



# Annual Report 2021 - 2022

# BANCHE SHEKHA

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Jashore - 7400, Bangladesh  
[www.banchteshekha.org](http://www.banchteshekha.org)

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# Message from the Founder Executive Director

## Dr. Angela Gomes



It's my great joy to published Banchte Shekha Annual Report for the period of 2021 -2022 in front of you all and shares the project activities we've implemented in the reporting period. Through this annual report we've tried our best to narrate our activities with achievement and brought those in front of our donors, beneficiaries, stakeholders and wider community for their updates. It would never been possible to achieving those targets without cordial efforts and cooperation of our General Body (GB) and Executive Committee (EC) members. They have extended their utmost cooperation and leadership in planning, decision making, designing and executing strategies for success. I am really grateful to our General Body (GB) and Executive Committee (EC) members for their effortless supports.

The reporting period was really challenging for all and it was quite hard to cope with new normal situation right after COVID pandemic. Because earlier year the COVID pandemic situation has hampered the ongoing project activities and obstacle the achievement of the targets. But our staffs has taken challenges during pandemic situation to implement projects activities, served the beneficiaries during emergency and strive for bringing success against target. Due to their hard working, team works and inner spirit all the projects were successfully implemented by the organization during the reporting period. I do thanks to our well wishers, donors, beneficiaries, community, GO/NGO, likeminded organization for support our long journey and being with us from the beginning to till now. I do specially thanks to our donors for supporting financially and technically to implement projects and reaching our targets beneficiaries. Same time I do thanks to local government authorities, financial institutions, communities, beneficiaries and individuals for providing needful support in our development journey.

On behalf of General Body (GB), Executive Committee (EC) and Staffs, I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the donors, government, non-government offices for extending their helping hands for helps executing project activities. Same time acknowledge their contributions from core of my heart for help us in socio-economic development for the underprivileged.

Finally I do convey my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all for effortless supports and encouragements to our development journey. Your continuous support and encouragement is our main strength for serving the targeted beneficiaries.

Dr. Angela Gomes  
Founder Executive Director  
Banchte Shekha

# Message from the Executive Director

## Mr. Palash Hubert Gomes



It's my great pleasure to bring out Banchte Shekha Annual Report 2021 - 2022, which highlights the program activities of Banchte Shekha. The reporting year was challenging for all right after corona pandemic situation as well as in new normal situation. Overcoming those challenges Banchte Shekha has traverse one more year, where in to keep development and economic dynamic was entirely a big challenge. The organization tried their best to steps forward and secured significant successes in every program and project, particularly in micro finance program and economic development through fruitful efforts. Through the development projects beneficiaries has been benefited socially and economically as well as aware about their rights in the family & society.

I place my greetings and wishes to our development partners, government and non-government agencies, banks and financial institution, what drive the organization toward the position of enrichment. Above all I am grateful to Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA), NGO Affairs Bureau, Social Service Department, Joint Stock Company, other legal bodies and ministries including Ministry of Social Welfare and Prime Minister Secretariat of the government of Bangladesh for their indispensable support to Banchte Shekha.

In the same time, I am thankful to our honorable members of the General and Executive Committees for their constant support, motivation, collaboration and direction to handle the organizational strategy, core values, mission and vision.

I put my solemn affection and appreciation to the employees, who always tries their best to attain the objectives of the organization with dedication and hard work. I am also appreciative to our valued group-members and beneficiaries for their genuine concern, keenness and promise.

Finally I hope and believe that, this Annual Report will helps updating the readers with Banchte Shekha programs activities and inspired to become catalysts for the development of the disadvantaged communities.

With thanks and best regards

Mr. Palash Hubert Gomes  
Executive Director  
Banchte Shekha

# BANCHE SHEKHA AT A GLANCE



A society, which fulfils all fundamental demands and rights of the poor women and children, in which social harmony, peace, justice and ecological balance prevail.



Banchte Shekha will bring about an improved quality for life for the poor women and children in the social and economic sphere. Especially by using awareness techniques to empower the beneficiaries with the skills to survive and assist them to access their legal and democratic rights.

**Goal:** Contribution to uphold the human rights with respect and dignity for her target participants in the working area.

## Principles of the organization:

- Avoiding sex, color, caste and creed, the society is completely charitable, beneficial, educational, non-political, non-communal and non-profitable. It would be a non-discriminated society regarding nation, color, creed and sex.
- Only the almighty shall be the basis of all actions of the organization
- The members and the staffs of the organization must abide by some values and cultures of the organization that must reflect in the human resource policy.
- Gender equality and equity would an organizational policy that should be focused in every sector/position of the organization.

**Banchte Shekha's Strategic Aims:** In order to fulfill the Mission, Banchte Shekha seeks to ensure the capacity of the poor communities:

- **Social Empowerment Sector:** To combat all social injustice and inequalities particularly for women, children socially disadvantaged and excluded people.
- **Quality Basic Service Sector:** To improve access to and quality of basic services for the poor women, children and community people.
- **Economic Empowerment Sector:** To improve food security and livelihoods through skills development, capacity building and income generation.
- **Climate Change, Disaster Management and Food Security & Livelihood:** To adapt to climate change vulnerability and to mitigate disaster risk.

**Mainstream Programs and Priorities:** Considering the country context and donor priorities and utilizing the strength and opportunities of the organization, Banchte Shekha will mainstream its programs in to four major thematic sectors and priorities, which are complementary to each other. The mainstream programs and their thematic priorities are:

Social Empowerment Sector	Quality Basic Service Sector
<p><b>Priority: Ensure Impartiality, Rights and Peace at family and society.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empowerment of disadvantaged and excluded women, children and their organizations.</li> <li>• Women empowerment &amp; decrease of gender discrepancy.</li> <li>• Legal aid/social justice.</li> <li>• Conservation of cultural legacy of socially marginalized people</li> </ul>	<p><b>Priority: Access to Health and Education.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Primary health care and hygiene systems.</li> <li>• Women and children nutrition.</li> <li>• Physiotherapy and rehabilitation.</li> <li>• Pre-primary and public primary education systems.</li> <li>• Technical and vocational education systems.</li> </ul>
Economic Empowerment Sector	Climate Change, Disaster Management and Food Security & Livelihood

<p><b>Priority: Skills Development, Capacity Building and Income Generation.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Productive Human Resource Development.</li> <li>• Resource mobilization and multiplication.</li> <li>• Employment generation.</li> <li>• Social Business.</li> <li>• Marketing and linkage.</li> <li>• Access to financial services.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Priority: Climate Change, Disaster Resilience and Food Security &amp; Livelihood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adaptation to climate change vulnerabilities.</li> <li>• Promotion and execution of climate change and disaster resilient activities.</li> <li>• Conservation of natural resources for balancing environment.</li> <li>• Access to life safety competence and technologies.</li> <li>• Food security and Livelihoods development.</li> </ul>
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### Programming Principles and Approaches

BANCHTE SHEKHA follows some principles and approaches as outlined below to execute its program smoothly:

1. Use of social capital by maintaining effective relationship with national and international organizations, associations and networking entities.
2. Promoting empowerment through making poor people aware on their rights and making local government bodies/duty bearer responsive to the rights of the poor people.
3. Working together with government agencies, other NGOs and private sectors to avoid duplication and overlapping of resources, and to make the existing services accountable and operational
4. Gender equity is stressed as global (crosscutting) perspectives across all programs and organizational operations by changing patriarchal attitude and reducing gender discrimination through community driven initiative.
5. Promotion of economic activities based upon viability and environmental sustainability with diversification and packaging of relevant services (e.g. remittance and insurance services).
6. Lobbying at different levels on behalf of CBOs (Community based Organizations) to avail public resources and innovating new ideas for optimum use of resources.
7. Selectively maintain and develop quality but cost-efficient services through efficient management.
8. Participatory planning, monitoring and evaluation involving respective community people to create scope for all people to participate in all steps of program implementation.
9. Piloting promising new techniques and approaches in the areas of new crises for development to come (innovativeness).
10. Establishing Core Think Tank Group of staff to manage the crisis period arising out of limited fund flow to programs and the organization.

**Target people/beneficiary:** Poor, destitute, vulnerable, marginalized, hardcore poor, downtrodden, harassed people of the society particularly women and children who are the most sufferers.

**Development Partners / Donors: Present donors** - Manusher Jonn Foundation (MJF) & DFID, Democracy International Inc. and USAID, Associazione Per SEWA, Italy, The WorldFish Center & USAID, LF-DRRA, The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh (TLMI-B), Associazione Solidarieta Tezo Mondo Italy, IndebresVoor Bangladesh, International Development and Education Action (Onlus) Italy, BRAC.

**Previous donors:** CNFA & USAID, Plan International & USAID, CLS & DFID, Oxfam GB, SDLG & USAID, DANIDA PSU- HRGG, Save the Children & USAID, Dubai Cares Foundation and Ministry for Primary & Mass Education of Bangladesh.

**Organizational Structure:** Banchte Shekha General Body (GB) consists with 27 members. The General Body members elect nine (9) members Executive Committee (EC) for 3 years period to function. The Governing Body appoints the Executive Director to function as the chief Functionary of the organization. The Executive Director appoints its counterparts in consultation with Chairperson of the Governing Body.

# BANCHE SHEKHA LEGAL STATUS

Banchte Shekha is registered with the following Registration and Licensing Authorities:

Sl.No.	Registration Authority	Registration No	Registration Date and Status
1	Department of Social Welfare	Jessore-185/81	09.06.1981 and updated
2	NGO Affairs Bureau	FDR-146	06.07.1983 and updated 14.05.2030
3	Joint Stock Companies & Farms	S-7281(470) /07	02.12.2007 and updated
4	Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA)	03446-01309-00328	07.09.2008 and updated
5	DUNS	73-157-6604	31 March 2016 and updated
6	PADOR Europe Aid ID	BD-2012-EQA-0401196656	15 March 2011 and updated

## BANCHE SHEKHA IMPLEMENTED PROJECTS AT A GLANCE 2021 - 2022

Sl.No	Name of Project	Donor
1	Social Initiative for Promoting Security and Rights of Women and Girls	DFID and MJF
2	Promoting Peace and Justice (PPJ) - Gazipur	USAID and Democracy International Inc.
3	Activating and Engaging government and People in Partnership (AEP)	The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh
	Learning 360: Learning for Change and Resilience	The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh
5	Promoting Rights and Inclusion of Children with Disabilities (PRICD)	LF-DRRA
6	Knowledge on inclusive sexuality and health rights (KISHORI)	LF-DRRA
7	BS-IDEA Education Project	IDEA Onlus- International Development and Education Action.
8	Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled	In de bres voor, La Bottega della Solidarieta and Associazione Per Sewa.
9	Legal Aid and Legal Literacy Project	Banchte Shekha
10	Banchte Shekha "Institute of Training Resource and Demonstration" (ITRAD)	Banchte Shekha
11	Creative opportunity for computer education for disadvantaged people	Banchte Shekha
12	Banchte Shekha Micro Finance Program	Banchte Shekha



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Social Initiative for Promoting Security and Rights of Women and Girls

**Donor:** Manusher Jonn Foundation (MJF), Dhaka

**Goal of the project:** Enhance equal rights of poor and oppressed women by reducing discrimination and ensuring entitlement over resources

**Project Objectives:**

- To Increase awareness among women, adolescent and different stakeholders and perpetrators about VAWG and rights;
- To make aware and sensitize of the project target people particularly women, girls, men and boys about women rights and entitlements
- To have a better and easy access of the targeted women, girls and violence survivors in regard to enjoy the services and resources by the more responsive duty bearers;
- To make the targeted women and youths are economically viable and have sound roles in resource utilization and decision making process.

