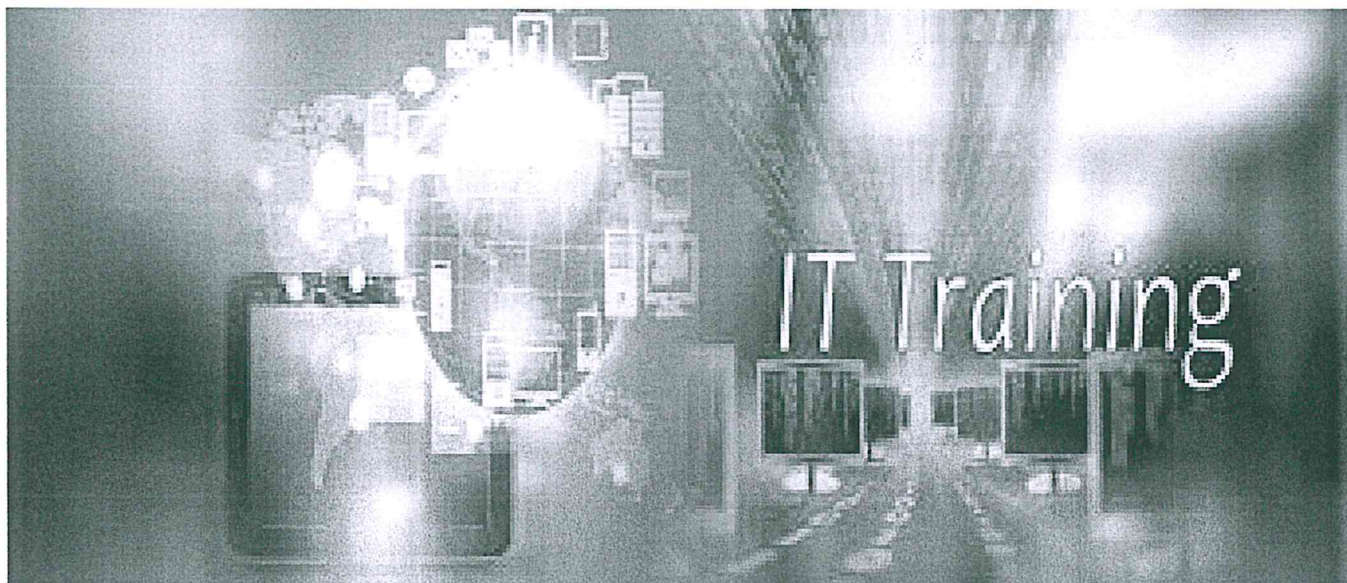


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Six-month IT training creates highly efficient freelancers
BSS



Many unemployed youths have transformed themselves into successful freelancers through doing a six-month residence course on freelancing and graphic design. Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS), a non-government organization, in cooperation with Bangladesh Bank has imparted the residence course to the eligible youths under Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP). As part of the programme, 50 youths were awarded certificates at a simple function on their successful completion of six-month training on freelancing and graphic design at the TMSS office in Barisal on Saturday. Deputy Commissioner of Barisal Dr Gazi Md Saifuzzaman, Director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) of TMSS Nigar Sultana and Consult ICT M Khairul Islam, among others, addressed the function. The TMSS is providing the residence course for the eligible youths under Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP) supported by Bangladesh Bank aiming to enhance skills of youths for ensuring their better employment facilities as well as promoting entrepreneurship. Nigar Sultana said TMSS and local administration jointly selected 50 trainees from nearly 4500 candidates in Barisal Division. "We have selected the candidates on the basis of their merit and they were given training on professional freelancing and graphic design for free," she added. "Professional freelancing and graphic design are both important for online outsourcing markets.... Many of the trainees are earning handsome amount of money taking six-month training on freelancing and graphic design," Nigar added. An official of ICT Division said Bangladesh has earned 20 million US dollars from the outsourcing sector in 2013 and the earnings from the outsourcing have been significantly increasing since 2013. "Bangladesh ranked 3rd in the top ten list of Odesk, the global marketplace for freelancing, outsourcing job surpassing the Philippines, Pakistan and Russia in 2013," he added According to IT experts, there are tremendous opportunities and demands of online outsourcing in Bangladesh. Online outsourcing is now a most popular profession on the internet, they said adding many employed and unemployed people are engaged in the online outsourcing as a profession, like a freelancer, day by day. Sources said Bangladesh Bank (BB) selected eight organizations, including TMSS to implement the SEIP project to impart trainings to 10,200 youths.