

Students imbued with humanity

Come to the aid of flood victims

DURDANA GHIAS

Students and teachers of various educational institutions in the city have come forward to distribute relief materials among flood-hit people on their own initiative.

The students from Mastermind, Holy Cross, Vigarunnisa Noon, Oxford and many other schools in the city took part in the relief distribution.

Zubair Idris, an A-level student and president of a 35-member student club named Mastermind Community Service Club, said working for the flood-hit people was one of their main targets this year. They made it sure that whatever relief they could offer reach the most affected ones.

"Our aim was to help those who had suffered the worst in the flood. We visited and sent notices to all the eight campuses of our school and motivated the students through posters so that they can help us in the process," Zubair said.

We thought of how to present the situation to the students so that they can understand how devastating the flood is and how people are living without food and drinking water, he added.

"We made a guideline for the students so they could help us and know how we are doing it. We gave them a list of the amount of food, medicine and other essentials needed for an average affected family. We calculated that on an average, Tk 360 per person would do it to save a family. We asked the students to tell their parents about this," Zubair elaborated.

The lowest individual donation Mastermind Community Service Club received was Tk 50 and the highest was Tk 25,000.

We asked the students whose parents are doctors to have their parents donate medicines or give

advice on the type of medicines we might need. Also, we asked them to request their relatives, friends and neighbours for help, Zubair said.

"The club members were divided into several groups and each group were given a collection target of Tk 5,000," the club president went on adding, "The

"We could give the money to other organisations for distribu-

tion, but we decided to go ourselves. Police and local volunteers of Shahjadpur helped us in the distribution. We asked them to make several lists of the most

affected people, the elderly and the physically challenged. We prepared 900 relief cards. We

and other essentials among flood victims.

We went to Keraniganj and distributed cooked food that we cooked there. The items distributed among the affected people included eggs, potatoes and rice, she said.

"We had exams at that time in our school section. So, the school could not participate in the

flood victims from his school. The teaching staff and others have donated their one-day's salary for the affected people.

"Our Scouts team went to Manikganj where they distributed relief materials among 400 affected families. Our relief work is still going on in Bogra and Sirajganj. We have plans to distribute relief in other affected places," he added.

Holy Cross School sources said the students donated 75 maunds of rice, 15 maunds of pulses, 50 sacks of clothes, and saline, candles and matches -- one sack each. Girl Guides and Porthom Alo Bondhu Shabha helped in the distribution of the relief goods.

Numerous other voluntary organisations in the city came forward to help the flood victims as well.

Iqbal Habib, joint secretary of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon, said they have distributed cash, medicine, water purifying tablets and home repairing materials among the flood victims.

"We distributed relief at Louhajang in Munshiganj with the help of Louhajang Muktioddha Command Council. After the water recedes, we will go there again to distribute repairing materials for homes," he said.

"We went to a char in the area where we found families that survived only because female members of the family had earlier saved up gur and khud [leftover from uncooked rice]. Discovering the women's role in the time of survival, we decided to give the relief only to the female members of the affected families," said Habib.



A spare parts shop at Dholaikhal.

A day with a spare dealer at Dholaikhal

RIZANUZZAMAN LASKAR

Ezaz Uddin inherited nothing but a flimsy little shop when his father passed away 20 years ago. Though Ezaz knew that similar to his father's life story, he would never get any recognition for the trade, he decided to follow his father's footsteps anyway.

The name of the shop is Jalal Workshop. Parts for all types of machinery -- from automobiles to textile and jute mills to construction equipment -- all are available under one roof. If you do not find the exact piece you are looking for, crafted mechanics at your service here will most of the time be able to customize it to for you.

It was a tiny tin-roofed shop when Ezaz took over. Over time, with his hard work, Ezaz expanded it, where he now employs 12 people.

Located in the Dholaikhal area on a narrow lane -- typical for the old part of Dhaka, the shop now displays all sorts of machine parts of different sizes.

"The assortment here is just a small part of my whole collection," said Ezaz, adding that he as well as most workshop owners here usually stocks up the parts in large quantities in warehouses nearby.

Spare parts workshops began to thrive in the city's Dholaikhal, Jinjira, Keraniganj and areas adjacent to the River Buriganga in the 1960s to meet the demands of an ever-increasing number of industries in Dhaka and Narayanganj.

At present around 4,000 such workshops operate in Dholaikhal area alone. Thousands more are found scattered in other parts of the city, said traders.

The spare parts sold here usually come from outdated vehicles or machinery that are auctioned off by various government or other large organisations such as Bangladesh Water Development Board, Roads and Highways Department, Dhaka City Corporation or Dhaka

almost none of the traders here are involved in trading of stolen vehicle parts. Occasionally, some parts [found here] may turn out to be stolen, but the traders are not necessarily involved with the theft.

The shop owners' association has taken necessary steps to build a positive reputation of the businesses in Dholaikhal, added Iqbal.

Many of the spare parts sellers even import the parts as they have dealerships of foreign auto and machine parts manufacturers in Singapore, UAE, Thailand or China.

