Summary report of Right to Know Day Observation (Draft)

28 September 2010

Civic Engagement Division
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### Acronyms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>DC</td>
<td>Deputy Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SP</td>
<td>Superintendent of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASP</td>
<td>Assistant Superintendent of Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADC</td>
<td>Additional Deputy Commissioner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNO</td>
<td>Upazila Nirbahi Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCC</td>
<td>Committee of Concerned Citizens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YES</td>
<td>Youth Engagement &amp; Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OC</td>
<td>Office In Charge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RtK</td>
<td>Right to Know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RTI</td>
<td>Right to Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GO</td>
<td>Government Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NGO</td>
<td>Non-Government Organization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MP</td>
<td>Member of the Parliament</td>
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Introduction

28 September, International Rights to Know day. Like previous years, Committee of Concerned Citizen (CCC), Youth Engagement and Support (YES) in cooperation with Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) observed RtK know day on 28 September 2010. Different activities like seminar, rally, discussion meeting, quiz, essay and debate competition, theatre show and cultural program, anti corruption cartoon exhibition, publishing wall magazine, stickers & leaflets, oath taking, signature collection, distribution of IEC materials, set up Advice and Information desk etc. to mark the day. Despite these, in order to create awareness on RTI (Right to Information) Act at local level and build capacity in both demand and supply side, all 36 CCCs observed the RtK day jointly with administration and many relevant government departments. 24 CCCs observed 2 dayslong RTI fair with the active participation of government organizations/departments and as well the NGOs. RtK day observation was an example of government participation where overwhelming majority of the stalls set up at the RtK fair were set up by the government departments and institutions. Public representatives, Ministers, Member of the Parliament, Deputy Commissioners (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP), Upazila Nirbahi Officer and other officials actively took part in these events.

Approximately 92,835 people were participated in the events among them 30,772 are Female while 62,063 are male.

Type of programs

Rally: 28 colorful rallies were organized to mark Right to Know Day in the working areas. The rallies, attended by different walks of people, marched through the main streets of the cities and townships carrying festoons and placards that stressed the need for building awareness on the RTI Act. SP, DC, ASP, UNO, City Corporation Mayor, Upazila Chairman, Upazila Vice-chairman, District Information Officer, Additional District Magistrate, Advocates, Academician, Principal of Govt. College, members of District Corruption Protection Committee, Freedom Fighter, Different Volunteer Organizations, Civil Society, CCC, YES, YES Friends, Students, and Teachers attended the rally.
Discussion Meeting: The RtK Day on 28 September 2010 saw 27 discussion meetings arranged in as many working areas participated by a good number of GO/NGO representatives. The discussions stressed the need for proper implementation and awareness of the RTI Act 2009. Most of the discussants observed that there is a lack of awareness among the mass people about the existence of such a law and its provisions as it is a new law and the government offices are not properly equipped to deliver. Deputy Commissioner, Police Super, Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Deputy Director of Public Health & Engineering Department, City Corporation Mayor, District Information Officer, Deputy Director of District Youth Development Department, Deputy Director of District Social Welfare Office, President of Sammilito Sanskritik Jot, Civil Surgeon, Upazila Chairman, Upazila Mohila Vice Chairman, Aditional Commissioner (Land), Upazila Women & Children Affairs Officer, Upazila Health & Family Planning Officer, Retd. Principal, College Teacher, Journalist, students of different school & college, freedom fighter, Business man, representatives from different NGOs like BRAC, Intercoporation, Care-Bangladesh, Chairperson of Joyenshahi Adibasi Unnayan Sanstha were took part in the discussion meetings.

Seminar: Four seminars were held in Sylhet, Brahminbaria, Khulna and Kurigram districts. Government officials of the local administration and civil society members attended the seminar discussing the challenges of making the law a tool for opening up the machineries of public administration. They observed that the law holds a huge prospect for ensuring transparency and accountability of public institutions if properly implemented. DC, City Corporation Mayer, Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Civil Surgeon, Primary Education Officer, Chairperson of Duprok, District Women & Children Affairs Officer, Assistant Divisional Engeneer (T&T), Civil Surgeon, Deputy Director of Social Service Office, Deputy Director of Directorate of Youth Development, District Information Officer, District Woman affairs officer, Upazila Agriculture officer, Upazila Senior fisheries officer, Upazila Social Welfare Officer, Upazilla Family Planning Officer, Upazila Information Officer, Upazila Education officer, Medical Officer, Senior Staff Nurse, Bangladesh Mohila Parishad etc participated in the seminars.
Cultural Program: Cultural programs were organized in 24 areas with the support of YES and CCC members. Huge audiences were enthralled with folk songs, Jari gan, Gambhira and Pot songs. Several road dramas, depicting the theme of RTI and the perils of corruption were performed along with screening of documentary films.

Art, Debate, Essay Competition: A number of art, debate, essay and recitation competition were organized in the respective areas participated by students of school and colleges. Prizes were handed over to the winners.

Cartoon Exhibition: Cartoon exhibitions featuring the evils and extent of corruption were organized in Kishoreganj, Patia, Munshiganj and Jamalpur districts. Caricatures of their day to day experiences made the public feel awe about the ill practices. These exhibitions attracted huge audiences.

