Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Labour and Employment
Planning Cell (Labour-5)

Subject: Annual Review Under the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work: Country Baseline Update –The Effective Abolition of Child Labour.

Information on Latest Development Based on Questions Set by the Office of the International Labour Organization

Question 1: What are the prospects for ratification of Convention No. 138?

- Bangladesh has been a least developed country and consequently can not afford sufficient social safety net programme for its citizens, even for the special types of disadvantaged section of its population. Considering the level of socio-economic development of Bangladesh, particularly the limitations in terms of manpower and resource constraints of the implementation authorities to address the large informal sector where child labor is engaged, it would take more time for Bangladesh to ratify Convention No. 138 and effectively monitor proper implementation. It can be noted that Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 declares the minimum age of 14 for any children to be engaged in work.

Question 2: What have been the changes in law and practice in your country as regards the effective abolition of child labour? (policy initiatives, legislative documents, labour inspection/monitoring, judicial decisions, other related practice)

- Bangladesh has formulated "National Child Labour Elimination Policy 2010" in March, 2010. We have drafted a list of Hazardous works, preparing notification on National Child Labour Welfare Council, drafted National/District/Sub-District Level Monitoring Committees. A detailed implementation plan is being developed under the heading of National Plan of Action.
- The strength of the "Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments-DIFE" has been increased by recruiting a good number of inspectors. The strength of this department will increase further after setting up of offices in newly created administrative Divisions.

Question 3: What have been the efforts made to promote the effective abolition of child labour in your country? (you may separately mention activities related to research, compilation of information/data, training activities, public awareness-raising and other related action)

- Bangladesh has ratified ILO convention 182 (the worst forms of child labour).

- **The newly enacted National Child Labour Elimination Policy 2010 has the objective of abolishing hazardous child labor from the country by 2015 in line with the Millennium Development Goal.**

- **Implementing an action programme namely "Enhancing the Capacity of the Child Labour Unit of the Ministry of Labour and Employment".**

- With the own fund of the Government **a third phase of the project titled "Eradication of Hazardous Child Labour in Bangladesh (July 2009 to June 2012)" has been initiated for implementation. The project is in the process of its approval.**

- **A Project titled "Urban Informal Economy (UIE) Programme of the Project of Support to the Time Bound Programme towards the Elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour in Bangladesh" has been approved by the Government and is implementing** by the Ministry of Labour and Employment & **ILO**. The implementation period of the project is from 2007-2011.

- A Project titled "Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Reform in Bangladesh" under TBP has been approved by the Government and is implementing by the Directorate of the Technical Education and ILO. The implementation period of the project is 2008- 2013.

- Workshops/Seminars on different issues of "Child Labour Elimination" have been organized by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in collaboration with other social partners.

- The members of taskforce/monitoring team inspect the factory of RMG sector, Fish and Shrimp Sector regularly for enforcing labour law 2006 to accelerate the effective abolition of child labour.

- For the shrimp sector Government has formed 3 special inspection teams in Khulan division and 2 special inspection teams in Chittagong division. The inspection teams, during inspections, emphasize application of Labour Act and protection of labour rights and labour welfare.

-

- The employers organization actively advocates against child labor in all its activities and public relations events,

- Ongoing awareness campaign against hazardous child labour by the government, private sector, NGOs, and particularly by the media.

- **Child Domestic Worker:** The Government has been working on ~~preparing Code of Conduct for Domestic Workers~~ **formulating Domestic Workers' Protection and Welfare Policy (new update)** with a view to protect the child domestic workers 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.

- **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.

- **Compulsory Primary Education Policy:** A policy for Compulsory and free primary education has been formulated where education for every children up to age of 14 has been ensured.

Question 4: Can you please indicate any initiatives resulting in successful examples or good practice in promoting the effective abolition of child labour?

- A national consultation workshop in determining the list of hazardous works was held in August, 2010 in an attempt to finalize the list of hazardous works, as required by the Conventions No. 182, ratified in March 2001. Once this list is finalized, the number of children engaged in hazardous work would significantly decrease.

- In the past. BEF actively supported the ILO to implement its International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) during 1995-2005 period, which successfully eliminated child labor in the Ready Made Garment sector of Bangladesh.

Question 5: Can you please indicate whether any particular attention has been paid to specific groups of population, workers or sectors of activity in the efforts to promote effective abolition of child labour?

- Particular emphasis has been paid to the RMG and fish processing sectors. While under the ILO-IPEC project priority has been given to withdraw and mainstream the children engaged in hazardous works.

Question 6: What are the challenges and difficulties faced in the effective abolition of child labour?

- Poverty and underemployment of adults are the major challenges to overcome before child labour can be abolished. The centralized monitoring and implementation efforts are inadequate to reach the informal sector where child labour is prevalent.

Question 7: What are the technical cooperation needs in your country to promote the effective abolition of child labour?

- In addition to the ongoing technical cooperation in abolishing child labour on Urban Informal Economy, more assistance is required to address this issue among the street children, and in semi-urban and rural economy. However, since poverty has been the main challenge for effective abolition of child labour, technical assistance from overall socio-economic development of the country is very crucial. Unless the socio-economic conditions of the vast population of the country can be improved at a satisfactory level the goal of effective abolition of child labour will remain unachieved.

Question 8: Please provide any other information or documentation you may deem necessary.

