

ANNUAL REPORT

1999- 2000



Dhaka Ahsania Mission



Executive Director of DAM receiving National Literacy Award from Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 22 July, 1999



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Dhaka Ahsania Mission

Annual Report 1999-2000

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Dhaka Ahsania Mission

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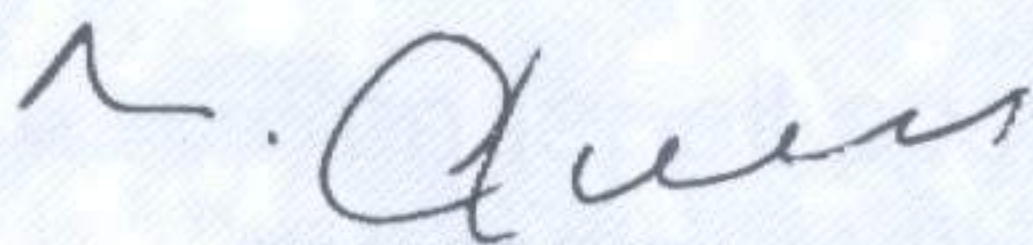
Public Relations Division

Preface

The year 1999-2000 was an eventful period for DAM from a number of counts. Most important is the admission of DAM into "Operational Relations with UNESCO". This is a kind of official relation with UNESCO which offers scope for dynamic partnership with NGOs in the implementation of UNESCO's programmes. This is both a testimony of recognition of DAM's international role as also a matter of reposing confidence on it to carry forward the goals and objectives of this important UN agency. This in reality has opened new vistas of opportunity for us to work in wider perspective.

This year DAM's collaborative involvement in the international sphere has widened in another way. It has gone beyond the Asia-Pacific region to collaborate with organizations in Africa. We had the privilege to participate and share our experiences with the African organizations by our active and fruitful participation and interaction in the pre-biennial symposium organized by the Association for the Development of Education in Africa-Non-formal Education Working Group in Johannesburg, South Africa in December 1-5, 1999.

With the sincere cooperation from all involved in the activities of DAM, I am confident, we shall be able to prove ourselves worthy of the confidence reposed on us by the international community. We should therefore pay more attention than before to global issues and concerns as also to our national problems and issues such as, literacy and education, poverty reduction, drug demand reduction, environmental degradation, child and women rights including prevention of trafficking of women and children, improvement of health and sanitation status and the like. This will require us to work with greater amount of dedication and commitment not only to the Mission but also to the nation and the international community. Only and only then we shall be able to fulfill the constitutional obligations as also the vision of the founding father, Hazrat Khanbahadur Ahsanullah (RA.).



Kazi Rafiqul Alam
Executive Director

Year of Establishment**1958****Founder****Hazrat Khanbahadur Ahsanullah R.A.*****Legal Status**

Registered with
The Department of Social Welfare
(No. 316 of 1963)

and

The NGO Affairs Bureau
(No. DSS/FDO/R/246 of 1987)
Government of Bangladesh.

Official Relation with UN Agencies

Operational Relations with UNESCO
Consultative Status (Special Category)
with UN ECOSOC

Associate status with UN DPI

* Hazrat Khanbahadur Ahsanullah (R.A.) M.A. M.R.S.A, I.E.S. (1873-1965) was an outstanding scholar, eminent educationist and a great social reformer of his time and also a great spiritual leader. He served the Department of Education of the then British India and held very important and high positions. He was awarded the title of Khanbahadur in 1911. He was a prolific writer and authored as many as 79 books on different subjects. Dhaka Ahsania Mission, one of the many Missions founded by him, bears the sweet memory of this eminent son of the soil.

Motto

DIVINE AND HUMANITARIAN SERVICE

Aims

- ◆ Develop the social and spiritual life of the entire human community.
- ◆ Annihilate distinction between man and man.
- ◆ Cultivate unity and brotherhood and inspire divine love.
- ◆ Teach one one's insignificance and shun one's pride.
- ◆ Enable one to recognize and realize the relation between the Creator and the creation.
- ◆ Enable one to realize the duty of man to his Creator and his fellow beings.
- ◆ Render all possible help to the suffering humanity at large.

Objectives

- ◆ Promotion of Human Resource Development (HRD) through both formal and non-formal basic and higher education;
- ◆ Undertaking programmes for eradication of illiteracy and alleviation of poverty;
- ◆ Undertaking programmes for uplifting the dignity of women through spiritual, social and economic development;
- ◆ Preservation of natural environment and ecology;
- ◆ Prevention of illicit use of narcotic drugs and treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts;
- ◆ Promotion of preventive and curative health services including establishment of general/specialized hospitals, health clinics, maternity & child health centers, homes etc. for the old;
- ◆ Development, publication and distribution of books and other teaching-learning materials;
- ◆ Supporting the work of the United Nations and the dissemination of knowledge of its principles and activities;
- ◆ Performing all other acts, deeds, things and matters which in the opinion of the Executive Committee may serve the purpose of the Mission.

Major Areas of Intervention

- Non-Formal Education
- Continuing Education
- Technical/Vocational Education & Skill Training
- Human Resource Development
- Women's Development and Gender
- Poverty Alleviation and Institution Building
- Environment
- Health
- Drug Abuse Prevention
- Child Rights and Child Labour
- Child & Woman Trafficking Prevention
- Materials Development
- Training
- Research & Consultancy

Specialised Institutions and Initiatives

- Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Teachers Training College (KATTC)
- Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology (AUST)
- Institute of Technical & Vocational Education and Training (ITVET)
- Institute of Primary & Non-formal Education (IPNE)
- Vocational Training Institute for Working Children (VTI WC)
- Ahsania Mission Book Distribution House (AMBDH)
- Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH)
- Ahsanullah Institute of Information and Communication Technology (AIICT)

Membership with

International Level

- Asia South Pacific Bureau of Adult education (ASPBAE)
- International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)
- APPEAL Resource & Training Consortium (ARTC)
- International Council on Alcohol and Addiction (ICAA)
- Commonwealth Association for Education and Training of Adults (CAETA)
- Education for All Network (EFAN)

National Level

- Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB)
- Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE)
- Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar (child rights) Forum (BSAF)
- Voluntary Health Services Society (VHSS)
- Coalition for Urban Poor (CUP)
- Credit Development Forum (CDF)
- Coalition of Environmental NGOs (CEN)

Collaborative involvement with

- ◆ UNESCO, Paris
- ◆ UNESCO, PROAP, Bangkok
- ◆ UNESCO, Dhaka
- ◆ UNHCR, Bangladesh
- ◆ ESCAP, Bangkok
- ◆ United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)
- ◆ Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan
- ◆ DANIDA
- ◆ United Nations Information Centre (UNIC), Dhaka
- ◆ Primary and Mass Education Division (PMED), Govt. of Bangladesh
- ◆ Directorate of Non-Formal Education (DNFE), Govt. of Bangladesh
- ◆ Directorate of Narcotics Control (DNC)
- ◆ Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO (BNCU)
- ◆ Directorate of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)
- ◆ Donor Agencies like :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ● CAFOD, U.K. | ● RTE One World Fund, Ireland |
| ● Concern Universal, U.K. | ● AIDLINK, Ireland |
| ● DfID, UK | ● World Mercy Fund, Ireland/Austria |
| ● Kirby Laing Foundation, U.K. | ● Dept. of Foreign Affairs, Ireland |
| ● Save the Children Fund, U.K. | ● Royal Danish Embassy, Dhaka |
| ● VSO of U.K. | ● Canadian High Commission. Dhaka. |
| ● War on Want, U.K | ● Helen Keller International |
| ● Servite Sister C.T. U.K | ● IIZ/DVV Germany |
| ● NLCB, U.K | ● DANIDA, Denmark |
| ● Ulster Bank 3rd World Fund | ● European Union |
| ● USAID | ● ACCU, Japan |
| ● Church of LDS, USA | ● Hiroshima University, Japan |
| ● Heifer Project Int'l, USA | ● NFUAJ |
| ● Laubach Literacy Int'l, USA | ● CORDAID, The Netherlands |
| ● GOAL, Ireland | ● SKN, The Netherlands |
| ● Electric Aid, Ireland | ● European Union |
| ● APSO, Ireland | ● German Caritas |

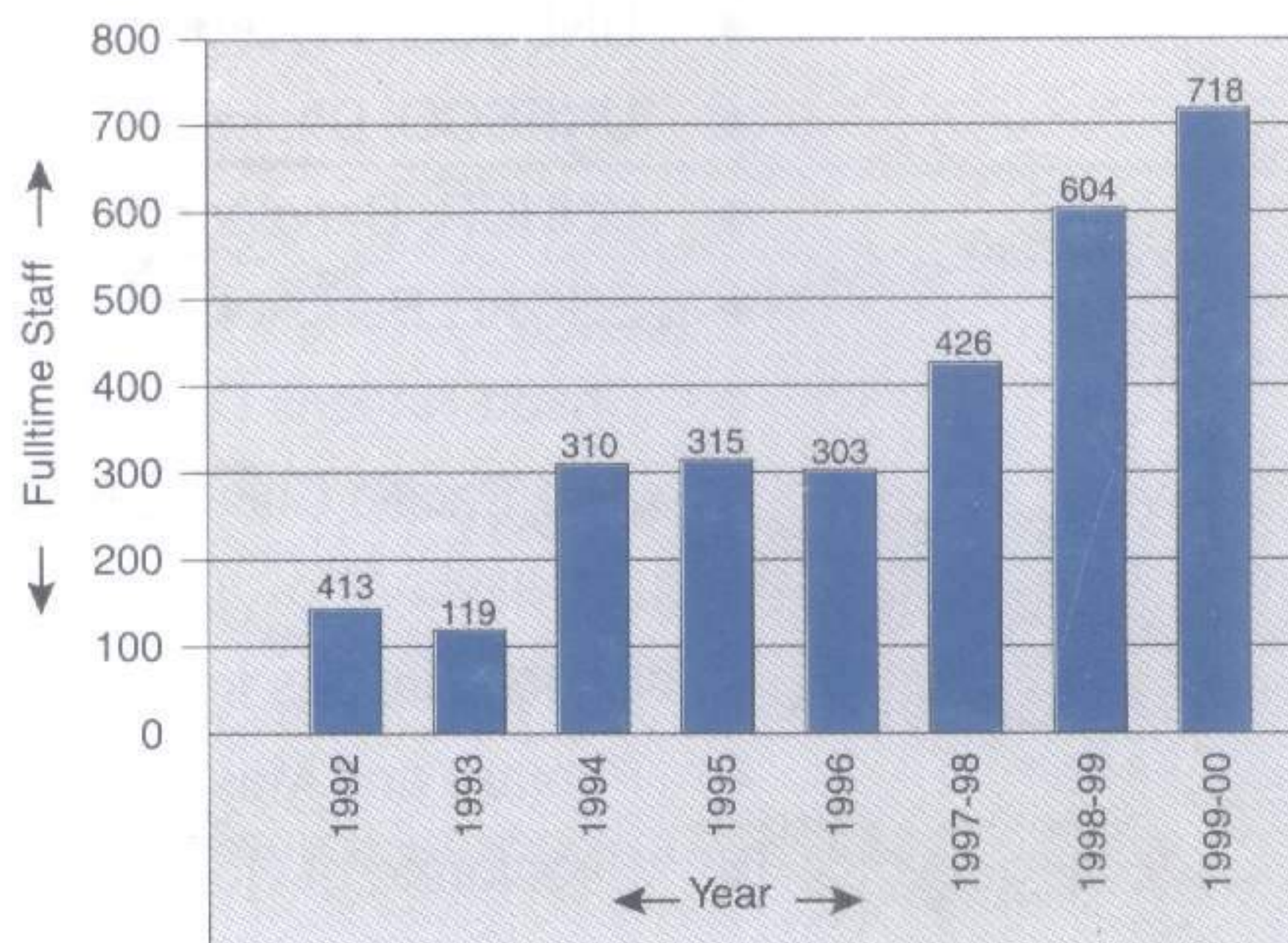
Staff Position (1999-2000)

Full Time	:	718
Part Time	:	100
Facilitators*	:	4,886
Total	:	5,704

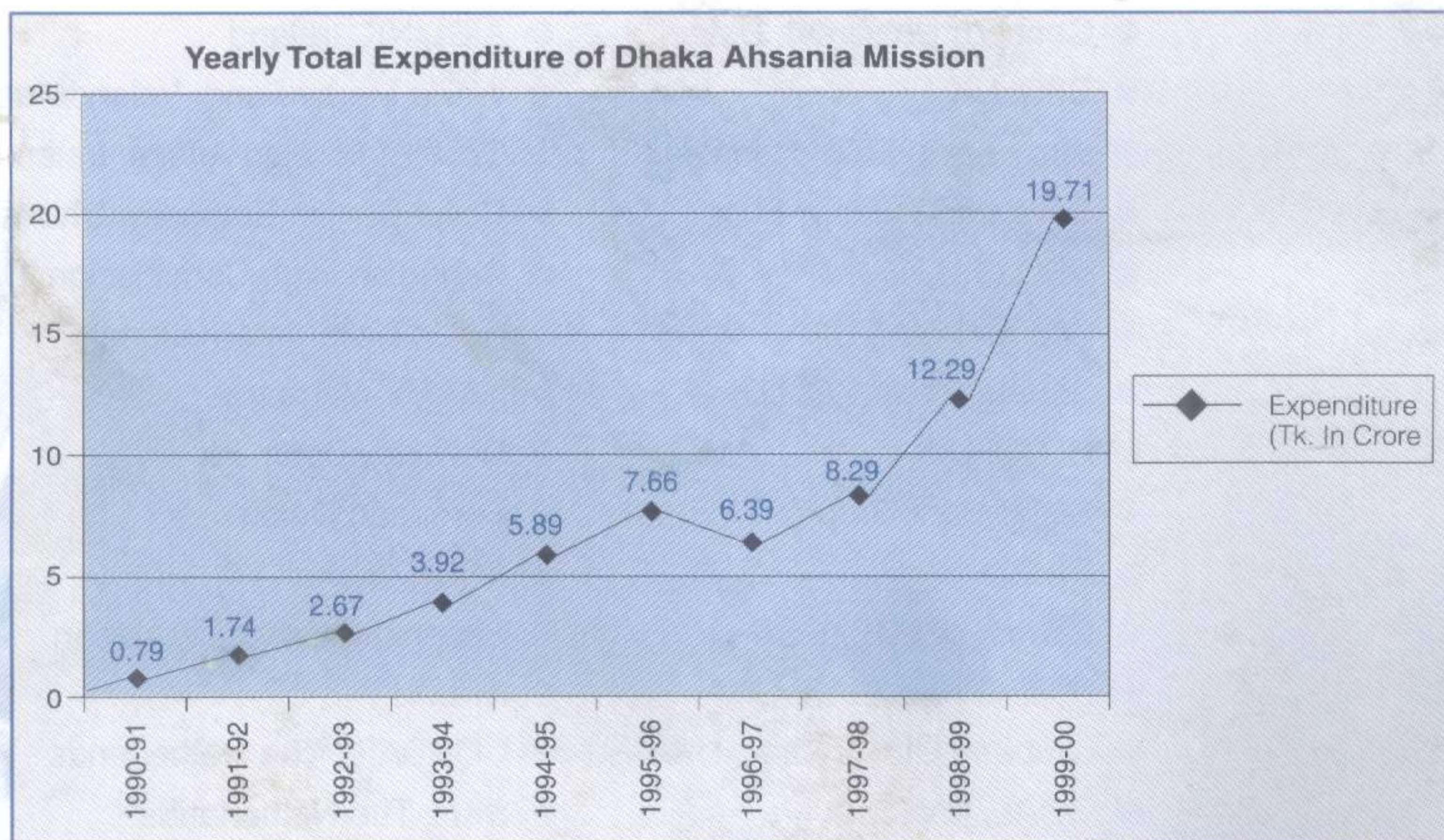
Number of Volunteers of APOS, AMIK & CWTP Programme is : 18,690

* Includes 540 workers from FNGOs deployed in DAM's DPHE-DANIDA Project

Growth of Staff: 1993-2000



Financial Position



Development Partners during 1999-2000

A. Ministries/Divisions/Directorates of the Government of Bangladesh:

Ministry of Education (MOE)
Primary and Mass Education Division (PMED)
Directorate of Non-Formal Education (DNFE)
Directorate of Narcotics Control (DNC)
Directorate of Public Health Engineering (DPHE)

B. Foreign Governmental & Non-Governmental Organizations/Agencies:

Concern Universal, U.K.	Care-Bangladesh
Kirby Laing Foundation, U.K.	CORDAID, The Netherlands
Servite Sister, U.K.	SKN, The Netherlands
War on Want, U.K.	European Union
National Lottery Charities Board, U.K.	German Caritas
DfID, UK.	Laubach Literacy Int'l, USA
CAFOD, U.K.	World Medical Relief Inc. USA
Save the Children Fund, U.K.	Heifer Project Int'l, USA
Ulster Bank 3rd World Fund	ACCU, Japan
RTE one World Fund, Ireland	NFUAI
Department of Foreign Affairs, Ireland	USAID
AIDLINK, Ireland	
APSO, Ireland	
Electric Aid, Ireland	
World Mercy Fund, Ireland/Austria	
Royal Danish Embassy, Dhaka	
German Embassy, Dhaka	
Helen Keller International	
IIZ, Germany	
DANIDA, Denmark	

C. UN Family Organizations :

UNESCO
UNHCR
ESCAP
UNDCP
IFAD

Management

Run by a 21 member Executive Committee (EC) elected biannually by the General body of Members. The General Secretary of the E.C. is the Chief functionary of the Mission and functions as the Executive Director & manages day-to-day affairs of the Mission through eight operational divisions.

Geographical Area Coverage

Programmes	District	Thana (Police Station)
Non-Formal Basic Education	21	40
Continuing Education (Ganokendra)	05	11
Institution Building & Income Generation (IBI)	07	11
Prevention of Child & Women Trafficking (CWTP)	06	12
Environment Protection & Development (APOS)	49	107
Anti Drug Programme (AMIK)	58	150

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In Bangladesh

DAM is the FIRST to-

- ❁ develop systematic Adult Literacy Curriculum and Educational Materials;
- ❁ develop and introduce, separate curriculum and primers for education of the adolescents;
- ❁ develop graded follow-up materials for completers of basic literacy courses;
- ❁ develop highest number of continuing education materials in the country so far;
- ❁ establish Teachers Training College in the private sector;
- ❁ establish University of Science & Technology in the private sector;
- ❁ start Polytechnic Diploma Programme in the private sector;
- ❁ provide for Graduate and Post Graduate University Courses in Primary and Non-formal Education;
- ❁ launch 'Each One Teach One' Programme for those who can not attend centre based literacy classes
- establish Ganokendra
- establish Bangladesh Literacy Resource Centre
- establish Child Resource Centre
- establish Book Distribution House
- establish a Vocational Training Institute for Working Children
- go for establishing a Cancer Hospital.

