



SSS Bulletin

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Honorable EVC of MRA Pays a Visit to the Development Activities of SSS, Tangail





Medical Camps Held



Doctor examines eye of a patient at a medical camp

With support from PKSf the Uplifting the Quality of the Lives of the Elderly People Program of SSS organized a free eye camp at Hugra Union Parishad under Beguntal Branch, Tangail on 29 January 2023. A total of 102 patients got free medical treatment from the camp. On the other hand, under the initiative of ENRICH program of SSS two medical camps on the dermatological and venereal diseases were held at Dyenna Union Parishad Compound and Dyenna Government Primary School in Tangail on 14 and 15 March 2023 respectively. From the camps, 202 individuals got free medical treatment.

In the camps, specialized doctors, members of the Union Parishad, local dignitaries, staff members of ENRICH, NEM and the Elderly People Programs of SSS and others were present.

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Editorial

Coexistence of Government and Development Organizations in Socioeconomic Development

After the liberation, the government and nongovernment sectors spontaneously came together to reconstruct the economy of war-torn Bangladesh. Especially, the nongovernment development organizations (NGOs) tried persistently to make the poor people aware and include them in economic activities. The development organization has been keeping a set of activities—providing collateral free credit and other financial facilities, training and technical support, agro-fishery-livestock development, health and nutrition care, education and human-resource development, entrepreneur development, environment conservation, disaster management, relief and rehabilitation, and so on into implementation to build up a hanger and poverty-free country, which speed up the livelihood and the rights of the general people.

Microfinance sector flows up a transaction annually about Tk. 2 lack 25 thousand crore, which amount is approximately one-third of our national budget as well. Concurrently, there are 3.50 crore clients with their annual savings of Tk. 60-70 thousand in this sector.

Now-a-days, microfinance: one of the greatest sectors of our country flows up a transaction of Tk. 900-1000 crore per day, and annually about Tk. 2 lack 25 thousand crore, which amount is approximately one-third of our national budget as well. Concurrently, there are 3.50 crore clients with their annual savings of Tk. 60-70 thousand in this sector, in where 91 percent of the clients is female [Info: MRA]. Microfinance sector brings about thousands of self and wage-employments through financial and technical supports, which foster the utilization of resources and opportunities properly of our country, and reduce unemployment, increase assets and living standards and establish empowerment at the grassroots.

Micro-finance Institutions (MIFs), the envoy of the development and humanity, need necessary collaborations from national and international levels, particularly- skilled manpower creation, fund supply at a nominal cost and reformation of microfinance friendly principle and policies are urgently required.

Honorable EVCof MRA Pays a Visit to the Development Activities of SSS, Tangail

Bangabandhu Higher Education Scholarship Distribution and View-sharing Meeting with the Chief Executive Officers of MFIs Working in Tangail District

On 5 March, 2023 Mr. Md. Fashiullah, the honorable Executive Vice Chairman (Grade-1), Microcredit Regulatory Authority (MRA) paid a visit to SSS accompanied by Mr. Muhammed Mazedul Haque, Director, MRA, Mr. Md. Nure Alom Mahadi, Director, MRA, Mrs. Jinat Aman Banna, Deputy Director, MRA and three officers of MRA. On the day, Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan, Executive Director, SSS accorded Mr. Md. Fashiullah and the rest of the members of the delegation from MRA with bouquets at 9:00 am, in



Executive Director of SSS Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan greets the honorable Executive Vice Chairman of MRA with a bouquet of flowers

and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Institute, SSS Hospital (30 Bedded), a Agro-project (Horticulture and Vegetable Cultivation through Organic System at Elenga) and SSS Sonar Bangla Children Home (a Safe Home for the Children of Sex-worker Families) from 11:00 am to 8:00 pm, and participated a view-sharing meeting with the higher officials of SSS in the conference room, SSS Foundation Office, Tangail at 8:30 pm. The delegation expressed genial appreciation about socioeconomic and people-friendly activities of the organization, especially development and welfare infrastructures and benevolent activities for the destitute and displaced children by SSS in the meeting.



A views-sharing meeting among the representatives of MRA and higher officials of SSS

where, Mr. Mahbubul Haque Bhuiyan, Director (HRD and Admin), Mr. Sadhan Chandra Goon, Director (Training), Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Director (Microfinance) and a good number of senior officials of SSS were present as well.

