

Chapter |

**WORKERS IN SHIPBREAKING
INDUSTRIES :
A BASE LINE SURVEY OF
CHITTAGONG (BANGLADESH)**

SHIPBREAKING



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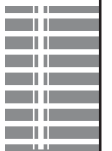


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WORKERS IN SHIPBREAKING INDUSTRIES : A BASE LINE SURVEY OF CHITTAGONG (BANGLADESH)



UNDER THE PROJECT

Advocacy for a public policy to ensure
human rights in shipbreaking industry.

Implemented by-
YPSA

Supported by-
manusher jonno

Preface

YPSA as a voluntary social development organization left behind the 20th year of its journey towards development. It is well known that, unlike many other national and international NGO's YPSA emerged fully from the community level and community people played the most significant role in the onward movement of YPSA. Hence, from the very beginning YPSA has been working with the people rather than for the people.

YPSA Core programme area is situated in Sitakund, Chittagong. Sitakund, a seashore area situated a few kilometers north of Chittagong where most of the shipbreaking yards are concentrated. The workers are working in dangerous working condition but they don't have safety equipments like helmets, goggles, gloves, boots and work suits, medical facilities and moreover financial security. The human rights is seriously violating in this significant and potential industry. There is no distinct and well-balanced policy for shipbreaking industries. Actually, still now it is not declared as industry by the government. A well balanced policy is necessary to maintain this industry properly and at the same to ensure the rights of labour with a sound working environment. Considering the total situation, the team of Advocacy and Publication (A & P) Unit of YPSA conducted a base line survey that has lots of information about the conditions of labour in the shipbreaking industries.

This document is based on an analysis of existing information and experiences, including problems and issues raised by the labour and staffs in and outside the yards.

I would like to express my profound thanks and heartfelt gratitude to the Advocacy and Publication (A & P) Unit and contributors of this research who really worked hard to publish the report with a view to know the real situation of the labour in the shipbreaking industries.

The study would not have been possible without the generous support of the labour and local peoples of shipbreaking yard areas. We are also grateful to them.

I am highly indebted to manusher jonno (MJ) for financial support, professional advice, guidance, encouragement and inspiration for the whole activities of the project.

Finally, I shall feel highly rewarded if this research is found as a background document to support formulation of policy for shipbreaking industries and others interested in this concern.



(Md. Arifur Rahman)
Chief Executive
Young Power in Social Action (YPSA)

Foreword

The study is an attempt to blaze a new field of exploration so far as working class is concerned. Working class in the shipbreaking industries constitutes a fragile locus suffering manifold hazards. Various categories of workers involved in shipbreaking operation remain outside the purview of policy intervention. Their visibility in a continuous struggle for survival with a bitter taste of life has not been translated into an issue of human development. By now a large contingent of labour forces has been compelled to engage in this perilous physical labour. The poorest in the hard core poverty line coming from different districts in search of employment in major urban areas have to take position as labour at the most risk out of dire necessity.

Faced with heavy odds of life in an extremely deplorable work environment opportunities for skill development befittingly are few and amenities are not aspired for. Non-availability of safety measure poses a great challenge to the workers enhancing uncertainties and risks. The facilities like health, medical, sanitation and financial security are minimal. As a result many succumbed to serious diseases /injuries and have been killed in accidents. This is quite natural for this industrial environment setting where there is inadequate protection and inspection.

The occupational status of this class of toiling masses does not have any level of social acceptance. For, scrapping of vessels is perhaps not recognized as an industry. This is not treated as one of the sub-sectors of the industrial policy; public policies and related laws do not cover the interests of shipbreaking labour. Labour laws in Bangladesh pertinent to workers rights, wages, benefits, safety, protection and humanitarian treatment are not relevant to human rights of shipbreaking labour. 31 conventions of the ILO ratified by the government hardly concern their rights. Public policy in this behalf is still left out of equation. Remaining at the outer margin of labour welfare programme they are not even treated as the sub-unit of the community of workers.

Labour conditions in such activity area are oversighted and do not receive adequate attention as an intriguing issue. Intrinsic values of labour in this occupation are out of realization of the policy communities despite the fact that hard and arduous labour of the workers generates a huge amount of revenue income every year. Draft reports of Bangladesh ship breaking information centre, YPSA, revealed that shipbreaking was a potential source of revenue earning of the government drawn upon income, local revenue, sea shore tax and foreign exchange.

Labour intensive technology is the keynote of shipbreaking function. Employment of labour increases every year with a significant increase in the number of ships to be scrapped. According to the estimate of the draft report published by YPSA in November 2000 this sector has an average of 800 men work force.

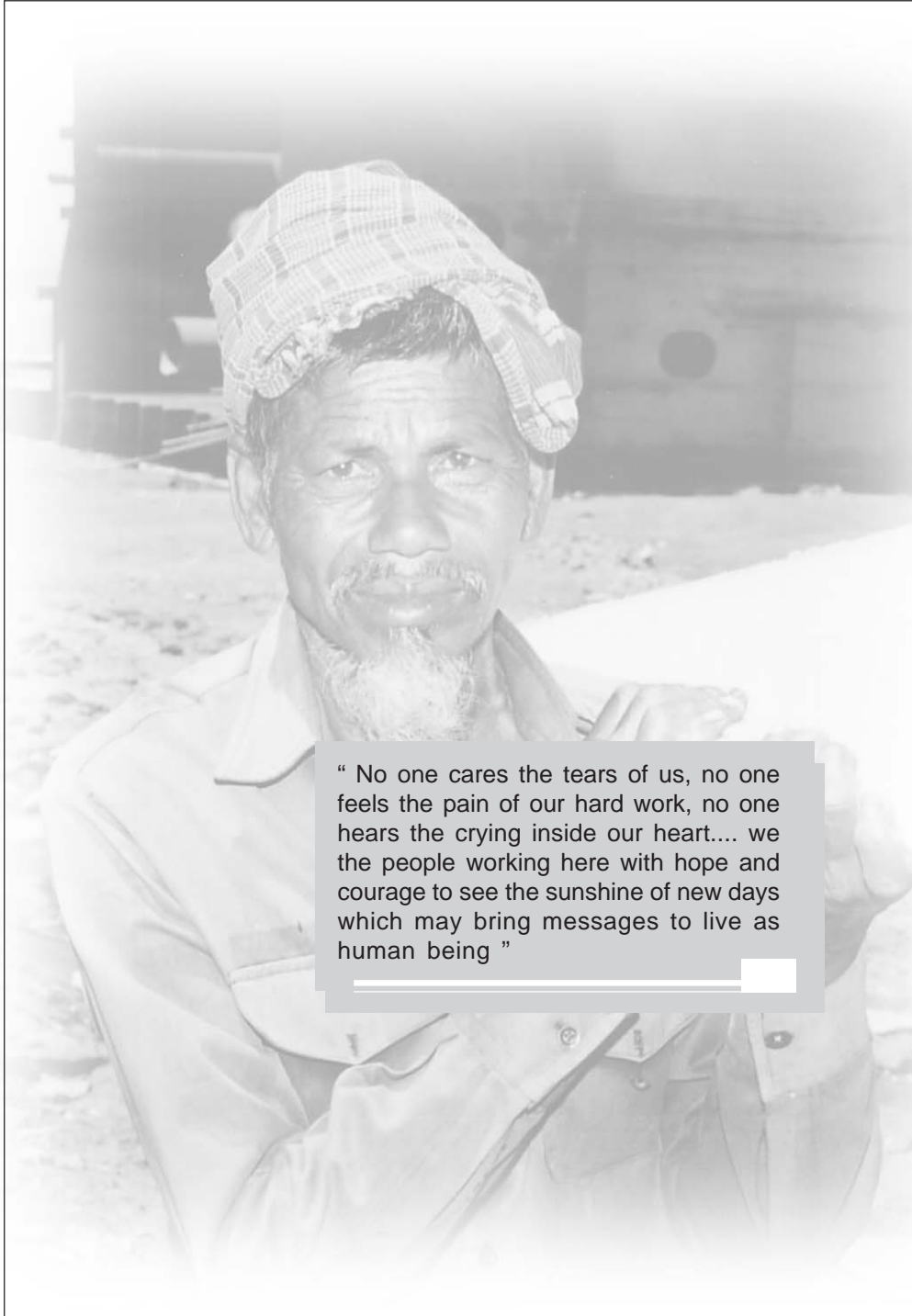


The problems associated with environmental and labour conditions have increased in number and complexity. It is a threat to environment. Pollution generated by dismantling of ships impairs ecological settings. The beach is exclusively mud covered by cut-offs from the ships, pipe segments, electric cables, tanks, glass, panes, oil drums and garbage stored everywhere around the place. More, highly obnoxious gases formed from dismantling process cause environmental degradation. The community of fishermen has been at a great deal of problems having faced a series of antecedents. Sea fish resources in the coastline have been reducing rapidly due to various 'toxic wastes' of shipbreaking industry. Besides, several manifestations of air pollution including hazardous gaseous elements tell upon worker's health.

The environment around Sitakund thana (the nucleus of development activities of the local community) should no longer be vitiated by shipdismantling operation round the year. The area covered by ship breaking yards need expansion but not at the heavy cost of relocation. Problems connected with environmental and labour conditions should not be left complicated by appallingly increasing number of vessels to be cut into pieces. We may propose social development schemes for the workers with the provision of proper work and family environment to make them feel a sense of life. They should be brought into a program-fold of wider labour policies, laws and ordinances. There needs to be adequate provision of security, welfare and amenities. There is a need for assistance to workers in extremely difficult circumstances. Social insurance measures against accident and hazard should be undertaken. Wage should be increased to a standard rate. Shipbreaking Labour Day should be announced as a part of policy advocacy. Formal declaration of this activity as an industry subject to governance by Ministry of Industry may well be proposed for consideration.



