

## MAY 2017

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We are concluded the following activities, during the period of May 2017 are as follows:

- 1. Discussion meeting on National Budget:** A Discussion meeting on National Budget was being held on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2017, in Cirdap Auditorium. This program is being organized by Access Bangladesh Foundation. Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF was participated in this discussion meeting. She said that, National budget should be allocated considering the needs and demand of Persons specially Women with Disabilities. Only budget allocation for Persons with Disabilities has included under social safety net; this budget won't be considered as disability inclusive budget. She also pointed out that, gender responsive budget is being declared in every fiscal year but Women with Disabilities are excluded from this gender responsive budget and without disability inclusive budget proper development of the state including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) achievement will extremely be interrupted.
- 2. "Ananna Top Ten" Award achievement and participation in award distribution ceremony:** An award distribution ceremony to bestow a number of courageous, determined and qualified women, on the occasion of Reward "Ananna Top Ten" Women was being organized by Ananna on 6<sup>th</sup> May at the auditorium of Krishibid Institute. A number of enlightened and self determined women from diverse background and perspective have been selected by Ananna, for their respective enterprise along with success for award in Ten categories. These categories include Diplomat, Horse Runner, Football player, Researcher and writer, Founder Women University, Actress, Small Entrepreneur, Indigenous leader and Founder of organization for Indigenous women, Politician and Human rights activists. As a human and Women With Disabilities (WWDs) rights activist, Ashrafunnahar, Executive Director, WDDF has achieved "Ananna Top Ten" award for her contribution to the society along with country for her strong endeavor in order to establish an inclusive society for Women with disabilities through establishing an organization of and by WWDs after having been faced multifaceted challenges in her own life. All staffs of WDDF were participated in this Award distribution ceremony. With the initiative of WDDF, Two Grassroot Women with Disabilities committees have been formed in Three unions of Daudkandi, Comilla. So, Two Grassroot Women with Disabilities committee meetings were being organized in this month.
- 3. Grassroot Women with Disabilities committee meeting:** With the initiative of WDDF, Two Grassroot Women with Disabilities committees have been formed in Three unions of Daudkandi, Comilla. So, Two Grassroot Women with Disabilities committee meetings were being organized in this month.

The aims of forming these grassroot Women with Disabilities committees in remote areas of different districts are as follows:

- Clear speaking and introduce a Woman with Disability her self without any hesitation.
- Consciousness and responsibilities of parents to make their Daughters with Disabilities active and self dependent through reducing discrimination against them.
- Entitlement of different types of Persons with Disabilities and their existing situation.
- President and Secretary of this committee selection.
- Introductory session, significance of organizing and participation in this meeting.
- To encourage Women with Disabilities to be self dependent mentally and financially through identifying their hidden capability as well as providing need based technical and financial support E.G training, assistive devise, financial support for small Income Generating Program.

2017. A) The first discussion meeting with the Grassroot Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Gouripur' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at Mukul Niketan of Gouripur Union on 8th May 2017.

This meeting is presided over Shirin Akter, Chairperson. Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF were present in this discussion meeting. In accordance with the decision of all the members of grassroot Women with Disabilities committee Nila Akter has been selected as president and Bethi Akter has been selected as Secretary of this committee.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

- To create space in order to share multifaceted challenges in their daily lives, sufferings as Women with Disabilities including success E.G family conflict or discrimination, family/social violence, any type of torture/harassment and adopting the strategy of reducing these challenges and sufferings.
- To adopt required initiative in order to include Women with Disabilities in local level including women related development process through their regular and active participation.
- To provide information about disability related Government initiatives, documents along with facilities including NGOs as well as make them experienced on how to obtain these facilities through advocacy in different level.
- To build leadership capacity of Women with Disabilities through enhancing awareness among them.
- To introduce Women with Disabilities of the same union with each other as well as to establish a friendly relation among them through regular communication appearing in monthly meetings.
- To encourage and motivate Women with Disabilities and their parents through reducing their negative attitude about disability.
- To make Women with Disabilities self conscious about their basic rights, contribution and self-dignity in family and society through enhancing their self confidence.
- VII) Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.
  - B) The second discussion meeting with the Grassroot Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Daudkandi Uttar' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at Mukul Niketan of Gouripur Union on 9th May 2017.

