



# Mission Barta

E-Bulletin of Dhaka Ahsania Mission

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## Water, sanitation essential for ensuring healthcare service

There is no substitute to water and sanitation for ensuring healthcare service. Because of lack of safe water, about 80 percent diseases break out in dry season. Collective efforts of donor agency, NGO and government can ensure supply of safe drinking water.

Speakers said this at a programme organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) on SUJOL arsenic and salinity mitigation technology from ground water at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban of Dhaka University on 17 July 2012.

Speakers also said DAM has been able to bring about 8.32 million ultra-poor people of 32 upazilas in 19 districts under the fold of safe water and sanitation facilities through implementation of various programmes since 2000.

DAM Executive Director Dr M Ehsanur Rahman presided over while Department of Public Health Engineering (DPHE) Chief

Engineer Md Nuruzzaman was present as Chief Guest. Interim Ambassador of the Netherlands in Bangladesh Carel Richter and Ecological Management Foundation (EMF) Director Frederic Claasen were present as guests of honour.

Water and Sanitation specialists of government and non-government organisations at national and international level also took part.

It is worth mentioning that SUJOL Project began its journey through installation of capDI-1 in cooperation with local people of Baksa village under Keragachhi union of Kalaroa upazila in Satkhira district in 2011. Power-driven capDI-1 eradicates excessive arsenic, saline and iron from underground water and produces 25000 litres water every day. This is an epoch-making innovation in water sector of Bangladesh. Voltea, a reputed organisation of the Netherlands, has innovated the same.

## 10th Quarterly Partners' Meeting held

Tenth Quarterly Partners Meeting of Dhaka Ahsania Mission ECDSP-B Project was held at Jagonari Library and Research Centre on 29 August 2012.

Executive Director of Jagonari Hosne Ara Hasi delivered the welcome address. Gender Specialist of Aga Khan Foundation Fatema Khairunnahar, Executive Director of AVAS Rahima Sultana Kazal and Executive Director of Multi-Task Azad Mollick were present. Project Manager of ECDSP-B Project Md Sahidul Islam was present on behalf of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

In the meeting discussed issues like follow-up and approval of minutes of Ninth Partners' Meeting, progress achieved during ninth quarter (April-July 2012), planning on major events during September-December 2012 period.

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## 8 cr people affected by smoking across country

Eight crore people are affected by active and passive smoking across the country. Every year 57,000 people die and 3 lakh 82 thousand people become crippled due to smoking. Use of tobacco products attributes to 30% deforestation.

Speakers said this at a workshop on tobacco control and harms caused by passive smoking held at the seminar room of NIPORT Institute at Azimpur in the capital, organised by AMIC of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, on 19 July 2012.

The workshop was aimed at making all public places of Region-3 in Dhaka City Corporation (South) tobacco-free.

Speakers further said, anti-tobacco activities should be conducted at grassroots level. Highlighting bad effects of smoking, farmers should be encouraged in cultivation of alternative crops. Educated people should come forward to participate in anti-tobacco activities.

Abul Khair, Revenue Officer of Region-3, Dhaka City Corporation (South), presided over while Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, lawmaker elected from Dhaka-7 constituency, was present as chief guest. Former Commissioner of Lalbag Humayun Kabir and Media Coordinator of Campaign for

Tobacco-free Kids Taifur Rahman were present as special guests. The Project coordinator of Tobacco Control Project, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, A K M Anisuzzaman placed the keynote paper. Besides, government and non-government officials were present.

Smoking is strictly prohibited in public places and public transports, according to Smoking and Tobacco Product Usage (control) Act-2005.

But due to lack of people's awareness and lack of initiatives of caretakers of public places, active and passive smoking cannot be stopped. In a bid to totally stop smoking in public places for protection of the city dwellers, Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been working with both the city corporations in the capital.

