



# INSIDE

## National News

- TIB announces Investigative Journalism Awards 2016: TI Chair calls Bangladeshi journalists to continue to produce more investigative reports
- TI Chair's visit to Bangladesh

## CCC News

- YES Friends Group Starts Journey at Bandarban
- Calls for integrity, transparency and accountability to use and release of climate change fund
- Public Hearing Held at Madaripur and Magura
- Satellite Advice and Information Desk at Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital
- Video Drama 'Aloor Potho Jatra' creates awareness against Corruption

## National News

### TI Bangladesh demands climate justice

Ahead of COP 22 scheduled in Marrakech, Morocco during November 7-18, 2016 Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) organized a series of week-long advocacy and civic engagement programmes involving grassroots people in coastal areas of the country already affected by climate change. A package of demands calling for climate justice was placed in a press conference held in Dhaka as a culmination of the initiatives. One of the demands was a call for ensuring a legally binding status to the Paris Agreement, especially time-bound reduction of carbon emission to limit rise of global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050 and faster and transparent delivery of grants as pledged, rather than loan to compensate for adverse effects of climate change upon the people of countries like Bangladesh.

Reiterating the importance of ensuring the highest level of integrity, transparency, accountability and participation in the management, disbursement and use of climate funds, TIB called upon stakeholders to work together to facilitate faster and easier access of potential national implementing agencies of countries like Bangladesh to such funds as Green Climate Fund (GCF).

Earlier on 20 October, 2016 TI Bangladesh expressed concern over the World Bank's intent to provide a loan of US\$ 2 billion as climate finance.

Organized in partnership with Coastal Livelihood and Environmental Action Network (CLEAN) and nine coastal area-based Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCCs) established at the initiative of TIB - the people engagement programme added a new dimension to TIB's work on climate finance governance as it was for the first time that people already affected by climate change

including internal displacement was involved in such a campaign. Participants in various innovative events like rally of floating banana-plant made ferries and coffin procession symbolizing life at risk of victims of river erosion, storm surge, excessive salinity, depressions and cyclone demanded justice and called upon the developed industrial countries liable for emission of greenhouse gas to disburse funds for compensation as pledged so these could be used for technologies and innovations for adaptation.

On the concluding day of Climate Justice Week, a press conference was held in the Capital on 28 October, 2016 releasing an eleven-point declaration adopted on behalf of the affected people. Particular emphasis was given on the urgency to simplify the disbursement process of the Green Climate Fund so that climate vulnerable countries like Bangladesh can access its funds as they deserve.

Later, TIB submitted a position paper containing a series of recommendations for consideration of the Bangladesh official delegation in CoP-22. It called upon the Government to deploy all the diplomatic, negotiating and political skills and leverages at its disposal to work together with peer governments in similar situations to ensure flow of funds as grants from developed countries. It also reminded the government about Bangladesh's legitimate right to claim "new and additional" grants over above conventional development assistance.



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## **TIB announces Investigative Journalism Awards 2016: TI Chair calls Bangladeshi journalists to continue to produce more investigative reports**

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) announced the winners of the 18th Investigative Journalism Awards on 16 October, 2016. On this occasion the Chairperson of International Board of Directors of Transparency International Mr. José Carlos Ugaz Sanchez-Moreno delivered a talk on 'media and corruption' held in Meghomala Conference room of TIB's Central Office in Dhanmondi this afternoon.

In the national print media category, the staff reporter of online news portal jagonews24.com. Mr. Shahed Shafiq received the award. The Joint News Editor in the Daily 'Ilsheypar' of Chandpur Mr. Rezaul Karim was awarded in local print media category. In the electronic media (report), the prize was jointly received by special correspondents Mr. Shafiq Shahin and Mr. Badruddoza Babu respectively from private television channels NTV and Maasranga Television respectively. Besides, Deputy Editor Mr. Md. Alauddin Ahmmmed and Senior Staff Reporter Mr. GM Faysal Alam of Jamuna Television were jointly awarded in the electronic media (documentary) category. Three camerapersons: Mr. Mohsin Mukul, Mr. Kazi Mohammed Ismiel and Mr. Golam Kibria of Jamuna Television were awarded jointly for their work in two documentaries.



