

## Human Rights Day Observed in Barguna, Narsingdi

Like other years DAM has observed the International Human Rights Day at its field offices on 10 December 2013. Access (Health & Empowerment) project took out a rally from Basail office of Narsingdi to observe the day. After parading the important roads of the city the rally ended up at the meeting room of

present as chief guest and District Coordinator of DAM was present as special guest. Moreover representative from various working NGO's in Narsingdi Local Journalist, School Teacher, CRC and Ganokendra Members were present on the occasion. The International Human Rights Day was also ob-

guna Press Club President Monwar Hossain Anwar presided over and former Mayor Advocate Shahjahan and existing Press Club President Monir Hossain Kaman delivered their speeches. Additional District Commissioner (ADC) Mohammad Ali was present as chief guest. Alongside this program



DAM regional office where a discussion meeting was held following the rally program. DAM's Area Coordinator Tapan Kumar Sarkar presided over the meeting while District representative of BRAC Probal Kumar Saha was present as resource person. VDS Executive Director Md. Shahjahan Miah was

served in Barguna. Dhaka Ahsania Mission jointly with the Barguna district administration chalked out different program including rally, discussion meeting, forming human chain and cultural program. From the government initiative a discussion meeting was organized at RDF tower to mark the day where former Bar-

International Human Rights Day was celebrated at the 86 Ganokendras and 5 CRCs of Barguna Sadar Upazila and 20 Ganokendras and two CRCs in Amtoli Upazila. Ganokendra and CRC members brought out rally and formed human chain. A total of 2425 persons participated in the program.

## Adolescent fair held in Barguna

As per the continuations of awareness activities of Adolescent Access Caffod project organised a Adolescent Fair in Barguna on 12 December 2013 to make the activities forum members dynamic and diversified. The fair held at Naltona MCRC of Amtoli Upazila includes quiz competition, materials exhibition, dance, songs and drama. At the inaugural session of the fair Naltona MCRC President Sattar Master presided and Teacher of Gazi Mahmud High School Al-amin and field coordinator Md. Mizanur Rahman spoke on the occasion. After the inaugural ceremony guest visits the stalls of the fair. Adolescents from the different Ganokendras and MCRCs of Naltona Union participated in the fair. DAM Technical officer oversee the total program and ICT facilitator of Access Caffod project Md. Salauddin Bulbul was responsible for overall supervision. A total of 124 people participated in the fair.

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# Advocacy meeting with Department of Youth Development

An advocacy meeting was held at the conference room of Department of Youth Development on 19 December 2013 to increase awareness and creating enabling environment and support for the prevention of the HIV and AIDS in Bangladesh. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Asit Kumar Mukutmoni (Additional Secretary) Director General, Department of Youth Development. At the starting of the meeting the moderator Mr. Iqbal Masud, Assistant director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission welcomed to all participants and requested for self introduction with the concern of the Chair. After the introduction Shaikh Masudul Alam, Deputy Director, HIV Program of Save the Children shared the objectives and importance of the meeting shortly. Dr. Md. Abdul Waheed, Line Director, National AIDS/STD Program presented the overview of the HIV National response of Bangladesh. Dr. Lima Rahman, Program Director, HIV/AIDS Sector, Save

the Children presented GFATM Funded HIV/AIDS

At the end of the meeting Director General, Department of

gram. All institutional heads under Department of Youth Development, all project directors, Assistant directors and Participant from different youth organizations were present in the meeting. Department



Program Successes and Future Opportunities. After all presentations an open discussion has taken place to all the participants and there was a lively discussion.

Youth Development Mr. Asit Kumar Mukutmoni said that all institutes under youth department will also take the necessary steps to implement the HIV/AIDS prevention Pro-

of Youth Development and Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) jointly organized the advocacy meeting with the support of Save the Children in Bangladesh under Global Fund RCC phase-II program.



## Tuberculosis control orientation with NGO officials held

Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery (DNCC), PA-05, a project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organized an orientation meeting on Tuberculosis control with the 25 NGO officials of two NGOs-Badhon Hijra Sangstha and BWHC- who are working on HIV/AIDS on 24 December 2013. Monitoring and Evaluation officer of UPHCSDP, DNCC, PA-05 Amena Khatun discussed about the primary health services and clinic introduction of Dhaka Ahsania Mis-

sion. Dr Masuma Rahman discussed about the symptoms of Tuberculosis, DOTS, Treatment, side affect of medicine and Management. Dr Dilruba Islam discussed about the present situation of Tuberculosis in Bangladesh, activities and the social conception of Tuberculosis. The project Director of Badhon Hijra Sangstha pledged to assist in Tuberculosis control activities by examining cough of high risk and HIV symptom patients.

