

President asks doctors to help extend medicare to every citizen

President Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday said the government is pledge-bound to extend medicare services to every citizen of the country and urged the physicians to help make the plan a success, reports BSS.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony of 25th annual national conference of Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh (OSB) at Sonargaon Hotel in the city Shahabuddin said the persons and organisations involved in the noble medical profession should attach more importance to human services than commercial benefits.

The president said it is high time to deeply look into the matter why the most well-off persons go abroad for better treatment and services and those who cannot afford that feel deprived of. Except for special needs going to foreign countries for treatment is not good for the country, he added.

The physicians should identify the problems in this regard on the basis of proper evaluation and solution will no doubt be a difficult task, he observed.

Lauding the standard of ophthalmological treatment in the country President Shahabuddin stressed the coordinated efforts of the public and private sectors to extend eye care services and treatment to more people.

Expressing his optimism about increasing participation of the private sector in the health sector, the President, however, said the desired quality health services are being hampered in the privately owned clinics and hospitals due to inadequate accommodation and insufficient modern equipment in those facilities.

He said it is possible to develop those organisations employing adequate number of doctors, enough modern equipment and borrowing the latest know-how of treatment in developed countries.

Presided over by OSB president Dr. M Humayun Kabir, the session was also addressed by Health and Family Welfare Minister Salahuddin Yusuf, State Minister for Health Prof.



President Shahabuddin Ahmed presenting the Alim Memorial Gold Medal to Prof A Q S M Harun at the 25th annual conference of Ophthalmological Society of Bangladesh (OSB) at a city hotel yesterday. The President also presented the Matin Gold Medal to Dr D M N Huq. —PID photo

Dr. M Amanullah, OSB secretary general Dr. M A Hadi Faquir, visiting Malaysian eye specialist Dr Y C Lee, Dr A H Saydur Rahman and Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman.

Referring to the general allegations that most doctors and nurses do not behave properly with the patients, the President reminded the physicians that care and love can energise a depressed patient and help his early recovery.

Talking on the important role of doctors on both curative and preventive sides, Justice Shahabuddin said people could be saved from many diseases if they are helped to be aware of the preventive measures.

He said huge rural people, those who have no access to eye care services, would be benefited if low-cost community based management of diseases could be launched in remote areas.

The President hoped that the government, private and voluntary organisations would come forward unitedly to this kind of

services for reaching health-care to all.

Speaking as special guest on the occasion, health minister Salahuddin Yusuf admitted the constraints in teaching, training and treatment of eye problems.

He said the government is aware of the problems and cordial to solve those. The government is determined to provide help and patronisation to the private ophthalmological centres, he added.

Critical of prolonged bureaucratic exercises in some cases, the Health Minister said the government is sincere to create more posts for ophthalmologists. The already created 3010 positions for doctors are awaiting clearance of the Ministry of Finance, he added.

Dr. Yusuf said the Bangladesh National Council for the Blind (BNCB) will be made active by reorganising it to formulate and implement an eye health policy.

Referring to the disliking of many doctors to stay in rural

areas, the Health Minister urged the physicians to come forward to serve the people imbued with patriotic spirit.

State Minister for Health Prof M Amanullah said it is the constitutional obligation of the government to ensure medicare for all citizens. He said there is an estimated 20 lakh blind people in the country and an approximate 60 to 70 thousand people are getting blind every year mostly because of preventable causes like malnutrition and injuries.

Earlier, the OSB leaders draw the attention of the government to create more job positions and training facilities. They demanded help for capital formation to procure new technology and reduction or exemption of taxes on imported equipment for eye treatment.

The session concluded with the presentation of Matin Gold Medal to Dr Din Mohammad Nurul Huq of National Institute of Ophthalmology (NIO) and Alim Memorial Gold Medal to Prof A Q S M Harun.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Project Management Unit ADB Assisted 2nd Health and Family Planning Services Project Ministry of Health and Family Welfare 52/3, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka Local Re-Tender Notice

The Government of Bangladesh has received a loan from Asian Development Bank towards the cost of 2nd Health and Family Planning Services Project and it is intended that part of the proceeds of this loan will be utilized for Procurement of Goods for ISM, NTC and IHT and making payment under the contract for which this notice inviting bids is issued. The terms and conditions of the contract and payments thereof from the Asian Development Bank will be subject to in all respects to the terms and conditions of the loan agreement with the Bank.