For not meeting the required standard, the members of the Jury Board didn't award anyone in climate finance governance categories. Each reporter was awarded a certificate, crest and a prize money of Taka one lakh, while three camerapersons jointly received a prize money of Taka one lakh.

TIB Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman moderated the session, Chairperson of International Board of Directors of Transparency International Mr. José Carlos Ugaz Sanchez-Moreno graced the occasion as chief guest, chaired by Advocate Sultana Kamal, the Chairperson of TIB Board of Trustees. TI Chair spoke on 'media and corruption'. Terming media as one of the best allies in the fight against corruption, he emphasized on acquiring specialized skills by media through rigorous training as corrupt people are employing smarter tactics to evade justice.

It may be mentioned here that TIB's media engagement programme has three components: Investigative Journalism Awards, investigative journalism training and investigative journalism fellowship. The objectives of TIB's media engagement programmes are: to build media's capacity to produce quality reports on governance and corruption issues and creates public opinion against corruption to spread the messages of anti-corruption social movement.

Since 1999, TIB has awarded 50 journalists, trained 375 journalists outside the capital since 2010 and offered three fellowships since 2012.

### **TI Chair's visit to Bangladesh**

#### **"We are not the enemies, Corruption is; the corrupt are"**

Mr. José Carlos Ugaz Sánchez-Moreno, Chairperson of the International Board of Directors of Transparency International (TI) called upon the government of Bangladesh to realize that TI and TIB, through their work in Bangladesh were only trying help the government to achieve its own agenda to effectively control corruption and promote better governance. "Our message to the Government is: we are not the enemies; the enemy is corruption; the enemies are the corrupt", he said in response to a question about almost regular negative reaction and intimidation by a section of the powerful people to TIB's work. He called for a comprehensive approach to fight corruption together, involving all stakeholders. He made these remarks while summing up his short visit of two days to Bangladesh in a 'Meet the Media' event on 17 October, 2016 held at the Senate Building of the University of Dhaka.





Earlier, Mr. Ugaz arrived in Dhaka on the evening of 15 October, 2016 to facilitate mutual sharing and learning, drawing upon global and Bangladeshi experience of progress in promoting good governance and corruption prevention. This was his first visit to Bangladesh since he was elected Chair of the global anti-corruption coalition in 2014. The visit was hosted by Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), the largest and most active chapter amongst more than 100 countries where TI is present.

Professor Ugaz began his first day with a visit to TIB's head office in Dhaka where he met members of the Executive Management Team (EMT), led by Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director and 4 Directors of the largest TI chapter in the world implementing a robust and vibrant anti-corruption social movement. DED Professor Dr. Sumaiya Khair presented how TIB has built a strong network of 6000-plus volunteers who have been engaged on a fully voluntary basis spearheading the anti-corruption movement in Bangladesh's 45 locations. Impressed by the short glimpse of TIB's work, TI Chair underscored the need for sustaining and replicating the innovatively systemic approach adopted by TIB to engage people. During his meeting with TIB's Dhaka-based staff, Professor Ugaz said that more concerted efforts are needed at



national, regional and global level to emphasize that corruption should not and cannot be allowed to be accepted as a way of life and that the situation can be changed through active, dedicated and inspired citizenry. He also got a glimpse of TIB's civic engagement activities in the field through the screening of a video titled "Amra Ekhanei, we are here" produced in 2014 when delegations of TI Georgia, Rwanda, Germany at the initiative of TI Secretariat and with the technical support of a leadership development expert to capture the anti-corruption social movement in Bangladesh.

Speaking as the Chief Guest at a seminar on "Media and Corruption", TI Chair termed media as one of the best allies in the fight against corruption. Citing examples of the risks and challenges of investigative reporting ranging from Watergate through Panama papers, he emphasized on acquiring specialized skills by media through rigorous training as corrupt people are employing smarter tactics and innovations to evade justice.

