

**Report
on
The Observance of International
Ozone Day, 2013**

**Ozone Cell
Department of Environment
Date: Dhaka, 19 September 2013**

Observance of International Ozone Day, 2013

The International Ozone Day 2013 was observed throughout Bangladesh on 16 September 2013. Observance of the Day had been as elsewhere in the world with renewed expression of solidarity with the international community to create awareness on the adverse impacts of the Ozone Layer Depletion.

The Department of Environment, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh undertook various programmes on that day including brought out special supplements in five National Dailies in which messages of the Hon'ble President, the Hon'ble Prime Minister, the Hon'ble Minister for Environment and Forests, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests were published. The special supplements in the daily newspaper also contained articles of Director General of the Department of Environment on the theme, "A healthy atmosphere – the Future We Want" and article of the National Project Director of all ODS Projects on "Activities of Bangladesh on the Protection of Ozone Layer".

A children painting competition was organized among the children on 7 September 2013. About 400 (four hundred) children belonging to various age groups between 3 to 16 years participated in the competition. A poster design was called among the artists in Bangladesh. Three designs were selected among the participating competitors.

A discussion meeting was held on 16 September 2013. Mr. Md. Shafiqur Rahman Patwari, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests was the chief guest of the seminar. He stressed the need for creating awareness about the importance of ozone layer and possible impacts on nature caused by ozone layer depletion. He also reiterate the commitment of Bangladesh to phase-out remaining ODSs from the country on this occasion. Mr. Nick Beresford, Deputy Country Director, UNDP Bangladesh was present as special guest. Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Additional Director General and National Project Director of all ODS Projects presented the key note paper. The Secretary handed over prizes to winners of art and poster competition.

This year Bangladesh is celebrating the complete phase-out of use of CFCs from the pharmaceutical sector for metered dose inhalers (MDIs) production. To achieve the great success government has recognized the effort being made by the MDI producing companies and handed over the Certificate of Recognition to all three MDI producing companies viz., Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd., Square Pharmaceuticals Ltd., and Acme Laboratories Ltd. To celebrate and commemorate this special event, government has also released a commemorative postal stamp. Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forests has released the stamp on the International Ozone Day programme.

Mr. Md. Shahjahan, Additional Director General, Department of Environment and Project Director, All ODS Projects welcomed the participants of the seminar and presented the keynote paper. The Programme was ended with the vote of thanks by the Director General of Department of Environment.

The Bangladesh Betar (Radio) and Bangladesh Television had broadcast the messages of the Hon'ble President and the Hon'ble Prime Minister of the Government of Bangladesh. A discussion was held on 16 September 2013 in Bangladesh Television participated by the Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Mr. Md. Shafiqur Rahman Patwari; Director General, Department of Environment, Mr. Md Golam Rabbani; and Additional Director General, Department of Environment, Mr. Md. Shahjahan. A Radio discussion program was also broad casted during the occasion. National Daily News Papers publicized the importance of the International Ozone Day to create mass awareness. Posters, folders, special articles were distributed among the participants of seminar celebrating the International Ozone Day 2013.

Photo Gallery



Picture - 01: Mr. Md. Shafiqur Rahman Patwari, Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest was the chief guest of the seminar.



Picture - 2: Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests is handing over crest among one of the winners of Paining Competition.



Picture - 3: Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests is handing over crest to one of the Poster Competition winners.



Picture -41: Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests is releasing the commemorative stamp.



Picture –5: Handover ceremony of Certificate of Recognition to one of the MDI producing companies.



Picture - 6: The Commemorative Stamp.



