



Dhaka  
Ahsania  
Mission



# e-Newsletter

## HEALTH & WASH SECTOR

Issue: 24, January - March 2023



## All need to work together to reform tobacco laws

A discussion meeting titled 'What to do on the harmful effects of tobacco on environment and climate change' was held on Sunday, January 15, 2023, at the Ahsania Mission Auditorium at Dhanmondi of the capital. In the speech of the chief guest at the meeting, Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Shahab Uddin said that his ministry will actively cooperate in the amendment and implementation of the Tobacco Control Act. Additional Secretary of Health Services Division Kazi Zebunnesa Begum, Coordinator of the National Tobacco Control Cell Hossain Ali Khandkar, PKSF Chairman Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad spoke in the discussion meeting organized by Health Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and in collaboration with Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids (CTFK). Iqbal Masud, Director of Health and WASH Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission presented the keynote speech at the event. Emphasizing the need for giving incentives to tobacco farmers for cultivating alternative crops, the chief guest said, NGOs should continue their support for and cooperate with the government's tobacco control work. The environment minister also said that realizing the harmful effects of tobacco, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina announced to stop tobacco use in Bangladesh by 2040. To implement this visionary announcement of the premier, his ministry will provide optimum cooperation in passing further amendments to the Tobacco Control Act.

## Four Journalists Awarded on Tobacco Control Reports by Dhaka Ahsania Mission



Four journalists have received the 'Dhaka Ahsania Mission Tobacco Control Journalism Award 2022' for reporting on the amendment of the Tobacco Control Act and the increase in tobacco tax. On March 22 (Wednesday), Minister of State for Culture KM Khalid, MP was present as the chief guest and handed over awards and mementos to the winners in a function organized at the Dhaka Ahsania Mission auditorium in the capital. Sirajganj-3 Member of Parliament Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Aziz and

Member of Parliament for Magura-1 Saifuzzaman Shikhar were present as special guests at the event. Hossain Ali Khondkar, Coordinator of the National Tobacco Control Cell, Additional Secretary, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, Senior Journalist and Editor-in-Chief of TV Today were the speakers on the occasion. Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam presided over the event.

### Divisional conference was held to demand the ban of smoking zones in hotels and restaurants

4 divisional conferences were held with the restaurants of 44 districts of Rajshahi, Rangpur, Khulna, Barisal, and Chittagong divisions in collaboration with Dhaka Ahsania Mission and organized by Advancement of Hotel and Restaurant (AHAR) Bangladesh. The Rajshahi and Rangpur Divisional Conference was held at Saikat Hotel in Bogura on February 5, 2023, calling for the cancellation of the 'Smoking Zone' in restaurants by amending the Tobacco Control Act to save non-smokers from second-hand smoke. Bogura Additional Superintendent of Police, Sharafat Islam was present as the chief guest at the conference. Khulna Divisional Conference was held on February 13, 2023, in the

meeting room of Khulna Frozen Foods Exporters Association. Additional Deputy Commissioner (Revenue) SM Munim Lincoln was present as the chief guest on the occasion. The Barisal Divisional Conference was held on 25th February 2023 in the meeting room of the Barisal District Commissioner's office. Divisional Commissioner (Additional Secretary) Md. Amin Ul Ahsan was present as the chief guest at this conference. The Chittagong Divisional Conference was held on February 27 in the meeting room of the Rangamati Tourism Holiday Complex. Acting Deputy Commissioner of Rangamati SM Ferdous Islam was present as the chief guest.

## Statement of 150 doctors including oncologists demanding an increase in tax on tobacco products



150 doctors of Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital, including renowned oncologists of the country, have requested the government to amend the Tobacco Control Act and increase the tax on tobacco products to protect public health. Prominent oncologists who gave statements are the Director of Bangladesh Cancer Society Hospital and Welfare Home Professor Dr. MA Hai, President of Bangladesh Cancer Society Professor Prof. Dr. Golam Mohiuddin Faruque, Director of Medical Services and Head of Radiation Oncology Professor Dr. Kamruzzaman Chowdhury, Professor Dr. Syed Akram Hossain, Professor Dr. AMM Shariful Alam and others.

## Distribution of blankets to underprivileged people on the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of the founder of the mission



On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA), Mr. Iqbal Masud, Director of Health and WASH Sector, distributed blankets among the underprivileged

people at the Shyamoli Health Sector Office of the capital on Thursday afternoon, February 2, as part of various activities of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. At this time, he exchanged greetings with everyone. Blankets are also distributed to underprivileged women at Mirpur and Chankharpool Dropping Centers (DIC).

## Discussion meeting on the life and works of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA) at Rangamati

On the occasion of the 150th birth anniversary of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA), a discussion meeting on the life and work of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA) was held at Rangamati. This discussion meeting was held on February 19 (Sunday) at the Rangamati Tourism Holiday Complex auditorium organized by the Network of Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers (SONJOG). Iqbal Masud, Director, Health Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and President of SONJOG, reminisced about the biography of Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah (RA) as the keynote speaker of the event. Among others, the General Secretary of the association Imamul Islam Sikder Roni, Convener of the recovery get-together organizing committee Shamim Khan, and many others spoke in the discussion meeting.

