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Acronyms & Glossary

Ayurvedic Herbal/ traditional treatment method

CRC Citizen Report Card

ECEC Early Childhood Education & Care

FGD Focus Group Discussion

HoP House of Peace

HSC Higher Secondary School Certificate

IGA Income Generating Activities

Kaviraj Village Healer/ Doctor

Madrasa Religion based educational institutions

SHG Self-Help Group

SMC School Managing Committee

SRHR Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights

SSC Secondary School Certificate

Union Parishad Lowest local administration

Upazila Sub-district

WASH Water, Sanitation & Hygiene

WG Watch Group

Message from the Executive Director

It is with great pleasure that I am presenting to you the Annual Report 2018 of Dalit. It gives me an enormous sense of satisfaction, privilege & accomplishment to have been entrusted with the responsibilities of Executive Director of Dalit for nearly twenty years, since 1999. Dalit gives me a second reason to feel delighted seeing the staff of the organization working tirelessly towards poverty alleviation & making sustainable improvements to lives irrespective of the challenges & obstacles that may arise.

2018 was the year of humanitarian crisis and natural disaster, but even so it was an effective year for Dalit, full of progress and changes. During the reporting period, Dalit received new projects, provided support to Rohingya refugees, welcomed new staff, and also shaped an innovative plan for its project on adolescent rights and Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights (SRHR).

As always, our efforts in the education sector got priority in the year 2018; as a result, along with managing 89 schools, we were able to take forward the education of girls studying in higher education. The focus areas were adolescent leadership building, community health care, skill development training, campaigning on SRHR and policy advocacy, empowering women as change agents, and delivering timely and effective humanitarian response. I am hopeful that Dalit will ensure a better quality of life for the dalits, marginalized and vulnerable people of the south-west region of Bangladesh.

I look forward to engaging further with the stakeholders & staff to work together and drive Dalit forward in the best possible manner. I thank all management, colleagues, staff & stakeholders for their constant support, dedication and trust on Dalit. Together, we go forward.

Best regards,

Sugnon Kuma

Swapon Kumar Das Executive Director

Dalit Organization

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 handicraft), and Ayurvedic medicines production.

The organization has been named "Dalit" to represent the dalit and marginalized community people. Dalit is a Bengali word which means oppressed, exploited, neglected and deprived. Some dalit people were the visionary-dreamers that created Dalit organization and the autobiography of Dr. Baba Saheb Ambedkar was their immense inspiration. Dalit got registration from NGO Affairs Bureau (N.1374) in 1999 and Ministry of Social Welfare (Khulna/1389/10) in 2010.



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.



Working area

Dalit is working in the south-west region of Bangladesh. It covers 338 villages under 16 sub-districts of Khulna, Jashore, Satkhira, Bagerhat and Cox's Bazar districts, serving 83,317 families, including 1,087 Rohingya families.

Satkhira District

Sub-districts: 3 (Tala, Shyamnagar and Assasuni);
No. of Unions: 16;

No. of Villages: 87

Khulna District

Sub-districts: 7
(Khulna City Corporation, Dumuria, Digholia,

Paikgachha, Dacope and Phultala);

No. of Unions: 32;

No. of Villages: 187



Jashore District

Sub-districts: 2

(Keshabpur and Manirampur); No. of Unions: 16;

No. of Villages: 60

Cox's Bazar District

Sub-district: 1 (Ukhiya);

No. of Union: 1;

No. of Village/ Camp: 1

Bagerhat District

Sub-districts: 3

(Fakirhat, Mollahat and Mongla);

No. of Unions: 3;

No. of Villages: 3



The goal of Dalit education program is to provide qualitative education to the most disadvantaged groups and make them economically independent with dignity in the society. In the year 2018, Dalit has implemented its education program through 5 projects, including school-based education, cultural program, drawing & debate competitions, street theater and magazine publication.