**Project Beneficiaries:**

- a) Direct Beneficiaries: 10,000
- b) Indirect Beneficiaries:40,000

**Sex Segregated Data:**

SI No	Beneficiaries	Men	Women	Boys	Girls	Total
1	Direct Beneficiaries	2400	4800	1331	1469	10000
2	Indirect Beneficiaries	9600	19200	5324	5876	40000

**Project Location:**

Name of district	Name of Upazila	Name of Union	No. of Villages	Total Villages
Jashore	Jashore Sadar	Haibatpur	12	96 Villages
		Noapara	12	
		Narayanpur	12	
		Swarupdah	12	
		Basuari	12	
		Jamdia	12	
Narail	Narail Sadar	Kolora	12	
		Sheikhhati	12	

**Progress status (Activities performed from July 2021 to June 2022):**

SI No	Name of Activities	Target	Achievement	Resolved and monetary realization
1	Meeting with Men Groups	384	384	Increased gender sensitivity and men participating to domestic works
2	Meeting with Women Groups	768	768	Increased awareness about women human rights and they are also going to different government service providing institutions for services.
3	Meeting with Adolescents Group	384	384	Increased awareness about child rights and child marriage; Personal and collective

				initiatives in regards to preventing child marriage increased.
4	Meeting with Union Social Support Group	24	24	Increased effective community initiatives in regards to stopping and preventing VAW and child marriage at respected locality.
5	Meeting with Upazila Social Support Group	16	12	Increased local level initiatives in regards to stopping and preventing VAW and child marriage
6	Meeting with Union Legal Aid Committee	8	8	Increased awareness about DLAC services among the project beneficiaries.
7	Meeting with Nari Nirjatan Nirodh Committee	8	8	Increased community initiatives by the respective committee members in regards to stopping and preventing VAW and Girls.
8	Advocacy and Networking meeting at Union & Upazila level	12	12	Poor, vulnerable and badly impacted COVID-19 survivors got preference to be included into different social safety net programs.
9	Rapport Building Session	384	288	1947 domestic violence cases resolved through motivation Counseling
10	School Session	32	32	Increased awareness about child rights/ child marriage and how to prevent child marriage of one's own and another neighboring one.
11	Salish Session	600	524	380 women relived from domestic violence and got justice through Salish
12	Court Case	60	71	71 violence affected women & children received legal aid support under SIPSRWG project through panel lawyers
13	Dower money realized/ recovered	330	693	BDT. 1, 42, 68,328 (One Crore Forty Two Lac Sixty Eight Thousands Three hundreds Twenty Eight taka only) through motivation and Salish. <b>Remarks:</b> Salish 47 Nos. BDT. 20, 56,000 and Motivation 646 Nos. BDT. 1,22,12,328.
14	Maintenance Cost realized/ recovered	160	151	BDT. 4, 13,000 (Four Lac Thirteen Thousands taka only) through Salish& motivation. <b>Remarks:</b> Salish 38 Nos. BDT. 3, 12,000 and Motivation 133 Nos. BDT.1, 01, 000.
15	Early Marriage stopped & prevented	330	1076	Stopped-50 and prevented 1026 through personal & collective initiative from community people, victims themselves and local administration.
16	Women Economic empowerment	100	222	Have been involved with different types of IGA and putting financial contribution to the respected families. <b>Remarks:</b> Create a favorable environment for women in regards to enjoying women empowerment within family.
17	Helped to received General Health from government health institute (Female& Girls)	1100	1360	As an output of regular motivational works for women who went to adjacent service providing government health institutions for enjoying their citizen's rights.
18	Football Coaching to selected Adolescent	16	16	Receiving training under an expert Football Coach; 03 members of the adolescents football

	Girls			team primarily selected in Jashore Army and 05 got chance in Uttara women sporting club, Dhaka.
19	Adolescent Football Tournament in honour to Mujib Year	01	01	Banchte Shekha Adolescent Football Team and Lohagora Adolescent football team became joint champion in this Tournament

### Activities Highlights

**Football Tournament-2022:** Banchte Shekha under its Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) supported Social Initiative for Promoting Security and Rights of Women & Girls (SIPSRWG) project arranged a friendly Adolescent football tournament at Kolora Union Parisad Ground, Agdia under Narail Sadar Upazila, Narail at 4:30 pm on 22 March 2022. The match was held between Banchte Shekha Adolescent Football Team and Lohagora Adolescent Football Team. Kolora Union Parisad Chairman Mr. Ashish Kumar Biswas inaugurated the friendly tournament remained present as Chief Guest. The match ended in a draw with no score each.



### Interface Meeting (VGD)

There was successfully organized an Interface Meeting focusing on Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at ITRAD (Banchte Shekha Head Office), Arabpur, Jashore in the context of Haibatpur Union under Jashore Sadar Upazila. From service providing institutions there was present Deputy Director of district Women Affairs department Jashore Md. Anisur Rahman as chief guest. As special guests (Resource persons) there were present Jashore Sadar Upazila Social Service Officer Md. Ashrafal Alam, Instructor of Jashore Sadar Upazila Resource Centre and Tag Officer of Haibatpur union Md. Saidul Haque, Haibatpur Union Parisad Chairman Md. Abu Siddique, Haibatpur UP secretary Ms. Samina Yasmin. Beyond them from service providers there were also present UP Ward members and respective NGO representatives (RRF Jashore). From community there were the representation of some selected VGD beneficiaries, local influential persons, teachers and local leading community people.



**Celebrating of 16 day Activism 2021 and International Women Day 2022:** Under the banner of MJF supported and Banchte Shekha implemented SIPSRWG project, there was successful executed a set of activities for effectively celebrating of 16 day Activism 2021 and International Women Day 2022 in different premises of SIPSRWG project area. There was incorporated an innovative strategy where the leading and successful community women shared their stories before the audience. Beside rally and discussion session there was also a hearing session from the successful parents, students, local small entrepreneurs and local human rights defenders. Under mobilization approach there was included song and dance competition mostly by the local children. There were the representations of all walks of people including police, UP, CS and teachers as well. Hundreds people were there and passed fine time with learning and being amused. To make the days program graceful and successful there were present Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO), Officer In Charge / Police Officer, Upazila Women Affairs Officers, Union Parisad Chairpersons and local influential people.



### IGA training on tailoring (Cutting & sewing)

There was organized a seven days long IGA training on tailoring (Cutting & sewing) giving focus on women and children cloths (Petticoat, Blouse, Sallower, Palazzo, Kummiz, Tape, Maxi, Children pant, Children Frock)



for the selected 170 women & girls who are either talent or have potentiality to be earning members and so on the small scale entrepreneurs. The training arranged under MJF supported and Banchte Shekha implemented SIPSRWG- project. The selected 170 women & girls are poor but promising to be self-reliant through tailoring. The activity is also a pertinent one to make the women economically and socially empowered. 08 local trainers who were committed to provide training to the selected women and girls as on the specification of regarding DoA between Banchte Shekha and the trainers. Consequently all the 170 trainers have been capacitated to make cloths (With cutting & Sewing) at least 5 out

of 9 trades. Finally majorities among the trainees are earning with tailoring activities and soon become earning members of their respective families.

## Success Story

### A story of becoming a self-reliant one defeating poverty and social obstacles

Nazma Khatun came of a lower middle income family. Nazma Khatun is the eldest daughter of her parents. She has also another younger sister and a younger brother. Her parents were aware and very proactive to making all their 3 children self-reliant and educated. Everything went well for Nazma up to the sitting for SSC examination. Unfortunately she failed to secure pass mark in English subject. She became very upset and decided not to keep her study continue any longer. Her parents and relatives tried their level best to motivate Nazma Khatun for sitting for the improvement exam. But all the trying ended with no result.

As Nazma Khatun did not continue her study, her parents gave her marriage with some Abdur Razzak who is residing at Afra under Sheikhati union of Narail Sadar Upazila. During marriage she was 20 years old. Another point need to be mentioned here that there was no transaction of dowry during the marriage. She was not wished to get marry until having a suitable one. To get her consent her parents and guardians played a trick. They presented another guy before Nazma replacing the true one (groom). When Nazma Khatun came to understand the game, she had nothing to do without going with the stream.



Nazma Khatun became very shocked when she came to know that her husband Abdur Razzak was a patient of epilepsy. He is physically unfit and still cannot perform any works where there is required physical labor. It was a very big and poverty stricken family. Her husband had 8 more brothers and sisters. Because of poverty her father in law forced them to be separated.

After being separated Nazma had to face more adverse situation. As her husband could not do any physical labor, he tried his level best to get a job. He supplied a huge amount to a local broker against having job in a Tea Company. But unfortunately broker did not keep word and grabbed the entire paid amount showing different lame excuse. The broker also refused to receive any cash from Abdur Razzak because of not having any strong proof/evidence/witness from Razzak.

Losing everything the couple fell into a great trouble. They could not manage the daily livelihood materials



and frequently had to go on without food with their one beloved son. At that time Nazma Khatun began to do something. She took loan from NGO and started to run a small grocery shop beside her residence. But it was not sufficient to bear entire livelihood cost of the family composed of three members. She was looking for another source of earning. At that time Banchte Shekha started SIPSRWG-project activities at Sheikhati Union with the support of Manusher Jonno Foundation in March 2019. Nazma Khatun became an active member of Afra Middle Para Swapno Choa Nari Dal. Through attending to different project activities she gained knowledge in regards to IGA and women rights issues. In consultation with

respective project staff (Hiralal Mitra). She received loan from NGO and began to rear goat. In later she also began to rear cow as share basis. In later from project she received a 7 days long tailoring training. Besides running the shop and cattle rearing she began to make cloth for women and children. As her hands' work is standard, local women began to go to Nazma for making cloths. From four types of earning sources (Shop, Tailoring, Goats and cows) she is earning average Tk-15,000/- (Fifteen thousand) per month. She also repays loan to NGO as equal as Tk-8000/- per month. As a whole she is enjoying rights with dignity and became a local icon to the local women.

### Success Story

#### **A domestic violence survivor is now a human rights defender (Female Union Parishad Councilor)**

At the age of 14 Aduri Khatun had to get marry with some Billal Hossen who residing at Kharingcha, a village under Swarupdah Union of Chowgacha Upazila of Jashore district. She had no any single option without being a victim of child marriage. As her father had three wives and 10 more children, they could not get supply of the necessary livelihood materials as on need basis. When her mother demanded to have the necessary daily livelihood materials at regular manner from her father, she (Mother) had to face all sorts of domestic violence. To save her mother Aduri had to undergo with physical violence from her father. So violence and poverty were the essential part of Aduri's life. Because of poverty she had to stop study after the completion primary education.



The marriage between Aduri and Billal Hossen was held in 2008. From the following day of her marriage, she had to face mental torturing from her mother in law. As she was not good looking and skin color was black, her mother in law did not recognize Aduri as her daughter in law (Son's wife). She did not talk with Aduri and would create pressure to Billal Hossen for giving Aduri divorce instantly. Firstly Billal did not pay heed to his mother. Consequently her mother in law got more angry with Billal and made them separate with empty hand. Billal Hossen maintained the family's maintenance cost through driving a Van. Though financial problem began to get reduce, the conspiracy and provocation from her mother went on with higher mode. Her mother in law used to create pressure on Billal Hossen for giving Aduri divorce at any cost. At one stage her mother became able to convince Billal Hossen. As aftermath Billal began to commit all types' domestic violence on Aduri Begum. As she had no safer place, she had to stay with her husband experiencing different forms violence and negativities.

In spite of committing all forms of domestic violence, they (Husband and mother in law) could not be able to drive away Aduri Begum. They added one more strategies like- not supplying daily food & necessities and

not giving time to Aduri Begum. Billal began to stay out at night. At one stage Billal became involved with extra-marital relationship with another neighboring woman. After hearing the news Aduri Begum lost her patience and left husband house with her two beloved children (One son and one daughter).

After coming back to her mother Aduri was not happy at all. Her mother and her own brothers were very busy to send back to her as early as possible. They communicated with Billal Hossen and sent her back to husband against her will. Unfortunately situation remained same and she had to go on experiencing the same types of violence from husband and mother in law as earlier. As children were getting older, she did not go against her husband but enduring every type of violence and negativities. In 2019 Banchte Shekha formed village level women group at Kharingcha under MJF supported and BS implemented SIPSRWG-project. Aduri became a group member of local women group. Breaking every barrier Aduri attended every meeting arranged with that women group. Following suggestion of the other group members of the same women group, she disclosed her sufferings and problems with seeking an immediate resolution. Hearing everything local project staff Most. Roshida Sultana suggested her for issuing an application. Aduri Begum did the like on 20.05.19. 1<sup>st</sup> Salish session arranged on 27.05.2019 but ended with no results. Aduri went back to her mother with 22 children. In later 2<sup>nd</sup> Salish session was arranged on 14.06.2019 and that Salish ended with an amicable resolution. In that Salsih her husband and mother in law understood their faults. They also realized that the polluted environment already damaged and still causing a long lasting damage to the two beloved children. So they collectively decided they must forget the past and would start a new life.

We are happy to share that till today, Aduri Begum and Billal Hossen are spending absolutely fine time without any family dispute. At Bi-election on 2021 Aduri Begum elected as Female Ward Councilor of Swarupdah Union. For accomplishing good works in her locality she once again elected as Female Ward Councilor of Swarupdah Union in 2022 local government election. Today Aduri Begum is well known to the locality as true human rights defender. She instantly rushed to the spot after hearing any news of child marriage, any case of violence against women & girls and marriage with dowry. Local people really like and love Aduri for her honesty, modesty and generosity.

