

Haywire healthcare at CMCH

The cardiology department fails to start operation of coronary angiogram machine procured with Tk 5 crore eight months ago for lack of manpower and ancillary instruments

SHAHIDUL ISLAM
The Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) could not start operation of a coronary angiogram machine at cardiology department in eight months for lack of manpower and ancillary instruments, sources said.
The coronary angiogram machine procured with Tk 5 crore some eight months ago was installed in May.
Leaders of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Chittagong unit and the cardiology department teachers urged the government on several occasions for recruitment of some key persons in this regard. But the authorities concerned in the government so far responded very little to equip CMCH with an

'Invasive Cardiology and Cardiac Surgery'.
BMA leaders at a press meet last month had suggested recruitment of some 14 personnel to put the coronary angiogram machine into immediate operation. The suggestions included one associate professor, two assistant professors, two assistant registrars, two technicians and four trained nurses to start cardiac surgery at the hospital.
"We also need some vital ancillary equipment like catheter," said Dr AKM Monzur Morshed, head of cardiology department. "Our priority is to start the coronary angiogram machine and if it comes into operation the hassles of cardiac patients of greater Chittagong will be reduced to a great extent," he said.

However, Dr Morshed and BMA General Secretary Dr Khurshid Jamil Chowdhury told The Daily Star that the coronary angiogram machine is expected to start operation from September as the government has okayed appointment of five people in this connection.
"Of them, two are assistant professors, one consultant and two medical officers. Four of them were appointed on attachment while one, Dr Mir Jamal, was here on posting from National Institute for Cardio-Vascular Diseases (NICVD)," said Dr Khurshid, also the deputy chief surgeon of the district.
But, none of five newly recruited personnel joined the hospital yet, sources at CMCH said.
BMA leaders said that if the

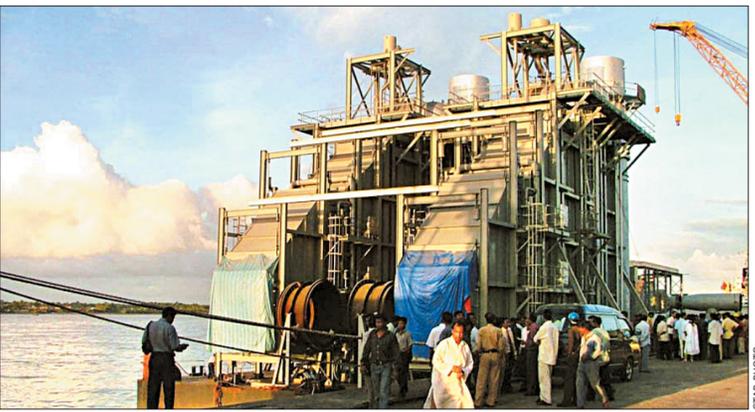
facilities were introduced at the hospital 100 cardiac surgeries could be operated at CMCH that might save a huge foreign exchange of around Tk 3.5 crore annually.
They said a cardiac surgery would cost a maximum of Tk 50,000.
But it would cost around Tk 1 lakh to Tk 3 lakh if a patient goes to Dhaka or India for such a surgery.
Dr Khurshid Jamil said that the C-arm machine of the cardiology department of the hospital went out of order forcing suspension of transplantation of pace makers (TPM) since August last year.
According to a statistics available, some 3,000 of around 5,000 patients got echocardiogram done at the cardiology department and 90 got TPMs since 1997.



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Artistes enthral audience with Odissi dance

Artistes of Odissi and Tagor Dance Movement Centre (Top), a local cultural organisation, perform Odissi dance while Proma Obantee (Bottom right) enralls the audience with Odissi dance at a function at Chittagong Shilpakala Academy on Friday. Odissi and Tagor Dance Movement Centre organised the function in memory of Guru Kelucharan Mahapatra.