## Vitamin A Plus campaign conducted in various centers



Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Second Phase, DSCC PA-3 conducted by Dhaka Ahsania Mission on February 20, a total of 36051 children between zero and five years of age were fed vitamin A plus throughout the day. Also, under the said project, this activity is conducted smoothly throughout the day in Rajshahi and Cumilla working areas. On the other hand, 271 children were also given vitamin A plus in the Kamrangirchar working area under the auspices of Mother Hansi Health Care Center.

## Free medical camp held at Hena Ahmed Hospital



On February 11, 2023, from 11 am to 1 pm, Free Medical Camp was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission in collaboration with Lions Club of Dhaka Oasis at Hena Ahmed Hospital, Alampur, Hansara, Srinagar, Munshiganj. In the said camp, Prof. Dr. M. Fakrul Islam, MBBS, PhD (Surgery) Professor and Head of Department, Bangladesh Medical College Hospital, Dhanmondi, Dhaka and Dr. Utpal Kumar Mondal, Senior Medicine Officer, Coronary Cardiac Department Al-Karim General Hospital, Dhalpur, Dhaka prescribed for the patients.

## UNICEF delegation visited the Covid-19 vaccine center



A UNICEF delegation visited the COVID-19 vaccine center on March 14 at Mirpur Matrisadan Center, Dhaka North City Corporation, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-2nd Phase, managed by Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Also, vaccination activities are conducted under the project of Dhaka South City Corporation and Rajshahi City Corporation.

## Adolescent Health Assembly held

A rally was held with girls on the morning of January 22 at the Rajshahi Nagar Matrisadan Center. 25 girls were present in the event. Meanwhile, project manager Riaz Uddin Ahmed, clinic manager Dr. Suraiya Parveen, and Family Planning Coordinator Dr. Zereen Subah Samira and many others were present. At the gathering, he gave an awareness speech on various problems of adolescence as well as on the topic of Covid-19. Masks and hand sanitizers are distributed among all the participants.

## Provision of evening health care for employees

Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project, PA-1, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Rajshahi City Corporation under Urban Health Center-3, Kadirganj on March 11 from 4 PM to 7 PM provided evening health care for working men and women. A total of 27 patients are served under this healthcare. Among these 3 red card patients were included.

## Conducted networking meetings between women entrepreneurs and local market traders



Conducted "Business Development Linkage Meetings" in a total of 18 markets of Patuakhali and Barguna districts to increase business by ensuring proper market value for women entrepreneurs. The purpose of this networking meeting is to build business relationships between women entrepreneurs and local market traders. As a result, market information is now easily available to women entrepreneurs. The meeting was held in collaboration with the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Feed the Future Bangladesh Nutrition Activity Project.

## A delegation from the Ministry of Home Affairs visited DTC Jashore

A delegation from the Ministry of Home Affairs visited Jashore Center, a drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation center at the Ahsania Mission, on February 11. The delegation was attended by the Additional Secretary, Assistant Commissioner, and Executive Magistrate Nusrat Nowin of the Ministry of Welfare and many others. At this time, the team exchanged skills with everyone and expressed satisfaction with the activities of the center.

## DNC delegation visited the Ahsania Hena Ahmed Manojatno Center



On behalf of the Narcotics Control Directorate, a delegation of 7 persons led by Additional Director Mohammad Zafarullah Kajol visited Ahsania Hena Ahmed Manojatno Center in Munshiganj on January 26. He visited the classroom, counseling room, doctor's room, gymnasium, patient's bedroom, dining room, and family meeting room. Munshiganj District Narcotics Control Office Deputy Director Md. Mamun was present among others.

## A discussion meeting was held on the role of family members in the treatment of substance users

**DTC Jashore:** Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Jashore Center held a family meeting on March 11 on "What to do by the family during treatment and post-treatment".

**Counseling Centre, Munshiganj:** On the same day, a family meeting on "Drug Addiction and Role of Family in Treatment of Drug Addiction" organized by Ahsania Hena Ahmed Counseling Center was organized at Munshiganj.



Center manager Deepak Hasdak presided over the meeting while Dr. Raihanul Islam, Resident Psychiatrist of Dhaka Central Drug Addiction Treatment Center was the chief discussant.

**FDTC, Dhaka:** A family meeting on psychosocial education was held on January 28 with the joint participation of Ahsania Mission Women Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center and Ahsania Hena Ahmed Manojatno Center. A psychiatrist from the National Institute of Mental Health, Dr. Md. Tayabur Rahman was present as a speaker at the event. Also psychosocial family meetings on "Substance Use Disorders" are held to increase the involvement of family members in the treatment of drug-dependent disorders, and mainstream drug addicts and support them in their journey to a drug-free life.

