

ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2018



BNWLA

BANGLADESH NATIONAL WOMAN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION (BNWLA)

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Annual Report

2015- 2018

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Message from the President, BNWLA

BNWLA is one of the leading organizations seeking promotion of all kinds of rights for women & children. Through its activities BNWLA establishes social justice as well as reduction of discrimination in laws and policies in Bangladesh.

BNWLA is a platform for women lawyers across the country to enhance their professional capacities and skills to fight against all forms of violence especially gender based violence.

To establish equality of rights and equal opportunity for women, BNWLA believes that it is necessary to empower women through Economic empowerment, eliminating gender based violence along with demystifying laws which creates discrimination, taboos, stigma & disparity in the society.

BNWLA has to work within many constraints like reduction of donors' support and others, but still sustained to achieve its objectives. BNWLA has gone forward with some significant achievement and this annual report covers all programs and activities that happened during the year 2015-2018. BNWLA is particularly grateful to development partners, donors and stakeholders for their cooperation and contribution in these achievements. I also thank different ministries and institutions of the government for their invaluable support and cooperation in materializing our projects thus helping us to move forward towards a free and fair society for women and children.

Finally, I express my gratitude to all members and staff for their significant support, sincere dedication and hard work to improve the lives of the most vulnerable women and children of the society and thus realizing our organization's goals.

Ms. Fawzia Karim Firoze

President BNWLA

Advocate, Appellate Division of Supreme Court of Bangladesh,

&

Former Member, National Human Rights Commission



Message

From General Secretary, BNWLA

Assalamu Alaikum.

Greetings from BNWLA.

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) is one of the leading Human Rights Organization at National, Regional and International level promoting Human Rights especially women and children's right. In cooperation with overseas donor agencies, BNWLA has adopted various strategies and has design, implementing various activities to extend its service through program on trafficking, advocacy, media campaign, investigation, legal awareness, paralegal training, conducts research, shelter support and also programs on socio-economic empowerment of women and girls for integrating them in the mainstream socio-economic development. In almost four decades BNWLA has made significant contribution to promote and ensure access to justice, equality and establish rights of women and children of Bangladesh.

Violence against women in endemic, prevalent throughout the country. Bangladesh has the best quality of laws legislative institutions and system of enforcement. Several legal and protective policy measures have been taken to safeguard women's right, effectively outlawing gender-based violence and discrimination. But implementation through enforcement remains difficult, greatly impeding the advancement of women in the society. It is not possible to ensure justice for the disadvantaged, destitute people especially women and children as there is no specific mechanism, victim and witness protection Act for the protection of the victim herself and witnesses.

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to our national and international development partner. BNWLA has effective relationship with various Government Ministries, Institutions, Departments in developing new policies and legislation safeguarding the rights of women and children and sensitizing the Local Government's component dealing with Violence against Women issues at root level.

BNWLA Annual report 2015-2018 portrays the activities and achievements of the organization over the years. I am happy to express my thanks to all the members who support the organization voluntarily specially to the members of the Executive Committee for their fruitful support and contribution to attend the goal of the organization and to the staffs of BNWLA for supporting to strengthen our activities.

BNWLA is optimistic that in near future the contribution of the organization will be reflected in the society resulting qualitative changes in the lives of several thousand women and children in Bangladesh.

Thanking you

Seema Zahur

General Secretary, BNWLA

Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh

Vision, Mission & Objectives of BNWLA

Vision:

Ensure rule of law and gender equality by accountable, transparent democratic practice of state to respect human rights and fundamental rights.

Mission:

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) is a human rights organization engaging itself with proactive individuals and institutions for establishing rule of law and gender equality.

OBJECTIVES:

With a slogan of "Helping to balance scales" and a mission to "Enable women to become self-reliant, conscious of their rights and productive members of society founded on justice," BNWLA is committed to achieving the following objectives :

- ☞ Organize women to develop their status in the community.
- ☞ Improve women's and children's domestic, social, legal and economic status.
- ☞ Provide justice for all and combat violence against women and children.
- ☞ Create equal opportunities and equal rights for every woman and child in Bangladesh.
- ☞ Establish linkage and network with law enforcing authorities, local people, local elected bodies
- ☞ Promote women lawyers of Bangladesh to enhance their scope of profession in the society.
- ☞ Adopt measures to remove all forms of discrimination and harassment against women.

Chapter 1

BNWLA: An overview

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association [BNWLA] is a lawyer's association based in Dhaka. It was established in 1979. Its main goal is to create equal opportunities and equal rights for every woman and child in the country. BNWLA promotes the rights and status of women lawyers alongside fighting for access to justice for all women & children particularly for the most disadvantaged, deprived and distressed women and children in Bangladesh.

BNWLA, as a Human Rights organization with a special focus on promoting women and children rights always appeared as a pressure group to the Government & International Bodies and tried to keep the realities of women and children in the public eyes. It is found that without proper policy formulation and action, it is not possible to ensure any positive changes in overall developments of women and children. BNWLA is trying to bring changes in the society and also to ensure access to justice from grassroots to national level through partnership, networking and policy level advocacy. The organization followed three thematic approaches (Prevention, Protection, Rehabilitation and Reintegration) and specific strategies are as follows:

- ❖ Advocacy through research, dialogues, seminars/workshops, PIL, media Advocacy, Networking, Partnership for reforming and amending Laws and Policies;
- ❖ Right-based prevention, protection & integration supports (including comprehensive women and child friendly approaches like legal support, shelter, psychosocial counseling & others);
- ❖ Enhancing member women lawyers' professional capacity to act as "Change Agents"] to resist countrywide violence against women;
- ❖ Children & fulfill its vision "to establish rule of law with gender equality".

BNWLA's Governing body: **The Executive Committee** is elected every two years through direct votes of its general members across the country. The committee consists of seventeen [17] member with a President, two [2] Vice Presidents, 1 General Secretary, 1 Joint Secretary, 1 Treasurer and 1 Joint Treasurer and ten [10] members. The governing body is independent entity, involved in functioning of the organization, specifically on policy making, strategic development, monitoring, evaluation and advising the members and staff. Roles and responsibilities of the governing body for financial planning, reporting and internal control are formally defined and documented in the organizations constitution and executive committee meetings minutes. All members of the executive committee are practicing lawyers of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and engaged in pro bono services since long. Executive Committee scrutinizes all activities of the organization on monthly and quarterly basis. Besides, Executive Committee arranges annual general meetings and Annual General meeting in every year.

In the year 2018 BNWLA entered into **40 years** of its existence. With the involvement of member Lawyers in **64 legal service delivery centers** at 16 Upazilla and 64 unions [including char, hill and coastal areas] BNWLA has been able to make its legal service more accessible to the vulnerable, deprived and distressed women and children. Since 1991, BNWLA has been able to strengthen civil society organizations, establishing networks and made partnership Nationally, Regionally and Internationally to maximize support for women and children. BNWLA helped to activate Paribarik Nirjaton Protirodh Dal, Nari Nirjaton Pratirodh Dal, Student Action Group, Cultural Group, Study Group, Adolescent Committee, Village Development Committee and Vigilance Team which worked on gender equality, stop child marriage, combat trafficking and violence against women and children related issues at the grassroots level.

Significant works of BNWLA

2015 - 2018

1. Filing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) at High Court for State recognition of the Birangonas as Freedom Fighter 2015.
2. A study on the effectiveness of the Domestic Violence (Prevention & Protection) Act 2010 on 2016.
3. Evidence based research on the issue of "Situation Analysis of Paralegal works in Bangladesh 2016
4. Regional conference: Strengthen Networking to combat child trafficking 2016
5. Filing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) to High Court to repeal the special provision of section 19 of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017; Writ Petition no- 4580/2017

Core Competency of BNWLA

- Legal Service
- Public Interest Litigation [PIL] as a tool of advocacy
- Networking
- Rescue, Release and Repatriation of the victims of All forms of Violence especially Gender Based Violence and Human Trafficking.
- Shelter Service
- Reintegration and Rehabilitation of victims into their respective family and society.
- Awareness and Sensitization program for the community.
- Strengthening capacity of the NGOs, relevant Government Agencies, Lawyers, and Journalists, Law enforcing agencies, Community members, Religious leaders, Marriage Registers and members of Civil Society.
- Advocacy, Lobby and Social Mobilization
- Research, Communications and Documentation
- Empowering Women Workers in the formal and informal economic sector.
- Promotion, Up- gradation and Motivation of the woman lawyers across the country.

BNWLA Networking (National & Regional)

Work with Government

BNWLA plays a very interactive and cooperative role between Government and other national and international development agencies to move forward on all international instruments for promoting women and children human rights. BNWLA has contribution in formulation of National Women Advancement Policy 2011, implementation of Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) and National Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children in Bangladesh during 2011. BNWLA had contribution to achieve Millennium Development Goal [MDGs] and Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs).

Global Networking

At regional and international level, BNWLA usually involves itself in drafting different alternative reports such as UNCRC optional protocol, sale of children, child prostitution, pornography and Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). BNWLA is also playing the key role in execution of SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution 2002 and the formulation of bi-lateral agreement on combating human trafficking between Bangladesh and India.

Partners of BNWLA

1. Ministry of Home Affairs [for activating government's anti-trafficking committees country wide, support to Victim Support Center and closely related in community based child protection mechanism of Local Government]
2. CID under Bangladesh Police [Conducting joint investigation for sensitive women and child rights cases]
3. Support to One Stop Crisis Center Under Ministry of Woman and Children affairs (MoWCA)

BNWLA: Member of Different Committee of GO:

Members of different committees: In combating violence against women and children, to eradicate all forms of discrimination and to promote women and child rights BNWLA as an active members of the following committees plays a significant role.

1. Government's NGO Coordination Committee on Counter Human Trafficking under the Ministry of Home Affairs
2. Member of Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) for implementation of National Plan of Action (NPA) on Prevention of Child Marriage.
3. Taskforce on implementing Prevention and suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 under the Ministry of Home Affairs
4. Taskforce members in implementation of RRRI Process under the Ministry of Home Affairs
5. National Legal Aid Committee under the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
6. National Acid Crime Control and Prevention Committee under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs
7. National Aids Committee under the Ministry of Health
8. National Child Labor Committee under the Ministry of Labor and Employment
9. Police Head Quarter Monitoring Cell

BNWLA active member of Anti Sexual Harassment Committee in Public, Private and Corporate Sector:

In Public Sector

1. Department of Social Services
2. Department of Women and Children Affairs
3. Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
4. Tourist Police

In Private Sector

5. East West University
6. Uttara University

In Corporate Sector

7. Grameen Phone

BNWLA active member of different Civil Society Movement

Citizen Initiatives against Domestic Violence (CIDV)
Citizen Initiatives Committee (CIC)
Engaging Man and Boys Network (EMBN)
GIRLS NOT BRIDE Network
Bangladesh Shishu Adhiker Forum (BSAF)
National Girls Child Advocacy Forum (NGCF)

Chapter II

Enhancing professional skills of woman lawyers through multifaceted efforts

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association, a non-profit, non-political lawyer's association was established with the initiative of some dedicated and committed women lawyers in Bangladesh. Initially its main aim was to promote the status of the female lawyers countrywide so that they could work with male lawyers in equal position in the legal field with same dignity and respect and also wanted to stop all sort of violence against women and promote women's right by aiding women, who are deprived, abused and battered. Back on 1979 when BNWLA started to work, the number of women lawyers was very small. The traditional mindset was that legal profession is a male oriented profession and women do not have the ability to pursue their career in law sector. Due to this mindset, women's leadership participation in the law profession was low. Women lawyers faced difficulties working in the justice sector and hindered by gender bias, negative attitude of male colleagues, family obligations and social pressures were the most significant challenges. Therefore, women lawyers hardly appeared in court as there was no space/place for them to stand and people were not willing to acknowledge women lawyers.

