

APARAJITA

Political Empowerment of Women

Annual Operational Reports Democracywatch

December 2012-November 2013



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
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Federal Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA
Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

Annual Operational Report



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Format Snapshot

Implementing organization:	Democracywatch			
Project name: APARAJITA- Political Empowerment of Women	Type of report: Annual Operational Report			
	Reporting period: December, 2012 to November 2013			
Phase duration: December, 2011 to November, 2015	Receiver of the report: APARAJITA: Project Steering Committee/SDC			
Main results achieved and implementation performance of the project/programme				
Summary:				
Democracywatch (DW) has been implementing the APARAJITA project, phase-1 funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) since December 2011 in ten districts of Bangladesh. The districts are Nilphamari, Dinajpur, Rangpur, Pabna, Sirajganj, Tangail, Mymensingh, Jessore, Magura and Narail.				
In the last year of the project DW has achieved some major results in relation to outcome -1, Outcome-2 and outcome-3. According to project objectives 524 EWRs have acquired knowledge on service provisions of different service providers (Education, Health and Agriculture) and trying to ensure services from concern department for the people. Among them, 212 EWRs are involved in Community Clinic Management Committee (CCMC), 148 in School Management Committee (SMC) and 31 in Agriculture extension services. EWRs visited 145 primary schools and 225 Community Clinics along with other members of standing committee and after their visit they have placed their findings in UP monthly meeting. In some cases concern department has taken initiative to resolve the problems (Attached case study), rest of the problems are waiting to be resolved. They ensured 66,693 VGF cards for poor women. Last year they could manage only 39,912 VGF cards. 14 EWRs and 22 P-EWRs already been publicly declared their candidature in upcoming Uazila election'14. 24 EWRs involved in UP tax assessment and collection committee, 18 EWRs mobilized the community people on Right to Information, 43 EWRs included in the local committee of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF), Municipality Association of Bangladesh (MAB), Mohila Parishad . A website has developed in the address of www.aparajita-bd.net and relevant information and links are available here.				
Annual achievements came out under following expenditure:				
Particulars		Budget	Actual	in %
Total Expenditure of the period (2 nd year)		23,972,562	18,194,069	76%
Main steering implications for next period of interventions				
In the operational area of Democracywatch during last year we have faced political unrest situation which may steer implication for next period of intervention and it is assuming it may consider the political unrest situation to prepare implementation plan for next year.				
Date of report : 19 March, 2014		Faisal Mustafijur Rahman Project Coordinator-APARAJITA Democracywatch		

Democracywatch

APARAJITA: Political Empowerment of women

Annual Operational Report

Reporting period: December 2012 to November 2013

Introduction:

The project 'APARAJITA: Political Empowerment of Women' intends to build the confidence, knowledge and capacity of elected women representatives (EWR) and potential women representatives (P-EWR). The project encourages networks of mutual support so that they can fulfill their obligations to their **electorate** and contribute in making local government and local service provision more responsive, especially to the needs of women and deprived community.

During the 2nd year of APARAJITA project (December 2012 - November 2013) DW implemented activities in 157 UPs, 15 Upazillas, 12 Municipalities and 10 Constituencies of 10 districts. The reporting period it covered 471 EWRs from the UP, 15 EWRs from Upazila and 41 EWRs from Municipality level.

In collaboration with the local administration and the civil society of the targeted activities have been carried out. The representatives of UPs, Upazilas, Municipalities and the civil society organizations were also mobilized through capacity building and advocacy initiatives especially to draw their attention on pro-poor services to be provided by the local level service providers. The project provided information service to the EWRS, P-EWRS, LGI and local community through Gender Resource Center.

In spite of having sincerity and strong willingness of project people as well as Management of DW it was not possible to conduct some events in local and central level due to political unrest.

Outcomes achieved for:

Outcome – 1: “Elected Women representatives are accountable to their constituencies and together with potential future EWR and former EWR are collectively requiring gender and poverty sensitive practice in local service delivery and assuming leadership roles”

After completing the activities the following result have been achieved under outcome-1:

- After re-organizing the UP standing committees 471 EWRs have been selected as the chairs of the Health, Education, Agriculture and WATSAN related standing committees.
- 371 potential woman leaders and 119 volunteers (M-76, F-43) have been co-opted in UP standing committees during the reporting year.

- A total of 36 potential women leaders are preparing themselves to contest for the position of vice chair (women) in ongoing Upazila elections.
- By the initiative of EWRs 170 women received the training on small & cottage crafts organized by department of Women Affairs of their constituencies.
- EWRs ensured 66,693 VGF cards for poor women. Last year they could manage only 39,912 VGF cards.
- 212 EWRs are involved in Community Clinic Management Committee (CCMC), 148 in School Management Committee (SMC) and 31 in Agriculture extension services. Frequency of meetings between EWRs and local service providers have increased, as a result community people are getting better services from nation building departments especially from health centers, schools and agriculture departments. In addition victim women of domestic and other violence are getting better access to justice.
- 45 early marriages were stopped with the intervention of EWRs.
- EWRs visited 145 primary schools along with the member of concern standing committee. After their visit they have placed their findings in UP monthly meetings. In some cases concern department has taken initiative to resolve the problems (Attached case study), rest of the problems are waiting to be resolved.
- EWRs visited 225 Community Clinics along with other members of standing committee. During their monitoring visit they have identified some lapses which they shared with the concern officials of Health department. Some problems have been resolved (Attached case study).
- The participation and attendance of EWRs in the UP monthly meetings increased remarkably (20% to 30%) and they are actively taking part in the discussion and local decision making process.

Outcome-2: "Provisions (legal framework including ordinance & directives) Political commitment and public opinion conducive for inclusion and participation of EWR (and potential EWR) and for promoting gender sensitivity in service provision at community level".

- 15 "Upazila Nari Unnayan Forum" under the Local Government Support Project-2 and Upazilla Governance Project have been formed which was facilitated by DW Aparajita project in target areas. "Upazila Nari Unnayan Forum" is being strengthened through organizing regular meeting and emerging as a platform of raising voice and addressing women issues in LGIs.
- A total of 17 EWRs have become members of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF) and Municipality Association of Bangladesh (MAB). These two associations are recognized as vibrant platforms of local governments in the country and engaged in policy reforms in strengthening local government.

- 12 P-EWRs have been selected for JOYEETA award (By the Department of Women Affairs)
- Upazila women vice chairmen of 6 Upazilas have become members of divisional committee of UZPAB (Upazila Parishad Assosiation of Bangladesh).

- **Special Outcome on the initiative of P-EWR**

P-EWR Monoara Begum, Sonali Begum and Anufa Begum of Ramnagar union in Nilphamari Sadar have been working for their community since inception of **APARAJITA**. They have been trying to ensure proper wages for female workers. They organized a mass gathering in the locality



regarding the mentioned issues. Numbers of women workers, Job providing people (Land owners, Solvent Farmer, Local Institutional Chief) and UP members were present in the meeting. In the meeting women workers raised their voice with the support of P-EWRs and demanded the wage of female workers should be taka 180 instead of taka 100. In favor of their demand the citizen of Ramnagar union along with different organization, land owners and others supported them and took a decision that from now onwards the women worker will gate @Taka180 per day instead of Taka.100.

