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Concerted efforts for helping people to improve living condition stressed

DAM ED

Concerted efforts are needed for helping people to improve their living condition. M. Ehsanur Rahman, ED of DAM said this while addressing at the policy discussion session of the Fourth Regional Coordination Meeting of Dhaka region at the conference room of Caritas Regional Office in Mirpur, Dhaka, on 11 November, 2010.

The ED also emphasised that all project activities should be done according to the sectoral strategic directions.

The main aims of the meeting were to share views and enhance coordination and information sharing among DAM personnel.

The meeting was attended by representatives of different DAM projects working across the region. Shafiqul Islam, Director of

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DAM participates at PKSF dev fair

A four-day long development fair organised by Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) marking celebration of its 20 years founding anniversary was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) from November 06-09. The development fair gave an opportunity to micro credit borrowers and entrepreneurs across the country to bring their products to the fair for sale and display to promote market for their products. Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM's) MFP took part in the Development Fair 2010.

DAM displayed different products of its micro credit borrowers of different areas. DAM also displayed different

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Now tobacco companies are more active to control tobacco prevention activities

Dr. Syed Modasser Ali

Now tobacco companies are more active to control tobacco prevention activities. So we shall have to find out new strategy and strengthen our tobacco controlling activities. In his presidential address, Adviser to the Prime minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Syed Modasser Ali said this in a seminar on 'Illicit Trade of Tobacco Products in

Bangladesh and Conference of the Parties (COP)-4' on Monday, 8 November, 2010 organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission assisted by Framework Convention Alliance at the Mission Bhaban Auditorium Dhanmondi in the city.

He also said, all kinds of initiatives should be taken to encourage the alternative

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Child Rights Week observed

Child's Intelligence Increases on Stoppage of Physical Torture. With this theme in view the Child Rights Week was observed recently at the meeting room of the Non-Formal Education Bureau. Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Amin was present as Chief Guest while secretary was present as Special Guest. Director General NFE Rezaul Kader presided over. Programmes included rally, discussion meeting, cultural function being participated by children and exhibition of various products made by the working women. In each and every programme, learners, teachers, supervisors, co-ordinators spontaneously took part. Shafiqul Islam presided over the function held at Burir Dokan ground in Isdair area of Narayanganj on 14 October,

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EU representative visits IFLS project

Representative of the European Union (EU) and Rural Development Advisor Arhamuddin Siddiki observed the awareness raising activities of a project titled, 'Improved food and Livelihood security in the context of increased Disaster Risk and Climate Change'

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Opinion exchange meeting with local govt, elected representatives

An opinion exchange meeting on 'Improved food and Livelihood security in the context of increased Disaster Risk and Climate Change' was held in Bagerhat district on 21 July, 2010. Chairman of Chadpai Union Parishad Md Tariquul Islam presided over while Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) Field Coordinator Uzzal Kumar Kundu presented a keynote paper.

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Women's liberation still a far cry

Although the country has become independent but women's liberation is still a far cry.

A retired police official has stopped education of his daughter-in-law posing a question on women's liberation. Crying Munna, a

housewife in Gaibandha said this in front of a large number of people. Sabita of Faridpur said that when her daughter goes to school, stalkers tease her. 'They disturb her. What steps will you take against them?'

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Child Rights Week observed

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2010. Dhaka Ahsania Mission's (DAM's) Basic Education Project for Working Children of Urban Areas organised the programme. Local Social Worker Abdul Mannan was present as Chief Guest at the function. DAM's Programme Co-ordinator Saiful Islam was present as Special Guest. On the same day's programme held at Mathel Math Nama in Shyampur area of Dhaka, Social Worker Siddiqur Rahman chaired the occasion while Social Worker Mohammad Ali was present as Chief Guest. DAM's Hard-to Reach Project's Programme Officer Shafia Akter, Programme Co-ordinator Saiful Islam and Jalal Uddin were present as special guests. Chairman of CMC Md Monir Hossain was present as Chief Guest at the programme held at Gobindapur Primary School ground in Dhaka on 15 October. DAM's Programme Co-ordinator Saiful Islam was present as Special Guest. In each function, discussion meetings and cultural programmes were held.