In order to overcome such situation from the beginning BNWLA was always maintaining its focus on its objective. BNWLA is working consistently and constantly to promote and organize a professional women lawyer's platform that can be a pathway to involve them and to help the socially, legally and financially challenged women and children.

BNWLA has been involved in nationwide front line activities to ensure justice for the disadvantaged deprived and distressed women and children of Bangladesh by highly dedicated women lawyers and devoted women rights activists. Unless these dedicated women lawyers are competent enough regarding women's rights and protection issues, they will face obstacles to deal with the women who come for help. So it is important to develop the capacity and confidence of the women lawyers and law students.

BNWLA's journey to change the status of professional women lawyer's in the legal field of Bangladesh was not smooth. Social obstacles and professional noncooperation were rampant. When they first wanted to have meetings with "Marriage Registers (kazi)" the reaction was (the kazi said they don't want to talk with women with short hair) "Chul kata mohilader shathay kotha boltay chai na". Presently, the situation has changed, women lawyers hold various meetings with "kazis" and they are no longer a barrier. Now Imams have changed their attitudes towards BNWLA and are willing to enter into formal partnerships with them. Imams are now more positive because of the work done by BNWLA and other NGOs. This is how BNWLA has been empowering women since 1979 in the legal profession, cultivating a diverse membership dedicated to equality, mutual support, and collective success. Empowerment is a method which has been derived amongst others to promote women's position. Through empowerment women are culturally, socially, economically, politically and intellectually more capable for their development. It means to enlighten them by education, to make them understand their power and potentials, to make them conscious of their rights, to involve them in various socio-economic and political activities, to involve them in decision making process and also to adopt safeguards against oppression that traditionally looms large over them.

BNWLA's initiatives and activities include:

- National and regional programs focused on giving women lawyers the legal, communication and service skills to succeed in the legal profession.
- BNWLA provides trainings all over Bangladesh on “Protection of Women and Girls Rights” to lawyers and law students :
 - o to improve prosecutor and assistant prosecutor, para legal, legal service delivery system towards victims and in this regard they are provided adequate legal knowledge of Domestic Violence Act 2010, Muslim Family Laws Ordinance 1961, Muslim Family Courts Ordinance 1985, Guidelines of Sexual Harassment 2009, Human Trafficking Act 2012, Children Act 2013, Informal system (salish and village court) and pro-bono service;
 - o to enhance the knowledge about legal aid, advice and counseling of the participants so that they can disseminate their knowledge to the society.
 - o to make the participants more sensitive and tolerable towards women to bring changes in women's condition.
- Amicus support by the penal lawyers in the Supreme Court of the Bangladesh and in other district courts on issues concerning to women.
- Signature events, bringing together BNWLA members in all practice areas to celebrate successes, share best practices, inspire the leaders of the legal profession, and develop future leaders of the profession.
- Liaison relationships and partnerships with other professional development organizations.
- Provide opportunities for BNWLA members to publish scholarly articles on women and child issues.
- Training to pro bono lawyers, making clear the concept of pro-bono service with ethical rules for charging reasonable rates for their services and to develop a practice of engaging in pro-bono works which will help them in their profession.
- To meet the challenges for achieving the SDG, BNWLA assessed the need of a skilled professional group. Thus to develop the professional skills of the fresh graduates and post graduates BNWLA has launched the Internship Program, through which they can perform their best to establish the rightful legal status of women and children in mainstreaming them in the society
- BNWLA welcomes volunteers who are interested to learn the different women issues and want to work to enhance their capacities to comply with their legal professional performances.

Though fundamental rights are guaranteed by our Constitution, the overarching context of poverty and procedural complexities within the justice sector institutions excludes the most vulnerable members of our society from getting legal protection when they need it. Therefore, need for legal services among the poor, particularly women and children is overwhelming in Bangladesh. It can be said from numerous research that at least 70% of low and moderate-income households experience a legal problem each year. These studies show that the collective legal aid effort is meeting only about 20% of the legal needs of low-income people. In this regard BNWLA represents a diverse group of professionals in the legal field ,and it directly implements its development activity through legal service.

BNWLA has established Divisional Offices, Legal Aid Clinics covering almost all districts of Bangladesh; number of Focal Offices related to anti-trafficking, other violence measures at border adjacent district; Community Counseling Centers in Unions of various Upzillas especially to support the survivors of domestic violence where Vigilance Teams have been formed and imparts training on gender and women rights. The organization has also formed Community Care Committees to protect women and children locally covering 28 districts of Bangladesh. Services provided through these centers are as follows: Providing Information, Fact finding, Research and advocacy, Legal Advice, Conducting Mediation, Litigation, Rescue and Shelter support. To provide satisfying quality of above mentioned services, BNWLA needs professional skilled women lawyers. A human rights lawyer means challenging discrimination and defending the rights and freedoms of ordinary people and organizations. These important legal skills, includes communications, facilitation, relationship building, and service orientation. It is noted that these skills are not taught in law schools, it can only be built through proper work experience, capacity building training and through extensive pro bono experience.

All of these services are provided to survivors/beneficiaries on pro bono basis, with a nominal honorarium. Providing pro bono services not only promotes a lawyer's personal ethics and professionalism, it raises the status of lawyers before the public. BNWLA has taken initiatives of cultivating a pro bono practice, consistent with a lawyer's abilities and means, more importantly which can provide very satisfying work, goodwill, and tangible rewards.

However, still there is a clear lack of visibility of women within the justice sector that needs to be addressed through promotion, equal opportunity and secure working environment. In this regard BNWLA has the mission to provide leadership, a collective voice, and essential resources to advance women in the legal profession and advocate for the equality of women under the law.

IMPORTANT TRAINING PROGRAMS 2015-2018

Year	Name of the Training	Participant level	Number of Participant	Remarks
2015	Community based training for local level lawyers and law students on human rights and VAW	Women lawyers and law students	380	Participant received knowledge and ideas of pro bono services for providing legal service, advice and counseling
	Training on Improved performance and Credibility of Prosecutorial System	Public Prosecutors(PP), Additional Public Prosecutors, Special PP	75	The training sensitized them regarding their responsibility to conduct criminal cases
	Training on Court administration Gender and Equal Opportunities	Court administrative staffs, Peshkar, Nazir, Sherestadar	60	Participants learned to make the court environment friendly for ensuring proper justice to legal service seekers

Year	Name of the Training	Participant level	Number of Participant	Remarks
2015	Training on Domestic Violence & HR: Role of GoB Official	Lawyers/Public Prosecutors	751	Participants received Sufficient Knowledge on this issue
2016	Training on Effective Legal Services and Fact finding	Women Lawyers and project staffs, Solicitor, RC PNGO PC,	80	Participant received Knowledge for conducting effective legal assistances
	Training on Conducting Effective Mediation	Women Lawyers and project staffs, Solicitor, RC PNGO PC,	80	Participant received Knowledge for conducting effective mediation services
	Training on facilitation and communication skills for conducting legal awareness session	Women Lawyers and project staffs, Solicitor, RC PNGO PC,	30	Participant received Knowledge of effective communication skills and conducting legal awareness session
	Training on Domestic Violence & Human Rights: Role of GoB Official and NGO/HR Defenders	Lawyers/Public Prosecutors, NGO representatives/HR Defenders	1147	Participant received Knowledge on Domestic Violence prevention act to provide better services to the victims
	Training on Gender Sensitive Reporting Legal Counselors Training	Journalists Lawyers, solicitors	396	Participants learned the strategy to prepare GBV Reports
	Legal Counselors Training	Lawyers, solicitors	99	Participant received Knowledge on how to handle GBV Survivors as well as GBV violence, Domestic Violence prevention
2017	Training on Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act,2012	Lawyer , Public Prosecutors, Law Enforcement Agency	600	Participant received knowledge about Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act,2012 and its effective implementation

Year	Name of the Training	Participant level	Number of Participant	Remarks
	Training on the Role of Effective Implementation of Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act,2012	District administrations, Upozilla Administrations and Union Parishod representatives	751	Participant received knowledge about the role of implementation of Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act,2012 to combat trafficking
2018	Training on case management and GBV	Project staffs and r lawyers(Member and Panel)Cox's Bazar	40	Participant received knowledge about the case management system and GBV issues
	Training on Counseling	Project staffs and Lawyers (Member and Panel)Cox's Bazar	50	Participant received knowledge on counseling process , tools and Techniques
	Training on Facilitation and Information Management	Project staffs and Lawyers (Member and Panel)Cox's Bazar	80	Participants received knowledge on tools and Techniques of Facilitation process and Information Flow, Communication.
	Orientation on Gender base Violence and Shelter support	Project staffs and lawyers(Member and Panel)	30	Participants received knowledge on how to handle GBV Survivors as well as GBV violence.

INTERNSHIP at BNWLA 2015-2018

Year	Name of University	Number of student
2015	Social Welfare Department, University of Dhaka	10
2016	University of Dhaka	2
	United International University	2
2017	Social Welfare Department, New Model Degree College	10
	Social Welfare Department, Dhaka University	4
	Northern University	2
	Social Welfare Department, Dhaka University	6
	Department of Criminology, Dhaka University	6
	London University	1
	Clinical Psychology, Dhaka University	1
	Social Welfare department, Dhaka University	11
	Mowlana Vashani Science & Technology University, Tangail	1
	Jogonnath University, Dhaka	1
	Department of Peace & Conflict Studies, Dhaka University	1
2018	Green University	10
	Sociology Department, Dhaka University	8

Chapter III

Ensuring access to justice for women and children

Access to justice is itself a fundamental human right and a means to protect and enjoy other rights. Our Constitution article 27 guarantees access to justice stating that, ‘All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law.’ In accordance with The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted to him by the Constitution or by law. A fair and efficient legal system for providing justice is crucial for the proper functioning of the society. BNWLA, since its inception, has been striving for ensuring access to justice for women and children through different forms of legal service, i.e. legal advice, legal counseling, mediation, fact finding, conduct court case and rescue/release. BNWLA has been providing legal service to women and children to establish the right to equality before the law without discrimination, equal protection of the law, and the right to an effective remedy. BNWLA provides legal service up to grass root level. Women and girls get legal service at their locality through different Legal Service Delivery Centers. Moreover, BNWLA provides different services which are essential to prevent and protect victims from violence. BNWLA also provides few other crucial services like shelter, rehabilitation and reintegration.

Different types of legal services provided by BNWLA

Complaints are received and registered by BNWLA through its Head Office and different Legal Service Delivery Centers/One Stop Service Crisis Centre [in collaboration with the Government] located at different areas. Complaints were both in civil and criminal matters such as dower, maintenance, dowry, polygamy, divorce, custody or guardianship of children, restitution of conjugal rights, murder, rape, pornography, human trafficking, sexual harassment, abduction, domestic violence and the like.

