INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER DAY 2019, BANGLADESH

Marking International Volunteer Day 2019, UNV Bangladesh, ActionAid Bangladesh, VSO and Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) jointly organized an event held on 5th of December, 2019 at IUB Auditorium. This year IVD’s theme was “Volunteer for an Inclusive Future”.

‘For widening volunteering works and achieving SDGs, there is strong need comprehensive volunteer policy in Bangladesh’, speakers stressed at the event.

Mr. Swapan Bhattacharjee, MP, Honorable State Minister of Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives graced the event as the chief guest. Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee, Resident Representative, UNDP Bangladesh, Ms. Kazi Zebunnesa Begum, National Commissioner, Bangladesh Girls Guide and Additional Secretary, Dr. Fahmida Khatun, Executive Director, CPD addressed the event as Special Guests.

Mr. Md. Aktar Uddin, Country Coordinator, UNV Bangladesh, Mr. Md. Forkhan Uddin, Country Director, VSO and Mr. Md. Munir Hussain Khan, Director (training), Joint secretary, Department of Youth Development also spoke at the event. Professor Milan Pagon, VC (acting), IUB chaired the event.

Mr. Swapan Bhattacharjee, MP said, “Volunteers are important for our development process and LGRDC Ministry will provide all support to foster volunteerism.”
Mr. Sudipto Mukerjee said, “Next year let’s try to celebrate IVD at 64 districts with the support of Girls Guide Association and other organizations, to foster volunteerism.”

The best Volunteering Involving Organizations has also been recognized in this event through a nationwide contest where WeMen View, The 6th Sense and Here We Play became the winners.

The event included an informative and engaging panel discussion with Dr S. M. Shameem Reza, Associate Professor, Department of Mass Communication & Journalism, University of Dhaka, Ms. Maria Nur, Actress and Anchor, Ms. Majeda Akter Boby, Leader of Youth Women with Disability Network, and Ms. Afsana Alim, Programme Officer, ActionAid Bangladesh. They discussed the importance of a national volunteer framework for ensuring the safety, participation and recognition of volunteers.

In this vibrant and interactive session, the speakers answered questions from volunteers coming from different corners of the country.

They also inspired the youths to come forward and proactively solve the problems with the limited resources we have. The national and international volunteers from UNV Bangladesh, VSO and ActionAid shared their exciting success stories and experiences at the event.

About 680 youth, volunteers, representatives from NGOs, CBOs, INGOs, VIOs took part at the event from across the country.