Achievement in Selected Programme Areas

(1990-2000)

Programmes

Pre-primary Education (PRE)	:	183,250	Learners
Primary Education for Children (PEC)	:	1,224,148	"
Literacy Programme for Adolescents (LPA)	:	506,000	"
Adult Literacy Programme (ALP)	:	801,190	"
Continuing Education (CE)	:	493,704	"
NFE Total	:	3,208,292	"
Ganokendras (Community Learning Centres) Established	:	1132	Nos.
Institution Building and Income Generation	:	35,600	Members
Micro credit offering	:	157,700,000	Taka
Sanitation programme coverage	:	110,000	Persons
Personnel received training	:	135,875	Nos.
Recipient of relief materials	:	70,000	Families
House Building	:	2,000	Units
Construction of Sanitary Latrines	:	32,500	Units
Sinking of Tube-wells	:	10,850	Units
Tree Plantation	:	752,875	Nos.
Fuel efficient smokeless oven	:	100,500	Nos.
Holding of Int'l Seminar/Workshop/Meeting	:	50	Nos.
Total No. of Materials Produced	:	216	Titles
AMIK Branch Committees Formed	:	402	Nos.
APOS Branch Committees Formed	:	221	Nos.

Prizes and Awards/Received

International

- 1996 : Grand Prize for development of innovative literacy follow-up material from Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan.
 - : Honorable mention for a video entitled 'Rewards of Literacy' from ACCU, Japan.
- 1995 : ESCAP HRD AWARD- 1994 for significant contribution to Non-formal Education, specially of girls and women.
 - : 3rd prize for development of a video on a distressed women, from Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan.
- 1992 : Hon'ble mention for Development of NFE Materials (Poster on equal rights for women) from Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan
- 1987 : J. Roby Kidd Special Citation from International Council for Adult Education, Canada.

National

- 1998 : National Literacy Prize from the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh
- 1997 : Second Prize for innovative literacy follow-up materials from DNFE, Govt. of Bangladesh.
- 1996 : Second Prize for innovative literacy follow-up materials from DNFE, GOB.
- 1995 : Second Prize for publication of follow-up reading materials for neo-literates from the Government of Bangladesh (GOB).
 - : Third prize for publication of a monthly news letter (Alap) for neo-literates from the GOB.
 - : Special Prize for publication of a wall magazine (Amader Patrika) for neo-literates from the GOB.
- 1991 : First Prize and 3 other awards for development of NFE materials from National Academy for Primary Education.

Non-Formal Education

Until 1980 efforts to provide literacy to the millions of illiterate population in Bangladesh remained more or less sporadic and peripheral. Although a few national NGOs were working in the field of

NFE in Bangladesh it was only in 1980 that the first official programme for eradication of illiteracy was launched which was suspended in 1982. It was, however, during the last decade (1991-2000) that the country achieved a visible and significant breakthrough in the field of EFA.



Dhaka Ahsania Mission, as also some other national NGOs, has been actively involved in the national struggle against illiteracy since the 1970s. DAM's involvement did not remain confined only to providing literacy through its field programmes. It extended its attention to different aspects of the literacy movement in the country. These aspects include development of literacy curriculum, development of literacy materials including primers, teaching materials, guide books, training manuals, awareness materials and continuing education materials and also training of literacy personnel of different types and categories. The non-formal basic education programme of DAM aims at not only to provide basic education skills but also to provide

awareness creation on different socio-economic issues and problems and at the same time to provide human development and vocational skills through appropriate training so as to facilitate their employment including self-employment.

Main features

- ☐ Learner centred teaching learning process
- ☐ Need based curriculum contents
- ☐ Learning from real life environment
- ☐ Community participation in organisation and management of NFE centres
- ☐ Built-in supervision and monitoring process
- ☐ Professional development of NFE personnel
- ☐ Mainstreaming the output of NFE programmes
- ☐ Priority of girls and woman

Programme Components

DAM's NFE programme has the following components:

- ☐ Pre-primary education/Early Childhood Development and Care
- ☐ Primary education for drop-outs and out-of-school children
- ☐ Non-formal secondary education for urban working children
- ☐ Literacy programme for adolescents
- ☐ Adult literacy and education
- ☐ Continuing education programme

Main features of these programme components are briefly explained below :

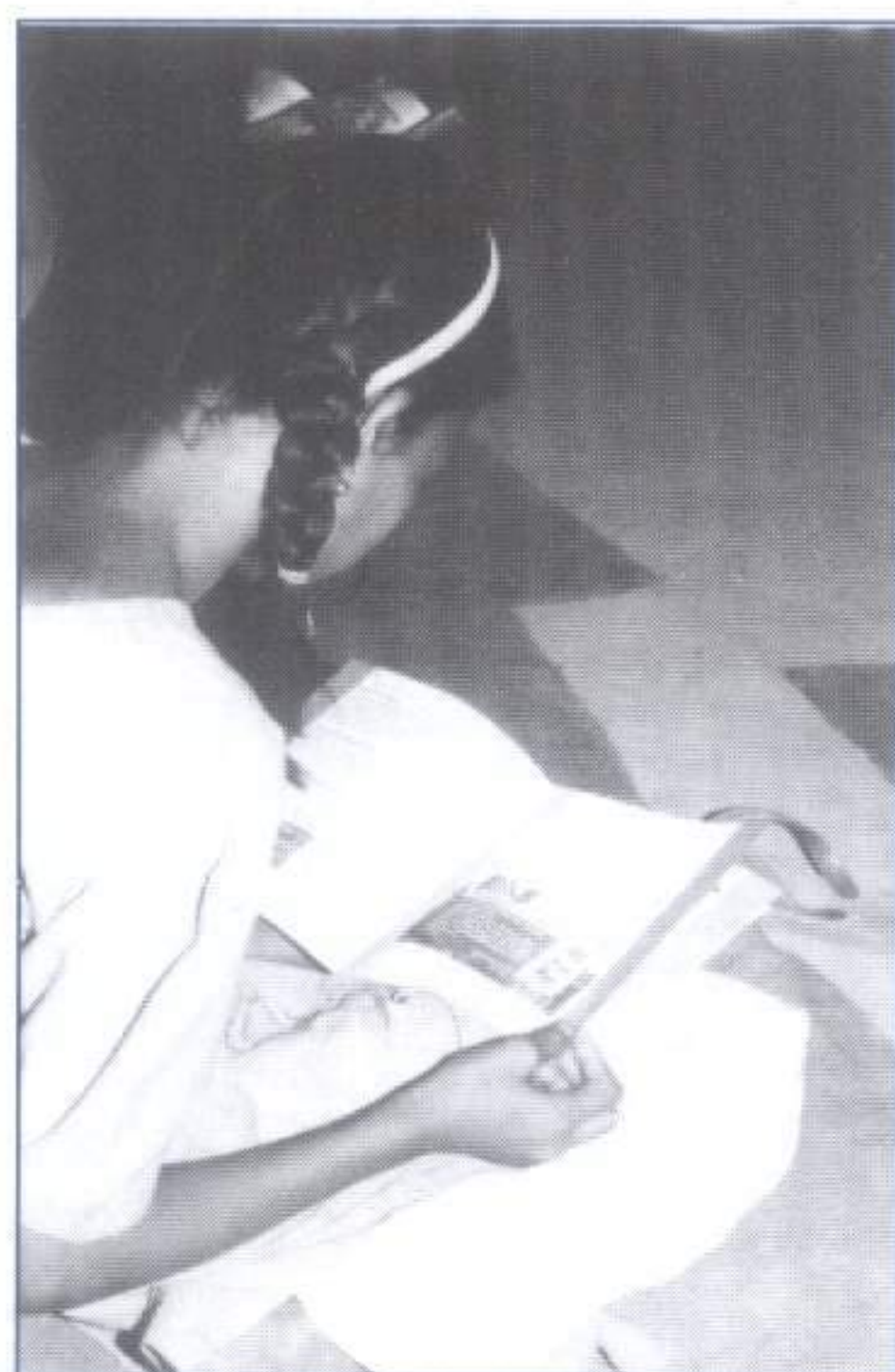
Pre-primary Education/Early Childhood Education and Care

It has been designed for the children of 4-5 years. The main objective of this programme is to prepare the young children of the disadvantaged group of population for admission into Grade I of the formal school system. The duration of the programme is six months. The curriculum contents include school preparedness, moral education, personal hygiene and environment awareness, etc. The co-curricular activities include drawing, singing, creative writing etc. This programme helps the poorer and the disadvantaged families to send their children to schools who otherwise might remain out of school to grow as adult illiterates.



Primary education for out-of-school children and school dropouts

In Bangladesh, the literacy situation has remained unsatisfactory even after introduction of compulsory primary education, a significant number of primary school age children remain out of school and one-third of the enrolled children drop out before completing the primary education cycle. To cater the needs of these children, most of whom are working children, non-formal primary education programme has been designed.



Curriculum for this programme is equivalent to the formal primary education curriculum. DAM's own materials are used at classes-I-III and for classes IV & V National curriculum and Text Book Board's (NCTB) publications are used.

Non-formal secondary education for urban working children

This programme is offered to the primary cycle completers in the NFE programmes of DAM who are unable to attend formal schools. One of the objectives is to create opportunity for them to go for further education in grades VI to VIII, equivalent to the formal junior secondary education. The curriculum contents include, among others, general education, work education and practical training.

For general education it follow, the curriculum of the NCTB, while for vocational education that of the Bangladesh Technical Education Board.

Literacy programme for adolescents

Adolescent boys and girls of the age group of 11-15, who are at the threshold of entering into the work force and soon into adulthood are provided with a separate programme of necessary education, skill training and awareness on various socio-economic issues concerning their life ahead. The duration of this programme is 9 months with a set curriculum frame of three levels. Besides specially designed primers, graded books and easy-to-read materials are supplied in the centres.



Adult literacy programme

The 9-month adult literacy programme is divided into two packages- first package of 6 months cover basic, mid-level and self-learning level of literacy skills and the 2nd one of 3 months as



follow-up for consolidation of the literacy skills achieved during the first six months. The functional aspects incorporated in the reading materials of the programme cover family life, basic economic concepts and income, organisation building and civic consciousness.

In addition to its own programme of Adult Literacy, DAM also participates in the Adult Education programme of the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) designed and offered by the DNFE and implemented through the NGOs

with financial support from the GOB.

Continuing Education Programme

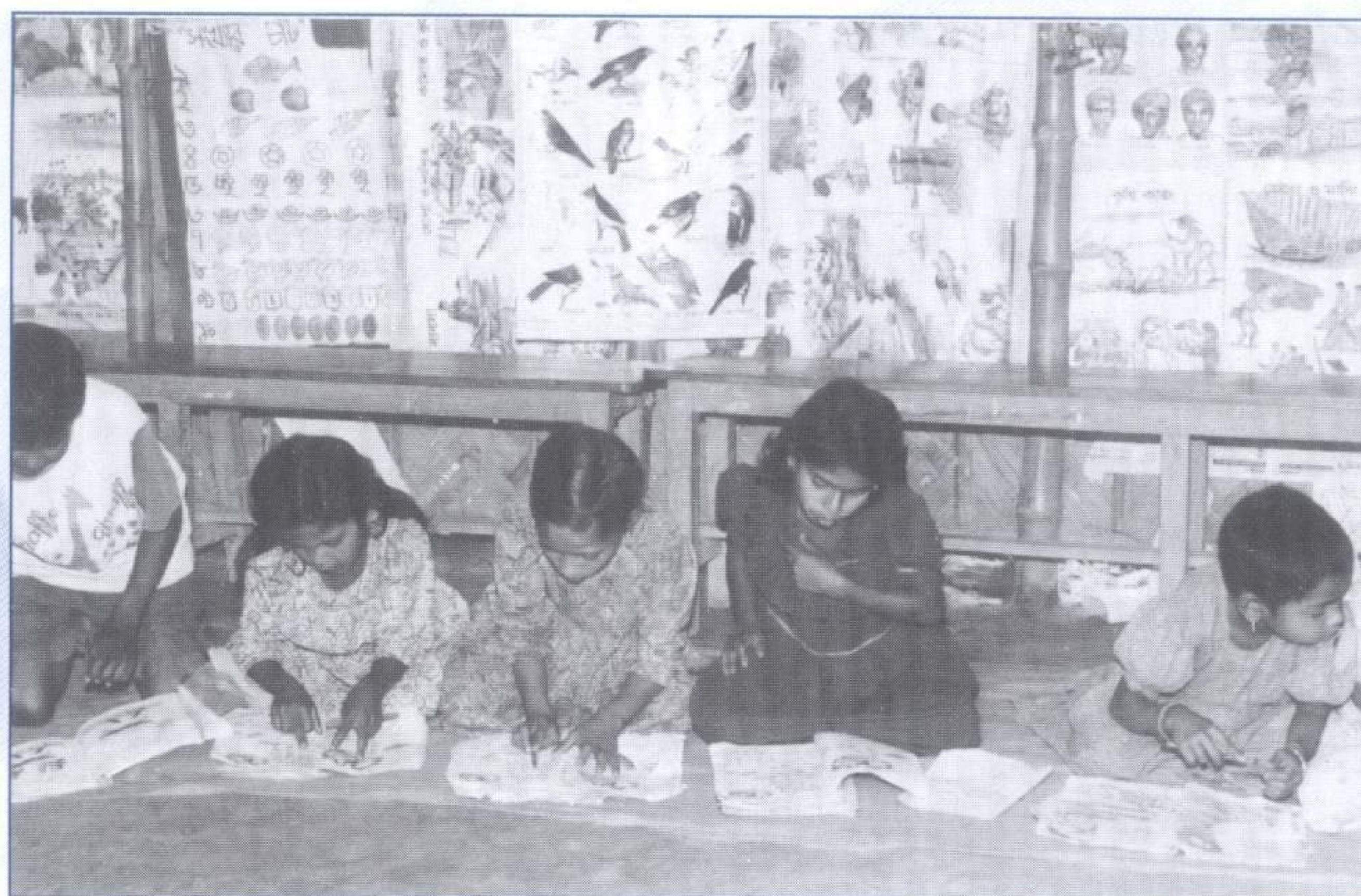
Continuing Education Programme is one of the major components of DAM's NFE programmes. It is a common experience that a time bound literacy programme for the illiterates as such do not yield the desired results unless such an activity is followed by a programme of continuing education providing scope for reinforcing the acquired literacy skills of the participants. DAM therefore, developed a model of continuing education programme and has been implementing it since the early years of the last decade with time-to-time review and modification. This model has been designed to offer a center-based open ended continuing education programme. Under this programme community learning centres locally known as Ganokendras are organised and managed by DAM with community support and involvement with the ultimate goal of transferring their ownership and management responsibility to the community itself.



During 1999-2000, DAM implemented 11 projects on basic education. The objective of all these projects was to make the poor and the disadvantaged people (Adolescents, Adults and out of School Children) and those who can not attend centre-based literacy programmes capable of reading and writing with understanding and also able to maintain day-to-day accounts through provision of basic education. The projects were spread over 56 Upazillas of 21 districts of the country. **Under the programme a total of 2,825 centres were organized during the year under report and a total of 84,862 learners (56,564 being women) received basic literacy.**

Table No. 1 NFE Projects implemented during 1999-2000

Sl.No	Name of the Project	Target	No of Beneficiaries		
			M	F	Total
1.	Functional Education through Local Initiatives (FETLI)	Adults & Adolescents	1305	3695	5000
2.	Community Based Continuing Education (CBCE-II)	Adults & Adolescents	70	1055	1125
3.	Non-formal Basic Education for Urban Poor Children (NBUCL)	Working Children	962	892	1854
4.	Extension of Nonformal Education for Working Children (ENWC-II)	Working Children	311	589	900
5.	Continuing Education-IG	Adults & Adolescents	0	200	200
6.	Community Learning Centre (CLC)	Early age Children	223	277	500
7.	Each One Teach One	Adults	381	869	1250
8.	Community Primary School	Primary Children	622	511	1133
9.	DNFE Project-I: phase 3	Adults	4500	4850	13050
	DNFE Project-I: phase 4	Adults	2910	6540	9450
	DNFE Project-I: phase 4 (b)	Adults	3870	5580	9450
10.	DNFE Project-II: Phase-3	Adults	4260	8790	13050
	DNFE Project-II: Phase-4	Adults	3870	8730	12600
	DNFE Project-II: Phase-5	Adults	2880	6570	9450
11.	Hard to Reach, Dhaka,	Working Children	1132	2018	3150
	Hard to Reach, Chittagong	Working Children	654	1146	1800
	Hard to Reach, Barisal	Working Children	348	552	900
Total			28298	56564	84862



Ganokendra

DAM's Ganokendra is now a centre for lifelong learning and community development and its functions and role have far widened compared to those in the initial years. It now serves to meet the diverse learning needs of the community and also facilitates institutional support to the people to achieve improvement of their quality of life as also to ensure economic self reliance and social empowerment.



Special features of Ganokendra are -

✧ Ganokendra is not meant for the neo-literates only. It is accessible to all the people in the area. The neo-literates, out-of-school children, people with limited reading skill, local school students and youths, etc. participate in the Ganokendra activities.

✧ Literacy support in the Ganokendra is not time bound, it is open ended

having scope for even life long learning.

- ✧ It works as an information centre where daily news papers/periodicals, news letters, IEC materials of other agencies are available.
- ✧ It is a multi-dimensional approach addressing multiple aspects of rural life including skill training, awareness creation, sports and cultural activities side by side with literacy education.
- ✧ It is a launching pad available for use by other organizations also for their activities with those of its own.
- ✧ It is managed by the community and is designed to be ultimately owned by the community.

Objectives of Ganokendras

The broad objectives of Ganokendras are:

- ✧ Continuous improvement of educational status of the neo-literates through their involvement in lifelong education.
- ✧ Improvement of quality of life of the rural community & for that to attain:
 - Social empowerment.
 - Economic self-reliance.



Specific objectives

- ✧ Organisation of an institution through which non-formal education and training can be provided to those who have completed basic literacy courses for promoting a culture of lifelong learning and development;

- ✱ Organisation of community library, stocked with easy-to-read materials, wall magazines and newspapers, making available to remote communities critical information that is relevant, practical, and that can be understood by people who have only basic literacy skills;
- ✱ Building up an institution that can bring people of a community together, enabling them to network with NGOs and Government and to access services that are meant for them.



Programme and activities of Ganokendras

The Ganokendras are engaged in: providing services to the neo-literates and autonomous learners to further enhance their literacy skills; providing physical facilities to impart basic education to illiterate adults and adolescents including unschooled children; encouraging the parents to send their wards to formal schools; arranging skill training; promoting reading habit for increase of knowledge and skills for human development of the members; creating opportunities for further training/retraining in areas which are felt need of the community or the individual members; promotion of other community development activities by addressing issues like environmental conservation, health awareness, water and sanitation, gender sensitization, income generation, early childhood development, drug abuse problem, children and women trafficking, arsenic contamination in tube-well water etc. It is also designed to promote games and cultural activities among the members and to foster the spirit of co-operation, fellow feeling and collective community living. It works to link up other service providers available in the community- such as different extension departments and programmes of the government and other NGOs.