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“ No one cares the tears of us, no one feels the pain of our hard work, no one hears the crying inside our heart.... we the people working here with hope and courage to see the sunshine of new days which may bring messages to live as human being ”

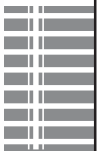


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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & SYMBOLS

YPSA=	Young Power in Social Action
TV	= Television
VCR	= Video Cassette Recorder
hr	= hour
VAT	= Value Added Tax
ILO	= International Labour Organisation
OSH	= Occupational Safety and Health
%	= Percentage
&	= And
/	= Per
<	= Less than



CHAPTER ONE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh is a small and densely populated country with an area of about 1, 47,370 square kilometers. It has a long coastal belt of about 710 km which is enriched with natural resources specially fish and other aquatic species of different varieties and has been the focal point of different economic activities. Most of these seashore areas are situated in Chittagong. Sitakund is a seashore area situated a few kilometers north of Chittagong where most of the shipsbreaking yards are concentrated. Shipbreaking industry has not been developed in a day. It has been developed gradually in Bangladesh passing through various stages of its development at an international level. Though the shipbreaking in Bangladesh started in sixties, commercially it started in late seventies. The only shipbreaking industry of the country has been developed in Sitakund areas, Chittagong. There are about 20 forward and backward linkage industries based on this shipbreaking. Now, there are about 20 shipbreaking yards in Sitakund where thousand and hundreds of labour are working. The workers are all engaged in dangerous physical labour but they don't have safety equipments like helmets, goggles, gloves, boots and work suits, medical facilities and moreover financial security. Over the last twenty years more than 400 workers have been killed and 6000 seriously injured according to the Bangladeshi media. The explosion of the Iranian tanker TT Dena on 31 may 2000 alone is said to have caused 50 deaths. To this toll must be added thousands of cases of irreversible disease which have occurred and will occur in future due to the toxic materials that are handled and inhaled without minimum precautions or protective cares. It can be said that the human rights are seriously violated in this significant and potential industry in our country. Shipbreaking is a potential industry for Bangladesh. At present, the position of Bangladesh is third in the world for shipbreaking. The largest ships of the world are cut in the shipyard of Bangladesh. This industry pays about 700 crore taka each year to the government of Bangladesh. Bangladesh needs eight million tons of building materials per year, in which most needed material is iron and ship breaking industry is supplying 90% iron materials to the country. There is no distinct and well-balanced policy for shipbreaking industries. Actually, still now it is not declared as industry by the government. Due to unconsciousness and unpatronization of government, the industry is facing several internal and external problems. Above all, to solve all these problems a distinct and well-balanced policy is necessary for shipbreaking industries. That is why a baseline study was conducted to know the real situation of labour, staffs and businessmen of shipbreaking industry.

1.2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Due to the lack of available literature on the problematic under consideration, we are not able to conduct a comprehensive literature review. A few, publications though much less than enough may be helpful in this respect.

In 1999 Mr. Ataur Rahman and A Z M Tabarukullah wrote a report entitled 'Ship Breaking Industry of Bangladesh'. In this report they mentioned that there was no arrangement for the safety of labour. No lifting process was available here in shipbreaking yards to load and move the iron pieces. The whole risky works were done by the unskilled labour of the industry. Besides, there was no system to provide anything for eye protection, uniform, glove and boots. It was also mentioned in the report that without making the ship gas free, the ships were beached to be scraped. As a result it becomes a great cause for the sea-pollution and a threat to the local environment.

A report named 'Stuck in mud: On Ship breaking, Labour Conditions and Environment in Chittagong, Bangladesh' is published in 2000. In this report Morten Ronning revealed that, ninety percent internal demand of iron-steel was being supplied by the shipbreaking industry. He presented the horrible condition wage rate, working security, accommodation and all other things related with the environment.

About 25,000 workers are engaged in the shipbreaking industry, majority of which are from poverty affected northern part of the country. Usually the workers are not given appointment letter; moreover there is no formal contract between the employee and the employer. The workers have been working in the scrap yard years after years; they have not been allowed to form Trade Union to bargain on their due rights. The workers are categorized according to their efficiency, wages are different accordingly. The workers are classified as general worker, sardar (who supervise the work of about 15-20 general worker) and Foreman (who supervise the work of 3-4 sardar of 50-60 workers). The contractors usually signed agreement with the ship owner (importer) for a particular section of the ship and deploy the workers over there. In practice there is no relationship between the workers and the ship owners. It was revealed in the study that majority of the workers were of the age group of 17-37 years. In addition, there were some child labour involved in light works like washing, cleaning and repeat collections. The workers are deprived of proper compensation for accidents due to lack of valid contract. The safety measures taken for the workers during work are very old in some cases. In order to maximize profit, the ships are scrapped in a way having high risk of accident. As the workers are poor they work silently without any protest. Accidents have been a common phenomenon in the shipbreaking industry since its inception. (Babul, A.R. 2000)

Sanfrancisco based Buddhist Peace Foundation, has recently (01/09/2000) published a report titled 'Ship breaking'. Mr. Alan senauke came to know for the first time the workers of shipbreaking yard of Bangladesh from an art exhibition of a Brazilian photographer Mr. Sebasteyo salgoder held in Honlolo Academy of Arts. In the exhibition ship breaking workers of Bangladesh were presented there. Then he visited Chittagong shipbreaking yard to have an idea on working environment and occupational safety measures that have been prevailing in the scrap yard which he highlighted in his report .He also discussed other relevant issues like, gradual relocation of shipbreaking industry from Europe to Asia and its underlying reasons, environment degradation caused by the industry and the role of the developed world in this regard. It has been appeared in his report that most of the shipbreaking workers are from the poverty stricken northern region of Bangladesh where opportunity of employment is less. Initial wage of these is TK 60.00 for a day of eight working hours having a scope of earning more as overtime allowance. However, the skilled labour earn more. Apparently the poor labour are found to be happy with their existing wages. But they are not aware of the detrimental impacts of the hazardous elements they have been dealing with .The report through explained the various detrimental impacts of this industry, there were no highlights on workers death and inquiry caused by the frequent accidents/explosion in the scrap yard.

1.3 KEY CONCEPT USED

Yard / Field : Yard/ Field is the place where ships are cut into different pieces. Actually the yards/fields are situated at the seashore areas.

Cutter group : Cutter group is one kind of labour group who cut different parts of ship by oxyacetylene flame. The labour that help the cutter are called cutter helper.

Plate/Loading group : The kind of workers who carry or load the big iron pieces on their shoulder to the truck is called Plate/Loading group.

Wire group : The labour that pull the wire are called Wire group.

Hammer group : The labour that hit or beat the joint of iron and loosen the nails are called Hammer group.

Foreman : The labour's leader who supplies labour to work in the yard and maintain the relationship between the labour and contractors is called Foreman.

Contractor : The people, who make contract with the owner to cut the ship, recruit the labour and supervise all the works of cutting are called Contractor.

Supervisor/Clerk : They are the people assigned by the company, engaged in the office of the yard, supervised the official works and documents.

Security guard : The people who engaged for the safety of the yard are called Security guard.

Re-rolling mill or re-rolling steel mill group : They are the labour from the steel mills based on the iron of ship.

Furniture group : The labour who work in the furniture shops are called Furniture group. These shops are mainly based on the furniture from the ship.

Local iron/scrap group : The labour who work in the scrap iron shop are called Local iron group.

Oil group : There are some shops of oil that are based on the oil of ship. The labour, work in the oil shop are called Oil group.

Doors group : The labour from the door shops are called Doors group. These shops are based on the doors collected from the ships.

Basin/Kitchen group : There are some shops of basin and kitchen items which are collected from the ships. The labour, engaged in those shops are called Basin / kitchen group.

Cables group : Some cable shops are established on the basis of cables collected from the ships. The labour working in those shops are called Cables group.

Female worker group : There are some female persons who work in the mess of labour are called female worker. They mainly help in cooking.

Paints group : There are some shops of paints in the shipbreaking yard area, which are based on the paint of the ships. The labour who work in the paint shops are called Paint group.

Tea stall group : There are many tea stalls in the area of yard where mainly the labour take tea and pass their leisure time. The labour work in the tea stall are called Tea stall group.

Manager/ Caretaker : There are some peoples who work in the different ship breaking items shop, supervise the work of labour and keep the documents of the shops are called Manager/Caretaker.

Businessman : This group is engaged in different shipbreaking item business.

1.4 OBJECTIVES

The study contains the following objectives :

1. To know the real situation of the labour, staffs and businessmen including their personal information, living condition, job facilities, problems and suggestions there to,
2. To build rapport with labour, staffs and businessmen of the shipbreaking industries.
3. To keep or make a document on the present condition of those people.
4. To consider baseline data in order to track down changes in condition of labour through mid term and final evaluation.
5. To review activities and strategies of the project in the light of baseline survey findings.

1.5 METHODOLOGY

1.5.1 Survey

A survey was conducted by the YPSA team on five hundred peoples including labour, staffs and businessmen from September-November 2003. The survey was done by random sampling. Within five hundred peoples, there are 265 labour (in yard), 118 labour (outside the yard), 18 staffs (in yard), 12 staffs (outside the yard) and 87 businessmen. Different labour groups with their numbers (in yard) covered in the survey are Cutter group-105, Plate group-109, Wire group-34, Hammer group-10 and Foreman-7. The foreman is separated from the major force of labour due to various reasons. They are the leaders of labour group; supply labour to the yard from different places and also supervises different problems of labour. Some of them work in the yard and some don't. Outside the yard, the different groups are Re-rolling mill-27, Furniture-27, Local Iron Shop-17, Oil group-9, Doors shop-9, Basin / Kitchen items shop-7, Cables shop-6, Female Worker-6, Paints-5 and Teastall-5. The categories of the staff with their numbers in the yard are Contractor-6, Clerk/ Supervisor-6 and Security Guard-6. Staffs outside the yard with their numbers are Manager/ Caretaker-12, and Businessman-87.

1.5.2 Method of data collection

At first, the team identified the location of different yards. Observation on the activities of labour was done for some days to know the behaviour, leisure time and daily life style. A questionnaire was made including both close and open ended questions to know the overall conditions of the labour, staffs and businessmen. 'One to one interview' was done to get the answer of the questions. Most of the interviews were taken outside the yards at the break time and at leisure. Some interviews were also taken at night as they become relax at that time.

1.5.3 Method of data analysis

Some reports on shipbreaking industries aided us though those were insufficient. The preparation of the report and analysis of data was done by the office management system (MS Word, MS Excel, MS Access, MS Power point) in computer.

1.6 LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

At the initial stage, it was really difficult to get access in the yard and also to talk with the labour. Difficulty in obtaining the access of female staffs in some yards was no less handicap. The officials of some yards did not behave well and cooperate properly. Actually nobody wanted to give any information and the labour were afraid of talking because they thought whether they were going to lose their jobs by telling the truth. The labour were not available all the time because of their work and sometimes it was really very difficult to talk with the labour in the break time as they were very tired. The shortage of manpower including time constraint was also felt during the study period and the communication to the field was also very time consuming. Lack of electricity was also a major constraint during the preparation and data analysis of the report.

The research or study reports published on shipbreaking industries are mainly on detrimental impacts of such risky activities and most of the reports are incomplete; no complete report on the condition of labour in the yard, only very few or partial study is done which does not focus the real situation. Most of the previous studies are based on the environmental effect due to shipbreaking industries but rights of labour and their humanitarian life did not get priority in those report. Such kinds of study are not helpful for any future research on human rights.



CHAPTER TWO

2.0 THE SETTING OF THE STUDY AREA

2.1 STUDY LOCATION AND CHARACTERISTICS

In Bangladesh the shipbreaking yards are mainly located along 7 km long coastline of Selimpur, Bhatiary, Kumira and Bar Aoulia Unions of Sitakund Upazilla. This area lies along the Dhaka-Chittagong high ways, which is 10km away from Chittagong Metropolitan City. According to official enumeration of population 1991, the population of Sitakund Thana was 274903. The communication of the study area is well developed. The main way of communication of this area is Dhaka- Chittagong highway. The roads towards the yard are made of bricks, mud and iron chips but the chips are very dangerous. The vehicles plying in the study area are bus, truck, maxi, tempo, taxi and rickshaw. Most of the living structures in the research area are generally made of bamboo, sun grass and mud. There are also some semi-buildings with tin-shed. Normally the poor villagers and workers of different industries live in this kind of place. Besides, there are also some multi-storied buildings, just beside the road. The businessmen and industry staffs live in the buildings.