# Roundtable Discussion held with Information Ministry

A Roundtable Discussion Meeting on “Amended Tobacco Control Law & Our Responsibilities” was held with Information Ministry. The Secretary of Information Ministry Mr. Martuza Ahmed said that the Information Ministry will issue an official letter to its concern department for implementing of the amended tobacco control law toward betterment of the masses. The Information Secretary expressed it in a roundtable discussion meeting on “Amended Tobacco Control Law and Our Responsibilities” held in the Ministry of Information.

The roundtable discussion meeting was jointly organized by the Information

Ministry, Dhaka Ahsania Mission and EC Bangladesh on 11 December 2013 which is chaired by the Information Secretary. A total 65 participants from ten concern departments under the Information Ministry, tobacco activists and other tobacco program implementation organizations were present in the meeting.

Six Joint Secretaries of the Information Ministry, Director General (DG) of Bangladesh Betar, Director General of Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB), Director General of Department of Film and Publication (DFP), Vice Chairman of Bangladesh Film Sensor Board were present. Mr. Aminul Ahsan, Project

Manager of NTCC presented the key note of the meeting. Mr. Azam-E-Sadat, Deputy Secretary of MOHFW and Program Manager of Tobacco Control Program was brief about the tobacco control program of Bangladesh under Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. Md. Emdadul Haque Bhuiya, Project Coordinator of EC Bangladesh has given a presentation on “Tobacco advertising, promotion & sponsorship and its implementation challenges”. Mr. Taifur Rahman from CTFK, Khondoker Hasib from Progga were share their views in the panel discussion. The meeting was moderated by Iqbal Masud,

Assistant Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

In the meeting, participants were discussed about the amended tobacco control and its way of implementation especially what are the responsibilities of the Information Ministry and how they can support for the implementation of the Law. Some important recommendations have come out from the meeting to implement the amended tobacco control law.

The concern departments of Information Ministry will broadcast Public Service Announcement (PSA) and fiction on tobacco control. When the rules and regulations of the amended TC Law will be approved, then the Information Ministry will take needed initiatives for executes the law through its concern departments.



# Information centre set up at Youth Development Department

Director General of the Department of Youth Development urged all offices, organizations under this department to take the necessary steps to implement the AIDS control activities. He called upon this while addressing an orientation meeting on HIV/AIDS at conference room of the department on 19 December. He said, a special session will be associated with the every training of the Department of Youth Development and an information centre will be set up resorting on the information of HIV AIDS. Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Department of Youth Development jointly organized the orientation meeting under the presidency of Director General of the Department Awsit Kumar Mukut Moni.

In the open discussion meeting, all directors of Youth Development Department, Project Director, Deputy Director, Deputy Project Director, Assistant Di-

rector, Assistant Project Director, Principal of Central Human Resource Development Centre, Upazila Youth Development Officer participated. Line Di-

rector of National AIDS/STD program Dr Abdul Mohammed Wahid and Program Director of HIV Sector of Save the Children Dr Lima Rahman delivered the main speeches on the program. Deputy Director of 'Save the Children' Sheikh Masudul Alam described the necessity and the aim of the orientation meeting.



# Convener Committee of family support group formed

A convener committee was formed at a meeting with the presence of 50 guardians at

Gazipur Addiction Management and Integrated Care (AMIC) Centre on 8 Novem-

ber 2013. This committee was formed with a view to returning from the re-addiction after

recovery. It is mentionable that in most of the cases, family members don't pay heed to recovered people for the previous and possible would be addiction after recovery.





## World Aids Day celebrated

Dhaka Ahsania Mission observed the world AIDS Day on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2014. Marking the Day, AMIC Modhumita project chalked out different programs at Chankharpool centre. The project participated in the rally jointly organized by National AIDS/STD committee and also participated in the seminar. With the assistance of

Integrated Centre (AMIC), Modhumita project set up a stall at Osmani Memorial auditorium where the project upheld its activities. Moreover, Quiz competition, Prize distribution among the prize owners and educative materials distributed on the occasion. Another project of AMIC, Comilla Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project

brought out a rally under the supervision of District Health Complex. This was followed by a discussion meeting at the civil surgeon office. Comilla BMA president Dr Golam Mo-hiuddin Dipu was present as chief guest while Deputy Director of Family Planning Dr ABM Shamsuddin was present as special guest. Civil Surgeon Dr Mujibur Rahman presided

over the meeting. Moreover, representatives from different Go NGO delivered their valuable speeches on the occasion. AMIC Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre in Jessore observed the day.

