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President at the 3rd Convocation of AUST

Learning of Science and Technology Education important to meet 21st century challenge

Learning of Science and Technology Education is of paramount importance to meet 21st century challenge in this globalize world.

We are living in a changing world where opportunities and challenges co-exist. It is important for the universities to impart quality education based on modern curricula and syllabus. It is my conviction - Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) would be able to impart international standard higher education. President and AUST Chancellor Professor Iajuddin Ahmed said this in his presidential address at the 3rd Convocation of AUST held on Sunday, November 9, 2008 at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the capital.

He further said, the nation is marching ahead towards general election and waiting to welcome the elected government [See page 3]

DAM Observed the World Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2008

DAM observed the world day for the Eradication of Poverty 2008 in its different working areas covering 20 upzilas under 11 districts during October 17 to October 19, 2008 period in association with People's Forum on MDGs (PFM) and CAMPE. DAM expressed solidarity with the anti poverty campaign demanding food security, fair wage and employment, access to health, education and removal of all kinds of discrimination. The main slogan for this year [See page 3]

DAM participated in SACOSAN III

The SACOSAN I and II has held in Bangladesh and Pakistan in 2003 and 2005 respectively and this year SACOSAN III was held in New Delhi on 18-21 November 2008 where all the SAARC countries participated. The [See page 3]

Providing Teachers' Training Support to UNDP-CHTDF in 3 Hill Districts

Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been providing "Training of Trainers on Teachers' Basic Training" to fulfill the need for the development of quality primary education programme for indigenous children of primary schools in CHTs through increasing access, improving teaching-learning process and school management. UNDP-CHTDF (Chittagong Hill [See page 2]

HIV/AIDS prevention in the curriculum of NFE vital



To include HIV and AIDS prevention in the curriculum of Non-Formal Education (NFE) is very important. According to UNAIDS information, half of the newly infected HIV patients are below 25

years, which means HIV/AIDS is rapidly spreading among the age group of 15-24. If this trend continues, the young generation of the country will be severely affected. Speakers said this [See page 2]

DAM awarded for Rehabilitation of Sidr affected people

Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been rewarded by Barguna Amtoli Press Club for its significant contribution in the post sidr rehabilitation activities. The award was given at a discussion meeting titled 'Sriti (Remembering) Sidr-2008' held at Amtoli UT & CC Hall on 30 November 2008.

Presided over by municipality chairman Nazrul Islam, upazila Nirbahi Officer Abu Nayeem Muhammad Abdus Sabur was the chief guest in the meeting. UNIQUE Project Area Manager Milon Mukherjee received the award from the chief guest. [See page 3]

Dhaka Regional Co-ordination Meeting held

Dhaka Regional Co-ordination Meeting was held at the village Education Resource Centre (VERC), Savar, Dhaka on November 20, 2008. The meeting was organized as part of the decision to hold meetings in all DAM regions for strengthening co-ordination in all strata of DAM operations. It aimed at setting worthwhile mechanisms towards achieving collective goals that ensure and enhance the possibility to go effectively along the lines of the ever-growing DAM interventions. Project delegates from all projects - ACCESS, CORDAID, B E H TRUWC; BIKASH (CLAP), CICR, MODHUMITA, UNIQUE, VTIWC AND AMSSAMEVTI AND key staff of DAM institutions that provide direct or indirect services to the projects participated in meeting. [See page 3]

HIV/AIDS prevention

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at a national workshop titled 'Mainstreaming HIV and AIDS Prevention in NFE in Bangladesh' organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) with the support of UNESCO Dhaka on November 24, 2008 at the Mission Bhaban Auditorium, Dhanmondi in the capital.

DAM Executive Director M. Ehsanur Rahman presided over the inaugural session. Director General Bureau of Non-Formal Education, MOPME Shymol Kanti Ghosh was present as Chief Guest while Director & UNESCO Representative in Bangladesh Malama Meleisea and NASP Programme Manager Ferdous Alam Shibib were present as guests of honor in the session. DAM Training & Material Development Division Director M. A. Rashid delivered the

address of welcome.

Speakers further said, a package consisting of 8 materials for creating awareness on HIV and AIDS and life skill development have been developed earlier following the age-based literacy capacity of adults with the technical and financial support of UNESCO Dhaka. This has been done

This package will help learners to become conscious about HIV and AIDS along with basic literacy. Moreover, they will be conversant with life skill development activities. In addition, they will gather strength to face effectively problems relating to HIV and AIDS. At present, under the 1st phase, an effective training manual and ICT material are in the development stage. It is hoped, these materials would help majority people of this country to become conscious about the severe consequences of HIV and AIDS.

