



SANRAKSHAN

Society for Protection of Children

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Awarding *BalMitra* (Friends of Children) 2023 to Mr. Shishir Kumar Shil on Behalf of SANRAKSHAN

Shishir Kumar Shil, is better known as a thriving 'Civil and Human Rights Expert', not only in his home country but also abroad, particularly in South Asia. He has been greatly influenced by the concept of consensus mechanism to promote and ensure civil right among the marginal populations and government promoted policies for the welfare of the society and communities, pioneered by the Indian policy planners.

In order to promote the democratic values and norms for public good, **Shishir Kumar Shil** promoted bi-lateral, regional, and international dialogues among the parliamentarians, policy makers on legislative process and national and international development related issues in home and abroad, resulting to perpetuation of major national policies even after change of the political regime in his home country. The credit of initiating the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) in Bangladesh Parliament in 2003 goes to him that motivated cross-party parliamentarians' consensus on national, regional, and international priorities. Amidst this colossal efforts, the process of capacity building of the parliamentarians and policy makers essentially on moral values and principles for greater good was prompted by him for the first time as the Secretary General of All-Party Parliamentary Group of Bangladesh Parliament through leadership training on constitution, legislation, peace, security and national as well as international development related policy issues and practices. The outstanding objective has been to establish the fairness of justice approach to ensure civil and human rights for the women, children and vulnerable section of population of the community and society.

Shishir Kumar Shil has been contributing as a resource person, on behalf of the Parliament and the Government, in many national/international/inter-governmental agencies like-Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy, the United Nations, the World Bank, International Monetary Fund (IMF) etc. Apart from his role as Secretary General, he was responsible to lead the research team of All-Party Parliamentary Groups of Bangladesh Parliament.

Influenced by the Indian culture, traditions and policy issues, **Shishir Kumar Shil** was interested to interact with the people of repute in this fields and he is one of the instrumental to execute Bangladesh-India friendship dialogue process to ensure regional stability, peace, security as well as sustainable progress and development of the common people of both countries. As a part strengthening bi-lateral relationship among two countries, he visited Delhi, Assam to present key-note speeches and also to attend official meetings with highest level of policy planners, civil society actors, researchers, academics, youth including Hon'ble





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Speaker of Indian Parliament (Lok Shova) H.E. Shri Om Birla, former President of Indian Council of Cultural Relations Dr.Karan Singh. Shishir Kumar Shil also promoted the policy issues of people's rights and dignity from his country level to multilateral and global level through meeting with global leaders. Among others, he hold meeting with former secretary of state Madeline All bright (in Washington DC, April, 2010), former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon (in UNHQ NY, April,2010).

The drive to learn the good practices towards establishing egalitarian society, Shishir Kumar Shil participated in international meetings, workshops, trainings, and seminars to enhance his global perspective and expertise. He not only led the national team, addressing governance challenges, and establishing strong liaisons with various ministries and department of the government, but also significantly involved in training for the leadership at different level including lawmakers, public officials, civil society actors enhancing their capabilities and understanding of critical issues. Additionally, he spearheaded the research team, contributing to the development of insightful and impactful studies.

His passion for common and quality education, especially for the children of vulnerable communities, obliged Shishir Kumar Shil to explore opportunities to collaborate with international agencies. The project '**Education for all partnership**' in collaboration with Commonwealth Education Fund (CEF) determined on enhancing educational outcomes in underprivileged regions and communities. Participating as a panellist in an international conference organized by the Global Action Group in April 2017 during the spring meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in Washington DC, he focused on 'Nutrition and Early Childhood Development'. He reiterated on the critical importance of nutrition and early childhood development in global development agendas, by citing best practices and praiseworthy strategic discussions. The conference was a vital platform for international collaboration and knowledge exchange, aimed at advancing global efforts to improve health and developmental outcomes for children worldwide.

In September 2006, attended as one of the speakers in the South Asian Parliamentary Summit on Education in New Delhi with the commitments of bringing together parliamentarians from South Asian countries to deliberate on matters related to education, a critical component of human development. Sharing his insights, best practices, and policy approaches to enhance education systems in the South Asian region, he had the opportunity to highlight the education policies, challenges, and opportunities in Bangladesh and the broader South Asian context. He made use of the valuable opportunity to strengthen regional cooperation and share his experiences in the field of education.

Shishir Kumar Shil was instrumental to initiate the campaigns and research initiatives to influence National Policy Incorporation, such as the five-year national plan, national budget policy, education policy, climate change and environment policy, Child labour policy, and regulations on Child Marriage, among others, that significantly shaped the national policies





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in these critical areas, reflecting the country's commitment to and impact on societal betterment. Further, he pioneering Research project on Child Labour in Ship Breaking industry in Chittagong, Bangladesh. The findings from this study were crucial in catalysing government action to eradicate child labour in this sector, demonstrating the power of research in effecting tangible policy changes.

SANRAKSHAN (<https://www.sanrakshanindia.org>), is a registered national-level non-governmental organization dedicated to providing care and protection for underprivileged children from vulnerable backgrounds such as those living on the streets or in traumatic conditions. The organisation is based out of Bangalore, India. Influenced by the pioneering as well as painstaking work undertaken by **Shishir Kumar Shil** in protecting, promoting and defending child rights, human rights and education, the governing board of SANRAKSHAN unanimously decided to honour Mr. Shil for his dedication. Thus the award is being declared for the year 2023 to present to **Shishir Kumar Shil**. He not only brought sea change for people in general and the children in particular in his home country Bangladesh but also in South Asia. Acknowledging and appreciating his contributions towards Education and Child Rights, SANRAKSHAN offers the *BalMitra* (Friends of Children) Award 2023 to **Mr. Shishir Kumar Shil**.

SANRAKSHAN wishes **Shishir Kumar Shil** all the best for his future to attain the height he dreams for.


Ramanath Nayak
Chairperson




Rajashekhar M.
Executive Secretary