BNWLA provided following legal services during 2015-2018:

LEGAL SERVICE PROVIDED BY BNWLA (2015-2018)

Activity	Year 2018	Year 2017	Year 2016	Year 2015
Receive complaint	865	1155	10379	8812
Mediation (Through ADR)	380	635	6889	5300
Compromise	290	330	2970	2483
Rescue from high risk situation	15	65	165	112
Case filing (New)	34	45	88	124
Realization of Dower	Tk.19,46,935/=	Tk.48,82000/=	Tk.27,53,480/=	Tk.30,20,300
Case referred to District Legal Aid Committee (DLACs).	146	80	267	793
Provided Legal Service to Clients (1 direct 2 indirect)	1730	2310	20,758	17,624

Shelter support provided by BNWLA

Activity	Year 2018	Year 2017	Year 2016	Year 2015
Repatriation of Survivors	80	135	157	164
Shelter support (Rescue & Repatriation)	74	90	92	100
Survivors integrated to the family	40	100	135	188
Survivors Reintegration to job	2	8	10	10
Vocational Training (Survivors in Shelter home)	55	60	100	87
Referral services for the survivors to other organization	9	3	9	10

Mediation stopped a divorce

Kohinoor (fake name) of Sharishabari district, Jamalpur was married to Rubel of the same district. They have 2 daughters and a son. Rubel was a drug addict. From the beginning of their marriage, they used to quarrel frequently and daily beatings. In this situation Kohinoor keep silent for the sake of the children. Local people tried to settle the family dispute between Kohinoor and husband but the efforts failed.

On April 15, 2016, Kohinoor again was beaten brutally as she refused to sign the divorce papers and refused to go to her parental home with children.

In the mean time she got information about the legal service delivery center of BNWLA from a neighbor and came to the Vatara, Jamalpur centre on April 24, 2016. Based on her complaint, the Centre lawyer sent notices to the husband (Rubel) which the opposite party (Rubel) ignored first. After that second notice sent to opposite party (Rubel) and he came to the Legal Service delivery Centre on July 2016. An ADR was conducted in the presence of both parties. After several setting and prolonged discussions Rubel understood his fault and confessed his guilt and apologized to his wife.

Proper Mediation changed the mind set of Rubel. Rubel gave assurance not to torture his wife(Kohinoor) anymore. Now they are leading happy marriage life. Their relationship became stable and congenial. Rubel now has a steady job, stopped taking drugs and is able to support his family well.

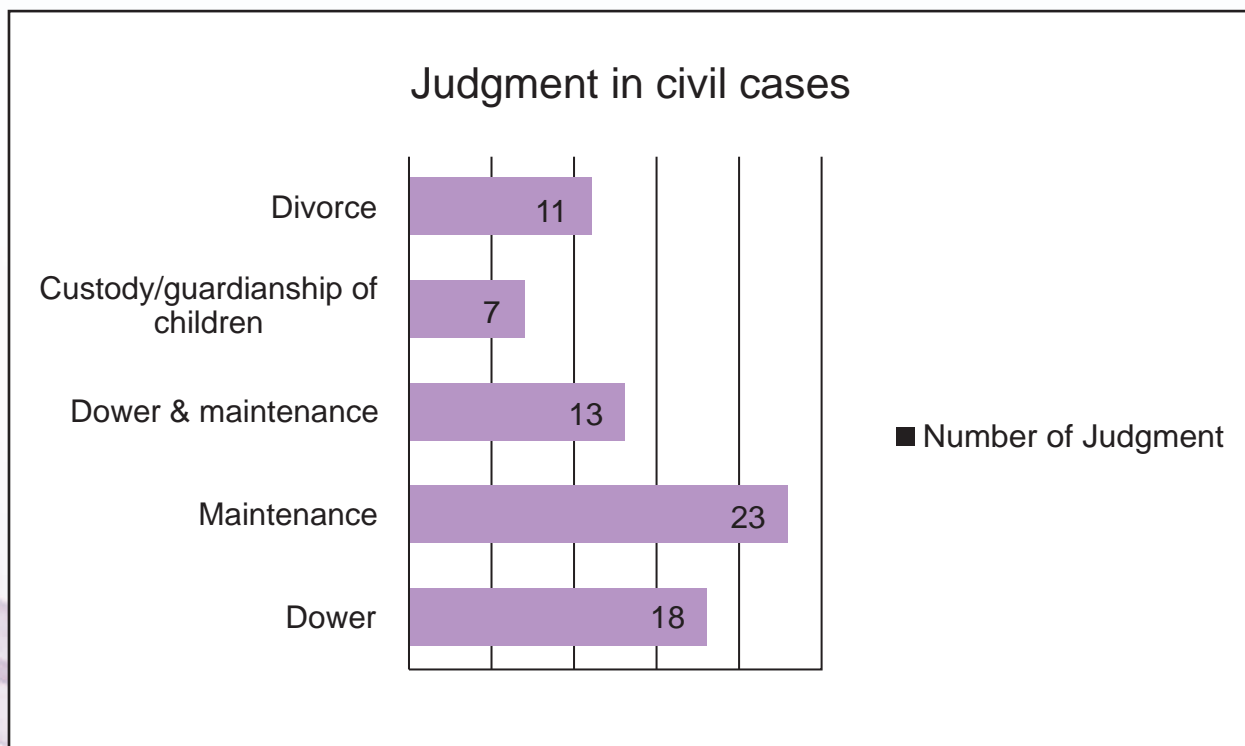
Conviction in criminal cases:

During 2015-2018, total 52 convictions were found in judgment in criminal cases out of which rape 3, murder after rape 1, attempt to rape 3, physical torture 11, physical torture for dowry 14, murder for dowry 2, demand of dowry 8, abduction 5, human trafficking 1, pornography 2, abetment in suicide 1 and sexual harassment 1.



Judgment in civil cases:

Total 72 judgments have been pronounced out of which dower 18, maintenance 23, dower & maintenance 13, custody/guardianship of children 7, and divorce 11.



Highlighted Judgments:

Legal service assistance is one of the substantial parts of BNWLA's activities. BNWLA is always concerned about access to judicial remedies. Lawyers of BNWLA are committed and persistent to get positive verdict on behalf of their clients. In recent past organization got some judgments which are significant to ensure justice for women and children.

Perpetrator is convicted in the first ever case under Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act, 2012

Perpetrator of human trafficking is convicted with life imprisonment and fined with taka 50,000 by Faridpur Court in a case filed by BNWLA. The court also ordered for providing an amount of fine as compensation to the victim. The judgment is a milestone as it is the first ever case under Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act, 2012.

Sharifa (fictitious name), aged 17, lived in her maternal grandfather's house, as when she was 7 years old her mother was divorced. Once Sharifa's maternal aunt seriously misbehaved with her and she could not bear it. So she left the house. On the way while she was weeping a woman deceived her showing tricky affection and sold her to "Rothkhola" brothel in Faridpur. There she was forcefully engaged with sex work. When her maternal uncle came to know the fact he approached BNWLA seeking relief. With the assistance of BNWLA, Sharifa's maternal uncle filed a case under section 6(2)/7/11 of Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act, 2012 accusing Mamtaj Begum, the leader of the brothel.

Challenges:

- It was the first case under Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act, 2012. Obstacles faced at initial stage, especially in filing the case at police station, as police was not aware about the law.
- Investigation Officer of the case was not familiar enough to handle the case under the new law.
- The place of occurrence was a brothel. So it became difficult to get witness from that place.
- The case lingered due to absence of witness for several times.

Interventions of BNWLA:

- Justice has been ensured in case of Sharifa with the active involvement and positive cooperation of BNWLA, Public Prosecutor and Police.
- BNWLA's member lawyers were committed to provide appropriate relief to Sharifa and considered the case with utmost priority. They showed their dutifulness, volunteerism and service providing attitude towards the destitute girl. They regularly communicated with Investigation Officer, Public Prosecutor and were acquainted with update information of the case.
- BNWLA along with police rescued Sharifa within short time. Then Sharifa was produced before the court which ordered to provide necessary shelter for the security of Sharifa. Sharifa came to Proshanti, a safe home run by BNWLA. Since then Sharifa has been staying at Proshanti with standard care and security. She received comprehensive support from BNWLA like psychosocial counseling, basic requirements, medical support, vocational education, life skills training and integration. Sharifa has overcome her traumatic situation getting all kinds of supports from BNWLA. Receiving different kinds of training & involving in different activities, now she became capable to face all adverse situations. She is self confident and competent to take her own decision. Now she is attending classes in a school staying at Proshanti.

Two accused were sentenced to death in the case of brutal murder of Rakib (Minor boy)

Mechanic Omar Sharif and his assistance Mintu Khan were sentenced to death on 08.11.2015 for brutally torturing Rakib, a 13-years old boy, to death. Rakib used to work at an automobile workshop in Khulna, where he was frequently tortured by the workshop owner. For this Rakib left the job to escape from torture and got employed at another workshop. Due to physical torture Rakib's intestines were torn apart and lungs busted, as the perpetrators pumped air in his body using an air compressor through his rectum on August 3, 2015. The case was filed on August 4, 2015 with Khulna police station under section 302/34 of the Penal Code. BNWLA provided legal support. It is unprecedented with regard to judiciary of Bangladesh that the judgment came within a short period of time (4 months) after filing the case.

Challenges:

- Accused persons had links with leaders of ruling party. So they tried to influence the result of the case.
- At the initial stage of the case, satisfactory cooperation was not visible from prosecution side.

Interventions of BNWLA:

- BNWLA along with other human rights organizations acted as a pressure group on the Government so that the crime can't be diverted due to close nexus of the perpetrators with the ruling party.

Teacher was awarded life term imprisonment for raping a child

Popy (fictitious name), aged 5 years, was a student of play group. Once at school her teacher took her to the toilet alluring with chocolate and raped her. While she was weeping her mother asked her and came to know about the incident. She was promptly admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. A case was filed on March 11, 2014 with Mirpur Model Police Station under section 9(1) of the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, 2000 (amended in 2003). BNWLA provided legal assistance in the case. On June 26, 2014 the Investigation Officer submitted charge sheet to the court. The court in its verdict [MAY 26, 2015] sentenced the accused life term rigorous imprisonment and additionally fined Taka 2,00,000 (Two lakh). In default, the convict will have to suffer 3 more year's rigorous imprisonment. In the verdict it is also mentioned that out of total fine Taka 2 lakhs, victim will be paid Taka 1 lakh as compensation. It was significant that the case was dissolved within 1 year and 2 months after filing of the case.

Challenges:

- Though the Investigation Officer visited the place of occurrence, didn't take evidence of any neutral witness.
- The Investigation Officer didn't collect any evidence from the place of occurrence.
- The Investigation Officer didn't submit charge sheet within the stipulated time in compliance with the Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, 2000.

Interventions of BNWLA:

- Forensic test of the victim was accomplished promptly with the intervention of BNWLA.
- This case of child victim has been handled by BNWLA with especial care and attention

During 2015-18, BNWLA was able to ensure access to justice for women and children. Dedication and commitment of lawyers of BNWLA towards clients made it possible to reach such remarkable achievement. Positive verdict by the court ultimately encouraged women to claim their rights from which they are being deprived of. Women and children have limited scope to get access to justice due to poverty and other social barriers. Legal service of BNWLA created an opportunity for women and children to get remedy in their locality free of cost. Women who have no ability to bear expenses of litigation are directly getting benefit from the activities of BNWLA. Women, who got relief from Legal Service Delivery Centers, encouraged other neighbors to take the service. As a result of different awareness raising activities of BNWLA women and children became aware about their rights. BNWLA through its Legal Service Delivery Centers made a great platform for them to make their complaints and to get deserved remedy.