Later he gave away nine journalists TIB's "Investigative Journalism Awards-2016" for their in-depth reporting on corruption. Jose Ugaz commended TIB's comprehensive media programme for strengthening media's capacity to produce quality reports through these annual Investigative Journalism Awards, Investigative Journalism Training and Investigative Journalism Fellowship.

On 17 October, Professor Jose met Mr. Iqbal Mahmud, Chair, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) and urged him to strengthen collaboration with international anti-corruption agencies to effectively fight corruption in Bangladesh, especially with regard to control of money laundering, recovery of stolen assets and prosecution of the big cases of corruption. Referring to his impression he got during his visit that the ACC was now working hard to prevent and combat corruption in the country, Professor Ugaz observed that adopting widely-exercised best practices from various international anti-corruption agencies will help ACC fight the social menace in Bangladesh. He also assured that TI will be available for technical support that the Commission may consider necessary to strengthen its capacity to fight corruption.

Later participating in the recording of an exclusive talk show in NTV's Frankly Speaking which was broadcast on the following day, Professor Ugaz mentioned that in many parts of the world the people are upset with the onslaught of corruption and they are rising against the global menaces. Narrating his own experiences in Peru where the former Peruvian President Fujimori and many of his network ended up in jail for corrupt practices, TI Chair reiterated the importance of a comprehensive approaches in dealing with grand, organized and petty corruption.

In the afternoon of 17 October, Mr. Jose was greeted by more than 300 representatives of anti-corruption volunteers who came to meet and hear him from 45 locations of all over the country as well as from the Capital Dhaka at the Senate Building of the University of Dhaka. It was a special occasion for the attendees, majority of whom were the young activists of TIB's Youth Engagement and Support (YES) programme to listen to his inspiring deliberation. At the beginning of this meeting, TIB's theme-song was choreographed which enthralled the audience. During the Q&A, Mr Ugaz told them the world as much as Bangladesh looked forward to the youth as the key agents of change to establish values and practices that will lead to the fulfillment of the vision of TI – a world free from the menace of corruption.

Mr. Jose's visit received widespread media coverage and public attention in Bangladesh. It was a great outreach event for TI and TIB, with an estimated 40 million people reached each day through print, TV, radio, online and social media.

The visit of TI Chair coincided with the observance of the 20th anniversary of TIB. TIB's research, advocacy and civic engagement have contributed to strengthening the governance and anti-corruption architecture in Bangladesh. Examples include: the enactment of Anti-Corruption Act 2004 and the formation of Anti-Corruption Commission; Bangladesh's accession to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2007; the incorporation of anti-corruption curriculum for the secondary level students by the National Textbook Board in 2007; the enactment of the Right to Information Act 2009 in collaboration with other CSOs; the Whistleblower Protection Act 2011; and adoption of the "Commitment for Golden Bengal: National Integrity Strategy 2012 of Bangladesh". As a demand-side research and advocacy organization TIB has also been working as a co-stakeholder with the relevant government authorities in enforcing and implementing these laws, policies and institutions.

TIB's civic engagement and outreach programme that engages nearly 6000 enlisted volunteers two-thirds of whom are the youth, in Dhaka and 45 different districts/upazilas all over the country. They organize various anti-corruption campaigns for promoting transparency and accountability in selected institutions such sectors as education, health, local government, land and climate finance governance. TIB's good practice in application of social accountability tools at service delivery levels has earned global recognition as well as. TIB has been the destination of frequent learning and sharing visits by many TI chapters as well as TI's Berlin-based secretariat. Earlier high level visitors to TIB include Dr. Peter Eigen, Founding Chair of TI and his successor and Mr. Ugaz's predecessor Dr. Huguette Labelle.

## CCC News

### YES Friends Group Starts Journey at Bandarban

'I believe that encouraged by patriotism youths will play an important role in building a corruption free Bangladesh by joining this YES Friends group of Bandarban.' Deputy Commissioner of Bandarban stated this while he was delivering speech as Chief Guest of YES Friends Group's launching program at Bandarban organized by Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCC), Patiya. Emphasize should be given on ethics education as despite having higher education, for the lack of ethics education, some people are following the devastating path like corruption, he added. In this occasion a colorful rally followed by discussion meeting, anti-corruption oath taking and cultural program were organized.