DAM participates at PKSF dev fair

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printed and audio visual materials developed for micro credit borrowers. DAM arranged a live display of products of Nasrin Begum, a woman entrepreneur of its Shilmandi Ganokendra of Narsingdi area. Her product was toys made of cloth that attracted many customers. Social Welfare Minister Enamul Haque Mostafa Shahid visited the DAM stall along with PKSF Managing Director Dr. Quazi Mesbahuddin Ahmed, prominent economist Professor Abul Barakat and other senior officials on November 07 afternoon. The minister and other visitors were properly briefed about DAM's activity. The minister expressed his satisfaction learning the livelihood development activities done through MFP of DAM. DAM provided many entrepreneurs and opportunity of exchange visit for learning from the fair. The fair encourage Micro Credit borrowers and entrepreneurs of DAM to improve their quality of products as well as their promotion.

Now tobacco companies are more active

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cultivation of tobacco farmers. All participants should be committed in the conference of the parties (COP)-4 in Uruguay. By the grace of God, We shall be able to fulfill our demands.

Former Secretary and Adviser of Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital Mohammad Ali presided over the seminar while General Secretary of Bangladesh Anti Tobacco Alliance and founding president of MANAS Prof. Dr. Arup Ratan Choudhury were present as special guest.

While presenting an article on Conference of the Parties (COP)-4, Coordinator of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Iqbal Masud said, Cigarettes worth at 40.5 billion Dollars are sold across the world through illegal trading. As a result cost of cigarettes is decreasing and demand is increasing and country is being hampered by economically. The Gang of international illegal trading is very active. Conference of Conference of the Parties (COP)-4 is going to be held in Uruguay on November 2010. Adviser to the Prime minister for Health and Family Welfare and Vice Chairman of Conference of the Parties (COP)-4 Dr. Syed Modasser Ali being Bangladesh representative to this conference is expected to play a strong role in tobacco controlling.

While presenting an investigation report on Illicit Trade of tobacco products in Bangladesh, Senior reporter of The Financial Express F.H.M Humayun Kabir Said, huge amount of tobacco products smuggled into Teknaf from Maungdaw port of Myanmar across the Naf river. Marking Hazrat Shajalal international airport as an another gateway for cigarette smuggling he also said, Cigarettes of foreign brand and tobacco products are being sold rampantly in different places of the capital city like Nilkhet, Elephant road, Gulshan-1, Gulshan-2, Baridhara, Shamoly, Newmarket, Shabag and Utra. Cigarettes of different brand are being imported for duty-free sale. But the companies are selling in open market evading government taxes.

Vice-chairman of Anti Tobacco Alliance Barrister Tania Amir, President of Consumers Association of Bangladesh (CAB) Quazi Faruq and Legal Adviser of Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids Mr. Aaron Schwid Participated in discussion.

The discussants said, illegal traders are selling cigarettes in Bangladesh market which were prepared for duty free-sale of another country. Tendu patabidi's are being sold rampantly to the poor smokers in border area while Barmij churuts are being sold in different areas in Dhaka and Chittagong. Bangladesh government losing Tax and young generation becomes addicted in tobacco smoking. Every year 57,000 people die and 4,30,00,000 people being affected indirectly in Bangladesh due to use of tobacco.



EU representative visits

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of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Mongla and Chadpai union on 1 August 2010. Programme coordinator of IFLS of CAFOD Umme Kulum was with him. During the visit, the EU Representative highly appreciated the activities.

Women's liberation still a far cry

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Anwara Begum of Kishoreganj said that she had lost everything giving marriage to her four daughters. When she went to the local member for elderly allowance of her husband, the member had demanded Tk 1,000 from her. 'Who will establish our Human Rights?' Grass roots women disclosed tales of Human Rights violations at the opening function of the Grand Conference of People's Organisations at Ramnagar RRF Training Centre in Jessore on Tuesday.

Two thousand representatives of people's organisations took part at the two-day grand conference arranged by Ganokendro, Ekota, CBO and Lohanti Ankhra. The main issue of the conference was Human Rights.

On the first day, an opinion exchange meeting titled, 'People's Organisations and Human Rights: Expectations from Mass Media' was held which was participated by local journalists.

During opinion exchange meeting, Lovely Roy of Khulna said, the Sundarbans is going to be barren within a short time. We catch the timber lifters but they are being freed on intervention of so-called leaders and so-called OCs.

Mazeda Begum of Ambari in Sunamganj said, 'We are unable to bring anything from our chairman. But we hear so many things.'

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), Concern Worldwide, Ashroy and Actionaid jointly organized the grand conference. Several grassroots organizations displayed dramas, choreography and musical numbers on the day.



Human chains in 3 districts

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coordinator of the Mission's Jhenidah office, Md Kamruzzaman, co-ordinated the entire programme. After the programme, participants took a vow to create social awareness for prevention of stalking.

