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General Meeting and Election of BILS held with spontaneous participation



Newly elected BILS Executive Council Members

The General Meeting & National Council-2019 of Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies-BILS were held successfully on September 29, 2019 at Engineers Institution Bangladesh (IEB)

Seminar Hall, Ramna, Dhaka. Members of BILS General, Advisory and Executive Council and Trade Union leaders from different parts of the country attended the event.

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Inauguration of Bangla Massive Open Online Course on Labour Rights and Industrial Relations



Professor Emeritus of Southeast University Professor Dr. M Shamser Ali Addressed in the inauguration program

Inauguration of Bangla Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on Labour Rights and Industrial Relations initiated by BILS in collaboration with DGB-BW, was held on July 1, 2019 at the CIRDAP

Auditorium in the capital. Professor Emeritus of Southeast University and founder Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Open University Professor M Shamsher Ali was present at the programme as the

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General Meeting and Election

(After Page-1)

BILS Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan addressed the opening ceremony of the General Meeting chaired by BILS Chairman Md. Habibur

and Resident Representative of Friedrich-Ebert- Stiftung (FES) Tina Marie Blohm were present at the meeting as Guests of Honour. Vice Chairperson of BILS Shirin Akhter, MP and Joint Coordinator of Sramik Karmachari Oikya Parishad (SKOP) Quamrul Ahsan also spoke on the occasion.

using social media for empowerment, collecting relevant information from other countries and forming TU special committee to address the challenges of 4th Industrial Revolution.



BILS Chairman Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz Addressed at the opening session of BILS AGM

Rahman Shiraz. BILS Joint Secretary General Dr. Wajedul Islam Khan conducted the meeting, while BILS Joint Secretary General Md. Zafrul Hasan read out the Condolence Script.

The election session was chaired by Shah Mohd. Abu Zafar, Chairman and attended by Quamrul Ahsan and Shahida Parvin Shikha, Members of Election Committee. As there being only one candidate for each positions of the Executive Council, the Chair declared all 29 Candidates including Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz as Chairman and Nazrul Islam Khan as Secretary General elected unopposed.

Country Director of International Labour Organization (ILO) Tuomo Poutiainen

Speakers at the meeting lauded the progress made by the BILS on the rights and labour issues appreciating its role in organizing workers particularly of the informal sector. They hoped that in the coming days, BILS would

make relentless efforts to regain the rights of the working people and in this case the solidarity of the government, employers and other organizations would continue.

Four parallel workshops were also organized between the interval of General Meeting and Election. Participants of the workshop titled, "Roles of BILS and Trade Unions to address the Challenges of Technological Evolution" opined to develop the ICT based capacity and awareness of Trade Unions in a view to deal with the impact on workers due to 4th Industrial Revolution. They emphasized on training, research, advocacy, alternative employment,

BILS Members participated and delivered their opinions and recommendations in three other workshops titled "Analyzing Relevant Trade Policies to Ensure Employment, Inclusive Development and Decent Work: Roles of BILS and Trade Unions", "Roles of BILS and Trade Unions to Ensure Decent Work at Workplace" and "Present Situation of Livelihood and Organizing Capacity of Workers-Employees of Six Sectors in Chattogram: Dues toward Development".

During the closing session, the newly elected Executive Council was assembled on the dais, while the general assembly greeted them with hand clapping and standing ovation. The Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan thanked all concerned for their support and cooperation in the past and expected continuation in the future. Thanking everyone for their sincere effort in successfully organizing this event, the Chairman Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz declared the AGM closed.



Workshop on Role of BILS and Trade Unions to address the Challenges of Technological Evolution



Workshop on Role of BILS and Trade Unions to Ensure Decent Work at workplace



Workshop on "Analyzing Relevant Trade Policies to Ensure Employment, Inclusive Development and Decent Work: Roles of BILS and Trade Unions"



Workshop on "Present Situation of Livelihood and Organizing Capacity of Workers-Employees of Six Sectors in Chattogram: Dues toward Development"

Day-long workshop with Industrial Police RMG management, Trade Union representatives and workers



US Ambassador Robert Earl Miller addressed the workshop

A day-long workshop with Industrial Police, RMG industry representatives, Trade Union representatives and workers was organized on August 7, 2019 at the Conference Hall of Industrial Police-4 (Kanchpur) in Narayanganj. It was organized under the project titled 'Industrial Police and Bangladesh Ready Made Garment Community Engagement Activity' funded by USAID, where BILS is one of the implementing partners.