Outcome-3: "Information technical and advisory support for EWR valued used and continuing"

- 377 persons (Male-49 Female-228) visited from the Gender Resource Center received gender and local government related information during the reporting period. Initially basic information regarding the program are provided documents on gender development and LG manuals, laws and ordinance, recent circulars are available in the center.
- We have started to develop archive of local government laws, rules, policies, circulars and government orders as an initiative of Gender Resource Center.
- DW has developed a website of APARAJITA titled www.aparajita-bd.net Campaigns on Right to Information (RTI) were organized in Birampur and Nilphamari Sadar Upazila. 18 EWRs of 6 UPs were also actively involved in the preparation of citizen charter of UPs.

Poverty issue:

Number of total poor men and women who benefited from improved public services, including safe water and improved sanitation services in reporting period			
Total Population Coverage: 5176364 Poor: 29,97,545 Female:2562603 Male: 2744353			
	Female	Male	Poor
Education	142347	135570	277917
Health	1818775	956857	2068625
Agriculture	106754	292006	190616
Safe water	381123	403327	784450
Sanitation	360291	428403	6048062
Total	2809290	2216163	9369670

Outputs and Performance according to the yearly plan of Operation:

According to the yearly plan of operation **Democracywatch** has performed to achieve outputs as follow:

- 524 EWRs received training on public entitlement through 21 batches Local service providers at Upazilla level facilitated the training course as the resource person. Fifteen number of Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Five Number of Upazilla Agriculture officer, Three number of Upazilla Education officer, Three number of Upazilla Health and Family planning officer, Two number of Operation in Charge from Upazilla police station, Sixteen number of Sub Assistant Agricultural Officer and Twelve number of Upazilla Assistant Education Officer facilitated various session of the training courses on public entitlements as the recourse person.
- 184 Expert visits & sharing meeting held at LGI level and 463 EWRs participated in the event. 60 Experts from local level service providing institutions participated as resource person.
- 624 Standing committees have reformed in different UPs as per the Union Parishad law of 2009.
- 309 monitoring visits of standing committees conducted. EWRs lead the visit as chairperson of standing committee where 1256 standing committee members (Male-793 Female-463) were along with them.

- 1050 Diaries has printed and distributed among the EWRs as the monitoring tools. Before receiving the diary 534 EWRs received the training on the usages of monitoring tools (Diary)
- One Constituency coordination meeting among MPs, EWRs, Local NGOs, citizens group & media held during this period. 39 male and 26 female participants participated in the meeting at Mymensingh.
- 39 Project staff participated in Annual Coordination Meeting (Male-31 Female-8)

Output at a glance December 2012 to November 2013

SI	Name of the activity	Target	Achievement	# of Participants		
				Male	Female	Total
1	Develop and provide training on public entitlement	18 batches	18 batches	0	524	524
2	Expert visit & sharing with EWRs	184	184	0	463	463
3	Conduct Exchange visit	15	15	28	495	523
4	Assist formation & activation of Standing Committees	624	624	2041	942	2983
5	Assist in monitoring visits of standing committees	330	309	793	463	1256
6	Orient facilitators & EWRs on monitoring system	17 batches	17 batches	0	525	525
7	Conduct district level meeting with LGAs & EWRs	10	7	52	245	297
8	Constituency coordination meeting among MPs, EWRs, Local NGOs, citizens group & media	10	1	39	26	65
9	Assist EWRs to conduct Ward Shava	18	11	1085	635	1720
10	Annual coordination meeting with project staff and PNGOs	1	1	29	11	40
11	Develop Web site	1	1			
12	Conduct study and research on constraints of EWRs	1	1			
Total				4067	4329	8396

Implementation constrains and way to overcome them:

Constrains: Some of the male colleagues of EWR are not willing to cooperate in implementation of the project.

Way to Overcome: Intensive motivational mechanism for male representative of UP is required.

Constrains: In the project area, academic backgrounds of EWRs are very poor. Most of the EWRs have not completed the SSC. Only few of them have passed SSC or above.

Way to Overcome: EWRs have been nurturing and mentoring through training and regular coaching. Besides DW have been providing coaching to the EWRs on their roles and responsibilities as part of its GRC activities.

Constraints: UP Secretaries are keeping all the official docs in their own custody and are not willing to unfold in front of EWRs

Way to overcome: Local Government Division can arrange a capacity building training program on Gender for all the LG units

Constraints: Most of the EWRs have not been affiliated with the political parties as a result they are not getting enough and proper support from the political leaders.

Way to overcome: It should initiate a coaching and motivational process so that EWRs who are the supporter of the political party will become active political worker.

Constraints: Most of the EWRs depend on their husband or son or any other close male family members to take any decision.

Way to overcome: Awareness among the EWRs has been raised on their rights and responsibilities through training and mentoring.

Constraints: Political unrest

Way to overcome: Everybody should tactfully avoid the unrest situation and prepare their plan considering the possible violence and uncertainty

Finances and Management

The project expenditures in the reporting period were BDT 18194069/- against the annual (2nd year) approved budget of BDT /-.23,972,562 Though, the project 'burn rate' was 76% of the annual budget.

Expenditures of the period (1st year)	Budget	Actual	in %
Project implementation	12323176	11786959	96%
Project activities	8736125	3494827	40%
Overhead cost	2913261	2912283	100%
Total	23972562	18194069	76%
SDC's Contribution	22844925	17066432	75%
Democracywatch contribution	1127637	1127637	100%

(Please see in details in the Annex: 2 Budget spend vs. planned for the project, excel file)

Management issue: The APARAJITA project is being implemented under the guidance of the senior management team of Democracywatch. Project coordinator is responsible for the field operation of the project which is being implemented in different ten constituencies through ten regional offices. DW Recruited 34 full time project staffs including 1 PC, 2 SPOs, 10FCs, 10 POs, 10 PORGs and 1 Finance officer. In addition to the full time staff, 5 DW core staff (Executive Director 20%, Directors Program 40%, Director Finance 40%, Director Operation 20% and M&E coordinator 50%) also contribute in APARAJITA partially. The project is running smoothly with the cooperation of all (34 full time and 5 shared) project staff and stakeholders.

Good practices and innovations:

- Committee of Upazilla Nari Unnayan Forum had no specific place for regular sharing and meeting among them. Recently they have identified that Gender Resource Center might be serve their purpose. After identifying the resource they are able to use the Gender Resource Center of APARAJITA for mentioned purpose. Now GRC is using for the purpose of Upazilla Nari Unnayan Forum.
- A sticker has been printed on UP help line and distributed to 11 union of Tangail. Local volunteers of APARAJITA sponsored printing cost of the information sticker with initiatives of EWR.
- During the project activities, DW has circulated two help lines number, which is 16256 to provide UP related information and another number is 10929 (provided by department of women and children affairs) for providing support to vulnerable children and women. After getting the hot line number 133 EWRs called to above mentioned two helpline.

