

## Disaster Risk Reduction Rally 2008 Jamalpur and Cox's Bazar Pouroshavas, Bangladesh

In commemoration of the UN-International Day for Disaster Reduction 2008, Pouroshava Disaster Management Committees, Jamalpur and Cox's Bazar had



organized Awareness Rally on 15/10/08 and 20/10/08. This rally not only complemented the international day for disaster risk reduction but at the same time, highlighted the proactive efforts of the Pouroshava on DRR. The Deputy Commissioner, DRRO and other government officials including the Pouroshava council members were active participants of

this big event. The Deputy Commissioner in his inaugural speech emphasized the fact that we cannot prevent hazards but rather we can be prepared in minimizing the impacts of the hazards in our daily life. This rally also witnessed the strong commitment by the Pouroshava Disaster Management Committee (PDMC) members to aware the inhabitants of Jamalpur and Cox's Bazar on DRR. Pouroshava Mayor took the lead role in managing the Rally with his ward councilors.



Women, children, slum development committee members, volunteers, media (electronic and print), non-governmental organizations and other government officials came together to make this rally successful. The Deputy Commissioner himself marched along with the crowd from the Sajid Minar point to the Pouroshava which was a display of his strong commitment to make Pouroshava a disaster resistant

district. At the end of the rally, PDMC, CARE, DAM, Mukti, local elite and Pouroshava chairperson thanked the community representatives and the participants for their commitment and participation in making the rally a success. The Mayor highlighted the disaster mitigation initiatives taken by the Pouroshava such as providing an official space for Disaster Management Unit, inclusion and circulation of contingency planning documents among



government officials, disaster risk reduction budgeting and providing monetary support for rally. Individuals from PDMC, CARE, ADPC, DAM and Mukti also thanked the inhabitants of Jamalpur and Cox's Bazar towns for making their towns the models of Urban Disaster Risk Reduction.



In Jamalpur, the Disaster Reduction Rally was concluded with drawing competition among school children. The awareness level of the children in hazards and disasters in Jamalpur and Cox's Bazar were high and therefore they can be the

best media

to internalize the disaster risk reduction tools to minimize the impact of potential risk.

In Cox's Bazar, the rally was concluded with the drama on Creating Awareness on Early Warning for Cyclone which was performed by Slum Disaster Volunteer Group members.

