

## Editorial

### Message from Chief Executive of Light House

Respected viewers,

I am pleased to share e-bulletin of Light House for the period of October-December 2021. This bulletin captured some of the key event conducted during this quarter. 16 Days of Activism to stop violence against women, girls and other gender have been observed in the different part of the country including Dhaka, Bagherhat and Bogura with the support from UNFPA, UNAIDS and USAID Shukhi Jibon Project. Some of remarkable achievements captured from Responsible local government project funded by MJF. Many other events also been placed this bulletin hope you find it interesting to read.

I would appreciate your kind share your feedback to improve our efforts.

My sincere thanks to my colleagues who have contributed though submitting articles and served as editorial panel member of bulleting.

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

### Topic

16th Days Activism Program
Observed World AIDS Day 2021
Health Campaign in deferent area under Rangpur City Corporation
COVID-19 vaccination
Vitamin A plus Campaign
Kahaloo's agricultural victory by the Citizen's Charter
Training about Social Accountability tool for selected CSG leaders
UZLAC bi-monthly meeting
Quarterly meeting with squad team Members
A colorful cultural event completed by Rainbow DIC
Sensitization meeting with stakeholders

## Observance of 16th Days of Activism On Violence Against Women, Girls and other gender

Light House took special initiative like previous year to Observance of 16th Days of Activism On Violence Against Women, Girls and other gender during November 25th to December 10th 2021. To observe this 16 days, Light House launch following events to sensitize policy maker, Managers, Media, Key stakeholders and the community in order to create a society where all gender are enjoying violence free life and livelihood:

- Media advocacy and press briefing on Light House plan about observance of 16th Days of Activism;
- Round table discussion with Times of Bangladesh along with key stakeholders;
- Human chain and Campaign;
- Cultural events;
- Television Debate at Channel 24 on early marriage by young people;
- Series of online seminar on SRHR and the theme of 16th Days of Activism;
- Economic/ livelihoods support to senior female sex worker;
- Legal aid campaign and coordination with the providers;
- Miking and mask distribution in the resident of all 8 brothels





# 16 Day's Activism Against Gender Based Violence

In Cooperation With



Gender-based violence has historically permeated across our social mosaic. Gender-Based Violence (GBV) refers to harmful acts directed at an individual based on their gender. It is rooted in gender inequality, the abuse of power and harmful norms. It can take many forms - from physical violence to emotional or psychosocial abuse to sexual violence such as rape; forced marriage (thereunder child marriage); genital mutilation; to economic exploitation and deliberate deprivation such as denial of access to resources such as household assets. People of all genders experience GBV, but the majority of individuals those targeted are women and girls. Important discussions on these issues came up at a roundtable meeting organized by the Times of Bangladesh, USAID, UNFPA, UNAIDS and LIGHT HOUSE. special supplement is published with a summary of the roundtable meeting.

A round table meeting organized with Times of Bangladesh in Dhaka on 2nd December 2021 at Hotel Renaissance, Gulshan Dhaka with the funding support from UNFPA and UNAIDS. High official from MoWCA, DGFP, Assistant Attorney General of Bangladesh Supreme Court, Representative from UNFPA, UNAIDS, Pathfinder International, Save The Children, CEO and other staff of Light House, President and Secretary of Health reporter forum, Acting Editor and Executive Editor of Times of Bangladesh were participated and contributed in this round table meeting on the observance of 16 Day's of Activism against gender based violence.

## Capacity Building for IGA and livelihood activities (Cooperative Shop for Baniashanta brothel)

Based on a quick need assessment among the aged SWs, Light House supported to set up 9 cloth shops for the senior citizens with supplies, commodities and to overcome the impact of cyclone AMPHAN by which 6 senior FSWs will be benefited. Procurement was done and a formal inaugural of the shops will take place in October 2021. The project is hoping to rehabilitate 17 senior female sex workers and it will ensure 3 times meal for them in a day. Light House took this initiative with the support from UNFPA and UNAIDS. During 16 day's of Activism to stop violence against all gender shop has been derived to the senior sex worker.