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The Indonesia-built 80MW floating power plant, Bijoyer Alo, reached Chittagong port on Friday. The floating power plant will be installed as the second unit of 340MW Barge Mounted Power Plant at Baghabari in Sirajganj. The second and the third units of the plant with production capacity of 90MW and 80MW are expected to reach the country by October. Westmont Power Bangladesh is implementing the project at a cost of 250 million US dollar.

CCC drive to eliminate stray dogs

City corporation put down 14,097 stray dogs in the past three and half years till June in a bid to curb the menace of attacks to the residents

NURUL ALAM
Frequent incident of dog bites prompted the Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) to launch a drive for putting down stray dogs from different parts of the city, official sources said.
City corporation put down 14,097 stray dogs in the past three and half years till June in a bid to curb the menace of attacks to the residents.
Of them, 3232 were eliminated in 2001, 2778 in 2002, 4548 in 2003 and 3539 during January to June this

year, officials said.
The officials said that the dogs were trapped to silent death by using poisonous tablets concealed in a piece of meat or other foods.
"We were forced to kill the street dogs as they attack passers-by frequently," said Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury.
"We have taken a programme to eliminate the unruly dogs from the streets to ensure peaceful and hazard-free movement of the people in the port city," he said. "The stray dogs created a nuisance at different points of the city attacking the

residents frequently," he added.
"We also supply anti-rabies vaccines to the people bitten by the dogs," the mayor said adding, "The vaccines are very costly and we are to procure the same every year."
Chief Health Officer (CHO) Dr. Sarfaraz Khan said, "Normally it is difficult to eliminate the street dogs, but our team members tactfully poison them to silent death by feeding the tablets."
"After eating the bait with poisonous tablet the dogs immediately succumb without any hassle and this is a very easy technique to

eliminate the unclaimed dogs from the locality," Dr. Khan said.
"Frequently we launch drive to put down the dogs in the city. In spite of that we don't know from where large number of dogs appear on the city roads," he added. "I think still about 50,000 stray dogs are roaming in and around the city and that is why we need to continue the drive to finish them off."
"We also receive written complaints from city dwellers and different organisations about the nuisance unleashed by the unruly dogs and take action immediately in

this regard," Dr. Khan said.
"Sometimes, the dogs get so ferocious that they attempt to attack the passing vehicles on the city streets or block the roads creating obstacles to traffic movement," he said.
"In some localities the dogs appear on the roads in large number after evening as if these are their 'night clubs,' said Md. Hasan, a city dweller. In such a situation people are forced to divert their way fearing dog bite, he added.

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Forge movement against drug addiction

Fisheries and Livestock Minister Abdullah Al Noman underscored the need for forging a social movement to free the youths from curse of drug addiction.
He was addressing as the chief guest a certificate distribution ceremony of Shushtha Jiban (healthy life), a healing and rehabilitation centre for drug addicts, at a local community centre here on Friday.
The minister called for making united efforts to help the addicted youths emerge as force and worthy citizens of the country. Political leaders, public representatives, journalists, NGOs and social workers may play a pioneering role to this end, he added.
Later, Noman give away certificates among the participants of the second batch of Shushtha Jiban with Anwar Hossain Anu in the chair.

Tribute paid to Dr. Zakir

A meeting to mark the 10th death anniversary of pioneering homeopath Dr. Zakir Hossain Chowdhury was held at Chittagong District Council auditorium here on Friday.
Addressing the meeting as the chief guest State Minister for Forest and Environment Jafrul Islam Chowdhury said that it was only homeopathy medicine that could ensure treatment for all the people of the country. He

recalled the memory of Dr. Zakir Hossain as one of those who set up instance of providing services and producing students of homeopathy medicine in this sub-continent.
Memorial Meeting Committee Convenor and Principal of Azizur Rahman Homeopathy Medical College Hospital Dr. Abdul Karim presided over the meeting.
Chittagong Metropolitan Union of Journalists President Eskander Ali Chowdhury was the principal discussant. Professor Ranajit Kumar Chakraborty, Examination Controller and Head of the Department of English of University of Science and Technology,



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Taslime Akter, in saree, a third year student of Rabindra Bharati Institute, explains to the visitors about her paintings at a three-day solo-painting exhibition that started at Chittagong Shilpakala Academy Exhibition room on Friday.

