



Mohora Water Treatment Plant.

At last Wasa gets a move on

Wasa Chittagong has taken three projects to produce an additional 27 crore litres of water a day

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As the plight of the city dwellers persists with less than one third of the demand for water met, Water and Sewerage Authority (Wasa), Chittagong has taken three projects to produce an additional 27 crore litres of water a day. Wasa installations now produce 17 crore litres a day against the demand of over 50 crore litres, sources said. Of them, Wasa produces nine crore litres of water a day through treatment of water of the river Halda at Mohora Water Treatment Plant while the remaining eight crore litres of water come from 52 deep tube-

wells sunk at different city points. The projects are Karnaphuli Water Supply Project with a production capacity of 13.50 crore litres per day, the extended unit of Mohora Water Treatment Plant (under phase II of Mohora project) with capacity of 9 crore litres and Madunaghat Water Supply Project with capacity of 4.5 crore litres of water. The Karnaphuli Water Supply Project will be implemented with the financial assistance of Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), sources said. A JBIC delegation led by its Deputy Director General Yasunori Onishi called on LGRD

and Cooperatives Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan in the capital on June 14 to implement the project that involves Tk 660 crore. Wasa Chittagong Chief Engineer Shafiqul Islam said the meeting was very positive. Shafiqul said "A highly-powered JBIC delegation will also arrive in Chittagong on June 25 to discuss different aspects of the project with the Wasa officials." "After the meeting we will go for preparing the Project Concept Paper (PCP)," he said. JBIC had already selected 30 acres of land along the river Karnaphuli at Rangunia upazila for implementation of the project, he added. He said an agreement for

loan will be signed in this regard to start the project early next year. Besides, all is set to begin implementation of the Italian financed Madunaghat Water Supply Project within two months, said sources at Wasa. It will produce 4.5 crore litres of water daily. The cabinet committee approved the Madunaghat Project with an estimated cost of Tk 88.23 crore in September 2003 to be completed by 2006, they said. Moreover, implementation of the extended unit of Mohora Water Treatment Plant that will also be started soon, sources said. A tender for the project will be floated next month and its imple-

mentation is likely to start by September, they said. Prime Minister Khaleda Zia laid the foundation stone of Tk 197.69 crore Mohora Project (phase II) in October, 2003 to be funded by the government. After completion of the Mohora Water Treatment Plant in 1987, a good number of projects were earmarked to meet the increasing demand. But, apart from sinking of some deep tube-wells under several interim water supply projects, none of the earmarked projects like Madunaghat and Mohora Second unit could be implemented in the last 18 years.

Heart patients get hurt as CMCH dept limps

SHAHIDUL ISLAM

The patients with heart diseases of greater Chittagong endure immense sufferings as the cardiology department of Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) limps due to technical and instrumental drawbacks. Although two costly key machines -- pace maker and angiogram -- for heart treatment were installed in a span of four years time from 2000 to 2004, the department is yet to get a full-fledged shape adding of the misery of patients. The coronary angiogram machine, procured at a cost Tk 5 crore in August in 2003, was installed at the cardiology department on May 19 the following year but for lack of some required manpower and ancillary instruments had delayed the operation of this vital service for four months. After having some man-

power, the angiogram facility got into action on September 28 last year. One Sayeed Noor, aged about 54 from Chandanaish, was the first man to avail the facility at the CMCH on that 'historic day' for the physicians of the cardiology department. Now even after nine months, lack of an expert technician to operate the state-of -the-art machine has not only kept the physicians in frustration but also causes the sufferings of patients. "We were so happy when the machine was installed and started operation here. That was really a historic moment for all of us. But for lack of regular technicians we couldn't give expected services to the patients," said Dr AKM Monzur Morshed, Head of Cardiology Department. Another physician said the heart patients of Chittagong and adjoining districts would

no more require travelling the capital or neighbouring countries if the machine could be make functional properly. The pacemaker, procured at a cost of Tk 1.50 crore, was installed in 2000. After installation, it was on function for few months and afterward it has been out of order till date. Lack of proper maintenance has brought this unexpected fate for the machine, for which heart patients are suffering greatly, sources said. They said the authorities have not taken any initiative to make the costly and key machine functional yet. The patients with critical diseases of the Chittagong, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarban depend on the services of CMCH, which is the lone hospital with required facilities in this vast region.



The angiogram machine of the cardiology department at Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

theweekthatwas

IUB workshop on library management

A workshop on effective uses of WINISIS software on library management was held on the Chittagong campus of Independent University of Bangladesh (IUB) on Thursday. David Storti of Information Society Division, Unesco, said the WINISIS will become popular among the library professionals of the port city. IUB, Chittagong campus coordinator Professor Syed Suferul Huq said the workshop will help develop automation system and services of the libraries in Chittagong. Library professionals and students of different universities, institutes and organisations participated in the workshop conducted by associate librarian Hossain Haider Chowdhury and assistant librarian Md Abu Khaled Chowdhury.

