



**Dhaka  
Ahsania  
Mission**



# e-Newsletter

## HEALTH & WASH SECTOR

Issue: 18, July-September 2021



## Celebrating International Recovery Month

Recovery Month is celebrated in September in all countries internationally to inspire recovery from patients with drug dependence, mental and behavioral problems. In September, under the theme "Recovery for All: Every Individual, Every Family, Every Community", the organizations under the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector conducted a variety of activities. It is worth mentioning that a live webinar was organized on 18 September at the initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector. Respected speakers, guardians, including a female recovery and a male recovery from Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, shared their vital importance during this time.

Besides, on the occasion of International Recovery Day and Recovery Month on September 30, Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Jessore organized a tree planting ceremony, Programs and discussion meetings where recoveries and guardians, print media representatives and all staff of the center including officials of Jessore District Department of Narcotics Control were present. In addition, on the occasion of the 32nd Recovery Month, various programs were organized throughout the day at Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Gazipur and Female Center Dhaka. These include discussion meetings, a recovery sharing program, recovery vs in-house client friendly football match and pleasant cultural events.

### In Cumilla Dhaka Ahsania Mission has again been selected as the best Non-Government Voluntary Organization

Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Adarsho Sadar, Cumilla has been selected Best Non-Government Voluntary Organization (Clinic Based) at Upazila and District Level by

the Family Planning Office in Cumilla for FY 2020-21 for their commendable contribution in Family Planning, Maternal and Child Health Program.





## Lifesaving medical equipment to Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital

High Commission for Pakistan, Dhaka, has provided lifesaving equipment to Ahsania Mission Cancer and General Hospital, Dhaka. The equipment, which will be used in a separate covid ward of the hospital include 10 ventilators, 20 C-PAP breathing aid machines, 10 beds, an elevator for the hospital building and a vehicle for use by the covid ward staff. High Commissioner Imran Ahmed Siddiqui handed over the cheque of financial assistance to President, Ahsania Mission, Kazi Rafiqul Alam for locally sourced items. "Our cooperation with Ahsania Mission Cancer and General



Hospital is a robust expression of solidarity and support to Bangladeshi sisters and brothers in their fight against Covid. It is also a testament to Pakistan's strong commitment to the promotion of regional cooperation under SAARC," High Commissioner Siddiqui added. President Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam thanked the high commission for Pakistan for timely contribution and briefed the high commissioner on various projects of the hospital.

## Safeguarding activities

The Safeguarding Committee of the Health Sector of Dhaka



emails and a template with pictures of committee members to lodge complaints.

## Distribution of livelihood items among the released prisoners



On 26 September, Garments Sewing Machines, Rickshaws and Vans were distributed among 25 inmates as part of the IRSOP project's ongoing livelihood distribution. Later, livelihood materials will be provided to 25 more people.

## Covid-19 (Mordana) Vaccination Program

The vaccination program of Covid-19 (Mordana) has started from August 8, 2021, at 5 urban health centers of Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission and supported by Rajshahi City



Corporation. A total of 10,071 people were vaccinated with Covid-19 (Mordana) 1st dose during the vaccination program and 6,619 people were vaccinated with the second dose of Covid-19.

Besides, the Covid-19 vaccination Program in Dhaka has been ongoing at all the urban health centers of Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission and supported by Dhaka City Corporation.

## Signed a contract with UNODC

Dhaka Ahsania Mission has signed a contract with UNODC on 19<sup>th</sup> August to implement a training program on the FDMNs (Forcefully Displaced Myanmar Nationals) and the host community in the surrounding area. The named program "Research Agency to Support the Roll-Out of "Strong Families" – a Family Skills-based Programme as part of UNODC Project on Countering the Threats of Drugs and Crime in Cox's Bazar" is a family skills development program. It will be implemented in Rohingya Camps in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar and Tekhnaf.

