Annual Report 2017

EDITING
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Message from the Executive Director

Greetings to everyone and thanks to the creator; who gave me the opportunity to present the annual report 2017 of Dalit, where you could find endeavors' of more than 234 staff.

Dalit was never distracted from its dedication and motivation towards eradicating extreme poverty and put emphasis on mobilizing local resources which was not easy but the effort is going on. We have tried to teach inexperienced and naïve villagers the ability to survive with the changing natural and social situations.

As always our efforts in education sector got priority in the year 2017; as a result, along with managing 74 schools, we were able to take forward the education of girls studying in higher education. We also have taken a number of key initiatives to raise awareness on safe migration, establish of local rights, adolescent girl & women rights in local government and community level. In order to amplify social and personal status, our beneficiaries are being provided with health services including Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR), skill development and income-oriented training, alternative livelihood support and financial services in a coordinated method. At the end of the year, on the issue of Rohingya crisis, Dalit provided health services and medicines as a humanitarian aid to its own contribution. Passing the limits of regionalism, this bold initiative followed the philosophy of Dalit.

I would like to sincerely thank all our donors and well-wishers, both at home and abroad and Govt. departments; without them it won't be possible to pass another eventful year successfully.

At the end I would like to acknowledge that the staff of Dalit are not carrying out their regular duties but also act as a big family and feel that this is their duty for the disadvantaged community and the country to develop poverty free peaceful environment.

Best regards,

Swapon Kumar Das
Executive Director
Dalit is working since 1998 for empowering and mainstreaming dalit & other marginalized communities in the south western part of Bangladesh. It is bringing hope to thousand of hopeless families through several programs: Pre-primary, Primary, and Secondary education for children; support to Higher Studies and Vocational trainings for adolescents; Human Rights awareness meetings to eliminate violence against women, trafficking and child marriages; Health care including SRHR, Access to safe water, sanitation & hygiene; Livelihood activities for vulnerable women (as handicraft), an Ayurvedic medicines production unit.
Vision
A world in which dalit and other marginalized communities realize their full potential in caste-based free societies that respect people's rights and dignity.

Mission
Achieving sustainable and lasting improvements in dalit's and other marginalized and socially excluded groups' quality of life, facilitating the access to education, promoting and advocating for their basic human rights, boosting community health, increasing the access to livelihood opportunities and WASH facilities.

Target beneficiaries
The target beneficiaries are mostly children, women and men belonging to dalit/ marginalized communities known as Rishi (skinner), Kawra (pig rearer), Dom (post mortem of dead bodies), Methor (toilet/latrine cleaner), Teli (oil producer), Behara (carrying the bridegroom), Nikari (fish sellers), Jula (weavers) Bazadar (drum beater), Jele (fishermen) etc.
Dalit is working in the south-west region of Bangladesh. It covers 175 villages under 16 sub-districts of Khulna, Jessore, Satkhira, Bagerhat and Cox's Bazar districts, serving 26,663 families (including 6,522 Rohingya families).
Dalit; as a duty bearer of humanitarian crisis

Till December 2017, an estimated 6,55,000 Rohingyas have been crossed into Bangladesh fleeing violence in Myanmar's Rakhine State, increasing the total Rohingya population in Cox's Bazar to 8,67,000 (The number of Rohingyas who took shelter in the last few years was 2,12,000).

There are 75 national and international organizations were working in Kutupalong Rohingya camp of Cox's Bazar district in Bangladesh, Dalit is one of them. This vast area is divided into 15 zones. Like AA zone, BB zone, CC zone, DD zone etc. Dalit is working in DD zone for 6,522 Rohingya families. Dalit has been provided treatment/ counseling and medicines to more than 1,300 patients up to December 2017, through MBBS Doctor, sub-assistant community medical officer and 6 volunteers. Besides this, Dalit also organized awareness sessions on women's reproductive health care with the participation of Rohingya adolescent girls and women.
Education Program

Major activities & achievements

- 74 Pre-primary, primary and secondary education & recreation centres;
- 66 full-time and 86 part-time teachers involved;
- 5,701 children (including 1,610 children under sponsorship program) attended the classes;
- Monthly teaching materials, Grammar and Test papers distributed;
- Monthly stipend, special stipend to the brothel children and medical support provided to the school students;
- Drawing & cultural programs has been arranged for 12 times;
- Higher education support provided to 372 adolescent girls & boys;
- An adult education centre operated for 20 Brothel women;
- School health care;
- National and International days has been observed;
In order to ensure women empowerment by increasing participation of girls in higher education and to reduce child marriage, Dalit support girls' education on priority basis. Dalit transforming dalit girls as an asset of their family, 359 vulnerable adolescent girls and 13 boys receive a monthly stipend to continue their studies at the college/university, postponing their early marriages and establishing women empowerment.
Health Service

