



Save the Children

CALL FOR AN END TO VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN IN BANGLADESH

Hundreds of protesters urged government in different ways demanding justice for brutal killing of children very recently. The protest demonstrated with the support of Save the Children while the number of rape of children and killing has been reportedly increased in Bangladesh.

The Child rights Advocacy Coalition in Bangladesh comprised of international and national organizations including Save the Children, Action aid, Ain O Salish Kendra, Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum, National Girl Child Advocacy Forum Bangladesh; demanded justice against all violence. They called for Government immediate action through the demonstration at local and national level with the support of local partners; where different stakeholders demonstrated their concern and recommendations. In addition, National Children's Task Force, on behalf of children; also led the advocacy at local and national level to call government for ending violence.

Coalition exposed a month long advocacy following the incidents of rape and killing of children in different parts of the country. Accordingly, a number of event organized for one month at national and local level including round table, press briefing, rally, and human chain and handing over memorandum etc. Different stakeholders were included in the processions of civil society, different national and international organizations, academia, youth and children. Child Rights activists and the leaders of different national and international organizations and the children also called on the government to put the criminal to trial and ensure their quick punishment

Addressing the protection for children, all the protestors stressed on the awareness, strengthening the role of local administration and law enforcing agencies to stop Violence Against Children. Besides, execution of Children Act 2013 reiterated as one of key of the recommendations; placed to the government for strengthening the protection mechanism.

Save the Children strengthened the advocacy through media following Op-Ed by Laila Khondkar, Director, Child Rights Governance & Child Protection, Save the Children.

prothom-alo.com/opinion/article/1278536/পরিবর্তনের পক্ষে দূত হতে পারে পুরুষেরা

Press statement concerned over increased violence against children

Save the Children in Bangladesh has expressed a grave concern issuing a press statement on 01 august 01, 2017; over the recent incidents of violence in the country. The statement came under Child Rights Advocacy Coalition following the incidents of murder of a number of children in separate parts of the country.

In the statement, the coalition analyzed the violence situation, mentioning that the recent incidents of children are being subjected to violence for family clash, grabbing property and selfish intentions of adults etc.

Save the Children also urged government to establish child protection systems to ensure a protective environment in Bangladesh with enabling communities and families to prevent and respond to violence, exploitation and abuse of children.

Media Coverage

<http://en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/155189/340-children-raped-in-7-months-NGO>

<http://daily-sun.com/printversion/details/244991/%E2%80%98340-children-violated-in-7-months%E2%80%99>

<http://dailyasianage.com/news/77404/340-children-raped-in-7-months-ngo>

<http://unb.com.bd/bangladesh-news/340-children-raped-in-7-months-NGO/3381>

<http://print.thefinancialexpress-bd.com/2017/08/02/179499>

Children demanded justice for violence in 64 districts

On 07 August, National Children's Task Force (NCTF) demonstrated in the processions in solidarity with civil society, different international and national organization, submitted a memorandum to the Deputy Commissioner in 64 districts with the representatives of all local administration.

NCTF noted in their statement that Government listened to the Children for Children Act 2013 and National Children Policy 2011, and with this approach the government need to be fully sensitive to the needs of the children. On the top of that, children demanded justice for all form of violence.

Addressing the violence, children also pointed out that the children that violence also happens at home, at school and neighborhood. They demanded exemplary punishment to those who are involved in these violence against children.



Connected local level stakeholders to protect Children

On 12 August, the coalition members along with local level partner organizations connected different stakeholders including government, local administration, children and civils society at around twenty districts to strengthen the voice calling government action to protect children. Moulavibazar, Sirajganj, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Barisal, Meherpur, Kushtia, Potuakhali, Munshiganj, Noakhali , Satkhira, Bandarban, Chittagong , Jessore, Dhaka, Khulna , Gazipur, Cox's bazar and Mymensingh districts participated in the demonstration.

The major recommendations from local level are summarized as

- Social safety net for the child protection.
- Arrange immediate health care facilities , counselling and safe space for the child victim
- Mass awareness through print and electronic media
- Ensure the effective actions of Mobile Court
- Strengthen the local government actors
- Develop mass awareness on child protection.
- Develop awareness of law for violence against children.
- Ensure the proper implementation of law
- Include protection of women and children issue in the text book
- Organize awareness programme in education institutions



Civil Society urged for a comprehensive approach to end Violence against Children in Bangladesh

On 27 August, a round table meeting organized by Save the Children along with Child Rights Advocacy Coalition and National Human Rights Commission at press club, urging effective measure to protect children from all forms of violence. The discussion chaired by Kazi Reazul Hoque, chairman, of the National Human Rights Commission with the participation of around hundred people including the representatives of civil society, children and the media..



On behalf of Coalition, Save the Children placed the recommendations; gathered from districts level dialogue; to implement Children Act 2013, formulation of policy on Physical & Humiliating Punishment, activate local level Child Protection Committee, establish Children Commission, formation of monitoring cell under Ministry of Women & Children Affairs and incorporation learning on child protection in text book etc.

Media coverage:

Daily Star: <http://www.thedailystar.net:8080/city/finalise-children-act-rules-deal-violence-1455100>

New Age: <http://www.newagebd.net/print/article/22936>

Daily Sun: <http://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/251037/Commission-a-must-to-protect-child-rights>

National Children's Task Force urged National Human Rights Commission to ensure justice for all children

On 13 September, a dialogue organized among National Children's Task Force (NCTF) and National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) calling punishment of all violence against children. Expressing their concern, a group of NCTF members submitted a memorandum to the chairman of NHRC urging to stop all violence across the country

In solidarity with children's concern, NHRC chairman Mr Reazul Hoque stressed on the immediate actions of government and establish national level child protection system in Bangladesh. He also remarked that actors involved in the process should be sincere for implementation of the judgment.



Media Coverage:

<http://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/254364/NHRC-chief-concerned-over-rise-in-abuse-of-children>

<http://www.kalerkantho.com/print-edition/news/2017/09/14/542360->