- 89 Pre-primary, primary and secondary education & recreation centres;
- 69 full-time and 65 part-time teachers involved;
- 6,416 children (including 1,476 children under sponsorship program) attended the classes;
- Monthly teaching materials, Grammar books and Test papers distributed;
- Monthly stipend and medical support provided to the school students;
- 10 drawing & cultural programs, 2 debate & essay writing competitions;
- Higher education support provided to 254 adolescent girls & 23 boys;
- Guidance seminar for S.S.C and H.S.C passed students;
- An adult education centre operated for 20 sexual workers and special stipend granted to 40 children of sexual workers;
- Health check-up for school students;
- National and International days have been observed.









Assistance to Adolescents' Higher Education

In order to ensure women empowerment by increasing participation of girls in higher education and to reduce child marriage, Dalit support to girls' education is a priority. Dalit educates dalit girls to empower them to be an asset for their family. In total, 359 vulnerable adolescent girls and 25 boys received a monthly stipend to continue their studies at the college/university, postponing their early marriages and contributing to women empowerment.





Smrity Kona Das lives in Burirdabur village in Dacope Upazila of Khulna district. Through Dalit's monthly support she is able to study in a renowned university (Kustia Islami University). She wants to be a College teacher in the future.



Keya Mistry was the first girl in Amtola village of Dacope Upazila who passed the SSC examination in 2018. Through Dalit's monthly support, she is studying in a local college. She wants to become a Nurse.



Ayesa Khatun lives in Gonali village of Tala Upazila of Satkhira district. She is from a destitute family, but through Dalit's monthly support she is studying in Bhrammanbaria Nursing Institute.



Mita Das lives in Khanpur village in Manirampur Upazila of Jashore district. Through Dalit's monthly support she is studying in Rajshahi University. She wants to be a Government Officer in the future.



Health services provided by Dalit Hospital are an essential program for human Development and community health improvement. The aim of the program, which combines Ayurvedic & Allopathic treatments, is to improve the health conditions of poor villagers (especially mothers and children) living in rural areas providing them low cost health care.

- Dalit Hospital provided diagnosis and counseling services to around 9,110 patients, eye disease treatment to 666 patients and Yoga based healing service to 420 patients;
- Medical camp/ satellite clinic services have been conducted 66 times reaching around 7,260 villagers through counseling and medicines distribution;
- Counseling to pregnant mothers and follow up training to 45 Traditional Birth Attendants;
- Organized 10 street theater events on health awareness in different villages;
- Provided free treatment and medicines to 5,574 Rohingya refugees through 31 medical camps and organized 80 awareness sessions on SRHR for 1,200 participants.









Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights

- 6,663 girls/young women participated in the awareness sessions on SRHR facilitated by trained Watch Group (WG) members;
- 18 WGs have been listed on advocacy issues and articulated them with service providers;
- 360 meetings with the management of community clinics to ensure sexual and reproductive health services for girls/women;
- 2 sharing meetings on SRHR and psychological aspects with the satellite clinic worker and government health workers through youth and girl friendly approach;
- 8 street theater events on SRHR;
- 32 quiz competitions organized on SRHR at school and college level;
- 28 awareness camps on SRHR;









Through an Ayurvedic Medicine Plant, Dalit is producing medicines to create confidence on herbal medicine among the people and to make the practice sustainable. Beside this, Dalit inspires the beneficiaries and the students to plant medicinal trees in their homestead land. In order to ensure low cost primary treatment at village level, follow-up training and books are also provided to the village Kaviraj/healers.

- Dalit Laboratories (Ayurvedic) produced 24 types of syrups, semi-solids and tablets;
- Follow up training to 40 Traditional Healers;
- Promoting use of Ayurvedic herbs at village level through awareness meetings;
- Distributed 600 medicinal saplings (young trees) to 30 women;
- Organized awareness meeting with stakeholders on Ayurvedic treatment method;
- Coordination meeting with community health worker and Government health worker on advantages of Ayurvedic treatment method.









Dalit operated through 3 training centers to provide technical and vocational training with the aim to transform the youth in skilled manpower and to make poor women self-reliant. Topics of the training include: ICT, mobile phone servicing, beautification, homestead gardening, poultry and quail bird farming, shopping bag making etc.