Specific lessons learnt

- If Activities could be prioritized in beginning of the implementation year with details plan, some more activities would be implemented.
- If the involvement of Chairmen and male members could increase in various events it would be more effective to smooth implementation of project activity.
- Every decision from ACC should be executed timely.

Recommendation

- Every decision from ACC should be executed timely
- According to the opinion of Local Government Association's leaders the Implementing development organizations and development donors should have shared their implementing strategies and prioritized issues with relevant local government networks (BUPF, MAB, UZPAB-women committee) before/during launching the project.

Operational Report (Part 2 and Annexes)

Outcomes achieved for

Outcome-1: Elected Women representatives are accountable to their constituencies and together with potential future EWR and former EWR are collectively requiring gender and poverty sensitive practice in local service delivery and assuming leadership roles.

- It has organized reformation of UP standing committee and after re-organizing the UP standing committees 471 EWRs have been selected as the chair persons of the Health, Education, Agriculture and WATSAN related standing committees.
- Potential women leaders and volunteers are included in UP standing committees. Part of these initiatives 371 Potential woman leaders and 119 volunteers (M-76, F-43) have been co-opted in UP standing committees during the reporting year.
- As per the outcome indicator a total of 36 Potential women leaders are preparing themselves to contest for the position of vice chairman (Women) in upcoming Upazilla election.
- EWRs are trying to develop the capacity of local vulnerable women and by the initiative of EWRs 170 women received the training on small & cottage crafts organized by department of Women Affairs of their constituencies.
- VGF card is a support to the extreme poor to survive their livelihood. EWRs ensured 66693 VGF cards for poor women. Previous year they could manage only 39912 VGF cards.
- After receiving the training on public entitlement EWRs have been identified the source of local service and they are increasing their meeting with the service provider, as a result community people are getting more service from nation building department. 212 EWRs are involved in Community Clinic Management Committee (CCMC), 148 in School Management Committee (SMC) and 31 in Agriculture extension services. Through their involvement, the processes of service quality especially, in Education, Health and Agriculture are being improved.
- Early marry is the social problem. To reduce the issue EWRs are fighting against the social bad norms. In the reporting period 45 early marriages were stopped with the intervention of EWRs.
- EWRs visited 145 primary schools along with the member of concern standing committee. After their visit they showed findings in UP monthly meeting. In some cases concern department has taken initiative to resolve the problems (Attached case study), rest of the problems are waiting for resolve.
- EWRs visited 225 Community Clinics along with other member of standing committee. During their monitoring visit they identified some lapses which they shared with the concern officials of Health department. Some cases problems have been resolved (Attached case study).

- The participation and attendance of EWRs in the UP monthly meetings increased remarkably (20% to 30%) and they are actively taking part in the discussion.

Outcome-2

- According to the Union Parishad Operational Manual it will be formed a “Upazilla Nari Unnayan Forum” in each Upazilla but before the reporting period there were no initiative to form the forum. 15 “Upazilla Nari Unnayan Forum” under the Local Government Support Project-2 and Upazilla Governance Project has been formed which was facilitated by DW Aparajita project. “Upazilla Nari Unnayan Forum” is being strengthened through organizing regular meeting and standing as a platform of raising voices and addressing different women issues in LGIs.
- Local government Association can play a vital role to policy advocacy. A total of 17 EWRs have become members of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF) and Municipality Association of Bangladesh (MAB) during the reporting period.
- Being an entrepreneur 12 P-EWRs have been selected for the award of JOYEETA (By the Department of Women Affairs). The project has encouraged the P-EWRs to expand their enterprises.
- Upazilla women vice chairmen of 6 Upazillas have become members of divisional committee of UZPAB (Upazilla Parishad Association of Bangladesh).
- 342 Participants (Male-70 Female-272) have participated in a Human chain for protection violence against women in Rangpur and Narail.
- Fifteen number of Exchange visit have conducted among the EWRs of 15 different Upazillas. 529 EWRs participated in the visit. During this visit EWRs have shared their experience regarding challenges, limitations, opportunities and threats through formal and informal interaction. From the visit it has developed some common strategies to mitigate the common problems of EWRs in LGI.
- EWRs included in the district and divisional committee of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum BUPF (Tangail sadar- 3 persons in district committee, Nilphamari-2 persons in divisional committee & 1 person in district committee, Rangpur-1 person is the Treasurer of district committee, Mymensingh-3 persons in district committee.
- Two EWRs of Mymensingh and one from Ullapara are included in the regional committee of Municipality association of Bangladesh (MAB).
- Thirty numbers of EWRs got position in the District, Upazilla and Union Committee of Political party.
- Vice Chairmen of Gangachara Upazilla parishad Khanto Rani has been elected the Vice President of District Nari Unnayan Forum of Rangpur and beside her Rokeya Alom (EWR of Gangachara) also been elected the member of same committee.

Outcome-3

- Gender resource center is the innovations of the project. 377 persons (Male-49 Female-228) visited from the Gender Resource Center received gender and local government related information during the reporting period. Initially basic information

regarding the program are provided documents on gender development and LG manuals, laws and ordinance, recent circulars are available in the center.

- DW has developed a website of APARAJITA titled www.aparajita-bd.net
- Campaigns on Right to Information (RTI) were organized in Birampur and Nilphamari Sadar Upazila. EWRs were organized jointly by 18 EWRs of 6 UPs also actively involved in the preparation of citizen charter of UPs.

Budget variance note:

a.2.5 Prolonged political unrest hampered frequent field visit.

a.2.9 Due to hartal and blockade the field staff preferred local transportation instead of motor cycle usage for field movement

a.2.11 and a.2.12 The line item budget is insufficient considering the present context. Hence, we revisited the line item budget for the rest of project span and waiting for approval.

a.2.13 We have utilized the first year unspent money during this reporting year

b.1.1.8 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.1.1.13 To attain the best result from the exposure visit, we have decided to arrange it during fourth year of the project implementation

b.1.3.6, b.1.3.7 and b.1.3.8 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.1.4.6 It was decided in the ACC meeting that during this reporting year APARAJITA project will monitor two services (Health, education). Rest of two services will be monitored in the following year.

b.1.5.7 and b.1.5.8 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.2.1.4 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.2.2.6 and b.2.2.7 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.3.1.5 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.3.1.8 The activity was carry forwarded to the following year

b.3.3.1 We have completed the mentoring, coaching and follow-up related activities at local level. But due to political unrest this scheduled activity was carry forwarded to the following year. We have proposed this issue in the revised budget and waiting for kind approval.

b.4.3.3 The activity was carry forwarded to the following year

b.4.4.12 We have developed monitoring system without costs

b.4.8.1 Since the activity considered as a consecutive activity of b.4.8.2, this is also shifted in the third year of the project

b.4.8.3 We have fixed tentative date to conduct but due to continuous hartal and blockade we could not arrange it finally.

