

**A Quarterly Newsletter**

# TOGETHER



## Youth Camp 2017

### Message from Country Director



Greetings from Good Neighbors Bangladesh!!!

I am very pleased to issue our regular quarterly newsletter 'Together-35' which highlighted our 2017, 1st Quarter activities. In this quarter we arranged several workshops and conferences for staff development, we hope the learning from these workshops and conferences will boost up the staff for the rest of the year.

GNB dedicated to serve underprivileged people in working area. To ensure Iron Free safe drinking water facilities LG-GNB Jointly launch Good Water Project at Nalka and Sirajganj area. Again GNB recently open two office building at Birganj and kalai CDP which will be used as Multipurpose Community Center for those areas.

Thank you once again

Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim  
Country Director, GNB.



On 22~23 March 2017, Good Neighbors Bangladesh arranged "Youth Camp 2017" with the participation of 98 youth volunteers from GNB's 14 CDPs/FDPs. GNB country director, managing directors, operational director, team leader and officers were also present in the camp. The main objectives of this youth camp were to share the mission and vision of GNB's volunteerism and develop the leadership skill of the youths. These youth volunteers regularly assist on GNB's activities both in rural and urban project areas.

## MOU Signing Ceremony between GNB-BRIT

One of the Good Neighbors core focus is to implement disaster risk reduction (DRR) programs to help on enhance local resilience to natural disasters and cope with natural hazards as well as emergency response projects for the affected population during natural disaster. In line with that GNB is taking initiative to build a "Emergency Relief cum Education-Health Training Center" at Bibichini union under Barguna District (a coastal & disaster prone area of Bangladesh).

GNB will implements this project with the cooperation of Bangladesh Resource Improvement Trust (**BRIT**). On 16 March 2017 GNB signed a MoU with BRIT for the successful implementation of this project. Higher officials from GNB and BRIT were present in this MoU Signing Ceremony.



## Induction Workshop for Education & Protection Officers



On 6 February 2017, Good Neighbors Bangladesh Operational Department arranged an Induction Workshop for all the Education & Protection Officers from different working areas. The workshop was held at GNB Head Office, Dhaka. The main objectives for arranging this workshop were - 2017 operational strategy, 2017 job description, 2017 reporting direction and 2017 Key Performance Indicator (KPI). All participants participated in a group discussion, where they highlighted their working challenges and the solution for individual problem. A special session was moderated by GNB Education Expert Mr. Seong Kim on Bangle Cube as extracurricular activities.

## Workshop on Introducing GNB's Health Strategy



On 18-19 January 2017 Good Neighbors Bangladesh Operational Department, Health Team arranged a workshop with the participation of 28 health staff from different GNB CDP/FDPs. The key subject of this workshop was to Introduce GNB's health strategy. Through this workshop participants come to know about the 2017 strategies for health activities, job description and outdoor patient management, by which they were clearly informed about yearly health strategy and their responsibilities.

## Workshop for Academic Councils of GNB Schools

Good Neighbors Bangladesh (GNB) schools have been functioning in Tangail, Moulvibazar and Dhaka for a long time with good results. These schools were established through the proactive participation of the respective communities. In line with that, GNB currently formed Academic Councils at five schools in Tangail (Shakhipur & Ghatail), Moulvibazar (Kamalganj) and Dhaka (Mirpur & Gulshan), with a view to make the schools self-governing and more effective. On 16 January 2017, GNB arranged a half day long workshop for Academic Councils at good training center with active participation of 50 members from 5 CDP/FDPs. Workshop topics were: fund raising for school expense, management of academic affairs for quality improvement and functioning as the academic council members.





# IG Operational Plan and Finance Management Workshop for Community Staff



GNB Special Operation Department (SOD) arranged a workshop for the community staff on "IG (*Income Generation*) Operational Plan & Finance Management-2017". The 4-days long workshop was held on 13-16th February 2017 at RDA, Bogra with the participation of 52 community staff.

"At Present GNB is operating 14 Cooperatives and we hope, one-day these cooperatives will turn into one unit by building a social enterprise. But now our recent challenges to create a market for our existing IG products." - GNB Country Director Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim expressed his thought while providing the inaugural speech at the workshop.

