

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Labour & Employment  
Planning Section (Labour-4)

Information in connection with the  
USDOL's 2009 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour  
and  
List of Goods Produced by Child Labour, Forced Labor

**SECTION 1: WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR**

This request for information will contribute to the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) **tenth annual report under the Trade and Development Act of 2000**, to be published in late 2011. The following questions outline the types of information USDOL includes in this report. Please review your country's 2009 profile available at: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/programs/ocft/tda.htm>. You need not respond to all questions, only those that address gaps in information, areas requiring clarification, or updates **for the period January-December 2010**. For definitions and terms used for USDOL's reports, please see the "DEFINITIONS" section at the end of this request.

**A: INFORMATION REQUESTED**

**1. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR:**

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country's 2009 TDA profile, and **provide any updates for 2010**.

	Questions	Replies/Information
1.	1. In what sectors or activities were children involved in worst forms of child labor? Examples include hazardous work in broad sectors such as agriculture or construction; street work or domestic service in third party homes; commercial sexual exploitation of children; and use of children in illicit activities such as forced begging or drug trafficking.	As a signatory of the ILO Convention No. 182 (Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999), Bangladesh has to publish a list of hazardous works befitting with the socio-economic condition of the country. Several national level workshops, seminars and meetings were held to finalize the list. Recently, in a national consultation held in August, 2010, 49 sectors were recommended to be hazardous. Finally, a working committee has suggested a list of hazardous works containing 36 sectors. The both lists will be placed in the Tripartite Consultative Council (representative Government-Employer-Worker) meeting, expected to be held soon, for final approval.

2.	Did the government collect or publish data on exploitive child labor during the period? If so, is the government willing to share the raw data (“data set”) with USDOL for further analysis?	The Government of Bangladesh through the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) periodically collects and publishes data on child labour. In 2010 the BBS has collected data on child labour in the fish drying industries. The survey report will be sent to you when available.
----	--	--

## 2. LAWS AND REGULATIONS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR:

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country’s 2009 TDA profile, and **provide any updates for 2010.**

	Questions	Replies/Information
1.	<p>What, if any, <b>new laws or regulations</b> were enacted during the reporting period in regard to the worst forms of child labor? Relevant laws would include those that pertain to the minimum age for employment, minimum age for hazardous work, prohibition of hazardous work activities to children (including a list of prohibited occupations/ activities), age to which education is compulsory, guarantee of free education, minimum age for military recruitment, and laws prohibiting engagement of a child in forced labor, trafficking, prostitution, pornography, or use of a child for illegal activities (including drug trafficking). Please name each law and list date enacted, and if available, provide a copy of the legal text.</p>	<p>1. No new laws or regulations have been enacted recently regarding the worst forms of child labour. But, Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 is followed regarding any labour issues including worst form of child labour. So, the following issues are given under the Bangladesh Labour Act,2006 in response to your query:</p> <p>a) Minimum age for employment:<b>14 yrs</b> (Section 34)  b) Minimum age for hazardous work: <b>16 yrs.</b> ( Section -39)  c) Prohibition of hazardous work activities :  No adolescent shall be allowed in establishment to clear, lubricate or adjust any part of machinery while that part is in motion or to work between moving parts or between fixed and moving parts of any machinery which is in motion.</p> <p>The new laws/policies enacted/formulated in 2010:  1) The Ministry of Labour and Employment has formulated <b>National Child Labour Elimination Policy, 2010</b>. In line with this a National Plan of Action is being developed.  2) The Ministry of Social Welfare has formulated <b>Children Act 2010</b> where the age</p>

	<p>of a child has been set 18 years.</p> <p>3) <b>National Education Policy, 2010</b> which aims to ensure compulsory and free primary education for every child up to grade eight (average age 14 years).</p> <p>4) The Ministry of Labour and Employment has drafted “<b>Domestic Workers’ Protection and Welfare Policy</b>”. This will obviously help to protect the rights of domestic workers as well as child domestic worker from the worst form of Child Labour. It is expected that some specific policies will be made for the working condition of the domestic child Labour. This policy will be placed for approval by Tripartite Consultative Council (TCC) in due course of time.</p> <p>5) The Ministry of Home Affairs has drafted a comprehensive Law Against Human Trafficking Act to address all forms of trafficking and to combat heinous crime more effectively which includes prostitution, pornography.</p> <p><b>Laws prohibiting agreement of a child forced labour, trafficking prostitution, pornography or use of a child for illegal activities (including drug trafficking:</b> The government has taken initiative to formulate a new law on Human Trafficking. Apart from the new offence of ‘human trafficking’ and the organized crime of human trafficking, the draft law provides for a number of ancillary offences, which have principally come from some existing statutes including the Penal Code 1860 and the Nari O Shshu Nirjaton Daman Ain 2000 (Law related to Women &amp; Children suppression prevention).The Ancillary offences include, e.g., the offence of importation or internal transfer of persons for prostitution, or stealing infants for the purpose of trafficking. These offences intend to retard and stop the demand side of human trafficking. That is, if prostitution and brothels cannot be criminalized, trafficking</p>
--	--

	<p>may not become abated optimally. With regard of repeal of old laws, a complete repeal of the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act 1933 and repeal of sections 5 and 6 of the Nari O Shishu Daman Ain 2000 are proposed. The Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act has been rechecked to ensure that essential provisions are not being deleted. The Act provided for offences of traffic for immoral purposed and for the control of brothels, which may now be attained under the draft law.</p>
--	---

### 3. GOVERNMENT TASK FORCES OR COMMISSIONS ON CHILD LABOR:

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country's 2009 TDA profile, and provide any updates for 2010.

	Questions	Replies/Information
1.	<p>Has the government established any task forces or commissions to <b>coordinate government</b> efforts on issues of worst forms of child labor overall? Has the government established any such bodies to focus on a particular worst form of child labor, such as child trafficking or begging? If any of the above bodies exist, please describe their composition and any activities undertaken in 2010.</p>	<p>In line with the National Child Labour Elimination Policy, 2010 the Government has taken initiative to establish National/District/Upazilla level monitoring committees on Child Labour situation in the country as well as to coordinate all promotional activities carried out in the country by government organizations, non government organizations as well international organizations. The Government has also initiated establishment of a <b>National Child Labour Welfare Council</b>. The committees and the welfare council will be approved by the Tripartite Consultative Council (TCC) in due course of time.</p> <p>The Ministry of Labour and Employment under the TBP-UIE project has been implementing an action programme for strengthening the capacity of its Child Labour Unit (CLU). The CLU will serve as the secretariat to deal with all child labour related issues. The CLU will compile and disseminate child labour related data collected by different ministries/ departments/ organizations. The CLU has developed Child Labour</p>

		<p>Monitoring Information System (CLMIS) which will be available through CLU website (<a href="http://www.clu-mole.gov">www.clu-mole.gov</a>). The CLMIS and the CLU website have been launched on 29 June 2011. Apart from this the Government has taken substantive initiative to put CLU in the permanent structure of Ministry of Labour and Employment.</p> <p>The unit is playing catalytic role for ensuring that all child labour policies and interventions are planned and executed in an integrated and coordinated manner. There are several key responsibilities where the CLU is mandated to play a role in eliminating child labour. These include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoting, strengthening and coordinating partnership ;</li> <li>• Development of an integrated Child Labour Monitoring and information System;</li> <li>• Facilitating for the finalization of the list of Hazardous work or Occupations ;</li> <li>• Enhancing collaboration and monitoring with partner ministries, institutions and concerned stakeholders, the projects and programmes on the elimination of child labour;</li> <li>• Intervening on issues related to child labour;</li> <li>• Facilitating the formulation of the National plan of Action on Worst forms of Child labour;</li> </ul> <p>The Ministry of Home Affairs is working to combat child trafficking following the National Plan of Action, 2008. Preparation of a new <b>National Plan of Action 2012</b> is also in progress.</p>
--	--	---

4. INSTITUTION AND MECHANISMS FOR ENFORCEMENT OF LABOR LAWS REGARDING CHILD LABOR AND HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOR:

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country's 2009 TDA profile, and provide any updates for 2010.

	Questions	Replies/Information
1.	What agency or agencies was/were responsible for the enforcement of laws relating to hazardous child labor?	The Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is the main agency responsible for enforcement of laws relating to all forms of labour including hazardous or worst forms of child labour.
2.	If multiple agencies were responsible for enforcement, were there mechanisms for coordinating enforcement actions? If yes, please describe the coordination mechanism.	The Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is the main agency responsible for enforcement of laws relating to all forms of labour including hazardous or worst forms of child labour. Apart from this other related Ministries such as Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Home Affairs are assisting to facilitate to address the issue.
3.	How many inspectors did the government employ to enforce laws against child labor?	There are 157 Inspectors in the Department of Inspection for Factories & Establishment under the Ministry of Labour & Employment. They are responsible to enforce laws against Child Labour as part of their duties. The number of inspectors is not sufficient to address the child labour issues. Very recently the Government has taken measures to strengthen inspection machineries in Bangladesh by increasing number of inspectors. The Parliamentary standing committee of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is working for restructuring and strengthening of the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments (DIFE). The restructuring and strengthening process includes establishment of district level offices all over the country. In the process of restructuring and strengthening of this department technical assistance is needed.
4.	What amount of funding and other resources (office facilities,	The Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments is a Government organization. It

	vehicles, etc.) were provided to agencies responsible for inspections?	receives annual budget allocation from the Government. To improve their inspection capability massive skill development training, necessary equipment and logistics (including vehicles) are very essential. In ensuring these facilities this Department will be benefited from any sort of technical assistance.
5.	Did inspectors receive training on hazardous child labor? Please describe.	The Inspectors receive training just after joining the service as well as in-service training. The Inspectors are invited to participate in training courses, workshops and seminars organized on child labour which includes hazardous child labour. But the scope of availability and quality of the trainings need to be increased to get desired output from the Inspectors. The availability of overseas training will give the inspectors to be acquainted with the latest development in the inspection system worldwide.
6.	How many inspections involving child labor were carried out? Were inspections carried out in sectors in which children work? How many child labor violations were found?	During all inspections in the formal sectors the inspectors usually carryout inspections whenever and wherever involves child labour. Violations are found in different sectors. These are-(a) Engineering Workshop, (b) Transport, (c) Shops (d) Plastic factory, (e) Hotel and restaurant etc.
7.	Are there systems for referring children found during inspections to appropriate social services? How many children were removed/ assisted as a result of inspections?	The Government has been working for gradual withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour. The children withdrawn are mainstreamed into formal education and provided skill development training in addition to socio-economic empowerment of their parents. Withdrawing children from worst forms of child labour is a continuous process and depends largely on the socio- economic condition of the country. Approximately by twenty thousand (20,000) children were removed as a result of inspection in various sector such as shrimp industry and garments etc.
8.	How many penalties or citations for child labor violations were issued?	Eighteen cases have been filed against child labour.
9.	In cases in which penalties were applied, such as fines, were the fines collected? How are the fines utilized by the Government?	Usually fines are collected for using child labour. In this connection 90,000/- (Ninety thousand) Taka is collected as fine under section 284 in Bangladesh Labour Law, 2006. The Government utilizes the fine-money as revenue expenditure.

5. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS FOR EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF CRIMINAL LAWS ON CHILD FORCED LABOR/ TRAFFICKING, COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND USE OF CHILDREN IN ILLICIT ACTIVITIES:

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country's 2009 TDA profile, and provide any updates for 2010.

	Questions	Replies/Information
1)	What agencies were responsible for enforcement of criminal laws against child forced labor/trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, and/or use of children in illicit activities? (Please provide separate responses per type of offense as needed.)	The Ministry of Home Affairs (the Police force, the law enforcing agency, Border Guards-Bangladesh-BGB). The Government has enacted different laws to deal trafficking. The Anti-Trafficking Unit, under the Ministry of Home affairs, the Criminal Investigation department (CID) deals with the issues. The police and other law enforcement agencies, as well as local government organization are involved in promoting anti-trafficking activities. Legal actions are taken against such criminals through the courts. The continuance of existing programs and activities will help reduce the occurrence to a considerable level or prevent the problem in totality.
2)	If multiple agencies were responsible, do they coordinate activities? If yes, please describe the coordination mechanism.	Although the Ministry of Home Affairs (the Police force, the law enforcing agency, Border Guards-Bangladesh-BGB) play the main role in effective enforcement of criminal laws against child labor there are focal points in relevant Ministries/ Departments to coordinate the activities.
3)	How many investigators did the government employ to enforce laws against the worst forms of child labor mentioned above?	Please see Annex-A for detail.
4)	What amount of funding and other resources (office facilities, vehicles, etc.) were provided to agencies responsible for investigations?	All the Departments responsible for enforcement of criminal laws against child labour are Government organizations. They receive annual budget allocation from the Government. To improve their professional capability aggressive skill development



		<p>training and logistics (including vehicles) are very essential. In ensuring these facilities this departments may be benefited from any sort of technical assistance.</p>
5)	<p>Did investigators receive training on the relevant worst forms of child labor named above? Please describe.</p>	<p>The investigators receive in-service training. Some times they participate in training courses, workshops and seminars organized on these issues.</p> <p>The projects namely i) The Community Based Working Child Protection Project (CBWCP) executed by the Ministry of Home Affairs and ii) Actions for Combating Trafficking-in-Person (ACT) are rendering their training to the persons of Law enforcing agencies. Every year a good number of officers from law enforcing agencies are receiving training under these two projects.</p> <p>The Legal System of our country is a complex one and takes much time to dispose off a case. But the modification of our legal system is included in the present Government's Vision 2021. As part of law enforcement, a few regional gangs are already prosecuted because of trafficking children through the bordering area and the operation is going on regularly against them. The democratic institutions like Anti Corruption Commission, Election Commission, Human Rights Commission and the media are functioning.</p> <p>Present government has already recruited 15 thousand police officers and by the next 3 years another 25 thousand police officers are going to be recruited which will strengthen the efforts. Most recently new 673 senior officer's posts have been approved which will ensure monitoring and supervision of different level of officer's.</p> <p>A data is attached with it which shows the number of persons investigated, prosecuted convicted and sentenced for trafficking</p>

		<p>involving victims under the age of 18 of the country.</p> <p>But the scope of availability and quality of the trainings need to be increased to get desired output from the investigators. The availability of overseas training will give the investigators to be acquainted with the latest development in this type of investigations worldwide.</p>
6)	<p>How many investigations or prosecutions involving any of these worst forms were carried out? Were investigations/ prosecutions carried out in areas where such crimes occur? How many violations involving any of the worst forms of child labor were found?</p>	Please see Annex-A for detail.
7)	<p>Are there systems for referring children found during investigations to appropriate social services? How many children were removed/ assisted as a result of investigations?</p>	The Ministry of Home Affairs (the Police force, the law enforcing agency, Border Guards-Bangladesh-BGB) has developed social integration system for the children found during investigation.
8)	<p>How many convictions were reached?</p>	Please see Annex-A for detail.
9)	<p>In cases in which convictions were reached, such as jail sentences, were the sentences carried out?</p>	Please see Annex-A for detail.

Annex –A:

Number of Cases instituted Relating Human Trafficking specially **Children only**

Sl No	Period	No of Cases instituted Concerning Trafficking	No of Victims Trafficking	No of Victims Recovered	No of Trafficking involved (Accused person)	No of Traffic is Arrested By police and surrendered in the Court	Member of Rehabilitation on of Recovered Victims			
							Parents	NGO	Govt. Safe Home	Total
1.	01.01.2009 to 31.12.2009	25	35	21	87	39	21	0	0	21
2.	01.01.2010 to 31.12.2010	39	68	59	92	30	57	0	2	59
3.	01.01.2011 to	08	19	14	19	07	14	0	0	14

30.04.2011									
Total	72	122	94	198	76	92	0	2	94

**Description of disposal of Under Trail Cases Relating to Human Trafficking specially Children trafficking only**

Sl No.	Period	Total No of Cases ended in conviction	Total No of accused convicted	Total No of Cases ended in acquittal	Total No of accused acquitted	Total No of Cases disposed	Nature of Conviction		
							Death	Life Term	Other Terms & Fine
1.	01.01.2009 to 31.12.2009	5	5	18	43	22	0	4	1
2.	01.01.2010 to 31.12.2010	15	24	22	43	38	0	17	7
3.	01.01.2011 to 30.04.2011	1	1	1	02	2	0	0	1
Total		21	30	41	88	62	0	21	9

## 6. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LAOUR.

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country's 2009 TDA profile, and provide any updates for 2010.

Questions	Replies/Information
1) Did the government have any policies or plans that specifically address child labor or any of its forms? Please describe.	<p>In March, 2010 the Government of Bangladesh has formulated <b>National Child Labour Elimination Policy, 2010</b>. In line with this a National Plan of Action is being developed. This policy has covered some of the informal sectors not covered by the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006.</p> <p>The issue of Child Labour has been incorporated in all major national development projects and plans (like Poverty Reduction Strategy-PRS, National Plan of Action for education and reflection in annual budget etc.). Bangladesh requires technical support for improvement of socio-economic conditions in addition to technical assistance for undertaking programmes on eliminating Child Labour. The most significant challenge is to strengthen the institutional capacity and to get required</p>

		resources to combat child labour.
2)	If there are such policies or plans, please <b>describe any agencies designated</b> to implement each plan, actions identified within the plan, timelines for implementation, and any other concrete measures. Please provide a copy of such plan(s) if possible.	The designated main agency is Ministry of Labour and Employment. However, the following Ministries are contributing in elimination of child labour: Ministry of Women and Children Affairs Ministry of Primary and Mass Education Ministry of Social Welfare Ministry of Home Affairs Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry o Education.
3)	Please describe actions taken under the plan(s) during 2010.	- In July 2010, the Ministry of Labour and Employment has started implementation of a 3rd phase of the project “ <b>Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh</b> ” targeting to withdraw 50,000 children working in hazardous sectors through non-formal education and skill development training. The project is being funded by the Government through Annual Development Programme (ADP) amounting about US \$9.00 million for a three-year period.  - The Government of Bangladesh, with the technical assistance of the Kingdom of the Netherlands under the International Programme for Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) of International Labour Organization (ILO), has been implementing a project targeting elimination of Child Labour from the Urban Informal Economy (UIE) in the Dhaka Metropolitan City. This project is contributing directly in eliminating child labour through Non-formal Education, Skill Development Training, Socio-economic Empowerment of their parents and workplace improvement. The project has a targeted to withdraw about 55 thousands of children from hazardous work.
4)	Did the government have poverty reduction, development, educational or other social policies, such as <b>Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers</b> , etc., that did not explicitly address the worst forms of child labor or any one of the worst forms of child labor,	The Government has Poverty Reduction Strategy-PRS and Sixth Five Year Plan which indirectly help eliminating child labour. In line with these strategy or plan different Ministries/Departments implement various types of development project/programmes for the wellbeing of child

