

E-newsletter

Occupational safety and health (OSH)

November 2022

► Main highlights



100 employer
representatives
received
knowledge on
OSH



200 factory-
based workers
developed
capacity &
knowledge on
fire safety



12 industrial
sectors covered



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► **ILO and FBCCI have signed an agreement to ensure occupational safety & health and decent work in the workplace**

International Labour Organization (ILO) and The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) signed an agreement to enhance workplace safety and health in 12 priority economic sectors on 17 August 2022.

Country Director of ILO Bangladesh, Tuomo Poutiainen; President of FBCCI, Md. Jashim Uddin; Senior Vice President of FBCCI, Mostofa Azad Chowdhury Babu; Vice President Md. Amin Helaly, Directors of FBCCI; representatives from various industrial sectors and business leaders were present at the signing of the agreement held at FBCCI auditorium in Dhaka.

“Ensuring the safety of workers is our utmost priority. We have teamed up with the ILO to invest in strong and functional safety cells, safety committees and safety representatives. Strengthening workplace safety and health at institutional and enterprise levels will make our factories safer and more productive which will benefit the national economy,” said Md. Jashim Uddin, President of FBCCI.

Speaking on the occasion, Country Director of ILO Bangladesh, Tuomo Poutiainen said, “ILO is pleased to join forces with



FBCCI to promote safety culture and practices in priority industries. We hope that our collective efforts will help to prevent many occupational accidents, injuries and diseases and save countless lives.”

All Bangladeshi enterprises with 50 or more employees have a legal binding to establish ‘safety committees’ comprising of an equal number of worker and employer representatives. The ILO FBCCI initiative will develop the capacity of 900 safety committee members on occupational safety and health (OSH) so they can better monitor, address and communicate on safety issues at their respective workplaces.

Under the agreement, a number of capacity building

and promotional activities will be carried out to strengthen workplace safety and health at institutional as well as enterprise levels. These activities will be supported by ILO’s RMG programme funded by Canada and the Netherlands.

Through the initiative, 16 safety cells is established to build safety culture in 12 industrial sectors, namely electrical cables, chemical, plastic, light engineering, leather, food processing, furniture, printing and packaging, domestic RMG, hosiery, jute and steel rerolling.

Simultaneously, 2400 will be trained up workers on fire rescue and first aid and 100 safety committees will be developed to create awareness and capacity on workplace safety and health among employers and workers.

► **Orientation training for chambers and associations to ensure occupational safety and health in the workplace**



In association with International Labor Organization (ILO), FBCCI Safety Council organized a training workshop to ensure Occupational Safety and Health on 1 October 2022. FBCCI President Md. Jashim Uddin inaugurated the two-day long training workshop titled Basic OSH and OSH Management System.

While speaking, Mr. Md. Jashim Uddin said that occupational safety and health should be ensured in all industries of the country. The President urged the industry owners to come forward to ensure occupational safety and health.

Earlier, Senior Vice President Mostafa Azad Chowdhury Babu said that FBCCI is committed to transforming the country's industries safer. In this connection, FBCCI has established a Safety Council in FBCCI. Brig Gen Abu Nayeem Md. Shahidullah (retd), Advisor

of the Safety Council informed that safety committees and safety units will be formed at the factory level of the industry through the Safety Council.

The safety cell representatives from four chambers and 12 associations and ILO representatives participated in the training workshop.

The two-day workshop would train the participants in strengthening occupational safety and health of chambers and associations, roles and responsibilities of safety cells, the importance of OSH,

concepts and benefits of OSH, hazard and risk identification and assessment, legislative framework, OSH Law and rules, OSH management, steps of effective OSH implementation, roles of owner and employees, the responsibility of safety committee members, fire safety, rescue and first aid, occupational accidents and work-related illness and diseases, internal communication and knowledge management in implementing OSH.



► **Trainers training program on fire safety, rescue and first aid**

FBCCI, the apex trade body of the country, is determined to ensure the safety of all industries in the country. For this purpose a three-day training program titled “Training of Trainers on Fire Safety, Rescue and First Aid” organized by FBCCI Safety Council which has successfully been completed on 31 October 2022.

38 trainees from 12 sectors and four chambers participated in this training program. Senior Vice President of FBCCI Mr. Mostofa Azad Chowdhury Babu handed over certificates to the participants on the concluding day.

Earlier, Mostofa Azad Chowdhury Babu said that FBCCI has undertaken sector and chamber-based safety training programs with the coordination of ILO to ensure maximum safety in all the factories and industries of the country. He urged the industry owners to work together in this regard.

Maurice L. Brooks, ILO’s workplace safety expert thanked FBCCI Safety Council for arranging the fruitful training program with ensuring the factory-level participants. He



said that it will be easier to build a safety culture in the factories and industries in Bangladesh

(retd), Standing Committee on Fire Safety and Security, Digester and Explosion



with the help of FBCCI. Investment is large or small, security is essential in all industrial plants, Maurice L. Brooks noted.

Chairman Md. Niaz Ali Chisty, and Secretary General Mohammad Mahfuzul Hoque were present at the closing ceremony.

Among others, FBCCI Safety Council Adviser Brig Gen Abu Nayeem Md. Shahidullah

► **Factory-level training on fire safety, rescue and first aid**

The first factory-level training on fire safety, rescue & first aid was held at Rangpur from 3-8 November 2022. The safety Cell of the Rangpur Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized five training programs in coordination with FBCCI Safety Council where 200 Workers from seven factories were trained. The participating factories were - Motahar Hossain Chowdhury Jute Mills Ltd.,



Maya Group of Industries,
Bling Leather Products Ltd.,
The Aristocrat Agro Ltd., Billion

Gold Ltd., Gonga Foundry Ltd.,
and Karupannaya Rangpur Ltd.

► **Photo gallery**



100 members & executives from FBCCI receive basic knowledge on OSH



Mr. Muhammad Habibur Rahman (Senior legal officer, BEF) is taking session on OSH law and rules



Brig Gen Abu Nayeem Md. Shahidullah (retd) is discussing on rules & responsibilities of the safety cell



Mr. A.K.M Masum UI Alam (Programme Officer, Labour Inspection & OSH, ILO) is sharing knowledge on basic OSH



Mr. Iqbal Bahar Bulbul (Assistant director, FSCD) is conducting a session on fire safety rescue and first aid



Mr. Md. Monjur Kader Khan (Program coordinator, FBCCI safety council) is discussing on the importance of safety unit at factory



Dr. MH Faruquee (Associate professor, BUHS) is conducting a session on occupational accident, occupational & work-related illness and diseases



Mr. Mostofa Azad Chowdhury Babu (Senior Vice-President, FBCCI) is at the closing session at Motahar Hossain Chowdhury Jute Mills Ltd. Rangpur

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