

Call for equity and transparency in green climate funding At Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3

National and international experts stressed on ensuring transparency and equity to secure green climate funds which may be possible through the implementation of policies that are parallel to global standards. They also reiterated the need to monitor the implementation of projects at the root-level, along with ensuring participation from the community and experts to monitor the implementation process.



The observations were made at a daylong international dialogue organized by TIB on 18 September 2018 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) in Dhaka.

Experts from Bhutan, Nepal, Australia, Korea, Germany and Bangladesh participated in the dialogue titled 'Dhaka Integrity Dialogue 3: Equity and Transparency in Green Climate Funding'. TIB organized the dialogue, third of its kind, to identify prospects and

challenges in ensuring equity and transparency in mobilizing and accessing the Green Climate Fund, share knowledge and build understanding of the necessary good governance standards among the stakeholders, and strengthen collaboration and cross-country knowledge of experts, practitioners, policy makers and development partners in vulnerable countries.

At the dialogue, there was unanimous consensus among the speakers that Bangladesh is in need to get more accreditation of NIEs to ensure the chances of securing Green Climate Funds (GCF). However, it is imperative to develop articulated funding proposals. To attain it, the speaker called on the government to employ a dedicated pool of fund and resources to develop new projects. In terms of GCF, it is important for the body to ensure a long-term financial sustainability, while achieving credibility among the countries, especially the developing ones.

Experts also stressed on improving the capacity of GCF to make a sustainable impact and better disbursement of the funds and called to ensure equitable representation from developing countries in the GCF Board to reap the benefits of the Paris Agreement. The speakers urged to revise investment priorities of GCF in reflection of prioritized adaption actions aligning with NDCs, NAP and SDG targets with increased pro-activeness of the GCF Board to enhance access to GCF through establishing country specific strategy with dedicated funds for the loss and damages especially e.g. welfare and rehabilitation of climate induced displaced people. Speakers further urged to adopt principles of equity, participation, responsiveness, and ownership to enhance transparency in adaptation finance for the benefit of vulnerable communities.

Chief Guest of the concluding session Barrister Anisul Islam Mahmud MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change said, "the government of Bangladesh (GoB) regards the climate issue with high importance. By forming its own climate fund in parallel to GCF, GoB has been spending a considerable part of its national budget every year in climate adaptation and recently, climate adaptation was significantly included in the newly adopted Delta Plan 2100." Terming prevailing conditions in accessing GCF an obstacle, he underscored the need to address the complex issues for quick release of fund.



In his speech as the Guest of Honor, Mr. Mohammed Iqbal Hossain, Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh (Senior), Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General underscored the need of transparency, accountability and integrity in climate adaptation projects. Highlighting poor output of climate projects, Mr. Hossain stressed on carefully designing of climate projects for sustainable adaptation.

Professor Dr. Sumaiya Khair, Adviser, Executive Management, TIB presented a brief summary of the dialogue in the concluding session. TIB Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman emphasized the need of exerting pressure upon GCF to make access procedures user-friendly and practical, and develop a robust environmental and social safeguard policy and ensure wide dissemination among stakeholders. Dr. Zaman urged for collective efforts to enhance technical capacity of the affected countries, especially those in South Asia in writing proposals for the GCF and effective implementation of the approved projects.

In the daylong dialogue, experts participated in three plenary sessions on key governance issues impinging on the prospect of flow of GCF funds to countries worst affected by climate change. Mr. Mirza Shawkat Ali, Director (Climate Change & International Convention), Department of Environment, Government of Bangladesh (GoB) moderated the first plenary session which focused on identifying challenges and prospects of transparency, accountability and integrity in mobilizing Green Climate Fund. Recognizing that Bangladesh is one of the worst sufferers of climate vulnerabilities, the participants suggested to integrate space technologies with the meteorological department, while stating the need for more research as data is needed for developing and designing projects, effective monitoring and implementation.

