

Bogra Zia hospital needs care

Patients suffer for poor staff, treatment facilities

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILO,
Bogra

Patients in Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital (SZMCH) in Bogra are deprived of proper treatment as the hospital has been

suffering from shortage of manpower, accommodation problem and inadequate allocation for medicines since its opening in 2006.

On an average, the emergency department has to arrange treatment of 1000

outdoor patients but there is no allocation for medicines for them, said SZMCH Deputy Director Dr AYM Fazley Rashid.

Against arrangement for 500 people, 650 admitted patients take indoor treat-

ment everyday, he added.

Of a total of 967 posts,

255 have been lying vacant for a long time, hospital sources said.

The vacant posts include

that of 151 senior nurses, 36

first class officials including

four resident medical officers, two senior store officers, eleven assistant registrars and one assistant director.

Some other vital posts including that of the administrative officer and accounts officer are also lying vacant for a long time although the hospital authorities sent several letters requesting the ministry concerned to fill up the posts.

Accommodation problem forces a good number of admitted patients to stay on the floor.

"My 2-year-old son Siraj was admitted to the hospital on September 10 but he was kept on the floor. A doctor examined him after 17 hours of admission," said Md. Sohag of Bairagi village in Sariakandi upazila of Bogra district.

Swati, 24 wife of Md Shamsul Haque of Khandokertola village in Sherpur upazila of Bogra district, was admitted to the same hospital on September 10 and she was examined after 15 hours of admission, said her brother.

Treatment and nursing of patients is hampered as the hospital has to arrange treatment for additional 150 indoor patients, said hospital officials.

The 500-bed hospital was established at Silimpur on the outskirts of Bogra town at a cost of Tk 221 crore under a special project during BNP-led four-party alliance government.



PHOTO: STAR

A child patient is kept on the floor of Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital in Bogra. Burdened with a number of problems including accommodation, shortage of staff and fund, the 500-bed hospital is struggling to provide treatment facilities for a number of patients coming from Bogra and surrounding districts.

Pirates deadly, desperate 100 trawlers looted, 70 abducted in 3 days

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Pirates abducted 70 fishermen for ransom from different places of the Sundarbans in three days since Saturday last and 16 of them bought freedom yesterday morning, according to Trawler Owners' Association.

During the period, they also looted over 100 fishing trawlers and injured at least 200 fishermen, sources in the association said.

They said 42 fishermen were abducted from different areas of the Sundarbans on Saturday and Monday nights. Of them, 16 were released yesterday morning on payment of Tk 5 lakh.

Nine of the released fishermen are Aziz of Gyanpara village, Ibrahim of Tengra village, Sagir, Shahadat, Harun and Kamrul of Tafatbaria village, Mostafa of Kathaloti village, Habib of Hoglapasha village and Shamsul of Ghutabasa village under Patharghat upazila of Barguna district. The names of the remaining seven could not be known.

The fishermen said they were abducted from deep forest by two gangs-- one led by Zulfikar and the other by Raju-- and held hos-

tage in Kochikhali and Narikelbaria areas of the Sundarbans.

On Monday night, another gang abducted 30 fishermen from Kochikhali area of the mangrove forest demanding Tk 15 lakh ransom for their release. The law enforcers could not rescue them until yesterday.

A top forest official of the Sundarbans said the armed gangs become active during the fishing season from August to March and launch attack on fishermen, loot their trawlers, fishes and other valuables.

He told this correspondent that the forest department was trying hard to check the piracy in the Sundarbans despite its limited logistic support.

Golam Mostafa Chowdhury, president of the Trawler Owners' Association, has urged the government to provide the coastguards with modern firearms so that they can check piracy in the Sundarbans and its adjacent areas.

Miznur Rahaman, commanding officer of the coastguards under Patharghat told the correspondent that they were also trying to check piracy and toll collection in the coastal belt.

Supporting the programme organised by Kabodak Bachao Andolon Samanoy Committee (coordinating committee to save Kabodak River), hundreds of people from all walks of life joined a procession that paraded the main thoroughfares of Patkeghata Bazar.

