YES in Action

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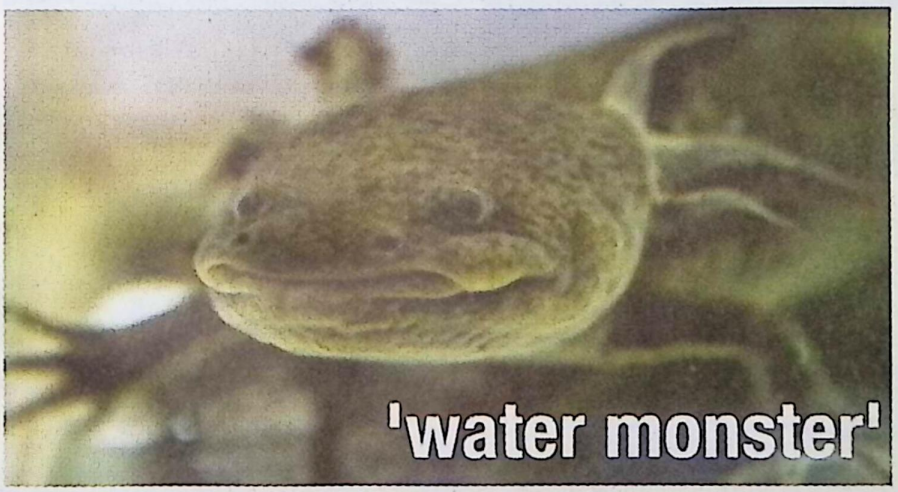
On hearing the details from Rozina, the UNO called the UP chairman to save Rozina's life from the curse of child marriage. Next day, YES group visited Rozina's house and explained the bad effects of early marriage to Rozina's father, mother and other relatives. Meanwhile, the UP chairman also came forward to handle the case. Finally, Rozina's parents understood their mistake and stopped the marriage. Rozina's father committed that Rozina would go to school regularly to finish her education.

YES has taken leadership to promote anti-corruption Oath in different educational institutions in their respective areas. Students of various schools, college and universities have been taking the Oath along with the YES members. They are becoming aware of the importance of staying away from unfair means in the examinations and from engaging in corrupt practices in their student and professional lives.

YES also arranges "People Theatre" to disseminate information and raising awareness among the general people. From 2007-08, 34 Theatre workshops, 01 cultural group and 13 refresher workshops have been done at local level with the technical and financial assistance of TIB.

YES also conducts AI-Desk at all the 36 CCC offices throughout the country to create awareness among the masses about their rights by providing relevant information about different educational and cultural institutes, hospitals, banks, Union Parishads, responsibilities of local governments, problems related to land properties, police and cases, gas, electricity, passports, constitutional rights of the people and so on so that people can easily know about their rights and can seek help about corruption in these fields.

The involvement of the youth has opened up a path to go ahead to establish a corruption and poverty- free Bangladesh. But like the words of English poet Robert Frost in his great poem, *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening*, "Miles to go...", we really have miles to go to root out corruption from our society.



'water monster'

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In the 1970s, Lake Chalco was completely drained to prevent flooding. In the 1980s, Mexico City began pumping its wastewater into the few canals and lagoons that remained of Xochimilco. About 20 years ago, African tilapia were introduced into Xochimilco in a misguided effort to create fisheries. They joined with Asian carp to dominate the ecosystem and eat the axolotl's eggs and compete with it for food. The axolotl is also threatened by agrochemical runoff from nearby farms and treated wastewater from a Mexico City sewage plant, researchers say.

Local fisherman Roberto Altamira, 32, recalls when he was a boy, and the axolotl was still part of the local diet.

"I used to love axolotl tamales," he says, rubbing his stomach and laughing. But he says people no longer eat axolotls, mainly because fishermen almost never find them.

"The last one I caught was about six months ago," says Altamira, a wiry gondolier with rope-like muscles from years of poling through Xochimilco's narrow waterways. Meanwhile, the axolotl population is burgeoning in laboratories, where scientists study its amazing traits, including the ability to completely regrow lost limbs. Axolotls have played key roles in research on regeneration, embryology, fertilization and evolution. The salamander has the rare trait of retaining its larval features throughout its adult life, a phenomenon called neoteny. It lives all its life in the water but can breathe both under water with gills or by taking gulps of air from the surface.

On a 9-foot-wide canal covered by a green carpet of "lentejilla" an aquatic plant that resembles green lentils Zambrano's researchers test water quality and search for axolotls. The air smells of sulfur and sewage.

A team member suddenly points to the trademark water ripple of an axolotl, and the crew hurls its net. But they only come up with two tilapia in a sopping-wet mass of lentejilla. So far, scientists disagree on how to save the creature. But a pilot sanctuary is expected to open in the next three to six months in the waters around Island of the Dolls, so-called because the owner hangs dolls he finds in the canals to ward off evil spirits.

Zambrano proposes up to 15 axolotl sanctuaries in Xochimilco's canals, where scientists would insert some kind of barrier and clear the area of nonnative species. Without carp, the water would clear, and plants the axolotl needs to breed could flourish again, said Bob Johnson, the curator of amphibians and reptiles at the Toronto Zoo.