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Condolence Message



DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam's mother passes away

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) President Kazi Rafiqul Alam's mother Begum Rabeya Alam is no more. She passed away due to old age ailments at her Dhanmondi residence in the capital

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DAM distributes relief materials among 7000 flood affected families

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), with support from CAFOD UK, has distributed relief materials among 7000 flood affected families of 23 unions of Kalaroa, Debhata, Ashashuni, Kaliganj, Shyamnagar and Satkhira Sadar upazilas in Satkhira district and Keshobpur upazila of Jessore district.

Seven days' relief package for each family included 12 kilograms of rice, 1 kilogram of Masur pulse, 2 kilograms of potato, 1 litre of Soyabean oil, 1 kilogram of salt, 2 kilograms of 'Suji', 1 kilogram of sugar, 2 Lifebuoy soaps, 6 candles, 6 matches, 1 bottle of water, 1 strip of water purification tablets, 5 packets of orsaline, 1

Sari, 1 Lungi, 1 sanitary napkin and one set of dress.

Satkhira Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md Abdus Samad inaugurated the relief drive in Kalaroa upazila of Satkhira district on 07 September, 2011. Among others, Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) A N M Tariqul Islam, Upazila Chairman B M Nazrul Islam, DAM Area Manager Md Shahidul Islam, Branch Manager Md Morshed Ali and local people's representatives were present.

Satkhira Sadar UNO Md Alamgir Hossain distributed relief goods in Satkhira Sadar upazila. Among others, Satkhira Press Club Joint Secretary Mostafizur Rahman Uzzal, DAM Co-ordinator

Abdul Bari Al Baki and Branch Manager Md Morshed Ali were present.

Besides, relief materials were also distributed in Satkhira Sadar, Kaliganj and Kalaroa on 07 September, Keshobpur of Jessore and Kalaroa, Ashashuni, Shyamnagar, Debhata and Satkhira Sadar on 08 September, Kalaroa, Debhata Shyamnagar and Satkhira Sadar on 09 September, Keshobpur of Jessore and Debhata, Shyamnagar, Kaliganj and Ashashuni of Satkhira on 10 September and Keshobpur of Jessore and Ashashuni, Shyamnagar, Kaliganj and Satkhira Sadar of Satkhira district on 11 September, 2011.

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DAM, Mexico Nat'l Instt for Adult Edn's effective strategy, experience sharing meeting

A team of Mexico National Institute for Adult Education (INEA) and officials of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) held a meeting on effective strategy on adult education and shared their experiences at Mission's Dhanmondi Head Office in the city on 14 September, 2011.

Academic Director of INEA Luz Maria Castro Mussot, deputy directors Claudia Rosales Gutierrez, Sara Elena Mendoza Ortega and Community Health Specialist Natalia Soriano Castro were present. The meeting discussed probable cooperation among

INEA and Mission in implementing effective adult education programme.

Luz Maria said, illiteracy is one of the main problems in Mexico. A total of 68 indigenous groups speak at their own language in the country. It is a challenge to make them

literate. INEA is combating against this challenge through organising numerous volunteers across the country. She also added that experience of DAM would be more dynamic for literacy activities in Mexico.

DAM Executive Director M Ehsanur Rahman welcomed the team at DAM Head Office. Programme Division Director Md Shafiqul Islam highlighted the activities of the Mission. DAM Training and Material Development Division Director M A Rashid and other high officials were present on the occasion.

Following visit to the Resource Centre of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, the team members made a courtesy call on the Mission's President Kazi Rafiqul Alam. Later, they visited Mirpur Cancer Hospital, Vocational Training Institute at Pallabi and Nogordola in Bashundhara city in the capital.

The team observed the field activities of Ganokendra, Community Resource Centre and Micro-finance Programme in Narsingdi on 15 September, 2011. The team also visited the Central Shaheed Minar in the city, before they left for home after completion of their 4 day personal visit to Bangladesh.

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DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam's mother passes away

at 09 a.m. on 2 September, 2011 (Innalillaha.....Razeun). She was 88. Rabeya Alam left behind 4 sons, 2 daughters, grandchildren and a host of admirers to mourn her death.

