



## Vow to bring prosperity thru' literacy

### Int'l Literacy Day observed across country

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) observed the International Literacy Day in different project areas of the country in a befitting manner. This year's theme was 'Literacy Will Bring Prosperity, Peace Will Come in the Country.'

UNIQUE Project-2: The International Literacy Day was observed in 26 districts of eight working regions of Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Noakhali and Rangamati.

Learners and tutors of 2,380 child learning centres (CLCs), guardians, community committee members and representatives of various government and non-government organisations took part. Rallies, discussion meetings, drawing and hand writing competitions, sports and games, cultural functions and prize distribution ceremony at CLCs and Learning Resource Centres (LRCs) marked the day.

ACCESS (health & empowerment) Jessore Sadar: Jessore district administration and Non-Formal Education Bureau jointly organised rallies and discussion meetings in Jessore Sadar in collaboration with ACCESS (health & empowerment) Project of Dhaka Ahsania

Mission and various non-government service providing organisations.

Jessore Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md Mostafizur Rahman led a colourful rally. The rally was brought out from the DC Office and terminated at the same venue after parading the main streets of the district town. This was followed by a discussion meeting at the meeting room of the DC. Additional DC (education & ICT) Md Hamidur Rahman presided over. DC Md Mostafizur Rahman was present as Chief Guest.

Keshobpur: Rallies, discussion meetings, children's art competitions were held separately in Sufalkati Community Resource Centre, Pazia Swaralipi Community Resource Centre and Mangolkot Parodorshi Community Resource Centre of Keshobpur upazila.

Chowgachha Area Office: Chowgachha upazila administration and Upazila Primary Education Office jointly brought out a colourful rally in Chowgachha in collaboration with the Chowgachha office of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Upazila Chairman S M Habibur Rahman led the rally. Another rally and discussion meeting were *Continue page > 2*



## Opinion sharing meeting in Patharghata

Promotion of Human Rights for Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organised an opinion sharing meeting on Concerted Efforts for Prevention of Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girl Children at the meeting room of SAP Bangladesh on 27 August 2012. Barguna District Correspondent of The Daily Ittefaq and President of Patharghata Press Club Md Khalilur Rahman presided over. PPVD Project Manager Rowshan Ara, Secretary of Patharghata Press Club Md Mahbubur Rahman, representatives of print media and project workers were present. Journalists of different newspaper took part in the discussion.

## Contents

### DAM at work

Training course on disaster management page - 2

Uninterrupted food output should be ensured thru' improved tech -Land Minister page - 3

DAM Signs MoU with DCC (North) for tobacco control page - 4

Treatment facilities must be extended for drug addiction page - 5

UNIQUE-2 Project's training course page - 6

### Thematic Focus

DAM wins ISESCO Literacy Prize 2012 page - 7

### DAM in Frame

Activities at Ganokendro & Community Resource Centre (CRC) page - 8



## Training course on disaster management

ACCESS-CAFOD-II Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised training courses on Pre and Post Disaster Measures for volunteers of Ganokendro (people's centres), GMC members, UP Standing Committee members at Shyamoli Ganokendro of Amtoli union and Barguna Sadar upazila on August 28-29, 2012. Field Coordinator Mizanur Rahman and

supervisor acted as facilitators. Issues on project identification, activities of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Barguna district, all about danger, capacity building, meaning of disaster, causes of disaster, losses, all about disaster management committee, their duties and responsibilities, cautionary signal, disaster management related planning and reports etc., were discussed.

## EU-WatSan Project's planning workshop

EU-WatSan Project organised a planning workshop at Heed Bangladesh Training Centre in Char Noabad of Bhola district on September 13 2012. All project members of five upazilas in Bhola and Patuakhali districts were present.

The Programme Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Shafiqul Islam, Project Coordinator Md Shaheen, Documentation Officer Shaila Parveen, APM of WASH Project of Concern Universal Sharif Ferdousi and Programme Officer of WASH Project Md Waliul Islam participated.

The day-long workshop conducted an analysis of present status of the ongoing project, identified problems at field level and solution and formulated the next course of action. Alongside, a plan was formulated for construction of schools-cum-shelters in five upazilas of the districts. Two hundred schools-

cum-shelters were enlisted for supply of pure drinking water and installation of sanitary latrines. A design for installation of tubewells and latrines in the shelters will be prepared.

Focal persons of every upazila under the project will prepare aims and objectives of the project activities, achievements and list of undone work. Problems of work and solutions were discussed. Field level project workers and members of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Concern Universal collectively prepared the plan of action.

