

Returning to the light of life

The scenario of 9 years old boy is working in a dying factory is very swinish. But this was happening in a dying factory at Ashkon, Uttara, Dhaka which is a working area of SOHAY for the implementation of Hazardous Child Labor Elimination Project supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation. Field officer of this area Mrs.Fatema identified this boy to withdraw him from the factory and tried to involve him in education.

Mrs.Fatema took initiative to make her decision effective. She talked with the boy and she knew that the name of the boy was Sagor who lived in a slum beside his factory. In the conversation between Sagor and Fatema Sagor expressed his desire for going to school but he was afraid thinking the cruel reality of the nature. The FO realized his feelings and gave him assurance to fulfill his



desire she also said that she would meet with his mother very soon for talking about Sagor's dream. The FO Mrs.Fatema went to Sagor's house in a day of 2014 and talked with Sagor's mother Mrs.Rita Begum. Mrs.Rita informed the FO that Sagor's Father Md.Khorshed went away leaving them and they didn't know where he had gone. Now Sagor is only the means of her surviving she has no son or daughter except Sagor. She is struggling for survival that's why her piece of heart is doing the work. She also mentioned, "My heart is always bleeding to see him in factory but I am helpless." She also added, "Both Sagor and I am very interested for education and I am searching a job for myself to send him in school." FO Mrs.Fatema then told her about the government initiatives and HCLEP activities for ensuring

education like the children Sagor. Moreover She(FO) tried to convince his mother by giving assurance that SOHAY will continue the assistance of Sagor education but she(SM) also try to be self sufficient because no external assistance continue endlessly. She(SM) thanked the FO and made commitment to send his son to school. She also said that she would never send her son to the factory instead of sending him school besides her attempt would be manage a job as a housemaid very soon.

The rising of the sun of the next day brought new light to Sagor's life. That morning Sagor went to U.D.C-04 which is a learning center of SOHAY under the project of HCLEP instead of going factory. Sagor's attitude in education was very positive. He started his new journey with lot of enthusiasm. He was very attentive in class room and quick learner. The FO tried her best to make Sagor eligible for the primary school. Sagor was admitted in class-1 in Ashkona Govt. Primary School in 2014 after receiving 3months informal education from U.D.C-04. From the beginning of his school life he was serious in his study. He is very regular in his school and U.D.C.



Attentive student Sagor is busy in study at U.D.C-04

Sagor stood 3rd position in the final examination of class-1 and promoted class two as a third boy of the class. Now he is in class three. In an interview he says, "Madam (FO) had brought changes in our (he and his mother) minds, now my mother always encourages me to continue my study." He also added that it was impossible to enjoy the pleasure of going school and

education without help of SOHAY. He is very grateful to SOHAY. In spite of having obstacles both Sagor and his mother are determined to make sure his education.

We also hope the dream of son and mother comes in true.

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