The workshop discussed the duties of an Industrial Police including the working environment, daily life, challenges and limitations. In the workshop, three case studies were discussed in three groups and the results were presented. The workshop was conducted by Karl-o-Clark of ICITAP.

US Ambassador Robert Earl Miller was the chief guest at the

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Experience sharing meeting on ILO conventions and recommendations for preventing violence and torture at workplace



Participants at the experience sharing meeting

An experience sharing meeting was jointly organised by BILS and Care Bangladesh on July 31, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka in a view to assist the formulation of the ILO Convention and recommendations for prevention of violence and abuse against

women at workplace. The meeting was chaired by the President of Women Committee of Jatiya Sramik League Rowshan Jahan Shathi, while BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Director Kohinoor Mahmood, Nazma Yesmin and a

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Orientation workshop on counseling and volunteerism



Participants of the training

BILS Migrant Workers Empowerment Project organised two day-long orientation and training workshop on capacity building in counseling and volunteerism on August 22 and 24, 2019 at BILS office, Manikganj.

The objectives of these trainings were to develop capacity of the volunteers on Migrant Workers rights issues and to know about project activities and vital role in field level.

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BILS-DTDA partnership Meeting held



BILS leaders and DTDA Representative at the meeting

Partnership Meeting of BILS DTDA project was held from September 21-25, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka. The workshop was organised to evaluate the previous programmes and to discuss about forth coming programmes of the project.

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Interns Report Dissemination Seminar held

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The event was attended by the concerned internship programme supervisor, students, trade union leaders, journalist, sector representatives and organisers.

The opening session of the program was presided over by member of the LRSC coordination Committee, and TUC Chattogram District president Tapan Datta. BILS senior officer Rizwanur Rahman Khan, who was in charge of assisting internship activities on behalf of BILS-LRSC, conducted the seminar.

After the formal opening of the program, intern students one after another presented their drafted reports on screen. Later, present Trade Union leadership, journalist, sector-based organisers and program participants delivered their valuable opinion on the reports. Intern students noted down all the important points raised, added the probable changes and then senior leadership including the internship program supervisor opined on the suggestions and concluded the seminar. Intern students presented reports on RMG, Hotel, Health, Port, Railway and Beauty Parlor sector of Chattagram during the seminar.

Study and training camp held for youth organisers

(After Page-11)

ILO ACTRAV South Asia Workers Specialist Syed Sultan Uddin Ahmmed, FES Residential Representative Tina Marie Blohm, BILS Executive Council Member Md. Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, BILS Director Nazma Yesmin, FES Program Coordinator Arunduty Rani, BILS Senior Program Officer Monirul Kabir and youth Trade Union organisers from different National Trade Union Federations participated in the study and training camp.

Advance training held on leadership development

(After Page-11)

union activities and implementing strategy through identifying area based problems.

BILS Joint-Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, SKOP Joint Convener Quamrul Ahsan, IBC Secretary General Salauddin Shapon, BILS Director Nazma Yesmin was present at the inaugural session.

Youth leaders and organisers of SKOP and BILS affiliated Trade Union Federations at RMG sector and IndustriAll associated Federations and area based union committees participated in the training programme.

German Deligation Visit

(After Page-12)

activities, future plan and area of cooperation.

