

#### Report

# 16-DAYS ACTIVISM TO END GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

**Duration of the Activism: November 25, 2022, to December 12** 

Organized by : UNICEF, MoWCA & MoYS

The Theme of this year

"UNITE! Activism to end violence against women and girls"



MoWCA and UNICEF celebrating the 16-Days of Activism against GBV at Mirpur-12, Dhaka

National event on 16-day Activism to end violence against women and girls. Joint Secretary, MoWCA, Ms Elisa Calpona, Child Protection Manager, UNICEF Dhaka, were present at the event on November 27, 2022, at Mirpur -12, Dhaka, Bangladesh.



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#### a. Background

The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence is an annual campaign that started globally on November 25th, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and Girls, and runs until International Human Rights Day on December 10th. This year under the theme of "UNITE! Activism to end violence against women and girls" jointly UNICEF Bangladesh, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA,) and the Ministry of Youth and Sports (MoYS) focused on the innovative and community-led approach to disrupting violence in both the real and virtual settings. By amplifying the voices of changemakers, UNICEF aims to ensure that children, including adolescents and women, can exercise their inalienable right to feel safe, thrive, and flourish wherever they are.

#### Global Statistics show that:

More than **1 in 3** women experience gender-based violence during their lifetime

More than **five** women or girls are killed every hour by someone in their own family.

Less than **40** per cent of women who experience violence seek the help of any sort.

### b. According to Mr. Sheldon Yett, UNICEF Representative to Bangladesh on 16 days of activism against Gender-Based Violence

- Every child has the right to feel safe and protected from violence.
- Yet 45 million Bangladeshi children under 15 are regularly subjected to physical or psychological violence at home. At the hands of the people, they trust.
- More than 80 per cent of women are abused by their partners, often in front of their children.
- The impact can be lifelong physical injury, sexually transmitted infections, anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, and even death.
- There is no excuse for violence, and we can prevent it.
- We must challenge beliefs and practices that perpetuate violence.
- We must invest more in the social service workforce to protect women and children in every community.
- It is everyone's duty to prevent violence, protect survivors and report abuse.

Violence against women and girls remains the most pervasive human rights violation in the world, affecting more than 1 in 3 women—a figure that has remained largely unchanged over the last decade.

Global emergencies, crises, and conflict have further intensified violence against women and girls and exacerbated the drivers and risk factors. Climate change is aggravating all types of gender-based violence against women and girls, an already visible pattern that will undoubtedly grow more extreme as the crisis worsens. Rapidly expanding digitalisation is increasing online violence against women and girls, compounding existing forms of violence and leading to the emergence of new ones.

Despite these discouraging trends, there is more proof than ever that violence against women and children is preventable. Evidence shows that the single most important changing traditional social norms and harmful practices are the most critical factor driving change to end violence against women and girls.

This 16 Days, encouraging everyone to get involved: from amplifying the voices of survivors and activists to supporting women and girls and strengthening the capacity of the people, we can all act to empower survivors, reduce and prevent violence against women and girls, and protect women's rights.

As a child-centred global organisation, UNICEF is committed to strengthening Child Protection systems and supporting ending all forms of violence against women and children including all other harmful practices by 2030. The 16 Days of Activism campaign provides an important platform to focus the country's attention to end violence against women and children.

#### c. Specific Objectives of 16-day Activism

- 1.5 million children, and their communities participate to awareness raising against violence.
- To enhance MoWCA and MoYS's ownership of a sustainable and scalable child protection systems up to the village level.

# d. Joint events for the 16-Days activism campaign:

The following activities/events are being carried out by UNICEF, MoWCA, MoYS, and an LTA company supporting the community street performance and art, Expression:

- Awareness sessions with young children and teenagers on ending violence against women and children
- Dialogues with teenagers, parents, and community leaders on GBV and other CP issues.

- Dramatic presentations on many topics related to GBV and CP, such as child marriage, child labour, child trafficking, physical punishment, dowry, drowning, etc.
- Art/Drawing on GBV and other CP concerns in a sports program or game Video presentation on 16 Days of Activism
- Promotion of the child helpline number 1098 during the event
- The national event in Dhaka City

# e. Targets for the 16-Days activism campaign:

1.5 million children, adolescents, parents, community, and government representatives. Children with Disabilities (CwD) will be influenced to active participation in this campaign.

