

Convention Report-2015 Girl Power Project



Girls and Young Women Convention at Mironjulla, Dhaka



Machinery Distributed among the Beneficiaries



BCHRD conducted girls and young women convention-2015 in partnership with Aparajeyo Bangladesh (AB) on 13 December 2015 at Mironjulla Dhaka. BCHRD conducted girls and young women Convention in support with Aparajeyo-Bangladesh (AB). In this quarter on the occasion of declaring Child Marriage Free Community at Gopibag Railway Colony & Gonoktuly-Lalbag City Colony

2 conventions have been held on 14 & 15th June 2015 respectively. With the full support of girl power project's CSO member organizations, CPG members and youth representations these events were arranged. The objectives of this convention are the following:

1. To actively engage girls and young women in the efforts on eliminating child marriage from the respective community
2. Motivate young girls to raise their voice as well as share their experience and emotions with parents, elderly people and build girls level of confidence to motivate others around them



3. Draw attending of wider society including policy makers.

The venue has been decorated with colorful banner, festoons carrying message to reduce gender based violence. With the lead of Bilkis Nahar, TO the audience kept them into silent for 1 minute in showing the respect to memorizing the young women's sad demise due to physical and mental for dowry. Besides, the candle lighting event was also set as a sample of committing and considering the starting of GYW's full development through ensuring their education and eliminating child marriage. To stop Child Marriage and uphold and maintaining the spirit of declaring child marriage free community with the hand of our chief guest the balloon was aired in Gopibag & Gonoktuly convention. The event was conducted by Mr. Mahbul Haque Executive Director of Bangladesh Centre for Human Rights and Development (BCHRD)

Guests: In Gopibag event, Md. Anser Ali Khan, additional secretary & Chief Executive Officer of Dhaka South City Corporation was present as chief guest and Ms. Shahnewaz Dilruba Khan, Zonal Executive Officer, Zone-2, 1 Ward Counselor Name Sultan Mia, Ward No. 8 and 2 female ward counselors, plan Dhaka program Unit Manager Md. Mahfuzar Rahman, Md. Delowar Hossain, president of Bangladesh-China Friendship Center were present as special guest in the event.



In Gonoktuly-Lalbag event:

Local Member of Parliament Barrister Fazle Nur Taposh was grace his consent to attend the event as Chief Guest but for an unavoidable situation he did not attend the programme physically. Finally he sent his message over phone to the girls, women, local leaders, parents, CBO members, NGO members and government officials and urges all to work



together to stop violence against girls and youths to reduce child marriage issues. He said Government of Bangladesh has given priority to the advancement of girls and women. He also said that he and his colleagues always give emphasis for the education of children and particularly girls and they always against child marriage

In absence of MP, Lalbagh 23 no Ward Councilor Humayun Kabir act as acting Chief Guest. Among others Hasibur Rahman Manik, 26 no Ward Councilor of Azimpur, Mr. Nizam Uddin, Zonal Executive Officer of Dhaka South City Corporation of Azimpur Zone-3, Sk. Anis Hossain and Abdul Latif Mia local leader of Gonoktuli, Officer-in-Charge (Investigation) of Hazaribagh Thana were present in the occasion as special guest.

Ms. Amina Khatun, Assistant Director & PC of GPP Aparajeyo-Bangladesh gave welcome speech and presided over the programme and delivered the speech over AB and sharing the context and importance of working on the elimination of child marriage and reducing gender based violence issues.

Sherin Akther, Technical Officer of the project was given Girl power project's major achievement. The Social Welfare Officers, CBO members, Girl Forum Members, likeminded NGO representatives also remakes in the event. The convention is valued more in having the valuable presence of Mr. Mahfuzar Rahman, Dhaka Programm Unit Manager of Plan International Bangladesh and Morium Nessa Programme Coordinator of Plan International Bangladesh.

The day long programme started with welcome dance by the girls. The festive mood convention was ended with cultural programme, Drama on bad consequences of Child Marriage, Karate show and dance and song. Local Girls Forum Members performed the event.

The Comments from the guest:

1. "By engaging local people into force I would try to stop child marriage from my ward. Appealing to CEO, DSCC to build high rise building for these community people and urged to take initiatives to wipe out the water logging from this community" **Said Sultan Mia, Ward counselor, Ward No-8**
2. " The project would be come and end it's life circle it is the general rules of project design. Wonderful achievement have been done by GPP in it's project site and we must try and would continue our best works." **Md. Mahfuzar Rahman, Manager, Dhaka Program Unit Manager.**

3. "Government should consider the age 18 for YW to pass the law on Child marriage restraint act instead of 16 as it would implicate to individuals health & mental hazards. To stop child marriage emphasized to engage GYW with income generating activities. I would take initiatives and committed to provide the training on Chinese cooking and China language for creating employment opportunities". **Md. Delwar Hossain, President, Bangladesh-China Friendship Center.**"From my end I'd provide whole hearted support to Civil Society Organization to take any development initiative for empowering GYW".
4. **Ms. Shahnewas Dilruba Khan, Zonal Executive Officer, Zone-2, Dhaka South City Corporation**
5. "We have toll free number 1098, let we use this number while we found occurring any child marriage cases in your locality" To make the people oriented on 1098 a live demonstration was aired.
6. **Chowdhury Md. Mohaimen, PC, Child Help Line of AB.**
7. "Urged GYW, please throw your dreaming sorrow steering to the sky then you could developed yourselves. Emphasized at any cost we would stop and prevent the gender based violence through eliminating child marriage. We all together work to bring economic emancipation of GYW then one day CM would be stopped automatically. Urged as GPP have been boost up the GYW's life condition therefore, this type developmental work should be existed all time in our country.
8. **Chief Guest, Md Anser Ali Khan, Additional Secretary & Chief Executive Officer, DSCC.**
9. "Girl Power Project buildup my life. I want let this project build up of all GYW like me"
Mony, YW
10. "One mother should be developed with knowledge & competencies then our country can stand on it's feet with prosperity and dignity, so this type project's continuation is highly required".
11. **Farhana Islam, FWC.**

Strengths:

To arrange this big events we get full support of GPP-CSO network member organizations & CPG members along with AB's other project's wholehearted supports.

Challenges:

To ensured the participation of local political leaders in the event is really tough like Dhaka city. The event was interrupted with unfortunate rainfall. It was decided that the programme shall be

in the open space of a temple of Gonoktuli. A big stage was built in the place but it was raining since morning and finally it was shifted in a nearby Community Center. The space of the community center was inadequate which affected the programme.