Major activities & achievements

- Dalit Hospital have been provided diagnosis and counseling services to around 15,070 patients;
- 132 Medical camp/satellite clinic services have been conducted reaching around 13,116 villagers’ through counseling and medicines distribution;
- Counseling to pregnant mothers and follow up training to 45 Traditional Birth Attendants;
- Additional food assistance to 2,588 times to 36 poor pregnant mothers;
- Organized street theater 10 times in different villages on health awareness;
- Provided free treatment and medicines to 1,300 Rohingya refugees through 5 medical camps.
Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR)

- 5,473 girls/young women participated in the awareness sessions on SRHR facilitated by trained Watch Group members;
- 14 Watch Groups (126 members) have been possessed strategies and materials on SRHR;
- 2,400 awareness sessions have been organized for 10,480 participants of marginalized groups to improve their knowledge on SRHR;
- 14 WGs have been listed on advocacy issues and articulated them with service providers;
- 14 WGs have been prepared Citizen's Report Cards on SRHR services;
- Orientation on Menstrual Hygiene Management to 900 participants (60 times);
- Orientation session on SRHR among 150 teachers of high schools (5 times);
- Health awareness camp on SRHR to 540 participants (27 times);
Ayurvedic Medicines

Major activities & achievements

- Dalit Laboratories (Ayurvedic) have been produced 24 types of syrups, semi-solids and tablets;

- Follow up training to 40 Traditional Healers;

- Promoting uses of Ayurvedic herbs at village level through awareness meetings;

- Invented effective medicines to get relief from post effect of Dengue & Chikungunya;

- Distributed 840 medicinal saplings to 60 women;

- Provided free medicines to 1,300 Rohingya refugees;

- Nursing of 8 medicinal plants garden
Technical & Livelihood Training

Major activities & achievements

- 208 adolescents received training on computer office applications and hardware maintenance;
- Total 40 girls and boys received training on mobile phone servicing;
- 157 women received training and follow-up on agriculture and homestead gardening, they also received 14 types of plantlet each;
- 97 women received follow-up training on poultry and duck farming;
- 78 women received training and follow-up on shopping bag making, they also received materials as primary capital;
- 15 young girls received training on beautification;
- 300 women received guidelines and techniques on home based income generated activities;
Job placement of 65 adolescents/women in garments industry
Food Security

Major activities & achievements

› 10 farm ponds have been constructed;
› Water flow has been improved by cleaning a canal;
› 5 Floating vegetable gardens has been established;
› New agricultural technologies on salinity and water-logging environment has been introduced, for example: Drip irrigation (drum method), Pitcher irrigation, Farm pond model, Five square pond model, Sorjan (water canal) system, Sack bag vegetable cultivation etc;
› 68 farmers received inputs for agricultural production (rice and vegetable);
› 68 farmers received inputs for crab and fish farming;
› Input distribution to 45 members for the improvement of the household economy;
› Training to 180 beneficiaries in agricultural production and technologies in saline soil;

› Community training on Water Management to 25 farmers;

› Training on domestic breeding to 45 members;

› Awareness camp, study visit for the beneficiaries and workshop with stakeholders has been organized;
Adolescent Leadership

Major activities & achievements

- Monthly awareness sessions on leadership organized for 216 times at 18 Girls club;
- Monthly awareness sessions organized for 54 times at 9 Boys club;
- Training course on leadership for young girls has been arranged for 4 times;
- Orientation on demerits of early marriage for 15 times to adolescent girls;
- Karate event has been arranged for 2 times with 36 girls;
- Cultural event has been arranged at Girls club for 2 times;
- Quiz competition has been arranged at school and college level for 11 times;
- Debate competition has been arranged at school and college level for 7 times;
- Education fair has been arranged;
# Child marriage of 9 adolescent girls has been prevented;

