

## Light House observed "World AIDS Day 2016"



In collaboration with National AIDS/STD Control of DGHS, Light House under the GF-NFM supported projects (FSW intervention and MSM & Hijra Intervention), observed World AIDS Day - 2016 on December 1, 2016 at central and local level. The major events at central level include participating the colorful rally and national seminar organized by NASP. And Light House decorated one stall in the World AIDS Day Fair where the relevant materials of the projects and organization were displayed. Beyond these, a week round program at DIC level declared by the relevant projects as part of World AIDS Day - 2016 observation. Besides the central level activities; the DICs and Sub-DICs along with the community representatives participated in the rally, seminar and discussion meetings, which were organized by the local administration in 48 district / Upazila level. The DICs and Sub-DICs continued week round discussion meeting at center and outreach level where importance on World AIDS Day observation and HIV prevention considered as discussion topics. Beside week round special HTC session also continued at DIC and Sub-DIC level as part of World AIDS Day - 2016 observation.

### Oversight Team of BCCM of HIV program visited the Cox's Bazar Drop-In Centre for Female Sexworker, Light House Consortium:



The oversight committee of Bangladesh Country Coordination Mechanism (BCCM), headed by Ms. Roxana Quader, Additional Secretary (PH&WHO), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare & Chair BCCM Oversight Committee, visited Cox's Bazar DIC of Light House Consortium on January 16, 2017. Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House accompanied the team. The other team members includes Prof. Dr. Abul Faiz, Former Director General, DGHS and Professor of Medicine, Mr. S.M. Ahsanul Aziz, Deputy Secretary (WHO), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare & Member, Mr. Zahedul Islam, Country Project Director, MSH/SAIPS Bangladesh, Mr. Milan Kanti Dutta, BCCM HBCUC and BCCM

Member, FBO Constituency, Mr. Abu Sayeed, Team Leader, GMS Consultant, Mr. Manaj Kumar Biswas, BCCM Coordinator and BCCM Secretariat, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. Beside Divisional Director (Health), Chittagong and Civil Surgeon, Cox's Bazar also joined the team while visited Cox's Bazar DIC. All member are stress on improve coordination and referral mechanism among the services provider for HIV prevention in Bangladesh.

### Light House IRSOP project organized Peer- Exchange Visit

A five day long exchange visit took place to Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) project, Chittagong from 8 to 12 January 2017 along with the objective to acquire an understanding of the best practices and ways to overcome the implementation challenges. The team comprised with four members (Manager-RJ & Rehabilitation, Rehabilitation Officer, Rehabilitation Supervisor cum Counselor and Counselor) from the RJ and rehabilitation program of Light House managed project, supported by GIZ. The five-day Chittagong exposure visit has broadened visions and perspectives of the Light House delegates through visits and various exchange sessions like meeting the jail authority, representative of the Rehabilitation Center, Paralegals and District Project Officer; Visiting BKTTC and beneficiaries' home and work places; attending the certificate distribution ceremony and observing the documentation and reporting process, etc. The team expressed thanks to GIZ for the supporting the exposure visit, prison authorities for their generosity and as well as to Dhaka Ahsania Mission for their invaluable assistance in the circumspect arrangement of the itineraries.





## Public Hearing at Sathia upazila- Justice For All, Pabna



Light House has been implementing the Justice For All -Pabna Project funded by USAID's justice for all program covering with 9 upazilla of Pabna district to establish and ensure justice for the helpless people. As a part of JFA project activity; Light House conducted a public hearing at R - Atikola union of Sathia Upazila in Pabna District on January 19, 2017 to receive the testimony from the public about Government Legal Aid Service and to use the opportunity for clarifying the wrong perception, myths, fears, etc. if there is any about the service. The public hearing presided over by Md Kuddus Munsir, Chairman of R-Atikola union where Md. Moklesur Rahman, Upazila Chairman, Sathia was present as a Chief Guest.

## District Legal Aid Committee: Plays major role in activating the legal aid committees and strengthening coordination



In Bangladesh the formal justice system is under tremendous pressure, it creates a negative impact for the rural poor and vulnerable group of people who cannot afford the expenses of cases & do not have clear understanding of how to get access to justice in the upper courts. There is no established case referral systems, victims support center & networking among the service providers to protect justice and to help the victims. Illiteracy, ignorance and lack of awareness about the justice and legal aid provision of the government, prevailing dynamics of misconception, foul propaganda by social unscrupulous elements,

etc. has not empowered general people for access to justice. To improve the situation, the roles of legal aid committees are crucial. The district legal aid committee took the role and responsibilities of activating the different legal aid committees working at union, upazila and district level and strengthening coordination & communication among those. The district legal aid committee has been organizing the quarterly meeting regularly with the support of Light House. Part of this; the District legal aid committee and Light House jointly organized Quarterly Coordination Meeting on January 7, 2017 with the members of Union Legal aid committee and Upazila Legal aid committee including other legal aid service providers under USAID's Justice for All (JFA) Program where Mr. Hafizur Rahman, Additional District and Session Judge joined the meeting as Chief Guest. Besides Mr. Harun Or Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House, Bogra, Mrs. Jasmin Ara Jahan, District Legal Aid Officer and Senior Assistant Judge, Bogra joined as guest speaker. In addition, panel lawyer, all union and upazila level departmental heads of different government offices and NGO official, press club/media representatives and civil society members took part in the event.

## Light House meets the press to promote justice and good governance

The project "Improved Justice and Legal Aid Service (IJLAS)" of Light House, organized a meeting with the print and electronic media to ensure their role for promoting justice and good governance. The main purpose of the meeting was to involve them with the program so that they can visit the fields and communities and help the program through publishing positive editorial. The meeting held on 23rd January 2017 at the District Judge's conference room, Bogra where around 25 Journalists from different print and electronic media participated. Mr. Hafizur Rahman, Additional District and Session Judge, Bogra was present as Chief Guest where Md. Harun or-Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House chaired the meeting. Beside District Legal Aid Officer and Senior Assistant Judge, Bogra and the other government officials also joined the meeting.



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