## Inauguration of the cooperative shops Media News Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MXjO2II-y4M>

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







As part of this 16 Days of activism, Light House organize a standing Rally on the road side of Kemal Atatuk road, Banani, Dhaka on 25th November 2021. About 200 participants from Light House and fellow NGOs were participated in this colorful rally. Following the rally of the same day Light House also organized a discussion meeting and cultural events in front at Banani Kancha Bazar, Banani Dhaka. Both the event has sponsored by the USAID Shukhi Jiban Project/Pathfinder international.

A press conference organized at Reporter Unity on 24th November 2021 to brief the plan of Light House about observance of 16 day's activism against Gender based violence, Over 50 reporter were attended in this press briefing and ask question to the organizer. Dr. Mohammad Sharif Director MCH-ARH, DHFP and Dr. Famtema Sobnam, USAID Shukhi Jiban project/Pathfinder International were join with Mr. Harun-Or-Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House as resource person and responded to the audience as required. Light House ablked to organize this event with support from USAID Shukhi Jiban Project/Pathfinder international.





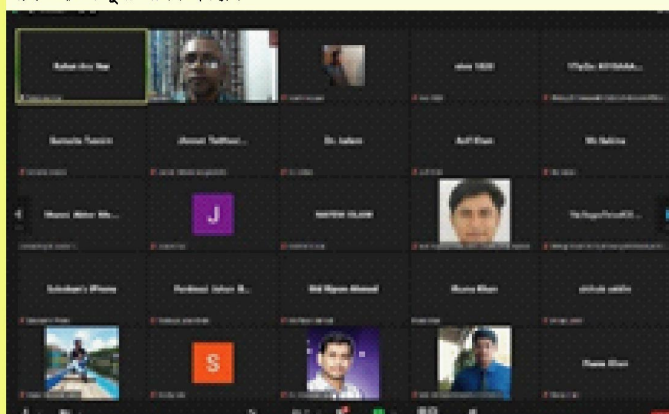


## Debate session at Television:

A debate session held and broadcasted it at channel 24, a television channel of Bangladesh as a part of 16-day activism with the view of creating enabling environment by raising awareness among the youth and adolescents. Issue of the debate was "Elimination of child marriage is only possible through SRH education." A group from Dhaka North City Corporation was in one side- in favor of the proposed issue and one side- is opposed to the issue from Dhaka South City Corporation. Debate session was moderated by Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Chief Executive, Light House. Mr. Bidhan Chandra Paul, one of the famous researchers & writer & Dr. Fatema Shabnam, Adolescent and Youth Specialist, Pathfinder International, Dhaka were the Judges of the debate program. The opposition team from Dhaka South City Corporation was the ultimate winner of the said debate session after an hour-long battle of words. It was very live and interactive debate and such type debate program is potential for the youth and adolescent as well the parents who is the main actor of the family for decision making, said the judges. The program recorded on December 3rd, 2021 partnering with the Channel 24 which was telecasted on December 4th, 2021, at 12.20 pm. 12751 people views the debate show through You Tube.

**Seminar:** Ensure effective use of adolescent friendly health services through promoting its activities, linking adolescents to the service centers, identify gaps and lacks to mitigate through policy level works, etc. The Shukhi Jibon project facilitated 5 online seminars using social media where experts from the GOB and non-government institutions like UNFPA, DGHS, Medical Colleges, etc. Beside 151 in person participants of the seminar, reached 55308 through boosting in social media.