2.2 THE AREA IN HISTORICAL SETTINGS

In early sixties, a Greek ship “MD Alpine”, being affected by the sea storm, was confined in Foujdarhat seashore of Sitakund Upazilla. The ship remained there for a long time. In 1964 Chittagong Steel House bought the vessel and scrapped it. During the liberation war in 1971, a Pakistani ship “Al Abbas” was damaged by bomb burst. Later on this was salvaged by a Soviet Salvation Team from Chittagong port; and brought to the Foujdarhat seashore. In 1974 the Kharnafully Metal Works Ltd. bought this vessel as scrap, which is considered as introduction of shipbreaking in Bangladesh.

The shipbreaking industry has been developed in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh because of availability of cheap labour, moderate enforcement of laws, low level of environmental awareness, huge demand of iron and steel etc. The industry expanded largely in India at a time when it was squeezing in China in the nineties. But after the explosion in an oil tanker at Alan, Gujarat in 1997 which took several lives, Government of India has taken a hard-line on dismantling of big oil tankers and imposed ban on shipbreaking without taking gas free certificate. Following the Government control, the Indian industrialists lost interests in shipbreaking business. Although highest numbers of ships have been dismantling in India as of today, all the ships are small in size.

While Indian businessmen stopped importing big ships, some Bangladeshi industrialists started to import them being allured by a huge amount of profit in this business. Within a short period Bangladeshi businessmen started to dominate the international market of big scrap ships and established their monopoly in the business. Statistics shows that about 52% of big scrap ships of the world are scrapped in Bangladesh (DNV 1999).



CHAPTER THREE

3.0 LABOUR LAWS AND ITS RELEVANCE TO SHIPBREAKING LABOUR

3.1 CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATION

3.1.1 Universal declaration of human rights

3.1.1.1 Article 20

- (1) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association
- (2) No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

The above articles support the following -

Constitution of Bangladesh : Article 37

Every citizen shall have the right to assemble and to participate in public meetings and processions peacefully and without arms, subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interests of public order or public health.

Constitution of Bangladesh : Article 38

Every citizen shall have the right to form associations or unions, subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interests of morality or public order :

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights : Article 21

European Convention of Human Rights: Article 11

3.1.1.2. Article 23

- (1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
- (2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.
- (3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary by other means of social protection.
- (4) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interest.

The above articles support the following -

Constitution of Bangladesh : Article 15

It shall be a fundamental responsibility of the State to attain, through planned economic growth, a constant increase of productive forces and a steady improvement in the material and cultural standard of living of the people, with a view to securing to its citizens-

- (a) the provision of the basic necessities of life, including food, clothing, shelter, education and medical care;
- (b) the right to work, that is the right to guaranteed employment at a reasonable wage having regard to the quantity and quality of work ;
- (c) the right to reasonable rest, recreation and leisure ; and
- (d) the right to social security, that is to say to public assistance in cases of undeserved want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by widows or orphans or in old age, or in other such cases.

Bangladesh Industrial Relation Law, 1969: Article 3

International Convention of the Civics and Political Rights: Article 22

European Convention of Human Rights : Article 11

3.1.1.3 Article 24

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

The above article support the following -

Constitution of Bangladesh: Article: 15 (mentioned above)

3.1.1.4 Others

Others than those there are some other article about labour –

Constitution of Bangladesh : Article 14 (Emancipation of peasants and workers)
It shall be a fundamental responsibility of the State to emancipate the toiling masses- the peasants and workers- and backward sections of the people from all forms of exploitation.

Constitution of Bangladesh : Article 34 (Prohibition of Forced Labour)

(1) All forms of forced labour are prohibited and any contravention of this provision shall be an offence punishable in accordance with law.

(2) Nothing in this article shall apply to compulsory labour-

(a) by persons undergoing lawful punishment for a criminal offence; or

(b) required by any law for public purposes.

3.2 ILO DECLARATION

The ILO has adopted a large number of international Conventions and accompanying Recommendations directly concerned with OSH issues, as well as elaborated many codes of practice and technical publications applicable to shipbreaking. They represent a body of definitions, principles, obligations, duties and rights, as well as technical guidance reflecting the consensual views of the ILO's tripartite constituents from its 175 member States (as of June 2002) on most aspects of occupational safety and health.

3.2.1 Relevant ILO Conventions and Recommendations

3.2.1.1 Fundamental ILO Conventions and accompanying Recommendations

Eight ILO Conventions have been identified by the ILO's Governing Body as being fundamental to the rights of human beings at work, irrespective of levels of development of individual member States. These rights are a precondition for all the others in that they provide for the necessary implements to strive freely for the improvement of individual and collective conditions of work.

Freedom of association

· Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87)

· Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)

The abolition of forced labour

· Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

· Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

Equality

- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111) and Recommendation No. 111
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100) and Recommendation (No. 90)

The elimination of child labour

- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and Recommendation (No. 146)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) and Recommendation (No. 190)

3.2.1. 2 Conventions and Recommendations on occupational safety and health and working conditions

- Radiation Protection Convention, 1960 (No. 115) and Recommendation, 1960 (No. 114)
- Reduction of Hours of Work Recommendations, 1962 (No. 116)
- Guarding of Machinery Convention, 1963 (No. 119) and Recommendation, 1963 (No. 118)
- Employment Injury Benefit Convention, 1964 (No. 121) and Recommendation, 1964 (No. 121)
- Workers Representatives Convention, 1971 (No. 135)
- Maximum Weight Convention, 1967 (No. 127) and Recommendation, 1967 (No. 128)
- Benzene Convention, 1971 (No. 136) and Recommendation, 1971 (No. 144)
- Occupational Cancer Convention, 1974 (No. 139) and Recommendation, 1974 (No. 147)
- Working Environment (Air Pollution, Noise and Vibration) Convention, 1977 (No. 148) and Recommendation, 1977 (No. 156)
- Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152) and Recommendation 1979 (No. 160)
- Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) and Recommendation, 1981 (No. 164)
- Protocol of 2002 (recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases) to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2002
- Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161) and Recommendation, 1985 (No. 171)
- Asbestos Convention, 1986 (No. 162) and Recommendation, 1986 (No. 172)
- Chemicals Convention, 1990 (No. 170) and Recommendation, 1990 (No. 177)
- Night Work Convention, 1990 (No. 171) and Recommendation 1990 (No. 178)
- Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183) and Recommendation, 2002 (No. 191)
- List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194)

3.2.2 Selected ILO Codes of practice with provisions which are relevant and applicable to shipbreaking activities

- Safety and health in shipbuilding and ship repairing, 1974
- Protection of workers against noise and vibration in the working environment, 1977
- Occupational safety and health in the iron and steel industry, 1983
- Safety in the use of asbestos, 1984
- Safety, health and working conditions in the transfer of technology to developing countries, 1988
- Safety in the use of chemicals at work, 1993
- Accident prevention on board ship at sea and in port (2nd edition), 1996
- Management of alcohol and drug-related issues in the workplace, 1996
- Recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases, 1996
- Protection of workers personal data, 1997
- Ambient factors in the workplace, 2001
- Safety in the use of synthetic vitreous fibre insulation wools (glass wool, rock wool, slag wool), 2001
- HIV/AIDS and the world of work, 2001
- Safety and health in the non-ferrous metals industries, 2003



CHAPTER FOUR

4.0 SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 LABOUR IN YARD

4.1.1 Age of labour

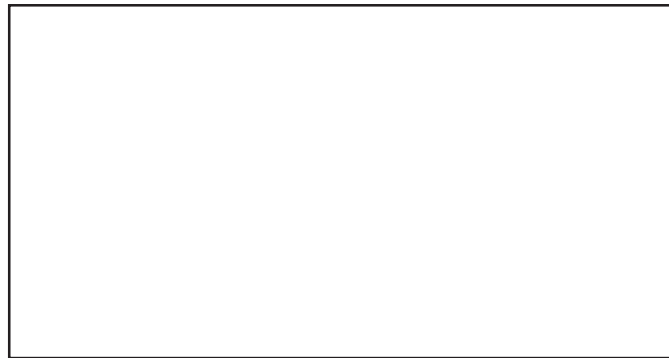


Figure 1: Age group of labour (%) in the yard.

The figure shows that majority of the labour (40.75%) are under age group 18-22 year and only 1.13% labour are under age group 46-50 year. The most important finding is that 10.94% labour are child. It is clear that young labour force is dominant in this sector which also indicates that less experienced and untrained labour force are forced to accept such jobs mainly due to poverty. Another thing is that the labour above 45 years are very less in this sector because more physical strength is necessary to work here.

4.1.2 Marital status of labour

Married-31.70%, Unmarried- 68.30%

4.1.3 Child & adult

Child-10.94%, Adult Male-89.06%

4.1.4 Districts of labour

Labour in yard are from 22 different districts. There is a figure that represents the major 10 districts.



Figure 2 : Major ten districts of labour (%) in the yard.

The above figure shows that 24.15% labour are from Bogra. But it is clear from the figure that most of the labour are coming from north Bengal. Poverty, lack of employment and education forces them to work in this sector. The working labour bring their relatives frequently.

4.1.5 Educational qualification of labour

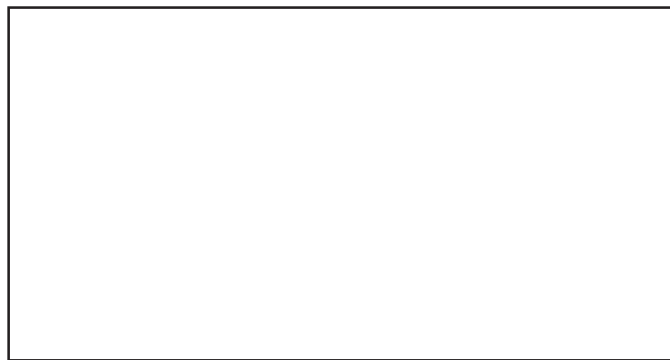


Figure 3 : Educational qualification of Labour (%) in the yard.

It is observed from the figure that a huge number of labour (46.42%) are illiterate and 43.02% labour are educated up to primary education. The huge uneducated labour force has less scope for better professional jobs within and outside the sector. Less accessibility to different opportunities including information for exercising rights, as they are less exposure to education and information etc.

