

# NEWSLETTER

Quarterly | April 2026 | Issue 26



Dear Readers,

Over the first quarter (Q1) of 2026, the LABS program continued its focus on strengthening on-the-ground implementation efforts. The primary objectives included supporting factories through follow-up visits, advancing remediation actions, and building practical safety capacity through targeted trainings.

Progress during Q1 is reflected in strong remediation outcomes across fire, electrical, and structural safety, alongside ongoing engagement with factories to address critical risks identified through assessments. LABS conducted 36 Safety Trainings, reaching over 900 participants and reinforcing factory-level understanding of safety standards and systems.

At the same time, LABS continued engaging with industry stakeholders, brands, and national institutions to strengthen alignment and expand collaboration on factory safety. These efforts are complemented by ongoing monitoring and reporting mechanisms, ensuring a more consistent and sustained approach to safety across supply chains.

## PROGRESS SO FAR

▶ **676**

Factories onboarded

India: **195**

Vietnam: **273**

Cambodia: **132**

Indonesia: **76**

▶ **666**

Assessments conducted

India: **192**

Vietnam: **269**

Cambodia: **129**

Indonesia: **76**

▶ **1,518**

Safety training conducted

India: **365**

Vietnam: **720**

Cambodia: **276**

Indonesia: **157**

▶ **1,316,473**

Workers reached

India: **242,318**

Vietnam: **581,488**

Cambodia: **254,778**

Indonesia: **237,889**

▶ **239**

Factories graduated

India: **80**

Vietnam: **129**

Cambodia: **19**

Indonesia: **11**

# Improving field level impact

## Factory graduations

Factories graduated during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (Q1) of 2026.

	Graduated
India	<b>2</b>
Vietnam	<b>3</b>
Cambodia	<b>5</b>
Indonesia	<b>1</b>

## Assessments

Factory was assessed in Indonesia during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter (Q1) of 2026.

	Assessments	QA Assessments	Total
India	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Vietnam	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Cambodia	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Indonesia	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

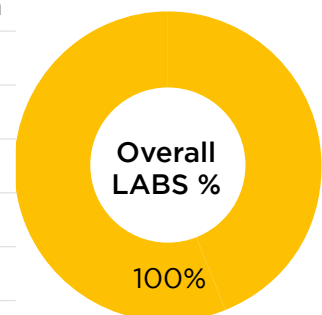
## Common assessment findings



### Structural Safety

- Uneven floor-load distribution on suspended floors
- Exposed reinforcement on roof slab
- Cracks on structural and non-structural members (e.g., concrete beams, columns, and walls)
- Absence of documentation (e.g., structural diagrams, geo-technical reports, floor-load plans, and soil reports)

Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	-	-	-	-
Amber	-	-	-	1
Yellow	-	-	-	-
Green	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>1</b>

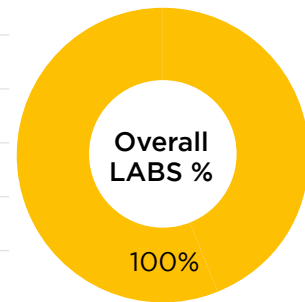




## Fire Safety

- Rolling shutters on exit doors
- Centralized fire-alarm system unavailable
- Insufficient emergency lights on escape paths
- Fire-rated doors and fire-rated enclosures lacking
- Overhead signages missing on escape paths

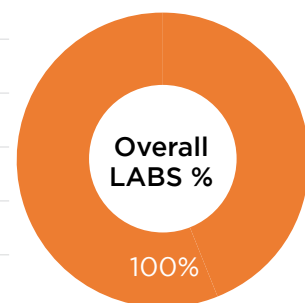
Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	-	-	-	-
Amber	-	-	-	1
Yellow	-	-	-	-
Green	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>1</b>



## Electrical Safety

- Flammable coating inside distribution panels
- Heavy lint and dust inside switchboards/distribution boards (DBs)
- Earthing to DBs, MS roof truss, transformer fencing, and battery bank racks not provided
- Lightning-protection system not supplied
- Numerous hotspots with high temperatures ranging from 73°C to 120°C

Assessment	India	Vietnam	Cambodia	Indonesia
Red/Amber	-	-	-	1
Amber	-	-	-	-
Yellow	-	-	-	-
Green	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	-	-	-	<b>1</b>



“ The LABS program has really improved our workplace safety—especially when it comes to our safety management system. It’s not just about passing an assessment; the safety training has been incredibly beneficial, building our team’s capacity and giving us the knowledge and confidence to look out for each other every day. ”

Eko Wahyu Susanto, Electrical Expert, PT Kanindo Makmur Jaya Factory 2



## Remediations

### India

Data comprises 127 factories where 570 follow-up visits were conducted

#### Fire Safety:

- **94%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **98%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **95%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **91%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors

#### Electrical Safety:

- **95%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **96%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **93%** of the factories provided earthing connections for the electrical components

#### Structural Safety:

- **82%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **82%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures (such as MS Shed)
- **78%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness

### Vietnam

Data comprises 213 factories where 1,084 follow-up visits were conducted

#### Fire Safety:

- **96%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **100%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **94%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **98%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors

#### Electrical Safety:

- **94%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **99%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **94%** of the factories provided earthing connections for the electrical components

#### Structural Safety:

- **89%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **87%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures (such as MS Shed)
- **82%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness

## Cambodia

Data comprises 87 factories where 478 follow-up visits were conducted

### Fire Safety:

- **92%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **98%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **89%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **93%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors

### Electrical Safety:

- **89%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **87%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **88%** of the factories provided earthing connections for the electrical components

### Structural Safety:

- **93%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **95%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures
- **93%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness

## Indonesia

Data comprises 64 factories where 299 follow-up visits were conducted

### Fire Safety:

- **52%** of the factories installed emergency lights
- **94%** of the factories removed temporary obstacles on evacuation pathways
- **58%** of the factories installed illuminated exit signages
- **56%** of the factories removed locking mechanisms from exit doors

### Electrical Safety:

- **80%** of the factories removed lint and dust from electrical panels and DBs
- **69%** of the factories reduced the high temperatures in electrical panels and DBs
- **60%** of the factories provided earthing connections for the electrical components

### Structural Safety:

- **46%** of the factories mended cracks in beams and columns
- **73%** of the factories removed the corrosion in non-engineered structures
- **50%** of the factories eliminated the wall dampness

# Safety Training

# 36

## Safety Training

sessions were conducted in Q1, 2026.

There were 36 Safety Trainings conducted during Q1 with 974 representatives from factory management, the OHS Committee, HR and maintenance departments, and workers from the production area.

# 974

## People Trained

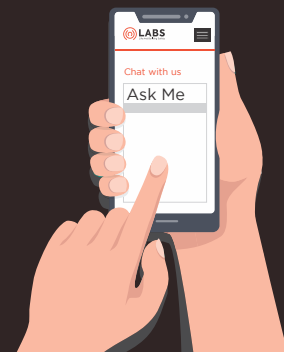
	Training	People trained
India	<b>12</b>	<b>350</b>
Vietnam	<b>10</b>	<b>246</b>
Cambodia	<b>12</b>	<b>325</b>
Indonesia	<b>02</b>	<b>53</b>



# REPORTING PLATFORM UPDATES

LABS operates a toll-free Helpline (in Vietnam, India, and Cambodia) and a LABS Chat platform (in Vietnam, India, Cambodia, and Indonesia) for workers to report unsafe working conditions. Six non-LABS cases were reported during Q1:

- **Vietnam:** Three HR-related issues
- **Cambodia:** Three HR and workplace-related issues



## Key Outreach and Events

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### Vietnam

#### Meeting with Walmart

March 16, 2026

The LABS team met with Jeffrey Rice, SVP Global Regulatory, Sourcing, and Anti-Corruption Compliance at Walmart, to discuss implementation of LABS across its sourcing countries. The discussion emphasized key safety issues across LABS markets, stakeholder engagement strategies, factory-level challenges, and factors influencing program graduation. Walmart shared that 46 of its 240 factories in Vietnam are currently under LABS, and an updated factory list is slated to be shared in April.

### Cambodia

#### Consultative Workshop on Heat Stress

January 19, 2026

LABS participated in the International Labour Organization (ILO) Better Factories Cambodia's Consultative Workshop on Heat Stress, contributing to conversations focused on enhancing workplace safety and mitigating climate-related hazards in factories.

#### Engagements with Brand Partners

January 21–26, 2026

LABS conducted a series of meetings with its brand partners including Primark, Gap, Adidas, and Walmart to introduce the program, explore in-country implementation, and deepen collaboration on factory safety.

#### Stakeholder Engagements and Partnerships

January 23–February 4, 2026

LABS collaborated with influential stakeholders, including the Belgian Ambassador, the Mekong Club, and the Indonesian Ambassador to identify potential opportunities on responsible sourcing, supply-chain due diligence, and regional outreach initiatives.

#### Strategic Meetings with Industry and Development

February 25, 2026

The Director of Partnerships at IDH met with representatives from TAFTAC and ILO Better Factories Cambodia to discuss industry trends, factory safety concerns, and collaboration opportunities. TAFTAC emphasized the importance of electrical safety, citing that a significant proportion of fire incidents are attributed to electrical short circuits.

## Introduction and Technical Workshop with TAFTAC & CGTI

March 12, 2026

LABS facilitated a technical workshop for 23 participants from various functions, focusing on LABS assessments and remediation strategies. TAFTAC indicated its enthusiasm for co-conducting joint factory visits to enhance capacity building and knowledge sharing.

## Good Practices Sharing Session

March 26, 2026

LABS hosted a good-practices sharing session for more than 100 participants representing over 50 factories and five brands, designed to enhance the industry's understanding of safety standards and remediation strategies.

