Media Fellowship Award Giving Ceremony

At a Glance

Date: 18th December 2016, Sunday
Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Venue: A. S. Mahmud Seminar Hall
The Daily Star, Dhaka

Number of Fellows Awarded: 10
# Print Media: 04
# Electronic Media: 03
# Online: 02
# FM Radio: 01
# Male Fellows: 07
# Female Fellows: 03

Facilitation: Umme Farhana Zarif, Kanta
PM, MSA, Bandhu
Md. Shahidul Alam
Director, Finance & Admin, Bandhu

Welcome Speech:
Md. Fosiul Ahsan
Director-Program, Bandhu

Presentation & Vote of Thanks:
Professor Dr. Md. Golam Rahman
Chief Information Commissioner
Information Commission Bangladesh

Chief Guest:
Professor Md. Mofizur Rahman
Chairman, Department of Mass Communication & Journalism
University of Dhaka, Dhaka
Dr. A. J. M. Shafiul Alam Bhuiyan
Professor, Department of Television and Film Studies
University of Dhaka, Dhaka

Special Guests:
Sohel Haider Chowdhury
General Secretary
Dhaka Union of Journalist, Dhaka
Sakhawat Hossain Badsha
President
Dhaka Reporters Unity, Dhaka

Juries Representative:
Keramot Ullah, Biplob
Special Correspondent, ATN Bangla

Reception & Registration:
Md. Masbah U Ahmed, Biraj
Assistant Manager, Bandhu

Photographs:
Md. Muzib Ullah
Senior Officer, Bandhu

Welcome Dance
Annonya Hijra

Community Representative:
Chaity Hijra & Shohagh
Many projects and various actions have been taken in order to support and bring the third gender into the mainstream of today’s society. However, it has to be mentioned that the mainstream of the society mainly consisting of male and female are yet to be sensitized with the term third gender and this shows a lack of understanding and knowledge among the majority population. There lies a difference of perception in our society which creates a gap between the majority and the marginalized population. This can also be seen to create an impact which took us 27 long years to acknowledge them as a part of our society. This is a peculiar observation yet very true and gives us a glimpse of the lack of knowledge on part of the common man.

It is also worth mentioning that while addressing the third gender; it is done so in a marginalized manner so as to isolate them from the mainstream of the society. This creates a further challenge which has to be overcome. The challenge would be to assist them and grant them with their Human Rights while maintaining their constant presence in the society.

To my remarkable media fellows, according to a famous theory, the media apparently acknowledges the majority in a society hence, this leads to the minority being pushed away and eventually their voices are lost. In order to combat such a problem which is still in existence, the stalwarts of the media must work regularly for the betterment of the third gender as opposed to working at it as a side project. This can surely be achieved by persistence.
**Professor Md. Mofizur Rahman**  
Chairman, Department of Mass Communication & Journalism  
University of Dhaka

Was of the view that the third gender is the marginalized community in our society and this is further established due to the fact that we follow a system of patriarchy which works towards addressing the needs of the majority and their wishes. The government should take further steps to address the gaps and include the third gender into the mainstream of the society.

**Dr. A.J.M. Shafiul Alam Bhuiyan**  
Founder Chair, Department of Television, Film & Photography  
University of Dhaka

Believe that, media is responsible for mainly two things, firstly it is the task of the media to mirror the society and secondly to construct or reconstruct the society and its values. Due to these facts, the third gender has come this far through the help of the media and various organizations. It has to be noted that it is society that puts the notion of gender i.e male and female into existence and it is also the responsibility of the media to inform the people at large about the other existing minority population.

**Sohel Haider Chowdhury**  
General Secretary, Dhaka Union of Journalist, Dhaka

BSWS is covering a number of areas while serving the needs of the third gender namely the Constitutional, humanitarian, legal and social aspects which are closely related. This helps our society to be further sensitized about the third gender issue. However the greatest achievement would be the majority assisting and working with the third gender and obtaining help is not limited to the third gender only.

**Anowar Hoque**  
CNE, RTV Online

Mr. Anowar Hoque expressed the existing real scenario of behavioral pattern with hijra community in our society as well as mentioned his real life experiences too. He also mentioned the mind set up of our society. Said that it is our responsibility to change it and gradually it’s being changing too, which is significantly good sign, no doubt.