- 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 homebased income generating activities.















Merry Sarker is the member of a poor household in Kadikati village (Tala Upazila) of Satkhira district. To make herself a skilled person she was registered in Dalit's computer training for six months. After completion of the training she got a job as a Computer Lab. Assistant in Satkhira Scouts School & College.



Tania Pervin belongs to extremely impoverished households of Shibpur village (Tala Upazila) of Satkhira district. In order to get rid of poverty, Tania took training on beautification course for 3 months, organized by Dalit. After the training, she started a beauty salon shop in her village.



Rippa Sarker is a young woman of Badaghata village of Satkhira district. She has to maintain a poor family consisting of 8 members. She participated in quail bird rearing training and received 8 quail birds from Dalit. Now she supports her family through selling quail eggs.



Shahanara is one of the destitute and vulnerable women of Dumuria union in Khulna district. Due to dowry issues she was separated from her husband with her baby. She was selected to be trained up as a skilled worker for Readymade Garment sector. After 6 months training she got a job in Dhaka.



The activity of Bijoya Handicraft is one of the steps towards women's empowerment and income generation. Bijoya organized women groups at community level, trained and involved them into handicraft activities such as embroidery, sewing, tailoring, making products with wheat-straw and jute. At present, there are 305 poor and vulnerable women working under this program, funded by Dalit organization own resources.

- Produced cloth-based products like nakshi kantha, saree, salwar kameez, punjabi, designed T-shirt, cushion cover, bed sheet, table runner, hand purse;
- Produced jute-based products like bag, folder, wall mat, plate mat, rocking cradle and show pieces etc.;
- Organized training to 55 destitute women on jute bag making and various types of stitching;
- Organized motivational meeting on I.G.A;
- Participated in local and national level fairs;









































Dalit is strengthening livelihoods and improving basic services for the people living under extreme poverty. Dalit wants to ensure that beneficiaries have sufficient water resources for agriculture; train them on new agricultural practices; start up micro income-generating activities especially in domestic breeding; raise awareness about climate change and its effects on the destruction of natural resources.

- 4 discussion meetings arranged with self-help group (SHG) cluster leaders and local leaders on agricultural production and technologies in saline soil;
- 2 workshops on Water Management with 55 farmers;
- Workshop with stakeholders at Upazila level;
- 10 awareness raising campaigns on agricultural production and technologies in saline soil;
- Workshop on Project learning & sharing











Dalit implemented mass awareness program to create a women friendly environment and accelerate women's empowerment to reduce the rate of child marriage by empowering girls in deciding about their marriage. The vision leading this program is a world; where girls and women enjoy equal status with boys and men to achieve their full potential in all aspects of their lives.

- 114 bi-monthly awareness sessions organized at 19 Girls club;
- 54 bi-monthly awareness sessions organized at 9 Boys club;
- 4 follow-up trainings on leadership organized for young girls and boys;
- Exposure visit for staff capacity building;
- 3 trainings on entrepreneurship for women;
- Inter club (girls and boys) cultural competition has been organized with 135 members;
- 2 Karate events has been organized with 36 girls;
- Inter club (girls and boys) Football tournament;
- 19 sports events for young women;
- 2 youth gatherings on preventing early marriage/Menstrual hygiene;
- Co-participation of adolescents in social development work.









- 2 essay writing competitions on early marriage and human rights among girls and boys club;
- 36 quarterly meetings with youth groups on social development;
- Cycling competition has been organized for adolescent girls.