## Discussion to create awareness on prevention of violence against women

Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a meeting of men's group to create awareness on prevention of violence against women in front of Mallika Ganokendro at Rupnagar village in No-3 Phuljhuri union of Sadar upazila in Barguna district on May 14, 2012. The meeting discussed the role of men in preventing violence

against women. PPVD Project Manager Rawshon Ara, Human Rights Unit Head of Concern Universal Bangladesh Shankor Pal, Mission's Monitoring and Documentation Officer Dipok Kumar Sarker, Upazila Coordinator Md Rafiqul Islam and Upazila Facilitator (UF) Md Farid Uddin were present. Among others, Ganokendro president, community male members and members of



Youth Group took part. Funded by the European Union, Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been implementing the

PPVD project, with technical support of Concern Universal Bangladesh.

## Training support to community clinic health workers at Moheshpur

Dhaka Ahsania Mission has imparted training to health workers of six community clinics at Natima and Jadobpur unions of Moheshpur upazila in

Jhenidah district on 12 August, 2012. Strengthening Rural Health Service at Grass-Root Level of Bangladesh-SRHSRGL extended cooperation for

success of the training course. The one day training course was organised to ensure people's right to health service as well as strengthening health service system at grassroots level across the country.

Natima UP Chairman Fakir Ahmed, was present as guest while Moheshpur Upazila Health & Family Planning Officer Dr Md Tahazzel

Hossain and Upazila Family Planning Officer Abdus Salam conducted training.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission Area Coordinator Quamruzzaman, F F Rozina Khatun and Billal Hossain acted as facilitators.

A total of 28 participants including HI, AHI, FPI, CHCP, HA and FWAs underwent the training course.

# ACCESS Project's counselling meeting

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a counselling meeting with the community and service providing organisations at Sufalakati Memorial Community Resource Centre of Keshobpur in Jessore district on 18 July, 2012. The meeting was aimed at creating an opportunity for the community and service providing organisations so that they get an easy access to information. The President of Sufalakati Memorial Community Resource

Centre, Barindranath Mondal, presided over while it was attended by Upazila Women Affairs Officer Mousumi Akter as Chief Guest. Keshobpur Press Club Vice President Md Shahidul Islam, former Headmaster of Katakhal Secondary School Tarun Kanti Roy and incumbent Headmaster Moley Kumar Brahmmo and Area Manager of Z Bangladesh Md Yusuf Ali were present as special guests. Mission's Area Coordinator Alamgir Hossain conducted the counselling meeting. The Technical Officer of Dhaka



Ahsania Mission, Nazminnahar, Among others, representatives of agricultural, health and social service directorates, Sufalakati Memorial Community Resource Centre Parishad and representatives of civil society were present. delivered the Welcome Address.



# DAM signs MoU with Dipon Foundation

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Dipon Foundation and Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), at Dipon Foundation Bhaban in Savar, on July 24, 2012. Dipon Foundation Chairman Mahmud Hasan and DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organisations. According to the MoU, Dipon Foundation Chairman Mahmud Hasan handed over 85 decimals of land and a two-storied building located in Savar to

DAM for building Dipon-Ahsania Shelter Home for Elderly People and Child Care Centre Md Badiuzzaman, brother of Mahmud Hasan, Abdul Hye, Assistant Director of DAM, engineer Kazi Md Momen and A S M Arif were present on the occasion. A multistoried shelter home for distressed elderly people will be built on this land. An abandoned children's rehabilitation centre and a healthcare centre will be run on the two storied building. In

future, a primary school and a technical training centre will be established. DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam said, Mahmud Hasan has undertaken the noble initiative as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Following his footsteps, many more will come forward to such public welfare activity, he hoped.

## Iftar mehfil at CRCs, Ganokendro

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised Iftar mehfil at nine Ganokendro (people's centres) including Alo, Paira, Dogachhi, Paglakanai and Ghorashal and community resource centres (CRCs) within a period from 30 July to 11 August, 2012. A total of 578 officials of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Union Parishad (UP) chairmen and members as well as members of Ganokendro were present. Discussion meetings were held in each Iftar mehfil. Activities of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and issues relating to unification of community members and improvement of relationship among them were discussed.



## Management training for Community Group members

Dhaka Ahsania Mission in collaboration with Strengthening Rural Health Service at Grass-root Level of Bangladesh-SRHSGRL has organised management training courses for Community Group members of six community clinics at Natimpur and Jadabpur unions in Moheshpur upazila.