### **Success Story**

#### **Court Case gave new life to Brishti Rani Ghosh (Justice saved herself from the domestic violence committed by husband and in laws)**

Brishti Rani Ghose is the eldest one among all the three children of Sudhir Ghose and Konok Rani Ghose couple. As her father was a day laborer, she gave his elder daughter marriage at the age of 14 years (Child marriage) aiming at reducing the livelihood cost of his family. During her marriage Brishti Rani was a student of class eight (May 2018). Her husband Shyam Ghose was a member of middle income family and residing with his parents at Kotchandpur, Jhenidha. After her marriage, there was not reported even a single day at her husband's house where she spent any fine moments with them. Her husband did not give any time to her and behaved very roughly without any reason. She shared her suffering with her mother and following her suggestion she had been able to find out the hidden story against the misbehavior.



She tried her level best to motivate her husband but failed. She had to face both physical and mental suffering because of asking the reason for avoiding her. She became very shocked and following her mother suggestion she came back to her parents. There were spent a couple of months with her parents after the return to parents. In the time interval either her husband or in laws did not communicate her. Brishti's father frequently met the local influential persons and marriage agents for seeking a resolution. They sat together one more times and all endeavors turned into vain. In later Brishti's father made complain to Salishi parisad of Narayanpur Union parisad for having a resolution (February 2019) of their chronic problem. But unfortunately her husband remained absent during the schedule date for the arbitration. Consequently no results come over there. When Banchte Shekha started a project at Narayanpur Union, Brishti's mother

became a member local women group member. For resolving the problem of her beloved daughter she moved forward with a request of Salish. Banchte Shekha's local women group's members sent invitation letter to Shyam Ghose for three times respectively on 04/07/2019, 08/07/2019 and 17/07/2019. At every time Brishti's and her parents were present but unfortunately Shyam Ghose and his parents did not attend to any Salish session. So, there was no way left without going to court for a justice through judiciary.

There was filed a case to Honorable Chowgacha Family and Assistant Judge Court Jashore dated on 01/08/2019 Family Case No. 43/2019. Near about 2 years later there was issued a sole decree in favor of Brishti Rani on 26/08/2021. Decreed amount was Tk-87,500/- but through negation Shyam Ghose paid Tk. 1, 00,000/- (One Lac taka only) to Brishti's parents considering the previously paid kind and cash during or after the marriage. During the payment time (30/03/2022) there was present Executive Director of BS Mr. Palash Hubert Gomes and PC Adv. M.K. Mondol Mohen. Brishti's parents were being requested to keep the money as fixed deposit in the name of Brishti Rani.



**Activities Highlights Photos:**



**Adolescent Football Team**



**Advocacy meeting at Union level**



**Dialogue with DLAC and other Service providing stakeholders**



**Salish at community level**

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Promoting Peace and Justice (PPJ) - Gazipur

**Donor:** USAID and Democracy International Inc.

**Goal of the project:** Citizen Confidence in Governance Institutions Increased through Improvement Access to Justice.

**Project Objective/s:**

- Enhance the capability of justice agencies to ensure justice for vulnerable groups and provide fair and effective services through communication and cooperation.
- Increasing awareness of legal rights to access legal aid services to the poor, women, children, religious and ethnic minorities, and other marginalized groups as well as the acceptance of the formal justice system among communities.

**Objectives:**

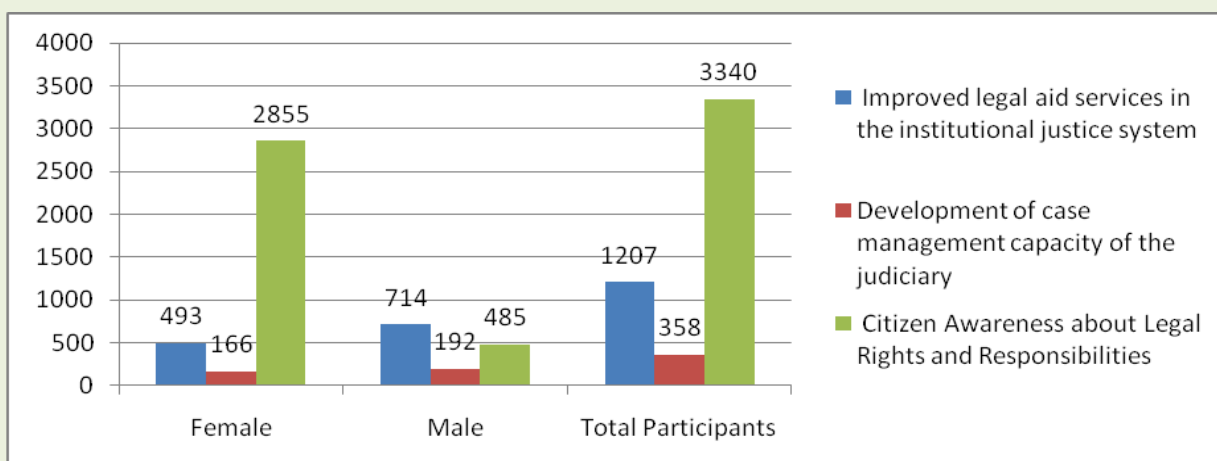
- Increasing the level of activation and coordination of the District, Upazila and Union Parishad Legal Aid Committees within the target District.
- Increasing awareness of legal rights and responsibilities among mass people and acceptance of the use of formal justice system among communities.

**Project Beneficiaries (Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries) / Beneficiaries Status:**

Name of Upazila	Number of UPs	Direct Beneficiaries			Indirect Beneficiaries					
		Total	Female	Male	Female	Male	Total	Female (5%)	Male (5%)	Total
Kapasias	11	165	55	110	162459	179703	342162	8123	8985	17108
Kaliakair	9	135	45	90	229475	253833	483308	11474	12692	24165
Gazipur Sadar	7	105	35	70	864314	956060	1820374	43216	47803	91019
Sreepur	9	135	45	90	233978	258814	492792	11699	12941	24640
<b>4 Upazila's</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>1490224</b>	<b>1648412</b>	<b>3138636</b>	<b>74511</b>	<b>82421</b>	<b>156932</b>

**Direct Beneficiaries:** 540 (Female- 180, Male- 360) and **Indirect Beneficiaries:** 156932 (Female – 74511 and Male- 82421).

**Component wise progress (Capacity building status during July 2021 to June 2022):**





**Progress status (Activities performed from July 2021 to June 2022):**

<b>Component -1: Improved legal aid services in the institutional justice system</b>				
<b>Name of Activities</b>	<b>Total Activities Performed</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
Facilitation and monitoring of bi-monthly meetings of Upazila Legal Aid Committee (UZLAC)	12	73	72	145
Facilitation and monitoring of bi-monthly meetings of Union Parishad Legal Aid Committee (UPLAC)	97	397	610	1007
Sensitize Session for UZLACs including issue areas such as TIP, GBV, and VE .	04	23	32	55
Sensitize Session for DLAC including issue areas such as TIP, GBV, and VE.	01	07	13	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>1207</b>
<b>Component - 2: Development of case management capacity of the judiciary</b>				
<b>Name of Activities</b>	<b>Total Activities Performed</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
Facilitation of half-yearly coordination meeting between DLAC-UZLAC-UPLAC	1			
Quarterly meeting with DLAC stakeholder.				
Quarterly meeting with Judges and Magistrate	02	18	32	50
Quarterly meeting with DLAC Panel Lawyers	03	43	49	92
Quarterly meeting with Court Staffs Officials	03	26	98	122
Quarterly meeting with Client	03	79	13	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>358</b>
<b>Component - 3: Citizen Awareness about Legal Rights and Responsibilities</b>				
<b>Name of Activities</b>	<b>Total Activities Performed</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Total Participants</b>
Courtyard Meeting with community Women. In 2 years time total 300 courtyard meeting will be held and each courtyard participants will be 15.	159	2751	225	2976
Public hearing (Upazila level) to aware people about Legal Aid Services	04	104	260	364
Installation of billboards, signboards and other information boards at the Upazila and Union Parishad levels.	00	00	00	00
Miking campaigns and other mobile information mechanisms	15	74500	88000	162500
<b>Total</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>77355</b>	<b>88485</b>	<b>165840</b>

## Activities Highlights

**Bi-Monthly of Union Parishad Legal Aid Committee (UPLAC):** Bi-monthly UPLAC meeting held in after every two months at Union Parishad Complex and committee review progress to make their way forward for the



next. The objective of bi-monthly meeting of UPLAC is to facilitate the UPLAC and make them functional to perform their regular duties and provide legal aid assistance to grass root poor people. The aim of this activity is to sensitize these committee members on their roles and responsibilities through on ward action driven participatory decision making. Now the UPLAC activities are functioning in the community and people getting legal aid assistance as per their needs. Now it is observed that, UPLAC members are more supportive for assisting community people with legal aid

assistance and giving more importance to the government legal aid services.

**Bi-Monthly of Upazila Legal Aid Committee (UZLAC):** Bi-monthly UZLAC meeting held in after every two

months at Upazila level in presence of Upazila Chairman and Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO). The objective of bi-monthly meeting is to follow-up UZLAC's regular activities and discusses whether they are properly providing legal assistance to grass root poor people or not. The ultimate aim of this activity is to sensitize UZLAC committee members on their roles and responsibilities through onward action driven participatory decision making. Now the UZLAC members are aware about their roles and actively assisting UPLAC and up-ward with DLAC for serving the people with legal aid.



**Courtyard Meeting on Legal Aid and Legal Literacy and Milking:** Courtyard meetings are community



meetings held close to people's homes that are less formal and shorter than trainings. They are also less expensive and easier to organize. Under this project courtyard meeting purpose is to aware community people on critical issues and

concerns on legal aid services as per commitment of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh National Legal Aid Assistance Program. The ultimate target is to aware the marginalized communities about the National Legal Aid Services of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and help them to enjoy the services at local level (Union and Upazila). Apart from the courtyard meeting to aware community people on legal aid services of Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh miking done in the project areas. In every union of the Upazila day long miking was conducted and distributed legal aid message related leaflets, hand notes and posters at community level.



**Sensitization sessions with UZLAC and DLAC:** Purpose of the activity is to sensitized UZLAC and DLAC members and proactively acts for ensuring community legal aid services for the grassroots people. Through the sensitization session UZLAC and DLAC members are aware on



Trafficking in Person (TIP), Gender Based Violence (GBV) & Violence Extremism, The Family Courts Ordinance, 1985 – Laws of Bangladesh, The Prevention of Oppression Against Women and Children Act 2000 (Amendment 2003), The Legal Aid Service Act, 2000, Family Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010, Guidelines of sexual harassment given by the High Court Division. Prevention of Sexual Harassment, The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012, Pornography Control Act, 2012, Right to Information (Amendment) Act, 2012 and Children Act 2013) and also know about penalty on the violation of those acts.

**Public hearing and School debate with video projection:**

**Public hearing:** The main purpose of the public hearing is to share legal aid services issues to wider community and help getting proper services in their needs. Apart from that make the local people, local CBOs, and different stakeholders clear and understandable about the critical issues and concerns on legal aid services as per commitment of Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh National Legal Aid Assistance Program. The ultimate target is to aware the marginalized communities about the National Legal Aid Services of Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh legal aid services spread services at local level.



**School debate with video projection:** Purpose of the debated program is spread the National Legal Aid Services of Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh among the SMC members, Teachers and Students. Apart from it the ultimate objective of the debate program is to spread the benefits of National Legal Assistance program among general and marginalized people in the rural community. The topic of the School debate program is “Government legal aid assistance is playing an important role in protecting the legal rights of marginalized people”. After debate program a video show is shown to students and others to aware them about government free legal aid services and enrich them with available legal aids service in the community. The main objective of the debate program is to aware school children on legal aid issues and motivates them to be volunteers in the surrounding to provide legal aid assistance to community people who need the legal aid assistance.



**National Legal Aid Day Celebrations:**

National Legal Aid Day (April 28, 2022) is being observed with due dignity keeping in view the theme "Take legal aid free of cost, Sheikh Hasina's government is giving this assurance". Gazipur District Legal Aid Committee organized various day-long programs to celebrate the day. PPJ - Gazipur Committee took part in organizing the program. A colorful rally was held at 9.00 am under the leadership of honorable District & Sessions Judge and Chairman District Legal Aid Committee Gazipur, Honorable Deputy Commissioner (DC), Honorable Judges, Women and Children Officials, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Civil Surgeon, Superintendent of Police (SP) and many others honorable individuals including district level officials .



DLAC Gazipur and PPJ-Gazipur has organized day-long programs to celebrate the day. The day celebration was started with rally where approximately 450 people (Male 300 and Female 150) has participated along with honorable District &

Sessions Judge and Chairman District Legal Aid Committee Gazipur, Honorable Deputy Commissioner (DC), Honorable Judges, Women and Children Officials, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Civil Surgeon, Superintendent of Police (SP) and many others honorable individuals at district level officials.

