

World Day Against Child Labour 2012: Human rights and Social Justice... Let's End Child Labour

Ministry of Labour and Employment took the lead to observe World Day against child Labour 2012 in collaboration with ILO, Trade Unions, UNICEF, Save the Children in Bangladesh, Manusher Jonno Foundation and Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum under the theme Human Rights and Social Justice... Let's End Child Labour. Events and activities organized to observe the day included: Joint Press Conference, National Seminar, awareness raising message through mobile phone operators and posters. Also, National Coordination Council for Workers Education (NCCWE) organized Art Competition for the Working Children and a Rally on the eve of the WDACL.

Production and dissemination of a common poster:

A common poster (in Bengali) based on the design and layout by ILO- IPEC was produced and widely disseminated throughout the country. All the public and private institutions at local and national level used this poster to observe the WDACL.



Joint Press Conference

Press Conference: A joint press conference held at the national press club on 11 June to inform the people at large through media regarding various programmes and strategies that are undertaken by the Government and private sector development agencies to address child labour. In the press conference, Joint Secretary (Labour) Ministry of Labour and Employment read out the message of the Honourable Prime Minister, Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh. A joint press briefing was read out by the Acting Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment. The ILO Director read out the Global Press Release on WDACL 2012. The press briefing was followed by a question and answer session.



All major newspapers and television channels published and broadcasted news highlighting the key elements of the message from the ILO and the joint press briefing.

Art Competition for the Working Children



National Coordination Committee for Workers Education (NCCWE) with the support of the ILO observed the WDACL 2012 in a befitting manner. NCCWE has chalked out some Programme for working children and their parents. As part of the Programme, an art completion was organized by the NCCWE for the working children on 8th June 2012 at National Fine Arts Institute Campus of Dhaka University. A total of 50 working children participated in the competition. Eminent artist and sculptor Mr. Hamiduzzaman Khan and Mr. Mujibur Rahman Bhuiyan, Secretary General, NCCWE inaugurated the event. At the end of the

competition, judges selected 30 best arts for exhibiting the pictures in different events on the occasion of WDACL 2012. Mr. Gagan Rajbhandhari Deputy Director of ILO Country Office for Bangladesh distributed prizes among the children.

Rally

National Coordination Committee for Workers Education (NCCWE) organized a rally on 12 June from central Shahid Minar to National Press Club. NCCWE produced T-shirts, festoons and paper made cap carrying key message of the WDAEL 2012. Working children enrolled in NFE of various schools, their parents from the locality, trade union members and leaders and community representatives attended the rally.



National Seminar:



A joint national Seminar was organized on 12 June by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in collaboration with the ILO, UNICEF, Save the Children, Manusher Jonno Foundation and Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum on 12 June 2012. The theme of the Seminar was "National Plan of Action for Implementation of National Child Labour Elimination Policy 2011: way forward". Mr. Md. Israfil Alam, MP and the Chairman, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Labour and Employment attended the seminar as the Chief Guest while Mr. Tariq-ul-Islam, Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs was present as the Special Guest. Mr. Md. Faizur Rahman, Joint

Secretary (Labour), Ministry of Labour and Employment, Mr. André Bogui, Director, ILO Country Office for Bangladesh, Mr. Quazi Ghiasuddin, Deputy Country Director, Save the Children in Bangladesh and Mr. Gagan Rajbhandari, Deputy Country Director, ILO Country Office for Bangladesh spoke on the occasion. After presentation of the key note paper by Mr. Farid Uddin, in the plenary session, the participants of the seminar put forwarded their valuable inputs and suggestions on the implementation challenges and way forward of the National Plan of Action on child labour. The seminar was participated by approximately 80 representatives from different ministries, government departments, trade unions, employers' federation, civil society organization and media. Mr. Mahfuzar Rahman Sarker, Acting Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment presided over the seminar.

