



Menu

# FEBRUARY 2018

[Home](#) / February 2018

## FEBRUARY 18

We are concluded the following activities, during the period of February 2018 are as follows:

### 1. Discussion meeting on launching report regarding SDGs implementation:

A discussion meeting in order to launch of report regarding the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the role of Disabled Persons Organisations (DPOs) was being organized by Leonard Cheshire Disability Bangladesh (LCDB), in the auditorium of LCDB office, at 10.00 AM, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator, WDDF were participated in this discussion meeting.

The report, 'Disability inclusion and the Sustainable Development Goals,' is based on research conducted in April 2017 and outlines the key findings.

It also contains a number of recommendations of how SDG implementation can be supported by DPOs.

At the meeting the organizer team will share the key elements of the report and also provide a chance to discuss how SDG implementation has progressed since the research was conducted.

Shirin Akhter said that, though about education of Persons with disabilities has been mentioned in Goal -4 of SDGs with high importance but most of the educational institutions are infrastructurally and informationally inaccessible for them and in remote areas authorities and teachers of educational institutions have no idea about the education system of Persons with Disabilities.

Besides, Shirin Akhter and Md. Hasanuzzaman were working very actively in the working group to report about the weakness of Government to achieve SDGs including Persons with Disabilities.

### 2. 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Daily Jugantor:

A discussion meeting on the occasion of 19<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Daily Jugantor was being organized by Daily Jugantor in the auditorium of Daily Jugantor office, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director and Samira Haque, Accounts Coordinator WDDF were present in this discussion meeting.

### 3. Preparation meeting about Election Alliance of Citizens with Disabilities:

A Preparation meeting about Election Alliance of Citizens with Disabilities was being organized by Protibondhi Nagorik Sangathaner Parishad (PNSP) in join collaboration with Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) and Visually Impaired Peoples Society (VIPS) in the auditorium of PNSP office, on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2018.

Md. Hasanuzzaman, Accounts Coordinator of WDDF Participated in the above mentioned discussion meeting.

Md. Hasanuzzaman expressed his opinion in different issues including about preparing logo and name of alliance.

### 4. Program of showing a stage play:

A Program of showing a stage play "addressing gender based discrimination faced by urban women of Bangladesh" organized by UN Women Bangladesh in Westin Hotel, on 2nd February 2018. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator, WDDF were participated in this Program.

Shirin Akhter expressed her gratitude to the actress of the stage play and organizer for including the issue of Women with Disabilities and she requested to the actress that, if it is possible to distribute the Bengali version of this stage play, it will be helpful to encourage rural Girls and Women with Disabilities through showing this stage play.

### 5. Consultations of draft committee on National Action plan of "Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013":

Two consultations of draft committee on preparing 'National Action Plan' of "Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013" were being organized in February 2018.

2018. 1<sup>st</sup> consultation of draft committee on preparing 'National Action Plan' of "Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013" was being organized by Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF) under Social Welfare Ministry, in the auditorium of Centre for Disability in Development (CDD) from 4 to 5 February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF has achieved membership of this committee on behalf of Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs) and she has delivered her inputs according to all the articles of the abovementioned legislation to make the 'National Action Plan' inclusive and effective for Persons with Disabilities specially addressing the issue of Women with Disabilities properly through participating actively and regularly.

2018. B) 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation of draft committee on preparing 'National Action Plan' of "Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013" was being organized by Jatiya Protibondhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF) under Social Welfare Ministry, in the auditorium of JPUF from 26 February to 1st March 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF has participated in this consultation and she has delivered her inputs according to all the articles of the abovementioned legislation to make the 'National Action Plan' inclusive and effective for Persons with Disabilities specially addressing the issue of Women with Disabilities properly through participating actively and regularly.

6. Grassroots Women with Disabilities committee meeting:

Four Grassroots Women with Disabilities committee meetings were being organized in February 2018.

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

- 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.
- 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, contribution 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.
  - 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.
  - 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 device, financial support for small Income Generating Program.

2018. A) The first discussion meeting with the Grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Daudkandi Uttar' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at House of Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson, WDDF of Kanora, Gouripur, Baropara Union on 4th February 2018.