## Drug Demand Reduction and Treatment

### Family meetings on the role of counselors in the treatment of patients with drug addiction and mental problems

The role of the psychiatrist as well as the counselor is extremely important in the treatment of patients with



drug addiction and mental problems. Proper and regular counseling at a medical center greatly increases a patient's chances of recovery. Emphasizing this issue, a family meeting was organized on 18 September 2021 at the Health Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission with the family members of the patients who came to the Ahsania Mission Female Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center for treatment. The main topic of discussion at this meeting was the role of counselors in the treatment of patients with drug addiction and mental problems

### Meeting with local government representatives in Natore on drug prevention

An Advocacy Meeting was jointly organized by the Light House Consortium and the Dhaka Ahsania Mission on July 31 under the 'Drug Abuse Resistant and Understanding' project with local government representatives on allocating regular budget for drug prevention in the district budget. The meeting is conducted on the zoom platform. Natore Sadar Municipality Mayor Uma Chowdhury presided over the meeting and Natore Deputy Commissioner Shamim Ahmed was the chief guest.

Natore Sadar Upazila Chairman Md Shariful Islam Ramzan in his speech promised to allocate a budget of Tk 2 lakh from Natore Sadar Upazila for the implementation of anti-drug program.

### Family education meeting held

A monthly family education meeting was organized on 24th September by the Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center (Gazipur). A total of 40 members from the families of 18 patients were present at the meeting. The causes of drug addiction, the importance and necessity of treatment, and the role of the family in

caring for patients during and after treatment are discussed in detail in the meeting.

### Family group counseling held at Female Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center

Family group counseling is organized with the family members of the people who came for treatment at Ahsania Mission Female Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center. Following this program, Family Group Counseling was organized on 29 August 2021 through Zoom Platform. The theme of this year's counseling program was 'Parenting Skill'. The aim was to provide psychosocial education to parents about drug treatment. The counseling program was attended by 19 family members.

### Advocacy meetings held in Rajshahi and Natore to include anti-drug issues in government training curriculum

Under the "Drug Abuse Resistant and Understanding (DARAU)" project, Dhaka Ahsania Mission organized two advocacy meetings with the representatives of the departments conducting various training in different trades in Rajshahi and Natore districts respectively on 31 August and on 2 September. The main objective of the meeting



was to include sessions on drug prevention in the training curriculum of the departments which are imparting training in various trades of government departments in Rajshahi and Natore districts. The meeting in Rajshahi was chaired by the convener of the civil society platform under DARAU project, Professor Dipkendranath Das. The meeting was attended by various representatives including Department of Social Services, Department of Women's Affairs, Department of Youth Development, Islamic Foundation, Department of Manpower Export and Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Trainers of District Education Office.

The advocacy meeting in Natore was held in the conference room of Cecil Restaurant under the chairmanship of Professor Alok Maitreya, convener of the Civil Society Platform for the DARAU project.



## Tobacco Control Initiatives



### **'Appropriate steps will be taken to ban e-cigarettes' - Senior Secretary, Health Services Division**

A meeting was held at noon on September 19 in the conference room of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to disseminate the results of the study on



e-cigarette use conducted on the university students in Dhaka city. The meeting was jointly organized by National Tobacco Control Cell, Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Dhaka Ahsania Mission. The meeting was chaired by Additional Secretary (World Health) Kazi Zebunnesa Begum and Senior Secretary Lokman Hossain Miah was the chief guest.

Lokman Hossain Miah, Senior Secretary of the Health Services Division, said, the health ministry has already taken some steps, such as a draft roadmap to build a tobacco-free Bangladesh. We will take into account the recommendations made in the law to ban e-cigarettes.

### **Four Journalists received DAM's Journalist Fellowship Award**



Four journalists have received fellowship award in anti-tobacco journalism in Bangladesh from Dhaka Ahsania Mission. They are Masud Rumi (Kaler Kantho), Dollar Mehedi (71 TV), Jannatul Ferdous Panna (Amader Notun Samay) and Md. Akhtaruzzaman (Amader Orthony). The ceremony was organized through a virtual meeting.