Mass awareness programs on HIV/AIDS was added with the regular daily works marking the day. A discussion meeting was organized in the centre where the under treatment patients took part.

The issue was discussed even in the class session. Moreover, drama, human chain and cricket match was organized on the occasion.

ACCESS project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and other working NGO's - Plan Bangladesh, Save the Children, Brac, Mary stops, TIB and Jago Nari jointly observed the day in Barguna district through various programmes like rally discussion meeting. The project also organized discussion meeting at Ganokendra, Community Learning Centre (CRC) and MCRC level.

Over the 2500 persons including representatives of civil society, education institutes, CAG members, GMC members, adolescent took part in the program.



## Awareness Film Show in Tuberculosis control

Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery DNCC, PA-05, a project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) arranged a film show to create awareness among civil society, slum dwellers, rickshaw/van pullers and shopkeepers at Uttara in the city as part of Tuberculosis activities. The film show, held on 12 December, 2014, was attended by the Monitoring and Evaluation officer of UPHCSDP, DNCC, PA-05 Amena Khatun who discussed about the activities of Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery, the symptoms of Tuberculosis, DOTS, Treatment, side effect of medicine and Management, present situation of Tuberculosis in Bangladesh, activities and the social conception of Tuberculosis.

# Salinity tolerant cultivation gains popularity in Bagerhat

Salinity concentration at Mongla upazila of the district has increased to 16.46 deci seimens (DS) per metre

into the ground. As a result, a greater part of the southern coastal area is being unfit to produce crops.

izer, pesticides, instruments, training and other supports to increase crop production. Alongside this, the home-

and disaster responses. When a disaster strikes, immediate response is often carried out by family members, friends and neighbours and grassroots organisations.

IFLS Project Coordinator Mukhlesur Rahman said:



from 9.4 DS per metre in the last two years, this information was revealed from a press conference recently held in the city. Another source said, salinity concentration at Mongla upazila was 12 DS in 2011 and it increased to 14 DS in 2012. Eighty percent irrigation water and ninety eight percent drinking waters are collected from the underground source and it is abstracted without proper planning. Long time stagnant saline surface water is intruding

Amid this situation, people of this area are trying to find the alternative ways of cultivating land. Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) with the financial support of CAFOD helped the poor families of Mongla, Rampal and Sharonkhola upazilas of greater Khulna district under the project 'Improved Food and Livelihood Support in the Context of Climate Change in Bagerhat district (IFLS)'. The project provided salinity tolerant paddy seed, natural fertil-

stead vegetables gardening, homestead poultry, goat rearing, animal husbandry and other income generating activities have helped hundreds of families in this area to overcome poverty and achieve economic self-reliance. Moreover, the project arranged folksong, courtyard meetings, mock-drill to adapt the local people with the effect of climate changes. It can be here mentioned that local people are the main actors in disaster risk reduction

"We are conducting training programmes for the members of women headed families". 36 CAGs consisting of 432 members were formed to ensure food security for the community as well as overall development in the project area and 36 community volunteer groups (CVGs) consisting of 252 members were formed to reduce the risk of disaster and lessen the loss arising out of climate change impact.

# Improving health of schoolchildren

Tripurachhara is a remote village under Sadar upazila in Rangamati district of Chittagong Hill Tracts. Jhum cultivation along the slopes of hills is the only source of income of local people. Because of lack of development in the area, people are deprived of basic civic amenities.

Most of the commoners are poor. But they realise from hard reality that lack of education was behind their bad fortune. This is why they sent their children to the nearby Tripurachhara Secondary School. But poor water, sanitation and hygienic conditions of the school have severe repercussions for the children, sickening hundreds every day and denying others', particularly girls' the right to quality basic education.

The oldest development organisation of the country, Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), supported by UNICEF, conducted a survey in secondary schools and identified 200 schools in three districts of Chittagong Hill Tracts and one district of Sylhet division where the children suffered from meager sanitation facilities. DAM brought the schools under water, sanitation and hygiene-WASH in Schools (WinS) project, implemented by the organisation.