Barguna : DAM organised another human chain in Barguna on 10 November, 2010 with the slogan of 'Let us be aware for prevention of harassment to woman.' Keurabunia Children's Forum, Teachers of Keurabunia secondary schools, students and civil society members participated. Keurabunia Secondary School headmaster Md Habibur Rahman presided over while acting chairman of Burichar union Md Shohidul Islam delivered welcome address. Lt. colonel (Rtd) Abdul Malek was present as chief guest.

Jessore : In Jessore, 'Prevention of woman repression through empowerment,' a project of DAM formed another human chain on 9 November, 2010. Jessore Deputy Commissioner Md Nurul Amin

inaugurated the programme. Kotwali police station officer-in-charge (OC), district children's affairs officer, executive director of Banchte Shekha and all workers of the project took part. The chief coordinator of the programme, Advocate Rafiqul Islam, Executive Director of Banchte Shekha, Angela Gomez attended at the programme.

Chowgachha : A similar programme of human chain has been formed before Chowgachha Upazila Parishad on 9 November, 2010. Upazila chairman SM Habibur Rahman, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Sakhwat Hossain, Chowgachha OC and many dignitaries participated

Sharsha : 'Prevention of woman repression through empowerment,' a project of DAM arranged another human chain in Sharsha upazila on 9 November, 2010. Students of Sharsha college, Sharsha Girls' School, Sharsha Pilot School and common people participated.



Opinion exchange meeting [From page 1]

Goal, purpose and activities of the three-year project were discussed. Chairman of Chadpai union welcomed the personnel of DAM's IFLS, EU-CAFOD project and assured his assistance in implementation of the project.

Nat'l Sanitation Month, Global Hand [From page 1]

Mission (DAM). They sang songs, played dramas raised slogan on sanitation and hygiene practices for raising awareness and motivating people.

Colourful rallies were organized in Kaliganj, Jamalpur Sadar, Dewanganj, Borhanuddin, Tazmuddin upazilas and Comilla Poursabha on October 03, 2010. Upazila Chairmen and Upazila Nirbahi Officers jointly led the rallies at upazila level. Discussion meetings were also held on this occasion. Representatives of upazila parishad, DPHE, government officials, social leaders, journalists of print and electronic media, NGO representatives and community people participated. At union level, rallies and discussion meetings were held. Chairmen of Union Parishad in project areas led the rallies. NGO representatives, teachers and government officials took part at the rallies. The discussion meetings were held at Union Parishad office rooms.

As part of the programme, District Sanitation Taskforce members visited Rashidpur, Titpall, Dighait and Kendua union of Jamalpur Sadar upazila for monitoring sanitation scenario within a period from October 10 to 13, 2010.

A total of 282 schools of 32 unions and wards observed the month separately under joint initiative of DPHE and district administration. SSARA, SHEWA-B (Plain land), EWSDRR, Rural Piped Water Scheme, community Managed WatSan Project, Community managed arsenic free water treatment options-Chowgacha, WSHS serving urban poor in Comilla and Dhaka, Amader Fulbaria, WASH in Dewanganj project of WatSan Sub-sector organised colourful programmes in schools at district, upazila and union level.

113 fill up DV Lottery forms [From page 4]

facilitators assisted people in filling up the lottery forms using digital camera/scanner and Internet. CRC Coordinators Md Kudrat Ali, Azizul Hakim and Zahidul Islam helped in implementation of the programme. Earlier, general people were informed about rules of filling up the DV lottery forms through leaflets, sign boards, banners, organizing discussion meetings with unemployed youth at play grounds, ICT-based community action groups and representatives of Gonokendras. The information and technology-based CRC are rendering various services to people at marginal level in far-flung areas of various districts with the help of local community through Gonokendras.

Mainstreaming of graduated [From page 4]

project with the aim of formulating a structure for equivalence education. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Executive Director (ED) M Ehsanur Rahman was present as Chief Guest at the workshop initiated by UNIQUE Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. UNIQUE Project Director Shafiqul Islam was present as Special Guest. Material Development Division's Assistant Director Muhammad Mohsin and UNIQUE Project Programme Co-ordinator Golam Faruque Hamim spoke on the occasion. Training and Material Development Division's Senior Developer Momtaz Begum conducted the workshop.

The workshop was aimed at identifying various problems and implementation of a realistic work plan on equivalence education, documentation of its successes, recognition of skills of students of non-formal education of UNIQUE Project and advocacy on the subject.