A total of 27 participants were present. Of them, 22 were men and five others women. The planning workshop ended successfully due to sincere efforts of all participants. It was hoped that the project objectives would be attained through sincere work, according to the new plan.

### From page 1

## Int'l Literacy Day observed across country

held at Hakimpur Secondary School in Hakimpur union of Chowgachha upazila. Hakimpur Secondary School Headmaster Md Rabiul Islam, Assistant Headmaster Mozammel Haque, assistant teachers Mita Rani Sarker and Mosammat Sharmeen Sultana took part.

Jhenidah Sadar: Jhenidah district administration and DAM jointly brought out a colourful procession in the district town. Jhenidah DC Khaza Abdul Hannan led the procession. The procession was brought out from the old DC Court premises and terminated at Shilpakala Academy Auditorium premises after parading the important streets of the town including Paira intersection.

Among others, Jubo Unnayan

Deputy Director Saidur Rahman, Non-Formal Education Bureau Deputy Director Md Suruzzaman, Regional Officer of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Md Rabiul Islam, members of Ganokendro (people's centres)/ CRC and NGO officials took part in the rally.

This was followed by a discussion meeting at local Shilpakala Academy. DC Khaza Abdul Hannan was present as Chief Guest.

Moheshpur: Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Ganokendro and CRC jointly observed the International Literacy Day in Jadabpur, Natima, Mandarbaria and Fatepur unions of Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah district. Discussion meetings, children's hand writing and art competitions were held, wall

magazines were brought out by semi-literates, sports and cultural meets and prize distribution ceremonies were also held.

Dewanganj: A mammoth rally was brought out from the upazila administration premises. The rally paraded the important streets of the upazila town. Upazila administration and Dhaka Ahsania Mission jointly organised the rally. Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO)

Md Aminul Haque and Upazila Primary Education Officer jointly led the rally.

CRC members took part in another rally in Katharbeel Bazaar of Hatibhanga union. The rally was followed by a discussion meeting. Children's art and hand writing competitions were held in Chikzani, Bahadurabad, Parrampur and Hatibhanga unions. Members of all Ganokendro (people's centres)





## Uninterrupted food output should be ensured thru' improved tech

Land Minister

Uninterrupted food production in an adverse environment should be ensured through improved agricultural technology. A coordinated effort of government and non-government organisations is essential to ensure food security

in Jamuna river floodplain basin. Minister for Land Rezaul Karim Hira said this as chief guest at a national advocacy seminar on Food Security in Jamuna River Floodplain Basin organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) at Dhanmondi Mission Bhaban

auditorium on 7 August 2012. He also stressed on food safety for ensuring food security. He also underscored the need for proper utilisation of all ponds and water bodies for the purpose. He called upon the service providers to reach the

services of the government at doorsteps of people.

DAM vice president Dr Abu Toyab Abu Ahmed presided over while it was attended by the vice chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Dr Md Rafiqul Haque as special guest.

National project director of Community Rural Radio Project Dr Md Jahangir Alam and pro vice chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University Dr Md Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan took part in the panel discussion.

DAM assistant director and team leader of the microfinance programme Asaduzzaman shared the experience gathered through implementation of the project in Jamuna river floodplain basin. DAM programme division director Shafiqul Islam acted as facilitator. Representatives of various government and non-government organisations were also present.

DAM has been conducting various programmes for a long time for involving the targeted people in income raising activities for improvement of their life and livelihood.

## Sewing machines distributed among oppressed women

Promotion of Human Rights for Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has distributed sewing machines among 11 oppressed women and adolescents of three unions in Patharghata upazila of Barguna district. The machines were distributed among the oppressed women of Patharghata Sadar, Charduani and Kathaltoli unions at the office of Patharghata Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) on 12 September 2012.

The machines were distributed after a 46-day tailoring training imparted to them at DAM Regional Training Centre at Vekutia in Jessore. The training

course was aimed at creating self-employment for poor oppressed women and adolescents.

Patharghata UNO Badal Chandra Halder, Upazila vice Chairman Md Zakir Hossain Sikder, Upazila Agricultural Officer S M Bdrul Alam, Upazila Fisheries Officer Sandipan Majumder, Upazila Youth Development Officer Jadab Chandra Roy, Upazila Social Welfare Officer Mizan Salahuddin, Dainik Samakal representative Md Imam Hossain, Patharghata Sadar UP member Md Shah Alam Khan were present.

Besides, Upazila Coordinator of DAM Md Quamruzzaman, Area

Manager of UNIQUE-2 Project Md Liakat Ali, Union Facilitator Md Monir Hossain, Fahima Akter and others were present.