A Ganokendra in its most simple form, functions as a community library. This in itself is a valuable service, since in rural Bangladesh, reading opportunities and reading materials are extremely rare. The booklets provided to the centre are specially designed as follow-up materials to the functional literacy courses. They, therefore, are the resources that promote dissemination of essential messages in rural Bangladesh, including the importance of drinking safe water, the



need for good nutrition during pregnancy, and the need for replacing trees that will be cut down for firewood. Other issues, including the problems of dowry and improved farm practices, are also covered. Running of community library is the responsibility of the Ganokendra facilitator. Besides utilizing the reading materials and facilities in the library any member can take out books on loan for home reading.

Documented as a Best Practice

DAM's Ganokendra is an innovative model not only as a delivery mechanism of continuing education and life long learning but also as a community based and institutionalized organization offering an integrated comprehensive approach towards improvement of quality of life of individuals and also ensuring community development. It is organized and run by the community. DAM offers technical support. The community has to own and manage it ultimately when it attains sustainability and DAM's support is withdrawn. This innovative design has been accepted by a few countries for replication in their own situations. It has also been documented as 'Best Practice' by 'CAMPE' - a coalition of NFE NGOs in Bangladesh as also by ASPBAE and UNESCO, PROAP, Bangkok.



Activities undertaken during the year under report

DAM organized 260 new Ganokendras (GK) in 14 upazillas of 5 districts during the year to provide continuing education to the neo-literates and to provide alongside life skills and other inputs for development of the community. Consequently, the number of Ganokendras rose to 1132. 26,000 new GK members including 18,200 (70%) women, were added to the stock of 63,327 thereby raising the total membership of GK to 89, 327 (58783 females). 29% members of GK were linked with credit programme and 52% members were linked with different health services. Besides, GK members were provided with training on various skills and issues of community interest such as- 41% members on gender development, 36% members on environment preservation, 16% received training on the use of improved oven and 4% on primary health care. Moreover, during this period 59,969 trees were planted and the GK members organized 1,898 cultural programmes.

Vocational Training of School Drop-outs

Since reduction of human suffering is one of the major objectives of DAM, most of its programmes, especially the NFE programme, are provided with tailor made life oriented activities including skill training or vocational training so as to enable the beneficiaries to be self-reliant and



shake off poverty. In addition to such tailor made vocational or skill training activities, DAM organises from time to time various training activities such as, training of Traditional Birth Attendants (TBAs), training for nursery raising, fuel efficient oven making,

etc. During the year under report DAM organised one specific training course on tailoring, sewing and needle work. This programme was conducted in cooperation with the Ministry of Education under its Female Secondary School Assistance Project (FSSAP). The training course was for a period of 3 months—from 1 March—31 May, 2000. Forty drop-out female students of secondary schools who had earlier been provided with stipends to pursue their secondary education had been given training on tailoring, sewing and needlework.

After completion of the training course provided to participants drawn from the drop-out-students of various secondary schools of Birishiri and Jhanjail areas under Durgapur Upazilla (Sub-district) of Netrakona district, each of the participants were provided with one sewing machine so as to enable them to achieve self-reliance by utilising the skill they attained. The distribution of sewing machines was made in the course completion



ceremony held in the auditorium of the Tribal Cultural Academy at Durgapur in Netrokona district on 1st June, 2000.

Sponsored Scholarship Programme for the Education of Girls

The Sponsored Scholarship Programme for the Education of Girls (SPEG) has been designed not only to promote education of girls but also as a strategy to help bridging gender inequality in the field of education and to enable meritorious girls coming from the poor families to pursue secondary and tertiary education. At present in Bangladesh the ratio of boys and girls at secondary level is 2:1 and in universities it is 3:1 whereas in the primary sector gender equity



has almost been achieved - the ratio being 49:50 where female population constitute almost half the size of the male population in the country. Efforts need to be initiated to improve the situation in favour of girls education in the secondary and post secondary sectors.

This programme of DAM aims at helping those girls whose parents cannot keep them in

school/college/university because of poverty. These girls are meritorious enough and are keen to prosecute their studies. Unless they can be provided with financial support they will be forced to drop out of school or college just for financial reasons.

Hence, DAM has been trying to enlist financial support from home and abroad to provide scholarships to the poor but meritorious girls so as to continue their secondary and post secondary education

The programme was started in 1996 and so far 132 girls in secondary to university levels have been provided with financial assistance enabling them to continue and in some cases complete their studies. During the period under report scholarships under this programme were awarded to a total of 24 girls, 22 of them reading in secondary schools, one in a college and one in a university. In addition to this, under a similar programme, 4 girls reading in Secondary Schools and 9 boys reading in tertiary level were awarded with scholarships to support their education programmes.

Poverty Alleviation, Income Generation Micro-Credit

Poverty in Bangladesh is a multi faceted phenomenon. Its many facets include low income, vulnerability to income erosion and lack of capacity to absorb shocks. It is about food security as much as it is about ownership of assets and about quality of life as much as it is about human resources. It is because of each of these and all of these together that the overall poverty situation here in Bangladesh is not only dismal but has a tendency to perpetuate. More than 45% of the total population of about 130 million live in poverty of which 25% are in extreme poverty. Until and unless the poverty cycle is broken all our efforts towards national development will be frustrated. It is for this reason that DAM has developed an elaborate integrated and comprehensive programme of poverty alleviation through income generation and institution building.



DAM's education programme, especially those addressed to the adults and adolescents have been designed in such a way that skill training, credit offerings, income generation and institution building form essential components. In fact, group-formation such as, savings/ cooperative/ development groups and skill training are integrated components of the education programme offered to adolescents and adults with special thrust on girls and women.

DAM's revolving fund created out of its own resources and donor's finance is used for credit offering. This enable the borrowers – all DAM's programme beneficiaries- to undertake income generation activities aiming at poverty alleviation.



Income generation activities are initiated by beneficiaries organized in saving/cooperative/ development groups. In these groups the members accumulate their thrift savings, pool them for utilization in income generation activities either individually or in cooperation with others in the group. The group members are also provided with micro-credit from DAM for undertaking income generating activities. In some cases, they are linked up with on-going credit programmes of other agencies such as Association for Social Advancement (ASA) which have a specialised programme of micro credit. This is done by inter-locking ASA's

credit activities with DAM's literacy activities.

IBI activities till June, 2000 was concentrated in 10 geographical areas. The activities have been extended in 2 new areas i.e. Kadamtala of Barguna district and Raipura of Narshingdi district

during 1999-2000. As a result of addition of 2 new areas in 1999-2000 the number of IBI groups increased from 416 in June 1999 to 505 in June 2000. Savings during 1999-2000 increased by 16% (Tk. 27,15,011) as against the targeted savings of Tk. 23,44,950. Cumulative savings of IBI groups in June, 2000 was Tk. 71,54,402 as against Tk. 44,39,391 in June '99.

During the year loan disbursement was targeted to be Tk. 39.612 million among 9950 members for various income generating activities against which Tk. 25.871 million (65%) were disbursed to 7123 members (72%). Disbursement of loans for tube-well amounting to Tk. 0.543 million was targeted for 170 members against which loans amounting to Tk. 59.8 million was disbursed to 205 members. Loan disbursement for tube-well exceeded the target by 10% while the number of



loanee increased by 95 members (21%). During the year loans for sanitary latrine amounting to Tk. 2.760 million was due to be disbursed among 1,199 members. The performance in this front was rather slow. Loans were disbursed to 744 members (62%) and total disbursement amounted to only 16% (Tk. .451 million) of the targeted disbursement. In addition special loan (HPI) disbursement amounted to Tk. 20.00 million (100%).

Recovery of loan was appreciable. In the case of IGA loans recovery rate was 90%.

Recovery rates of targeted amount for tube-well, sanitary latrine and HPI loans were 100%.

Management of loan programme except in two areas (Amtali and Kaligonj) was satisfactory. Under this programme provisions were made for training of members and staff on leadership skill and skill development. 80 of the members were trained on leadership development and 2,482 members were given training on skill development in various trades. Training on management aspects was provided to 17 staff for improvement of their efficiency. Group members of IBI planted 27,277 trees (91%) against a target of 30,020 trees.

Table No.2 : No of recipients and amount of Micro credit offered during 1999-2000

Sl.	Purpose	No of Recipients	Amount (in Taka)
01	Cattle rearing	1963	8,943,000
02.	Poultry Raising	309	971,500
03.	Small Business	1570	5,984,000
04.	Trading on Cereals	954	3,854,500
05.	Purchase of Sewing Machine	106	389,000
06.	Weaving	315	1,209,500
07.	Fishing/Net making	243	501,500
08.	Handicraft	120	118,000
09.	Purchase of Rickshaw/Van	91	193,500
10.	Fishery	89	501,500
11.	Agriculture	750	2,584,500
12.	Others	343	520,500
Total		6854	25,781,000

Water & Sanitation

Since DAM's programmes aim at improvement of total life and living specially in the rural areas the issues of health, hygiene, sanitation and use of safe water are adequately addressed through different programme interventions including non-formal education programme. Some programmes are particularly aimed at creation of awareness among the people about the essential needs and benefits as also the ways and means of the use of safe water, sanitary latrines, motivation of the people for their behavioral changes and also to encourage and assist them in sinking tube-wells, construction of sanitary latrines, etc.



In the basic education programmes of DAM issues concerning health and hygiene water and sanitation have been specially incorporated in the primers developed for different age groups.

Many of the books and booklets developed for use in the continuing education programme are on water and sanitation. And for general awareness creation various posters, stickers etc. are produced by the Materials Development Division of the Mission as and when needed for the field programmes.

The environmental programme APOS of DAM also gives special emphasis on water and sanitation matters. The problem of arsenic contamination in water which has taken a serious turn in recent years is also being taken care of in various ways through the existing field programmes of DAM.

In addition to the above mentioned interventions and activities in the water and sanitation sector undertaken through different programmes and projects DAM has been implementing a 3 year project entitled 'Improvement of Water and Sanitation Condition in Barguna' one of the project areas of DAM since 1998. Achievement of the project during the year under report is shown in the table below.

Table No. 3 : Achievement of WATSAN Project, Barguna during 1999-2000.

Sl.	Components	Achievement
A.	Social mobilisation for Awareness Creation	
a	Small group meetings by motivators	18750
b	Monthly large group meetings	2530
c	Social elite consultation meetings	350
d	GO+NGO Coordination meetings	300
e	Campaign Programme in Schools	200
f	Poster distribution	35000
g	Booklet distribution	6000
h	Sticker distribution	15000
i	Video show	10
j	Organisation of Cultural Programme	30

B. Provision of Sanitary Latrine

a	No. of Beneficiaries Selected for Sanitary Latrine Construction	4,764
b	No. of Beneficiaries Provided Sanitary-latrine Materials	4,550

C. Credit Disbursement

a	For sanitary latrine	21,43,000
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D. Credit Recovery

a	Recovery from 12 Unit holders (manufacturers)	1,51,550
b	Recovery from Tube-well Beneficiaries	10,319
c	Recovery from sanitary latrine Beneficiaries	1,69,737

E. Training

a	Training of Area Coordinators and Supervisors	08
b	Refresher for Motivator	30
c	Beneficiaries Training	9,550



DPHE-DANIDA Coastal Belt Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Components project.

Under an agreement signed with DANIDA, DAM has been implementing through 27 local NGO's a very large and important project aimed at bringing changes in the behavioural pattern of the population in the coastal areas relating to water and sanitation practices in 8 coastal districts in the country. The project is being implemented since March 13, 2000 with a

total outlay of Tk. 350 million. This project has been designed to address the people in the project areas in the 8 districts. The major activities of the project component include safe water supply, creation of demand for and increase of sanitation activities and hygiene promotion for improved behavioural pattern of the population in the 8 designated districts. **The target population of the project is 7.5 million in 300 selected unions under 28 Upazillas (sub-districts) of 8 coastal districts.** It is so far the biggest project of DAM in the public health sector,

the implementation of which is expected to benefit more than 15 million people in the project areas through direct intervention and multiplier as well as demonstration effect. The impact will be massive and significant specially in respect of control of various water borne diseases, like cholera, diarrhoea, dysentery, etc. This will ultimately improve the over all status of life of the people.



Child and Woman Trafficking Prevention (CWTP)

The CWTP Programme is being implemented with a vision to create conditions where people will be aware about different evil aspects of trafficking and become alert against traffickers. Under this programme appropriate actions are taken for prevention of trafficking, making adequate arrangements in the community for rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation or reintegration of the victims of trafficking.

Trafficking in women and children is a part of the exploitation that has occurred throughout history and across cultures. Poverty, illiteracy, cultural practices, money power and above all low status of girls encourage and help perpetuate such exploitation. Under the pretext of prospect of good job, hundreds of women and children are trafficked through the different routes to different countries. In the recent decades, cross border as well as inter-country trafficking in



women and children is assuming dangerous proportions threatening the social fabric in the region. This widespread and multi-dimensional problem involves humanitarian, social, moral and legal aspects. Women and children from Bangladesh are generally trafficked to India, Pakistan and the Middle East.

These trafficked people are generally forced into bonded slavery, servitude, serfdom and very often prostitution. In the Middle East, some children from Bangladesh are being used as 'Jockeys' in their traditional camel race in the desert. These poor women and children are also used in the



nefarious trade of human blood, kidney, cornea, skull and other organs including human skeleton. It is becoming a growing profitable business for the traffickers while enhancing the misery for many as their prey. The prevailing socio-economic and geographic conditions provide a fertile ground to the traffickers for easy trafficking and for trading with the victims in the criminal underworld.



In the context of this situation Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), with its usual commitment to reduce human suffering came forward to intervene and undertake various measures against trafficking in women and children. Accordingly, DAM initiated in September 1997 the Child and Woman Trafficking Prevention (CWTP) Programme, for the reduction of trafficking as well as for the repatriation, reintegration and rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking.

Under this programme adequate arrangements and programme interventions have been designed. These include education and awareness

creation among the vulnerable groups of people, especially in the boarder areas, motivational campaigns, cumulative training programmes, collaboration and partnership with GOs and NGOs, rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation, etc.

Performance during 1999-2000:

Under CWTP collaborative/ partnership linkages have further been strengthened with 17 Local NGOs in 6 vulnerable districts, namely- Satkhira, Jessore, Jhenaidah, Gaibandha, Nilphamari and Panchagar in 1999-2000. Consultation meetings were organised with the partner organisations to formulate detailed plan of action for prevention, resettlement, reintegration and formation of grass-roots level units to prevent and also to create awareness against child and women trafficking. To boost-up the activities of these grass-roots level units 36 representatives from different NGOs were given Master Trainer Training and these Master Trainers (MT), in turn, trained 720 Community Volunteers (CV) on different techniques and methods of prevention of trafficking and on raising social awareness. Besides, these MTs, in cooperation with the CVs, carried out several motivational campaigns through organisation of courtyard meetings (4500 nos.), rallies (38 nos.), discussion meetings (160 nos.), school debates (18 nos.) etc. and were able to make the awareness building programme reach to about 16000 families.



The Volunteers rescued 7 children at field level while being trafficked and the rescued were given shelter in the Shelter Home of DAM at Jessore. Of the rescued children, 3 (three) were subsequently reintegrated with their families. During the period there were 11 rescued victims in DAM's Shelter Home at Jessore and all of them were provided with psychological counselling, food & clothing etc. 10 of them were provided with basic education and 6 with skill training on embroidery with a view to make them self-reliant.

Training

It is an established fact that human resource development through appropriate and adequate training is a precondition for successful implementation of any programme. DAM therefore established its Training Division in 1985 so as to make



proper arrangement for training of its programme personnel at different levels and also of the beneficiaries according to their needs. DAM also offers different types of training towards capacity building both for national and local levels NGOs. Adequate arrangements has been made in the Headquarters of DAM for conducting different kinds of training in the 3 most well equipped training halls and a spacious Conference Hall equipped with most modern equipment and accessories. Training is also conducted at the Regional Training Centres at Hadipur, Satkhira and other field offices at different working areas of DAM.

The Division provides training in a variety of fields related to non-formal education and with varying duration-mostly short term from 5 to 15 days and occasionally of longer duration, for promoting professional standard of the literacy and adult education functionaries - the planners, organizers, managers, teachers, trainers involved in the literacy programmes of the Government and Non-Government organizations in the country and abroad. Specialized courses for the curriculum developers and materials developers are also conducted by this Division.

Table 4 : Number of batches & participants of different training courses during 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Name of Training Course	Batch	Trainees
1.	Teachers, Basic Training	9	173
2.	Teachers, Refreshers Training	27	608
3.	GK Management Training	11	220
4.	Environment Preservation Training	175	3,539
5.	Skill Development Training	9	1,782
6.	Enterprenuership Dev.Training	2	54
7.	Gender Development Training	257	5,132
8.	Community Volunteers Training	29	589
9.	Improved Oven Making Training	102	2,053
10.	Group Management Training	7	150
11.	Primary Health Care Training	5	92
12.	Disaster Management Training	6	228
13.	Management Training of CDSP	3	67
14.	Staff Development Training	5	94
	Total	789	14,781

The Division also conducts various training courses, seminars and workshops in cooperation with and on behalf of various regional and international organizations including UNESCO. Apart from these, DAM also conducts beneficiary level training in various fields including vocational trades, for undertaking income generation activities, on awareness creation and on preservation, maintenance and enrichment of environment, and in anti-drug programme for identification of drug addicts for undertaking preventive, curative and effect minimization activities.

It may be mentioned that the Community Volunteers in turn have offered training to several thousand beneficiaries (approx 20,000) on environment preservation, on smokeless oven making, and also on gender and development.

Workshops/Meetings

In the recent years DAM has been undertaking major role in national and international spheres in respect



of implementation of a number of non-formal and formal education programmes as well as in some programmes of UNESCO, ESCAP, UNDCP, ACCU, etc. This devolves on DAM the task of organising events like seminars, workshops, meetings and conferences of national, sub-regional, regional and international nature. During the period under report a number of such events were organised jointly by the Training Division and the Bangladesh Literacy Resource Centre (BLRC) of DAM in its own conference

venue. A list of some major activities is given in the table below .