Concerted efforts for helping [From page 1]

Programmes of DAM remained present throughout the meeting and facilitated different sessions. Md Saiful Islam, Regional Focal Person delivered welcome speech at the meeting.

Mainstreaming of graduated students of NFE with FE is essential

Mainstreaming of graduated students of non-formal education (NFE) with formal education (FE) is essential. For attainment of same standard of learning of students through NFE with the mainstream, equivalence in education system is now a demand of the time.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission's (DAM) UNIQUE Project, in cooperation with European Union (EU), is going to implement a pilot project on equivalence education in selected learning centres from January next year. This programme will be implemented in Mirpur, Kaliganj and Kapasia areas for attainment of necessary skill, effectiveness, usefulness and testing the standard of equivalence education. In the meantime, a plan has been developed



for implementation of this programme. Speakers said this at a two-day workshop on a system for bringing equivalence in non-formal education and formal education at Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Lakeside office on November 27, 2010. Giving emphasis on extension of non-formal education in new National Education Policy, speakers further said, a study on possibility of equivalence

education was conducted at joint initiative of World Bank and Primary and Mass Education of Education Ministry in 2004. In 2007, at joint initiative of UNESCO and Dhaka Ahsania Mission a recommendation was made on the structure of equivalence education. Dhaka Ahsania Mission, under supervision of Non-Formal Education Bureau and in cooperation with UNESCO, is going to take the pilot

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Self-learning Plus Training-2010

DAM is implementing 'Improvement of Quality Education Project with the financial and technical support of Plan Bangladesh. It has been aimed at improvement of slow learners of Class-3 to Class-5 and builds a strong base of students of Class-1 and Class-2 in 29 primary schools. Like every year this year also, a three-day self-learning training was held for the teachers of CAMP and community, to improve the quality of education and make joyful learning to the students. The manager of IQE project, DAM, Shripur, Gazipur-M Zahangir Hossain inaugurated the training course. Technical Officer of IQE project, DAM, Shripur, Gazipur, Md Shafiuddin Khan co-ordinates the Self-learning Plus course.

Resource trainers were the assistants of this course. In 6 batches, 37 camp community teachers, 72 Shopan community teachers and 15 community resource persons were trained self-learning plus training in the Mymensingh GSS training centres in the last week of August 2010.



Human chains in 3 districts for prevention of stalking

Harassment on school and college-going girls by stalkers increased in recent time. A teacher and a guardian have been killed for protesting their misdeeds. People from different walks of life have been protesting against such activities through various programmes. Programmes include discussion meetings, rallies and human chains.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has formed human chains and arranged

other programmes in Jhenidah, Barguna and Jessore districts to create mass awareness for prevention of the social ill.

Jhenidah : DAM has formed a human chain at Paira intersection in Jhenidah on 4 November, 2010. Jhenidah Sadar police station officer-in-charge (OC) Md Sagir Miah, Principal Aminur Rahman Tuku, DAM regional officer Rabiul Islam and people from different walks of life were present. The field

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Nat'l Sanitation Month, Global Hand Washing Day observed in dists

WatSan Sub-sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) observed National Sanitation Month and Global Hand Washing Day in a befitting manner in schools and adjacent areas at district, upazila and union level within a period from October 3 to 31, 2010.

Various programmes were chalked out to mark the occasion. Programmes included rally, discussion meeting, field visit, mobile cultural function and campaign, demonstration of hand washing events and award distribution ceremony.

In Jamalpur, a colourful rally was organised on the occasion at the district town on October 3, 2010. Jamalpur Deputy Commissioner (DC) Sirajuddin Ahmed led the rally. This was followed by a discussion meeting. Besides the DC, Pouro Mayor, District Information Officer and people from different walks of life participated. Cultural group 'Sarnali' organised cultural events in important areas of Jamalpur. The cultural group received training from Dhaka Ahsania

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113 fill up DV Lottery forms from 4 CRCs

A total number of 113 people filled up the Diversity (DV) Lottery-2012 forms from four community resource centres (CRCs) of DAM in four districts. The people included service holders, educated unemployed youths and local learners. The ACCESS (Health and Empowerment) Project of DAM organized the month-long programme of filling up DV Lottery-2012 forms from 5 October to 3 November-2010 from CRCs situated in Jessore, Jhenidah, Narsingdi and Jamalpur districts.

Of them, 47 filled up the DV forms from CRCs at Narsingdi, 34 from Jessore, 21 from Jhenidah and 11 from Jamalpur district. The CRCs earned profit amounting to Tk 3,372 through the programme. Senior CRC

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