# Girls karate team has achieved first place in district level competition
Social Awareness

Major activities & achievements

- Community meeting has been organized for 120 times on combat trafficking;
- Workshop on human rights has been organized for 4 times;
- Workshop on gender issues has been organized for 3 times;
- Study Session for 27 times for young women who were victim of early marriage;
- Training on parental skill development has been arranged for 6 times;
- Orientation for teachers and SMC members for 15 times on reducing drop-out from study;
- Annual orientation sessions for 44 times with parents for improvement of girls education and rights based issues;
- Meeting has been arranged for 9 times with local young boys and community leaders on eve teasing;
Meeting has been arranged for 5 times with UP representatives, local leaders, service bearer and religious leaders on child marriage and drop out;
Meeting has been organized for 3 times to develop network between different entrepreneurs, NGOs and other organizations to create job opportunity for the eligible members of disadvantaged families;
Awareness raising meeting has been arranged for 24 times with the guardians on safe migration & skill development;
Orientation on gender issues for boys and men for 18 times, reducing gender discrimination;
Community mobilization for 17 times on behavioral change through theater show;
Celebration of International Day of the Girl Child, Elimination of racial discrimination day, Women’s day, Human rights day;
Through the effort of Dalit’s local rights program, 8 dalit women got membership in the School Management Committee and a male got membership in the disaster management committee;
Others: Skill development training to the community journalists; Refresher training to the facilitators of reflect circle on reporting, planning, fund raising; Planning on community development through PRRP (Participatory Review & Reflection Process);
AUDITOR’S REPORT

We have audited the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Financial Position of DALIT of 37/1 Kedernath Road, KUET, Moheswarapasha, Daulatpur, Khulna, Bangladesh. Which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2017 and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the statement of Receipts and Payments for the period from January 01, 2017 to December 31, 2017 and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of these financial statements that give a true and fair view of the financial statements of the Organization in accordance with the Bangladesh Financial Reporting Standards (BFRS) and other applicable laws and regulations and for such internal control as management determines as necessary to enable the preparation of financial statement that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor’s Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Bangladesh Standards on Auditing (BSA). Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor’s judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Organization’s preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity’s internal control.

An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion:

In our opinion, subjecting to the consequential effect stated above, the financial statements, prepared in accordance with ‘Bangladesh Financial Reporting Standards (BFRS)’ & ‘Generally Acceptable Accounting Principle’ as applicable, give a true and fair view of the Statement of Financial Position of DALIT as at December 31, 2017.

Dated: Dhaka, Bangladesh
March 18, 2018

RAHMAN ANIS & CO.
Chartered Accountants

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Accomplishment

Dalit has been honored with Mother Teresa Award for the year 2017. The appreciation has been specially recognized on the field of social activism. The award ceremony was organized by United Movement Human Rights in Dhaka on 23rd February.
Since her childhood, Juthika Das saw how her father was struggling against poverty to maintain their 6-member family. She is an inhabitant of Ghoshgati village of Dumuria upazila of Khulna district. After successful completion of secondary education from Dalit School, she passed the Secondary School examination achieving GPA 4.75. With the financial support of Dalit, she achieved same result in Higher Secondary examination. Avoiding all types of superstitions and social obstacles, Juthika joined Bangladesh Army as a soldier, she feels proud to serve her country.

Her name is Rizia; she was born in Jahanpur village of Keshabpur upazila under Jessore district. She has studied up to fifth grade. Her father made arrangements for Rizia's wedding at the age of 13. Since the marriage, her husband demanded dowry to her. Finally she had to leave her husband's house due to physical abuse. After that she has been selected by Dalit’s safe migration project for the unemployed women. She took training on making of garment products and she has been appointed as a garment worker in Knitwear Company in Gazipur district. Now there is no problem managing food for her.

Rani Ejerdar was born in Mongla of Bagerhat district. She was just 6, when her father died. There were 6 members in her family. Due to the poverty trap her education has always been hindered so far. In 2017 she has been participated in Dalit's training course on beautification. After successfully completing the training, she started a beauty salon shop with required beautification agent in the local market of Chuknagar, Khulna. Forgetting everything behind, now she is dreaming of her new life with her mother.

Sadhona Das is a dweller of Machhiara village of Tala upazila, Satkhira district. Her family members were 4. They were living in constraints in the vicious cycle of poverty. Considering her miserable life she was given 1 month training on poultry farming. Initially she started with 8 chickens with the cooperation of Dalit. After few months she started a chicken farm by adding the money she saved from selling eggs. Currently there are 400 chickens in her farm. She and her family are now having better days.

Merry Sarker is an inhabitant of Kadikati village of Tala upazila in Satkhira district. Their family is comprised of 5 members. When her father became ill, the daily income ceased, and then the study of 3 sisters started to stop. At that time she got admitted in Dalit’s technical training centre and received 6 months training on computer application. After completion the course, she applied to Satkhira Scouts School & College for the post of Computer Lab. Assistant. After successfully passing the written and practical test on the job interview she has been appointed in that institute in November 2017.