

An Inclusive Society for the Physically Challenged

SHOUT Desk

Dhaka University Physically-challenged Development Foundation (DUPDF) organised a day-long "Leadership Training on Inclusive Society and Scribe Award Ceremony 2017", with the cooperation of Abdul Monem Economic Zone Limited.

Every year, Physically-challenged Development Foundation (PDF) organises such leadership trainings and workshops in order to promote active citizenship and to convey the message of inclusive society among the young learners of higher educational institutions.

The day-long programme was held on April 29, 2017. There were two segments: Leadership Training on Inclusive Society, held from 9 AM to 4 PM, and the Scribe Award Ceremony 2017 held later the evening. The event took place in RC Majumder Arts Auditorium, University of Dhaka (DU).

Vice Chancellor of DU, Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique attended as the chief guest and Pro Vice-Chancellor (Admin), Professor Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman attended as the special guest. Md. Tawohidul Haque, Assistant Professor, ISWR, DU presided over the

programme. Dr. Abu Md. Delwar Hossain, Dean, Arts Faculty; Dr. Abu Jafar Md. Shafiul Alam Bhuiyan, Provost, Bijoy Ekattor Hall; Mainuddin Monem, Deputy Managing Director I, Abdul Monem Limited; Abu Muhammad Yousuf, Director (Programme), Department of Social Services; A Gafur, Director, Abdul Monem Economic Zone Limited; Tajdin Hassan, Head of Marketing, The Daily Star; and Manika Chakraborty, Assistant Professor, Department of Management, DU were the esteemed guests of the programme.

In his speech, Professor Dr. Siddique said, "To execute the Sustainable Development Goals, there is no alternative to create an inclusive society. And only competent leadership can create an inclusive society." He also emphasised on the importance of youth leadership to ensure a good society.

Prof. Dr. Akhtaruzzaman said, "Our real disabilities aren't physical, rather they lie in our thoughts and attitudes. We have to change our minds and actions for the betterment of the society."

Tawohidul Haque thanked the guests, participants and organisers in his presiding speech and said, "Every person faces challenges in their lives. We should respect them for being the 'people with



challenges', rather than simply labelling them as disabled. If we want to make a society for all, we have to bring them to the mainstream."

It is to be noted that there were training sessions on various issues related to inclusive society and leadership such as leadership skills, tips and processes, disability orientation, voluntarism through leadership, essentials for an inclusive society, policy advocacy for inclusive society, etc.

Over 180 students, including students

with disabilities, attended the training programmes.

DUPDF, one of the branches of Physically-challenged Development Foundation (PDF), which is a registered non-profit voluntary youth and student based organisation, is working relentlessly for the overall development of the students with disabilities in University of Dhaka. For more information, visit www.pdfbd.org

SHOUT was the Youth Engagement Partner of the event.

UHH Distributes Relief at Haor in Sunamganj

MD. MIZANUR RAHMAN

On April 29, 2017, the volunteer organisation, Universal Help Hub (UHH) distributed food, medicine, and other relief items among the haor people in Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj.

UHH distributed the relief items as part of its regular campaign called "Healthy Nation". Beside distribution of relief items, there was a free medical camp where doctors provided free medical service to almost a thousand habitants of Kawakandi Bazar of Bardal Uttar union

parishad of the upazila. UHH distributed rice, spices, oral saline and medicine for water purification.

In this day-long campaign, 20 volunteers participated, who are students from different universities. Bardal Uttar UP Chairman Abul Kashem was present in the programme. He expressed his gratitude to UHH for organising the campaign in such a crucial time. He said, "Hundreds of thousands of people in the haor area are now homeless and helpless. They have lost their one seasonal boro crops. There are no fishes to catch and

most of the people have lost their domestic animals. They cannot survive in this condition if we do not stand beside them."

BSMMU Dr. Monirul Islam said, the people of haor area are now suffering from waterborne diseases. Dr. Islam has invited doctors around the country to participate in helping these people. "Haor people cannot afford money for treatment now. We doctors should provide free service even if it is only for a day," Dr. Islam added.

Ohonish Film Chief Executive H. Al

Banna has invited everybody to help the underprivileged people of the area; UHH General Secretary Sahadat Hossain Sikdar expressed his gratitude to all of the donors.

UHH President Mujahidul Islam said, "Before the golden jubilee of our independence, UHH wants to provide free medical service to 50 thousand of such marginalised people. With a view to fulfil the plan UHH is organising its campaign 'Healthy Nation'. We have arranged this special and emergency campaign for haor people as part of our campaign."