House of Peace (HoP) is a multigenerational approach to combating the intergenerational cycle of child marriage and poverty, through the creation of a Hub where multi-sectoral services (education, health, legal and psychosocial counseling, ECEC, vocational training) are offered to married and unmarried young women and men, with the involvement of all generations (children, grandparents and in-laws). House of peace is a new initiative by Dalit for recovering the victims of child marriage from trauma and become self reliant by need based training. It helps the child brides to look forward to a brighter future. It consists of 25 members who were selected through FGD (focus group discussion) and victims of child marriage. The six departments of the house of peace work on: (a) Counseling (b) Livelihood/ skill based training (c) Recreation/ Play Zone (d) SRH Information (e) Research and (f) Savings

- 854 female and male became aware of legal issues (Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017, Dowry Prevention Act 1980, Family Law & Ordinance 1985, Dissolution of Marriage, Violence against women Act, Polygamy, Property Act, Eve teasing, Rape) through counseling;
- 20 children of HoP members received education through Early Childhood Education & Care method;
- 408 female and male became aware of personal care & hygiene through 39 courtyard meetings/ camps;
- Livelihood and life-skill training has been provided to 89 girls/ women on beautification, livestock rearing, tailoring, sewing and food processing;
- 413 female and male have been made aware on mental health, spousal, children, student psychology, mental illness, psychology in decision making, adolescent girl's psychology through 64 psychosocial counseling gathering;
- 25 members of HoP received micro loan as their primary resources of I.G.A.





Mita Khatun, aged 15, lives in Sujapur village under Keshabpur Upazila of Jashore district. She attends class IX and is an active member of the Girls' Club in her village. Her school is 4 km far from her house and her mother is not capable of providing for a daily transportation fare for Mita. As there is a taboo on girl/women cycling, there were no girls riding bicycles in her village. Dalit arranged a bicycle rally for the adolescent girls on International Girl Child Day in coordination with Upazila Administration. Mita participated in the program by borrowing a bi-cycle from her cousin. Back home she asked for a bicycle to her mother. Her mother agreed and bought a bicycle for her. Now she goes to school and other places by her bicycle.



Swapna Das (15 years) lives in Verchi village under Keshabpur Upazila of Jashore district. She attends class IX in a secondary school. She has ioined the Girls' Club since 2017. She has gained knowledge and information on the issues of early marriage, gender discrimination, women empowerment etc. In the meantime, her family was approached to propose their 19-year-old son as a husband for Swapna. But she declined to marry before 18 years and she discussed the issue with Girls Club executive member who repeatedly tried to convince her parents to prevent the marriage. The parents at last understood the issues regarding the wellbeing of their daughter and cancelled the marriage process.



Poly Khatun (17 years) is an adolescent girl who is a member of Burihati girls club under Sagordari union of Keshabpur Upazila. She is studying at class XI and wanted to complete higher study. But her dreams twisted when she became a victim of eve teasing by a young boy in the neighboring community. Poly became frightened with such regular harassment and her parents decided to stop sending her to the college. Soon after hearing this, the Union Facilitator of Girls' Club went to the boy's house along with a member of local administration and warned him and his parents about the punishment of eve teasing. After that, the harassment stopped and Poly started her study again.



Joshna Das, aged 17, lives in village Burihati under Keshabpur Upazila. Like the girls had other she misconception on menstrual hygiene management. During her menstruation she used to be silent and use ragged clothes, keeping herself in unhygienic condition. In this circumstance, after joining the Girls' Club she attended the Orientation on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM). In this orientation she learned how to manage menstrual hygiene using sanitary napkin and disposal of them. She also learned that talking on menstruation should not be a taboo in any means. She plans to carry out her personal endeavor to create awareness on MHM and dreams for a Child Marriage-free society.



Dalit believes that awareness raising programs are the best tools to change the negative thought, lifestyle, behavior and habit of the illiterate and disadvantaged people. Compared to men, women are living in many vulnerable conditions, being victims of superstition, early marriage, dowry, polygamy, divorce, vulnerability and abandoned by their husbands and families. For this reason, Dalit implements mass awareness-building activities through integrated way with all projects along with rights based specialized project.

- ☆ 489 monthly courtyard meetings on human rights and social awareness;
- ☆ 38 annual guardian meetings;
- ☆ 15 meetings with School Managing Committee members;
- ☆ 2 awareness raising meetings on gender issue with the couple;
- ☆ Coordination meeting with the people of dalit community involved in service;
- ☆ Community mobilization events on behavioral change through 6 theater shows;
- ☆ 2 awareness raising meetings with local administration and leaders on taking legal action against those involved in arranging child marriage and other anti-social activities;
- ☆ Created bottom-up pressure to local administration to ensure participation of the women in planning and decision making process of various standing committees;
- Awareness raising meeting to support the inclusion of dalit people in local development activities and social safety-net services (aged allowance, widow allowance, disability allowance, maternity allowance);
- ☆ 5 workshops on human rights and gender issues.