Table No. 5 : National, Sub-Regional & Regional Workshops/ Meetings Organized by DAM during 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Title	Sponsor	Duration	Participants		
				M	F	Total
01.	Regional Workshop on preparation of training kits on community participation and social mobilization for Basic Education	UNESCO PARIS	27.7.99-2.8.99	14	4	18
02.	Regional Workshop on development of training kits on participatory Educational Planning	UNESCO PARIS	17-23.8.99	15	3	18
03.	Regional Workshop on Learners Progress Assessment and Reporting	UNESCO PARIS	31.8- 6.9.99	16	2	18
04.	Workshop on development of Education Materials for Sustainable Development	NCTB	21-30.8.99	31	6	37
05.	Community Learning Centers Review meeting	UNESCO PROAP	28.2.-4.3.2000	16	4	20
06.	Regional Workshop on developing training kits for local NGO's Capacity Building	UNESCO PARIS	6-15.5.2000	17	6	23
07.	Regional Workshop on developing training kits on Teaching Learning process in NFE (Teachers)	UNESCO PARIS	17-19.4.2000	1	6	7
08.	Regional Workshop on developing training kits on Teaching Learning process in NFE (Literacy)	UNESCO PARIS	25-27.4.2000	14	3	17
09.	Sub-Regional Workshop on monitoring and Evaluation of Literacy and Continuing Education Programmes in South Asia	UNESCO PROAP	19-24.6.2000	10	1	11

National NGOs which participated in the seminars/workshops during 1999- 2000 :

BACE, PKA, DEESHA, PRODIPAN, AISEDUP, NIJARA SHIKHI, SHISHU NILOY, SRIJONY, COAST, RRC, GUP, ARCHES, VERC, CREED, CODEC, TMSS, SKS, ORA & BSKS, DAM.

Names of Countries which participated in Regional/International Meetings/Workshops organised by DAM during 1999-2000: Bhutan, Benin, Burkinu Faso, Bangladesh, Combodia, China, India, Iran, Indonesia, Japan, Mali, Mozambique, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Papua New Guinea, Thailand, Tanjania, Zambia, Maldives, Sri Lanka & Vietnam.

Development of Materials

In order to cater the needs of a wide variety of materials for the successful implementation of DAM's non-formal education and development programmes, as also to meet the national demand DAM established the materials Development Wing of its Institute of Literacy and Adult Education (ILAE) in 1985 and since then it has remained engaged in the development and production of quality materials including primers, follow-up/continuing education materials and IEC materials. In the development of such materials care and attention is given to make them need based, easy to understand, attractive to the users, action oriented and relevant to the cultural settings etc.

DAM's close association and collaboration with the initiatives taken by UNESCO under APPEAL and that of ACCU, Japan in these areas helped it to a great extent to develop various materials which are considered to be innovative and effective. And thus separate primers for pre-primary, primary, adolescent and adult education, including teachers guides, were developed. Considering the wide variations in the achievement level of the graduates of basic education and literacy courses DAM went on to develop materials that would suit each category of the neo-literates and persons with limited literacy skills. It also devoted itself in developing different types of IEC materials including A/V materials so as to offer backup support to various development programmes besides education and literacy.

Over the years materials development wing under the Training & Materials Development Division has been enriched and fully staffed with adequately trained and experienced personnel with innovative curriculum specialists, material developers, illustrators and specialists in computer graphics. It is presently engaged in continuously developing new materials as well as reviewing



and upgrading the existing ones designed and produced for use in the basic education, continuing and lifelong education programmes and different development and awareness building and advocacy programmes of DAM's own and of others.

The materials include textbooks, teachers guides, training manuals, follow-up and continuing education materials, educational games, posters, stickers, folders, charts etc. Utmost care is taken in selecting the format, and also in the illustrations and graphics so as to make the materials attractive and interesting and also effective. The



materials produced are in most cases need based and they are field tested prior to finalization. All these have placed DAM in a unique position in respect of development and production of materials and it has remained until now the producer of highest number of IEC materials in the NGO sector in Bangladesh. It is because of the over all quality of the materials of DAM that many of the national level NGOs of Bangladesh including BRAC, PROSHIKA, CCDB, ARBAN,

RDRS etc. as well as the government organisations like the Directorate of Non-formal Education and some international agencies as well use these materials in their respective programmes. It may be recalled that a good number of these materials received various national and international awards.

The Mission has developed some 216 titles of materials upto June 2000. The category-wise distribution of the materials is shown in the table below.

Table No. 6 : Category wise number of titles of materials published by DAM

No.	Category	Titles
1.	Primers for Children	09
2.	Primers for Adolescent	08
3.	Primers for Adults	03
4.	EOTO Primers	04
5.	Group Development	06
6.	Training Manuals	03
7.	Translation of ATLP	05
8.	Posters	31
9.	Stickers	16
10.	Folders 05	08
11.	Charts, Leaflets, Games, folders, A/V materials	20
12.	CE Books & booklets	103
	a) Health & Nutrition	22
	b) Income Generation	18
	c) environment	09
	d) Population	02
	e) Popular law	10
	f) Culture	02
	g) Women's Development	13
	h) Rights & Duties	09
	i) Life sketch	06
	j) Tales, stories, rhymes etc.	11
	k) Child labour	01
	Sub-total	103
	Total	216

Like previous years the Materials Development wing of the Training & Materials Development Division remained very much involved with its materials development works and as a result, it has developed

as many as 19 materials during the period, one of which is a primer for Each- One Teach One programme and 18 are continuing education and/or awareness building materials on different subjects of present day importance. In addition to this it has reviewed and revised a number of its old publications during the year. The following table gives the details of these materials.

Table No. 7 : Particulars of materials developed in 1999-2000

Sl.No.	Title (in Bangla)	Title (in English)	Format
1.	Uzantalir Samobai	Co-operatives of Uzantoli	Booklet
2.	Madakmukto thakte chai, Hasi Amonde Din Katai	Want a drug free life for passing happy days	Poster
3.	Unnata Chula Babohar karun, Sharir-o-paribersh bhalo rakhun	Protect your health & the environment by using improved oven	Poster
4.	Nari-Purush baisammer kufal	Evils of Gender Disparity	Chart
5.	Keno-emon hoi	Why this heppen	Booklet
6.	Shishu-o-Nari pachar protirodhe union parishoder daitya-O kartobya	Duties of Union Parisad in Prevention of Child & Women trafficking	Leaflet
7.	Jone Jone Sakkhorota Paralekha Part II	Each-One-Teach-One	Book
8.	Shishu-O Nari pachar pratirodh karun ebong gono sachetona gore totulen	Build-up awareness on Child & Women trafficking	Leaflet
9.	Shishu-O-Nari Pachar Pratirodhe Sthanio Samajer Bhumika	Roles of the community in the prevention of Child & Women Trafficking	leaflet
10.	Tube-well Jotney rakhbo-Pani Sobsomay Nirapad Rakhbo	Maintain tube-wells & keep water safe	Poster
11.	Water seal bhangbenna	Take care of water sealed latrines	Sticker
12.	Pacharkarir hath thekey amader banchan	Save us from Child & Women traffickers	Sticker
13.	Aporichito Loker Parichai Jene Nin	Carefully know the identity of strengers	Poster
14.	Nari O Shishu Pachar Thekey Sabdhan	Be ware of Child & Women traffickers	Poster
15.	Amader paribesh	Our environment	Booklet
16.	Projonon adhikar	Reproductive rights	Booklet
17.	Bhalo thakar sahaj upai	Easy way to live a good live	Booklet
18.	Nirapada Jiban	Safe life	Booklet
19.	Jhop jangale aarna, babohar karo paikhana	Use sanitary latrine	Sticker



Disaster Preparedness, Relief & Rehabilitation

Bangladesh is a disaster prone area. Every year various natural disasters like flood, cyclone, tidal surge, etc. visit the country which cause colossal damages to life and property including crops, housing and live-stocks. The damage to infrastructure like roads, bridges, culverts, educational



institutions are very high. These natural calamities affect every body in the affected areas in varying proportions, but the sufferings of the poor and disadvantaged know no bounds and beggars description. Besides immediate relief in the form of food, medicine, clothing etc., these people need substantial help to be rehabilitated and to come out of the morass of devastation. In keeping with its constitutional mandate, whenever the country or any part of it is hit by a

disaster, DAM comes forward with all resources at its command to offer both relief to meet the immediate needs of the suffering population and to undertake rehabilitation activities like construction of dwelling houses, latrines, sinking of tube-wells, credit offerings for purchase of seeds, seedlings, agricultural appliances, cows, etc. DAM also operates its disaster preparedness programme, which includes activities like development of awareness raising and education materials on disasters and holding of special discussion sessions and training



programmes in the disaster prone working areas. For relief and rehabilitation DAM always takes up appropriate actions as far as its own resources permit and at the same time tries to enlist international support and solidarity.

In the previous year Bangladesh experienced the most devastating flood unparalleled in the recent history in terms of its spread and duration. 52 districts out of 64 remained submerged under water for more than ten weeks. The

damage to crops, cattle heads, houses, roads and other infrastructures were incalculable. In this situation DAM came forward to stand by the side of its beneficiaries affected by the flood in several of its working areas with emergency relief as well as post flood rehabilitation programmes.

Under the emergency relief initiatives as many as 10,150 families were provided with different

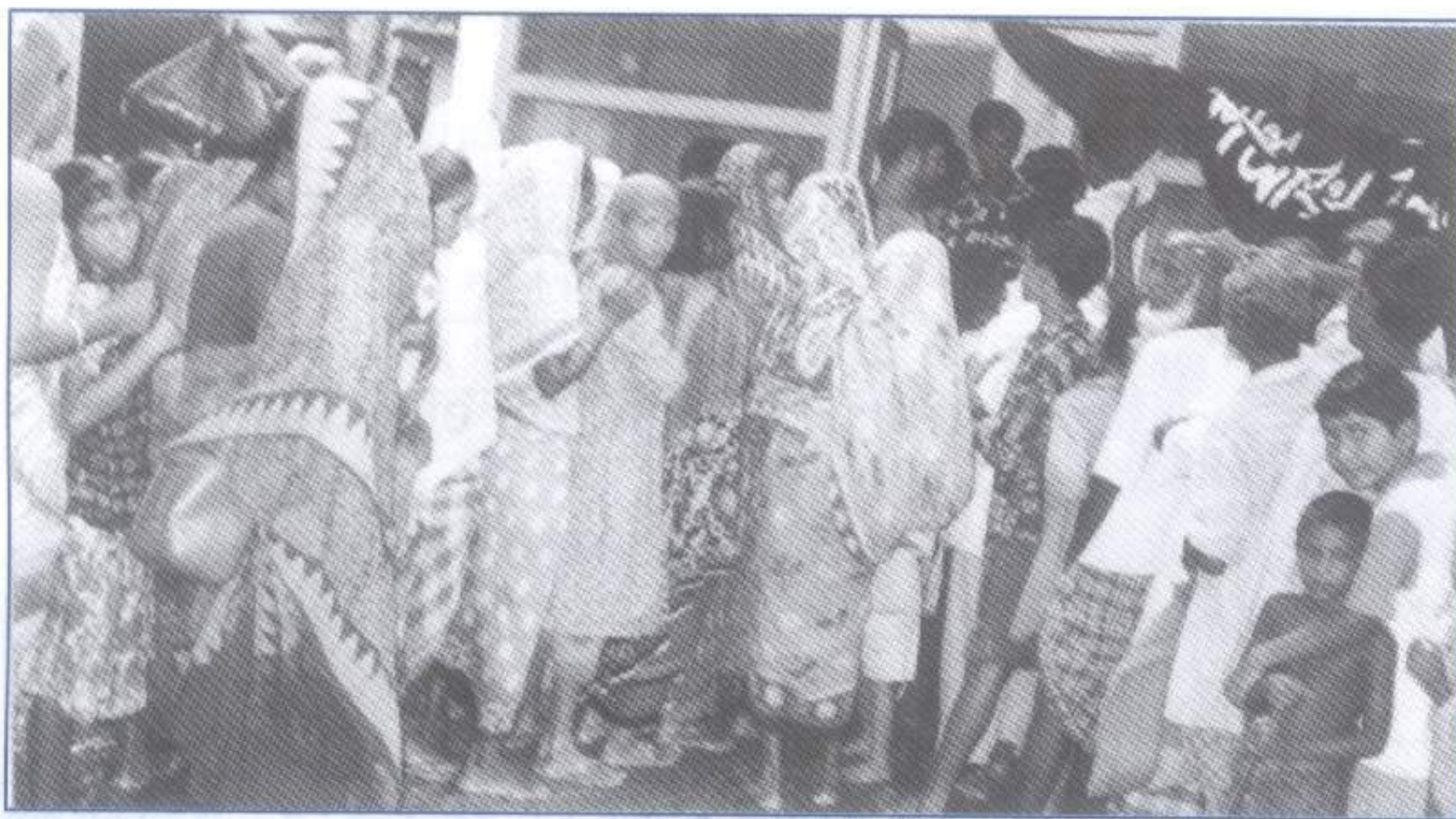
food, clothing and other necessary items including oral saline worth more than Tk. 2.2 million in the affected areas of Gaibandha, Narshingdi, Pabna, Dhaka, Comilla, Sirajganj and Dhaka City

In addition to the above mentioned activities DAM also implemented an intensive emergency relief operation in the sadar thana of Narshingdi district with material support from Concern-Bangladesh under which 4800 families received 30 kg of rice, 4 kg of



lentils, and 2 polipackets of biscuits each. In another event a good quantity of biscuits, milk powder, sugar and various food items donated by students of Lazare Hoche Maternal School of France were distributed among more than 200 students of the Basila Govt. Primary School in the outskirts of the city of Dhaka which remained totally submerged under water for several weeks. DAM also distributed 175 pieces of mosquito nets among the dwellers of the slums of the Dhaka city and quite a good number of used clothes among the flood victims of different areas.

Under DAM's post flood rehabilitation programme the victims of Narshingdi thana of Narshingdi and Ullapara and Shahjadpur thanas of Sirajganj district were provided with different materials. In Narshingdi 457 persons received financial assistance for buying paddy seeds, 21 for cultivation of seasonal vegetables, 66 for wheat cultivation, 134 for cultivation of banana, 530 for buying fertilizers and insecticides, 65 for cultivation of jute, 49 for tube-wells and 7 for repair of tube-wells.



In Sirajgonj district the following rehabilitation activities were accomplished.

Distribution of education materials to 1000 school students; Sinking of 30 new tube-wells; Repair of 20 damaged tube-wells; Training of 20 tube-well care-takers; Construction/repair of 500 damaged houses; Construction/repair of 30 schools; Setting up of 530 water-sealed latrines; Distribution of 200

cows and 400 goats; Grants for purchasing seeds of wheat and vegetables to 400 families; Providing working capital @ Tk. 3500 to 100 landless small businessmen.

An amount of Taka 11,66,550.00 for Narshindi and Tk.87,56,000.00 for Ullapara and Shahjadpur was expended in running the above mentioned rehabilitation programmes.

It is a matter of great relief to the people, the Government and DAM as well that no major disaster had affected the people during the reporting period.

Environment Protection & Development Programme (APOS)

Environmental degradation is a major cause of concern globally as well as locally. Although the industrialised world has caused a major damage to the global environment through



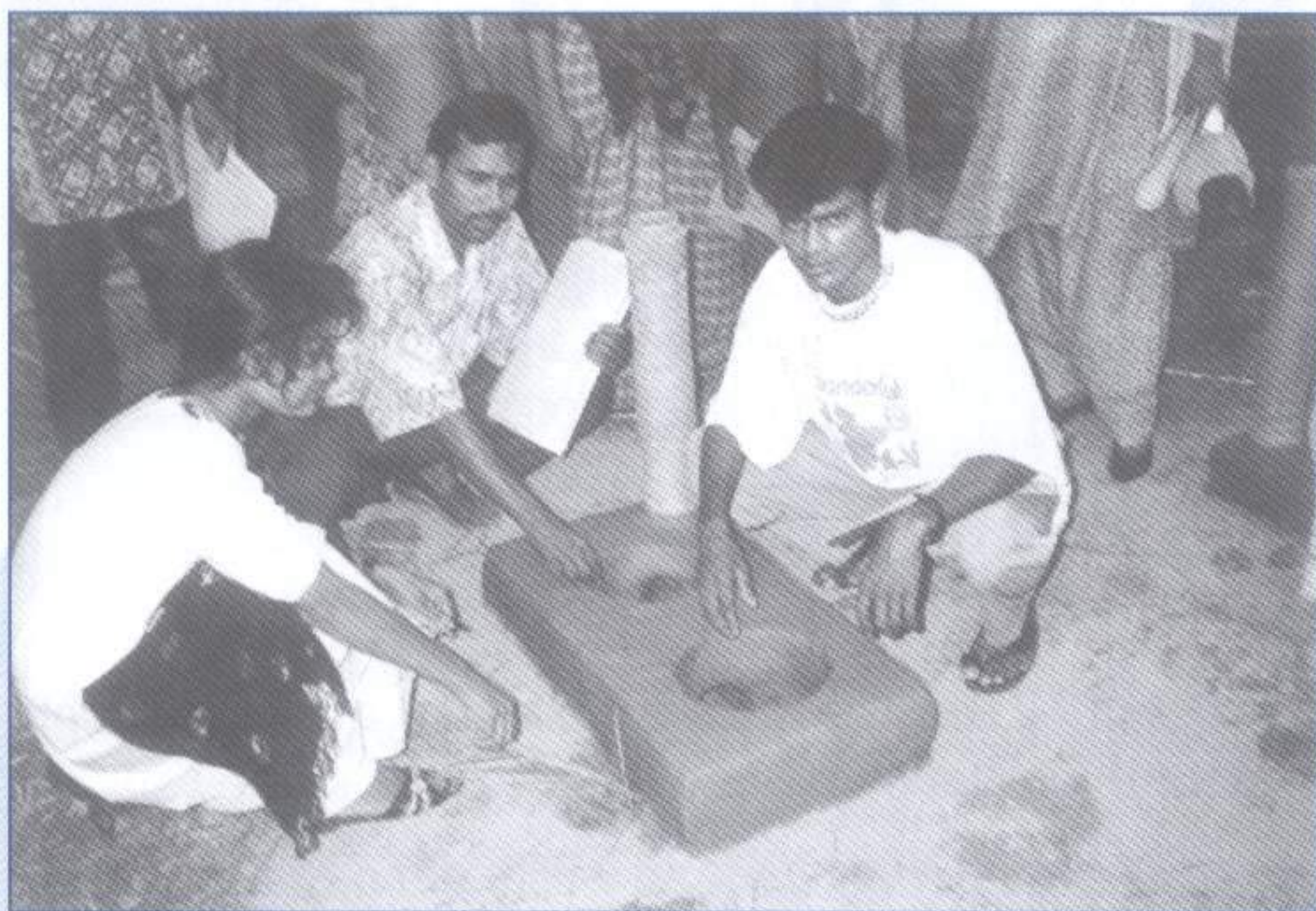
industrialisation and increasing consumption of fossil fuels, this has been spurred on by the increasing demands for better living standards from an exponentially growing population in the third world countries, which are polluting the water and the air, as also denuding the forests and consequently helping to produce holes in the ozone layer, which protects us by absorbing the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun and also hastening the process of global warming. Although damage to the global environment has been largely due to affluent life styles in

the developed countries it is being compounded by abject poverty and illiteracy in most of the countries of the under developed world where over population coupled with lack of education and awareness and also inefficient energy use aggravate the situation.