Journalist visited works

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Diganta were among the journalists. Norshingdi Area Coordinator Tapan Kumar Sarker, CRC Co-coordinator Qudrat Ali, CRC President Harunur-Rashid were present on the occasion. The visiting journalists were informed about different types of computer training, Mobile servicing training,

Animation Videography to create awareness, information problem solution, different result collect by internet users, job news, e-mail correspondence etc which are given from the centre.



Ahsanullah Gold Medals

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government Justice Latifur Rahman said this at the Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal Awards giving ceremony for 2006 and 2007 held on Saturday, 29 November 2008 at the Mission Bhaban Auditorium in the capital. The award giving ceremony was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). He further said, DAM founded by Khanbahadur Ahsanullah with the motto of divine and humanitarian services has turned into a great institution with the passage of time.

The Chief Guest of the function Justice Latifur Rahman handed over the Gold Medals to Duch-Bangla Bank Managing Director M. Yasin Ali on behalf of Duch-Bangla Bank

Foundation Chairman prominent philanthropist M. Sahabuddin Ahmed and to former advisor to caretaker government, former Education Secretary Kazi Fazlur Rahman.

Barrister Rafiq-ul-Haq said, DAM has been materializing totally the ideals and mission of Khanbahadur Ahsanullah which he cherished at the time of founding the Mission. He congratulated DAM for honoring M. Sahabuddin Ahmed and Kazi Fazlur Rahman as recognition to their contribution to the nation.

In his presidential address, DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam said, Dhaka Ahsania Mission is honored through awarding Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medals to eminent personalities of the country. He emphasized on the ideals of

Providing Teachers' Training Support

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Tracts Development Facility) has been implementing the project on "Support to Basic Education in the CHTs" through 3 selected local NGOs and 2 technical partners. Dhaka Ahsania Mission is one of the technical partners who have been providing teachers' training support to Education Cluster, UNDP-CHTF. The 2nd cycle of "Training of Trainers on Teachers' Basic Training" for 8 days duration was held at Parjatan Motel-Meghla, Bandarban from 26 November to 03 December 2008. Twenty seven Training Officers of local Partner NGOs participated in the TOT2. The training resources were designed, developed and used in the TOT2 are i) TOT2 Manual of 8 days duration; ii) Teachers' Basic Training Manual-2 (TT2) of 6 days; iii) Head Teachers' Training Manual-1 (HT1) of 4 days duration; iv) Teachers Guide of Class III; v) Teachers Handbook; vi) Head Teachers' Handbook; vii) Teachers' Follow up Checklist-1 set; viii) Head Teachers' Follow up Checklist-1 set and ix) Training Officers' Follow up Guideline-1 set.

Observance of World Hand Washing Day and National Sanitation Month-08

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upazilas -Jamalpur Sadar, Melandah and Bakshiganj. Union Sanitation Taskforces organized planning meetings in 31 unions with the support of Dishari.

At the inauguration of the Sanitation Month Observance events, Jamalpur Sadar Upazila Sanitation Taskforce had jointly participated at the district sanitation program. Deputy Director of Local Government Division Zakir Hossain, led the rally at Jamalpur. Additional Divisional Commissioner (Revenue) Jahangir Alam updated the status of Latrine Coverage in the Jamalpur District in the inauguration meeting on 13 October 2008. He said that out of 31 unions of 3 Upazilas where Dishari project is working, 14 unions have been declared 100% Latrine Coverage by the District Sanitation Taskforce and another 14 unions have been declared by the Union Taskforce which is placed for monitoring by District Sanitation Taskforce. Dishari was appreciated for their contribution which was published in Jamalpur dailies.

Melandah UNO Mohammad Masud Alam Siddique and Zakir Hossain, Bakshiganj UNO also participated in the Upazilla rally and discussion sessions in the respective areas. In those rallies all level of stakeholders including journalists, NGOs, social elites, religious leaders, teachers, students, women and children participated. To observe the month observance their was mass gathering, colorful rallies, organized demonstration events on hand washing, cultural programs, debates, discussions and awarding of schools participated in Hand Washing Campaign.

Khanbahadur Ahsanullah and observed that if his ideals are implemented, there would be no conflict and chaos in the country. He also informed that since 1986 DAM has been awarding Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medals and so far 16 personalities of the country have been awarded with this Gold Medals.

Presided over by DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam, eminent lawyer Barrister Rafiq-ul-Haq was present as special guest in the ceremony. The key-note paper was presented by Bangla Academy former Direct General Professor Mansur Musa while South-East University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. M. Shamsur Ali took part in the discussion. Duch-Bangla Bank Managing Director M. Yasin Ali and Kazi Fazlur Rahman spoke on the occasion while DAM Executive Director M. Ehsanur Rahman delivered the address of welcome.