4.1.6 Condition of food, sanitation and habitat of labour

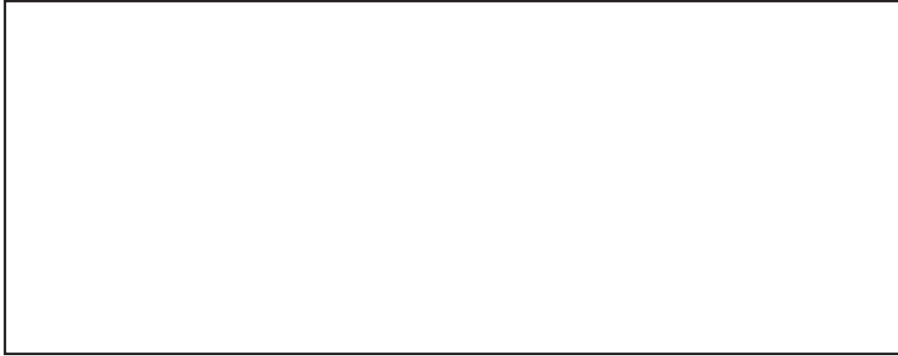


Figure 4 : Condition of food, sanitation and habitat of Labour (%) in the yard.

The figure shows that in case of food 61.89% labour said the food is not good, 54.72% labour said that the sanitation facilities are very bad and 62.26% labour said the habitat facilities are not good. There was no specific range of the criteria very good, good, not good and very bad from questionnaire point of view. It was done by the opinion of a labour's own point of view. The yard contractor provides the sanitation and residence facilities but the food arrangement is absolutely the labour's responsibility.

4.1.7 Medical facility of labour

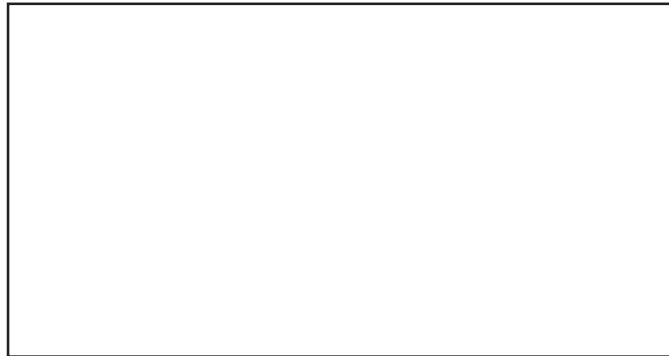


Figure 5 :

It is clear from the figure that 90.19% labour don't get any medical facilities from the yard, 5.66% labour said they get all medical facilities and 4.15 % labour get medical facilities but in a nominal way like first aid treatment, small amount of money etc. Another point is that this figure only shows general medical treatment facilities except the accidents in yard.

4.1.8 Activities of labour in leisure

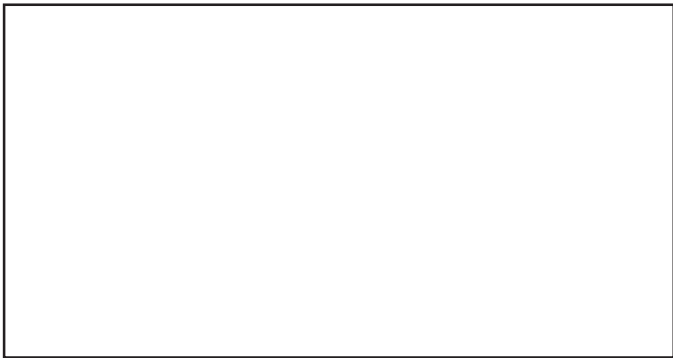


Figure 6 : Activities of Labour (%) of the yard in leisure.

The above figure shows that 43.77% labour watch T.V or VCR in leisure, some labour mess has their own T.V and some times they hire VCR to watch movie or go to another places where they watch T.V or VCR. Cinema hall is another recreational facility for the labour in leisure, 22.64% labour said they go for cinema on their own arrangement. Visiting is another option to pass the time of leisure and 32.83% labour said they visit the outer place of the yard in their leisure. They actually like to visit the near places of their residence. Some labour pass their leisure by singing together and 18.49% labour told it. A small percentage of labour that means 4.91% of labour like to play in leisure and 18.87% labour has others option to pass their leisure. As the labour are working very hard they need recreation but no recreational facilities are provided by the yard authority. The labour arrange the recreational facilities by their own effort.

4.1.9 Sexual life partner of labour

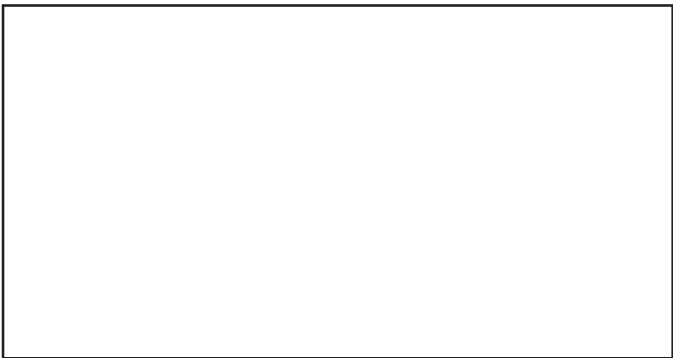


Figure 7 : Sexual life partner of Labour (%) in the yard.

The above figure shows that 59.25% labour have no sexual life partner. This is because most of them are unmarried and sometimes they feel shy to discuss this matter. In addition, 30.94% labour said wife is their sexual life partner, earlier we came to know that 31.70% labour are married and 7.55% labour depends on sex worker.

4.2 LABOUR OUTSIDE THE YARD

There are many forward and backward linkage industries, which depend on shipbreaking. Many labour engage in these industries bearing earlier bitter experiences of hard working in shipbreaking industries. The labour inside and outside the yard stay together in some places. The outside labour realize the problems of labour in the yard, they feel the pain honestly as because they are also deprived from their rights in many aspect. But outside labour are in better position than the inside labour of the yard.

4.2.1 Age of labour

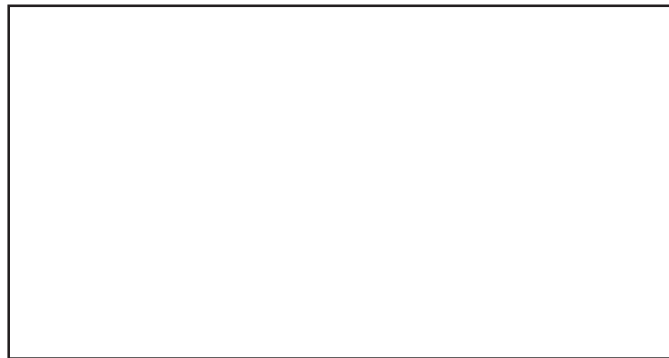


Figure 8 : Age group of Labour (%) outside the yard.

From the figure it is observed that 10.17% labour are child, 27.12% labour are under age 18-22 year, 27.97% labour are under the age 22-26 year and 22.03% labour are under age 26-30 year. These are the major age groups of the labour outside the yard.

4.2.2 Marital status of labour

Married-39.83%, Unmarried-59.32%, Divorced-0.85%

4.2.3 Child & adult

Child-9.32%, Adult Male-82.20%, Adult Female-8.47%

4.2.4 Districts of labour

Labour outside the yard are from 24 different districts. There is a figure that represents the major 10 districts of Labour.

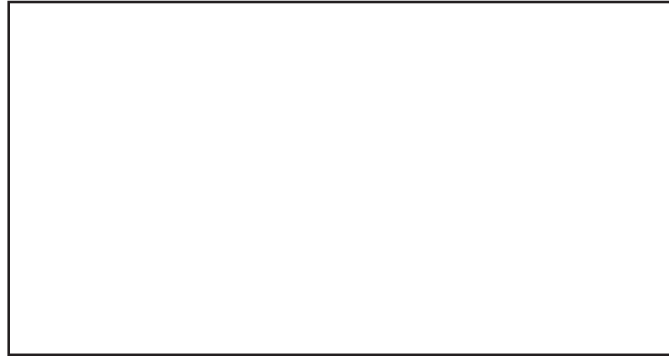


Figure 9 : Districts of Labour (%) outside the yard.

Here, the figure shows that 33.05% labour are from Chittagong; this is because the local labour are not interested to the hard work of the yard. Some of them think, working inside the yard is an inferior job and they are also not too needy to engage in hard working job of the yard. The labour from Noakhali and Chandpur are 15.25% and 11.02% respectively. Most of the labour from Noakhali and Chandpur work in furniture shops. Another thing is that outside the yard the labour from the north Bengal are not dominated.

4.2.5 Educational qualification of labour



Figure 10 : Educational qualification of Labour (%) outside the yard.

The above figure shows that 35.59% labour are illiterate, 42.37% labour have only primary education and 6.78% labour are S.S.C passed which is the most important finding. The educational qualification of the labour outside the yard is better than the labour inside the yard.

4.2.6 Condition of food, sanitation and habitat of labour

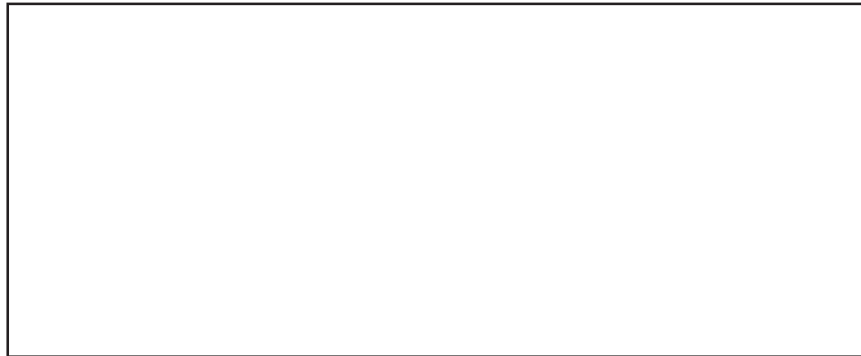


Figure 11 : Condition of food, sanitation and habitat of Labour (%) outside the yard.

The figure shows that 44.92% labour said standard of food is good, 38.98% labour's point of view the food is not good and 11.02% labour said food is very good. Most of the labour arrange their food in their own effort. In case of sanitation, 54.24% labour said the condition of sanitation is not good, 27.97% labour told that the condition of sanitation is very bad and 17.80% labour said good / well. But 70.34% labour said the habitat is not good.

4.2.7 Medical facilities of labour



Figure 12 : Medical facilities of Labour (%) outside the yard.

It is observed from the figure that 86.44% labour said they get no medical facilities from the owner, 5.93% labour said they get all sorts of medical facilities, 5.93% labour said they get medical facilities but in a nominal way or first aid treatment and 1.69% labour told some times they get medical facilities and some times not.

4.2.8 Activities of labour in leisure



Figure 13 : Activities of Labour (%) outside the yard in leisure.

From the figure, it is observed that 44.07% labour watch T.V or VCR and same percentage of labour pass the leisure in visiting outside. In leisure, 19.49% labour like to go to Cinema Hall. The labour arrange these facilities by their own interest and effort.