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION [ADR]

BNWLA, firstly emphasizes to dissolve the disputes through amicable way. That is why ADR mechanism like mediation plays crucial role with regard to legal service of BNWLA. During 2015-2018, 13204 complaints have been resolved through mediation. ADR process like mediation is less stressful for the parties than the formal court proceedings. Mediation, being cheaper and speedier than the existing legal system was a great relief in mitigating the sufferings of litigants. Moreover, it has been facilitating to avoid any escalation of family conflicts. Both the parties of disputes were satisfied getting harmonious solution through these mediations.

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION [PIL]:

A tool of advocacy to change policy BNWLA use Public Interest Litigation (PIL) as a tool to change policy in favor of women and children. BNWLA identified it as a channel through which the voice of women and children can be articulated into the legal-political system and as a mechanism to make the state more responsive and accountable to their rights. Through PIL, the Court has addressed a very wide range of human rights issues, including rights abuses suffered by women.

PIL has a vital role in justice system which could achieve those objects which could hardly be achieved through conventional private litigation. PIL, for instance, offers a ladder to justice to disadvantaged section of society, provides an avenue to enforce diffused or collect rights, and enables civil society to not only spread awareness about human rights but also allows them to participate in government decision making. PIL could also contribute to good governance by keeping the government accountable. One of the overarching aims of law and legal systems has been to achieve justice in the society and PIL has proved to be a useful tool in achieving this objective.

BNWLA filed several PILs before the High Court Division. Such PILs have resulted in judicial orders for government action to comply with statutory duties, and have led to expanded interpretations of fundamental rights guaranteed under the Constitution of Bangladesh.

Highlighted PIL of BNWLA which contributed in changing policy/ reforming laws:

1. State recognition of the ‘Birangonas’ as ‘Freedom Fighters’:

The ‘Birangonas’ are women who were brutally tortured and victimized during the Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971. Though they played a significant role in achieving our freedom, they were not recognized instead they were stigmatized. BNWLA felt that it was high time that the ‘Birangonas’ should be given formal recognition. A PIL was filed for the state recognition of ‘Birangonas’ of Bangladesh as ‘Freedom Fighters’.

Cosequently, following the order of the High Court Division, government initiated action to register these Birangonas as Freedom Fighters thus they were entitled to enjoy all rights and privileges. Such initiative of the government was the result of BNWLA's effort to influence the policy makers to recognize the 'Birangonas' as 'Freedom Fighters'.

2. Domestic Workers Rights:

Child domestic workers are engaged in hazardous work not suitable for their age, and female domestic workers are subjected to physical torture and sexual abuse. Considering the appalling situation of the domestic workers, BNWLA filed a PIL for the prevention and protection of their rights. Following the PIL, the High Court Division directed the government to take immediate steps to prohibit employment of children up to the age of 12 from any type of employment, including employment in the domestic sector. The High Court Division also directed the government to include domestic workers within the definition of "worker" in the Labor Act,

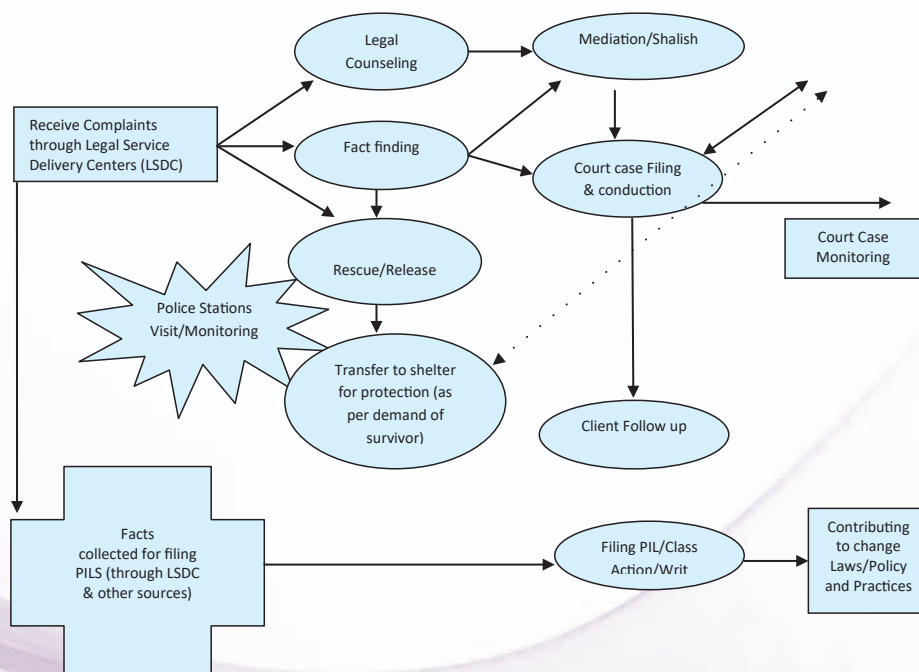
BNWLA as an active member of Domestic Workers' Rights Network (DWRN), a coalition formed in 2006 for establishing domestic workers rights having 32 members comprising trade unions, human rights organization and NGOs conducted advocacy at policy level for making a progressive policy for the protection and welfare of domestic workers. As such on December 21, 2015 Government approved the Domestic Worker Protection and Welfare Policy 2015.

4. Prayer to Repeal Special Provision of section 19 of Child Marriage Restrain Act 2017:

Writ Petition no 4580 of 2017 was filed on 10 April, 2017 to repeal the special provision of section 19 of the Child Marriage Restrain Act 2017.

STEPS OF BNWLA'S SERVICE DELIVERY

(along with the process of legislative advocacy)



Chapter IV

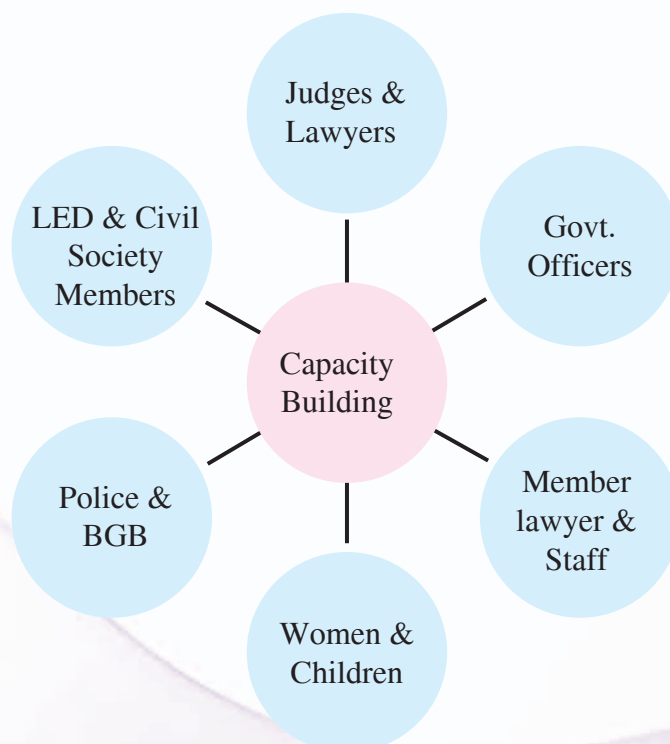
Building skills of multi-level stakeholders to support implementation of laws

BNWLA as a nonprofit organization is justly admired for its passionate commitment and innovative approaches to addressing urgent social problems especially to end Violence against Women (VAW). BNWLA is implementing programs that are improving the quality of life for women and children, ensuring access to justice and supporting law implementation all over Bangladesh. The success of the organization in addressing social issues has generated increased demand for its services. BNWLA has an obligation to seek new and more effective ways of making tangible progress towards its mission, and this requires building organizational capacity. Thus, BNWLA organized different events related with building skills of multi-level stakeholders during the reporting years.

Process of Capacity Building

Human resource development involves the process of equipping individuals with skills and knowledge to perform effectively. It refers to the process of changing attitudes and behavior imparting knowledge and developing skills. Training is an art of developing knowledge, skills and to change attitude of participants on specific issues within a time frame. Thus, demand was created to provide intensive training to the judges and lawyers, government officers, police, BGB, LEB, civil society members, women and children. Meanwhile, capacity of an organization focuses on the overall organizational performance and functioning capabilities, as well as the ability to adapt to change. However, BNWLA to increase its organizational capacity building launched a Training Cell to continue the skills based interventions for bringing meaningful changes in the lives of women and child victims as well as proper implementation of laws and policies.

BNWLA's stakeholders for capacity building

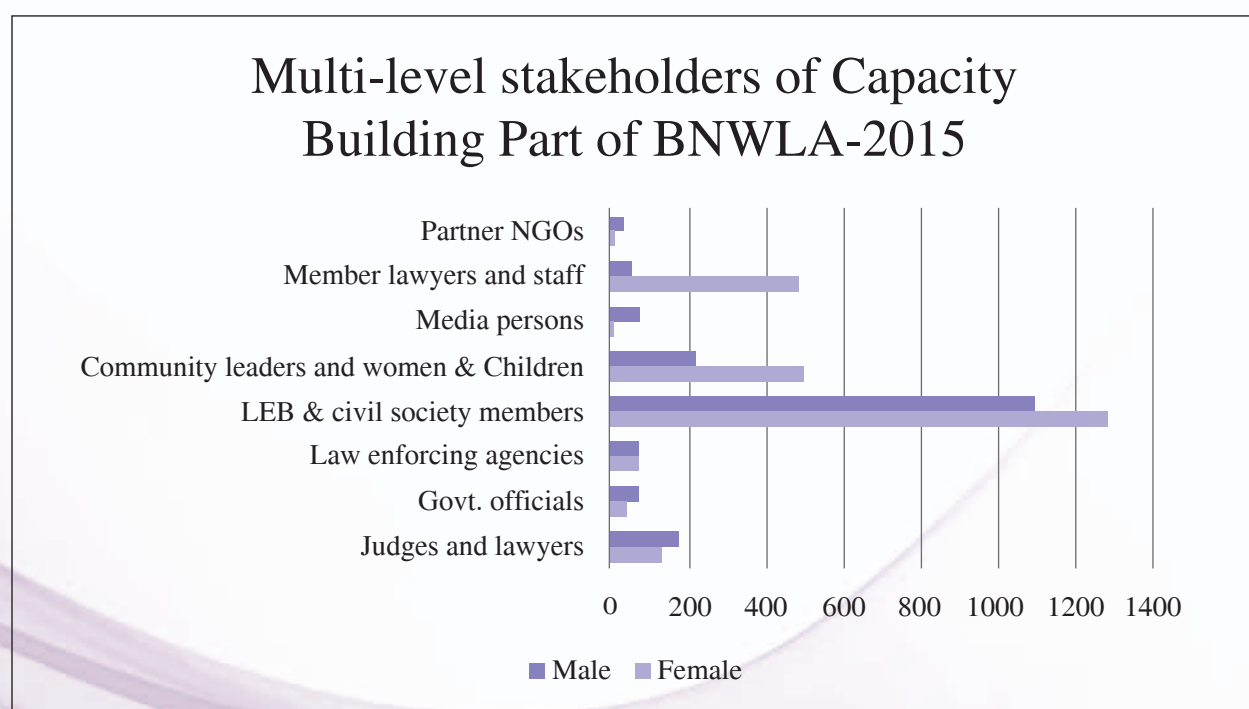


The major training subjects are as follows:

Paralegal, Primary legal assistance, various laws & policies related to women, Human rights, Domestic Violence Act, Children Act, Human Trafficking Suppression and Deterrence Act 2012, CEDAW, CRC, Child protection, Effective mediation, Fact finding, Documentation and Report writing, Monitoring and evaluation, Shelter Home management /psychosocial support, Counseling, Leadership, Life skills, Gender development and Santosh approach.