Realizing this, community staff got the practical training on market survey and quality financial training in this workshop. In order to verify our IG product demand in local market, community staffs and IG officer also visited the nearby bazar for a market survey. Community staffs were hopeful to apply this experience in their workplace.

## ToT for Adult Literacy Trainers



To provide effective lifelong education for rural woman, GNB Operational Department successfully arranged six days (12-17 February 2017) training at good training center on "ToT for Adult Literacy Trainers". A total number of 35 SSO (*Sponsorship Service Officer*), EP (*Education & Protection*) officers and Team Leaders participated in this training. At the opening speech, GNB country director, Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim, highlighted GNB's Adult Literacy Program and importance of this training for the officers. Two external trainers from FIVDB Mr. Biddyuth Kanti Das and Mr. Al-Amin facilitated the training all through the 6 days. The training sessions were designed with creative theme including new idea of teaching the community people specially the women with basic education. At the end of the training, certificate was distributed to each participants.



## Awareness Program on Adolescent Health

**Meherpur CDP:** On 19 February 2017, Meherpur CDP arranged a health education & girl sanitation support campaign at CDP office premises. Total 124 sponsored girls were present in this campaign. CDP medical & health officer took a session on adolescent health which followed by sanitation materials distribution among the participants. The girls also expressed their gratitude to GNB. Mst. Bipasha Khatun, a sponsored child of GNB, said, " I am very grateful to GNB for providing us this essential health education and materials. The information that we receive from this session will become very helpful to remove various misconception regarding adolescent health and personal hygiene. We are thankful to GNB for this support."



**Birganj CDP:** On 27 March 2017, Birganj CDP successfully completed sanitary pad distribution and health awareness program at CDP office premises with the presence of 150 adolescent girls. Dr. Md. Mahmudul Hasan Polash (RMO, Upozila Health Complex ,Birganj) & Dr.Rowshon Ara (Medical Officer, Upozila Health Complex ,Birganj) were present as external resource person. Both of them took sessions on the importance of personal hygiene, menstrual cycle & how to take care during that time and how to use sanitary pad. At the end of the program CDP distributed sanitary pads among 150 adolescent girls.



## Hepatitis - B Vaccination Program

To prevent disease caused by Hepatitis-B, GNB Bochaganj CDP arranged Hepatitis-B vaccination program on 27 February 2017, at Bokultola BM Creative school center. Through this program total 206 sponsored children received Hepatitis-B Vaccine at free of cost. Birganj Upazila UNO, Mr. Shilabrata Karmokar and Dr. M.A. Matin (UH & FPO) Bochagonj Upazila were present as special guest.

Before starting the vaccination program, a short awareness session was presented by the Dr. M.A Matin (UH & FPO) where he stated, "Hepatitis-B is a preventable disease. We can prevent Hepatitis-B completely by receiving the vaccine. Hepatitis-B transmits through blood, blood product, saliva, by sharing razor, sexually transmits and baby of pregnant mother having Hepatitis-B can also be affected by it. Recently Bangladesh government added Hep-B vaccine in EPI schedule."



Chief guest Mr. Shilabrata Karmokar, UNO, Bochagonj said that, "Hepatitis-B is a serious & fetal disease. This type of program is very helpful to raise awareness among community people. By this vaccination program the poor community people of Bochaganj are getting special opportunity to receive this valuable vaccine. On behalf of community people I really want to thank GNB for their nice support."

## WORDMASTER & Math Race Competition

This year GNB is going to introduce a new competition at all CDPs'/FDPs' working areas, known as WORDMASTER competition. Children will learn new English words through reading and understanding, by which they can be able to make sentence. GNB Bochagnaj CDP arranged a WORDMASTER and Math, race competition at CDP premises on 23 February 2017. In this program Setabganj Upazila Primary Education Officer was present as chief guest, where 160 sponsored children from grade 5 participated. Chief Guest said "This is an excellent program. This program is very effective for children to develop more artistic quality and vocabulary. I observed Good Neighbors always doing such model programs in this upazila. I cordially extend my endeavor to Good Neighbors." At the end, 10 children were awarded based on the result.



Md. Mozammel Haque, a sponsored child from Nilphamari CDP was suffering from critical heart disease from 2014. For better treatment he currently went to Bangalore, India with the financial support from GNB. An amount of Tk. 199,500 was handed over to his family for his treatment purpose. We wish his quick recovery.

