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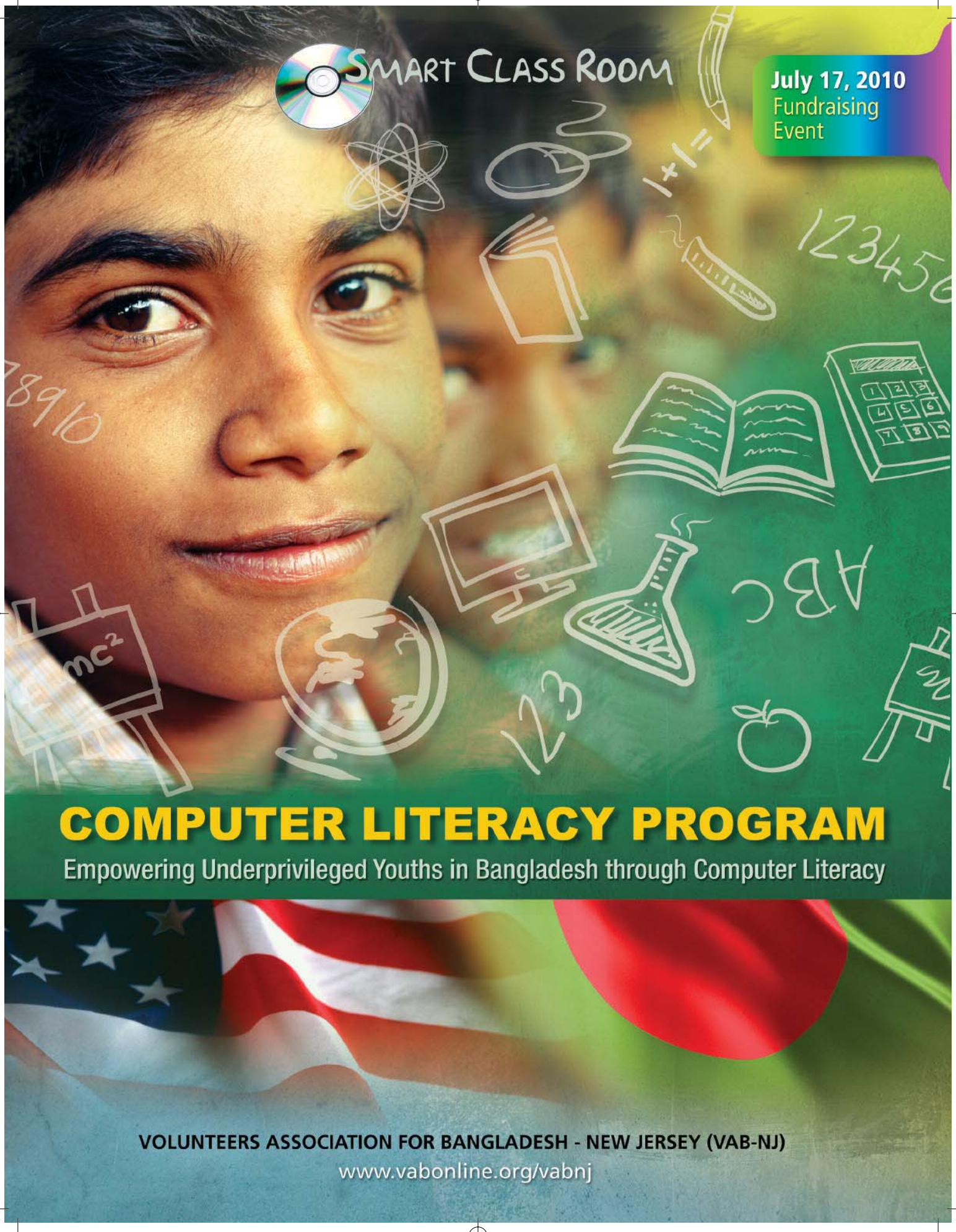


CLP Remembers Durin.....

On this day of the annual fundraising dinner event we all miss Durin, a very familiar face with a big smile. Mrs. Sabina Ahmed (Durin), wife of Dr. Mosleh- Uddin Ahmed and a dedicated CLP volunteer is no longer with us (Inna lillahi wa inna ilayhi raji'oon). She passed away in the evening of December 23rd leaving behind her husband Dr. Mosleh-Uddin Ahmed, their daughter Taskin, mother Mrs. Hasina Kabir (Banu), brother Shafiqul Alam (Labu) and a host of friends and admirers to mourn her death.

Durin was a warm, friendly and vibrant person who was always ready to help others. As an active CLP volunteer she made valuable suggestions and assumed responsibilities eagerly. She took the leadership in organizing the CLP Fund Raising dinners every year. She impressed all of us through her meticulous planning, attention to details, selfless hard work, and flawless execution. She pulled off this enormous task, year after year, with grace and deceptive ease.

Durin always had a positive attitude towards life. During the time that she had been fighting the deadly disease, she remained joyful and full of courage and continued to surprise her friends by attending community events. In spite of the discomfort and pain from her physical illness, she always greeted others with a smile. Durin's pleasant personality made her immensely popular in the community. Mourners poured in such a great number to the mosque where her *janaja* prayer was held that the mosque had to conduct two prayers. Afterwards, Imam Chebli commented that we all should be doing what Durin must have done to gain love of so many.

Durin has left us, but her spirit endures, and we all draw inspiration from her ever readiness to help others, her lust for life, and her positive attitude in the face of adversity. May her soul rest in eternal peace, and may the healing effect of time help her family bear this misfortune with the grace that she always embodied.

Computer Literacy Program

Volunteers Association for Bangladesh - New Jersey Chapter (VAB-NJ)

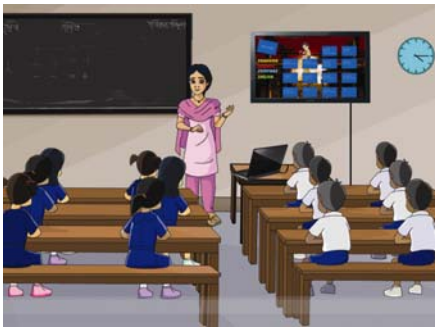
Computer Literacy Program (CLP) enters sixth year of operation in 2010. With your help and support the program has made quite a few accomplishments so far. Through June 2010, we have established 114 Computer Literacy Centers (CLCs) and 37 associate CLCs in rural areas of 51 zillas in Bangladesh. As of April 2010, 29,787 students received computer literacy training in these centers under the tutelage of 272 teachers (including 45 female teachers) trained by the program. The training cost per student now stands at $13, which is expected to get further reduced as more students are trained using the established facilities and resources. We consider this to be an outstanding return on investment in human resource! We are happy to share with you that CLP is getting recognized at home and abroad, the latest being winning the Manthan Award South Asia 2009 in the e-education category.

In 2010, CLP has taken an important first step towards adding e-education to its core program which may produce far reaching impact on education in Bangladesh. The long-term goal of this effort is to take advantage of the advances in information and communication technology to transform the way students are taught today. An important step is to establish "Smart Class Rooms" (SCRs),that will leverage on the computer resources of the CLCs and will be fitted with large screen monitors so that the entire class can participate. In a SCR students will have the opportunity to learn using interactive educational CDs and world-wide web via Internet (where available). Initial focus will be on teaching of English, Science and Geometry.

The starting point for this e-education effort has been the Computer Teaches Everyday English (CTEE) project that we undertook in 2008. An interactive CD was developed for students to use it for learning proper pronunciation and practice speaking in English. CTEE was introduced as a pilot program in 5 schools with CLCs. A locally-developed CD for geometry and another for science were identified. These three CDs are now being used in a SCR at one of the CLCs on an experimental basis.

However, a much larger sample set is needed even to explore the efficacy of such an initiative. Together with D. Net, VAB-NJ has developed and submitted to the Government of Bangladesh a proposal to partially support the establishment of 100 CLCs and 100 SCRs. Assuming that the Government supports the proposal, we will need your support for this public-private partnership project to take off.

The introduction of SCRs and e-education is a natural direction of growth for CLP, as we remain committed to our mission of empowering underprivileged students in Bangladesh. However, we realized that we can get far more out of the computing resources we are providing. With thought provoking graphics, sound and real-time participation by students, we believe the computers in CLCs can give rural class rooms, suffering from inadequacy of equipment, instructional materials and good teachers, a much needed boost.



We are excited about this new initiative and look forward to your support in the form of sponsorship of a combined CLC and SCR, sponsorship of a SCR in an existing CLC, or providing funds for other program activities.

We dream to build a knowledge-based society in Bangladesh. ***Come, dream with us.***

From virtual to real, through computers to prosperity, we will empower the underprivileged youths of Bangladesh to enter the realm of hope by crossing the digital divide

Program Schedule

VAB-CLP Fundraising Event
Saturday, July 17, 2010
Rutgers Cook Campus Center, 59 Biel Road, New Brunswick, NJ

5:30 **Guest Arrival, Registration, Snacks**

6:00 – 7:05 **Introduction and Guest Speeches**
6:00 – 6:05 National Anthems, USA & Bangladesh
6:05 – 6:15 Welcome and Introduction
CLP introductory video (3 minutes)

6:20 –7:05 **Guest Speakers**:

- NJ Assemblywoman Linda Greenstein
- Mr. Matilal Pal, Volunteers Association for Bangladesh (VAB)
- Mr. Kamal Lohani, Director General, Shilpokala Academy of Bangladesh
- Bangladesh Ambassador Honorable Akramul Qader

7:10- 7:50 **Computer Literacy Initiatives**

- e-education video (3 minutes)
- Smart Class Room
- Where did Your Donations Go?
- Smart Class Room Skit

8:00 – 8:15 **Inspiring Stories**

- Helping Bangladesh by Dr. Shahid Aziz
- Empowering Green Environment Initiatives by Nasir Uddin

8:20 – 9:10 **Dinner *(Children's Dinner at 8:00 PM in Marle V. Adams Room)***

9:15 – 9:35 **High School Graduates Appreciation**

9:40- 10:00 **Visit a Computer Literacy Center**

10:05 – 10:10 **Concluding Comments**

10:15 – 11:00 **Musical Soiree – Zafrin Oni**

11:05 – 11:15 **Social and Departure**

Zafrin Oni has started her singing lessons since she was 4 years old. Her initial lessons were from Sangeet Bhavan and learning from various teachers. Upon her coming to the US in 1995, she joined the group called Udichi Shilpi Goshthi and started her singing career in the US. Starting 1997, Zafrin Oni started her venture as a solo artist performing live in all the prestigious shows held in NY and other states, as well as Canada. She has worked in various mixed albums such as Maya 1, Maya 2, Re-evolution, Dilki Doya Hoyna, Adho Megh, etc with renowned music directors like Fuad and Rajib. She has also performed in NTV, ATN Bangla, Channel I, and various other established TV channels. Zafrin Oni was one of the fortunate ones to get an opportunity to sing duets live on stage with the legendary singer Mr. Manna Dey for 3 years in a row (2004, 2005, and 2006) in many different states in US and Canada. Zafrin Oni has also received Dhallywood Award in 2008 for outstanding performance in singing.