"I get parts for my shop from Chittagong port, where reconditioned foreign spare parts for automobiles and other machinery are available," said Ezaz.

Now Dholaikhal has turned into a mini industrial zone as it caters to almost all sorts of automobiles or factories in the country. The credit goes to the hard working entrepreneurs and mechanics in this trade who helped flourish this trade without any government assistance or any academic qualification, said a number of traders.

The mechanics here may not know what patents are or how it feels to be recognised, they take pride in the creative work they do.

"I still remember how delighted my father was when he put together a small car engine all by himself," said Ezaz. "These parts [sold here] might appear to be insignificant in the eyes of modern science, but they mean a lot more to common folks like us," he added.

Community care

FROM PAGE 21

duty in maintaining and conserving the parks and playgrounds. "It's a deliberate failure that involves corruption," said Prof Choudhury earlier.

Sharif Jamil, member secretary, parks and grounds programme committee of Bapa, said that ward commissioners' offices, public toilets and Wasa water pumps encroaching into the children parks are common phenomena.

Chief Town Planner of DCC Sirajul Islam said that they encourage community management of public parks if they express interests.

Responding to commercial use of parks by lessee institutions in the name of development and maintenance in many cases, he said that they entertain commercial institutions in case local community does not show interest in management.

"But now, we call upon all the community people to come up with proposals for management of parks and playgrounds in their respective areas," said Sirajul Islam.

Former adviser to caretaker government ASM Shahjahan, who is president of Banani Nagorik Kalyan Samity, said they approached both Rajuk and DCC for handing over public parks in Banani to the local community. But the handover is yet to take place.

De-feathering

FROM PAGE 21

"Consumers and poultry sellers are completely unaware of the condition. It is important to raise awareness among them about the unhygienic practices. They need special training," he said.

"Proper disposal of blood, feather, faeces and intestines is imperative because they carry several diseases. Workers should wear protective gear during work. Area where chickens are kept should be cleaned with disinfectant routinely," he added.

He pointed out that safe mechanised de-feathering and processing practised in the western world involves expensive machines. It will take time to develop the practice here.

Until then, he suggested, the traditional way of meat processing should be practised. Proper bleeding of the dead chicken is necessary. Then the skin and the gut should be removed manually. Rest of the body should be washed with cool and pure water. Those responsible for manual processing should protect themselves as well by cleaning themselves properly.

Fair-price outlets

FROM PAGE 21

T&T colony, AGB colony, Brothers' Union ground, Shahjahanpur Colony, Gopibagh Bazar, Sutrapur, Sarulia Bazar, Demra, Jatrabari, Kutubkhali School, City Corporation staff quarters, AK Degree College, Jurain, West Juryaen Medical Road, Bangladesh Bank Staff Quarters, Gandaria, Dhupbagh, Namapara rail crossing, Khokon Primary School, Sutrapur Bus Station and in numerous other prominent spots throughout the city.

All the outlets will be directly supervised by BDR men, who would also ensure the security of all the shops and markets.

"When we first started our fair price outlets, we received tremendous response from the general public because our outlets not only offer quality products at fair price, but also sell goods at accurate weight," said Colonel Halim, the official responsible for the fair price outlets of BDR.

"Hopefully, we should be able to continue the good work," he added.

Meanwhile, construction works of the three wholesale markets in Uttara, Jatrabari and Gabtali have

been completed, all of which are scheduled to start their operations within two weeks, said BDR officials.

"Uttara wholesale market will start operation within a week and other two in 10 or 12 days," said colonel Mojibul Hoque adding that the wholesale markets are BDR's new project aimed to feed the city's retailers and ensure the supply of goods.

BDR, in efforts to help the government stabilise prices of essentials for the last few months, has built a stock of 20 thousand tonnes of rice, 5 thousand tonnes of soybean oil, 5 thousand tonnes of red lentils and 3 thousand tonnes of chick peas for Ramadan sales, said sources.

"We are trying to procure more as we want to influence around 15 per cent of total supply of certain essentials in the city markets," said Colonel Mojibul Hoque.

Ansar will also launch around 50 retail outlets while a number of private firms will operate another 12 to 14 such shops during the month of Ramadan.

Advertising,Bank&markettiming

AD AGENCIES

Macomm
Dhaka. Ph: 9110351,
01715014988. Fax: 9110351.
Email:
info@macommdbd.com

Benchmark Ltd
Ph: 8813648, 8812415
Fax: 9889917
Email: info@benchmark-bd.com

Frontline Communications Ltd
Suit 9/C, Azad Centre, 55
Purana Paltan, Dhaka.
Ph: 9564137, 9567611,
9557597. Fax: 9555184.
Email: frontline@dhaka.net

Adcomm Ltd
9896600, 9887665

Asiatic Marketing Communication Ltd
9892768, 9893303

Bitopi Advertising
8053418
Grey Advertising Bangladesh Ltd
8811541, 8827862, 9881689
Fax: 8811541

Interface Communications
9362624, 8351148, Fax:
8314306

Interspeed Advertising
8810675, 9891859

Mattra
8317456, 9331057, Fax:
9330556

Media Comm Ltd
8861521 (9 lines)