As such Sealed Local Tenders/Quotations are hereby invited by the undersigned from the Manufacturers/Importers/Suppliers for procurement of Audio Visual Equipment and Office Equipment for 2 ISM, 5 NTC & 2 IHT.

Tender from suppliers of Goods/Producer manufactured strictly in member countries of the Asian Development Bank will only be considered.

1. Tender No. PD/ADB-2/ISM/NTC, IHT/LT-39/97/207, Date: 24.2.98.
2. Name of Work : Loan No. 1074-BAN (SF); ADB Assisted 2nd Health and Family Planning Services Project—Supply of Audio Visual Equipment and Office Equipment for 2 ISM, 5 NTC & 2 IHT.
3. Earnest Money : 2% of the total quoted amount must be enclosed with each tender in the form of Pay Order/Bank Draft drawn on from any scheduled bank of Bangladesh Bank in favour of "Project Director, ADB Assisted 2nd Health and Family Planning Services Project."
4. Cost of Tender : Tk. 700.00 (Taka Seven hundred) Schedule only (non-refundable).
5. Last date for selling : 17-3-98.
6. Dropping date and : 18.03.98 at 12-00 hours. time of Tender
7. Opening date and : 18-03-98 at 12-15 hours. time of Tender

Tender must be dropped in the Tender Box to be kept at PMU Office, ADB Assisted 2nd Health & Family Planning Services Project.

Tender schedule, containing terms and conditions to be obtained from the office of the undersigned and from the offices of Divisional Commissioners of Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet on all working days during office hours. Tender schedule will not be sold on the day of opening.

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason whatsoever.

DFP-4520-1/3 Md Nazrul Islam
G-400 Project Director

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Saudi Prince meets FM

* The visiting Saudi Prince, Mohammed Al-Faisal Al-Saud, called on Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad in the city yesterday, reports UNB.

During the meeting, the Prince gave assurance to invest and provide assistance in various projects of augmenting civic amenities for Dhaka city, including removal of water stagnation, traffic jam through construction of fly-over and beautification.

He lauded the present government for improving relationship with neighbouring countries, particularly for signing the 30-year Water Sharing Treaty with India.

Welcoming his visit to Bangladesh, the Foreign Minister thanked the Prince for opening the branch of Faysal Islamic Bank of Bahrain in the city.

Azad expressed the hope that the existing bilateral relations between the two friendly countries would be further strengthened in the days ahead.

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JAGPA brought out a procession in the city yesterday calling upon the government to ensure the basic needs of the people. —Star photo

Notice of RHD Inviting Tender

1. Tender Notice No : 21/EE/KRD-II/1997-98.
2. Name of works : As per group list.
3. Chargeable to : As per group list.
4. Estimated cost : As per group list.
5. Earnest Money : As per group list.
6. Name of officers of availability to tender documents : Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Divn, Ctg/Planning Division (Road & Bridge), Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka/Planning & Design Divn, Sarak Bhaban, Agrabad, Chittagong/Executive Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Divn I/II, Khagrachhari/Rangamati Road Divn, Rangamati & Sub-Divisional Engineer (RHD), Road Sub-Divn-3, Khagrachhari/Dighinala Road Sub-Divn/Asstt Engineer, RHD, 1st Line Workshop Sub-Divn (under Khagrachhari Road Divn II).
7. Last date of selling of tender documents : 16-3-98/2-12-1404 at 12:30 PM.
8. Last date and time of receipt of tender : 19-3-98/5-12-1404 at 11:00 AM.
9. Name of officers to receive the tender : 1) Divisional Commissioner, Chittagong Divn, Ctg. 2) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Rangamati Road Circle, Rangamati. 3) Superintending Engineer, RHD, Monitoring & Evaluation Circle, Sarak Bhaban, Ramna, Dhaka. 4) Executive Engineer, RHD, Monitoring & Evaluation Division, Sarak Bhaban, Agrabad, Chittagong and the undersigned. (He is requested to send received tenders in sealed condition to the messenger of the undersigned).
10. Tenders in sealed condition received from different offices will be opened : a) Name of the officer : Md Khalequzzaman, Executive Engineer, RHD, Khagrachhari Road Divn II, Khagrachhari. b) Date & time : 19-3-98/5-12-1404 at 11:00 AM.
11. Time allowed for completion of work : 50 (fifty) days each groups.
12. Eligibility of contractor/firm : As per group list.
13. Date & time of lottery : 22-3-98/8-12-1404 from 11:00 AM.

