



DAM Annual Conference held

The two-day long DAM Annual Conference (DAC)-2014 concluded with great enthusiasm on 23 March 2014 through setting up milestones for the next five years and a strategy plan for next 10 years. **The inspiring theme of DAC 2014: *Discovering Potentiality for Future.*** The Aga Khan

Foundation (AKF) has provided technical and financial support for DAC 2014 and preparation of DAM's Strategic Plan 2015-25.

The opening ceremony of DAC 2014 was held in Multipurpose Hall, AUST. DAM Executive Director Dr M

Ehsanur Rahman delivered the welcome address and presented the objectives and process of DAC 2014. Inspirational and thematic speeches were delivered by the Guests Prof Dr A M M Shafiullah, Dr. Mohammed Abdul Mazid, Dr. M Shamsheer

Ali, and Barrister Rafique-ul-Huq. DAM president Kazi Rafiqul Alam delivered his inspirational speech and inaugurated DAC 2014. While addressing, he said, Hazrat Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (R), an eminent educationist, social reformer and



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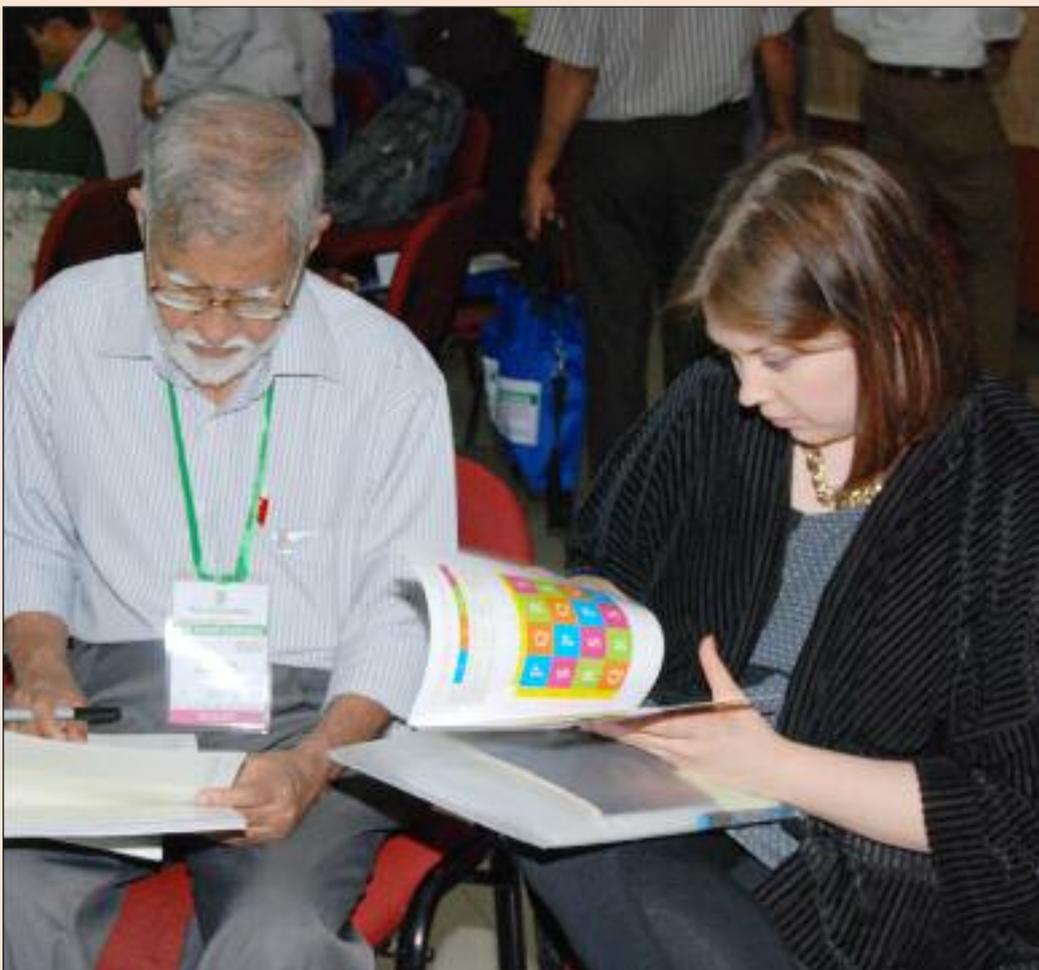
philosophy of its Founder Father, Hazrat Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (R), who has expired in 1965. Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has been started its development activities in 1976, today, acquired the position of one of the largest and leading Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) in the Development field of Bangladesh and expanded its activities in other countries of the world. From the very beginning DAM has concentrated on improving the quality of life of the disadvantaged poor through various programmatic



interventions. Today's DAM has 65 running projects, 28 institutions, 144 field offices and around 5000 staff members working with DAM. We have been implementing 5