This meeting is presided over Shirin Akhter, Chairperson. Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF were present in this discussion meeting. In accordance with the decision of all the members of grassroots Women with Disabilities committee Asma Akter has been selected as president and Sima Akter has been selected as Secretary of this committee.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

- Introductory session, significance of organizing and participation in this meeting.
- President and Secretary of this committee selection.
- Name and activities of WDDF as well as Name and activities of this grassroots committee.
- Entitlement of different types of Persons with Disabilities and their existing situation.
- Consciousness and responsibilities of parents to make their Daughters with Disabilities active and self dependent through reducing discrimination against them.
- Clear speaking and introduce a Woman with Disability herself without any hesitation.
- 1. II) Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS) and Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.

**4. Bogra visit (9-11 May 2017):** Discussion meeting with Police Super Bogra:

A Discussion meeting was being organized with the representatives of WDDF along with Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad as well as Police Super (SP) of Bogra at 11.00 AM, on 9th May 2017 in his office. Police Super (SP) of Bogra expressed his heartiest thanks to the representatives of WDDF and Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad. Afterwards, Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF on behalf of all the representatives submitted a paper including the accomplishment, objectives along with a few proposals including a brief report on the activities for the promotion and protection of the rights along with dignity of Women with Disabilities to the Police Super and call upon to express his solidarity on behalf of Police force to these issues.

The Police Super of Bogra was very cordial and cooperative to us. He expressed His full support and solidarity to our proposals and he is agreed with us that, all Thanadistrict including the offices of Police Super should be accessible for Women with Disabilities and Disability issue should be included in the training curriculum of police. He also proposed that, WDDF may take initiative to organize a training session on disability issue for Police force in every police training program of Bogra. Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF discussed about the rape case of Ayesha Siddika Shammi, a Girl with intellectual Disability of Bogra and the sufferings of her family. The Police Super expressed his firm commitment that, there won't be any settlement about this rape case without court and he himself will investigate this litigation. He also said that, present Government is very compassionate to the Persons with Disabilities and very much committed to fulfill their demands.

Above all, it is said that, in the present perspective, the adopted initiative by WDDF, of organizing this dialogue between the representatives of WDDF including Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad and the Police Super of Bogra in order to incorporate Women with Disabilities in the mainstream of development by ensuring their equal rights along with dignity is really very time required and effective. At the end of the discussion meeting, the representatives after having been attended in the above mentioned meeting expressed their satisfactory feelings and positive remarks.

A coordination meeting in order to monitor and review the plan and programs according to the signing agreement on 24<sup>th</sup> February 2017, among Three organizations: I) Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF),

**B) Coordination meeting: III) Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Unnayan Parisad**

For implementing a mid level coalition project of Disability Rights Fund (DRF) in joint collaboration entitled "To access justice and sustainable development for Women with Disabilities at all levels through inclusive building institutions" in Dhaka, Pabna Sadar and Bogra Sadar was being organized by Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF) on 10th May 2017, in the office of Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Unnayan Parisad, Bogra. At first the purpose of coordination meeting and 4 Months action plan of Three organizations according to the agreement paper of mid level coalition project are being discussed by Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF elaborately. After that, the report and challenges of 4 months activities has submitted by Rebeka Akter, General Secretary, Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad. Accounts operation and record keeping process of accomplished activities is being discussed by Wadilur Rahman, Coordinator, Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad. The gaps and solution are being discussed by Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF along with Saifur Rahman, Project Director of this Mid Level Coalition project and representatives of Bogra Zila Spandan Protibandhi Nari Parisad they are agreed to follow the suggestions. Secondly, the report along with challenges of 4 months activities and Accounts operation including record keeping process are being discussed by Saifur Rahman, Executive Director, Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS). It is mentioned in the report that, this partner organization couldn't complete the activities within this reporting period according to the action plan of the project but Saifur Rahman, Executive Director, Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS) assured that, he will complete the rest of activities of the last reporting period including all the activities of next reporting period.