Gr No	Name of works & location	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Eligibility of contr/firm	Chargeable to
1	Providing flexible pavement in/c the existing damaged flexible pavement at different KM of D-S Road (Baghihat-Sajak portion) under this Divn during the year 1997-98	Tk 27,99,024/=	Tk 55,981/=	"A" to "C" general category contrs	266 Feder Road Project Baghihat-Sajak Upatacca Rd
2	Earth work in road embankment at 11th KM (P) & 12th KM (P) of CCL Road under this Divn during the year 1997-98	Tk 12,28,299/=	Tk 24,566/=	"A" to "D" general category contrs	266 Feder Road Project CCL Road.

Md Khalequzzaman Executive Engineer, RHD Road Divn II, Khagrachhari.

Weather

Day temperature may rise

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely to occur at one or two places over Dhaka and Khulna divisions and the regions of Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Noakhali, Comilla and Sylhet during 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

The Met Office also said weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country and there may be slight rise in day temperature.

The country's highest temperature was recorded yesterday 32.8 degrees Celsius at Teknaf and the lowest 14.7 degrees at Srimangal.

The sun sets today at 6:04 pm and rises tomorrow at 6:15 am.

Painting contest for children on Mar 17

By Staff Correspondent

Bangabandhu Smriti Jadugar (BSJ) has organised a painting competition for children to mark the 78th birth anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on March 17, says a press release.

The themes for the four categories of the competition are: "Bangabandhu and Bangladesh" (13 to 16 yrs), "Bangladesh and Independence Day" (10 to 12 yrs), "My Bangladesh" (7 to 9 yrs) and "Draw as you like" (6 yrs).

The competition for the participants in Dhaka will be held at the house adjacent to the eastern side of Bangabandhu Museum at Road: 32, Dhanmondi, from 8:30 am to 10:30 am on Mar 17. Only drawing paper and water containers will be provided.

Those who intend to participate paintings from outside the city have been asked to send their to the Curator of the BSJ, Road 32, Dhanmondi, Dhaka, through the heads of their educational institutions with their signature and seal by April 15. The names and addresses of the participants must be clearly written on the entries.

One prize for the best drawing and five others will be awarded in each of the four groups.

Fareha's 'homage to Frida' opens

A week-long painting exhibition by Fareha Zeba, titled "Homage to Frida Kahlo," began at Gallery-21 at Dhanmondi in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The twenty-two paintings on display depict mostly the sad and violent side of life, the pain and agony. They are all dedicated to the noted Mexican Artist, who was born during the turmoil of the Mexican Revolution and at the height of her career became crippled following a tragic accident.

Frida Kahlo's work made her unique because of the intrinsically feminine aspect of her work, the fact that she broke the taboos associated with the female body and female sexuality.

Fareha Zeba started this group of paintings in the middle of 1996, almost as a mission to introduce Frida to our country's art lovers.

Inaugurating the exhibition, country's prominent women activist Khushi Kabir said that like in all other fields, women have also made commendable contributions in the domain of paintings, arts and culture and it was correctly projected in the works of Fareha.

Lala Rukh Selim, Editor of Art, a quarterly journal, and noted woman artist of Zimbabwe Sithemiso Nyoni, who is currently visiting Bangladesh were also present.

Regional workshop on 'HR response to AIDS' begins today

A three-day regional workshop on "Strengthening the Human Rights Response to the HIV/AIDS Pandemic in South Asia" begins at Hotel Abakash in the city from today, says a press release.

The workshop is being jointly organised by the Asia Pacific Council of AIDS Service Organisations (APCASO) and the National Council for International Health (NCIH), USA and the USAID. Al Falah Bangladesh, an NGO, is extending local support to the workshop.

Participants and observers from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Hong Kong, the Philippines and Japan are attending the workshop along with experts from APCASO, USAID, PAPS and UNDP.