BNWLA provided capacity building training to different stakeholders 2015-18

Activity	FEMALE	MALE	TOTAL
LEB	1284	1095	2379
COMMUNITY LEADERS, WOMEN & CHILDREN	279	221	500
LAWYERS	488	59	547
JUDGES	8	378	386
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS	98	24	122
LAW ENFORCING AGENCIES	19	127	148
MEDIA PERSONS	15	74	89
NGO PERSONS	34	20	54



Capacity building of Judges and Lawyers

In Bangladesh, legal interventions face unlimited obstacles due to traditional culture and values, lack of rule of law, gender discrimination and lack of awareness among women about Child and Human Rights issues. These obstacles are also existent in the court premises. For this reason BNWLA organizes training for the judges and lawyers to bring better result of the cases. Basic principle of CEDAW, CRC, Human Rights, and best judgment of High Court related to women and child rights are discussed with the audience for growing positive attitude to the victims. As a result they provide support in conducting cases in women and child friendly environment. Due to their positive attitude, most of the times judgment come in favor of victims. During the reporting period, BNWLA conducted Sharing Sessions involving Judges, District Judges, Chief Judicial Magistrates, Senior Judicial Magistrates, Judicial Magistrates and Assistant Judges at different districts. Hence judges are giving emphasis on rapid case disposal related to domestic violence. Training for the Government officials

Government laws and policies for women and children are usually not implemented properly. Most of the government officers are not adequately acquainted about these laws and policies and they are not aware about their roles and responsibilities. In the training programs with Government officers (DSS, Ministry of Home affairs, MOWCA), BNWLA tries to create awareness of their responsibility through several training sessions related to women and child rights. The government has provision for functioning different committees from grassroots level to national level and the govt. officers are assigned to activate these committees. Due to training, most of the government officers are playing a vital role in functioning prescribed forums from grassroot to national level to ensure protection of women and children.

Training with the Law enforcing agencies

Law enforcing agencies like police and Border Guard Bangladesh[BGB] are the key force to prevent trafficking and to protect women and children from vulnerable situation. BNWLA provided training to police and BGB members to improve their attitude towards women and children and to increase knowledge on human trafficking laws, CRC, CEDAW and human rights issues. After training the capacity to handle trafficked victims and trafficking case improved. Due to training, cooperation between BNWLA and law enforcing agencies boosted much. Legal support has also increased to the victimized women and children. Moreover, the following significant changes were observed in the reporting period:

- The court of Cox's Bazar started to maintain a separate register and special focus was given on trafficking cases for speedy prosecution which is ordered by the Police Superintendent.
- LEA and Lawyers are working together to prevent trafficking and providing friendly support to the victims.
- The Participants raised demand to establish separate tribunal for trafficking cases.
- The police cooperates with information and helps to file a trafficking case and supports victim protection.
- The investigation officer refers case for legal assistance.
- The Law enforcement Agency takes initiatives for proper investigation and helped victims for prosecution at Dhaka, Sylhet, Khulna and Cox's bazar.
- The LEB representatives give information about trafficking cases and refer to BNWLA to provide safe shelter and legal support.
- Community Protection groups and Local elected members are sensitized and started to campaign to combat trafficking at village level specially at Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Khulna and Jashore.

Training with the LEB & civil society members

In Bangladesh, troubles of community are managed by the LEB and civil society members. Victimized women come to the LEB and civil society members first to share their problems. But, sometimes community leaders conduct unlawful mediation that brings greater harm for the victims. Alongside, victimized women and children are stigmatized by the communities that bring additional pain in the life of victims. BNWLA gives importance to increase their legal sense on lawful mediation, child marriage, human trafficking and CRC to ensure protection of women and children by strengthening community based protection mechanism. Due to this intervention, cases are reported and vulnerable women and children are having necessary supports from the community. Furthermore, victimized women and children have been freed from additional social stigma and taboo. After these trainings, LEB and CSO members are raising awareness through discussion and advocacy program on VAW related laws and they are dealing complaints of VAW and HR related issues and conduct salish mediation efficiently. Besides, they referred unsolved complaints to BNWLA's Legal Aid Clinic, District Legal Aid Committee and Upazilla Women Affairs Officer.

Trained the Community Leaders and Women & Children

Due to patriarchy, women and children are less valued in the society and often they are victimized in the family, community and at work place. They become traumatized and are isolated from the mainstream society. Through the training package, BNWLA tries to return them to a normal state. Alongside, some trainings are provided to women and children of a family, community, workplace, school and religious institutions to increase their knowledge on possible risks and how to overcome them by using self-defense. The courses are life skills, Santosh approach, CRC, Women and Human Rights issues. Due to BNWLA's interventions, large number of women and children are able to protect themselves from further risks and they have been able to adjust themselves in the mainstream society. Moreover, BNWLA facilitated training for Salish members in different locations to enhance their efficiency to conduct a modern, lawful & gender friendly Salish & be able to take initiatives on unsettled complaints for taking legal steps.

Training of the media persons

BNWLA organized training for journalists on gender sensitive reporting and role of journalists to protect domestic violence through gender sensitive journalism and to prepare a plan for reporting on domestic violence, human rights and women rights issues. After these trainings journalists are publishing reports on woman & child violence incidents following the gender sensitive approach and BNWLA has collected the published reports from central and local level. Journalists have been awarded for their gender sensitive reporting. Trained journalists developed an Action Plan on quarterly basis to reduce the violence against women and children.

Training for the Member Lawyers and Staff:

BNWLA has a large number of member lawyers and staff who are working dedicatedly for bringing meaningful changes in the lives of vulnerable women and children. The organization gives importance on capacity building of lawyers and staff through series of training on Human Rights, National and International policies, Gender Development, Psychosocial issues as well as UN conventions related to women and children. Due to these trainings, they are capable to deal with the victimized women and children and to bring expected change in the lives of victims as well as mindset of the community.

Capacity building of partner NGOs

BNWLA has experience assisting NGOs all over the country in building their local capacity and expanding their reach, ultimately improving their ability to serve underserved populations of their areas. BNWLA organized trainings for partner organizations on strategic planning. After these trainings, it was observed that partner organizations developed or revised their strategic plan using lesson learnt which includes VAW interventions and access to justice.

Capacity building interventions boost the struggle of BNWLA to make a women and child friendly society for the betterment of the life of women & children. These activities during 2015-2018 have been able to bring widespread changes in all strata of the society and in work areas.

Experience Sharing Session

During 2015-2016, 29 experience sharing sessions with Judicial Administration Training Institution convinced them to incorporate Domestic Violence (Prevention & Protection) Act 2010 in their training curriculum. Series of meetings (Formal and Informal) regarding Domestic Violence (Prevention & Protection) Act 2010 with concerned authority of Islamic Foundation were held which helped to bring change in their mind set. As a result, the authority of Islamic Foundation incorporated the act and other women and child related laws in their Imam Training Module.

Publication:

- A STUDY ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE (PREVENTION AND PROTECTION) ACT 2010 DURING THE FIRST FIVE YEARS AFTER ENACTMENT was conducted by Consultant, Professor Shahnaz Huda of Law Department, Dhaka University. This is a research regarding effective implementation of Domestic Violence Act-2010. The study was finalized, published and then disseminated through a workshop. Ms. Nasima Begum, the secretary of Ministry of Women and Children (MOWCA) attended the workshop as the chief guest. This study will be helpful for judges and law practitioners. The findings and recommendations will be submitted to policy makers.
- Evidence based research on the issue of, “Situation Analysis of Paralegal works in Bangladesh” (2016)
- NARI O SHISHU ADHIKER SURAKKHAY BANGLADESHER AIN SOMUHO (2015)

Advocacy Work

An advocacy workshop on “Justice to Women & Child: Pornography Control Act 2012” was held on 26 December, 2016, 3.00pm at BRAC Center Inn, Mohakhali which was held as part of implementing the project 'Making Women Legal Rights- a Reality in Bangladesh' financed by DFID. Ms. Syeda Zannat Ara, SP CID ; Ms. Dr. Rasheda Rawnak Khan, Advisor, Cyber Crime Awareness Foundation Bangladesh and Ms. Shahanoor Akter Chowdhury, Project Coordinator, BLAST attended to grace the event as Guest of Honor. Ms. Seema Zohur, Vice-President of BNWLA chaired and Ms. Salma Ali, Executive Director of BNWLA moderated the program. The participants were practitioner lawyers, police officials and NGOs.

Learning sharing Workshop: A two day workshop was held from January 29-30, 2017 at Chuti Resort, Gazipur to assess how the project [[MWLR project?] worked and to gather what were its achievements and shortcomings as well as to get an indication on future course of action. The workshop participants [50] comprised of field and office staff of partner organizations, Multi-Disciplinary Group (MDG) members from 5 target districts, field project staff of the BNWLA from different districts as well as Head Office project staff and solicitors working for the project from different districts.

Chapter V

Supporting enforcement of anti-trafficking law and policy through different interventions

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) has been working to fight against human trafficking in Bangladesh for last three decades as a pioneer human rights organization in Bangladesh. The organization has also been working to provide legal assistance to ensure rights of trafficked victims, migrant workers and their family especially to woman and children through delivering legal aid, psychosocial support, shelter support, rescue/release, repatriation, research on various issues on safe migration, trafficking especially for women & children.

1. BNWLA has been playing a vital role within the Government-NGO national coordination committee to stop human trafficking. BNWLA worked closely with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) in the implementation committee for formulating the comprehensive law. "The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012". It has been providing technical support to the committee in formulation of different policies and strategy to stop human trafficking in Bangladesh. The organization worked closely with Ministry of Home affairs MOHA to revise the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) between Indo-Bangladesh with the objective of strengthening the process of rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation and integration of trafficked women and children.
2. BNWLA also provides technical support to the alliance that has been set up by the Director General of the Department of Women Affairs for combating trafficking of women and children.
3. BNWLA provided technical support to the Local Elected Body (LEB) team. BNWLA's field level staffs collected information from Sharsa Thana, Jashore district on migration survey [2013]. It was found that a total of 723 families were migrated to India. It was also found that most of the family members especially adolescent girls were living under high risks situation due to hotel based sex trade or brothel. As part of prevention activities, BNWLA organized several sensitization meetings in high risks locations/villages of working unions. The organization is also working for repatriation of children who are living in different Government and non-Government Shelter Homes in India.
4. Regular sensitization, orientation and trainings are organized for enhancing knowledge and skills of community people, law enforcing agency, local elected bodies on relevant laws and policies.
5. Under BNWLA interventions Upazila administration under the leadership of UNO is playing a positive role in protecting children from unsafe migration and trafficking. UNO supported functioning of VAW (Upazila) Committee, Anti Trafficking Committees and CBCPC. As such involvement of Government Officials in different activities are ensured. Laws and policies relating to child protection (Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act 2012, Children Act, filing cases and GD entry etc.) are exercised in working areas during the reporting period. As a result, Union Anti Trafficking Committees are functioning well to provide monthly report to the Upazila Anti-Trafficking Committee.