4.2.9 Sexual life partner of labour

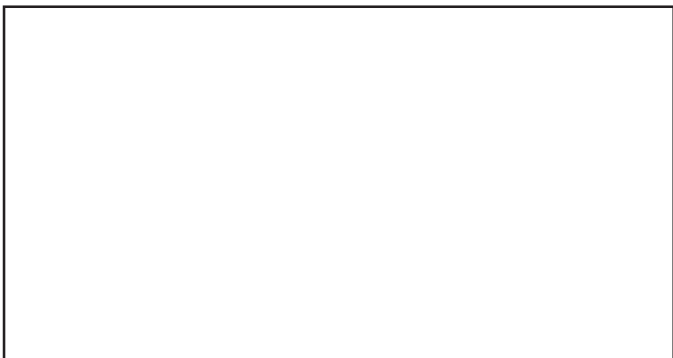


Figure 14 : Sexual life partner of Labour (%) outside the yard.

The above figure shows that 56.78 % labour have no sexual life partner. This is because most of them are unmarried and sometimes they feel shy to discuss this matter. In addition, 32.20% labour said wife is their sexual life partner and most of them are married.



CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 CONDITION OF WORK: FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 LABOUR IN YARD

5.1.1 Contract paper of job

In yards 100% labour said -there is no contract paper of their job. The labour force complained that due to lack of evidence in job-they are deprived from their rights and also facing problems in the permanency of job. They well understand the importance of the contract paper and also want to change this situation but they can't dare it as they are afraid of losing the job.

5.1.2 Working hour and salary of labour

CUTTER GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) /day
8	8.57	85.56
9	3.81	98.75
10	24.76	115.96*
11	20.00	109.31*
12	31.43	121.61
13	9.52	158.00
14	0.95	168.00
16	0.95	200.00

Table 1: Working hour and salary of cutter group.

PLATE GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) /day
6	1.83	150.00*
8	6.42	82.14*
9	6.42	75.71*
10	27.52	93.00*
11	19.27	91.81*
12	24.77	101.78
13	13.76	104.47

Table 2 : Working hour and salary of plate group.

WIRE GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) /day
8	16.67	72.50*
9	13.89	86.00*
10	19.44	87.14*
11	19.44	85.93*
12	8.33	90.00
13	8.33	104.00
15	8.33	138.33

Table 3 : Working hour and salary of wire group.

HAMMER GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) /day
8	10.00	150.00*
10	20.00	150.00*
11	30.00	150.00*
12	40.00	108.00*

Table 4 : Working hour and salary of hammer group.

FOREMAN

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average Salary (taka) / month
10	14.29	4800.00*
11	28.57	3300.00*
12	28.57	3975.00
13	14.29	4050.00
14	14.29	5400.00

Table 5 : Working hour and Salary of Foreman.

* The wage/salary of labour/foreman varies not only depending on working hours but also depends on skill ness of labour that's why the wage/salary in the above tables are like that.

5.1.3 Different facilities of labour in yard



Figure 15 : Different facilities of Labour (%) in the yard.

Here, Different facilities are-

No, Bonus, Overtime, M.A= Medical Allowance, M.A (nominal) = Medical Allowance (nominal), H.A= Housing Allowance, Increment

From the figure, it is observed that 65.28% labour get no facilities from the yard except wages. Rest of others get some facilities where 5.28% labour get bonus, 15.09% get overtime facilities, 9.81% labour get medical allowance, 2.64% labour get medical allowance but at a nominal rate which is not sufficient, 15.09% labour get housing allowance and only 0.38% labour get increment from the yard.

5.1.4 Break in work

Labour (100%) in yards enjoy one and half an hour break- one hour for lunch and fifteen minutes each for tea break in the morning and afternoon. As it is very hard work, the break they are getting is not enough. The labour are not paid for the break time. For this reason, they actually don't enjoy the break and always feel tense whether they are becoming late in work.

5.1.5 Vacation in job

Actually, there is no formal vacation for the Labour. "Work and pay" is the motto of the yard. Actually they are not aware about their salary, benefit etc. while they accept the job. They need work for their livelihood that is why they are working. They know-they are deprived from their rights and different facilities but nothing to do.

5.1.6 Facilities of labour in accident



Figure 16 : Different types of facilities of Labour (%) in accident (yard).

Here, Different types of facilities of labour are-

- 1 = Medical treatment (it include all sorts of medical facilities)
- 2 = Medical treatment (only medicine)
- 3 = Medical treatment (nominal)
- 4 = Medical treatment (only for 2/3 days)
- 5 = Medical treatment (give some money)
- 6 = Leave with salary
- 7 = Leave without salary
- 8 = Leave without salary (nominal)
- 9 = Compensation
- 10 = Compensation (nominal)
- 11 = others
- 12 = Wage in the first few days
- 13 = Give money sometimes
- 14 = No facility

From the figure, it is found that 27.92% labour get medical treatment which includes all sorts of medical facilities, 11.32% labour get medical treatment (nominal) that means primary treatment or first aid treatment, 43.77% labour get medical treatment (only for 2/3 days) means the labour get medical facilities only for 2/3 days, 21.51% labour get leave without salary in case of accident, 4.15% labour get compensation when accident happened in the yard and there are other sorts of facilities which are got by very little portion of labour.

5.1.7 Satisfaction of labour in job

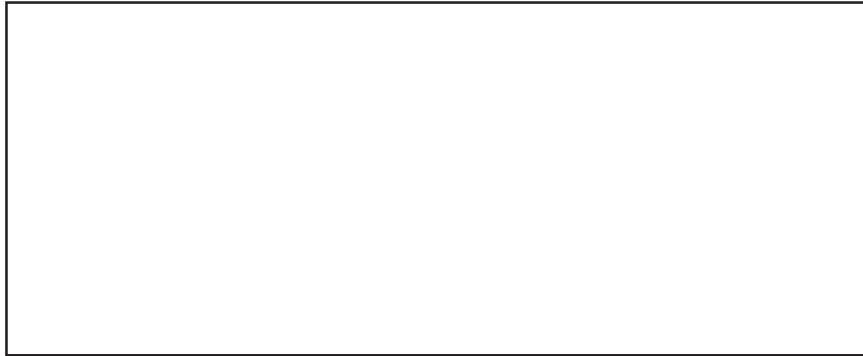


Figure 17 : Satisfaction of Labour (%) of yard in their job.

The above figure indicates that 53.58% labour are very dissatisfied (financially), 40.75% labour are dissatisfied (financially) and only 5.66% are satisfied in their job. The labour (49.43%) said they are very dissatisfied, 42.26% are dissatisfied and only 5.28% are satisfied (other facilities) in their job. There were no specific criteria of satisfaction and dissatisfaction level from questionnaire point of view. It was done by the opinion of a labour's own point of view.

5.1.8 Problems of labour



Figure 18 : Major ten problems of Labour (without foreman) in the yard.

Here, in the figure the major ten problems of labour (without Foreman) are -

1. Very risky job / threats of accident/ fear to work on the top of the ships.
2. Wages are not paid accurately and timely.
3. Lack of pure drinking water.
4. Hands and legs are always burned, feel pain in body and chest.
5. Too much working pressure but fewer wages.
6. Necessary tools and elements (like dresses, gloves, helmet, shoes & welding glass) are not provided.
7. Lack of healthy toilet.
8. No security of life.
9. Legs are often cut and injured.
10. Have to work in hot and rainy days because the undeclared rule is "no work no money".

The labour in the yard has fifty four (54) different types of problems, here only ten (10) major problems are presented through graph. Each labour mentions more than one problem.

FOREMAN

The foreman is separated from the major force of labour due to various reasons. They are the leaders of labour group; supply labour to the yard from different places and also supervises different problems of labour. Some of them work in the yard and some don't. That is why the foremen are separated from the mainstream labour.

The major ten problems of Foreman and their percentage are-

1. Working pressure is high but the wage is low. - 71.43%
2. Threats of accidents. -57.14%
3. No arrangement for pure drinking water. -57.14%
4. Force to work quickly. -42.86%
5. Salary is not paid timely. -42.86%
6. No hygienic toilet. -42.86%
7. Contactors don't pay the bill regularly that's why foremen can't pay the Labour timely and most of the time they have to pay the Labour from their own pocket. -28.57%
8. Arrangement of taking meal is not good. -28.57%
9. To get a contract-a foreman have to face competition with other foremen. -14.29%
10. Have to work in the rain. -14.29%

5.2 LABOUR OUTSIDE THE YARD

5.2.1 Contract paper of job

Outside the yards 100% Labour said -there is no contract paper of their job. They know the importance of the contract paper but the owners don't care about it.

5.2.2 Working hour and salary of labour

REROLLING MILL GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) / day
6	3.70	102.00*
8	55.56	88.00*
9	3.70	80.00*
10	3.70	100.00
11	3.70	105.00
12	29.63	65.63*

Table 6 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Rerolling mill.

FURNITURE GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka) / day
8	11.11	118.33*
10	11.11	116.67*
11	3.70	70.00*
12	40.74	117.09
13	25.93	152.14
14	7.41	185.00

Table 7 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Furniture shop.

LOCAL IRON GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
8	23.53	123.75*
9	5.88	90.00*
10	17.65	100.00
12	17.65	176.67*
13	35.29	170.00*

Table 8 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Local Iron shop.

OIL GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
8	11.11	60.00
9	11.11	90.00
11	11.11	150.00*
12	22.22	130.00*
13	44.44	167.50

Table 9 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Oil shop.

DOORS GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
8	44.44	86.25*
10	22.22	80.00*
12	33.33	81.67

Table 10 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Doors shop.

BASIN/ KITCHEN ITEMS GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
8	42.86	30.00
10	14.29	100.00*
11	14.29	70.00*
12	14.29	50.00
13	14.29	70.00

Table 11: Working hour and salary of the labour of Basin/Kitchen items shop.

CABLES GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
8	33.33	30.00*
10	50.00	36.67*
15	16.67	30.00*

Table 12 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Cables shop.

FEMALE WORKER

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
5	16.67	50.00*
6	16.67	45.00*
8	16.67	30.00*
10	16.67	20.00*
12	33.33	25.00*

Table 13 : Working hour and salary of Female worker.

PAINTS GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
12	60.00	43.33
Not Specified	40.00	40.00

Table 14 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Paints shop.

TEASTALL GROUP

Working hr/day	Percentage of Labour	Average salary (taka)/ day
12	40.00	35.00*
14	60.00	13.33*

Table 15 : Working hour and salary of the labour of Tea stall.

* The wage/salary of labour varies not only depending on working hours but also depends on skill ness of labour that`s why the wage/salary in the above tables are like that.