In the delegation, Christiane Alff, Advisor of Oiko-Credit, Susanne Grünschoß, Fashion Designer, Prev. Hess-Natur, CSR-Manager, Mirjam Hitzelberger, Project Coordinator, Fair for School, Susanne Kammer, Head of One-World-Forum, Stuttgart, Gerlinde Maier-Lamparter, Fair Trade Store Owner Member of Education Working Group of Fair Trade Stores in Germany, Volker Rekitke, Journalist, Ulrike Schuny, Worker Council Representative, Digel Men's Wear, Marie Rinas, Education Advisor Epiz, Daniel Sauerbeck, ZF-Friedrichshafen, Workers Council Advisor, IG Metall, Kirsten Tretter, Lecturer, One World Initiative, Director of Fair Trade Store, Tina Blohm, Resedintial Representative, FES, Mi-Suk Sara Choi, Independent Researcher, Political Sciences Major were present. On behalf of BILS, Naimul Ahsan Jewel, Member, Advisory Council, Adv. Delwar Hossain Khan, Secretary of Executive Council, Kohinoor Mahmood, and Nazma Yesmin, Director, Abu Eusuf Mollah, Consultant, and Md. Yousuf Al Mamun, Deputy Director were present Arunduty Rani, Programme Coordinator, FES, Josef Mechlaoui, Junior Project Officer, FES were present the discussion meeting.

Bangla Massive Open Online Course

(After Page-1)

chief guest, while BILS Chairman Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz was in the chair. Executive Director of the International Center for Development and Decent Work at the University of Kassel Prof. Christoph Scherrer, Workers Specialist of ILO, ACTRAV, South Asia Syed Sultan Uddin Ahmmed, DGB BW Regional Consultant, Asia Indira Gartenberg, President of Bangladesh Apparel Professional Society Major (Retd) Mizanur Rahman Khan, BJSD President Anwar Hossain, SSF General Secretary Razekuzzaman Ratan researchers, academicians, leaders of the National Trade Union Federations, officials of government and non-government organizations and representatives of national and international organizations were also present on the occasion and delivered speech.

Prof. Shamser Ali said, "We are working to ensure Decent Work for the workers. It could be ensured through coordinated effort of workers and owners. Online courses are not yet common in Bangladesh. As a result of BILS initiative, the working people in Bangladesh will be aware of their rights. The solution to ongoing problems over the ages has to be resolved through negotiation. Everyone has to work together. Through this course the workers will be benefited as well, both society and state will be benefitted and aware.

This is to be mentioned that Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) aims at providing Bangla-speaking users with analytical skills and practical tools and strategies for improving workers' rights and strengthening industrial relations to achieve sustainable and inclusive development in Bangladesh. The course is primarily targeted at mid-level trade unionists and labour activists in Bangladesh. At the same time, the broad theme of sustainable and inclusive development, as well as the combination of academic and policy debates in discussing the various topics, is likely to attract users

Discussion Meeting on 100 Years of ILO



Leaders and Participants at the meeting

Sromik Sanghoti Forum a LRSC Civil Society Network, formed under BILS-DGB-BW project organised a discussion meeting on “100 Years of ILO, 8-Hours Workday Declaration: Bangladesh Perspectives” on July 29, 2019 at the Chattogram District Council auditorium.

The discussion meeting was presided over by Convener of Ship Breaking Workers’ Trade Union Forum Tapan Datta. Eminent researcher on labour issues and

educationist Professor Dr. Fasiul Alam was the chief guest and key-discussant of the meeting. Among others, Advocate Ashish Kumar Datta, a practitioner of Chattogram Labour Court, Md. Safar Ali, president of Ship Breaking Workers Trade Union Federation, A M Nazimuddin, Chairman of BILS-LRSC Coordination Committee, Advocate Zinnat Amin of BLAST, Dipti Sarkar of SANGSAPTOK,

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Two-day long capacity building training for youth and women TU leadership on Migrant Workers



Leaders at the training

BILS Migrant Workers Empowerment Project organised a two-day long capacity building training for youth and women TU leaderships on September 14-15, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka. Main objectives of this training were Migrant and returning

Migrant Workers involvement in Trade Union and creating expert organisers and network. National context of migration, legal, social and TU perspectives of migrant workers and developing organizing plan and strategy were key issues of the training.