### **SBWS demands to ban the display of tobacco products at POSs by amending the current tobacco control law**

A joint virtual exchange meeting organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission with the leaders of Shop Business Welfare Society (SBWS) was held on September 4. It was discussed that, although the existing 'Smoking and Tobacco Products Usage (Control) Act 2005' prohibits the advertisement and promotion of tobacco products, there is no specific prohibition on the display of tobacco products in point of sales. Misusing this point, the tobacco companies are promoting and disseminating the products through product display in the point of sales. And for this, the leaders of Shop Business Welfare Society (SBWS) demanded amendment of the present law.

### **Awareness about tuberculosis**

On September 6, a leaflet on tuberculosis was distributed at the field level to raise awareness about tuberculosis among the general public at the initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Tuberculosis Control Program. Grocers and vegetable sellers were also informed about tuberculosis. They are given ideas about the symptoms of tuberculosis, tuberculosis



activities, Relationship of Tuberculosis with Tobacco and the current status of TB in Bangladesh were discussed under the National Tuberculosis Control Program. IPT treatment, MDR TB issues - ideas were given. In addition, if there are any symptoms, it is requested to contact the TB Control Program Office run by Dhaka Ahsania Mission for further services.

## 'Tobacco control laws need to be strengthened': webinar speakers

Two webinars were held on August 7 and September 12 at the initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Tobacco Control Project. Barrister Shamim Haider Patwari, MP and Member, Standing Committee on the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Advocate Syeda Rubina Akhter Meera, MP and Member, Standing Committee on the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Prof. Pran Gopal Dutt, former Vice Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University and Professor. Soheli Reza Choudhury, Head, Department of Epidemiology and Research, National Heart Foundation Hospital and Research Institute, took part in the live discussion program organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission on August 7.

On the other hand on 12 September Prof. Dr. Md. Abdul Aziz, MP and the Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare was the chief guest in the webinar

where Iqbal Masud presided over the webinar. Soheli Reza Choudhury, Head, Department of Epidemiology and Research, National Heart Foundation Hospital and Research Institute, presented the key-note paper. Dr.



Arup Ratan Choudhury, Md. Mostafizur Rahman and Prof. Dr. Golam Mohiuddin Faruque were as special guests in the webinar.

## Road Safety program

### Strict laws and enforcement are needed to prevent road accidents

In the 29th episode of Corona Dialogue organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector, the speakers



said strict laws and implementation are needed to prevent road accidents. The live discussion titled 'Safe Roads for Safer Lives' was held on Saturday, July 11 at 11 am under the direction of Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and Wash Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission. Bir Muktiyoddha Mir Mostaq Ahmed Robi, Member of Parliament for Satkhira-2, Nadira Yasmin Jolly, Member of Parliament for Women Reserved, Khandakar Rakibur Rahman, Executive Director of Dhaka Transport Coordinating Authority and Taifur Rahman, Manager of Gebal Road Safety Advocacy and Grant Program were

present on the occasion. The article was presented by BUET Accident Research Institute Assistant Professor Kazi Saifun Newaz.

### 3-day long workshop on road safety in Bangladesh

The Road Safety Partnership (GRSP) and GABAL Health Advocacy (GHAL) have jointly organized road safety in Bangladesh from September 26 to 29 at the BRAC Center in Mohakhali, Dhaka. Representatives of BUET's ARI, BRAC, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Safe Roads Wanted (Nishcha) were present. Impressive Communication Limited and Bangladesh Red Crescent participated in



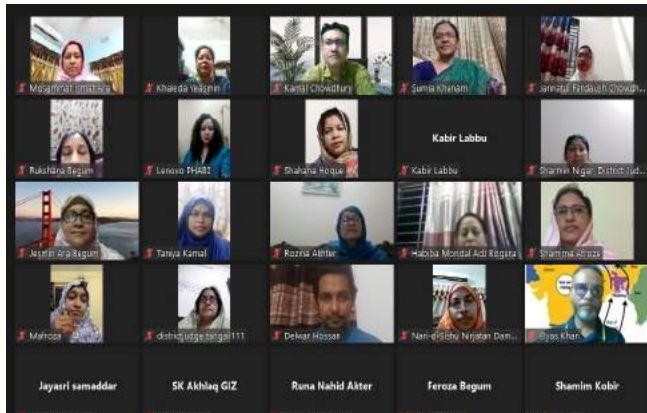
the workshop. At the workshop, a plan was adopted to correct and implement the weak points of the Road Transport Act 2018.



