

FEBRUARY 2016

[Home](#) / February 2016

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES REPORT 2016

WDDF participated & organized a number of events/programs in February'16. These are as follows:

Workshop:

1. WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in a workshop on "Initiative Towards setting up BD business and Disability network", held on 2nd February'16 at hotel Amare, Gulshan2, Dhaka. This workshop jointly organized by Bangladesh Employer's Federation (BEF) & Bangladesh Skills for Employment & Productivity (B-SEP) Project ILO. Mr.Md Mujibul Haque,MP Ministry of Labor & Employment ,Bangladesh was the chief guest. Workshop divided into three session-a) Inaugural session, b) Technical session & c) Group Discussion & presentation. The entire participant divided into 5groups. WDDF Executive Director Ashrafun Nahar Misti was present there as DPOs representative. She said about the inclusion of PWDs in corporate sector & also developing standards for companies to follow with regards to hiring PWDs. She also mentioned about the twin track approach, job availability, technical support for PWDs on information, skill development training, advocacy for PWDs recruitment, disability focal person & person with disabilities in network. It would be noted that, Bangladeshi business mechanism is not friendly for Persons With Disabilities (PWDs) though according to the UN CRPD Article 27 'Work and Employment', state parties recognize the right of PWDs to work on an equal basis with others and promote opportunities for self employment, entrepreneurship, the development of cooperatives and starting one's own business through ensuring infrastructural along with informational accessibility. In the light of realizing this situation, Ashrafunnahar also discussed about the existing challenges of PWDs of having incorporated them selves in business. Simultaneously, stated momentous recommendations for taking initiative towards setting up Bangladeshi business and Disability network for creating disability inclusive business mechanism and business environment. She also stated that, the commercial development of Bangladesh will be interrupted without the proper inclusion of PWDs in the business mechanism of state.
2. WDDF Accounts Coordinator, Md. Hasanuzzaman was participated in a workshop on "inclusion of PWDs in National Parliament and Local Government bodies", held on 13 February'16 at Dailystar vaban. This workshop is being organized by Bangladesh Visually Impaired Peoples Society (BVIPS) in collaboration with Sight Savers International (SSI). It is seen that, proper improvement of PWDs has still now been interrupted due to failing to address the needs and demands by the politicians, parliamentarians and policy makers appropriately and as in this consequence, PWDs aren't be able to keep contribution in the development of the nation. Hence, the inevitability of the inclusion of PWDs in the political processes from grassroot to national level has elaborately been discussed by the discussants and participants of this workshop in the presence of Mr. Fajle Rabbi Miah, Deputy Speaker, National Parliament and Kazi Rozi, Member of Parliament, National Parliament.

Disability Working group meeting:

A disability working group meeting on "National Strategy for inclusion of Persons With Disabilities" (PWDs) in Skills Development", held on 3rd February'16, in the Conference room of NSDC Secretariat.

This meeting was being organized by National Skill Development Centre (NSDC) of Government in collaboration with ILO-Bangladesh. There are 30 member organization of working group on Disability Inclusion in TVET and WDDF one of the member organization of this working group. WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. The effective strategies and methods of proper inclusion of PWDs in the trainings organized by NSDC are being find out and discussed in this meeting. Simultaneously, WDDF Executive Director mentioned the challenges of WWDs to participate in these trainings as well as pointed out momentous recommendations for designing disability inclusive specially WWDs friendly training programs through eliminating the existing barriers. She said about the national building code which deals with accessibility issues & distribute to TVET. She also suggested that this working group should be monitor TVET institutions to see if they are including persons with disabilities & make advocacy for inclusion as well as to develop a checklist or monitoring tools.

CIDV Platform Meeting:

A discussion meeting of "Citizens Initiative on Domestic Violence (CIDV)" in order to adopting some important strategies on the occasion of International Women Day to protect Violence Against women as well as for creating safe and women friendly environment was held on 9th February16. This meeting was being organized by We Can in its own office. WDDF Chairperson Shirin Akhter and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting.

1. Discussion meeting with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) about the participation in the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)60:
2. The first discussion meeting with the CSOs about the participation on behalf of Bangladesh in CSW60 was being organized by UN Women, on 10 February'16, in its own office, Gulshan2, Dhaka.

WDDF Chairperson Shirin Akhter and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. There are 3agendas of this meeting. These are given below-

1. How to coordinate support to civil society representatives for attending CSW60
 2. Preparation & Advocacy
 3. Follow-up on the CSW60 session in relation to the national level implication.
- Shirin Akhter, Chairperson WDDF stated the momentous of inclusion Women With Disabilities (WWDs) issue in the report of CSW60 and If it is not emphasize internationally, it could not be done effectively. As well as this issue is being included in the second agenda of that meeting. Christine Hunter, Country Representative UN Women presided over this meeting.
 - The Second pre preparation meeting with the CSOs about the participation on behalf of Bangladesh in CSW60 was being organized by UN Women, on 23 February'16, in its own office, Gulshan2, Dhaka.

- WDDF Chairperson Shirin Akhter and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. In this meeting, the role of Bangladeshi women in the upcoming CSW60 session and the issue of sharing the submitted Government report in the CSW60 have been discussed on the basis of priority.
- The Third preparatory meeting with the CSOs about the participation on behalf of Bangladesh in CSW60 was being organized by UN Women, on 28th February'16, at Pan Pacific Sonargaon hotel.
- WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. The CSOs report is being shared with the Government on behalf of UN Women. In this meeting, WDDF Executive Director pointed out the importance of inclusion of WWDs issue in CSOs and Government report of CSW60 session. Meher Afroz Chumki, State Minister and Nasima Begum, Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MOWCA) as well as the representatives of other relevant Ministries were present in the abovementioned meeting.

