

# Grotesque view thru' a hospital window

SULTANA RAHMAN

Amputated, decomposed human organs and inorganic hospital waste like bandages, syringes and gloves are strewn all over the garden-cum-graveyard of National Institute of Trauma and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (NITOR) in Agargaon.

"Dogs rush in and dig out the organs," Anwar, a patient, said of the horrible sight -- his bed close to the window offering a wide view of the yard.

"Sweepers don't follow the standard procedure. They are indifferent to pollution or the impact of open-air dumping on health," said a professor of the hospital that averages 15 amputations a month.

"If the poisonous organs are not disposed of scientifically, the impact could

be harmful to the environment and local residents," the professor added, asking not to be named.

Some graves where the body parts were buried were found empty and bones covered in mud littered the compound -- a scene of extreme ugliness blamed on the sweepers.

Doctors say the sweepers throw the human organs into dustbins instead of burying them in the ground.

But a sweeper denied the allegation and said: "Dogs dig up the buried organs and scatter them around. There is no barrier and dogs have a free access to the premises."

Orthopaedic patients allege the sweepers do not bury the amputated parts -- they just cover them with soil.

The NITOR has now 56 sweepers to clean

the hospital that treats nearly 1,000 orthopaedic patients a day.

"We are running short of logistic support. The sweepers are unaware of the methods of disposing of toxic and non-toxic amputated organs," said NITOR Director Dr Siraj-Ul-Islam.

"We have no machines to separate organic and inorganic materials for clinical disposal," Dr Islam said, adding Dhaka City Corporation should take initiatives for clinical waste disposal.

The NITOR authorities seem unable to control the sweepers. "The sweepers don't go by the rules and are capable of holding the authorities hostage," a NITOR official said. "If they go on strike, the hospital will collapse," he added explaining why the authorities cannot take strong action against them.



COURTESY: DHANMONDI LAKE PROJECT

# DinNGii promises to keep the lake waters clean

UNB, Dhaka

DinNGii, opened yesterday at a corner of the bridge of Dhanmodi-8, offers fast food and boat rides on the Dhanmodi Lake.

Chief guest Kofiluddin Mahmud, former advisor of the caretaker government inaugurated the boat club-cum-café. Former cabinet secretary Mahbubuzzaman and former secretary Karar Mahmudul Hasan were special guests.

"The boat club and café would give a new look to the lake waters and its environs," said DinNGii Chief Executive Saidul Alam after the inauguration, explaining that boating will work in cleaning the

water by removing the moss lair automatically through paddling."

He added that the boat club and café added an exquisite spot of tourism for the city-dwellers who feel badly the need of recreation and entertainment.

DinNGii has been designed to provide public facilities to the city people as part of the Dhanmodi Lake and Lake Area Development Project, taken under the aegis of LGRD Ministry and Dhaka City Corporation (DCC).

Although some structures like open-air theatres, food corners and playgrounds for children have been designed at various points of the lake, DinNGii took the first step in formally opening up these public facilities.

DinNGii is among the public facilities created to add an extra look to the Dhanmodi Lake in a planned way, said architect Mohammad Ehsan Khan, consultant and director of Vitti Sthapati Brinda, who designed the Dhanmodi Lake.

He said Vitti Sthapati Brinda designed the lake with such facilities keeping in mind urbanisation and city needs.

Chillis Chinese Restaurant and Monami have taken lease of the boat club and café initially providing 40 boats. Each of the boats will be hired for 45 minutes. Two trained swimmers and two motorised boats will be ready for emergencies and watchmen will keep vigilance. The boat club will

remain open till 8pm but the café into 10 at night.

"For safety, we provide lifejackets," said CE Titu, pointing out that such boats are widely used around the USA.

The successful café businessman, Titu, told UNB that this centre would also be a tourist spot for conducting city tour for foreigners.

He said very soon another boat restaurant, with facilities of cultural programmes and oriental food for foreign tourists, would be inaugurated in another part of the lake.

Nongor, the second boat-and-café club, will be opened on the side of Dhanmodi 27 Road within a month or two.



SYED ZAKIR HOSSAIN

Two 'sick' ambulances of the DMCH

# DMCH limping with lone ambulance

SYED TASHFIN CHOWDHURY

Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) now has only one ambulance to offer service to thousands of patients that visit the hospital a week.

The two new ambulances the hospital received from the coalition government have not yet been registered and lack licence plates and two others are under repair. On top of that, doctors and other staff rather than patients use the lone ambulance now in operation.

The ambulances were kept in the open, exposed to rain and bad weather and the hospital had lost a number of ambulances because of neglect before.

"Patients can ask for ambulance ser-

vice, but they have to get permission from authorities," a hospital staffer said.

Some drivers of the hospital are willing to pick or drop off patients provided they pay for fuel and an additional charge to the drivers. Such trends are beyond the knowledge of hospital authorities.

A trip to Dhanmodi and back to the hospital will cost a patient about Tk 300 -- an illegal run through which the driver makes extra money.