Earlier, a sewing and dress making training was imparted to four oppressed women and adolescents of Phuljhuri and Gourichanna unions of Barguna Sadar on 1 September 2012. Sewing machines, clothes and tailoring materials were distributed to them after the training. Upazila Chairman Lt Col (retd) Md Abdul Khaleque, Barguna Press Club President

Md Hasanur Rahman Jhantu, Dainik Dipanchal Editor Md Mosharraf Hossain, Upazila Coordinator of PPVD Project Md Rafiqul Islam, Area Manager of Micro-Finance Programme Md Nasir Uddin, Area Manager of UNIQUE-2 Project Md Nazmul Hossain Khan, FC of ACCESS CAFOD Project Md Mizanur Rahman were present. Besides, Union Facilitator Kaberi Howlader, Md Farid Uddin, Admin & Accts Assistant Md Amiruzzaman Liton were present.



## DAM signs MoU with DCC (North) for tobacco control

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed between Dhaka City Corporation (DCC)-north and Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) to reduce direct and second-hand smoking and to control tobacco in Dhaka city at Gulshan, DCC Bhaban on 29 August 2012.

DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam and Chief Executive Officer of DCC-north Md. Nazrul Islam Khan signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Administrator of DCC-north Md. Shajahan Ali Mollah was present as chief guest on the occasion. Dr. M Mostafa

Zaman, National Professional Officer of World Health Organisation (WHO) and Ishrat Chowdhury, Technical Advisor of the UNION were present as Special guests. Assistant Director of DAM Iqbal Masud and Project Coordinator AKM Akteruzzaman were present on the occasion.

According to this MoU, in phases, City Corporation will declare the different public places as smoke free area and dictate the responsible persons of public places or organizations for keeping smoke-free and organize awareness meetings and programmes at different places including local offices. It



will take the necessary steps to implement the tobacco control guideline and law. Moreover, it will take initiative to drive mobile court at public places and transports and celebrate Days regarding the issue.

DAM will provide technical support to prepare a tobacco control guideline for DCC-north. Moreover, it will assist DCC-north to organize various

functions and to celebrate different Days relating to tobacco control. Necessary, smoke free zone signage, Banners and Stickers will be supplied at public places of DCC-north area. DAM will support for capacity building to implement of tobacco control law. DCC Bhaban-north is declared smoke free in the programme.



### Women Action Group's quarterly meetings at union level

Women Action Group of Dhaka Ahsania Mission's PPVD Project organised three quarterly meetings in Patharghata Sadar, Charduani and Kathaltoli unions separately on 12 August 2012. Held in collaboration with the respective Union Parishads (UPs), the meeting's objective was to prevent violence and discrimination against women and girl children. Respective UP chairmen presided over. Participants consisted of UP representatives, members of the committee for prevention of violence against women, paralegal workers, women action group members, adolescent group members and

drama group representatives. Women Action Group will submit reports on torture related events, project activities and women's income enhancement activities, according to minutes of the meetings. Women Action Group will also regularly maintain links with the UPS and NGOs.

### Workshop on making toys with indigenous materials

ECDSP-B Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised a three-day workshop on making toys for children with indigenous materials at Mim Anondo Ashrom Ganokendro in Barguna project area from August 18-20, 2012. Six adolescents (5 females & one male), 14 mothers and three



assistants of Anondo Ashrom Ganokendro took part. Programme Officer (material development) Khadizunnahar Swapna conducted the workshop.

### ECDSP Project's training workshop

Early Childhood Development Support Programme-Bangladesh (ECDSP-B) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organised three training workshops on management of Child and Adolescent Forum at Ananda Ashram Ganokendro in Barguna on August 5-6, 2012. Funded by Aga Khan Foundation in cooperation with local people, the training workshops were aimed at preventing school dropouts and ensuring child rights. ECDSP-B Project's Field Manager Kazi Yunusur Rahman opened the workshops. A total of 60 adolescents of the project area took part. Programme officers Khadizunnahar Swapna, Md Joynul Abedin, Md Saiful Islam and Technical Officer Ajoy Kumar Ghosh acted as

facilitators. The training workshops were aimed at bringing about adolescents' positive change in attitude, skill, knowledge on child rearing. Elaborate discussions were held on establishing liaison with basic service providing organisations run at government and non-government initiatives so that people can get an easy access to health, nutrition, education, safe water and sanitation services.

### Essay competition for school students

ACCESS-CAFOD-2 Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised an essay writing competition on Eve Teasing for students of classes IX & X at Parirkhal Secondary School in M Baliatoli union of Barguna Sadar upazila on 12 July 2012. Teachers who played the role of judges selected 10 students and ranked them as first, second and third place holders. Later, the headmaster of the school distributed prizes among the winners.