In view of the above situation DAM developed a multi-faceted integrated programme for preservation and promotion of natural environment and ecology called APOS. This programme is being implemented since 1992.

The aim of APOS is advocacy and mass awareness creation about environmental degradation and the urgent need for appropriate actions for protection, preservation and promotion of the natural environment around us. The specific objectives are :

- ✿ Mass mobilisation and creation of awareness about degradation of environment,
- ✿ Advocacy for adoption of appropriate national environment policy as also an effective action programme.



- ✿ Encouraging the stake holders to make development efforts environment friendly.
- ✿ Sharing of experiences among grass roots level organisations and communities through networking.
- ✿ Motivating people to abstain from actions that cause damages and detract the growth of natural flora and fauna.

The organisational framework of the APOS programme consist of a Central Committee at the Mission Headquarters and a network of Branch Committees at the grassroots level spread all over the

country . As of now 221 branch committees are operating in 107 thanas of 49 districts in the country.

The Central Committee is the apex body of APOS. It approves branch committees organises seminars/workshops and undertakes advocacy activities, supports branch committees by providing IEC materials, offers training to volunteer members of the branch committees who act as master trainers in their respective localities. The Central Committee also awards prizes to branch committees and their members for meritorious work on an annual basis. In the other side of the programme network are the community based volunteer organisations or associations of youths who work under the overall



guidance, policy and support of the central committee. The range of activities of the branch committees include, among others- awareness raising through rallies, meetings/seminars, nursery raising, supply of saplings, tree plantation, smokeless oven making, construction and distribution of sanitary latrines, sinking of tub-wells for safe water, training of environment promoters and community people and working as a watch dog against anti-environment activity in respective localities. Recently arsenic contamination in the under ground water has been identified as a great problem and health hazard in many of the areas of Bangladesh. APOS has instantly given special attention to this aspect also and has already engaged itself in organization of awareness building programmes and activities.

The branch committees have distributed 10,000 posters on environment development throughout the country during the year. Activities during July '99 to June '00 are summarised and presented in the table below:

Table No. 8 : APOS Branch Committee activities

Sl.	Activity	Number
1.	General Meeting of BCs	463
2.	Discussion meeting	297
3.	Rally	110
4.	Seminar	16
5.	Cultural function	60
6.	Debate competition	49
7.	Sports competition	34
8.	Publication of Wall Magazine	86
9.	Distribution of leaflets	3,500
10.	Tree plantation	18,000
11.	Distribution of Latrines	350
12.	Arsenic test of tube-wells	975

In addition to the APOS programme DAM's environmental preservation activities have been well integrated in almost all of its field programmes specially in its literacy and non-formal education programmes, as also in the micro credit programme through the use of various awareness building materials as follow-up and continuing education materials, training and promoting fuel efficient smokeless oven, tree plantation and development of nurseries, installation of tube-wells, construction of sanitary latrines etc.

Prevention of Drug Abuse (AMIK)

DAM's ante-drug programme known as AMIK was launched in 1990 as a multi-dimensional two-tier programme. AMIK programme is designed to involve the entire community which depends mainly on voluntary involvement of youths, students, teachers and other conscious citizens. AMIK is composed of a network of Branch Committees at the local levels and a Central Committee at the apex. As of now 402 Branch Committees have been established. The Central



Committee formulates policies, monitors the activities of the Branch Committees and maintains close liaison with the Department of Narcotics Control of the Government and different international anti-drug organisations and initiatives. It also evaluates the activities of the

Branch Committees and offer cooperation with different international anti-drug organisations and initiatives. It also gives awards to the best performers every year. The community based local level initiatives involving students, teachers and youths in creation of wide-scale awareness against harmful effects of the abuse of drugs and the use of tobacco as also creation of a solid front in the society to arrest drug trafficking constitute the fundamental arm of the whole edifice. In order to stamp out the drug menace from the society it is essential to have a multi dimensional approach, such as preventive, curative and effect minimization, rehabilitation, etc. DAM's ante-drug programme known as AMIK incorporates all these essential components.

Preventive

The preventive programme component aims at creation of awareness among parents, vulnerable youths and others through distribution of posters, stickers, leaflets; organisation of public meetings, seminar, symposium and discussion sessions, holding of essay competition, debate and through personal contact.

Curative

The curative aspect of the programme include identification of victims of drug addiction through the local level branch committees; organisation of detoxification camps for psycho-physical therapy; referring the identified victims to different organised clinics and also organisation of courses for imparting skill training, counseling and self help activities designed to bring forth a total change in the life style of the victims.

Drug demand minimisation

In cases where it is difficult to take victims to clinics through counseling and guidance and where such facilities are hard to get they are persuaded to take as little substance as possible and thus their addiction is brought down to a minimum level enabling ultimately, in most cases, to stop taking drugs avoiding withdrawal syndrome.

Supply reduction

Although it is not possible on the part of DAM to work for detecting or hauling the illicit drug trafficking and to reach the drug underworld, through awareness creation, creation of a solid front in the community against drug abuse and also through creation of an information network with the law enforcing agencies including the Department of Narcotic Control, DAM's APOS programme has helped to keep drug trafficking to significantly low level.



During the period from July 1999 to June 2000 the following activities were accomplished under the AMIK programme.

Table No. 9 : Some of AMIK Programme activities

Sl.	Activity	Achievement
1.	Rally	35
2.	Discussion Meetings	90
3.	Master Trainer Training	03
4.	Workers Training	03
5.	School Training	59
6.	Debate Competition	03
7.	Essay Competition	02
8.	Poster Competition	01
9.	Cultural Programme	23
10.	Observance of World AIDS Day	36
11.	Observance of Tobacco Free Day	25
12.	Observance of Anti Drug Day	57
13.	Organization of Orientation Courses	05
14.	Campaign programme organized at:	
	a) Schools	24
	b) Mosques	10
	c) Madrashes	5
15.	Blood Test	160
16.	Arsenic Test of tube-wells	130
17.	Organized Discussion Meeting on 'SEAAT Flame'	01
18.	Round Table Conference Against Tobacco	01
19.	Human Chain Against 'Voyage of Discovery'	01
20.	Publication of Souvenir	03

Women's Development

In the third world countries there has been constant struggle to ensure equality of women with men. In Bangladesh, although we see some women are at the top layers and spheres of our



national life, the over all condition and status of women is yet far from being satisfactory. They are the most exploited, tortured and deprived section in the overall society. In spite of all our efforts in the past decades gender disparity is a fact of life. This must not be allowed to persist. Girls and women who constitute half the population, must be offered equal opportunities to play their role in every aspects of life and thus to contribute to the socio-economic and national well being. Moreover, this contribution must be given due

respect and recognition and they should be recognised as equal partners with their male counterparts. In Bangladesh girls and women, besides performing jobs in the wage market, have to do a lot of household works. In rural areas they do almost all the household works, cooking food, gathering fuel, looking after sanitation aspects at the family, taking care of the children, agricultural and post harvest processing activities, rearing livestock and a host of such other activities. DAM believes in the immense potentiality of women in contributing to the national well being. Our national developmental goals could be achieved more quickly and in a balanced way provided we could give our women education and skill ensuring proper health, congenial atmosphere and equal rights and opportunities.

In view of the above, DAM attaches high priority to improve the quality of life and status of women through a number of activities, such as -

- priority of women in programme implementation;
- recruitment of women for the field programmes;
- skill training;
- income generation support;
- gender sensitive materials development.

Women and girls receive preferential treatment in all the programmes of DAM including NFE. In DAM's programme women's development is all pervasive in the sense that it is there in literacy, group formation, savings accumulation, skill training or in income generation credit support activities. More than 70% of the beneficiaries of DAM are women. In all its field programmes and training activities the overwhelming majority are women. In 1999-2000 out of a total of 14,781 persons trained by DAM's Training Division more than 78% were women. Specially designed



field level skill training for women were also offered. As regards recruitment of facilitators for the field programmes, around 70% of them are women. Except the adult male centres almost all literacy centres are run with female teachers/facilitators. Almost entire income generation credit support goes to women. In the materials developed for various groups and grades topics appropriate to women and other issues are incorporated in the text and



primers narrating the plight of the women emphasizing the need for equal rights and opportunity for women. DAM has been publishing a series on legal aspects bringing out women's rights and the means of protecting such rights and the remedies to be sought in case of violation of such rights. DAM has also published an allied series on family laws- Marriage and Divorce -showing the equal rights of women to chose the alternatives and the right course and also seeking remedies when violation occurs. In one word gender sensitization is practiced on a priority basis in DAM's programmes.

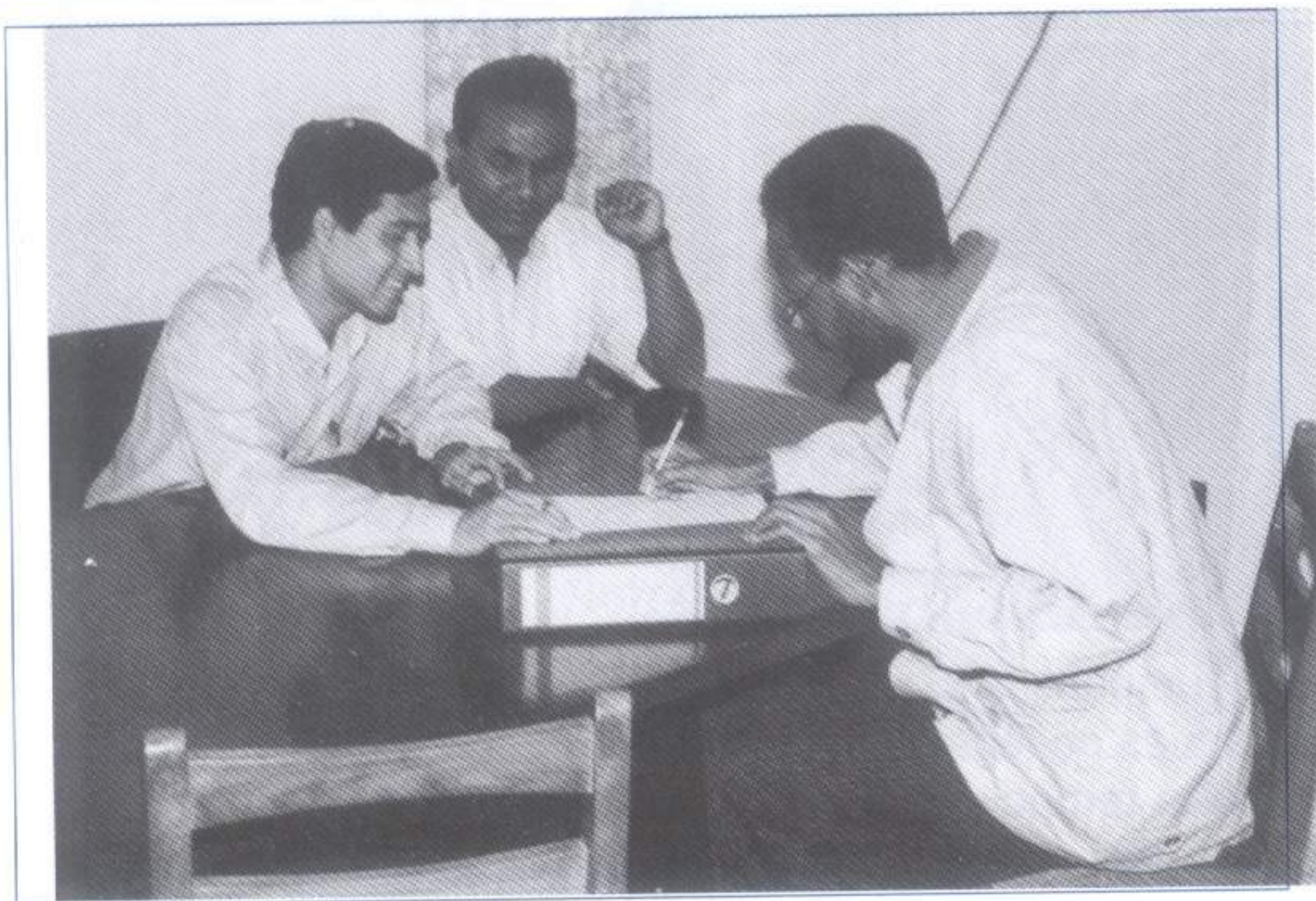
By managing their own affairs, their own projects and their own life by themselves, women reach new heights of empowerment. They are now trained in group management, credit management and business management. They choose their own field of income generation activates, sell the products and utilize the funds by themselves. They are now decision makers - decision makers not only in work situations but also in the spheres of their personal life. They are partners in the family and in the society which leads to their actual empowerment.



In order to reinforce its existing gender related programmes and activities and also to be able to focus special attention to gender issues, DAM established its Gender and Development Cell (GAD) in 1996. Along with other activities included in its terms of reference the GAD Cell remained involved in the collection of information and materials, liasing with different gender development fora, etc.

Refugee Counseling Service Unit (RCSU)

Dhaka Ahsania Mission since its inception has been rendering humanitarian services to the causes of suffering people. Human displacement causing untold suffering to millions has been a perennial problem in the history of mankind. This has unnerved the authorities of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. DAM therefore initiated a dialogue with the UNHCR authorities on the issue of welfare



services to the ill-fated urban refugees in Bangladesh. An agreement was signed in 1993 between DAM and UNHCR for providing various services including provision of subsistence allowance, medical care to the sick, education of the children, skill training, self reliance support, etc. Since then DAM has been providing these services to the urban refugees through the organisation of its Refugee Counselling Services Unit (RCSU) with financial support from UNHCR. Such agreement is

renewed each year with UNHCR under which projects or sub-projects like "Assistance for Care and Assistance of Urban Refugees in Bangladesh" or "Assistance for Urban Refugees in Bangladesh" are being implemented through the RCSU.

Activities of RCSU of DAM during 1999-2000

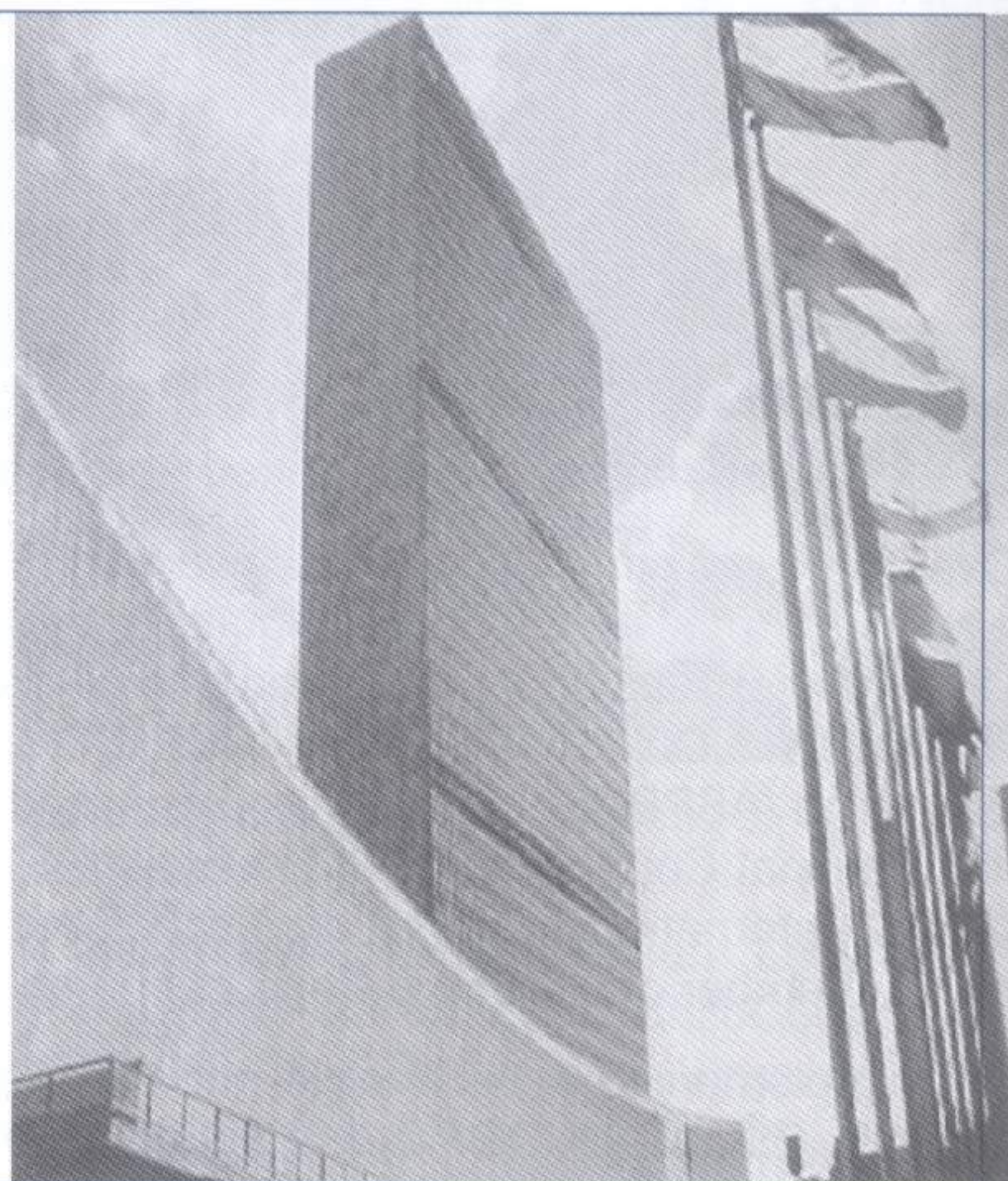
During the period RCSU has undertaken a number of activities for the welfare of and reduction of suffering of the urban refugees in Bangladesh which include the following:

- ✿ On an average 50 refugees and their dependents received subsistence allowance per month. These refugees are from different countries, such as from Somalia, Sierra Leone, Sri-Lanka, Myanmar (non-Rohingya), Afghanistan, Iran, etc.
- ✿ 49 refugees were provided with self reliance grants, the actual amounts being dependent on the projects submitted by them.
- ✿ Medical assistance and care was provided to 29 adults and 2 minors. Medical assistance includes-consultation with physician, medicine, pathological tests, hospitalisation and operation.
- ✿ RCSU undertook home visits, visits to business establishments run by the refugees under self reliance grants, evaluation visits to such establishments, school visits to check attendance of refugee children.
- ✿ With RCSU assistance 13 children were reading in different English medium primary schools in Dhaka and 2 in a Kindergarten school at Coxes Bazar. Besides assistance for studies at secondary, post secondary and tertiary level was also provided to a number of refugee students.
- ✿ RCSU staff members offered regular counselling, guidance, facilitates and initiatives for repatriation or resettlement in countries outside Bangladesh including in the home country of incumbents.

