

Physical assault constitutes 77.9pc of total violence against women

Reveals study

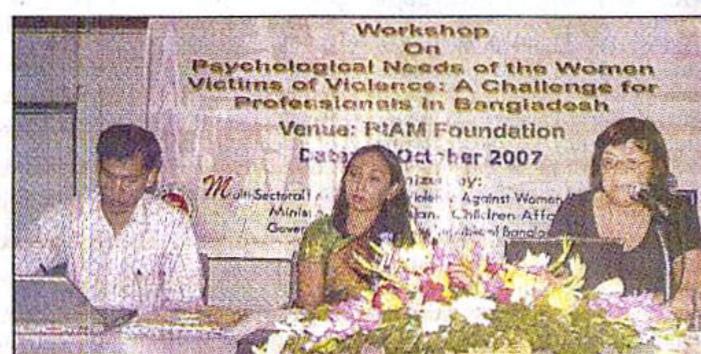
STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Physical assault constitutes 77.9 percent while rape constitutes 18.1 percent of the total violence against women (VAW), revealed a study yesterday.

The study also revealed that 91 percent of the victims are in need of clinical intervention while 81.4 percent require depression level intervention to remove their anxiety symptoms.

The study was placed at a workshop titled 'Psychological needs of the women victims of violence: A challenge for professionals in Bangladesh' organised by the Multi-sectoral Programme on Violence Against Women (MSP-VAW) of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs.

The study was conducted jointly by Farah Deeba and Kamruzzaman Mojumder, clinical psychologists and consultants of MSP-VAW, on 275 victims who attended the one-



MSP-VAW Senior Adviser Dr Karen Ellen Spannow speaks at a workshop at the PtAM Foundation in the city yesterday. On her right are Farah Deeba and Kamruzzaman Mojumder.

stop crisis centre (OCC) at the six divisional medical college and hospitals across the country during the last two months.

"It is shocking to know that even pregnancy or disability does not

prevent the perpetrators from torturing the women as the study revealed that 12.9 percent victims were pregnant and 2.2 percent had some sorts of disability," said Farah while presenting the study.

She termed the lack of adequate professional resources in this sector a major barrier to support the victims to get back to their normal life.

Presenting a paper titled 'Preparing for challenge-Support to victims of violence' MSP-VAW Senior Adviser Dr Karen Ellen Spannow held the patriarchal family and social norms responsible for the repression on women.

She suggested for stopping violence against the children at first within the family to stop violence against women.

Dr Karen also asked for developing relevant public services for women to increase their confidence level so that they can resist violence against them.

Speaking on the occasion, MSP-VAW Project Director Dr Abul Hossain referred to the limitation of government resources and asked for the collaboration of NGOs at the grassroots level.

Bureaucrats always against separation of judiciary

Says Hannan Shah

UNB, Chittagong

Brig (Retd) Hannan Shah, adviser to BNP chairperson, yesterday said bureaucrats always frustrated the moves of the previous governments to separate judiciary from the executive.

Talking to journalists at Sona Masjid he said the previous governments had faced obstruction from administrative officers. They also raised objection when the present government is going to implement it from November 1. Certain changes are being made under the executive.

Hannan Shah came here to offer special prayers at the graveyard of his close comrade Shahid freedom fighter Major Nazmul Haq.

He said the present government has completely failed to check spiraling price of essentials. This has frustrated expectation of the people from the government.

Replies to a question on 1/11, the BNP leader said certain political parties had indulged in anarchy leading to loss of lives and destruction of public and private property. Under the prevailing situation the president had no alternative to declare emergency in the country.

Asked about the steps to secure release of chairperson Khaleda Zia in case legal battle failed Shah said, "It is premature to say."

Earlier, he was quoted to have

said BNP would opt for political measures if the legal battle failed to secure release of Khaleda who had been thrown behind the bars on corruption charges.

Shah reiterated the demand for reopening the BNP office. "If not for us, let it open for the so-called reformists in the party. People will see how long they can sit there."



Workers of Nassa Mainland, a garment factory, gather outside the factory at Tejgaon in the city yesterday as the authorities did not allow them to enter into the factory. (Story on Page 2)

Formulate climate-friendly policies for future dev

Speakers tell seminar

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at a seminar yesterday urged the government to formulate climate-friendly policies for future development plan in view of the global climate change.

They said the accelerated climate change has long been affecting both the developed and the developing countries, including Bangladesh, where bio-diversity along with the agriculture sector is facing a dangerous consequence leading to a probable adversity on crop production.