<p>but that might have had an impact on them or it? If so, <b>have any studies been conducted</b> to assess the impact of such a policy on the worst forms of child labor?</p>	<p>labour through reducing discrimination, economic empowerment, livelihood improvement.</p> <p>The Ministry of Primary and Mass Education has adopted <b>National Plan of Action (NPA II, 2003-2015)</b> for Education For All (EFA) to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and identifies Quality Education (particularly in primary, secondary and vocational levels with strong emphasis on girls' education). It has emphasized the critical importance of education and learning for empowering people with knowledge and skills as key elements of human development and poverty reduction. Commensurate with PRS framework and EFA priorities, National Plan of Action (NPA II, 2003-2015) gives pre-eminence to improving the quality of education, gender equity for both girls and boys, making education accessible, inclusive and provided for all. NPA II has set targets on enrolment, dropout, completion, and literacy rate for achievement of EFA goals by 2015. It proposes programmes for specific groups covering pre-school, and school age children, adolescents, young adults, adults, literacy and NFE leading to lifelong learning. It emphasizes the high value of livelihood skills as part of literacy and NFE to make the learning meaningful and ensure learners have access to wage or self-employment and micro-finance as needed to improve the quality of their lives.</p> <p>The Ministry of Home Affairs is working to combat child trafficking following the <b>National Plan of Action, 2008</b>. Preparation of a new National Plan of Action 2012 is also in progress.</p> <p>Ministry of Education has recently formed <b>National Education Policy, 2010</b> which aims to ensure compulsory and free primary</p>
--	--

		<p>education for every child up to grade eight (<b>average age 14 years</b>).</p> <p>The Ministry of Social Welfare (MOSW) has formulated <b>Children Act 2010</b> where the age of a child has been set 18 years.</p> <p>Specific study on the impact of these strategy or plan on child labour is not available. Technical assistance may important for this task.</p>
5)	<p>If there are such policies/plans described in question 4, please describe actions taken under the plan(s) during 2010 and provide a copy of such plan(s) if possible.</p>	<p>Some programmes are mentioned below:</p> <p><b>1) Technical and Vocational Education and Training Reform (TVET) project:</b> The TVETP is funded by the European Commission for a period of five years (2007 - 2011). The project aims to assist Bangladesh in reducing poverty through reforms of technical and vocational education and training policies and systems so that more people can acquire employable skills and thus generate income through wage-earning jobs or self-employment. The rationale for the project stems from the national poverty reduction strategy. The project is intended to contribute to the improvement of productivity in industry and services through better responding to their skills needs; to ensure rapid formation of the national human capital and improved employability of vocational education and training graduates; to enhance labour market participation, social inclusion and empowerment of disadvantaged groups—low literate youth, child labourers, women, and rural communities. The project objectives expected to be achieved through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) TVET policy, management and systems;</li> <li>ii) Quality and relevance of TVET;</li> <li>iii) Management of TVET institutions</li> </ul>

		<p>and teacher training;</p> <p>iv) Workplace skills development; and</p> <p>v) Access to TVET by underprivileged groups including working children.</p> <p><b>2) Primary Education Development Programme-II:</b> PEDP-II officially ends in 2009 but in a transitional period. Built upon the lessons from General Education Project (GEP) 1990–95 and the PEDP-I ended in 2004, PEDP-II is a six-year project from 2004 to 2009. There are 11 development partners (DP) involved in PEDP-II, led by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and including the Government of Bangladesh. The other partners include the World Bank, CIDA, DFID, EC, IDA, Norway, The Netherlands, UNICEF/Australia, and JICA. There are five components in the PEDP-II structure. Of them, the fourth one is for improving and supporting equitable access to quality schooling with some special provisions for promoting equal access of indigenous and children with special needs. The fifth component is about management and monitoring.</p> <p><b>3) The Reaching Out-of-School Children (ROSC) project:</b> The ROSC aims to address children in Bangladesh who do not have access to formal education mainly due to poverty. The project is co-financed by the GoB, the World Bank, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education is responsible for the project.</p> <p><b>4) Protection of Children at Risk (PCAR) Project:</b> A follow-on project</p>
--	--	--

of the former ARISE (Appropriate Resources for Improvement of Children's Environment) under the MoSW supported by UNICEF, the PCAR targets the children without parental care and living in streets in 6 Divisional Cities Bangladesh. It also implements national level activities for Policy and information management system on child protection, institutional capacity development on professional social work and alternative care system and pilot implementation of child protection system in urban and rural areas.

**5) Female Secondary School Assistance Project-II:** The Second Female Secondary School Assistance Project, funded by the World Bank, aims to improve the quality of, and girls' access to, secondary education in rural areas of Bangladesh.

**6) Basic Education for Hard to Reach Urban Working Children (BEHTRUWC):** Basic Education for the Hard-To-Reach Urban Working Children (BEHTRUWC) Project, 2nd Phase, a USD 20 Million project, has been planned to achieve quality life-skills based basic education, livelihood education, and advocacy for improved environment for working children in six divisional cities in Bangladesh over a period of five years. The project targets 200,000 working children of ages between 10-14 years for basic education through establishing 8,000 learning centres (LC) for a period of 40 months each and targets 20,000 children of age 13+ for livelihood education. Besides, activities is also planned to advocate for and build the capacity of the families of the children and stakeholders of the project.



	<p>7) <b>Empowerment &amp; Protection of Children (EPC) Project:</b> Implemented by the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) through NGOs. This project is targeting the orphans and otherwise marginalized children – such as, street children, drug users, victims of sex exploitation, acid survivors, and disaster affected children and adolescent boys and girls (Kishori Avizan).</p> <p>8) <b>Community Based Working Child Protection Project (CBWCP):</b> This project is being executed by MoHA. The project has been initiated to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh by enhancing preventive and protective measures, improving victim care and strengthening the GOB’s capacity to prosecute traffickers and trafficking related crimes.</p> <p>9) <b>Actions for Combating Trafficking-in-Persons (ACT):</b> Funded by USAID through IOM, this program has been initiated as an effort to assist the GOB to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh through the prevention of trafficking-in-persons, enhancing the protection of the victims and improving victim care, and strengthening the GOB’s capacity to prosecute traffickers and trafficking related crimes to help ensure that the rule of law and human security are improved.</p>
--	---

**7. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE OR PREVENT CHILD LABOR.**

Please respond to gaps in information or areas requiring clarification noted in this section of your country’s 2009 TDA profile, and provide any updates for 2010.

	Questions	Replies/Information
1)	Did the government participate in or	The social sectors programmes are

	<p>implement any programs specifically to address child labor in 2010? Please describe types of services provided and number of children served if applicable.</p>	<p>indirectly contributing elimination of child labour. The areas of support include: Children in the Urban Informal Economy, Street Children, Stipend for Primary students, School Feeding, Dropout Students, Stipend for Female Students, Stipend for Poor boys, Maternal health voucher scheme, Rural Employment, Community Nutrition Programme, Poor lactating mother, Students for Government and Non-Government Orphanages, Stipend and grants for disable students, Cash/Food for Work, Housing Support, VGD, VGF, TR, Food Assistance in Hill tracks, Employment Generation for Hardcore Poor in SIDR Area, Micro-Credit for Women Self-Employment, Micro-Credit for Self-Employment of Youth, Micro-Credit in Social Sector Services, Welfare of Acid Burt and Disables, Garments Workers Training and Support, Small and Poultry Farming, Small Entrepreneurship, Housing for Homeless, Agro-based industries (Please see <b>Annex B</b>)</p>
2)	<p>Did the government <b>address child labor through poverty reduction, development, educational or other social programs</b>, such as conditional cash transfer programs or eligibility for school meals, etc? Please describe. If available, provide information on the impact of such programs on child labor.</p>	<p>The government implements various programs for the welfare of the children which directly or indirectly help eliminating child labour. The priority areas of the programmes are mentioned in the previous section. There is no comprehensive study on the impacts of these programmes on child labour. To boast up these programmes and to carry out a comprehensive study on the impact of these programmes on child labour, technical assistance may play a vital role.</p>
3)	<p>Were the programs targeted to the children <b>at greatest risk</b> of involvement in child labor? Which children?</p>	<p>The priority areas of the programmes are mentioned in the previous section.</p>
4)	<p>Did the government provide funding to the programs described above? If so, please provide the amount and duration of funding. Or, if the government provided in-kind support, please describe the nature of the support.</p>	<p>The programmes targeting children or child labour receive both cash and in-kind support from the Government. The contribution of the Government showed gradual increase representing around 2.76 percent of GDP in recent years.</p>

**8) RESPONSE TO “SUGGESTIONS FOR GOVERNMENT ACTION” IN THE 2009 PROFILE**

	Questions	Replies/Information
1)	USDOL welcomes any corrections, additions, feedback, or updates to efforts undertaken by the government that address the specific suggestions for government action noted at the conclusion of your country’s 2009 profile.	-

**B: QUESTIONS**

Questions regarding this information request may be directed to Tina McCarter at (202) 693-4846 or [mccarter.tina@dol.gov](mailto:mccarter.tina@dol.gov).

- Not applicable.

