



Editorial

Light House used to take this opportunity to inform it's stakeholder about some activities those were captured by our field level staff who are directly involved in the implementation. However, under this e-bulletin for period of January to March 2023 few activities have been identified that are contribute to the program participants directly also has got media attention as well. GRS orientation for community people was a unique intervention. The orientation for Upazila and district level officials also conducted by Light House. International Women's Day observed with MoWCA and NGOs community jointly and differently in different date. Light House PPJ project identify about their great success to provide solution and restored right of a poor man who lost a leg by an accident. My heartfelt thanks to the view for their attention and suggestion.

Md. Harun-Or-Rashid
Chief Executive,
On behalf of Editorial panel.

The television program boosted in the Light House Face book and You Tube channel. The tele discussion reach 48,816 people and 22,300 viewers. The address of the Face book and you tube as below;

Facebook:

<https://fb.watch/jcfst8vfuk/>

You tube channel:

https://youtu.be/luCw_X4ZqAg

Observance of International Women's Day, 2023

Shukhi Jibon Project, Light House observed the "International Women's Day" on 8th March, 2023. Part of this observation, a television program (TV talk show) recorded on 5th March ,2023 partnered with the ATN Bangla which was telecast on 8th March, at 12.20 pm.

The main purpose of the TV talk show is to support in creating enabling environment by raising awareness among the men, women as well as youth and adolescents. Theme of the day was "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality", "জৈৱ বৈষম্য নিরসনে ডিজিটাল প্রযুক্তি "





The event has been organized in three round of discussion on following issues:

Section -1:

Discussed on the theme of the International Women's Day, March 8, 2022 (IWD 2022) and analysis of the role of non-governmental organizations in women's development.

Section-2:

Discussed on digital technology and innovation are current government initiatives and addressing disparities in the use of digital technologies

Session-3:

Discussed on Analysis of current situation of acid violence, use of digital technology, taking steps to stop violence and rape of women and use of digital technology in discrimination and women's rights.

The key discussants were Ms. Farida Pervin (Additional Secretary), Director General-Department of Women Affairs, Advocate Kamrunnahar, Human right and women Activist and Director Naripokko and Ms. Tahmina Yesmin, Coordinator, Acid Survivor Foundation. Before the discussion held, a group of young people took the opportunity to raise their concerns and asked questions to the panelists. All panelists addressed those concerns during the discussion. Mr. Harun-or- Rashid, Chief executive of Light House facilitated the discussion.

Colorful Rally for observance International Women's Day,2023

Light House organized a colorful rally in close collaboration with Department of Women's Affairs and Nari Pakkah.

The rally was started from central Shaid Minar, Dhaka Medical college premises to Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Before the rally started, a discussion meeting held at in-front Shaid Minar, where Member of Parliament, Director General of Women Affairs delivered their speech. A large number of Govt. and Non Govt. organizations took part on the rally with banner and festoon. Light House team led by Mr. Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Chief Executive joined this central rally.



Another colorful rally was also organized by a group NGOs (around 50 NGOs) on 11 March to observe the day. The main objective was "to create mass awareness on the importance of International Women's Day, 2023", to align the project goal related to change harmful community norms related to adolescent sexual reproductive health". After the rally that cultural program took place at Sohrawardi uddan highlighting the theme of the day.

Cultural show:

The Shukhi Jibon Project, Light House organized a cultural program at the two parts of the city.

1) Sohrawardi uddan , Dhaka

2) Ershad Nagar (Verybadh) Tongi, Gazipur. as a part of observance "International Women's Day,2023".

The cultural team comprised a group of transgender / hijra people including RJ and Artist. Before starting the cultural program, Mr. Faruk Ahmed, counselor ward # 49, Gazipur City Corporation, inaugurated the event. He delivered his speech about the importance of the Day and how we can aware the people about the rights of the women and to establish in the society. We noticed that, violence against women and girls are increasing day by day. He said, we must stop this if we made a happy life as well family and society.

The team performed aiming to create awareness about Early Marriage, Family Planning, Child Marriage, Gender Based Violence (GBV) etc. The entire program was video recorded and uploaded in the Light House YouTube and Face book channel to reach more people.