This meeting is presided over Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson, WDDF and representative of Daudkandi Grassroots Women with Disabilities with the observation and cooperation of Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

- I) Introductory session, significance of organizing and participation in this meeting.
  - II) To review the discussed issues of last meeting.
- III) Discussion about Accessibility right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
  - IV) Discussion about Inheritance right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
  - VI) Discussion about Employment right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
- VII) Existing situation of Persons with Disabilities to obtain these rights.
- VIII) Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.

2018. B) Second discussion meeting with the Grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Gouripur' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at House of Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson, WDDF of Kanora, Gouripur, Baropara Union on 5th February 2018.

This meeting is presided over Nila Akter, president of grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee and facilitated by Bethi Akter, Secretary of this committee with the observation and cooperation of Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

- I) Introductory session, significance of organizing and participation in this meeting.
  - II) To review the discussed issues of last meeting.
- III) Discussion about Accessibility right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
  - IV) Discussion about Inheritance right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
  - VI) Discussion about Employment right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
- VII) Existing situation of Persons with Disabilities to obtain these rights.
- VIII) Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.

2018. C) Third discussion meeting with the Grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Gouripur' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at House of Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson, WDDF of Kanora, Gouripur, Baropara Union on 27th February 2018.

This meeting is presided over Nila Akter, president of grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee and facilitated by Bethi Akter, Secretary of this committee with the observation and cooperation of Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

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

1. II) To review the discussed issues of last meeting.

(Due to understanding limitation, the the articles of legislation were being repeated).

III) Discussion about Accessibility right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".

1. IV) Discussion about Inheritance right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".
2. VI) Discussion about Employment right of Persons with Disabilities in light of "Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013".

VIII) Discrimination and torture to Women with Disabilities to obtain family rights and how to prevent.

1. IX) Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.

2018. D) Forth discussion meeting with the Grassroots Women with Disabilities Committee of 'Daudkandi Uttar' and 'Baropara' Doudkandi, Comilla was being organized by WDDF, at House of Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson, WDDF of Kanora, Gouripur, Baropara Union on 28th February 2018.

This meeting is presided over Asma Akter with the observation and cooperation of Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Masuma Akter, Vice Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Coordinator of WDDF.

The discussed issues of this meeting were:

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

1. II) To review the discussed issues of last meeting.

III) Discussion about violence against women and how to reduce violence:

In order to provide idea about violence against women and the activities along with duties of Police force, we invited Sohel Ahammed, Sub Inspector, Daudkandi Thana of Comilla as discussant about violence against women and what type of cooperation they're providing on behalf of law enforcement agency to reduce violence against women or how to protect them from violence.

He expressed his firm commitment

1. IX) Fixing the date of next meeting and so on.

#### 7. Providing cooperation to a victim woman for obtaining Legal support service:

Early morning, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018, I came to know from Masuma Akter, Vice-Chairperson of WDDF that, a woman named Hosne Ara Akter (Nayan) of Kanora Village, Baropara Union, Daudkandi, has become victim of severe violence by her husband and lost one eye. After some times, just before organizing grassroots Women with Disabilities committee meeting, the woman with her mother, grand mother and Two girl children came to us.

We were extremely shocked and confounded to see her; she was seriously ill with one injured eye, hungry along with mentally devastated. She was crying continuously and I couldn't understand what initiative I should take in this moment.

Relatives including mother of victim woman also informed that, this in humanitarian torture and oppression to their daughter has been going on for long period; Number of village salishes couldn't stop this violence rather she lost one eyed. So, strong legal initiative and inflexible punishment of the offender is required now.

After having heard series of cruel incidents of violence and on the basis of their written complain to WDDF; I made a phone call to police help line (999), the authority received my complain with importance and send Sohel Ahammed, Sub Inspector of Police, accompanied with a police officer of Daudkandi Thana in our meeting venue.

He investigated the incident through talking with victim woman and her relatives directly and filed a litigation against offender with his responsibility. In order to arrest offender the police force also arrested offender's sister and sister-in-law at that night. Subsequently, we invited her along with her family members in our office and we organized a discussion meeting with the reporters of National Daily Newspapers.