The schools are located in Baghaichhari, Rajastali, Rangamati Sadar, Khawkhali and Kaptai upazilas of Rangamati hill district, Dighinala, Khagrachhari Sadar and Matiranga upazilas of Khagrachhari hill district and Bandarban Sadar, Lama and Naikhongchhari upazilas of Khagrachhari hill district and Bishwambarpur, Dharampasha, Jamalganj and Tahirpur upazilas of Sunamganj district.

Tripurachhara School is one of such schools. DAM built new sanitation facilities at the school with financial support from UNICEF, under the project that provides safe drinking water, improves sanitation facilities and promotes lifelong health. WASH in Schools enhances the well-being of children and their families, and paves the way for new generations of healthy children.

The school headmaster, Bir Bahu Chakma, emerged as the champion of WASH in Schools, for sharing a common vision—a world where all children go to school and all schools provide safe, healthy and comfortable learning environment where children grow, learn and thrive.

Under the project, he took training on safe water, sanitation and hygiene and applied

the learning from the training for well-being of his students.

Male and female students got separate latrines where water was supplied during full period of schooling. Soaps were also available at the latrines. Arrangements were made beside the latrine for washing



hands before eating. Students Brigade team leaders were given the responsibility to keep the facilities clean. He personally supervised the activities. The headmaster made his students aware about the concept of safe water, sanitation and hygiene. Not only that, he also made his family members at the village aware about the issues. Now they use hygienic latrines. Even the little child at the house washes hands before eating. All members put on sandals before going to latrine. Being conscious, family members of nearby houses also emulate them.

Bir Bahu Chakma said, "The learning environment in my school is now safe with the access to water, sanitation and hygiene facilities. WASH in School addressed the health, economic and social issues in my locality."

"Thanks to our headmaster for providing us hygienic latrine at school and ease our life," Santimoy Chakma, a student of the school said. "Our access to improved sanitation and hygiene has been improved. Thanks to WASH in School project implemented by DAM for making things happen in the right way," he added.

WASH in School Project was aimed to create healthier learning environment with improved water, sanitation and hygiene services in 200 schools in Rangamati Bandarban, Khagrachhari and Sunamganj districts. Its aim was also to realise children's

rights to have adequate school WASH infrastructure that is universally accessible and having dedicated facilities for girls.

DAM launched the project in November, 2012 and it was wrapped up in November, 2013. The Department of Secondary Education, DPHE and LGIs coordinated in

achieving the project goal.

Emphasis was more on creating enabling environment, sensitising the duty bearers/stakeholders on the importance of WASH building capacity of students, teachers, duty bearers, community members and others on promotion of hygiene practices, construction of adequate WASH facilities in the 200 schools.

During project implementation period, duty bearers at district, upazila, school levels and the community members as well in the project locations were supported to prepare WASH Action Plans, mobilise existing government and community resources to improve WASH conditions. Leadership of the activity by these stakeholders was facilitated to ensure responsiveness to the local context and to their needs.

Before the project implementation, training was organised for district and upazila education officers, sub-assistant engineers, teachers and school management committees. Student Brigades were formed, quarterly field finding sharing meetings, student brigade orientations, SMC meetings, orientations on hardware works, hygiene sessions and team visits were organised.

Earlier, school area survey, school WASH plans were formulated and student brigades surveyed villages and prepared base line reports to create model villages.



## DAM IN FRAME

### Activities of WASH in School (WinS) Project



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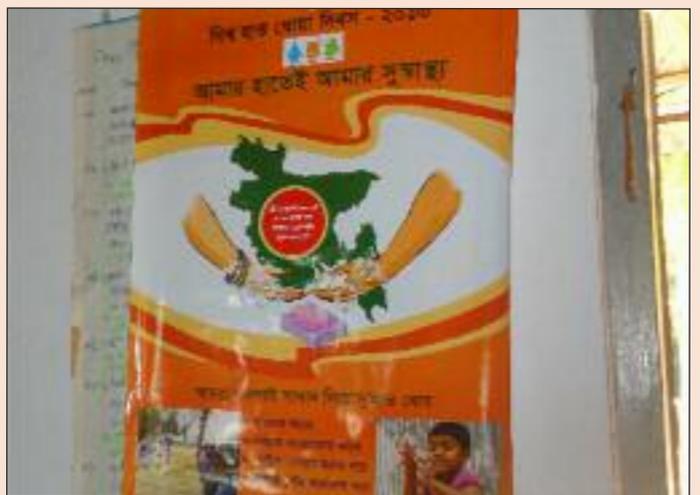
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