

# CONVENE NATIONAL TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

On 10th April 2017 Bandhu Social Welfare Society (Bandhu) organized 4th National Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting at the Conference room, MSA office, Dhaka. A total of 10 admirable members of TWG contributed and developed follow up action plan with their active participation.

Meghna Guha Thakurta, Commissioner, National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh and Chairman of the TWG committee graced the meeting.

Technical Working Group (TWG) is a coalition of 16 honorable members includes from National Human Rights Commission, National AIDS/STD Program, Judiciary, Academicians, Law Enforcement Agency, Journalists, Faith leader, Civil Society Organizations and Community Leaders. This committee was formed in 2015 and after that they meet periodically to discuss about the various challenges and identify strategies and advice on effective programming.

## KEY DISCUSSION AND DECISION

### REVIEWED THE PREVIOUS MEETING NOTES AND SHARING THE UPDATES

- A total of 4 FGDs conducted with the community in different districts and Bandhu will share the reports to all members through email.

- A letter submitted to Dhaka Metropolitan Police to conduct orientation session and requested to following up.
- Student Research Fellowship introduced to ULAB, AIUB and Stamford University where 15 students attended.

### STRATEGIES TO INVOLVE MEDIA AND JOURNALIST

- TWG members requested to add TWG members in Bandhu Facebook and twitter.
- Bandhu Media Fellowship Program can be organized in different modality with innovation where more reports can be produced for mass awareness.

### ORIENTATION AND SENSITIZATION MEETING WITH KEY STAKEHOLDERS

- Need to organize more Sensitization meeting with law enforcement agency and the Counter Terrorism Unit can assist to organize this event with law enforcement agency.
- The representative from judiciary emphasis on the sensitization of the judges and access to the justice. Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI) can help for conducting such orientation and sensitization session about Third gender community.

### SECURITY ISSUES

Considering the socio- political situation of the country and recommendations of TWG meeting, Bandhu has already taken some immediate measures on security as follows:

- Hiring security guard
- Installation of close circuit camera in the different office premises
- Access control extended to few field offices and planning to cover all FOs.
- Hired security advisor and need to develop security policy assessing the current situation.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

- Bandhu can submit a letter to the National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh for collaborative advocacy on inclusion of Hijra issues in national curriculum and text book
- An assessment and consultation can be organized with Community based organizations on practical SECURITY needs and concerns
- Communication with Judicial Administration Training institute for orientation and sensitization of judicial officers on Hijra issues
- A provision for contingency fund should be available to deal with any need based immediate or emergency meeting.