

ORS fails to save patients with severe dehydration No political commitment yet to control diarrhoeal diseases

Lack of political commitment and system support, inadequate Oral Rehydration Salt (ORS) supply and weak surveillance and routine reporting are the major constraints in the programme implementation for control of diarrhoeal diseases, reports BSS.

The other major constraints are frequent transfer of staff and weak mid-level management, according to the two-year (1989-91). National Control of Diarrhoeal Disease Programme (NCDDP), a review of which was conducted by the government from October 12 to 24.

Summary of the draft report was presented Thursday by Dr Mariam Claesson, one of the team members at a ceremony held at International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh, (ICDDR'B) at Mohakhali. Project Director of NCDDP Dr. M. Anwarullah presided.

The 13-member review team consisted of representatives from the government, WHO, UNICEF, World Bank (WB), and Pritch US Aid.

Under the two-year UNCCDP 50 oral rehydration corners were set up in 50 upazilas, 14 diarrhoeal disease control cells were formed in 14 districts and 9 diarrhoeal training units (DTU) were set up in nine medical college hospitals apart from continuous training programme to the professors.

However, it was reported in the review that only one out of nine DTU for training of doctors and nurses diarrhoeal case management were in operation due to lack of skilled trainers, administrative and academic

support. The review team also found lack of communication activities in NCDDP and inappropriate drug use by the practitioners of diarrhoeal diseases.

The NCDDP, in collaboration with WHO and UNICEF conducted a household case management survey and health facility survey in 1990 which provided some information and data on key programme indicators, but in many cases base line data were lacking.

Despite lack of base-line data, the NCDDP in its second phase of work which will begin in January 1992 and end in December, 1996 has fixed up some targets to reduce mortality by diarrhoeal diseases, to improve case management, training, ORS and ORT delivery system, managerial and supervisory skills and mother's knowledge in diarrhoeal disease management.

Additional Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Prof. K.M. Fariduddin, speaking at the presentation ceremony as the Chief guest, said the review did not cover the preven-

tive aspects of diarrhoeal diseases which depends on improvement of water supply, sanitation, literacy, knowledge of primary health care and habits.

Referring to the shortage of Intravenous Fluid (IV), he said assistance from UNICEF and other sources had already been sought in this regard. He said in some cases severity of dehydration of diarrhoeal patients are so high that it is difficult to save them by ORS.

WHO Representative Dr. A. N. A. Abeyesundere emphasised the improvement of managerial and supervisory skill and education of the people on primary health care through mass contact by the health workers to control the diarrhoeal diseases.

Afsar Siddiqi hospitalised

Afsar Ahmed Siddiqi, Office Secretary of Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and a former MP and District Development Coordinator of Jessore, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Tuesday night, reports BSS.

Siddiqi has been suffering from hepatic ailment and is undergoing treatment in Ward Number 3 under Prof. Ni Khan.

Agriculture Minister Majidul Haq, Social Welfare Minister Tariqul Islam, State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain and Chief Whip Khondokar Dewar Hossain visited the ailing BNP leader at the hospital on Thursday.

Earlier on Wednesday leader of the House Prof. Badruddoza Chowdhury, and eminent physician of the country, visited Siddiqi and examined him. Health Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, Social Welfare Minister Tariqul Islam, Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiya and State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain also visited Siddiqi Wednesday besides his other political colleagues.

A medical board has been constituted for Siddiqi. Attending doctors have requested visitors not to disturb the patient who needs complete rest for recovery.

18 gay girls arrested

By Staff Correspondent
Detective Branch personnel of Dhaka Metropolitan Police on Thursday arrested 18 gay girls and their agents from different parts of the city.

Police first arrested four primps from Sakura hotel area and on their confession later arrested 11 unlicensed prostitutes and three brokers from a house at Mohammadpur.