Annex: 1

Case study-1

Rubina Khatun's initiative helps rebuild damaged schoolhouse

EWRs are gradually emerging as local leaders and are being approached for solving community problems. Ms Rubina Khatun is UP member of Durganagar Union under Sirajganj district (Ullapara). She is also the chairman of the standing committee of education, health and family planning. In one meeting the members of this standing committee planned to visit the primary school to monitor the quality of services. During her visit of the Parsontala School the headmaster reported about the damaged school building caused by cyclone in 2012. The school used to accommodate 700 students but due to accommodation problem a large number of students seemed to be dropped out.



Rubina khatun along with the standing committee members standing in front of damaged shed.

The standing committee members led by Ms Rubina Khatun visited again in the school on 25th August, 2010. They prepared report which was presented in UP monthly meeting. She proposed to allocate fund from UP budget to reconstruct the schoolhouse. After a long discussion the council allocated taka 1 lac from its own budget.



Working to rebuild the school house

Rubina with her committee members supervised repair of the damage school building. They also received community support and appreciation. Mr Rezaul Kabir, the headmaster, says, "Everything was shattered after the disaster. But we are happy that those days have gone. And it was made possible due to proactive and timely support of Ms. Rubina and other members of standing committee our representative Ms Rubina."

Now the condition of this school is gradually improved .The attendance of students getting increased. Previously it was difficult to take class in the open air or under the tree but students are now comfortable to seat in the classroom and take part of study properly. Also teachers will enjoy teaching the students.



Present condition of Parsontala primary school

Case study-2

People's Friendly Initiative of EWR

Farida Yesmin Member of Purnimagati Union Parishad(Ward40), Ullahpara Upazila, Sirajgang. After receiving training on public entitlements she informed that as a member she can ensure the services for the community given by the Govt, through monitoring. So once she visited the Goaljani Community Clinic and found the clinic closed. Talking with the community people she came to know that nobody knows when the clinic is open and close. Some villagers told her the clinic opens for 2-3 hour once or twice a month and they even don't know which medicine and services they can get from this clinic. The environment of the clinic both inside and outside is not clean and hygienic. In front of the clinic there is no citizen charter. She sat with the community people and discussed with them for getting better services. After this discussion she filed complain to upazila medical officer regarding the service for taking necessary action. The concern authority of community clinic made a discussion with her and gave assurance to take initiatives for ensuring better services. Just after few days the scenario of the clinic is changing. Now there is one CHCP and Health Assistant for the service of community people and they work from 9 am to 3 pm. Last 2 Months near about 1200 women and children get medical services from the clinic. A citizen charter also has been displayed there. The community people appreciated Farida Yesmin's initiative for getting the better service for them.



Case study-3

Breaking the Conspiracy

After a series of capacity building trainings, one-to-one communication and mentoring EWRs are improving their skills level. As a fact of improved skills level they became able to fight against their legitimate rights. Ms. Morjina Begum and Mina Begum the two EWRs of 10 No Nohali UP have been proved the gradual development of Women Empowerment.



Both of them were neglected by their Chairman's intentional decision and corruption. Several times the chairman has asked them to give him bribe otherwise no projects will be approved to them. Both Morjina and Mina have tried a lot to get an allocation from UP without giving any bribe but failed. They took an oath against the bribery. During last 6/7 months not a single allocation or project has been rewarded to them but they did not ruin their oath. In the same time the Chairman has secretly ordered to all the EMRs to avoid these EWRs by theoretically and practically. Automatically a distance was creating between EWRs and UP. Peoples were whispering about them and said EWRs are not as much capable as they seemed. Both Mina and Morjina roam around local influential's door to door to solve the issue. One day they came to the DW-Rangpur Regional Office to solve the problem. The APARAJITA Team heard the entire threnody of injustice. Team APARAJITA suggested them to discuss the matter to the UNO in an unofficial atmosphere. UNO heard everything and requested them to lodge a complaint letter against the chairman. However the irritation continues with endlessly. Later the Team APARAJITA requested the victims to give a rejoinder to the chairman. With the help of Team APARAJITA they draft a letter and submit to Rangpur DC Office and local DDLG Office. After getting the letter the DDLG Office responded very quickly. Very recent the DDLG called for a hearing session in front of complainant and defendant with proper documents. Both Mina and Morjina became adamant to uproot all the conspiracy against them. *"Allah will help us and we'll be able to breakdown all the conspiracy against us"* said by Mina Begum.

Annex-2

Outcomes Achieved and Outputs Delivered in line with Log frame Indicators

Democracywatch

Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Achievement	Remarks
1. Elected Women representatives are accountable to their constituencies and together with potential future EWR and former EWR1 are collectively requiring gender and poverty sensitive practice in local service delivery and assuming leadership roles.	1.1 a) Increase in number of women contesting reserved seats (% with more than 3 women contesting).	94 EWR received training	Not applicable during this reporting period.	
	500 EWR involved in service delivery monitoring and usefulness of actions taken to voice constituents demands & improve local service delivery	156 Primary school	524 Elected Women representatives received the training on public entitlement to ensure better services. After getting this training .224 EWRs were presiding the standing committee as a chairman. 148 potential women were involved themselves as co- opt member of these standing committee. 162 visited schools and 225 community clinics for monitoring the quality of services and to improve local service like building repairing, ensuring safe drinking water, toilet facilities etc 45 early marriages were stopped with the intervention of EWRs. - EWRs gave support to 170 poor women for getting knowledge on small & cottage crafts so that they can be economically empowered.	
	% women elected in reserved seats seeking election to general seats.	31 EWRs elected in reserve seats seeking election to general seats	Not applicable for during this period.	
2. Provisions (legal framework incl. ordinance)			15 “Upazila Nari Unnayan Forum” under the Local Government Support Project-2	

Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Achievement	Remarks
and directives), political commitment and public opinion conducive for inclusion and participation of EWR (and potential EWR) and for promoting gender sensitive service provision at the community level.			and Upazilla Governance Project has been formed which was facilitated by DW Aparajita project.F The forum” is being strengthened through organizing regular meeting and standing as a platform of raising voices and addressing different women issues in LGIs. 28 EWRs have become members of Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF) and 7 EWRs in Municipality Association of Bangladesh (MAB), Upazila women vice chairmen of 6 Upazillas have become members of divisional committee of UZPAB(Upazilla Parishad Assosiation of Bangladesh).	

Outcomes	Indicator	Baseline	Achievement	Remarks
3.Information, technical and advisory support for EWR valued, used and continuing			• 205 EWRs were practicing to maintain regular diary writing as a result end of the month they can easily evaluate themselves .These diaries also used as a monitoring tools of APARAJITA. • DW has develop a website of APARAJITA titled www.aparajita-bd.net • A total of 377 person including ERWS,PEWRs and others visited gender resource center to receive information on gender related issue and also laws of local govt. • Campaigns on Right to Information (RTI) were organized in Birampur and Nilphamari Sadar Upazila. EWRs were organized jointly by 18 EWRs of 6 UPs also actively involved in the preparation of citizen charter of UPs.	