The delegates went to visit SSS-Poura Ideal High School, SSS Non-government Polytechnic Institute

On 6 March, 2023 a View-sharing Meeting with the Chief Executive Officers of Microfinance Institutions (MFIs) Working in Tangail District was held at SSS Foundation Office Auditorium, Tangail under the arrangement of MRA at 10:00 am. Mr. Jasim Uddin Haider, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Tangail as the Chief Guest, Mr. Muhammad Sarwer Hossain, Additional Superintendent of Police, Sadar Circle, Tangail, Mrs. Nafisa Akhter, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development and HRM), Tangail, Mr. Murshed Alam Sarker, Chairman, Executive Body of SSS and Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan, Executive Director of SSS as Special Guests graced the meeting presided over by Mr. Fashiullah, the honorable Executive Vice Chairman (Grade-1), MRA and facilitated by Mrs. Jinat Aman Banna, Deputy Director, MRA. Besides, the Chief Executive Officers and Representatives of MFIs Working in Tangail District, Delegates of MRA,





Honorable EVC of MRA Mr. Md. Fashiullah (Grade-1) speaks at the view-sharing meeting with the chief executives of microfinance organizations operating in Tangail District

Digital and Printing Media, Higher Officials of SSS and Others were present. Mr. Muhammed Mazedul Haque, Director, MRA delivered the welcome speech, whereas, Mr. Md. Nure Alom Mahadi, Director, MRA presented current information on Microfinance Sector of Bangladesh. The honorable EVC of MRA quoted—microfinance is one of the largest sectors of our country, which entirely makes a positive contribution to our socioeconomic development along with the Government and this sector circulated about Tk. 2 lac 25

institutions to the public to change the negative sense of our society.

At 2:30 pm, SSS organized Bangabandhu Higher Education Scholarship Distribution Ceremony through a flamboyant mode, where the honorable EVC of MRA, Executive Director of SSS, Mr. Kazi Zakerul Moula, Member of Executive Body of SSS, the Delegates of MRA, Mr. Mahbulul Haque Bhuiyan, Director (HRD and Admin) and Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Director (Microfinance) beautified the event as the Chief Guest and Special Guests respectively presided over by Mr. Murshed Alam Sarker, Chairman, Executive Body of SSS. Moreover, a number of students, teachers and guardians, SSS officials and delegates of digital and printing media were present in the ceremony. The honorable EVC of MRA spoke—the contribution and activities of SSS for building educated and self-reliant nation is praise worthy at the event. A total of 59 students were handed in some of Tk. 6 lac 99 thousand as scholarship.



A partial view of the Bangabandhu Higher Education Scholarship distribution ceremony

thousand crore per annum in the grassroots as well. The respected Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Tangail said—we should disclose all contributions and activities of microfinance

After keeping the conclusion of two-day-long visit, the delegation of MRA left Tangail for Dhaka at 5:45 pm.

SSS by the Heavy Cold Weather Affected People

Society for Social Service (SSS) provided grant to the helpless and underprivileged people suffering from bitter cold weather across the country. A total of 52,069 beneficiaries under 55 branches of 07 zones and 5,673 staff members of the organization at the field-level and 1,350 people (through different district administrations and other media) received Tk. 5,90,92,000 (Tk. 1,000 per head) as grant money.

Recently, bitter cold weather has brought extensive miseries and adversities to the people living in different regions of the country, especially--the poor and vulnerable people of the north-west region. Considering the situation, Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan, the executive director of SSS gave direction to



A group-member receives grant-money

On this occasion, an inaugural ceremony was held at 11 am on 15 January 2023. Mr. Md. Fashiullah, Honorable Executive Vice Chairman of MRA inaugurated the program virtually (via Zoom) as chief guest and Mr. Murshed Alam Sarker, Honorable Chairperson of the executive committee of SSS presided over the ceremony. At that time, Mr. Mahbubul Haque Bhuiyan, Acting Executive Director and Director (HRD and Admin); Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Director (Microfinance), higher officials, zone monitoring officers, zonal, area and branch managers of the selected area of the organization and the clients were connected to the video conference.



The honorable EVC of MRA Mr. Md. Fashiullah inaugurates the grant-providing ceremony via a virtual meeting

With a view to providing the grant, a committee of eight members was formed at the central level. Among them, seven members were as central coordinators of the seven zones (one person for one zone) and were responsible for monitoring and conducting the grant providing activities. Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Director (Microfinance) was convener of the committee.

the higher officials to stand by the vulnerable people in the selected regions with financial assistance. According to the direction, the affected clients under 55 branches of the organization in Bogura, Natore, Rangpur, Jashore, Jamalpur, Mymensingh and Faridpur districts, mostly affected by the cold weather, were selected to provide grant of Tk. 1,000 per head.

