

# Project Compilation Report

## Name of the Project

To protect and promote rights of the PWDs through Campaign program and self-help Group formation

Duration of the project  
July 2008 – December 2008

## Implemented by:

Southern Socio-Economic Development Program (SSDP)



Schooler girl Falguni

## Supported by:

মানুষের জন্য  
manusher jonno  
promoting human rights and good governance



### Introduction & background:

Bangladesh is one of the highest densely populated countries in the world where about 950 people are living per square kilometer. About 80 percent people of the population live in the rural area. 47 percent population lives under the poverty line, while 28 percent population lives in abject poverty.

A few studies on disability have been conducted by NGOs and SSDP in limited geographical areas focusing predominantly on medical rather than social aspects. These studies usually reflect only the incidence of impairments rather than the difficulties arising out of these impairments or their social and economical un-environment. Results of the surveys confirm the United Nations estimate of a disability prevalence rate 10 percent in Bangladesh.

In the proposed project area, every aspect of life for the persons with disabilities (PWD) is ignorance, fear and superstition that usually result in their direct neglect. Due to this neglect they are excluded from the normal economic, social, cultural and political activities of their families and communities. Women with disabilities are especially vulnerable to social discrimination and neglect in the country. It is not uncommon that this discrimination begins in the home; parents of PWDs often are ashamed of them and want to hide from society. The family members and community people treat them as an economic burden and do not explore their tremendous potentialities.

PWDs in Bangladesh are only the poorest of the poor, but are the vulnerable among all the vulnerable groups. They suffer poverty, un-empowerment, gender discrimination, illiteracy, malnutrition, poor health and sanitation facilities, lack of treatment, environmental barriers (Physical, socio-religious and cultural attitudes and practices) and inaccessibility to resources and development that plan to implements across the nation.

Considering the needs and privileges of the above mentioned situation, SSDP has decided to undertake human rights focused program titled **“To Protect and Promote Rights of the PWDs through Organizing Campaign Program and Self-help Group”** for the welfare of persons with disabilities. The major focused of the proposed project are in two folds such as (a) to establish a sustainable Self-help Organizations at the grass root level to protect and promote the fundamental human rights (educational support, physical support, create employment opportunity etc.) of the persons with disabilities (PWD) and (b) to create an enabling environment and favorable atmosphere for the PWDs in practicing their social and human rights in the society through undertaking massive campaign program, advocacy and lobbying.

The proposed project has been planned to implement in Barguna Upazila Sarad in Barguna district aim is to Organize Self-help Groups (SHGs), self confidence building among the PWDs, Voice raise and joint force to achieve the equal rights and participation from their families as well as the community & bridging among all stakeholders and sensitize also.

### Geographical Location:

The operational area of the project is located southwest part of the Country at Barguna Upazilla under Barguna District.

### Target population:

Persons with disabilities (PWDs) both male and Female are the primary



beneficiaries of the project:

### 1. Objectives of the Project :

To establish a sustainable Self-help Organizations at the grass root level to protect and promote the fundamental human rights (educational support, physical support, create employment opportunity equal participation in the mainstreaming development.) of the persons with disabilities (PWD).

### 3. Target Activities & Achievements: (Numerical)

- a. Recruitment of staff and orientation and training of staff
- b. Individual information collection of PWDs assessment
- c. Union wise SHGs formation per union 2 ( 1 Male and 1 Female )
- d. Arrange computer training for 11 PWDs
- e. Arrange Tailoring training for 19 PWDs( 2 Batches each batch 10 PWDs)
- f. Individual profile with case study collection of 330 PWDs from 22 SHGs.
- g. SHGs monthly coordination meeting
- h. IDD observance for awareness raising at district level
- i. Bi-monthly coordination meeting with local Union Parisad and stakeholder
- j. Phase-end Assessment and Reporting

SL	Activities	Target	Achieved
A	Recruitment of staff and orientation and training of staff	01	01
B	Individual information collection of PWDs assessment	330	330
C	Union wise SHGs formation per union 2 ( 1 Male and 1 Female ) ( 10 union and one Pourashava)	22	22 (11 for each)
D	Arrange computer training (3 month course)	10 PWDs	11
E	Arrange Tailoring training (3 months course)	20 PWDs	19
F	Individual profile with case study collection (from 22 SHGs).	330 PWDs	330
G	SHGs monthly coordination meeting	80	80
H	IDD observance for awareness raising at district level	01	04
I	Bi-monthly coordination meeting with local Union Parisad and stakeholder	02	02
J	Phase-end Assessment and Reporting	01	01

### Short brief of each activity:

**Recruitment of staff and orientation and training of staff:** The staff recruitment session was held in time and selected person took part in different orientation and training. These includes exposer visit at ADD Faridpur for the period from July 17-19, 2008, Training Physiotherapy & Technical of assistive device use, Training on communication & monitoring etc. (add best picture)

**Individual information collection of PWDs assessment:** As per plan we have made visit to office of the DD-DSS, Chairman –Union parishad , Civil society and finally collect individual information of 630 PWDs.