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Study circle with youth Trade Union organisers



Leaders and youth trade union organisers present at the study circle

BILS, with the support of Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) organised a study circle with youth Trade Union organisers on July 23, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka.

Main objectives of the study circle were lesson learnings and experiences sharing of previous study circles, Identifying expectations of upcoming youth camp and design and planning of the youth camp.

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BILS Executive Council and Advisory Council Joint meeting held



BILS EC and AC Member present at the meeting

BILS Executive Council and Advisory Council Joint meeting was held on September 07, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka.

Among BILS Advisory Council Members, Mesbahuddin Ahmed, Professor Jahanara Begum, Shahidullah Chowdhury,

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Consultation meeting on Inclusive Economic

(After Page-12)

study on this issue, which was shared at the meeting in a nutshell for getting recommendations from Trade Union leaders, academicians, government and nongovernment organisations officials and civil society representatives.

The meeting was chaired by BILS Vice Chairman Md. Mojibur Rahman Bhuiyan, while Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan delivered welcome address. BILS Advisory Council Member Shah Mohd. Abu Zafar was present at the meeting as Moderator. The concept note was presented by IPF Consultant Muhammad Aminul Islam and PPRC Research Fellow Mohammad Abdul Wazed.

The speakers opined, Trade Unions should be prioritised in line with present situation, where Neoliberal Capitalism exists and in this case democracy of Trade Union and organising informal sector are key factors to address forthcoming challenges. They mentioned, national and international development agendas like SDG, Vision-2021, FYP's impact should be addressed through prioritisation, consolidation and research based arguments and advocacy. Policy intervention to address these challenges will be a BILS issue, they added.

Among others, BILS Advisory Council Member Mesbahuddin Ahmed and Shahidullah Chowdhury, BILS Vice Chairman Anwar Hossain, Secretary Abdul Kader Hawlader and Abul Kalam Azad, Professor of Sociology Department of University of Dhaka Dr. Monirul Islam Khan, Chairmen of Sociology Department of Jagannath University Professor Dr. Rezaul Karim, Assistant Professor of the Department of Social Welfare at Jagannath University Mostafiz Ahmed were present and discussed at the meeting.

RTI Orientation Training held for Trade Union leaders

(After Page-12)

BILS Seminar Hall respectively on July 6 and 7, 2019.

The main objectives of the trainings were to inform and discuss with Trade Union leaders about Right To Information act 2009, to discuss about the process of getting information from specific sectors and activities when information is not available according to demand and to utilize Right to Information Act in a view to protect rights of Trade Union and workers and establish justice for them.

These trainings were organised to provide practical lesson for making leaders enable to practice this act for their necessity and empowerment.

At the inaugural session, BILS Joint-Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Programme Coordinator of MJF Adv. Jafrul Hasan Sharif and BILS Director Nazma Yesmin discussed about the objectives and outcomes of these trainings sharing different success stories of Trade Union using RTI Act as tools.

Executive Director of MRDI Hasibur Rahman, News Editor of Channel I Mir Mashrur Zaman, Project Manager of Bureau of Economic Research (BER) at University of Dhaka Hamidul Islam Hillol and Deputy Director (Information) of BILS Md. Yousuf Al-Mamun conducted different sessions of the training programme.

Training programme for each day were divided into five sessions, where introduction to RTI, using of RTI, salient features of RTI Act-2009 and finding out strategies on using of RTI Act-2009 among the stakeholders were discussed. A group work followed by an evaluation was also included in a session.

Leaders of various national Trade Union Federations and local Trade Unions participated in these trainings.

BILS Publications

গার্মেন্টস শিল্পের শ্রমিকদের জন্য
৭টি গ্রেডে মাসিক নিম্নতম মজুরী
বোধিত হয়েছে



সর্বনিম্ন গ্রেডে নিম্নতম মজুরী
৮০০০ টাকা
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- BILS published and distributed a Brochure Titled "Are you getting 8000 Taka minimum wage for lowest grade?"