Treatment facilities must be enhanced for drug addiction treatment. Existing drug control law should be made time be fitting. There is no alternative to capacity building of treatment of physicians.

Speakers said this at a two-day national level skill development training for the professionals of drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission at its conference room (4th floor) on 01 August 2012.

Speakers further said, skill

## Treatment facilities must be extended for drug addiction

development training is essential so that modern treatment facilities can be provided to patients at drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres all over the country.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission president Kazi Rafiqul Alam

presided over while it was attended by the Director (treatment & rehabilitation) of the Drug Control Directorate, Akteruzzaman Mohammad Mostafa Kamal as chief guest. HIV/AIDS Specialist of UN ODC ABM Kamrul Ahsan, Additional Director of Drug

Control Directorate Abu Taleb were present as special guests. Dhaka Ahsania Mission Assistant Director Iqbal Masud delivered the welcome address.

AMIC-Dhaka Ahsania Mission will conduct trainings for enhancement of skill of the personnel of drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation centres all over the country in light of nine curriculums developed by the Colombo Plan. Twenty five trainees have taken part in the two-day training course.

## PPVD Project's networking meeting in Patharghata

Promotion of Human Rights for Preventing Violence and Discrimination against Women and Girls (PPVD) Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) organised a networking meeting for prevention of violence and discrimination against women and girl children at the office of Patharghata Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) in Barguna on 24 July 2012. Patharghata Upazila

Women Affairs Officer Taslima Begum and Upazila Social Welfare Officer Mizan Salahuddin were present as guests. Upazila Coordinator of the project, Md Quamruzzaman was present. The meeting discussed issues on organising meeting for prevention of violence and discrimination against women and girl children through coordination, courtyard and tea stall



meetings to create awareness, establishing link with the community, workshops and training courses and display

of film shows at community level. A total of 31 participants took part.

## UNIQUE-2 Project's training course

An 11-day teachers' training course on Non-Formal Primary Education Through Multi-Grade Learning System Approach for master trainers and technical officers of UNIQUE-2 Project was held at Base Training Centre in Sonargaon of Narayanganj district on July 1-12, 2012. Thirty trainees including 12 master trainers and 18 technical officers of Dhaka, Rangpur, Barisal, Khulna and Mymensingh regions took part. The training course was aimed at making trainers for implementation of Non-Formal Primary Education-NFPE programme through multi-grade system. Members of the central technical team of UNIQUE-2 Project Md Nurul Islam, Saleha Akter and Sheli Biswas assisted in conducting the training course. UNIQUE-2 Project Director Shafiqul Islam and Deputy Director Golam Faruque Hamim supervised the entire activities of the training course. Issues on objectives of UNIQUE-2 Project, programme, output, importance of non-formal



education, child psychology, fields of child development, technique of supervision in classes from Grade I - V, importance of co-curriculum activities, concept on supervision, importance of materials and preparation, community mobilisation, technique of improvement of relationship, formation of centre management committee, duties and responsibilities etc., were discussed. Various techniques and system of participation were used.



## Video shows on people's right to information

ACCESS-CAFOD Project of Dhaka Ahsania Mission organised video shows for people at grassroots level who were deprived of right to information for three consecutive days in Barguna district. The video shows were organised to create people's awareness at Burirchar CRC of Burirchar union, Gabtola Bazar and Naltola MCRC of Naltola union on August 5, 6 and 7, 2012. The aforesaid places are underdeveloped where there is no electricity. Local people are very poor. They have no capacity to buy newspapers. They also lack Internet and television facilities through which information is being circulated across the world. Disaster, education and health related information were reached to people's doorsteps through the video shows. People of all strata of life, specially women and elderly people, welcomed the move of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.



## Discussion on people's right to services

Dhaka Ahsania Mission and CRC jointly organised a meeting on Targeted Families' Right to Services in Ailapatakata and Amtoli unions of Barguna Sadar upazila on August 5-27, 2012. The meeting was held between the CRC and Union Parishad. Issues on aims and objectives of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and ACCESS-CAFOD-II Project, activities, progress on right to services of Ganokendro-based families were discussed. An open discussion on problems and prospects of right to services were held. CRC committee conducted the meeting while workers of Dhaka Ahsania Mission cooperated for success of the meeting. CRC presidents placed reports on progress of access and right to services of targeted families. Mir Nurul Haque, Chairman of No-5 Ailapatakata Union, Rushia Begum, a Union Parishad (UP) member and Community Medical Officer Nizamuddin Majumder took part in the open discussion. Amtoli UP Chairman Motahar Uddin Mridha, UP member Yunus Molla and Shirin Akter were present at the meeting held at the aforesaid union. A total of 78 men and women took part.



