

APON e Bulletin

For the period of September – December 2020

Alor Pothe Nobojatray (APON) Foundation (In the Journey Towards Enlightenment) is a non-profit, government approved, charitable organization dedicated towards enlightening and improving the lives of the economically and socially deprived members of the community. At APON (Warm and Friendly), aims to provide basic education to child labourers and to create employment opportunities among the underprivileged and the disadvantaged sections of the society. In particular, APON seeks to establish an egalitarian society, which guarantees basic education, improved health and hygiene to underprivileged children and financial independence and empowerment to their families.

APON's activities commenced on a chilly winter night in December 2006 with the distribution of blankets and woolen clothes among the slum dwellers of Moghbazar and Malibaag area of Dhaka city. The distribution event was organized after conducting a survey in various areas of the city in order to determine the extent of suffering of the slum dwellers. In 2007 and 2009, APON carried out extensive relief operations in Manikganj (which was heavily inundated by flood waters) and Satkhira (which was ravaged by the Cyclone Aila) distributing relief materials among the villagers and setting up medical camps to treat water borne diseases and to combat the onset of post flood diseases.

1. APON Foundation joined in a Human Chain on “Countrywide Violence against Women”.

The officers of APON Foundation joined in a human chain in Shahbag Mor (in front of the National Museum) for increasing countrywide violence against women. The host of this meeting was *ShuShaoner Jonno Nagorik* (SUJON) and Sir Bodiul Alam Mojumder was the key speaker of this meeting. Executive Director of APON Foundation said in his speech that, lengthy process of the



judiciary and political influence might be the core reason for the raising of countrywide violence against women. Exemplary punishment for the culprits, rule of law and active role of law enforces agencies are needed to reduce the all forms of violence against women.

2. Country Director of Good Neighbours Bangladesh GNB has visited APON Pathshala.



Mr Minuddin Mainul, Country Director of Good Neighbours Bangladesh (GNB) and

some of the senior officers of GNB has visited APON Pathshala Jhilpar slum near Gulshan in view to distribute masks and awareness stickers among the slum

children and risksha-pullers. Secretary of SCAN (Street Children Activist Network) Mr. Moniruzzaman Mukul, ED, officers and volunteers of APON Foundation were also present in the event.



In this event, Mr Minuddin also inaugurated the monthly long mask and sticker distribution program among the city dwellers, slum dwellers, pickshaw-pullers and vulnerable children in of Dhaka.



3. Food distribution among slum children.

APON Foundation distributed delicious food packs among 400 slum and street



connected children in different occasions like Victory day 2020



celebration, the Birthday celebration of Darshan Raval (Bollywood Singer), Arrange Dua Mahfil for the donor.

4. Food package distribution among Covid-19 victim in Uttara Slum.



APON Foundation distributed food package among 100 slum dwellers in Uttara Model Town Sector-8. Club founder and Advisor of Lion's Club of Dhaka Oasis Sk Anisur Rahman and DG Lion Qamrun Nahar

and many Loin and Leos were present in the event. The food packages were sponsored by of Lion's Club of Dhaka Oasis.



5. Executive Magistrate of Dhaka DC office visited APON School at Jhilpar Slum, Gulshan, Dhaka.

Executive Magistrate from Dhaka DC (Deputy Commissioner) Office, Magistrate Mahnaz Hossain Fariba and K.M. Ishmam visited APON School in



Jhilpar Gulshan and APON office respectively. They were very happy to meet with the slum's children are taking good lessons

from APON School.

6. Sewing Machine Distribution among Destitute Women

APON Foundation Distributed sewing machines among 15 trained women after completion of training on sewing at APON Head office. Mutual Trust Bank Ltd has come forward as part of its social responsibility to donate these machines. On behalf of MTB, Head of Communication, Mr Azam Khan and M. Aftabuzzaman, Executive Director of APON



Foundation and other officials of both organizations were present. The project aims to facilitate the social security and economic development of destitute women.



7. Awareness Session on Sexual Harassment and Child Marriage for the Members of APON Girl's Club

Recent national and international report shows that due to COVID-19 pandemic all forms of abuse on women and children are increased alarmingly. Yet, early marriage is a curse of our society. Every day we found in the media that a number of women and girls are face to sexual harassment and young girls are forced to sit early marriage. To address the social problems and

make aware our girls club members APONN Foundation organized an awareness session on Sexual Harassment and Child Marriage on December 8, 2020 for the members of APON Girl's club. 18 Members of the Girl's club were



present in the session. Tahia Rahman, Executive Director of CMMS conducted the session. In this session, she emphasized on the causes and remedies of sexual harassment of women and children and how to protect them. They also learn how to protect themselves from any sort of sexual

harassment on the street and home. All the members took part in the question-answering session for their better understanding on the topic. Executive Director and program officers of APON Foundation were also present in the session.