Arch. Yeafesh Osman
State Minister
Ministry of Science and Information
& Communication Technology
Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

It is my great pleasure to extend warm greetings to all those gathered for fund raising event for the Computer Literacy Program for the underprivileged youths in Bangladesh. The Computer Literacy Program is designed to promote computer use and knowledge gathering among the underprivileged youths in Bangladesh.
Bangladesh government is committed to create 'Digital Bangladesh' under which the government is planning to spread IT education and internet connectivity in the rural areas with the vision to incorporate marginal people into the main stream of information and communication technology (ICT). I am happy to observe that VAB New Jersey has already extended its effort in this mission by providing quality IT education through its Computer Literacy Program (CLP). I am pleased to notice that under this initiative 115 Computer Learning Centers (CLC) are operational across the country.

On behalf of the Government of Bangladesh, I commend all volunteers of the Volunteers Association of Bangladesh for your hard work and dedication to helping others. Your efforts will undoubtedly touch and improve countless lives. Best hopes for a successful and memorable event. We rely on concerned friends of Bangladesh such as you as the Bangladesh Government works to better educate our children in ICT, create jobs, and protect our environment.
With all good wishes,

Room 922 Building 6 Bangladesh Secretariat Dhaka 1000 Bangladesh
Phone: (88-02) 716 6484 Fax: (88-02) 955 2323
e-mail: state_minister@mosict.gov.bd website: www.mosict.gov.bd

"It is my privilege to congratulate and commend the efforts of the Volunteers Association for Bangladesh, New Jersey Chapter (VAB-NJ) for its worthwhile efforts in support of the Computer Literacy Program to benefit Bangladesh youths in need, through promoting computer and internet usage, providing quality education via this tool, thus, equipping them with technology literacy for future success."

Linda Greenstein
New Jersey Assemblywoman

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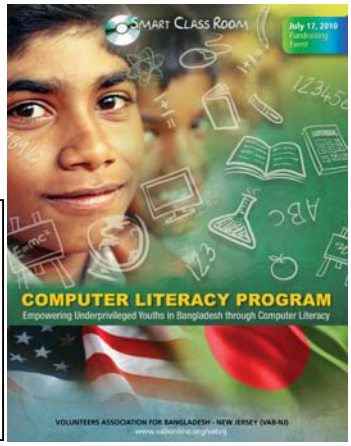
VABNJ recognizes the contribution by Mr. Ashraful Haque in designing the cover of this magazine.



Computer Literacy Program: First Five Years of Progress

Zafar Billah and Farrukh Mohsen

Manthan Award

The Computer Literacy Program (CLP) was recognized as the best "e-learning" program in Southeast Asia and was bestowed the "Manthan Award Southeast Asia 2009" at a ceremony held in Delhi, December 18-19, 2009. The Manthan Award is conferred every year by "Digital Empowerment Foundation", a Delhi-based non-profit organization, in collaboration with IT Department of the Government. of India and a number of non-government organizations. Participants in this competition are the SEARC countries (India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and the Maldives).

How CLP Started

The rapid evolution of Information Technology (IT) has made a positive impact in social and economic improvements in the present world. In advanced countries, computer has now become a permanent companion and a necessary medium in education. In Bangladesh, computer and IT education is far short from the need of the country. The lack is especially acute in rural areas. Consequently, in the competition of entering the workplace after graduation, the children from the villages are falling further behind. The government is trying to redress this disparity but that effort is outweighed by the need. This is why, private initiatives are so important alongside that of the government's. Realizing the dire consequences of allowing this disparity to grow, a group of expatriate Bangladeshis in New Jersey launched CLP towards the end of 2004. Realizing that for non-residents it is virtually impossible to direct day to day activities in Bangladesh, the group enlisted the collaboration of D.Net (www.dnet.org.bd), a premier non-profit organization devoted to spreading of computer and IT education in Bangladesh. Around the same time the group learned about the educational activities of Volunteers Association for Bangladesh (VAB), USA (www.vabonline.org). With the objective of elevating the standard of education in rural Bangladesh, VAB has been improving infrastructure, providing scholarships to underprivileged students in Bangladesh, and helping to train teachers since 1998. The similarity of the objectives prompted the CLP group to form an affiliation with VAB and organized as the New Jersey Chapter of VAB (VAB-NJ).

The goal of the CLP is to promote the knowledge and usage of computers and information technology among the underprivileged youths in Bangladesh. VAB-NJ fosters computer literacy by making personal computers and basic computer training accessible to needy youngsters in Bangladesh. The

mechanism involves establishing computer literacy center (CLCs) in chosen educational or community institutions.

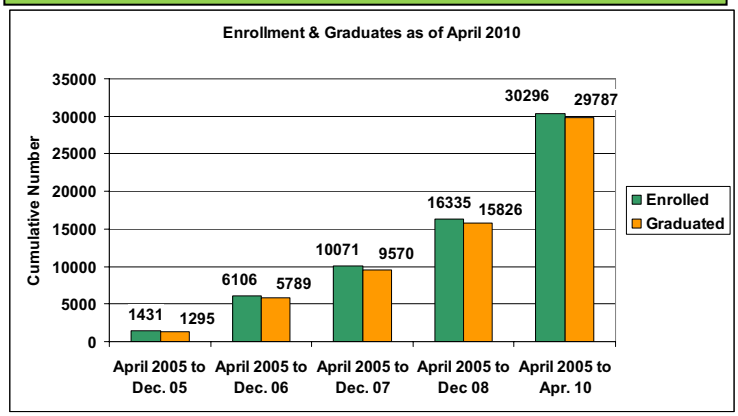
CLP is organized as a coordinated tripartite initiative between VAB-NJ, D.Net, and local school management. VAB-NJ provides vision and financial support for program implementation; D.Net provides partial financial support, develops curriculum, manages teacher training, establishes and maintains computer labs, and monitors program performance; and the school management provides the space and pays for the electricity for the lab. Under the CLP initiative, computer literacy centers (CLCs) are established at educational institutions primarily in underprivileged rural areas. Each CLC is equipped with a minimum four computers, a printer and peripheral equipment. Students are guided through a hands-on curriculum developed specifically for the program by experts in the field. Prior to establishment of a center, two competent and enterprising teachers receive a comprehensive two-week long training in Dhaka on all aspects of the curriculum. Students in a batch of eight receive 40 hours of hands-on training in basic computer operation, and Microsoft Word, Excel spreadsheet, and Paint programs, as well as, the use of internet (for centers with Internet connection; over 60% of the centers are connected with the Internet). A help guide "Esho Computer Shikhi" has been published in Bengali that describes the subject matter for the entire curriculum in easy steps. Each student is provided with a copy of the guide at a nominal cost.

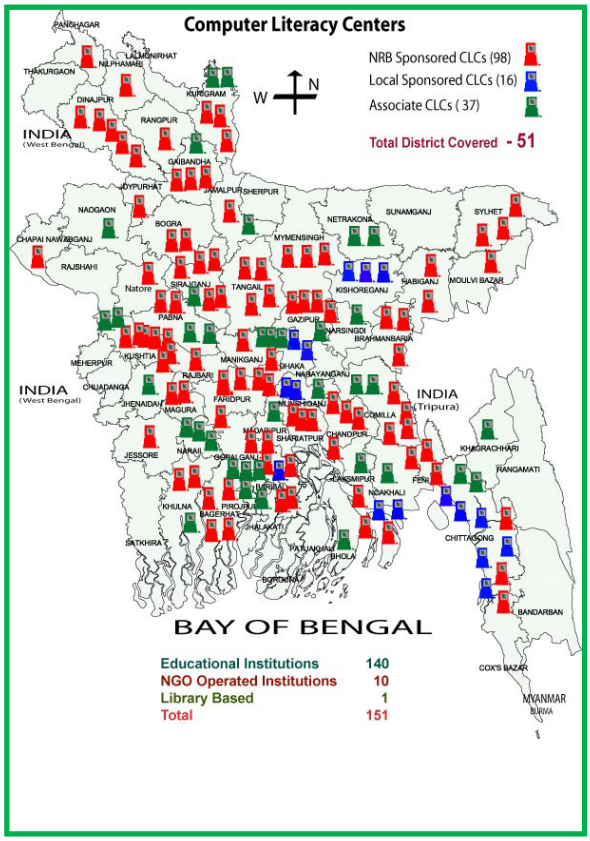
Progress Statistics

The accomplishments of the CLP as of June 2010 are summarized in the boxes and the bar graph below.

- Total number of established centers: 114 CLCs and37 Associate CLCs*
- Coverage: 51 out of the 64 districts
- 70% of the centers in underprivileged rural areas
- Teachers trained: 300 (16% women)
- Trained students: 29,787 (52% boys, 48% girls) (as of April 2010)

**The Associate centers are where the CLP curriculum has been introduced with the help of trained teachers*





Beyond CLP

Inspired by the successes to date, the VAB-NJ volunteers and their patrons are continually evaluating newer initiatives that leverage on the resources of the CLCs. One such endeavor is the "Computer Teaches Everyday English (CTEE)". The aim of the program is to teach students conversational English with correct pronunciations. In 2009, this program was launched at five schools on a pilot basis. A compact disc (CD) that uses familiar settings and draws on students' day-to-day experiences was developed for this program. The CD teaches the students English words and sentences using visual and audio cues. Specially trained teachers help the students learn correct English through pictures, sounds and speech articulation. A closely monitored survey at these five schools indicates that students trained under the CTEE program are learning English better and faster. VAB-NJ intends to extend CTEE on a much broader scale. Looking further ahead, plans are there to foster teaching of geometry, geography, science, and other subjects using computers and interactive educational CDs.

Milestones

- CLP wins Manthan award
- Bank Asia sponsors 13 centers with promise for more in future
- Imdad-Sitara Foundation provided support for 13 centers
- With the help of Relief International and other CLP patrons, Internet connection is now available at 52 centers
- Standard Chartered Bank provided 200 pre-owned but fully operational computers, and has pledged support for establishing full & associate CLCs
- Mustafa Kamal, a CLP trained teacher secured a scholarship from the US State Department for training under the "Teaching Excellence and Achievement (TEA) Program" at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln (UNL). He used the Internet connection at his CLC to find out about the program and apply. He was at UNL from September 20 through November 8, 2009.