Vehicles of Dhaka city 'categorised' in 4 groups

By Staff Correspondent

Centre For Sustainable Development (CFSD) has categorised the vehicles of Dhaka city in four groups considering the role of vehicles in pollution and their impact on human body.

At a seminar on "Eco-Coding of Vehicles in Dhaka City" at the National Press Club Thursday, CFSD introduced the "Eco-Coding" with the groups of Red, Orange, Yellow and Green.

Three-wheelers including tempo and babytaxi have been assigned the code "Red" — the first worst air-polluting group. Cars and taxis were put in the second worst polluting group of "Orange."

Buses, trucks and minibuses were categorised as "Yellow" while rickshaws were termed as "Green," though "It causes pollution indirectly when rickshaws ply with other motorised vehicles on the same road."

Dr. I M Faizal of the North South University (NSU) presented the key note paper at the seminar.

What's on today . . .

- Theatre festival:** 'Nirman and Mahaprayan' will be staged as part of the Loko Natyadal Natya Utshab '98. Venue: Central Public Library auditorium. Time: 7 pm.
- Music competition:** A 4-day Dhaka divisional competition of the 10th National Music Competition of Sanket Sanskritik Gosthi, will begin. Venue: Biswashahitya Kendra auditorium. Time: 2:30 pm.
- Certificate-giving ceremony:** A certificate giving ceremony of a training programme, organised by the British Council, will be held. Venue: BC auditorium. Time: 4 pm.
- Seminar:** A seminar on 'Role of training in the development of judicial system', organised by the Legal Education and Training Institute of Bangladesh Bar Council, will be held. Venue: Court Room No 1, Old High Court Building. Time: 4 pm.
- Narigrantha Prabartana:** In observance of the International Women's Day, women workers will render songs. Venue: Narigrantha Prabartana, 2/8, Sir Syed Road, Mohammadpur. Time: 5 pm.
- Mohila Parishad discussion:** A discussion meeting and a cultural programme will be held on the occasion of the International Women's Day. Organised: Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. Venue: Planning and Development Academy auditorium, Nilkhet. Time: 3:30 pm.
- Club meeting:** The weekly meeting of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Central will be held. Venue: Surma, Dhaka Club. Time: 1:30 pm.
- Awards ceremony:** The Mukul Fouj-97 Awards and prize-giving ceremony of annual sports competition and cultural function will be held. Venue: Mukul Fouj Maidan, Mirpur Section-6.

Happy Birthday & Good Wishes

Danish Anwar!
My dear son, my masterpiece,
Wish you very happy birthday to you.
One can lock you out of my sight, but no one can lock you out of my heart. It is not flesh and blood but the heart which makes us father and son. Nothing I've ever done has given me more joys and rewards than being a father to my children. My all good wishes are with you. God bless you my son.
Your dear Papa
Khalid Anwar
7th March 1998

Office of the Controller General of Accounts

Bangladesh, Dhaka
No CGA/Establishment/Summer-96-97/51 Dated: 26/2/98

Tender Notice

Sealed tenders superscribing GIR No. & Trade Licence No. with attested copies of the respective certificates are invited from the bonafide manufacturing/supplying firms for supply of summer liveries for the 4th class employees working at this office. Tender schedule can be purchased on depositing Tk 50/- (fifty) only (non-refundable) to Bangladesh Bank through Treasury Challan underhead "65-Non-Tax Revenue" and applying in own trading firm pad with the original copy of the challan to the undersigned during office hours. No schedule will be sold on the date of opening tender. Tender should be deposited in the tender box kept at the chamber of Member Secretary, Tender Committee, Mr Kazi Mansur Rahman, Audit & Accounts Officer, Record Section, CGA Office, Dhaka, Room No. 226 by 2:00 PM of 15-3-98 and the tenders will be opened on the same day at 2:30 PM in presence (if any) of the tenderers. Quantity of liveries can be known at the time of purchasing schedule.

Incomplete tender will be treated as cancelled. Decision of the Tender Committee will be final in matters of accepting or rejecting tenders without assigning any reason.

Kazi Manzur Rahman
Audit & Accounts Officer
Establishment Section
DFP-4628-2/3
G-403

From the house of UDDL . . .

Urban Olive

at Dhanmondi

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