The meeting was ornamented with the presence of distinguished guest Kazi Reazul Hoque, Chairman, National Human Rights Commission, (NHRC) Bangladesh a Chief Guest. Dr. Krishna Gayen, Director General, Bureau of Statistics Department, Bangladesh, Habibur Rahman, BPM(BAR) PPM, Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG), Bangladesh Police and Gokul Krishna Ghosh, Director, NGO affairs Bureau were there as Special Guests.

Slavica Radosevic, Political Processes Team Lead, DRG Office, USAID Bangladesh, Kevin Goh, First Secretary, Australian High Commission, Dhaka also attended the consultation as guests. On behalf of Bandhu, Anisul Islam Hero, Chairperson presided the consultation as Chair of the meeting.

Mr. Robaet Ferdous, Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Dhaka presented the key note recent development after 5 years of recognition of Hijra, their current situation, definition of Hijra, Socioeconomic status, importance of inclusion in national census were highlighted.
KEY DISCUSSIONS

- Importance of national census for third gender
- Design/ proper plan of data collection.
- Clear understanding of psychological issues of third gender during data collection.
- Develop thematic monograph focusing baseline data of National Census.
- Mechanism of follow up action and approach for future collaboration between Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, NHRC and Bandhu.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Md. Alamgir Hossain, Deputy Director, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) is assigned for coordinating with Bandhu and NHRC for further works.
- BBS will recommend to develop a special question for third gender people along with main questions of National Census.
- BBS will take initiatives for further discussion on proposed census issue in collaboration with Bandhu and NHRC.
- Bandhu will develop a concept note on inclusion of third gender issues in national census.
- Chairman, NHRC requested Robaet Ferdous, Professor, Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Dhaka to develop a checklist for the inclusion of third gender in upcoming national census.
- An orientation session will be organized for data collectors on the special questionnaire and checklist.
- National Human Rights Commission will work with Bandhu for writ petition on third gender issue to High court division.