5.2.3 Different facilities of labour outside the yard

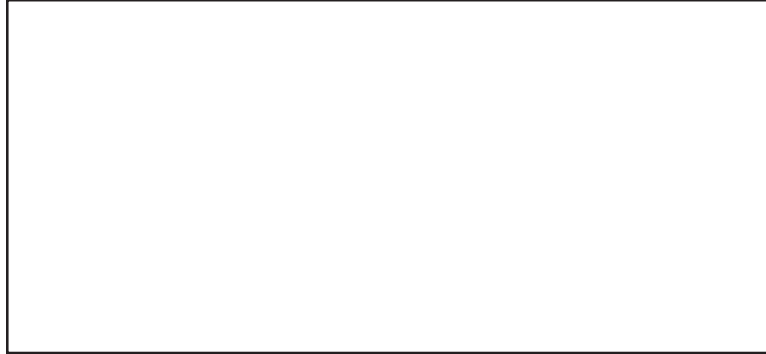


Figure 19 : Different facilities of Labour (%) outside the yard.

Here, the different facilities of labour are-

No= No facility

Bonus

Bonus (nominal)

Bonus (400 taka in two Eid)

Bonus (500 taka in two Eid)

Overtime

M.A=Medical Allowance

M.A (nominal) = Medical Allowance (nominal)

H.A=Housing Allowance

Increment

The figure shows that 36.44% labour said they get no facility, 29.66% labour agreed they get no bonus, 21.19% labour said they get overtime facility and 9.32% labour get medical allowance. These are the major findings of the figure.

5.2.4 Break in work

Labour (100%) outside the yards enjoy one and half an hour break- one hour for lunch and fifteen minutes each for tea break in the morning and afternoon. Though the work outside the yard is less hard than the work inside the yard, the labour feel that the break is not sufficient or the owner can pay for the break time.

5.2.5 Vacation in job

Actually, there is no formal vacation for the labour. "Work and pay" is the motto of the yard. The fact for the outside labour is same as inside labour of yard in case of vacation.

5.2.6 Facilities of labour in accident

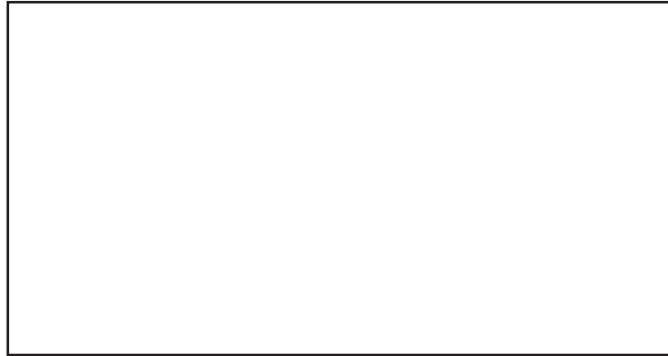


Figure 20 : Different types of facilities of Labour (%) in accident (outside the yard).

Here, different facilities of labour in accident are-

1= Medical treatment, 2= Medical treatment (nominal), 3= Medical treatment (only for 2/3 days), 4= Medical treatment (give some money), 5= Leave with salary, 6= Leave without salary, 7= Compensation, 8= others, 9= No facility

From the above figure, it is clear that in case of accident 48.31% labour get medical facilities means all sorts of treatment, 41.53% labour get primary or first aid treatment which is nominal, 20.34% labour get leave without salary in accident but no treatment and 7.63% labour get compensation.

5.2.7 Satisfaction of labour in job



Figure 21: Satisfaction of Labour (%) outside the yard in their job.

The figure shows that 33.90 % labour are very dissatisfied (financially), 50.85% labour are dissatisfied (financially) and 13.56% are satisfied in their job. The labour (31.36%) said they are very dissatisfied, 43.22% are dissatisfied and 23.73% are satisfied (other facilities) in their job. There were no specific criteria of satisfaction and dissatisfaction level from questionnaire point of view. It was done by the opinion of a labour's own point of view. But the satisfaction level is better than the labour inside the yard.

5.2.8 Problems of labour

The problems of labour outside the yard and their percentage are given below-

REROLLING MILL GROUP

1. Too much working pressure but fewer wages.-44.44%
2. Contractors, supervisors, and official staffs behave badly.-40.74%
3. Threats of accident, have to work with risk are common.-25.93%
4. The wage is less. - 25.93%
5. No bonus and overtime.-25.93%
6. No arrangement of pure drinking water.-22.22%
7. The job is not permanent and no contract paper.-14.81%
8. Lack of pure drinking water in yards.-14.81%
9. No arrangement for immediate treatment.-11.11%
10. Wages are not paid regularly.-11.11%

FURNITURE GROUP

1. Wage is not enough.-62.96%
2. Condition of living and food are not good.-40.74%
3. Very much working pressure.-25.93%
4. Bonus is not paid.-22.22%
5. No system for compensation.-14.81%
6. No system for medical facility.-14.81%
7. Wage is not paid regularly.-11.11%
8. Highly competitive market.-7.41%
9. No rest or break at working period.-7.41%
10. No permanency of job.-7.41%

LOCAL IRON GROUP

1. Have to buy necessary / essential things by their own money (such as glass, musk, gloves etc). - 58.82%
2. No arrangement of compensation. - 58.82%
3. Have to work hard but there is no proper facility.-52.94%
4. No arrangement of medicare.-47.06%
5. Risk of accidents.-35.29%
6. Hands and legs are injured by falling iron. -35.29%
7. Feel pain in chest and eyes.-23.53%
8. Less salary. -23.53%
9. Tough to take breath easily.-17.65%
10. Can't tell problems to the proprietors. -17.65%

OIL GROUP

1. Working environment is not healthy-55.56%
2. Very much working pressure-55.56%
3. Wage is less according to the work-33.33%
4. The necessary elements are supplied like gloves, shoes, glasses, thick cloths etc.-22.22%
5. Feel pain in hands, legs and other parts of the body.-22.22%
6. Hard to take breath freely because of the smell of oil.-22.22%
7. Face problems for food.-11.11%
8. No freedom at work.-11.11%
9. Feel scabies on the hand.-11.11%
10. Infections on the hands. -11.11%

DOORS GROUP

1. Job is not permanent. - 55.56%
2. Wage is not enough according to work. 44.44%
3. Have to look for job in a different place if there is no work to do.-22.22%
4. Face problems if there is no ship in the yard.-11.11%
5. The number of workers has increased but scope of job is limited. -11.11%
6. Stay in the shop in case of sickness. -11.11%
7. Labour are not treated as a human being. -11.11%
8. Sometimes quarrel happens among the labour. -11.11%

BASIN/ KITCHEN ITEMS GROUP

1. Wage is not enough to maintain the living cost. -85.71%
2. Too much working pressure. -42.86%
3. Competition is very high. -28.57%
4. Have no work if there are not enough goods in the shop. -28.57%
5. Local people behave badly. -28.57%
6. Can't send money at home. - 14.29%
7. Poor people get no help from the government. -14.29%
8. No time for break or rest. -14.29%

CABLES GROUP

1. Wage is not enough. - 66.67%
2. Have to look for job in a different place if there is no work to do. -66.67%
3. Competition is going high day by day. -50.00%
4. Ships don't come in a large scale. - 50.00%
5. No specific work to do. - 33.33%
6. Face problems to work with women. -16.67%
7. Government does not help at all. -16.67%

FEMALE WORKER

1. Wage is not enough. -66.67%
2. The labour behave badly for any mistake. - 33.33%
3. Some labour disturb very much. -33.33%
4. Too much working pressure. -33.33%
5. Women have to face so many problems in this kind of job. -16.67%
6. Tough to maintain the living cost. - 16.67%
7. Don't pay the wage regularly. -16.67%
8. Can't do the heavy works. - 16.67%
9. Give rice in stead of money. -16.67%
10. No reply. -16.67%

PAINTS GROUP

1. Wage is less.-60.00%
2. Working pressure is high.-40.00%
3. Face problems when buy through tender. -40.00%
4. If there is no ship then there is lots of problems.-20.00%
5. We can't study at school. -20.00%
6. There are not so much problems because of our family business. -20.00%
7. Sometimes there is problems due to tax. -20.00%

TEASTALL GROUP

1. Wage is less.-100%
2. There is no scope to study.-40.00%
3. No problems.-40.00%
4. Have to sleep in the stall. -40.00%
5. No medical facility in case of sickness. -40.00%
6. No freedom here. -40.00%
7. No reply. -40.00%
8. Working pressure is high. -20.00%
9. Wage is not sufficient to survive. -20.00%
10. At the end of month –there is no money in our pocket.-20.00%



CHAPTER SIX

6.0 RECOMMENDATION

LABOUR'S RECOMMENDATION (WITHOUT FOREMAN)

The recommendations from workers inside the yard are given below with their percentage. Each worker told more than one recommendation. Here, the major ten recommendations of labour (without foreman) in yard are-

1. Owners can increase the wage including medical facility, compensation and the other advantages of the job.-45.35%
2. Government can establish free hospitals and schools.-26.36%
3. Media can inform the country people about the sufferings of the labour.-25.19%
4. Local people can help labour to fill up their rights.-24.03%
5. Have to find out a way to solve all of the problems by uniting the labour.-20.16%
6. Have to be aware about accidents and rights.-19.38%
7. Local people can behave well with labour.-15.89%
8. Media can disseminate the true information about the problems of labour.-13.95%
9. Contractors can take steps to increase wage, give bonus and vacation.-12.79%
10. Unity should be present among the labour.-11.63%

FOREMAN'S RECOMMENDATION

1. Owners can increase the overtime, bonus and increment facilities.-85.71%
2. Have to be conscious about own responsibilities, rights and should have unity in all. -28.57%
3. Owner can increase the wage. -28.57%
4. Owner can take step to give wage or leave with wage to the sick or injured workers. -28.57%
5. Government can establish hospitals so that the labour can get free medical facility. -28.57%
6. Local people can help labour to fulfill their rights. -28.57%
7. Media can aware the labour community to improve their condition of living. -28.57%
8. Media can spread information to the country people about the problems of labour. -28.57%
9. Authority should take initiatives for the arrangement of pure water and hygienic toilet. -28.57%
10. All foremen can make a fix wage rate by mutual understanding.-14.29%

The recommendations from different group of outside workers are given below with their percentage. Each worker told more than one recommendations. Here only major ten recommendations are enlisted for each group.