Annex-3 Outcomes, Outputs and Performance according to the Yearly Plan of Operation

Code No.	Narrative of outcomes, outputs, and activities	Performance Indicators	Reporting Period: December 2012 – November 2013				Reasons for Deviation	Remarks
			Specific Planned Activity	Actual Results (according to plan)	Any Unforeseen Results	Deviation		
1	Outcome 1: Elected Women representatives are accountable to their constituencies and together with potential future EWR and former EWR are collectively requiring gender and poverty sensitive practice in local service delivery and assuming leadership roles	• Increase in number of women contesting reserved seats (% with more than 3 women contesting) • % Increase in number of contesting general seats • % rural and urban poor experience being listened to and responded to as citizens by their EWR and value EWR's effectiveness in improving local service provision (cf baseline) • Recognition/ value of vertical and horizontal EWR networks (all party) by number/ type of participation in policy debate on women issues (invited spaces) • Frequency, type of inclusion of women and women's issues on APPGs • Actions taken by EWR to promote pro poor & gender sensitive service provision (% over baseline and % success rate) • EWR more respected , assertive and influential (% opinions cf baseline)						

1.1	Output 1.1: EWR capacity, confidence built and understanding of the values /practices of representational politics actualized	• # training, exchange visits, workshops on democratic& representational politics & required skills such as communication, assertiveness • # , type and % usage of simple guidelines & supplementary materials (information pocket books, IEC materials) • # EWR diaries and % used for self monitoring • #, frequency, type, usefulness of mentoring & support provided by NAVs. % EWR who have a regular 'buddy' • #, type usefulness of mentoring support, peer to peer learning provided by EWR & F-EWR • % EWR know service provision entitlements (priority themes phase wise cf baseline	Develop and provide Training on public entitlements.	1) 540 EWRs received the training and after receiving the training they have identified the local service provision as a result community people are getting more service through Elected women representatives.	N/A	N/A	N/A	
			Expert visit and sharing with EWRs	2) 463 EWRs received visit from local experts who are responsible for providing service to the EWRs as well as community people. During the visit EWRs ensured the commitment from the expert on regular service for the community people.	N/A	71	Participants were not available in local area during the visit.	
			Conduct exchange visit	3) 15 Exchange visits have conducted and 523 participants including 28 Elected Male representatives participated in the visit. After the exchange visit participants have developed vertical and horizontal relationship and they are trying to incorporate the good practices in their LGI which they have learned during exchange visit.	N/A	N/A	N/A	
			Printing and distribution of	4) It has distributed 1050 diaries as the monitoring tools and	N/A	N/A	N/A	

			Diaries	EWRs are regularly maintaining the diary.				
			Exposure Visit out of country	5) Exposure visit out of country was not possible to conduct	N/A	1 visit (12 Persons)	Political unrest	
			One day training for women MPs	6) One day training for women MPs was not possible to conduct	N/A	1	Political unrest	
1.3	Electorate and institutional colleagues opinion on EWR contribution to Good governance positively influenced	• type and usefulness of citizen engagement (formal (open budget, ward assemblies etc) & informal (EWR facilitated meetings, 'clinics' etc) • type , response to events promoting democracy & EWR achievements (e.g Democracy Fair, documentaries etc) • type of activities promoting co-operation between EWR and EMR & response to these type of activities promoting cooperation between EWR and Administration & response	Assist EWR to conduct Ward shabha Conduct quarterly development coordination meeting among EWR and service provider Organize Gender fair and media briefing	N/A N/A N/A	N/A N/A N/A	All All All	Political Unrest Political Unrest Political unrest	
1.4	EWR engagement (monitoring, raising voice) with	• 500 EWR involved in thematic Standing Committees or similar	Assist in formation and activation of 4 standing	All standing committees have been reformed	N/A	N/A	N/A	

	service providers for better service provision enhanced	platforms actively participated 500 EWR involved in service delivery monitoring and usefulness of actions taken to voice constituents demands & improve local service delivery	<i>committees in each LGUs per year</i> <i>Assist in Monitoring visits of standing committees</i>	309 Monitoring visits have conducted	N/A	21	Time constraints	
1.5	EWR networking for advocacy and mutual support (collective action) enhanced	10 parliamentary constituencies with active vertical networks. (25% of programme total) - Evidence of active use of networking for amplifying electorate voice and ensuring connectedness (MPUZP-UP-citizens). - type and usefulness of EWR network events (% time spent disaggregated by time on advocacy work, administrative tasks, mutual support (– decreasing 25% time on admin) 200 EWR involved in usefulness of events to share best practice	<i>Conduct District level meeting with EWR and LGAs</i> <i>Constituency Coordination meeting among MPs,EWR, Local NGOs,Citizen</i>	8 meetings conducted and mentioned participants have participated	N/A	12 Meetings	Political unrest	

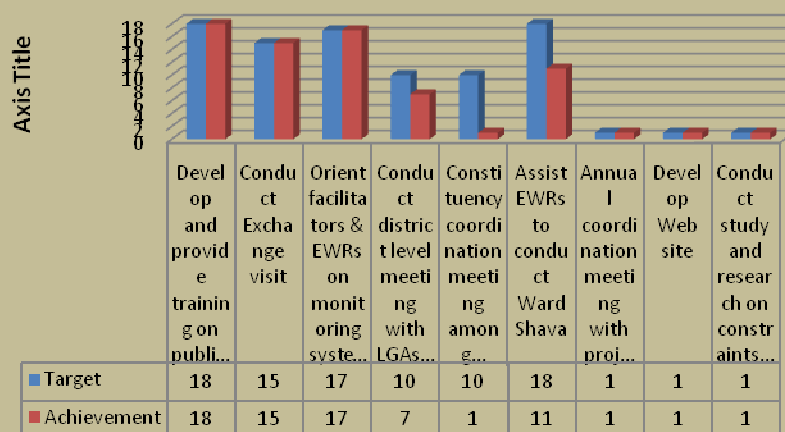
2	Outcome 2: Provisions (legal framework incl. ordinance & directives) and political commitment and public opinion conducive for inclusion and participation of EWR and potential EWR and for promoting gender sensitivity in community level service provision	- Inclusion of proposals for reform in revised ordinances and directives (% uptake, % concessions) - National Framework for LG Capacity Building highlights all new and special provisions for gender sensitive planning & budgeting % increase in public opinion towards greater inclusion/ participation of EWRs in facilitating service provision in the prioritised thematic areas	--	Frequency of interactions of EWRs with the community people, Service Providers and Upazila Administration has been increased and they have started meeting the community people in their constituencies formally and informally.	--	--	--	--
2.1	Output 2.1: Gender issues in LG reform influenced	#EWR included in law review committees, consultations regarding proposed amendments to laws, ordinances, directives #, type, usefulness of research to inform & provide evidence for proposals # and type of EWR Network events to debate, develop position papers etc	<i>Undertake surveillance of proposed amendments</i> <i>Undertake research identified by EWR net working on constraints to active political participation of women</i>	<i>Research conducted</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	--
2.2	Output 2.2: LG issues (especially related to constraints for EWR inclusion/ participation) and debate raised in public domain to gather wider support for change in legislative framework	- Proposals for legal and institutional amendments published and in public domain (# & type of press releases , published material) # and type of public platforms for debate (media, internet, consultations)	<i>Link with local and National media to high light issues</i> <i>Promote debate and encourage airing of multiple perspectives</i>	Sharing meeting among local and National media was not conducted N/A	N/A	1 1	Political unrest Political unrest	
3	Outcome 3: Information, technical and advisory support for EWR valued, used and continuing	- Year wise incremental % increase in requests for information and advice from KCE Hub by EWR - Increasing % EWR value the local NGOs and volunteers supporting role						
3.1	Output 3.1: KCE Hub is functioning, recognized and used by EWR	#EWR using Helpline by type of enquiry (advice/ information), increasing use and usefulness over	<i>Arrange workshop, conference on women in</i>	N/A	N/A	1	Political unrest	