The reporters are expressed their commitment to cooperate this victim women and The National Daily Prothom-Alo published an online report on this incident (Page-3 of Pathita News) on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

#### 8. Discussion meeting :

A discussion meeting of Advisory committee on International Conference titled Disability and Disaster Risk Reduction management was being organized by Jatiya Protibandhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF), on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2018 in the Auditorium of JPUF.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director of WDDF was present in this discussion meeting as the member of this Advisory Committee. She has mentioned that, all types of initiatives including accessibility in all levels of shelter centre should be adopted considering the vulnerability and special requirements of Women and Children with Disabilities at the disaster period. She emphasized on giving priority for considering the special requirements about reproductive health of Women with Disabilities, pregnant Women with Disabilities and specially Women with severe Disabilities E.G Women with Wheel Chair user, Intellectual Disabilities, Autism, Speech and hearing Impairment and Visual Impairment.

#### 9. Executive Council meeting:

An Executive Council meeting was held in WDDF office, on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018. There were almost Ten participants including office staffs. Five agenda have been discussed including miscellaneous in this meeting. The agenda were as follows:

1. Discussion of last meeting minutes and approved,
2. Discussion about annual Activity report and approved,
3. Discussion about annual financial statement 2017, proposed Action plan and Budget 2018 and approved,
4. Submission of Audit report 2017 as well as discussion of Auditor appointment and approved,
5. miscellaneous.

#### 6. Annual General meeting (AGM) and Picnick:

Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Picnick of WDDF was being organized from 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at Aronnobash resort. Sixteen General members were participated in these abovementioned events but the total number of participants of these events including volunteers, guides and support staffs were almost Twenty four. The meeting has started at 10 am, on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, WDDF presided over the meeting. She started this AGM expressing her gratitude, gratification and appreciation at first to almighty Allah and then to WDDF for having the opportunity to organize this AGM and Picnick in such fascinating and enjoyable natural environment. She also expressed gratitude and thanks to all members, staffs and volunteers for their active and spontaneous presence and participation. After that, she requested Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF to facilitate the AGM.

Ashrafun Nahar has also started to facilitate the discussion through expressing her gratitude and satisfaction to Almighty Allah. She presented the agenda of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) expressing heartiest gratitude and thanks on behalf of WDDF to all the members for their presence. There were Five agenda including miscellaneous. The presented agenda of this meeting were as follows:

1. Discussion of last meeting minutes and approved.
  2. Discussion about Annual Activity Report and approved.
  3. Discussion about annual financial statement 2017, proposed Action plan and Budget 2018 and approved.
  4. Submission of Audit report of 2017, and approved as well as discussion of Auditor appointment and approved,
  5. Miscellaneous.
- 
1. A) Ashrafun Nahar, Member Secretary of WDDF submitted the last meeting minutes and in accordance with the opinions of all the GC members the last meeting minutes is being approved.
  2. B) The Vice-Chairperson of WDDF Submitted the Annual Activity Report of 2017, in accordance with the opinions of all the GC members the submitted Annual Activity Report is being approved.
  3. C) In the absence of Treasurer, Member Secretary and Chairperson of WDDF submitted the annual financial report of 2017, proposed Action plan and Budget 2018 in accordance with the opinions of all the GC members the submitted annual financial report as well as proposed Action plan and Budget 2018 are being approved.
  4. D) In the absence of Treasurer, Member secretary with the cooperation of Accounts officer of WDDF submitted the Audit report of 2017 to all the GC members and in accordance with the opinion of all the GC members, the submitted audit report has been approved.
  5. E) In accordance with the opinion of all the GC members it is decided that the responsibility of appointing auditor has been handed over the Chairperson and treasurer of WDDF.

In conclusion, Chairperson expressed the optimism that, Women with Disabilities will lead their lives with self dignity, self independence along with contributive citizens for the state through the activities of WDDF. Simultaneously, with the expansion and leadership of WDDF a contributive role will be played by Women with Disabilities for their advancement in international level.

Finally, She has expressed heartiest gratitude on behalf of her self to the General Council Members for their continuous suggestion, support and cooperation for the advancement of WDDF and declared the closing of the Annual General Meeting for that day.

#### Picnick:

After long expectation of WDDF team, the amusing and delighted day of picnick has appeared for them.

Actually, WDDF team has started for picnick in the late after noon of 14<sup>th</sup> February 2018. We've arrived at 6 PM on that day at aronnobash resort, Pubail, Gazipur and our members are very fascinated to visit this resort abounded with natural beauty.

We've seated near the swimming pool, shared our childhood memories taking snacks and coffee, many of our members were singing songs and presented comics.

