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The IACD was also duly observed in 45 locations of the country where TIB-inspired YES members demanded the same using various social accountability tools, including various cultural events, rallies, human chain and discussion meetings.

In addition, an animated television commercial was broadcast on 6 TV channels (Channel I, ATN Bangla, Banglavisión, NTV, Channel 24 and Somoy Television) during prime time on 8 and 9 December.

Journalists awarded for quality investigative reports

On 5 December TIB announces the winners of the 17th Investigative Journalism Awards and distributed prize money, a crest and certificate to the winners. At the same day TIB arranged a discussion meeting on 'Role of Media in governance' was also held in Meghomala Conference room of TIB's Central Office in Dhanmondi.

In the national print media category, the prize was won by daily Prothom Alo's Senior Reporter Rozina Islam. In the electronic media category, reporters Mizan Malik and Sajjad Parvez from Jamuna Television won, while the camera person Kazi Mohammad Ismiel from the same TV station was also awarded. For the first time, TI



Bangladesh introduced investigative journalism awards for climate finance governance category and it was won by reporter G M Mostafizul Alam and cameraperson Jahangir Alam Ratan of Channel 24. For not meeting the required standard, the members of the Jury Board couldn't select winners in local level print and print media national on climate finance governance categories.

Executive Director of TIB Dr Iftekharuzzaman moderated the session where the Prime Minister's International Relation Affairs Adviser Professor Dr Gowhar Rizvi graced the occasion as chief guest. The event was chaired by Dr Akbar Ali Khan, Member, Board of Trustees, TIB. Noted journalist and Chief Editor of ATN Bangla Monjurul Ahsan Bulbul presented the key-note on 'Role of Media in Governance'. Media personality Muhammad Jahangir,

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TIB Observes International Anti Corruption Day 2015 **Urges to the government to observe the day nationally**

'Vigilant conscience, invincible youth shall surely resist corruption', with this theme Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) celebrated International Anti Corruption Day (IACD) which falls on 9 December, with a series of activities in the Capital, demanding an end to the culture of impunity and ensuring appropriate punishments to the corrupt people. It also demanded, among others, that the day is observed officially to motivate people to raise their voices more in ensuing transparency and accountability in the public service deliveries.

As part of four-day long celebration the national IACD observance began on 5th December with the announcement of the winners of the 17th Investigative Journalism Awards.

On 7th December, TIB awarded cartoonists and photographers of 10th anti-corruption Cartoon Competition and 1st anti-corruption Photo competition.

On 8th December TIB arranged an anti-corruption cultural event at Rabindra Sarobar Mukta Moncho in Dhanmondi.

Finally on 9th December TIB organized a human chain in front of Teachers and Students' Centre at the University of Dhaka to raise voice against corruption.

Professor Dilara Chowdhury and Executive Director of Management Resource Development Initiative (MRDI) Hasibur Rahman were among others who participated in the discussion.

Professor Dr Gowhar Rizvi said, “Democracy cannot operate without a free media and the government is also aware about this fact. In the present world no government can prevent publication of fact; media will find ways to communicate information to the people. It is not only the government who impedes the media freedom; the challenges also come from the corporate owners of the media.

Demanding transparency and accountability through Anti-corruption Cartoons and Photographs

On 7 December, as part of IACD observance, TI-Bangladesh awarded cartoonists and photographers for their outstanding contribution to the promotion of anti-corruption messages using the creative art forms of cartoons and photos. At the same time, a week-long exhibition from 7-14 December comprising 63 cartoons and 23 photographs was also inaugurated at DRIK Gallery in Dhanmondi. Ms. Hanne Fugl Eskjaer, the Danish Ambassador in Bangladesh and Ms. Karin McDonald, Counsellor, Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Development Cooperation, Swedish Development Cooperation Agency in Bangladesh attended as Guests of Honor during the inauguration of exhibition and distribution of prizes. Advocate Sultana Kamal, Chairperson, Board of Trustees of TIB presided over the event, moderated by TIB's Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman.

In addition to the 10th regular cartoon competition, TI Bangladesh this year also introduced a special cartoon competition on climate finance governance issues and the 1st anti-corruption photo competition. As part of TIB's anti-corruption social movement, these competitions and exhibitions are aimed at creating greater awareness and motivation among the young generation to SAY NO TO Corruption.

A total 100 cartoonists under two age categories: 13-18 years, and 19-25 years, sent a total of 230 entries for the 10th competition. In addition, 36 best cartoonists who won in previous cartoon competitions of TIB since 2010 sent 79 entries on Climate Finance Governance issues. On the other hand, 43 professional and amateur photographers sent 109 entries for the 1st anti-corruption photo competition. Apart from the best 9 cartoons and 3 photos which received award money, crest and certificate, photographers and cartoonists selected for recognition as “Special Mention”, also received token cash award and a certificate.