**MASKIN SMS dissemination:** For creating age specific mass awareness on the role of parents in addressing the physical and mental health of the adolescents, through having BTRC approval, dissemination of 200,000 SMS held using Grameen Phone Company covering Dhaka and Gazipur City Corporation. The approved SMS includes "নারীকে করলে সম্মান, সহিংসতার হবে অবসান-লাইট হাউস/সুখী জীবন প্রকল্প"। প্রচারে লাইট হাউস সুখী জীবন প্রকল্প।



নারীকে করলে  
সম্মান, সহিংসতার হবে  
অবসান-লাইট হাউস/সুখী  
জীবন প্রকল্প

Just now





## Legal Aid Team Meeting & Alliance Team Meeting held

6 meetings conducted in 6 brothels with legal aid wings of community squad with 43 participants respectively. 6 meetings conducted in 6 brothels with alliance wings of community squad with 43 participants respectively. The purpose of the Legal aid Community Squad team meetings & alliance wings of community squad team meeting was to share and discuss on progress and follow-up of the reported GBV cases, mitigation process and challenges. A total of 311 GBV cases were mitigated by the Community Squad throughout the period.



## Miking, Mask Distribution & HIV Testing Camping

Part of observing 16th Days Activism in brothel settings, a 7 days long campaign program held where public service announcement on COVID -19 transmission prevention took place; 7 days long HIV testing campaign program along with 5,345 masks procured and distributed among brothel residents



World AIDS Day 2021, observation took place at central and filed level in close collaboration with ASP/DGHS. A standing rally was organized (in front of Bangladesh College of Physician and Surgeon) and a seminar also held along with limited number of participants. Light House, Dhaka project office team participated the rally along with 130 beneficiaries. 300 T-shirts for 13 districts program and distributed as per operational plan and of which, 150 were distributed among the Dhaka based DIC/Outlets along with Program Management Unit team and the rests were to the outside Dhaka based centres of FSWI. Beside Light House supported ASP/DGHS for the honorarium of the Girls Guide and Scout, who joined the event to help to make this observance day successful. DIC/Outlet level activities were participating in the rally and discussion meeting with the Civil Surgeon. Also week a round education to mobilize female sex workers and their clients for generating demand for prevention and HIV testing and STI treatment service and campaign program for HIV testing and COVID vaccine registration. Decorate information tree in each DIC/Outlets.

## Observed World AIDS Day 2021







## Health Campaign in deferent area under Rangpur City Corporation:

Light House UPHCSDP-II project has arranged a total of 35 health camps in deferent area by the trained technical team consist of Medical Officer, Paramedics, Family welfare Visitors. The team provides

services around 1188 beneficiaries directly. the team members also raising awareness to local peoples about COVID-19 vaccination importance and prevention manner, Mother and Child Health, Family Planning Service, prevention of Gender based violence and combating early marriage etc. UPHCSDP -II also organized a day long free health camp in 3 primary health care centers including reproductive comprehensive health care center a total of 240 people getting their blood group from free health camp.



## COVID-19 vaccination:

COVID-19 is a number one priority agenda of the world in this moment. Bangladesh Government has also declared their main agenda is prevention of the Covid-19. In this purpose government has taken various initiatives for whole eligible population of Bangladesh. Health ministry also imports sufficient vaccine from selected countries. Light House UPHCSDP-II project has organized COVID-19 vaccination Campaign with collaboration of Rangpur City Corporation. the significant numbers of population were received vaccination from Light House centers the total of numbers; 74,025 among female 34015 and Male 40010. Received 1st dose 44820, 2nd doses 29100 and buster dose 105 maintaining the World Health Organization (WHO) instructions.





## Vitamin A plus Campaign:

Vitamin A plus campaign is a priority agenda of the government of Bangladesh for building a better and healthy nation, it's a rights of every child. Light House UPHCSDP-II project has organized Vitamin A plus Campaign with collaboration of Rangpur City Corporation from 11 December-21 to 14 December-21. 4 centers (1 Nagar Martisadan and 3 Nagar Swasthya Kendras) were arranged this campaign in order to achieved the government goals as well as SDG goals. a total of 1779 child taking Vitamin A plus Capsules. Local elites, ward Councilor and general peoples were attended this campaign. Respective parents were giving heartfelt thanks to light house and it's management including local staffs for their healthy cooperation's.

