

Why Celebrate IWD?

International Women's Day is observed on 8th March each year all over the world. It promulgates to recognize women's contribution at all spheres including familial, social, political, cultural and economical fields. IWD provides an amenity to rise and demand to call for action to make the world better and equal for everyone regarding the gender. The initiative of celebrating women's day has a vast history that goes back to past 100 years where women were deprived of basic rights. Women started to raise voice to close the wage gaps, to ensure their equal participation, to prioritize women's decision and free from all kinds of abuse and violence. It goes without saying, women's fights are like a never ending war; sometimes with the world and sometimes with herself. Many developing countries such as Bangladesh – Here, women still continue to struggle to achieve equal status to men due to patriarchy, societal norms, barriers of women leadership roles, limitation in receiving higher education and poor implementation of laws that were set to protect women and girls. So, to address challenges and gaps in asserting equality – IWD reminds us to make stand in contrast to all odds to dignify women's rights.



**Encourage
Women
Empowerment**

**Accelerate Action to end
Gender Based Violence
against Women & Girls!!**



"Make Stand! Ensure Women & Girl's Rights, Equality, Empowerment"

**BCWS Theme for Celebrating Int'l Women's Day
(IWD)**

Newsletter

*Bangladesh Center for Workers Solidarity
(BCWS)*



International Women's Day (IWD)

Dated - 8th March, 2025



*Eliminate
Workplace & Street
Harassment*

*Stop Rape;
Protect Women
& Girls*



About BCWS

BCWS is a rights based labor educator organization fighting for a job with dignity since 2000 in Bangladesh. It aims to empower and support garment workers who are seeking decent working conditions and to advocate domestically and internationally for greater respect for labor rights. BCWS especially emphasizes the rights of women workers, gender equality, participation of women workers in bargaining and protecting the human rights of women and children. BCWS is best positioned to implement this initiative due to its proven expertise in labor rights, its deep connection to grassroots workers and unions in Bangladesh and its skills in the campaign and project implementation.

BCWS Initiatives – Women Empowerment

BCWS has adopted many initiatives regarding women equal participation and empowerment at grass root levels. Some Major initiatives are as follows –

- **SRHR Training Program:** BCWS is educating RMG and community level women on the concept of SRHR to aware them about the reproductive health, family planning, safe motherhood.
- **GBVH Program:** Awaring women on standing against violence at all levels.
- **Dialogues Program:** Engaging relevant stakeholders to talk about women's rights.
- **Climate Justice Program:** Educating women about adverse climate impact and addressing mitigation techniques.
- **Women Leadership Program:** Prioritizing women's decision making roles in the society.
- **Policy Advocacy & Campaign:** Working with pertinent stakeholders to reform relevant laws & policies. Demonstrating campaigns both inter-intranational platforms.

Recommendations

- Ratify ILO Convention 190 to eliminate workplace harassment and violence.
- Ensure effective establishments of Anti Harassment Cells (AHC) in institutional and RMG factories to prevent violence against women.
- Functionalizing day care centers in factories to ensure women's effective participation.
- Initiate consistent dialogue meetings both at national & international levels to advocate women's rights.
- Inclusion of 6 months Maternity Leave in Bangladesh Labor Law.
- Ensure women & girls safety in just transition and climate adaptation process.
- Strengthen proper implementation of laws and policies to protect women & girls safety.

*Let's Celebrate Women's
Day to Establish Gender
Equality and Make the
World a Better Place!*