- Bangladesh may be assisted with the good practices or modern concepts of prgrammes for effective abolition of child labour.

Question 9: Please indicate the name of employers' organizations and workers' organization to which a copy of this updated information has been sent? (please attach the responses and comments of the employers' and workers' organizations to the above questions, if you have received them)

(a) The Bangladesh Employers' Federation, and

(b) The Chairman of National Co-ordination Committee of Workers' Education (NCCWE).

Question 10: You may wish to add your comments on the observations made by the employers' and workers' organizations.

- None.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Labour and Employment
Planning Cell (Labour-5)

No. MOLE/PC (Lab-05)/CountryBaseline/22/2010/**297** Date: 01–08–1417 B.S. / 15–11–2010 C.E.

Subject: Annual Review Under the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work: Country Baseline Update –The Effective Abolition of Child Labour.

Ref : BIT/ILO-DC 0-02-2010-1-1, Dated: 9 July May, 2010.

Dear Sir,

The undersigned is directed to attach herewith the information on new development over the past twelve years based on the 10 (ten) questions received from your esteemed office. This is for your kind information and necessary action.

Yours Sincerely,
Sd/-
Date: 15/11/2010
(Yasmeen Parveen)
Senior Assistant Chief (Labour)
Phone: 0088-02-7160060
Fax: 0088-02-7168660

Enclosed: 03(Three) pages.

Director General
ILO, Geneva, Switzerland

Attention: Mr. Kamran Fannizadeh
Director
Programme for the promotion of the Declaration on
Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
International Labour Office
4, Route Des Morillons
CH-1211 Geneva 22, Switzerland.

Copy for kind information and necessary action to:

1. Permanent Mission of Bangladesh, 65, Rue De Lausanne, 1202, Geneva, Switzerland. (Fax: +41 22 738 46 16)
2. Director, International Labour Office, House # 12, Road # 12, Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka.
3. P.S to Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Labour & Employment and Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare & Overseas Employment, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
4. P.S to Hon'ble State Minister, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.
5. P.S to Secretary, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO

Report for the period 1st January 2009 to 31st 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 8th 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 2008/79th Session

A. Response to Observations:

Observations	Reply/Comments
Sale Clause (a). Worst forms of child labour and trafficking of children. Article 3 of the Convention. *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.*	The penal provisions laid down in the Suppression of Violence against Women & 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 & 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.
Monitoring mechanisms. Article 5. *The Committee accordingly requests the Government to continue its efforts in strengthening the role of the CID, the police and the* ***Anti-Child Trafficking Unit****, 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.*	The zigzag boarders, 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.
Programmes of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Article 6. *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*	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

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

	(CSEC) and to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders who run shelter homes for sexually exploited children. 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.
Penalties. Article 7, paragraph 1. *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.*	The zigzag boarders, 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.
Clause (d). Effective and time-bound measures. Article 7, paragraph 2. Child domestic Identifying and reaching to children at special risk. workers. *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*	A guideline to protect child domestic workers has been under preparation by the Government of Bangladesh.

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.	
Application of the Convention in practice. Part V of the report form. *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.*	The zigzag boarders, 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.

B. Response to *Direct Request*:

Direct Request	Reply/Comments
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. *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.*	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.
2.*Forced or compulsory recruitment for use in armed conflict.* *The Committee requests the Government to take immediate measures to ensure that the forced or compulsory recruitment of children*	There is no arm conflict in Bangladesh.

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.*	
Use, procuring or offering of child prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances. Clause (b). *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.*	Government will gradually take the necessary steps in order to ensure that the sale and trafficking of all children is prohibited.
Use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs. Clause (c). *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.*	Government will gradually take the necessary steps in order to ensure that the sale and trafficking of all children is prohibited.
Determination of hazardous work. Article 4, paragraph 1. *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.*	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.

Labour inspectorate. Monitoring mechanisms. Article 5. *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.*	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.
Programmes of action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Article 6, paragraph 1. *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.*	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 aslo see the **Annex –A.**
Clause Effective and time-bound measures. Article 7, paragraph 2. Preventing the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labour. (a). Education. *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*	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 **Annex -B**

school drop-out rates. It also asks the Government to provide updated statistical data on school enrolment and drop-out rates.	
Clause (d). Identifying and reaching out to children at special risk. 1. *Child workers in the road transport sector.* *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.*	Please also see **Annex –B** for the activities being carried out by the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education. 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".
2. *Children in the informal sector.* *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.*	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.
3.*Street children.* *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*	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

through the implementation of the TBP-UIE, and then rehabilitated and socially integrated.	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.
Elimination of poverty. Article 8. *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.*	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). 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. 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. 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. 4. Quality of Primary Education: It will be achieved by improving the quality of learning

	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, un served 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
Application of the Convention in practice. Part V of the report form. -- the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics conducted **thirteen research studies** on different thematic areas under the *TBP* Preparatory Phase, including education, poverty reduction, social mobilization and labour protection. *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.*	The statistical data collected through the research studies of BBS under the TBP preparatory phase will be sent separately by mail.

Annex -A

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 Labur 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 1st phase funded by USAID (PL48) and the 2nd 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 1st 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 2nd 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 Narayangonj. An amount of USD 4.2 million was allocated for the 2nd phase of the project. Under the 2nd

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.

Annex –B: Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

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 (2nd 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.