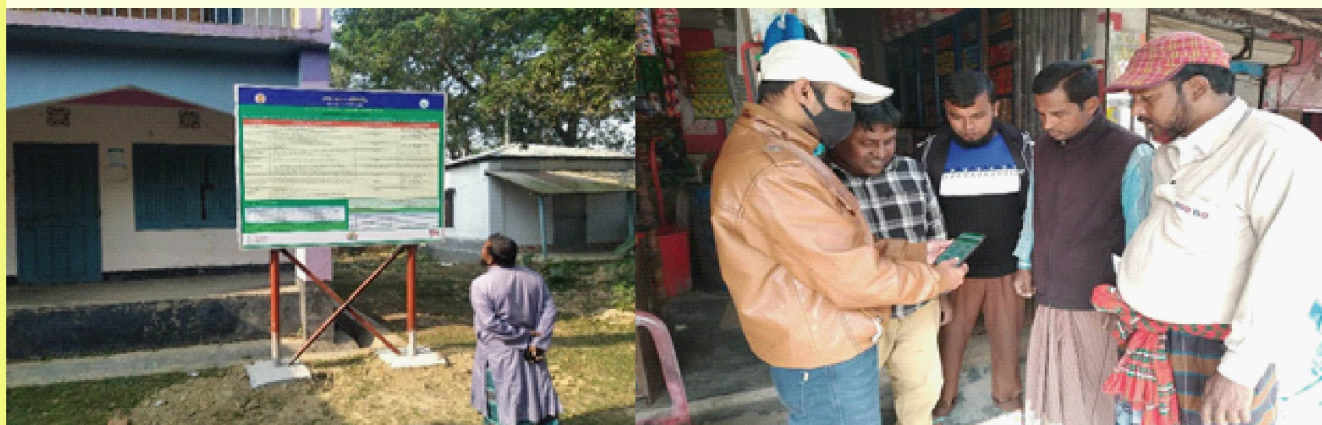


## Kahaloo's agricultural victory by the Citizen's Charter

Kahaloo is an agricultural dependent upazila. Multidimensional farming is practiced here but so far it has not been easy to get agricultural advice. At present, every marginal farmer is getting their desired agricultural services very easily. Marginalized farmers are able to solve their agricultural problems by contacting directly or mobile phones the sub-assistant agricultural officers. This change has been made possible by the community scorecards and social audits of the Responsible project. In addition, through the work of the project, 27 citizen charter including agriculture services and advices has been set up in each of the Union open places and by the side of the streets. As a result, marginal farmers can easily get information and advice about agriculture.

Even in one year back, marginal farmers were unknown about the agriculture services, now they are getting to know the various information about agriculture. As a result, many marginalized people are now attracted to agricultural work and they are being encouraged to produce new crops. Marginalized farmers did not know the exact rules of how to spray any pesticide on any crop. Many marginal farmers did not know which season was suitable for crop production. There were also many remote areas where they were deprived of agricultural services.

But now the establishment of the Citizen's Charter locally in Union Parishads and in populated open spaces is greatly benefiting the common farmers. Farmers can be able to communicate with the sub-assistant agriculture officer and Upazila Agriculture Officers at any time easily their mobile number had provided in Citizen Charter. As a result, they are able to buy fertilizers and pesticides from dealers at the prices fixed by the government and save a lot of money. Earlier, agricultural cards were distributed among a small number of marginal farmers at the union level, but now all the marginal farmers who are eligible for the cards, have processing to get agricultural cards. Farmers are currently benefiting with the help of local union agriculture office and chairman. In the past, farmers went to the upazila by spending money on agricultural advice and various information but it is reaching every household in the upazila by Citizen Charter, CSC & SA.