		time # & type research and advocacy publications cited (by whom, frequency) and used (basis for workshops, dialogues, position papers)	government Maintain drop in facility and information desk for data on local government Support EWR's Network and WMP to develop position papers, parliamentary questions on issues emerging From the grass roots. Publish and promote research studies	Gender resource centre established in 10 offices. EWRs are getting relevant information. N/A N/A	N/A N/A	N/A 1 1	Political unrest Political unrest	
3.2	Output 3.2: Imp-NGOs and networks of activist volunteers (NAV) have adequate reach, competence, capacity and legitimacy to continue advancing political empowerment after the end of the project	- Geographic coverage of DW and NAV # NGO workers and volunteers with demonstrated knowledge and skills to provide continuing support to EWRs (#, type training & orientation provided)	Support Team building	Was not able to organize	N/A	1 meeting	Political unrest	
3.3	Output 3.3: Responsive support provided to emerging theme based EWR networking initiatives	- Cf of maps of networking reach (% EWR involved, location, level of activity and interconnectedness) with baseline # type of programme support requested by EWR networking	Encourage EWR networks to reflect on their mandate, location and membership to ensure principle of representation and non partisan ship pilot hub portal/access and refine	EWR meeting with LGAs, A-NGOs, I-NGOs and MPs It has been Developed website and project stakeholders are frequently getting	N/A	1	Political unrest	

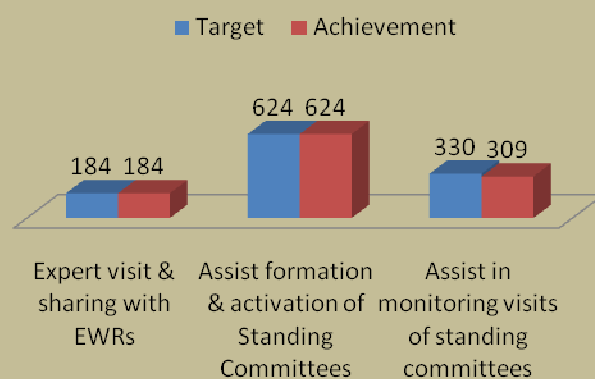
				<i>information from the web site.</i>	<i>use the information of website</i>	N/A	N/A	
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Annex-4: Graphs

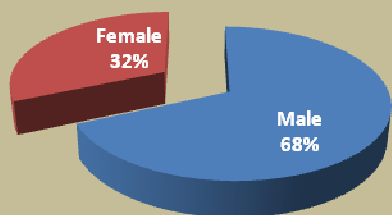
Output at a glance December 2012 to November 2013



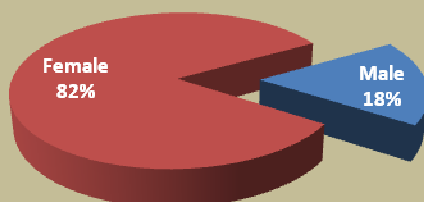
Output at a glance December 2012 to November 2013



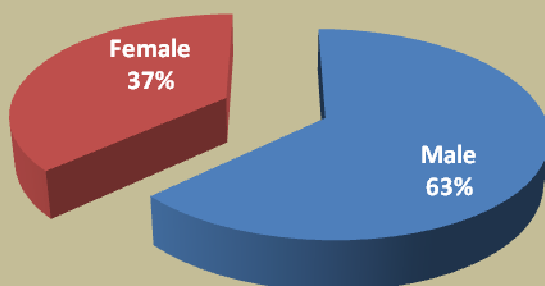
Gender ratio of Standing committee formation and activation



Gender Ratio of district level meeting with LGAs & EWRs



Gender Ratio of Assist Monitoring visit of Standing Committee



Annex-5: Photographs



EWR - LSA Coordination meeting at Mymensingh



Orientation on Monitoring System at Ullapara



EWR Orientation on monitoring system at Mymensingh



Community Clinic visit with EWR at Bonnaogasta UP, Ullapara



Orientation on Monitoring System at Ullapara



Standing Committee formation meeting at Panchocnash UP, Ullapara



Human Chain at Mymensingh



Training on public entitlement, Pabna



Community Clinic Monitoring Visit at Purnimagar (UR) Ullapara



Human Chain for violence against EWN at Narail



Aparajita project orientation at Mymensingh



Exchange visit at Drajpur

Annex-6: Paper clippings



দৈনিক স্বদেশ সংবাদ
আপাতনগরীয়া, আশুগঞ্জ, ময়মনসিংহ

ময়মনসিংহ রবিবার : ২৪ নভেম্বর ২০১৩ ইং



নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের সমন্বয় সভায় বক্তব্য রাখছেন সদর উপজেলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান আরজুনা কবির

ময়মনসিংহে নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধি সঙ্গে স্থানীয় সরকার এসোসিয়েশনের সমন্বয় সভা

স্টাফ রিপোর্টার : ময়মনসিংহে সদর উপজেলার নির্বাচিত সকল নারী জনপ্রতিনিধিদের সাথে স্থানীয় সরকার এসোসিয়েশনের এক সমন্বয়সভা গতকাল শনিবার (২৩ নভেম্বর) উপজেলা পরিষদ মিলনায়তনে অনুষ্ঠিত হয়েছে। ডেপুটি চেয়ারম্যান আরজুনা কবিরের আয়োজনে মিলনবাণী (২য় পার্শ্বাংক) (১ম পার্শ্বাংক) এক সমন্বয় সভায় সভাপতিত্ব করেন সদর উপজেলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান আরজুনা কবির। নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধি নেটওয়ার্কের অবিস্তারিত সমন্বয় সভায় পারস্পরিক সমঝোতা সৃষ্টি করে নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের অধিকার নিশ্চিত করার লক্ষ্যেই এই সমন্বয় সভা। সমন্বয় সভা সম্বলনা করেন ডেপুটি চেয়ারম্যানের বিত্ত কো-অর্ডিনেটর রোকুনুজ্জামান আহমেদ। সভায় পৌরসভা সহ উপজেলার সকল ইউনিয়নের ৪৫ জন নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধি উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

দৈনিক চোঙাচাট ও টুলেটিন
The Daily Chongachot & Tuleetin

রবিবার ১২ অক্টোবর ২০২০ ২৬ মে ২০১৩

দিনাজপুরে নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের অভিজ্ঞতার উপর মতবিনিয়ম সভা