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- BILS published and distributed a Brochure Titled "Massive Open online course in Bangla"

Opinion sharing meeting on implementation of field level activities



BILS Leaders at the meeting

BILS Migrant Worker Empowerment Project organised an opinion sharing meeting titled "Implementation of Field Level Activities: Experience, challenges and Way Forward" on August 5, 2019 at BILS office, Manikganj.

BILS Joint Secretary General and Migrant Workers Empowerment Project Advisory Committee Chairman Dr. Wajedul Islam Khan chaired the meeting. While BILS

Executive Council Member Md. Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, Umma Hasan Jhalmal, Md. Abdul Wahed and Pulak Ranjan Dhar, BILS Director Nazma Yesmin, Project Coordinator Md. Syeduzzaman Mithu, District Coordinator Mohammad Zohurul Islam were present at the meeting.

The development of establishing the 'Training and Coordination Center

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BILS observed National Mourning Day



BILS Leaders place floral wreath

BILS leaders paid homage to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on the National Mourning Day by placing floral wreath at his portrait on August 15, 2019 at Dhanmondi Road Number 32, Dhaka.

BILS Executive Council Members Abdul Wahed, Pulak Ranjan Dhar, BILS Consultant Abu Eusuf Molla, Deputy

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Certification training held on workers' health and sanitation at workplace



Participants at the training

As part of BILS-SNV project activities, a two-day long certification training titled 'Workers' Health, Sanitation and wellbeing at workplace: Laws and Policies' was held on August 23-24, 2019 at Hotel High Garden, Uttara, Dhaka with a specific focus on the

workers' health and wellbeing of readymade garment sector.

The objectives of the training were to reinforce delegates' understanding of existing National and International standards related to health, sanitation and

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Three day Trainers Training held



Leaders at the training in Chattogram

BILS under its DGB-BW project, organised a Three day Training Programme for the Trainers from TUs was held on July 25-27, 2019 at the seminar hall of Hotel Regent Park, Chattogram.

The inaugurating session of the Trainers Training was presided over by BILS-LRSC

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Day-long workshops with Industrial Police

(After Page-3)

workshop. BGMEA President Dr. Rubana Haque, former President of BGMEA as well as Chairman of OPEX and Sinha Group Anisur Rahman Sinha, BILS Vice Chairman and President of Jatiya Sramik League Alhaj Sukkur Mahamud, Deputy Commissioner of Narayanganj Jashim Uddin, Additional Inspector General of Industrial Police Abdus Salam, Police Super of Industrial Police-4 Mohammad Zahidul Islam, Senior Joint Secretary of BKMEA Mohammad Sharif Hossain, Senior Deputy Secretary of BGMEA Abul Hossain, Country Program Director of the solidarity Center Jon Hartough and Coordinator of the project from BILS Abu Yusuf Mollah addressed among others at the workshop.

The main implementing agency of the project is ICITAP, situated in the US Department of Justice's Criminal Division and funded primarily by the US State Department. The main aim of the project is to increase communication and credibility among the stakeholders, increase the professional skills of the Industrial Police and positive promotion.

Orientation and training workshops on capacity building

(After Page-3)

The training provided knowledge on steps of safe immigration, problems, challenges and way forward, detail of agencies and organisations working on immigration and national and international laws and certifications on immigration, necessity of reintegration of Migrant Workers to society and the services and activities of the organisation during and after the migration process etc.

Youth Trade Union organisers from BILS affiliated National Trade Union Federations of Manikganj Area Committee attended the training.

Experience sharing meeting on ILO

(After Page-3)

number of TU leaders spoke among others.

Government, employers and labour representatives from Bangladesh participated in the ILO's 108th International Labour Conference for the prevention of violence and torture against women at workplace. The government and labour representatives played a positive role in case of adoption of the convention and the recommendations. The meeting was organised to exchange experiences on adoption of The Violence and Harassment Convention (190), 2019, and Violence and Harassment Recommendation (206), 2019.