Same day discussion session was taken place at court conference room and discussed about the importance of the celebration of the National Legal Aid day and different services of the government for the people where was approximately 170 (Male 150 and Female 20) has participated . The discussion session was chaired by honorable District & Sessions Judge and Chairman District Legal Aid Committee Gazipur. Other special guest was Honorable Deputy Commissioner (DC), Honorable Judges, Women and Children Officials, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Civil Surgeon, Superintendent of Police (SP) and other officials. A special discussion session was held at 4.00 pm where USAID's PPJ's Chief of Party, Senior Regional Coordinator, PPJ Activity has attended the program



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**Client Consultation Meeting:** The Client Consultation Meeting usually held quarterly and consults with legal aid seekers on different legal aid issues. The consultation meeting is chaired by honorable District Legal Aid Officer and Member Secretary, District Legal Aid Committee. The objective of the consultation meeting is to hear from clients (legal aid seekers) and give them advice with appropriate solutions as per law.

USAID's PPJ activity honorable Chief of Party Heather Goldsmith visited the quarterly client consultation meeting. In the meeting she has actively listening to the client and said to them that "There are no people to listen to some stories, honorable DLAO, Project Coordinator and I've heard a lot from your speech attentively, my dear colleague has translated all about you, your heartache has hurt me. I'm really glad to meeting with you and I do thank you all for your active participation." She also added "DLAC is functional and very much positive to extend legal aid services to grass root people. It is important to note that, a good linkage between Clients and District Legal Aid Office (DLAO) could only strengthen the legal aid delivery system and get highest legal aid benefits ".



Heather Goldsmith, Chief of Party PPJ-USAID inspects quarterly coordination meeting of service recipients held at PPJ-Gazipur Judge's Court.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Activating and Engaging Government and People in Partnership (AEP)

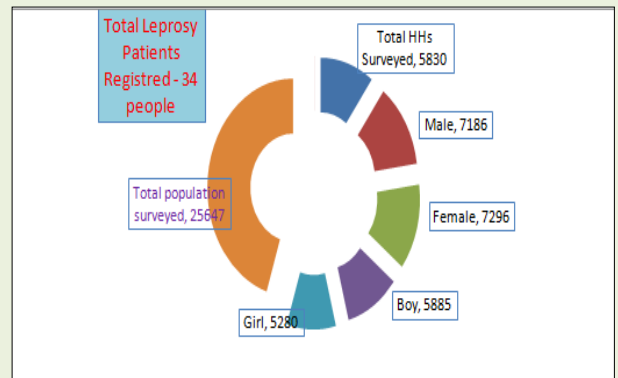
**Donor:** The Leprosy Mission International - Bangladesh (TLMI-B)

**Working area:** Jashore District covering 08 Upazila's.

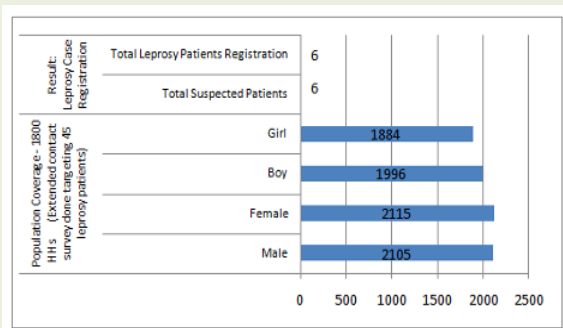
<b>Overall Aim:</b>	To improve leprosy detection and the wellbeing of people affected by leprosy in partnership with Government and Civil Society.
<b>Outcome:</b>	People affected by leprosy are diagnosed early, provided with good quality treatment and rehabilitation services as well as access to their rights and entitlements.
<b>OBJECTIVES</b>	Increased skills of government health workers and social workers to quickly identify new leprosy cases and treat and support sufferers with empathy.
<b>Objectives 1.1:</b>	Well-engaged leaders of non-leprosy civil society, research and government institutions in denouncing discrimination and supporting the voice, space and rights of leprosy sufferers.
<b>Objectives 1.2:</b>	A stronger leprosy people's organisation, able to create fruitful external partnerships and to provide effective support members to develop improved wellbeing and more secure livelihoods.
<b>Objectives: 1.3:</b>	

**Progress updates:** To achieve outcome of the project AEP mainly works on focusing 3 objectives and do the plan activities in the fields to achieve result. The activities are -

**Households Contact Survey for leprosy case detection:** Usually household contact survey done for leprosy case detection and bring those suspected leprosy patients under registration at government health service for good quality treatment and rehabilitation services. During the reporting period total 5830 households were surveyed where total 25647 people were screened for leprosy case detection. Through the households contact survey total 34 leprosy patients were registered for good quality treatment and rehabilitation.

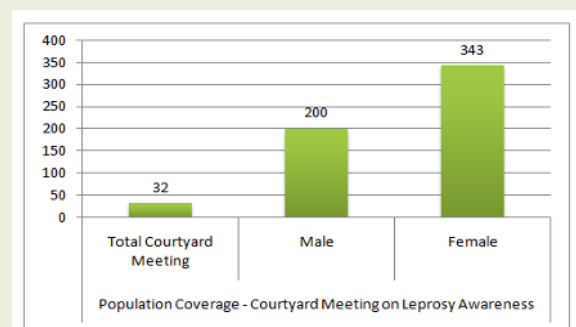


**Extended Contact Survey:** The extended contact survey



y mainly conduct on targeting registered leprosy patient who are under treatment and targeting one leprosy patient nearby 40 households are surveyed. Targeting 45 registered leprosy patients' total 1800 households (8100 people) were surveyed for leprosy case detection. Doing the extended contact survey total 6 suspected leprosy patients were found and registered them for quality good treatment and rehabilitation services.

**Courtyard Meeting on Leprosy Awareness:** The courtyard meeting usually organized at community level for public awareness of leprosy, sign of leprosy, disseminates information on where to get the treatment and rehabilitation services. During the reporting period total 32 courtyard meeting was organized at community level and total 543 people are reached through leprosy message.



## Activities Highlights

**Training Government workers on leprosy case finding and management** - During the reporting period two (02) training program was organized for Government health workers on leprosy case finding and management at Jhikorgacha Health Complex and Chowgacha Health Complex. The main objectives of the training program are -

- Aware government health workers on leprosy, case finding and management.
- Extend the health services at root level and ensure people about getting proper treatment from concern health department at local level.
- Make functional concern health official on giving proper services to the leprosy patients, do easy registration and ensure proper supply of medicine through local health department.
- Finally make the government health workers accountable to the leprosy patients and ensure their proper treatment.



Total 34 government health works (Male - 23 and Female - 11) has attended the training program. The training program was chaired by the Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer and MODC, TLCA, Health Inspector (HI), Assistant Health Inspector (AHI) and CHCP's has participated the training program. Both the training program was participatory and every boy actively participated in the discussion session. The AEP project has briefly discussed the project activities and highlighted the leprosy issue, case finding, management and commitment of Bangladesh government of elimination of leprosy disease by 2030.

### **Organize joint event for case detection and awareness building with government workers and awareness rising among community people**

- During the reporting period total two joint events for case detection and awareness building with government health workers was held at Krishnonagar under Jhikorgacha Sadar Upazila by Md. Nazrul Islam, TLCA of Jhikorgacha Upazila Health Complex. During his visit he has examined two (02) suspected leprosy and one (01) case was confirmed and registered. Another joint event was took place at Chowgacha Upazila by Mr. Anik Roy TLCA of Chowgacha Upazila Health Complex. During his visit he has examined 01 suspected leprosy patients but fortunately the suspected person was not leprosy patient.



Through their visits people of that community are aware about leprosy and community people helped refer suspected patients to Upazila Health Complex in those areas. Moreover good communication and networks has build-up with AEP staffs which helping for case findings and confirmation.



BS-AEP team conducted total four (37) courtyard sessions at community level and tried their best to aware people about leprosy issue. Through courtyard session total 659 (Male-257 and Female 402) community people received leprosy awareness message. The learning of courtyard sessions playing vital roles to find out suspected leprosy patients in the community by the community people. On the other hands AEP team is screening the suspected patients and assisting them to

get treatment from government hospital. Apart from the courtyard meeting BS AEP team member also applying one to one technique for sharing leprosy message at tea stall or other public place to aware community people about Leprosy and using those people to get information on leprosy case. The BS AEP team locally called them "**Informer Group**" and these group members are really working well in their community by giving information about leprosy case.

**Support Private Shoe maker to produce foot wear people affected leprosy** - During the reporting period



total four (o4) leprosy patients was supported with 08 pairs of foot wear / shoes from the project. As per leprosy specialist suggestion the special quality of foot wear / shoes given to four leprosy patients (Md. Yousuf Ali - Doyarampur, Md. Ali Hossain - Koyerpara Chowgacha, Md. Asrafal Islam - Ponditpur Sarsha and Md. Mokshed Ali - Itta Monirampur). Note that, each patient received two pairs of foot wear / shoes for use. This patients are critically suffering due to their illness and can't properly steps while walks. Therefore, as per specialist suggestion special quality of shoes were give to them for their daily use.

**Support Civil Society, patients, to provide AD for people with leprosy and disability (non foot wear) -**

During the reporting AEP has given Assistive Device (AD) support to leprosy and disability people in the community. Under this activities total 05 disable people of the leprosy affected family members and their relatives received AD support. The AD supports are - Mobile Commode - 01, Crutch for disable people -03 and Folding stick for disable people -01.



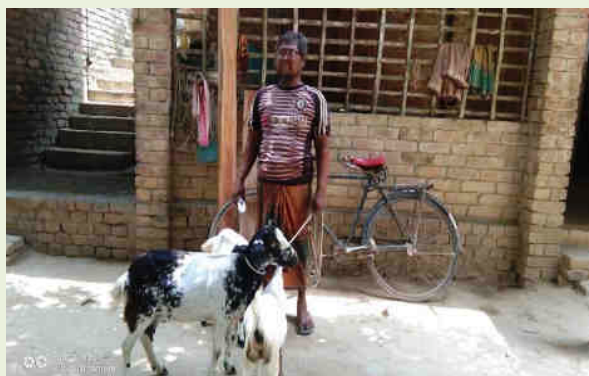
**Government Health Department Initiatives for leprosy free Bangladesh:** The project is being implemented

with the guidance of National Leprosy Control Program of Bangladesh where government health departments play vital roles on leprosy case detection, registration and treatment. As government health department initiative Jashore Civil Surgeon (CS) official and Upazila Health Complex official has made seven (07) joint monitoring visits with AEP field team and contributed for the treatment and rehabilitation supports to the leprosy affected patients.



**Rehabilitation support to Leprosy Patients:**

The AEP project is focused of leprosy case detection, registration and brings those leprosy patients in to quality better treatment. The project also plays vital roles on rehabilitation support for the leprosy patients. During the reporting period total 14 leprosy



affected people were given IGA's support which worth Tk. 50,000 and the amount was given to them from purchasing goat to rear, chicken rearing, starting small grocery shop and invest the money in their small business etc. Also blanket was distributed among leprosy patients - 30 (Male-16 and Female-14) during winter session in presence of Jashore Civil Surgeon (CS) official. The project also supported private shoe makers to produce footwear for people affected leprosy and gave that footwear among 4 leprosy affected patients as rehabilitations assistance.

**World Leprosy Day Observation:** On 30 January 2022 Banchte Shekha “Activating and Engaging government and People in Partnership (AEP)” project has celebrated World Leprosy Day 2022 at Civil Surgeon office, Jashore. The program was organized by Civil Surgeon, Jashore in association with National Leprosy Program – Health Ministry, The Leprosy Mission International-Bangladesh (TLMI-B) and Banchte Shekha. Theme of World Leprosy Day 2022: United for Dignity and key messages was –

- Together we can lift up every voice and honor the experiences of people who have experienced leprosy.
- People who experience leprosy face mental wellbeing challenges due to stigma, discrimination, and isolation.
- People who experience leprosy have the right to a dignified life free from disease-related stigma and discrimination.



**Leprosy School Outreach Sessions:** - During the reporting period total 08 school sessions was conducted to aware students on leprosy where 400 students (Boys - 232 and Girls-168) have attended the session. Main objective of the school session was -

- Aware school going student on leprosy and its complications.
- Make them agent to aware other family members on leprosy and helps to get treatment.
- Volunteers for the community people and helps identifying leprosy cases.