Digital Bangladesh and Non-Resident Bangladeshis

The Government of Bangladesh has expounded the ambitious vision of a *Digital Bangladesh* by 2021. CLP, in a limited way, is preparing the grounds so that the lofty vision becomes meaningful at the grass roots level. However, 114 CLCs and 37 Associate Centers who are too minuscule for a country with more than 87,000 villages. Non-resident Bangladeshis can help spread the initiative throughout the country by sponsoring CLCs at appropriate institutions in areas of their choice, providing funds for program implementation, and what is even more important by actively participating themselves and encouraging others to do likewise *(Contact: E-mail: vabnj@hotmail.com ; Phone: 732-972-8362).*

Our Chief Guest Tonight

Akramul Qader became Ambassador of Bangladesh to the United States on 4 November 2009.

A carrier diplomat with a cabinet rank (State Minister), Ambassador Qader previously served as Bangladesh's High Commissioner from April 1999 to 2002 to South Africa, with concurrent accreditation as High Commissioner to Zimbabwe, Botswana, Namibia, Swaziland and Lesotho as well as Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand, with concurrent accreditation to Cambodia from 1996 to mid April 1999. Mr. Qader served as Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).

In addition, he held the Office of the Director General (Multilateral Economic Affairs) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka, from 1994 to 1996. Additional responsibilities spanning various periods include Director, Foreign Secretary's Office and Director, South East Division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka (1984-1986). He also worked briefly in the personnel and the Finance Directorates of the Ministry.

Ambassador Qader served as Deputy Chief of Mission/Ambassador of the Embassy of Bangladesh in Brussels with concurrent accreditation to the European Commission, the Netherlands and Luxembourg (1990-1994), Counselor and later Deputy Chief of Mission in the High Commission of Bangladesh in New Delhi. He has also held diplomatic assignments in Pakistan (1981-1984), Myanmar (1976-1981) and the former USSR (1974-1976). Mr. Qader briefly worked as a college lecturer in the 1960s-joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the Government of Pakistan in 1968 as a Section Officer, later joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Bangladesh in 1972 on his return from Pakistan.

Mr. Qader also represented the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Board of Directors of Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs (BILIA), served as Director of the Board of Bangladesh Overseas Employment Services Limited (BOESL).

Mr. Qader holds a Master's in Islamic History from the University of Dhaka. He attended a Specialized Course in Organization and Methods at the National Institute of Public Administration, Dhaka in 1970 and Foreign Service Training Course in Australia in 1973.

Tonight's distinguished speakers

ASSEMBLYWOMAN LINDA GREENSTEIN

Linda Greenstein, who has been serving in the General Assembly since January 2000, has an impressive background as an elected official, community leader, and legal advocate.

Educated at Vassar, Johns Hopkins University, and the Georgetown University Law Center, Assemblywoman Greenstein is a specialist in disability law. Previous to her election to the General Assembly, she was a Senior Staff Attorney at the Community Health Law Project and supervised the Public Interest Legal Clinic at Montclair State University. She was also a Clinical Associate Professor at Seton Hall Law School, where she supervised the Disability Law Clinic. She has served as a Deputy Attorney General in Trenton and as an Assistant District Attorney in Philadelphia.

Now a fulltime Legislator, Assemblywoman Greenstein was appointed Deputy Speaker of the General Assembly in 2006 after serving four years as Assistant Majority Leader. She also Chairs the Assembly Judiciary Committee and is a member of the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee. The author of New Jersey's anti-telemarketing law – the toughest in the country – the Assemblywoman sponsored legislation increasing school bus safety, expanding the scope of Megan's Law, and calling for a State Constitutional Convention for property tax reform. She also was the prime sponsor of several pieces of legislation providing funding for open space preservation and is a founder and co-chair of the Legislative Smart Growth Caucus, which is promoting an anti-sprawl agenda.

Linda Greenstein served as an elected member of the Plainsboro Township Committee from 1995 to 2000. She has also served on the West Windsor-Plainsboro Board of Education, and was vice president of the Mercer County School Boards Association. She has served as a Trustee of Angel's Wings – a Mercer County-based social service agency – and is a board member of the Central New Jersey Council, Boy Scouts of America and the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.

Linda Greenstein is running for NJ State Senate in 2010.

Linda is married to Michael Greenstein and they are parents of a son, Evan.

Matilal Pal from VAB, our parent organization

Matilal Pal studied Economics at Dhaka University and Yale University. He started his career with research work on development economics in Pakistan, Bangladesh and the US. His long career at the United Nations was devoted to issues that would help developing countries like Bangladesh. After retirement from UN, Pal is now fully occupied as a Volunteer for VAB, our parent Organization.

From '*Gurugriha'* to Smart Class Rooms: Technology Shapes Education

Swapan Kumar Gayen

A Paradigm Shift

We have come a long way since the days of yore, when a student (*shishya*) had to stay with the teacher (*guru*) and help with household chores to receive an education. Elite few had access to education then. Today it is common to acknowledge education as a basic right of citizenry. Advances in technology have played and continues to play a crucial role in this evolving democratization of education. A supernova of such technological advances was the advent of the printing press in Europe in the mid-15th century. The mass production of books that followed not only helped bring education to masses, but also went on to take center stage in the subsequent social and industrial revolutions. We are in the midst of a technological revolution of similar magnitude that will shape the mode of instruction and way we learn for the foreseeable future.

This new revolution is being brought about by the developments in computer, communication, and information technologies. Personal computers, with ever increasing capabilities, are rapidly proliferating in every sphere of life. The Internet with its mammoth maze of information from multitude of sources is connecting people and organizations around the globe as never before in human history. While these developments started out as scientific endeavors, it is the demand of the global marketplace as well as communications and entertainment industries that drives their rapid advances. As industrial society gives way to information society and globalization takes hold, countries are becoming more linked financially, economically, politically, socially, and culturally than ever before. The workplace of tomorrow will be increasingly global, and it is not a matter of choice but an imperative that the education system prepares the students for navigating in a complex, intricately linked world, and instills in them a global perspective.

Implications for Education

What are the implications of above-mentioned technological advances for primary, secondary, and higher secondary education? Advances in computation and communication are giving rise to new media, such as, the World Wide Web and virtual realities. These new media in turn can make many of the available educational contents, books and information accessible in any remote corner of the world that is digitally connected. What is even more important these new media enable messages, experiences, and visualizations that can support a paradigm shift from traditional "*teaching by telling*" to "*distributed learning*" where "*learning by doing*" can play a more dominant role. Multimedia technology can combine computers and voice, pictures, animated images, music, words, video, simulation and databases. Exposure to multimedia presentations helps student grasp contents and concepts better than from listening to lectures only, and active participation enables superior assimilation.

The "tools of the trade" and forms of expression that are already available, or will evolve in not-too-distant future, include, in addition to the personal computer, *educational compact discs* (CDs), *Internet*, *knowledge webs*, *virtual communities*, *synthetic environments*, and *sensory immersion*. Educational CDs can bring together sight, sound, and animation to be played on the computer. CDs on a variety of topics are widely available, much more in the developed countries than in the developing world, and can be a simple but effective learning tool. Knowledge webs have the potential to complement textbooks, libraries, and even teachers as information sources. Communications in virtual communities could complement face-to-face interactions in

classrooms and learning groups. Synthetic environments that mimic distant and/or not-readily-accessible real world settings will enable and widen learning-by-doing. Experts further maintain that sensory immersion in artificial realities will help students understand reality through illusory experiences. While some of these forms of expression may seem to be futuristic to belong in the realm of science fiction, those are attainable given sufficient resources.

The Internet: Possibilities and Potential Pitfalls

As an illustration of the potential of these evolving technologies to transform education one may consider the Internet, a storehouse of enormous amounts of information, which is more readily accessible. Educational technology researchers identify the Internet as a provider of three fundamental types of educational tools: tools for *inquiry*, tools for *communication*, and tools for *construction*. As a provider of tools of inquiry, the Internet helps find sources of information that are relevant to a task. Students gain access to resources from outside world including experts in the field, and may interact directly with them. These exposures enhance students' acquisition of knowledge. The Internet is a versatile resource for rapid communication in a variety of forms, such as, e-mail, face book, newsgroups, mailing lists, chat, videoconferencing, and webinar. In making available the tools for communication, the Internet thus enables communication with students, teachers, and professionals from different parts of the world with different cultures and traditions. As a provider for tools for construction, the Internet fosters student learning by scaffolding various learning activities that can be tailored for both individual and group learning. The students can pursue these activities at their own pace, accessing a wealth of information, evaluating those, and developing end products, a process that is highly likely to promote their thinking skills.

Even with all these beneficial attributes of the Internet, there are potential pitfalls and caveats in Internet-based instruction that one needs to be aware of and avoid. First, students need to be properly guided as to how to navigate the web and retrieve information pertinent to their tasks. Second, the students should be taught how to distinguish between genuine websites and sites that provide inaccurate, incomplete, or biased information. It is important to remember that anybody can post information on the web, and the authenticity and quality of the content depend on the knowledge, motivation, ability and integrity of the person making the posting. Third, the Internet-based lessons, like the conventional ones, are required to be carefully planned so that learning experience is stimulating, meaningful, and engaging for students. Practical considerations, such as, availability of computers with Internet access, the amount of time students may be able to spend on the Internet in the classroom may limit the use of Internet-based lessons. Finally, on the flip side web surfing can be addictive and may become detrimental instead of being beneficial to learning.

'Vision 2021' and a Student in Rural Bangladesh

Where does an underprivileged student in rural Bangladesh stand in relation to these technological advances, and fascinating educational tools? It is quite likely that she does not even have access to a computer *yet*. 'Digital divide' could be crippling for her. Fortunately, compared to other disparities in life the digital divide is more amenable to remedy. Remedy may be forthcoming as the Government implements the policies it has announced. What is even more intriguing is that in 114 Computer Literacy Centers (CLCs) and 37 associate CLCs run by the Computer Literacy Program (CLP) in rural Bangladesh her peers are becoming computer literate!

The Government has floated the lofty vision of a Digital Bangladesh by 2021, also known as *Vision 2021*. The National Information and Communication Technology (ICT) policy (*Jatiyo Tathya O Jogajog Prajukti Neetimala – 2009*) has been approved, which lists the tasks assigned to different ministries and the anticipated outcomes. The salient tasks for the Education ministry include: to update the ICT curricula for secondary and higher secondary education on a regular basis to meet the needs of a knowledge-based society; to ensure that primary school and middle school students and teachers are ICT literate; to provide all primary, secondary, higher secondary educational institutions, teacher training colleges, as well as, technical and vocational education and training (TVET) institutions with computers, high-speed Internet connection, and necessary resources for multi-media based instructions; to establish, in every union, a model school with ICT resources to serve as the information access center of the union so that students from neighboring schools can use those as well; to ensure appointment of IT trained teachers in secondary and higher secondary educational institutions; and to encourage development of Bangla text processing tools and software for preparing audio from printed materials for the visually challenged and/or illiterate individuals. Substantial tasks have been outlined for higher education, ICT manpower development, enhancing participation of female students in ICT courses, and related areas. The policies and tasks put forward are ambitious, and if properly implemented will be a bold step in digitizing the education landscape of Bangladesh.