Advice and Information Desk: Satellite Advice and Information Desks were set up in 14 areas to observe Right to Know day. People of different strata availed the information service on demand. Different IEC materials were also displayed and distributed.
Apart from the above events lecture competition, human chain, bicycle rally, oath taking, publication of wall magazine, IEC materials distributions, Signature collection and Stickers & leaflets were developed and distributed to observe the day.

### Types of participants who attended in RtK day observation’s events (Govt.)

- Minister
- MPs
- SP
- DC
- ADC
- UNO
- City Corporation Mayor
- Upazila Chairman
- Upazila Vice Chairman
- Civil Sergeant
- District Women & Children Affairs Officer
- Assistant Divisional Engineer (T&T)
- Deputy Director of Social Service Office
- Deputy Director of Directorate of Youth Development
- District Information Officer
- District Woman affairs officer
- Other District and Upazila Level high officials

### Types of participants (Non-Govt.)

- NGO executives
- Representatives from Civil Society
- Different Voluntary Organization
- Journalist
- Freedom Fighter
- General People
- Teachers
- Students
- CCC & YES members
In order to create awareness at local level 24 CCCs organized 2 days information fair with the active participation of government organizations/departments in 24 areas. There were total 430 stalls (213 stalls from Govt. Sectors and 217 from other organizations) in these information fair. Total 9,037 participants from other organizations were in the fair among them 1,303 were female and 7,734 were male. Approximately 96,664 persons visited the stalls among them 49,266 were male while 47,398 were female. On the other hand, approximately 51,961 persons visited TIB’s stalls among them 15,251 were female and 36,710 male. Former Advisor of the Care Taker Government, H’ble Minister, Information & Culture, H’ble Minister, Industry, Deputy Commissioners (DC), Superintendent of Police (SP), Upazila Nirbhahi Officer, City Corporation Mayor, Upazila Chairman, Chairman of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporaton, Executive Director of TIB, Principal of Govt. College, Executive Editor of Daily Samakal and other officials took part in the inauguration session of this information fair. Other than the guests, representatives from Govt’s different divisions, departments such as District Information Office, Deputy Commissioner Office, Women & Children Affairs, Executive Engineer, Public Heath Dpt., PP, Judge Court, Deputy Asst. Director, NSI, Assistant Director – Fire Service and Civil Defense, Executive Engineer, District Organizer, Deputy Commissioner Office, CEO-District Council, Vice Chancellor, Khulna University, Vice Chancellor, KUET, Divisional Director, Environment department, Senior Information Officer, PID, PP Jourge Court, General Secretary of Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, Former Chairman of TIB, Board of Trusty, Deputy Director of Social service office, Deputy Director of Directorate of Youth Development, Veterinary surgeon, AC (land), Upazila Senior fisheries officer, Upazila Cooperatives Officers, Livestock officer, Sub-assistant Engineer, Upazila BRDB officer, Upazila Primary Education Officer, Health & Family Planning Officer, Agriculture Officer, Social welfare Officer, Fisheries Officer, Information Officer, Office in Charge of Thana, Medical Officer, Senior Staff Nurse, Statistician of Upazila Health Complex visited the fairs. Moreover, different NGOs Representatives, students, teachers and mass people visited the fairs.

In the information fair different service related posters, leaflets, books and other books were displayed and distributed among the visitors. Different service related informations were also disseminated among the visitors in the fair. Art competition, essay, quiz and debate competition were also held in the fair premises where students from different educational institute were participated.
Snaps of Information Fair
List of few Govt. organizations that took part in the Information Fair

1. DC Office
2. SP Office
3. Upazila Parishad
4. Legal Aid Committe
5. District Information Office
6. Social Welfare Department
7. Livestock Department
8. Sadar Hospital
9. Bangladesh Krishi Bank
10. Janata Bank
11. Sonali Bank Ltd.
12. City Corporation
13. Bangladesh Shishu Academy
14. Civil Seigeion Office
15. Directorate of Family Planning
16. Directorate of Women Affairs
17. Directorate of Agricultural Extention
18. District Fisheries Office
19. Public Health & Engeenring Division
20. District Education Office
21. District Primary Education Office
22. Public Health and Engennering Department
23. Health Department
24. District Registry Office
25. Road and Highways
26. Biddut Unnayon Board
27. BISIC
28. Land Office
29. Bangladesh Ansar & VDP
30. Legal Aid Committee
31. District Election Office
32. Fisheries Department
33. Govt. College (Satkhira)
34. Bangladesh Water Development Board
35. Bangladesh Krishi Bank
36. Bangladesh Rural Development Board (DRDB)
37. Bangladesh Police
38. District Family Planning Department
39. Upazila Health Complex
40. Upazila Educaiton Office
41. Upazila Agricultural Office,
List of few organizations that took part in the Information Fair