আন্তর্জাতিক ওজোন দিবস ১৬ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৩ এবং সিএফসিমুক্ত ইনহেলার গ্রন্থতের স্মারক বর্ষ উদযাপন

জাতিসংঘ পরিবেশ কর্মসূচীর আধানে ১৯৮৭ সালের ১৬ সেপ্টেম্বর বিশ্বের ২৪টি দেশ একত্রিত হয়ে ওজোনস্তর রক্ষায় মন্ত্রিল প্রটোকল স্বাক্ষর করে। জাতিসংঘের সকল সদস্য রাষ্ট্র বর্তমানে এই প্রটোকল অনুস্বাক্ষর করেছে যা এই প্রটোকলকে সার্বজনীন মর্যাদা দান করেছে।

বাংলাদেশ ১৯৯০ সালের ২ আগস্ট মন্ত্রিল প্রটোকল স্বাক্ষর করে এবং পর্যায়ক্রমে এর সকল সংশোধনী ও সংযোজনসমূহ সমর্থন করে। বাংলাদেশ মন্ত্রিল প্রটোকলের আওতায় নির্ধারিত ওজোনস্তর ক্ষয়কারী দ্রব্য যথা সিএফসি, হ্যালন, কার্বনটেট্রাক্লোরাইড, মিথাইলক্লোরোফর্ম এবং মিথাইলব্রোমাইডের ব্যবহার ২০০৯ সালের ৩১ ডিসেম্বরের মধ্যে সম্পূর্ণরূপে রহিত করেছে। মন্ত্রিল প্রটোকল পাটি সভার অনুমোদনক্রমে এ্যাজমা ও সিওপিডি রোগীদের জন্য ইনহেলার উৎপাদনের লক্ষ্যে “এসেনশিয়াল ইউজ নমিনেশন” প্রক্রিয়ায় বিগত ডিসেম্বর ২০১২ পর্যন্ত কিছু পরিমাণ সিএফসি বাংলাদেশ ব্যবহার করে আসছিলো - যা ২০১৩ সালে সম্পূর্ণ সিএফসিমুক্ত করা হয়েছে। আজ ১৬ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০১৩, বাংলাদেশ “আন্তর্জাতিক ওজোন দিবস” পালনের সাথে সিএফসিমুক্ত ইনহেলার গ্রন্থতের স্মারক বর্ষও উদযাপন করেছে।

বর্তমানে বাংলাদেশ এইচসিএফসিসমূহের ব্যবহার সম্পূর্ণরূপে রহিত করার লক্ষ্যে কাজ করে যাচ্ছে এবং প্রটোকলের সকল বাধ্যবাধকতা পালনসহ বাকী সকল ধরনের ওজোনস্তর ক্ষয়কারী দ্রব্যের ব্যবহার সম্পূর্ণরূপে রহিত করার অঙ্গীকার করেছে।

INTERNATIONAL OZONE DAY 2013 AND COMMEMORATION OF CFC FREE INHALER IN BANGLADESH.

Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the Ozone Layer was signed by 24 countries on 16 September 1987 under the auspices of the United Nations Environment Program. Today the Montreal Protocol has been ratified by all the member countries of United Nations, making it the first treaty of any kind to have achieved universal ratification.

Bangladesh ratified Montreal Protocol on 2 August 1990 and it has ratified all its amendments and adjustments subsequently and complied with phasing out of CFCs, Halons, Carbon tetrachloride, Methyl Chloroform and methyl bromide by 31 December 2009. Till December 2012, Bangladesh produced inhalers for its Asthma and COPD patients through procuring CFCs under “Essential Use Nomination” granted by Montreal Protocol Party Meeting. In 2013, it has completely phased out CFC's from this sector as well. Today Bangladesh is commemorating the preparation of CFC free inhaler marking 16 September, the International Ozone Day.

Bangladesh is now working to phase out HCFCs and reiterates her strong commitment to comply with all obligations under the Protocol including phase-out of all remaining Ozone depleting substances.

Picture – 7: The Commemorative Stamp Write-up.



Picture -8 : Poster published on the picture above to disseminate message of International Ozone Day 2013.



Picture- 9: Painting Competition organized by Department of Environment on the eve of International Ozone Day, 2013.



Picture-10: Israt Jahan Iffat a seven year old girl was selected first in the Painting Competition in Group-A on the eve of International Ozone Day, 2013.



Picture - 11 : Mimha Binte Monir, a eight year old girl was selected first in the Painting Competition in Group-B on the eve of International Ozone Day, 2013.



Picture-12 : Shaila Aktar Urmi a thirteen year old girl was selected first in the Painting Competition in Group-C on the eve of International Ozone Day, 2013.