

## **MAY 2016**

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## **MAY ACTIVITIES REPORT 2016**

1.Grassroot committee meeting of WWDs in Manikganj:

Monthly discussion meeting with the Grassroot WWDs Committee of Manikganj was organized by WDDF, on 4 May 2016, , at Manikganj Disable People's Organization to Development (MDPOD) Rouhadaha, Manikganj Sadar. The discussed issue of this meeting was Module-5, the rights of WWDs in accordance with the UNCRPDand how the state preserve the rights of WWDs through adopting different types of time required initiatives. Besides, an incident of family rights violation of women with severe (Both Knee and Wristless) physical disability of Manikganj by her husband, was being shocked all of us extremely and WDDF expressed it's commitment to support this WWD (who has got marry and is going to be a mother), incollaboration with Manikganj. This meeting is led by ShirinAkhter, Chairperson, WDDF.

6. Discussion Meeting with Feminist NGO Leader:

A discussion meeting on conducting a research about reproductive health of Women With Disabilities was being organized with the initiative of WDDF, on 5 May 2016, with KhushiKabir,Executive Director,NijeraKori in it's office.

The issues, E.G Researcher appointment, research method, to develop questionnaire to appoint volunteer for data collection and report preparation are being discussed elaborately. AshrafunNahar, Executive Director, WDDF led this discussion meeting.

7. Discussion meeting of Citizens Initiatives on Domestic Violence (CIDV):

A meeting on Citizens Initiative on Domestic Violence (CIDV) was being organized by ManusherJonno Foundation (MJF) in it's office, on 5<sup>th</sup>May 2016. ShirinAkhter, Chairperson and EronaKhandakar, Project Officer WDDF were present in this meeting. CIDV members discused about TOR finalizing, organizing advisery committee meeting of CIDV and a national sharing on the impact of Domestic Violence Prevention and ProtectionAct(DVPPA) 2010 as well as problems of activating this act in divisional along with district level. Besides, it is also discussed that, how this act would be more effective to reduce violence against women.

8. National Discussion Meeting:

A national discussion meeting on "Disability Inclusive National Budget" was held on 11<sup>th</sup>May2016, at CIRDAP auditorium. This program is being organized by Access Bangladesh Foundation, AshrafunNahar, Executive Director,WDDF and Project Officer EronaKhandakarwere participated in this National discussion meeting. AshrafunNahar,Executive Director, WDDF, on behalf of WDDs, stated that, inclusive development is not possible without inclusive budget. Simultaneously, as the estimated number of PWDs is around 24 milionpeople which constitutes 15% out of total population and they are the integral part of the nation. So, it is required to formulate disability inclusive budget for disability inclusive development. 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 they are only included in the budget for social safety net under Social Welfare Ministry and that system should be changed. Hence, For achieving disability inclusive development, disability issue must be incorporated in national budget and at least 10% budget should be allocated under every ministry and 10% budget for WWDs under gender responsive budget. All the participants have shared their views on the importance of disability inclusive budget.

9. Discussion Meeting with the Director (Join Secretary) Enforcement of Bangladesh Road and Transport Authority (BRTA):

A discussion meeting was held with a Deligation of WDDF as well as the DirectorEnforcement of Bangladesh Road and Transport Authority (BRTA) on 16th May 2016, at 12 PM, in his office

The representatives of EC along with GC including the officials of WDDF attended in the above mentioned meeting.

BijoyBhushan Pal, Director, Enforcement of Bangladesh Road and Transport Authority (BRTA)expressed his heartiest thanks to the representatives of WDDF.

Afterwards, AshrafunNahar, the Executive Director of WDDF, on behalf of the representatives of WDDF, submitted a paper including the accomplishmentn, objectives along with a few proposals and ShirinAkhter, Chairperson of WDDF, submitted a brief report on the activities for the promotion and protection of the rights along with dignity of WWDs to the Director and call upon to express the solidarity on behalf of BRTA to these issues.