Hungry, jobless still crowd Ramsagar for miracle

By Jehangir Alam and S M Ahmed

Maharaja Prannath of Dinajpur, deeply moved by the misery of his famine-struck subjects calls for digging a Dighi (larger than a tank but smaller than a lake) to create work and hold enough water for all.

Thousands of people from far and near gathered at a spot, five miles from the palace with shovels and buckets and dug a tank, one and a half miles long and about half a mile wide in about 15 days. It was named Ramsagar (Sea of Ram) after Prince Ramnath, the only son of the Maharaja.

That was nearly 400 years ago in the late 17th century but in the recent days, Ramsagar has been drawing large crowd in the wake of post-flood scarcity and joblessness that is prevailing in the northern districts.

They come to remember the benevolent Maharaja or his son, Ramnath who made supreme sacrifice to mitigate the suffering of their beleaguered forefathers who faced a similar situation 400 years ago.

They recall with deep reverence the young and brave philanthropist who, as the legend goes, gave his own life to bring water to the Sagar which remained dry even after digging 40 feet deep.

A modern Prannath or Ramnath is sought to deliver the hungry from their present post-flood predicament. Although there is none in sight, the seekers recapitulate the legend which passed on to them in dissimilar versions through generations.

According to the commonly accepted version, the prolific kingdom of Dinajpur had once gone dry with very little food and no water. The benevolent Maharaja, in great pain to see the plight of his subjects, launched a tank digging programme to enable them work for food and water.

Deeper and deeper the innumerable shovels pushed, there was no sign of water forcing the helpless Maharaja into deep meditation.

Fertilizer, seeds to be given free of cost

State Minister for Land and Relief, Coordinator for the greater Rajshahi district Md Kabir Hossain visited the remotest floodhit areas at Paba upazila of the district Thursday, reports BSS in Dhaka.

He went round different relief camps and supervised the distribution of fertilizer, seeds and agricultural inputs among farmers under post-flood agricultural rehabilitation programmes.

Talking to the farmers, the State Minister told them that misappropriation during the distribution would not be tolerated. Fertilizer and seeds would be given free of cost, he said.

The State Minister asked the officials to ensure quick distribution to make the programmes a success.

Lack of tolerance creates chaos, says Speaker

Speaker of the Jitiya Sangsad Sheikh Razzaque Ali Thursday underscored the need for tolerance and understanding for promoting the causes of peace and development, reports BSS.

Addressing as chief guest at a seminar organised by the Lions Club of Dhaka Central in cooperation with the United Nations Information Centre (UNIC) at the UNIC auditorium, he called for abhorrence of violence in political and social life for the sake of a healthy society.



Reazuddin Ahmed, Deputy Editor of The Daily Star being presented with a bouquet at a farewell reception on Thursday. Editor S. M. Ali looks on. —Star photo

What's on today . . .

CPB reunion
The Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) will hold its post-congress reunion today (Friday) at 4 pm at the party central office at Purana Palton in the city.

Party leaders, workers and well-wishers have been requested to attend the reunion which will be followed by a cultural function.

Rehearsal of film on Zia
The rehearsal of documentary film on Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman will formally be inaugurated today (Friday) at 5 pm at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium.

Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda will attend the function as the chief guest.

Others to attend the inaugural of the film titled 'Hridoy Kamal' (a ballad of a hero) include State Minister for Cultural Affairs Prof. Jahannara Begum, Amanuloh Choudhury MP, City BNP Treasurer Akmal Ahmed, Bangladesh Film Development Corporation, Managing Director Mostafa Monwar, President of the BFUJ Reazuddin Ahmed, Acting Editor of the daily Dinkal, Syed Zafar.

Apparel machinery exhibition
The third apparel machinery exhibition will begin today (Friday) at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel. Labour and Manpower Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan will inaugurate the exhibition at 4 pm.

About 50 foreign dignitaries including high-ups of manufacturing companies of industrial swing machinery from Japan, USA and West Germany will participate in the exhibition, organised by Zakaria Enterprises Limited.