## Annex B: Social Safety Net Budget FY 2008 – 09

Non-Development Total Budget:
A.1: Cash Transfer (Allowances) Program
A.1.i: Social Protection
1 Old Age Allowance (MOSW)
2 Allowances for the Widowed, Deserted and Destitute Women (MOWCA)
3 Allowances for the Financially Insolvent Disabled (MOWSW)
4 Maternity allowance program for the Poor Lactating Mothers (MOWCA)
5 Honorarium for Insolvent Freedom Fighters (MOFWA)
6 Honorarium for Injured Freedom Fighters (MOFWA)
7 Grants for Residents in Government Orphanages and other institutions (MOSW)
8 Capitation Grants for Orphan Students in non-government orphanages (MOSW)
9 Gratuitous Relief (Cash) (MOFDM)
10 General Relief Activities (MOFDM)
11 Block Allocation for Disaster Management
12 Non-Bengali Rehabilitation (MOFDM)
13 Allowances for Distressed Cultural Personalities/Activists (MOCA)
14 Allowances for beneficiaries in Ctg. Hill Tract area.
15 Pension for Retired Government Employees or their Families
ii) Social Empowerment
.
1 Stipend for Disabled Students (MOSW)
2 Grants for the Schools for the Disabled (MOSW)
(A.2) Cash Transfer (Special) Program
(A.2.i) Social Protection
1 Cash For Work (MOFDM)
(A.2.ii) Social Empowerment
1 Housing Support (MOFDM)
2 Agriculture Rehabilitation (MOA)

(B) Food Security Programs: Social Protection
1 Subsidy for Open Market Sales (OMS) (MOFDM)
2 Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) (MOWCA)
3 Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) (MOFDM)
4 Test Relief (TR) Food (MOFDM)
5 Gratuitous Relief (GR)- Food (MOFDM)
6 Food Assistance in CTG-Hill tracts Area
7 Food For Work (FFW)
(C.1) Micro-Credit Programs: Social Empowerment
1 Fund through PKSf
2 Special fund for Employment Generation for Hard-core Poor in SIDR Area (PKSF)
3 Social Development Foundation
4 NGO Foundation
5 Micro-credit for Women Self-employment (MOWCA)
6 Fund for Development of Fisheries and Livestock sector (MOFL)
7 Freedom Fighters' Self Employment Support (MOFWA)
8 Micro Credit for Self Employment of Youth (MOYS)
9 Micro-Credit in Social sector Service (RSS, RMC, UCD) (MOSW)
10 Micro-credit by BRDB (RDCCD)
11 Infrastructure Development Company
12 Infrastructure Inversement Facilitation Centre (IIFC)
13 Municipal Development Fund
(C.2) Miscellaneous Funds: Social Empowerment
1 Fund for the Welfare of Acid Burnt and Disables (MOSW)
2 Fund for Garment workers Training and support (MOC)
3 Fund for Assistance to the Small Farmer and Poultry Farms (FD)
4 Employment Generation for Hard-core Poor (PKSF)
5 Support to Small Entrepreneurship (PKSF)
6 Mitigation of Risk of Natural Disaster (pre and post) (MOFDM)
7 Housing Loan for Homeless (BB)
8 Swanirvar Training Program
9 Jatio Pratibandhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF) (MOSW)
10 Shamaj Kallyan Parishad
11 Renewable Fuel Development Assistance
12 Assistance for Agro-based Industries

13 Equity Development Fund-Agriculture (BB)
14 Equity Development Fund-IT (BB)
15 SME Foundation
16 Agriculture Research Assistance
17 Special Fund for Training & re-employment for the retired or dismissed employees/ workers
(C.3) New Fund: Social Protection
1 100 days Employment Scheme (MOFDM)
2 Fund for Climate Change (MOEF)
3 Fund for Women labourer
Under Development Budget:
(D) Development Sector Programs: Social Empowerment
(D.1) Running Development Programs
1 Stipend for Primary Students (MOPMED)
2 School Feeding Program (MOPMED)
3 Stipend for Dropout Students (MOPMED)
4 Stipend for Secondary and Higher Secondary/Female Student (MOE)
5 Stipend for Poor Boys in secondary school
6 Maternal Health Voucher Scheme (MOHFP)
7 Rural Employment Opportunities for Protection of Public Property (REOPA) (LGD)
8 Community Nutrition Program (MOHFA)
9 Shouhardo Program
10 Accommodation (Poverty Alleviation & Rehabilitation) Project (Prime Minister's Office)
11 School Children
(D.2) New Programs
1 Rural Employment and Rural Maintenance Program (LGD)
2 VGD-UP (8 District on Monga Area) (MOWCA)

## Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO

Report for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009  
made by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
on the  
WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR CONVENTION, 1999 (NO. 182)  
(ratification registered on 12-03-2001)

I. Please give a list of the laws and regulations, etc., which apply the provisions of the Convention. Where this has not already been done, please forward copies of these texts to the International Labour Office with this report.

Please give any available information concerning the extent to which these laws and regulations have been enacted or modified to permit, or as a result of, ratification.

**Information by MOLE:** List of legislation and administrative regulations:

- Bangladesh Constitution,
- The Children Act, 1974,
- The Children Rules, 1976
- Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), 1979,
- UN-CRC, 1989,
- National Child Policy, 1994 (review under process for update)
- CRC's optional Protocols-2000 on the-"Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography ",
- C.182: Worst forms of Child Labour (WFCL),
- Millennium Development Goals (MDG), 2000-2015.
- The Suppression of Violence against Women and Children Act, 2000.
- SAARC Convention on "Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution-2002".
- National Plan of Action against Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children including Trafficking, 2002.
- The Acid Controls Act, 2002.
- The law and Order Disruption Crimes (Speedy Trial) Act, 2002,
- The Suppression of Violence against Women and Children (Amendment) Act, 2003.
- The Birth and Death Registration Act, 2004,
- The Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRSP), 2004-2011
- The National Plan of Action for Children, 2005-2010,
- The Bangladesh Labour Act (BLA), 2006,
- The National Child Labour Elimination Policy-2010.
- Code of Conduct for Domestic Workers (Draft)

II. Please indicate in detail *for each of the following Articles of the Convention* the provisions of the abovementioned laws and regulations, etc., or other measures, which give effect to each Article. In addition, please give any information specifically requested on the different Articles.

### Article No. 1

(Each Member which ratifies this Convention shall take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency.)

*Please provide a general overview of the measures taken to apply this Article.*

**Information by MOLE:** Bangladesh has enacted BLA, 2006 with specific provisions to restrict employment of children in any forms of works which are hazardous to them. Very recently Bangladesh has formulated National Child Labour Elimination Policy, 2010 and strategic plans are being developed to implement this policy. Bangladesh has also established a Directorate for Inspection of Factories and Establishment for field level monitoring of child labour including worst forms of child labour. Bangladesh has also implemented development projects/programmes targeting elimination of hazardous/worst forms of child labour with the fund from the development partners as well as with its own fund. The implementation of some of the development activities is also ongoing. Under the TBP-UIE project Bangladesh has initiated establishment of a Child Labour Unit (CLU) within the Ministry of Labour and Employment. The CLU is supposed to serve as the national coordinating body of child labour related activities implemented in Bangladesh. Different Ministries are implementing awareness building activities throughout the country. The Government has also formulated National Education Policy emphasizing compulsory primary education upto 8<sup>th</sup> class which will provide the opportunity to eliminate child labour.

### Article No. 2

(For the purposes of this Convention, the term “child” shall apply to all persons under the age of 18.)

### Article No. 3

(For the purposes of this Convention, the term “the worst forms of child labour” comprises:

- (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and **forced or compulsory labour**, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- (b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for **pornographic performances**;
- (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and **trafficking** of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;
- (d) **work which**, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to **harm the health, safety or morals of children**.

*Please indicate, for each of the clauses (a) to (d) the **measures taken** to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour with regard to all persons (girls and boys) under the age of 18.*

**Information by MOLE:** The Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh under Article 34 prohibits forced labour in the country. It says “all forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.” Regarding pledging of child labour, there is a provision of law under section 35 of the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006. This law prohibits the making of



agreements to pledge the labour of children and the employment of children whose labour has been pledged. Whoever being the parent or guardian of a child, makes an agreement to pledge the labour of the child, shall be punished with fine as envisaged under sections 284 and 285 of the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006. Laws have been enacted, awareness raising programmes are in progress throughout the country, Police, the law enforcing agency, BDR and concerned officers including local Government organizations and NGOs are involved in fighting the problem. Legal actions are taken against such criminals through the courts. The continuance of existing programs and activities will help reduce the occurrence to a considerable level or prevent the problem in totality. Development activities are being carried out by different Ministries/Departments of the Government with the assistance of international agencies.

#### Article No. 4

- (1. The types of work referred to under Article 3(d) shall be determined by national laws or regulations or by the competent authority, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, taking into consideration relevant international standards, in particular Paragraphs 3 and 4 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Recommendation, 1999.*
- 2. The competent authority, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, shall identify where the types of work so determined exist.*
- 3. The list of the types of work determined under paragraph 1 of this Article shall be periodically examined and revised as necessary, in consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned.)*

*Please indicate the types of work determined in accordance with paragraph 1. Please communicate the relevant text.*

*Please indicate the measures taken to identify where the types of work so determined exist, and communicate the results.*

*Please indicate how the list of the types of work determined under paragraph 1 of this Article has been periodically examined. Please provide any revised list.*

*Please indicate the consultations which have been held with the employers' and workers' organizations in accordance with the provisions of this Article.*

**Information by MOLE:** The Government has been working to prepare a list of hazardous works with the technical and financial assistances of ILO and the Royal Netherlands under the TBP-UIE project.

#### Article No. 5

(Each Member shall, after consultation with employers' and workers' organizations, establish or designate appropriate mechanisms to monitor the implementation of the provisions giving effect to this Convention.

*Please indicate the mechanisms established or designated, and provide information on their functioning, including any extract of reports or documents. Please also indicate the consultations which have been held with the employers' and workers' organizations in accordance with the provisions of this Article.*

**Information by MOLE:** The Government of Bangladesh has established a separate department namely “Department of Inspection for Factories & Establishments” to monitor implementation of provisions of this Convention. The officers of this department are responsible to inspect any violation.

#### Article No. 6

- (1. Each Member shall design and implement programmes of action to eliminate as a priority the worst forms of child labour.
2. Such programmes of action shall be designed and implemented in consultation with relevant government institutions and employers’ and workers’ organizations, taking into consideration the views of other concerned groups as appropriate.

Please indicate the programmes of action and provide information on their implementation.

Please indicate the consultations which have been held with the employers’ and workers’ organizations in accordance with the provisions of this Article. Please also indicate the extent to which the views of other concerned groups have been taken into consideration.

**Information by MOLE:** Please see **Annex –A**.

#### Article No. 7

- (1. Each Member shall take all necessary measures to ensure the effective implementation and enforcement of the provisions giving effect to this Convention including the provision and application of penal sanctions or, as appropriate, other sanctions.
2. Each Member shall, taking into account the importance of education in eliminating child labour, take effective and time-bound measures to:
  - (a) prevent the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labour;
  - (b) provide the necessary and appropriate direct assistance for the removal of children from the worst forms of child labour and for their rehabilitation and social integration;
  - (c) ensure access to free basic education, and, wherever possible and appropriate, vocational training, for all children removed from the worst forms of child labour;
  - (d) identify and reach out to children at special risk; and
  - (e) take account of the special situation of girls.
3. Each Member shall designate the competent authority responsible for the implementation of the provisions giving effect to this Convention.