## Tiffin Box Distribution

On 7 February 2017, GNB Moulvibazar CDP distributed Tiffin Boxes among 250 sponsored children from 6 government primary schools. In line with government 'Mid-Day Meal' program GNB distributed these tiffin-boxes, which will help the children to bring food and use it while eating at school. In this distribution



program Mr. Mahmudul Hoque, UNO Kamalganj Upazila present as chief guest and Adampur union parishad chairman, Upozila Asst. primary officer and head teachers from 6 government schools were present as special guests.

## Teacher's Training



On 27 February 2017, Shakhipur CDP arranged a teachers training for 33 Dream School teachers. In this training CDP invited Upazilla Primary Education Officer Mr. Aminul Haque and Secondary Education Officer MD. Mofijul Islam, as resource persons. Both trainers conducted sessions on present education system and teaching method of Bangladesh. All teachers were hopeful to implement the learning from this training in their working area.

## International Women's Day



On 8 March 2017, Meherpur CDP observed "International Women's Day". Md. Tajul Islam, Upozila child & women welfare officer of Mujibnagar upozila was present as chief guest. 200 women, 100 sponsored children, CDC, CHW and Office staff (344 participants) participated in this day observation. The day was designed with colorful rally, short drama and discussion session with meaningful manners.

## Annual Sports Program



On 16 February 2017, Gulshan FDP arranged Annual Sports Program at FDP premises. 550 sponsored children and volunteers participated in 60 events. This sports program was so enjoyable that every student took part in at least a single event. At the end, attractive prizes were given to the winner of every event.



A football competition was arranged by Bochaganj CDP on February 2017. The team from "Khanpur Govt. Primary School" became the winner in this competition. The winning team players were posing with a smile after the match.



## Somobai Bazar Opening Ceremony

On 9 March 2017, Mirpur FDP launch a "varieties store" named 'Somobai Bazar' at Muslim Bazar, Mirpur. This shop will be managed by Pollabi Su-Protibeshi Somobai Somity Ltd members. Main intention of opening this store is to sell the finished IG products produced by GNB cooperatives. "I dream to see this small store become a big departmental store in future. And through this we will step towards our ultimate goal to make a social enterprise in GNB." - stated by Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim (GNB country director) during this store opening ceremony. GNB Education Expert Mr. Seong Kim, managing directors Mr. Hwang & Mrs. Yang Hee Kim, SOD Director Mr. Ananda Kumar Das along with other officials and cooperative members were also present in this opening ceremony.



## 3rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Nilphamari Su-Protibeshi Mohila Somobai Somity Ltd.

3rd AGM and dividend distribution program of Nilphamari Su-Protebeshi Mohila Somoby Somity Ltd. was held on 22 February 2017, with the presence of 550 cooperative members at S.K Kintergarden premises. In this program Md. Jakir Hossen (DC, Nilphamari) was invited as chief guest. Md. Abdul Mannan (District Cooperative Officer), Md. Aftabuzzaman (Upazila Cooperative officer, Nilphamair Sadar) and Md. Mustafizur kazi (Union Chairman 12 No Sangalshi Union) were present as special guest. The guests visited our cooperative and group base IG activities display stall. They appreciate our group base IG activities. Nilphamari Su-Protebeshi Mohila Somoby Somity Ltd. was elected best cooperative twice, during 15-16 Fiscal year in Nilphamari District. Chief Guest also urged that, "I hope this cooperative will continue this journey and one day it will become number one cooperative in divisional level." After that, cooperative management committee presented their audit and financial Report in front of all the members and guests.



## Training for SMC members on Child Friendly School Atmosphere



On 9 March 2017, Birganj CDP arranged training for SMC (School Management Committee) members on Child Friendly School atmosphere in CDP's conference hall room. The characteristics of child friendly schools were shared by the CDP manager at the greetings speech. Then Upazila education officer Mr. Arshadul Haque had sessions on 'Roles & responsibility of SMC members' and 'Child rights'. Total 57 SMC members from 6 government primary schools participated in this training.

## SMC Follow up Training at Nilphamari CDP



On 26 February 2017, the Grant Project SMC Follow up Training was taken place at Diaz Hotel & Resorts under GNB Nilphamari CDP with the presence of 64 SMC members from 6 Primary Govt. Schools of Sangalshi Cluster area under Nilphamari Sadar Upazila.

