



প্রতিটি শিশু সমান ও মূল্যবান  
All Children are equal & valuable

# Aparajeyo-Bangladesh

Working with disadvantaged Children & Youth



## D-20 concept note Donation for the Rehabilitation of Street Children.

Aparajeyo-Bangladesh (AB) is a non-governmental organization established in February 1995. It is a National Child Rights Organisation working to establish the rights of disadvantaged children and ensure their protection, development and participation. AB is Bangladesh's leading advocate for children, with strong presence in all Divisions. The heart of AB's work is in the field. Each divisional team carries out AB's mission through a unique programme of cooperation developed with our Donors and Supporters. The overall management and administration of AB takes place at the Dhaka headquarter, where global policy on children is shaped.

Over the last 20 years more than 11 lac impoverished and street children have been reintegrated into main stream society through education and vocational training. Presently, AB is supporting more than 2,27,000 destitute/street and working children yearly to improve the quality of their lives.

Children not only have rights to health, nutrition and education, they have rights to protection, freedom from violence and exploitation, and to "a safe and supportive environment." Children deprived of a family environment have the right to special protection, assistance and alternative care. Children need time and opportunities to understand themselves as individuals and in relation to peers and their community. They discover their own preferences, choices and outlook on life, including an ethical outlook. They are striving for independence whilst also struggling with rejection or acceptance of aspects of culture and tradition around them.

Disadvantaged children and young people deserve our special attention, and the best of our resources and investments. They are the major "social capital" of every society concerned with change for a better today and for the future of its members: Their education promises the chance of improving economic and social conditions; their positive socialization for conflict resolution can help manage social clashes; their health and good nutrition can promote longevity, lower social costs and lead to a better quality of life; and their psychological well-being has the promise of a more resilient and culturally rich society.



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Lasting change requires a holistic approach. To make an impact in a child's life calls for a long-term commitment to combat poverty and childhood diseases as well as increasing access to quality education. To accomplish this development process of disadvantaged children financial allocation is required. Without financial support the care and development of children is impossible.

To achieve our mission and promise to children, Aparajeyo-Bangladesh applies for financial contributions from different donor agencies, the Government of Bangladesh, corporate sector, wealthy people and local communities.

However, donor agencies provide funds for a time-bound period. In today's world we need more responsible entrepreneurs, business houses and corporations to be integrated in the development process in a more concrete, responsible manner and committed to our possible future. Philanthropy has a long and vital history as an indigenous phenomenon in Bangladeshi culture but this is influenced by religious norms.

So what happens to street children when a project ends? Do we tell them to go back to the streets? These children's are regular students of different schools. They dream of a bright and successful future. In such circumstances AB tries the carry forward the program's with the support from local people until another donor agency comes forward.

These issues were highlighted and discussed with various government agencies and resulted in obtaining a telephone short code "16300" through the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Council (BTRC) through which donation of Taka 10 or Taka 20 could be raised through Mobile Companies from individuals in Bangladesh to support street children. Approval for this initiative has been received by the Ministry of Finance and a no-objection certificate from the Bangladesh Bank.

AB has taken initiatives to launch this program in order to communicate with the citizens of Bangladesh on how to use this Short Code **16300** to donate Taka 10 or Taka 20 through the Mobile Companies. This initiative will make people from all strata of our society become conscious about these destitute/street and working children and come forward to support them through their contributions.



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In order to make your contribution all you need to do is take your mobile set and go to the message option. You type D20 as your message and send it to 16300. You will get an automatic message from the Mobile Company confirming your donation.

This Taka 10 or Taka 20 will be sent to AB's Bank account by the Mobile Companies. The donations will be used for safe shelter, education, food of 10,000 street or working children's. Especially for the use of children who are growing up in AB's Safe Shelter Homes where there is no financial support from project aid or donor agencies.

There are around 10 lac street children in 7 district cities of Bangladesh, 74 lac working children and 4 lac children employed are domestic aides. As mentioned earlier, AB is supporting 227,000 children to develop the quality of their lives and rehabilitate them into our society as dignified and productive adults. Through the active participation of our people and donating Taka 10 or Taka 20 to "16300", our children could be supported to build and contribute to the future of our country.

Through our 55 associate institutes/NGOs and the Grameen Phone, City Cell and RobiMobile Companies, Aparajeyo-Bangladesh will inaugurate this campaign. This initiative will help fulfill the dream of Digital Bangladesh and will help the destitute / orphan/floating street children to become empowered, self reliant and the dream of a prosperous Bangladesh will become a reality.



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