The inauguration program was started followed by a colorful rally. The meeting was presided over by the President of CCC, Patiya S. M. A. K. Jahangir while CCC Vice-President Shila Das delivered welcome speech and Senior Program Manager of TIB moderated the program. Principal of Bandarban Govt. Girls' College Pradip Barua, Senior Assistant Police Super (DSB) of Chittagong Hill Tracts Shampa Rani Saha and Director of TIB's Civic Engagement Division Uma Chowdhury were present as special guest in the program. Deputy Commissioner moderated the anti corruption oath taking session in this program.

Among others President of District DUPROK Committee Ang Cha Moung Marma, Advisor of YES Friends Group Bandarban Md. Nurul Afsar, YES Member of CCC, Patiya Md. Mamun Uddin, representatives of different institutions and citizens attended the program. A cultural program moderated by Program Manager A K M Rezaul Kabir was organized where member of YES Friends Group of Banderban Gilrs' College and YES member of CCC, Patiya performed.

In response to growing popularity of YES, supplementary groups called YES Friends have been created in nearly all the CCC areas following the same principles as for forming the YES.



## **Calls for integrity, transparency and accountability to use and release of climate change fund**

Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCC) organized a series of weeklong advocacy activities involving grassroots people of the coastal areas of the country those are already affected by climate change which included press conference, human chain, rally, rally of floating banana-plant made ferries, coffin procession symbolizing life at risk of victims of climate changes effects, affixed anti corruption sticker on the available transports like tempos, rickshaws, auto rickshaw, cartoon exhibition on climate change issue, memorandum submission to the Deputy Commissioner containing a series of recommendations for consideration of the Bangladesh official delegation in CoP-22 etc.



CCCs placed a number of demands for climate justice from these event which included ensuring transparency, accountability and participation on climate finance management especially on disbursement and use of climate funds, ensuring a legally binding status to the Paris Agreement, especially time-bound reduction of carbon emission to limit rise of global temperature to 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050 and faster and transparent delivery of grants as pledged, rather than loan to compensate for adverse effects of climate change upon the people of countries like Bangladesh. CCCs also emphasized on the importance to simplify the disbursement process of the Green Climate Fund so that Bangladesh like other climate vulnerable countries can access its funds as they deserve.

Members of CCC, Swajan, YES, YES Friends groups, students, journalists and representatives of civil society, NGOs and local peoples were also present in these events.

### **Public Hearing Held at Madaripur and Magura**

'Information is a right of ordinary people. The Right to Information Act, 2009 has made the administration accountable to the people. This act will play a vital role in ensuring a transparent administration. The more such public hearing takes place, the more it will speed up the delivery of services to the people.' ACC Commissioner Dr. Nasir Uddin Ahmed told this while he was delivering speech as chief guest in a public hearing program held in Madaripur. Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCC), Madaripur and Durniti Protirodh Committee (DUPRAK) in cooperation with Rajoire Upazila Administration jointly organized Information Fair and Public Hearing Program at Upazila Parishad premises of Rajoir Upazila on 25 October 2016. ACC Commissioner added that corruption is a social malady and we should build up a social movement against this. He emphasized on organizing Public Hearing once in a week according to the rules and set up Citizen's Charter and ensure proactive disclosure by all govt. offices.

In this Public Hearing session moderated by Deputy Commissioner of Madaripur Kamal Uddin Bishwas, 10 institutions attended where local citizens raised complaints against different institutions for getting services. In addition, a total of 25 public and private institutions provided their service related information to the visitors by installing booths in the information fair. Representatives from different government institutions, people's representatives, journalists, women leaders, local citizens participated the events. In these programs, among others Dhaka Divisional Director of ACC Nasim Anwar, Police Super (In Charge) of Madaripur Mr. Ansar Uddin, Rajoire Municipality Mayor Shamim Newaz, Rajoir Upazila Chairman Shahajan Khan, Rajoir Upazila DUPROK President Abul Hashmi Sipahi, CCC President Khan Md. Shahid and Program Manager of TIB Samapika Halder spoke at the programs.