খোড়াঘাট (দিনাজপুর) প্রতিনিধিঃ ডেমক্রেসিওয়াচ সংস্থার অপরাধিতা প্রকল্পের আয়োজনে গত শুক্রবার সকাল ১০টায় ঐতিহ্যবাহী ষপ্পুপুটী আশ্রম কাননে দিনাজপুর জেলার খোড়াঘাট ও হাকিমপুর উপজেলার নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের অভিজ্ঞতার উপর এক মতবিনিয়ম সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। খোড়াঘাট উপজেলা মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান রেবেকা সুলতানা বানু চৌধুরীর সভাপতিত্বে অভিজ্ঞতা ও মতবিনিয়ম সভায় বক্তব্য রাখেন, হাকিমপুর উপজেলা মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান মোছাঃ পারুল নাহার, খোড়াঘাট পৌরসভার মহিলা কাউন্সিলর মজিদা বেগম, ৩নং সিংড়া ইউপির মহিলা সদস্য সরলা, হাকিমপুর উপজেলার বিশিষ্ট সমাজ সেবিকা হোসেন আরা ফেলি প্রমুখ। এছাড়াও ডেমক্রেসিওয়াচ সংস্থার অপরাধিতা প্রকল্পের ফিল্ড কো-অর্ডিনেটর ত্রৈফিক এলাহী, প্রোগ্রাম অফিসার অরুণ কুমার সরকার ও প্রোগ্রাম

অর্গানাইজার মোঃ মোকলেছুর রহমান প্রমুখ। উক্ত অনুষ্ঠানে খোড়াঘাট ও হাকিমপুর উপজেলার মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান সহ পৌর, মহিলা কাউন্সিলরগণ ও সাতটি ইউনিয়নের মহিলা সদস্যগণ উপস্থিত ছিলেন।

সবপাঠকের প্রিয় দৈনিক

গ্রামের কাগজ

(বেঙ্গালোরে প্রথম প্রকাশিত পত্রিকা)

The Daily Gramer Kagoj

১৫ তম বর্ষ □ ৮৮ সংখ্যা □ সোমবার □ ২৪ জুন ২০১৩ ইংরেজি □ ১০ আষাঢ় ১৪২০ বাংলা □ ১৪ শাবান ১৪৩৪ হিজরী □ ৪ পৃষ্ঠা মূল্য ৳

নড়াইলের দুই উপজেলার নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের ফোরাম গঠন

□ যশোরের ইউপি সদস্যদের সাথে অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময় সফর

নড়াইল অফিস : নড়াইল সদর ও গোহাঙ্গড়া উপজেলার মোট ৮৩ জন নির্বাচিত মহিলা জনপ্রতিনিধিদের অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময় সফর হয়ে গেল যশোরে। ১৮ জন সদস্য যশোরের কণ্টনমহাট্টা এলাকার বিশেষিতা পার্কে এই অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময় সফর হয়েছে। নড়াইল সদরে ১৩ ইউনিয়ন, ১ টি পৌরসভা এবং গোহাঙ্গড়ার ১২ ইউনিয়ন, ১ টি পৌরসভা এবং দুই উপজেলার ২ জন মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান সহ মোট ৮৩ জন। দুটি উপজেলার সকল নির্বাচিত নারী জনপ্রতিনিধিরা মিলিত হয়েছিলেন যশোরের বিশেষিতা পার্কে। যশোর সদরের চুডামনকাটি উপশহর ও কলুয়া ইউনিয়নের নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধি নড়াইলের এই সকল জনপ্রতিনিধিদের সাথে বসে কথা বলেন। যশোরে এই টিমের নেতৃত্ব দেন যশোর সদরের মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান এতজোকেটি সেকতার বেগম। নড়াইল টিমের নেতৃত্বে ছিলেন নড়াইল সদর উপজেলার মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান সালামা রহমান কলিতা। পূর্বের প্রবেশ পথে রাস্তার অতিথিকে যত্নসহ তোলা নিয়ে বসে করে নোয়া হয় এরপর পার্কে বোলা আকর্ষণে যশোর উপরে উঠে যায় দুই জেলার নির্বাচিত

আমার কোনো কথা শোনা হচ্ছে না। এর পর আমি ও বাকের নির্বাচিত মহিলা মেম্বার আমি নিজেকে জেনে বুঝে তুলি। আমি সেই সভাস্থিতি, কয়টি সভাপতি সেই কয়টি সভা আমি নিজের সুবিধামতো ভাবি সেখানে আমারা সিদ্ধান্ত নেই, আমরা নারীরা আমাদের স্বাধীনতা কত কত পছন্দ। কিন্তু আমি খুব দুর্বল সাধে দেখছি যে আমাদের অনেক নারী সদস্যরা আর কিছু টাওয়ার জন্য চেয়ারম্যান কিনা সভার পোশাক হয়ে মাই এটা করলে আসনি, আলনার মতটা হওয়াবে আর অন্যরা আপনাকে বিশ্বাস করবেন না। আমি ভবিষ্যতে সবসরি পুরুষদের ওয়ার্ডে প্রতিদ্বন্দ্বিতা করতে আসব। আপনারা ওসেই সুযোগ দেবার চেষ্টা করবেন। তাহলে আর আমাদের সমস্যা কত থাকতে হবে না। নড়াইলের পক্ষ থেকে নিজের অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময় করেন সদরের হকমাতী ইউনিয়নের মহিলা মেম্বার হোসনা পারভীন।

হোসনা পারভীন বলেন, আমি দুই বারের মতো নির্বাচিত সদস্য। আমার এলাকার মানুষের জন্য আমি আমার চেয়ারম্যানের সাথে সেন্সরবার করে কত কাজ আসায়

করে ১৫ সদস্য বিশিষ্ট সদর উপজেলা নারী উন্নয়ন ফোরাম গঠিত হয়। অন্যান্য সদস্যরা হলেন, হরিদা বেগম অরুণা ইউনিয়ন, বেগম বেগম হকমাতী ইউনিয়ন, সন্ধ্যা রাণী বিশ্বাস শাহাদাত ইউনিয়ন, অরুণা বেগম কলুয়াবাপুর ইউনিয়ন, কামন বালা মুলিয়া ইউনিয়ন, মাসিমা বেগম সেখতগি ইউনিয়ন, মালতী বিশ্বাস কলুয়া ইউনিয়ন, শেখারী বেগম সিংগাশোয়া, পূর্ব ইউনিয়ন, মুন্সিলা বেগম বিহলী ইউনিয়ন, কন্যা বেগম চন্ডিবরপুর ইউনিয়ন, কলিতা শিকদার অরুণা ইউনিয়ন, শাহজাদী বেগম অরুণা ইউনিয়ন, হরিদা বেগম মাইজাপাড়া ইউনিয়ন।