First, second and third namaj-e-janaza were held at the Dhanmondi residence, Sobhanbag jameh mosque and Nalta Sharif in Satkhira respectively. After third namaj-e-janaza she was buried at Nalta Sharif in Satkhira.

A condolence meeting was held at Dhaka Ahsania Missions' auditorium at 11 a.m on 3 September, 2011 where General Secretary of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Md Ziauddin presided over. Qul khwani of the deceased was held at her Dhanmondi residence in the capital after Asr prayers on 6 September, 2011.

On behalf of all officers and employees of Dhaka Ahsania Mission,

Executive Director (ED) M Ehsanur Rahman, in a condolence message, expressed deep sympathy to the bereaved family members and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Inauguration of fish culture, sales

A programme of fish culture in cages and sales has been launched in Jamalpur under the aegis of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), a major non-governmental organisation (NGO). DAM has launched the programme to enhance the standard of living of poor and distressed people.

Jamalpur Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md Siraj Uddin Ahmed inaugurated the programme at Tulshirchar union in Sadar upazila. Awami League leader Atiqur Rahman Sana, Sadar UNO Md Alamgir, Anowara Begum, Md Humayun and project officials were present.

Int'l Literacy Day observed in dists

International Literacy Day has been observed in various districts of the country in a befitting manner. ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) chalked out separate programmes in Jessore Sadar, Keshobpur, Chowgachha, Jhenidah Sadar, Moheshpur, Narsingdi Sadar, Sarishabari and Dewanganj upazilas of Jessore, Jhenidah, Narsingdi and Jamalpur districts on 08 September, 2011.

The programmes included colourful rally, discussion meeting, children's hand writing competition, cultural function, bringing out of wall magazine and prize distribution ceremony. Various CRCs and Ganokendra (people's centres) organised the programmes at upazila and union level.

Deputy commissioners (DCs), upazila nirbahi officers (UNOs) of respective districts and upazilas, government officials as well as officials and field level workers of Dhaka Ahsania Mission were present.

Similar programmes were also held in Barguna and Narayanganj districts including Mirpur and Mohammadpur in Dhaka city. In Barguna town, a colourful rally was brought out on the occasion. ACCESS-CAFOD Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organised the rally.

Barguna DC Md Majibur Rahman, additional deputy commissioner (ADC-General) Mohammad Ali, Barguna Sadar Upazila chairman Lt Col (retd) A Khaleque and assistant director of Non-Formal Education Bureau Jane Alam and representatives of CRCs/ Ganokendra and MCRC took part.

This was followed by a discussion meeting at Zilla Planning Academy. ADC-General Mohammad Ali presided over. Prof Md Liakat Hossain of Barguna Government College read out a report on literacy situation in Bangladesh. DC Md Majibur Rahman was present as chief guest.

Besides, the Day was observed in 106 people's centres and seven CRCs. A rally and discussion meeting were held under the aegis of Agnibina Ganokendro. A colourful rally paraded the Kadamtala Bazar street and terminated at Agnibina Ganokendro. This was



followed by a discussion meeting at Agnibina Ganokendro. Agnibina Ganokendro president Ziaul Haque Tuhin presided over while it was attended by Kadamtala Primary School headmaster Md Khalilur Rahman as chief guest.

About 2,850 people including women, children, juveniles, teachers, Union Parishad (UP) members, community and Ganokendra members took part. In Narayanganj, the Day was observed under joint aegis of Narayanganj Zila Parishad, Non-Formal Education Bureau and Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Discussion meeting, rally and cultural function were held to mark the occasion.

DC Md Shamsur Rahman led a rally which paraded different streets of the district town. Later, a discussion was held which was presided by Narayanganj ADC (education & development) Md Mahbulul Islam. This was followed by a cultural function. In Mirpur, a discussion meeting, rally and cultural function were held to mark the occasion.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission's UNIQUE, Drop-in-Centre and UCLC project jointly organised the programmes. Besides, UCLCWC Project's Alor Bhuban CLC, Alor Pathey, Alor Michhil CLC members, teachers and students took part in the rally. CLC president A K M Jamal Uddin led the rally. Alor Bhuban CLC joint secretary Raju Mia spoke at the discussion.