8. Mask and awareness raising sticker distribution among street connected children and people.



APON Foundation has implemented a “month-long mask & awareness raising sticker distribution” program in collaboration with Good Neighbors Bangladesh and Street Children activities Network (SCAN) Bangladesh. About 700 vulnerable children and people have got masks at Komlapur Railway Station, Airport Railway Station, Gulshan and Rayer Bazar slum. President of SCAN Bangladesh Mr Jahanghir Hossain, Local Community Leaders, Officer in Charge of Railway Police Station and General Secretary of SCAN Bangladesh has presented those meetings. M Aftabuzzaman, Executive Director of APON Foundation and other officials were present as an organizer of the events.



9. Organize Inception Meeting on SMILE project

An inception meeting on SMILE (Social Mobilization and Intervention for Lessening Extremism) project has been held on 19th November 2020 at Narayanganj City corporation auditorium by APON Foundation with the help of Narayanganj City Corporation and this program was financed by Strong Cities Network. Abul Amin, CEO of Narayanganj City Corporation (NCC), M. Aftabuzzaman, Executive Director of APON Foundation, Ahsan Habib, country coordinator of Strong Cities Network (SCN)-UK, NCC officials and other civil societies representatives were present in that inception meeting. The objectives of the SMILE projects are:

1. Strengthening knowledge and raising awareness of local government officials on PVE (preventing violence extremism).



2. Improve the capacities of local governments to develop multi-stakeholder coordination and planning mechanisms of PVE.
3. Increase cooperation between civil society and local governments on PVE through joint planning and delivery of community awareness-raising activities and campaigns.

10. Warm cloths distribution among cold affected people of Kurigram.

APON Foundation distributed warm clothes & blankets among 500 hundred destitute women and children at Kurigram. Our team distributed three hundred blankets and two hundred warm clothes in different remote villages of



Kurigram District.



11. Celebrating Global Handwash Day 2021 with the children

“Wash Your Hand and Save Your Life”

APON Foundation celebrated Global Handwashing Day at Thikana- a Transitional Shelter for Street Children. In pandemic time, washing hand is very important for everyone to protect them from COVID19 infections. So, raise your voice about washing hand and make it as a habit.



12. Organize training session for the volunteers of APON Foundation and Future Hope Foundation, Australia

APON Foundation and Future Hope Foundation, Australia jointly organized a Training session for the volunteers and field workers who are directly involved with street connected children's activities at Thikana Shelter, DokkhinKhan Dhaka. Both the organization is working together for the betterment of destitute children and street connected children in Bangladesh.



Vision	Mission
A society where children are secured, healthy and educated.	Our mission is to protect, preserve and uphold the basic rights of the underprivileged and socially backward sections of the population with a view to alleviating poverty and eliminating all forms of discrimination from society.

Our Programs

APON administers several programs, with the intent of helping the poor and needy community of the country. The joint effort of numerous individuals and corporate groups allows APON to implement its programs effectively. At present APON operates the following programs:

1. Basic Education for Underprivileged Children
2. COVID-19 Emergency Response

3. Nutrition Support Program
4. Shelter for Street Children
5. Social Mobilization and Interventions for Lessening Extremism (SMILE)
6. Youth Development Program
7. Women Development Program
8. Climate Adaptation and Disaster Support Program

Get Involved

APON seeks your co-operation and contribution in sustaining and expanding its activities. While APON has already started making a difference to the lives of hundreds of children, we are conscious of the fact that this is only the beginning of a long journey. A long and arduous journey can be fruitful, rewarding and enjoyable with your participation and assistance.

You can contribute by making a donation, or even by volunteering to work on the numerous on-going projects of APON Foundation. By donating an amount that you spend on your lunch every day, you can make a child smile entire month. Let us not forget that the child on the street has the same claim on us as do our own children. If we abandon them, wherever they may be. The time to act is now. Delayed action on our part is denial of their rights.

A small contribution from you could go a long way towards our goal of lighting up lives.

Please take a little step with us for a big change.

APON Bank accounts details:

A/C Title:

Alor Pothe Nobojatray (APON) Foundation

A/C No.: 140-152-1946001,

SWIFT Code: CIBLBDDH,

Routing Number: 225263701

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