- 6 In the reporting years[2015-2018] BNWLA organized many training programs for Lawyers, Public Prosecutor and Law Enforcement Agency on prevention of child trafficking under Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act,2012 at Dhaka, Khulna, Bagerhat, Sylhet, Sunamgonj. BNWLA rescued and released a huge number of victims of trafficking from various confinements such as police station, brothel, cage brothel, safe custody etc. within the country. The organization also has repatriated trafficked victims from different countries and rehabilitated them with access to standard care and services as counseling, medical support, life skill and vocational training, formal and in-formal education and reintegrated them into society. Along with these supports, BNWLA provided comprehensive legal assistance to the victims of trafficking to ensure access to justice and strengthen prosecution.
7. BNWLA works on prevention, protection & rehabilitation as approaches of intervention for operating anti-human trafficking initiatives. BNWLA formed and provided technical support for functioning Counter Trafficking Committees and Community base Child protection Committee under Jashore district. These committees are now functioning well for preventing unsafe migration and trafficking around the border areas. CBCPC committees played vital role to link vulnerable children with the support services. Referral activities to different level institutions has been linked i.e. protect unsafe migration, child trafficking, stop child marriage, and exploitation.

In the year 2015-2018 BNWLA repatriated 536 number of women and children from abroad. BNWLA operated a total of 3 Shelter Homes under 3 districts in the country where 356 women and children are having comprehensive psychosocial supports as per minimum standard of care. Due to this supports, children have been able to regain their normal life and to adjust in the mainstream society. The services (like comprehensive psychosocial supports which brought meaningful changes in the life of huge number of women and children) provided by the organization for the betterment of women and children.

8. BNWLA conducted Local level advocacy with LEB, Local administration and Law enforcing agencies. Due to regular interventions, sharing and rapport building, the local Government has become more responsive to the children. Local administration (under the leadership of UNO) took initiatives to activate Counter Trafficking Committees for protecting children from unsafe migration and trafficking. UNO also ordered the concerned Chairman to take joint actions to stop trafficking and unsafe migration including legal actions against traffickers or perpetrators.
9. BNWLA established Ward Level Child Group to increase the knowledge of community members on access to services offered by Social Safety Net and Social Protection Schemes. For this children were capacitated on CRC, trafficking, child marriage, child abuse and are able to work about prevention and protection for children and collect information from the community on child rights violation issues and submit these to LGIs for better support to children.
10. The government with cooperation of NGOs and INGOs has undertaken important activities to prevent trafficking. The Ministry of Home Affairs every year publishes the Annual Country Report highlighting the activities undertaken to combat trafficking, achievements during the previous year and actions to be taken in the future. As a part of NGO initiatives BNWLA submits Trafficking Report (annually) to the Home Ministry.
11. Government of Bangladesh and India formed a Taskforce regarding Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI) of child victims of these two countries. Bangladesh Government took initiatives to stop cross border human trafficking through coordination of RRRI Task Force. BNWLA is the one of the member of this Task force. Every month BNWLA participated RRRI Task Force coordination meeting and submitted trafficking reports to RRRI Task Force Cell.

12. The ministry has developed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for smooth and scheduled rescue, recovery, repatriation and integration of victims of human trafficking. A large number of trafficked children repatriated by BNWLA from India following SOP and were provided legal support and shelter support.
13. BNWLA is also a member of Monitoring Cell (trafficking), Police Head Quarter, Dhaka
14. BNWLA maintains good partnership with Government agencies like One stop Crisis Center (OCC) [up to 2016] and Victim Support Center providing legal assistance for violence against women and children.
15. BNWLA is also a member of National Plan of Action Implementation Committee under the Home Ministry. BNWLA works to achieve 5 core goals of NPA 1. Prevention of human trafficking, awareness and mobilization, 2. Protection of trafficking victims and survivors, 3. Prosecution of human trafficking offences , 4. Develop partnership, coordination, participation & cross country mutual assistance 5. Develop monitoring and evaluation & reporting system. BNWLA is providing report to Home Ministry on trafficking issues as a part of NPA implementation. BNWLA is the member of NPA Drafting Committee, as well as the members of ATSEC Bangladesh (Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children) and SAIEVAC (South Asian Initiatives to End Violence Against Children) .BNWLA is advocating with government to implement SAARC Convention in preventing and combating trafficking in women and children from prostitution under it's article VI,VIII,IX,X and XI. Bangladesh Government ratified this convention, so it is needed to consider the SAARC convention and UNCRC to take all measures by implementing all GO,NGO and INGOs initiatives. BNWLA took initiatives to consider SAARC Convention, CRC and NPA to implement all steps against human trafficking.

Various programs

A. BNWLA organized Sharing Session with Judges and judiciary on Implementation and Challenges of Human Trafficking Law under Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 at the Conference Room of District Judge, Dhaka District Court , Dhaka 15 May, 2017 with the help of PCTSCN project supported by TDH Netherlands. A total of 30 participants (15 judges, 3 Public prosecutors and 12 lawyers) participated in this session.



B. BNWLA conducted several training programs with Public Prosecutors, Law Enforcement Agency and Lawyers on prevention of child trafficking under Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act 2012 at Jashore district on 22 May, 2017



C. A Consultation Meeting was organized on 17th June 2017 at the Mohila Somitee Auditorium by Bangladesh National Women Lawyer's Association (BNWLA) on behalf of the PCTSCN project facilitated by Terre des hommes Netherlands (TDH Netherlands). The Chief Guest of the meeting was Mr. Abdul Hannan, Additional Secretary (Political & ICT), Ministry of Home Affairs, Bangladesh Secretariat Dhaka. The Chairperson of the event was Ms. Tanjina Ismail, President of Women Judges Association, (District Judge) Narri -O-Shishu Nirjaton Damon Tribunal-5, Judge Court Dhaka. A total 40 participant participants (24 judges, 5 govt. representatives, 4 LEA and 2 PP and 5 others).



D. BNWLA organized consultation meeting on 23 May, 2017 with District Counter Trafficking Committee at Satkhira district for increasing support services for trafficked victims to combat trafficking.

E. A total of 3200 school children and teachers were sensitized on Prevention of child trafficking under Human trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act 2012 at Satkhira Shodor Upozilla, 2017.



F. Regional Conference: Networking to Combat Child Trafficking

A Regional Conference on Networking to Combat Child Trafficking was organized by BNWLA

“Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking” (PCTSCN), a project implemented by a consortium of ATSEC Members. This regional conference was held on 20 November, 2016 at BRAC Inn Center.

The inaugural program was presided by Advocate Salma Ali, Executive Director, BNWLA and the keynote address was delivered by A.K.M Masud Ali, Executive Director INCIDIN Bangladesh.

Mr. Rinchen Chopel, Director General, SAIEVAC attended as Chief Guest in the opening ceremony. Mr. Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Muneem, Additional Secretary (Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Manabendranath Mandal, Executive Director, SLARTC & Coordinator ATSEC South Asia, Mr. Thangaperumal Ponpandi, Program Manager, Child Trafficking & Migration in Asia, TDH-Netherlands also attended as special guests.



The Honorable Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, MP attended as Chief Guest in the closing ceremony. Dr. Aminul Islam, Joint Secretary and National Coordinator SAIEVAC Bangladesh; MOWCA, Mr. Mahmudul Kabir, Country Director, TDH-Netherlands, Bangladesh, also attended as special guests in this closing session. The concluding program was presided over by Advocate Fawzia Karim Firoze, President of BNWLA.

The Honorable Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, MP mentioned the activities of the Government to combat child trafficking through the Monitoring Cell under Ministry of Home Affairs, Coordination Committee with Govt and NGOs, RRRI Task Force and also committed to facilitate and strengthen this network to accomplish all declarations..

G. Project Launching Ceremony

The Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking (PCTSCN) Project Launching ceremony was held on 13th March 2016 at the CIRDAP auditorium. The program was organized by Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) on behalf of the consortium consisting INCIDIN Bangladesh (Lead agency and consortium secretariat), Community Participation and Development (CPD), Nari Maitree, Jashore and Social and Economic Enhancement Program (SEEP) facilitated by Terre des hommes Netherlands (TDH Netherlands).

The Honorable State Minister for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs Ms. Meher Afroze Chumki, MP was present as the Chief Guest. Also present as special guests were Her Excellency Mrs. Leoni Cuelenaere, Ambassador of the Royal Netherlands Embassy; Dr. Aminul Islam, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and NPD, SAIEVAC; Ms. Umme Kulsum, joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice; Ms. Ella de Voogd, First Secretary, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, the Royal Netherlands Embassy; Mr. Mahmudul Kabir, Country Director, TDH Netherlands Bangladesh



Chapter VI

Practicing case management system to ensure appropriate support services for the survivors of different forms of violence

BNWLA through its SHELTER HOMES offer Comprehensive Psychosocial Services to those women and children who are either victims or are running the risk of different afflictions like trafficking, physical or sexual harassment, abduction etc. BNWLA has been practicing the Case Management Method to provide Comprehensive Psychosocial Services since 2008.

BNWLA has a multidisciplinary case management team in its Shelter Homes. Multidisciplinary Case Management Team has a group of skilled professionals consisting of Case Manager, Lawyer, Social Worker, Counselor, Doctor, Educational & Vocational Trainer, House Mother & others. This group will act as a core management team.

BNWLA has implemented the following case management steps to bring a meaningful change in the lives of the victimized women and children.

Steps of case management:

Case Management process at BNWLA consists of seven steps: 1. Primary Initiatives 2. Intake 3. In-depth assessment 4. Intervention & Rehabilitation 5. Integration 6. Follow-up 7. Completion of case management. Its phases being revisited as necessary until the desired outcome is achieved

JOBA GETS NEW LIFE

Joba, a 14 year girl was sold to a brothel. She was forced into prostitution. Drugs were applied to bring changes to her physic. She was rescued from the brothel by BNWLA with the assistance of local police. She was aggressive and could not trust anyone. For mental depression she has suicidal tendency. She wanted to go back to her family, but her family refused to take her back. These depressed her even more.

She withdrew herself and started thinking ill of herself. Her words were, “I am sullied, and my life is of no value anymore. I won’t go home, I don’t have any family.”

Comprehensive psychosocial service brought her back to normal. She was trained to develop skills. At the same time, counseling session with her family members was conducted to help them to become positive about her. Joba’s rehabilitation plan was developed following all the steps of Case Management .

Comprehensive psychosocial support helped her to come back in normal thinking. She is presently in a job and helping her family members financially Now she become self-sufficient and earning member of her family but not burden to her family.

Chapter VII

Inspiring community to protect survivors of different forms of violence

Survivors protection refers to immediate care and sustainable assistance that is given after assessing needs of individual survivors of different forms of violence. BNWLA through its programmatic interventions looks forward to reduce vulnerability and protect survivors of violence by fostering a vibrant community involvement. BNWLA has been providing care and protection services to the survivors and is also working to develop a well-functioning and well modeled community based protection mechanism towards preventing different forms of violence against women including domestic violence, unsafe migration, trafficking and sexual and gender based violence.

