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National News

TIB-BAWIN propose nine recommendations to ensure good governance in Bangladesh water sector

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) and Bangladesh Water Integrity Network (BAWIN) urged the water management should be in the National Integrity System to ensure good governance in Water sector of Bangladesh. A baseline survey titled 'Integrity in Water Management of Bangladesh: Present Perspective and Development Potential' was revealed at a press conference at TIB office while proposing nine recommendations and to mitigate water regarding threats, Government should act effectively and efficiently. This survey was jointly conducted by Professor Dr. Syed Hafizur Rahman and Professor Dr. Shiekh Tawhidul Islam of Jahangirnagar University. TIB's Executive Director Dr. Iftekharruzaman, Deputy Executive Director Professor Dr. Sumaiya Khair and BAWIN coordinator Sanjib Biswas Sanjoy were present at the programme.

Twenty nine water related major law/legislation/policy for the management of water resources of Bangladesh were evaluated to examine the presence of issues like equitable service provisions, rights to water, voice and choice, gender, civil society participation

corruption, transparency and accountability, environmental management, water resources management, monitoring and evaluation and institutionalization and decentralization processes. In the similar fashion, the institutions related to water sector planning, governance/management, service delivery were reviewed to examine the degree of integrity aspects they follow in the operational processes.

Under the study, the activities of Dhaka WASA were examined in detail in order to capture water integrity issues in city corporation area contexts. Lack of capacity to deliver water supply against demand, infringement of informal, unauthorized entities in different segments of water distribution processes, limited public participation in decision making processes, absence of necessary principles for effective water governance such as transparency, accountability, legitimacy and legality, equity and inclusiveness were identified as the major challenges for Dhaka WASA.

The study says there are allegations that some BWDB staff is involved in financial corruption in water management and as the graft suspects could not be punished, governance in BWDB is yet to be ensured. Activities of Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB) were analysed for understanding rural water integrity context and Dhaka Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (DWASA) was considered to assess the urban context.

Speaking at the press conference, Executive Director of TIB Dr Iftekharruzaman said, "As per clients' view, Dhaka WASA is not capable of providing its service to all areas of the city, while area-based inequality is found in its service."

"Area-based syndicate along with brokers and WASA employees are controlling water supply in the capital." He added.

The baseline survey report proposed nine recommendations which included relevant policy, act, strategy, plan etc. should be updated and issue-based action plan should be developed, Development Project Proforma (DPP) of Planning Commission should be reviewed and edited to ensure that projects are aligned with integrity standards, develop the technical capacity and human resources to combat with changing contexts, coordination and cooperation among different institutions should be increased, opinions of local people, especially women and disadvantaged, should be considered significantly at all stages of a project.

TIB mourns to death of Syed Humayun Kabir



Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) expressed deep shock to the death of its founding trustee and chair Syed Humayun Kabir.

In a statement Executive Director of TIB Dr Iftekharuzzaman said, “Kabir was one of the key designers of the anti-corruption movement in Bangladesh. “

“The death of Syed Humayun Kabir is an irrecoverable loss for the country. He was not only a successful businessman but also an ideal personality to follow for others being an honest and patriotic person,” he added.

The TIB family will remain engaged to show respect to his contributions by heading the anti-corruption movement amid all barriers, said Iftekharuzzaman. He was among the country’s most respected business professionals whose career had long been associated with leading multinational organisations.

CCC News

Ensure access of citizens to the land office

Land office of Barisal Sadar Upazilla authority has made a commitment to ensure access of citizens to the land office. Md. Illiasur Rahman, the Assistant Commissioner (Land), has made this commitment at an opinion sharing meeting with CCC, Barisal, held on 28 July 2015 at his office in Barisal. Aiming to reduce corruption on land related services; CCC Barisal organized this event with support of TIB.

The discussants emphasized to introduce digitalized systems of land related services to increase transparency and accountability in providing services of upazilla land offices. They also emphasized on the reformation of laws related to land and coordination among related institutions. The participants demanded to make available the laws and procedures related to land management for general people. They also demanded to introduce women friendly services of land related issues. The speakers argued to organize advocacy at national level regarding these issues.