সদর উপজেলা নারী উন্নয়ন ফোরাম গঠনের পর গোহাঙ্গড়া উপজেলা ফোরাম গঠন করা হয়। গোহাঙ্গড়া উপজেলা মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান শাহাদাতা শাহীম লাকী যে আহবায়ক এবং পৌর মহিলা কাউন্সিলর সায়েদা বেগম কে যুগ্ম আহবায়ক করে ১৪ সদস্য বিশিষ্ট গোহাঙ্গড়া উপজেলা নারী উন্নয়ন ফোরাম গঠিত হয়। অন্যান্য সদস্যরা হলেন, হেনুজা বেগম মাদারীশা ইউনিয়ন, কেবিনুর বেগম কলুয়া ইউনিয়ন, পরিফা বেগম কাশিপুর ইউনিয়ন,



যশোরের সিংগাশোয়া পার্কে নড়াইলের দুই উপজেলার নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধিদের ফোরাম গঠন ও অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময়

গ্রামের কাগজ

প্রতিনিধিদের অভিজ্ঞতা বিনিময়। একে অপরদের সাথে পরিচিত হয়ে এই অনুষ্ঠান আর হয়। এরমধ্যে স্বাগত বক্তব্য প্রদান করেন যশোর সদরের মহিলা ভাইস চেয়ারম্যান ও সদর নারী উন্নয়ন ফোরামের আহবায়ক এতজোকেটি সেকতার বেগম।

এতজোকেটি বলেন, আমরা নারীরা আজ ও অনেক প্রগতিয়ে রয়েছে, আমরা নির্বাচিত নারী প্রতিনিধি হওয়া সত্ত্বেও আমাদেরকে সোচ্চারিত হওয়া হবে না। আমাদেরকে সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধি করা হবে। আমাদের এক ইউনিয়নের তিন জন নারী প্রতিনিধিদের নিজস্বের মধ্যে মিল নেই আর এই সুযোগে চেয়ারম্যান পুরুষ মেম্বাররা আমাদের মূল পাশে পরিদর্শিত করে তিনি সকল নারী জনপ্রতিনিধিদের একবার বার করে আসব।

এরপর নড়াইলের পক্ষ থেকে হকমাতী পার্কে একটি সেরা বক্তব্য দেন। এরপর নড়াইল

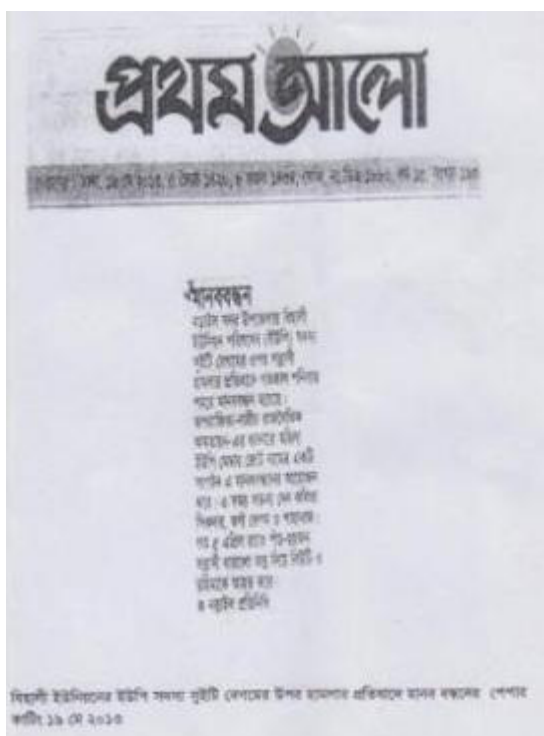
করে সেই। এলাকার সিদ্ধান্ত কারিগর ব্যাখ্যাতা সহ যোগ্যতা বিঘ্নে চেয়ারম্যান আমারা সাথে পরামর্শ করে। তবে আমরা এই ক্ষমতা একসঙ্গে ছুঁতে। অনেক কষ্ট করে তবে এই গোলাকার জরুরি করতে পারি। আমি নিয়মিতভাবে ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের সকল সভায় হাজির হয়ে যোগ্যতা রাখি কোথায় কি হচ্ছে, কতগুলো সিদ্ধান্ত কার্যে এসেছে, চেয়ারম্যান কেন সবকিছু ব্যবস্থাপনা করে এবং এলাকা এলাকা সম্পর্কে নিয়মিত যোগ্য রাখি। পুরুষরা আমাদের হাজার হা আসবেও আসনি যদি নিয়মিত পরিদর্শন আসেন আর সব খোজ জানেন তাহলে আপনাকে উল্লেখ্য। আর সবাই হবে না এছাড়া নিজস্বের মধ্যে আন্তরিক সম্পর্ক খুবই প্রয়োজন।

এরপর নড়াইল এবং গোহাঙ্গড়া উপজেলার দুটি নারী ফোরাম গঠনের জন্য সকলের পাশে একটি সেরা বক্তব্য দেন। এরপর নড়াইল

লাকী রাণী বিশ্বাস নারী ইউনিয়ন, হকমাতী বেগম মেম্বার ইউনিয়ন, অরুণা বেগম শাহাদাত ইউনিয়ন, হারিদা বেগম বিহলী ইউনিয়ন। হারিদা পারভীন চেয়ারম্যান ইউনিয়ন, শাহাদাত পারভীন ইউনিয়ন, অরুণা ইউনিয়ন, মালতী বিশ্বাস মাইজাপাড়া ইউনিয়ন।

উপস্থিত সকলে দুই ফোরামের নেতৃত্ব দান কে করতালীত মাধ্যমে স্বাগত জানান। দুপুরের খাবার পরে নারী সদস্যরা বিশেষিতা পার্কে বিভিন্ন ছান পরিদর্শনে বের হন।

পরিদর্শন শেষে প্রতিনিধিদের জন্য অনারবরম অরেটগি অক্সিজেন ছিলো দুইজ প্রতিনিধিগত। ও ডি প্রপল পোশাক হয়ে দুইজন প্রতিনিধিগত জুগে সেন সফরে। ইউনিয়ন পরিষদের বিভিন্ন সিদ্ধান্ত নিয়ে আয়োজিত কুইজে ১০ টি প্রশ্নের উত্তর ১৩ মিনিটে প্রদান করে ও জন সদস্য পুরস্কার জিতে নেন। এর পরে পক্ষ ছান আন্তরিকতা আরও। ইউনিয়ন প্রতিনিধিগত



Abbreviations

A-NGO	:	Alliance NGO (i.e. Democracy Watch, Khan Foundations, PRRIP Trust and Steps Towards Development)
DW	:	Democracywatch (A-NGO)
EWR	:	Elected Woman Representative
GoB	:	Government of Bangladesh
KCE	:	Knowledge, Communication and Education
LG	:	Local Government
LGSP	:	Local Government Support Project
NILG	:	National Institute for Local Government
P-EWR	:	Potential elected woman representative
PIC	:	Project Implementation Committee
SDC	:	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
UP	:	Union Parishad (Council)
UNO	:	Upazila Nirbahi Officer
UZP	:	Upazila (sub-district) Parishad (Council)
PC	:	Project Coordinator
SPO	:	Senior Program Officer
PO	:	Program Officer
PROGs	:	Program Organizer
BUPF	:	Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum
MAB	:	Municipality Association of Bangladesh
UZPAB	:	Upazila Parishad Association of Bangladesh