DAM's Involvement in the International Spheres

The involvement of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in the international arena has never been a sporadic or accidental phenomenon. It has rather been expanding gradually as a continuous process. This is partly because of its constitutional mandate and partly because of the conscious efforts of the Executive Director, whose spiritual mentor - the illustrious founder of its Mission, inspired him to look at the human community in its totality and to work for universal human solidarity, brotherhood and peace and for reduction of human suffering. The constitution of the Mission calls for annihilation of distinctions between man and man through promotion of unity, love, peace and universal brotherhood. The constitution further mandates the organisation to support the United Nations and to promote knowledge of its principles and activities.

DAM, therefore, has been making persistent efforts to participate and to get involved in the programmes and activities of international organisations and agencies so as to contribute in a big way to the solution of various global and international issues and concerns. It is therefore not at all astonishing that DAM's programmes and activities have spread well beyond the territories of Bangladesh and that at present it is working as a development partner with a number



of international organisations and agencies including a number organisations of the UN family, like ECOSOC, UN DPI, UNESCO, UNDCP, UNHCR, UNICEF, ESCAP, etc. and that it enjoys Consultative Status (Special Category) with the UN ECOSOC and Operational Relations with UNESCO.

1999-2000 saw a spectacular recognition of DAM's significant contribution to UNESCO in the implementation of their programmes and activities when DAM had been admitted into "Operational Relations with UNESCO" in June 2000. This has widened further the scope for fruitful working partnership with UNESCO converging endeavors of both in the service of international cooperation and development. Another event of great significance in DAM's active involvement in international cooperation and partnership is its journey beyond the limits of the Asia Pacific region and entry into the African region. In December 1-5 1999, in response to an invitation from UNESCO to share its experiences with the African countries DAM participated in the Pre-biennial Symposium of the Association for the Development of Education in Africa---Non-formal Education Working Group, which was jointly organised by UNESCO and SIDA in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Although DAM had been participating in various international programmes and activities since the early years of 1980s, visible and significant involvement in UNESCO programmes and activities started in 1987 when UNESCO Principal Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (PROAP), Bangkok invited DAM to help them in the development of a literacy materials package for the region and included DAM in the 5-core member team to develop, for the Asia Pacific Programme for Education for All (APPEAL), 12 volumes of ATLP (APPEAL Training Materials for



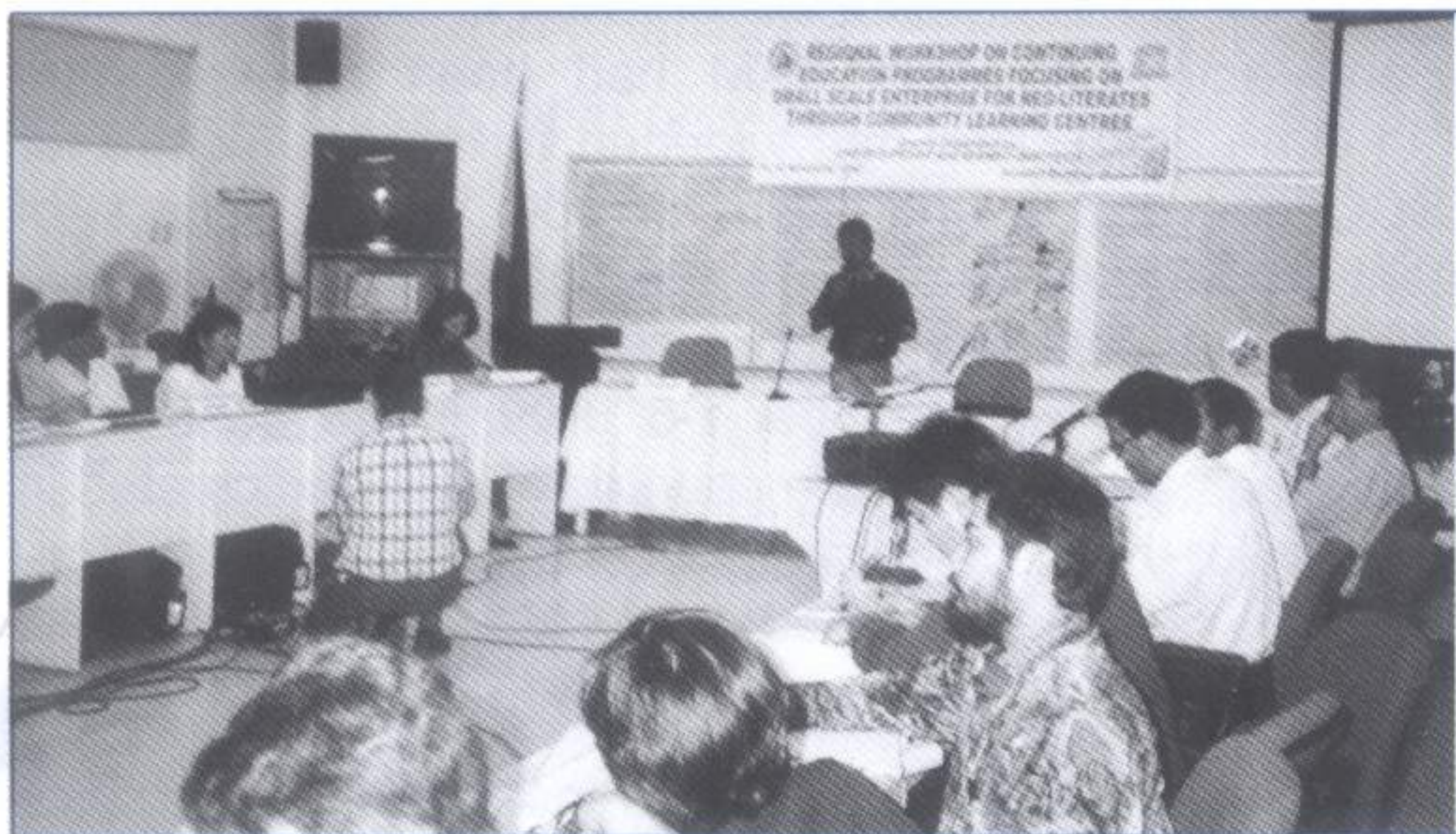
the Literacy Personnel) during 1987-88. Subsequently another series of 8 volumes of ATLP materials – ATLP-CE materials were developed. In addition to DAM's significant contribution in the development of these materials and their translation into Bangla, DAM played leadership role in the dissemination of the ATLP and ATLP-CE materials throughout the whole of the Asia Pacific region through DAM's involvement in about 50 training workshop programmes

on these materials during the period from 1987-98.

Over the years since DAM started working in close cooperation with international organisations, it has built up an excellent working relationship and partnership with different organisations of the UN family as also with other international organisations, coalitions and networks, of which the Asian Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO (ACCU), Japan, Asia South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education (ASPBAE), Commonwealth Association for Education and Training of Adults (CAETA) International Council for Adult Education (ICAE), APPEAL Resource and Training Consortium (ARTC), International Council on Alcohol and Addiction (ICAA), etc, are the major ones. DAM is also a member of Collective Consultation of NGOs on EFA based in UNESCO, Paris.

DAM implemented quite a large number of programmes and activities of UNESCO, UNICEF, UNHCR, ESCAP, UNDCP, etc. in Bangladesh as also in many of the countries in the Asia Pacific region. During 1999–2000 DAM participated/organised a large number of international/regional/sub-regional events and activities of which the following deserve special mention:

- ☼ Participated in the Consultative Meeting for Developing Literacy Resource Centre for Girls and Women (LRC) in Bhutan, held in Moti-thang, Bhutan from 31 August-2 September 1999 and helped the establishment of a literacy resource centre there.



- ☼ Participated in the Consultative Meeting for Developing Literacy Resource Centre for Girls and Women (LRC) in Myanmar held in Yangon, Myanmar from 23-25 August, 1999 and helped in the organisation of a Literacy Resource Centre there. Besides offering the know how to establish Literacy Resource Centre for Girls and Women in these countries, DAM

also shared its own experiences with them on the issue of reaching the unreached by collaboration of Government sectors and Bangladesh Literacy Resource Centre.

- ☼ DAM participated as UNESCO consultant in the Regional Workshop on Local Self-government Involvement in Non-Formal Education: Innovative Training for District/Community Representatives organised by UNESCO, PROAP, Bangkok in New Delhi, India from 20-25

September, 1999 and helped development of a training manual by presenting the following resource papers:

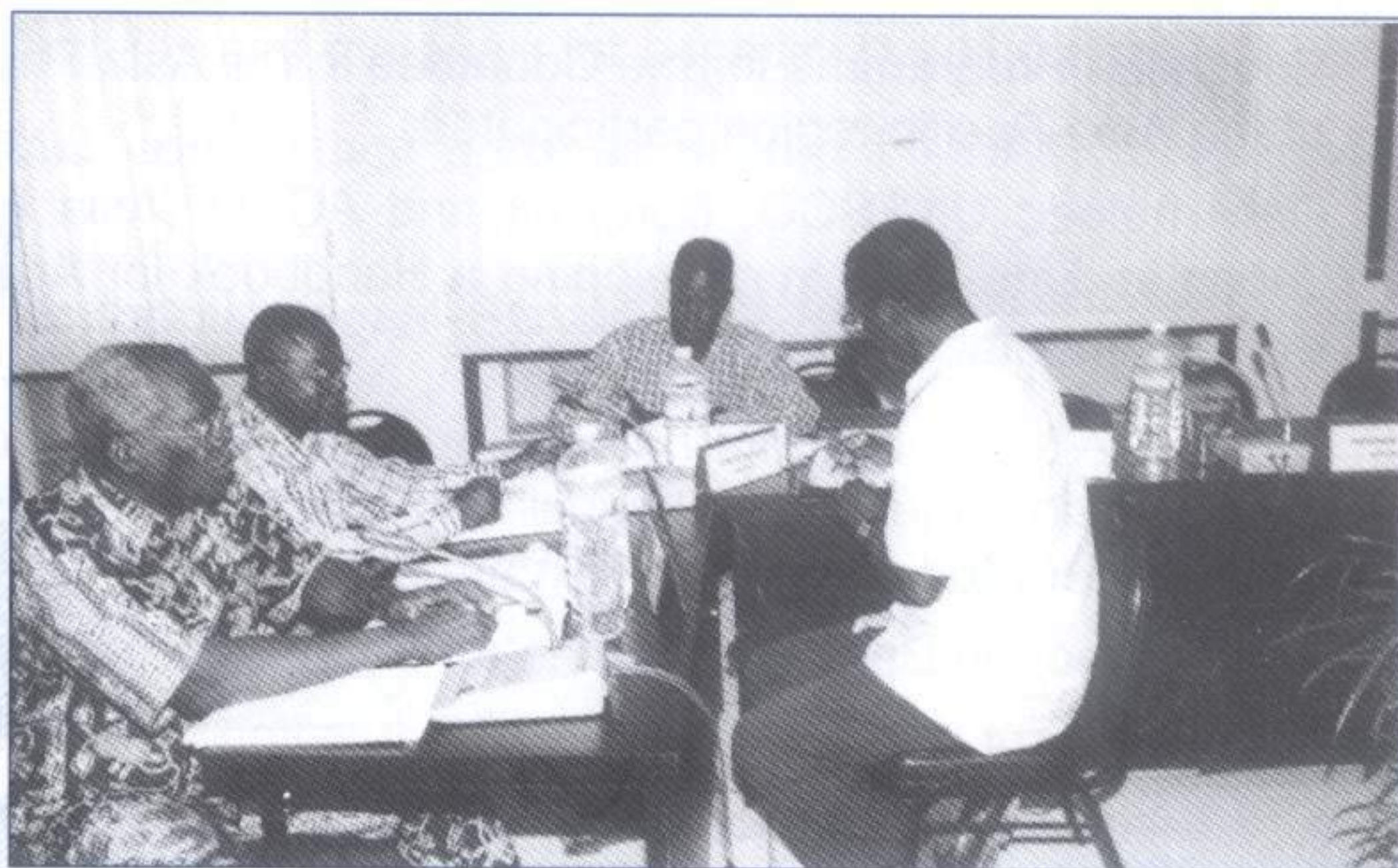
- "An outline on Development of Training Manual for the Involvement of Local Government Bodies in Literacy Programmes".
- Local Self-government Involvement in NFE in the context of Bangladesh.

- ✿ As one of the members of ARTC, DAM participated in the 1999 ARTC Technical Meeting: Joint Research on Innovative Approaches of Basic Education and Lifelong Learning held in Seoul, Korea from 6-10 September 1999. The meeting was organised by UNESCO, PROAP and the Korean Education Development Institute. A Resource paper entitled- "Creation of Learning Society Through Community Learning



Centres (Community Libraries): An Innovative Approach of Basic and Lifelong Learning in Bangladesh" was presented in the meeting to share Bangladesh experience.

- ✿ DAM worked also as a UNESCO Consultant in the Follow-up Workshop on "Local Self-government Involvement in Non-formal Education: Innovative Training for District/Community Representatives" held from 09-13 November, 1999 in New Delhi jointly organised by UNESCO-PROAP, Bangkok and the State Resource Centre, New Delhi, India.
- ✿ DAM started sharing its experiences with the countries of the African region by its participation in the Pre-biennial Symposium of the Association for the Development of Education in Africa/Non-formal Education Working Group held in Johannesburg, South Africa from 1-5 December 1999 jointly organised by UNESCO, Paris and Swedish International Development Authority.
- ✿ DAM has been one of the active member organisations in the Education for All movement since the Jomtien Meet (1990) and has been participating in all activities and initiatives. Accordingly DAM participated in the NGO Forum for EFA 2000 Assessment/Regional Conference held in UNESCO, Bangkok from 15-20 January 2000 and also in the International NGO Consultation from 24-25 April 2000 followed by the World Education Forum from 26-28 April 2000. Both the events were held in Dakar, Senegal, and were jointly organised by UNDP, UNESCO, UNFPA, UNICEF and World Bank, leading to the formulation of the DAKAR Framework of Action on EFA.
- ✿ Participated in the First Forum of the Global Network of Religions for Children held in Japan from 16-18 May 2000 organised



by Arigouta Foundation, Japan where about 3 hundred delegates and religious leaders from across the globe participated.

Organization of Workshops/Meetings

- ✱ DAM organized a Regional Workshop on Development of Training Kits on Participatory Educational Planning in Cooperation with UNESCO, PARIS & UNESCO-Dhaka from 17-23 August 1999 in which participants were drawn from 9 countries of the Asia Pacific Region.
- ✱ DAM organized a Regional Workshop on Learners Progress Assessment and Reporting in Cooperation with UNESCO, PARIS & UNESCO-Dhaka from 31 August - 6 September, 1999 in which 8 representatives from 8 countries participated.
- ✱ Also DAM Organized a Sub-Regional Review Meeting on Community Learning Centers in Cooperation with UNESCO PROAP, Bangkok & UNESCO-Dhaka from 28 February - 4 March 2000 with representatives from 4 countries.
- ✱ DAM also Organized Regional Workshop on Developing Training Kits on Teaching Learning Process in NFE (Literacy centres) in Cooperation with UNESCO PARIS from 17-19 April 2000 in which representatives from 7 countries participated.
- ✱ DAM organised in collaboration with UNESCO an International Workshop on developing



Training Kits for Local NGOs Capacity Building in Basic Education which was held in Dhaka from 6-15 May 2000. A total of 9 countries from Asia and Africa participated in the programme.

- ✱ A Sub-Regional Workshop on Monitoring and Evaluation on Literacy and Continuing Education Programmes in South-Asia was organised by DAM and UNESCO, Bangkok during 19-24 June 2000. In this meeting Practitioners' Manual on Monitoring and Evaluation of the Literacy and Continuing

Education Programme for the Countries in the Asia-Pacific region was developed. 7 countries of the Asia-Pacific region participated.

- ✱ DAM helped UNESCO, Bangkok and ACCU (Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO), Japan in June 2000 in developing a Handbook for Adult Learning Materials Development at the Community Level.

In addition to the above international or regional/sub-regional events, DAM also implemented a number of field projects with financial support from different international organizations during the year under report. The following are some such projects:

- ✱ Pilot Project on Basic Literacy as a Tool for the Empowerment of the Poor;
- ✱ Establishment of Model Continuing Education Centres in Bangladesh;
- ✱ Establishment of Vocational Training Institute for Working Children;
- ✱ Community Based Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts.

Research and Consultancy

The Research Division of the Mission was established in 1994. Since its establishment it has been undertaking research work on various important aspects relevant to the Mission programme components. The focus of research is on improving the design, process of implementation and outcome of the programmes and projects. Some research activities are carried out in order to examine or assess the programmes in human development areas where the national government and non-government agencies are working together. Examples are non-formal education and poverty alleviation programmes. The Mission's contributions in these areas are recognized by UN and Other International agencies and therefore Mission is given the responsibility to conduct research for further advancement of programmes. Interestingly, action programmes emerge through such research and more action research activities follow.

Following are the three important research works undertaken during the period under report.

1. Innovative Approaches to Functional Literacy for Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh, Commissioned by UNESCO-PROAP, Bangkok, 2000. This research study has been an examination of the innovative approaches which have been adopted in the functional literacy programmes and their contribution to poverty alleviation in Bangladesh.
2. Terminal Evaluation of the project "Each One Teach One". This research has evaluated the performance of the project, 'Each One Teach One' of the Directorate of Non-formal Education (DNFE).

Under this project opportunities are offered to illiterate persons to enter in to the world of literacy with the help and care of a volunteer literate person who works as the facilitator at his/her leisure time:

3. Reaching the Unreached Innovative Strategies for Providing Access to Children - Extended study, UNESCO, Bangkok, June 1999.

In addition to research works, the Research Division responds to the invitation by other agencies, Government and Non-government, Regional and International, for offering consultative services. Such expert services usually range from providing technical support to collection and compilation of data for designing or assessing intervention programmes to finding ways of improving or replicating programmes, from analyzing the existing situation or problems to developing strategies and institutional capacities to mitigate the problems. Consultative services cover the areas of education, health and nutrition, gender and development, safe water supply, development of education and training modules and materials for capacity building etc.

The following are some of the important consultancy services offered by DAM to various organisations during the period.

- (i) Compilation and Analysis of data for the Nutritional Surveillance Project of Helen Keller International.

The purpose of this project is to establish a surveillance system which produces, analysis and promotes the use of child health and nutrition data for project management and improvement of project performance.

- (ii) Assessment of Training Needs of Disaster Management, December 1999.

The study has identified the areas where public awareness are to be built up for combating the crisis resulting from national disaster.

Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Teachers Training Collage (KATTC)

Until recently the scope of training teachers of secondary schools and also those seeking employment in secondary schools had been very limited. Only 10 teachers training Colleges run by the government had been offering facilities for training of secondary school teachers. There was no such arrangement in the Private Sector. In order to meet the increasing demand for training of secondary school teachers resulting from a significant expansion in the primary and secondary education in the country DAM thought it expedient to go for the establishment of a teachers training college as a sort of a role model to encourage others to follow. Hence the Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Teachers Training College was established in 1992.



Since the very beginning of the institution it has been maintaining a high standard of education and training. It has been possible for the KATTC to develop a number of innovative approaches in the organisation and conduct of its curricular and co-curricular activities. The performance of the trainers in the university examinations held in different years has been all through very much satisfactory which is indicated in the following table.

