

**Welcome**

**To The Bangladesh Country Report**

**On**

**Occupational Safety And Health- From  
Policy Development To  
Implementation Measures**

**Presented**  
**BY**  
**A T M Saiful Islam**  
**&**  
**Habibur Rahman**  
**Deputy Secretary**  
**Ministry Of Labour & Employment**

**Participant Of**

**Knowledge Co-creation Program**  
**(Group & Region Focus)**  
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Arctic Ocean

Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

**Bangladesh**

Indian Ocean

Atlantic Ocean

Pacific Ocean

Southern Ocean

# Celebration of Bengali New Year



# At a glance bangladesh

- Bangladesh is located in the south Asia
- Population is about 170 million
- Area 1,47,570 sq. Km
- Population density is about 1015 inhabitants per sq. Km
- Population growth rate is 1.37 per annum
- About 25 percent population live in urban areas
- Per capita income is US\$ 1466
- Average life expectancy at birth is 69 years (both sex )
- Literacy rate 58%
- Language: mainly bangle spoken by bangali and there are other ethnic languages.
- Around 2.4 million new work force enter in labour market every year

## Introduction:

- **Safe work is one of the fundamental rights of the workers. Occupational safety and health is an important component of decent work agenda. It means the condition of workplace where workers work is free from all kinds of hazards and risks**
- As a fast growing developing country, Bangladesh is gradually flourishing in its commerce and industry; and, at the same time, the number of workers is also increasing in industries and factories. But the country is faced with occupational health and safety hazards in its industries.

# Introduction

- The government of Bangladesh has recognized the importance of occupational safety and health(OSH) issues in its national agenda “decent safety and health for workers” making the reduction of preventable occupational accidents and illness a development target. For the development of OSH in Bangladesh, it is necessary to continually mobilize collaboration among relevant parties including both public and private sectors, as well as the international organization.

# Occurrence Status Of Industrial Accidents And Occupational Diseases

Table-1: Work Place Status In 2016

Killed (death)	888
Injured	1093
kidnapped	73
Suicide	22
Missing	03



Table 2: Work Place Deaths Due To accidents (Sector Wise) In2016

<b>Transport Worker</b>	<b>249</b>
Construction	85
Fishing	52
Agriculture	46
Foil & Packing	39
Day Labour	38
Migrant Worker	28
Workshop Worker	11
Electric Worker	10
Rice Mill	10
RMG	09
Domestic Worker	09
Tire Factory	08
Ship Breaking	08
Others	97

## Table 3: Pattern Of Accidental Deaths In 2016

<b>Road Accident</b>	<b>320</b>
Electrocution	93
Lighting	44
Fall From Height	42
Fire Accident	35
Boat/Toller Capsized	20
Toxic Gas	14
Cylinder Burst	10
Boiler Burst	07
Wall Collapse	07

## Table 4: Workplace Death Due To Occupational Violence In2016

<b>Transport worker</b>	<b>39</b>
Domestic worker	17
Shop worker	15
Security guard	14
agriculture	12
RMG	09
Migrant worker	08
construction	06
Brick kiln	05
fishing	05
others	69

## Table 5: Sector Wise Workers Action In 2016

Sector/Workers	Number Of Workers Action
RMG	122
Transport	16
Jute Mill	12
Water Transport	08
Spinning Mill	08
Electric	06
Textile	05
Tea Garden	05
Other	55
Total	237

# Safety And Health Related Laws And Regulations In Bangladesh

- The constitution is the highest legislation of Bangladesh, and provides its citizens the right to freedom of association, reasonable wages, equal opportunity in employment, social security and prohibits forced labour (articles 7, 14 and 20). The constitution has indicated work as a right and duty of the citizen (art. 20)

# Other Laws And Policy

- Bangladesh labour law, 2006
- National child labour elimination policy, 2010
- National labour policy, 2012
- Bangladesh industrial policy
- National occupational health & safety policy, 2013
- Domestic workers protection and welfare policy, 2015

## Objectives:

- The maintenance and promotion of worker's health and working capacity
- The improvement of working and work to become conducive to safety and health
- Development of work organization and working cultures in a direction which supports health and safety
- Promoting a positive social atmosphere and smooth operation and enhance productivity of the undertakings

Organizational set-up

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graph TD; A([Organizational set-up]) --> B([Ministry of labour and employment]); B --> C[Department Of Inspection For Factory And Establishments]; B --> D[Depart Of Labour]; B --> E[Minimum Wage Board]; B --> F[Labour Appellate Tribunal And Labour Court]; B --> G[National Skill Development Council]; B --> H[Bangladesh Labour Welfare Foundation];
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Ministry of labour and  
employment

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# OSH Inspection Modalities

## Currently DIFE Conduct Following Function

- Inspection of factories and establishment
- Prosecution against the violation of labour laws
- Approval of lay out plans, construction and extension of factories
- Issue of registration and licenses
- Grant of exemption from operation of different provisions of labour laws
- Assistance to the government in formulations of policies and labour laws

# Action Procedure and Penalty System

- Bangladesh's labour law provides numerous provisions on penalties—both financial and imprisonment—for the violation of labour law. Some of these penalties (section -289, 290, 291, and 294) these penalties are truly not at all severe; trade union leaders and civil society actors in Bangladesh have for long been demanding for more strong punishment system.

Bangladesh labour law and the national OSH policy obligates to provide safety equipments and OSH related facilities like:

- Fire fighting apparatus and emergency fire exit
- Personal protective kits
- Safety of building and machineries
- Workplace environment
- Health service and medical care

# Major Initiatives By The Government

- RMG government committee
- National tripartite committee for fire and building safety in RMG sector
- National level tripartite consultative committee

# Issues And Challenges In Implementing OSH In Bangladesh

- Policy and planning
- Legislation
- Enforcement
- Consultation and engagement of social partners
- Data and information management
- Resources: human and material
- Awareness of OSH,
- Other challenges are:
  - Growing informal economy
  - Expansion of flexible forms of employment
  - Expansion of labour migration
  - New risks associated with the use of new technology.

# Recomendatios:

The challenges can be overcome by employing the following measures:

- ❖ Strengthening the national policies on OSH
- ❖ Upgrading the national labour legislation
- ❖ Strengthening labour inspection and enhancing its effectiveness
- ❖ Building positive and preventive OSH cultures through awareness-raising campaigns and early age education
- ❖ Improvement of data and statistics, including those on work-related accidents, injuries and diseases.
- ❖ Promoting tripartite and bipartite consultation and social dialogue on osh
- ❖ Establishment of OSH supporting institutions or strengthening existing ones.

# Good Practices In Bangladesh

- National level crisis management core committee
- National tripartite committee for fire and building safety in RMG sector
- National level tripartite consultative committee
- Trade union registration/ activities
- Formation of safety committee
- Participation committee

## **Conclusion:**

- *Bangladesh is an agro- based and densely populated country. Due to global commitment to removing the unfair labour practice and the importance of labour management is widely recognized in the policy circle and has become a policy priority in bangladesh. Fair labour practice, decent work, labour welfare, occupational safety and health is necessary condition for sustaining equitable growth. Bangladesh is a developing country, and our vision to be a middle income group by 2021.*

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- *If though there are a lot of challenges and threats at the same time there are huge opportunities and possibilities. We have around 170 million people, majority of the population are 18-45 years age group i.E. Continuous supply of work force. So it is challenges for bangladesh to develop skill work force and to ensure occupational safety and health.*

**THANKS**