1. Inter Cooperation-Bangladesh
2. CARE Bangladesh
3. Marie Stopes
4. BRAC
5. Supro
6. Bangladesh Mohila Parishad
7. BLAST
8. NGO Forum
9. Practical Action
10. World Vision
11. World Concern Bangladesh
12. SUJAN
13. Surjer Hasi Clinic
14. Population Services & Training Centre (PSTC)
15. Lok Morcha (Governance Qualification)
16. Nagorik Uddag
17. Kornikarmukto Scouts Group
18. FPAB
19. Bangladesh Red Crescent Society
20. Rover Scouts
21. Re-shilpi Development Project (Satkhira)
22. Agragati Sanstha (Satkhira)
23. SWADESH (Satkhira)
24. Manad Unnayan Sanstha
25. Bangladesh AIDS Prevention Society (BAPS)
26. BRTA
27. Mritika Sampad Institute
28. FDA
29. SDC
30. Pathakali Sanstha
31. AVA
32. BFF
33. PWO
34. AJAG
35. UNDP-UPPR Project
36. VPAK
37. Dharani
38. Sanjog
39. FVO
40. Bandhu Social Welfare Society
Comments from the participants

Comments from GO representatives

1. As a DC, during my service in Kurigram this is the best program ever I saw. DC Office already established an information centre. I think, this is an effective fair for implementation of RTI law. Every year it should be arranged and if possible duration of the fair may be extended. (Md. Habibur Rahaman, DC, Kurigram).

2. As a Head of Upazilla Administration, I would like to thank the Upazilla level various officers who attended in the fair along with the services, informations, documents and citizens charters etc. I also thank TIB and CCC members for arranging such kind of fair. (Mr. Sayeed Kutub, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer, Sadar, Kurigram).

3. From this fair RTI law will be popular among mass people and they will be benefited from it. Without proper implementation of RTI law, nobody can establish good governance. (Mr. Abu Bakkar Siddique, Mayor, Kurigram Municipality).

4. I am really happy to be here. I like this program. (DC, Kishoregang)

5. We should practice to disclose information in our personal life. It is needed to activate the information commission. To ensure the information officer in every relevant office, Government should be more kindness and pro-active on information rights issues. (Prof. Mozaffar Ahmed, Former Chairman of TIB, Board of Trusty in Sylhet).

6. I appreciate the exceptional initiative of organizing this information fair (Additional Magistrate, Chandpur).

7. I personally welcomed the anti corruption activities taken by the CCC. I feel the information fair is successful. (NDC, Chandpur).

8. The information fair jointly organized by CCC & TIB is really praiseworthy. I expect, like this year, the fair will be organized every year by CCC & TIB. (ASP, Chandpur).

9. It is an innovative idea to organize an information fair which is very encouraging to the mass people for establishing their right to know. I welcomed this initiative. (DD, Family Planning, Chandpur).

10. It’s a different and very effective initiative which will help the people to be conscious about their rights. It’ll also be very much positive to reduce the
corruption ensuring the implementation of RTI law. UNO office appreciates TIB’s activities and takes steps for implementing the law. (UNO, Patiya).

11. TIB is doing great job which actually could be taken by the Govt. for the RTI law. Information Office of Patiya highly welcomes TIB for the action and arrangement and emphasizes to be attached with this type of program. (Information Officer, Patiya).

12. Thanks the organizer for giving a chance to come in front of people gathering in such a time when Anthrax is a vital issue for the country. (Upazila Animal Resource Officer, Patiya).

13. Exceptional and remarkable program! We get the opportunity to face the people and meet in a nice program. (Medical Officer, Satkhira)

14. It’s an excellent initiative. This type of program always play a vital role to reduce corruption. Dissemination of information will make easy to get service from different sectors. An Information Officer has been appointed in DC Office and an initiative has also been taken for the appointment of Information Officer in other relevant offices in Satkhira. (DC, Satkhira).

15. As a Govt. Officer, I think all people should know about Right to Information Act 2009. (Women Affairs Officer, Satkhira)

16. If the state opens all information for the general people, people can be benefited economically through gathering information. (PP Judge Court, Satkhira).

17. I know, our Parliament passed Right to Information Act 2009 and it has been published overall the country but utilization of the Act has’t been done properly. Govt. Official has not taken initiatives for dissemination of information. (Anisur Rahman, Journalist, Satkhira)

18. Right to Information Act 2009 should be disseminated to the grass root level (Sk. Nurul Huq, Businessman, Satkhira)

19. I have heard, the Parliament passed Right to Information Act 2009. I think information is power. This act will help people to get their rights. Mass publicity is needed to disseminate it. (Md. Harunur Rashid, Politician, Satkhira).

20. We are practicing this Act and I support all of your initiatives to implement this act. (DC, Jalalokhati)

21. We have to know and informed others about RTI Act. (Professor Gulnahr Begum, Jalalokhati).

22. We have already taken initiatives to implement the act. Hopefully, within a short period we will be able to implement the act properly. We are going to open an Information Front Desk and appoint an Information Officer soon. (Mr. Shafiqul Islam, UNO, Bagerhat).

23. We have hanged a list of Doctors in the hospital which is reducing the harassment of the mass people. From this, people can inform where and whom to go. Every morning one hour health education for awareness raising is being provided to the mass people especially to the women and children at Sadar Hospital. We have also hanged a list of medicine which is available at the hospital. By enacting the RTI
Govt. has taken a big step for mass people. (Dr. Farhana, MBBS Doctor, Sadar Hospital, Bagerhat)

24. This is an excellent initiative indeed. We set up a complain box in DC office and appointed an officer here to provide information. (Deputy Commissioner, Comilla).

