



Women Migrant Workers' Rights Programme

Overview:

Every year many women and girls go abroad to find a source of employment as domestic helpers. The demand for Bangladeshi women as housekeepers is increasing with each passing year, especially in the Middle East.

Despite the growing number of domestic abuse and torture cases of migrant workers are coming in front, many women are willing and at times, forced to explore the global labor market. They fall victim to fraud and are influenced and manipulated or even trafficked to different countries. Early child marriage is another significant reason which mostly leads to domestic abuse, separation, and divorce. Thus, making young girls vulnerable to social and economic insecurity which makes them eager to go abroad in the hope of getting financial security.

With the worldwide rising economic crisis because of the pandemic, a lot of people lost their jobs. The women migrant workers did not face any different fate than others. Many of them lost their job and returned back with economical, mental and physical abuse.

Key strategies - to mobilize returnees, organize them into groups, develop capacities, hold collective action and engage them in income generation.

Our tools and methods:

- 1) Mobilize and organise in groups;
- 2) Facilitate courtyard sessions in groups;
- 3) Facilitate training on 'Economic Empowerment';
- 4) Assist to engage in income generation activities;
- 5) Facilitate reflection workshops;
- 6) Organise collective advocacy actions (i.e. dialogue, protest, rallies and press conference);

Donor:

UN Women and Japan Embassy

Duration: August 2020 to Dec 2021



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(A Women's Rights Organisation)

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Stakeholders:

Union Parishad, Prabashi kollyan Bank, Technical Training Centre (TTC), Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET)

Achieved outputs:

- a) 22 returnees received skill training, engaged in mask production, and earned wages
- b) 67 returnee women received govt. stimulus package in response to covid pandemic
- c) 108 women migrant workers received training on 'women's leadership in economy'
- d) 135 families received food support amid covid pandemic
- e) 3,000 families received health hygiene products
- f) 1,850 women migrant workers aware on safe migration
- g) 3 key advocacy agendas are documented and communicated

Activities are going on:

Facilitate women migrant workers group and transfer knowhow

Facilitate girls' sports for combating forced/early marriage

Facilitate courtyard sessions and training on safe migration

Continue to organize collective actions, events in order to revise bilateral MoU(s).

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