Mentioned, SSS, under the disaster management, relief and rehabilitation program, takes initiative to provide financial and other support to the people affected by natural disasters like: flood, bitter cold, cyclone, drought, and so on every year. The welfare and development-friendly activities of SSS help the underprivileged people keep their income generating activities active, which helps them escape from the poverty cycle.

Delegates from IFAD and PKSF visit SSS

A delegation consisting of representatives from IFAD (International Fund for Agricultural Development) and PKSF (Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation) paid a visit to the activities of SSS as a part of the IFAD Supervision Mission on 14 March 2023. The delegation organized a daylong visit to monitor the implementation of the value chain project entitled 'Kadaknath Chicken Rearing, Pasteurized Eggs, and Safe Meat-market Development' of the organization under the additional finance of the PACE program.

Members of the delegation were: Mr. Dewan Alamgir, Mission Leader (IFAD); Mr. Nabil Rahman, Country Program Analyst (IFAD); Ms. Faria Tasin, Market Linkage Specialist (IFAD); Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Assistant General Manager and Project Coordinator (PACE, PKSF); Mr. Md. Kamrul Islam, Value Chain Specialist



The delegation visits a Kadaknath chicken farm run by a beneficiary under the PACE Project

(PACE, PKSF); Mr. Sumon Kumar Saha, Value Chain Project Manager (PACE, PKSF); Mr. Md. Masum Sarker, Value Chain Project Manager (PACE, PKSF); Mrs. Sanchita Islam, Value Chain Project Manager (PACE, PKSF) and Mrs. Lipi Akter, Gender and Social Inclusion Officer (RMTP, PKSF).

At 9 am on 14 March, the delegates visited a hatchery and a breeder farm of Kadaknath chicken under the



Delegates from IFAD and PKSF participate in a discussion meeting with the Executive Director of SSS

PACE program in Bhuapur Upazila of Tangail. They also visited some commercial and family-based Kadaknath chicken-rearing and indigenous chicken farms. Besides, the delegation visited a demonstration farm of insects used as chicken feeds, run by a beneficiary in the village Bamanhata of Bhuapur. At the same time, they looked into a poultry collection center of an entrepreneur in the local market of Bhuapur at 12 pm.

At 3 pm, the delegates took part in a view-sharing meeting with the executive director of SSS at his office, Tangail. In the meeting, the different activities of SSS and the progress of the PACE program as well as the marketing of Kadaknath and indigenous chicken were put into discussion.

At 4 pm, the delegates visited the mini-garments factory of Rubi Begum, an entrepreneur in village Bashakhanpur of Dyenna Union of Tangail Sadar Upazila.

The visitors expressed satisfaction with the implemented activities of SSS and admired the role and contribution of SSS in women empowerment, employment creation, and the agro-fisheries-livestock development in the country.

During the visit, the IFAD and PKSF delegation received company and overall support from the Director (Microfinance) Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Deputy Director (Microfinance) Mr. S. M. Yahia, zonal managers of Tangail-1 and Tangail-2 respectively Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam Khan and Mr. Md. Mohsin Reza, SAPM (Livestock) and Project Manager (PACE) Dr. Md. Masudul Alam and staff members from different programs of SSS.

Observance of the International Mother Language Day-2023

On 21 February 2023, SSS, along with people from all walks of life of Bangladesh remembered the martyrs dedicated their lives for the sake of Bengali Language in 1952 with due respect and affection.

On 21 February 2023, at 7.15 am, Mr. Santosh Chandra Paul, Director (Microfinance) of SSS led a rally and the rally reached central Shahid Minar of Tangail parading across Old Bus Stand, Victoria Road and Nirala Mor and chanting the immortal song 'Amar bhai er rokte rangano Ekushe February, ami ki bhulite pari...'.
The staff members of SSS placed wreaths at the Shahid Minar at 7.30 am along with different GO-NGOs, political and socio-cultural organizations and representatives of mass media.



Wreath-offering of SSS at the Shahid Minar

Besides, staff members at zone and branch levels of SSS also participated in different programs in coordination with local district/upazila administrations. Different wings and institutions of SSS organized discussion meetings, Dua Mahfil and recitation and drawing competitions on the event. On the other hand, on the occasion of the International Mother Language Day-2023, a dermatological and venereal medical camp was organized under ENRICH program of SSS in Gazipur on 21 February 2023. A total of 155 patients received free medical treatment from the camp.