25. I want to utilize the information law and I hope my country will be free from corruption. (Md. Jafar Ullah, Office Assistant DPEO office, Comilla).

26. It’s an extra ordinary event. All duty bearers expressed their sincere gratitude to enactment of Right to Information law. Information to all can play pivotal role to ensure human rights. In this regard public service delivery institutions have a major responsibility to disseminate the RTI law effectively. No law can be successful without mass participation. Govt. with her all associates have to take proper measures to implement this law. (Ms. Rama Rani Roy, DC, Jhenidah).

27. This is an excellent initiative. We have already set up a complain box in DC office and appointed an officer to provide information to all. He gives website address of DC office to all, if demanded. (Md. Abdul Mannan, Deputy Commissioner, DC, Kustia).

28. Deputy Commissioner’s Office is always ready to provide information to peoples. In this purpose an information desk has already been set-up in front of DC office. This is why today Deputy Commissioner’s office is also participated in this information fair. (Mr. Ruhul Amin Khan, ADC -General, Rangpur).

29. This type of information fair is very helpful to mass people. They came to know about the services of government institutions from this fair. (Nitto Gopal Das, Assistant Director, Fire Service and Civil Defense, Rangpur).

30. People are the lord of a State. It is an important responsibility of all Govt. Service Providing authority to provide public service related information to the people. To established right to information for mass people, it should be work in every steps of all concern. (Md. Mizanur Rahman, ADC -Revenue, Pirojpur).

31. RTI law can be activated effectively only when people will be conscious about the law. It is important to build awareness among the grass root people. (Ms. Shahnaj Parvin Sanu, Vice Chairman, Upazilla Parishad, Pirojpur).

32. Very good activities, it will be helpful for general people. Citizens Charters should be hanged in the Chittagang City Corporation. (M. Manjur Alam, Mayor, Ctg. City Corporation, Chittagong).

33. Before Information Fair we have no knowledge about information act. But now we informed about the law. (Md. Mohosin Reza, UPEO, Pirojpur).

34. I would like to thank CCC and TIB on behalf of the Madaripur Sadar Upazila Parishad for arranging this information fair. I believe that through this fair, mass people are concerned about their rights. Now they will get right services from the service delivery centres. (Chairman, Sadar Upazila, Madaripur).

35. Information is power. District information office will take necessary steps for publicity of RTI law. (Mr. Nurnobi Khandokar, District Information Officer, Kurigram).
36. By the law of Right to Information-2009 the authority of any organization is bound to give information except some types of secret information. I feel proud to say that Jessore District is the first Digital District in Bangladesh. And CCC of Jessore and TIB are helping Govt. to build digital Bangladesh. They also encourage the authority of Govt. & Non Govt. institution for disseminating information of their own services. (Md. Nurul Amin, DC, Jessore).

37. Our Govt. has passed Right to Information law. TIB Jessore arranged Information Fair for helping us to activate the law. (Sanjay Kumar Banik, ADC General, Jessore).

38. Digital Bangladesh means, unbounded flow of information. I am thanking TIB for publishing the Combined Fact Sheet and arranging this fair. (SM Shafiullah, ASP, Jessore).

39. The law of Right to Information has to active for economical development of our country. (Dr. Md. Abdul Hai, Deputy Civil Surgeon, Jessore).

40. I hope many other organizations will participate this fair next year. This program can help people to know about their rights. (Dr. Muniruzzaman, RMO 250 Bed General Hospital, Jessore).

41. CCC-Chakaria is pioneer to arrange such an exceptional program in Cox’s Bazar district. I would like to thank CCC Chakaria for arranging such kind of program at central Cox’s Bazar. (DC, Chakaria).

42. I hope by knowing formation from different sector young people will be able to enrich their knowledge level and use them for the benefit of our country. (Upazilla Chairman, Chakaria).

43. It is help the people to know about the services of different govt. and Non-government sectors. (UNO, Chakaria).

44. After enactment of the law, this is the first time we see such kind of fair. I really like to thank CCC Chakaria and Upazila administration for their great job. (Chairman, Baraitalli, Chakaria).

45. The information fair has to organize every year because general people will be benefited from this. (Md. Zamal Hossain Mehedi, Instructor, Dept. of youth development, Munshiganj).

46. The information fair organized by CCC is an appropriate step indeed. This type of fair makes people aware about their right. I think, more govt. organizations have to join in this fair. (Asif Mahmud, Health Education Officer, Civil Surgeon Office, Munshiganj).

47. I am very pleased to join in the fair. This is first time in Munshiganj. I provided information to the people about Guti Colom & Scalp Grafting. (Md. Sohel Miya, Sub Assistant Agricultural Officer, Dept. of Agricultural extension, Munshignaj Sadar).

48. For observation of Int. Right to know Day’10, CCC-Munshiganj organizes information fair. In future the fair must be extended in terms of number & duration as well. I thank CCC for organizing such kind of a helpful fair. (Selim Jahangir, VFA, Dept. of animal resource, Munshiganj).
49. To strengthen Anti-corruption Campaign CCC-Munshiganj organizes such a beautiful fair. Because free flow of information can decreases corruption. (Ad. Mujibur Rahman, Mayor, Munshiganj Pauroshava).