(five) Mega Projects, which are Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST), Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital (AMCGH), Hajj Fi-

nance Company Limited (HFCL), Ahsania Mission Children City (AMCC) and Alokito Bangladesh – A Daily Bangla Newspaper. The 1st day activities of the conference focused on achievements, lessons learnt, good practices, and sharing of future plan by the 41 segments in four sequentially rotating parallel sessions in four rooms and identified opportunities of potential areas of collaboration. After sharing of 'Identified Potential Areas of Collaboration' under the Synergy Matrix through placing of VIP Cards in the Plenary Session at Multipurpose Hall was followed by a cultural evening in the same place and solidarity dinner at AUST Cafeteria. In the 1st plenary ses-





sion of the 2nd day was facilitated by Dr M Ehsanur Rahman, and moderated by Kazi Rafiqul Alam, President, DAM on ‘**Exploring Synergy and Potentials**’ among the 41 segments of the conference. The 2nd session of the 2nd day was on ‘**Formulating Recommendations for Future Strategy Setting**’ facilitated by Dr. Khawaja Shamsul

Huda, Director, ECCP, DAM and the 3rd session on ‘**Visioning Future: Setting Milestones for 2020 by Each Segments**’ was facilitated by Shahnewaz Khan, CEO, CINED, DAM. The 4th session was on ‘**Way Forward**’ facilitated by Dr. M Ehsanur Rahman, Executive Director and Chaired by Dr. Kazi Shariful Alam, Treasurer, AUST and

EC Member, DAM. The closing ceremony of DAC 2014 was held in Multipurpose Hall, AUST, started with presentation of ‘**Highlights of DAC 2014 and Summary Recommendations**’ by Dr. M Ehsanur Rahman, Executive Director, DAM. Reflections by the Guests of Honour Mr. Lakiot Ullah, Executive Director, Hajj Finance Company Ltd.,

and Mr. Khondakar Ibrahim Khaled, Distinguished Policy Analyst, Former Chairman of Bangladesh Krishi Bank, and Former



Deputy Governor of Bangladesh Bank. Mr. Kazi Rafiqul Alam, President, DAM and Advisor DAC 2014 have been delivered his speech and concluding remarks of DAC 2014.

Experience-sharing workshop of CMDRR Forum



A two-day sharing-workshop on the activities of the Capacity Building project and the Community-managed Disaster Risk Reduction (CMDRR) Forum con-

cluded at the Dhanmondi head office of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in the capital on March 11, 2014. Two representatives from each of 13 organisations of the CMDRR Forum

and Indian NGO named ASK participated. Various decisions were adopted to strengthen future programmes of the Capacity Building project. Dhaka Ahsania Mis-

sion Executive Director Dr M Ehsanur Rahman, also the advisor of the CMDRR Forum, graced the occasion as the chief guest. Director of ASK Dr Akul Khan played the role of facilitator. Capacity Building project has been working to mainstream the concept and approach of the CMDRR Forum being implemented with financial assistance from Concern Universal Bangladesh & Cordaid. At present, training is being imparted to the representatives of 14 organisations. In last four years, representatives from 85 organisations of five countries were trained.

Prize distribution ceremony held

The prize distribution ceremony of the winners of literary and cultural week of B Ed course trainees of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Teachers' Training College (KATTC) and M Ed course trainees of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) was held in the capital on March 28, 2014.

Professor M Eltas Uddin Ahmed, chairman of National Curriculum and Textbook Board, presided over.

In his presidential speech, he pointed out at degradation of moral values. He lamented saying that we

often tell about corruption off and on but we do not work sincerely for boycotting corruption socially.

AUST treasurer Professor

Dr Quazi Shariful Alam distributed prizes among the winners as the chief guest.

KATTC principal Professor Fatema Khatun deliv-

ered the welcome address. While addressing, she asked the trainees to apply, in practical field, their professional skills which they have attained at KATTC thereby honouring the same.





Workshop on disaster risk reduction

A four-day workshop on disaster risk reduction was held in the capital from March 13 to March 16. Ward secretaries of Dhaka North City Corporation, ward disaster management committee members, national volunteers, officials and staff of Dhaka City Corporation and SEEP, representatives of Save the Children and Concern Universal took part.

The workshop was jointly organised under Child Resilient Project of Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP) and Building a Disaster Resilient Bangladesh Project under Depico South Asian work plan of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (CDMP) provided technical assistance to city Dhaka North City Corporation cooperated in implementation of the programme. The city's disaster risk was determined and a work plan to reduce the risk of disaster was formulated.

Md Jahangir Alam, Assistant Director and team leader of Disaster Management Unit, Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Sumi Akter Sheuli, Project Officer, Concern Universal Bangladesh played the role of moderators.