The trainings dwelt on issues like perspective of community clinic, management of community clinic and services, structure and formation procedure of Community Group, duties and responsibilities of Community

Group members, collection of information in working areas of Community Clinic, problems, identification of resources, formulation of annual work plan, preparation of support groups, public motivation, creation of fund, expenditure and supervision, monitoring of Community Clinic activities, evaluation and overall supervision.

The training courses were held at Bangladesh Palli Unnayan hall from 11 July to 15 July, 2012.

Moheshpur Upazila Parishad Chairman Moizuddin Hamid was present as chief guest at the



inaugural session while it was attended by Upazila Rural Development Officer B M Quamruzzaman as special guest. Moheshpur Press Club President and RDC Executive Chief Abdur Rahman were present at the closing session. Acting Health & Family Planning

Officer of Moheshpur upazila Dr Tahazzel Hossain played the role of trainer. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Area Coordinator Quamruzzaman, F F Rozina Khatun and Billal Hossain acted as facilitators.

A total of 51 participants of Community Group took part.



## Orientation course for Health Assistance Committee

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised an orientation course for Health Assistance Committee at No-5 Mangolkot Union Parishad under Keshobpur upazila in Jessore district on 17 July 2012. This was aimed at collaboration of activities of Health Assistance Committee and Health Standing Committee as well as reaching healthcare services to the doorsteps of poor and ultra-poor families. No-5 Mangolkot Union

Parishad Chairman Md Monowar Hossain as present as Chief Guest. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Area Coordinator Alamgir Hossain conducted the orientation session. Sub-Assistant Medical Officer Nurul Islam was present as a discussant.

Health Assistance Committee members took part. All members of Health Assistance Committee, Dhaka Ahsania Mission's area coordinator, technical officer and workers of concerned unions were present.

## Counselling to provide legal safety net to needy

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organised two legal counselling meetings at Provati Ganokendro and Alor Ganokendro in Keshobpur of Jessore district. The meeting was held on 14 July and 19 July, 2012, aiming at providing legal safety net to the needy. Advocate and panel lawyer on resisting violence against women and children G M Julfikar Ali conducted the meeting. DAM Area Coordinator delivered the

welcome address. Local Union Parishad (UP) chairman, members and representatives of Women Affairs Directorate took part. Ganokendro CAG, GMC, poor and ultra-poor members and local people were also present. One hundred three men and women learnt about family law, acid terrorism, resistance of child marriage and village court. They also got a clear concept on legal assistance in government organisations. A total of 39 victims got legal assistance.



## Leadership training to Ganokendro members

ACCESS CAFOD Project has organised two leadership training courses for Ganokendro members at Baliatoli Union Parishad in Barguna Sadar upazila and Dhumketu CRC in Amtoli upazila.

The training course was aimed at development of leadership skill among the members of Ganokendro committees in new areas.

Panel Chairman of Naltola

Union Parishad Md Anarul Azim opened the training course. Programme Officer (advocacy) Tanzina Akter and Field Coordinator Md Mizanur Rahman conducted the training courses held from 14 July to 17 July.

Issues on Mission founder's aims and objectives, qualities of ideal leaders, role of leaders in strengthening Ganokendro, gender awareness, eradication of



discriminations between males and females, communication, strategies and projects being run

by Barguna Mission etc were discussed. A total of 40 persons took part.



## Women Group's workshop held in Barguna

Preventing Violence and Women and Girls PPVD Discrimination against Project of Dhaka Ahsania

Mission organised a workshop on 'Active Role of Women's Group in Preventing Violence against Women and Establishment of Human Rights in Project Area' in Sangram Training Centre of Barguna town on August 26-29, 2012.

Manager of PPVD Project Rowshan Ara conducted the workshop. Monitoring and Documentation Officer Dipok Kumar Sarker Barguna Upazila Coordinator Rafiqul Islam and Patharghata Upazila Coordinator Md Quamruzzaman acted as facilitators.

Elaborate discussion were held on concept on physical relationship of males and

females and sexual right, individual, family and community role and contributions of women's group, sharing experience on non-achievements, facing various challenges as members of women's groups, women's group's liaison with One Stop Service Centre, women's group's link with adolescents' groups and discussions of adolescents with mothers etc.