REROLLING MILL GROUP

1. Owner can provide residential facility with increasing the wage. - 66.67%
2. Government can establish hospital and school. -44.44%
3. Local people can be united with labour. -29.63%
4. Owner should not accept the contractors. -14.81%
5. Owner can increase the bonus facility and pay the wage regularly. -14.81%
6. Owner can make the job permanent. -11.11%
7. Owner can give extra money for overtime and accidents. -11.11%
8. Owner should take some steps to stop misbehaviour of supervisors, official staffs. -11.11%
9. Owner can arrange pure drinking water and healthy toilet for the labour. -11.11%
10. Government can force the owners to take initiatives to solve those problems. -11.11%

FURNITURE GROUP

1. Owner can increase the wage and bonus facility. -44.44%
2. Owner can develop the food and living condition. -29.63%
3. We may request the authority to increase the wage. 18.52%
4. Owner can provide other facilities. 18.52%
5. Media can make publicity about the quality of the furniture available in the ship breaking industry. -14.81%
6. Media can disseminate information about the problems of the labour. -14.81%
7. No reply. -14.81%
8. Owner can develop an intimate relationship with the labour. -11.11%
9. Government should do something to develop this business. -11.11%
10. Government can make a policy for businessmen, owners and labour. -11.11%

LOCAL IRON GROUP

1. To increase salary. -52.94%
2. Bonus, leave can be arranged timely by the owners. -52.94%
3. Local people can help to develop consciousness about labour's rights. -47.06%
4. Owner can supply essential tools. -35.29%
5. Owner can increase salary. -35.29%
6. Rules and regulations can be formulated by the government for labour's job. -29.41%
7. Local people can be sympathetic. -23.53%
8. Media can play role to solve labour problems. -23.53%
9. Owners can increase the medical facilities. -17.65%
10. Government should be conscious about labour's right. -17.65%

OIL GROUP

1. To communicate the problems to the contractors or foremen. -55.56%
2. To learn more about the job. -55.56%
3. Owner can supply necessary elements like gloves, shoes, caps and clothes etc.-33.33%
4. Media can show the problems and prospects to the country. -33.33%
5. To be able to send more money to family. -22.22%
6. Owner can make good arrangement for food and habitation. -22.22%
7. Government can fix a satisfactory wage scale. -22.22%
8. Local people should be sympathetic to the labour. -22.22%
9. To get a chance to be educated.-11.11%
10. Owner can increase the wage. -11.11%

DOORS GROUP

1. Owner can increase the wage. - 44.44%
2. Owner can increase the bonus facility.-33.33%
3. Have to be more serious about the job.-22.22%
4. To be educated. -22.22%
5. Government can create employment. -22.22%
6. Local people can be helpful for labour. -22.22%
7. Owner can take care of labour.-11.11%
8. Government can create a peaceful country. -11.11%
9. Government can help companies to buy more ships. -11.11%
10. Government can create some opportunities for education. -11.11%

BASIN/ KITCHEN ITEMS GROUP

1. We have to be more serious or respectful to the job. - 57.14%
2. The shop owners and the companies can increase the wage. - 57.14%
3. If we can get the chance, we have to be educated. - 42.86%
4. We can influence the owners to increase the wage. - 42.86%
5. Owner can increase the bonus facility. - 42.86%
6. Local people can behave well. - 42.86%
7. To be responsible. - 28.57%
8. Government can create some employments. - 28.57%
9. The owner can buy more ships. -14.49%
10. Owners can increase the other facility. -14.49%

CABLES GROUP

1. Owner can increase the wage. - 66.67%
2. Owner can increase the facility of bonus. - 66.67%
3. To influence the businessmen to give more facility to the female workers than male workers. -50.00%
4. To be more responsible. -50.00%
5. Government can solve the habitation problems. -50.00%
6. Media can disseminate information about the problems of this industry. -50.00%
7. Government can solve various problems.-33.33%
8. Local people can be helpful to the labour. -33.33%
9. Owner can buy more and more ships.-16.67%
10. Government can reduce the tax of buying ships. -16.67%

FEMALE WORKER

1. Owner can increase the wage and bonus so that they can give us more money.50.00%
2. Local people can be well-behaved.-50.00%
3. To ask the foremen to increase the salary.33.33%
4. Government can give habitation facility.-33.33%
5. To get money in stead of rice.-16.67%
6. To make the job permanent. -16.67%
7. To take care of health. -16.67%
8. Owner can give some money for treatment. -16.67%
9. Government can make arrangements for taking meal. -16.67%
10. Government can give free medical services. -16.67%

PAINTS GROUP

1. To continue our education-80.00%
2. Owner can increase the wage.-60.00%
3. Owner can bring more ships.-40.00%
4. Government can create more scope for work.-40.00%
5. To be able to send more money to our family.-20.00%
6. Government can stop the tax. -20.00%
7. Government can help the child labour. -20.00%
8. Government can help the businessmen of paints.-20.00%
9. Local people can behave well with us. -20.00%
10. Local people have to be united. -20.00%

TEASTALL GROUP

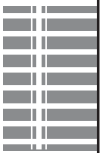
1. Owner can increase the wage.-80.00%
2. No reply.-60.00%
3. Thinking the problems from our point of view.-40.00%
4. Owner can manage arrangement for food and habitation. -40.00%
5. Government can establish a hospital. -40.00%
6. Government should observe the situation. -40.00%
7. Local people should behave well. -40.00%
8. Local people should help us.-40.00%
9. Media can show the problems of ship yard. -40.00%
10. To work with freedom.-20.00%



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APPENDICES



1.0 APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1.1 CRITERIA OF STAFFS IN SHIPBREAKING INDUSTRIES

1.1.1 Staffs in yard

Though the staffs in the yard are not as important as the workers but the staffs have the potentiality to aware the authority about the labour rights in some aspects. They can also help the labour in different way. In addition, some staffs are not aware about the rights of labour that cases they need to be aware.

1.1.1.1 Age of the staff

CONTRACTOR

Age	Percentage (%) of contractor
50-54	66.67
54-58	33.33

Table 1 : Age class and percentage of the contractors.

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

Age	Percentage (%) of Clerk/Supervisor
22-26	16.67
26-30	50.00
30-34	33.33

Table 2 : Age class and percentage of the Clerk/Supervisor.

SECURITY GUARD

Age	Percentage (%) of Security guard
18-22	33.33
22-26	16.67
34-38	16.67
38-42	33.33

Table 3 : Age class and percentage of the Security guard.

1.1.1.2 Marital status of the staff

Category	Married	Unmarried
Contractor	100%	0.00%
Clerk/Supervisor	66.67%	33.33%
Security guard	83.33%	16.67%

Table 4 : Marital status of Contractor, Clerk/Supervisor and Security guard.

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1.1.1.3 Sex of the staff

Category	Male	Female
Contractor	100%	0.00%
Clerk/Supervisor	100%	0.00%
Security guard	100%	0.00%

Table 5 : Sex of Contractor, Clerk/Supervisor and Security guard.

1.1.1.4 District of the staff

CONTRACTOR

Chittagong-100%

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

District	Percentage (%) of Clerk/Supervisor
Chittagong	83.33
Bogra	16.67

Table 6 : District and the percentage of the Clerk/Supervisor

SECURITY GUARD

District	Percentage (%) of Security guard
Chittagong	33.33
Cox'sBazar	16.67
Naogaon	16.67
Patuakhali	16.67
Panchagar	16.67

Table 7 : District and the percentage of the Security guard.

1.1.1.5 Educational qualification of the staff

CONTRACTOR

Education	Percentage (%) of the Contractor
H.S.C	33.33
Graduate	66.67

Table 8 : Educational qualification of the contractor

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

Education	Percentage (%) of the Clerk/Supervisor
Primary	16.67
ClassVIII	16.67
Graduate	66.67

Table 9 : Educational qualification of the Clerk/Supervisor.

SECURITY GUARD

Education	Percentage of Security guard
None	16.67
Primary	50.00
S.S.C	16.67
H.S.C	16.67

Table 10 : Educational qualification of the Security guard.

1.1.1.6 Working hour and salary of the staff

CONTRACTOR

Working hr/day	Percentage of Contractor	Average (salary/month) in taka
6	16.67	No reply
7	50.00	No reply
8	16.67	No reply
10	16.67	10,000

Table 11 : Working hour and Salary of the Contractor.

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

Working hr/day	Percentage of Clerk/Supervisor	Average (salary/month) in taka
8	16.67	5000.00
9	16.67	3000.00
11	33.33	6000.00
12	16.67	5000.00
13	16.67	10000.00

Table 12 : Working hour and Salary of the Clerk/Supervisor.

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SECURITY GUARD

Working hr/day	Percentage of Security guard	Average (salary/month) in taka
8	50.00	2566.66
12	50.00	1800.00

Table 13 : Working hour and Salary of the Security guard.

1.1.1.7 Problems of the staff

The problems under each group are given below with the percentage of staffs.

CONTRACTOR

1. Accidents take place and workers are injured very often. -66.67%
2. Have the chance of facing loss if the ship's condition is not good. -66.67%
3. Local gas traders sometimes increase the rate of gas without any reason. -66.67%
4. Because of not having modern technology to cut ships the cost of cutting ships is very high. -50.00%
5. There are no hospitals or clinics near the ship breaking yards so that the contractors have to face problems when any labour is seriously injured. -50.00%
6. Telecommunication and power supply are not good enough. -33.33%
7. Contractors have the possibility of facing loss because they fix the rate of cutting ships on the basis of their ideas. -16.67%
8. There is no law and regulation. -16.67%
9. There is not enough space in the yards. -16.67%
10. No understanding among the owners, contractors and labour. -16.67%

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

1. Too much working pressure but fewer wages. - 66.67%
2. No bonus and pension facility. -50.00%
3. Telecommunication and power supply are not good enough. -33.33%
4. No medical facility. -33.33%
5. Unhygienic working environment. -16.67%
6. Risk of accidents. -16.67%
7. Tough to look after the whole yard for one. -16.67%
8. Have to face problems when any labour injured severely. -16.67%
9. Complicated work. -16.67%
10. No arrangement for proper place of taking meal. -16.67%

SECURITY GUARD

1. Salary is not enough. -50.00%
2. Risky job. -33.33%
3. No arrangement for pure drinking water. -33.33%
4. No reply. -33.33%
5. No freedom and respect at work. -16.67%
6. Can't take breath freely. -16.67%
7. Tough to look after the whole yard for one. -16.67%
8. Lack of necessary elements like stick, gun and cloth. -16.67%
9. No vacation. -16.67%
10. No system for habitation or medical facility. -16.67%

1.1.1.8 Recommendation of the staff to solve the problems

The recommendations from each group are given below with the percentage of staffs.

CONTRACTOR

1. Media can inform the country people about the problems and prospects of this industry. -66.67%
2. Owner can use modern and automatic technology. -50.00%
3. Owner can take initiatives safe for work, medical facility and to reduce risk of accident. -50.00%
4. Government can consider the shipbreaking as an industry. -50.00%
5. We can take steps to reduce the chance of facing loss. -33.33%
6. We can decrease the cost of cutting ships. -33.33%
7. All have to be united. -16.67%
8. We should operate the whole activities with more efficiency. -16.67%
9. Owner can increase wage, bonus and vacation by discussing with the labour and contractors. -16.67%
10. Government can make laws. -16.67%

CLERK/SUPERVISOR

1. Owner can increase facility. -50.00%
2. Government can make rules and regulations in ship yards. -50.00%
3. We can say to increase wage. -33.33%
4. Can display the prospects and problems of this industry. -33.33%
5. Can spread information to improve the working condition. -33.33%
6. We can influence to make arrangement for taking meal and pure water. -16.67%
7. We can speak to improve the working condition. -16.67%
8. We can inform the owners about the problems. -16.67%
9. Owner can influence the wage, establish hospitals and schools. -16.67%
10. Owner can set up a clinic so that the labour can get free medical services. -16.67%

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SECURITY GUARD

1. Owner can permanent the job, increase the wage, vacation and habitation facility. - 66.67%
2. Government can establish hospitals. -50.00%
3. Media can inform the problems of this industry to the government. -33.33%
4. We have to be more conscious. -16.67%
5. Owner can supply the necessary elements. -16.67%
6. Owner should ensure the security. -16.67%
7. Owner can buy more ships. -16.67%
8. Government can set up water pump. -16.67%
9. Government can influence the owners to increase the wage. -16.67%
10. Government can help the owners. -16.67%

1.1.2 Staffs outside the yard

The managers or businessmen also have potentiality as they often have easy access to the ship yards, they know very much about the hazardous condition of the shipyards. They can convince and influence the contractor and companies about ensuring the worker's rights in different ways.