50. This is an excellent initiative. Campaigning on access to information should be continued. We set up a help desk & complain box and appointed an officer here to provide information. (Mr. K.M. Ali. Ajam, Deputy Commissioner, Chapainawabganj).

51. Access to information is related to good governance. But it is not so easy. We can’t achieve everything over night. But we shouldn’t stop. (Mr. Md. Nazibur Islam, ADC -Revenue, Chapainawabganj).

52. Information makes people powerful. None can cheat them. We have taken different initiatives (Help desk, advice box) to provide information to the citizens. Every department of municipality has their database. Though we didn’t appoint information officer yet, every chief of the department is eligible to do this. (Mr. Ataur Rahman, Mayor, Chapainawabganj Municipality).

53. If we can ensure right to information, corruption must be reduced. Thank Govt. for passing Right to Information act 2009. People would be more concerned about their rights through information. Right to Information can ensure transparency and accountability. (Alhaj Md. Ruhul Amin, Chairman, Sadar Upazila, Chapainawabganj).

54. RTI act has been effective from the last year. All GO; NGOs are bound to provide information according to this law. As a result, accountability and transparency will be increased as well as corruption decreased. People especially the poor people could be benefited if we could implement this law properly. We need cooperation from all of you. All arrangement of CCC and TIB on the occasion of Int. Right to Know day observation is really praiseworthy. (Sultan Abdul Hamid, ADC-General, Natore).

55. For the implementation of RTI act, I appreciate the movement of TIB and ACC. As a government employee I have some responsibilities. In my office, I always try to keep transparency and maintain the process while tendering any project. We need cooperation of all in this regard. (Md. Lokman Ali, Executive Engineer, LGED, Natore).

56. For the progress of the society we should implement RTI act from right now. People will become empowered if they get proper information easily. In my office all information are open for all. I thank TIB for organizing the fair and giving opportunity to the people for getting information through the information fair. (Md. Dabir Hossain, Assistant Director, Youth Development Department, Natore).

57. The initiative taken by TIB regarding the implementation of RTI act is remarkable, though this initiative should be taken by us. We try our level best to aware the people about RTI act and how could the people be benefited with the act. I will be proud if I could do something for the implementation of the RTI act from my side and all of you are invited to me. (Faruk Md. Abdul Munim, Information Officer, Information and Communication Department, Natore).
58. During RTI Act movement some leading organizations were working jointly. After adopting the act some of them are getting blemish. But we are hopeful, organizations like TIB is still working tremendously. (Alok Maitro, Professor, Department of Management, N.S. Govt. College, Natore).

59. TIB organized satellite Advise & Information Desk is really an innovative idea. It’s important to make people aware for social movement to make a rich and repression free country by implementing anti corruption activities. Flow of information and information related to root causes of corruption, types of corruption and role of mass people to reduce corruption is needed. CCC organized Int. Right to Know day observation activities is very much related to this. I wish every success of these events. (Mayor, Munsigang City Corporation).

60. Organizing information fair in Munsigang is a great endeavor. I think, this type of event will aware the people about their rights. The program is successful. Participation of more Govt. organizations in this type of fair should be ensured in future. (Asif Mahmud, Junior Health Officer, Civil Surgeon Office, Munsigang).

61. We all are aware about Right to Know day. All have the rights to know. Despite this, it is not possible for us to know every thing. I hope, people will be more aware through this fair. They will get the opportunity to learn. I must congratulate the organizer. (Mr. Talukder Abdul Khaleque, Mayor, Khulna City Corporation).

62. It’s an exceptional program and day. After one year of RtI act passing, 2 days information fair is held in Khulna. It is really a good initiative. If any one wants to learn about rights, he/she must know about right to information. We need to learn and inform to others. If we success to inform the mass people about their rights, the nation will progress. Its two ways. Govt. should take way forward plan for this. Govt. employee’s mindset should also be changed. Only then Country/Nation will be developed. Otherwise, corruption will remain in the society. (Prof. D. Saifuddin Shah, Vice Chancellor, Khulna University). Many organizations have already taken initiatives to disseminate RtI to mass people. In that case we are now in a position to compare with other countries. 75 countries are on the way to pass RtI in their country. I thank the organizer for this information fair. (Mr. Tarun Kanti Sikder, Divisional Director, Environment department, Khulna).

63. RtI act is passed in 2009. TIB along with other organizations pressurized govt. for this law. After that Govt. realized that the law is needed. Enacting RtI law is the first step for reducing corruption. This is why the act’s acceptance is realistic. Govt. employees should be informed about the law. Now, it is mandatory to hang Citizen Charter’s in front of every office. This is the first reflection of right to information because from this fair mass people learn about different GO/NGOs services. (Ms. Jinat Ara Ahmed, Deputy Director, district information Office, Khulna).

64. Information makes a man empowered. For the first time in Madhupur, information fair is organized. The organizations that are participating in this fair are getting opportunity to provide information to the mass people. I am hopeful that various
initiatives will be taken by GO/NGOs to wider dissemination of RtI. (Dr. Meer Farhadul Alam Moni, Upazila Vice Chairman, Madhupur).