The Director was very cordial and cooperative to us. He expressed His full support and solidarity to our proposals. He also said that, present Government is very compassionate to the PWDs 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 and the authority of BRTA in order to include the WWDs 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.

10. NGO Coordination meeting with UNO in Narayanganj:

An NGO Coordination meeting with the UpazilaNirbahi Officer (UNO)of Narayanganj was being held in her office, on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016. The programs of NGOs, their working areas, repetition of same activities, organizing regular NGO coordination meeting, involvement of relevant Government officers with the activities of NGOs, the problems of the NGOs working in Narayanganj and solutions ETC are being discussed elaborately. ShirinAkhter, Chairperson and EronaKhandakar, Project Officer of WDDF were present in this meeting.

11. A discussion Meeting about draft report on "UN CRPD":

A discussion meeting about draft report on "UNCRPD" was being organized by ProtibandhiNagarikSangathanerParishad (PNSP) in it's own office, on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016. This meeting was being organized in order to review the draft state report on "CRPD" as well as to provide accurate and update information about establishing and actualizing the rights of Persons With Disabilities in the light of "CRPD". Md. Hasanuzzaman, Accounts Coordinator, WDDF was participated in this meeting.

## 12. CEDAW Meeting:

A meeting of Citizens Initiative on CEDAW Bangladesh (CICBD) on CEDAW Reporting was being organized by Steps Towards Development (STD) in it's office, on 17<sup>th</sup>May 2016. AshrafunNahar, Executive Director, WDDF was present in thismeeting. The UN CEDAW Committee has sent a number of questions to the Government on the state report on CEDAW and in these questions one question has been enlisted about disadvantaged women including WWDs in which it is mentioned that, the initiatives or update information of government about WWDs hasn't been mentioned clearly in the state report. So, it is discussed that, with the cooperation of themetic group of WWDs, CICBD platform will make a number of queries about WWDs and collect the answer of this query with update information.

13. Discussion Meeting with the Vice Chancellor(VC) of Islamic University of Technology (IUT):

A discussion meeting was held with a Deligation of WDDF as well as the Vice Chancellorof Islamic University of Technology (IUT) on 18th May 2016, at 10AM, in his office.

The representatives of EC along with GC including the officials of WDDF attended in the above mentioned meeting.

Professor Dr. Munaz Ahmed Noor, Vice Chancellor, Islamic University of Technology (IUT) expressed his heartiest thanks to the representatives of WDDF.

Afterwards, AshrafunNahar, the Executive Director of WDDF, on behalf of the representatives of WDDF, submitted a paper including the accomplishmentn, objectives along with a few proposals and ShirinAkhter, Chairperson of WDDF, submitted a brief report on the activities for the promotion and protection of the rights along with dignity of WWDs to the Vice Chancellor and call upon to express the solidarity on behalf of IUT to these issues.

The Vice Chancellor was very cordial and cooperative to us. He expressed His full support and solidarity to our proposals. He also said that, present Government is very compassionate to the PWDs 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 and the authority of IUT in order to include the WWDs 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.

14.Discussion Meeting with the Chairman of Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation (BRTC):

A discussion meeting was held with a Deligation of WDDF as well as the Chairman of Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation (BRTC) on 25th May 2016, at 4 PM, in his office.

The representatives of EC along with GC including the officials of WDDF attended in the above mentioned meeting.

Mohammad MizanurRahmanChairman of Bangladesh Road and Transport Corporation (BRTC) expressed his heartiest thanks to the representatives of WDDF.

Afterwards, AshrafunNahar, the Executive Director of WDDF, on behalf of the representatives of WDDF, submitted a paper including the accomplishmentn, objectives along with a few proposals and ShirinAkhter, Chairperson of WDDF, submitted a brief report on the activities for the promotion and protection of the rights along with dignity of WWDs to the Chairman and call upon to express the solidarity on behalf of BRTC to these issues.

The Chairman was very cordial and cooperative to us. He expressed His full support and solidarity to our proposals. He also said that, present Government is very compassionate to the PWDs 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 and the authority of BRTC in order to include the WWDs 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.

## 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).