Discussion Meeting on 100 Years of ILO

(After Page-5)

Rizwanur Rahman Khan of BILS, Md. Shariful Islam of IGU, TU leader Md. Shafi Bangali & Md. Nurul Absur spoke in the discussion meeting. The discussion meeting was moderated by BILS senior Officer Pahari Bhattacharjee.

In his speech Professor Dr. Fasiul Alam said through century long struggle the 8-hours workday has been established. The formation of ILO was a great achievement in terms of protecting workers rights and social dignity worldwide. In our country we have failed to establish the 8-hours workday for the workers in true sense. Yet our working class people are contributing a lot to the national economic growth and the GDP. The workers in most informal sectors are facing difficulties in terms of proper wages, leave and other law-covered benefits. We have to take proper steps for the workers sake, he urged all.

Other speakers in the meeting opined that we have to change our overall outlook regarding the labour sector. If, for both male and female workers, we cannot ensure the right to choose job, work independently and live a decent

life, we cannot be a civilized and developed nation as well, they said. The meeting was participated by TU leaders, CSO & NGO activists connected with the network.

Two-day long capacity building training for youth and women

(After Page-5)

BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Executive Council Member Md. Abdul Wahed, Md. Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, Umma Hasan Jhalmal and Pulak Ranjan Dhar, BILS Director Nazma Yesmin, Labour Law expert Adv. Nazrul Islam, BILS Migrant WEP Project Coordinator Md. Syaduzzaman Mithu and Youth and Women Trade Union leader from National Trade Union Federation were present at the training.

BILS-DTDA partnership Meeting held

(After Page-3)

Special Consultant of DTDA Jens Aarup, Head of SRO Manila, Philippines Peter Lunding, BILS Chairman Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz, Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan, Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Director Kohinoor Mahmood and Nazma Yesmin, Deputy Director M A Mazid, Monirul Islam Khan & Yousuf Al Mamun along with other BILS officials were present in the meeting.

Capacity building training for youth TU organisers in Migrant Workers issues

(After Page-11)

the rights of Migrant Workers, determining the TU's strategy for establishing the rights of Migrant Workers and implementing organisational activities to protect them.

Youth Trade Union organisers from BILS affiliated National Trade Union Federations of Manikganj area committee attended the training.

Three day Training on Organising and Collective Bargaining



Leaders and participants at the training

BILS under its DGB-BW project organized a three day training program on “Organising and Capacity Building” of youth and women was held on September 13-15, 2019 at the seminar hall of Hotel Alina, Chattagram.

The training was discussed as “Reviewing Present Scenario of Different Labour Sectors of Chattagram and Shaping Future Initiatives”, “Trade Union-Formation, Role and Regulations”, “Organising”,

“Challenges of Organising & trade union registration Process”, “Communication in Trade Union”, “Finalising the next 3-months organising Plan”.

The inauguration of the 3-days training was chaired by Member of the BILS-LRSC Coordination Committee and president of TUC Chattagram Tapan Datta. The session was addressed by BILS Vice

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Capacity Assessment Workshop of BILS FNV Project



Participants at the workshop

A Partners Capacity Assessment Workshop on BILS-FNV Project was held on August 28-29, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka. BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Secretary of Executive Council Abul Kalam Azad, Member of Executive Council Md. Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, Nasrin

Akhter Dina and Kazi Rahima Akhter Sathi, MDF Bangladesh office Director Thilakan Sathasivan, MDF Representative Dr. Mubina Tabassum and Nusrat Haider, BILS Director Kohinoor Mahamood and Nazma Yesmin, Consultant Abu Eusuf Mollah were present among others at the workshop.

Partnership meeting held between BILS and FNV representatives



BILS and FNV representative discussed at the meeting

A partnership meeting was held between BILS and FNV representatives on September 5, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka. Mondiaal FNV Policy Advisor Ruben Korevaar, BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Director Nazma Yesmin, Sr. Programme Officer Chowdhury Borhan Uddin, Decent Work Desk Officer Fariba Tabassum, Programme officer Saifuzzaman Mehrab were present at the meeting among others.