## Training & Orientation

### Online training on stress management among senior female executives in the judiciary

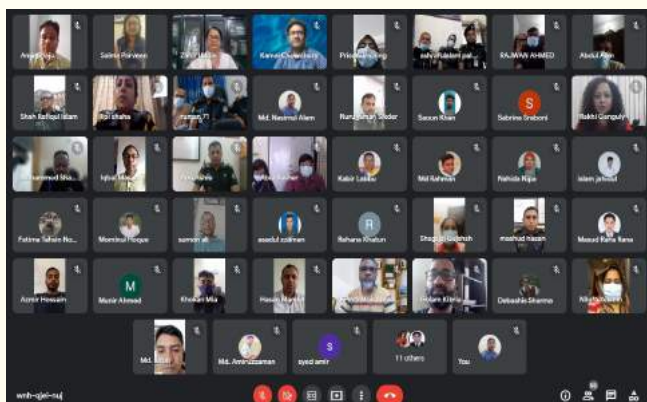
A two-day online stress management session was organized with senior female officers of the Judiciary



under the Rule-of-Law Program by the Dhaka Ahsania Mission under the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and jointly funded by GIZ and the British and German Governments. The training was inaugurated by Umme Kulsum, Joint Secretary (Opinion) of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and National Program Director of the Rule-of-Law Program. The training will be imparted to 510 women judicial officers from 64 districts of the country in phases through 10 batches under the supervision of Dhaka Ahsania Mission.

### Online training on mental health for prison officers and employees

On 08 August 2021, a three-day online training on stress management for prison officers and employees started under the Rule-of-Law Program jointly funded by GIZ Bangladesh and Dhaka Ahsania Mission and under the joint initiative of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and the



Department of Prisons. This training has already been completed among 175 prison officers and employees

through 8 batches. It may be mentioned that a total of 265 trainees from 55 district jails of the country will participate in the phase.

### Online training on stress management for the officers and staff of the Child Development Center

A two-day online training on stress management has been completed for 35 officers and staff of three child development centers in the country respectively on 04 and 05 July 2021. These trainings were provided under a joint venture between the Department of Social Services and Dhaka Ahsania Mission and implemented by GIZ Bangladesh and Dhaka Ahsania Mission and jointly funded by the British and German Governments under the Rule-of-Law Program.

### Training of food vendors

Dhaka Ahsania Mission, under the Bangladesh Nutrition Activity Project, 350 food vendors were trained in Patuakhali district through 30 batches from July to September. Of which 26 are male and 64 are female



trainees. Topics of training were Food Marketing, Consumer Management and Financial Education, Food Risk and Pollution and Food Packaging, Transportation and Storage Practices and Social and Economic Empowerment for Women Entrepreneurs. The issues that affect the safety and quality of vegetables and reduce the potential negative effects need to be understood and practiced by a food vendor.

### Training of sellers of agricultural products

Under the Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Bangladesh Nutrition Activity Project, training was imparted to 40 sellers of agricultural products in 6 batches in Patuakhali district from July to September. Agricultural sellers have been provided training on non-written content which will be helpful in conducting their business.

## COVID-19 Response:

### Distribution of hygienic materials

Dhaka Ahsania Mission is a philanthropic non-governmental organization at the national level. The organization stands by the helpless people in various difficult times and provides emergency assistance. Following this, on September 25, 2021, under the COVID-19 emergency response program at the Monasef Ahsania Health Center, hygienic items were distributed among 50 underprivileged people with health card holders and living below the extreme poverty line.