Country representative of IUCN Bangladesh M. Raquibul Amin moderated the second session to identify prospects and challenges of accessing GCF by vulnerable countries. The participants argued on prospects and challenges in accessing GCF by developing countries, accreditation of NIE and time bound decision-making process. In the session, underscoring the need of a balance between adaptation and mitigation in funding to developing countries, the speakers stressed on eradicating prevailing bureaucracy and the lack of interest on the parts of government officials behind the slowing down of the process of implementation. Since there have been

allegations of corruption in projects and other levels of administration, experts urged to introduce a unique cell within the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to oversee such matters.

In the third session, speakers stressed on elaborating modalities and monitoring mechanisms to ensure transparency, accountability and participation for actors within the framework of climate finance, and forming a multi-stakeholder forum under NDA (private, public, CSOs, NGOs, project beneficiaries) to establish coordination among relevant actors, and analyzing macro & micro level for prioritization, vulnerability assessment, effectiveness and sustainability of projects.



Among others, policymakers and government officials, non-government organizations, experts, researchers, policy think tanks, and practitioners with grassroots experience and the national implementing entities who are currently implementing GCF, or will be possibly involved with GCF attended the dialogue.

The first and second integrity dialogues on adaptation climate finance were organized by TIB and held in Dhaka in March 2016 and September 2017 respectively. Since 2011, TIB has been playing pivotal role in research and advocacy on climate finance governance in Bangladesh for ensuring integrity, transparency, accountability and participation in all types of climate funds in Bangladesh.

International Right to Know Day 2018 observed amid concern on Digital Security Act: Call for review controversial sections

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) observed the International Right to Know (RTK) Day, 2018 urging the government to review the hastily passed Digital Security Act (DSA) ignoring widespread protests and concerns

from journalists, rights activists, media, civil society and different national and international quarters. Observing the legislation contradictory to the true spirit of Right to Information (RTI) Act 2009, the Liberation War and freedom of expression, TI BANGLADESH also urged the Hon'ble president of Bangladesh not to assent to the bill at this stage pointing some of its provisions risky for journalists, media, researchers as well as for the masses and push it back to the Parliament for reviewing the controversial provisions.



Referring freedom of expression and right to information as the fundamental rights of the people, Executive Director of TI BANGLADESH Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, the RTI Act is exceptional as it gives people the right to hold the government accountable and the DSA might pose greater risk of insecurity not only in expressing opinion freely but also in practicing basic human rights by the mass people especially media workers if the act comes into effect without proper reviews. Speaking at a human chain organized by TIB on 26 September at Dhaka University's Teacher-Student Centre (TSC) marking the RTK Day, Dr. Zaman expressed fear that wide misuse of the act by the members of the law enforcement agencies might take place as the act allows the power to check and arrest anyone without any warrant. Dr. Zaman added that DSA might endanger the people of their basic human rights and be an impediment on the way of flourishing democracy in the country. Terming the act as a 'black law', Dr. Zaman said, we are not opposing the act, but we are just demanding amendment of some sections. On inclusion of the colonial era Official Secrets Act into the DSA, Dr. Zaman referred it as a backward thinking and a threat to investigative journalism. He hoped that the government would initiate steps to reconsider the act's controversial sections. Among others, members of Dhaka Youth Engagement and Support (YES) groups and TIB staff attended the human chain.

The day was celebrated nationally from 25-30 September with series of events. Beside highlighting on raising awareness among people and service providers on RTI Act and encouraging pro-active disclosure of information by both public and private sectors, TIB's this year's countrywide celebration also stressed on amending the risky and controversial sections of Digital Security Act. Other demands included inclusion of private sector, political parties and media in the RTI act; review of necessary corrections in RTI act such as amending provision of providing personal details of the applicant and allowing anonymous requests etc.

Earlier on 25 September, TIB and Information Commission Bangladesh jointly organized a day-long capacity-building orientation programme focusing on RTI act where 52 young volunteers from Bangladesh Scouts, Bangladesh Girl Guides Association and Bangladesh Red Crescent Society participated. Held in TIB's Dhaka office, the event was attended by Chief Information Commissioner Mr. Martuza Ahmed and Information Commissioner

Mr. Nepal Chandra Sarker of Information Commission Bangladesh, and TIB Executive Director Dr. Iftekharuzzaman.