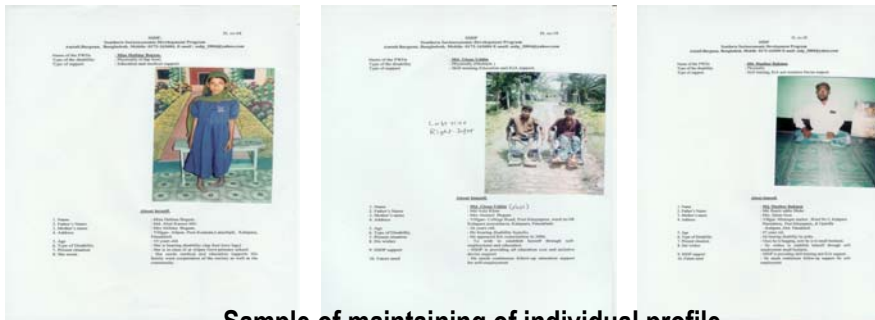
## SSDP Staff is conducting assessment

**Union wise SHGs formation:** We have formed a total of 22 (Male=11 & female=11) SHGs with our operational area (10 unions of Sadar Uapzila & 1 Paurashava –Barguna). Objectives, rational, benefits Roles & responsibilities as member, what rights they have And how they can search-out it etc was took place in the pre discussion before forming the SHGs and finally form it



SSDP staff performing pre-discussion to forming SHGs

**Individual profile with case study collection (from 22 SHGs):** As per plan we have visit every PWD and collect necessary data to prepare a quality profile of 330 PWDs. With the consultation of MJF we develop a form / questionnaires for using as individual profile and accordingly we collect all necessary information which represent us a total picture of each individual. Obviously it may help us to prepare a quality data base about PWDs and also may use for action research in the area of condition and position of PWDs. Also help us to take any development initiative for mainstream development.



Sample of maintaining of individual profile

## Short brief of each events i.e training, workshop, seminar

**Arrange computer training (3 month course):** We have planed to organize 3 months course for 10 participants and we done it successfully. For better achieve in connection with quality output we extend the course one month more by the own fund of the SSDP. We include 11 participants instead of 10 and out of those 8 participants done good jobs. They are regular in training venue to continuing practice and SSDP are searching jobs to engage them.

**Arrange Tailoring training (3 month course):** We have planed to organize 3 months course for 20 participants and we done it successfully. For better achieve in connection with quality output we extend the course one month more by the own fund of the SSDP. We include 19 participants instead of 20 and out of those 16 participants done good jobs. They are regular in training venue to continuing practice and SSDP are searching jobs to engage them.

It is to be mentioned here that the program as been inaugurated by the UNO Barguna Sadar Upazila along with DD-DSS, Chairman & Secretary Press club and others local elite persons. They were also continued their functional visit several time to see the progress of the program that was also inspire the PWDs.



The U/Z Nibahi Officer inaugurate the training course of Computer & Tailoring, on training PWDs and visitor Rafiza Shaheen talking with Computer trainee.



PWWDs are on practice after end of course

**SHGs monthly coordination meeting:** We have selected a fix date for each month to facilitate monthly coordination meeting and accordingly we have arrange 80 meeting where 80% of participate were present actively where discussion has take place with objectives, benefits, their rights, how to get service, from where (institutions) what type of service they will get, future planning of action etc



Ashar alo SHGs meeting at Barguna and Rafiza Shaheen with Uddam SHGs meeting at Pazravanga

**IDD observance for awareness rising at district level:** We have planed to organize 01(International Disability Day) IDD observances but we have observed 04 more (World Child Day, Rokeya day, International Literacy day and World Human rights day). The PWDs are well briefed about the objectives of the day observations, about their role in such type of rally / discussion etc. It was a



historical achievement that this is 1<sup>st</sup> and mass people participated in the IDPD observance along with more than 550 PWDS. In addition, these days was also celebrated by the presentation of cultural events and hand making goods of PWDs. The RTV so kind to transmit the events in the TV program.



Review of different day observance (International literacy Day, World Child day), DC and Chairman Barguna Pourashava, Police supper and also MP candidate with PWDs in IDPD observance.