Please indicate the measures taken in accordance with paragraph 1, including the provision of penal or other sanctions and their actual application.

Please indicate the measures taken with regard to each of the clauses (a) to (e) of paragraph 2. If any of the measures are time-bound, please specify the time frame.

Please indicate the authority or authorities designated in accordance with paragraph 3 responsible for the implementation of the provisions giving effect to this Convention, and by what methods such implementation is supervised.

**Information by MOLE:** The Government of Bangladesh has established a separate department namely "Department of Inspector for Factories & Establishments" to monitor implementation of provisions of this Convention. The officers of this department are responsible to inspect any violation. Please also see **Annex –A**.

#### Article No. 8

(Members shall take appropriate steps to assist one another in giving effect to the provisions of this Convention through enhanced international cooperation and/or assistance including support for social and economic development, poverty eradication programmes and universal education.)

Please indicate any steps taken in accordance with the provision of this Article.

**Information by MOLE:** The Government, to give effect to the provisions of this Convention has established cooperation to get assistance including support for social and economic development, poverty eradication programmes and universal education from various international organizations. Some of these are the ILO-IPEC, the US-DOL, UNICEF, International NGOs (like Save the Children) and many other development partners.

**III.** Please state whether courts of law or other tribunals have given decisions involving questions of principle relating to the application of the Convention. If so, please supply the text of these decisions.

**Information by MOLE:** None.

**IV.** Please give a general appreciation of the manner in which the Convention is applied in your country. Please indicate any practical difficulties encountered in the application of the Convention, or any factors which may have prevented or delayed action against the worst forms of child labour.

If your country has received any assistance or advice under ILO technical cooperation projects, such as the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC), please indicate the measures taken accordingly.

**Information by MOLE:** The existence of child labour in Bangladesh is closely linked to poverty. Unless the poverty situation of the country is improved at a satisfactory level it is very difficult to eliminate child labour. This also depends largely on the achievement of high and stable growth of the country's economy for which the country is starving for long. With all its limited resources the Government of Bangladesh has been implementing programmes/projects with its own fund and other development partners, on regular basis for elimination of child labour and there has been remarkable success. At present there is no child labour in RMG sector. It is expected that the volume of child labour in the country will be reduced to a considerable level if the present trend of promotional activities and participation of the social partners continue. Child labour issues have been incorporated in all major national development projects and plans (like PRS, national plan of action for education and reflection in annual budget etc.). Bangladesh requires technical support for improvement of socio-economic conditions in addition to technical assistance for undertaking programmes on eliminating Child Labour. The most significant challenge is to strengthen the institutional capacity and to get required resources to combat child labour.

V. In so far as the information in question has not already been supplied in connection with other questions in this form – please supply copies or extracts from official documents including inspection reports, studies and inquiries, and, where such statistics exist, information on the nature, extent and trends of the worst forms of child labour, the number of children covered by the measures giving effect to the Convention, the number and nature of infringements reported, penal sanctions applied, etc. To the extent possible, all information provided should be disaggregated by sex.

**Information by MOLE:** Both the aggregate volume and in percentage points, the child labor has reduced as reflected in the span of two child labour surveys of 1995-96 and 2002-2003. From the level of 18.3 percentage points of the respective age group (5 to 14 years) with a corresponding aggregate of roughly 6 million, it has come down to 14.2 percentage points with an aggregate of 5 million less. The situation might have improved further after conducting the last Child Labour Survey. The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics has conducted **thirteen research studies** on different thematic areas under the *TBP* Preparatory Phase, including education, poverty reduction, social mobilization and labour protection. The finding of these studies may provide complete picture on child labour situation in Bangladesh.

VI. Please indicate the representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.

**Information by MOLE:** The representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated are:

- (1) The Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF), the representative apex body of the employers.
- (2) The Jatiya Shramik League (JSL)/The National Coordination Committee for Workers' Education (NCCWE), the leading national level trade union federation of workers.

The Bangladesh Employers' Federation (BEF) has made specific response/observations are incorporated in this report. The national level trade union federation of workers, NCCWE, to whom this report was communicated has made following comments/response:

Bangladesh has ratified ILO Convention No. 182 (Worst Forms of Child Labour) in 2001. Considering this obligation Bangladesh Government has playing positive role to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour with the support of ILO and other donor agencies. But still there are limitations both in law and implementation level.

- Some sectors are not included in the labour law (domestic workers, agriculture workers etc.), where a huge number of worst forms of child labourers are working. So it is most important to include these sectors in the upcoming reformation of labour law 2006.

- There is no list of the sectors where the worst forms of child labour exist. It makes an obstacle to take initiative to prevent and eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Recently the Ministry of Labour and Employment has taken initiative to make a list of the sectors of worst of child labour, which need to be declared as soon as possible.

- Due to the limitations of labour inspection department, the inspection system can not work properly to prevent worst forms of child labour. So it is mostly essential to equip the labour inspection department.

Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182): Bangladesh's Reply of  
the Observation/Direct Request by the CEACR 2008/79<sup>th</sup> Session

**A. Response to Observations:**

Observations	Reply/Comments
<p><i>Sale Clause (a). Worst forms of child labour and trafficking of children. Article 3 of the Convention.</i></p> <p><i>Accordingly, the Committee urges the Government to take immediate and effective measures to ensure that the amendments to the SVWCA, according to which the sale and trafficking of all children under 18 will be prohibited, are adopted in the very near future. It requests the Government to provide information on the progress made.</i></p>	<p>The penal provisions laid down in the Suppression of Violence against Women &amp; Children act (SVWCA) (Amendment) of 2003 have been appropriately enhanced. Government will gradually take the necessary steps to amend the Suppression of Violence against Women &amp; Children act (SVWCA) in order to ensure that the sale and trafficking of all children under 18 years of age is prohibited. Under chapter 19 of the BLA-2006 (Sections 283 to 316), the penal provisions have also been appropriately enhanced. Further, in sections 7 and 8 of the BLA (Amendment) Ordinance, 2008 the penal provisions have also been strongly enacted.</p>
<p><i>Monitoring mechanisms. Article 5.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee accordingly requests the Government to continue its efforts in strengthening the role of the CID, the police and the <b>Anti-Child Trafficking Unit</b>, in order to enable them to combat the trafficking of children for labour and sexual exploitation. It requests the Government to provide information in this respect.</i></p>	<p>The zigzag borders, poverty, economic hardship and social conditions become favourable to some criminals to engage in trafficking in women and children. These days Government with the assistance of international agencies is making efforts to combat such activities. ILO-IPEC is actively involved in the efforts of the Government under different Ministries. Laws have been enacted, awareness raising programmes are in progress throughout the country, Police, the law enforcing agency, BDR and concerned officers including local Government organizations and NGOs are involved in fighting with the problem. Legal actions are taken against such criminals through the courts. The continuance of existing programs and activities will help reduce the occurrence to a considerable level or prevent the problem in totality.</p>
<p><i>Programmes of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Article 6.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide information on the progress made in adopting the NATSPA and in elaborating the child trafficking intervention component in the framework of the TBP. It also</i></p>	<p>The Government implemented various developmental projects in collaboration with international agencies in order to prevent trafficking, especially through advocacy programmes, workshops and public awareness campaigns. The regional project to Combating Child Trafficking for Labor and Sexual Exploitation (TICSA PHASE II) operated in Bangladesh as part of ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour</p>

*requests the Government to provide information on the impact of these programmes once implemented, particularly in terms of the number of children prevented from being the victims of trafficking and the number of child victims removed from this worst form of child labour. It also requests the Government to provide information on the number of child victims of trafficking who were rehabilitated and socially integrated through the "One Stop Crisis Centres" and the Subcommittee on recovery and rehabilitation.*

(ILO-IPEC), achieved considerable success in the field, especially in the advocacy and awareness rising of people in the border areas. A National Plan of Action against the sexual abuse and exploitation of children, including trafficking, was adopted for the period 2001-06 (NPA 2006). The Government has enacted different laws to deal trafficking. The Anti-Trafficking Unit, under the Ministry of Home affairs, the CID deal with the issues. The police and other law enforcement agencies, as well as local government organization are involved in the fight against trafficking.

*One Stop Crisis Centres:* The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, MOWCA has set up One Stop Crisis Centres at Divisional Medical College Hospitals for preventing and combating violence against women and children. The idea behind the OCC is to provide all required services for a woman and child who is a victim of violence. The OCCs provide health care, police assistance, DNA test facility, social service, legal assistance, psychological counseling and shelter service. The physical assault, sexual assault and burn injured women and children have been receiving service from OCCs. During 2001 to June 2010 a total of 9877 women and children received OCC services. On an average 2160 victims came to the OCCs annually. The Government has plan under process to expand the OCC services at district level.

The MOWCA has also established National Trauma Counseling Centre to provide mental health support to the women and children victims of violence. Besides, the MOWCA has established the National Forensic DNA Profiling Laboratory at Dhaka Medical College in order to ensure speedy and fair trial of victims of violence mainly women and children. To make the DNA screening service available cross the country, DNA Screening Laboratories have been established in five divisional Medical College Hospitals.