As one of the organizing institutions, TIB officials and Dhaka YES members also participated in 3-day long programme spearheaded by Information Commission, Bangladesh comprising rally, discussion meeting, cultural programme and information fair to mark the RTK Day 2018. At the discussion meeting followed by rally on 30 September, Information Minister Hasanul Haq Inu, MP attended the programme as the Chief Guest, and Chief Information Commissioner Mr. Martuza Ahmed, Information Commissioners Mr. Nepal Chandra Sarker and Ms. Suraiya Begum ndc were among others who participated the event.



Beside central initiatives, TIB inspired Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCCs) and Youth Engagement and Support (YES) groups voluntarily working at 45 locations across the country with full support of the local administration set up stalls in information fairs. TIB's pioneering Information Fairs which proved to be a powerful medium of strengthening both the demand and supply side in implementing RTI Act, are now being replicated by some NGOs. The awareness campaigns included rallies, human chains, street theatres, sticker campaign, advice and information desks, cultural programmes, seminars, discussion meetings and anti-corruption cartoon and photo exhibitions. The theme of TIB's this year's RTK Day celebration is 'Tothyer Odhikar, Shushashoner Hatiyar; Toththoi Shakti, durniti theke mukti' (Right to information is a tool of good governance; Information is power to get rid of corruption).

Twelve CCCs organized Information Fairs to mark the day where different government agencies, departments and NGOs installed stalls and provided their service related information to visitors. YES groups drove Satellite Advice and Information Desk campaigns, oriented visitors how to prepare and submit application for information, organized cartoon, quiz and debate competitions etc. at fair premises.

In the information fairs organized all across the country, senior govt. officials i.e. Deputy Commissioners, Additional Deputy Commissioners, Civil Surgeons, Superintendent of Police, Superintendent of different hospitals, Upazila Nirbahi Officers and locally elected representatives including Chairman of Zila Parishads, Mayor of Municipalities, Chairman and Vice Chairman of Upazila Parishad and senior officers from TIB attended these programs. Different awareness raising materials like issue based leaflets and flyers were distributed among participants and visitors.



Mr. Mrinal Kanti Das, Member of the Parliament from Munshigonj-3, was present as chief guest in a discussion session in Munshigonj on September 28, 2018 organized by CCC, Munshigonj in collaboration with Munshigonj district administration. Beside this, Dr. Md. Mozammel Haque Khan, Commissioner (Investigation) of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), inaugurated the two-day long Information Fair on September 13, 2018 as chief guest in Madaripur.

TIB played an instrumental role in the enactment of the Right to Information Act 2009 adopted in the Parliament on 29 March 2009, which became operational in July 2009. TIB has been observing the RTK Day since 2006, as the first organization to do so in Bangladesh. Earlier, from 2003, TIB started a local level campaign called 'Advice and Information Desk' to make people aware of their basic rights and entitlements.

Election Manifestos Review: Wide gap between words and actions found, Call for promises with timely action plan highlighting Good Governance and Integrity

Political parties of Bangladesh have failed significantly in fulfilling their pledges made in the election manifestos especially commitments regarding strengthening good governance and integrity. In all of the elections held since independence, though some governance related significant commitments were addressed and accomplished, a huge gap was identified between achievements and promises made in election manifestos by the political parties. Pledges in relation to establishing an effective parliament, recruitment of the ombudsman, scrapping of draconian laws, disclosure of information of the people's representatives' wealth and establishment of terrestrial radio and television channel as independent institutions were never fulfilled. On the contrary, the parties were found enacting regressive and controversial laws that went against the spirit of democracy and good governance to control people's rights to freedom of expression. It was also found that the parties lack sufficient timely action plans for implementation of the promises with regards to good governance and integrity.

The observations were made in a working paper titled 'Good Governance and Integrity in the Manifestos of Political Parties' by TIB which was released in a Press Conference on September 17, 2018 at its Dhanmondi office.