Thirdly, the report along with challenges of 4 months activities has been shared by Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF and give emphasize on the importance of completing all the activities according to the action plan within the time frame.

Finally, With the opinion of all the representatives of Three organizations the action plan for the next reporting period (Till to the next Coordination meeting) has been approved and the coordination meeting is being closed.

**1. C) Visit and discussion meeting with the village people of Sonatala:**

A discussion meeting and visit Sonatala village was being organized with the initiative of WDDF in order to observe the situation of Shammi and her family including existing torture is continuously happening to them along with counseling Shammi's family and neighbours through notifying them the real incident. The representatives of WDDF and Bogra zila Spandan nari parisad were participated in this visit. It is noted that,

We visited Shammi's village and noticed that, most of the village people are blaming against offender and they're waiting for his punishment for this heinous offence. They've also accused that, most of the young girls and women become victim of rape by this offender and they're always scared of him. So, this offender must be punished. Besides, Shammi's family members are scared and frustrated due to threaten and torture of offender; witnesses of this incident have to face regular threats and they're scared. We discussed the whole issue with Shammi's family members simultaneously counseling their neighbours to cooperate them continuously. Besides, we on behalf of WDDF assured that, we'll be always with Shammi and her family to get justice.

**5. TV Talkshow:**

ATN Bangla organized a Talkshow entitled "Power Talkshow" is being recorded at 7.30 PM, on 9th May 2017, and broadcasted at 12 AM, on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2017. The allocated time for the program is One hour and the speakers of this talk show were Ms. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), Sajeda Rahman Danny, President, Parents Forum of Autistic Children and Mohammad Zillar Rahman, Secretary, Social Welfare Ministry. In the speech of the conversationalists, the Definition of Persons with Disabilities, their potentialities, existing barriers and challenges in accessibility of Persons with Disabilities specially, Women with Disabilities in Road, footpath, public transport, public buildings, education, health facilities including government services and violence against Women with Disabilities are enlightened to the

audience. Simultaneously, it has also been clearly pointed out through the discussion of the conversationalists that, how the national development has been interrupted due to the inaccessibility of Persons with Disabilities in all aspects of the society.

The speakers are also discussed the complexity Women with Disabilities always have to face, the cause and their uninterrupted sufferings due to such existing inaccessible environment for them. Simultaneously, it is demonstrated that, the initiatives have been adopted by WDDF in order to include Women with Disabilities in mainstream development through reducing this complexity of inaccessibility as well as it also has mentioned about the importance of allocation and proper utilization of national budget on behalf of Government for reducing the barriers in the areas of basic needs and rights. Besides, Speakers are also discussed about national and international legislations, documents and declarations in order to ensure the Universal Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities and how the Women with severe Disabilities have been deprived from national development process due to existing inaccessible environment.

Mentioning about the Government initiatives speakers said that, despite of having number of Government declarations and orders for creating Universal Accessibility but no one of those has been implemented properly. Most of the public buildings, roads, footpaths overbridges education institutions, health centres and working institutions, shopping centres are being designed and constructed as well as all types of transports are being exported without considering the needs and demands of Persons with Disabilities.

Simultaneously, mentioning that, WDDF is enthusiastic to provide technical suggestion and cooperation in this ground. Concurring all the challenges and barriers, Mohammad Zillar Rahman, Secretary, Social Welfare Ministry mentioned that, government is very positive and sincere towards Persons with Disabilities and in the consequence of government's sincerity, Two legislations have already been passed by the House of Nation in order to protect the rights of Persons with Disabilities. On behalf of Social Welfare Ministry, they've taken a number of programs and initiatives to reduce these challenges of Persons with Disabilities but it isn't possible in one day, it will take time. Finally, It is also urged in this talk show to the policy makers, Government along with the related and responsible authorities of creating Universal Accessibilities to adopt time required and proper initiatives to reduce this dilemma considering the types along with the requirements of Persons with Disabilities. Otherwise, due to unproductivity, ineffectiveness, backwardness and social exclusion of almost 24 million Persons with Disabilities, the dream of poverty free Bangladesh will ultimately be interrupted.