Under the UNICEF supported Empowerment and Protection of Children (EPC) project, a working group has been formed with a view to assist effective mechanism to combat Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

	<p>(CSEC) and to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders who run shelter homes for sexually exploited children.</p> <p>The EPC project has also launched a year round media campaign against worst forms of child labour on 12 July, 2010 on the eve of the World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL). The campaign activities included theme song, poster presentation, advocacy leaflets, TV and radio talk shows, interactive popular theater (IPT) shows, media fellowship, documentary and music reality show for the working children.</p>
<p><i>Penalties. Article 7, paragraph 1.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee therefore urges the Government to take the necessary measures to ensure that persons who traffic in children are prosecuted and that sufficiently effective and dissuasive penalties are imposed in practice. In this regard, the Committee once again requests the Government to continue providing information on the number and nature of infringements reported, prosecutions, convictions and penal sanctions applied.</i></p>	<p>The zigzag borders, poverty, economic hardship and social conditions become favourable to some criminals to engage in trafficking in women and children. These days Government with the assistance of international agencies is making efforts to combat such activities. ILO-IPEC is actively involved in the efforts of the Government under different Ministries. Laws have been enacted, awareness raising programmes are in progress throughout the country, Police, the law enforcing agency, BDR and concerned officers including local Government organizations and NGOs are involved in fighting with the problem. Legal actions are taken against such criminals through the courts. The continuance of existing programs and activities will help reduce the occurrence to a considerable level or prevent the problem in totality.</p>
<p><i>Clause (d). Effective and time-bound measures. Article 7, paragraph 2. Child domestic Identifying and reaching to children at special risk. workers.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide more concrete information on the guidelines to protect child domestic workers and on their impact on protecting child domestic workers from the worst forms of child labour. It also requests the Government to provide information on the policies it intends to adopt concerning the working conditions of child domestic workers. In this regard, the</i></p>	<p>A guideline to protect child domestic workers has been under preparation by the Government of Bangladesh.</p>

<p><i>Committee expresses the firm hope that these policies will ensure that child domestic workers under 18 years of age do not perform any type of the worst forms of child labour.</i></p>	
<p><i>Application of the Convention in practice. Part V of the report form.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide statistical data on the trafficking of children collected through the research study on internal and cross-border trafficking.</i></p>	<p>The zigzag borders, poverty, economic hardship and social conditions become favourable to some criminals to engage in trafficking in women and children. These days Government with the assistance of international agencies is making efforts to combat such activities. ILO-IPEC is actively involved in the efforts of the Government under different Ministries. Laws have been enacted, awareness raising programmes are in progress throughout the country, Police, the law enforcing agency, BDR and concerned officers including local Government organizations and NGOs are involved in fighting with the problem. Legal actions are taken against such criminals through the courts. The continuance of existing programs and activities will help reduce the occurrence to a considerable level or prevent the problem in totality.</p>

**B. Response to *Direct Request*:**

<i>Direct Request</i>	Reply/Comments
<p>Worst forms of child Articles 3 and 7, paragraph 1, of the Convention. All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery. 1. Debt bondage, serfdom and forced or compulsory labour. Clause (a). labour and penalties.</p> <p><i>The Committee expresses the firm hope that the amendments to the Labour Act will include an explicit prohibition of debt bondage for children under 18 years of age, as well as sufficiently dissuasive penalties. It requests the Government to provide information on any progress made in this regard.</i></p>	<p>The Government Bangladesh has taken step to up-date certain provisions of BLA, 2006 in consultation with the workers' organizations and the employers' organization. By this time a Committee of 27 experts has been formed. The Committee is working with the proposals of workers' and employers' organizations.</p>
<p>2. <i>Forced or compulsory recruitment for use in armed conflict.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to take immediate measures to ensure that the forced or compulsory recruitment of children</i></p>	<p>There is no arm conflict in Bangladesh.</p>



<p><i>under 18 years of age for use in armed conflict is prohibited by national legislation, in accordance with Article 3(a) of the Convention. It requests the Government to provide information on the progress made in this regard.</i></p>	
<p><i>Use, procuring or offering of child prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances. Clause (b).</i></p> <p><i>The Committee expresses the firm hope that the amendments to the SVWCA envisaged by the MOWCA include a prohibition of the use, procuring or offering of boys between 16 and 18 years for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic performances. If not, it requests the Government to take immediate measures to ensure that such a prohibition is provided for in the national legislation. It requests the Government to provide information on the progress made in this regard.</i></p>	<p>Government will gradually take the necessary steps in order to ensure that the sale and trafficking of all children is prohibited.</p>
<p><i>Use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs. Clause (c).</i></p> <p><i>The Committee accordingly requests the Government to take the necessary measures to ensure that the use, procuring or offering of a child under 18 years of age for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs, is expressly prohibited in the national legislation.</i></p>	<p>Government will gradually take the necessary steps in order to ensure that the sale and trafficking of all children is prohibited.</p>
<p><i>Determination of hazardous work. Article 4, paragraph 1.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee urges the Government to take necessary measures to ensure that the list of the types of hazardous work is adopted in the very near future. It requests the Government to supply a copy of this list as soon as it has been adopted.</i></p>	<p>The Government has been working to prepare a list of the types of hazardous works with the technical and financial assistances of ILO and the Royal Netherlands under the TBP-UIE project.</p>

<p><i>Labour inspectorate. Monitoring mechanisms. Article 5.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide information on the progress made in the establishment of workplace monitoring systems for both the formal and the informal sectors, as well of the CLMU. It also once again requests the Government to supply, with its next report, extracts of the inspection reports specifying the extent and nature of violations detected concerning children involved in the worst forms of child labour and, more particularly, in hazardous work.</i></p>	<p>The Department for Inspection of Factories and Establishment with the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE) has been working on workplace monitoring with its field level offices. There was no institutional setup within the MOLE to monitor child labour. To bridge this gap the Government under the TBP-UIE project has been implementing an action programme for strengthening the MOLEs' capacity to establish a Child Labour Unit (CLU) in the MOLE. The CLU will serve as the secretariat to deal with all child labour related issues. The CLU will compile and disseminate child labour data collected by different ministries/departments/organizations. There will be a website based on data for child labour. The necessary preparatory works has been under way.</p>
<p><i>Programmes of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Article 6, paragraph 1.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide information on the phased implementation of the TBP and the results achieved in eliminating the worst forms of child labour, more specifically in terms of the number of children prevented or withdrawn and rehabilitated from the worst forms of child labour through each of the nine components of the TBP.</i></p>	<p>Under the TBP Preparatory Phase, nine components were identified for implementation. The TBP-UIE Project component is being implemented by MOLE and the Ministry of Education has been implementing the TVET Project. Please also see the <b>Annex –A</b>.</p>
<p><i>Clause Effective and time-bound measures. Article 7, paragraph 2. Preventing the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labour. (a). Education.</i></p> <p><i>It urges the Government to redouble its efforts to ensure free basic education and to keep children in school, especially at the secondary education level. It requests the Government to provide information on the impact of the NFE and of the various non-formal education programmes, including the UNICEF project for hard-to-reach urban working children, on increasing school enrolment rates and reducing</i></p>	<p>Efforts will be made to increase enrolment rate and decrease drop out rate, train primary teachers, increase the attendance rate, increase contact hours and maintain gender parity in access and achievement. Non-Formal Education (NFE) will be provided to diverse type of children deprived of education like un-enrolled or drop-out children and hard to reach out school children (ROSC) to enhance their employability, and productivity through skill training. Please also see <b>Annex -B</b></p>

<p><i>school drop-out rates. It also asks the Government to provide updated statistical data on school enrolment and drop-out rates.</i></p>	
<p><i>Clause (d). Identifying and reaching out to children at special risk. 1. Child workers in the road transport sector.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide information on the number of child workers who were withdrawn from the road transport industry and rehabilitated through formal or non-formal education, or vocational training.</i></p>	<p>Please also see <b>Annex –B</b> for the activities being carried out by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education.</p> <p>Many NGOs throughout the country are engaged in implementing development projects targeting withdrawal of children from the road transport industry through mainstreaming them into school and non-formal education and skill development training. There is no central authority to collect and disseminate information on withdrawal of child labour by different NGOs. It is envisaged that the proposed Child Labour Unit in MOLE, as the secretariat to deal all child labour related issues, will compile and disseminate child labour data collected by different ministries/departments/ organizations in the country. There will be a website based on data for child labour. The TBP-UIE project has also been providing non-formal and skill development training. The Ministry of Labour and Employment has implemented two phases of the “Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh”.</p>
<p><i>2. Children in the informal sector.</i></p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide information on the implementation of the TBP-UIE and on the elaboration of the TBP-RIE, and on the results achieved pursuant to those programmes in terms of the number of children withdrawn from the worst forms of child labour in the urban and rural informal economy sectors.</i></p>	<p>The TBP-UIE project has been implementing action programme in different zones of Dhaka City Corporation in Bangladesh to providing non-formal, skill development training and small scale financial support to carryout income generating activities with a view to withdraw children from worst forms of child labour. TBP-RIE component of the TBP project is yet to be initiated.</p>
<p><i>3. Street children.</i></p> <p><i>Considering that street children are particularly exposed to the worst forms of child labour, the Committee requests the Government to provide information on the number of street children who are effectively withdrawn from the worst forms of child labour as a result of the educational and welfare activities carried out by NGOs, as well as</i></p>	<p>Many NGOs throughout the country are engaged in implementing development projects targeting withdrawal of street children through provision of non-formal education and skill development activities. There is no central authority to collect and disseminate information on withdrawal of child labour by different NGOs. It is envisaged that the proposed Child Labour Unit in MOLE, as the secretariat to deal all child labour related issues, will compile and disseminate child labour data collected by different ministries/departments/ organizations</p>