**Conduct joint mobile outreach clinics (skin camp) for new case detection by leprosy control officers and civic society partners-** On 14 June 2022 one skin camp has been conducted at Jhikorgacha (Fulbari Village)



Upazila with the assistance of AEP project and direct supervision of UH&FPO and TLCA of Jhikorgacha Upazila Health Complex. Leprosy expert from TLMI-B (Khalequzzaman) has given technical assistance to find out suspected leprosy patients and contributed to have a successful Skin Camp. Through skin camp total 08 (Male -05 and Female -03) suspected leprosy patients found for further screening and registration. Total 106 people (Male 32, Female 48, Boy - 14 and Girls 12) were screened and given them needful medicine from project.

**Joint Monitoring and event visit with government health workers** - During the reporting period total eight (08) joint monitoring visits was done by PO and TLCA's. Md. Aslam Uddin, PO, (Jashore Civil Surgeon Office) has three time visited fields and helps findings leprosy patients and as well as did follow-up the leprosy patients. He also gave advice the TLCA's of different Upazila Health Complex for quick registration of leprosy patients and bring them under treatment. Because the leprosy patients have rights to get treatment and dream for normal livings. Apart from PO's visit total another five (05) joint monitoring visits was done by TLCA's of different Upazila Health Complex of Jashore district.



The main objective of the joint monitoring visit by the government health workers are -

- Monitoring visit by government health workers ensure that, the registered leprosy patients are getting medicine and treatment from government health department and getting cure gradually.
- Inform local health authority about leprosy issue and make them accountable for treatment of registered leprosy patients.
- Overall make the aware and ensure that, NGO's are working at root level for leprosy case detection and refers them to government hospital for treatment.



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Learning 360: Learning for Change and Resilience

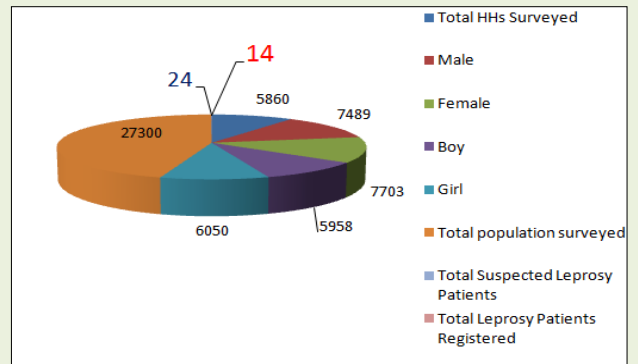
**Donor:** The Leprosy Mission International - Bangladesh (TLMI-B)

**Working area:** Jashore District covering 03 Upazila's (Bagherpara, Abhaynagar and Keshabpur Upazila).

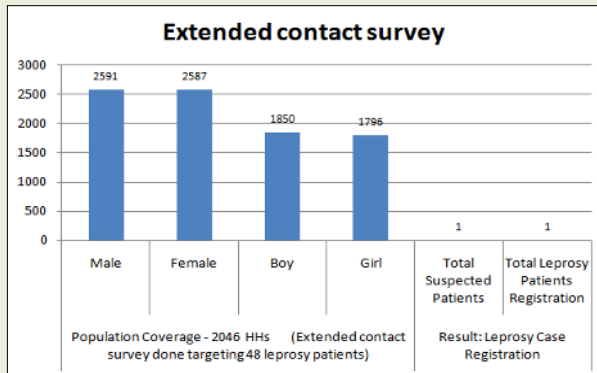
**Overall Aim:** To improve leprosy detection and the wellbeing of people affected by leprosy in partnership with Government and Civil Society.

**Progress updates:** To achieve overall aim Learning 360: Learning for Change and Resilience project works on leprosy case detection, registration for treatment and wellbeing of people through rehabilitations services to achieve result. The activities are -

**Households Contact Survey for leprosy case detection** - Main task of Households Contact Survey is leprosy case detection, registration for quality treatment from government health department and ensure a happy life through rehabilitations services. During the reporting period total 5880 households were surveyed where total 27300 people were screened for leprosy case detection. Through the households contact survey total 24 people are suspected as leprosy patients and finally total 14 leprosy patients were confirmed as leprosy patients and registered for good quality treatment and rehabilitation.

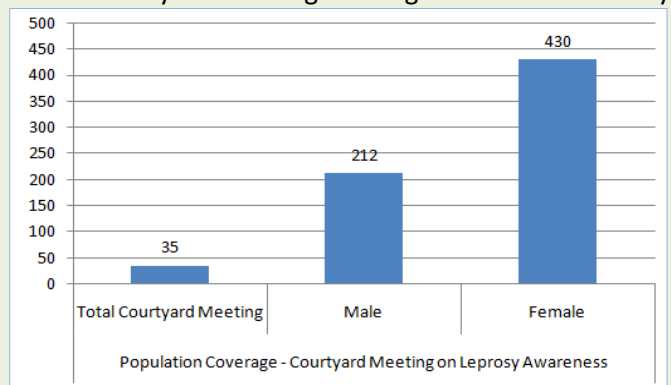


**Extended Contact Survey** - The extended contact survey mainly conduct on targeting registered leprosy patient who are under treatment and targeting one leprosy patient nearby 40 households are surveyed. Targeting 48 registered leprosy patients' total 2046 households (8824 people) were surveyed for leprosy case detection. Doing the extended contact survey 1 people was suspected as leprosy patients and finally 1 leprosy patients was confirmed as leprosy patients and registered for good quality treatment and rehabilitation.



**Courtyard Meeting on Leprosy Awareness:** The courtyard meeting usually organized at community level

for public awareness of leprosy, sign of leprosy, disseminates information on where to get the treatment and rehabilitation services. During the reporting period total 35 courtyard meeting was organized at community level and total 642 people are reached through leprosy message. The learning of courtyard sessions playing vital roles to find out suspected leprosy patients in the community by the community people. On the other hands AEP team is screening the suspected patients and assisting them to get treatment from government hospital. Apart from the courtyard meeting BS AEP team member also applying one to one technique for sharing leprosy message at tea stall or other public place to aware community people about Leprosy and using those people to get information on leprosy case. The BS AEP team locally called them "**Informer Group**" and these group members are really working well in their community by giving information about leprosy case.



## Activities Highlights

**Awareness on Leprosy and disability for school children and volunteers:** School Sessions on leprosy and



disability was conducted in 16 schools and leprosy & disability awareness messages disseminated among 698 (Boy's - 293 and Girl's-405) school going children. Apart from school sessions 16 community volunteers training was organized at community level to train community volunteers on leprosy case detection and referral services. The objective of the school session and volunteers training was to equipped school children and community volunteers with leprosy knowledge and makes them agents for case detection at community level. Total 140 community

volunteers (Male-94 and Female-46) were trained on leprosy case detection and referral services.

**Educational Materials support to school / collage students:**

Educational materials support given to school going children of leprosy affected patients families. The objective of providing education materials to the school going children of leprosy affected patients families is to assist them to keep continue their education and reduce school dropout. During the reporting period total 40 students (Boys-12 and Girls-28) were assisted with educational materials from L360 project.



**Capacity and Skill Building Initiative:** Under Learning 360: Learning for Change and Resilience project Capacity and Skill Building Initiative was taken for increasing skills of government health workers and social workers to quickly identify new leprosy cases and treat and support sufferers with empathy. Objectives of the Capacity and Skill Building Initiatives was -

- Brief sharing on Leprosy and its different issues.
- Leprosy case finding and management.
- Treatment and role of government health department.
- BS role - regular follow-up and update to the appropriate authority.

During the reporting total three (03) training was organized for government health workers on leprosy case finding and management at Upazila level with the help of Thana Health and Family Planning Officer (TH&FPO) where



health professional from different level has joined. Total 78 health professional (Male -47 and Female-31) has attended the capacity and skill building training from three upazila's and gained knowledge on leprosy case detection and management techniques.

**Rehabilitation support to Leprosy Patients:** Under

Learning 360: Learning for Change and Resilience project rehabilitation support provided to six (06) leprosy affected people (Male -05 and Female-01) to start IGA's at their family level and support themselves with the earnings. Apart from IGA's support one leprosy affected female patients was supported with business start-up grant and provided her one swing machine so that she can



make her earnings beside household's works.

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Promoting Rights and Inclusion of Children with Disabilities (PRICD)

**Donor:** Lillian Fond (LF) and DRRA.

**Working area:** Jashore Municipality covering all wards and 3 unions of Jashore Sadar Upazila.

### Age wise children & youth with disabilities in working areas

Union/Ward Name	Age Range			Total
	0-7 Years	8-17 Years	18-25 Years	
<b>Jashore Municipality</b>	40	217	43	300

### Disability type by sex of children and youth with disabilities in working areas

Type of Disability	Sex				Total
	Male (adult)	Female (Adult)	Boy (Child)	Girl (Child)	
Autism or autism spectrum disorders;	0	0	0	0	0
Cerebral palsy;	20	14	22	37	93
Down syndrome;	3	12	8	27	50
Intellectual disability;	5	0	7	19	31
Physical disability;	5	15	14	28	62
Visual disability;	0	0	0	0	0
Hearing disability;	0	15	17	9	41
Speech disability;	0	2	3	3	8
Multiple disability;	0	0	2	13	15
Other disability	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>300</b>

### Status of progress report (Activities performed during July 2021- June2022):

Activity code	Activity	Target	Achievement
1.1	Support for Extra coaching of 25 Children with disabilities	25	25
1.2	Support for education materials (based on needs) to another 30 children with disabilities (Braille, communication materials, audio recorder, magnifier, abacus, large front book, picto-system/flash card etc.]	30	0
1.3	Community based education at ward base/home base/ alternative education/ for 30 children will be arrange at list 3 location.	30	30
1.4	Orientation with SMC & PTA of 5 Govt. schools on Child rights and inclusion	5	5
1.5	Parents orientation at village/CRCDD/home base and online	40	48
1.6	Organize voice raising campaign through We Ring the Bell campaign and signature campaign (Online based)	1	0
2.1	Referral of 20 youth with disabilities including Down syndrome for skill training (ICT, Tailoring, Fisheries, Vegetable, Shop) from	20	20

	different institutions like, youth development/other NGOs		
2.2	Workshop with different stakeholders like government and non govt. Vocational training institutes, employer's, producers, sellers financial inst, Micro finance organizations, local company for IGA /ICT and creating job opportunities for children with disabilities also with selected government authority	2	2
3.1	Identification and diagnosis of 60 children at Upazila level for obtaining ID card and inclusion in mainstreaming services.	60	30
3.2	Follow up 50 children with disabilities at home and referred them to govt. institutes for rehab. and health services like JPUS, and SBK, others	50	50
3.3	Two events will be organized with 40 participants through Online with JPUF Dept. Social Services- 1 Ward based monthly meeting for health budget services including govt. allocation. (Half yearly Zoom meeting with Civil surgeon and District hospital and doctors for health support during and after COVID and vaccination of Persons with Disabilities and having disability certificate for PWDs at rarely level).	2	2
4.1	Provide need-based medicine (epilepsy) support for 15 Neuro - Developmental Disabled children	15	15
4.2	30 CWDs have accesses in E-Rehab support for advance care in home and CRCD based.	30	30
4.3	Orientation on disability screening for identification survey and update list		3
4.4	Conduct disability identification survey and update information/data/child list of children with disabilities		
4.5	Organize 05 camps (school/CC/Union health center) and conduct primary disability screening, assessment for 200 children and youth with disabilities	5	5
4.6	Update Individual Rehabilitation/Development Plan (IRP/IDP) of 150 with primary diagnosis for identified children and youngsters with disabilities	150	150
4.7	2 training session with 40 Parents/Care giver Training/ Orientation on children support at home during COVID-19 and caregiver mental health will be organize	40	40
5.1	Digital Reach by using MIVA support at home care for 50 children	50	50
5.2	Meeting with VAWD group members	12	12
5.3	Meeting with department of Social Welfare and local govt. for involving Children with disabilities under social protection scheme	2	2
5.4	Social event with community and present 20 successes story (video with 5 most impressive case)	5	0
5.5	Day observance, seminary, rally and raise voice on disability issue at local (World health day, white cane day, IDPD etc.)	2	3

**Activities Highlights Photos**



**Disability screening and assessment camp**



**House visit and child follow-up**



**Computer education and IT support**



**Meeting with VAWD**



**Meeting with different stakeholders**



**Meeting with Department of Social welfare**



**International Women's Day 2022**

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Knowledge on inclusive sexuality and health rights (KISHORI)

**Donor:** Lillian Fond (LF) and DRRA

**Working area:** Jashore Municipality covering all wards and 3 unions of Jashore Sadar Upazila.

**Goal of the project:** A society where persons with disabilities and destitute can enjoy a dignified life with equity of Sexuality and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

**Project Objective/s:**

- Promotes equity for persons with disabilities towards empowerment, engaging different stakeholders for reducing discriminating Sexuality and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR);
- To make linkage with different kinds of stakeholder, government and non government service provider for GWDs Sexuality and Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR).