Over 3,00,000 people in the Kabodak basin villages in Satkhira and Jessor districts remained marooned as water

'Save Kabodak basin from waterlogging'

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Satkhira

from the silted River Kabodak created waterlogging, speakers said at a rally held during the blockade programme.

Over 20,000 people were homeless in the affected areas have been facing acute scarcity of food and pure drinking water, they said, adding that crops on 75,000 acres of land were destroyed as the authorities concerned ignored the longstanding demand.

They urged re-excavating the silted up Kabodak River to save the people in the region from persistent waterlogging.

They also demanded demolition of all illegal structures on the river, demarcating its boundary, long-term plan to continue dredging of the river, steps to reconnect the river with upstream River Mathabanga and declaration of the still inundated areas as 'a disaster zone'.

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SNIPPETS

Injured AL activist dies

A CORRESPONDENT, Natore

An Awami League (AL) activist who was injured on Saturday in a clash between rival factions at village Upal Sohor in Baraigram upazila died yesterday. Ashraf Ali, 32, son of Afas Ali of village Upal Sohor was severely injured when a faction led by Nurul Daktar and the other by Mannan Member locked in a violent clash. At least 20 people received injury as rivals charged each other with lethal weapons. They were admitted to Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital (RMCH) and Baraigram Upazila Health Complex. Of them, Ashraf Ali died at RMCH yesterday morning.

Infant's body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

Police on Wednesday night recovered body of an infant from behind a clinic at Puraton Bazar in the town. Informed by locals, police went to the spot and recovered the body. Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Sadar police station Ahsanul Haque said, body of a newborn was found abandoned behind the town's Haque Clinic. Police yesterday sent it to Chapainawabganj Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

320 mandops in Madaripur

A CORRESPONDENT, Madaripur

Preparations are afoot to celebrate Durga Puja by the Hindu community in four upazilas of the district. In many mandaps, the artistes have almost completed the images of the goddess. This year Durga puja will be celebrated in 320 mandaps in four upazilas. Of them, 179 are in Rajoir upazila, 39 in Madaripur Sadar upazila, 56 in Shibchar and 46 in Kalkini. District administration and police are taking all preparations for peaceful holding of the puja in the district, sources said.

Beheaded body recovered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Netrakona

Netrakona Sadar police yesterday recovered a beheaded body from Gobindapur village under Sadar upazila. It was later identified as Zahirul Islam, 22, son of late Sabek Ali of village Bishnupur under Atpara upazila. Police and family sources said, Zahirul went out of house with his motorbike on Tuesday evening and did not return. Yesterday morning, villagers at Gobindapur village found his beheaded body at a paddy field and informed it to police. A case was filed with Netrakona Sadar police station in this connection.



PHOTO: STAR

Prisoners and staff in Khulna District Jail have to stay and work amid risk as the apparently impres- sive building was declared unfit for use 10 years ago.

Risky Khulna dist jail packed with inmates

QUAZI AMANULLAH, Khulna

Declared unfit for use a decade ago, the two-storey dilapidated building of Khulna District Jail is still playing host to inmates, three times more than its usual capacity.

Amid fear of building collapse and acute accommodation problem, prisoners are passing their days in a subhuman condition.

As cracks developed in a number of parts of the jail building and at places of the boundary wall, jail authorities now feel a constant security threat.

Constructed in 1912 on 5.33 acres of land on the bank of Bhairab River, the Khulna district jail building now lodges 1,800 prisoners against its capacity for 544 inmates, said the jail officials.

Back in 1999, the Public Works Department (PWD) hung a red alert notice declaring the dilapidated building 'highly risky' for living.

The prisoners as well as officials and employees of the jail insecure to work and stay in the 97-year-old building, said Jail Superintendent Md Alam Khan.

Shortage of manpower also hampers maintenance and official works of the jail is overcrowded with prisoners, he said.

Of the 260 sanctioned posts of officials and employees in Khulna District Jail, 67 are now lying vacant.

Following appeals on several occasions during the last few years, a proposal was sent to the Ministry of Planning on July 20 last year for allocation of fund to construct a new building for the jail at Mathurabad in Dumuria upazila under Khulna district.

Jail Super Alam Khan, however, told The Daily Star that he has no idea when the fund would be made available and construction for a new jail building would start.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Press Information Department
Building No-09, 3rd Floor
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Date: 14/09/2009

Re-Invitation for Expression of Interest (EOI)

Subject: Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of Communication Advisor, Communication Trainer, ICT Training Firm and Website Developer:

Strengthening Development Communication Between Government and Stakeholders, a sub-project of World Bank funded "Economic Management Technical Assistance Program" (EMTAP) being implemented by the Press Information Department (PID), Ministry of Information is looking for suitable candidates for appointment as Communication Advisor, Communication Trainer (Local), ICT Training Firm and Website Developer.

Sl. No.	Name of the Positions	Job Responsibility	Qualification and Experiences
01.	Communication Advisor (Local, Post-1) for 12 months	<p>To advise and assist in the establishment and strengthening of the Strategic Communications Unit (SCU).</p> <p>(2) To develop a comprehensive and effective communications strategy.</p> <p>(3) Revise and expand the terms of reference (TOR) for the SCU officers.</p> <p>(4) To strengthen the professional capacity of PID officials.</p> <p>(5) Guide the implementation of communication activities under the project.</p> <p>(6) Design appropriate communication tools.</p>	Should be a Master Degree in relevant field preferably in Journalism, MBA or in Communication having with adequate knowledge in computer literacy.
02.	Communication Trainer (Local, Post-1) for 6 months	<p>(1) To identify training needs.</p> <p>(2) To develop training programs and curriculum to conduct Training to Trainers (TOT).</p> <p>(3) To assist and facilitate in developing partnership and network for stakeholders.</p> <p>(4) To advise on and development of partnerships and networks for NIMC and PID.</p> <p>(5) To identify gaps and weaknesses in communication on the governments development activities and reform initiatives, taking into account the perceptions and concerns of various stakeholders, working closely with the Communication Advisor.</p>	Should be a Master Degree in relevant field preferably in Journalism, MBA or in Communication having with adequate knowledge in computer literacy.
03.	Website Developer (1 firm, lump-sum contract with the firm)	<p>(1) To identify right tools and technology to develop website.</p> <p>(2) To prepare guidelines on supervision/ updating content.</p> <p>(3) To ensure accuracy consistency and quality of content.</p> <p>(4) To carryout briefing a training sessions for relevant staff.</p> <p>(5) To do the graphics layout of the website.</p> <p>(6) Ensure public access to digital information.</p> <p>(7) To prepare guidelines to gather information.</p> <p>(8) To develop overall methodology for monitoring and evaluation website.</p> <p>(9) To identify and develop new external and internal channels for web dissemination.</p>	The firm should have adequate experience particularly in communication and media sector.
04.	ICT Training Firm (1 firm) (contract with the firm)	<p>(1) To provide ICT training to the govt. officials and media personnel.</p>	The firm should have adequate experience in developing website ICT training. Should have adequate facilities including equipments & capacities.

Remuneration: An attractive compensation package depending on knowledge and experience will be offered.

Application instruction: Interested applicant may obtain Terms of Reference (TOR) from office of the Procurement Officer (Senior Information Officer, Coordination) of PID at Building No-9, 3rd Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000, on all working days between 10.00-16.00 hours. Two copies of Expression of Interest (EOI) along with a detailed CV should be submitted to the Principal Information Officer, Press Information Department, Building No. 9, 2nd Floor, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka-1000 in two separate envelopes clearly mentioning the name of the post by 14 October, 2009. E-mail: pid_1@bangla.net, Website: www.bdpinforam.org.

The authorities reserve all the rights to accept or reject any or all applications without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Md Zakir Hossain
Deputy Principal Information Officer
and
Project Director

GD-4288