65. GO/NGO’s ongoing service delivery activities should be more effective to give the benefit of RtI to mass people. I hope, every year CCC Madhupur and TIB will play a vital role to fulfill the expectations of mass people by organizing the type of information fair. (AKM Benzamin Riyazi, Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Madhupur).

**Comments from Civil Society/NGO representatives**

1. I have seen different kinds of fair. But this is marvelous and quite exceptional. Thank you the organizer. (Head master –Kakara School, Chakaria).

2. Information fair organized by CCC & TIB is an exceptional initiative. I believe that through this kind of information fair, RTI act will be more effective. (Lecturer, Chandpur Govt. College)

3. I expect, the information fair will play an effective role for the well being of the mass people of Chandpur. (Convener, CAB)

4. The fair is visited by many people. I expect, in future this fair will be organized in a large scale which will be more effective. (Principal, YWCA).

5. This fair is played a vital role for information dissemination. It will be better to organize the fair in a greater scale. (ED, CCDS, Chandpur).

6. It’s a universal right of a people to know. TIB organized fair will play an important role for establishing people’s rights. (Manager, Surjer Hashi Clinic, Chandpur.

7. The information that are not threatened for the country; government officials are bound to deliver it. (Vice-President, Press Club, Jhalakathi).

8. Now it is very important to know about RTI Act and practice it. Government is bound to deliver information except few types of information. (President, City Club, Jhalokathi).

9. Government Officials have to set their mind to deliver information to the people to be more conscious about their rights. (Deputy Commander, Muktjoddha Shangsad, Jhalokathi).

10. Now we are practicing RTI Act. (Manager, VOSED, Jhalokathi).

11. Not only Government institutions but also Private institutions and NGO’s are included in the Act. We should practice this law. (Manager, Proshika).

12. It is important to discuss that how to practice RTI Act at rural level like Union Parishad. (Sankar Proshad Gupto, Retired Teacher, Jhalokathi).

13. Government Official will have to more cordial to implement and practices this Act for the benefit of mass people. (Md. Sohrab Hossain, President, JS, Jhalokathi).

14. It’s really a nice program. We have started working at the union level. It is necessary to take initiates for wider dissemination of RtI (Mr. Diponkar Samadder- Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer, Bagerhat).
15. Initiatives on RTI have already been taken. For example- District Administration has already adopted and circulated a list from where one can learn where they have to go for claiming, for land registration, for help regarding poverty related issues etc. (Mr. Md. Jahangir Hossein, Head Clark, DC Office, Bagerhat).

16. RTI act has been endorsed- it’s an important matter to the nation. Enacting the law will be in vain, if the proper implementation of the law is not done. RTI act should be implemented, only then enactment of the law will be proof successful. (Prof. Md. Mozaffar Hossen, Chairman, Sujon, Bagerhat)

17. Right to Information is my rights. As a citizen of Bangladesh, it is applicable for me. Finally, RTI act has been endorsed which is a good sign for us. (Mr. Sheikh Nazrul Islam Cultural Activist, Bagerhat)

18. We have already taken initiatives to disseminate the law to the mass people by our staffs. (Mr. Mahbubur Rahman, PC, Shapalaful, Bagerhat)

19. We have already prepared a leaflet on RTI act and disseminated among mass people. (Mr. Shah Alam, Teacher, Karigori College, Bagerhat)

20. I know about the information law and I want to establish fair recruitment every Government sector. (Md. Imrun Hossain Social Worker)

21. I hope that TIB will organize RTI Fair every year. I want my country free from corruption. (Rabeya Kabir, NGO worker, Comilla).

22. Mass people will be benefited if the proper implementation of RTI is ensured. People will get rid of from corruption in Mymensingh.

23. This is very good initiative. From this fair common people can know what kind of service they avail from the govt. institutions. People can also learn about the RTI law from the fair. (Dr. Moudud Hossain, Kurigram).

24. In Local level CCC Kurigram is pioneer of the RTI movement. We are very much grateful to the Government that they have passed the RTI law in the parliament. Now it’s their duty to activate the law. I hope people and govt. officials both will more aware about the law by taking serious of programs on RTI. (Nurnobi Sarker President Supro, Kurigram).

25. The success of the RTI law is depends on its application. I hope Govt. officials will take proper initiatives. (Nandita Chakroborti, President, Bangladesh Mahila Parisad, Kurigram).

26. In this day we expect, according to the law every GO & NGO office will appoint an information officer for better implementation of the law. (Safi Khan, Journalist, Kurigram).

27. According to the law Govt. & NGO will disclose their all kinds of information for the general people. It can be very effective to reduce corruption. (Adv. Abraham Linkon, Kurigram).

28. To implement RtK law TIB-CCC’s initiative is very much significant. But we have to fight together to gain benefit from RtK law. (Md. Manzur Morshed, NGO Activist, Savar).

29. It will be very helpful to the people if we established central information center in Upazila complex. (Golam Rabbani, Business man, Savar).
30. This type of information fair should be arranged every year. (Mr. Anowar Hossain, Manager – BRAC, Rangpur).

31. Every Government institutions should participate in this type of fair. (Mrs. Hossne ara, General Secretary, Bangladesh Mohila Parisad, Rangpur).