**Project Beneficiaries (Direct and Indirect Beneficiaries)/Beneficiaries Status:** Direct -760 and Indirect Beneficiaries-4000

**Direct Beneficiaries (children and youth with disabilities) Information - Component wise**

Component	Age Range			Total
	0-7 years	8-17 years	18-25 years	
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	00	626	134	760

**Disability Type wise**

Sl.No	Type of disabilities	During Reporting Period	
		Girl (child)	Total
1	Autism or autism spectrum disorders;	28	28
2	Cerebral palsy;	8	8
3	Down syndrome;	9	9
4	Intellectual disability;	53	53
5	Mental illness leading to disability;	32	32
6	Physical disability;	136	136
7	Visual disability;	316	316
8	Hearing disability;	20	20
9	Speech disability;	69	69
10	Multiple disability;	89	89
<b>Total</b>		<b>760</b>	<b>760</b>

(NB: **Adult** means 18 and 18 years over aged, **Child** means under 18 years of old aged person; one person will counted in one type of disabilities)

**Indirect Beneficiaries Information**

Component	Quantity	Categories
Capacity development on SRHR	330	Parents and Care givers
Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights	4,000	School Students, Teachers, Nurse, Local elites, community leaders, working group's members etc.
Parents and community involvement	1537	Parents & caregiver

Formal and informal partnership and support linkages are established	1200	Service Desk 9
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**Status of progress report (Activities performed during July 2021 - December 2021):**

SI	Name of Activities	Target	Achievement
1	Formation of Union/ municipality based working groups (18 person in each group) and strengthening their capacity on SRHR and community initiatives to oversee community based SRHR program (Meeting with local partners and community; Formation of working groups; orientation, responsibility and accountability)	3 Group	3 Group
2	Initial workshop with selected schools, primary health care providers, parents and social workers in (including NGO & DPO representatives) for implementing the disability inclusive SRHR program. workshops will be organized in greater 3Union and 1 Municipality (25 participant per workshop)	2 workshop	2 workshop
3	Orientation for parents and caregivers, including fathers and male member's participation on sexual needs and challenges of adolescent girls with disabilities, their home care and role of family members for especially handling children with intellectual disabilities, hearing and speech impaired children. (25 participant per orientation)	11 batches	11 batches
4	Conduct series of training for adolescent girls with disabilities at each program location on disability and comprehensive sexuality education with active learning approach, adolescence problems, gender concerns and menstrual management and hygiene practice with active learning method ( 35-40 participants in each group)	21 batch	21 batch
5	Training for selected school teachers, Upazila Hospital based nurses, FWV of MCH-FP unit of Upazila Health Complex on special care needs of adolescent girls with disabilities ( training events for 20 school teachers and for 20 Nurses & FWV of MCH-FP in 2 locations.	2 batches	2 batches
6	Establish disability SRH service desk in (Health Service institutes with special orientation to nurses and FWV of MCH-FP by the 2nd year, and services provided from the same year. The institutes and participants will be selected by baseline survey.	7 SRH Service Desk	9 SRH Service Desk
7	Day observation (World Disability Day)	2 day	2 day
8	Stakeholder meeting with District level Gob officers, NGO representatives, Religious leader, Social activist, teacher, care giver, patient and person with disability (20participant)	1 meeting	1 meeting
9	Training of master trainer of project staff, organizational staff, care giver, parents, GWD and member of VAW to train on SRHR issue (12 participant)	1 batch	1 batch

## Activities Highlights Photos



Parents orientations on SRHR



ToT for Master Trainer on SRHR



Stakeholders meeting on SRHR



Assistive device distribution to CWD's



SRHR Service Desk for PWD's



Training on SRHR for Adolescents Girls



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### BS-IDEA Education Project

**Donor:** IDEA Onlus- International Development and Education Action.

**Project beneficiaries and area:** The underprivileged students & the community are the targeted beneficiaries of Jessore area.

**Project Background:** Education is the backbone of any nation. Without education, it is difficult for anyone, anywhere, to make the best of their abilities and prosper in life. But in Bangladesh the literacy rate is extremely poor. Most adults in rural villages are illiterate and thus live in an environment, which for them must be like living in darkness. Poverty as a complex phenomenon caused and reinforced by a number of factors e.g. lack of access to resources and socio-political process. This represents a move away from a predominantly economic focus and recognition of interrelated and reinforcing forces of education, economic, social, cultural, political and other factors. On the other words, poverty is the inability to provide minimum nutrition, health, education, shelter, security, leisure and other aspects of life. Access to education is, one of the most fundamental rights of any person, living in any country in the world. The Constitution of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh (in Article 17) suggests that Bangladesh needs to initiate a need based compulsory and free education with necessary legal basement. The Constitution offers a uniform, mass oriented and universal system of education, extending free and compulsory education to all children. Education is a fundamental human right for all children. It has been more than a decade since the United Nations declared the “Education for All” in 1990; Bangladesh government also conforms fully to the Education For All (EFA) objectives, the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and international declarations. Article 17 of the Bangladesh Constitution provides that all children between the ages of six and ten years receive a basic education free of charge. It is estimated that, out of a net enrolment rate of 72 percent, 60 percent attend classes regularly. Out of this 60 percent, only 45 percent go on to complete five years of primary education. Of these, almost half leave without learning to read or write. In effect, out of 100 children enrolled into primary school (at the appropriate school going age), poor attendance and high drop-out mean that only 20 complete the whole five years, and as few as ten may be able read and write. (An alternative report to UNCRC). This is the picture of primary education sector, in higher education sector the percentage of enrolment is low and number of dropout is very high.

Poverty-hunger-child works are intimately related to dropout and why an attempt at improving quality of education has failed. Many other reasons have been identified but they will always remain secondary reasons, the primary being lack of food. Incidentally, the right to food is a basic human right which more than 40% of the populations are denied. There is another issue to be considered. Education in a poor country like Bangladesh involves a number of private costs, some explicit. BIDS (Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies) in its survey of institutions found that a significant percent of pupil’s are involved in child labour also devoted to 2/3 hours on income earning activities outside his/her home. In our study found that non-school going working children worked from 8am to 8pm. The costs for exercise book, pen, uniform, transport and other materials for their ‘free school’ come to almost 800tk to 2,500tk per month.

**Project Description:** BS works for the integral development of the whole person, which includes education and formation of children and youth, especially those in need. According to the demand and needs of education, BS provides education support to the underprivileged students. In the course of its work over many years, BS has observed that the literacy rate among the target community is even lower than that of the rural poor as a whole. The cause of this is due to the dropout rate. Most children drop out in the first 2 years. Not only are the first two years the most difficult for the children, but there is lack of motivation and encouragement by the parents and their communities, to ensure that the children keep going to school. The tradition has always been for children to be put to work, just as soon as they are big enough. Anything that prevents this, such as regular attendance at school, is viewed with hostility and suspicion by parents. This situation applied to the villages surrounding BS working area, and, initially, parents had to be motivated to send their children to the School. This problem, however, was much more acute in the rural villages. In order to alleviate the rural problem, BS decided on a two pronged approach: first, to provide basic support to students by education, nutrition materials & health support, so that the children will encourage get to

school. Secondly, to motivate the parents and the communities by awareness sessions, in which they tried to instill the long-term benefits of having children, who could read and write. The Project was established in 2009, and the basic purpose of the Education for All is to eliminate illiteracy from among those who are poor and in the lowest castes in society, and to radiate education to them. The Education for All project is determined to show light to those who are in darkness, through ignorance.

#### **Project Objectives:**

- To place special emphasis on helping to provide children with the chance to go to school and learn.
- Creating equal education opportunities for people living in distance/remote areas and under development areas.
- To increase enrolment of students in the school.
- To help increase basic education competencies among vulnerable and excluded children.
- To motivate the guardians about health, hygiene & saving issues in order to make them aware and self-reliance for the future.
- To contribute to government efforts to raise the national rate of literacy.

#### **Project issue/opportunity**

To ensure the school attendance & scholastic development; each enrolled student receives the following supplies through the year;

- **Nutrition Materials-** for daily nutrition student receive Khichury and Biscuit.
- **Education Materials-** for fulfilling the fundamental requirements of the study; student receive Uniform, School Bag, Shoe, Umbrella, Copy Books, Lantern, Pencil, Pen, Sharpener, Eraser etc.
- **Hygiene Materials-** for cleanliness & hygiene student receive the Body Soap & Washing Soap.
- **Tuition Support-** to meet up the extra cost of the study.
- **Medical Check-up-** regular medical check-up support for healthy living and well being.
- Also, following activities are going on to involve the parents & community for the project betterment;
- **Tuition Support:** To develop the scholastic improvement tuition support are providing to students.
- **Guardian's Meeting:** To follow-up student progress at home guardian's meetings are regularly arranged. The guardians meetings are an effective and valuable way of changing the social status of the villagers. Also help to interact between the parents-children with the project.
- **Awareness & Motivation Sessions:** To aware and motivate the community people and children regarding the cleanliness, health & hygiene, kitchen/yard gardening, dangers of early marriage, malnutrition and other issues meetings are also conduct regular basis.
- **School Visits:** To follow-up the attendance in school and check the progress of the study; community motivator visiting the schools regularly.

#### **Project Impact and Sustainability:**

- Education is the vital factor for the future success of Bangladesh. However, more than 45% of children drop out of primary schooling before reaching Class 5. BS has helped to reduce that dropout rate by providing education, nutrition & hygiene materials and awareness & motivation session to the 148 students and parents.
- The BS Pre-primary Schools are successfully giving education to more than 25 students in the targeted community. It is vital that these children continue their education without interruption.
- The qualities of the education in rural schools are not in up to the mark. The after school tuition support will help to understanding the daily class lessons and preparing the home work accordingly. It will help also the daily school attendance rate.
- The parents of the student have been encouraged and motivated by the staff of BS to send their children to school. This is a very positive change in the prevailing culture and attitudes, in which children have been put out to work as soon as they are big enough.
- The parents are now involved in the education of their children and participate with the community motivator in evaluating their education.

- A spin-off of the involvement of the parents is the opportunity it gives for awareness sessions and training in practical aspects of healthy living, such as hygiene and nutrition. BS policy is to widen education to encompass the quality of the children's and the families' lives.
- The students are deliberately selected from the poorest, the most neglected and the most disadvantaged families in the community.
- Apart from the intrinsic value of the education for all projects given, the children are developed personally by the other things that they experience by the activities, like the benefits of hygiene and cleanliness, the healthiness of good nutrition and the evils of superstition. In turn, the children pass this on to their parents, thus supplementing the awareness training, which the CM gives to the parents.
- The education for all project, which BS offers to many children over a very small area, have a valuable effect in improving the quality of life – not only for the children themselves, but also for their families and the community as a whole. Education is combined with social training – a first time for most people.

**Activities Highlights Photos:**



**Sponsor receiving laptop computer from BS Founder Executive Director...**



**Tuition class at village...**



**Students writing first terminal exam....**



**Jogahati pre-school student enjoying the cooked meal...**

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled

**Donors:** In de bres voor, La Bottega della Solidarieta and Associazione Per Sewa.

**Project Beneficiaries & Area:** Mainly Cerebral Palsy children and the Adult Clients (CVA, Back pain, neck pain) clients are get priority to receive the physiotherapy service from the centre and at home service. The coverage areas are Jashore, Khulna, Narail, Jhenaidah, Magura, Kushtia & Meherpur.

**Project Background:** Bangladesh is a country with 134.8 million people, 8% to 12% of whom are affected by disabilities of various kinds. The lives of people with disabilities are still dominated by ignorance, fear and superstition, which permeate much of society at large. They remain neglected and excluded from normal social and political activities in their families and in the community. The situation is worse for women and children, who are the most vulnerable groups. These negative attitudes towards disability apply to more than 12 million people in Bangladesh and to more than 300 million in the Asian and Pacific Region. Poverty creates disability and Disability creates poverty. People with disabilities are often among the poorest of the poor. The World Bank estimates that disable people make up 15-20% of the poor in developing countries. In Bangladesh most people with disabilities live in the rural areas. They, and sometime also their families, are often excluded both from their communities and from development Initiatives.

**Project Description:** In 2002, Banchte Shekha started to provide comprehensive physiotherapy support for disabled children in the Jashore district. The physiotherapy centre was started with the financial help of local donors, Bangladesh Freedom Foundation, and Banchte Shekha's own funds. The centre purpose of creation and promotion of opportunities, services and facilities, which enable people with disabilities and their families/ careers to participate in the wider community and to attain a better quality of life.