## DAM wins ISESCO Literacy Prize 2012

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) won the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO) Prize for Literacy-2012 for its significant contribution in the field of multi-dimensional education, literacy, NFE and continuing education programs as well as in the development of various forms of innovative materials for non-formal and formal education systems and in building capacity of teachers, field functionaries and CBO members. Dhaka Ahsania Mission was nominated by the Bangladesh National Commission for UNESCO (BNCU) for the ISESCO Prize for Literacy-2012. The ISESCO prize is reward for more than three decades of persistent efforts of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in the area of education in Bangladesh. In facts, Dhaka Ahsania Mission has been implementing various types of educational projects in more than 28 districts of Bangladesh for intensive Literacy and Non-formal education programmes and other development support services. The award is an inspiration to the organization and its dedicated staff to continue their hard work in promoting education in Bangladesh.

As recognition of DAM's contribution in the field of education, DAM received the Independence Award in 2002 which is the highest national award of Bangladesh. At the International level DAM received prestigious award "International Literacy Prize-2003" awarded by UNESCO. Other significant awards for contribution in the

development sectors include AGFUND international Award-2004 for pioneering development project on environment, Global Development Network Award-2003 from USA GDN, Grand Prize from Asia Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO, Japan for development of innovative literacy follow-up material and UN-ESCAP Human Resources Development Award in 1994.

A great saint, philosopher, renowned educationist and social reformer, Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA) founded Dhaka Ahsania Mission in 1958 with the motto of "Divine and Humanitarian Service". The founding aim of DAM is 'social and spiritual development of entire human community' which is the guiding principle of all DAM activities. DAM is now one of the leading Non-Government Development Organizations in Bangladesh working with people for last 55 years providing multi-dimensional development support services to the disadvantaged and poor people both in the rural and urban settings through its CLCs. It has contributed significantly to various aspects of socio-economic, cultural and educational development in the country by the appropriate use of supplementary reading materials along with the literacy primers.

DAM has significantly concentrated on promoting adult education among the deprived and socially excluded section of the population through its Community Learning Centres (CLCs), the people's organization, locally called "Ganokendra"

are the main actor at community level. Women and girls are the preferred beneficiaries in all its programme activities, especially literacy and non-formal education (NFE) with tailored programmes. In all areas, DAM's programme is deliberately designed in favour of women and adolescent girls for their empowerment. DAM's literacy and NFE programme have been contributing to accelerate national literacy rate. DAM's development programme and technical support services has surpassed national boundaries and has benefited many countries in the Asia Pacific region especially neighboring countries like India, Nepal and Pakistan.

DAM successfully implemented the literacy and non-formal education programme and use the lessons learnt in the mainstream development approach of the organization. DAM is now currently advocating for wider application of the learning at national level. Dhaka Ahsania Mission has initiated several innovative models in the field of adult literacy and NFE throughout Bangladesh targeting out of school children and adolescents, and young adults through strengthened empowerment to accelerate progress towards removing illiteracy and unemployment. DAM has demonstrated how education, livelihood and life skills can be integrated as a package and can be implemented with active participation of the beneficiaries and the community through their CLCs.

Human resources are the most significant factor in strengthening the empowerment of a community, capable of analyzing its own problems and finding the solution to each one without depending on outsiders. The community empowerment for response to poverty alleviation through Community Learning Centre (CLC) approach has been formulated to support local communities in taking proactive initiatives and managing the process of change through a learning-by-doing approach. CLC is local education institution or learning venue outside the formal education system in villages or urban areas, set up and managed by local people and provides various learning opportunities for community development and improvement of people's quality of life. Ganokendra is an example of best practice for adult literacy and continuing education, enabling several millions of adults to acquire literacy skills.



## DAM in frame

### Activities at Ganokendro & Community Resource Centre (CRC)



Global Action Week was observed in a befitting manner in Anarkoli Ganokendro at Shankarhuda village in Moheshpur upazila of Jhenidah district recently.



Healthcare service is being provided to poor people at Chanderhat Ganokendro in Narshingdi.



Participants take part in routine activity at Doel Ganokendro in Keshobpur upazila of Jessore district.



An awareness creating discussion meeting progresses at Alorbhubon Ganokendro in Jessore.



Aleya Begum taking care of chickens at her farm after undergoing training on poultry birds rearing at Madhukori CRC in Jhenidah.



Part of various programmes being observed at Sonali Provat CRC at Chinishpur in Narshingdi