It is also to be mentioned here that during observation of “White Can” day, the DD-DSS distributed white can among the PWDs and inspired PWDs when observing the hand made goods of them. Additionally SSDP also distributed 8 numbers of wheel Chair among the members of SHGs by the assistance of Centre for Service & information on Disability (CSID).



(From left) White can, Wheel chair distribution and surprise visit perform by DD-DSS

**Bi-monthly coordination meeting with local Union Parisad and stakeholder:** According to our plan we have performed 02 coordination meeting with UP & stakeholder where 110% participates were presence and participate actively. Note that DD-DSS and UNDP local representative also present in those meeting. Awareness raising, promotion of the PWDs in socio –economic activities, positive attitudinal changes of all the stakeholder are the main objective of the meeting. Expected resulting of the meeting reflected in the area of social acceptance, mobility in different institution; get different service from the institution, active participation in socio-culture activities, and attraction to media, action to search –out their rights and so on.

#### 4. Achievements: (Out come)

- Short brief of achievement: During this period the following performance were achieve-
  1. PWDs has systematized through SHGs formation
  2. Leadership buildup
  3. Socially inclusion as they were isolated from the society even families
  4. Well informed about their rights, govt. policies & procedure as well as raise voice to search out the rights.

5. Increasing self realization & confidence through computer & tailoring training
6. They realize own-self as a human resources
7. Motivated to take perform different IGAs
8. Increase access as well as acceptance to different Institutions specially office of the DD-DSS, Upazila, Union, Civil Surgeon, Paurashava etc
9. They transform their thinking from needs to rights
10. Active participation in socio-culture activities
11. Positive assistance of media personnel
12. Increase IT communication
13. Increase functional relation in between them.

### Some significant achievement of the project goal:

#### **Case -1: Tablet, a Tailor**

Near about 4/5 km in west direction far from Barguna District town the village kumrakhali located at badrakhali union. Jalil nick name tablet ts/o Md. Amzed Mia & Ms. Sufia Begum has been passing his 22 years of old at Kumrakhali. Parents were so happy to coming Jalil and pray bless for his well health & mind to all. But luck was not so on. Unfortunately during his 4 years of old, he was suffering from typhoid and attack by Rickets disease resulting to disturbance of his normal growth. He is in 3ft high, legs are bow type, can't walk as normal. He tried heart& soul to back normal life through expensive



**Tablet Now Dear Jalil Bhai**

treatment but failed as well as lost all resources. He can't do any heavy work. In this situation fortunately SSDP find out him and be a proud member of Golap WWDs male association. He attends each and every meeting, training etc and aware about his rights. He revolt himself and set mind to do some thing for him, family even society. As a result he took part in tailoring training. His intelligence, sincerity and mental strength made him a well oriented tailor with in a short time. He can make 7/8 categories dress for both male & female. After completion of the whole tailoring course, he prayed to SSDP to give him a place and a sewing machine. As no way but SSDP provide a place and permit to use a sewing machine at off time that is use for training. He is so happy to SSDP. He visit potential places and collect orders and make dresses at SSDP office - Barguna. At present earns 100-120 taka per day. Now, no one make fun "Tablet" but say dear Jalil Bhai not only a tailors but a drama artist. **It is to be mentioning that there are so many but he is the 1<sup>st</sup> rickets patient that was discovering by SSDP.**

#### **Case-2: Sonia, a Leader**

Rubaiya Yeasmin Sonia D/o late Abul Hossain Bepary & Ms. Safia Begum live at Pashu Hospital Road, Barguna. During her birth, right hand was quite attached with chest. Through modern treatment her hand was separated but loss workability. To eliminate the burden, her mother took decision alone and arrange merry without her concern. No understand, but tiny Sonia be a wife of Rafiqul Islam, man of Kewrabunia union. Basically Rafiqul Islam was an addicted person any way. Rafiq met-up all expense for this purpose from selling of Sonia's jewelries. Once upon a time sonia unable to give jewelries and start physical torturing by Rafiq. As a result she comes back to her Father's house and promise to be self-sufficient. But no one extended his/her helping hand to her. In this situation fortunately SSDP find out her and be a proud member of Mayabi PWDs women association. For potentiality and talent she selected a secretary of the Association. She took part in Computer Training and be a successful computer user. Side by side her leadership develops the organizations day by day. Now she is a

successful leader. She is well known and also honorable person. As a result she has well access to each and every institution to search out her every requirement not only for herself but also for her organization/ organizational members and community.