Community based Child protection: surveillance group to ensure child rights

BNWLA community outreach and mobilization encompasses a wide range of interventions and approaches to prevent trafficking and unsafe migration of children and reduce their vulnerability, including formation of community based care committee, community meeting, sensitization meeting with traditional authorities, community and religious leaders, marches and demonstrations. BNWLA took initiative and worked with Community based Child protection Committees (CPC) along with others stakeholders. This is done to increase knowledge and skills of stakeholders including children, CBCBC members, local administrations, law enforcing agencies ,police, BGB and mass people through intensive interventions regarding child protection issues on unsafe migration. The surveillance group help them to play proactive role in preventing unsafe migration and trafficking in the community. After providing comprehensive services to the rescued women and children BNWLA engage the community people to mainstreaming the victims in the society.

Under protecting Rights of the Children Project : children, parents and guardians are also included by BNWLA's sensitization and mobilization program to take effective measures for protecting children from unsafe migration in future. A total of 637 numbers of reported incidents were mediated by the joint initiatives of CBCPC and Local Government representatives. Besides, a total of 761 children were linked with the community services within the community through the service providers and it was possible due to improved community based child protection mechanism. During the reporting period an effective network structure was developed among the relevant stakeholders in the community for ensuring best interest of children. Network members were involved in the activities relating to prevention of child rights violations as well as for ensuring necessary supports to the vulnerable children. Incident of child rights violation in the BNWLA's intervening area are collected by the Child Group members.

In 2015-2018 a total of 2250 different forms of child rights violation incidents occurred and most of those were resolved by the community themselves. Children group observed the situation in regular basis and informed the office for taking necessary steps to prevent further violence. Though it was very tough to tackle the unreported complaints, however necessary steps were taken to reduce prevalence by involving Community Base Child Protection Committee (CBCPC) and local government representatives. Alongside, status of using the child safe guard policy (CBCPC and other actors) was also reported regularly. A total of 536 children were repatriated from India from harmful situation and most of them were reintegrated in the mainstream society. Law enforcing agencies and community people provided meaningful support to the children for regaining their mental strength and social acceptance. Overall situation of children of working areas and roles and responsibilities of adults were reflected through the reports on children and this process strengthened the community efforts .

Community Shelters model introduced by BNWLA: Where community provide shelter of survivors of domestic violence(PHR Project)

In Bangladesh existing number of shelters in government and private setting is inadequate considering the dire and immediate need of survivors of violence. Particularly in case of domestic violence, survivors need to escape further violence and has to urgently escape abusive situations which is exceedingly difficult in the context of countries like Bangladesh. BNWLA experienced that due to lack of shelter service, distant shelter facility from the community and stereotypes cultural practice compel victims of domestic violence to refuse to go to shelter of formal setting. During the functioning of the PHR program, it became apparent that survivors who come back to their communities from formal shelter services were not easily accepted by the community and even by their own families. Culturally there is a social stigma and suspicion attached to women going away and living in unfamiliar surroundings. Therefore, this makes women unwilling to get formal shelter support, even if available. Given such drawbacks, BNWLA under the Protecting Human Rights (PHR) program initiated the innovative concept of community shelters where survivors of domestic violence get shelter support within the community. In this concept a survivor can stay temporarily with a chosen family member or in neighbors' homes. Initially BNWLA introduced the community shelter concept on a pilot basis for a few survivors. The concept was accepted as a popular viable alternative and got the approval of both survivors and the community. The majority of such survivors have been rehabilitated back into their families after successful mediation by the Legal Counselors of the program, with the support of the community. The program has therefore been able to involve communities into playing a crucial role in helping women by providing much needed safe housing and refuge for them and their children in the context of lack of alternative options. The survivor herself selects and proposes a person from amongst her relatives and friends with whom she wishes to stay for a stipulated time, usually not more than 6 months. If the proposed host agrees to give the woman shelter, the PHR staff and the Social Protection Group (SPG) members assess the eligibility of the host, the survivors welfare and other conditions. If the arrangement is found to be satisfactory, both the parties i.e., the survivor and the host, sign a MOU in the presence of BNWLA staff. A General Diary (GD) is also filed at the local police station giving all the details of the arrangement. The PHR program assists the homeowner with monthly expenses to defray the added financial burden and pays the host a sum of money not exceeding Taka 120/- per day. Additionally, the PHR program, with the aim to help the survivors become self-sufficient and build upon their earning capacities, also refer them to local organizations providing livelihood and skills training such as tailoring, gardening, and computer training. In 2015-2018, 2019 community shelter support have been provided through Protecting Human Right project.

Promote community ownership and sustained engagement

BNWLA through its programmatic intervention developed a sustainable complaint and response mechanism system engaging the community of Manikganj. Through complaint & response mechanism children and community people are raising voices through committee meetings. The Child Friendly Local Governance (CFLG) programmatic intervention engage the local government, government staffs, service provider and civil society for ensuring women and children support and services and simultaneously ensure the community participation including survivors with the process of complaint and response mechanism.



In last 2 years, Nari Nirjaton Nirodh Committee (NNNC) members' participation increased their contribution and played proactive role in local salish/mediation related with violence against women and girls. Elected members of UP and UZP representatives and Pauroshova representatives become well aware about child and woman issues and working for establishing child friendly and women friendly local governance and playing a positive role to ensure services for the betterment of children and women life. 11 MOU have been signed by the UP and municipalities to make their commitment to establish friendly local governance in to a legal obligation. To address the rights violation of the children and women , complaint box has been setup in Union Parishad premises, in school premises and in ward level under Manikgonj Sodor Upozilla, complaint and response management committee has been formed to address complaints and to provide relevant support.

Chapter VIII

Resolving local problems' local solutions through change Agents

Violence Against Women is a universal problem with no simple solution. Like most problems, gender based violence is multi-faceted and must be approached on multiple levels. Addressing it needs engagement and support of both women and men at community level. BNWLA is trying to bring changes in the society and also to ensure access to justice from grassroots to national level through partnership, networking and policy level advocacy. As the survivors suffer a lot in accessing justice through formal legal system due to lengthy legal procedure, therefore BNWLA fosters community led approach i.e. local problems' local solutions through change agents to overcome these challenges related with VAW.

Prevention as ground work of problem identification and solutions

BNWLA offered practical solutions about how members of society can work together to prevent violence against women, for example by encouraging the community to prepare safer family environments for mothers, sisters, wives and daughters. Campaigns are used to convey safety messages to women, inform victims about their rights and existing laws as well as the services available for victims and/or perpetrators. Thus awareness-raising campaigns are regular interventions of BNWLA to prevent violence and to promote human rights.

BNWLA has large achievement over the period at community levels. BNWLA organized regular events including Discussion Meeting, Mass Gathering, Day Observance, Debate Competition, Student Gathering, Cultural program, Play 'Seven' Performance, Street Theater, Sports to raise awareness on human rights issues and VAW prevention. BNWLA have reached around 100 thousands of people through awareness building interventions which prevented VAW incidents in 2015-18. The awareness interventions focused on the problem issue, its causes, effects/impact, legal implications and how to overcome the situation.

During the reporting period, BNWLA organized an international awarded play and a global drama putting women's rights named 'Seven' in Rajshahi University, Jahangirnagar University and Sylhet University of Science & Technology. The play at Rajshahi University broke all records in terms of audience, 5000 people showed up. The play was very positively received and brought big applauds during and after the performance. The play Seven is based on the real life stories of seven women's rights activists from Nigeria, Afghanistan, Guatemala, Russia, Pakistan, Northern Ireland and Cambodia.

Capacity building of Change Agents

BNWLA established a community led approach local problems' local solution on VAW issue at 190 unions/municipal wards under 30 upazilas of 23 districts in Bangladesh. The organization formed different level groups including

Pairibarik Nirjaton Protirodh Dal (PNPD)
Student Action Group (SAG)
Village Development Committee (VDC)
Nari Nirjaton Protirodh Dal (NPD)
Adolescent Group
Youth Group

The groups collect facts of incidents and then take different steps for solving: information collection, assess the fact, visit the house and meet the family members and neighbors, discuss with other group members, refer to higher group or BNWLA staff. In line with the prevention interventions, BNWLA try to inform and educate the general community. The overall process intend to change the community through regular meeting, sharing information, training and practicing. It also developed relations between different groups and service providers. Based on the situation they resolve it by Salish or refer to BNWLA lawyer for filing the case. The primary groups PNPD and NPD mitigate the family dispute among their ward and village. At the same time they monitor and identify the families where dispute occur. They also prevent/stop marriage with dowry, child marriage, polygamy or relevant incidences.

It also includes organizing seminars, workshops, mass gathering with multi-disciplinary personnel to build public awareness about the effectiveness of local problems' local solution and to arrange training for service providers to disseminate the philosophy of local problems' local solution and its working procedure. There is one designated project lawyer at each working upazila whose duty is to ensure fact collection, lodge complaint at union level community legal service center and assist the change agent to solve the problem. Project lawyer/Solicitor is an important link in the local problems local solution between the change agent and the people.

The process of Local Problems' Local solutions, in VAW Issue

The change agents collect information on various incidences of VAW from various primary and secondary sources. The members of different groups/teams provide information as well as the Local and National newspapers and other relevant source provide information on VAW. Moreover, BNWLA staff collects VAW related information including GD, filed cases etc. from thana, hospital and from court on monthly basis. Based on the information different committee/group members take proper action to protect/support the survivors of VAW. Based on the nature of violence, group member and BNWLA staff conduct fact findings for smooth completion of mediation/counseling/salish. The findings also help framing the legal steps and bringing witness in favor of the complaints file.

The Community Legal Service Delivery Centers at union level receive complaints from the survivors of violence, which is registered following the specific criterion of violence. The registered survivors of VAW are brought under counseling/mediation with a view to reconcile the complaints. The Community Law/Legal Service Centers conduct this mediation with the help of trained staffs and the BNWLA Lawyers. The Program Staff/BNWLA Lawyers in cooperation of the members of the Vigilance Team/Multi-Disciplinary Group put their maximum efforts to settle the complaints.

During the Salish period the group members and BNWLA staff try to practice gender sensitive knowledge and skill to deliver pro women judgments. After that group members and/or staff follow up the incidences, which are settled after successful mediation.

Local problems local solutions have made significant contribution in matters of dispute settlement and in building public awareness about social issues like violence against women and children, child marriage and sexual harassment etc.

VAW free model village: Example of local problems' local solutions

BNWLA have selected twelve villages for the VAW free 'model village' within international and national agenda and practice. Not only the model village plays a role as strong local network on "Ending Violence against Women" but it performs other tasks as well such as building youth leadership in generating youth to end violence. The selected community person of each village joins to become the local Networks on Ending Violence against Women. Moreover, the village has to demonstrate that it is violence-free zone by

considering a set of criteria and organize number of activities to publicize, promote, give legal advice, as well as raise awareness on any issues related to domestic violence. The people of the selected model villages therefore play a watch dog role and watch out for any kind of incidents in order to deter violent actions in their communities.

