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# Skills development trainings are adding value in job markets of Bangladesh

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has been implementing the ADB funded "Skills for Employment Investment Program-SEIP" project since 2015 to impart demand driven skills trainings in different vocational trades in order to ease access the disadvantaged youths in both the local and international job markets. Finance Division, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of the people's Republic of Bangladesh is the Executing Agency of the project.

### Project Updates: At a glance

29 Partner Training Institutes (TIs) of SEIP project have so far registered 28,351 trainees under 18 different technical trades as of June 2022. Among the registered trainees, 23,286 were male and the rest 5,065 were female. In total, 26,579 trainees were certified of which 21,198 were male and 4,661 were female participants. As female participation in the project gets more focused, PKSF has emphasized on some trades like Fashion Garments, IT Support Services, etc., to ensure maximum participation of female. Besides, efforts remain continued to include more female participants in other trades as well. The cumulative figure of job placement was 19,010 of which 15,779 were male and 3,231 females. The number of wage-earning job placement was 13,167 while that of self-employment was 5,843. In

total, 272 trainees secured jobs abroad. SEIP has started its 3rd Tranche on July 2021. Under this Tranche, in addition to the regular Training program, PKSF has inaugurated three more specialized training programs naming "Trainings for Orphans & Abandoned Youths (OAY)", "Trainings for Persons with Disability (PwD)" and in collaboration with NSDA (National Skills Development Authority) "Caregiving Trainings" in last few months.

#### SEIP at a Glance (up to June 2022)



## Agreement Signing with Training Institutions (TIs)

On July 6, 2022 PKSF has signed two agreements with two renowned organizations naming; "Disabled Rehabilitation and Research Association (DRRA)". & "Food Cadets Lipi's Euphoria of Culinary Arts" at a



ceremony. Dr. Md. Jashim Uddin, Additional Managing Director of PKSF signed the agreement on behalf of PKSF. DDRA's Executive Director Ms. Farida Yesmin; Akhtari Asaf (Swapna Reza), Advisor of DRRA and Nafisa Islam, CEO of Food Cadet's Lipi's Euphoria signed the agreements on behalf of their respective organizations. DRRA will provide Skills Development



Trainings and ensure jobs for Persons with Disability (PWD) in Debhata upazilla of Satkhira. Under Tranche-3, Food Cadets Lipi's Euphoria of Culinary Arts will provide training in Food and Beverage production & Housekeeping trades in Dhaka city. Md. Ziauddin Iqbal, Senior GM of PKSF & Chief Coordinator and other officials of SEIP project were also present on the occasion.

### **Enrollment Status**

The enrollment of trainees in previous tranches followed by Tranche-3, shows that the gross total achievement against the enrollment target (38,600) is 72%, of which 18% were female participants. In the Tranche-1, the enrolment target was achieved fulfilling more than 100%, the 2nd Tranche secured 100% and the newly started 3rd Tranche has secured 20% so far. The rates of achievement in enrollment both in tranche-1 & 2 phases had to be compromised due to the Covid-19 pandemic as all the PTIs carried out their operations intermittently in compliance to the government's nationwide lockdown guidelines.

#### Certification

Out of the 28,351 individuals who were enrolled, 26,579 have received certification, which represents a 94 percent success rate compared to the project goal. However, it is encouraging that the dropout indicating the sign of normalcy following the post covid-19 impact.

#### Job Placement

According to data on job placement 19,010 out of 26,579 certified trainees have successfully been employed. In terms of employment placement, the male-female ratio is roughly 6:1. By this time 5,843 graduates have been found to have started their own businesses, accounting for 31% of all employment, while the remaining 13,167 graduates have found jobs as wage workers. More than seventy percent of the trainees have been engaged in jobs after training. The rate of job placement in Tranche-3 is 70 percent. Amid the Covid-19 pandemic situation, all the job placement activities got slower than before. Now it is on the rise and gradually getting improved.

### Beginning of the 1st batch of Caregiving Training under SEIP

To establish the caregiver profession in Bangladesh in order to create employment for the unemployed population of the country and turn them into skilled human resources, Caregiver Training course has been introduced under SEIP project in 2022. In this regard PKSF has successfully inaugurated this training with its selected TIs after getting registration from NSDA. One

of the selected TIs of PKSF 'CIB Foundation' has set the milestone of the newly started course by launching 1<sup>st</sup> batch of Caregiving Training course at their Mohammadpur, Dhaka campus. This batch consists of 20 young and energetic participants. Among them 50%



are female and 70% of the total trainees came from outside Dhaka, particularly remote places like Khagrachori & Bandarban districts. All of the participants upon successful completion of the training will be placed in jobs. On 23<sup>rd</sup> June of 2022 Chief Coordinator and Senior GM of PKSF along with key officials of SEIP Project visited the training program and wished them all the best for their future.