## Conducted mental health awareness activities

Under the Health Sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Manojatno Outdoor Counseling Center and Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology jointly organized mental health awareness activities. Dr. Muhammad Fazli Ilahi, Vice-Chancellor of Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology, inaugurated the program on Sunday, February 5. Assistant Professor Dr. Helal Uddin Ahmed of the National Institute of Mental Health was the speaker. The entire program was coordinated by Dr. Mohammad Khalid Hasan of the University.

## Programs were held to strengthen safe roads and restore order on the roads

A 5-day program was held on 5-9 February-2023 to strengthen road safety and restore order on roads. The program is conducted



on various important roads in the capital with the aim of road awareness campaign. Hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Bridges Ministry Mr. Obaidul Quader, MP, Secretary of Road Transport and Highways Division ABM Amin Ullah Nuri, BRTA Chairman Noor Mohammad Majumdar were present in the said campaign.

### Greetings to the concerned ministries for the formulation of Road Transport Rules-2022

Dhaka Ahsania Mission and other members of Road Safety Coalition Bangladesh expressed their greetings and thanks to the relevant ministries for the formulation of Road Transport Rules-2022. On January 12 at 11:30 am, the honorable Minister of Road Transport and Bridges Ministry Mr. Obaidul Quader MP, the honorable Secretary of Road Transport and Highways Division Mr. ABM Amin Ullah Nuri, and the related ministries expressed their greetings and thanks for the formulation of Road Transport Rules-2022. Dhaka Ahsania Mission along with other members of Road Safety Coalition Bangladesh were present at the time.

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### International Mother Language Day is celebrated by various organizations and projects in the health sector

Dhaka Ahsania Mission has organized various institutions and projects of health and WASH sector to celebrate Ekushe February or International Mother Language Day Amar Ekushe February or International Mother Language Day with due dignity.

**Ahsania Hena Ahmed Manojotno Center:** On the occasion of International Mother Language Day, patients and all staff of the medical center gathered at Ahsania Hena Ahmed Manojat Center on February 21st at 7.30 am. The inauguration of wallpaper prepared by patients was organized at 6.30 pm discussion and cultural programs were organized.

**Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (Jashore):** Amar Ekushe February was celebrated by Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center Jashore. On the occasion of the celebration, various activities are duly celebrated at the Shaheed Minar including wreath laying, and Dialika Prakash.

**Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (Gazipur):** Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center Gazipur organized various programs on the occasion of International Mother Language Day. 8:45 a.m. on the occasion of the day. Hoisting of the national flag, showing respect to the national flag, singing of the national anthem, paying tribute to the memory of the great martyrs, and placing wreaths at the Shaheed Minar at Gazipur Center. All along with in-house and follow-up did a barefoot rally in honor of the martyrs in the center grounds. Wallpaper is also published.

## The government should take steps to ensure women's rights and prevent violence against women

"Comprehensive HIV Prevention Program for Female Sex Workers" was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector and Gender Fund/Save the Children International in Bangladesh on Monday (March 13) afternoon at Shyamoli Park ground in the capital, with the theme "Digital technology and innovation will eliminate gender discrimination". Funded by and Their Clients' Intervention and with the support of various projects of the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector and the Ahsania Mission Women's Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, day-long discussions and cultural events were held. Additional Director General of Narcotics Control Directorate Md. Azizul Islam was present as the chief guest at the event. UNAIDS Country Director Dr. Saima Khan, and DNCC Ward No. 32 Councilor Syed Hasan Noor (Rashton) were present as special guests. Iqbal Masud, Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector, gave a welcome address on the occasion. The speakers commented that the government should take steps to ensure women's rights and prevent torture. On the other hand, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-2nd Phase DSCC PA-3 on the occasion of International Women's Day on 15th March awareness discussion meeting and examination camp on cervical and breast cancer was held.

## On the occasion of Bangabandhu's birth anniversary, free health care was provided by various organizations in the health sector

On the occasion of the 103rd birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, free health care was provided by various institutions of the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector. On the occasion of Bangabandhu's birth anniversary on March 17, Urban Primary Health Care Services

Delivery Project (Cumilla) 226 people, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project (Dhaka North City Corporation) Region 30 people, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project (Rajshahi) 44 patients free medical care is provided. On the occasion of the birthday of Father of the Nation Bangabandh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, apart from cake cutting, a drawing competition was held with children aged 7 to 12 years.

## Activities of WASH Sector

### Construction of disabled-friendly toilets completed at the educational institution level



With the financial support of WaterAid Bangladesh in order to ensure WASH system for the underprivileged population, the construction of disabled-friendly toilets with separate chambers for girls and boys has been completed at the educational institution level under the initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission in Kalaroa Municipality of Satkhira District. There is an MHM chamber for disposal of used sanitary napkins and an automatic sanitary napkin vending machine, which will ensure proper menstrual hygiene management of students.

**Editor:**  
Iqbal Masud

**Editorial Team:**  
Md. Shahedul Haque  
Md. Shariful Islam  
Mst. Akhi Khatun

**Computer Graphics:**  
Md. Asraful Islam

www.dam-health.org  
www.amic.org.bd  
Phone: +88-02-58151114  
E-mail: dam.healths@gmail.com