## Indonesia

### NFPA-based Fire Safety Training

January 29–30, 2026

The LABS Indonesia team attended a comprehensive, two-day fire-safety training program, which covered critical garment-industry risks, fire-risk identification, detection systems, evacuation protocols, and emergency response procedures. The training aimed to enhance the team's technical expertise in conducting safety assessments and implementing remediation strategies.



### Strategic Meeting with BPBD

March 16, 2026

The LABS country manager met with the Regional Disaster Management Agency (BPBD) to discuss potential collaboration opportunities for scaling the Jakarta Building Assessment tool nationwide, organize fire-safety knowledge-sharing events, and plan the next National Stakeholders Committee meeting.

### Meeting with Indonesian Garment and Textile Association (AGTI)

March 16, 2026

The LABS country manager met with AGTI leadership to discuss the role of LABS in promoting factory-safety improvements and exploring collaboration opportunities, including participation in upcoming industry forums.



# Incidents in Apparel Sector

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## Vietnam

- **March 8, 2026:** A major fire erupted in a foam-mattress warehouse in Dong Nai Province, rapidly spreading due to highly flammable materials and engulfing the entire facility.

Source: <https://vnexpress.net/chay-lon-kho-hang-sat-khu-dan-cu-o-dong-nai-5047880.html>

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## Cambodia

- **February 3, 2026:** A fire was reported at a factory in Takeo Province.
  - **February 28, 2026:** An electronics factory in Takeo Province caught fire due to an electrical short circuit; no injuries were reported.
  - **March 15, 2026:** A blaze broke out at a factory in Svay Rieng Province.
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## Indonesia

- **January 27, 2026:** A devastating fire erupted at a sandal-manufacturing factory in Medan, reportedly originating from a chemical storage area.
- **March 16, 2026:** A massive fire ravaged a four-story clothing factory in West Jakarta, collapsing the structure and leaving widespread damage.
- **March 25, 2026:** A fire at a sock factory in Bekasi caused significant damage to two floors of the facility.

# Annexures

## Factory Details

### India

#### Safety Trainings

1. Rama Overseas LTD
2. Shahi Exports PVT LTD - Unit 26
3. Arvind LTD Arsikere
4. Jega Garments LLP
5. Arvind Limited E-City
6. Shahi Exports PVT LTD - Faridabad 2
7. Akai Garments
8. PEE EMPRO EXPORTS PVT LTD
9. VAMANI OVERSEAS PVT LTD - Guntur Unit
10. Alok Industries LTD
11. VAMANI OVERSEAS PVT LTD - C2-C3
12. VAMANI OVERSEAS PVT LTD - D247

#### Graduation Verification Visit

1. Penguin Apparels PVT LTD Unit - 7
2. Akai Garments

### Vietnam

#### Safety Trainings

1. LANG GIANG TEXTILE GARMENT JOINT STOCK COMPANY
2. Nyan Kids Dong Nai CO LTD
3. Son Ha Garment Export JSC - Thai Binh Branch
4. SUN WORLD GARMENT CO LTD
5. Quang Viet (Tien Giang) CO LTD
6. MINH ANH KHOAI CHAU GARMENT JOINT STOCK COMPANY
7. Peak Outdoor CO LTD
8. Leader Garment (Vietnam) CO LTD
9. Precious Garments (Vietnam) CO LTD
10. Delta Galil Vietnam CO LTD

#### Re-Assessments

1. Nyan Kids Dong Nai CO LTD (GAP)

#### Graduation Verification Visit

1. HANSAE TN CO.,LTD
2. WINGA VIETNAM COMPANY LIMITED
3. Yi Feng Footwear Joint Venture Co., Ltd. (Re-assessment)

## Cambodia

### Safety Trainings

1. TY Fashion (Cambodia) PLC
2. Winas Garment CO LTD
3. Pontus Footwear LTD
4. Superlink Fashions (Cambodia) CO LTD
5. Indochine Apparel (Cambodia) CO LTD
6. Sportex Industry CO LTD
7. Nagapeace Corporation
8. Great New Talent Factory (Cambodia) CO LTD
9. Elite Win (Cambodia) CO LTD
10. Canpak (Cambodia) CO LTD
11. Splendid Apparel Manufacturing CO LTD
12. Ying Yi Industry (Cambodia) CO LTD

### Re-Assessments

1. Ealytex (Cambodia) Garment CO LTD
2. Makalot Garments (Cambodia) CO LTD - Branch 1
3. Shoe Premier II (Cambodia) CO LTD

### Graduation Verification Visit

1. Starlight Apparel Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
2. Splendid Apparel Manufacturing Co., Ltd.
3. Hung Hsing Garment Co., Ltd.
4. Sportex Industry Co., Ltd.
5. Sees Global (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.

## Indonesia

### Safety Trainings

1. PT Woo Shin Garment Indonesia
2. PT Hansae Indonesia Utama - Majalengka

### Assessments

1. PT Hansae Indonesia Utama - Majalengka

### Graduation Verification Visit

1. PT. Daehan Global Sukabumi



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