In the wake of the parliamentary election, to ensure inclusive election with participation of all the eligible parties, the working paper recommended to comprise necessary pledges with timely plan of implementation contributing to good governance and integrity in the election manifestos and placed set of recommendations for the political parties. TI BANGLADESH suggested that the parties should publish reports on how many promises they had fulfilled according to their election manifestos.

Dr. Iftekharuzzaman,
Executive Director;
Professor Dr. Sumaiya
Khair, Adviser-
Executive
Management;
Mohammad Rafiqul
Hassan, Director of
Research and Policy,
of TIB were present at
the press conference.



Shahzada M Akram, Senior Programme Manager of Research and Policy division presented the study analysis.

Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, “Political parties play a crucial role in the election, their goodwill is also essential for conducting an acceptable poll. Though the parties stated their position related to good governance and integrity in manifestos during the last several parliamentary elections, unfortunately, the rate of implementation was much lower and a lack of seriousness has been found among the political parties after they got elected.” Dr. Zaman called upon the parties to include a report on how many promises they have implemented from their earlier manifesto in their next manifesto following a self-assessment. “The political parties must clearly state that what role they wish to play after winning the election and how they wish to contribute if they do not win the election,” said Dr. Zaman.

Referring to the wide gap, Dr. Zaman said, “Unfortunately, many accomplishments can’t produce outputs in reality, as some of them are not followed-up and reviewed with necessary means for implementation. And in some of the cases, accomplishments were blurred with regressive reform initiatives such as some provisions of Draft Digital Security Act are contradictory to the Right to Information Act; similarly, an attempt is underway to curtail the power of Anti-Corruption Commission by relevant provision of Draft Public Service Act.” To resist corruption, Dr. Zaman urged all the political parties to include necessary pledge in the election manifesto such as creating enabling environment for apprehending the corrupt irrespective of that person’s identity and position.

Along with other issues, since the upcoming election is going to be the first since the announcement of SDGs, Dr. Zaman hoped that all the political parties will include the implementation plans of those goals in their manifestos highlighting targets of Goal 16 i.e. good governance, amplification of transparent, effective and responsible institutions at all levels with issues like justice, human rights, inclusive development with leaving no one behind, freedom of expression and information, freedom of speech and control of corruption.

The study observed a tendency to influence election results when an individual party was in power and they also have a tendency to maintain their grip on power, which is why people have lost confidence in any election system under a partisan government. Political parties also do not tend to accept election results if they lose, it also observed.



The study also recommended that the chief of a party, the head of the government, and the leader of the parliament, should not be the same person. Other recommendations included among others: to allow the opposition more opportunity to participate in parliamentary activities (such as recruitment of deputy speaker, nomination of the opposition party member as the president in one-third of the committee), and formulate a code of conduct for members of parliament.

According to the working paper, the immediate outgoing ruling party must prepare a report on to what extent it has fulfilled its electoral commitments made in the previous election and make the report public. Every political party, participating in the parliamentary election, must make it clear in the manifesto, what role it will play to establish democracy and good governance even if it does not form government by winning the election. It also suggested that all the political parties must develop their respective work plans for the implementation of recommendations as laid in the National Integrity Strategy. TI BANGLADESH also urged the political parties to declare their position in the manifestos against legalising black money in the national budget and commitment to bringing back all laundered money.

The other notable recommendations included, among others: discarding nepotism, vested group interest and political consideration in the recruitment of posts, including assignment of the chairman and commissioner of constitutional organizations such as the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), and avoiding party considerations and initiating reforms if needed; not reforming any law that can undermine the independence and effectiveness of the ACC; withdrawing politically motivated cases, and freeing the judiciary from the influence of the Executive Division, making it independent and neutral; bringing political parties within the purview of the Right to Information Act 2009; taking a consolidated and all-encompassing strategy for increasing the professional advancement and effectiveness of the judiciary, administration and law enforcement; Ensuring independence of media.