Exclusively, we've passed an extraordinarily delightful evening with all of our members, staffs and volunteers.

After having a peaceful and sound sleep, at early morning of 15<sup>th</sup> February we've gone for swimming and we all more or less have participated in swimming in a safe, secured and women friendly environment. In Bangladesh, this large number of Women with Disabilities group has hardly obtained opportunity and gone for swimming. So, this event is very enjoyable and memorable for WDDF team.

After that, having completed the program of AGM, we've organized a number of sports and games E.G: Quiz Competition, Speech on instantaneous topics, Performance on instantaneous topics and Pillo music. Then a prize distribution ceremony has been organized for all participants.

Besides, there were different types of sports items including Cradle. So, we've not miss the opportunity of rocking which was one of the amusing moments for us and at the time of rocking, we went back to our impressive childhood over and over again.

#### 11. International conference on Sustainable Development:

An International conference on Sustainable Development was being jointly organized by Institute of Development Studies and Sustainability (IDSS) and United International University (UIU) from 15 to 17 February 2018, at the Auditorium of United International University (UIU).

Shirin Akhter, Chairperson and Samira Haque, Accounts Coordinator of WDDF were present in a session of this conference titled "Mainstreaming Disability and development: Pathways and Challenges."

Shirin Akhter said that, Persons with Disabilities are still now furthest behind from the agenda of Mainstreaming development. Negative attitude and mind set towards Persons with Disabilities, informational and infrastructural inaccessibility in public buildings, roads and public transports, Not having formulated disability inclusive National budget and formulation and designing legislations, policies, plans and programs without inclusion of Persons with Disabilities along with DPOs are the enormous barriers for the proper inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in mainstreaming development.

Another important concern is that, without considering the special requirements and demands of Women with Disabilities to ensure their inclusion; the adopted initiatives of Go and NGOs in order to include Persons with Disabilities in mainstreaming development will extremely be interrupted.

#### 12. Discussion meeting of CRPD committee on shadow report:

A Discussion meeting of CRPD committee on shadow report was being organized by National Grassroots Disabled Organization (NGDO), in Turning Point Foundation Office on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF was present in this discussion meeting. She suggested that, thematic group formation and fixation of themes for every group are very essential initiatives to prepare this type of shadow report. So, according to her suggestion a number of thematic groups are being consisted and themes have been fixed for the groups.

WDDF has agreed to work on Article-9. 'Accessibility' in the abovementioned discussion meeting.

#### 13. Interactive Dialogue Proper modification to ensure access to justice of Persons with Disabilities:

An interactive dialogue titled Proper modification to ensure access to justice of Persons with Disabilities was being organized by Sign Language for the Deaf and Sign Language Users (SDSL), at Azimur Rahman Conference Hall, TheDailyStar Bhaban, on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director, WDDF was present in this Interactive dialogue. She said that, in order to ensure access to justice of Persons with Disabilities specially Women with Disabilities, reasonable accommodation for them considering their special needs and demands in justice related institutions should be set up or modified. Otherwise Persons specially Women with severe (Visual Impairment, Speech and Hearing Impairment, Completely Wheel Chair User/Spinal cord Injured and Intellectual Disabilities) Disabilities will totally be deprived from obtaining proper justice. In most cases, Poverty of victim, family and social barriers/superstitions, threats from offender's party and insecurity, inaccessible public transports, police stations and court premises are enormous barriers for obtaining justice for Persons with Disabilities. So, in order to reduce these barriers, it is essential to adopt required initiatives in light of UN CRPD, Persons with Disabilities rights and Protection Act 2013 and SDGs by Government in join collaboration and with the suggestion of DPOs.

#### 14. Multi stakeholders consultation on commission on the Status of Women (CSW):

A multi stakeholders consultation on 62 Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) titled 'Challenges and Opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls' organized in join collaboration by Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) and UN Women, in CIRDAP International Convention Centre, on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director and Samira Haque, Accounts Coordinator of WDDF were present in this consultation. Ashrafun Nahar stated that, While Women with Disabilities of Dhaka city have to face multifaceted barriers due to inaccessibility for obtaining basic services and facilities, E.G as a participant of this consultation she couldn't move freely in this convention centre. In this situation, Women with Disabilities of grassroot areas are completely deprived from their basic rights, services and facilities. So, it is very challenging for rural Women with Disabilities to enjoy minimum health facilities and to become economically empower through overcoming the existing challenges.