<p><i>through the implementation of the TBP-UIE, and then rehabilitated and socially integrated.</i></p>	<p>in the country. There will be a website based on data for child labour. The TBP-UIE project has also been providing non-formal, skill development training and small scale financial support to carryout income generating activities.</p>
<p><i>Elimination of poverty. Article 8.</i></p> <p><i>Considering that poverty reduction contributes to breaking the cycle of poverty, which is essential for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, the Committee requests the Government to provide more concrete information on any notable impact of the PRSP and of the DWCP towards eliminating the worst forms of child labour.</i></p>	<p>Bangladesh has made significant progress in the area of child rights' promotion, survival, and development. Nevertheless, the general situation of the children in Bangladesh needs to improve further since the survival and development of many Bangladeshi children is still threatened by malnutrition, disease, poverty, illiteracy abuse, exploration, and natural disaster. A brief description of activities is shown based on extracts from the National Strategies for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II (NSAPR II).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Child Health and Nutrition: The specific activities will include sensitizing primary and secondary students about critical child health and reproductive health issues, healthy practices and worm infestation, and supplying iron and folic acid tablets for schoolgirls. Activities will be undertaken to develop an adolescent health strategy including counseling, building awareness for adolescents on hygienic practices, puberty, RTI/STD and HIV/AIDS.</li> <li>2. Child Food: Vitamin deficiency, measles, persistent diarrhoea, control of iodine disorders through universal salt iodization, consumption of iron-rich food will be developed to address children's physical and mental disability.</li> <li>3. Child Education: Efforts will be made to increase enrolment rate and decrease drop out rate, train primary teachers, increase the attendance rate, increase contact hours and maintain gender parity in access and achievement. Non-Formal Education (NFE) will be provided to diverse type of children deprived of education like un-enrolled or drop-out children and hard to reach out school children (ROSC) to enhance their employability, and productivity through skill training.</li> <li>4. Quality of Primary Education: It will be achieved by improving the quality of learning</li> </ol>

materials and instructions, strengthening capacity of teachers, developing infrastructure facilities including supports to cultural activities. The curricula of madrasah education will be reviewed to improve quality of learning and increase market relevance of madrasah education.

5. Access to water and sanitation: The objectives are to mitigate arsenic problem in drinking water by providing alternative systems, increase rural and urban slum access to sanitary latrines, expand water and sanitation services to cover currently underserved pourashobha areas, provide improved water supply to underserved, unserved rich areas by 2011.

6. Eradication of Child Labour: Child labour is a sensitive issue across the world. The Ministry of Labour and Employment has been implementing projects to eradicate child labour from both the formal and informal sectors.

A project for "Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh" is being implemented by the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE). 5000 parents of the targeted child labourers have been provided micro credit (Taka 3.56 core) for reducing their dependency on their children's income. Effective measures will be taken to working children such as waste collectors, leather workers, brick breakers, auto-workshop workers tempo helpers etc.

7. Child Protection: All children, particularly those who are vulnerable, would be ensured right to protection from sexual abuse, exploitation of trafficking and violence.

8. Sex Disaggregated Data: Statistical data especially sex disaggregated data remains a challenge for which concerted actions would be needed. So, sex disaggregated data should be collected by the statistical system.

Observations	Reply/Comments
<p><i>Application of the Convention in practice. Part V of the report form.</i></p> <p>-- the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics conducted <b>thirteen research studies</b> on different thematic areas under the <i>TBP</i> Preparatory Phase, including education, poverty reduction, social mobilization and labour protection.</p> <p><i>The Committee requests the Government to provide the statistical data collected through these research studies. It also once again requests the Government to provide, in its next report, information on the worst forms of child labour, including statistical information on the extent and trends of those forms of child labour and the number of children covered by the measures giving effect to the Convention.</i></p>	<p>The statistical data collected through the research studies of BBS under the TBP preparatory phase will be sent separately by mail.</p>

Bangladesh, both nationally and internationally, is committed to eliminate child labour and accordingly Bangladesh has taken various policy measures through constitution, act, rules, etc and implementation of development projects and programmes. With all limitations the Government of Bangladesh has been actively considering formulation and implementation of laws and policies to combat child labour particularly those who are engaged in the hazardous works. The ongoing child labour oriented programmes and projects with scopes and possibilities of sharing resources and operational responsibilities are the following:

1. **Prevention and Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Urban Informal Economy (UIE) project:** The project, funded by the Netherlands Government, commenced in January 2007 and in the current phase will be completed in December 2011. The major objectives are to:
  - i) strengthen the knowledge base and prepare models that regulate, monitor and address hazardous child labour in an urban informal economy for country-wide replication;
  - ii) develop and implement a multi-disciplinary and multi-tier Child Labour Monitoring (CLM) system;
  - iii) provide viable alternatives for children and their guardians, families and/or households and their employers in the form of non-formal education, skill development training, social and economic empowerment, workplace improvement programs, and other needs-based supplementary service programs.

A sophisticated beneficiary tracking and workplace surveillance system, social mobilization and community participation and strengthening the capacity of primary (e.g. Government, Dhaka City Corporation, Employers' and Workers' organizations) and secondary partners (e.g. NGOs and CBOs) are complementary strategies.

Under this project the Ministry of Labour and Employment has been implementing an Action Programme to strengthen the capability of the Child Labour Unit of MOLE.

2. **Project on Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh:** The Government of Bangladesh under the Ministry of Labor and Employment implemented this national programme, the 1<sup>st</sup> phase funded by USAID (PL48) and the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase with its own fund. The goal is to provide non-formal education to working children to allow them to mainstream, skill development training to transition out of hazardous occupations, and micro-credit to parents for reducing their dependency on their children's income. In 1<sup>st</sup> phase of the project 10,000 child labours of Dhaka and Chittagong metropolitan areas have got non-formal education and skill development training. Besides these, 5000 parents of the targeted child labours have been provided micro credit (Taka 3.56 crore) for reducing their dependency on their children's income. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase implemented in three years starting in July/2005 and ended in June/2009 covered Tongi-Savar-Keranigonj of Dhaka; Chittagong Metropolitan City; Sylhet, Barisal and Khulna City Corporations; and Industrial areas of Dhaka and Narayanganj. An amount of USD 4.2 million was allocated for the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the project. Under the 2<sup>nd</sup>

phase 30,000 child labours were provided non-formal education and 20,000 of them received skill development training. Currently the third phase with wider coverage is under process which, in 3 years, aims at withdrawing 30,000 child labourers from hazardous jobs through two-year non-formal education, and six-month skills development programmes.

**3. Technical and Vocational Education and Training Reform (TVET) project:** The TVETP is funded by the European Commission for a period of five years (2007 - 2011). The project aims to assist Bangladesh in reducing poverty through reforms of technical and vocational education and training policies and systems so that more people can acquire employable skills and thus generate income through wage-earning jobs or self-employment. The rationale for the project stems from the national poverty reduction strategy. The project is intended to contribute to the improvement of productivity in industry and services through better responding to their skills needs; to ensure rapid formation of the national human capital and improved employability of vocational education and training graduates; to enhance labour market participation, social inclusion and empowerment of disadvantaged groups—low literate youth, child labourers, women, and rural communities. The project objectives expected to be achieved through:

- i) TVET policy, management and systems;
- ii) Quality and relevance of TVET;
- iii) Management of TVET institutions and teacher training;
- iv) Workplace skills development; and
- v) Access to TVET by underprivileged groups including working children.

**4. Primary Education Development Programme-II:** PEDP-II officially ends in 2009 but in a transitional period. Built upon the lessons from General Education Project (GEP) 1990–95 and the PEDP-I ended in 2004, PEDP-II is a six-year project from 2004 to 2009. There are 11 development partners (DP) involved in PEDP-II, led by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and including the Government of Bangladesh. The other partners include the World Bank, CIDA, DFID, EC, IDA, Norway, The Netherlands, UNICEF/Australia, and JICA. There are five components in the PEDP-II structure. Of them, the fourth one is for improving and supporting equitable access to quality schooling with some special provisions for promoting equal access of indigenous and children with special needs. The fifth component is about management and monitoring.

**5. The Reaching Out-of-School Children (ROSC) project:** The ROSC aims to address children in Bangladesh who do not have access to formal education mainly due to poverty. The project is co-financed by the GoB, the World Bank, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). The Directorate of Primary Education (DPE) under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education is responsible for the project.

**6. Protection of Children at Risk (PCAR) Project:** A follow-on project of the former ARISE (Appropriate Resources for Improvement of Children's Environment) under the MoSW supported by UNICEF, the PCAR targets the children without parental care and living in streets in 6 Divisional Cities Bangladesh. It also implements national level



activities for Policy and information management system on child protection, institutional capacity development on professional social work and alternative care system and pilot implementation of child protection system in urban and rural areas.

7. **Female Secondary School Assistance Project-II:** The Second Female Secondary School Assistance Project, funded by the World Bank, aims to improve the quality of, and girls' access to, secondary education in rural areas of Bangladesh.
8. **Basic Education for Hard to Reach Urban Working Children (BEHTRUWC):** Basic Education for the Hard-To-Reach Urban Working Children (BEHTRUWC) Project, 2nd Phase, a USD 20 Million project, has been planned to achieve quality life-skills based basic education, livelihood education, and advocacy for improved environment for working children in six divisional cities in Bangladesh over a period of five years. The project targets 200,000 working children of ages between 10-14 years for basic education through establishing 8,000 learning centres (LC) for a period of 40 months each and targets 20,000 children of age 13+ for livelihood education. Besides, activities is also planned to advocate for and build the capacity of the families of the children and stakeholders of the project.
9. **Empowerment & Protection of Children (EPC) Project:** Implemented by the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) through NGOs. This project is targeting the orphans and otherwise marginalized children – such as, street children, drug users, victims of sex exploitation, acid survivors, disaster affected children and adolescent boys and girls (Kishori Avizan).
10. **Community Based Working Child Protection Project (CBWCP):** This project is being executed by MoHA. The project has been initiated to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh by enhancing preventive and protective measures, improving victim care and strengthening the GOB's capacity to prosecute traffickers and trafficking related crimes.
11. **Actions for Combating Trafficking-in-Persons (ACT):** Funded by USAID through IOM, this program has been initiated as an effort to assist the GOB to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh through the prevention of trafficking-in-persons, enhancing the protection of the victims and improving victim care, and strengthening the GOB's capacity to prosecute traffickers and trafficking related crimes to help ensure that the rule of law and human security are improved.
12. **Birth and Death Registration Project 2009:** This project is implemented by the Local Government Division under the Ministry of Local Government (MLG) and funded by UNICEF.