Table No. 10 : Results of KATTC since inception.

Year	Total Examinees	Result			% of Success
		1st Class	2nd Class	3rd Class	
1992-93	124	39	102	-	99.3%
1993-94	226	93	131	-	99.2%
1994-95	233	33	192	-	96.6%
1995-96	359	77	266	-	98%
1996-97	423	67	343	-	97.15%
1997-98	510	107	390	-	97.6%
1998-99	328	52	175	-	99.49%
1999-00	307	61	145	-	67.20%

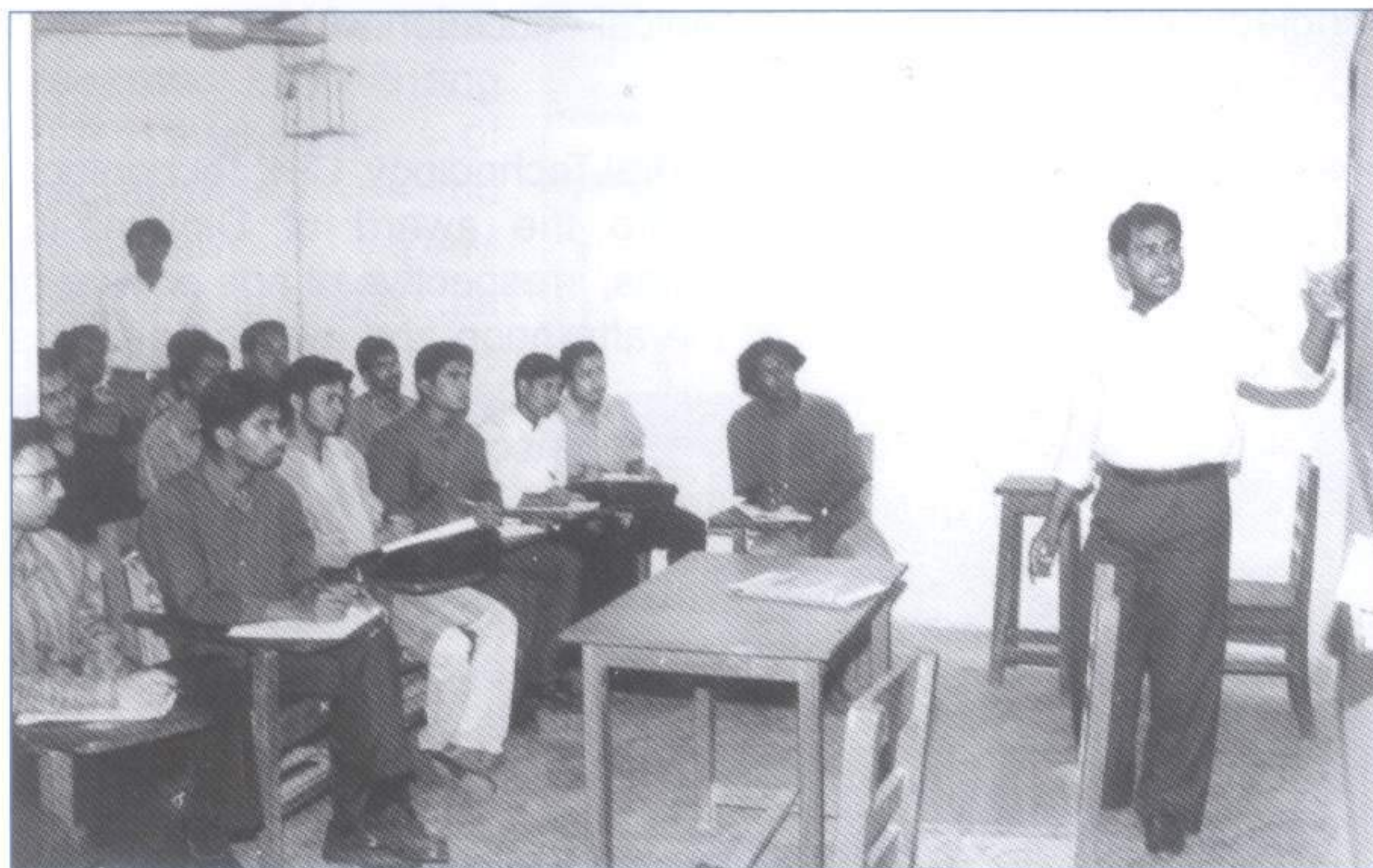
It may be mentioned here that following the example of Dhaka Ahsania Mission a number of organisations have come up to establish such training colleges in the country. At present there are more than 30 such TTCs in the private sector in the country supplementing the efforts of the 10 public sector TTCs.

During the year under report 364 students were enrolled in the B.Ed course all of whom participated in the course completion examination of the university.

This year the college has started offering Masters Degree course in Education and 122 trainees have been enrolled.

Ahsanullah University of Science & Technology (AUST)

The AUST was established by DAM in 1995 with the twin objectives to expand the scope and facilities for tertiary education of international standard in the country in some specific technological fields and at the same time to setup examples for others by ensuring timely delivery of time-bound educational schedules and courses. It was established at a time when the country was experiencing a great amount of destabilized and volatile situation specially in higher



education in the public sector. This was caused by large scale politicization of the students and the teaching community leading to constant violence and disturbances. Hundreds and thousands of students had to go out of the country to receive tertiary education specially in technical/professional fields. The consequent severe pressure on the already strained foreign exchange reserve in the

country was really unbearable on the part of a poor developing country like Bangladesh.

This university has now been offering degree courses of 4 to 5 year duration in 3 faculties, viz. Faculty of Engineering, Faculty of Architecture and Faculty of Business Administration. In addition to this, one year degree and masters degree courses in education are being offered under the Faculty of Education. At present a total number of 1077 students are pursuing studies in different departments of the university.

The University has attracted attention of all quarters in respect of quality of education offered as also of maintenance of time schedule in the delivery of courses. Consequently the demand for admission in different courses in the university has steadily gone up, which the authorities can not adequately meet because of the present limited physical facilities. DAM has been making persistent efforts to develop a campus of its own and for that has started negotiating to procure adequate land in an appropriate location in the city.

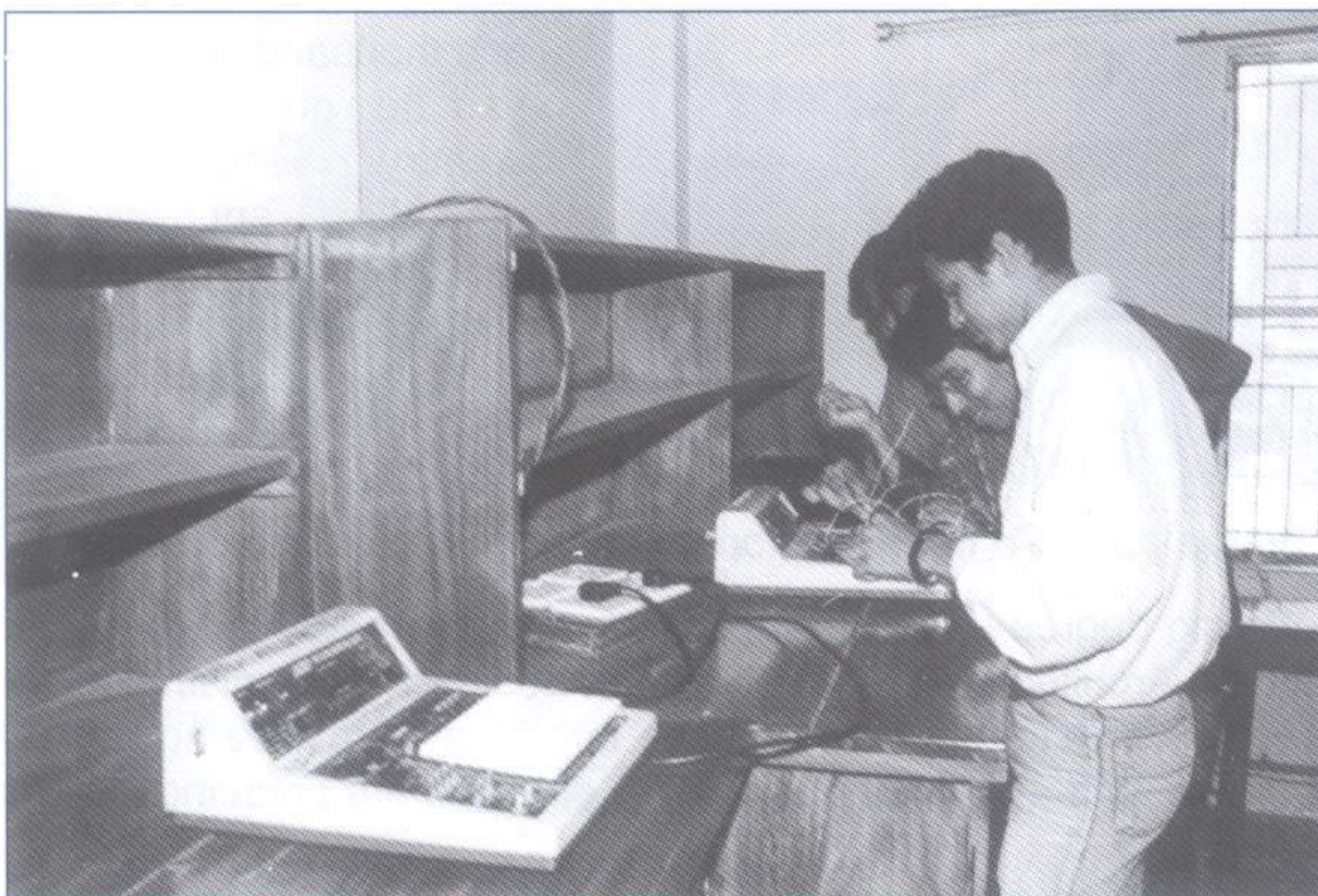
Table No. 11 : Number of students of AUST in different academic years

Year	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year	Total
1995-96	141	-	-	-	-	141
1996-97	190	131	-	-	-	321
1997-98	291	148	126	-	-	565
1998-99	383	227	129	116	-	855
1999-2000	417	307	213	114	14	1065

Institute of Technical and Vocational Education & Training (ITVET)

One of the important Institutes established under AUST is the Institute of Technical & Vocational Education & Training (ITVET). It has opened up opportunities for technical & vocational education for the secondary school graduates who had been either sitting idle or working elsewhere with unfulfilled desire for further education and/or improvement of skills. The Institute is the first of its kind in the private sector in Bangladesh offering mid-level technical education with an innovative delivery method.

The Institute offers programmes in five disciplines, viz, Architectural Technology, Civil Technology, Electronic Technology and Computer Technology leading to the award of Diploma-in-Engineering. The courses are open to all types of S.S.C graduates, irrespective of age or year of passing S.S.C Examination. As the programme operates in the afternoon and evening persons



engaged in full time jobs also can join the programme as regular students. The institute is making preparations for introducing short term certificate courses for skill training for various clientele groups including secondary school drop outs as well as graduates of different non-formal education programmes and formal primary cycles.

In 1999-2000 session there were a total of 531 students in ITVET in different

departments of whom 216 were in the first year (Architecture Technology-21, Civil Technology-19, Computer Technology-108, Electrical Technology-20 and Electronic Technology-48). It may be mentioned that the number of students in the Institute is increasing steadily since its inception in 1996. The following table gives the number of students in different sessions.

Table No.12 : Enrolment in the ITVET over the years.

Session	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year	Total
1996-97	163	-	-	163
1997-98	183	135	-	318
1998-99	206	146	116	468
1999-2000	216	183	132	531

Institute of Primary and Non-formal Education (IPNE)

There has been almost no institutional facilities to produce professionally qualified and trained personnel required for the ever expanding primary and non-formal education sub-sectors in Bangladesh. In order to have adequately trained administrators, planners implementors including

those for curriculum and materials development, research, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and activities

DAM established, under the umbrella of the Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST), the Institute of Primary and Non-formal Education (IPNE) in 1996. By so doing DAM has taken the lead and has set up example of breaking new grounds in human resource development to man the

primary and non-formal education programmes and has proceeded to produce a cadre of professionals in the relevant areas.

The Institute has been offering post graduate degree programmes- B.Ed (Non-formal) and (B.Ed Primary) since 1997. It also offers short-term and tailor-made courses on Quality Improvement in Basic Education-Challenge and Response, Continuing Education and Sustainable Development, Training of Trainers (TOT), Curriculum and Materials Development, Multi-grade Teaching, Supervision and Monitoring, Evaluation and Research, etc.

IPNE has been kept prepared to design and implement any other short-term programmes/courses required by national/international agencies.

In 1999-2000, 24 students, almost all coming from NGOs, had been pursuing the course.



Bangladesh Literacy Resource Center (BLRC)

In order to provide resource and information support services and help capacity building of the relevant organizations, agencies and individuals engaged in the areas of literacy and non-formal



education Bangladesh Literacy Resource Centre (BLRC) was established in 1995 by DAM in cooperation with ACCU, Japan with the following objectives:

- ✿ to act as information center for catering the needs of bibliographical information on individuals, groups and institutions working in the field of literacy, adult and continuing education;

- ✿ acting as a resource base for information regarding

availability of materials and human resources for non-formal education, specially of the girls and women;

- ✿ acting as a documentation center and a data bank for literacy, adult and continuing education;
- ✿ acting as a provider of technical support for strengthening non-formal education programmes staff development and software support programmes;
- ✿ acting as a center for dissemination of information on all aspects of non-formal education, particularly for promotion of literacy of girls and women;
- ✿ collecting and disseminating gender sensitive materials;
- ✿ promoting linkage of institutions and organisations involved in literacy, adult and continuing education;
- ✿ developing & strengthening a network of Regional NFE Resource Centers;
- ✿ offer full cooperation and support to similar national international organization.

Since its establishment BLRC has been functioning as a data-base of NFE in general and of girl's and women in particular, as a documentation centre for literacy activities and as a depository and clearing house of literacy materials. It is engaged in the collection, preservation, dissemination of information relating to literacy activities, organization of training courses on capacity building, arrangement for exchange or sharing of service and resources, providing documentation services with A/V unit and data-base of literacy programmes and activities and establishment of communication network at different levels.

During 1999-2000 BLRC has played significant role in respect of its organizational strength, capacity building, and performance of activities. Besides establishment of contact with different national and international organizations, collection of 600 new titles and literacy materials, BLRC organised training courses, workshops on management of literacy programmes, materials development, continuing education etc. during the period. Also BLRC personnel participated in national, regional and international workshops and seminars. A large number of literacy personnel, researchers and students from organisations and institutions like PPROSHIKA, NCTB, DNFE, IPNE, IER, CAMPE, CCDB, different educational institutions including university and colleges, etc. have used the documents, publications and other materials of the BLRC.

Child Labour Resource Centre (CLRC)

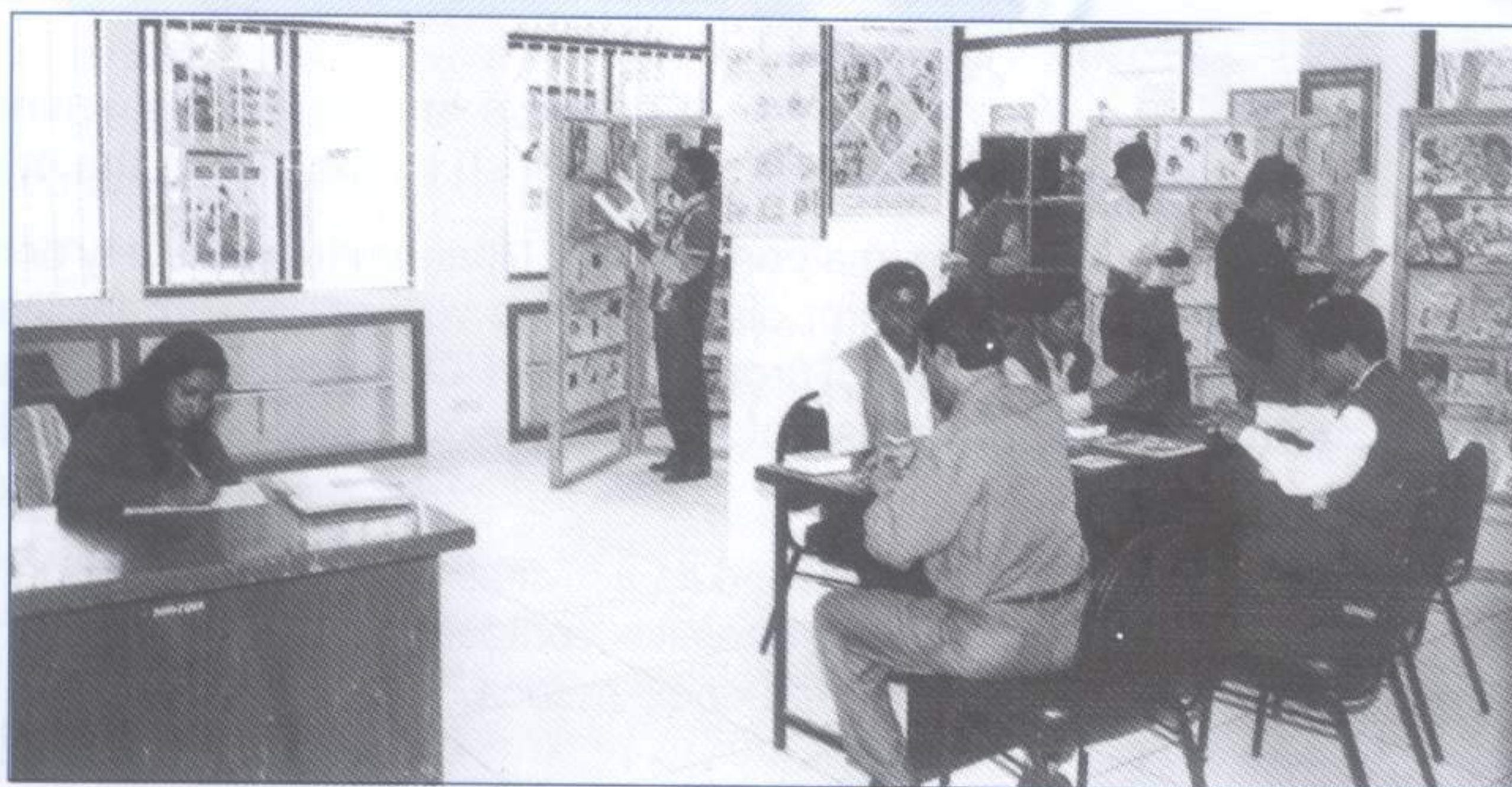
In Bangladesh as elsewhere in the developing countries child labour has become a part of life for the poor. Child labour deprives the children of their basic rights and retards their growth and development both physical, mental and intellectual. The parents and guardians of these children have no knowledge and awareness about the harmful effects of child labour. And the children are completely ignorant about their own position and do not know the way out of the situation.