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) has implemented a project title: Protecting Girls who are at risk of CSEC through Enhancing Education and leadership capacity which was supported by Free a Girl, Netherland. The project was focused on empowerment and enhancing leadership of Sex Worker's girls to prevent Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Daulatdia and Jashore brothels in Bangladesh. The project has some significant achievement in respect to building capacity of the girls, forming girls groups in the brothel to raise their voice against sexual exploitation of children in the brothel. In implementing the project BNWLA provided education support to 120 girls of sex workers and coaching support to 40 girls for one year. Besides, it helped 50 girls of sex workers to get admission in the formal and informal education institutions in the project locations. BNWLA provided financial supports to the girls for their higher education. Now the members of girls groups are capacitated as well as empowered to talk against any forms of violence in the brothel, they can negotiate their rights with the duty bearers regarding their rights.

ANNEX- A

BNWLA Financial Position (2015-2018)

Particulars	FY (2018)	FY (2017)	FY (2016)	FY (2015)
Property & Assets: Non-Current Assets	Unaudited			
Fixed assets at cost	85,268,228	85,268,229	88,069,183	87,930,338
Accumulated Depreciation	43,772,523	42,349,776	40,623,552	38,890,533
Fixed assets-net of accumulated depreciation	41,495,705	42,918,453	47,445,631	49,039,805
Total Non-Current Assets (A)	41,495,705	42,918,453	47,445,631	49,039,805
Current Assets				
Short-term investment	1,695,595	1,597,406	1,500,000	
Loan	-	-	-	-
Sundry Debtors	-	27,000		
Accounts Receivable	-	712,309	-	1,678,514
Advance, Deposits and prepayments	395,553	516,400	1,608,480	2,763,731
Cash in Hand	64,795	80369	84,111	91,044
Cash at Bank	13,707,645	5,737,612	20,904,457	22,835,796
Total Current Assets (B)	15,863,588	8,671,096	22,597,048	27,369,085
Total property & Assets (A+B)	57,359,293	51,589,549	70,042,679	76,408,890
Liabilities & Funds				
Funds (Match fund donation)	5,546,389	7,049,822	-	-
BJMAS capital fund	19,230,285	17,771,135	53,163,645	51,955,504
Net Deferred Income	9,582,158	3,746,352	(30,349,560)	(28,437,611)
Donor Fund Investment in project fixed assets	19,676,214	20,587,214	46,230,887	46,230,887
Total Funds	54,035,046	49,154,523	69,044,972	69,748,778
Income				
Member Subscription	203,210	171,900	221,260	271,167
Facilitation fees	-		-	-
Donation	2,169,779	4,552,976	8,051,327	11,248,982
Overhead from project	211,586	2,109,726	2,012,975	1,988,562
Interest Income	204,523	239,783	88,488	174,383
Other income	2,960,414	1,535,713	-	-
Actual Expenses (Transfer to Income)	5,749,512	8,610,098	149,275,740	151,841,698
Total Income (A)	40,647,370	102,985,591	159,649,790	165,524,792

BNWLA Financial Performance (2015-2018)

Particulars	FY (2018)	FY (2017)	FY (2016)	FY (2015)
Expenditure				
Core Expenses				
Admin & operation Cost	1763,606	6,139,687	1,793,265	3,633,272
Program Cost	1,304,983	1,270,975	1,471,166	2,928,982
Personnel Cost	1,443,118	5,624,035	5,371,660	7,223,451
Depreciation	511,749	503,645	529,818	527,955
Total Core Expenses	5,023,456	13,538,342	9,165,909	14,313,660
Project Expenses				
Admin & operation Cost	1,415,308	6,822,078	7,040,020	11,991,564
Program Cost	17,100,172	33,316,082	79,462,031	63,921,314
Personnel Cost	15,471,378	53,014,751	60,853,727	60,315,912
Capital cost	-	-	716,762	-
Depreciation	910,999	1,222,582	1,203,200	1,299,248
Total Project Expenses	34,897,858	94,375,493	149,275,740	137,528,038
Others Expenses	-	-	-	-
Total Expenditure	39,921,313	107,913,835	158,441,649	151,841,698
Net Surplus / (Deficit)	726,057	(4,928,245)	1,208,141	13,683,094
Source of fund(BDT in Lac) as of June 2018 (Reporting Period from July' 17 to June' 18) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Fund • Unutilized Donor Fund • Others Current Liabilities. Application of Fund (BDT in Lac) as of June'2018 (Reporting Period from July' 17 to June' 18) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Property, Plant and Equipment • Deferred Expenditure • Investment in FDR • Advance, deposits and prepayment • Accounts Receivable • Current Assets 		BDT 192.30 BDT 95.82 BDT 35.54 BDT 414.95 N/A BDT 16.95 BDT 3.95 N/A BDT 160.93		

ANNEX- B

Projects 2015-2018

Name of projects	Duration From (Year)	Duration To (Year)	Name of Donor	Approved Budget	Action
Ending violence against women through community action (EVAWCA)	August 2013	December 2016	Manuser Jonno Foundation	2,13,71,138 BDT	Legal support, training,
Protecting Human Rights(PHR)	March 2011	December 2016	Plan Bangladesh, USAID fund	18,0429,550 BDT	Legal Support, Strengthening formal and Informal justice system, Access to justice, Advocacy, Capacity Building, Human rights defenders, develop module
Protection of women Rights in Bangladesh	May 2013	December 2016	Swedish Sida	7,20,00,000 BDT	Legal support, Women friendly legal support delivery , Receive complain and registration, Rescue/Release, Shelter support, court case/salish/ mediation , advocacy meeting, Policy research for justice, Clint follow-up, Training, Publication, Awareness, Survey, on court procedure
Making Women Legal Rights a Reality in Bangladesh (MWLR) Project	October 2013	December 2016	Maxwell Stamp PLC- London	13,54,58,702 BDT	Community base legal service delivery center establish, Develop complain guide, Rescue, Shelter and integration support, fact finding, case filing, mediation, client follow up. Legal education, law drafting, advocacy workshop, PIL, Case management service, Research, Training, Base line, Sensitization workshop

Name of projects	Duration From (Year)	Duration To (Year)	Name of Donor	Approved Budget	Action
Promoting Proactive engagement of members of Parliament with civil society, citizens and others stakeholders in selected constituencies to increase parliamentary oversight and improve relevant laws and policies related to securing of women and children rights	March 2012	February 2015	Asia Foundation	1,35,46,667 BDT	Formation of public policy forums, Training, Meeting, Introducing citizen report card, Introduce Information Rights with Union Information center, District women public policy forum, training, Advocacy, meeting, Uthan Boithak, Orientation
Providing Access to Justice and Legal	August 2013		USAID (NCSC)	1,57,00,000 BDT	Coordination with district
Awareness at the Grass roots level (Justice for all) Dhaka and Cox's Bazar	October 2013	May 2018		90,00,000 BDT	legal aid, Awareness, court courtyard meeting, Coordination with Upozilla and Union legal aid committee
Combating Violence against women in Bangladesh (CVAWB)	April 2015	December 2018	UNHCR	6,3034,873 BDT	Shelter support, Legal support, rescue, counseling, training, meeting, awareness, consultation, advocacy
Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking (PCTSCN)	July 2015	March 2018	Terre des homes	49,758,476 BDT	Prevention, Protection, Prosecution Networking, Capacity Building, policy level advocacy, building workshops, development and media campaign, national-regional-cross border conference/ consultations and networking based advocacy.

Name of projects	Duration From (Year)	Duration To (Year)	Name of Donor	Approved Budget	Action
Building capacity to prevent violence against women	May 2015	June 2018	UNWOMEN	54,85,924 BDT	Campaign on He For She's, sixteen days activism, carry out safety audit, work closely with university authorities and students, develop materials, deliver multi level support, support to UNWOMEN different events.
Girl Advocacy Alliance	September 2016	December 2017	Plan Bangladesh	25,39,283 BDT	Lobby & Advocacy for stop child marriage, training, Meeting, awareness, consultation, workshop. TFD.
Access to quality health care services for GVB survivors	October 2017	July 2018	Medicine du Monde France	20,92000 BDT	Medical Support, Counseling support, Survivor support, legal support, health education
Combating sexual exploitation of girls through investigation and rescue	January 2018	December 2018	Free a Girl	38,67,300 BDT	Fact Finding, Assessment of Brothel, Identify sexually exploited girl child ,rescue, Exchange visit
Prevention and Rehabilitation of CSEC	January 2018	December 2018	Free a Girl	45,49,100 BDT	Shelter support, counseling, Vocational support, education support, family identification, Reintegration, peer educator
Prevention of Sexual harassment at workplace in Bangladesh	August 2017	December 2017	Fair Wear Foundation	18,82,805 BDT	Orientation, Meeting, Day observe, Develop Communication materials, meeting with media person, Media report on sexual harassment, Deliver multi level support, consultation on develop existing law, Consultation with trade union, Bi-lateral meeting, draft law

Name of projects	Duration From (Year)	Duration To (Year)	Name of Donor	Approved Budget	Action
Empowering Girls through capacity building and education to revert CSEC	August 2017	July 2018	Free a girl	33,20,975 BDT	Workshop, Advocacy and leadership workshop, Provide necessary education materials, Consultation & sensitization, Regional networking, group formation.

ANNEX- C

Executive Committee (2018-2019)



Fawzia Karim Firoze
President



Jahan Ara Haque
Vice-President



Jobaida Pervin
Vice-President



Seema Zahur
General Secretary



Rebeka Sultana
Treasurer



Jahanara Begum Shikha
Joint General Secretary



Farida Yeasmin
Joint Treasurer



Hasina Rashid
Member



Selina Begum (Gazipur)
Member



Fahima Nasrin
Member



Zakia Anar Koli
Member



Taslima Khatun Chanda (Khulna)
Member



Feroza Pervin Lucky
Member



Shahanara Begum
Member



Hasna Begum
Member



Rehana Sultana
Member



Dil Afroze (Chattogram)
Member

ANNEX- D

ABBREVIATIONS

ADR	= Alternative Dispute Resolution
ATSEC	= Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children
BGB	= Border Guard of Bangladesh
BNWLA	= BANGLADESH NATIONAL WOMAN LAWYERS' ASSOCIATION (BNWLA)
CBCPC	= Community Base Child Protection Group
CEDAW	= Convention of Elimination discrimination against Women
MDG	= Millennium Development Goal
CID	= Crime Investigation Department
CLFG	= Child Friendly Local Government
CRC	= Child Rights Convention
CSO	= Civil Society Organization
GD	= Group Development
GOB	= General Obligation Bond
INGO	= International Non Government Organization
LEB	= Local Elected Body
LGI	= Local Government Institution
MOHA	= Ministry of Home Affairs
MOU	= Means of Understanding
MOWCA	= Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
NGO	= Non Government Organization
OCC	= One Stop Crisis Center
PCTSCN	= Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking
PHR	= Protecting Human Rights
PIL	= Public Interest Litigation
RRRI	= Rescue release Recovery and Integration
SAARC	= South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAIEVAC	= South Asian Initiatives to End Violence Against Children SOP
SPG	= Social Protection Group
UN	= United Nations
UNCRC	= United Nation convention on Rights of the Children
UNO	= Upozila Nirbahi Officer
UZP	= Upozila Parishod
VAW	= Violence Against Women

ANNEX- E

HELP LINE SERVICES:

Help Line Run By BNWLA

01711800401-Dhaka
01711800402-Rajshahi
01711800403-Khulna
01711800405-Jashore
01711800406-Dhaka
01711800407-Dhaka
01711800408-Barishal

Help Line Run By Government

109 - National Help line for Women & Children
999 - Emergency Number of Police
16263 - Health Call Center
1098 - Child Help Line



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