The 2010-2011 budget allocates Tk 3.12 billion for the ICT sector, which is respectable, but much lower than the expected total of Tk 28 billion. That expectation was built on the ICT policy mandate that 5% of Government's development budget, and 2% of the revenue budget be allocated for the ICT sector. In his budget speech the finance minister announced that steps have been taken to establish computer laboratories in 1,200 educational institutions at the upazila level in 7 divisions and in 200 educational institutions in 6 metropolitan cities. ICT enthusiasts in Bangladesh eagerly await the implementation of these proposals.

Steps Towards Realization: Computer Literacy Program and Smart Class Room

Government involvement is indeed crucial for introducing computer and ICT in classrooms throughout the country. However, it is heartening to note that CLP has made an impressive groundwork, providing hands-on basic computer training to 29,787 students in mostly rural areas of 44 districts of Bangladesh, and training 272 teachers as of April 2010. Volunteers Association for Bangladesh, New Jersey (VAB-NJ) launched the program in 2005 with the mission of "*Empowering underprivileged youths of Bangladesh through computer literacy*." The program is implemented in partnership with D. Net, a pioneer non-government organization devoted to spreading of information technology in Bangladesh, particularly in the rural areas, and the local school administration where a CLC is established. Each CLC is equipped with a minimum of four computers, one printer, other accessories and requisite furniture, and Internet connection where available.

CLP is now exploring the next prudent step in its evolution, which is to leverage on the computer, Internet, and human resources in the CLCs to initiate *e-learning*. The long-term goal of the initiative is to enhance the quality of education in Bangladesh through integration of the educational technologies mentioned earlier to transform the way students are taught. The planned first step in that long journey is to establish "*smart class rooms* (*SCR*s)" in some of the existing CLCs, and to develop contents and technical know-how for eventual propagation of SCRs in schools throughout the country. Every SCR will be equipped with a computer, one large screen monitor (32'' inch), other peripheral hardware as required, and a back-up power supply.

While it is desirable to integrate computer and ICT in teaching of every subject, the focus at the initial stage will be on complementing the instruction of English, Science, and Geometry in secondary schools. The choice of the three subjects is motivated by the following considerations. English has evolved as the *lingua franca* of the world, and the contents available through the Internet are overwhelmingly in English. So learning English is crucial for interacting with the rest of the world, and for benefiting from and contributing to the developments in the ICT sector. While students in Bangladesh start learning English early on, the crucial areas of comprehending spoken English and carrying out a conversation in English are not sufficiently emphasized. So, the English instruction will focus on "teaching of everyday English" dedicated to filling this void in the current English education in our mainstream secondary schools, and will be an important addition for enhancing its quality and utility. Geometry is selected because it helps students develop their analytical skills, and instill in them deductive reasoning ability. Recent statistics depict an alarming trend that the number of students taking secondary school certificate (SSC) examination from Science group is diminishing significantly every year. Making teaching and learning interesting through the use of ICT may be one of the possible ways to reverse this alarming trend. What is also noteworthy is that there is a paucity of qualified English, Science and Mathematics teachers in many schools in rural areas of the country. The planned multi-media presentation in a SCR will play the role of teacher's aide, and substitute, in part, the traditional lecture given by the teacher.

To begin with, three instructional CDs for the three subjects have been identified. The CD on English is an outgrowth of the "*Computer Teaches Everyday English* (CTEE)" pilot program that VAB-NJ is pursuing. The science and geometry CDs were developed by experts in Bangladesh keeping the curriculum and preparation of students under consideration.

The "*smart class room*" experiment is currently being pursued at the Uddipan Badar-Shamsu Biddya Niketon in Bagerhat using the three CDs as sources for contents. The initial feedback is overwhelmingly positive. The students are fascinated by the multi-media mode of presentation of the contents, and claim to gain a better understanding of the subject matter when they learn it in their SCR. The teachers are also highly appreciative of these new tools, as those are getting their messages across to students and making their job more enjoyable.

Our Journey Begins

Education system all over the world is up for change, with globalization as the driving force and technology as the catalyst for that change. The traditional views of society on which the current educational paradigms are based are no longer valid in this age of globalization. Societies that can adapt to or better yet can control these changes will thrive and those who fail will lag behind. In order to prosper as a society we have to harness the new technology to provide our students with an engaging, interactive, and dynamic system of education. It is a journey we ought to embark up on, and there are no retreats.

Swapan Kumar Gayen is a professor of Physics at the City College of the City University of New York, and a volunteer of VAB-NJ.

About

Volunteers Association for Bangladesh

One common goal: empowering disadvantaged youths from the rural and poverty challenged areas of Bangladesh for a better life. VAB-New Jersey pursues the goal by providing skill training in computer literacy while its parent organization, Volunteers Association for Bangladesh (VAB), does so by providing quality high school education. Established in 1998 and led all through by Dr. A T Rafiqur Rahman, VAB just completed a decade of service in Bangladesh.

VAB raises funds abroad, mostly from individuals, and utilizes them in Bangladesh. At present, VAB is partnering with 33 rural schools in 15 districts of Bangladesh for the empowerment of the high school students, through an integrated set of high school programs. The premier program is its scholarship program for the rural high school students enabling them to bear all educational costs leading up to high school graduation. Recognizing that quality education in rural areas is facilitated by better classroom teaching and complementary tutoring or coaching, VAB introduced the programs on teachers' training and on tutoring. Tutoring is provided free of cost at the terminal level of high school education prior to the nationally administered graduation examination, Secondary School Certificate (SSC) exam, and also at the earliest level, i.e., at Class VI, to remedy the academic deficiencies resulting from low quality primary education. To benefit from the improved learning environment, VAB equips rural schools with books, science lab equipment, computers as well as sports and cultural equipment, through its school improvement program.

The combined outcome of the integrated set of programs bears testimony to its effectiveness. For the past three years, the SSC pass rate in the VAB schools is higher, by 5 to 10 percent, than the national rate that is dominated by better-manned, better-equipped and better-managed urban schools. VAB students themselves have a pass rate in the range of 95-97 percent, higher than the students in Dhaka City. VAB schools also achieved a lower dropout rate than the national level, as shown by an independent research study covering two academic cycles ending 2007 and 2008. The study was published this month by the best publishing house, University Press Ltd., Dhaka.

To enhance the empowerment of the rural high school students, VAB introduced a college scholarship program. At the other end, a preschool program has also been introduced to help the infants from the poorest families to learn the basics that would help them in primary education and hopefully in secondary education down the line.

During the decade of VAB's educational service, more than 3,600 students of both sexes received scholarships, 860 prospective SSC candidates were able to pay SSC exam fees and related dues, over 3,100 SSC examinees availed tutorial service, and 2,500 sixth graders benefited from remedial course for entering high school. Additionally, about 440 teachers were provided with orientation and training tailored to their needs and 18 most deprived schools were upgraded with books, computers, and science equipment. VAB also managed 11 preschools where nearly 470 kids received early childhood education, and more than 325 students were given college scholarships. It is estimated that nearly 15,000 poor students of rural Bangladesh benefited directly or indirectly from different programs of VAB.

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Glimpses of e-Education at Uddipan Badar-Shamsu Bidya Niketon

Asad-Uz-Zaman Asad

"I enjoy doing math on computer using multimedia CD. We learn lessons with pictures, animations and stories, which make lessons easy and understandable." Hazera Khatun, Class VI

Uddipan Badar-Shamsu Bidya Niketon (UBSBN) is a junior secondary school in the village of Boitpur, Bagerhat. It is participating in a novel pilot program on e-Education, that uses a computer on wheels and interactive, multimedia CD for limited classroom instruction. Students find it enjoyable. So do the teachers. Dipankar Pal, Headmaster of the school said, *"As a part of the pilot program, students in class VI and class VII are getting scope of learning English, Science and Math through multimedia CD. The students are enjoying their lessons. Even weaker students are doing better."*

UBSBN's experiment with e-Education is another milestone in its participation in the Computer Literacy Program (CLP) since 2005. The program established a Computer Literacy Center (CLC) at UBSBN that is equipped with 4 personal computers, a printer, other peripheral equipment, and trained two teachers in computer usage. The e-Education pilot program leverages on the CLC resources. New Jersey Chapter of Volunteers Association for Bangladesh, VAB-NJ (www.vabonline.org/vabnj) launched CLP with the mission of "Empowering underprivileged youths in Bangladesh through Computer Literacy" in 2005. The project is implemented by D.Net in Bangladesh. The vision of this program is to reduce the digital gap and help develop a knowledge-based society in Bangladesh.

In 2008 VAB-NJ and D. Net started the CTEE (Computer Teaches Everyday English) project to help students learn English language with proper pronunciation and comprehension, all the while emphasizing on spoken English, which is lacking in regular classes. As a first step CTEE has developed an English teaching CD-ROM that draws from the daily experiences of students in Bangladesh. The contents of the CD-ROM complement the NCTB (National Curriculum and Textbook Board) book for classes VI, VII, and VIII.

The efficacy of the CD and e-Education is being tested in a pilot program in five schools with CLCs. These schools are Uddipan Badar-Shamsu Bidya Niketon, Bagerhat; Mukul Niketon School, Mymensingh; Mamun Smrity Public School, Jamalpur; Brahmanbaria High School, Brahmanbaria; and Gorpara High School, Manikgonj. While the computer lab in a CLC is confined to one room, CTEE uses a computer from the lab wheeled into classrooms. The CD helps students learn English and develop communication skills. In addition to English, CD-ROMs for science and geometry have been identified as well.