Sher-e-Bangla's birth anniversary
Dakhin Bangla Juba Kalyan Samity will hold a discussion meeting today (Friday) at 3 pm at the premises of three national leaders' mazar near the Doyel Crossing in observance of birth anniversary of Sher-e-Bangla A.K. Fazlul Haq.

Awami League leader Mohiuddin Ahmed MP will address the meeting as the chief guest while Tofael Ahmed MP of Awami League, Barrister Saidur Rahman Miah of Bangadandhu Parishad and Advocate Mohammad Abdus Salam Talukder will be the special guests.

Besides, Nurul Hida Choudhury of Manik Mia Parishad, M. A. Hannan Firoz of the Juba Kalyan Samity and Pankaj Nath, a student leader will also address the meeting.

Forest employees
Bangladesh Ban Karma Nirbahi Samity (Forest Employees Association has called a press conference today (Friday) at 5 pm at the National Press Club to describe various problems being faced by the field-level employees of the Forest Department.

Bangladesh-Libyan Friendship
Bangladesh-Libyan Friendship Association will hold a discussion meeting and a milad at its city office (44/N/1, Natun Sarak, Jikatola) today (Friday) at 6-15 pm on the occasion of the 80th National Mourning Day of Libya.

Charge d' Affairs of Libyan People's Bureau in Bangladesh Hamed Ahmed Abdel Waheed will attend and give a talk on the occasion.

Shishu Kishore Sangathan.
Vaskar Shishu Kishore Sangathan's city unit will hold a discussion meeting to be followed by a blood donation programme at the metropolitan Advocates' Association Bar Hall Room (23/1, Court House Street) in the city today (Friday) at 9 am.

State Minister for Youth and Sports Sadeq Hossain Khoka will attend the function as the chief guest.

Lions Club of Progoti
The ninth weekly meeting of the Lions Club of Dhaka Progoti will be held today (Friday) at 4.30 pm at Hotel Sonargaon. Lr. Gautam Saha, President of the club has requested all members to attend the meeting in time.

Dr Taslima Nasrin will be the guest speaker on the occasion and speak on 'repression on women in Bangladesh and its control'.

World Muslim Brotherhood Assoc
The World Muslim Brotherhood Association holds a seminar today (Friday) at 4 pm at 51/12 Johnson Road in the city in observance of the association's 6th founding anniversary.

Ambassadors of different Muslim Countries in Bangladesh including Iran, Pakistan, Libya and Palestine will attend the seminar.

Lalon Parishad
The Central Council of Lalon Parishad holds a reception in honour of S. Chatterjee, Manager of HMV of India, at BIBA auditorium at 361 DIT Road in the city today (Friday) at 4 pm.

Poet Sabir Ahmed Choudhury will preside over the function which will be attended by the Chairman of the Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha Dr Ashraf Siddiqi as the chief guest. Noted poet Abu Zafar Siddiqi will be the special guest on the occasion.

Farewell to Reazuddin
By Staff Correspondent
The management and the staff of The Daily Star yesterday held a reception to bid farewell to the paper's Deputy Editor, Reazuddin Ahmed.

Mr. Ahmed has resigned from the Star to join a new English-language daily which is due to be launched from Dhaka in January, as its Chief Editor.

Tk 72.40 lakh for flood-hit Rangpur farmers
The government has sanctioned Taka 72.40 lakh for post-flood agriculture rehabilitation in Rangpur district, reports BSS.

The amount would be distributed among the small and marginal farmers for purchasing wheat and boro seeds.

HERE and THERE

Bangla-Australia Society
A 31-member committee of the Bangladesh-Australia Friendship Society was formed on Wednesday with Matur Rahman Khan as President and Captain (ret'd) Kazi Kabiruddin as General Secretary.

The committee was formed at a meeting at Hotel Sundarban with Abdul Kader, President of Bangladesh Association of Australia in the chair.

