

61pc workers suffer health issues: study

Unsafe work environment at Savar leather processing units

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Due to unsafe work environment at most of the leather processing units across Savar, workers are facing various occupational health and safety crisis, according to a study.

The study, based on interviews of 105 workers with more than eight years of work experience, revealed that around 93 percent of them did not receive any training.

Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (OSHE) conducted the "Baseline Study on Occupational Health and Safety in Leather Supply Chain of Bangladesh" from October 11 to November 20 last year.

Sarmin Sultana, lead researcher of OSHE study team, also a faculty member of Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, unveiled the study at a roundtable in Dhaka's Cirdap auditorium yesterday.

The respondents work in tannery, leather goods and footwear industries -- 42 percent, 29 percent and 29 percent respectively.

Of the respondents (from 18 to 67 years of age), 79 percent studied up to primary level and their monthly family income is around Tk 10,756 on average.

According to the study, 61 percent of the workers suffer from health related problems or accidents, while there is no formal or informal response mechanism in this regard.

Some of the health hazards include burn injuries, breathing problem, ulcer, body ache, blurred vision and red eyes.

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Information Minister Dr Hasan Mahmud speaks at the opening of new STAR Cineplex in Dhanmondi's Shimanto Shambhar yesterday. STAR Cineplex Chairman Mahboob Rahman delivered welcome speech. The minister, lawmaker Engr Mosharraf Hossain and Maj Gen Mohammad Shafinul Islam were present as the guests of honour. Inset, guests at the movie theatre.

PHOTO: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED



1,441 incidents of violence against women and children last year

We Can Bangladesh findings say

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday stressed the need for generating awareness and bringing about a change in mindset to end violence against women and children in the country.

They said Bangladesh's progress will not be meaningful without protecting the rights of women and children.

We Can Bangladesh, an alliance of civil society members and organisations, arranged the roundtable on "Violence against women: Possibilities of receiving support" at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka.

Sharing findings, the alliance's Executive Coordinator Zinat Ara Haque said violent incidents against women and children are frequent in the country and many such incidents go unreported.

While seeking justice, many victims and their families face challenges including lack of cooperation from police in filing general diaries, biased postmortem and investigation reports,

she said.

Last year, 1,441 incidents of violence against women and children occurred in the country, she said, while disclosing the findings.

Of the victims, 996 were women and the rest children. About half of the incidents took place in Dhaka division alone, she added.

Chairing and moderating the roundtable, We Can Bangladesh Co-chair Shaheen Anam said they are committed to put an end to gender violence but at times feel frustrated because of the frequency of the incidents reflected in media reports.

"We're seeing too many cases of violence against women. I will not go into the debate on whether it is rising or declining," she said.

She stressed the need for coordination among institutions and strengthening the judicial system to curb gender violence.

She also called upon the prime minister to take a "zero tolerance" policy to this end.

Mokhesur Rahman Badal, chair-

man of Bangladesh Bar Council's Human Rights and Legal Aid Committee, said cases related to violence against women and children should solely be dealt at special tribunals set up for them for speedy trial.

Nasimun Ara Haque Minu, president of Bangladesh Female Journalists' Association, said changes in textbooks were required to generate awareness among children on the impacts of gender violence.

Equal rights must be ensured in the country's existing laws related to heirs and successors, she said.

Abdullah Al Mamun, director of Department of Social Services, said coordination among different government institutions is required to make significant progress to this end.

WE CAN BANGLADESH FINDINGS Meanwhile, according to We Can Bangladesh findings, prepared based on reports published in six national dailies, among last year's cases of violence against women and children,

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We Can Bangladesh, an alliance of civil society members and organisations, arranged a roundtable yesterday on "Violence against women: Possibilities of receiving support" at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka.

Scuffle over going past each other at BCL rally

Five activists injured

DU CORRESPONDENT

At least five activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) were injured as two groups of the student organisation clashed at a rally in the capital yesterday.

The injured - Aminul Islam, Ajjul Haque, Tushar, Nayan and Azim - are BCL activists of Dhaka University hall units.

Aminul Islam, who sustained head injury, was undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) while the rest received primary treatment there.

According to witnesses, a brawl broke out between BCL activists of DU's Jagannath Hall unit and Dhaka College unit when a rally - brought out to celebrate the 71st founding anniversary of the student organisation - reached near Dhaka Gate area.

Both groups tried to go past each other and at one stage started throwing bricks.

Later, BCL men of Surja Sen Hall and Salimullah Muslim Hall joined their Jagannath Hall peers and chased the Dhaka College BCL activists towards High Court area, said the witnesses.

The BCL men also allegedly obstructed journalists from taking photos of their scuffle.

President and general secretary of

BCL could not be reached over phone.

The BCL men brought out the rally following their programme at the base of Aparajeyo Bangla on DU campus.

Awami League presidium member Tofail Ahmed inaugurated the programme.

Speaking at the programme, the AL lawmaker expressed hope that Bangladesh Chhatra League will win the upcoming Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducusu) election.

"I believe, consensus among the BCL leadership would help the organisation claim victory in the upcoming Ducusu election," he said.

BCL was supposed to hold the programme on its founding anniversary (January 4), but postponed it after the death of AL leader Syed Ashraf.

Among others, AL Joint General Secretary Jahangir Kabir Nanak and former presidents Saifur Rahman Shohag, Liakat Shikder, Bahadur Bepari also attended the programme presided over by incumbent president Rezwanul Haque Chowdhury Shovon.

Several leaders and activists of DU BCL expressed their resentment as the president and general secretary of the student organisation's DU unit were not given the opportunity to speak at the programme.