On April 15, 2010 I paid a visit to UBSBN to personally observe the e-Education initiative there. I was impressed with what I saw. The school is using English, Science and Math CDs in class VI and class VII; and students are relishing this new teaching-learning tool. This makes learning more active by positively engaging students using colorful pictures and animation. As Mohammad Sohel Rana of Class VI puts it, *"When I learn any lesson of my English book through computer, I don't forget it. Because this learning is fun, and I can remember the story, picture and text as well."*

Teachers share the enthusiasm of the students as well, and are eager to have more contents in the multi-media format. As the mathematics teacher Kishor Kumar Mondol observes, *"We have a CD only for geometry. It would be better if we could teach all the primary and secondary math classes using multimedia CD."*

Many rural schools in Bangladesh today lack adequate teaching staff, and state of instruction is rather poor. However, I came back from my visit of Uddipan Badar-Shamsu Bidya Niketon with a sense of renewed optimism. The eagerness and enthusiasm of students and teachers there was contagious. CLP's venture into e-learning, and introduction of "*smart class room*" concept is the right move at the right time. It is only fitting that CLP, winner of Manthan South Asia Award 2009 in the e-Education category, will take this timely initiative and play a pioneering role in realizing the educational goals of Digital Bangladesh.

Asad-Uz-Zaman Asad is an Assistant Director of D. Net, Dhaka. He is pursuing research on e-learning towards his M. Phil degree at the University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

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introduces
Smart Class Room (SCR)

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Progress to date

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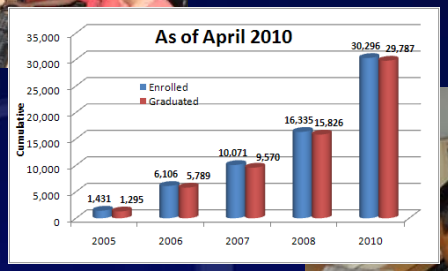
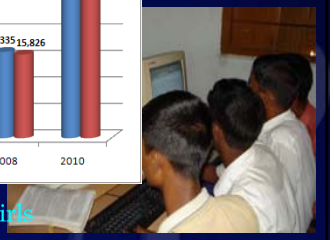
- Associate CLCs 37
- Associate Centers
  - We do not fund all aspects
  - Follow the same curricula
  - Trainees receive CLP Certificate

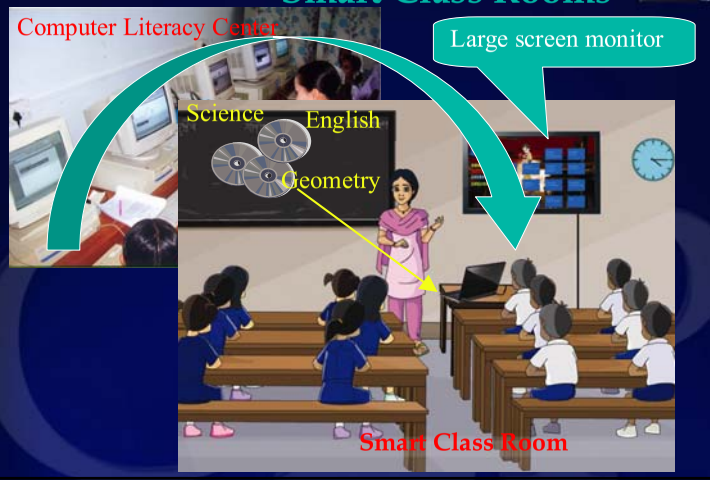
Students Trained



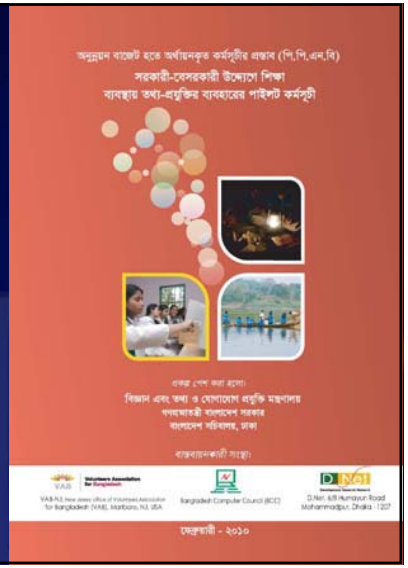


97% Graduate and 49% girls

CLP introduces Smart Class Rooms



- Expand CLP to main stream education
- Proposal in last stage evaluation
- Public private partner ship



The CLP + SCR Plan

- Set up 100 new CLCs and 100 SCRs in 3 years
- Develop computer based learning materials for English, Science and Geometry
- Develop teachers' and students' manuals
- Train teachers
- Finance
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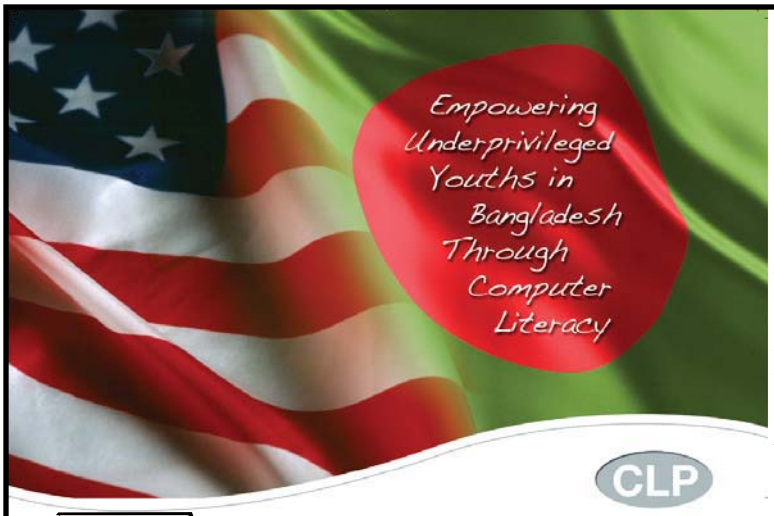

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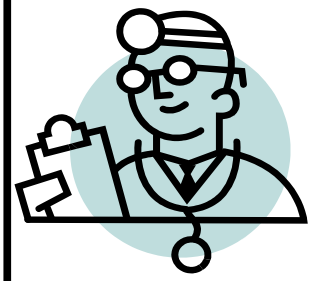
Dewan Shahnaz Khan, M. D.



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Eva	Sakkar	West Chester	PA	19382
Farooque	Mohammed	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Farooque	Preeti	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Farooque	Pue	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Farooque	Shamsun Nahar	Danbury	CT	06810
Faroque	Sheikh	Atlantic City	NJ	
Farouk	Bakhtier	Cherry Hill	NJ	08003
Fayemi	A. Olusegun	White Plains	NY	10607
Ferdous	Zannatul		PA	
Feroz	Fatinaaz	Jackson Heights	NY	11370
Gana	Milia			
Gayen	Swapan Kumar	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Gayen	Tapan K.	Greenville	NC	27834
Gazi	Golam	Glastonbury	CT	06033
Ghaffar	Mohammed	New York	NY	
Goswami	Ganesh G.	Fairlawn	NJ	07410
Hafiz	Mohammad A.	Toms River	NJ	08753
Hai	Abdul	Englishtown	NJ	07726
Hai	AKM	Harrison	NJ	07029
Haider	Mohammed O.	Somerset	NJ	08873
Hajra	Nurullah	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Halim	Qazi	New Hyde Park	NY	11040
Haque	Emdadul	Port Orange	FL	32128
Haque	Hafizul	Bridgewater	NJ	08807
Haque	Mahbub	Randolph	NJ	07869
Haque	Mohammad Reza	Randolph	NJ	07869
Haque	Mohammad S.	Houston	TX	77059
Haque	Monira	Edison	NJ	08817
Haque	Nazmul	Old Bridge	NJ	08857
Harjani	Disha	Piscataway	NJ	08854
Harun	Yeakub A.	Jackson Heights	NY	11372
Hasan	Rashid	Duluth	MN	
Hasan	Sayeed	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Hasan	Shameem	Hockessin	DE	19707
Hasan	Ziaul	Sayerville	NJ	08872
Hashem	Mohammed	Brooklyn	NY	11218
Hasib	Rukhsana	Holland	PA	18966
Hassan	Jamiul	East Brunswick	NJ	08816
Hassan	Mahmud	East Brunswick	NJ	08816
Hassan	Sakib	Hillsborough	NJ	08844
Hassan	Zahidul	Lowell	MA	01851
Helaly	Mian	Skillman	NJ	08558
Helaly	Shabbir	Skillman	NJ	08558
Helaly	Shamsun	Skillman	NJ	08558
Hoque	Azharul	Matawan	NJ	07747
Hoque	Ekramul	West Babylon	NY	11704
Hoque	Mahbubul	Randolph	NJ	07869
Hoque	Sagar	Randolph	NJ	07869
Hoque	Sagor	Randolph	NJ	07869
Hora	Sukanta D.	Paterson	NJ	07502
Hossain	Akhtar	New Hyde Park	NY	11040
Hossain	Ashfaq	Berekely Heights	NJ	07922
Hossain	Iftekhar	Princeton Jct	NJ	08550
Hossain	Khurshid (Lucy)	Middletown	NJ	07748
Hossain	Mehreen	Middletown	NJ	07748
Hossain	Mohammad	Exton	PA	19341
Hossain	Monowar	Middletown	NJ	07748
Hossain	Mosaddeque	Kew Garden	NY	11415
Hossain	Naznin	Hillsborough	NJ	08844
Hossain	Selina	Matawan	NJ	07747
Hossain	Zaki	Long Island	NY	
Huda	Shamsul	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Huda	Sharin	Marlboro	NJ	07740
Huq	Abhik A.	Lawrenceville	NJ	08648
Huq	Abu Shamsul	Plainsboro	NJ	08536
Huq	M. Shamsul	Howell	NJ	07731
Huq	Mohammad Altaful	Piscataway	NJ	08854
Huq	Mozzammel	Queens	NY	11416
Huq	Muhammed	Wall	NJ	07719
Huq	Rubab Ferdous	Troy	MI	48098
Huq	Shah M. Ikramul	Edison	NJ	08817
Huq	Sirajul	Ocean City	NJ	

