# Motivation

# BRACU Center for Wellness in the Workplace

* Descriptions of the state of Occupational Health and Safety in Bangladesh are broadly available from sources such as the International Labor Office, local newspapers and the academic literature. The hazards are spread broadly across various sectors, including: construction, textiles and transportation. The following references represent a small sample of this information, which collectively offers a bleak picture of the current state of affairs. On the positive side, government, industry organizations, organized labor, owners and overseas customers are actively addressing the challenges through research, education, literature, legislation and programs.
* **Motivation**

These statistics clearly indicate the motivation for focused effort on various fronts, including: research, legislation, services, management and education. The local universities can play their part through the development of centers focused on Occupational Health and Safety, research, education of students in a broad range of disciplines, consultancy and collaboration with industry and government agencies. Specifically BRAC University will develop an interdisciplinary “Center for Wellness in the Workplace” with a mandate of research, education and outreach

* **ILO (2017):**

It is estimated that over 11,000 workers suffer fatal accidents and a further 24,500 die from work related diseases across all sectors each year in Bangladesh. It is also estimated that a further 8 million workers suffer injuries at work – many of which result in permanent disability.

* **Shahidur Rahman (2014**) Broken Promises of Globalization, Lexington Books
* **Workplace deaths hit four-year high**

[Kamrul Hasan](https://www.dhakatribune.com/author/kamrul-hasan), Dhaka Tribune, December 31st, 2017

Although the issue of workplace safety has gained much attention in the recent years, especially after the collapse of Rana Plaza in 2013, a rising number of accidents in garments and other factories have once again intensified the need for labour security in the country. According to Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (OSHE), a specialized foundation that works for the implementation of labour rights, the number of workplace death in 2016 was higher than the previous three years. At least 1,242 labours were killed and 371 were injured at their workplace in the year 2017 while the number was 1,240 last year. About 92.9% of the deceased workers were male and 7.1% were female, the statistics show. The research also found that most of the death and injury occurred in the street, either during the rush towards work or return home. The report says that some 42.1% of the total deaths were caused by the road accidents while the other major reasons were electrocution, lightning and boiler explosion.

* **ACCIDENTS ON CONSTRUCTION SITES IN BANGLADESH: A REVIEW**

Shakil Ahmed, Md. Habibur Rahman Sobuz and Md. Ikramul Haque

Proceedings of the 4th International Conference on Civil Engineering for Sustainable Development (ICCESD 2018), 9~11 February 2018, KUET, Khulna, Bangladesh (ISBN-978-984-34-3502-6)

Bangladesh is facing tremendous accident issue at construction site and it get larger size every year. The statistics of accident at construction site shows us a picture that Bangladeshi construction sector is on most critical situation that need a huge and fast overcome from the current frequently accidental level. An accident leads a project delays, cost overrun and sub-standard product as well as affect economical and infrastructure development of a nation. This research focus on identifying the most crucial causes and analyzing statistical data of accident on construction site and to understand their relative importance (RII). In order to achieve this goal, a set of questionnaire was designed by a comprehensive literature review. The study is find 18 crucial factors of influencing accident on construction site. The key causes of accident based on overall consideration were: lack of personal protective measures, lack of safety awareness among top management, lack of safety awareness among labour, lack of training, non -strict regulation against safety, management commitment and unskilled labour. Accident control is the major concern in the construction industry in this way any endeavor to identify and investigate any approach to prevent and control accident ought to be yell after, henceforth the requirement for the research.

* **Transport**

Kamrul Hasan, Dhaka Tribune, January 4, 2020

A total of 5277 people, including 1190 transport workers lost their lives in 4702 road accidents in 2019

# Workplace deaths hit four-year high

[Kamrul Hasan](https://www.dhakatribune.com/author/kamrul-hasan)

* Published at 01:14 pm December 30th, 2017
* Last updated at 01:34 am December 31st, 2017

Although the issue of workplace safety has gained much attention in the recent years, especially after the collapse of Rana Plaza in 2013, a rising number of accidents in garments and other factories have once again intensified the need for labour security in the country. According to Bangladesh Occupational Safety, Health and Environment Foundation (OSHE), a specialized foundation that works for the implementation of labour rights, the number of workplace death in 2016 was higher than the previous three years. At least 1,242 labours were killed and 371 were injured at their workplace in the year 2017 while the number was 1,240 last year. About 92.9% of the deceased workers were male and 7.1% were female, the statistics show. The research also found that most of the death and injury occurred in the street, either during the rush towards work or return home. The report says that some 42.1% of the total deaths were caused by the road accidents while the other major reasons were electrocution, lightning and boiler explosion. The information was disclosed at a press conference held at Dhaka Reporters Unity in the capital on Saturday. The statistics was compiled from 15 national newspapers and information collected by the organization. The report also says that only 270 workers who died at the workplace this year are from the formal sector while 912 deceased workers belong to the informal sector. Vice Chairman of the foundation SM Morshed said about 89% of the workers in the country is engaged in the informal sector and there is no regulation to ensure their workplace safety.

**Boiler explosions: A serious threat**

According to the report, a total of 97 workers died from boiler explosions across the country this year and most of these explosions occurred due to the use of expired boilers in factories. On July, some 13 workers of Multifabs Limited garment factory in Gazipur’s Kashimpur were killed in a boiler explosion and 53 others injured. The subsequent investigation found that the boiler had expired a month before the incident. On April 19, a boiler in Dinajpur’s Januma Auto Rice Mill exploded, taking the lives of 18 workers, and injuring 12. Saki Rezwana, chairman of OSHE, said they had observed that in Rajshahi, Khulna and Rangpur, a boiler inspector has to monitor more than 600 boilers. There are only 240 inspectors to monitor 85,000 economic units across the country. SM Morshed called for a separate division under the Labour Ministry to monitor boilers in various factories.

**No easy access to compensation**

Besides, the government is working on formulating a policy, in line with the ILO convention, for financial assistance as compensation for the dead and injured labourers. OSHE vice chairman also urged the authorities to transfer the Labour Welfare Foundation office from the Secretariat to somewhere else so that the labourers or their family members can have an easy access to the office to receive the compensation. He also said information technology (IT) facilities must be improved, so that labourers can have better access.

**Laborers affected by asbestosis**

While speaking to the press, SM Morshed emphasized on controlling the deteriorating situation caused by Asbestosis, long term inflammation and scarring of the lungs, found among shipyard workers. Quoting ILO, he said a total 100,000 workers died from Asbestosis (caused primarily by Asbestos) across the world. Ship-breaking labourers are at the high risk of getting affected by Asbestosis. OSHE have sampled 33 ship-breaking workers and one-third of them were found affected. They urged the government to take initiatives to ban the indiscriminate use of asbestos.

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