

## E-newsletter

# Occupational safety and health (OSH)

June 2023

### ▶ Main highlights



**30,000** posters, 2,000 calendars, and 1,500 mugs were distributed, emphasizing the commitment to safe workplaces.



**20** vulnerable factories receive technical support from FBCCI to develop their workplace.



**3,000** workers in 60 sessions across 16 safety cells benefited from FBCCI Safety Council's training programs, fostering a safety culture and improving workplace conditions in Bangladesh.



*Encouraging good practices in Occupational Safety and Health (OSH)*

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► **FBCCI safety council workshop: Leveraging lessons for future progress**



FBCCI Safety Council held a workshop on 8 June 2023 at the FBCCI Auditorium to share lessons learned and plan for the future. The workshop, titled “The FBCCI Safety Council leveraging lessons learned to move forward”, was attended by business leaders, government officials and experts from various fields including DIFE, FSCD, BIDA, PWD, PDB, DoE, Department of Explosive, Department of Boiler inspection, BD Gas Field Ltd, Dhaka City Corporations. The Chief Guest was Mr. Tapan Kanti Ghosh,

Senior Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, and the Special Guest was Brigadier General Md. Main Uddin, BSP(BAR), ndc, psc, G, M Phil., Director General, Bangladesh Fire Service. The President of FBCCI Mr. Md. Jasim Uddin chaired the program, and the Senior

Vice President, Vice President, Directors of FBCCI and Advisor of FBCCI Safety Council were also present. The workshop discussed the challenges and opportunities for improving safety standards in different sectors and industries.





## ► Technical support to BIDA inspected vulnerable factory

Following the devastating fire incident in the Shezan juice factory in July 2021, Prime Minister's Office (PMO) formed a national committee headed by Salman F Rahman, MP, the Honourable adviser to the Prime Minister and tasked BIDA to conduct a combined survey cum inspection of the non-RMG sector to evaluate the safety conditions. President FBCCI is included in the national committee and one representative from



factories who scored below 30% in the inspection. These factories belonged to

Storage, Furniture, Electronics, Textile, Pharmaceutical, Food Production, and Printing. The FBCCI Safety Council appointed three expert panels having Fire, Electrical and Structural Safety specialists, one in each panel. Focusing on Electrical, Fire, Structural, Machine, Boiler, Environmental, and Explosive Safety, the expert teams accompanied by one member from the Safety Council visited 20 designated factories located in different areas, including



FBCCI is taken in each 108 combined surveys cum inspection team comprised of various government agencies. Accordingly, by March 2022, they inspected 5206 factories in the first phase where 106 factories are identified as vulnerable, since they scored below 50% in the inspection. The FBCCI Safety Council, in collaboration with the ILO, took the initiative to provide technical support to 20

various sectors such as Local Garments, Cold



Dhaka, Tangail, Nilphamari, Bogura, Naogaon, Joypurhat, Chattogram, and Rangpur. During the first visit, they identified shortcomings and provided suggestions for the improvement, while the second visit aimed to follow up on the progress made and ensure that the factories

could achieve a satisfactory mark in the next inspection. They are also given training on Fire Safety and Safety Committee's responsibilities. The factory owners welcomed the support and improved their safety practices. As a result, significant changes were observed after the second

visit of the FBCCI Expert Panel. However, the FBCCI Safety Council acknowledged that more support is necessary for other factories to maintain the sustainability of their businesses, emphasizing that "Safety is an investment for any business."

► **Cultivating a safer workplace: Encouraging good practices in occupational safety and health (OSH)**



At the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce & Industries, safety is not just a priority; it's a core value we all uphold. We believe in cultivating a culture of Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) to safeguard our most precious resource: our members. Through ongoing training, transparent dialogue, and the encouragement of good practices, we are dedicated

to creating a safer workplace for everyone. Together, let's shape a safer future and

make OSH an essential part of our daily work life. Stay alert, and stay safe!





## ► Safety first: Celebrating success and cultivating OSH culture

We are delighted to share the amazing results of our Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Day celebrations! Thanks to the joint efforts of 14 associations and 6 chambers, we have made remarkable progress in creating and fostering a strong OSH culture. The awareness programs with our members were well-received and engaging, highlighting the value of safe and healthy workplaces. We also distributed 30,000 posters, 2,000 calendars, and 1,500 mugs with OSH-



related messages to inspire a lasting commitment to workplace safety. Let's keep up the good work and move forward towards a safer and

brighter future for all. Good about 100 members & executives from FBCCI learned the basics of OSH.

## ► Factory-level training on fire safety, rescue & first aid

We are thrilled to share with you the latest progress from the FBCCI Safety Council as we continue our unwavering commitment to promoting safety and health in the workplace. We are delighted to announce that our factory-level training programs on fire safety, rescue, and first aid have achieved remarkable success. To date, we have successfully completed 60 training sessions across 16 safety cells, extending our outreach to a total of 3000 workers at various factories.

The primary objective of these comprehensive training programs is to equip workers with essential skills



and knowledge to identify potential fire hazards, prevent accidents, and respond efficiently in case of an emergency. By fostering a culture of safety and preparedness, we take immense pride in the fact that our training initiatives have contributed to creating

safer and healthier working environments for thousands of workers in Bangladesh.

At FBCCI Safety Council, we firmly believe that every worker deserves the right to a secure workplace, and we remain steadfast in our efforts to achieve this

fundamental goal. We extend heartfelt gratitude to our development partners, especially the International Labour Organization (ILO),

for their continuous support, which empowers us to strengthen and expand our endeavors in this crucial mission. Together, we strive

towards a future where workplace safety is paramount, ensuring the well-being of all workers across the nation.

## ► Factory-level training on safety committee



Through our tireless efforts to offer factory-level training on safety committees, the FBCCI Safety Council has achieved remarkable strides toward promoting worker safety and health. As of now, we are proud to announce that a significant milestone has been achieved, with a remarkable 1200 participants from 200 factories having received comprehensive safety

committee training. These training sessions have been tailored to equip participants with essential knowledge about OSH laws, policies, and the responsibilities of safety committee members, along with valuable insights into risk identification and risk management. Furthermore, we have also conducted specialized training on conducting effective safety meetings.

We firmly believe that such initiatives will pave the way for a safer work environment for all workers in Bangladesh. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed development partner, the International Labour Organization (ILO), for their unwavering support and encouragement throughout this journey. With their invaluable support, we are confident in sustaining and expanding our mission to ensure workplace safety and health across more factories and establishments. Together, we are determined to continue making a positive impact and contribute towards the greater goal of a safer and healthier workforce in the country.

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