In Mohammadpur, a rally was held under joint aegis of Dhaka Ahsania Mission's Drop-in-Centre and UCLCW project. A rally was held which began at the Drop-in-Centre and ended at Royer Bazar Shaheed Intellectuals' Memorial. Drop-in-Centre programme manager Shamsul Haque spoke on the occasion. This was followed by a cultural function which was participated by children.



Standard draft for counselling service to trafficked survivors being prepared

A standard draft for rendering counselling service to the trafficked survivors is being prepared. The draft will be sent to the Women and Children Affairs Ministry. Successively, the next course of action will be determined. Speakers said this at a roundtable conference titled, 'Nationally Standard Counselling Service to Trafficked Survivors,' organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission in joint collaboration with USAID and Winrock at Jessore deputy commissioner's (DC) conference hall on 29 September, 2011. According to a government report, more than 13,000 children were trafficked from Bangladesh during last five years, speakers further said. These trafficked children were affected mentally in various ways for a long term. These children are being compelled in forced labour, sexual torture and domestic work. At present, there are 1.5 mental patients across the country. But there are only 123 psychiatrists for treatment of such large number of patients while there are 5,000 mentally trained physicians. The



number is quite inadequate to cope with the situation. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Programme Division director Shafiqul Islam presided over while it was attended by Jessore DC Md Mostafizur Rahman as chief guest. Additional deputy commissioner (ADC-General) Zahurul Islam Khan, ADC (Education & Development) Shafina Begum and additional superintendent of police (ASP) Md Zakir Hossain were present as special guests. Dhaka University Psychological Department Prof Dr Shaheen Islam read out the key-note paper. Representatives of government and non-government organisations and local journalists took part in panel discussion.



3-day training course on ACCESS-CAFOD Project implementation

A three-day orientation and training course relating to implementation of ACCESS-CAFOD Project concluded at the regional office of the project in Barguna district on 29 July, 2011. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Programme Division Director Shafiqul Islam presided over while Project Coordinator Abdur Rakib conducted the course.

Issues relating to project orientation, logical framework, main activities, implementation strategy, intervention on human rights and social justice strategy, baseline survey of targeted people, determination of durability of Ganokendra, phase forward of

Ganokendra, Ganokendra Performance Tracking Chart, service mapping, project diary, presentation of demands of various offices, record keeping/documentation strategy, networking and coordination and concept on role of workers in project management at various stages were discussed. A total of eight male and four female staffs participated.

Orientation meetings of PPVD Project held in Barguna

Orientation meetings of Promotion of Human Rights for Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project were held in No-6 Burirchar, No-3 Phuljhuri and No-2 Gourichanna Union Parishad (UP) offices under Sadar upazila in Barguna district on 16, 20 and 21 August, 2011 respectively. Financed by the European Union, the project is being implemented with technical support of Concern Universal.

The meeting at Burirchar was presided by UP chairman Md Siddiqur Rahman while union facilitator Saleha Khanom Lata briefed the activities of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. UP chairman Md Zakir Hossain Tapan presided the meeting at Phuljhuri while Md Farid Uddin gave the briefing, acting UP chairman Md Khabir Howlader presided over the meeting at Gourichanna. The orientation meeting dwelt on various aspects of the issue.

A total of 93 participants including UP chairman, member, health worker, social worker, sub-assistant agriculture officer, NGO representative, Women Action Group member, juvenile group member, paralegal team member, drama group member, legal aid representative, journalists and UP secretary took part. Upazila coordinator Md Rafiqul Islam supervised the entire activity.



ICT- related discussion, quiz competition held

An ICT- related discussion was held at Keorabunia Secondary School in Sadar upazila of Bar, mguna district under the aegis of Dhaka Ahsania Mission on 25 August, 2011. Field Coordinator Md Mizanur Rahman delivered the welcome address on behalf of Dhaka Ahsania Mission while senior teacher Yusuf Ali addressed on behalf of the school.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission ICT Facilitator Raihan Morshed addressed the key-note paper. The students were given a clear concept on ICT tools, ICT services at CRC/MCRC and Digital Bangladesh. Later, an ICT-based quiz competition was held for the students. This was followed by a prize distribution ceremony. Keorabunia Secondary School senior teacher Yusuf Ali distributed prizes among the winners as Chief Guest.