"Both economic and environmental security in Bangladesh have been endangered due to the climate change that poses a formidable threat to our bio-diversity," said former adviser to the caretaker government Akbar Ali Khan while addressing the seminar as the chief guest.

The message of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon on the UN Day was also read out at the seminar.

Grameen Shakti wins Tech Museum Awards

Grameen Shakti has won Katherine Mawson Equality Tech Museum Awards 2007, says a press release.

Grameen Shakti has been selected from hundreds of nominations sent from 68 countries because of its outstanding achievement in empowering rural people especially disadvantaged rural women through renewable energy technologies.

The Tech Museum Awards recognise 25 laureates in five categories: education, equality, environment, economic development and health.

The awards honour those who are applying technology to benefit humanity and spark global change.

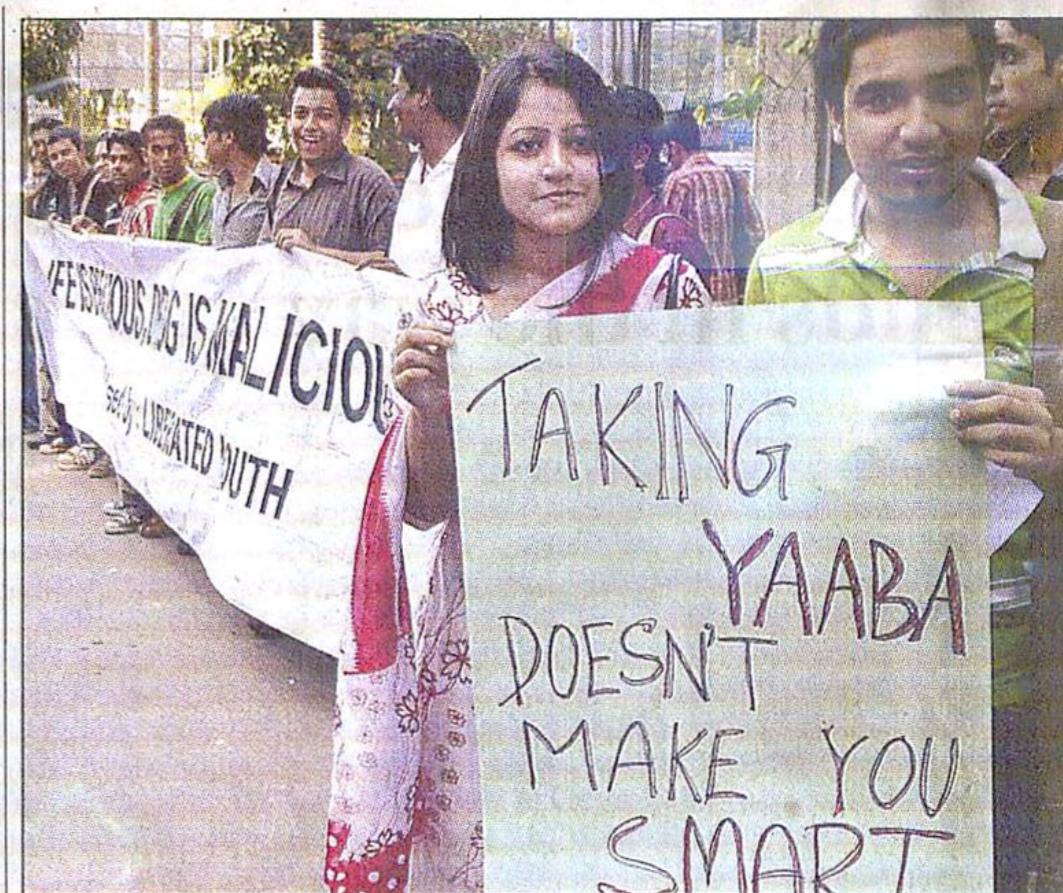
The award is sponsored by Tech Museum of Innovations, one of the leading science and technology museums of USA, with its office in California.

Dipal Chandra Barua, founding managing director of Grameen Shakti, "has developed an integrated approach to renewable energy technologies designed to reach rural people... in remote areas outside the reach of grid electricity," states the press release of the Tech Awards.

On behalf of Grameen Shakti, he will be presented with the Laureate Trophy engraved with his name at the Tech Award Gala to be organised in California on November 7.

He will receive \$50,000 in cash during the award ceremony.

Grameen Shakti, set up in 1996, has successfully created synergy between microcredit and renewable energy technology to become one of the largest and fastest growing renewable energy companies in the world targeting the rural people. Over 10 lakh Solar Home Systems have been installed with more than 4000 Solar Home Systems installed each month. Shakti is also promoting biogas technology and Improved Cook Stoves.