Various government and non-government organizations for the last few years have been working with different programmes directed towards gradual elimination of child labour. In order to provide appropriate information and technical services the CLRC was established by the Mission with initial assistance from the Canadian High Commission in 1997. The objectives of the CLRC are as follows:

- ✿ To act as information centre for sharing and exchanging information and services among individuals, groups and the institutions working on child labour;
- ✿ To act as a documentation centre and data bank on child labour;
- ✿ To provide technical assistance for strengthening action programmes on child labour;
- ✿ To act as a centre for dissemination of information about harmful effects of working in hazardous situations;
- ✿ To provide opportunities sought by the working children for improving their literacy skills and provide vocational training and employment facilities including self employment;
- ✿ To design training materials for working children with a view to reduce exploitation enhance recognition, raise status and ensure safe working conditions;
- ✿ To promote linkage of institutions involved in eliminating child labour within Bangladesh and with other South Asian countries.

The following are some of the major activities of CLRC accomplished during 1999-2000:

- ✿ It has collected about 57 new titles on child rights, child labour, street children, working children, sexual abuse of children etc.
- ✿ It has systematically preserved good many new paper clippings on different relevant aspects.
- ✿ Developed and distributed 06 IEC materials on child abuse, child trafficking, child care, child labour in hazardous vocations.
- ✿ Strengthened relation and involvement with a good number of organizations.



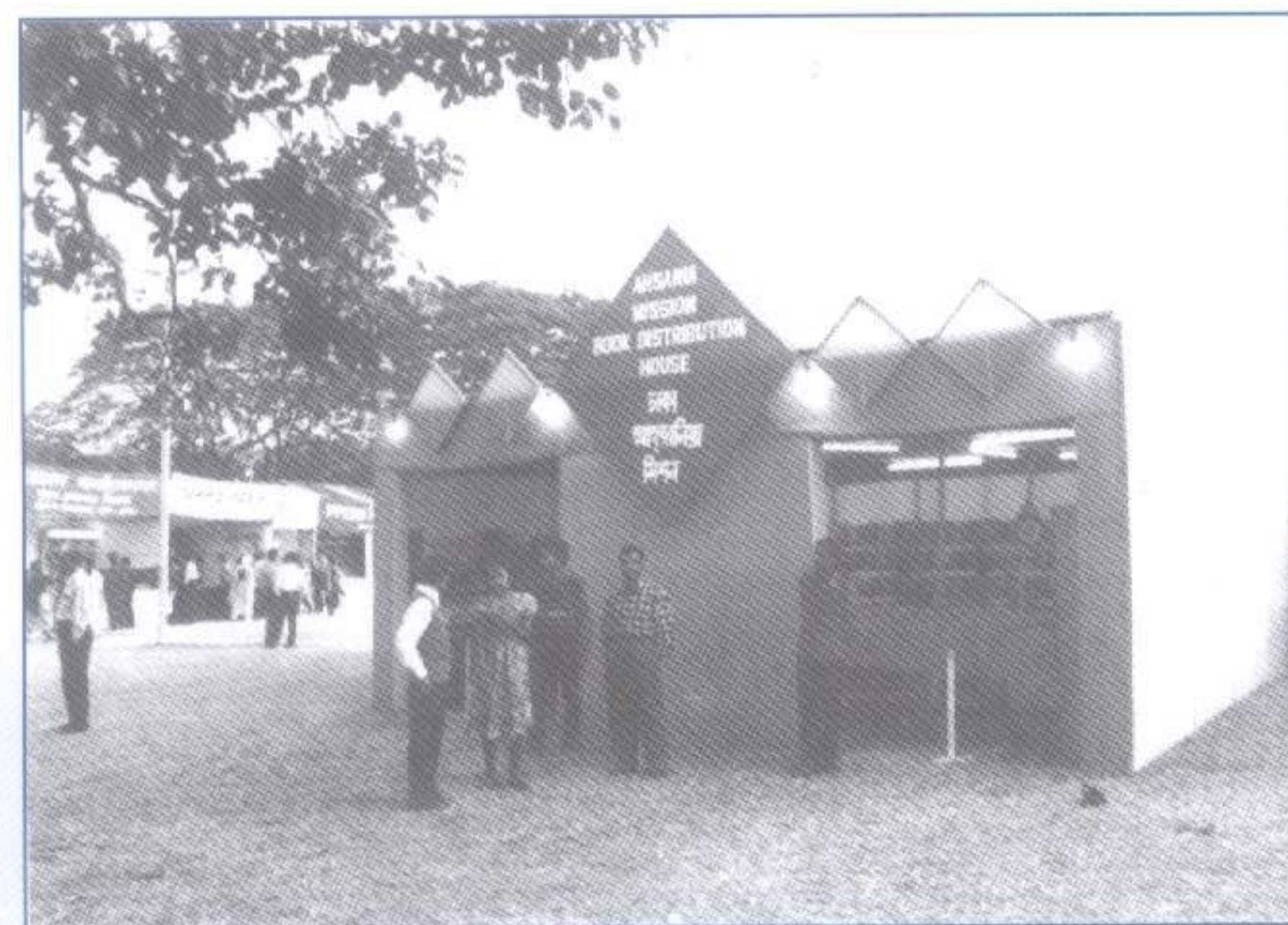
Ahsania Mission Book Distribution House (AMBDH)

The book promotion and readership development in Bangladesh has been far from satisfactory. Dhaka Ahsania Mission undertook a review of the situation in 1995. A critical analysis and careful



study of the situation revealed that there was no single book distributing agency to distribute and sell books all over the country and that book promotion as also promotion of readership in Bangladesh was a neglected area. This along with the consideration that book promotion activities are very much in line with educational activities, DAM established Ahsania Mission Book Distribution House (AMBDH) in 1995 with the following *objectives*

- ✿ promotion of reading habit among the literate section of the people in Bangladesh;
- ✿ making all books, magazines and reading materials produced and printed in Bangladesh available to the community of readers throughout the country;
- ✿ procurement and distribution of books, magazines and materials printed/produced in foreign countries which may be of value and demand to the citizens of Bangladesh;
- ✿ exporting books produced in Bangladesh to different countries of the world and creating a demand for those and thereby projecting and promoting Bangladesh publications abroad;
- ✿ facilitating small book sellers in Bangladesh to draw all types of books on credit for the wider distribution and availability of such publications at the local level by involving the financial institutions, like banks in the process.
- ✿ organization of and participation in book fairs, national or international, so as to promote Bangladesh Publications both in the home market and in the international market as well;
- ✿ promote an expanded learning society in Bangladesh by expanding the book world.

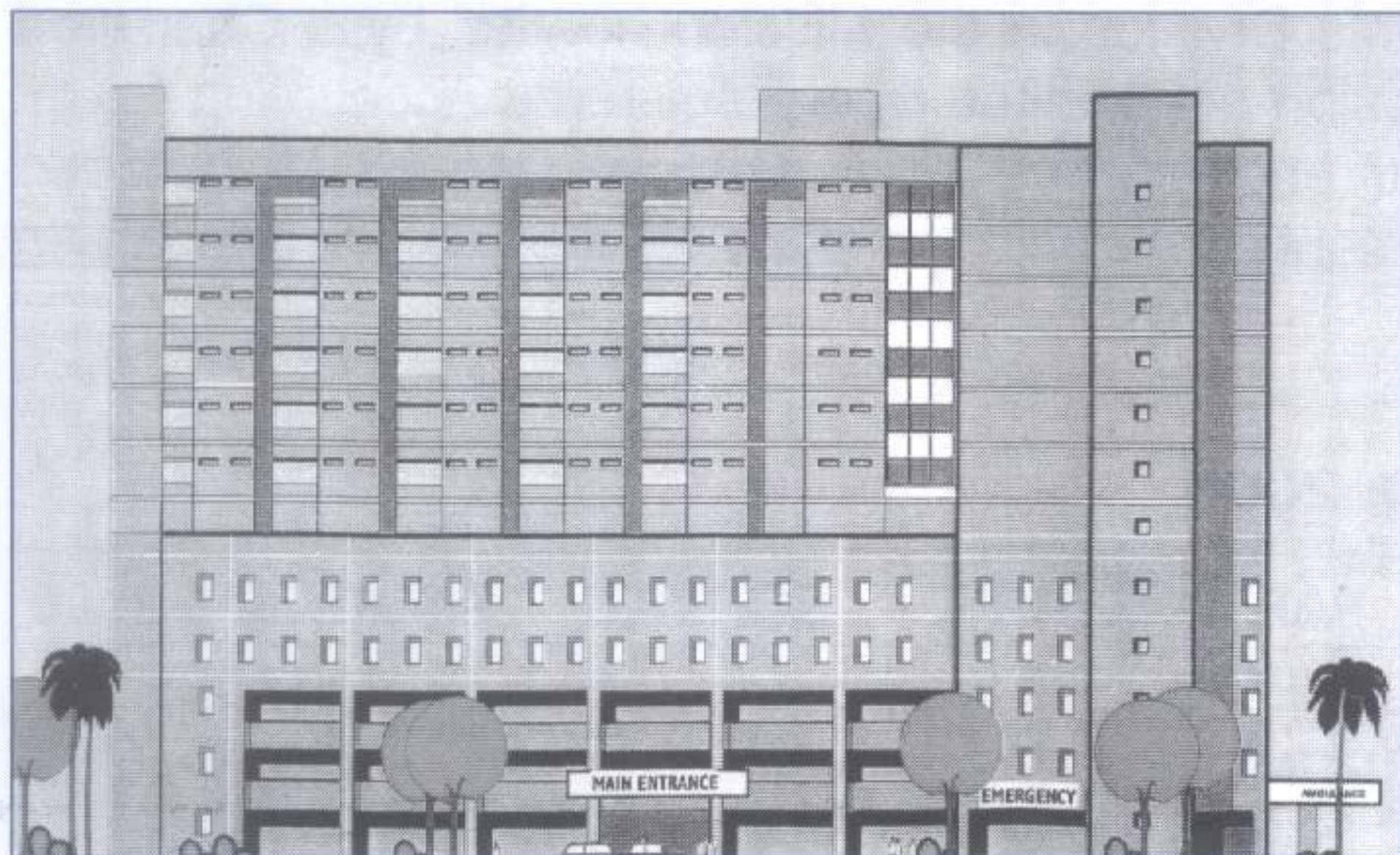


AMBDH is housed in an excellent building in a posh area of Dhanmondi in the city on Mirpur road and has developed an excellent show room or display centre with all modern facilities including latest computer and information technology. Through its CD ROM catalogue one can reach the global book market and even have a glimpse of the future world publication situation down to three years.

During the year under report AMBDH has widened its activities further and participated as usual in bookfairs at home and abroad and made effective contacts with almost all of the famous publishers & distributibutors of books an Europe and America.

Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH)

Cancer is one of the major killer diseases in Bangladesh. Incidence of cancer is fast increasing. Widescale poverty and illiteracy, changes in living style, rapid urbanization and environment degradation are responsible for this situation. Nearly one million cancer patients of different types are suffering in Bangladesh and the number is increasing at an alarming rate. The existing facilities are neither adequate nor fully equipped and developed to a satisfactory level to offer appropriate



and satisfactory treatment to various types of cancer patients. With these inadequate facilities in Bangladesh not more than 10 to 12 thousand patients can receive treatment inside Bangladesh. This being the situation only the well do people can afford to receive comparatively better treatment available in other countries. This causes a great amount of drainage of our hard earned foreign exchange and at the same time many people of the poor and low income groups go without any opportunity for appropriate treatment of

cancer. Considering this dismal situation and extreme suffering of the cancer patients in the country DAM initiated the Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital project and has been working to implement the project as early as possible. This project envisages to establish one cancer hospital offering treatment facilities to both ambulant and stationary cancer patients keeping provision for treatment at low and / or minimum cost for those who are poor and can not offer to pay for their treatment. Besides establishment and operation of this hospital the project also provides for the following :

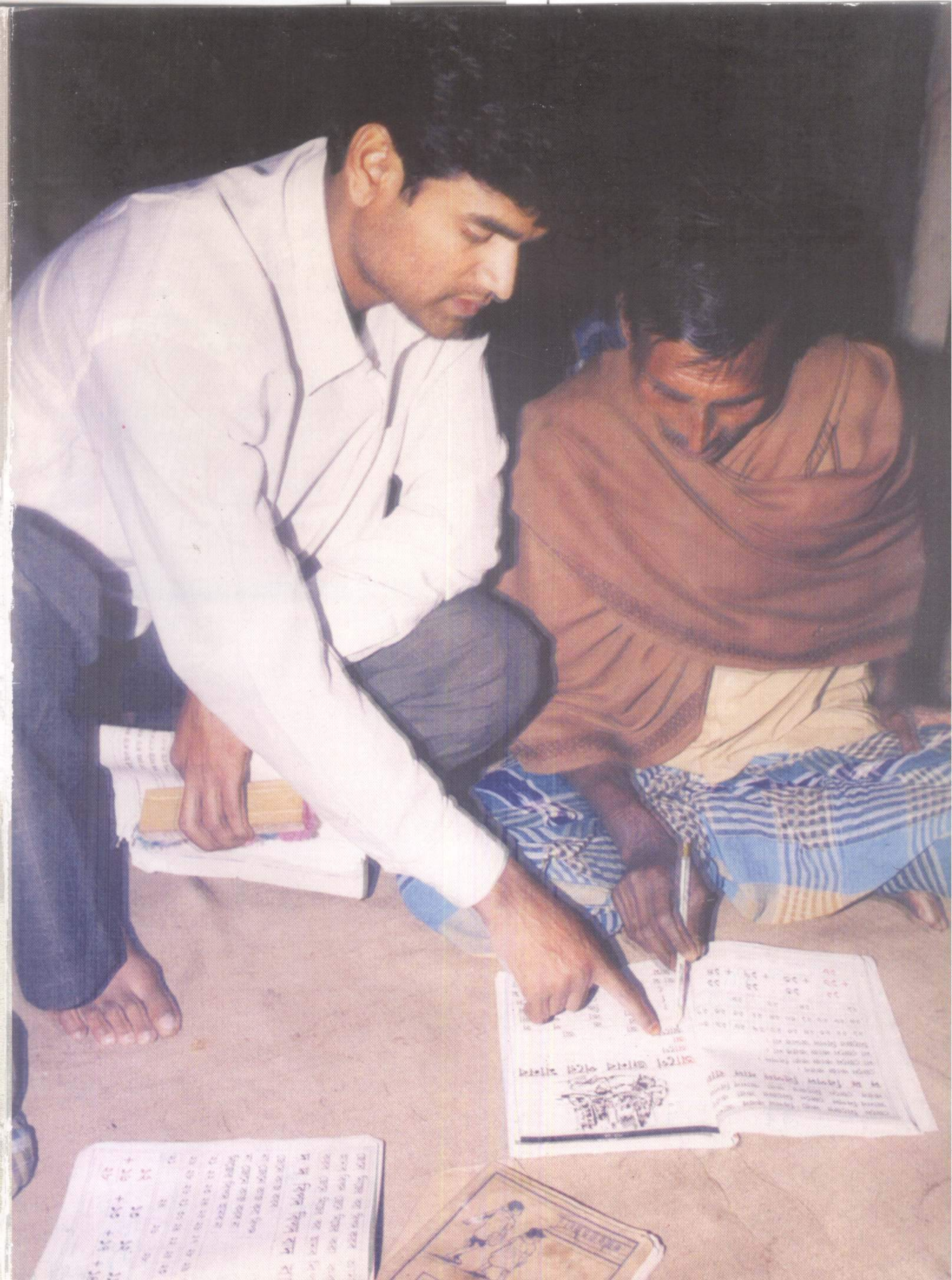
1. Primary prevention through public awareness and education.
2. Establishment of 6 Early Cancer Detection Centers at 6 divisional headquarters in the country.
3. Home Care Service, and
4. Establishment of a research wing

The estimated cost of the project is - about taka 100 crore and it is expected that benevolent individuals and organizations would extend their support and cooperation for the implementation of the project considering the amount of funds needed for of implementation the following progress seem encouraging

1. 3 acres of land at sector 10 of the Uttara Model Town of Dhaka City has been purchased from the government for the Hospital complex.
2. World Medical Relief In. USA donated machinery & equipment worth about taka 2 Crore.
3. M/S Design Alliance, USA has completed the draft design of the hospital building.
4. Prof. M. A. Hai project Director who was earlier Professor of Oncology and also Director of the National Institute of Cancer and Research along with a 4 member team visited different reputed cancer hospitals in India and Pakistan to have first hand knowledge about the operation and management of such a modern hospital.
5. An early Cancer Detection Center (ECDC) is being established at Mirpur in the city of Dhaka as an initial step which is expected to be fully operational with the installation of some very costly and essential equipments in the next year when Prof. Nazrul Islam and Prof. M. A Hai will work on full time basis along with other members of the ECDC.

Abbreviation and acronyms used

AUST	Ahsanuallah University of Science and Technology
AMBDH	Ahsania Mission Book Distribution House
AMCH	Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital
AMIK	Ahsania Mission Drug Prevention Programme
APOS	Ahsania Mission Environment Protection and Development Programme
APPEAL	Asia Pacific Programme of Education for All
ATLP	APPEAL Training materials for Literacy Personnel
ASPBAE	Asia South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education
ARTC	APPEAL Resource and Training Consortium
ADAB	Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh
ACCU	Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO
BLRC	Bangladesh Literacy Resource Centre
BNCU	Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO
BSAF	Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar (Child Rights) Forum
CMPE	Campaign for Popular Education
CLRC	Child Labour Resource Centre
CUP	Coalition for Urban Poor
CDF	Credit Development Forum
CEN	Coalition of Environmental NGOs
CAETA	Commonwealth Association for Education and Training of Adults
CBCE	Capacity Building for Basic Education
CWTP	Child and Women Trafficking Prevention
DAM	Dhaka Ahsania Mission
DNC	Directorate of Narcotics Control
DNFE	Directorate of Non-formal Education
EFA	Education For All
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific
EFAN	Education For All Network
ENWC	Expansion of Non-formal education programme for Working Children
EOTO	Each One Teach One
FETLI	Functional Education Through Local Initiatives
FNGO	Field level NGO
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
HRD	Human Resource Development
ICAE	International Council for Adult Education
ICAA	International Council on Alcohol and Addiction
KATTC	Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Teachers Training College
GK	Ganokendra
IPNE	Institute of Primary and Non-formal Education
ITVET	Institute of Technical and Vocational Education and Training
NFE	Non-formal Education
NGO	Non-Government Organization
PMED	Primary and Mass Education Division
RCSU	Refugee Counseling Service Unit
TBA	Traditional Birth Attendant
UNHCR	United Nations High Commission for Refugees
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNDPI	United Nations Department of Public Information
UNDCP	United Nations International Drug Control Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNIC	United Nations Information Centre
VTIWC	Vocational Training Institute for Working Children



SPREAD OF DAM's ACTIVITIES IN BANGLADESH