Karnaphuli Apex installation held

The 11th installation ceremony of the Apex Club of Karnaphuli, Chittagong was held here on Friday with a vow to continue the welfare activities of the organisation. Chittagong Metropolitan Police (CMP), Commissioner Md. Mazedul Haq in his speech as chief guest urged the Apexians to help improve the living standard of the people. He urged them to provide guidelines to the lawbreakers and help proper implementation of anti-drug and traffic laws. Apexian Md Ameer Hossain Quamrul and Apexian Nazmul Haq took over as the new president and general secretary of the organisation at the ceremony.



Poet Nirmalendu Goon inaugurates Batighar, a book shop, at Cheragi Paharer More

Apex Bangladesh President Abdul Rouf Dilip and Vice-President Md Yasin Chowdhury were special guests where Life Governor and Past President Kutubuddoula, Dr Jabul Hossain and Md Mofiz Uddin were guests of honour. Kranaphuli Apex founding president and District Governor -3 Shawkat Hossain Babul, Apexians Jasim Uddin Rana and Nupur Chowdhury also spoke with outgoing president Ashrafur Anam Bappi in the chair.

Tribute to SA Chowdhury

The speakers at a discussion here on Saturday paid rich tribute to late Principal SA Chowdhury of Shahi

Commercial College. The meeting was held at the college premises on the occasion of his 6th death anniversary. The speakers recalled the contribution of SA Chowdhury in vocational education as well as in different social works. Acting Principal Shah Md. Ziauddin Chowdhury presided over the meeting.

Fistula camp ends

A three-day Fistula camp that aimed at training physicians and nurses to ensure treatment and healthcare for poor and disabled women ended here on Monday.

The Department of Health, Dhaka and UN Population Fund jointly organised the camp at Chittagong Medical College and Hospital (CMCH). Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), Chittagong chapter President Dr Golam Murtaza Harun was the chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of the camp on Saturday. BMA, Chittagong General Secretary Dr Khurshid Jamil Chowdhury and Dr Khaleda Khatun Belal of Dhaka Medical College Hospital were special guests with CMCH Director Brigadier General Md Ismail Hossain in the chair. The speakers said that a good number of women, particularly in the rural areas suffer inhumanly due to the fistula diseases for which their husbands are mainly responsible. Properly trained up Gaenies,

anesthetists and nurses can play an important role to rid the society of the curse of the fistula disease, they said.

CCC free medical service

Chittagong City Corporation (CCC) Acting Mayor Md Gias Uddin inaugurated home delivery and free medical services programme for slum dwellers at a ceremony at Agrabad Bastuhara Colony on Friday. On the first day, 500 children, 1200 patients received treatment free of cost. A team of physicians led by Chief Health Officer Dr Sarfaraj Khan Chowdhury Babul conducted the service from 10.00am to 3.00pm. South Agrabad ward commissioner Mohammad Sekander, health officers Dr Nurul Islam, Dr Shahin Parvin, Dr Selim Akhtar Chowdhury, Dr Nasim Bhuiyan, Dr Israt Jahan and Dr Subhas Roy spoke.

Painting competition held

SOS Shishu Palli (Children's Village), Chittagong organised a painting competition titled "Nadimatrik Bangladesh" in observance of the International SOS Children's Village Day 2005 on Friday. SOS Shishu Palli, Chittagong Project Director Md Foyzul Kabir inaugurated the competition where some 300 students from different city schools took part in three groups. In the "Kaa" group Umme Salma Nizhum and Afiya Anjum Nimu - both from Bangladesh Women Association (Bawa) School (girls section), became the first and the second respectively while Nikita Datt of SOS Harman Miner School was placed in the 3rd position.

Fahima Akter and Sadia Afrin - both of SOS Harman Miner School, secured the 1st and 2nd place respectively in the "Kaa" group where Fahima Royada of BAWA School became 3rd. In "Gaa" group Md. Abdur Razzag of Pahartoli TPP Colony High School became the champion while Tahseen Abedin of Chittagong Port City School and College and Kulsum Begum of Saint Scholastica Girls High School became the 2nd and the 3rd respectively. A half-day seminar on supply management was held at Chittagong Stock Exchange (CSE) auditorium in the city on Monday. ATDP Chittagong Regional Office and CSE jointly organised the seminar titled "Supply Chain Management" as a part of continued efforts to enhance competing capacity among the entrepreneurs. CSE President Habibulla Khan was the chief guest at the seminar where Professor Dr Frank Kooistra of Wisconsin University, USA, presented the keynote paper. Over 50 people, including representatives from different NGOs and clients related to ATDP, CSE, Mostafa Group, PHP Group, SEDF, Abul Khair

Seminar on supply chain management



Students of Little Angels Play School perform a drama titled "Doitya Holo Khelar Sathi" at a three-day children's drama competition organised by Shishu Academy at its auditorium on Saturday.