

66000 die of TB every year

Says health adviser

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Health and Family Welfare Adviser Dr ASM Matiur Rahman has said 66000 people are dying of tuberculosis every year.

He was inaugurating the National Tuberculosis Reference Laboratory and a CT-Scan Machine at the National Institute of Diseases of the Chest and Hospital in the city yesterday.

The automated reference library of international standard is expected to play a massive contribution in the treatment of tuberculosis.

Hospital sources said the newly installed High Regulation CT-Scan machine would allow patients to scan

different parts of their bodies at a low price.

The adviser said MDR (Multidrug Resistant Tuberculosis) TB is now posing a frightening challenge.

He said healthcare providers should create more public awareness about the threats posed by tuberculosis alongside providing modern treatment to the disease.

Presided over by Prof Mohammad Mostafizur Rahman, the programme was also addressed by Dr Mohammad Shahjahan Biswas, Dr Duwangvedi Shankobol of WHO, Dr Mohammad Wahiduzzaman, Prof Jamshed Haider, and Dr Mohammad Mahabub Kamal Siddiqi.



Indian Foreign Secretary Shivshankar Menon calls on BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, left, at her cantonment residence and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina, right, at her Sudha Sadan residence in the city yesterday.



PHOTO: BNP, AL

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

'Strong commitment a must to combat corruption'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Strong commitment of elected representatives is needed to combat corruption at union parishad level, said the speakers at a workshop yesterday.

The workshop titled 'Role of union parishad in preventing corruption' was organised jointly by Nari Uddug Kendra (NUK) and Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF) at LGED conference room in the city.

"There is no magic to curb corruption, elected representatives should combat corruption applying their wisdom," said Chairman of Transparency International Bangladesh Prof Muzaffer Ahmed.

He said the UP chairmen and members should be courageous enough to resist dishonest move of local lawmakers and public servants

for which people have to suffer in the long run.

Prof Muzaffer said elected representatives' acceptability to people and not the government fund at their disposal should be the source of their power.

"Our constitution stipulates that UP elections will be non-political," he said, adding that the provision was made on the ground that unity at the local level would help development at the local level.

Speaking about the strength of unity of the local people, Prof Muzaffer cited an example of Kabirajpur union in Madaripur district where local people have ensured security for all in their villages without any help from the law enforcers.

To solve fund crisis of union parishads, he suggested for help from successful businessmen, well-

off persons and Bangladeshi expatriates living abroad.

Prof Zarina Rahman Khan of public administration department at Dhaka University said if UP chairmen and members want to fight corruption, they should first prove that they are free from corruption.

Lamenting about the current state of affairs at union parishads, she said in most of the cases records kept there are either fabricated or false.

BUPF Convener Mahbubur Rahman Tulu moderated the programme where Prof Tofail Ahmed of public administration department at Chittagong University, NUK Executive Director Mashuda Khatun Shefali, and BUPF Member-Secretary Ataharul Islam Bulbul also spoke.

Condition of

Comrade Bashar unchanged

The condition of Jatiya Sramik Federation President Comrade Abul Bashar, who is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Community Hospital, has not yet improved, says to a press release.

The doctors are carrying out various medical tests.

Comrade Abul Bashar was admitted to the hospital with broken bones on June 23. He is also suffering from diabetes.



PHOTO: STAR

Two children sit on a sack containing household goods outside the staff quarters of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) at Kawla in the city yesterday as the CAAB evicted those who were residing inside the staff quarters area by building tin-roofed houses without permission.