Hope Club organises Day Out programme for recovering drug dependents

AMIC's Hope Club organised a Day Out programme for recovering drug dependents at Nandan Park in the capital on 09 July, 2011. The day-long programme was organised considering the importance of healthy recreation for recovering drug dependents. A total of 20 young recovering drug dependents took part. They spent time delightfully on various rides and water zone of Nandan Park. Hope Club assists the recovering drug dependents to return to normal life.

Exposure visit held

An exposure visit was held at the shelter Home of Jagarani Chakra Foundation (JCF) in Jessore on 14th July 2011.

Members of survivor voice group and staffs participated in the exposure visit. Survivors spent the entire day at the shelter home. They interacted with JCF beneficiaries. They evaluated the services of shelter home and got a clear concept on shelter home and activities. The visit assisted the survivors to hold more shelter based programmes. The staffs learned lessons from the visit and noted the good practices of the programmes. They also identified the areas that needs improvement.

3-day long life skills training held in Jessore RTC

A three-day long life skills training was held in the Regional Training Centre (RTC) in Jessore from 19-21 July, 2011.

Winrock and partners jointly developed the life skills module. Manager Shahana Khandaker facilitated while Counselor Shahanaz Parveen and survivors Reshma, Masuda and Nasrin participated.

The training had an impact on the decision making process. On conclusion of the training, they got an ability to take the right decision.



Workshop on development of shelter standard protocol

A two-day workshop on development of shelter standard protocol was held in BRAC Centre Inn in the city on 26-27 July 2011.

PC Sharmen, manager Shahana Khandaker and four members of survivor voice group Reshma, Tania, Rozina, Ilora participated in the workshop. Participants worked for developing standard protocol for survivor's services.

On conclusion of the workshop, a draft protocol was developed. Most important feature was that the survivors' thoughts were reflected there due to active participation in the workshop.

Anirban (survivor voice group) members from three other partners of Winrock also participated. The draft protocol will be finalised soon and enrolled survivors will get the protocol in the form of a booklet.





21,213 learners brought under QPE Project for qualitative improvement in primary education in Sreepur

Dhaka Ahsania Mission, with financial and technical support from Plan Bangladesh, has brought 21,213 learners of Sreepur upazila in Gazipur district under fold of QPE Project for qualitative improvement in primary education.

Shishu Bikash Kendro (SBK) has been launched for overall development of children aged 3-5 years to make them self-confident and skilled from childhood by imparting them education in a joyful and child-friendly atmosphere.

Shishu Bikash Kendro will be floated as a model by utilising local manpower and

natural resources through involvement of guardians and community people. Encouraging child's own learning technique, a positive attitude for learning is being created through the procedure.

Children of 5-6 years of age are being given overall assistance through Pre-school in a joyful and child-friendly manner. This year, efforts are going on for school preparedness of 5,687 children in 500 Shishu Bikash Kendro and 2,615 children through 112 Pre-School programme.

Efforts are underway for ensuring qualita-

tive change in education through implementation of school development plan for 11,460 learners of 51 primary schools. Usually, school development plan is a joint effort of guardians, learners, teachers, SMC, people's organisation, local government representatives, NGO and educational administration. Various activities are undertaken for flourishing of learners' talent and mental faculty. The activities are formation of ministry of child affairs, wall magazine, debate, cultural meet, library, reviewal of progress of learners in guardians' meeting, cleanliness, usage of information technology, monthly and quarterly examinations, support to backward learners and introduction of creative evaluation procedure etc. A sense of belongingness is created for school among local people for adopting school development plan with participation of all. It also plays an important role in establishing good governance in school.

Besides, 25 Sopan are underway (for 925 learners of classes-1 & II), 24 CAMP (for 526 learners of classes-III & IV) in 19 schools. Learners' successes through CAMP and Sopan programme are source of encouragement for school authorities, guardians and people.