Another Public Hearing was held on 17 October 2016 in the RSHK premises of Mohammadpur Upazila jointly organized by ACC, CCC, Jessore and DUPRAK where ACC Commissioner (Investigation) A. F. M. Aminul Islam was present as Chief Guest. Before public hearing, a discussion meeting was held presided over by UNO of Mohammadpur Upazila Shahin Hossain while ACC Director (Protection and Mass Awareness) Md. Maniruzzaman, Khulna Divisional Director of ACC Dr. Md. Abul Hasan, Police Super of Magura A. K. M. Ehsan Ullah, CCC member and former President Md. Mustafizur Rahman, General Secretary of Mohammadpur Upazila Duprok Freedom Fighter Ali Reza Khokhon and Program Manager of TIB Rajesh Kumar Adhikary spoke as special guest. Among other ASP of Magura Md. Tariqul Islam, General Secretary of Narail DUPROK Kazi Hafizur Rahman were present in the program.

Public Hearing program was moderated by ADC (General) Md. Azmul Haque. In the program ACC Commissioner (Investigation) A. F. M. Aminul Islam said, terrorism has now become linked up with corruption, especially on financial aspects. He urged to raise voice against corruption. He also suggested all to avoid financial transaction without receipt at any government office. In this program 16 organizations attended where the local citizens raised 94 complaints against different institutions for getting services. ACC Commissioner advised the institutions to respond on the complaints. In Question and Answer session the respective authority made commitment to resolve the problems raised by local citizens.



### **Satellite Advice and Information Desk at Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital**

YES Group of CCC, Khagrachhari organized a Satellite Advise and Information Desk at Khagrachhari Adhunik District Hospital premises on 20 October 2016. The program was organized with an aim to empower the service recipients and to sensitize them on their civil rights through ensuring access to necessary information regarding health services. YES members provided information and advices on the services provided by Khagrachhari Adhunik District Hospital. At the same time awareness raising leaflet on hospital services, primary education and Right to Information Act 2009 were distributed to the patients, along with their attendants other visitors. The YES members motivated the patients of different wards regarding cleanliness of the hospital, procedure of complaining system at hospital, voluntarily blood donation etc.

YES Group of CCC, Khagrachhari is implementing numbers of awareness raising campaign and activities from 2010. CCC-TIB believes that general people become victim of corruption due to lack of awareness and proper information. If the information of all service providing organizations is available, it will be helpful for mass people to ensure their rights.

### **Video Drama 'Aloor Pothe Jatra' Creates Awareness against Corruption**

To make people aware of corruption in the public service providing agencies, video drama Aloor Pothe Jatra was projected at Shishu Kunjo School and College of Jhenidah on 27 October 2016. Corruption of Health service, Primary Education and Local Government and life of service recipients were illustrated through this drama.

Before the drama projection a short discussion meeting was held presided over by lecturer of Shishu Kunjo School and College Md. Golam Kibria while CCC Member N. M. Shahjalal delivered welcome speech. Among others lecturer of the college Md. Abbas Uddin Ahmed, students of same college Jharna Khatun and Mehedi Hasan delivered speech. Jharna Khatun said, it's our duty to resist corruption and protect our country. Mehedi Hasan said, we achieved our independence in 1971. Though we have remarkable development on many issues but still corruption in our country makes obstacle for development which is not expected. So it is important to identify the corrupt people and punish them accordingly. At the same time, a quiz competition for the students was organized moderated by CCC Vice-President Suraiya Parvin Moli in order to generate idea about the objective of the drama. In this program CCC President Md. Abu Taher moderated the anti-corruption oath taking session where around 160 students and teachers of this college attended. The program was moderated by YES member Tasnuva Islam.

Numbers of spectators enjoyed the drama and many of them admitted that their perception of public service and its irregularities were enriched. YES group of CCC, Jhenidah played active role on organizing the video drama projection. Anti corruption theater is one of the very powerful tool to disseminate anti corruption messages to the rural segment of people particularly who are poor and out of formal education.

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