

Third Regional Workshop on Knowledge Sharing of Good and Promising Practices to Promote Decent Work for Domestic Worker and to eliminate Child Labour in Domestic Work

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Presented by:



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At a Glance:

Bangladesh Free Trade Union Congress (BFTUC) is the voice of the Bangladeshi workers at home and abroad.

It is a largest independent national federation of trade unions in Bangladesh established in 1983, currently represent 1,56,000 members in public and private sector as well as workers at informal economy.

BFTUC is Affiliated with the ITUC and founder members organization of the Bangladesh Occupational Health, Safety and Environment Foundation (OSHE)

Around 35% of its present membership is female and youth. It's mission is empowerment of men and women workers at workplaces and in society, promotion and protection of workers' rights and interests at national level through various forms of legal interventions, active social dialogue, tripartite and bipartite cooperation, campaign, advocacy and social mobilization for decent work.

To learn more about BFTUC: Please visit WWW.BFTUC.ORG



Domestic Workers (DWs) in Bangladesh

Total Domestic Workers : 10.5 million

(Source: Labour Force Survey-2013-BBS)

Child Domestic Worker: 420,000

(Source: ILO-UNICEF Baseline Survey 2007)

Among them around 90% are female, and unfortunately most of them are youth and children.



Scope of Legal Coverage

- Domestic workers are excluded from the Bangladesh Labour Act-2006;
- Domestic Servant Registration Ordinance-1961 is negative to labour rights protection;
- Domestic Workers Protection and Welfare Policy 2015 is implementing very slowly.



The Poorest of the Poor

Present Living conditions



1. Poor living conditions
2. Gender based violence
3. Drop out from formal education
4. Most are slum dweller
5. Sharing kitchen, toilet, bathroom
6. Unhygienic atmosphere in everywhere
7. Imbalance food
8. Malnutrition
9. Lack of medicine/ treatment facility lack of money
10. No access to the basic urban service
11. Lack of savings



Working Conditions



- Absence of labour rights at work
- No working relation with employer & employee
- Absence of decent wages and work hour and leave
- Gender based violence at work
- Absence of social protection
- Absence of trade union and social dialogue scope
- No appointment letter/ verbal contact
- Precarious working conditions
- Absence of labour inspection and monitoring system

General Sleeping Place of DW

Place for Sleeping

Floor of drawing
Room

Kitchen

Balcony

Store Room

Floor of bedrooms

Separate Rooms



Working Hour & wage

- Average Working Hour : 10 to 12 Hour /day
- Average monthly wage:
BDT 1,000 (below US \$ 12)

General Problems and Issues for Domestic Workers in Bangladesh

- Lack of education opportunity
- Lack of recreation
- Use of bad word at work place
- Physical Torture and harassments
- Low job security
- Extreme Work pressure
- Sexual harassment
- Mental Pressure
- Un organizing
- Lack of leadership among domestic workers
- Most of the case they are represented by NGO / middleman in society.

OSH status: 2014 -2017

Year	Dead	Wounded	Total
2014	2	1	3
2015	47	35	82
2016	34	16	50
2017	22	12	34
Total =	105	64	169

Action on Decent Work for Domestic Worker and to eliminate Child Labour in Domestic Work

BFTUC Priority and Actions:

Organising :

Organise domestic workers under the cooperative association model at Thana / Area basis.

Community based Action:

Carrying voice raising of domestic workers through awareness raising and workers education action on right based issues , protest and mobilization on various incident of harassment and rights violation of domestic workers and providing them due legal advice/ support. .

Advocating :

At tripartite and other levels for inclusion of domestic workers under the national labour law , special social protection schemes of domestic workers, ensure coverage labour inspection coverage and ensure well enforcement of law on ban of worker at domestic work and ratification of ILO convention on domestic work by Bangladesh.

National Trade Union Platforms with united action on DW issue:

Joint National Trade union campaign in Bangladesh towards ensuring decent work for domestic workers are carried-out under the banner of the ITUC-Bangladesh Council (ITUC-BC), SKOP and NCCWE.



Key Challenges for Bangladesh

1. Formulation of the domestic work occupation
2. Ratification of ILO Convention 189 by Bangladesh.
3. Legal recognition and inclusion of DW at Bangladesh labour Act 2006 and elimination child labour at domestic work.
4. Poor public committeemen of the government and law makes on recognition of labour rights for domestic workers at labour law.
5. Organizing, unionization and leadership building among domestic workers.
6. Elimination of gender based violation at domestic work,
7. Develop a special social protection scheme for them.





Thank U