The Bangladesh Association of Australia donated \$ 10,001 to the Prime Minister's Relief Fund.

FP Officers' Assoc
Dhaka divisional conference of the Upazila Family Planning Officers Association was held on Wednesday at NIPORT auditorium demanding full encadrement of the officers.

The conference was presided over by Tahkder Umar, Organising Secretary of the Association and was attended by members of different upazilas under Dhaka Division.

UNESCO Club
The National Association of UNESCO clubs in Bangladesh on Thursday organised a discussion at its office in observance of United Nations Day.

The meeting was presided over by its Vice-President Aftab Ahmed and was addressed among others by Secretary General Mahbub Uddin Chowdhury and Md Musa, Md Sharif and Javed Chowdhury.

Garments workers employees union
Garments workers on Thursday laid a siege around the Labour Directorate building demanding implementation of labour and factory laws in the garment-factories.

Badruddoza Nizam, Touhidur Rahman and Jaheda Begum addressed the gathering, said a press release.

WPDB Engineers Assoc
Bangladesh Water and Power Development Board (WPDB) Engineers Association on Thursday demanded to accept its various demands immediately.

A general meeting of the organisation with QM Khaled in the chair also demanded encadrement of the engineers.

Their other demands include: filling up of vacant posts, increase in residential accommodation, framing of policies of transfer, enhancement of pay of the assistant engineers after completion of four years of service.

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders are invited from IATA approved Bangladeshi travel agents for supply of foreign air tickets only for the foreign consultants and experts working in Bangladesh under various contracts with the Power Development Board for the year 1992.

Maximum facilities to be provided by the intending travel agents are to be mentioned in their respective tender.

Tender shall be submitted in the tender box kept at the following address on 12-11-91 up to 11.00 a.m. and will be opened in presence of tenderers (if any) on the same date at 11.30 a.m.

Secretary
Power Development Board
WAPDA Building, Dhaka.
Biddu/Jan/424(3)91-92
DFP(BA)—8507-19/10
G-749

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Comilla Public Works Department, Comilla

TENDER NOTICE

Tenders under sealed cover in Bangladesh Form No 2911 are invited from Public Works Department enlisted special 1st class and 1st class building contractors, Chittagong Public Works Zone enlisted 2nd class building contractors, Comilla Public Works Circle enlisted 3rd class building contractors and Comilla Public Works Department enlisted 4th class building contractors for the undermentioned work. The tenders will be received by the undersigned and Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chandpur/Noakhali/Bbaria/Feni/Laxmipur on 31-10-91 up to 12:00 Noon and opened the same day at 12:15 minutes before the tenderers willing to be present. Each tender should be in sealed envelope superscribing name of work and deposited in the Tender Box kept at this office.

- Name of work : Construction of boundary wall portions of Daulatganj Upazila Health Complex (on the eastern side adjacent to pond and on the north eastern side of the canal) and Darwan shed, under Laksham upazila, during 1991-92 financial year.
- Estimated cost : Taka 1,61,558/-
- Earnest money : Taka 3,232/-
- Time for completion of work from the date of work order : 2 (two) months.

Tender schedule with item and terms and conditions can be seen at the offices of the undersigned and Executive Engineer, Public Works Department, Chandpur/Bbaria/Noakhali/Feni/Laxmipur and offices of all Sub-Divisional Engineers under this office during office hours and purchased on payment of the price Tk 400/- (four hundred) only (non-refundable) for each set of tender and Tk 25/- (twenty five) only (non-refundable) for each Bangladesh Form No. 2911.

Tender schedule can be seen and purchased up to 30-10-91.