Unitrend Ltd
9124380-4

A Positive Advertising Ltd
8856598-9, 8837751-2

RT & CULTURAL CENTERS

Alliance Francaise De Dhaka
26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi,
Dhaka. Tel: 8611557
Fax: 8616462,
Email: infoafd@afidacca.com

Bangla Academy
Dhaka University Area,
Dhaka. Tel: 8619577, 8619583,
Fax: 8612352. Email:
bacademy@citechco.net

Bangladesh Shishu Academy
Old High Court Road (Opp. Carzon Hall),
Dhaka-1000; Tel: 9550317, 9564128

British Council
5, Fuller Road, Dhaka
Tel: 8618905-7, 8618867-8
Fax: 8613375
Email:
dhaka.enquiries@bd.britishcouncil.org

German Cultural Center
House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Tel: 9126525, 9126526, Fax: 8110712

Indian Cultural Center
H-25, Road-96, Gulshan-2, Dhaka-1212
Tel: 8850141, Fax: 8850142

Nazrul Institute

House 330B, Road 28 (Old),
Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Tel: 9114500, Fax: 9118051,
Email: nazrulin@citechco.net

Russian Cultural Centre
House-510, Road-7,
Dhanmondi, Dhaka,
Tel: 9118531
Fax: 8113026,
Email: ros.cult@accessstel.net

Shilpakala Academy
Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000
Tel: 9562801-4

Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
House 275/F, Road 27,
Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Tel: 8123115
Email: bf@bdonline.com

Cezanne Art Gallery
UAE Moitri Complex,
Kemal Atatürk Avenue, Banani
Dhaka
Tel: 8826578, Email:
cezanne@bangla.net

Drik Gallery
House 58, Road 15A(New),
Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Tel: 9120125, Fax: 9115044,
Email: office@drik.net

Gallery Chittrak
House-21, Road-4,
Dhanmondi R/A, Dhaka
Tel: 8620345, Email: chittrak@agni.com

National Art Gallery
Segunbagicha, Dhaka-1000
Tel: 9562801-4

Shilpa Rag
House 15, Road 16,
Dhanmondi, Dhaka,
Tel: 8117085
Fax: 8117085,
Email: shilparg @vasdigital.com

Shilpangan
House-25, Road-5,
Dhanmondi, Dhaka,
Tel: 8614246

Tivoli Art Gallery
F/33, DCC Super Market (1st Floor)
Gulshan-2 (North), Dhaka, Tel: 9895903

BANKS

Agrani Bank
9566153-54, 956616069,
9566074-75

Bangladesh Bank
7126101-20, Fax: 9566212

BRAC Bank Ltd
8824051-4, Fax: 8813543

Citibank NA
9550060, Fax: 9562236

Dutch Bangla Bank Ltd
9568537-39
Fax: 9561889

Eastern Bank Ltd
9558390-1, Fax: 9562364

First Security Bank Limited
9562878, PABX: 9560229,
Fax: 9561637

Grameen Bank
8011138, Fax: 8013559

Habib Bank Ltd
9555092, 9563043-5, Fax:
9561784

Islami Bank (Bangladesh) Ltd
95542402, 9563040,
9560099, Fax: 9564532

IFIC Bank Ltd
9563020, 9562060, Fax:
9562015

Jamuna Bank Ltd
9555141, 9570912-16,
Fax: 9565762

Janata Bank
9560000, 9560027-30, Fax:
9564644

Mercantile Bank Limited
9559333, 9560329
Fax: 9561213

National Bank Ltd
9563081-5, Fax: 9563953

NCC Bank
9561902-4
Fax: 9566290

Premier Bank Ltd
8015276, 8811417

Prime Bank Ltd
9567265, 9556282
Fax: 9567230

Shahjalal Bank Ltd
9570812, 9567435, Fax:
9557413

South East Bank
9550081, 9551411, Fax:
9550093

Standard Chartered Bank Ltd
9550181, Fax: 9562332

Sonali Bank
9550426-34
Fax: 9561410

The City Bank Limited
9565925, Fax: 9562347

The Trust Bank Ltd
9871095, 9871074, 9888068,
Fax: 4071094

Uttara Bank Ltd
9561438, 9551162-3,
Fax: 8613529

United Commercial Bank Ltd
9561580, Fax: 88-02-9560587

MARKET CLOSED

Gulshan 1, 2 markets-Friday
Elephant Road-Friday
Bishal Center-Friday
Baitual Mukarram Market-Friday
Polwell Market-Friday
BCS Computer City-Friday
Isha Khan Shopping Complex-Friday.
Rajlaxmi Complex-Friday
Stadium Market-Friday
Bangabazar Market-Friday
National Museum-Thursday
Ahsan Manzil--Thursday
New Market-Tuesday
Gausia Market-Tuesday
Mouchak Market-Sunday
Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday
Dhanmondi Hawkers Market-Tuesday
Eastern Plaza-Sunday
Farmview Super Market-Sunday
Muktijuddha Jadughar-Sunday
Dhaka Zoo-Sunday
Shishu Jadughar-Sunday