

LABOUR LAW 2006

15-pt recommendation placed to help formulate rules

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Legal Aid Services Trust (BLAST) and Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS) jointly made a 15-point recommendation with a view to helping formulate the rules and regulations of Bangladesh Labour Law 2006.

The recommendations were finalised at a roundtable at Cirdap auditorium in the city yesterday, with Justice Naimuddin Ahmed in the chair.

The labour law came into effect in October 2006 and a sub-committee is now working to formulate the rules and regulations under the law. The recommendations would be placed before the sub-committee with a call to incorporate them into the rules, speakers at the roundtable said.

Justice Naimuddin Ahmed said the recommendations would help

formulate ideal rules and regulations of the labour law.

"We have made the recommendations beforehand so that they can be incorporated into the rules," he added.

The recommendations include setting up four-foot wide alternative stairs in factories, conducting fire drill every six months, specifying reasons before firing pregnant women, work interval for breastfeeding, supplying food to children at the factory, following building code during construction and specifying temporary work.

Speakers at the roundtable observed that the certificate of a registered doctor should be accepted in determining the age of child and juvenile, salary should be paid for unutilised casual leave and the salary structure should be fixed within six months of declaration of a wage board.

They also pointed out that the government can extend the time for fixing salary but that period should not be longer than two months.

They demanded that the money for unutilised casual leaves should be paid at the end of a year.

They also suggested that the authorities should provide milk for the children of female workers at the factory.

Advocate Nirmalendu Dhar, labour leader Mohammad Nurul Islam and SA Haq took part in the discussion as the key speakers while Syed Sultanuddin Ahmed, Taslimur Rahman and Farida Yasmin presented different aspects of the labour law.

Principal Kabir Ahmed, a member of the sub-committee formed by the government to formulate the rules and regulations, also spoke.

A case was filed with Gulshan police station.



Abdur Razzak speaks at a roundtable at Cirdap auditorium in the city yesterday. On his left are Justice Naimuddin Ahmed and Taslimur Rahman.

Highlight women's positive role

Speakers urge mass media

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday stressed the need for highlighting women's positive role in mass media as they are now playing significant role in the society.

"Women are portrayed very negatively in our mass media, such as housewife and cook who are busy with their household works, although in real life many women are engaged in various dignified jobs," they added.

The discussion was organised for presenting a research paper titled 'Depiction of women in television advertisement' at the Academy for Planning and Development in the city.

The research, conducted by Sourav Shikder, associate professor of linguistics department at Dhaka University, revealed that only 3.05 percent advertisement broadcast in media is gender

sensitive.

The speakers said women are depicted in advertisements 'in such a way where their economic role is neglected and domestic role highlighted.'

The media just reinforces prevailing thought pattern of the society and those who are involved in this industry are not conscious about the issue at all, said Sourav while presenting the summary report of the research paper.

The paper suggested that people involved in planning and producing advertisements must be aware of and sensitive to gender equity.

For this, code of conduct for advertising agencies and workshops and training for media people are needed, it added.

Along with social change, role of women has been changing positively and media should focus

on it, said journalist Nasimun Ara Hug.

Countering the point of those involved in advertising agencies Khushi Kabir, coordinator of Nijera Kori, said they don't plan the advertisements considering the demand of the consumers, rather they prepare those for creating additional demands among them to sell their commodities.

Fahmidul Haque, assistant professor of mass communication and journalism department, moderated the discussion which was participated by Gender Programme Coordinator of Oxfam Akhtar Hossain, Senior Trainer of Press Institute of Bangladesh Oliver Rahman, Prof Sadeka Halim, Prof Hannana Begum, Marjuk Russell and Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh Dr Iftekharuzzaman.

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11 robbers arrested

A CORRESPONDENT, Gazipur

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The arrestees are Kamal Hossain, Nayan, Mahbub, Deen Islam, Suman, Sourav, Badsha, Aziz, Wasim, Mahfuzur Rahman and Omar Ali.

They were produced before the magistrate court yesterday and sent to jail.

Dadon Fakir, officer-in-charge of Joydevpur Police Station, said the drive was conducted based on confessional statement of a robber arrested from Chanpara of Gazipur district recently.

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