

# JUSTICE NEWS



COAST Foundation is executing a project called "access to justice in the community" with the technical assistance of GIZ Bangladesh beginning in July 2021. The COAST Foundation is continuing this initiative in Bangladesh's Chattogram and Barisal regions. This project aims to provide legal aid to the underprivileged and poor members of our society. The project's goal is to establish justice rights for persons who are gender diverse and minorities. Restorative justice meetings, mediation, referral, diversion, and a legal aid clinic will all be used to provide them with legal assistance.



Inauguration of Legal aid clinic at Vorpasha Union, 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Photo by Sabbir Hossain.

The name of a great opportunity to get legal aid services for the beneficiaries is COAST-Ashrafuzzaman Khokon, Chairman, Vorpasha Union.

On 29<sup>th</sup> January 2022, the opening of legal aid clinic under "Access to Justice" project was held at Vorpasha Union, Barisal. COAST Foundation, GIZ Bangladesh and NLASO jointly organized the inauguration program. In this inauguration program, the chief guest's speech was given by Mr, Md Golam Sorwar, Secretary, Law and Justice department of Law, Justice and parliament ministry.

He said, the effort is aimed at providing legal supports at all level. It is hoped that this project will establish the justice of of the backward people of society.

## Dispute resolving through Mediation

We are resolving the disputes through the respected persons of union/ward under the "Access to Justice at Community" Project. In the total 15 unions of two districts, 117 cases are solved by this mediation. In which, Barisal solved 48 cases and Chattogram solved 69 cases.



Mediation at Haildhor Union 2 no ward, 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Photo by Mamunur Rashid.

## Referral and Diversion

Social safety net and legal issue referral for the disadvantaged people are arranged in two district, in which total referral was 72. Barisal referred 43 cases, where as Chattogram referred 29 cases.

To lessen the litigation few cases are diverted to society from Thana, Fari and Court, and the total diversion of cases are in number of 6. In which, Barisal diversion 2 cases and Chattogram diversion 4 Cases.

## Successfully dispute resolve by RJ Meeting

15 Disputes were resolved in RJ processes in 15 Union of Two district of project with the goal of living peacefully In the society of victims and accused and lessen the crimes by Positive thinking in keeping with the ancient system of local area Based Justice system.

In which, Barisal solved 5 cases through RJ and Chattogram Solved 3 cases.



RJ Meeting at Paroikora Union 5 no ward, 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Photo by sheli Bhattacharj

Where and how can we get the services? Access to Justice- in addition to providing justice and legal aid services, it is also working to integrate into the social safety nets. Community Paralegals are conducting courtyard meeting along with home visits to inform people about district legal aid support, old age allowance, widow allowance, disability allowance and so on. We also provide phone numbers for emergency.

**For more information, please contact on** 01713328840, 01713328834, or email us at [upama@coastbd.net](mailto:upama@coastbd.net), [shamima@coastbd.net](mailto:shamima@coastbd.net)

## Monthly PNGO Coordination Meeting

With the technical assistance of GIZ, monthly coordination meetings among PNGOs were organized between partner NGOs of Chattogram and Barishal districts. In this way the mutual relations of the PNGOs are strengthened and the work link is determined.



Monthly PNGO meeting at blast office ctg, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022, Photo by Jamir Uddin

## Monthly work Description:-

S/L	Activities Name	Target	Achieve
1.	Monthly staff coordination meeting	02	02
2.	Monthly PNGO meeting	02	01
3.	Monthly RJF meeting	15	15
4.	Monthly Union level stakeholders meeting	15	5
5.	Quarterly Legal Aid Clinic	1	1
6.	Monthly DLAC meeting	2	0
7.	RJ & Mediation	165	128
8.	Referral	120	71
9.	Diversion	63	9