Widespread corruption in most cases of clearing and taxing, at Burimari and Mongla Port and Customs Station

Irregular financial transactions take place in nearly cent percent cases of clearing and taxing service in both the Burimari Land Port and Customs Station and Mongla Port and Custom House. Irregularities and corruption have become institutionalized in these institutions mostly due to prevalent long and complicated system for delivering services; vicious circle formed with part of officials of controller and relevant organizations, brokers; lack of disciplinary action against corruption and irregularities; and lack of digital service delivery system. To counter all the anomalies, lack of political will was also observed. The scarce scenario of widespread corruption was unearthed in a study on “Burimari Land Port and Customs Station and Mongla Port and Custom House: Governance Challenges in Import-Export and Way Out” by TIB.

To release the findings, TIB organized a Press Conference on September 23, 2018 at its Dhanmondi office in Dhaka. To tackle the widespread corruption and establish good governance and increase capacity building, TI

Bangladesh placed 8 points recommendations including effectively introducing automation in taxing, clearing and arrival-departure of ships in the above-mentioned ports and custom houses.

In the press conference, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director, Professor Dr. Sumaiya Khair, Adviser-Executive Management, Mohammad Rafiqul Hassan, Director of Research and Policy and Sheikh Manjur-E-Alam, Director of Outreach



and Communication of TIB were present. Manzur-E-Khoda and Md. Khorshed Alam, Programme Managers of Research and Policy division of TIB jointly presented the research report at the event.

Prepared by analyzing information provided by officials, employees, clearing and forwarding (C&F) agents, shipping agents, carriers, journalists, business leaders and other stakeholders during a time period starting July 2017 to September 2018, the study was also supported by additional information collected from different papers of ports, customs houses, different studies, news, publications and websites.

According to the study report, evidence of corruption involving Tk4.61 crores was found among Mongla port authorities in the same fiscal year and the Burimari land port and customs authorities were also engaged in corruption involving Tk17.10 lakhs in the 2017-18 fiscal year.

The study report also pointed out that transport workers' union extorts Tk 900 from every truck that passes through the Burimari land port, totaling up to Tk5.41 crores each year.

The study observed that even if the papers of the importers were in order the authorities still would not allow any goods to pass through the border without a fixed bribe. The amount gets bigger if the papers show any inaccuracies. At Burimari, no trucks can be hired without giving the brokers an additional amount of Tk400. The research found that customers have to pay speed money for every action related to tariff and product releases. Officials, brokers, and a portion of the regulatory body run a corruption circle, taking advantage of a lack of punitive action against corruption, an ineffective digital service providing system and political unwillingness to curb wrongdoing. All these have resulted in an organized system of irregularity and corruption in the land ports.

Dr. Iftekharuzzaman mentioned that at both Mongla and Burimari ports, port authorities have taken a number of steps to develop the management, but years of corruption and extortion have given the corruption an organized look.

TIB placed eight-point recommendations, including the introduction of an automated system for custom duties to fight corruption and increase work efficiency. At the Mongla Customs House, imported goods have to pass 16

stages, while exported goods have to go through 12 stages of scrutiny papers. This lengthens the time required for the completion of the process, and also increases the risk of harassment and corruption. In contrast, goods laden ships only have to pass through eight stages at the customs house for clearance.

According to the study, a total of 59% of the posts, on the port authorities, remain vacant. There is political pressure while making new appointments. Lack of facilities has also increased the expenses of import and export.

TIB's other recommendations included establishing a complete office of customs house at the Mongla port to speed up the customs duty collection and put emphasis on technological means to scrutinize goods. TIB also recommended filling up the vacant posts, publicizing the financial statements of officials and employees, bringing the port and customs areas under CCTV surveillance, collecting all duties and taxes through the bank and online systems and taking action against those engaging in extortion.

TIB airs concern over BRTA's rejection of household survey

TIB in a statement on September 11, 2018 expressed concern over Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)'s rejection of its National Household Survey on corruption in service sector.

