

## **Kajoli Model Center for Floating child-workers at Sadarghat Launch Terminal:**



Sadarghat is the largest river port of Bangladesh located on Buriganga river which passes through Dhaka, the capital of the country. Hundreds of launches (steamers) and boats leave from the Sadarghat Terminal for different destinations of the country. As a result there is a concentration of large number of child workers who help passengers to load their luggage on the boats and do other chores to earn a living. The children normally stay in terminal buildings at night under the control of leaders who are dictate almost all aspects of their lives. RIB decided to open a Kajoli Model Center at the Terminal to attract these children to learning and to provide them with at least some basic education.



As a result a pilot programme was set up under the leadership of Mr. A.K.M. Maksud in mid 2009. The experiment has been extremely successful largely because the “leaders” of the children referred to above found the idea useful to keep the children occupied when they are not working. [See .....] A large number of children attend the lessons which are provided by a teacher using the Kajoli Model in a corner of the Terminal building. Fund permitting, RIB hopes to extend the experiment to similar other places, such as Railway Stations.