Scholarship Distribution Ceremony



A student receives SSS-Naga Scholarship money

Under the scholarship program of SSS, 91 students were provided with scholarships in a ceremony held in the auditorium of the SSS Foundation Office, Tangail at 2.30 pm on 17 March 2023. Mr. Masaru Yamaguchi, a Japanese citizen was present there as the chief guest, whereas Kazi Zakerul Maula, an honorable member of the general committee of SSS presided over the ceremony.

Besides, Mr. Satoru Naga, a renowned writer and journalist from Japan, Ms. Hideko Sugisawa from Japan, and Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan, Executive Director of SSS spoke at the ceremony as special guests.

The director (HRD and Admin) of SSS Mr. Mahbubul Haque Bhuiyan delivered a welcome speech at the ceremony. He urged the students—you should utilize the scholarship money properly, not to confine yourselves only within the textbooks and develop your skills through practicing different innovative activities. He also advised the parents to be more responsible to develop their children as a good citizen.

The executive director Mr. Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan stated--SSS has been working for the promotion and extension of education from its inception and providing financial support to the underprivileged but meritorious students for the sake of keeping up their studies without any hassle. He called up the students not only to establish themselves, but also to play an important role to educate the vulnerable children in the society.

The guardians of the students and staff members from different department of SSS were present at that time. In the ceremony, each of the 91 students received Tk. 3,000 (total Tk. 2,73,000) as scholarship for the phase of January-June 2023.

Mentioned, SSS formally initiated the scholarship activities in 2000 and the SSS-Naga scholarship was introduced in 2003 with support from Mr. Satoru Naga. At present, SSS provides four kinds of scholarships, such as SSS-Naga, Regular (monthly), One-time, and Bangabandhu Higher Education Scholarship.





Observance of the Independence Day-2023

Like every year, SSS with due respect observed the Independence and National Day-2023 in the SSS Foundation Office at Tangail, all branch offices and other offices throughout the country through putting on massive programs.

On this occasion, staff members of SSS offered wreaths at the Martyrs' Monument in Poura Udyan of Tangail at 8.30 am on 26 March 2023. Before that, staff members of SSS gathered together at SSS Foundation Office and hoisted the national flag there at 7.30 am. At 8 am, they brought out a rally and the rally reached Poura Udyan parading across Mymensingh Road, Old Bus Stand, Victoria Road, and Nirala Mor.

Besides, SSS-Poura Ideal High School, Sonar



Wreath-offering of SSS at the martyrs memorial, Tangail Poura Udyan

Bangla Children Home, and SSS Non-Govt. Polytechnic Institute organized discussion meetings and cultural programs on the occasion of the Independence and National Day. Especially--a debate and extempore speech competition was held in SSS-Poura Ideal High School, a recitation competition in SSS-Sonar Bangla Children Home and a sports (Cricket) competition in SSS Non-Govt. Polytechnic Institute on 26 March 2023. At the end of the competitions, prizes were distributed among the winners. Concurrently, a feast (good food) was served as Iftar for the children of SSS-Sonar Bangla Children Home on 26 March 2023.

Observance of 103rd Birth Anniversary of Bangabandhu



SSS observed the 103rd birth anniversary of the father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the National Children Day with due respect on 17 March 2023 in the Foundation Office (Tangail), all branch offices and institutes of the organization throughout the country with diversified programs.

On the occasion, SSS took part in a vibrant rally organized by the District Administration of Tangail at 9 am on 17 March 2023. The rally was brought out from the Deputy Commissioner office marching across different roads of the town and ended up at the Janasheba Chatyar.

Then the staff members of SSS offered wreaths at the mural of Bangabandhu and Bangamata placed at the Janasheba Chatyar, along with representatives from different GO-NGOs, political, and socio-cultural organizations, and mass media.

Besides, different wings, institutes, and offices at the zone and branch level observed the day with due importance. Especially, the educational institutes of SSS organized discussion meetings, Dua Mahfil, cultural programs, drawing competitions, etc. on the occasion of the 103rd birth anniversary Bangabandhu. Moreover, a feast (good food) was arranged for the children of SSS-Sonar Bangla Children Home at Kujbari of Tangail Sadar Upazila on 17 March. SSS also provided scholarships to 91 underprivileged but meritorious students under the scholarship program on the occasion as well.