#### 15. Seminar:

A seminar on "Inclusion of Women with Disabilities in entire development of the state" is being organized with the initiative of Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), at **Azimur Rahman conference hall, the Daily Star Bhaban**, on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018, from 10 AM to 2 PM. in order to discuss the situation of Women With Disabilities in entire development process of the state including different legislations and policies and how their human rights are being violated due to excluding them from most of the development plans and programs of the state. 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 seminar was being moderated and keynote paper was being presented by AshrafunNahar, Executive Director, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF). In this paper she mentioned that, Present social status of Women with Disabilities in accordance with the information obtained from different researches.

In this paper, it is stated that, 99% Women with Disabilities are living under poverty line and less than 1% female Children with Disabilities are getting opportunity of going to school.

96% Women with Disabilities are becoming victim of mental, physical and sexual violence.

Poverty has come down below 25% from 57% population of 1991. Inspite of having income discrimination has been increased, number of extreme poor population is 12.9%.

Due to firm commitment of government to build a fair and anti-discriminatory society, though the success of Bangladesh has established a role model in terms of education, health, sanitation and gender has been exposed in front of the world but success of government to establish anti-discriminatory infrastructure and overall inclusive society for Persons with Disabilities hasn't been visualized. In the last year of Sixth Five year plan Per capita income has been extended in 1324 US\$ but income of Persons with Disabilities hasn't been increased and the initiative creating their financial capability hasn't been visualized.

Respected Guests of seminar said that, inspite of having been formulated national and international legislations and policies in order to establish right based and anti-discriminatory society for Persons with Disabilities and to include them in entire development of the state, these legislations and policies haven't been implemented and actualized.

All legislations and policies including "Persons with Disabilities Rights and Protection Act 2013", "Neuro Developmental Disability Trust Act 2013", "UNCRPD" and "Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)" should be included in 7<sup>th</sup>5 year plan and National Social Security Strategy (NSSS).

In open discussion of the seminar speakers are said that, the issue of Persons with Disability hasn't been included in 7<sup>th</sup>5 year plan properly and in this consequence, they're excluded from development plan. But the main theme of SDGs is "no one Leave behind".

All ministries including Social Welfare Ministry should take responsibility to include Women with Disabilities in entire development of the state.

Besides, guests are also discussed the barriers of social inclusion of Women with Disabilities and ways of eliminating barriers elaborately. Simultaneously, they've expressed their commitment to adopt required initiative to include Women with Disabilities in entire development of the state.

Ms. Sultana Kamal, (Former Adviser Government of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh), **Chairperson, Bord of Trustee, Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)**, has given her kind consent to attend as Chief Guest in the seminar. Besides, Beauty Begum, Clinical Psychologist, as the representative, in absence of Dr. Abul Hossen, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA), Md. Ehsan E Elahi, Join Secretary, Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation (BRTC) Road and Bridge Ministry and Zakia K Hassan (**Immediate Past President** Women for Women), **Development Analyst and Researcher**, President Dipto Foundation will present as special Guests.

This seminar is being presided over Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF).

#### 16. Inauguration ceremony of Skill development course of Grassroots Women With Disabilities:

An inauguration ceremony of Skill development course of Grassroots Women With Disabilities was being organized by Women with Disabilities Development Foundation (WDDF), at the house of Masuma Akter, Vice-Chairperson, WDDF, Kanora, Daudkandi, on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

A Two month long Sewing training course under this skill development course was being inaugurated by the representatives of WDDF comprising Shirin Akhter, Chairperson, Masuma Akter, Vice-Chairperson and Md. Hasanuzzaman, Program Officer of WDDF including Grassroots Women with Disabilities committee members and Sewing trainer were present in this program. With the supervision of Masuma Akter, Vice-Chairperson, WDDF, this Sewing training course with the Seven Women with Speech and Hearing Impairment and Physical Disabilities will be continued for Two months from March to April 2018.

#### 17. Discussion meeting:

A discussion meeting titled 'Of life and struggle' on the occasion of visiting Bangladesh of Three Women Peace Nobel Laureats was being organized by Naripokkho in Krishibid Institute on 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018.

Ashrafun Nahar, Executive Director and Samira Haque, Accounts Coordinator were present in this discussion meeting.