Planning Workshop held on forming Migrant Workers Solidarity Forum



Participants at the workshop

BILS Migrant Workers Empowerment Project organised a planning workshop with representatives from TUs, CSOs, Human Rights organisations to form Migrant Workers Solidarity Forum-MWSF at national level on September 19, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka.

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Study circle with youth Trade Union organisers

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BLF President and BILS Advisory Council Member Shah Mohd. Abu Zafar chaired the programme, while Member Secretary of NCCWE and General Secretary of Jatya Shromik Jote Bangladesh Naimul Ahsan Jewel, BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan, Jayia Sromik Jote Working President Abdul Wahed, BILS Director Kohinoor Mahmood and Nazma Yesmin, BILS Consultant Khandoker A Salam, FES Program Coordinator Arunduty Rani, BILS Sr. Program officer Monirul Kobir were present at the programme.

BILS Executive Council and Advisory Council Joint meeting held

(After Page-5)

Quamrul Ahsan, Naimul Ahsan Jewel and Fazlul Haque Montu were present at the meeting.

BILS Chairman Md. Habibur Rahman Shiraz, Vice Chairman Md. Mojibur Rahaman Bhuiyan, Anwar Hossain, Secretary General Nazrul Islam Khan; Joint Secretary General Md. Zafrul Hasan, Dr. Wajedul Islam Khan and Md. Serajul Islam, Secretary Adv. Delwar Hossain Khan, A. M. Nazim Uddin, Rowshan Jahan Sathi, Abdul Kader Hawlader, Nurul Islam Khan Nasim, Md Safar Ali, Md. Alauddin Mia and Abul Kalam Azad, Executive Member Kutubuddin Ahmed, Abdul Wahed, Md. Shakil Akhter Chowdhury, Umma Hassan Jhalmal, B. M Zafar, Pulak Ranjan Dhar, Nasrin Akter Dina and Kazi Rahima Akhter Sathi were present from Executive Council. BILS Director Kohinoor Mahmood also attended the meeting from BILS Management.

Opinion sharing meeting on implementation of field level activities

(After Page-7)

for Migrant Workers' and 'Information and Assistance Center for Migrant Workers' in Manikganj, and views of experiences of the project staffs in implementing the field level activities were discussed at the meeting.

Certification training held on workers' health and sanitation at workplace

(After Page-7)

well-being conditions at workplace, to strengthen their competency to conduct workplace assessment by using exclusive tool and to develop and implement effective health, sanitation and well-being programme in their respective organisations.

Bangladesh Apparel Professionals Society-BAPS President Major (Retd.) Md. Mizanur Rahman Khan, Global Sustainable Certification Services Limited-GSCS Managing Director Abdul Mottaleb, BILS Director Nazma Yesmin were present at the certificate giving ceremony, while mid-level professionals at RMG sector participated in the training.

BILS observed National Mourning Day

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Director (Information) Md. Yousuf Al Mamun, Senior Officer (HR & Admin) Niamat Ali and BILS Youth Forum Leaders were present on the occasion.

Three day Trainers Training held

(After Page-7)

Centre Coordination Committee Chairman A M Nazimuddin. The opening session was also addressed by the member secretary of BILS-LRSC Md. Safar Ali, BILS Program Consultant and Senior Trainer Khandoker Abdus

Salam, Information and documentation Officer, Pahari Bhattacharjee and Senior Officer Rizwanur Rahman Khan.

A total number of 19 participants from different NTUCs took part in the 3-days program. Among them, 13 were male while 6 others were female participants.

In the 3-days training program the participants were briefed on their role under BILS-DGB-BW 2019-2021 project phase. The specific role of women, youth and local leadership of trade union regarding the ongoing project were also discussed. The training participants took part in group activities which they presented later on. The event concluded with evaluation of the 3-days activities done so far.

3-Days Training on Organizing

(After Page-9)

Chairman and president of BJSD central committee Anwar Hossain, BILS Senior trainer & consultant Khandoker Abdus Salam, BILS Senior officer Pahari Bhattacharjee & Rizwanur Rahaman Khan.