### Case - 3: A Victory

Sharathi a name, a face of hopeless, a burden of the family even society but now Sharathi a name and a symbol of victory. Sharathi, D/o late Shukkur Chandra Das & Ms Usha Rani live at Katpatty, half kilo meter far from Barguna District town. She was under shelter of her elder brother since one and half years of old after dead of her father . During 2 years of old she was attack by fever that turn in to Typhoid and cause of shorten and thin of her right leg, also displaced her bone as well as loss her normal walking ability. It was so tough but bound to brought up her brother's kids to survive her life. But her disability, made her a burden of her family day by day. Hopeless sharathi again start fitting to survive any way and visit house to house for searching a work. During her searching of work she informs that SSDP may help her to build a dream life. No late she visit SSDP office and truly gets opportunity to be a proud member of the Mayabi WWDs SHG association located in Barguna Paurashva.



She took part in tailoring training. Her talent, intelligence made her a successful tailor as she able to make 7-8 categories dress of both the male, female & children. Now she is confident enough that she is quit ready to catch-up the opportunity any time, any moment and changes her life and livelihood.

### Case - 4: Under the blue sky

Case -1. Sarmin, a physically disable girl passed her 16 years of life within a room with attached bath room. He never comes outside her room. SSDP discover her and provide an assistive device. It was a joyful day in her life when he sees the open sky and the socio-culture environment first during her 16 years of life. She moved whole the Barguna District town by her Wheel Chair. She buys necessary goods from here and there. He looked every thing with her surprising eyes every moment. Mass people also get pleasure from her joyful moments with tears.



### Case - 5: Manjuri's story

Manjuri Rani (age 28) D/o Naren Mistry & Ms. Urmila Rani a hearing impaired women by birth live in Village Kumrakhali under Badarkhali Union of Barguna Sadar Upazila 5 km far from Barguna District Town. Tragedy is that not only she all of her brother (1) & sister (1) are also hearing impaired. In tin age Monjuri got marriage with a poor guy Bhaju and her father gave a land of 30 decimal as dowry. But unfortunately no late till to registry of this land to Bhaju, he sells that land and goes away to India forever. By this time Manjuri be a proud mother of a son. Evident that basically that guy Bhaju marrey Manjuri intension to show himself as a citizen of Bangladeshi to sells his own land also. It was a simple



case of fraud as well as violation of human rights that was not imaginable to a poor father. As it was so late to know real fact, so Manjuri come back to father's house again. Poor father unable to carry her burden and accordingly she is searching job as maidservant here and there to survive with her tiny son. She always thinks for her son and about his future. At this time she visit SSDP and be a member of Tagar PWWDs SHGs and took part in tailoring training. Now she is a tailor but instantly due to lack of sewing machine she unable to continue regular income but randomly income that order can supply by using (In off time) of SSDP's sewing machine.

## **6. Challenges:**

During implementation of the project we also have faced some challenges as follows:

1. Disability and development is long term process.
2. Changing the relief oriented mentality.
3. Changing attitude of Govt. official to proper implementation of related laws
4. Breaking traditional attitude as they set in their mind that their children's are disabled.
5. Bringing in light from darkness.
6. Earn social acceptance
7. Breaking the mentality that they are "Zero" in every respect.

## **7. Lesson:**

*We have learned a lot from implementation of the project as follows:*

1. *Self-Help group concept may consider as milestone of any marginalized community*
2. *Increasing the SHGs to cover all level of PWDs*
3. *Close advocacy to local administrations specially office of the DD-DSS to protect as well as access to all govt. service*

## **8. Opportunity:**

- a) Maintaining the continuation of the project activities for their sustainable development as well as livelihood
- b) Accessible housing support for changing life's of the PWDs families with sanitation facilities.
- c) Livelihood support for Income generating.
- d) Inclusive Educational for CWDs.
- e) UNCRPD promotional activities through SHGs for social justice and equal participation.
- f) Self help Group promotional activities for social inclusion
- g) Medical and Assistive Devise support for the PWDs
- h) Primary health care support, and medical support for the PWDs
- i) Psycho-social care support program
- j) Home based gardening.
- k) Climate change protection of disability and disaster management program support.

## **9. Conclusion :**

In view of NDD Act 2001 and UNCRD SSDP has been performing rights based program to establish & ensure justice and equal opportunities of the PWDs. SSDP is able to initiate movement of its quality implementation. We thank MJF for their financial support and NFOWD, ADD, CDD, CSID for their technical support. We also thank HSBC for their computer and sewing machine support skill training for PWDs. DSS Barguna, local government, different level stakeholders and media has played a vital role to raise the voice of the PWDs through SSDP imitative.

We firmly believe this imitative will be continue for sustainable development and PWDs of our SHGs will show a active role to introduce mainstreaming as well as national development.

**-: The end :-**