### f. The 16 -Days Activism plan

The 16-Day Activism plan is to reach 1.5 million children, including adolescents, parents, and community people. The interventions cover all children, including adolescents in different platforms like clubs under 42 Upazilas of project areas. Ministry of Youth and Sports, Ministry of women and children affairs and Expression ltd. Companies are responsible for implementing the set activities under the technical and financial assistance from UNICEF Bangladesh in the most vulnerable districts, according to MICS-2019.

#### The key activities are:

- Colorful Rally with children, adolescents, and parents in the community
- Dialogue with adolescents, parents, community leaders, etc.
- Drama/Role Play on GBV & other CP issues
- Sports and game for Development (S4D)
- Art/Drawing on GBV & other CP issues
- Awareness session against GBV
- Public Screening Awareness (PSA)

# g. National Campaign on 16-day Activism to end violence against women and girls

The 16-day activism campaign was launched on November 25, 2022, by MoWCA, MoYS, with technical support from UNICEF Bangladesh. Beginning activities included a club-based awareness campaign and dialogue/discussions about ending violence against women and girls with children, adolescents, and parents. Consequently, on November 27, 2022, a national event was held in Dhaka organized by Ministry the of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) with support from the funded Accelerating Protection for Children (APC) project. Around 500 people from the community attended the event. The event was moderated by Peer leaders (PL) of APC projects. At the event, a message about ending gender-based violence was distributed. S.M. Latif, joint secretary, MoWCA (project director, APC project), and Elisa Calpona, Manager Child Protection UNICEF, delivered speech at the national event.



MoWCA, MoYS, and UNICEF celebrating the 16-Days of Activism against GBV at Mirpur-12, Dhaka

### h. Speech Delivery



Welcome speech by Mr. SM Latif, PD-APC Protect, and Joint Secretary, GoB

**S.M. Latif, Joint Secretary, MoWCA (Project Director for Accelerating Protection for Children)** welcomed participants and thanked all attendees for coming and showing UNITE to end violence against women and girls. He said that women's contribution is not acknowledged but their contribution is more than everyone to the family and economy of Bangladesh.

He invites boys and males to engage in the event. Then he gave special thanks to UNICEF for supporting this wonderful event.



Ms. Elisa Calpona, Child Protection Manager, UNICEF Bangladesh delivering her speech at Mirpur-12, Dhaka

**Elisa Calpona, Child Protection Manager UNICEF**, thanked Mr Latif for his kind words and expressed her UNITE to end violence against women and girls.

She said that the prevalence of violence against women and children is alarming. 45 million Bangladeshi children under the age of 15 are regularly subjected to physical or psychological violence at home, more than 1 in 3 women experience gender-based violence during their lifetime, and more than 5 women or girls are killed every hour by someone in their own family. Less than 40 percent of women who experience violence seek the help of any sort.

To provide support there is a toll-free number 1098, the national Child Helpline (CHL) which children, adolescents and families can use for protection from violence and harmful practice

# i. Achievement of 16-day Activism Campaign till December 17, 2022:

A total of **2,774,685** Children, adolescents, parents, and the community reached out through **41,680** different events, among them **5,532** children, adolescents and community are persons with disability, such as;

- Awareness session with children and adolescents on End Violence Against Women & Girls (Club based)
- Dialogue with adolescents, parents, and community leaders on GBV & other CP issues
- Drama shows on different topics of GBV & CP issues like child marriage, child labor, child trafficking, corporal punishment, dowry, drowning, etc.