Most patients are willing to use hospital ambulances since the service is cheap, compared to the service provided by hire ambulances.

Non-hospital ambulances are three times as many as hospital ambulances, each charging up to Tk 1,000 a trip to any-

where in the city.

"This is our business and we have to make profit," said Zamiluddin, a hire ambulance driver.

In an emergency, the patient's loved ones usually call the hospital for ambulance and the hospital staff act as brokers between the patient and the driver.

The family of the patient has no option but to hire the ambulance at any cost.

"Authorities are cashing in on the misfortune of patients," said Tareq Haider, who took a patient to the DMCH.

"The ambulance, which is still operational, is used as transport for doctors and professors," said Dr. Hussain of DMCH.

"Only in rare emergency cases, ambulances are provided for free," he said.

# Special bus, train services for Eid passengers

CITY CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) yesterday launched a special bus service for the home-bound Eid passengers.

At least 300 buses will ferry passengers for the next five days till January 25. The number of buses will be increased, if needed, said a BRTC official.

The buses will resume similar service for five days follow-

ing the Eid day, he said.

No extra fare will be charged and a round-the-clock monitoring cell has been opened at the Motijheel Bus Depot to facilitate the special service.

Tickets will be available in advance from ten depots including three in the city.

The telephone numbers of the three city depots are: Motijheel (at Kamalapur) 93333803, Kalyanpur 9002531 and Joarshahara (at Khilkhet)

8911778.

The other depots are: Chittagong (at Natunpara) 031-683423, Comilla 081-61988, Narsingdi 011-083403, Barisal 0431-54793, Bogra 051-66145, Rangpur 0521-64110 and Pabna 0731-64768.

Meanwhile, advance train tickets for Eid passengers will be available at the counters of Kamalapur Station from January 23.

Bangladesh Railway author-

ities have also made similar arrangements for inter-city trains from Chittagong and Sylhet for five days.

According to railway sources, advance tickets for January 28 will be available on January 23, for January 29 on January 24, January 30 on January 25, January 31 on January 26 and for February 1 on January 27.

Tickets can be collected from the railway counters between 8am and 4pm.

## marketprice

### Dhaka New Market, Dhaka

**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs17.50  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs14.17  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs33.00  
Wheat Grain (Local White)kgs11.75  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs45.00  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs41.00  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs21.00  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs25.00  
Onion (India big)kgs25.00  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs38.00  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs34.00  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs38.00  
Ginger (Imported)kgs43.67  
Turmerickgs72.33  
Turmeric (India)kgs77.67  
Chili Greenkgs22.00  
Chili Dried (Desahi Bogra)kgs97.67  
Chili Dried (Imported)kgs105.00  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs9.00  
Bitter Gourdkg19.00  
Okrakg18.00  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs11.00  
Cabbage Average Sizekgs9.00  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs17.00  
**Daily Market Summary**  
Retail Price  
Commodity/Unit/Price  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs14.33  
Local Bean Greenkgs13.33  
Lau (Water Gourd)kgs21.00  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs14.00  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs9.00  
Papaya Greenkgs7.33

Radish Whitekgs6.33  
**FRUITS**  
Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs7.00  
Apple (Australia)kgs65.00  
Orange (India)4 pcs20.33  
Coconutkgs17.67  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs115.00  
Hilshakgs175.00  
**Mesua Bazar, Mymensingh**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs14.50  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs13.25  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs31.00  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs39.63  
Mustardseedskgs59.50  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs21.00  
Onion (India big)kgs23.00  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs34.50  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs36.00  
Turmerickgs54.67  
Chili Greenkgs18.00  
Chili Dried (Imported)kgs98.75  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs10.50  
Bitter Gourdkg22.00  
Cauliflower Average Size100 pcs7.75  
Cabbage Average Size100 pcs7.20  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs12.25  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs14.25  
Lau (Water Gourd)100 pcs13.40  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs8.00  
Papaya Greenkgs6.50  
Radish Whitekgs5.00  
**FRUITS**

Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs6.50  
Apple (Australia)kgs65.00  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs158.75  
**FERTILIZER**  
Urea (Local)kgs6.00  
**Shaheb Bazar, Rajshahi**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs13.70  
Wheat Grain (Local White)kgs12.70  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs43.60  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs41.20  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs21.80  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs21.00  
Onion (India big)kgs20.20  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs37.60  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs36.20  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs36.80  
Turmerickgs55.00  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs8.40  
Bitter Gourdkg19.20  
Barbati Green (Long bean)kgs15.00  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs6.80  
Cabbage Average Sizekgs4.40  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs9.60  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs9.00  
Local Bean Greenkgs12.60  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs9.00  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs10.40  
Papaya Greenkgs4.40  
Radish Whitekgs5.20  
**FRUITS**  
Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs4.20