In the statement TIB firmly said, instead of taking proper steps to curb irregularities and corruption, BRTA is denying the truth. TIB also expressed its opinion that such attempts would create barrier in ensuring good governance, transparency and accountability by the government as BRTA did not mention why it termed the survey report baseless, false and fabricated, the statement added. However, TIB sent a letter to BRTA, explaining its position.

In the letter, Executive Director of TIB Dr. Iftekharuzzaman stated, "The survey was conducted following the standard scientific method and statistics. The survey findings are scientifically correct and objective, and not fabricated or imaginary."

Praising some recent initiatives taken by BRTA as part of establishing good governance by the government, Dr. Zaman said, "These initiatives are important. But experience-based research on service receivers is the best way to know to what extent these are followed at service level."

TIB made public the report on 'corruption in service sector: national household survey 2017' on August 30, 2018. According to the survey, law enforcing agencies emerged as most corrupt in the country's service sector, followed by passport 67.3 per cent and BRTA 65.4 per cent.

TIB disappointed over report on Draft Digital Security Act by parliamentary body

TIB expressed disappointment over finalization of a report by the parliamentary body on Digital Security Bill, 2018 without considering most of the recommendations from stakeholders and amending some sections that curb freedom of speech and investigative journalism. In a statement issued on September 13, 2018, TI BANGLADESH urged the government not to pass such a bill that goes against the principles of the constitution.

Executive Director of TIB Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, "The incident of finalizing the report on the bill without changing the controversial sections and ignoring stakeholder's opinions is a matter of concern. The concerns voiced by journalists on sections 8, 28, 29 and 31 were ignored and it will create risks for them to discharge their professional duties."

Dr. Zaman further added that the recommendation made by the committee on the controversial section 32 is also regrettable. The legal right to get

information on corruption and human rights violation as per the Right to Information Act 2009 will be curbed due to the misuse of section 32. Therefore, corruption and crimes relating to human rights violation will spread further, he said, adding that the section would act as a major impediment in conducting investigative journalism and research.

If the bill is passed, Dr. Zaman added, it would go against the spirit of the constitution and restrict free-thinking and freedom of speech. It would also impede independent journalism, he added. Dr. Zaman opined that a sense of insecurity will be created among the citizens in the name of digital security.

TIB hoped that the government and the Jatiya Sangsad will refrain from taking such a suicidal path and create further scope to have discussion with the stakeholders on the bill. TIB expressed fear that the possibilities of ensuring good governance and curbing corruption, enhanced by the growth of information technology, will face a setback due to the proposed law and it will also limit the role of citizens, civil society and media in achieving the sustainable goals.

TIB expresses concern over EVM purchase

TIB has expressed concern over the government's approval of purchasing Electronic Voting Machine (EVM), spending a huge amount of money before analysing its suitability, examining technical skill of Election Commission officials and without taking into consideration the preparedness of the voters. In a press statement released on September 19, 2018 TIB also raised question whether it would be possible to ensure transparency in such a big purchase because of hastiness.

In the statement Executive Director of TIB Dr. Iftekharuzzaman said, "Before the announcement of the national election schedule, nomination seekers' campaign and implementation of projects in the name of development to increase popularity are against the spirit of creating a level-playing field for all contenders."

TIB called upon the government to bring necessary amendment to the relevant laws to stop election campaigns before announcement of election schedule and implementation of constituency oriented projects in the name of development to please the voters.

'Adivasis' to be aware about their own rights'

CCC, Nalitabari called on Adibashi people to be aware about their rights suggesting to meet with Assistant Commissioner (Land) regarding their land related problems and challenges.

CCC made the recommendations in an opinion sharing meeting on the problems of local Adibashis regarding their land rights. CCC President Ms. Jubeyda Khatun presided over the meeting titled 'Land related problems of Adibashis and way forward',



organized by CCC in participation with the people of Adibashi community on September 13, 2018 at the meeting room of Baromari mission, Nalitabari.

Speakers of the meeting discussed land related problems of Adibashi in details with the ways of overcoming the problems. Representatives from different Adibashi community of Nalitabari Upazila shared their land related problems and challenges in the meeting which included: inherited land included as Khas land, eviction from their land etc.

