

# What We Do

DALIT organization has been working in the south-western region of Bangladesh since 1998. In the beginning the scope of work of the organization was very limited; the activities of the organization were started experimentally through education program with a few learning centers. Presently DALIT approaches to the dalit community with education programs as well as employment opportunities, health services, Ayurvedic medicines and WASH facilities. Actually DALIT is a one of the nonprofit organization, working for empowerment of socially excluded groups to lend a hand them to meet up their basic needs. Human resource development and exploring potentiality of the dalit/ indigenous community people are the ultimate goal and objective of the organization.

## Ongoing Programs

**1. Education:** In order to overcome the backwardness of dalits in the field of education, DALIT is running 67 learning centers at the village level, through which about 6 thousand underprivileged children are studying at the primary and secondary levels and progressing to higher secondary classes. Basically, the following activities are covered in the education program:

- Tuition Program including materials support;
- Monthly stipend to school students (IV to X);
- Financial support to SSC examinee;
- Financial support to college/ university level students;
- Guidance seminar to SSC and HSC passed students;
- Medical support to school students;
- Distribution of health protection materials to school and college students;
- Students health check-up with treatment facility;
- Skills development training for teachers;
- Training to the college students on gender and SRHR issue;
- Intergeneration dialogue with parents and children;
- Meeting with adolescent girls and youth club members;
- Monthly courtyard meeting with the guardians;
- Annual meeting with the guardians;
- Cultural and drawing competitions;
- Annual SMC (School Managing Committee) meeting;
- Advocacy meeting at the upazila, union and village level;



**2. Health Services:** DALIT organization runs a hospital. Its name is Dalit Hospital. It provides medical services in two ways, one of which is the modern method (Allopathic) and the other is the Ayurvedic method. It is situated at Chuknagar under Dumuria Upazila of Khulna district. It is a day hospital, which is licensed by Directorate General of Health Services. The services of this hospital are as follows:

- Counseling, advising and prescribing to the patients (Modern and Ayurvedic method treatment).
- Providing medicine to the patients from Pharmacy (Modern and Ayurvedic)
- Pathological test, X-ray, Ultra sonogram and E C G
- Prenatal and antenatal checkups;
- Providing primary treatment of eyes through Vision centre (Counseling , advising and prescribing to the patients)
- Providing treatment through Dental unit (Counseling, advising and prescribing to the patients as well as providing test)
- Counseling , advising and prescribing to the patients;
- Providing free medicine to the patients;
- Hygiene related awareness program including COVID-19;
- Raising awareness about sexual and reproductive health care among adolescents;
- Organizing satellite clinic during emergency period;
- Medical camp in remote areas;
- Providing training to the midwives;
- Raising awareness through mike (loud speaker) , poster, leaflet , banner and signboard;



**3. Traditional medicine production and promotion:** To create confidence in herbal medicines among the disadvantaged communities and to make the practice sustainable, DALIT established an Ayurvedic Medicine production unit since 2004. Dalit Laboratories' currently producing 24 types of medicines and the unit is also producing another 10 types of medicines for clinical purpose. The notable activities of this unit are:

- Traditional (Ayurvedic) medicine production and sale
- Center-based Ayurvedic treatment through DALIT hospital in the community
- Medicinal garden development in the school and target communities
- School students awareness building and treatment with traditional medicine
- Skill development training for Kabiraj (traditional doctors) on Ayurvedic treatment
- Collecting medicinal plants
- Awareness-building of the communities on uses of traditional medicine
- Organizing seminars and day observation to disseminate information about traditional medicine
- Distribution of medicinal seedlings and saplings among the community women



#### 4. Skills development, Livelihood/ IGA

- Training on computer operation (general)
- Training on freelancing/ outsourcing
- Training on e-commerce
- Training on digital literacy
- Training and materials support to the women on home based earnings
- Training on making of handicraft products
- Entrepreneurship development training and capital support



#### 5. Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation

- Installation of rain water harvesting system
- Awareness raising programs
- Deep tube well installation
- Installation of sanitary latrines
- Repair & maintenance training



#### 6. Leadership development

- Formation and management of youth clubs
- Organizing motivational seminars for college/ university students
- Training on leadership development
- Formation of dalit youth platform
- Encouraging Dalit people to contest local government elections



#### 7. Mass awareness of social issues

- Arranging court-yard meetings
- Inter-generational dialogue with students and parents
- Advocacy and consultation meetings with the service providers
- Implementation of social action project
- Arranging workshops on network development
- Arranging interface dialogue with the community people
- Providing memorandum to local administration on rights
- Preparation of IEC materials



Besides, DALIT is also working on food security, relief and rehabilitation, the impact of climate change on the lives of coastal people on a small scale.