

# THP AGAINST rape

THE  
HUNGER  
PROJECT  
Bangladesh

The Hunger Project Bangladesh and National Girl Child Advocacy Forum have organized a Human Chain on 3 January, 2013 in front of the National Press Club raising voice to bring the rapists of a young girl child and their perpetrators to exemplary penalty. More than 400 representatives of 37 organizations, institutions and the civil society have participated in the assembly and expressed their revulsion against these rapscallions.

On 6 December, 2012, a 15 year old school girl, Sathi Akter Moyna, of Madhupur, Tangail, was handed over by another woman to a band of rapists, who captivated the helpless girl in a place and molested for 4 consecutive days. The rapists also recorded the whole incident in video. The girl was then left unconscious on a rail track, from where she had been salvaged by the locals. The traumatized girl has been admitted to the One Stop Crisis Centre at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Her condition is deteriorating day by day. She is now under intensive treatment with sedatives and psychiatric counseling.

On 14 December, the family of the girl was offered with a monetary compensation in a local arbitration. The family refused to accept the offer and filed a case in local Police Station on 30 December. Police has arrested the rapists and their abettor but surprisingly who seemed to get bail. The Hunger Project and National Girl Child Advocacy Forum have organized a protest in the court yard on 2 January, 2013, which then influenced the process to send them for remand.

In the Human Chain, Nasima Akhter Joly, Secretary, NGCAF, urged to the government to ensure exemplary penalty for the rapists. Country Director of The Hunger Project, Dr. Badiul Alam Majumdar mentioned rape as the most heinous act and asked the government to immediately proceed for the most appropriate punishment for these culprits. A no. of Civil Society representatives, including Prof. Dilara Chowdhury, Selina Banu from ASD, Adv. Rashida Haq of BNWLA, Aminul Islam Shujon from WBB, Prof. Latifa Akand, Tazima Hossain Majumdar of THP, Rehana Parvin from TMSS, Atikur Rahman form Aparajeyo Bangladesh, Ms. Jonna from Bangladesh Mohila PArishad, Murshikul Islam Shimul from THP etc. have also shown their fraternity to the protest through their participation.

