**BERDO celebrates International Disability Day**

On 2th December, 2022 BERDO (BLINED EDUCATION AND REHABILITATION DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION) celebrated ‘International Disability Day’ with much fanfare. Apart from a rally that paraded different streets of Mirpur with impressive banners and festoons, a discussion meeting was organized. Mr. N.M. Zialul Alam , senior secretary , and Mr. Akhtaruzzaman , joint secretary ( Admin)of Post, Telecommunication and Information Ministry, were present as Chief guest and special guest respectively in this event. Other prominent persons Mr. Advocate Mossaraf Hossain Mazumber, Mr. Maksudul Alam, Ms. Shahina Begum, BERDO treasurer Ms. Hosna Ara Begum were present in this ceremony as ‘special guest’.

Md. Saidul Huq, Executive Director of BERDO, presided over the meeting. At the outset, he highlighted briefly about all BERDO activities and progress. He informed that BERDO had been running a “Residential school for blind Children” where about 60 blind children were studying. In addition, there is large Braille Library with huge collection of different books in braille version and most modern Braille press to produce braille books rapidly. It will address dearth of learning books in Bangladesh He added that BERDO had provided jobs to 280 Blind Students at different organizations and Banks through advocacy and they are performing satisfactorily. He informed that BERDO had a concrete Plan to establish a “Residential Hostel, to promote education for blind girls in Bangladesh. He said that he is grateful to Mr. Maksudl Alam, a Canadian Bangladeshi’ for providing a lift to BERDO.

Advocate Mossaraf Hossain, in his deliberation, advocated that that more access to opportunities must give to blind children / people so that they can probe /exhibit their potentiality.

Another participant Ms. Sheuli Akhtar put emphases on inclusion of modern inventions to different assistive devices to make them more beneficial to PWDs.

Mr. Makdusul Alam made his commitment to support BERDO in future. Ms. Sahina Alam promised to provide fund for establishing a girls hostel for BERDO.

Special guest and Joint secretary (admin) of same ministry Mr. Akhtaruzzaman, in his speech, put more emphasis on inclusion of modern inventions to assistive devices. He promised to support BERDO at his level best.

Chief guest Mr. N.M Ziaul Alam, in his speech, informed that there is good relation between ICT and blind people. He also added that blind children and people work sincerely and with much devotion in their job and try to deliver their best. He informed that government is designing Unilevel Design and it would be accessible to PWDs.

BERDO treasurer Ms. Hosna Ara, in her concluding speech, thanked all for their participation.