Mr. Arif Hossain (Upazila education officer), Md. Shariful Islam & Md. Nazrul Islam (Asst. education officer of Sadar Nilphamari Upazila) were present as special guests and external speakers on the very program. The training subjects included - grant project overviews, introduction to primary education system, SMC - roles & responsibilities, Child Rights Issues, open discussion and evaluation.



## Inauguration Program of 'LG-GNB Good Water Project'

On 2 February 2017, 'LG-GNB Good Water Project' was inaugurated at Tinnandina Village under Nalka Union, Sirajganj District with a colorful ceremony. GNB Country Director Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim as a chief guest, LG Bangladesh Managing Director Mr. Edward Kim as a special guest, GNB Managing Directors Mr. Hwang & Yang Hee Kim, SOD director & other GNB officials, local elites & leaders, and local residence were present in this auspicious moment.

LG Electronics and Good Neighbors Bangladesh jointly launched 'LG-GNB Good Water Project' for

the residence of Tinnandina Village. Tinnandina is a flood affected disaster prone area where most of the people are depended on local tube-wells for drinking water. Most of these tube-wells contain Iron which may affect the people in the long run. Through the 'LG-GNB Good Water Project', we are going to facilitate safe drinking water facilities to 600 families which may save thousands of lives.



## International Mother Language Day Observation



International Mother Language Day was observed at all the GNB's 14 CDPs/FDPs with meaningful manners. CDP manager, staff and volunteers visited the local Martyr Monuments with full respect and render flowers to our brave language martyrs. People from various level of the community also joined in this special occasion to show their respect towards the brave souls.

CDP/FDPs also arranged discussion session and cultural program in CDPs'/FDPs' premises, where various government officers, journalist, local leader, community people and sponsored children took part. In the discussion session, the speakers highlighted the history and importance of the day. Cultural program was conducted by the participations of the sponsored children.

## Meherpur CDP - CHW activity

### Monitoring Visit by Country Director



Honorable GNB County Director visited Meherpur CDP, with managing directors, OD director and team member of health team on 27-28 February 2017. The key objectives of this visit were to supervise GNB's program through field visit and monitor the current activities of community health worker (CHW). Note that, from June 2016 GNB undertook Community Health Worker (CHW) project. CHW aims for improving knowledge, attitude and practice regarding safe motherhood by removing cultural constrain & traditional believes and improving awareness related to pregnant mother service. It may also bring positive behavioral change in family regarding maternal health services.



## Birganj CDP and Kalai CDP

# CDP Office Inauguration Program

For ensuring sustainable development for the community, GNB recently establish two office-buildings at two different project areas. These new buildings will be used as a multipurpose community center for the people of the respective local community. In the month of March 2017, the Inauguration Programs of these new buildings were held on the respective project areas.

**Birganj CDP:** On 21 March 2017, New Office building inauguration was held at Birganj, Dinajpur. The program was chaired by GNB Country Director Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim. Birganj Upazila Chairman and 7 No Mohammadpur Union Chairman Islam were chaired as special guest as well. High officials of GNB, Headmaster from 14 local Schools, SI of Birganj Thana, some local elites and beneficiaries were also present at this auspicious moment.



**Kalai CDP:** On 22 March 2017, GNB also Inaugurated another office building at Kalai, Jaypurhat. This new building will be used as a multipurpose community center for the people of the local community. The program was chaired by GNB Country Director Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim. Various High govt. officials, GNB officials, some local elites and beneficiaries were also present.



## Good Neighbors Bangladesh 2017 Annual Conference

Good Neighbors Bangladesh Annual Conference - 2017 was held on 12-14 March 2017 at Proshika HRDCT, Manikganj with the participation of 143 GNB core staff. The main objectives of this program were to share 2016 achievements and to present 2017 strategic plan.

GNB Country Director Mr. Jeoung Sek Kim said in his inaugural speech, "2016 was a great year for us. We celebrated 20th anniversary in this year. We learn from our past and will put more effort in future. In 2017, we will initiate more modern intervention in our activities."

Based on 2016 achievements, Shakhipur CDP, Kalai CDP and Ghatail CDP were rewarded as 1st, 2nd and 3rd among 14 CDPs/FDPs.



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