

BANGLADESH

Child Protection/ National Policies and Laws for Children:

According to UNICEF, child protection is a broad term encompassing philosophies, policies, standards, guidelines, and procedures aimed at protecting children from intentional and unintentional harm. In the current context, it applies particularly to the duty of organisations - and individuals associated with those organisations towards children in their care.

Children Act 2013,

In Bangladesh, the Children Act 2013 serves as a milestone in protecting the rights of the child across all spheres of life.

The Penal Code, 1860

Contains provisions specifically addressing crimes against children that include:

Sexual offenses against children

Child labour and exploitation

Child trafficking & Child marriage

Protection from cruel or abusive treatment

Procedural safeguards for children in conflict with the law

Digital Security Act, 2018

Provides protection against online exploitation and abuse:

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS PROTECTION IN BANGLADESH

<https://www.lawyersjurists.com/article/childrens-rights-protection-in-bangladesh/>

AUTHOR: The Lawyers & Jurists

Bangladesh: Act No. 24 of 2013, The Children Act

<https://www.refworld.org/legal/legislation/natlegbod/2013/en/101794>

refword – **global law and database**

CHILD PROTECTION LAWS IN BANGLADESH

<https://www.advocacylegalbd.com/child-protection-laws-in-bangladesh/>

ADVOCACY LEGAL

MOHAMMAD SAIFUL ISLAM, INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY CHITTAGONG
NATIONAL CHILD POLICY.

AUTHOR: MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD AFFAIRS, 2011.

Child Labour / Child Trafficking – For Labour / For Sexual Exploitation

The International Labour Organisation states that not all work done by children should be classified as child labour that is to be targeted for elimination. Children's or adolescents' participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development or interfere with their schooling is generally regarded as something positive. This includes activities such as *helping their parents around the home, assisting in a family business or earning pocket money outside school hours and during school holidays*. These kinds of activities contribute to children's development and to the welfare of their families; they provide them with skills and experience and help prepare them to be productive members of society in their adult lives.

The term “*child labor*” is often defined as work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that:

- is mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and
- interferes with their schooling by:

- depriving them of the opportunity to attend school;
- obliging them to leave school prematurely; or
- Requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work.

The law in Bangladesh prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age. Children aged between 14 and 18 are prohibited from being employed in any hazardous occupations that are listed by the Government.

Bangladesh ratifies fundamental ILO Convention on child labour

<https://www.ilo.org/resource/news/bangladesh-ratifies-fundamental-ilo-convention-child-labour>

**NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOUR IN BANGALADESH (2021-25)
MINISTRY OF LABOUR & EMPLOYMENT – BANGLADESH**

Child Marriage

Child marriage has adverse effects for the child and for society as a whole. According to UNICEF, Child marriage is defined *as a marriage of a girl or boy before the age of 18 and refers to both formal marriages and informal unions in which children under the age of 18 live with an unmarried partner.*

Child marriage denies a girl her childhood. (UNICEF, 2012)

In Bangladesh, the *Child Marriage Restraint Act* fixes the minimum age for marriage for girls as 18 and for boys as 21. But Section 19 provides exemptions for an underage marriage if it is done with parental or Judicial consent, “under special circumstances when it is felt to be in the best interest of the child”

THE CHILD MARRIAGE RESTRAINT ACT, 2017 BANGLADESH

**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH MINISTRY OF
WOMEN AND CHILD AFFAIRS**

Juvenile Justice System

The provision related to the trial of the juvenile is stipulated in *The Criminal Procedure Code of Bangladesh* itself. *The Children Act 1974* stipulates that, on arrest of the child, the police are required to inform the parent or guardian of such arrest. And also specify the date of appearance in the court for the same.

JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN BANGLADESH – AN APPRAISAL

**INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF LAW MANAGEMENT & HUMANITIES
2020**

Children with Special needs

INCLUSIVE EDUCATION FACT SHEET 24 BANGLADESH

AUTHOR: UNICEF,

DISABILITY RIGHTS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN BANGLADESH

[HTTPS://WWW.AARCENTRE.COM/OJS3/INDEX.PHP/JAASH/ARTICLE/VIEW/191\](https://www.aarcentre.com/ojs3/index.php/jaash/article/view/191)

**The Bangladeshi Rights and Protection of Persons With Disability Act of 2013:
A Policy Analysis**

[HTTPS://JOURNALS.SAGEPUB.COM/DOI/FULL/10.1177/10442073211066789](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/10442073211066789)

SAGE JOURNALS

Education

Article 17 of the Bangladesh Constitution stipulates that all children are entitled to

free and compulsory education as per the Law of the State.

The 86th Amendment Act (2002), via Article 21A (Part III), seeks to make free and

compulsory education a Fundamental Right for all children in the age group 6-14 years .

Through further amendment in the year 2017, the age limit for compulsory education was raised to 16 years

DECENTRALISED SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE FACT SHEET

AUTHOR: UNICEF,2014

CHILD FRIENDLY SCHOOLS

AUTHOR: UNICEF,2014

PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN CHILD LED AND ADULT ORGANIZATIONS: EXPERIENCES FROM BANGLADESH

AUTHOR: SAVE THE CHILDREN BANGLADESH

IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY IMPROVING SERVICES IN SCHOOL

AUTHOR: SAVE THE CHILDREN BANGLADESH

CHILDREN AND RESILIENCE: A COLLECTION OF SUCCESS STORIES FROM THE HUMANITARIAN SECTOR, BANGLADESH

AUTHOR: SAVE THE CHILDREN BANGLADESH

LIFE SKILLS-BASED EDUCATION

AUTHOR: UNICEF,2014