SACOSAN III

[From page 1]

Secretary, LGRD had presented the Bangladesh Country Paper on sanitation in SACOSAN III where the paper mentioned "Recently, Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been practicing another approach through its on-going project styled 'Decentralized Total mentioned Sanitation (Dishari)' involving the existing administrative and local government structures sticking to the government formed sanitation taskforces upto grassroots levels. Although different approaches have some diversity, they seem to have converged on government approach of achieving 100% sanitation for all by 2010 with a view to ensuring gradual scaling up and eventual sustainability of their efforts." Umme Farwa Daisy, Project Manager of Dishari and SSTSB represented Dhaka Ahsania Mission in SACOSAN III.

President at the 3rd Convocation of AUST

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in coming December. In this context he urged all to come forward and cooperate.

Former Chief Justice A.T.M. Afzal graced the occasion as convocation speaker. Among others University Chairman and Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam and AUST Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Anwar Hossain addressed the convocation.

Speaking as convocation speaker former Chief Justice A.T.M. Afzal said, the importance of technological education has increased many fold under the backdrop of green energy policy implementation at the international level. Job opportunity for about 83 lakh technologists have been created in the field of energy producing area like solar panel and windmill operation. Universities in the country will have to come forward in the development of quality human resources, he added.

University Chairman and Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam emphasized on the establishment of a value based society as opposed to the present day materialistic and selfish society where one never cares for others,

even for the motherland. He further hoped that the graduating students would never compromise with truth for false and stand against all evils. He urged the youths to create a just and equitable society free from all injustices and unlawful activities and appealed all to give precedence to moral values in thinking and work.

AUST Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Anwar Hossain informed that attempts have been made to broaden the academic programs both in depth and breadth including the starting of a new Department of Mechanical and Production Engineering. New entrants in large number having high academic grades are rushing to AUST for admission into various Departments, he said.

It may be mentioned, a total of 1650 students were given graduation and post graduation certificates at the 3rd convocation. Besides 7 talented students were given Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medal for their outstanding performance. Having 4 faculties and 7 departments and through the establishment of its full-fledged own campus, AUST founded by Dhaka Ahsania Mission has contributed significantly in spreading higher education and has set a milestone in the history of the country.



Dhaka Regional Co-ordination Meeting held

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Speaking at the meeting, DAM programs Director Shafiqul Islam expressed concern over the lack of effective co-ordination among projects, sectors and sub-sectors and underlined the need for setting up effective and efficient co-ordination channel among DAM interventions.

DAM Executive Director M. Ehsanur Rahman speaking at the meeting emphasized on the necessity of a co-ordinated response from concerned personnel upto grassroots level. He further stressed the need for enhancing capacity of employees for marketing DAM innovations to national and international development arena and directed the participants to provide services upto optimum level. He opined that Dhaka region has wider scope to ensure advocacy to national and international level; The director programmes made some conclusive remarks at the meeting. He advised all the participants to disseminate findings and recommendations of the meeting to all concerned even to the grassroots level and wished it to be effective.

Presentation of DAM CRC model

[From page 4]

Mission Program Division Director Shafiqul Islam, IT specialist S. Rahman and employees of other organizations were present in the opening ceremony. Development of lifestyle in the rural area, empowerment of people, information centre, roots level entrepreneurship, coordination, information and statistics with ICT Centre and its possibilities were discussed in the conference. DAM Programme Director Shafiqul Islam presented the CRI ICT model developed by DAM in the conference.

DAM awarded for Rehabilitation of Sidr affected people

[From page 1]

It may be mentioned, with the support of UNDP, Plan Bangladesh, concern universal Worldwide, CAFFORD, CORDAID, and SVA, Dhaka Ahsania Mission distributed emergency relief among 83 thousand, 3 hundred and 75 families in Sidr effected areas. With the financial support of CORDAID, 15 thousand 2 hundred families were given help for quick self reliance after sidr 2007. With UNDP's support 8 hundred families were provided with care shelter house.

Inaugural ceremony of photography

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'Natural Disaster in Bangladesh' was jointly organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Concern Universal and funded by the Humanitarian Aid Department of European Commission and Cordaid. Presided over by Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam, Concern Universal Country Director Stephane Bonduelle delivered the address of welcome. In his presidential address Kazi Rafiqul Alam emphasized the role of photo-

journalists and opined that subject and situation become heart rendering through the photographs published in the media.

The chief guest of the function artist Mustafa Monwar handed over cheques for Tk. 12 thousand, Tk. 10 thousand and Tk. 8 thousand and certificates to K. M. Asad, Sahadat Pervez and Shaiful Islam who won 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize consecutively in the competition. Besides, six more competitors were given cheques for Tk. 2 thousand each as prizes of honor. Abir Abdullah, Dr. Rashid Un Nabi and Concern Universal Disaster Risk Reduction Head Md. Jahangir Alam were in the board of judges.