### Project Objectives:

- To provide quality physiotherapy, occupational therapy and special education support to the disabled children and adults to develop the physical and functional condition.
- To extended more therapy facilities to accommodate increased numbers of patients, for physiotherapy, occupational therapy and for special education.
- To extended the adult physiotherapy service especially for the Stroke, Arthritis, Back pain, Neck pain and Sports Injuries clients. This new initiative will help to accelerate centre income to sustain and improve the centre activities.
- Educate the mother/parents/guardians of the children about the prevention of disability and provide training on physiotherapy techniques. So, parents able to continue the physiotherapy at home and ensure the improvement.
- To help the general public to accept, respect and assist disabled people. To encourage them to welcome disabled people into their lives, and for them to appreciate the abilities and potential of disabled people.

**Project issue/opportunity:** The services are unique in the large area of southwest Bangladesh especially the surrounding of Jashore. The centre offer following services;

**PT (Physical Therapy) to Child & Adult:** We have continued to provide physiotherapy treatment to increasing numbers of disabled children and adults. Qualified physical therapists provide the physiotherapy with the latest techniques, with the modern equipment. During the year we provided PT to 406 children and adult during the year.

**Assistive Devices:** Like last year this year also, we unable to arrange in-house Assistive Devices camp due to unavailable funds! Although we referred 4 clients to CRP (Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed) for assistive devices. On their own cost, they collected from CRP.

### Project Impact:

- The services are unique in the large area of southwest Bangladesh surrounding BS. Very few other organisations can offer the help that BS gives to the disabled people of the area, most of whom are children.

- In addition, an important effect is that more and more people are aware that disability can be treated and that the quality of the lives of disabled people can be improved immeasurably. This is something that the mere numbers of statistics cannot reflect.
- Our experience indicated that people did not want to know about disability, and that disabled children were considered an unwelcome burden on their families. After the rehabilitation services had been operating for a time, and the awareness sessions had been held, we found that the previous negative attitudes had changed radically. Disability and the role of disabled people were seen in a more positive light. People with disabilities were beginning to be accepted as members of the community in their own right.
- These changed attitudes are reflected in the increasing involvement of by other members of the family in the treatment of the child. Often, fathers as well as mothers come to the Centre, and are also given basic training in physiotherapy treatment. Paradoxically, disability can even improve family relationships, and, instead of it being divisive, as often happened in the past, it can become a focus of unity.
- Finally, in considering the quality of the results, it must be mentioned that BS rehabilitation services have now been made available to all people who need them. Although BS Centre were established primarily to help disabled children with cerebral palsy, who came from the poorest and most under-privileged sections of society, the service has been offered to adults and other disabled persons, irrespective of their social class and background. The disability itself has become the defining factor for treatment, not the social status of the disabled person.

#### Activities Highlights Photos:



BS Founder Executive Director Dr. Angela Gomes at Parents Meeting...



BS Executive Director Mr. Palash Hubert Gomes and the Governing Body's member in the parents meeting...



International Disability Day rally...



After parents meeting we distributed foods to the children & parents...

# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Legal Aid and Legal Literacy Project

**Donor:** BS Own Fund

**Working Area:** Jashore District

**Project Beneficiary:** 1500 person

**Project Goal:** Access to equal right of poor destitute women and children and protect them from violence through legal aid support and awareness rising.

**Objectives:**

1. Reduce violence against women through ADR /Salish and replicate its impact amount extended arena.
2. Legal aid support for women to protect them from violence and promote their education, health condition, food security and necessary service. Donors and service providers especially law enforcing agencies are more sensitive about ensuring access to of women.
3. Increase women participation in ADR/Salish to access equal rights of women.
4. Increase women participation in ADR/Salish to access equal rights of women.
5. Increase women access to legal aid support and participation in ADR/Salish for protecting domestic violence.

**Activities Performed Period: July 2021 to June 2022**

Sl.No	Period: Description of activity	Target	Achievement
1	Court yard session regarding awareness building about legal aid support and ADR/Salish	42	40
2	Legal aid support (court case, medical treatment, certificate collection, lawyers communication, referral service etc)	35	32
3	Safe home support to Victim	12	12
4	Network and communication for Victim support	10	08
5	Collect support form women affairs for lactating Mother	10	07
6	Daily Legal aid referral support	250	240
7	Registration for Mediation/Salish	85	80
8	Mediation/Salish	80	76
9	Court Case	15	12
10	Legal Aid support for early marriage	05	04
11	Advocacy meeting with DLAC	10	09
12	Advocacy meeting with UZLAC	02	01
13	Advocacy meeting with UPLAC	35	35
14	National and Internal Women rights and Human Rights Day Celebration	05	05
15	Defending activity like Human Chain, Rally, Press Conference, Meeting etc	02	02

**Activities Highlights Photos:**



## Success Story

### Golden days came in Shefali's life

Mst. Shefali Khatun was born and grow-up in a poor family in Arabpur village of Sadar Upazila of Jashore district. In her childhood she has to struggle a lots along with her mother. Mother has to works as house attendant in different places for their survival. Her mother was the only earning member for their survival.



Form childhood Shefali grew up in poverty and has to face many hardships. As days, months, years passed by she turned into 18 years old and she was marriage off with Md. Ashiqur Rahman in the nearby village. Right after marriage their family was good and living a happy life.

But after passing few months of marriage husband started demanding dowry and torturing her physically without any reasons. Her husband demand is go to your mother house and get dowry for me. Even every day her husband do quarrel and use slang language to her. This way their family bonding started breaking and their family relation gaps is being started. Meanwhile they are blessed with two sons. But family problems remain same. To mitigate the family problem several times arbitration meeting was held locally to resolve the issue. The local dignitaries try in many ways to keep their family from breaking up and aware them the effect of family breaking. But husband and wife never listen to the local dignitaries. In the

meantime, huge commotion had between them and finally started living separately. One day Shefali Khatun's husband beat her badly with bamboo stick and lied her bleeding in courtyard. Her mother rescued her after getting news and did immediate necessary treatment. After getting cure Shefali Khatun put a complained against her husband to Banchte Shekha Legal Aid and Arbitration Department.

After getting the complained Banchte Shekha Legal Aid and Arbitration Department investigate the issue and officially called an arbitration meeting. On the scheduled day both the parties present in the arbitration meeting along with local dignitaries and local government elected members. The arbitration members patiently listen to both of them and had long discussion to mitigate the issue. In the arbitration meeting both of them realize their mistakes and decided themselves that they will never do such types rotten things which destroy family as well as community peace. Both of them promise in front of the arbitration members that, they will start a happy family together reforming themselves. Md. Ashiqur Rahman also said that he will never beat his wife, never ask for dowry, give proper support, never abuse her in unspoken language and never throw her out of the house. Similarly, Mrs. Shefali Khatun will also practice obedience and modesty behavior in her regular life.

Now they are living together through mutual understanding. Currently they are very happy and living with their children. According to them, the arbitration gave them a new life and shown them new ways for making a peaceful family. Finally both of them said, no is above masticates and seeks pardon for their mistakes as well as blessing for their family.

## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Banchte Shekha “Institute of Training Resource and Demonstration” (ITRAD)

**Goal of the project:** Capacity Development to establish rights of destitute women and children.

**Project Objective:** To carry out knowledge and skill increase on sustainable economic development through appropriate use of local resources.

**Project Duration:** From 1994 to 2050

**Project Donor:** BS Own Fund

#### Status of progress report (Activities performed from July 2021 to June 2022)

Sl.No	Name of Activities	Target	Achievement	Remarks
1	Venue Rent Service	400 Day	350 day	For COVID-19 target was not achieved
2	Accommodation service	6200 Person	4850 person	
3	Food service	23000 person	18300 person	

**Project Location:** 390 (old 550) Shaheed Moshir Rahaman Road, Arabpur, Jahsore-7400

**Staff information:** 24 people (Direct), 3 people (Indirect)

#### Activities Highlights Photos



**Outdoor meeting place**



**Big hall room for meeting and seminar**



**A/C guest room with 2 beds**



**Seminar / meeting at Big hall room**



## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

### Creative opportunity for computer education for disadvantaged people

**Project Donor:** BS Own Fund

**Project Area:** BS Head Office.

**Objectives:**

1. Make IT affordable to low income beneficiaries.
2. Introduce how IT can be an empowerment tool for women.
3. IT as income generating activities.
4. Human resource development through IT education.
5. Future capacity building for a developing nation.
6. IT support for children who can't afford to buy computers to practice what they learn at school.

**Result:** In the year 2021-2022 total 40 students has completed computer and receives certificates from Bangladesh Technical Education Board.



# PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## Banchte Shekha Micro Finance Program

### Goal of the program:

- To ensure development of organized women socio-economic conditions.
- Employment generation, create small entrepreneur, increase economic & humanitarian dignity and create savings mentality through utilizing micro finance activities.
- Ensured self-sustained of the Samity.

### Visions of the Program:

- Ensure participation of backward women in economic activities through micro finance program.
- Poverty reduction, sustainable development and empowerment of poor people through micro finance program.
- Ability to create self-employment, participation in decision making in the family and ensure women dignity in the society.

**Project Duration:** Micro Finance Program is a ongoing program of Banchte Shekha which is initiated in order to improve the socio-economic status of the rural poor communities through raising social awareness which was started in 1987-1987 financial year. The program is being run in 27 branches under 8 districts.

**Project Donor:** Banchte Shekha own fund, Janata Bank Ltd. and South Bangla Agriculture and Commerce Bank Ltd., Jashore.

### Beneficiaries Types/ Beneficiaries Status:

- Poor and destitute women and men.
- Small and Medium Entrepreneur including handicrafts.
- Marginal Farmers.
- Agriculture Entrepreneur.
- Landless peasants (women and men).

### Name of Component:

- RMC
- RMC Agriculture
- MEDP
- MEDP Agriculture

### Type of Savings

- General Savings
- Special Deposit Pension Scheme (SDPS)
- Double Deposit Savings
- Monthly Interest Deposit

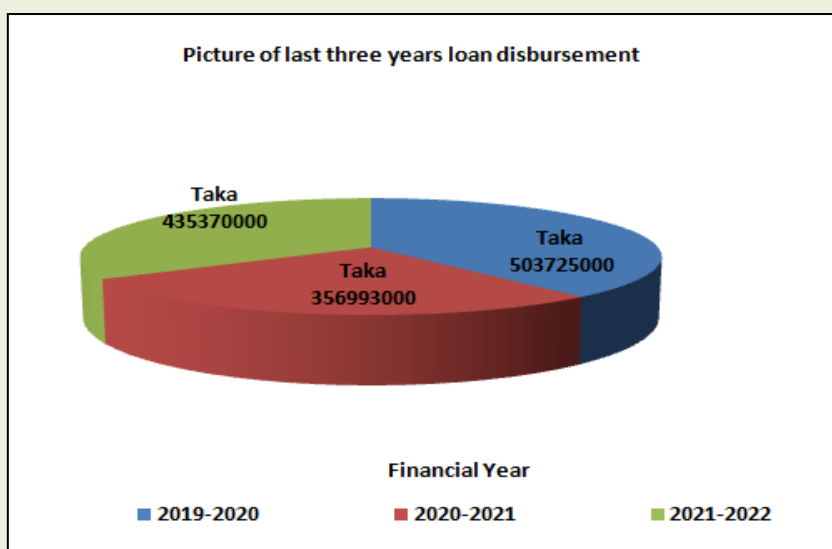
### At a glance of Micro Finance Program:

Sl.No	Particulars	Up to June 30, 2022	Sl.No	Type of Savings & Loan	Balance Up to June 30, 2022
1	District	9	9	General Savings	102,572,161
2	Sub District	52	10	SDPS	12,742,207
3	Union	124	11	Double Deposit	848,636
4	Village	647	12	Monthly Interest Deposit	0

					<b>Total Savings :</b>	<b>116,163,004</b>
5	Branch	27	13	RMC		148,380,647
6	Samity	1,462	14	Agriculture RMC		19,600,567
7	Total Member	23,430	15	MEDP		277,993,579
8	Borrowers	16,418	16	Agriculture MEDP		47,604,583
					<b>Total Loan :</b>	<b>493,579,376</b>