The facilitators of Barguna and Patharghata unions were also present.

PPVD Project is being funded by the European Union while Concern Universal has been providing technical support to it.

## PPVD Project's opinion exchange meeting at Barguna Press Club

Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a day-long opinion exchange meeting on concerted efforts to prevent torture and discrimination against women at Barguna Zila Press Club in Barguna Sadar upazila on 29 August, 2012.

President of Barguna Zila Press Club and Channel I representative Md Hasanur Rahman Jhantu

presided over while it was attended by PPVD Project Manager Rowshan Ara.

Upazila Coordinator Md Rafiqul Islam elaborately discussed on Dhaka Ahsania Mission, aims and objectives of PPVD Project, expected result, activities and achievements in Barguna.

Editor of Dainik Dipanchal Md Mosharraf Hossain, editor of Dainik Saikot Md Zahirul Hasan Badsha, BTV representative Hossain Monowar, Dainik Panjeri



representative Zakir Hossain Miraj took part in the discussion. Twenty-five representatives of print and electronic media were

also present. The journalists vowed to work in a coordinated manner to prevent discrimination against women and girl children.



Mariam Jahan Sonali of TMD division acted the role of trainers. One hundred adolescents took part in five batches and 20 women participated in one batch. The training will keep a positive impact in raising awareness of adolescents. In Gourichannya, a training was imparted to women in one batch. Members of women's batch of the project took part. Issues like women's right, male-female discrimination, violence against women, trafficking of women etc., were discussed. During training, the participating women expressed their optimism saying they would be able to play a positive role in preventing violence against women. A team was formed with Material Development Coordinator Momtaz Khatun for gender mainstreaming at community level. The team

conducted several meetings and formulated a plan and developed a curriculum. Work on development of a manual was also started. In August, TMD division signed a contract with JICA. Activities will be conducted in 101 unions of Mymensingh, Jamalpur and Tangail districts aiming at reshaping the Union Parishad Development Committee within a period from August 2012 to 21 March 2013. Preparatory work on the programme was already started. Recruitment of workers, reviewal of manual, preparation of necessary materials, spot selection in working area and orientation for making workers aware about the project were completed. The orientation course was held at the conference room of Dhaka Ahsania Mission on 2 August, 2012.

## TMD division's training course

Trainings on life skill development as well as creating and raising awareness has been imparted to adolescents in six batches in Ganokendro (people's centres) in Gourichannya, Phuljhuri and Burichar unions of Barguna district.

Training and Material Development (TMD) division of Dhaka Ahsania Mission conducted the training under Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project. Trainers Nasima Shaheen and

## Training on gender issue at child day care centre

Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a training course on gender issue for mothers at Kumrakhali Child Day Care Centre Md Kader Molla and President of Mim Housing Child Day Care Centre and Mim Housing Child Day Care Centre in Barguna on 27-28 August 2012.

Funded by Aga Khan Foundation and CIDA, the training was aimed at eradication of gender discrimination and making participants aware about role of parents in pre-childhood development of their wards.

President of Kumrakhali Child Day Care Centre Md Kader Molla and President of Mim Housing Child Day Care Centre Management Committee Md Abul Kalam jointly opened the training course.

Gender Specialist of Aga Khan Foundation Fatema Khairunnahar and manager of ECDSB Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Md Sahidul Islam were present there to provide necessary counselling.



## 'Because I Am A Girl' campaign in Moheshpur

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a campaign titled 'Because I Am A Girl' in Natima union under Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah

district on 1 September 2012. The campaign was aimed at accelerating the movement on women's rights. A session of folksongs was held and a drama was displayed at Noanipara Registered Primary School in Natima union of Moheshpur upazila and Dariapur Hudo intersection for creating awareness on the issue. The Area Coordinator of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Quamruzzaman conducted the same.





Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Amin, UNDP resident coordinator Christa Rader, Disaster Management and Relief Division Secretary M. Aslam Alam, Disaster Management Bureau director general Ahsan Zakir, CDMP Project Director Muhammad Abdul Qayyum spoke among others.