The meeting was organized to discuss the issues with the Assistant Commissioner (Land) and chalk out the next steps accordingly. Chairman of Tribal Welfare Association Luwis Nengminja thanked CCC for organizing such event. Among others, Pala Priest of the Baromari Mission Monindro M. Chiran, Vice President of the CCC Mr. N. M. Sadrul Ahsan and CCC member Abul Hossain Khan delivered their speech in the meeting.

Sotota Stores launched at Chakaria and Munshiganj

With the aim of developing integrity, sincerity and generating awareness against corruption among the youth, two Sotota Stores were launched at Chakaria of Cox's Bazar district and Munshiganj in September 2018. Sotota store is an idea of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) with a view to increase moral uprightness among students. The stores displayed goods and educational equipment so that with pricetags, the students of the school can buy. The students can take items from the store as per their choice and put prices of those in the designated cash boxes on their own.

Speakers at the launching events praised such initiatives. They hoped that the Sotota Stores would help school students in developing sense of morality which would cultivate honesty from their early age.

Munshiganj: As part of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ACC and TIB, Munshiganj CCC installed a Sotota Store at Dewvog 01 No Govt. Primary School under Munshiganj Sadar Upazila. Upazila Education Officer Ms. Taslima Begum inaugurated the store on September 16, 2018. Vice President of the CCC Mr. Tanvir Hasan presided over the inaugural session where Assistant Upazila Education Officer Ms. Sanjida Begum discussed the objectives and the process of purchasing goods from Sotota Store. Among others, principal of Rampal College & CCC member Jahangir Hasan, Fazlur Rahman, Shahjahan Gazi and respective Programme Manager of TIB spoke at the programme. The speakers urged to expand such initiative to other schools too.



Chakaria: Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Chakaria Mr. Nuruddin Mohammad Shibly Noman inaugurated a Sotota Store at Chakaria Govt. High School on September 18, 2018. On the eve of launching the store, a discussion meeting was organized in participation with teachers and students of the school. Mr. Shibly Noman urged the students to set three goals of life – dream, belief and act – do your duty accordingly so that their dreams become true. He said, “Draw a picture what you wish to be and place it on your reading table. The picture will help you to materialize your dream.”

Mr. Noman urged teachers, students and guardians to be honest in their personal life. Earlier, Mr. Noman

administered the anti-corruption oath taking session at the event. Head Teacher of the school G A M Enamul Haque presided over the programme where president of CCC Chakaria Prof. AKM Shahabuddin delivered the welcome speech. Among others, member of the CCC Mr. Mohabbat Chowdhury and Zia Uddin also spoke at the event.

Hospital authority assures to address the issues of service seekers

Civil Surgeon cum Superintendent of Natore Adhunik Sadar Hospital Dr. Md. Azizul Islam assured that the hospital authority will address service related issues of service seekers with due care. Dr. Aziz hoped that the quality of services of the hospital would be improved with cordial cooperation of staff from all level. Informing that the hospital gives priority to the Freedom Fighters, Senior Citizens and Women, Dr. Aziz also sought cooperation from all to ensure better services through mitigating prevailing limitations. Dr. Md. Azizul Islam was delivering the speech as Chief Guest in an opinion sharing meeting with CCC, Natore on September 04, 2018.

CCC, Natore organized this meeting at the office of Superintendent with the theme 'Together against Corruption'. President of the CCC Mr. Ranen Roy presided over the meeting. Mr. Roy argued to ensure transparency at all level operations of the hospital, which will set a standard of services. Mr. Roy requested relevant authority to increase human resources.

At the meeting, CCC member Mr. Rafiqul Islam Nantu shared the suggestions noted from the Multi-stakeholders meeting held on July 15, 2018. Mr. Rafiqul requested to ensure presence of a Gynecologist in night shift and monitor the activities in the hospital by CC TV. Respective Area Manager of TI BANGLADESH shared the report of Quick Survey conducted by TI BANGLADESH on services of the hospital in the meeting.