Students of private universities form a human chain at Banani in the city yesterday to raise awareness about drug addiction.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Need for raising coping capacity of vulnerable people stressed

BSS, Dhaka

Speakers at the launching of the preparatory phase of a project yesterday underscored the need for raising the coping capacity of the most vulnerable people side by side cutting down risks and hazards in a planned and integrated manner.

The government project titled 'Community-based adaptation to climate change through coastal afforestation' is funded by GEF-UNDP-LDC. The \$3.5 million preparatory project, officials said, would address climate hazards as the key, and would be limited to coastal areas exposed to climate changes while this National Adaptation Plan of Action (NAPA) follow-up programme

would help demonstrate viable climate change adaptation approaches.

UNDP Regional Technical Adviser Gernot Laganda, UNDP/GEF Global Technical Adviser Pradeep Kurukulasuriya, UNDP Sustainable Development Adviser Dr Aminul Islam, DOE Director Mohamad Reazuddin, Prof KAB Sajjad Rasheed of Dhaka University, Mamunul Haque Khan of UNDP, Kamaluddin of climate cell and Mukhlesur Rahman from the project prep team addressed the opening session chaired by Joint Secretary of Ministry of Environment and Forests Rabindranath Roy Chowdhury.

Earlier, recognising the fact that Bangladesh would be the one of the most vulnerable and worst affected countries to climate change, NAPA suggested 15 priority adaptation measures to address adverse climate events in the country and community-based adaptation is one of those 15 intervention areas.

Speakers also suggested climate resilient livelihood options to be developed and promoted among the target communities while climate change risks be integrated into the community level planning and implementation of interventions.

They also asked to raise resilience of coastal population, settlements and ecosystems in areas exposed to coastal hazards.

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Seminars in Japan to expand Bangladesh RMG markets

BSS, Dhaka

Two seminars on Bangladeshi garments were held in Tokyo and Osaka of Japan recently to help expand the markets of garments aspects of the garment industry.

Quality and different aspects of the apparel industry and possibilities and opportunities of foreign investments in Bangladesh were also highlighted at the seminars.

The Bangladeshi embassy in Japan and the JITA jointly organised the seminars, a press release of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) said.

Bangladesh Ambassador to Japan Asraf-ud-Doula chaired the seminars while BGMEA director

Osama Tasir represented his organization. Tasir focused on the Bangladesh economy, its population and quality of garments and different aspects of the garment industry. He also presented a ten-minute video on the garment industry in Bangladesh and opportunities for foreign investment in the country. It generated enthusiasm among Japanese buyers to import garments from Bangladesh.

Tasir also invited Japanese buyers to attend the fair on Bangladeshi readymade garments in Tokyo and BATEXPO-2007 fair in Dhaka on November 15-17.

A large number of Japanese buyers and officials of the JITA attended the seminars.

Bangladesh Services Limited

(Owner of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel)

1, Minto Road, Dhaka-1000

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for selection of Consulting Firm(s)

1. Bangladesh Services Limited (BSL) invites applications showing expression of interest from the bona fide, eligible, and reputed consulting firm(s) both local and foreign for the following categories for implementation of various upcoming projects of BSL and Dhaka Sheraton Hotel (DSH).
2. (a) The intending firm should have at least 5 (five) years for category-A and 10 (ten) years for category-B of working experience.
3. The intending firm should have experience either individually or in association with other firm(s) in:

 - Civil, Electrical, electromechanical works including designing, supervising and implementation of Project costing not less than Tk.50 lac for category-A and Tk.2.00 crores for category-B in Bangladesh which has successfully been completed during the last 5 (five) years.
 - Designing Air-conditioning system, electrification works, fire fighting systems, sanitary, water supply and plumbing works, hot water system, PABX telephone system, SMA TV system, landscaping, FF&E etc.

4. Firms may form consortium/joint venture for obtaining "Documents" and subsequent submission of EOI. But any individual member of the consortium/joint venture should satisfy all the conditions stated in Para 2 above.
5. Documents containing the task of the consultant, required qualification and experience and other conditions etc will be issued to intending consulting firms on payment of Tk.1,000.00 (Taka one thousand) only (non-refundable) in cash from the office of the undersigned during office hours on all working days between 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM from 28/10/2007 to 12/11/2007.
6. The intending consulting firm must clearly mention the category for which they are submitting their proposal.
7. The expression of interest (EOI) is to be submitted in the office of the undersigned in sealed envelope on or before 12:00 noon on 06/12/2007.
8. Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all application without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Secretary
Bangladesh Services Limited