#### 6. Discussion meeting:

A discussion meeting on existing challenges to preserve Human Rights and submission of the rules on "Child Marriage Resistance Act", was being organized by National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRCB), on 15 May 2017 in the conference room of NHRCB. The representatives of Non Government Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Disability related Organizations along with Social Welfare Ministry of Government are participated in this discussion meeting. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF were participated in the above mentioned discussion meeting.

Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, WDDF stated that, human rights of Persons with Disabilities specially, Women with Disabilities are always being violated due to infrastructural and informational accessibility in all aspects of the society as well as the issue of Women with Disabilities should be incorporated in all the laws which are being formulated and which are under consideration of review or amendment including the rules on "Child Marriage Resistance Act".

#### 7. Executive Council meeting:

An Executive Council meeting was held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at WDDF Office. There were almost Ten participants including office staffs. Five agenda have been discussed including miscellaneous in this meeting.

#### 8. National Sharing of a study report on Women with Disabilities and discussion about the barriers to get justice for them:

A National Sharing of a study report on The overall situation of Women with Disabilities of Dhaka city and **discussion about the barriers to get justice for them** is being organized with the initiative of Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), at A F Mahmud Seminar hall, **the Daily Star Bhaban**, on Sunday, 21st May 2017, from 10 AM to 2 PM. in order to create Women with Disabilities inclusive institutions and justice and how their human rights are being violated due to inaccessible institutions and long procedures in justice system. So, we urge for an inclusive, anti discriminatory and Women with Disabilities friendly society for all. WDDF run and led by Women with Disabilities has been working as collective force with the Government, policy makers, representatives of civil society and media for the inclusion of Women with Disabilities in mainstream development process through reducing their challenges and discrimination in the issue of infrastructural and informational accessibility in all aspects including justice system. The study report is being presented by Dr. Harun or Rashid, Chairman, Centre for Social Programs and Research (CSPR). The study report shows that women with disabilities have very limited access to education, (79%) respondents of this study report have no access and (31%) are facing challenges to have enrolled. (47%) Women with Disabilities are mostly tried to obtain health services from Government health services due to low cost but service providers have no any training to handle them though in some cases, they are positive. The The rate of unemployment among Women with Disabilities indicates high (78%) and those who are engaged in employment, most of them get less payment compared to their Colleagues without Disabilities. Marital status of Women with disabilities is very low (25%) and only (18%) Women with Disabilities are obtained inherit property. Two thirds (67%) are deprived from family rights and become victim of negative attitude from family members and society, the rest of Women with Disabilities have to face physical abuse and mental violence. Any transportation is not disabled friendly and non cooperative to provide the transport service to women with disabilities. due to the situation most of the Women with disabilities haven't opportunity to use public transport. The National sharing was being moderated and keynote paper was being presented by AshrafunNahar, Executive Director, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF). In this paper she mentioned about the constitutional and legal rights of Girls and Women with disabilities. Most of the litigations, at the time of witness adopting procedures in Court, sign language interpreter aren't being used for the victim girls or women with Speech and Hearing or intellectual impairments. Police officers and medical officers aren't cooperative to file the litigations of victim girls or women with Disabilities and legal institutions aren't disabled friendly. Most of Women with Disabilities (WWDs) are suffering from inaccessible justice system and deprived from their equal citizen rights. In spite of having been arrived in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, there are no accessibility in Judge courts, District courts, even in Supreme Court for Persons with Disabilities. Most of the laws are formulated and enacted without the inclusion and participation of Persons with Disabilities. So, the scenario of the sufferings of Women with disabilities in the ongoing legal support and services is extremely vulnerable in the existing situation. Though UNCRPD Article-13 'Access to justice' noted that, States Parties shall ensure effective access to justice for persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others, including through the provision of procedural and age-appropriate accommodations, in order to facilitate their effective role as direct and indirect participants, including as witnesses, in all legal proceedings, including at investigative and other preliminary stages. The panel discussants of this program shared their challenging experiences and complexity to get justice of Women with Disabilities. They also stated that, though 'Persons With Disabilities Rights and protection Act 2013 and UNCRPD mentioned the issue of getting justice for Persons with Disabilities with very significance, With the strong advocacy and voice raising of Women with disabilities Rights activists, only Three legal aid support providing organizations BLAST, BRAC and BNWLA have come forward with their extensive hand to provide legal services for Women with Disabilities. Without having been enjoyed basic human rights including accessibility right in justice system along with participation, SDGs won't be achieved properly. In the light of realizing this situation, WDDF has organized this program due to advancing forward with this issue.

