

# Activity Report - June 2006

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2006

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&  
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## 1. Panjia Project (Phase -2)

### 1.1 TW Screening in Bidyanandakati Union

During the period of 15<sup>th</sup> May to 25<sup>th</sup> June, the screening of tubewells was carried out in the following 4 wards of Biddanandakati Union:

Ward #2 (Aulganti, Hasanpur, Kabilpur, and Saksokenpur villages)

Ward #6 (Bhandarkhola, Fatepur, and Khopdahi villages)

Ward #7 (Hariaghop and Parchakra villages), and

Ward #8 (Bidyanandakati, Baushala, Kaliarai, and Lalapur villages)

In average, the ratio of arsenic contaminated tube wells increased in all those Wards, like anywhere else, from the time of previous screening conducted by BAMWSP in 2003. The Annex-1 records the results of the TW screening covering the whole Biddanandakati Union which was completed on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

### 1.2 Awareness-raising Activities in Bidyanandakati Union

**Flipchart Performance:** The flipchart performance was conducted at a total of 40 places in Ward #5 and #7 of Bidyanandakati Union during 3<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> June. About 2,281 people participated in the program as summarized in the table below:

Period	W #	Village	Place	Male	Female	Student Male	Student Female	Child	Grand Total
3 - 8/6	5	Kakilakhali & Titabajitpur	Para / 18	114	346	0	0	170	630
			School / 1	0	0	27	25	0	52
11/6	5	Teghori	Para / 1	38	95	0	0	42	175
			School / 1	0	0	50	60	0	110
22 - 29/6	7	Par Chakra	Para / 16	216	475	0	0	337	1,028
			School / 3	0	0	141	145	0	286
3 - 29/6		Total		368	916	218	230	549	2,281

**Cultural Program:** In June only one cultural program was organized. It was held at Bhandarkhola Bazar in W #6 attended by about 900 people. In addition to parody songs and *gombhira* (a folk musical drama) on arsenic, arsenicosis and hygienic living, some photographs of symptoms were shown so that people are afraid of getting arsenicosis and stop taking water from arsenic-contaminated tube wells.

### 1.3 Nutrition Program in Panjia

Nutrition programs are organized at places where alternative safe water devices have been installed to ensure that people will use the safe water for drinking and cooking. In the program people are told to eat nutritious food to prevent themselves from arsenicosis with a lecture on nutrition, and they, mostly women, cook *kichuri* with dal and vitamin-rich vegetables in season.



Children enjoy *kichuri* after the program.

Five nutrition programs were performed in June, attended by about 540 people as detailed below:

Date	Site Name	Rotary DTW #	W #	Male	Female	Child	Total
15-6-06	Imannagr Gazi Para	1	1	20	35	55	110
20-6-06	Paunchbakabarshi	2	1	18	32	45	95
21-6-06	Rajnagar Bnakabarshi	3	7	15	45	62	122
26-6-06	Manderdanga	4	1	15	30	41	86
28-6-06	Gorbhanga	11	2	12	55	60	127
Total				80	197	263	540

### 1.4 Rotary Safe Water Supply Project

**Site Selection using PRA Method:** Para meetings were carried out to select a site for a Rotary deep tube well after making a para map with PRA methods at two places in Panjia Union in June as summarized in the table below:

Date	W #	Village	Venue	Participants
12 <sup>th</sup> June	8	Nepakati	Nuritola West Para	30
	7	Rajnagar Bankabarshi	Rajnagar Bankabarshi West Para	60
Total				90

**Construction of Rotary DTWs in Panjia Union:** Total 11 DTWs were installed with successful sealing in Panjia in June, as summarized below:

Rotary DTW #	W #	Place	Drilling Period	Depth	Sealing
25	5	Monohornagar Mollah Para	30/5 - 1/6	680 ft	Done
26	7	Brammandanga East Para	31/5 - 4/6	683 ft	Done
27	9	Panjia South West Para	2 - 5/6	695 ft	Done
28	8	Sataiskati High School	3 - 7/6	618 ft	Done
29	9	Hod North West Para	5 - 9/6	708 ft	Done
30	6	Madardanga Kundu Para	8 - 14/6	673 ft	Done
31	9	Hod East Middle Para	10 - 15/6	727 ft	Done
32	7	Rajnagar Bankabarshi N.East Para	15 - 22/6	777 ft	Done
33	7	Rajnagar Bankabarshi West Para	16 - 22/6	930 ft	Done
34	6	Madardanga Girls School	23 - 27/6	682 ft	Done
35	5	Monohornagar West Para	23 - 28/6	617 ft	Done

### **Water Quality Test of 20 Rotary DTWs:**

Water quality was tested for the first 20 Rotary DTWs for pH, conductivity, total dissolved solids, salinity, total hardness, phosphate, ammonium, arsenic, iron, manganese and faecal coliform at the AAN laboratory. Arsenic concentrations were between 0.001 mg/L and 0.003 mg/L. Most of the parameters were within the both WHO guideline values and Bangladesh standards, except that ammonium slightly exceeded the Bangladesh standard at nine DTWs though they were within the WHO guideline value. Faecal coliform was detected in 11 DTW water samples, as they were collected soon after the digging for which cow dung was used to protect the sand wall of the drilling hole. It is expected to diminish soon. The result of the water quality test is attached as Annex II.



A DTW digging site. Two workers walk around continuously on shifts holding the levers attached to the drilling pipe day and night.

**Progress Report:** A report on the progress of the Rotary Safe Water Supply Project was compiled and duly submitted to the Rotary Bangladesh Arsenic Mitigation Project Committee (BAMPC) on 20th June. It was earlier by two months than the original schedule. Also the second installment of the grant was received from the BAMPC.

**Signing of Memorandum of Understanding:** Al-Amin and Rana prepared all the necessary documents for installing DTWs such as the memorandums of understanding. They were duly signed by Chairman of Users Committee, Ward UP members, Chairman of Ward AMC, Chairman of Union AMC, land owner, and Operation Manager of AAN.

## **2. Medical Support**

The following patients received treatment at Yamagata Dhaka Friendship Hospital during June:

- 1) Mr. DH (Azagora village, Chandpur Dist.) from 7<sup>th</sup> June [to 14 July] for the second operation of his SCC on the right foot. He had pain and some infection on the operated part but recovered well after the second operation on 10<sup>th</sup> June.

2) Mr. LR (Marua village, Jessore Dist.) [from 11<sup>th</sup> April] to 8th June for his lung disorders.

### 3. Visitors

1) Prof. Nobutada Nakamoto visited Bangladesh from 27<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July and observed the KRK pipeline water supply system in Putkhali Union, Sharsha Upazila. He suggested increasing the velocity of water flow in the purification units to improve water quality.