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Last Name	First Name or Company	City	St	Zip
Huq	Syed Rezwan			
Huque	Khondakar Azizul	West Babylon	NY	11704
Husain	Murad	Murray Hill	NJ	07974
Husain	Zareen (Seema)			
Hussain	Iqbal	Short Hills	NJ	07078
Hussain	Iffat	Monmouth JCT	NJ	08852
Hussain	Mohammed Talat	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Hussain	Musaddeq	Monmouth JCT	NJ	08852
Hussain	Nayeem	Monmouth JCT	NJ	08852
Hussain	Rahat	Hicksville	NY	11801
Hussain	Talat	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Iftikhar	Ali	North Bellmore	NY	11710
Islam	Aminul	Edison	NJ	08820
Islam	Faizul	Houston	TX	77066
Islam	Mazharul	East Brunswick	NJ	08816
Islam	Mohamed R.	Dayton	NJ	08810
Islam	Mohammed	Morris Plains	NJ	07950
Islam	Muhammad	South Windsor	CT	06074
Islam	Naushad	Kendall Park	NJ	08824
Islam	Nazrul	Dixhill	NY	11746
Islam	Seraj	Yonkers	NY	10710
Islam	Shahidul		NY	
Islam	Sharmila	Aberdeen	NJ	07747
Islam	Sohel	Bethel	CT	06801
Islam	Syful	White Plains	NY	10603
Islam	Tarikul	Lawrenceville	NJ	08648
Jahan	Kauser	Sickerville	NJ	08081
Jalal	Syed	Leonia	NJ	07605
Jamil	Arshad	Boonton	NJ	07005
Kabir	Lubna	Bridgewater	NJ	08807
Kabir	Mohammed G.	Parsipanny	NJ	07054
Kabir	Nahid	Morristown	NJ	07960
Kabir	Tito	Bolingbrook	IL	60440
Kabir	Zoghlul	Morristown	NJ	07960
Kadakia	Shimul	Basking Ridge	NJ	07920
Kader	Abdul	Ozone Park	NY	11417
Kamal	Abu Sayeed	Woodbridge	NJ	07095
Kamal	Murtaza	Pueblo	CO	81005
Kamal	Noor-e			
Kamal	Sheikh	Wallington	NJ	07057
Kar	Amalendu	Burlington Twnsp	NJ	08016
Karim	Ahsanul	East Windsor	NJ	08520
Karim	M.R.	Wayside	NJ	07712
Karim	Mohammad	Pleasantville	NY	10570
Kazi	Abdul	Ellicott City	MD	21043
Khan	Afzal		NJ	
Khan	Amzad	Edison	NJ	08820
Khan	Dewan	Perth Amboy	NJ	08861

Last Name	First Name or Company	City	St	Zip
Khan	Emdad	San Jose	CA	95138
Khan	Ferdous	College Point	NY	11356
Khan	Imran		NY	
Khan	Mahbubur	Nee Hyde Park	NY	11040
Khan	Mahmudul Huq	Towaco	NJ	07082
Khan	Monica	Edison	NJ	08820
Khan	Naila	South Orange	NJ	
Khan	Nargis			
Khan	Nilufa N.	Edison	NJ	08817
Khan	Romel		NJ	
Khan	Subarna	Edison	NJ	08817
Khan	Wahid S.	Belleville	NJ	07109
Khandker	Rezaul	Phoenixville	PA	19460
Khondker	Sufian	Holliswood	NY	11423
Khosnu	Esha	Orange	NJ	
Laskey	Richard			
Lodhi	Tajul	Edison	NJ	08817
Madhwadia	Girish			
Maglio	Frank	North Brunswick	NJ	08902
Mahmood	Burhan	Bridgewater	NJ	08807
Mahmood	Shah Jahan	Washington DC		
Mahmood	Subrina	Neptune	NJ	07753
Mainuddin	Mohammed	Lodi	NJ	07644
Mamun	Al	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Mamun	Kazi	Belle Mead	NJ	08502
Maniky	Mian DDS	Brooklyn	NY	11218
Maniky	Zinat	Brooklyn	NY	11238
Mansor	Azra	Fort Lee	NJ	07024
Mansur	Iqbal	West Chester	PA	19382
Mate	Neil	Brooklyn	NY	11222
Mathbor	Golam	Neptune	NJ	07753
Melow	David, J.	Jacksonheights	NY	11372
Mesbahuddin	Mirza	Woodside	NY	11377
Mohiuddin	Mohammad	Marlboro	NJ	07751
Mohsen	Farrukh	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Mohsen	Paulash	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Mohsen	Pia	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Momin	Mohammed		CT	
Mowla	Robbie	Farmingdale	NJ	07727
Mukul	Chowdhury	New York	NY	
Munir	Syed	Edison	NJ	08820
Musaddeq	Hussain	South Brunswick	NJ	
Muttalib	Khandker A.	Gainesville	FL	32605
Nabi	Mush	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Nabi	Nuran	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Nag	Jayanta K.	Cheshire	CT	06410
Nahar	Nurun	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Naser	Kamrul	Somerset	NJ	08873

Patrons of Computer Literacy Program (Through 2010)

Last Name	First Name or Company	City	St	Zip
Nayeem	AFM Abdun	Glastonbury	CT	06033
Noaz	Golam G.	Ocean	NJ	07712
Pagoumain	David	Edison	NJ	08818
Park	William	Astoria	NY	11103
Parvin	Tahmina	Lancaster	PA	17601
Pasha	Rafique	Plano	TX	75024
Passi	Rakesh	East Brunswick	NJ	08816
Pathan	Aftab	Piscataway	NJ	
Paul	Pradip	Cranford	NJ	07015
Prabhakar	N.D.	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Pramanik	Birendra	Parsipanny	NJ	07054
Quabili	Ahmadur	Houston	TX	77095
Quaderi	Masurur Ali	Jamaica	NY	11432
Quaderi	Serajjus	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Quadry	Mian	Brooklyn	NY	11219
Quazi	Shahreen	Boston	MA	02215
Rab	Nasreen		BD	
Rafiq	Shuvo	Plainsboro	NJ	08536
Rahim	Abdur	Brooklyn	NY	11218
Rahman	Anisur	Mendham	NJ	07945
Rahman	ATR	Irvington	NY	10533
Rahman	Azizur	Yorktown Heights	NY	10598
Rahman	Dewan	Ewing	NJ	08628
Rahman	Lutfur	Ocean	NJ	07712
Rahman	M. Dalil	Flemington	NJ	08822
Rahman	Mahfuzar	Jersey City	NJ	07306
Rahman	Mizanur	Lake Success	NY	11042
Rahman	Mohammad	Dallas	TX	75252
Rahman	Mohammad Aminur	Jersey City	NJ	07305
Rahman	Mohammad Habibur	Jamaica	NY	11432
Rahman	Mohammed	North Bellmore	NJ	
Rahman	Monjour	Tuxedo Park	NY	10987
Rahman	Moshiur	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Rahman	Muhammad	Brooklyn	NY	11223
Rahman	Muhit	Cincinatti	OH	
Rahman	Pavel	Toronto	Canada	
Rahman	Rasheq		NY	
Rahman	Sayedur	Bristol	CT	06010
Rahman	Sheikh	Wharton	NJ	07885
Rahman	Shelly	Broomall	PA	19008
Rahman	Siddiqur	Lawrenceville	NJ	08648
Rahman	SK Mafizur	Bronx	NY	10463
Rahman	Sk Ziaur	South Windsor	NJ	
Rahman	Waliur	Lakewood	NJ	08701
Rahman	Wasim			
Rahman	Rafique Khan	West Orange	NJ	07052
Rahman	Shahidur R.			
Rashid	Abdur	Lawrenceville	NJ	08648
Rashid	Aminur	Howell	NJ	07731
Rashid	Harunor			
Rashid	Malik Mahbubur	New Haven	CT	06511
Reed	Peter			
Ripon	Nazrul Islam	Bayshore	NY	11706
Roy	Jiten			
Roy	Kiran Kumar	Woodside	NY	11377
Roy	Sumit	Bridgewater	NJ	08807
Rozario	Liberatus D.	Princeton JCT.	NJ	08550
Sabri	M. Zaki	Brooklyn	NY	11746
Salahudin	Shahriar	Mechanicsburg	PA	17050
Saleh	Javed	Skillman	NJ	08558
Salekin	Serajus	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Samad	Anwar	New York	NY	10025
Sarkar	Arun	Dayton	NJ	08810
Sarker	Abdul Qayyum	Colonia	NJ	07067
Sarker	Samir Kanti	New Hyde Park	NY	11040
Sattar	Wasif	Monroe Township	NJ	08831
Sayeed	Fakrul	Voorhees	NJ	08043
Sayeed	Hasan	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Sayeed	Zulfiquar	East Windsor	NJ	088520
Sen	Shyamal	Dayton	NJ	08810
Sengupta	Ashim	Califon	NJ	07830
Serazi	Masum	Edison	NJ	
Shadid	Tazin	Seatle	WA	
Shahabuddin	Miah	Lincroft	NJ	07738
Shahriar	Salauddin	Harrisburg	PA	
Shaikh	Badrud	Jamaica	NY	11432
Shaikh	Muhammad G.R.	Middletown	NY	10941
Shajahan	Shaju	Cleveland	OH	
Shajahan	Sharmin	Chicago	OH	
Shakil	Sheikh M.	Old Bridge	NJ	08857
Shamim	Noor	Milford	PA	18337
Shamsuddin	Abul	Howell	NJ	07731
Shamsuddin	Shirin	Howell	NJ	07731
Shamsun	Farooque	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Shekalus	William	Mount Kisco	NY	10549
Shurawardi	Ghulam	Coltsneck	NJ	08859
Shyed	Khondaker	Neptune	NJ	11432
Siddique	Shamsul		NY	
Siddique	Yousuf	Greenvale	NY	11548
Siddiqui	Faruq Mahmud Anam	Wallingford	PA	19086
Siddiqui	Kaihan	Cliffside Pk	NJ	07010
Sikdar	Abdus	North Bellmore	NY	11710
Sikdar	Hironmony	Voorhees	NJ	08043
Sohrab	Golam	Corona	NY	11368
Soni	Robindra			
Sultan	Alam	Holmdel	NJ	07733

Patrons of Computer Literacy Program (Through 2010)