Among others, Residential Medical Officer Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman; Social Welfare Officer cum Designated Officer Mr. Amir Hossain; Senior Staff Nurse Ms. Shipra Talukder and CCC members also spoke while CCC member Mr. Paritosh Kumar Adhikary moderated the programme.

UP faces citizens for ensuring transparency and accountability



10 No Kheruyazani Union Parishad of Muktagachcha Upazila organized Face the Public programme on September 13, 2018 with the assistance of CCC, Muktagachcha as a part of it's transparency and accountability initiatives. Mr. Rafiqul Islam Mazharul, Chairman of the Union Parishad presided over the programme while Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Muktagachcha Ms. Subarna Sarker was present as the chief guest. Area Manager of TI BANGLADESH moderated the session.

Secretary of the Union Parishad Md. Nazrul Islam presented the status of various development works like road construction, supply of drinking water, market development, progress of education and duties & responsibilities of Union Parishad. Elected representatives from different wards presented the progress of development initiatives of their own territory and causes for failing to fulfill their commitments. Citizens of the Union Parishad participated in the open discussion and question & answer session. They raised questions about the issues of VGD card distributions, repair roads and water supply. UP Chairman and members answered the questions. Chairman asked citizens to take part in the Ward Shava and open budget sessions for participating in the decision making process of the Union Parishad.

Dhaka YES-DIU group launched

With vows to resist corruption at all levels, TIB inspired Dhaka YES (Youth Engagement & Support) officially formed a new group at the capital's Daffodil International University. The formation was announced in a colorful orientation programme on 12 September 2018. Held at 71 Milonayoton of the university, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman, Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh was present in the program as the chief guest and administered an oath taking ceremony of TIB-DIU YES Group.

Presided over by Professor Dr. Yousuf Mahbubul Islam, Vice Chancellor of Daffodil International University (DIU), the program was also addressed by Professor Dr. S.M. Mahbub Ul Haque Majumder, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Mr. Hamidul Haque Khan, Treasurer, Professor Dr. Engr. A. K. M. Fazlul Hoque, Registrar of Daffodil International University and Life Member of TIB, Mr. Sheikh Manjur-E-Alam, Director, Outreach & Communication of TIB, Deans, Heads of the Department and Faculty Members of DIU were present in the program.



At the event, Dr. Iftekharuzzaman highlighted different aspects of anti-corruption social movement and sustainable Development. Stressing on the significance of the engagement of Youth against corruption, Dr. Zaman said, "Our constitutional aim is yet to be fulfilled which was prepared after liberation war. The article No.7 of our constitution says that, all powers in the Republic belong to the people. Unfortunately, the reality is that, people doesn't enjoy their constitutional rights to enjoy due to corruption." Mentioning that corruption means not only taking bribe but also the abuse of all kind i.e. political, social and economic power, Dr. Zaman urged the students to take lesson from history as young generations of Bangladesh over time to time always showed their great leadership form Language movement, Liberation war, Anti-tyranny movement to recently happened road safety movement. Dr. Zaman hoped that Bangladesh will become a corruption free country one day by this young generation. 22 selected students of DIU took anti-corruption oath on the program administered by Dr. Zaman.

“Chiching faq” by Dhaka YES portrays anti-bribery messages



Show at Ruqayyah hall on 10th September, 2018



Show at DUS on 13th September, 2018



Show at Diyabari, Uttara on 16th September, 2018



Show at Rabindro sarani, Uttara on 16th September, 2018

As part of an anti-bribery campaign, Dhaka YES theatre group displayed number of performances in different areas of Dhaka launching a new Drama titled “Chiching faq” which visualized irregularities especially while implementing programmes in the field of education and health. The drama concluded with message to mass people to change their beloved country through raising their voice against corruption. The total of four shows were staged at Hall lounge, Ruqayyah Hall on 10 September; DUS, TSC; and Diyabari and Rabindro Sarani, Uttara on 13th September, 16th September 2018 respectively.

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