At least, 74,275 people were reached program through you tube and face book channel and 55,323 viewers watched this. Minimum 1000 people watch this cultural show directly.



Media Advocacy:

As part of media advocacy, Shukhi Jibon Project, Light House organized media advocacy at Bangladesh Shishu Kallyan Parisad on 6th March , 2023 for observing "International Women's Day, 2023 where 21 participants participated including 17 journalists / reporters and 4 guest including Mrs. Ayesha Nargis, Deputy Director, Department of Women Affairs, Advocate Kamrun Nahar, Director - Nari Pokkho, Mr. Sohrab Hussain - Adolescent Behavior Change Manager -Pathfinder International and Mr. Faroque Ahmed Talukder- Editor- Daily Ajkaler Khabor as special guests.

Mrs. Ayesha Nargis, Deputy Director- Planning and Evaluation, Department of Women Affairs, ministry of Women and Children Affairs joined as chief guest in the media advocacy and Mr. Harun Or-Rashid, Chief Executive of Light House presided over the meeting. The meeting details are as following-

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr. Harun Or- Rashid welcomed the participants and presented key note / press release considering the historical background and context of the Day. After key note presentation others special guest delivered their speech about the day.

Advocate Kamrunnahar (director Nari Pokkho) : She compared journalist with the mirror. She also shared the activities of Nari Pokkho for the day observance. Nari Pokkho leads the coalition of feminist activists in Bangladesh. She also shared the High Court Division ruling on child custodians for mothers. She also mentions the contribution of women in the national development. She mentions national budget should be gender sensitive. Percentage female is lower than male in the higher education.



Mr. Faroque Talukder (Editor Daily Ajkaler Khabor): He emphasizes the necessity of women's success story published in the news media. He also point out that, female administrators at upazila and district level are increasing day by day.

Mr. Sohrab Hussain (Adolescent Behavior Change Manager- Pathfinder International): He pointed out that, the types of problem women face is changing. He discusses a report prepared by Action Aid and mentioned the household work of women is not given the monetary value and it is not counted as productive work. However, he opined that the household of women has to be paid.

Chef guest: Chef guest Mrs. Aesha Nargis thanks the media for publishing the development work of Bangladesh including women's activities. She points out that, women's need to more involve in the e-commerce. It would make them economically solvent. It is also imperative to create safe work place at the digital platform for women.

1. To know in more details about it, some links are provided below Samakal: <https://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2023-03-07/15/2565>
2. Manabzamin: <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=45609>
3. Sangbad: <https://epaper.sangbad.net.bd/2023-03-07/4/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%B0>
4. Karotoa: <https://www.ekaratoa.com/epaper/viewmap/193976.jpg>
5. Samoyer Alo: https://epaper.shomoyeralo.com/2023/03/07/2/details/2_r4_c2.jpg
6. Alokito Bangladesh: https://epaper.alokitobangladesh.com/2023/03/09/images/04_105.jpg?v=1.0.3
7. BanglaNews: <https://www.banglanews24.com/national/news/bd/1068493.details>

Abdur Rakib got acquitted from land grabbing case by participating in e-dialogueE-

Dialogue with Mahajanpur Union Parishad and District Legal Aid Office was organized by Light House PPI-Meherpur on January 2023. District Legal Aid Officer and Assistant Senior Judge, Union Legal Aid Committee members, UP members, Union Parishad employees and common people of the union participated in the meeting. The Legal Aid Officer advises the people of the Union on legal advice, legal assistance and legal remedies through projectors using digital devices.

Md. Abdur Rakib, Village: Gopalgram, Union: Mahajanpur, Upazila: Mujibnagar, District: Meherpur participated in the said e-dialogue and sought the assistance of the Legal Aid Officer to get redressal regarding his land. The Legal Aid Officer asked him to inform him about the problem. He said they have ancestral property, in which many others in their family, including him, have share. The partners have already sold their land and have no land left. They have created fake documents to grab my land and are threatening to sue me and trying to grab the land. Abdur Rakib says, I lost one of my legs in an accident and am living a crippled life. There is no money to handle the case. I am very worried about this matter. He sought the assistance of the Legal Aid Officer to solve his problem.

The legal aid officer heard about his problem and told him that I can't see your land papers digitally so it's not possible to solve the problem without seeing the papers, you come to my office with all your papers. I will look at the land papers and advise on what to do.

Abdur Rakib filed a complaint with the Legal Aid Office bearing the complaint number Khawan-Gouai-221201-0000941. In view of his complaint, a conciliation meeting was held on 09.01.2023 for a compromise between the two parties. The land deeds of both the parties were verified and judgment was given in favor of Abdur

Rakib. The legal aid officer said, after verifying the land papers, it can be seen that AbdurRakib's land papers are correct, while the other party's land papers are fake. AbdurRakib was acquitted from the case with the help of the Legal Aid Officer.



Case Study

Details description:

I am Urmi Akter. My father is Md. Abdul Haque and my mother's name is Dipali Begum. My house is in Agbethair village of Sadar upazila of Tangail district. When I was in secondary school I became a friend with a boy on Facebook and eventually, it turns into love. Later we decided to meet each other. After meeting 2-3 times we decided to get married alone and we go to court and get married through a notary public and also decided not to tell the family. Marriage date: 25/09/2021. After one year of marriage, I told my husband that nobody knows about our marriage in the house. So, my family is putting pressure on me to get married. You should inform your family about this as soon as possible. Then my husband told the family about us but they didn't agree to accept me. Since then my husband also stopped contacting with me. He has not contacted me for almost eight months. They threatened me over phone. Then I (Urmi Akter) told my family about it. Then I learned about legal aid services through Light House. Later we went to the district Legal Aid Office with the help of Mst. Taslima who works at Light House and met with senior assistant judge Monika Khan Sir on March 2, 2023, and told her everything. She suggested to file a complaint. Later, they called me and the defendant on 19th March 2023 for settlement. But the defendants didn't appear on that date. After calling them to appear before court, he agreed to come on 20th March 2023. And they decided after coming that they would accept me. But I refused to go with them. I agreed after giving some conditions. And as per agreement on 23rd March 2023, I was taken to my father in law's house. Now I am staying at my father-in-law's house with my husband and living happily with everyone.



GRS Sharing Meeting with Journalists



Under the project called-Testing of GRS piloting at community to district level with the funding support from MJF, Light House organized a sharing meeting with media representatives that was held in Bogura district with the aim of promoting awareness among the general citizen about the use of grievance redressal procedure and also facilitating online filing of grievances. The meeting was chaired by the President of the Light House Executive Committee Professor Habiba Begum. The sharing meeting was moderated by the Chief Executive of Light House, Mr. Md. Harun-Or-Rashid. The Superintendents of Police Bogura Mr. Sudip Kumar Chakroborti BPM PPM was present as the chief guest in the meeting. Additional District Magistrate(ADM) Most. Afsana Yasmin, Additional Superintendent of Police Most: Helena Akhter and General Secretary of Bogura Press Club Mr. Md. Amjad Hossain Mintu were present as special guests.

A total of 37 Male: 35 & Female: 02 District police department, GRS focal person, print and electronic media representatives, volunteer of project areas and Light House officials) were present in this sharing meeting.

Mr. Md. Salah Uddin, Project Director-in-Charge of the organization, presented the project and the findings of the survey through a multimedia projector. After the multimedia presentation, the Focal Person of GRS, Bogura started the discussion with her speech.

After that, in the open discussion, the journalists called upon the district administration and the Light House to make the grievance redressed system easy to use and increase public awareness about the grievance redresses system. Mr. Md. Amjad Hossain Mintu, General Secretary of the Press Club-Bogura, said that this GRS program is a shining example of the work that the Honorable Prime Minister is doing to build a smart Bangladesh.

The chief guest in his address told the participants that GRS system is a great initiative of the present government, aggrieved persons can apply for redress of their grievances at home. He said to the journalists, you will convey this initiative of the government to the public through your writings. Common people will be benefited by your promotion. He urged to work towards increasing public awareness about the GRS system through the Light House.



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