1.1.2.1 Age of the staff

Age Class	Percentage of Manager/Staff	Percentage of Businessman
< 18	0.00	1.15
18-22	16.67	3.45
22-26	8.33	18.39
26-30	8.33	36.78
30-34	16.67	8.05
34-38	25.00	17.24
38-42	16.67	9.20
42-46	0.00	2.30
46-50	8.33	3.45
50-54	0.00	0.00
54-58	0.00	0.00

Table 14 : Age class of the Manager/Staff and Businessman outside the yard.

1.1.2.2 Marital status of the staff

Category	Married	Unmarried
Manager/Staff	66.67%	33.33%
Businessman	47.13%	52.87%

Table 15 : Marital status of the Manager/Staff and Businessman outside the yard.

1.1.2.3 Sex of the staff

Category	Male	Female
Manager/Staff	100%	0.00%
Businessman	100%	0.00%

Table 16 : Sex of the Manager/Staff and Businessman outside the yard.

1.1.2.4 District of the staff

MANAGER

District	Percentage of Manager/Staff
Barisal	16.67
Chittagong	58.33
Comilla	8.33
Netrokona	8.33
Noakhali	8.33

Table 17 : District of the Manager/Staff outside the yard.

BUSINESSMAN

Chittagong-100%

1.1.2.5 Educational qualification of the staff

MANAGER/STAFF

Category	Percentage of Manager/Staff
None	16.67
Only name	8.33
Primary	8.33
S.S.C	33.33
H.S.C	8.33
Graduate	25.00

Table 18 : Educational qualification of the Manager/Staff outside the yard.

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BUSINESSMAN

Category	Percentage of Businessman
None	5.75
Primary	10.34
ClassVI	1.15
ClassVII	2.30
ClassVIII	4.60
ClassIX	2.30
S.S.C	20.69
H.S.C	25.29
Graduate	26.44
Masters	1.15

Table 19 : Educational qualification of the Businessman.

1.1.2.6 Working hour and salary of the staff

MANAGER/STAFF

Working hour/day	Percentage of Manager/Staff	Average Salary (taka)/month
8	8.33	5000
10	58.33	5500
12	33.33	2550

Table 20 : Working hour and Salary of the Manager/Staff outside the yard.

BUSINESSMAN

Working hour/day	Percentage of Businessman	Average salary (taka) / month
8	3.45	9000.00
9	6.90	33800.00
10	31.03	26500.00
11	5.75	23500.00
12	17.24	11516.67
13	2.30	28000.00
14	6.90	20333.33
Not specified	26.44	11107.00

Table 21: Working hour and Salary of the Businessman.

In case of Average salary/month- "No reply" of Businessman-**17.24%**

1.1.2.7 Problems of the staff

MANAGER/STAFF

1. Wage is not enough. -33.33%
2. No reply. -25.00%
3. Hard to manage the living cost with this wage. -16.67%
4. No problem. -16.67%
5. There are many competitors in the market but the yards are limited. -16.67%
6. Have to stay in the shop in spite of sickness. -8.33%
7. Nobody can run their business except the local people. -8.33%
8. It is really difficult to survive with such type of salary. -8.33%
9. If there is not enough gas the work is stopped. -8.33%
10. Load shading also sometimes interrupts the work. -8.33%

BUSINESSMAN



Figure 22 : Major ten problems of businessmen.

Here, the major ten problems of businessmen are-

1. There are very much competition in this business so have the risk of loss.
2. Have not enough investment.
3. If the buying prices worth more than the selling price of scrap irons/materials then have to face loss.
4. Have to buy scraps through tender which sometimes create problems.
5. VAT charge is very high.
6. The business does not run well when there are no ships in the yards.
7. Company's own people can buy in low price where as the general businessmen have to buy in a high price, so they can't last in the competition.
8. The place of the business centre is not convenient and adequate enough.
9. If there are no ships or there are few ships in the yards the price of the scraped materials are increased. Most of the time the businessmen have to buy scraps without examining properly, as a result some low quality materials are also be included.
10. Companies always fix an unreasonable rate, for the general businessman, to sell scraps.

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1.1.2.8 Recommendation of the staff

MANAGER/STAFF

1. Local people can be co-operative to all. -41.67%
2. We can use the hard labour, experience and honesty. -33.33%
3. Government can reduce the pressure of tax from the businessmen. -33.33%
4. Owner can buy more ships. -25.00%
5. Owner can increase the wage. -16.67%
6. Owner can continue giving the present facility. -16.67%
7. Owner can build a frankly relationship with all. -16.67%
8. Government can establish hospitals. -16.67%
9. Government can increase the other facility. -16.67%
10. Media can display the problems of the labour. -16.67%

BUSINESSMEN



Figure 23 : Major ten suggestions of businessmen to solve the problem.

Here, the major ten suggestions of businessmen to solve the problem are

1. Owner can sell goods in a common rate.
2. Government can be flexible about tax.
3. We have to increase the investment.
4. Government can arrange facility to get loan from the banks in easy and short terms.
5. Owner can buy ship regularly.
6. Local people can be helpful and responsible to solve the mentioned problems earlier.
7. Government can arrange some facilities (loan, flexible tax, hospital, fair administration etc.) for the businessmen.
8. Media can play a good role to solve the problems of the businessmen.
9. Media can inform the problems of this industry to the people.
10. Local people can be united to solve any problems related to shipbreaking.

APPENDIX 1.2 PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE BASE LINE STUDY



Photograph 1 : A typical view of ship breaking yard.



Photograph 2 : A ship is waiting to die.

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Photograph 3 : A labour of cutter group is cutting iron plate.



Photograph 4 : Common scenario of plate/loading group in yard.



Photograph 5 : Labour of wire group are pulling wire on shoulders.



Photograph 6 : Hitting on screw or iron is the criteria of hammer group.

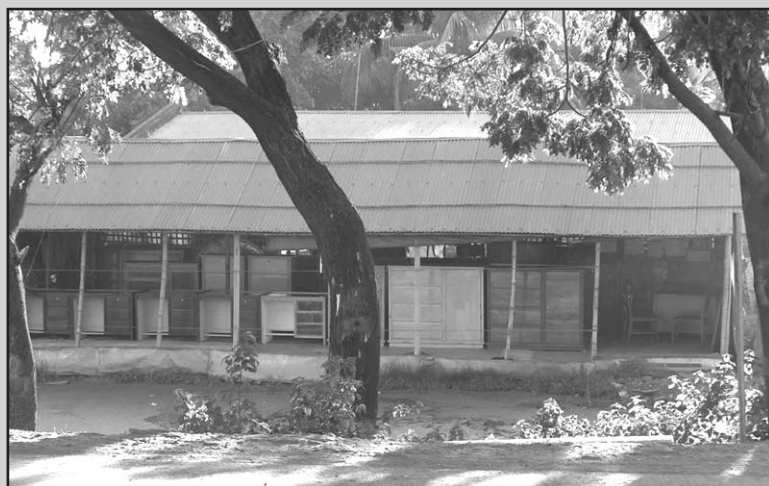
APPENDICES



Photograph 7 : Survey team members of YPSA, busy with interview of labour.



Photograph 8 : A intimate moment during the interview of labour.



Photograph 9 : A view of furniture shop based on ship breaking



Photograph 10 : Some tanks from ship outside the yard

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1.3 QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE BASE LINE STUDY

PROJECT TITLE :
Advocacy for a Public Policy to Ensure Human Rights
in Shipbreaking Industry

IMPLEMENTED BY– YPSA

SUPPORTED BY– manusher jonno

BASE LINE STUDY (QUESTIONNAIRE)

1. What is your name ?

2. How old are you ?

3. Sex :

Male

Female

4. Marital Status :

Married

Unmarried

Widow/Widower

Others

5. Permanent Address ?

6. Educational qualification ?

Primary

S.S.C

H.S.C

Graduate

Others

7. Profession & working area ?

8. Have you dealt with any kind of agreement before joining in this job ?

9. How long have you been doing this job for ?

10. What was your previous job ?

11. What are the responsibilities of your job ?

12. Why have you chosen this job ?

☐

Willingly

☐

Influenced by someone.

☐

Getting no opportunity for another job.

☐

Other reasons

13. Did you have any idea about the present job ?

14. How many hours do you work per day ?

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15. Income/Wages ?

a) Daily :

b) Monthly :

16. a) Do you get any bonus or advantages in this job ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Others

b) If the answer is 'Yes', what kind of advantage do you get?

☐ Bonus

☐ Overtime

☐ Medical allowance

☐ Housing allowance

☐ Increment

☐ Others

17. a) Do you get any break in working period ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Others

b) If the answer is 'Yes', how long is it for ?

18. a) Do you get any vacation in this job ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Others

b) If the answer is 'Yes', how many days ?

☐ Weekly

☐ Monthly

☐ Annually

19. Where do you take meal generally ?

20. What kind of standard you maintain in these below matters ?

Matters	Very good	Good	Not good	Very bad	Comments
Standard of food					
Standard of sanitation					
Standard of habitation					

21. Do you get any medical facility ?

22. What kind of advantages you get in case of accident ?

☐ Treatment ☐ Leave with salary ☐ Leave without salary

☐ Compensation ☐ Others

23. What do you do in your leisure time?

☐ Watch TV/V.C.R. ☐ Cinema ☐ Visiting

☐ Enjoy with music ☐ Sports/ Games ☐ Others

24. Are you satisfied with your job ?

ADVANTAGE	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Comments
Financially					
Others					

25. What kind of problems do you have in this job ?

26. What is the condition of your family ?

a) Total members :

b) Earning members :

c) Do you stay with your family ?

APPENDICES

27. Are you habituated with sexual life ?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Others

a) If the answer is 'Yes', with whom ?

☐ Wife/ Husband

☐ Regular partner

☐ Sex worker

☐ Others

28. What kind of steps should be taken to make your work better ?

What can you do ?

What the owners should do ?

What the govt. should do ?

What can the local people do ?

What can the media do ?

Others :