

**Welcome
To**

**The Workshop On Green Jobs
Initiatives In Bangladesh.**

Presentation of the initiatives taken by Department of Labour (DOL) and the Department For Inspection of Factories & Establishment (DIF&E) for Promoting Green jobs.

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Both DOL and DIF&E are Govt. departments under the control and supervision of the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE).

Departments are responsible for monitoring the enforcement of all issues relating to Service condition, health, safety and welfare of workers in an industrial atmosphere.

The Guiding Principles are:

- ILO and other international Conventions accepted by Bangladesh;
- Constitutional Provision; and
- Policies, Laws and rules.

DOL is headed by Director of Labour, with a total manpower of 714. It has a network with 50 offices all over the country.

DIF&E is headed by Chief Inspector of Factories with a total manpower of 226. It has a network with 30 offices all over the country.

Core ILO Conventions :

Out of 188 ILO Conventions, Bangladesh has ratified 33, including 7 fundamental rights

Conventions out of 8. They are:

c.29 : Forced Labour

c.87 : Freedom of Association

c.98 : Rights of Collective Bargaining

c.100 : Equal Remuneration

c.105 : Abolition of Forced Labour

c.111 : Non-discrimination regarding
employment and occupation.

c.182 : Worst forms of Child Labour

Both the departments main focus is to monitor the effective enforcement of Bangladesh Labour Act (BLA)-2006, in line with the Bangladesh Environment Protection Act, 1995 and its rules of 1997 and the Bangladesh Building Code,2003.

By repealing previous and backdated 25 different labour laws, BLA-2006 is an updated and unified labour law, enacted and introduced since 11 October, 2006. It contains 21 chapters and 354 sections.

One of the most important focus of BLA-2006 is on industrial environment and occupational health and safety issues. Out of 354 sections, almost 78 sections are exclusively addressed on OSH.

Approval of the factory lay-out plan from the DIF&E is mandatory as per law. And if that plan is not at per requirement of Building Code, Environment Protection Law and OSH provisions of BLA 2006, it will not get approval from the authority.

For creating green, decent, environment friendly jobs that ensure pollution free, health-hazard and risk-danger and occupational diseases free, under the purview of BLA-2006, the two department's initiatives are:

- Continuous monitoring on industrial peace and harmony;
- Effective enforcement of legal provisions;
- Punitive measures taken (if necessary); and
- Continuous training and awareness raising programmers on labour laws and related issues.

Some other initiatives:

(a) Ship re-cycling.

Under the UNDP-ILO assistance, during 2005-2007, a project titled “ Safe and environment friendly ship Re-cycling” has successfully been implemented in Bangladesh for around 30 thousand people of that field by the DIF&E through its Chittagong office.

Besides other activities of the project, around 6500 people engaged in ship recycling activities had been trained on OSH, use of PPE and safe use of chemicals.

Govt. is very eager to continue the project activities for further period with international assistance.

(b) For around 110 thousand workers of Bangladesh tea gardens (mostly in out reach locality) Bangladesh has taken a UNFPA assisted project since 1994, titled “Family welfare and reproductive health education & HIV-AIDS prevention for the tea community people”. This project is satisfactorily progressing till to date by the Department of Labour.


(c) Both DOL and DIF&E, under the guidance of the MOLE, are giving special attention to our export oriented RMG sector with a view to maintain its legal and international compliance issues. So far, our achievements are encouraging and appreciated both in home and abroad.

(d) During recent past, DIF&E has completed a series of training programmes on “Improvement of work place environment.”

In a study report of the Waste Concern, it reveals that the following industries mostly generate hazardous waste:-

- (a) Textile Dying
- (b) Hospital and clinics, diagnostics lab and pathologies
- (c) Tannery
- (d) Pulp and paper mill
- (e) Fertilizer
- (f) Pesticide
- (g) Oil refinery

From the above list, except hospital and ancillary bodies, all other industries are under the purview of BLA-2006, and hence, both the DOL and DIF&E have a lot to do to prevent them from generating hazardous waste.

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THANK YOU ALL