



People's Reporting Centre Monthly Bulletin

Peoples Reporting Center project of Democracywatch aims to decrease the gap between the general people and their union Parishad and function as a channel between the people and UP.PRC will eventually spawn a monitoring system on the activities of union parishad. This project is supported by DANIDA-HRGG-PSU.

Democracywatch organized discussion meeting in Gazipur on “The status of Women members in Union Parishad”

Dhaka, 4 April, 2007...Democracywatch- a human rights organization organized a discussion meeting on ‘The status of Women Members in Union Parishad’ yesterday at 10 a.m. at its Gazipur Office.



Speakers at the discussion told that Female members of the UP use to act as the Chairperson to at least one third of the project implementation committee. In addition they have to perform many duties and responsibilities according to law. But unfortunately they are not aware of their responsibilities and getting not equal opportunities by their male members. The status of women members are not shining rather they use to be dominated by their male members in every aspect.

Speakers also made recommendations to make UP more responsible and credible which will foster the process of empowering women members which are 1) There should be a clear order or declaration by the government to distribute work among the UP women members 2) NGO and government should incorporate training especially for women members in their respective project 3) A comprehensive monitoring system should be introduced for assessing the performance of UP women members.

Among others UP women member Amena Begum, Halima Khatun, Mila Akther, Fatema Haq, Taimmuddin Ahmed, Abdul Barek and Democracywatch officers Minhaz Alam, Feroze Nurun Nabi, Saiful Islam and K Z Naim were present. A series of program will be undertaken in near future to make union parishad more transparent and accountable which funded by DANIDA.

Relief International visited Democracywatch LG project in Gazipur

Dhaka, 4 April, 2007...Relief International- a USA based organization visited Democracywatch local government project (Peoples Reporting Centre) which funded by DANIDA in Gazipur on 3rd April.

A 12 member team led by Lazina Sharmin, Coorinator Bangladesh chapter and MS Payal, Coordinator USA visited Peoples Reporting Centre office to exchange views with community people who are working to make their own union parishad more transparent and accountable to people. The team also visited some development work which assisted by the Citizen Committee at Bason union. Democracywatch officials were also present at the occasion.



Discussion meeting on 'The role of civil society to make transparent Union Parishad' in Jessore held

Jessore, 8 April, 2007... 'The role of civil society is absolutely vital today to make transparent and accountable union parishad in Bangladesh. The general people should create a monitoring system to oversee the performance of union parishad on a regular basis.'



Speakers told this in a discussion meeting which was held in Ramnagar People's Reporting Centre office, Jessore on 7th April at 3. pm

The speakers said the Union Parishad should offer a clear motivation to general people to give their holding tax regularly. Apart from this government and related authorities should think the process of self dependent local government to use own resources.

Among other Mostafa Sohel, Programme Manager of Democracywatch, Advocate Afzal Hossain, Chairman, Gias Uddin, Abdul Hye, Dulal Samaddar, Mujtoba Shamim, Shariful Haq and other local staff of PRC were present at the meeting.

Workshop on 'The role and responsibilities of local elected bodies' held in Diara union in Jessore

8 April, 2007...A day long workshop held at Diara union complex in Jessore on 7th April, 2007. Chairman Anwar Hossain inaugurated the session. The members of UP and officials of Democracywatch and Swapno Sahajjyo Shongstha were present at that time. A group of facilitators facilitated the whole session. The session includes the rights and responsibilities of UP chairman and members, the role of civil society in Union Parishad, Basic definition of Human rights and Good governance.



Exposure visit at Shushilon

A group of Democracywatch PRC staff, UP representatives and Citizen Committee members visiting Shushilon at Satkhira from 9 to 10 April. The team will see their activities at grassroots level where they formed SUSOMAJ and SHUVOSHAKTI those who are actively working at grassroots level. The team will also brief PRC activities to ensure governance at grassroots level.

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