Planning Workshop held on forming Migrant Workers Solidarity Forum

(After Page-9)

BILS Joint Secretary General Dr. Wajedul Islam Khan presided over the meetnig, while BILS Advisory Council Member Naimul Ahsan Jewel, Vice Chairman Alhaj Sukkur Mahamud and Trade Union leaders from Sramik Karmochari Oikko Porishod-SKOP and TU leaders, representatives from Human Rights organisations, CSOs and NGOs participated in the workshop.

Study and training camp held for youth organisers



Participants in a group photo

BILS with support of Freidrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) organised a three-day long "Youth Study and Training Camp 2019" held on August 23-25, 2019 at CCDB Hope Center, Savar, Dhaka aiming to boost up the youth Trade Union organisers from different National Trade Union Federations in Bangladesh.

Main objectives of the programme were to create common understanding on contemporary

labour and TU issues among the participants and to develop participants' skills in different fields and to create positive motivation to youth organisers for promotion of values towards Trade Union development and leadership skill. The programme was conducted by various sessions such as, research, report and Future of work etc.

BILS Vice Chairman Anwar Hossain,

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Advance training held on leadership development at RMG sector



Participants at the training

BILS, with the support of Mondiaal FNV organised a four-day advanced training on leadership development at RMG sector on July 14-15 and 20-21, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka.

This training programme was organised aiming to enhance skills of union formation, training for youth

leaders' of federations and area based labour leaders at RMG sector. The main objectives of the training were building the capacity of the participants to play effective role for ensuring workers' rights, identifying violations and prevention against those, involving them actively in

» Page 4, Column-2 »

Workshop on wage determination and payment method in the RMG sector



Participants at the workshop

BILS, with Support of Mondiaal FNV organised a workshop on wage determination and payment method in the RMG sector on August 20-21, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka.

Main Objective of the workshop was to provide ideas to trade union leaders about wage determination and payment method. RMG Sector leaders from SKOP affiliated and BILS affiliated National Trade Union Federations and IndustriAll affiliated Federations and Unions attended the workshop.

Capacity building training for youth TU organisers in Migrant Workers issues



Participants at the training

BILS-Migrant Workers Empowerment Project organised a capacity building training for youth Trade Union organisers on August 3-4, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Main objectives of the training were capacity building of youth TU organisers for playing effective roles in protecting

» Page 8, Column-3 »

RTI Orientation Training held for Trade Union leaders



Leaders and participants at the training

BILS in cooperation with UK Aid and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) organised two day-long orientation trainings for national and local Trade Union leaders on Right To Information at

» Page 6, Column-2 »

Interns Report Dissemination Seminar held



Leaders at the seminar

BILS organized a Seminar for the dissemination of the reports on selected labour sectors prepared by the intern students was held on August 27, 2019 at the seminar hall of Hotel Alina, Chattagram.

» Page 4, Column-1 »

German Deligation Visits BILS Office



BILS Leaders and German delegation in a group photo

A German delegation visited BILS office and participated in a discussion meeting with BILS leadership on September 9, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall, Dhaka. The issues of the discussion were to prioritize area of cooperation, to exchange

research based information and knowledge sharing.

BILS Joint Secretary General and Executive Director Md. Zafrul Hasan welcomed the delegation and briefed them about BILS policy,

» Page 4, Column-2 »

Consultation meeting on Inclusive Economic Growth, Employment and Position Paper for BILS and Trade Unions



Leaders discussed at the meeting

A consultation meeting titled "Inclusive Economic Growth and Employment: Position Paper for BILS and Trade Unions" organised by BILS-DTDA (Former LO-FTF) Project was held on July 27, 2019 at BILS Seminar Hall.

to collect opinion on preparing a Trade Union position paper for achieving inclusive economic growth as per present national development structure, in a view to create more employment for the workers. BILS recently conducted a

The objective of the meeting was

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