Chittagong, was the special guest at the meeting. Homeopathy Board member Professor Dr. Khurshid Jahan Begum, former member CS Das and Professor Khodeza Khurshid Aparajita also spoke.

Exhibition on technology in France begins

A 12-day exhibition titled "Technology in France Part III" organised by Alliance Francaise, Chittagong began at its auditorium here on Sunday.

The exhibition will focus on cultural heritage, preservation, computer technology, telecommunications, space science and aeronautics.
The exhibition will remain open to public from 4.00pm to 8.00pm daily. It will focus on the reconstruction of the lost image of the French monuments with the help of computer fabricated synthetic images, restoration of antics and launching and setting off satellite in the orbit, transmitting the emissions to the far off countries via intercontinental transmission service, giant airbus A 380 and combating aircrafts like Rafale and Mirage 2000.

Rangs sales, service centre opens

A sales and service centre of Rangs Electronics Limited opened at 7, Rifles Club Super Market in the city on Sunday.
Ekram Hossain, Deputy Managing Director of Rangs, inaugurated the centre as the chief guest. Commercial Manager Musa Kamal Mahmud, Area Sales Manager Wahidur Rahman, Marketing-in-Charge Tanvir Hossain, Sukanta and KM Mosaddek Ullah were present at the inaugural ceremony.

Rules for ship-breaking demanded

A huge procession was brought out here on Saturday demanding a set of rules for ship-breaking industry for safe working environment, proper implementation of labour law and protection of rights of the workers.
Social workers and members of civil society took part in the procession. The procession started from in front of Chittagong Press Club and ended at the Office of Deputy Commissioner (DC), Chittagong. Later, the participants submitted a memorandum to DC Shafiqul Islam.
Omar Kaiser, bureau chief of Bengali daily the Bhorer Kagoj, Chittagong, Palash Chowdhury, Abdullah Al Mamun,

Workshop on teachers training

Kindergarten Association of Bangladesh organised a day-long teachers' training workshop on its office at Sermon Cadet School and College campus of Hill View at Pashchim Sholoshahar in the city on Friday.
The participants discussed teaching methods and kindergarten management system at the workshop.
They emphasised on imparting education with correct pronunciation of both English and Bengali words and called upon the teachers to be more sincere in teaching the student.
Professor Mir Abu Saleh Shamsuddin and Professor Muhammad Abu Hasan of Chittagong Teachers Training College were the principal discussants at the workshop with founding principal of Sermon Cadet School and College Muhammad Rezaul Karim Chowdhury in the chair.



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Aamra Muktioddhar Santan, a forum of the children of freedom fighters, forms a human chain in front of Chittagong Press Club protesting distortion of history of the War of Liberation on Wednesday.

Timber worth over Tk 1 crore seized

Army, upazila administration and department of forest in a joint drive recovered 3,000 Cft (cubic feet) of tick and other valuable timbers at Chitramaram Union under Kaptai upazila in Rangamati on Friday.
The joint rescue drive followed a massive illegal felling trees and trafficking of timbers from reserved forest of Fring Khyang Bit by some 200 poachers and local miscreants on Thursday afternoon.
The army was called for the drive when police and BDR forces came under attack by the traffickers leading to a gunfight that left one Mang Mang alias Ujjwal Kumar Mallik, 25, killed and six others injured.
The joint drive led by Major Syed Zakir Uddin Ahamad, Deputy-commander of Kaptai zone of No. 1 East Bengal Regiment of Bangladesh Army, Kaptai Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Nurul Alam and Divisional Forest Officer, Chittagong Hill Tracts (South) Rezaul Karim Sikder continued for the fourth day on Monday.