### **Project Visit**

On 22-24 May 2022 Chief Coordinator of PKSF SEIP Project Mr. Md. Ziauddin Iqbal and Program Coordinator Mr. Billal Hosen visited the training and employment activities of the project of SDS (Shariatpur



Development Society) and Naria Unnayan Samity (NUSA). For enrollment, a good number of trainees have been selected from tea gardens worker families in Sylhet Division. Job placement activities under various trades (Auto mechanics, Mobile Phone Servicing, Electrical Installation and Maintenance) are seen on the ground. In this regard, self-employment and wage-based employment programs have been found satisfactory. All the trainees are earning good income. After completing

the trainings successfully on Electrical Installation and Maintenance trade under Tranche-1, 01 of the trainees have been able to purchase assets (land) besides creating wage-based employment. And various Communication



meetings between the TIs and the employers have been organized lately. Around 29 TIs working under the project have organized 39 such meetings till June 2022.

## Training of PIU (Project Implementation Unit) of PKSF-SEIP

Officials of PIU unit of PKSF-SEIP participated in 5 days Financial Management Training at IPF (Institution of Public Finance) arranged by Finance Ministry of Bangladesh Govt.'s Skills Development Coordination and Management Unit- (SDCMU). The trainings were



divided in 3 different batches and 07 project officials participated in the trainings. Training contents were inclusive of overall review of SEIP Project along with Management of Finance and Procurement of SEIP. Additional Secretary and DEPD of SEIP program inaugurated the training programs and finally distributed the certificates among the participants.

### The life changing story of Freelancer Morshedul

Every day begins with a new morning with ray of lights. However, Morshedul was not seeing any ray of hopes in his life. He was getting more and more frustrated as the time was passing by. Then eventually, Morshedul found his way to shine bright! Yes, Morshedul is the protagonist of today's tale.

Morshedul is a simple boy of Mirzapur Dighar (Chairman

Para) village of Mithapukur police station under Rangpur district. He has Parents and a younger sister in the family. Although the manga in the book no longer exists, the reality is somewhat different. Morshedul's father's had to work hard to provide two children's education costs and full family's living expenses. Seeing his parents' suffering and hard work for his family, Morshedul was not interested in sports or chatting. He always used to think

about finding ways to support his family.

Morshedul worried about his lack of expertise and skills to find out employment. At that time, one

of his neighbors who went from Dhaka, showed him couple of You Tube videos, which unveiled the opportunities about doing online based Freelancing works and earn money. Searched Facebook pages to learn about it more, he came to know about PKSF-SEIP project. There he saw that TMSS is implementing this training program in his area, which is free and residential. Just then, Morshedul's thoughts got shaped up of becoming a freelancer. Morshedul found out through an elder brother that the admission of IT free-lancing course under SEIP-PKSF project is going on at TMSS Bogra. Morshedul informed his family about his desire to come to Bogra with a hope. But uncertainty was in mind that how would he stay and eat in a faraway place from home. But His goal was clear and bold. Therefore, with the prayers of his parents, Morshedul joined the IT free-lancing course of TMSS Training Center, Bogra. Morshedul's new life began when he came to Bogra. Morshedul gradually began to like

the different topics and teaching style of the regular classes conducted by two skilled and experienced teachers of the IT Freelancing Course. And in a very short time, Morshedul started to become the teacher's favorite student. He learned to work continuously from morning till night with dedication. In this way, an ordinary Morshedul becomes a free-lancer Morshedul. After the successful start of the training, Morshedul soon saw the face of his first income with the encouragement and support of the teachers. Morshedul started earning a good amount of money in a very short

period of time by doing content writing on

various online platforms such as Fiber,

YouTube Facebook. and After completing the training, Morshedul returned home. At present he is working by his own. He no longer works alone, he is giving sub-contracts to other budding freelancers. He has already earned a good reputation among his clients, trainers of TMSS are very pleased with his success. Morshedul's credibility and new orders are increasing. The most interesting thing is that

his little adorable sister who is in class three has also started learning about online freelancing works. The day of darkness are no more. Rays of hopes have landed in their lives. Morshedul is now the proud child of his parents to provide for the family, his own education, the education of his younger sister, and all other needs of the family. Now, He is earning about 25-30 thousand taka per month. According to local dignitaries, Morshedul is their pride. Acceptance of Morshedul in locality has been increased; so as the status of his parents. Morshedul is now an inspiration among all other young people in the locality to learn free-lancing and earn. Morshedul wishes to create a brand of his own name in the near future. He has decided that he would contribute towards country's unemployment situation by earning foreign money by his own and also giving free lessons to the local youths by showing them the path as well. Morshedul always appreciates SEIP-PKSF and TMSS to show him the path of betterment.

# Advisors Dr Nomita Halder ndc Managing Director, PKSF

**Dr Md Jashim Uddin** Additional Managing Director

#### **Editor**

Md Ziauddin Iqbal Chief Coordinator, SEIP <u>Co-Editor</u>

Kazi Farzana Sharmin Deputy Chief Coordinator, SEIP

Content Development By
Project Management Units
(PMU) SEIP, PKSF
pksf.seip@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/seip-pksf

#### Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)

PKSF Bhaban, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh Telephone: 8181658-61, Fax: 8181671 pksf@pksf.org.bd; www.pksf.org.bd