## Day Observance

### National Mourning Day is celebrated with due dignity



On the occasion of the 47th Martyrdom Anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Mourning Day, Urban Primary Health Care Services Delivery Project-Phase II at Cumilla, Rajshahi, Mirpur and Hazaribagh managed by Dhaka Ahsania Mission observed many programs with due respect displaying mourning banners at every health center and city maternity center. Free health care services including a total of 142 people with 3 normal deliveries were provided in Cumilla, 175 in Rajshahi with 3 normal deliveries, 115 in Mirpur with 2 normal deliveries and 163 in Hazaribagh were done. In addition to free health care and RH testing was done with 35 people in Cumilla, 55 people in Rajshahi, 25 people in Mirpur and 75 people in Hazaribagh through

free blood grouping camps. Leaflets with Covid-19 awareness messages were distributed on the occasion of the day.

Ahsania Mission Drug Addiction Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, Jessore and Gazipur also carried out various activities that include hoisting the national flag (half-mast), discussion meetings, various documentaries on Bangabandhu's life, video screenings, wearing black badges and others.

### World Suicide Prevention Day

A webinar was arranged on the occasion of World Suicide Prevention Day where Dr. Rehanul Islam, Psychiatrist, Central Center for Addiction Treatment



and Rehabilitation, Selina Ahmed Anna, Program Head, Gender and Diversity Program, BRAC was present. The program was conducted by Rakhi Ganguli, Senior Psychologist, Dhaka Ahsania Mission Health Sector.



## Activities in the WASH Sector

### Celebration of World Water Week

World Water Week 2021 was celebrated from 23rd to 26th August with due pomp and ceremony at the Dhaka Ahsania Mission Wash Sector Project “Humanitarian Wash for Rohingya Refugees and Host Communities”.



Project staff organized rallies and discussion meetings to raise water awareness among the beneficiaries.

### Inauguration of Arsenic-Iron Removal Plant

Mayor of Benapole Municipality Md Ashraful Alam and Upazila Nirbahi Officer of Sharsha Upazila Mir Alif inaugurated the arsenic-iron removal plant set up in



Dhaka Ahsania Mission's 'Water: Sustainable Urban Provision, Benapole' project on September 29 in Benapole Municipality.

### Hygiene promotion session

Hygiene Promotion Session was organized by Dhaka Ahsania Mission with the involvement of Benapole Municipality as part of a series of activities in the community adjacent to Kagazpukur Bazar in the municipal area under “Water: Sustainable Urban Provision”, Benapole Project. The spontaneous participation of women, men, children and adolescents in the community was noticeable in this session. At the end of the session, some children and teenagers demonstrated hand washing with soap.



### Safe water supply

Dhaka Ahsania Mission WASH Sector is working on water supply under the scheme Max Nutriwash Program. Work is underway to set up 17 mini-cluster



pipe water schemes in Patuakhali district, which will supply water to the doorsteps of villagers through pipelines.

### Ensuring safe sanitation and hygiene

Two projects in the wash sector of Dhaka Ahsania Mission are working to install sanitary latrines.



Construction of 15 sanitary latrines and repair of 50



damaged latrines have already been completed at Host Community in Ukhia upazila of Cox's Bazar district. 350 latrines, 1363 dining basins and 1643 latrine basins have been set up in 11 unions of Patuakhali district under Max NutriWASH project under implementation.

### Inspection of working area by the Director, Health and WASH Sector

On August 9, Iqbal Masud, Director, Health and Wash Sector, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, inspected the



construction work of two new arsenic-iron removal plants adjacent to Saheb Bari and College ground in Majh Sakhipur village of Debhata upazila of Satkhira district.

### Workshop on the role of teachers in WASH activities in educational institutions and WASH fund



Organized by Kalaroa Upazila Secondary Education Office and in collaboration with our Kalaroa Project and Dhaka Ahsania Mission, 'Workshop on Role of Teachers in Wash Institutions and WASH Funds in Educational Institutions' had been held.



Editor:  
**Iqbal Masud**

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

Computer Graphics:  
**ATM Forhad Pintu**

[www.dam-health.org](http://www.dam-health.org)  
[www.amic.org.bd](http://www.amic.org.bd)  
Phone: +88-02-58151114  
E-mail: [dam.healths@gmail.com](mailto:dam.healths@gmail.com)