Executive Engineer
Comilla Public Works Department

DFP(G) 12102-22/10
G-766

Tender Notice

কিয়ং বিল সিভিল পরিচালক কর্তৃক

Name of work : (A) Supply of winter liveries for the employees of Mymensingh Electric Supply Division (B) Supply of winter liveries for the employees of different Electric Supplies under Mymensingh Electric Supply Division. Estimated cost : (A) Tk. 1,70,280/- (B) Tk. 1,71,270/- Eligibility of contractors : Power Development Board enlisted all class of contractors/bonafide experienced tailoring shop. Price of tender Tk. 150/- per set. Place and date of tender availability—Chief Engineer, Central Zone, PDB, Dhaka/Superintending Engineer, Operation and Maintenance Circle, PDB, Momenshahi and Manager, Rupali Bank Ltd., Station Road Branch, Momenshahi up to 10-11-91. Date of receiving and opening of tender—11-11-91 up to 12:00 Noon and on the same day at 12-30 p.m. All conditions of the tender must be complied with.

Executive Engineer
Mymensingh Electric Supply, PDB, Momenshahi.
Biddu/Jan-437(3)91-92
DFP(BA)—8590-21/10
G-763

The Chittagong Port Authority
(Marine Department)

সেলে সেক সেক সেক দুই সন্ধানী বসে

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders in duplicate are invited by the Chittagong Port Authority, Chittagong, from the interested manufacturers for the fabrication and supply of "10 Nos. Marking Buoy". The tender must be valid for 90 (ninety) days from the date of opening of the tender.

The drawing and specifications together with Tender Form, terms and conditions in details will be available for sale in the Office of the undersigned on payment of Tk. 400.00 (Four hundred) only (non-refundable) up to 1200 hrs. on any working days except Friday, holiday and the day of opening tender on 18th November, 1991. Tender documents will also be available from the office of the Liaison Officer, CPA Liaison Office, 33, Segun Bagicha, Dhaka, on payment of Tk. 400.00/- (Non-refundable) only.

Tenderers must submit earnest money @ 2% of the quoted amount through Pay Order/Bank Draft in favour of CPA with their tender and drop their tenders by 1200 hrs. on the 18th November, 1991 in the Tender Box kept ready in front of the Office of the Deputy Conservator, for the purpose. Tenders dropped will be opened at 1230 hrs. on the same day in presence of the available Tenderers or their representatives.

The Chittagong Port Authority reserves the right to accept or reject any tender without assigning any reason.

DFP(BA)8545-21/10
G-759

Deputy Conservator
Chittagong Port Authority.

Army relief operation continues
Army personnel from the Bogra and Rangpur areas continued their relief activity at the flood affected northern districts, according to an ISPR press release in Dhaka on Thursday, reports BSS.

Dhaka welcomes convening of Madrid confce
A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has said that Bangladesh welcomes the convening of the Middle-East peace conference in Madrid on October 30, reports BSS.

It hopes that the conference find a just and comprehensive settlement of the Middle-East problem and the Palestine issue fulfilling the goals and aspirations of the peoples of Palestine. It also lauds the decision of the US administration and the Soviet government for co-sponsoring this conference.

The efforts of the US Secretary of State James Baker, in bringing the parties involved together deserved special praise, the spokesman added.

Khaleda invited to attend OIC summit
The OIC Secretary General has despatched by special envoy a letter to Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia wishing her participation in the organisation's coming summit.

Dr El Hadi Hentesh delivered the letter today to Acting Foreign Secretary Faruq Sobhan.

In his letter, Hamid Al Gabid hoped that Begum Zia would be able to attend the OIC summit to contribute significantly to the welfare of the Muslim Ummah, Faruq Sobhan told UNB.

The envoy who arrived here Wednesday, also brought another letter from the OIC Secretary General for Foreign Minister ASM Mostafizur Rahman.

Hadi met Sobhan at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and discussed administrative affairs of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), its budgetary problems and preparatory steps for the summit due in Dakar, Senegal, in early December.

They also reviewed activities of the OICO-run ICTVTR in Bangladesh especially the financial constraints it is facing due to non-payment of contributions by some member-states.

Director General at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Muhammad Zamir and ICTVTR Director Dr. Patwari were present during the meeting.