

IMPROPER DISTRIBUTION OF HUMAN RESOURCES IN HOSPITALS

Rural people deprived of healthcare services

MAHBUBA ZANNAT

Improper distribution of human resources at the public healthcare centres deprives people across the country of smooth healthcare services.

People in the rural areas are deprived of quality healthcare service for lack of doctors in district and upazila healthcare centres and union sub-centres, whereas the number of doctors in the healthcare institutions in the capital and its outskirts is three times bigger.

A total of 6220 among 16,796 posts of medical professionals are vacant in the upazila, district and union health complexes, resulting in poor services at the healthcare centres, which often force them to go to the capital for treatment.

"Had the manpower been utilised properly, the healthcare service in the country would not have been hampered," said Prof Rashid E Mahbub, former president of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA).

The number of beds, doctors, medicine and above all the set up of the upazila healthcare centres is almost same although the size of the upazilas and population vary, he added.

"The manpower should not be distributed on the basis of institution rather it should be area-based," he suggested.

While talking to The Daily Star, Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer (UHFPO) of Narail Sadar upazila Dr Shyamal Krishna Saha said that there are no medical officers in three union sub-centres under the upazila, which boasts around 2.74 lakh people.

"Although there are three posts of medical officers, the posts have been lying vacant for a long time and it is the medical assistants who are trying to provide the patients with treatment. Serious patients could have been treated here had there been the medical officers. But now they are mostly being referred to the district hospitals," he said.

The number of the medical assistants who are playing the key role in union sub-centres in the rural areas is also insignificant. About 1500 of 3193 posts of medical assistants are vacant, according to the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS).

"The 100-bed Barguna Sadar Hospital has 14 posts for consultants, but there is only one. The number of medical officers is nine and the number of nurses is almost

half than that of the nurse needed," said Upazila Health and Family Planning Officer of Barguna Sadar Dr AHM Zahurul Islam.

If proper distribution of manpower was ensured, the health complexes would have got a significant number of doctors.

Often the doctors lobby for getting transfer orders to those areas on deputation, he added.

However, Director (hospitals and clinics) of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) Akhter Hossain Bhuiyan pointed to shortage of manpower rather than improper distribution of human resources.

Often the doctors posted in rural areas don't go there, but it is the duty of the civil surgeons to monitor it and send reports to the DGHS.

The experts alleged that the health management system and the doctors' recruitment policy are also defective. The government should give autonomy to the medical colleges so that they could recruit on their own. The government should have specific regulation mechanism in this regard, they said, suggesting that the internee and honorary doctors could be shifted to the rural areas.



President Iajuddin Ahmed exchanges greetings with members of the Christian community at a reception ceremony organised on the occasion of Christmas at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

Political parties urged to vow to ensure women's rights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Female workers of ready-made garment industries staged a human chain yesterday urging the political parties to vow to ensure their rights.

The workers participated in the programme at Muktangan in the city.

The speakers at the human chain said around 20 lakh women are working in this potential sector which earns 76 percent of the country's total foreign currencies.

To ensure the rights of female workers, they placed a set of demands including ensuring their equal rights, security at workplaces, four-months' maternity leave with wage, providing day-care centre for their children, stopping labour after 8:00pm and providing transport facility for them.

Central leaders of the federation Shahida Sarker, Amirul Haque Amin, Nurun Nahar, Md Faruk Khan, Kamrun Nahar, Arifa Akhter and Md Anwar Parvez spoke at the programme.

Form women affairs commission to ensure rights

BNWLA urges next govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) leaders yesterday demanded the next government form a women affairs commission to solve the problems of women as well as to ensure their rights.

They called on the political parties contesting the general elections to implement their commitments fulfilling 33 percent seats of women in the parliament through direct polls for their participation in decision-making process.

They made the call at a discussion on 'Woman and child rights affairs in the manifesto of the political parties contesting the 9th parliamentary elections' organised by BNWLA at Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium.

Presided over by BNWLA President advocate Fawzia Karim Firoz, the meeting was addressed by its Executive Director advocate Salma Ali and

workers Ashrafun Nahar Misty and Shirin Akter.

Presented a written statement, Salma Ali appealed to the women to cast their votes mostly in favour of women candidates.

She put forward a set of recommendations involving the interests of the people, including women, children and people with disabilities, to the political parties for implementation by assuming state power after the elections.

The recommendations include enactment of laws for preventing family violence against women, children and disabled people, taking steps to prevent women and children trafficking, ensuring safe migration of female workers abroad, full implementation of the Cedaw Convention, prohibition of Fatwa and compliance of the High Court rulings in this regard to develop the standards of women and playing responsible role by the opposition.

Vote for AL-led alliance

18 senior DU teachers urge people

UNB, Dhaka

Eighteen senior teachers of Dhaka University yesterday urged the people to vote for Awami League-led pro-liberation alliance to achieve the objectives and values of the independence war.

In a statement they said the objectives of liberation war have not been realised even after 27 years of independence. Anti-liberation and undemocratic forces, corrupt elements and war criminals have hampered the progress of the country.

Signatories to the statement are Kabir Chowdhury, Khan Sarwar Murshid, Salah Uddin Ahmed, Mostafa Nurul Islam, Zillur Rahman Siddiqi, Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, AK Azad Chowdhury, Montaj Uddin Ahmed, Amirul Islam Chowdhury, SA Khaleq, Saidur Rahman, Abul Bayes, Abdul Mannan, Amanullah Ahmed, Shahidul Islam, Borhan Uddin Khan Jahangir, Shamsuzzaman Khan and Sayed Badrul Hossain.



Awami League President Sheikh Hasina introduces her party candidate Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin at an election rally at Lalbagh Barumath in the city yesterday.

Removal of PSC chairman demanded

DU CORRESPONDENT

Candidates of the 27th BCS examinations who came out successful in the 1st phase result but were dropped out from the list as per fresh viva result took out a procession on Dhaka University campus yesterday demanding immediate removal of PSC chairman.

In support of their demand, several hundred candidates brought out the procession in the morning and started marching towards the PSC office.

But on-duty policemen intercepted the procession in front of the public library near Shahbagh intersection.

They demanded their immediate appointment to the civil service as per assurance given by the government and withdrawal of the case filed against agitating candidates on charges of vandalism at the PSC office.

Vote down war criminals, militants' patrons

Speakers urge voters

DU CORRESPONDENT

Members of Projonmher Chetona yesterday called on the people to vote against war criminals, anti-liberation forces, patrons of militants and those who use religion as business for their political interests in the next general elections.

The speakers at a human chain programme at Muktangan in the city also demanded a halt to use black money and religion in the election campaign by the candidates, says a press release.

Many candidates are trying to buy votes using their black money taking the chance of electioneering, while many are

also using worship places, primary schools and government offices across the country

'Unite against corruption'

A CORRESPONDENT, Rajbari

Speakers at a view exchange meeting in Rajbari yesterday underscored the need for creating mass awareness to eliminate corruption from the society.

They urged all to be united to this end. Pangsha Upazila Corruption Prevention Committee organised the meeting at the auditorium of Upazila Shilpakala Academy at Pangsha.

for their campaign, they added.

The speakers said some candidates are frequently violating the code of conduct of the election through their election campaign.

They further said that the criminals have no right of gaining an entry into the parliament as they clearly took position against freedom fighters in the liberation war.

Freedom fighter Nazim Uddin presided over the programme which was also addressed by Dhaka University Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique, columnist Ajoy Roy and Convener of the organisation Mohammad Golam Nobi Hossain.

'Do not induct war criminals, corrupt people into cabinet'

DU CORRESPONDENT

Sachetan Nagorik Samaj, a platform for conscious citizens, yesterday called on the next elected government not to induct war criminals, corrupt people and criminals into the cabinet.

In a statement, the organisation expressed concern that the political parties nominated criminals, black money holders and abusers of power as candidates in the upcoming parliamentary elections, despite the caretaker government's massive efforts to curb corruption and end misrule in the country.

If such candidates are elected, they would indulge more in evil activities, causing harm to the party and the nation as well, it added.

The organisation also urged the president not to administer oath to such people, according to the statement issued by Nasrul Amin, joint convener of Sachetan Nagorik Samaj.

Prisoner escapes from DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A prisoner escaped from Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday afternoon.

Saddul Miah alias Faruk, 39, an accused in a narcotics case, fled away scaling the window of a toilet of the DMCH at about 1:30pm.

Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of Prisons Maj Shamsul Haider Siddiqui told The Daily Star, "The prisoner was taken to the DMCH at about 3:00pm on Wednesday after he complained stomach pain. He managed to escape through the window."

Faruk was arrested on December 12 this year from Jatrabari area.

The incident came to light as Faruk did not come back from the toilet after a long time.

Towhidul Islam, superintendent of Dhaka Central Jail, said the issue was being investigated.

WINTER CELEBRATION WITH NEW COLLECTION

Suits. Blazer. Trousers. Custom tailoring

www.fitelegance.com

New styles with new fabrics & fit

Rush today & ask our sales team to show this special collection.

FIT ELEGANCE

Showrooms: fits just right

Tejgaon | 9884712 Dhanmondi | 9114053

Chittagong 01731221543

Vision of Excellence

"Moving Teaching Excellence from Good to Great"

Our Programs: Admission Spring 2009

B. Sc in Microbiology	Bachelor of Laws (4 Years LL. B Hons.)
Bachelor of Pharmacy (For Spring & Summer)	B. S. S in Economics
Bachelor of Architecture	B. S. S in Journalism for Electronic & Print Media
B. Sc in Civil Engineering	B. A in Film & Media (4 Years)
B. Sc in Electrical & Electronic Engineering	M. A in Film & Media (2 Years)
B. Sc in Computer Science & Engineering	Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)
B. Sc in Computer Science & Information	Master of Business Administration (MBA)
M. Sc in Computer Science & Engineering	Bachelor of Arts in English (4 Years Hons.)
Master in Computer Application (MCA)	Master of Arts in English (Final)
Bachelor of Environmental Science	Master of Arts in English (Preliminary & Final)

© Last Date of Application: December 30, 2008

© Admission Test: January 02, 2009

STAMFORD UNIVERSITY Bangladesh

Education for tomorrow's world

Head Office & Dhanmondi Campus
744, Satmosjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Tel: 9124161, 8156122-3, 8153168-9
(Ext - 118, 119, 124, 125, 126, 127, & 128)
Mobile: 01713082401, 01713082402, 01713082403
Email: stamford@stamforduniversity.ws, Web Page: www.stamforduniversity.edu.bd

Siddeswari Campus
51, Siddeswari Road, Dhaka
Tel: 8355626, 8355596, 8354577, 8355512-13
(Ext - 114, 116, 119, 121, 122, 191 & 192)
Mobile: 01937082093, 01937085783



Samridha Bangladesh takes out a procession at Pallabi in the city yesterday calling upon the people not to vote for war criminals. The event was organised as part of the campaign launched by Sector Commanders' Forum.