Distributing prizes, Ms. Hanne Fugl Eskjaer lauded the courageous role of the cartoonists and photographers in depicting the ills of the society and urged all for collectively raise their voices against the menaces of corruption in Bangladesh.

It may be mentioned here that since its introduction in 2006, more than two thousand cartoonists, among which more than 500 are female, submitted more than four thousand entries in all these cartoon competitions. TIB has also been organizing mobile cartoon exhibitions in various parts of the country as one of the most attractive and effective tools to spread the anti-corruption messages and create a demand for actions against corruption at the grassroots level.

Protest against corruption with the power of song and choreography

As a part of the IACD observance, on 8 December TI-Bangladesh arranged an anti-corruption cultural event at Rabindra Sarobar Mukta Moncha in Dhanmondi, Dhaka. People from different strata of lives gathered where noted musicians Shayan, Rathindranath Roy and Bappa Majumder, including Dhaka YES activists enthralled the audience with their performances. The Executive Director of TIB noted as the speaker of the event that “The cognition of our freedom fight was to make a corruption free governed Bangladesh. If there was no corruption our achievements would have been grater then present. We believe that our youth can make successful the anti-corruption movement. If we prevent ourselves from the corruption and irregularities our country will be a corruption free land of gold”

TIB urges ACC to work without fear and favor to control rampant corruption in Bangladesh

As the part of IACD observance TI-Bangladesh organized a human chain in front of Teachers and Students' Centre (TSC) at the University of Dhaka on 9 December. During the human chain Dr. Iftekharuzzamn, Executive Director of TIB- called upon the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to vigorously assert its legal mandate without fear or favour in controlling both rampant petty and grand corruption in Bangladesh. He said "the country could have prospered more had we been able to modestly contain the ill effects of both petty and grand corruption that is currently eating up some 4% of national GDP". The Youth volunteers of TIB-inspired Youth Engagement Support (YES) groups, students, network members and representatives from various civil society organizations are joined this human chain.

YES can lead climate funded project tracking activities at local level

TIB's Young force Youth Engagement and Support (YES) has promised that they will play effective and leading role for tracking climate funded projects which is implementing at their respective areas by different agencies. They also made presentation on how they will track climate funded project for effective implementation of climate fund.

As a part of the capacity development initiatives TIB organized a day long orientation program on 20 December 2015 titled "Monitoring technique of climate funded project: Role of YES" with a participation of 87 YES including 28 female from 29 CCCs area. The program was held at Meghomala conference room of TIB.

Executive Director of TIB Dr. Iftekharuzzaman inaugurated the orientation program while Deputy Executive Director Dr. Sumaiya Khair and Directors of others Division were present.

Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant:

TIB expresses cautious optimism, concerned about the reliability and security; Demands ensuring transparency and full public disclosure of important information

On 27 December Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) said Bangladesh's signing of an agreement with Russia to build the country's first nuclear power plant at Rooppur in Pabna district may be viewed as a positive and bold step by the Government for moving to a relatively low-carbon source of energy. However, any concrete development in this regard must take into consideration the very high risks and high costs involved in nuclear energy for a country like Bangladesh that has to depend almost totally on the foreign supplier for necessary raw materials, skills and expertise.

In a statement today TIB's Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said: "We are concerned particularly for the fact that Russian nuclear reactors are widely considered even by reputed Russian environmentalists as unsafe and unreliable. Atomsroyexport, owned jointly by Rosatom and Gazprombank, both Russian State-owned institutions, is not known to be credible enough to ensure suppliers' liability in case of accident."

We, therefore, call upon the Government and the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) for transparency in the content and process of the agreement. We particularly call for disclosure for public knowledge such information as: a) specific measures provided in the agreement for ensuring liability of suppliers in case of any negative environmental impact as well as risks and accidents with potentials of threats to safety and security of life and living; b) provisions for financing of this highly expensive project including terms and conditions for funding; c) statement of potential benefits and burdens for the people of Bangladesh compared to those of the suppliers; and above all d) whether and to what extent the deal has been reached ensuring competitiveness in terms of globally available options of efficiency, economy, technology and safety.

Dr. Zaman further observed that the Bangladeshi media in September reported that the total cost of two power plants would be around US\$ 4 billion; this has shot up to nearly US\$ 13 billion in the last three months. This variation in the cost of the project can potentially raise many questions. Since the people of Bangladesh will eventually bear the burden of this project, they have a right to know all relevant information in this regard, he added.

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