Awareness raising event, the 16-days activism against GBV

- Sports Program/Game
- Art/Drawing on GBV & other CP issues
- Video show on 16 Days Activism,
- Two separate big Events in two Clubs in Dhaka City
- child helpline number 1098 throughout the event

# j. The table shows the achievement of 16-days Activism

| Achievement from the 25 November to 17 December 2022                            |                  |                        |                             |  |  |
|---|------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Name of Events & Awareness Sessi  | ons Division     | Number of Events       | Total<br>Achievement        |  |  |
| Colorful Rally with children,<br>adolescents, and parents in the                | Dhaka            | 2,152                  | 264,402                     |  |  |
| community   | Chattogram       | 1,523                  | 266,821                     |  |  |
| <ul> <li>Dialogue with adolescents, pare<br/>community leaders, etc.</li> </ul> | nts,<br>Rajshahi | 4,059                  | 393,046                     |  |  |
| <ul> <li>Drama/Role Play on GBV &amp; othe<br/>CP issues</li> </ul>             | r<br>Khulna      | 3,771                  | 274,789                     |  |  |
| Sports/Game   | Sylhet           | 7,349                  | 441,403                     |  |  |
| Art/Drawing on GBV & other CP issues  | Barishal         | 10,917                 | 382,547                     |  |  |
| Awareness session against GBV   | Mymensingh       | 5,810                  | 380,096                     |  |  |
| Public Screening Awareness (PS     Sports for Davids present (S4D)              | SA)              |                        |                             |  |  |
|   | nangpur          |                        | ·                           |  |  |
| Sports for Development (S4D)  Total   | Rangpur          | 6,099<br><b>41,680</b> | 371,581<br><b>2,774,685</b> |  |  |

## k. Gallery of 16-day Activism Photos



Celebration of the 16-Days of Activism against GBV at Mirpur-12, Dhaka



Awareness raising rally, part of 16-Days of Activism against GBV



Celebration of the 16-day activism against GBV



Awareness raising event, the 16-days activism against GBV



Awareness raising rally, part of 16-Days of Activism against GBV



Matarbari Ideal High School, Cox's Bazar



Celebration of the 16-day activism against GBV at primary school, Sylhet



Football game, S4D, part of 16-Days of Activism against GBV



Awareness raising session, part of 16-Days of Activism against GBV at Community



Awareness raising session, part of 16-Days of Activism against GBV at APC CAC



MoWCA, MoYS, and UNICEF Celebrating of the 16 Days activism against GBV at primary school, Kalia, Narail



MoWCA, MoYS, and UNICEF Celebrating of the 16-days activism against GBV

### I. Media Coverage of 16-days Activism













শিশু ও নারীর বিরুদ্ধে সহিংসতা বন্ধে ইউনিসেফ আয়োজিত আলোচনা সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়েছে। এতে পাঁচ শতাধিক শিশু ও নারী অংশ নেন। রবিবার বিকেলে রাজধানীর মিরপুরের পল্পবীর বেগুনটিলা মাঠে এ সভা অনুষ্ঠিত হয়। অনুষ্ঠানে প্রধান অতিথি ছিলেন মহিলা ও শিশুবিষয়ক মন্ত্রণালয়ের একসিলারেটিং প্রোটেকশন ফর চিলড্রেনের প্রকল্প পরিচালক যুগা সচিব এসএম লতিফ। বিশেষ অতিথি ছিলেন ইউনিসেফ বাংলাদেশের চাইন্ড প্রোটেকশন ম্যানেজার এলিসা কল্পনা ও পল্পবী ২৭ নম্বর ওয়ার্ডের কাউন্সিলর মো. সাজ্জাদ হোসেন। সভাপতিত্ব করেন মহিলাবিষয়ক অধিদপ্তরের উপপরিচালক ফাতেমা জহুরা। -বিজ্ঞপ্তি



শিশু ও নারীর বিরুদ্ধে সহিংসতা বন্ধে

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### **Link for Media coverage**

- 1. Amader Somoy https://epaper.dainikamadershomoy.com/2022/11/29/page-11
- 2. Janakantha https://epaper.dailyjanakantha.com/?p=3
- 3. Daily Sun https://www.edailysun.com/home/next\_page/3#tab1
- 4. Business Post https://businesspostbd.com/epaper/2022/11/29/page-16
- 5. CorporateSongbad -27th programe https://corporatesangbad.com/466139/
- ৬. শিশু ও নারীর বিরুদ্ধে সহিংসতা বন্ধে ইউনিসেফের সভা (protidinersangbad.com)
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- 8. Dhakareport24.com | বাংলা নিউজ পোর্টাল
- 9. One new 24 BD com
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