The participants of the open discussion have clearly been stated that, Without having been enjoyed basic rights including accessibility right in justice system along with equal participation, all types of Women With Disabilities haven't been included in the mainstream of development and in this consequence, national development will extremely be interrupted.

Zebunnasa Afroz, Member of Parliament, House of Nation was present as Chief Guest in the program. Besides, Khushi Kabir, Executive Director, Nijera Kori, Dr. Sanzida Akhter, Assistant Professor, Women and Gender Studies Department, Dhaka University, Ranjan Karmaker, Executive Director, Steps Towards Development (STD) were present as special guests as well as a number of lawyers of Judge Court and Supreme Court were present as Panelists in the abovementioned program. The program is Presided over Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF).

9. Bogra visit (22-25 May 2017):

10. A) Discussion meeting with the representatives of Local Government:

A Discussion meeting was being organized with the representatives of WDDF along with Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad as well as the representatives of Bogra Local Government at 11.00 AM, on 23rd May 2017 in the auditorium of Children Voice School. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, WDDF, S.M Saifur Rahman, Project Manager, WDDF and Executive Director, Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS) are discussed about existing barriers and challenges in accessibility of Persons with Disabilities specially, Women with Disabilities in Road, footpath, public transport, public buildings, education, working institutions, health facilities including government services and violence against Women with Disabilities, security and justice related institutions and their potentialities, in this meeting. Simultaneously, it has also been clearly pointed out through the discussion meeting that, how the national development has been interrupted due to the inaccessibility of Persons with Disabilities in all aspects of the society.

Executive and general council members of Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad, representatives of disability related organizations, Chairman, Zila Parisad, Officer Youth Department were participated in this discussion meeting.

The program is being presided over Rebeka Akter, General Secretary, Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad.

1. B) Discussion meeting with the representatives of Bogra Zila Bar Association:

A Discussion meeting was being organized with the representatives of WDDF as well as the representatives of Bogra Zila Bar Association at 3.00 PM, on 23rd August 2017 in Court building. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF attended in the above mentioned meeting.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF on behalf of the representatives of WDDF submitted a few proposals and Shirin Akhter discussed about the complexity of Women with Disabilities in access to justice along with the inaccessibility in Court building and call upon his solidarity to this issue.

President and Secretary of Bogra Zila Bar association were very cordial and cooperative to us and they expressed their commitment to adopt required initiative to reduce these challenges of Persons specially Women with Disabilities access to justice.

1. C) Grassroot Women with Disabilities committee meeting (Lahiripara, Bogra):

With the initiative of WDDF as well as with the local cooperation of Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad Three Grassroot Women with Disabilities committees have been formed in Three unions of Bogra Sadar Upazila, Bogra. So, One Grassroot Women with Disabilities committee meeting was being organized in our visiting time.

The aims of forming these grassroot Women with Disabilities committees in remote areas of different districts are as follows:

1. I) To introduce Women with Disabilities of the same union with each other as well as to establish a friendly relation among them through regular communication appearing in monthly meetings.
2. II) To encourage and motivate Women with Disabilities and their parents through reducing their negative attitude about disability.
- III) To make Women with Disabilities self conscious about their basic rights, contrigution and self dignity in family and society through enhancing their self confidence.
- IV) To build leadership capacity of Women with Disabilities through enhancing awareness among them.
1. V) To provide information about disability related Government initiatives, documents along with facilities including NGOs as well as make them experienced on how to obtain these facilities through advocacy in different level.
2. VI) To adopt required initiative in order to include Women with Disabilities in local level including women related development process through their regular and active participation.
- VIII) To create space in order to share multifaceted challenges in their daily lives , sufferings as Women with Disabilities including success E.G family conflict or discrimination, family/social violence, any type of torture/harassment and adopting the strategy of reducing these challenges and sufferings.
- IX) To encourage Women with Disabilities to be self dependent mentally and financially through identifying their hidden capability as well as providing need based technical and financial support E.G training, assistive devise, financial support for small Income Generating Program.