32. The arrangement is excellent. (Shamima Begum, Regional Manager, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Rangpur).

33. Proper rights of the people can be achieved by the RtI law. (Md. Shah Alam, Lecturer, Aftab Uddin College Pirojpur).

34. To reduce corruption, people should be known what their rights are. If anybody knows the information properly, he will not be attacked by corruption. (Ziaul Ahasan, Executive Director, PGUS).

35. RtI law is an important mechanism to reduce corruption. (Ad. Mahammad Sahidullah Khan, CCC member, Pirojpur).

36. Not only TIB-CCC, we all should take this responsibility to build awareness on RtI law among the grass root people. (Manika Mondal, President, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Pirojpur).

37. For effective result of RtI law, Govt. should be more cordial to implement this law; especially all Govt. officials will have to show their positive approach to providing information. (M A Rabbani Firoz, Co-Convenor, CCC-Pirojpur & Persident, Press Club, Pirojpur).

38. If we work together, the benefits of this law must be achieved to the mass people. Govt. official should be proven their positive approach to activate this law effectively. (Hosne Ara Begum, Convenor, CCC, Pirojpur.)

39. I hope every year TIB will arrange this type of program. General people can be learnt various type of information of GO/NGO Institutions. I am thanking to CCC Jessore. (Tarapada Das, Ex. Teacher).

40. Information will increase the knowledge of person and the institutional information can be help to eradicate corruption. This Information Fair helping the people to know about the institutional information. (Pro. Tasdikur Rahman Rtd. Jessore).

41. Information can help to reduce corruption. (Jamir Ahmed Tun, Journalist and President of DUPRAK, Jessore).

42. Specially, I am thanking to DC and TIB for arranging this fair for second time. General People can know the process of receiving services from GO/NGO. (Ad. Rafiqul Islam, Coordinator Govt. Legal Aid, Jessore).

43. This fair will aware the people about their rights. This fair will help to build Digital Bangladesh. (Jibon Bosh, Oldest Journalist, Jessore).

44. By using the facilities of the law we can get required information from different govt. and non-govt. sector. Peoples are coming in the fair and realized the importance of the law. (Mr. Noman-ASC).

45. After coming here, I get lots of informations regarding different organizations. (Ariful Moula, ICDDR,B).
46. The information fair’10 is good. Hope in future it will be extended. (Hamida Khatun, Secretary, CPB, Munshiganj).

47. This is first ever arranging Information Fair in Munshiganj. It must be organized every year. Because general people will get help from it. (Md. Liakot Ali, Health Educator, Meri Stops Clinic, Munshiganj).

48. To observe Int. Right to Know day’10, CCC-Munshiganj has organized Information Fair. For that I gratitude to them. It is beautiful & demandfull as well. Awareness about right of the people is very important and the fair can do this. (Jahanara Khanom, Bangladesh Mohila Parishad, Munshiganj).

49. To aware people on RTI act and its implementation the initiative of TIB will be effective. We cooperate with TIB with the participation and set up stall in information fair. We already appointed information office for our office. We try to aware people about the act through our activities. (Shamima Laizu Nila, ED, Alow, Natore).

50. For the implementation of RTI act we all will work actively with TIB. All these stalls of NGOs in this fair is a great example. We try to provide the information what the local and national NGOs are doing in Natore. So that people could be benefited. (Shibly Sadik, Director, Shathi and Secretary, Natore NGO Association).

51. In government sector for transparency especially in procurement and tendering all kind of related information should be disclosed openly to the people. If people could know the information easily, possibility of corruption movement and implementation of RTI law as well. It should be continued. (Ad. Abdul Ohab, President, Human Rights Implementation Organization, Natore).

52. If RTI Act is implemented properly, women are benefited. Because they are vulnerable and they have no right in the society. We are always with TIB and its anti corruption movement. (Mrs. Dilara Begum, President, Bangladesh Mohila Parishad, Natore).

53. Along with TIB, BRAC and some other organizations are celebrating International Right to Know Day this year. For the implementation of RTI act, we all have to participate actively in this movement and we hope we will gear-up this movement with the cooperation of each other. (Md. Golam Sarwar, Regional Manager, BRAC).

54. I firmly believe, TIB organized Information Fair is the best fair in Munsigang till to date. (Ashraful Haque Arif, Munsigang).

55. I also agree that this is the best fair in Munsigang. It was needed to organize the fair earlier years. (Md. Siddique, Munsigang).

56. We have learned lots of new things from this fair. That is the reason I found the information fair very successful. (Mr. Rabbi, Munsigang).

57. Organizing the information fair is really a good initiative. From this fair people are gained. I wish your every success of this fair. (Md. Monir, Munsigang).

58. The information fair is a great initiative for social movement. I am very glad to be here. I would like to thank the organizer for this initiative.
66. I have learned a lot from this fair. I wish all the progress of CCC. From this fair the visitors can learn about their rights. (Student, Govt. College, Social Welfare Department, Barisal).

67. The innovative effort of TIB in Munsigang is no doubt a praiseworthy work. I am grateful to all the member of this organization. Because they are doing this work for the development of our country. I wish their every success. (Md. Sabbir, Student, Govt. Haraganga College, Barisal).

