



15 June 2017

Press Release

**Consultation Meeting on “ILO Convention and Law for Domestic Workers:
Current Situation and Ways Forward”**

Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) in a joint venture with SHOKHI project and National Domestic Worker Union organised a Consultation Meeting titled “**ILO Convention and Law for Domestic Workers: Current Situation and Ways Forward**” aimed at legislating laws for labours with regard to their rights, dignity, protection and welfare in light of ILO Convention 189 concerning “decent work for domestic workers” on 15 June 2017 at the VIP Lounge, National Press Club, Dhaka.

Mr. Israfil Alam, M.P, Member, Standing Committee on Ministry of Labour and Employment; Professor Yasin Ali, M.P were present as guests of honour, Mr. Aminul Islam, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment. Dr. Wazedul Islam Khan, General Secretary, Bangladesh Trade Union Centre, Suraiya Banu, ILO representative were also present. The meeting was moderated by Advocate Md. Borkot Ali, Deputy Director (Legal), BLAST. Mr. Israfil Alam, M.P said there is an imperative need to create laws for the protection of domestic workers and in regard to this implementation of various laws and policies need to be ensured.

Murshida Akhter, General Secretary, National Domestic Women Workers Union gave the welcome speech. Mr. Abul Hossain, Adviser, National Domestic Workers Union delivered the keynote speech.

The meeting was moderated and the closing speech was provided by Adv. Borkot Ali, Deputy Director (Legal), BLAST. He stressed on the fact that ILO Convention 189 needs to be ratified and that domestic workers need to be well-organised, and also emphasized on mass awareness.

The meeting was also attended by Trade Union representatives, advocates, NGO representatives, domestic worker leaders and other domestic workers.

Background: 16 June 2017 is International Domestic Workers’ Day. ILO Convention 189 was adopted on this day for domestic workers on 2012. Since 2013 International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) has been observing this day as the International Domestic Workers’ Day.



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