**Talk show:** A talk show was televised on Somoy television in the evening. The talk show suggested inclusion of DRR in primary curriculum. Additional Secretary & National Project Director, CDMP Mr. Mohammad Abdul Quayyum, Convener of Disaster Forum, Gawher Nayeem Wahra, and DRR consultant Moloy Chaki participated in the talk show.

**Supplement:** Supplements were published in The Independent, The Samakal and The Daily Ittefaq. The Daily Ittefaq and the Samakal published the supplement in Bangla and the Independent in English. The message contained the theme of running year "Student-Teacher-Mass, let us build disaster awareness."

**Leaflet:** A leaflet was designed and printed on earthquake.

**Poster:** A poster was designed on the occasion of National Disaster Preparedness Day jointly with DMB, CMDRR Forum Bangladesh, NARRI, CARE, ACIDI VOCA, DCA and some other development agencies.

**Mock drill / Simulation:** Fire Service and Civil Defense Department organised a disaster response mock drill / simulation to show how to reduce urban disaster risks by involving the first responding agencies and urban volunteers.

**Videos on Mass Awareness:** A PSA (Public service announcement) video show on disaster management was organised by Disaster Management Bureau in the national seminar on the day.

**Media Coverage:** Various print and electronic media gave due consideration to the event. The national dailies and other electronic media paid due importance on the day. Daily newspapers published special feature giving emphasizes on the DRR elements /issues and disaster related write ups. Besides, different channels broadcasted news on discussions, seminars, rally and talk show respectively.

## CMDRR actions in progress

CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh observed the National Disaster Preparedness Day (NDPD) at national level in a befitting manner this year.

CMDRR Forum, Bangladesh is a national coordination organisation of 13 national level NGOs and INGOs of Bangladesh, formed with the support of Cordaid, to institutionalize the concept of community managed disaster risk reduction in Bangladesh context.

The main objective of observance of the day is to make people aware of and motivate them to manage disaster successfully.

This year's theme was "Student-teacher-mass, let us build disaster awareness."

Various programmes were chalked out in collaboration with partner organisations and other DRR stakeholders in the country.

Partner organisations are: Dhaka Ahsania Mission, ADD, Caritas Bangladesh, Concern Universal Bangladesh, Fight For Hunger, FRIENDSHIP, INDAB, PGUK, Pidim Foundation, POPI, RDRS, Bangladesh, VARD and YPSA.

A brief account of the programmes at national level are given below :

**Rally:** A colourful rally was brought out at 8.30am from National Shahid Minar and Dhaka University campus. The rally ended at Osmani Memorial Auditorium. The rally was led by Dr Abdur Razzaque Minister, Food and Disaster

Management where a good number of government and non-government officers, UN bodies, Bangladesh Red Crescent Society/ Red Cross, I/NGOs, DRR practitioners including the CMDRR Forum partners participated.

**Seminar:** A seminar was held at Osmani Memorial Auditorium where people from all walks of life participated. The seminar was jointly organised by the Disaster Management Bureau and the Disaster Management and Relief Division. The participants from different section of people particularly relevant government officials, NGO, INGO, School students, Fire Service and Civil Defense, Community level volunteers from IFRC and Ms. Margareta Wahlostrom, UN Special representative of the UN Secretary General for Disaster Risk Reduction were present as Guest of Honour and participated in the seminar. Food and Disaster Management Minister Dr. Abdur Razzaque, as a chief guest, told the seminar "the Day is to remember those affected by disasters and to raise awareness about disaster risk reduction". Ms. Margareta Wahlostrom, UN Special representative, said, "Disaster risk management and community participation should be given high priority if we want to achieve a resilient nation". She congratulated Bangladesh and its people for sustaining the momentum, best practices and leadership.



## DAM in frame

### Workshop on SUJOL arsenic and salinity mitigation technology from ground water



DAM ED Dr. M. Ehsanur Rahman presiding over the workshop



DAM Programme Director Shafiqul Islam delivering welcome address



EMF Director Frederik Claasen presenting Key-note paper



DPHE Chief Engineer Md Nuruzzaman speaking as Chief Guest



Focus group discussion at the workshop



Overview of the workshop