Last Name	First Name or Company	City	St	Zip
Sultan	Idris	Dallas	TX	
Sultana	Shirin	Cranbury	NJ	08512
Sultana	Shirin	Plainsboro	NJ	08512
Syed	N. Zaman			
Taher	Muhammed	Champaign	IL	61822
Talukdar	Shamsuzzoha	Holmdel	NJ	07733
Tariq	Quazi Al	Middletown	NY	10940
Toha	Abul K.M.	Los Angels	CA	
Uddin	Mohammad Abbas	Borden Town	NJ	08505
Uddin	Moin	Edison	NJ	08817
Uddin	Nancy	Tinton Falls	NJ	07753
Uddin	Shams	Trenton	NJ	08610
Ullah	Saadi	Randolph	NJ	07869
Ullah	Zafar	San Jose	CA	95148
Wahab	Atiya	Wrightstown	NJ	08562
Warsi	Ghulam	Randolph	NJ	07869
Wood	Deborah	White Plains	NY	10603
Yunus	Shah	Pittsburgh	PA	15241
Yusuf	Mohammed	Edison	NJ	08820
Zaman	Farhat	Hicksville	NY	11801
Zaman	KBM	Cleveland	OH	44136
Zaman	Khairul	North Royalton	OH	44133
Zaman	Mohammad	Marlboro	NJ	07746
Zaman	Mohammad. Q	Elmont	NY	11003
Zaman	Syed	Morganville	NJ	07751
Zeb	Afnan (Aditi)	Marlboro	NJ	7746
Zevallos	Manuel	Woodhaven	NY	11421
Ziauddin	Abu	Somerset	NJ	08873
	Abidur & Associate	Woodside	NY	11377
	American Home Mortgage Corppratio	Moorestown	NJ	08057
	American Royal Mortgage Corppratio	Iselin	NJ	08830
	Comcast	Oaks	PA	19456
	D. Saltzverg, A. Wenberger	Jersey City	NJ	07307
	Das Family Foundation	Monroe	CT	
	DBA Dougherty & Schneider	Baldwin	NY	11510
	Dewan Shahnawaz MDKhan	Perth Amboy	NJ	08861
	Emcure Pharmaceuticals USA Inc	East Brunswick	NJ	8816
	Future Tech Solutions, Inc.	Plainsboro	NJ	08536
	G.S. Development	Astoria	NY	11103
	HomeXPerts Realty	Woodside	NY	11377
	Hoque Realty	Jamaica	NY	11432
	Horizon Staffing Services	East Hartford	CT	06108
	IH Engineers	Princeton	NJ	8540
	Imdad Sitara Foundation	Saratoga	CA	95070
	Inman Dental Care, PC	Edison		08820
	Innovative Technology Solutions, Inc.	South Plainfield	NJ	07080
	KS Engineers	Newark	NJ	07102

Last Name	First Name or Company	City	St	Zip
	Lata R. Shah	Edison	NJ	08820
	Metlife Metroplois Financial Group	New York	NY	10010
	Mohammed Talat Hussain	Marlboro	NJ	07746
	Montgomery Driving School	North Brunswick	NJ	08902
	NABIC	Oakridge	TN	37831
	Napco LLC Operations Acct	Edison	NJ	08818
	New York Mortgage Company	Jackson Heights	NY	11370
	NYMC	New York	NY	10019
	Our House Restaurant	Farmingdale	NJ	07727
	Salam & Associates	Brooklyn	NY	11218
	SBLI USA Mutual Life Ins.Co., Inc	New York	NY	10001
	Shalimar Restaurant	Atlantic City	NJ	
	Sign Media International	Woodside	NY	11377
	Solomon Insurance Agency	New York	NY	11354
	SSNT Real Estate & Mgt Inc.	Jamaica	NY	11432
	Terry Liebman, Dental Excellence	Brooklyn	NY	11222
	The Morton Foundation	Manhattan	NY	
	The Print Shoppe	Aberdeen	NJ	07747
	Todd A. Cohen, ESQ	Freehold	NJ	07728
	Unique Dental Care	Jackson Heights	NY	11372
	UTC Associates	New York	NY	10005
	Wells Fargo Home Mortgage	Jackson Heights	NY	11370
	West Side Medical Center	New York	NY	10025
	Western Capital Mortgage, Inc.	Woodside	NY	11377
	Worldwide Travel Services	New York	NY	10001
	Y & J Realty	Astoria	NY	11102

We laud real estate attorney Maureen A. Carroll for donating $50 for every business she gets from each Bangladeshi client.

Maureen A. Carroll
Attorney At Law

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Established Computer Literacy Centers and Sponsors as of July 2010

6/22/2010

#	Name of Center	Address	Starts Date	Sponsor
1	Hazi Kashem Ali Degree College	Mymensingh Sadar	Mar '05	Nasim Ali, Princeton, NJ
2	Hazi Kashem Ali Mohila College	Mymensingh	Mar '05	Nasim Ali, Princeton, NJ
3	Bagerhat Bahumukhi High School	Amlapara, Bagerhat	Apr '05	Lubna Kabir, Bridgewater, NJ
4	Mukul Niketon High School	Mymensingh Sadar	Mar '05	Zaki Hossain, Long Land, NY
5	Shamsuddin Nahar Youth Excellence Center	Baitpur, Bagerhat	Apr '05	Shamsun Nahar, Marlboro, NJ
6	Amla Sadarpur High School	Amla, Kushtia	Apr '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
7	Goal Gram College	Goalgram, Kushtia	Mar '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
8	Jamila Model High School	Khukni, Sirajgonj	June '05	Amzad Khan, Edison, NJ
9	Kadambari High School	Kadambari, Madaripur	June '05	Dr. Swapan Kumar Gayen, NJ
10	Farha Madhomik School	Komrail, Khulna	June '05	Dr. S.K. Bakar, NY, NY
11	Mirzanagar Touhid Academy	Subar Bazar, Feni	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
12	Barashalghar Union High School	Baroshalghar, Comilla	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
13	Baruahat High School	Baruahat, Rangpur	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
14	Mamun Smriti Public High School	Chantia Bazar, Jamalpur	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
15	Parkhidirpur Maddhomic Biddalaya	Parkhidirpur, Pabna	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
16	Shologhar AKSK High School	Shologhar, Munshigonj	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
17	Babrijhar High School	Babrijhar, Nilphamari	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
18	Bhaterchar D.A. Mannan Pilot High School	Bhaterchar, Munshigonj	June '05	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
19	Ghagotia Chala High School	Chala Bazar, Gazipur	June '05	Zia Uddin & Bamni Ahmad, Monroe, NJ
20	BL High School	Amlapara, Sirajgonj	June '05	Dr. A. A. Chowdhury, Portsmouth, VA
21	Laskardia Atikur Rahman High School	Laskardia, Faridpur	Feb '06	Dr. Shah and Anisa Yunus, Pittsburgh, VA
22	McPherson Public Library	Bagerhat Sadar	Feb '06	Monira Haque, Edison, NJ
23	Khaikara High School	Khaikara, Gazipur	Feb '06	Dr. Taher U. Akhand, Glastonebury, CT
24	Kurigram Girls High School	Kurigram Sadar	Feb '06	Dr. KBM Zaman, Cleaveland, Ohio
25	Banna Kandi N.M. High School	Bannakandi, Sirajgonj	Feb '06	Dr. A. A. Chowdhury, Portsmouth, VA
26	Karihata High School	Karihata, Gazipur	Feb '06	Zia Uddin & Bamni Ahmad, Monroe, NJ
27	Rasulpur Basirun Nessa High School	Rasulpur, Tangail	Feb '06	Dr. Emdadul Haque, Port Orange, FL
28	Maharajpur High School	Maharajpur, C. Nababgonj	Feb '06	Dr. Waled H . Chowdhury, Long Island, NY
29	North Bengal Medical College	Sirajgonj Sadar	Feb '06	Dr. A. A.Chowdhury, Portsmouth, VA
30	Panchani High School	Panchani, Chandpur	Feb '06	Mohammad Zafarullah, San Jose, CA
31	Nadir Hossin Girls High School	Kashba Najail, Rajbari	Feb '06	Faizul Islam, Houston, Texas
32	Nasirkote High School	Nasirkote, Chandpur	Feb '06	Dr. Sultan Alam, Holmdel, NJ
33	Adhunika Bangladesh Society	Azimpur, Dhaka	Feb '06	Adhunika Bangladesh Society, Dhaka
34	M.A. Karim Bahumukhi High School	Hinga Nagar, Tangail	Feb '06	SpandaanB, San Jose, CA
35	Ambarkhana Girls High School	Sylhet, Sylhet	Feb '06	Dr.Z. Ahmed, S. Ahmed, Dr.M. Hussain PA/NJ
36	Kazi Jalaluddin Bahumukhi Girls High School	Sylhet, Sylhet	Feb '06	Nasreen Rab, US
37	Ekuria High School	Ekuria, Gazipur	June '06	Zia Uddin & Ranu Ahmad, Monroe, NJ
38	Shahaber Bazar High School	Shahaber Bazar, Sylhet	June '06	Dr. F. Zaman,Dr. R.Hossain,Dr. M. Ahmed, NY
39	Rifayetpur High School	Rifayetpur, Kushtia	June '06	Dr. A. K. Azad, East Greenbush, NY

Established Computer Literacy Centers and Sponsors as of July 2010

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#	Name of Center	Address	Starts Date	Sponsor
40	Barura Govt Girls High School	Barura, Comilla	June '06	Dr. Monowara Begum, NY, USA
41	Tarail Pilot High School	Tarail, Kishorganj	Dec '06	Bank Asia, Dhaka, Bangladesh
42	Malkhanagar School & Collage	Malkhanagar, Munshigonj	Dec '06	Bank Asia, Dhaka, Bangladesh
43	Halta Duatola Wazed Ali Khan College	Dhaka, Bangladesh	Dec '06	D.Net, Dhaka, Bangladesh
44	Shanuhar M. A. High School	Uzirpur, Barisal	Feb '07	Dr. Sirajul Huq, NJ
45	Montijar Rahman Mia Girls High School	Shailakupa, Jhenaidah	Feb '07	Shahreen Quazi, Boston, MA
46	Shahid Hasan Foyez Girls High School	Haripur, Kustia	Feb '07	Rezbul Chowdhury, Arlington, MA
47	The Old Kustia High School	Haripur, Kustia	Feb '07	Rezbul Chowdhury, Arlington, MA
48	Brahman Baria High School	Brahman Baria Sadar	Feb '07	Salahudin Shahriar, PA
49	Darbeshgonj High School	Kachua, Chandpur	Apr '07	Dr. Serajus Salekin Quaderi, NJ
50	Paschim Banskhali Upakulia College	Banskhali, Chittagong	Apr '07	Dr. Mahfuz R.Chowdhury, NJ
51	Shailan Surma High School	Dhamrai, Dhaka	Apr '07	Dr. Dalilur Rahman, NJ
52	SURAVI	Dhanmondi, Dhaka	Apr '07	Dr. Musaddeq Hussain, NJ
53	Shalkuria High School	Nabangonj, Dinajpur	July '07	Muhit Rahman, OH
54	Setabganj Pilot High School	Setabgonj, Dinajpur	July '07	Muhit Rahman, OH
55	Panchagar Bisnhnu Proshad Govt. H.School	Panchagar Sadar	July '07	Muhit Rahman, OH
56	Hasaha K.K. High School	Sreenagar, Munshigonj	July '07	Dr. Rashid Hasan, MN
57	Boro Basalia High School	Tangail Sadar, Tangail	Aug '07	Dr. Emdadul Haque, Florida, USA
58	South Satara High School	Chagalnaiya, Feni	July '07	Tazin Shadid, WA
59	Satkania Golam Bari High School	Satkania, Chittagong	July '07	Bank Asia, Dhaka, Bangladesh
60	Mehandigonj Muktijodhya Sangsad	Mehandigonj, Barisal	July '07	Tazin Shadid, WA
61	Coronation High School	Bogra Sadar, Bogra	Feb '08	Dr. KBMQ Zaman, OH
62	Garda A.F. Mujibur Rahman Secondary School	Faridpur Sadar, Faridpur	Feb '08	Dr. Shah Yunus, Pittsburgh, USA,
63	Shila Roy Chowdhury High School	Jessore Sadar, Jessore	Feb '08	BUET Alumni, Huston, Texas, USA
64	Nasirkote Shahid Smriti College	Hazigonj, Chandpur	Apr '08	Dr. Sultan Alam, NJ, USA
65	Gorpara M.L High School	Manikgonj Sdr, Manikgonj	Mar '08	Dr. Humayara Islam Khan, Bangladesh
66	Ranigonj Mohila College	Ghoraghat, Dinazpur	May '08	Muhit Rahman, USA
67	Loka BL High School	Nababgonj, Dinazpur	May '08	Muhit Rahman, USA
68	Daudpur BL High School	Nababgonj, Dinazpur	May '08	Muhit Rahman, USA
69	Nageswari D.M. Academy	Nageswari, Kurigram	May '08	Shaju A. Shahjahan, OH
70	Shayestabad Girls High School	Barisal Sadar, Barisal	Feb '08	Hossain Trust, Dhaka
71	Chunato High School	Lohagara, Chittagong	Mar '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
72	Adhunagar High School	Lohagara, Chittagong	Mar '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
73	Padua A.C.M. High School	Lohagara, Chittagong	Mar '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
74	Sayed Habibul Haq High School	Kishorgonj Sr, Kishorgonj	Feb '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
75	Hazi Golam Hossen Girls High School	Tarail, Kishorgonj	Apr '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
76	Rajdia Avoy Pilot High School	Sirajdikhan, Munshigonj	Apr '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
77	Palla Mahabub Adarsha High School	Chatkhil, Noakhali	Apr '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
78	Bhimpur Technical School & College	Chatkhil, Noakhali	Apr '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh

Established Computer Literacy Centers and Sponsors as of July 2010

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#	Name of Center	Address	Starts Date	Sponsor
79	Liton Computers	Ashulia, Dhaka	May '08	Bank Asia Ltd. Bangladesh
80	Ispahani High School	Keranigonj, Dhaka	May '08	Bank Asia, Dhaka, Bangladesh
81	Dinarpur High School	Nabigonj, Hobigonj	Sep. '08	A.M. Chowdhury Mukul, USA
82	Borogandia High School	Daulatpur, Kustia	Sep. '08	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
83	Khandal High School & College	Parshuram, Feni	Apr '09	Dr. Suprasad Boidhya Roy, NA, USA
84	Nabinagar Mohila College	Nabinagar, B. Baria	Apr '09	Muhit Rahman, USA
85	Abu Taher Dakhil Madrasha	Shibchar, Madaripur	Apr '09	Dr. Belayet Choudhury, NJ, USA
86	Shuryasen Orphanage	Wazirpur, Barisal	Apr '09	Muhit Rahman, USA
87	Sree Sree Pronab Math	Nazirpur, Pirojpur	Apr '09	Muhit Rahman, USA
88	Nageswari Adarsha Pilot Utcha Balika Bidyaloi	Nageswari, Kurigram	Apr '09	Sharmin Shahjahan, OH, USA
89	AK Khan-UCEP Kalurghat Technical School	Chittagong	Apr '09	I-K Foundation, Bangladesh
90	Jamalgonj High School	Akkelpur, Joypurhat	Apr '09	BUET Alumni, Huston, Texas, USA
91	Bagmoniram S.K.City Corp. Girls High School	Chittagong	Apr '09	Dr. Monowara Begum, NY, USA
92	Dalta Rahmania High School	Ramgonj, Laxmipur	Apr '09	Zafar Ullah, CA, USA
93	Two Star Computers	Daulatpur, Kustia	Apr '09	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
94	Bagmara High School	Comilla Sadar South,	May '09	Pavel Rahman, Canada
95	Kasba T.Ali Degree College	Kasba, B. Baria	May '09	Dr. Toufiq Ali, Bangladesh
96	Hemnagar Shashimukhi High School	Gopalpur, Tangail	May '09	NABIC
97	K.G.H.F Mowkhali United Academy	Paikgacha, Khulna	May '09	NABIC
98	Kalipur Ezharul Hoque High School	Banshkhali, Chittagong	May '09	NABIC
99	Noor School	Sujanagar, Pabna	May '09	NABIC
100	Suapur Nannar High School	Dhamrai, Dhaka	May '09	NABIC
101	Chagaldhara High School	Sariakandi, Bogra	June '09	NABIC
102	Bishnapur A. R. High School	Sadar, Gaibandha	June '09	NABIC
103	Khorda Kamarpur High School	Sadullahpur, Gaibandha	June '09	NABIC
104	Habibpur Secondary High School	Wazirpur, Barisal	June '09	NABIC
105	Aoliabad High School	Madhabpur, Hobigonj	June '09	NABIC
106	Nagarkanda College	Nagarkanda, Faridpur	June '09	Dr. Shah Yunus, Pittsburgh, USA,
107	Islamabad Girls Orphanage	Chittagong	June '09	Farhat Khan, Chittagong
108	Hajipur Secondary School	Magura Sadar, Magura	Apr. 10	ICNEWS, Austin, USA
109	Dr.Imdad and Sitara Khan Arka AATP School	Natore	Apr. 10	Imdad-Sitara Khan Foundation, CA, USA
110	Kanutia A Ala High School	Mohammadpur, Magura	Apr. 10	Principal Latifa Khatun, Bangladesh
111	Baramchal High School and College	Kulaora, Moulavibazar	Apr. 10	Mr. Azadur Rahman (Tareque), USA
112	Gouripur Subal-Aftab High School	Daudkandi, Comilla	June '10	Abdus Sikder, NY, USA
113	Fatema Sangstha School at Bhartkhali	Bhartkhali, Gaibandha	June '10	Muhit Rahman, USA
114	Khondker Abdul Mazid High School	Ullapara R/S	June '10	Dr. Sufian Khondker
115	West End High School	Azimpur, Lalbag, Dhaka	June '10	Dr. M. Rashed Hasan, Washington DC, USA

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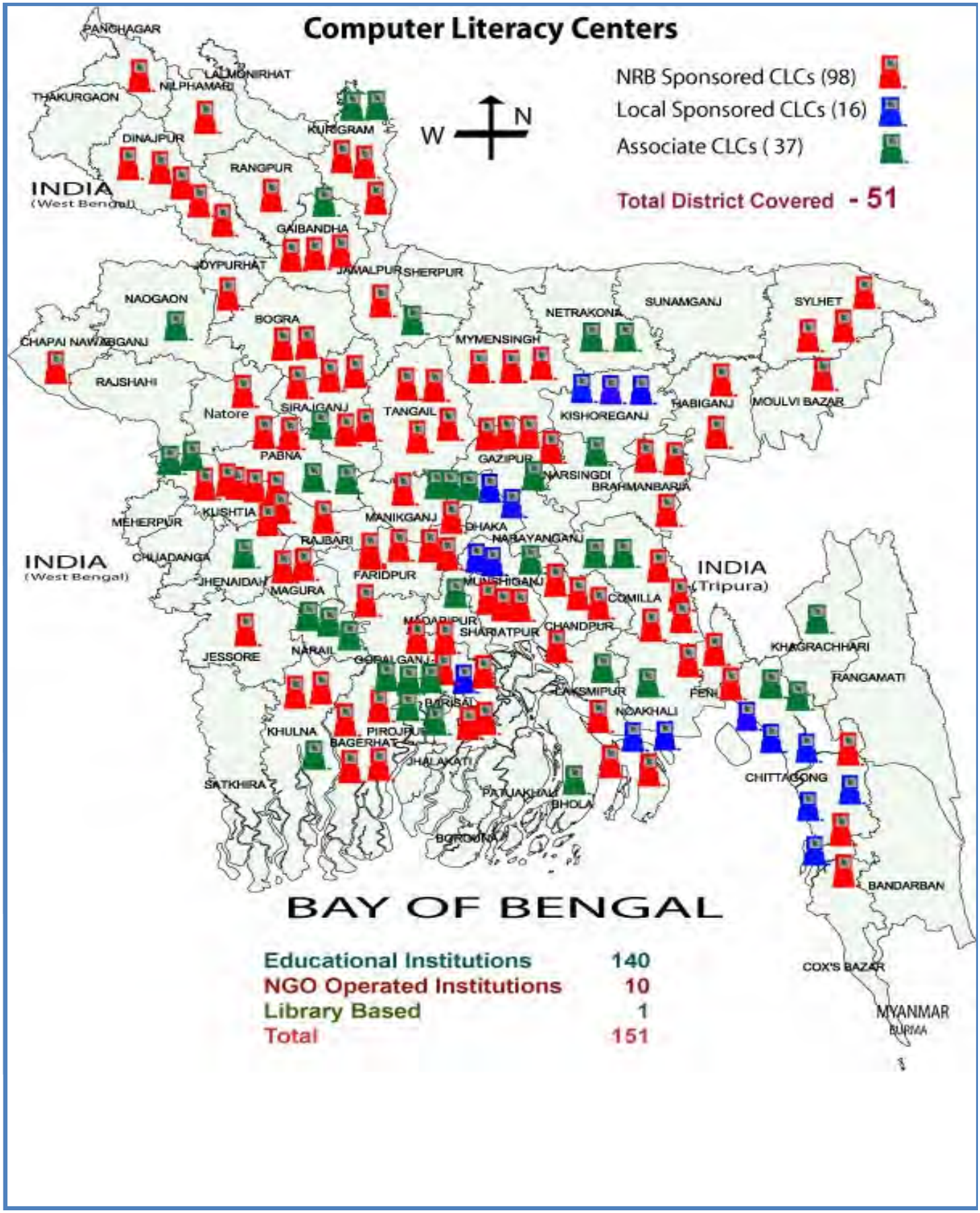
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NRB Sponsored CLCs (98)
Local Sponsored CLCs (16)
Associate CLCs (37)
Total District Covered - 51
N
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INDIA
(West Bengal)
INDIA
(Tripura)
INDIA
(West Bengal)
PANCHAGAR
THAKURGAON
NILPHAMARI
LALMONIRHAT
KURIGRAM
DINAJPUR
RANGPUR
GAIBANDHA
JOYPURHAT
JAMALPUR
SHERPUR
NAOGAON
BOGRA
CHAPAI NAWABGANJ
RAJSHAHI
Natore
SIRAJGANJ
TANGAIL
MYMENSINGH
NETRAKONA
SUNAMGANJ
SYLHET
HABIGANJ
MOULVI BAZAR
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