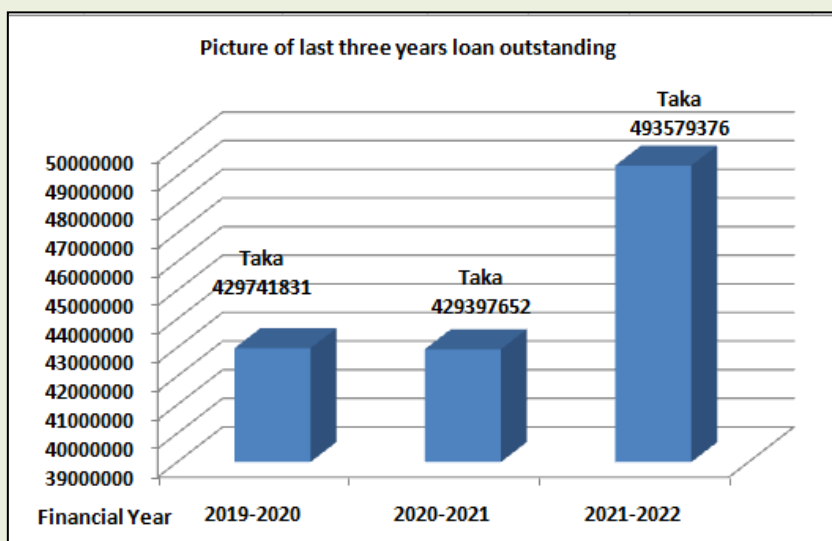
**Picture of last three years loan disbursement:**

Financial Year 2019 - 2020	Financial Year 2020-2021	Financial Year 2021-2022
50,37,25,000.00	35,69,93,000.00	435,370,000.00



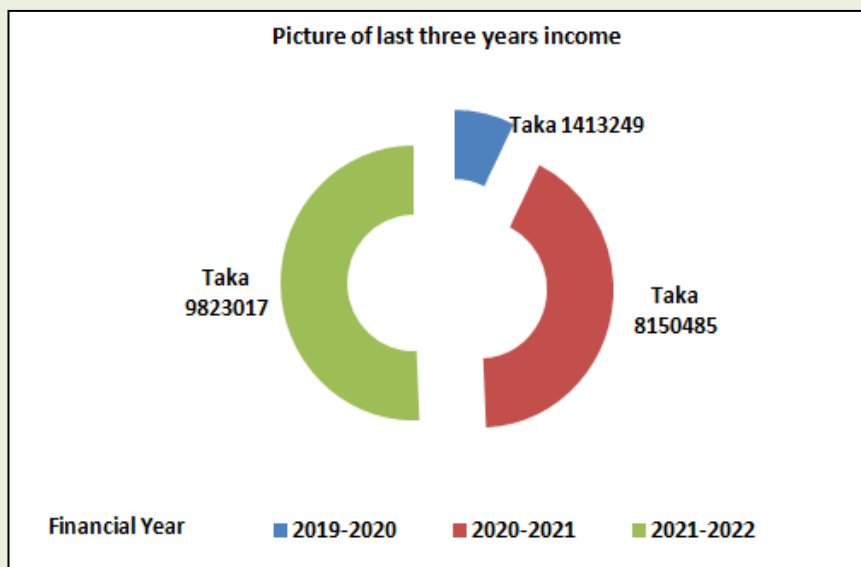
**Picture of last three years loan outstanding**

Financial Year 2019 - 2020	Financial Year 2020-2021	Financial Year 2021-2022
42,97,41,831.00	42,93,97,652.00	493,579,376 .00



### Picture of last three years income

Financial Year 2019 - 2020	Financial Year 2020-2021	Financial Year 2021-2022
14,13,249.00	81,50,485.00	98,23,017.00



### Banchte Shekha Micro Finance Program working areas information

SI	Name of Branch	Upazila	District
1	Chanchra Branch, Arabpur	Jashore Sadar	Jashore
2	Hoibatpur Branch, Satmail	Jashore Sadar	
3	Hodorajapur Branch	Jashore Sadar	
4	Basundia Branch	Jashore Sadar	
5	Chowgacha Branch	Chowgacha	
6	Kuada Branch	Jashore Sadar	
7	Rajarhat Branch	Jashore Sadar	
8	Bhangura Branch	Bagherpara	
9	Monirampur Branch	Monirampur	Jashore
10	Chutipur	Jhikorgacha Upazila	
11	Narkelbaria	Bagherpara Upazila	
12	Narial Branch	Narail Sadar	Narail

13	Kalia Branch	Kalia	
14	Maijpara Branch	Narail Sadar	
15	Bunogati	Salika Upazila	Magura
16	Rupsha Branch	Khulna City Corporation	Khulna
17	Fultala Branch	Fultala	
18	Gazirbazar Branch	Kaligong	Jhenidha
19	Jhoudanga	Kolarowa Upazila	Satkhira
20	KustiaSadar Branch	KustiaSadar	Kustia
21	Sawstipur Branch	KustiaSadar	
22	Khoksha Branch	Khoksha	
23	Gazipur Branch	Gazipur City Corporation	Gazipur
24	Pubail Branch	Gazipur City Corporation	
25	Porabari	Gazipur City Corporation	
26	Tongi Branch	Gazipur City Corporation	
27	Mothbari	Kaligonj Upazila	

## Success Story - 01

### Good days of Tipu Sultan

.....Transforming life through Micro Finance Program

Md. Tipu Sultan, Age-36, son of Md. Roshan Ali and Ruby Begum dwell in Vekutia village of Jessore Sadar Upazila under Jashore district. Md. Tipu Sultan is one of the most successful group members of Nayan Samiti (Membership No. 0980) and Samiti No. 061 of Banchte Shekha Micro Finance Program under Chanchra Unit.

Md. Tipu Sultan, who did not give up in the battle of life with scarcity and poverty, entered the battle of life through a small grocery business in Vekutia Bazar with confidence and faith. As a means of support, he continued to advance by capitalizing on his hard work and self-confidence. He started this long journey on 19/07/2013 by becoming a member of the Nayan Samiti under the Chanchra branch of the micro-credit program of Banchte Shekha. After joining with the association, he started depositing saving every week and decided to do business as well. Rented a small wooden shop (Tong Ghar) to do grocery business in Vekutia bazar. Also, on 02/02/2015, he took a loan of Tk.150000 and started a small business by purchasing goods for grocery business. Md. Tipu Sultan regularly pays loan installments Tk. 7000 - 8000 every month from the



profits of the business. The first loan was paid on 16/05/2016. Later on 09/06/2016 he took a loan of 2, 00,000 in the second installment for business expansion. By taking loans from Banchte Shekha Microfinance Program way of his income becomes easier. As a part of his business expansion he has rented a brick constructed shop and extended his business. Besides doing business every month he is paying TK 15000 - 20000 loan installments from business profit. Every month he buys various products for the business with the profit money. He paid the second

installment in May 2022 and in the third phase; on 17/05/2022 again he took loan TK 450000 from Banchte Shekha Micro Credit Program. He is giving regular installments of the loan and kept continue his business at Vekutia bazar.

At present he has goods in his store which worth is 15 - 16 lakh takas. Md. Tipu Sultan said I am ever grateful to Banchte Shekha for giving me loan in my business needs and changed my fortune. Now monthly income is around TK 50,000 to 60,000 and I am happily living with family and children. According to Md. Tipu Sultan, to change life every individual should have dream, should take risk, do hard works then success automatically to you. I have taken risk by taking loan from Banchte Shekha to do business and today that risk gave success in my business. Hard works and risks never obstacle a person to be successful and that success truly transform a person happy.

## Success Story-2

### Unspoken success story of Mosharaf Hossain

I am talking about a farmer who won the battle of life. Who is self-reliant and successful today through his own sincere efforts and determination. He is Md. Mosharaf Hossain, a resident of Rajshahi district and present dwell in Chowagacha Upazila under Jashore district. He is formally tied with matrimonial relation with a woman from Naldanga village of Kaliganj Upazila under Jhenaidah district. After marriage, he started living in a rented house at Tengorpur village of Sarupdah union of Chowagacha Upazila under Jessore district.

But within a month, he realizes that it is not possible to manage the family without any earnings. Realizing the truth he determines that, I have to do something for earning to survive. Husband and wife both thought and decided to do agriculture and fruit cultivation to make earnings. But big question is where to get money? Because without money no plan could help us to make earnings. Both of them started thinking on how to get money and start agriculture and fruit cultivation. Md. Mosharaf Hossain came to know from his wife that, a social development organization named Banchte Shekha situated near to Chowagacha police station is providing loans to poor and marginalized people for self-employment on easy terms and without collateral. Knowing little bit from her wife, he state saw glimmer of hope in his mind and start dreaming how to get money. He kept drawing golden dreams in his mind and on the other hand, an unknown fear started to work, should I would get a loan from the organization?

Finally putting an end to all speculations in 2016, he got admission as group members under Chowagacha branch of Banchte Shekha Micro Credit Program. In first phase he has taken TK 150000 loan from Chowagacha Branch and took lease four bigha's land for cultivating guava and Kul. After processing the land he has cultivated guava and Kul yields and both of them gave their efforts to get good harvest. Their first

harvest of yields was excellent in 2017 and pays back the loan to Banchte Shekha. After loan payment both found that, they had profit of TK 300000. As a result both of them became desperate for further expansion of their project. The idea of how to increase the project started working in the mind and also starting finding ways for further development of project. With the profit money they decided to buy a small piece of land for making a small house. As per decision they bought 0.09 acre land at



Chowagacha Upazila and has build brick constructed house for their living. Now both of them are living happily and doing their business. According to Md. Mosharaf Hossain, the Micro Finance Program of Banchte Shekha not only given me loan to do business but also help me creating employment opportunity for rural women. Because the women labors are my workforce and helping me to make profits as well as they are also making their earnings.

Later in 2018 again he took a loan TK 5, 00,000 from Banchte Shekha Micro Finance Program in the second phase. Apart from taking load he also took lease 36 bigha's of land from Banchte Shekha at Chowagacha Upazila on a yearly basis of TK 360000. Md. Mosharaf Hossain starts new journey with 36 bigha's land and cultivating guava, Kul and Malta. Every day in his garden more than 10 women day labor are working and getting TK 400 as wages. The first consignment (2019 -2020) fruit price was good but gradually price decreased due to COVID-19. The COVID-19 badly hampered the project and become tough to continue the business. Though day by day situation is changing and yields are also in a increased position. Hope comings days will be good and could make profits by overcoming loses. Hope in the year of 2021 -2022 I will make profits of TK 1000000 from my project and could survive with the business in the coming days.

## BANCHTE SHEKHA

### Annual Budget 2022 - 2023

SL no	Project name	Description	Funding Source	Amount (BDT)	% of current portfolio
1	Social Initiative for Promoting Security and Rights of Women and Girls)	Promoting Security of women and girls of community people	Manusher Jonny Foundation (DFID)	324,826	0.04%
2	Education for Under Privileged Children Project	Educate poor children supporting training materials and fees	IDEA-ITALY	5,151,395	0.60%
3	Rehabilitation program for the disabled	Banchte Shekha provides supports to women suffering from breast cancer.	1. La Bottega Solidarita-ITALY 2) Associa per suea-ITALY 3) In dedres voor -Netherland	2,438,916	0.28%
4	Promoting Rights and Inclusion of the Children with Disability (PRICD)	The project aims to provide physiotherapy & follow-up support to the disabled children at home.	Liliane Foundation (The Netherlands)	913,500	0.11%
5	Promoting Peace and Justice	Aware community about legal rights and aware them about legal issue & overcome strategy	Democracy International (USAID)	2,282,660	0.27%
6	Activating and Engaging Partnerships to reduce leprosy in Bangladesh (AEP)	Leprosy case detection and bring the under treatment	The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh	932,000	0.11%
<b>Sub Total</b>				<b>12,043,297</b>	<b>1.41%</b>
9	Banchte General Fund	Aware community about legal rights and aware them about legal issue & overcome strategy	BS own fund	339,200	0.04%
10	Banchte Shekha Handicrafts	Income Generating Activities (IGA's) for rural women	BS own fund	1,377,500	0.16%
11	Computer Project-It	Access to technical and digital education of young generation	BS own fund	191,000	0.02%
12	ITRAD (Revenue)	IGA Activities and increased income for organizational sustainability.	BS own fund and Bank Loan	11,322,500	1.32%
12	ITRAD (Capital)	IGA Activities and increased income for organizational sustainability.	BS own fund and Bank Loan	775,000	0.09%
13	Micro Credit (Revenue)	IGA Activities and increased income among women group.	BS own fund and Bank Loan	108,613,846	12.67%
14	Micro Credit (Capital)	IGA Activities and increased income among women group.	BS own fund and Bank Loan	722,408,118	84.29%
<b>Sub Total</b>				<b>845,027,164</b>	<b>98.59%</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>857,070,461</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Banchte Shekha Financial Statement 2021 - 2022**  
Consolidated Statement of Financial Position



**- END -**