68. The information fair is playing a pivotal role for information dissemination, aware and assists the people for different GO/NGOs service delivery system. I wish the success of Information Fair 2010. I thank CCC Munsingang for organizing the fair. (Dr. Md. Monjurul Alam, Mother & Child Welfare Centre, Barisal).

69. The effort of implementing awareness raising activities of TIB is really praiseworthy. (Surazit Bonik, Barisal).

70. I think, there is no alternative rather organizing this type of information fair to build a digital Bangladesh. I found many things in this fair which made me surprised. I got many useful website addresses form this fair. I am pleased about the activities of the CCC. I want to become a Friends member. (Shahanshah Chanchal, Student, Munisgang).

71. Information Fair related to information rights is for the first time in Munsigang. This type of fair may be organized every year in Munsigang. Mass people of this area will be benefited from the information fair. (Md. Liyakat Ali, Health Educator, Marie Stopes Clinic, Munsigang).

72. I am very to be here. For the first time information fair is organized in Munsigang. There was a stall of Agricultural Extension Department. We tried to learn the farmer about GUTI COLOM and Clep Gratting system. (Representative of Agricultural Extension Department, Munsigang).

73. I would like to thank the organizer for this information fair. It is praiseworthy to organize such kind of information fair which was innovative for awareness rising of mass people. We hope that CCC, Munisgang will continue anti corruption activities. (Office Assistant, Bangladesh Mohila Parisad, Munsigang).

74. I hope this fair will reach the mass people. I expect that this fair will be expanded at every village. Hope, TIB will continue this. (Selim Jahangir, VFA, Livestock Office, Munisgang).

75. If this type of information fair will be organized at Upazila level, it will reach more people. Finally, the program was marvelous. (Chanchal, Munisgang).

76. Satellite AI Desk was highlighted in the information fair. There were different GO/NGOs institutions in this fair and we learned about various information and service delivery mechanism. I am grateful for this. (Mahfuz Ahmed, Kishoregang).

77. I am really surprised to visit this fair. I would like to thank the organizers who are behind the scene. I think this type of program would be very helpful and people can be more informative. (M. A. Prince, Barisal).
68. I am very pleased to visit the stalls. There are lots of information to make aware the people of Bangladesh. This program should be continued. (Monir, Barisal).

69. Despite right to information is a basic right; most of the people of our country are deprived from information. In this situation, the fair will play a pivotal role for information dissemination. I request CCC & TIB to take necessary steps for organizing this type of fair next year. (Sujan Das, Barisal).

70. In present situation, it’s an effective steps to aware the people about RtI law. It is very important to disseminate the law among mass people. This fair may be organized at the important bazaar and educational institutes of every union. (Md. Nasir Uddin, Right to Information Committee, Barisal).

71. Right to Information is for all. For dissemination of information, fair is a very effective tools. I wish every success of the fair. (Razeeb Halder, Student, Barisal).

72. For the first time, I have visited an information fair in my life. I learned a lot from this fair. (Md. Akas, Student, Barisal).

73. As most of the people of Bangladesh are illiterate, there is no alternative of information fair to ensure right to information. (Md. Mahmudul Hasan, Student, Barisal).

74. I attended information fair for the first time in Barisal. Now I can realize that right to information is for all. Information is very essential for all human being. I feel, for information dissemination in a wider scale, it is important to organize this type of fair in remote areas also. These initiatives should be taken by the Concerned Citizens of our country. (Md. Rafiqul Islam Jewel, Student, B. M. College, Barisal).

75. I am very pleased to be here. Nowadays, we all are worried about ANTRAX. There may be a stall or handout on ANTRAX may be circulated to the visitors. (Md. Belal Hossain, Student, Barisal).

76. I appreciate the initiative. I wish TIB will organize this fair in future. Mass people will get information from the fair. (Barisal)

77. I welcome this initiative. We need to eliminate corruption. We need a corruption free Bangladesh. (Shamim Ahsan, Journalist, Daily Ajker Barta).

78. I feel proud to be here. I am grateful to the organizer. I firmly believe that mass people will benefited from this. (Anamul Haque, Student, Barisal).

79. I think this type of fair is very important for the students. Because there are scopes to learn many things from this fair. (Md. Munna Hossain, Student, Barisal City College).

80. From this fair I learned a lot. I think it is needed to organize more fair. (Kamal Majumder, Student, Barisal).

81. After enacting RtI, it is essential to implement Citizen Charter. Combined effort is needed to implement the law. (Mr. Mahfuzur Rahman Mukul, Divisional Coordinator, BELA, Khulna).

82. There are lots of changes after passing the act. Now people are receiving information. This type of fair should be organized every year in our country. We
will be benefited from that. (Mr. Momtaz Ali, Asst. Professor, Ahsanullah College, Khulna).

83. Rtl should be disseminated to all. It is needed to set up a complain box in front of every office. At the same time measures should be taken according to the complain. It is necessary to organize information fair every year. This is the first information fair in Khulna. Visitors are now well informed about the activities of the organizations that are participating in this fair. It’s our right. I thank TIB for organizing the fair. (Mr. Masum Billah, Chief Executive, SEIAM).