DAM Observed the World Day for the Eradication of Poverty 2008

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was "STAND UP and TAKE ACTION". For the observance of the world day for the eradication of poverty, DAM organized various programs including rally, human chain, discussion, and other cultural programs, court yard meeting, art competition and stand up at GK/CLC/CRC and micro finance group meeting from October 17 to October 19, 2008. More than 26,700 people participated in different "Stand Up and Take Action" mobilization campaign in different areas which includes- Mirpur Indoor Stadium & nearby area, DAM Area office (Devhata), Sutrapur, Shyampur, Demra, Jatrabari Fatulla, Narsingdi Sadar, Madhobdi, Raipura, Satkhira Sadar, Ghona, Madhobkati, Sonabaria, Jessore Sadar, Vekutia, Barinagar, Chowgacha, Keshobpur, Jamalpur Sadar, Melandah, Melandah, Mymensingh Sadar, Mohongonj, Amtoli, Barguna Sadar, Patharghata, Golachipa, Kolapara, Hizla, Uzirpur and Itna.



Awarding of Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Gold Medals

Nation is indebted to Khanbahadur Ahsanullah in many ways

The nation is indebted to Khanbahadur Ahsanullah in many ways. The morality and good

consciousness which he wished to build through his initiatives and activities have become a total

success and have turned him into an institution. Former Chief Advisor to caretaker

[See page 2]

Need to Increase Tertiary Education Opportunities for Disadvantaged

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) with support from UNESCO Paris has implemented a study in June 2008 on the issue of increasing tertiary education opportunities for disadvantaged young people in Bangladesh. The aim of the study was to examine the needs and obstacles of disadvantaged young people in pursuing higher/tertiary education and to identify existing opportunities in increasing their access to such education.

Although students in higher education in Bangladesh are increasing day by day, representation of poor young people is very limited due to private cost of education at both primary and secondary levels. According to the BANBEIS report 2006, millions are unable to continue tertiary level education due to lack of resources, absence of higher educational opportunities and institutions in the vicinity, lack of relevant curricula and problem for girl students to access higher education institutions located at a far distance. Even in the National Education Policy 2000, the particular provision of 5 percent of total seats available for student admission to be reserved for poor but talented students and tuition free education for them is too limited and practically does not benefit the poor who are systematically eliminated in the process of entry.

Changes that come along the process of globalization make tertiary education more and more important

and the demand for higher education will rise at an increasing rate. It is important that the youths from poor families have increased access to higher education for employment in both domestic and overseas markets.



Inaugural ceremony of photography exhibition

Mutual Co-operation among disaster affected people inspires us

-Artist Mustafa Monwar

The urge for living and mutual cooperation among the flood affected people inspires us. I believe, this photography competition and exhibition will contribute greatly in creating social awareness. Eminent artist Mustafa Monwar said this at the photo exhibition titled 'Natural Disaster in Bangladesh' held on November 23, 2008 at Drik Gallery.

He further said, a single death

among thousands makes us weeping. Disaster Preparedness should be strengthened through creating mass awareness and added that Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been working in various ways and means with deep conviction which is a major contribution for the country.

The inaugural ceremony and prize distribution of two-day long photo exhibition titled

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Observance of World Hand Washing Day and National Sanitation Month-08

In observance of World Hand Washing Day and Sanitation Month October-2008. Dhaka Ahsania Mission undertook massive initiatives in the WaterAid supported Dishari project areas with the participation and cooperation of DPHE, Local Government Division, Upazila, Union and Ward Sanitation Taskforces.

A number of programmes were taken in the three

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Presentation of DAM CRC model in the National Tele-centre Conference

To help reach the advantage of information and communication technology for welfare of people, the National Tele-centre Conference 2008 was held on 7 and 8 November 2008 at Palli Unnayan Academy (RDA), Bogra. The conference was inaugurated by Information and Communication Secretary Mr. M. M. Ohiduzzaman. Chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) Major Gen. (Retd) Monjurul Alam, Bogra Deputy Commissioner Humayun Kabir, Asstt. UNDP Country Director K A M Morshed, Dhaka Ahsania

[See page 3]

Journalist visited works ICT of CRC

Six journalists of national dailies paid a visit to Madupdi Kathalia Shukher Disha Community Resource Center of Norshingdi Operated with the support of Dhaka Ahsania Mission on 4 November 2008. Arafin Shandi of the Daily Prothom-alo, Kawser Uddin of daily Sangbad, Aminul Islam of daily Jai Jai din, Saiful Islam of daily Ittefaq, Naznin Kabir of PC world of Bangladesh and A Halim of the Naya

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