Ensure quality of health services

The authority of 250 beds Jessore General Hospital will work with CCC, Jessore to ensure quality of health services of the hospital. The hospital authority expressed such willingness in an opinion sharing meeting organized by CCC, Jessore on 29 July 2015 at the conference room of the hospital. Prof. Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Ex-President of CCC; Mr. Abu Saleh Tota, President of CCC; M. Towhdiur Rahman, CCC member and Dr. Alamgir Kabir, RMO of the hospital delivered their speech while Dr. Shaymol Krishna Saha, supervisor of the hospital presided over the programme.

The participants in the meeting raised different service related issues which includes: to appoint Designated Information Officer, installation of Citizen Charter, set up Information Desk, expose the updated medicine list, introduce the Duty Roster system for Doctors and Nurses, ensure attendance of the Doctors on working hours, set up separate counter and toilets for male and female, set up breast feeding corner, deploy male and female technicians at Pathology lab, separate display board for female service recipients, ensure limited access of male visitors to the female wards, maintain complaint registers, set up complaint boxes and investigate and resolve the complaints.



The meeting expected that the hospital authority will take initiatives to clean the hospital premises and prohibit touts and brokers. The hospital authority expressed their willingness to work together with CCC to reduce the problems related to provide quality of services. The authority requested to CCC for organizing Satellite AI Desks at least twice in a month.

Ensure the quality of primary education

Participants of a meeting pointed out some problems on school management issues to ensure the quality of education at Brambhonkathi Govt. Primary School, Pirojpur. They argued to take immediate steps to solve these problems. The meeting was held among the Brambhonkathi Govt. Primary School authority and CCC, Pirojpur on 29 July 2015 in participation with guardians and the members of the School Management Committee. CCC member Mr. Aataye Rabbani Firoj moderated the meeting while Md. Nasir Uddin, President of SMC, presided over the programme. Mr. Satish Chandra Mandal, Assistant Upazilla Education Officer, participated in the meeting as chief guest.

Mr. Nihar Kona Mukharjee, Headmaster of the school, mentioned in the meeting that, as the school is situated beside a highway, the students and guardians become injured by road accidents in several times. He emphasized to set up two Speed-breakers on the road in front of the school. Guardians asked to build up Boarder-wall and Guide-wall beside the canal of the school for ensuring safety and set up a tube-well for providing pure drinking water. The chief guest assured in the meeting to provide budgetary assistance to resolve the problems.

Prof. Md. Ruhul Amin, member of the CCC, delivered welcome speech in the meeting. Among others, CCC vice-president Adv. Mohammad Shahidullah Khan, members of the SMC and assistant teachers of the school, addressed in the meeting.

Transparent LGIs

According to the Local Government (Union Parishad) Act-2009, Union Parishads have to prepare their annual budget and development plan through organizing Ward Shova at ward level. But for unwillingness and limitations, the elected authorities of union parishads do not practice this process of budget preparation and development plan.

For the first time, the Boirag Union Parishad of Anwara upazilla has prepared its annual budget through participatory process by the assistance of CCC, Chittagong city. In the Ward Shovas held on May 2015, the elected members of the respected wards welcomed various service related proposals raised by local citizens. The citizens also took part on discussion of preparing development plan considering priority issues of the ward for this year.

Finally on 16 June 2015, the Boirag Union Parishad organized an open budget meeting to declare the annual budget for fiscal year 2015-16 with the participation of local citizens. Among others Mr. Abul Hossain, Deputy Director of Local Government department, the Upazilla Parishad chairman and the Upazilla Nirbahi Officer of Anwara upazilla were present in the meeting. Besides, CCC members, UP members and Secretary, TIB representatives and local citizens were also taken part in the discussion.

Mr. Noyab Ali, Chairman of the UP mentioned in the meeting, the parishad will continue to organize such event in each year from now. The proposed and revised budget has been started implementation from July, 2015.

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