Md Rowshan Ali, Project Coordinator, Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Sabina Parveen, Project Coordi-

nator of SEEP, played the role of coordinators during the workshop. ECHO,

Cordaid and Save the Children financed the projects.

Free hajj preparatory training course

Ahsania-Malaysia Hajj Training Institute will organise a free hajj training course for would-be pilgrims (government & non-government) of the year 2014. The training course will begin from the month of April and will continue till May this year.

Renowned Islamic scholars will conduct the training course every first and third Fri-

day and Saturday. It will begin at 3:00 pm and will continue till Maghrib prayers. Venue of the training course is Baitul Mukarram branch of Hajj Finance Company Limited. Interested persons may contact through cell phone numbers : 01817293958, 01772118081, 01552410049 for detail information.

‘Disaster prevention not possible but mitigation of loss is possible thru’ disaster preparedness’



“Disaster prevention is not possible but mitigation of loss from calamity is possible through disaster preparedness.”

Minister for Relief and Disaster Management Mofazzal Hossain

Chowdhury Maya said this while formally opening the National Disaster Preparedness Day-2014 at Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital. This year’s theme was ‘There is No Time for Disaster, We Shall Always Remain Prepared.’ He said the national and international day for disaster preparedness plays an important role in raising awareness about the issue. The day-long programme was organised under the sponsorship of the Disaster Management Directorate. Mesbah ul Alam, Secretary, Ministry

of Relief and Disaster Management, presided over the function while it was attended by Biren Sikder, State Minister, Ministry of Youth and Sports, as the special

Ex-secretary Lutfur Rahman Talukder’s 1st death anniversary

March 30, 2014 was the first death anniversary of ex-secretary of the Ministry of Land Lutfur Rahman Talukder. He joined BCS Administration cadre in 1977. He served as secretary of three ministries. He also held many important posts of the government of Bangladesh with devotion and sincerity. Of late, he served as the secretary

guest.

After its inauguration, the minister visited the stalls of various national and international organisations. The stalls displayed different flip charts on

of the Land Ministry. During his retirement life, he was associated with various social welfare organizations.

Before death, he served Dhaka Ahsania Mission as an advisor. On the occasion of his first death anniversary, his family members requested all to pray for eternal peace of the departed soul.

disaster management, messages and documents on case studies, books, booklets, video documentaries, posters and bulletins. The inaugural function was followed by a seminar. PKSF Chairman Dr Quazi Kholiqzaman and BRAC University Vice-Chancellor Dr Ainun Nishat delivered the main speeches. The programme concluded with distribution of prizes among the winners of a drawing competition and cultural function. Three hundred students of 10 schools brought out a colourful rally in Mirpur that was organised by the CMDDR Forum. Dhaka Ahsania Mission houses the secretariat of CMDDR Forum being financed by Cordaid, Netherlands.

Shapla dreaming a bright future

Shapla Begum is one of the successful initiators as she has turned her fortune through candle production. Now she dreams to be a forerunner at her area as self-dependent. Shapla Begum came at Biswaspara village of Kaliakair upazila under Gazipur district with her husband from Rajshahi in 2004. For leading a better life, her husband Anwar Hossain started working in a garment factory where he was paid tk 4000 only but this was not enough for a happy life. He used to search-extra something that would add extra amount with his regular income. One-day, one of his colleagues who worked at the same factory asked him for candle business. Then they jointly started to produce candle. But unfortunately, the initiative fell in vein due to some unavoidable circumstances. Anwar Hossain with his family returned Rajshahi but after six months they again backed to Gazipur with a new hope. This time, Shapla Begum with her husband started candle business with their own endeavor. They bought two dices for different types of candles. Amid the reality of hardship, they wanted to wise up in the society with these two dices but it did not meet them sufficient enough due to lack of investment. They continued their activities next four years.



One day, Shapla Begum came to know about the micro-credit of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). She took loan tk 25,000 from DAM in 2011 and with this money, they started to expand their business and became able. Just after one year, they took tk 45,000 as second phase. The process continued and as the third phase of loaning, DAM gave them tk 60,000. Within only two years, they bought another three dices. Now

the total dices are five and they have to produce more to meet the market demand. Now their daily supply is around 4000 pieces of candles whereas they would supply 2400 pieces of candles in 2011. Everyday Shapla Begum and Anwar Hossain jointly produce huge number of candles and supply it into the market. They produce four types of candle; one type is used as the alternative of lamp, the other types for birth day,

Puza and garment factory. Anwar Hossain collects wax, the raw material of candle, from Chawkbazar of Dhaka. They named their candle-Hawai Mombati. Now they dream a wider range with the loan assistance of DAM Micro-Finance Program. They don't want to confine only to this business. They are expecting to set up a 'Chanachur machine' along with candle business.



DAM IN FRAME

