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Kazi Azhar Ali Gold Medal for DAM

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has received the prestigious Kazi Azhar Ali Gold Medal in recognition to its outstanding contribution towards social service. Finance minister AMA Muhit awarded the gold medal to the president of DAM, Kazi Rafiqul Alam as chief guest at a function held at the auditorium of Bangladesh University in the city on 29 December, 2010.

The gold medal was also awarded to the president of Bishwa Sahitya Kendro, Abdullah Abu Syeed for his organisation's contributions in the field of education.

The president of Kazi Azhar Ali Foundation, Kazi Jamil presided while it was attended by prime minister's economic affairs adviser Dr Moshir Rahman and local government and rural development state minister advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanok as special guests. Among others, Dr M R Khan, Brigadier (retd) Abdul Malik and vice chancellor of Bangladesh University Golam Ali Fakir spoke.

In his address, the chief guest said, Kazi Azhar Ali worked for development of education. He did not mind for any criticism. He did it what he thought good. The country will progress if everyone works like him from his/her respective position.

A premier show of 'Teenie Ekjon' based on the life and work of Kazi Azhar Ali was held. At the same time, unveiling ceremony of the cover of his autobiography—'Tin Kal' was also held there.

Japan Embassy representative visits CRCs

IT services to reach thru' CRCs at grassroots level

'Pairsta Community Resource Centre (CRC) and Bahadurabad Rajonigandha CRC will easily reach information technology (IT) related services at grassroots level. Skill development and income generating training on garments, knitting and sweater machine operation as well as computer training can also be conducted through the two CRCs. The centres will act as resource storages in the respective areas'.

Rikako Suzuki, special representative of Japan Embassy in Bangladesh said

this after visiting construction work of Pairsta CRC in Pingna union of Sharishabari upazila in Jamalpur district and Bahadurabad Rajonigandha CRC of Bahadurabad union in Dewanganj upazila in the same district on 28 December, 2010. Acting Project Coordinator Abdur Rakib, Area Coordinator Ripon Khan, Project Engineer Ershad Rana and local elite were present during the visit.





Assemblage of fathers

An assemblage of fathers was arranged by three partner organisations with technical assistance of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. A total of 1050 fathers under Parenting programme of the project participated. Husbands of mothers who participated at Parenting programme took part at the assemblage. Trainer, MDO, supervisor and Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Technical Officer conducted the session. The subjects which were discussed with mothers during Parenting Session and their sum and substance were discussed with fathers. This was done so that fathers can also attain required knowledge and skill to rear up children through assisting them in proper development. The following subjects were discussed at the assemblage. Those are diseases due to Vitamin-A and iodine deficiency, reason and cure of the diseases, child rights, reasons and means to cure disability of children, protection from accident and injuries. Things to be done after accident were discussed. Besides, issues like causes of AIDS and its spread were also discussed with fathers.

Opinion exchange meeting on linkage issues

Dhaka Ahsania Mission's partner organisation 'AVAS' organised an opinion exchange meeting for getting assistance from various government and non-government organisations so that the programmes of ECDSP-B project are properly implemented. The meeting on linkage issues was held in the working area of Amtali Sadar upazila with the service-oriented organisations on 28 November, 2010. The organisations whose representatives were present at the meeting were BRAC's Nutrition related programme representatives Bibekananda Das and Milon Mukherje, Dhaka Ahsania Mission's representative, union



agriculture officer Abu Saleh, Codek's representative Sudas Mandol, Red Crescent's representative Zahirul Islam, union health worker Anjuman Ara, CMES's representative Mofizur Rahman, union health worker Purnima, Chaora UP member Abdul Aziz, Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Master Trainer Nasir Uddin, TO Md Ziaur Rahman and Gopal Kumar Das, PC Avas. After the programme, children can regularly check their health and are getting worm destroying tablets as well as Orsaline. Besides, Codek will supply worm destroying tablets from 2011. Representatives of BRAC, CMEL, Red Crescent and union agriculture officer assured their all-out assistance from their respective positions.

Representatives of Aga Khan Foundation and Canadian SIDA visit ECDSP-B field activities

Representatives of Aga Khan Foundation and Canadian SIDA on 11 November, 2010, visited the project area of ongoing activities of ECDSP-B Project being implemented by AVAS at Chaora in Amtoli upazila of Barguna district and Kukua union. The representatives of Aga Khan Foundation and Canadian SIDA was Faruq Faisal.



Manager of Dhaka Ahsania Mission's ECDSP-B Project, Md Shahidul Islam, the Executive Director of AVAS, Rahima Sultana Kazol, the Executive Director of Jago Nari, Hosne Ara Hashi and the Co-ordinator of AVAS ECDSP Project Gopal Kumar Das were present at that time. The visiting team saw four separate activities in four centres. The team went to four Pre-Schools (Paira, Balaka, Fulkuri and Chandrotara). Besides the team members saw the activities of Nutrition Development Programme participated by the local community at Chandrotara Pre-School

Curriculum, manual on health rights developed

Curriculum and manual on health rights have been developed under ACCESS (Health and Education) Project within a period from October-December 2010. Following the manual, training courses have been conducted in two batches at Jessore Regional Training Centre of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). A total of 56 participants took part. Besides, two-day training courses on Life Skill Development of Adolescents have been conducted in two batches under ACCESS (CAFOD) Project in Barguna Sadar upazila. A total of 60 trainees took part.

Triple festival at AUST

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) is a reputed institution of electrical engineers. The university has been working relentlessly to remain one step ahead in science and technology.

Triple-e Festival was held on the university campus on 15 December, 2010. Project show was its main attraction. The festival was divided into three parts—project show, photography competition and cultural function.

The programme was a complete success due to relentless efforts of the GS of Triple-e-Society, Apu Banik. The teachers who worked for a long time to make the programme a success were Golam Mostafa, Mahfuzur Rashid Ferdous, AKM Jahangir Alam Mojumder, Monjur Morshed, Bobby Barua, Mizanur Rahman, Zakaria Rahimi, Khorshed Alam, Nahian Al Mahmud and Kazi Ahmed Ahsan. The teachers encouraged and showed guidelines to make the project show a total success. Many projects were shown there. Some of the shows also created wonder. Its another attraction was photography competition. Many students took part there. Prizes were distributed among all of the winners before the cultural function.

The Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering, Brigadier Abul Hossain, thanked all for making the programme a total success. The vice chancellor disclosed that MS programme will be introduced at the Electrical Engineering Department very soon. He also appealed to the government and UGC for ranking with public and private universities. He disclosed a good news saying that two universities got brand and their university is one of them.

The cultural function began with reading from the verses of Holy Quran in the afternoon. It was rounded up with songs and music, dance, drama, fashion show, documentary and band show. Singers Sadia Safwat and Anika Tasnim enthralled the audience. The Vice President of Triple Society, Ashraful Alam, thanked the treasurer of the Society, AKM Jahangir Alam Mojumder, M Walid Bin Kashem, Aslam Khan, Adnan Habib, Mubin Shaon, Aslam Khan and all students for making the programme successful.

Assemblage of mothers

An assemblage of mothers was held in 42 Shishu Bikash Kendro (SBK), child development centres, and 42 Pre-Schools of three partner organisations every month in October-December quarter last year. Its objectives were to exchange opinion in children's learning-teaching procedure, mother's role in child's overall



development, assisting child through mother-child mutual interaction, ensuring mother's participation in centre, necessity of toy materials in child's proper development, preparation of toy materials utilizing indigenous materials and assisting mother on how to play with child. The subjects which were discussed at the assemblage were exchange of mother's earlier experience with new one, exchange of opinion in child's learning-teaching procedure, mother-child mutual interaction, story telling on grandparents etc. As a result, mothers became aware of the activities of ECD centre. Mothers also made toy materials and told stories to children. The children were delighted by their mother's activities and expressed their keenness to attend the centre.

ICT fair at Narsingdi

Opportunity for social service thru' IT should be utilized

The opportunity for social service through Information Technology (IT) should be utilized. Friendly Information and Communication Technology (ICT) at grassroots level should be established. Women's participation in Information and Communication Technology should be ensured. This type of fair at district level



will help involvement of information and communication technology with general people at grassroots level. Because of Information and Communication Technology, all kinds of information are now within people's reach. Speakers observed this at an Information and Technology Fair organised at the initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) on the premises of Narsingdi Upazila Parishad on 29 December, 2010. Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Narsingdi Begum Momena Khatun inaugurated the fair as Chief Guest. Narsingdi Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Sharmin Jahan was present as Special Guest. DAM's Deputy Director Raj Kumar Sandhu Khan presided over.

Among others, Mission's ACCESS Health and Empowerment Project Co-Ordinator Md Selim Uddin, Programme Officer Rakib and IT Specialist Sk. Shafiqur Rahman were present.

Agriculture Information Service of Narsingdi district, Union Information and Service Centre, Fisheries Information and Service Centre, Rural Information Centre, Family Planning Information Service, Rural Energy Solar Panel, four representative organisations of mobile phone at district level, business organisations of laptop and computer, Missions Community Resource Centre and other Information and Communication Technology-based organisations took part.

Health minister visits AMIC Information Centre

Health Minister Prof Dr A F M Ruhul Haque, MP, visited the AMIC Information Centre on World AIDS Day. During

his visit, the minister was informed about the activities on combating HIV/AIDS and other matters. He saw various materials on HIV/AIDS and drug developed by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) and appreciated DAM. The minister was presented with a folder consisting of different materials developed by AMIC. At that time, AMIC co-ordinator, programme manager, programme officer and other officials were present.

Earlier, AMIC took part in various national programmes like rally and seminar on the occasion of World AIDS Day-2010.



Opinion exchange meeting on oppression on women

'Not only men but women themselves are also equally responsible for oppression on women. This is why, both men and women should be made aware about the issue. Incidents of oppression on women will come down if womenfolk become well-educated.' Jhenidah Deputy Commissioner (DC) Rama Rani Roy said this while addressing as Chief Guest at an opinion exchange meeting organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission's 'Prevention of Oppression on Women through Empowerment Project' at Jhenidah on 21



December, 2010. ADC (General) Sheikh Md Rafiqul Islam presided the meeting while Jhenidah Police Superintendent (SP) Md Rezaul Karim and Civil Surgeon Dr Sheikh Keramat Ali were present as special guests.

In his address, the SP said, oppression cannot be reduced only by laws. Human values must be awakened while education has no substitute for awakening human values, he said. This is why, more and more women should be educated. Among others, Jhenidah Civil Surgeon Dr Sheikh Keramat Ali, Jhenidah Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Habibul Haque, Moheshpur UNO Abul Kalam Azad, Human Rights Lawyers Council President advocate Dabir Hossain and Principal Aminur Rahman Tuku and local elite were present.

Representative of DAM at Uruguay int'l conference

DAM representative and AMIC Co-ordinator Iqbal Masud attended the Fourth Conference of the Parties on Tobacco Control held at Ponta Del Este in Uruguay from 15 November to 20 November, 2010. Guidelines of Articles 6, 12, 14, 19 of the Framework Convention of Tobacco Control (FTC) of the World Health Organisation (WHO) were approved at the conference. The subjects which are included in the articles are: Article-6: Price and Imposition of Tax related, Article-12: Education, Communication, Training, and Public Awareness related, Article-14: reduction of demand related through dependability and and shunning tobacco and Article-19: Liabilities related.



Nomination for Chand Sultana Literacy Award-2010 invited

Like every year this year also, Dhaka Ahsania Mission is going to award the prestigious Chand Sultana Literacy Award-2010 to the person/ organisation in recognition to his/its outstanding contribution towards prevention and creating awareness on cancer and AIDS.

This year's main theme is "Prevention and creating awareness on cancer and AIDS". Nominations are invited from individuals/ organisations for selection of the awardee. The following things will be taken into consideration for nomination.

(1) Development of creative and innovative materials in preventing and creating awareness on cancer and AIDS. (2) Innovative work at field level in preventing and creating awareness on cancer and AIDS. (3) Research work on cancer and AIDS. (4) Commendable jobs in preventing and detecting cancer and AIDS. (5) Effective partnership/networking in implementing creative programmes for prevention of cancer and AIDS.

The award includes Tk 30,000 in cash, a crest and a certificate. Eligible persons/ organizations can nominate himself/ itself or any other person can nominate them. Individuals/organisations are requested to send their particulars containing names, address for communication, details of related works (with full documents of activity if possible) to the Director of Administration and Human Resources Division, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, H # 19, R # 12 (new), Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka-1209 (Phone-819521-22, 9123402) by 15 January 2011.

Baseline survey in Bagerhat

A total of 2,250 beneficiaries were elected in six unions of three upazilas in Bagerhat district in the month of April 2010 under Dhaka Ahsania Mission's IFLS, EU-CAFOD Project.

Of them, 1,352 were poor families, 275 woman-headed families, 225 disabled families, 214 union disaster management committees, 120 upazila disaster management committees, 34 civil society members and government organizations of Bagerhat district, NGO and 30 civil society representatives.

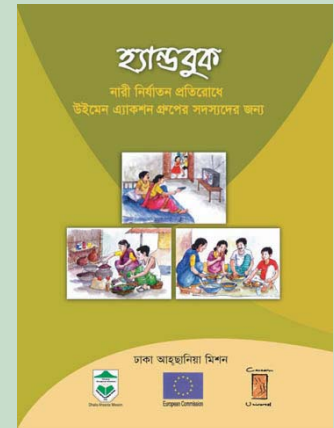
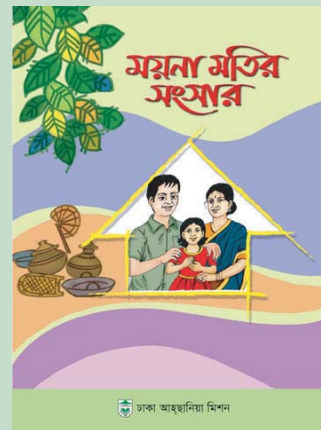
Moreover, baseline survey of 40 percent beneficiary families were done.

2 materials on Prevention of Cruelty to Women thru' Empowerment Project developed

Moina Motir Sangsar: Because of male dominated society, eroding of human values, superstition and ignorance, life of women has become miserable. Similar condition prevails everywhere in family, society and state. In such a condition, women fall victims of torture and cruelty alongside deprivation and exploitation.

Family members, local people, educational institutions and Union Parishad (UP) can play a major role in prevention of cruelty to women.

Moreover, creating awareness on the issue besides enforcement of law is now the demand of time. Moina Motir Sangsar has been developed based on practical experience and lessons learnt while implementing the programmes of "Prevention of Cruelty to Women thru' Empowerment Project" in various districts under Human Rights and Social Justice Sector of Dhaka Ahsania



Mission. The material contains a description of things to be done for making a torture-free happy family. Financed by the European Union (EU), the inner and cover of the booklet have been printed in four colours.

Handbook on Prevention of Cruelty to Women for Women Action Group members: Distressed women and juveniles have formed Women Action Group at local level for prevention of cruelty to women and children. The group acts collectively for prevention of disparity, torture and oppression on women, children and juveniles. The handbook contains information on human rights, prevention of male-female disparity, torture on women and trafficking of women and children. The easy handbook acts as a guideline for establishment of women rights and women development at field level. The handbook has dwelt on various types of torture and deprivation perpetrated on women from time immemorial. Alongside, the role of women in establishment of their rights has been narrated.

Juvenile members of Women Action Group, deprived women of the locality and organisations working for establishment of women rights can be benefited from the handbook. The handbook's inner-cover is of four colours. Financed by the European Union, the handbook has been developed under Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Human Rights and Social Justice Sector.



DAM working to improve underprivileged youths' quality of life

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has been relentlessly working to improve the quality of life of underprivileged youths of society. It has undertaken an ambitious adolescent development programme to rear up the underprivileged youths as worthy citizens of Bangladesh.

DAM's adolescent development programme is spread across Bangladesh with a great variety of interventions. Education and training remain one of the most vibrant areas of the programme. This is a direct intervention for promotion of competency of underprivileged adolescents. Numerous educational and training support services are provided. The services cater to the needs of young people. It includes skill development training for their ultimate job placement.

DAM has undertaken numerous field activities to prevent violence against adolescents which is prevalent in our society. Specially, girls fall victims of violence which keeps a bad impact on their physical and mental health. The aim and objective of the activities is to increase adolescents' awareness on the issue. Adolescents who live with violence are also given proper counselling to prevent the social ill.

Trafficking of young people for prostitution and forced labour is a serious and growing global problem. Adolescents are subjected to sexual exploitation, forced marriage, work as domestic help,

bonded labour and other atrocities.

Every year, great number of adolescents are trafficked to the neighbouring countries as well as middle eastern countries from Bangladesh. DAM as a national player, working both in urban and rural areas to develop and implement innovative strategies to combat this heinous crime and provide comprehensive support to trafficked victims.

Numerous health improvement activities are conducted by DAM to achieve well-being of adolescents. Interactive health sessions are conducted for adolescents at different learning centres of DAM. Topics being covered in the sessions include growth and development, nutrition and

physical activity, health and hygiene, activities relating to HIV/AIDS awareness and reproductive health of adolescents.

Moreover, school based water and sanitation services are being rendered to the adolescents through different DAM projects.

Formal health care services are also being offered to the adolescents through referral services.

Adolescent Development Forum (ADF) is a different kind of forum formed by adolescents themselves. DAM provides technical support to advance their social mission. An 11-member committee of adolescents governs the forum. The committee members sit together to formulate monthly action plan of the ADF. ADF identifies several problems of the adolescents and tries to explore effective solutions. It arranges rallies, human chains, street dramas, cultural programmes, essay writing competitions and painting competitions etc. ADF also holds courtyard meeting on nutrition, water and sanitation, birth/death and marriage registration etc. This forum communicates different gatekeepers including ward commissioners, CMC management committees, CLC staff and local elite to advocate the rights and interest of adolescents.

Besides, DAM has been at the forefront of advocacy efforts aiming at improving well-being of adolescents of Bangladesh. It is instrumental in formation of different advocacy coalitions on adolescent development.

DAM also provides technical assistance to such coalitions including DAWN Forum. It actively organises advocacy campaigns for promotion of adolescents' rights. It has been the centre in coordinating with various forums/coalitions in different interventions for adolescents for sharing experiences and knowledge.

DAM is one of the active members to participate in many campaigns along with other NGO networks. DAM has also been facilitating discussions between NGOs, networks etc. on common strategies for advocating the adolescent rights.

dam in frame

Activity Visualisation

programmes for child development



Parenting support for mothers



Children doing pre-school activities



Child development activities



Children in joyful learning



Children's improved schooling system underway



Children undergoing self-learning training