Hasina greets Pranab for receiving 'Bharat Ratna'

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday congratulated former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee as he was honoured with his country's highest civilian award "Bharat Ratna".

Sheikh Hasina greeted Pranab over telephone yesterday morning, said the Press Wing of the Prime Minister's Office.

On Friday, Pranab Mukherjee and two others -- Bharatiya Jana Sangh leader Nanaji Deshmukh and singer Bhupen Hazarika -- were conferred the award.

Deshmukh and Hazarika were given the award posthumously. Bharat Ratna was conferred after a four-year gap.

Pranab, who was one of the senior-most Congress party leaders for decades, was India's 13th president from 2012 to 2017. He had also held the key portfolios of finance, defence and external affairs ministers under Congress governments.

In another message, Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen congratulated the former Indian President on the prestigious award.

"India's first Bengali President Pranab Mukherjee is a real gem. The Bengali politician played a very important role in strengthening relations between Bangladesh and India," he said.

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1. GM- Dhaka Refinery

The candidate should be B.Sc in Chemical or Mechanical engineering with minimum 15 years' of experience in industrial environment with at least 5 years in Oil and Gas processing. Experience at supervisory and management level in a major industrial organization will be given preference. The candidate shall be responsible for safe, secure and sustainable operation of entire Refinery Plant, achieving production and profitability targets and maintaining asset integrity and life. The incumbent shall also ensure employee welfare, retention and organization knowledge management and capacity building.

2. Manager - Operations

The candidate should be B.Sc in Chemical or Mechanical engineering with minimum 12 years' of experience in industrial environment with at least 5 years in Oil and Gas processing. Experience at supervisory and operations management level in a major industrial organization will be given preference. The candidate shall be responsible for safe operation of entire Refinery Plant, achieving production and profitability targets and achieving operational excellence in resource use and asset utilization. The incumbent will promote use of control & digital technologies to achieve service levels; and ensure all operating procedures and personnel are fit for purpose at all time.

3. Technical Manager

The candidate should be B.Sc in Chemical or Mechanical engineering with minimum 12 years' of experience in industrial environment with at least 5 years in Oil and Gas processing. Experience at supervisory and technical management level in a major industrial organization will be given preference. The candidate shall be responsible for engineering support services leading to sustainable plant operation. The incumbent will oversee process and production optimization, supply chain coordination, hydrocarbon custody and value chain management and enabling technologies development activities.

4. DGM / GM - HR & Admin

The candidate should be Masters in any discipline (Preferably MBA in HRM) with a very good academic track record with minimum 15 years' of experience in the relevant field of which at least 5 years' in senior level position. The incumbent shall be responsible for the overall supervision, management and development of the HR department. The main purpose of the job is to actively lead the department in a way that is consistent with the policies and practices of the company. The candidate needs to have a strong track record in corporate HR practices related to HR planning, compensation and benefits, recruitment, training and performance management. The candidate shall have strong interpersonal and presentation skills, leadership skills, ability to generate professional reports, proficiency in Microsoft Office, fluency in English.

Candidates are requested to send their complete resume (CV) with two copies of recent passport size photographs to **General Manager - HR & Admin**, Bashundhara Industrial Headquarters - 1, Plot # 03, Block # G, Umme Kulsum Road, Bashundhara R/A, Dhaka - 1229 by **February 15, 2019** or email to **recruitment.bihq1@bg.com.bd**

Post applied for must be written on top of the envelop / in the subject line of the e-mail.

The Daily Star
20th 'O' & 'A' Level
Awards Presentation Ceremony, 2017-2018

**Announcement for 'O' & 'A' Level
Private Candidates and Schools**

Private Candidates
Private candidates who fulfill the criteria described below are requested to register their names at The Daily Star office for inclusion as awardees. The criteria to be fulfilled are as follows:

Criteria for 'O' Level
Minimum 6 (six) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

Criteria for 'A' Level
Minimum 3 (three) 'A' grades in two consecutive sittings within May/June 2017 to May/June 2018 and November 2018

Eligible candidates are requested to contact at The Daily Star, (64-65 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215), with their original results certificates and a photocopy and 2 (two) passport-size photographs in person by 31st January, 2019, anytime between 11:00 am to 5:00 pm (Except Fridays and Saturdays).

Schools
Any school that has students meeting the above criteria but has not been contacted by The Daily Star (i.e. has not been informed of the first scheduled meeting through regular post, email or phone) is requested to contact at The Daily Star (64-65, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Level-5, Dhaka-1215), on the aforementioned dates and times or email him at o.a.level.tds@gmail.com by 30th January, 2019, with:

- The name of the school, phone number of a responsible representative and a valid email address that is checked regularly.

The schools are also requested to promptly prepare a list of the candidates meeting the above criteria, the number of 'A' / 'A*' grades achieved by each candidate, and photocopies of results certificates for each candidate.

No registration will be allowed or accepted after 5:00 pm of 31st January, 2019.

NOTE: If you know of any private candidate(s) or school(s) that may be unaware of this, please pass on the above information to them so that we may include them in this ceremony.

www.tomorrowleaders.net

Government to provide more opportunities for youth

Says foreign minister
UNB, Dhaka

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen yesterday said the incumbent government will provide more opportunities for the youth in future.

"Around 49 percent of our country's population is below the age of 25. If we can provide proper education and training for them, we will have a skilled and talented generation," he said at a programme at Dhaka University (DU).

"Our government is working to ensure quality education for all," the minister said.

Bangladesh Supply Chain Council (BSCC), in association with DU, organised the programme as a part of their supply chain conference and career opportunity programme.

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