Observation 2008: Article 7

The Committee considers that education contributes to preventing children from engaging in the worst forms of child labour. It urges the Government to redouble its efforts to ensure free basic education and to keep children in school, specially at the secondary education level. It requests the Government to provide information on the impact of the NFE and of the various non-formal education programmes, including the UNICEF project for Hard-to Reach Urban Working Children, on increasing school enrollment rates and reducing drop out rates. It also asks the Government to provide updated statistical data on school enrollment and drop out rates.

Government response:

Multifaceted activities have been undertaken to enroll all the children and retain them in primary education regardless their socio-economic and geographic condition and preventing child labor.

**Primary School Stipend Programme:** This programme is playing an important role in increasing enrollment of poor children in the schools and retention of them. From April 2010, instead of providing stipend to the 40% students of the primary schools throughout the country, more students ( 45%-90%) have been accommodated under stipend programme in the char/ haor/ baor/monga area and the areas where rate of enrollment is low. The percentage of students may be determined on the basis of poverty and rate of enrollment. It is planned to cover 7.8 million children under the revised project.

- **School Feeding Programme:** Most of the families of primary school students are poor and come to the schools with almost an empty stomach. Retain them in schools throughout the long day without food is near to impossible. Currently government is providing fortified biscuits to 1.0 million students of food insecure area and Sidr-affected area with the assistance of World Food Programme (WFP) and 0.2 million students of selected 10 Upazila of 6 Division under EC assistance. The rest of the students are not getting mid-day food in the schools. The enrollment and retention rate in the primary schools is very low in the Char/ Haor/ Baor/ Hill and Monga area due to extreme poverty and hunger and thus it is a serious concern for the government. Government is planned to cover at least these areas under a new school feeding programme and gradually throughout the country. About 3 million of 87 Upazillas will be covered under the project.

- **Pre-primary Education:** Pre-primary Education has a strong and positive impact on further learning during the primary level and beyond. Moreover pre-primary education programmes have a significant contribution toward reducing dropouts and grade repetition through preparing the children for schools. As many of our parents are uneducated, they are unable to prepare their children adequately for school. The lack in school readiness makes it difficult for children to adapt themselves to school and have a tendency to drop out. Therefore, early childhood education including pre-primary education is regarded as a necessary area of intervention for the success of primary education. Currently 26,300 primary schools are operating 'Baby Classes' without proper teaching-learning materials. A standard curriculum will be developed, teacher training will be provided and teaching learning materials will be supplied to these schools to operationalise effective pre-primary classes. A project has been developed to introduce Pre-primary classes throughout the country in a phased manner by 2012.

- **Innovation Grants Programme:** A unique opportunity of improving quality of education through community participation at the grass root level has been created through Innovation

Grants Programme under PEDP-II. A block grant (up to 10 lakh) has been provided to an organization, especially for promoting access of disadvantaged children and retaining them in the schools, improving quality of teaching-learning and school facilities. Applications for Innovation Grants encouraged from Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs), School Management Committees (SMCs), Parent Groups, local voluntary organizations, registered and reputed NGOs and other agencies.

- **Non-Formal Primary Education:** In order to support and attain the Education for All goals towards achieving universal primary education, and to take out children from the hazardous job, a project titled “Reaching Out of School Children” is being implemented for the 0.75 million children who are outside the formal primary education stream. The project has provisions for education allowances for out-of-school children. The annual allowance ranges from Tk. 800 for Grades 1 to 3 to Tk. 970 for Grades 4 to 5 children. The project covers 87 upazilas. By April 2010, 0.49 million children have been completed basic education under this project.

- **Shishu Kallyan Trust Schools:** About 15,000 street children of 7-14 years age group are taking primary education in 73 Shishu Kallyan Trust Schools throughout the country. Among them, 252 selected students are provided with vocational training by Under Privileged Children’s Education Programme (UCEP) under a MoU signed with the ROSC project.

**Basic Education for Working Children:** Measures have been taken to enroll the working children, especially of the suburban and slum areas of 6 divisional cities under the “Basic Education for Hard to Reach Urban Children Project (2<sup>nd</sup> phase)” which will help reduce illiteracy and child labour in the country. This project is being implemented in 6 Divisional cities to provide basic education to 0.166 million urban working children of 10-14 years age group. 10,000 among them will be provided with trade based skill training under this project. By April 2010, 50,000 children completed basic education. The learners have been selected for the skill training.

- **Post- Literacy and Continuing Education for the Neo-literates:** Post-Literacy and Continuing Education is being provided to the neo-literates to develop them as self reliant and enlightened person. The target age group is 11-45 and the targeted population is 1.6 million of neo-literates. The duration of the course was of 9 months where 3 months were for the post literacy while the next 6 months were for the continuing education. Based on the market survey, skill training was imparted in 15 trade areas such as, tailoring, poultry, fishery, cow and goat rearing, bee keeping, block boutique, repairing of cycle and rickshaw etc.

**Vitas, Bogdan - ILAB**

---

**From:** Rigby, Rachel - ILAB  
**Sent:** Friday, July 15, 2011 12:27 PM  
**To:** Wolkomir, Elizabeth D - ILAB  
**Subject:** FW: USDOL Request for Information on Child Labor and Forced Labor  
**Attachments:** Bangladesh-USDOL-Child-14-July-2011.doc; USDOL-Bangladesh-C-182-2010.doc; USDOL-Bangladesh-C-182 Annex-A.doc; USDOL-Bangladesh-C-182-Annex-B.doc; BD-CBS-C-138-2010-F-24-3-11.doc

I think you already have this one but just making sure.

---

**From:** Newsome, Sarah - ILAB  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2011 7:44 AM  
**To:** Rigby, Rachel - ILAB; McCarter, Tina - ILAB; Peltzer, Angela - ILAB  
**Subject:** FW: USDOL Request for Information on Child Labor and Forced Labor

FYI. I've saved these docs to the O drive : <O:\ZZ ICLP\CHILDLAB\TDA\TDA 2010\FRN & Mailing\Responses\TDA info\Bangladesh>

---

**From:** M. Humayun Kabir [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 14, 2011 7:10 AM  
**To:** Newsome, Sarah - ILAB  
**Cc:** bdootwash@bangladoot.org; diranp@mofa.gov.bd  
**Subject:** Re: USDOL Request for Information on Child Labor and Forced Labor

Dear Ms Marcia Eugenio,

Please find the attached updated information on child labour and forced labour situation in Bangladesh as requested by USDOL to prepare annual reports.

It should be mentioned here that a report was sent to you through the Bangladesh Mission in Washington in May, 2011.

With warm regards

Md. Humayun Kabir

Senior Assistant Chief (Labour)

Ministry of Labour and Employment

Dhaka, Bangladesh

--- On Thu, 16/6/11, Newsome, Sarah - ILAB <Newsome.Sarah@dol.gov> wrote:

From: Newsome, Sarah - ILAB <Newsome.Sarah@dol.gov>

Subject: USDOL Request for Information on Child Labor and Forced Labor

To: [REDACTED], [REDACTED] lamees.albanbali@mol.gov.bh,  
 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], lapule@gov.bw, internacional.gm@mte.gov.br,  
 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
 freda.ramirez@labour.gov.bz, mlozada@minproteccionsocial.gov.co, [REDACTED],  
 pmoffice@cwdom.dm, heidi\_knom@set.gov.do, evalenzuela@mtps.gov.sv, [REDACTED],  
 info@moh.gov.ge, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
 [REDACTED] muli@labour.go.ke, [REDACTED],  
 [REDACTED] labour@malawi.net, [REDACTED],  
 [REDACTED] chorn@mol.gov.na, [REDACTED] daint@mitrab.gob.ni,  
 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
 gormeno@mintra.gob.pe, [REDACTED], [REDACTED],  
 smorel@employment.gov.sc, [REDACTED] georgina.sibetta@labour.gov.za, [REDACTED],  
 [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], ALO-D-  
 1@labour.gov.hk, [REDACTED], [REDACTED], grace@mohr.gov.my,  
 [REDACTED]

Cc: "McCarter, Tina - ILAB" <McCarter.Tina@dol.gov>

Received: Thursday, 16 June, 2011, 2:06 PM

Dear Colleague:

As you may be aware, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (USDOL) publishes three reports on an annual basis regarding child labor and forced labor around the world. The reports include *The Department of Labor's 2009 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, *The Department of Labor's List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*, and the proposed revision to its List of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor pursuant to Executive Order 13126 of 1999 (EO List). Attached is a fact sheet which provides a description of each report. Given the size of the reports they are not attached, but may be found online at: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/highlights/if-20101215.htm>.

We would also like to take this opportunity to request your assistance in ensuring that the information in this and future reporting is up-to-date and accurate. We have attached a set of questions and criteria

reflecting the nature of information USDOL considers in its child labor and forced labor reporting. In addition, we welcome a response to the suggestions for government action in the TDA report, including any corrections or updates on relevant efforts that address these issues. USDOL would also greatly appreciate if your Government provided us with a copy of the latest reports it has submitted to the International Labor Organization (ILO) on Conventions 138 and 182, pursuant to Article 19 or 22 of the ILO Constitution, as applicable. We kindly request your response by July 15 in order to incorporate the information into the next update of our reports.

Our office is committed to working with governments around the world to combat the issues of child labor and forced labor. We hope that the information in these publications will be useful in your efforts and we look forward to collaborating with you on these important issues in the future.

Sincerely,

Marcia Eugenio

Director

Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking