

## Only 17pc dentists, clinics sterilise equipment

Speakers tell Ctg roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong

Speakers at a roundtable in the port city yesterday expressed grave concern over the 'vulnerable' state of oral and dental healthcare services in the country saying that only 17 percent of dental clinics or dentists sterilise their equipment regularly adhering to the international standard.

Such negligence to the necessity of proper sterilisation of dental instruments across the country is worsening the scenario and as a result not only the number of dental patients are increasing fast but a large portion of them are getting unknowingly affected by some fatal contagious diseases like Hepatitis B, C and HIV/AIDS, they said.

Oral Health and Research Foundation organised the roundtable "The present state of oral and dental health service in Bangladesh, problems and role of media in overcoming it" at a local restaurant in association with Family Dentistry, the port city's only model clinic on dental service.

Sandhani, Chittagong Medical College (CMC) unit and Radio Foorti were the partners of the event.

Foundation Chairman and Head of CMC Dental Unit Dr Mostak Hasan Sattar presented the keynote speech at the roundtable



PHOTO: STAR

Dr AQM Sirajul Islam speaks at a roundtable on "The present state of oral and dental health services in Bangladesh, problems and role of media in overcoming it" at a restaurant in the port city yesterday.

chaired and moderated by Dr AQM Sirajul Islam, an expert on HIV/AIDS and former head of Skin and VD department of CMCH.

The speakers observed that a little awareness of ideal food habit and brushing teeth properly could help reduce the oral or dental-related diseases significantly.

"Majority of people in Bangladesh doesn't know the right way of brushing their teeth," they

said, adding, "About 70 percent of tooth-related diseases can be deterred just by following the right method of brushing."

The speakers laid emphasis on mass awareness about health education, pro-active role of both electronic and print media, and introduction of awareness-lessons on dental health at the primary school levels to check the spread of dental diseases successfully.

## 9 killed, 38 injured in road accidents

METRO DESK

Nine people were killed and 38 others injured in separate road accidents across the country in the last two days.

Staff correspondent in Sylhet reports: Four people were killed and four others injured in two separate road accidents on Dhaka-Sylhet highway at Osmani Nagar yesterday morning.

Three people were killed when a Sherpur-bound speeding truck from Sylhet knocked an autorickshaw on the approach road of Niraiya Bridge at Unishmail at Osmani Nagar.

The victims were identified as Alif Nur, 25, Ismail Ali, 50, and Ismail's four-year-old daughter Simla.

Ismail's wife Fultara Begum and three others were rushed to the Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.

Another accident on the same approach road claimed six on August 14.

In the other accident, an unidentified man, 35, was crushed under the wheels of a speeding bus on the same highway at Tajpur Kadamtali Bazar.

Staff correspondent in Bogra adds: Two people were killed and 24 others injured in a road accident on Bogra-Rangpur highway at Dighalkandi yesterday.

The identities of the victims could not be known immediately.

The accident occurred when a Rangpur-bound bus from Mymensingh and a Bogra-bound bus from Joypurhat collided head-on, killing one on the spot.

The injured were rushed to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital where another one succumbed to his injuries.

Our correspondent in Gaibandha reports: A truck helper was killed and three others injured in a road accident on Gaibandha-Nakhat highway at Ghorabandha yesterday.

The accident took place when a fertiliser-laden truck lost control and fell into a roadside ditch, killing Shahidul Islam, 33, on the spot.

The injured, including the driver

of the truck, were rushed to Palashbari Health Complex.

Our RU correspondent adds: An elderly man was killed in a road accident on Dhaka-Rajshahi highway in Rajshahi Bus Terminal area yesterday.

The victim was identified as Abdullah, 65, a street vendor.

The accident occurred at about

7:00am when a passenger bus crushed him under its wheels while he was crossing the road.

Our correspondent in Brahmanbaria adds: A man was killed and seven others injured in a road accident on Sultanpur-Akhaura highway at Chinair village in Brahmanbaria Sadar on Saturday night.

The accident occurred when a tractor collided head-on with a human hauler, injuring eight people.

Among the injured, one succumbed to his injuries on the way to hospital while two were sent to Dhaka as their condition deteriorated.

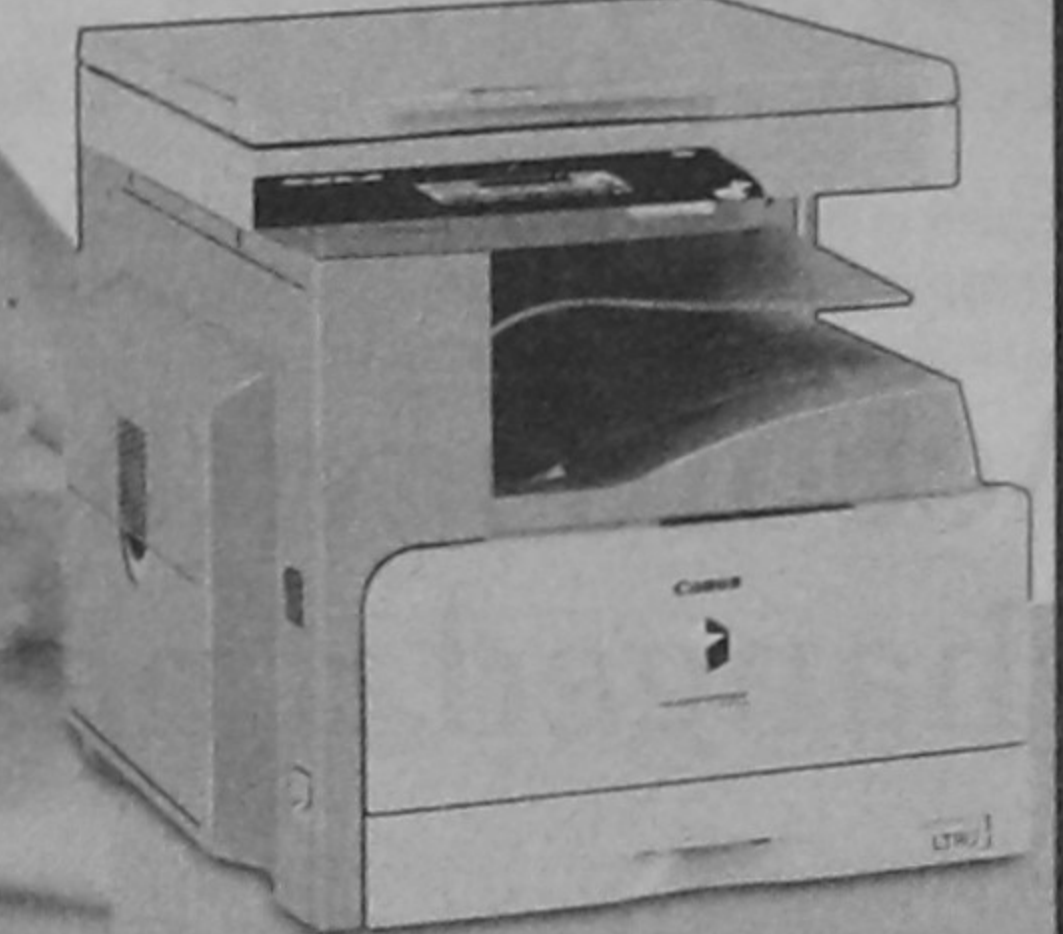
The rest five were admitted to Brahmanbaria Sadar Hospital.

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## Australian edn fair begins tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

A two-day Australian education exhibition begins at a city hotel tomorrow.

Australian High Commissioner Douglas Foskett will inaugurate the exhibition at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, says a press release.

The fair organised by Australian Trade Commission will remain open to students from 10:00am to 5:00pm everyday.

Twelve Australian universities, including technical and vocational institutions, will take part in the exhibition.

Representatives of the universities will provide admission-related information to the students intending to study in various educational institutions in Australia during the fair.

## Chumki FPAB president

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Former lawmaker Meher Afroz Chumki was elected president of the Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB) at its annual general meeting at Shaheed Muejuddin auditorium at Naya Paltan in the city on Saturday.

Earlier, Chumki was the honorary general secretary, treasurer of national office and president of greater Dhaka unit of FPAB.

Established in 1953, FPAB is the member of International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

The activities of the association have been conducted through 21 district units and 11 special word units of it in the country, says a press release.

Chumki is the daughter of former lawmaker Shaheed Muejuddin, who was also the former honorary general secretary of FPAB and ex-vice chairman of Red Crescent Society of Bangladesh.

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