The programme will be extended to 157 primary schools in Sreepur by 2015. A target has been set up for creating a model in qualitative primary education through attainment of required qualification of 86% learners of primary schools.

AMCH construction fund Shadhin Group MD A K M Azad donates Tk 10 lakh

Shadhin Group Managing Director (MD) A. K. M. Azad Shadhin has donated an amount of Tk 10 lakh to Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH) construction fund for the under-construction hospital of international standard at Uttara in the capital.

The Shadhin Group MD handed over a cheque for Tk 10 lakh to the President of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Kazi Rafiqul Alam, at Dhanmondi Head Office of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in the city on Thursday, 8 September 2011. A children's cabin of the hospital will be named after his father Alhaj Md Hanif Uddin.

Bank of Asia Vice Chairman Mohammed Lakiotullah was present during the cheque handing over ceremony. While handing over the cheque, A K M Azad said, "We feel happy for being able to participate in the noble initiative". He appealed to people from all strata of society to come forward for commissioning of the hospital.

President of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam said, work on the 15-storied hospital including two basements consisting of 5,50,000 square feet area at own land at Sector No-10 in Uttara, Dhaka is



now at the final stage of completion. At present the cost of construction including that of sophisticated equipment stood at Tk 383 crore. The hospital will be run on "no profit no loss basis". Thirty per cent poor and distressed patients will get treatment free of cost. He appealed to all sections of the society to come forward with generous help for commissioning of the hospital.



DAM playing a leadership role in promoting child rights and eliminating child labour in Bangladesh

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) as a leading development organisation in Bangladesh implements various development programmes for the people of underprivileged section of society. Child development is one of the key areas of DAM's development interventions. DAM has been relentlessly working for promoting child rights and eliminating child labour. As a result, 'child rights and child labour' has been chosen to be one of the important thematic areas of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Mission's child development initiative has spread over all seven divisions of the country. Its child development programme has many components including ECD, non-formal education and basic education etc. On the other hand DAM has been implementing special projects for eliminating child labour.

DAM has a good track record on working for promotion of child rights and eliminating child labour. A good number of projects have been implemented by DAM during late 90s and early 2000s. Projects including Primary Education For Urban Working Children in Slum at Jessore (PUWC), Urban community learning centre for children Education and Empowerment of the poor, Non formal Basic Education for Urban poor children, Elimination of worst form of Child Labour, Child & Woman Trafficking Repatriation, Reintegration and Rehabilitation, Establishment of a Shelter home, Child & Woman Trafficking Prevention Program Concerted Intervention Through Networking, Child & Woman Trafficking Prevention Program and Child & Woman Trafficking Prevention Community Empowerment Approach etc have been implemented by DAM in the above period.

At present DAM is implementing many different projects targeting child development. Education is regarded to be the key fundamental right. As a result, DAM has prioritised children education and extended education projects across the country. Mission is now implementing different education projects which are: Establishment of four urban community Learning centre in Dhaka City, Multi-purpose Development centre for street and hazardous working children, Urban Community Learning Centres for Working Children (UCLC-WC), Quality Primary Education (QPE), Early Childhood Development Support Services (ECDSPB), Up-scaling non-formal Primary Education for Institutionalising Qualitative Endeavour (UNIQUE), Strengthening Good Governance in Primary Schools (SGGPS) and Community Score Card in Primary Education and Social Safety-net Project etc.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission is also implementing specialised projects for eliminating child labour. Basic Education for Hard to Reach Urban Working Children (BEHTRUWC) and Action Programme for Child Labour (APCL) are two important projects working for eliminating child labour.

Besides, DAM has been at the forefront of advocacy and networking activities both at national and local level. It organises meeting, seminar, roundtable and workshop etc to do advocacy in favour of child rights. DAM has a wide range of publications on child rights and child labour. The overall goal of such publication is to communicate child rights and child labour issues to the wider audience. Finally, through its multi-dimensional effort, DAM has been working to promote UN convention on rights of the child and complying with the national child policy of Bangladesh.



DAM in frame

Relief distribution to the flood victims at Satkhira and Jessore