**In the picture (left) citizen charter on agriculture at Paikor UP agriculture office and (Right) the SAAO of Kalai is encouraging about "Krishoker Janala" to the farmers.**



## Training about Social Accountability tool for selected CSG leaders

Light House Responsible project has arranged six trainings for existing & new selected CSG member about the methods of social accountability tools. To increase the knowledge depth of the existing CSG members a total of four one day trainings on SA tools for the citizen support group members has been completed. The selected CSG members (those who have previously conducted monitoring using SA tools) of different LGUs of Dhunat and Kahaloo Upazila attended these training. Other hand Responsible project arrange two trainings on Social accountability tools for the new citizen support group members to monitor and increase the quality of public services. The selected CSG members of Bhandarbari & Mathurapur UP of Dhunat and Maloncha & Durgapur UP of Kahaloo Upazila attended these training. The duration of these trainings were 2 days non-residential.



**Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mohanta, UNO, Dhunat Upazila, Bogura is delivering his speech in the inauguration session of the training.**

The main discussion points of those training were;

¢ How to conduct "Public Hearing" at the Upazila level among service delivery institutions?

¢ How to conduct "Community Score Card & Social Audit" between service recipients and public service providers at Union and Upazila levels?

¢ How to prepare a Citizen Charter by participating with a service provider?

Upazila level agriculture, social service and women's affairs officials were present as trainers in the trainings. The trainers highlighted the services received from their department and talked about the application of social accountability tools to know the satisfaction of the service recipients after receiving the services. This also create opportunities to improve the quality of service.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar Mohanta, UNO, Dhunat Upazila was present as the Chief Guest in a training. He said that CSG members could play an important role in maintaining the transparency and accountability of government service providers at the local level. At that's training chair Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Chief Executive of Light House said that the CSG member are the life line of this project. He also request to all CSG member to build awareness about early marriage. Project coordinator, M&EO and Project officer conducted the trainings.

## UZLAC bi-monthly meeting

Upazila Legal Aid Committee Meeting was held on 25th November 2021 at Kahaloo Upazila in Bogura District. The meeting was presided over by the Upazila Chairman Mr. Al Hasibul Hasan. The UZLAC bi-monthly meeting was attended by member of Upazila Parishad, Upazila level government officials and members of Upazila Coordination Committee and NGO representatives of respective Upazila Parishad.

Mr. Al Hasibul Hasan, Upazila Chairman of Kahaloo Upazila in Bogura District said that I will distribute of 1000 pcs mask for COVID-19 safety and protection for promotion of the government legal aid activities. I hope we should all take the initiative to promotion legal services from our respective positions." We will extend our full support to those who will be elected in the future so that they can take new initiatives on government legal aid. Finally, in today's meeting, the President thanked all for the lively discussion on government legal aid and announced the end of the meeting.



## A colorful cultural event completed by Rainbow DIC

In the month of December-2021, Light House Rainbow DIC has successfully accomplished a colourful cultural event with Staffs and invited participants and gender diverse populations in local area. This cultural event has been significant impact at local level and all participants are enjoying these events and getting correct messages on HIV, GBV and rights of gender diverse populations. Tanisha Yasmin Chaity, Tran's women activist and MHPSS Counsellor, Rainbow DIC were briefing elaborately on

historical background of Gender Diverse Populations. All the participants were known their won responsibility and they promised they act willingly as their areas for reducing gender based violence and hoping that create an enabling environment and GDP will have been prevailing their rights and dignity.





**Performing Stage show by Tanisha Yasmin Chaity, Tran's women and MHPSS counsellor, Rainbow DIC, Light House, Whykong, Teknaf.**