Orange (India)kgs62.00  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs134.00  
Hilshakgs148.00  
**FERTILIZER**  
Urea (Local)kgs6.00  
TSP (Imported)kgs14.00  
**Rangpur Municipal Market, Rangpur**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs13.70  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs12.70  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs28.80  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs45.40  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs44.00  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs22.40  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs23.40  
Onion (India big)kgs23.40  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs37.60  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs30.80  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs24.80  
Turmerickgs67.00  
Chili Greenkgs14.80  
Chili Dried (Desahi Bogra)kgs97.00  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs6.40  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs8.80  
Cabbage Average Sizekgs5.40  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs12.80  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs10.80  
Local Bean Greenkgs12.80  
Lau (Water Gourd)kgs7.40  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs10.80  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs8.40  
Papaya Greenkgs5.40  
Radish Whitekgs5.40  
Radish Whitekgs5.40

Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs4.40  
Apple (Australia)kgs63.00  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs154.00  
Hilshakgs174.00  
Chingri Smallkgs108.00  
**FERTILIZER**  
Urea (Local)kgs6.00  
TSP (Imported)kgs14.00  
**Reazuddin Bazar, Chittagong**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs15.65  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs14.65  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs33.60  
Wheat Grain (Local White)kgs10.85  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs44.60  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs41.60  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs24.60  
**SPICES**  
Onion (India big)kgs21.60  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs51.60  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs29.00  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs31.00  
Ginger (Imported)kgs37.00  
Turmerickgs59.00  
Chili Greenkgs75.00  
Chili Dried (Desahi Bogra)kgs96.40  
Chili Dried (Imported)kgs74.40  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs10.40  
Bitter Gourdkg21.00  
Barbati Green (Long bean)kgs17.00  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs11.00  
Cabbage Average Sizekgs10.40  
Tomato Ripen (Imported)kgs14.40  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs17.00

Local Bean Greenkgs13.00  
Lau (Water Gourd)kgs9.40  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs11.00  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs11.00  
Papaya Greenkgs7.60  
Radish Whitekgs8.40  
**FRUITS**  
Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs9.40  
Pineapple4 pcs45.00  
Apple (Australia)kgs61.00  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs136.00  
Hilshakgs139.00  
**FERTILIZER**  
Urea (Local)kgs5.98  
TSP (Imported)kgs11.98  
**Khulna Sadar Bara Bazar, Khulna**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs14.20  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs13.20  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs34.20  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs44.40  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs42.80  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs24.60  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs23.40  
Onion (India big)kgs22.40  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs37.60  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs32.80  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs36.80  
Turmerickgs73.00  
Chili Greenkgs22.40  
Chili Dried (Desahi Bogra)kgs87.00  
Chili Dried (Imported)kgs101.00  
**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs10.40  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs10.80

Cabbage Average Sizekgs7.20  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs14.80  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs8.80  
Local Bean Greenkgs11.20  
Lau (Water Gourd)kgs8.80  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs10.80  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs10.80  
Papaya Greenkgs5.40  
Radish Whitekgs6.80  
**FRUITS**  
Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs7.40  
Apple (Australia)kgs62.00  
Apple (India)kgs58.00  
Orange (India)4 pcs17.60  
Coconutkgs12.80  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs126.00  
Chingri Smallkgs84.00  
**FERTILIZER**  
Urea (Local)kgs6.35  
TSP (Imported)kgs14.40  
**Jessore Sadar Bazar, Jessore**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs13.80  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs29.60  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs45.00  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs43.00  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs21.20  
**SPICES**  
Onion (Desahi)kgs23.00  
Onion (India big)kgs23.00  
Garlic Deshi (common)kgs39.20  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs33.20  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs39.20  
Turmerickgs71.20  
Chili Greenkgs22.40  
Chili Dried (Imported)kgs112.00

**VEGETABLES**  
Potato (Holand)kgs7.60  
Bitter Gourdkg23.20  
Cauliflower Average Sizekgs9.20  
Cabbage Average Sizekgs5.60  
Tomato Ripen (Desahi)kgs14.00  
Carrot Medium Sizekgs13.00  
Local Bean Greenkgs11.00  
Lau (Water Gourd)kgs12.40  
Brinjal (Long purple)kgs10.80  
Pumpkin (Sweet)kgs8.80  
Papaya Greenkgs4.40  
Radish Whitekgs4.40  
**FRUITS**  
Banana Sagar (Medium)4 pcs5.60  
Apple (Australia)kgs62.00  
Orange (India)4 pcs27.40  
Coconutkgs9.20  
**FISH**  
Rui (Desahi)kgs106.00  
Chingri Smallkgs90.00  
**Islamia Bazar, Sylhet**  
**CEREALS**  
Rice (HYV) Aman Mediumkgs15.60  
Rice coarse(HYV)kgs14.30  
Rice Chiniguri (Aromatic)kgs35.20  
**PULSES**  
Masuri Dal (Desahi)kgs48.80  
Masuri Dal (Imported)kgs41.20  
Khesari Dal (Desahi)kgs23.60  
**SPICES**  
Onion (India big)kgs24.40  
Garlic Big (Imported)kgs29.20  
Ginger (Desahi)kgs26.80  
Ginger (Imported)kgs39.20  
Turmerickgs72.00  
Turmeric (India)kgs78.00  
Chili Greenkgs24.60