

Lions activities in Bangladesh

The journey of Lionism had started in the country as early as fifty-eight and in the last three and half decades Lionism has eventuated as a social welfare organisation dedicated to the cause of less fortunate. Now a days Lionism is a movement having spread over a number of welfare oriented activities viz blood donation, eye camps, family planning of direct works in relief and rehabilitation activities at the time of flood, drought, epidemic and natural calamities. The activities of the Lions have been highly praised and acclaimed by the common people and the Government.

Presently Bangladesh is a Multiple District having two sub-Districts 315 A & 315 B with around 8,000 Lions, Lioness and Leos. District 315A comprises 50% of the clubs in Dhaka

city and Lions Clubs formed in other parts of the country except Chittagong Division. At present there are 67 Lions, 37 Lioness and 67 Leo Clubs in the Lions District 315A. The clubs have been running a number of permanent projects in the different parts of the country Pabna Lions Diabetic & Heart Hospital, Rajshahi Eye Hospital, Kushtia Eye & Diabetic Hospital, Jessore Eye Hospital, Kapasia Eye & General Hospital, Khulna Eye Hospital are few of the pride projects run by the different individual Lions Clubs, BLF Eye Hospital at Agargaon fully equipped with 100

Ln Zaker Ahmed
Cabinet Secretary



bed Eye Hospital is run by the Bangladesh Lions Foundation with professionals. Educational & Technical Institutions are also run by the different Lions Clubs

independently at Khulna, Rangpur, Saidpur, Jessore, Savar, Kapasia and other parts of the country.

Lions are the pioneers in the field of organising eye camps in these camps patients are treated, operated and supplied with eye-glasses free of cost during the year. Lions Clubs have successfully organised more than 200 eye camps in the different parts of the country and operated 18,980 patients.

Another important field in which the Lions have come forward is blood donation, human blood has no substitute. The members of the Lions Clubs donate blood for the benefit of the poor patients in hospitals.

Very recently Lions, Lioness and Leos of Bangladesh have set a national record of donation of 650 bags of blood in a single event.

During the natural calamities, the humanitarian services rendered by the Lions members towards the affected victims has been appreciably noticed and admired by all quarters, including the local and foreign press.

As days are passing by the Lions Clubs in association with the Lioness and Leos are extending their range of services and activities to such fields as mass-education, vocational training, family planning, ideal village, income generating projects for the poor - dental camps, sterilization camp immunization camp etc.

Lionism is gaining momentum day by day and the family of Lions are expanding. To maintain this trend of expansion and strengthening the footing of Lionism more than a million Lions in 160 countries are united under a single slogan WE SERVE.

Lionism — Catering to the Need of the Poor

Ln M Yunus
Region Chairman
District — 315-A



life. It may be mentioned here that during the unprecedented flood of 1988 one Lion and two Leos of District 315-A, Bangladesh lost their valuable lives while returning home from the flood affected areas after distributing relief materials. In a country like

Bangladesh where most of the people live below poverty line the role of social service club should be predominant. Our permanent Service Projects, as such, be planned in such a way so that we achieve maximum benefit at minimum financial involvement. To achieve this objective, it is imperative to draw long-term service project based on the needs of the people and motivation of the people should be one of the major factors. In the course of family planning and health care through motivation and preventive measures we can get better results compared to other activities and this will cost less money. In the Education Sector also with the support of the young and energetic Leos the Lions Club may contribute significantly in removing illiteracy from the country.

Lions Club International by now is the largest Service Organisation in the world. There is hardly any enlightened person in the society who is not aware of the social and humanitarian services rendered by this international service organisation for the last 75 years. In Bangladesh the services rendered by this body through its members clubs have earned the confidence and goodwill of the people of all walks of life. Particularly, during the last twenty years under the able leadership of Late Lion M R Siddique, the founder Governor of District 315, it has been able to establish lionism in Bangladesh on a very sound footing by dint of its various service activities. The main area of significant success are Blood Donation and Eye-Care Service Projects. Every year a good number of eye-camps are opened through out the country for the treatment of eye including that of eye operation, at Agargaon, Dhaka we have got the modern Lions Eye Hospital to cater the needs of the serious eye patients. All patients are treated free of cost including those who stay in the hospital after eye operation and spectacles are also supplied to them without any charge.

Mojbul Hoque one of the past Governors of Lions District 315, Bangladesh who gave a call for voluntary blood donation and the Lions District, through their united efforts made the call a complete success. Since then collection of Blood though voluntary blood donation has become a part of the regular activities of all the Lions Clubs of Bangladesh and every year a considerable quantity of Blood is donated to the various local hospitals and Red Crescent society through the efforts of the Lions and Lioness and Leo Clubs. The young Leos are playing a very vital role in this respect. Apart from these, Lions Clubs are also co-operating with the Govt and other local NGO's in all types of social relief works including Flood Relief and family planning activities. During the time of cyclone and flood it is the lions of

WE WISH ALL SUCCESS
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5TH ANNUAL DISTRICT
CONVENTION '92

OF
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DISTRICT 315-A, BANGLADESH



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Highlights of Convention

Ln fakir Ashraf

Its a great pleasure to bring out this special supplement on Lionism to commemorate the 5th Annual District Convention of Lions Clubs International District-315A Bangladesh.

As is the past, this year Convention is being held in a traditional festive fervour with added enthusiasm and jubilation for attaining 75th glorious year of Lionism.