- ☆ Financial support to 13 groups of village women to increase productivity through the utilization of own/ community resources;
- ☆ 12 trainings with the facilitators of child recreation centre and reflection circles on reporting, planning, evaluation and fund raising mechanism;
- ☆ 5 coordination meetings with community journalists;
- ☆ Training on Citizen Report Card (CRC) method to 126 members of 14 Watch Groups;
- ☆ Coordination meeting with government health institute and maternity unit of Dalit Hospital to develop a referral system at Community Clinic/ Upazila level;
- ☆ 28 study sessions for young women who are victim of early marriage;
- ☆ 19 orientation meetings organized on drawbacks of early marriage to adolescent girls through the facilitation of married couples, who suffered by early marriage;
- ☆ 3 press conferences at Upazila level on the status of child marriage;
- ☆ 2 meetings on eve teasing with local young boys and community leaders;
- Meeting has been organized to develop network between different entrepreneurs, NGOs and other organizations to create job opportunity for the eligible members of disadvantaged families;
- ☆ 9 meetings with local administration, local leaders, service providers and religious leaders on child marriage and school dropout;
- ☆ 2 orientation meetings on gender issues for raising awareness of boys and men on women's role in the family and in the society, increase women's decision making and reducing gender discrimination;
- ☆ 4 coordination meetings with legal aid providing agencies at Upazila level;
- ☆ 12 meetings with school managing committee, School/College/Madrasa teachers and Union level stakeholders on reducing drop-out, early marriage prevention, SRHR and domestic violence;
- ☆ Celebration of International Day of the Girl Child, Elimination of racial discrimination day, Women's day, Human rights day;

Major Achievements

- Job placement of 82 young women in Readymade Garments factory
- A Vision centre (eye care) and Yoga unit (Ayurvedic) were established in Dalit Hospital
- 5,574 Rohingyas were cured through 31 medical camps
- 34 women engaged in shopping bag making
- 155 women engaged in poultry and quail bird farming
- 64 women engaged in vegetable gardening
- 6 young women became self-reliant by setting up their beauty salon
- Tendency to use sanitary napkin among adolescent girls/ women has increased from 0% to 27% in the working area
- 24 child marriage were prevented
- 22 girls/ women victims of child marriage have been rehabilitated through I.G.A training
- Local administration allocated part of land as crematorium ground for dalit people



Ref:

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Date:....

We have audited the accompanying Consolidated Statement of Financial Position of DALIT of 37/1 Kedernath Road, Moheswarpasha, KUET, Daulatpur, Khulna, Bangladesh. Which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at December 31, 2018 and the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the statement of Receipts and Payments for the period from January 01, 2018 to December 31, 2018 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 ar error.

Auditor's Responsibility

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 Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance 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

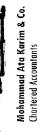
estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of the accounting audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate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

Upinion:

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, 2018.

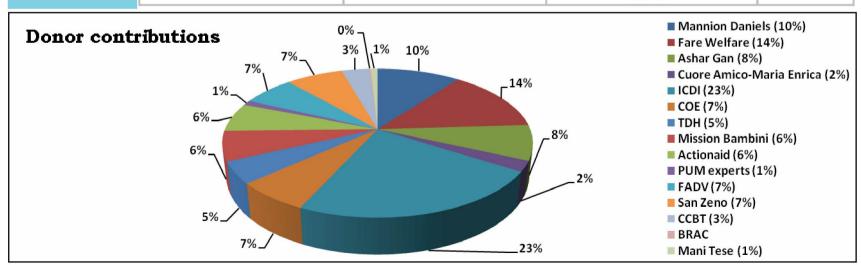
Dated: Dhaka, Bangladesh February 23, 2019





Jur Donors







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