

'Light engineering industry lacks skilled manpower'

FE Report

Despite having enormous potential, the light engineering industry fails to make substantial contribution to the country's economy mainly due to lack of adequate skilled manpower.

Motivate potential tax payers, NBR asks field-level tax offices

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The National Board of Revenue (NBR) on Tuesday instructed its field-level income tax offices to motivate potential taxpayers at all upazilas across the country.

NBR Chairman Md Nojibur Rahman issued the instruction at a monthly revenue collection review

Currently, the sector contributes more than 2 per cent to the country's GDP (gross domestic product).

The observations came at a certificate distribution ceremony organised by Bangladesh Engineering Industry Owners Association (BEIOA) at Light Engineering Training Institute in the city on Tuesday. At least 160 workers were awarded certificates at the programme.

Md Jashim Uddin, director of FBCCI and president of Bangladesh Plastic Goods Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BPGMEA), attended the programme as the chief guest while BEIOA president Abdur Razzaque presided over the event.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Jashim stressed the

need for skilled manpower for the country's economic development. Sound knowledge of modern technology and necessary skills are essential for the workers which is profitable both for the workers and employers, he added.

Mr Razzaque said there are 4,000 light engineering firms in the country which employ about 0.2 million workers.

Mir Muniruzzman, chief coordinator of BEIOA-SEIP project, said the government has taken up the project aiming to train up the workers engaged in the light engineering industry.

It will not only enable the sector to meet demand for workers in the country but also to export skilled manpower abroad, he added.

The project has been

taken up for three years. The project coordinators estimate that it will be possible for them to train nearly 9,000 workers during the period.

The project aims to provide job opportunity for 70 per cent of the trainees who have completed the training course successfully, they said.

Abdul Hakim Mia, Abdur Rashid, Ashraf Ibn Nur and Raju Ahmed were also present at the programme.

BEIOA coordinates the activities of the project titled "Skills for Employment Investment Programme (SEIP)" funded by the government of Bangladesh, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the government of Switzerland.

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