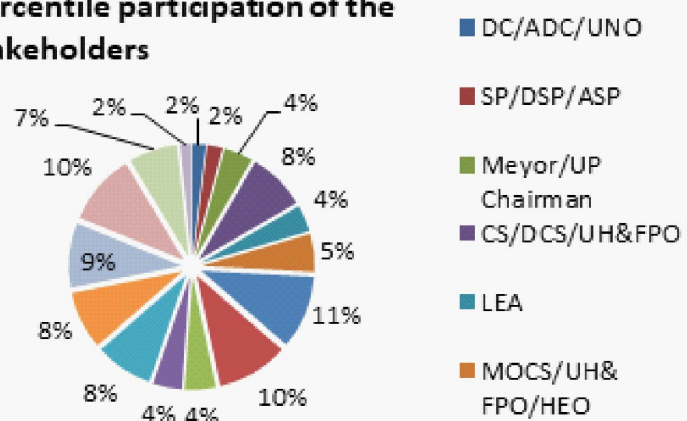
## **Sensitization meeting with health service provider, religious leader, lawyer, journalist, law enforcement agency and CBO representatives**

In order to meet the project objective, it has to maintain working relation with health service provider, religious leader, lawyer, journalist, law enforcement agency and CBO representatives and other state and non-state actors/stakeholders in implementation of activities. Most of the stakeholders are very limited engagement with sexual minority's rights due less access of information and knowledge which some time create problems implementing project activities as well as pause stigma and discrimination against sexual minorities. At the same it found that HIV and AIDS is not their priority list of action to save people from it. In circumstances the project kept plan to execute the sensitization meeting with those stakeholders

Local GOB higher authority i.e. DC/ADC, SP/ADSP, CS/DCS, UH&FPO participated as chief/ special guest and honorarium is provided to the guest speaker/resource person, if required. In that case, resource person had practical experience and professional knowledge about HIV/AIDS, MSM & Hijra & Human Rights, local context, legal issues & others. Mayor, Chairman, Ward counselor, other Local Elected Bodies (LEB), Editors/Journalist/ from electronic and print media, Human Rights Activist, lawyer, NGO representatives, CBO leader Project relevant, Religious leaders from different religions, University, college, High school teacher, Local elite/influential parson, Service provider/Physician/consultant STI/HIV/TB have also participated the meeting and gave their opinions.



### **Percentile participation of the stakeholders**



## **Technical assistance provided to adolescent friendly facilities by Light House Shukhi Jibon Project:**

Two Technical Assistance provided during the quarter to the adolescent friendly health service center namely Mauchack Union Adolescent Friendly Health Service Center at FWC, Kaliakair, Gazipur and Nagori, Adolescent and you friendly health service center, FWC, Kaligonj, Gazipur. And as part of technical assistance, 2 hours orientation on the importance of supporting and providing services to the youth and adolescent in a nondiscriminatory and stigma free attitude and ensured edu-entertainment items like books, reading table to the centers by need assessment for attract youth and adolescents as part of creating increased accessibility.







**Community Dialogue:** To promote healthy reproductive behaviors, Light House Shukhi Jibon project has been trying to create change makers by engaging family and community level decision makers. To create change makers, spreading awareness on the positive norms and influence to start practices from the family with the objective to replicate further through educating and sensitizing the neighbors. The project team arranged a total of 24 community dialogues were participated 745 with the hope to work as change makers. The participants category includes local elites, family influential, religious leaders, school teachers, local counselors, etc.

Community squad formation took place under 3 targeted city corporations comprise vulnerable key population leaders along with extended 2 more team for referral rescue, legal and counseling support with the purpose to address gender-based violence. A total of 19 GBV case reported through the community squad and supported with medical support; rescue from police custody; and mediation at local level. The detail comprehensive report on community squad formation enclosed here.

## Project Inception Meeting:

To share project purpose and activities and seeking support and suggestion to make smooth implementation of the USAID Shukhi Jibon project of Light House arranged a project inception meeting in the conference room of DGFP where Ms. Sahana Ara Banu, the honorable DG-DGFP was the Chief Guest and in addition, guests from Pathfinder International and UNAIDS, Sex worker's network, Transgender representatives, media, etc. joined and beside the meeting participants. The meeting expedited the support of DGFP and media in achieving the goals and expected results and DG-DGFP expressed commitment to support the program by resolving field challenges and suggested family planning team at field level to work together and support each other where necessary.



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