Discussion Meeting with Duskin team of Japan

A discussion meeting with the Duskin Team of Japan was held on 12th February'16, at Platinum Grant hotel, Banani, Dhaka.

This Japanese team has been organizing a Ten month leadership training entitled "Duskin Leadership Training" in Japan for the Leaders With Disabilities of the Asia Pacific countries for many years. WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. As a Duskin leader, Ashrafunnahar, Executive Director, WDDF shared the existing situation of Bangladeshi PWDs, her working strategies and working experience for the advancement of WWDs as well as pointed out the recommendations about the applicants of Duskin Leadership training.

CEDAW Platform Meeting:

A discussion meeting of Citizen's Initiatives on CEDAW, Bangladesh (CIC-BD) was being organized by Steps Towards Development (STD) in its own office, on 15 February'16.

Steps Towards Development Executive Director Ranjan Kormoker presided over the meeting. Bangladesh Mohila Parishad President Maleka Banu chair this meeting. The agenda of this meeting were-

- Approval of the last meeting minutes.
- National Sharing of CEDAW Shadow Report
- Brief Program Report
- Summary Report
- Sending shadow Report on CEDAW to UNCEDAW Committee.
- Complete the pending activities of CIC-BD.

The members of CIC-BD gave a short evaluation on National Sharing of CEDAW Shadow Report which was being held on 13th Jan'16. WDDF Chairperson, Shirin Akhter and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting and Shirin Akhter said about the accessible venue for WWDs as well as PWDs. She also gave her opinion on some correction of Summary Report and incorporate WWDs issue in the CEDAW shadow report appropriately. All the members of CIC-BD approve the report with some correction & agreed to send this report UNCEDAW Committee.

Disability Rights Fund Guarantee Convening Meeting:

Eightth Bangladesh Guarantee Convening Meeting of Disability Rights Fund (DRF) is held at Centrepoint hotel, Gulshan2, Dhaka, from 16-18 February'16. This Guarantee meeting is being organized by DRF in collaboration with Access Bangladesh Foundation and as a DRF Guarantee, on behalf of WDDF, Chairperson, Shirin Akhter and Executive Director Ashrafunnahar were participated in this meeting. Disability related and disability inclusive documents Viz: UNCRPD, SDG, legislations on disability, existing situation of PWDs including WWDs of Bangladesh, Government and Non-Government initiatives for the advancement of PWDs as well as challenges and successes of Guarantee organizations are being discussed in different sessions of this meeting. A group working session is being held on different challenging issues of PWDs relevant with SDGs where the presentation of Ashrafunnahar, Executive Director of WDDF and her group is considered as appropriate and best. In 3rd day a sharing session about the existing challenges of PWDs is being held with the representatives of donor organizations, corporate sector along with government where the representatives of all guarantee organizations have obtained opportunity to share their challenges with the representatives of Government and Government representatives are also shared their existing initiatives for PWDs as well as motivated to adopt further initiatives for the advancement of PWDs through eliminating the challenges considering their needs and demands.

National Consultation:

A National consultation on the "Development of Persons With Disabilities Inclusive manual for Local Government Institutions" was held on 17th February'16, organized by Sight Savers International (SSI) in its own office. In this national consultation, the idea and importance of Developing the Persons With Disabilities Inclusive manual for Local Government Institutions is being shared with the civil society and Government representatives as well as it is also discussed that, through adopting this initiative PWDs will be responsive and contributive to the state. Simultaneously, in the consequence of spontaneous cooperation of populace including PWDs and Government the progress of the state will be advanced. WDDF Accounts Coordinator, Md. Hasanuzzaman was participated in this national consultation and pointed out his valuable recommendations regarding this issue.

Discussion meeting with donor organization:

A discussion meeting with Christophel Blinden Mission (CBM), on the representation in "Disability Inclusive Development" in the policy and programs of CBM was being held on 24th February'16, in Austrelian Hi Commission, Gulshan2, Dhaka.

WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting. Ashrafunnahar, Executive Director, WDDF, on behalf of Disabled Peoples Organizations (DPOs) and WWDs shared her rational explanation about the inevitability of inclusion of DPOs along with PWDs in Disability Inclusive Development with the representatives of donor organizations as well as pointed out the time required recommendations regarding this issue. Furthermore, She also noted with high priority about the requirement of special opportunity for WWDs considering their vulnerability and backward situation.

Participation in the program of women and human rights NGO:

A discussion meeting on the ocasion of "Equality and Community Justice Fellowship Research" report publishing and Certificate distribution was held on 25th February'16, at Dailystar Vaban.

This discussion meeting is being organized by Bangladesh Legal Aid Services and Trust (BLAST) in collaboration with Research Initiatives of Bangladesh (RIB) and the research report is being distributed in Braille version for the Visual Impaired Persons. WDDF Executive Director Ashrafunnahar and Project officer Tahseen Showkat were participated in this discussion meeting and obtained opportunity to share the complicatedness of "Access to Justice" for WWDs with a group of justice.

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).

© 2016 wddfbd. All Rights Reserved.



 Like

 Share 0

 Tweet