Annual District Convention is the biggest assembly of the Lions, Lionesses and Leos from all over the Country and therefore is undoubtedly of great importance in fostering fellowship and creating better understanding to achieve our goals. It is also a forum for exchange of

views and share experience to determine the future course of action.

We have a glorious tradition of social service in Bangladesh. All the activities rendered by the Lions of the Country will be focused in this auspicious occasion and we the Lions would pledge to uphold the image of Lionism and maintained the tradition of social service.

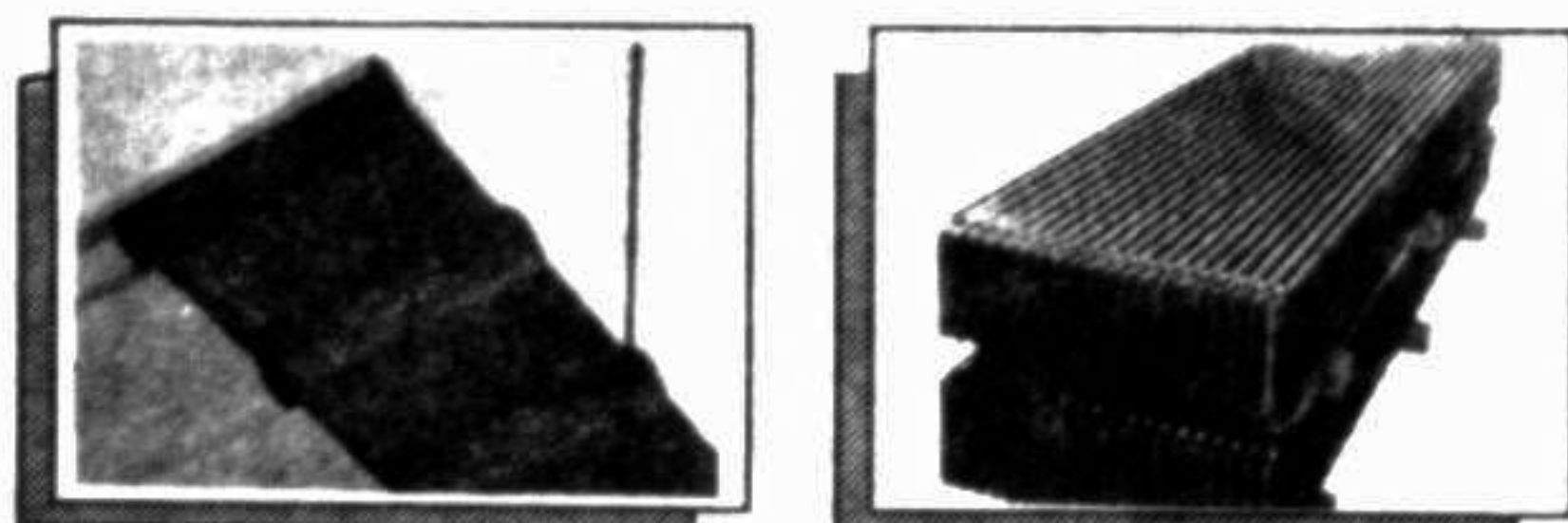
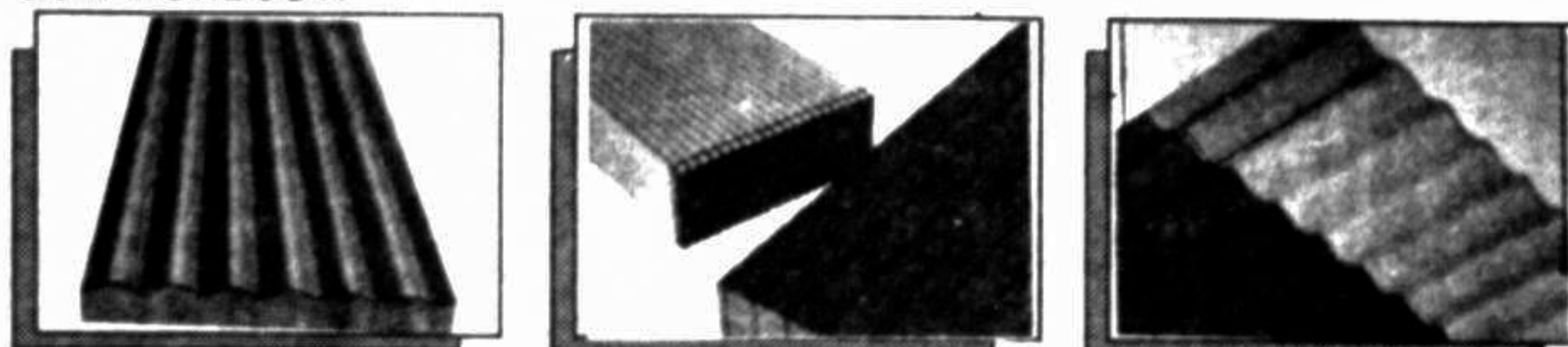
This year's Convention has a great significance on the inaugural session of the Convention some costly medical equipments is being distributed to the Hospitals and disabled persons which will be the milestones for the Lionism.

The two days Convention will be graced by the king presence of Begum Khaleda Zia, Hon'ble Prime Minister of Peoples Republic of Bangladesh and Mr Abdur Rahman Biswas, Hon'ble President of People Republic of Bangladesh in the inaugural session and Banquet session respectively.

The two days Convention also include, attractive cultural function, Seminar on Sight First, and Delegate session. I am grateful to the members of the Convention Committee and particularly & our dynamic District Governor Ln Humayun Zahir for their support and guidance for organising this Convention.

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