A discussion meeting with the Grassroot Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Lahiripara', Bogra was being organized by WDDF, in a neighbour's house of Lahiripara Union on 24th May 2017.

This meeting is facilitated by Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF, S.M Saifur Rahman, Project Manager, WDDF and Executive Director, Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS). Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator, WDDF and Rebeka Akter, President, Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad were present in this discussion meeting. In accordance with the decision of all the members of grassroot Women with Disabilities committee Sapla Akter has been selected as president, Mukti Khatun, Vice-President and Tahamina Akter has been selected as Secretary of this committee.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

I) Introductory session, significance of organizing and participation in this meeting.

1. II) responsibility assignment of President, Vice-President and Secretary of this committee.

III) Name and activities of WDDF as well as Name and activities of this grassroot committee with the cooperation of Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad.

1. IV) Entitlement of different types of Persons with Disabilities and their existing situation.
2. V) Consciousness and responsibilities of parents to make their Daughters with Disabilities active and self dependent through reducing discrimination against them.
3. VI) Clear speaking and introduce a Woman with Disability her self without any hesitation.

VII) Finding the ways of involving Women with Disabilities in education, IGA program and inclusion on going disability survey of Government and so on.10.

1. D) Yard meeting (Namuza, Bogra):

A yard meeting with the school teachers in order to create accessibility of Students with Disabilities in educational institutions of Bogra including this school was being organized by WDDF with the local cooperation of Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad, on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017, in Bamunpara High School, Namuza Union.

The meeting was moderated by Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator, WDDF. and welcome speech was being delivered by S.M Saifur Rahman, Project Manager, WDDF and Executive Director, Protik Mohila O Sheshu Sangstha (PMSS). Keynote paper is being presented by Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF. In this keynote paper she mentioned about the difficulties of Students with Disabilities have to face in this school and how they're incorporated in education with the cooperation of teachers and non disabled students of this school through reducing these difficulties. Besides, Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, WDDF mentioned in her speech that, disability shouldn't be barrier for education for the Students with Disabilities and with sincerity, sensitivity and proper cooperation of school authority including teachers and non disabled students , all types of Students with Disabilities should be incorporated in education. In this consequence, Students with Disabilities will be benefited, the purpose of this school will be fulfilled; the name and fame of this school will be spread far away and ultimately society and nation will be enriched.

The program is presided over Rebeka Akter, President, Bogra Zila Spandon Protibandhi Nari Parisad.

#### 10. Consultation meeting on Universal Periodic Report:

A consultation meeting on Universal Periodic Report was being organized by National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRCB), on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017, in Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF participated in this consultation meeting. She emphasized on the emerging challenges of Women with Disabilities in education, employment including self employment, housing and health due to infrastructural and informational inaccessibility and insecurity. She also mentioned about violence against Women with Disabilities and the limitation of access to justice for them.

#### 11. Consultation meeting on Universal Periodic Report:

A consultation meeting on Universal Periodic Report was being organized by National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh (NHRCB), on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2017, in CIRDAP Auditorium.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF participated in this consultation meeting. She emphasized on the emerging challenges of Women with Disabilities in education, employment including self employment, housing and health due to infrastructural and informational inaccessibility and insecurity. She also mentioned about violence against Women with Disabilities and the limitation of access to justice for them.

## ABOUT WDDF

The estimated number of Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) in Bangladesh, is around 24 million people, which constitutes 15 % of total population. 15% of Population have a disability.

Half of these are female. This is 12 Million girls and women with disabilities (WWDs).