

MAHLE YOUTH TRAINING

SIL Bangladesh helps communities achieve their development goals while retaining their Ethno linguistic identities.

Young people from the Mahle community in the Dinajpur district in northern Bangladesh dream of being skilled and self-reliant. They have already built links with the local Youth Development Department in Nawabganj, a sub-district of Dinajpur. On 17th September 2018 SIL organized a half-day Youth Development Seminar with government officials in Nawabganj. A total of 33 young people attended the seminar including 19 girls and 14 boys. The local Agricultural Officer Mr. Abu Reza Md. Assaduzzaman was the chief guest, and Mr. Anamul Haque Chowdhury, the local Youth Development Officer of Nawabganj, was the main speaker. I took the role of chairperson at the seminar. The purpose of the event was to encourage indigenous young people and include them in mainstream development activities, building relationships between the sub-district Youth Development Department and the Mahle Youth Community.

In my speech, on behalf of SIL and the community, I discussed the situation of young indigenous people in Bangladesh and the role of young people in society. I also mentioned the different initiatives of the Bangladesh Government such as the establishment of a Youth Ministry, a Youth Development Department and a National Youth Policy, including a national service program for young people. At the end of my speech I made some recommendations, particularly for Mahle youth in the Dinajpur area.



...SPECIAL COMMENTS

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... SNAPSHOTS ...
WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THIS
MONTH

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March, 2019 : Nutrition Program with lesson delivery and Learning Corner with six communities.

March 6, 2019: Training On MLE and Child Parliament for field staff.

March 19-21, 2019: Volunteers training MTBAL.

March 27-28, 2019: Training on MTBAL for Staff

March, 2019 : Health Camp with Reflection & sharing meeting with Mahle, Kol, Koda and Koch communities.

March, 2019 : Training on poultry – duck rearing, chicken rearing, cow rearing etc with Mahle, Koch, Kol & Koda.

MAHLE YOUTH TRAINING. . . . CONT'D

The sub-district Youth Development Officer was very pleased to beat the seminar. He said in his speech that young people are the potential, the assets and the future of the country. They played an important role during the War of Independence in Bangladesh. He also showed an interest in working with Mahle young people. He discussed the activities and facilities which the Youth Department provides and offered to provide training for Mahle young people to help them become more skilled and self-reliant. The young people present raised their hands to express their interest in taking up this opportunity. The SIL field staff helped to co-ordinate the relationship between the community and the Youth Department. They consulted with the youth leaders to make a final list of participants and submitted the necessary documents to the Department. Finally, in November the Youth Department organized a seven-day training on caring for livestock, at the end of which the participants received certificates.

The training was really fruitful and useful for the participants. Ms. Rita Roy, one of the youth leaders from the Mahle community said that the training was excellent and that they learnt about various issues including duck, hen, goat and cow rearing. The participants in the training will receive a low-interest loan from the Youth Department to enable them to start implementing their learning. This is an important step towards the Mahle young people's dream of self-reliance and will help them to contribute to the wealth of society.



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