

PATUAKHALI GENERAL HOSPITAL

Health service limps due to lack of doctors

SOHRAB HOSSAIN, Patuakhali:

Treatment seekers from different areas of the district are suffering a lot as 40 out of 58 posts of doctors at the 250-bed Patuakhali General Hospital are lying vacant for long.

The 40 vacant posts include that of senior consultant (child), senior consultant (cardiology), senior consultant (orthopaedic), junior consultant (cardiology), junior consultant (eye), junior consultant (anaesthetist),

junior consultant (radiology), resident physician, resident surgeon, resident medical officer, and two out of three anaesthetists, hospital sources said.

Only five doctors are working against 35 posts of medical officers.

"I brought my child to the hospital four days ago but I had to stay on the floor for three days. The only one doctor working at this ward couldn't visit my kid regularly," said Khadija Begum, a resident of College Road in Patuakhali town.

Toilets remain woefully dirty all the time, said Khadija.

Two out of three posts of doctors at the children's ward are lying vacant for long, hospital source said, adding that over 150 patients stay at the ward on an average although there are only 60 beds.

Bellal Hossain of Jaikathi village under Patuakhali Sadar upazila said he was admitted to the surgery ward of the hospital four days ago but the doctor visits him only once a day.

"Amid acute shortage of doctors as well as lack of necessary beds, we are facing serious problem to run the hospital as about 800 patients visit outdoors, over 400 stay indoor, and around 300 others come to the emergency department on an average daily," said Md Nazrul Islam, hospital superintendent.

"In view of people's demand, we want upgrading the hospital to a 500-bed one along with posting of sufficient manpower here," he said.



PHOTO: STAR

Some patients along with their attendants have to stay on the floor of the children's ward due to lack of beds at Patuakhali General Hospital.

Physically challenged man builds a good life

BY M. JAHIRUL ISLAM JEWEL WITH ANDREW EAGLE

Delwar Hossain, 55, of Barobakpur in Jhalakathi's Rajapur, was just a boy during the Liberation War of 1971. Too young for active service, the freedom struggle would nonetheless impact upon his life in a most dramatic way.

"Some freedom fighters were thirsty," he recalls. "They asked me to bring green coconuts."

Believing it to be not solely a duty of hospitality but also a small service to the nation, Hossain was happy to oblige. The

twelve-year-old climbed a nearby coconut palm in just the way Bangladeshi village boys often do. But unfortunately, on that occasion, he fell.

Hossain would never walk again.

Nonetheless Hossain, who can barely stand or sit, was determined to make a life for himself. In the 1980s, when all hope of treatment had faded, he opened a grocery store. Finding the business unprofitable, in 1990 he left for Dhaka to drive a three-wheeler baby taxi instead. It was difficult to

find a baby taxi owner to entrust him with a vehicle due to his physical limitations, but eventually he prevailed.

"When I returned to my village in 2001," explains Hossain, "I tried to work in the fields but couldn't do it well. Eventually I understood I needed to drive a three-wheeler again, locally, which I have done since 2006."

With his earnings Hossain eventually purchased his own battery-run vehicle.

"I lent him Tk 50,000 to buy his auto-rickshaw," says

Rajapur businessman Chan Mia, "which he already repaid."

These days, Hossain is pleased with his fortunes. "If I work from dawn to late night, I can earn up to Tk 1,000 per day," says the father of four, "which for my family means prosperity." Thinking to the future, the lion's share of his income is spent on his children's education.

"My elder son is waiting for university admission," says Hossain proudly, "The middle son studies at Infra Polytechnic Institute in Barisal, while my younger son and daughter study at school."

"We are proud of our father," says his eldest son Nazmul Hasan. "Although he is physically challenged he tries to support us no less than other fathers. He has always encouraged our education and inspired us to achieve a successful life."

"I enjoy working and never think I am disabled," says Hossain, adding that he never depended on the charity of others despite great hardship through some periods of his life.

"I didn't ask the freedom fighters for any kind of help either, because I did what I did for the country."

Freedom fighter Mohsin Mridha, commander of Rajapur upazila freedom fighters' council, has nothing but praise for Delwar Hossain. "As a young boy he helped us by climbing the tree for coconuts during the war," he says, "It's because of him and how he rose to the challenge of a difficult life that it really pains me to see youths nowadays with good physical strength but who pass days without attempting any work."



PHOTO: STAR

Physically challenged Delwar Hossain drives his own three-wheeler at Baobakpur in Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi district.

Man dies in Sunamganj trawler capsized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Moulvibazar

A man died when a trawler capsized in Matian haor (water body) under Tahirpur upazila of Sunamganj district yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Akhtar Miah, 55, son of Abdul Latif of Matian village in the upazila.

Police said the victim and his son Halim, 16, were going to the water body for fishing in a trawler. When the trawler reached Matian area, it was caught in a storm and capsized.

Akhtar drowned in the haor while his son Halim and others managed to swim ashore.

3 jailed for lifting sand from river

UNB, Sirajganj

A mobile court on Wednesday sentenced three people to seven days' imprisonment for lifting sand illegally from the Dhopajan River in Sadar upazila.

The convicts are Shafique Mia, 30, Ekhlash Mia, and Liakat Ali, 27, of Dolura village in the upazila.

A mobile court led by Assistant Commissioner ATM Morshed conducted drive in the area from and detained the three day labourers while they were lifting sand from the river without prior permission.

The court also seized two dredgers from the spot, Assistant Sub-inspector Ripon of Sunamganj Sadar Police Station said.

Clash over land dispute leaves one dead, 15 hurt

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Gaibandha

A man was killed and 15 others were injured in a clash over taking possession of a disputed land in Sundarganj upazila of the district on Wednesday afternoon.

Police quoted locals as saying that there had been a longstanding dispute between Dhalu Mia of Huraviakha village and Abdur Rahman of Purbo Bachhata village over the ownership of the land on the border of the two villages.

Cases filed by both sides, claiming the ownership of the land, are now pending with the court.

Dhalu and Rahman locked in an altercation over the issue at Purbo Bachhata village at around 4:00pm on Wednesday. At one stage, the supporters of the two, equipped with sharp weapons, swooped on each other. At least 16 people, including, Dhalu Mia, were injured during the clash.

Being informed, police went to the spot and brought the situation under control. They arrested nine people from the spot, suspecting their involvement in the clash.

They injured were admitted to the upazila health complex. As the condition of Dhalu Mia, 45, and one Abdur Rashid of Rahman group, 38, deteriorated, they were shifted to Rangpur Medical College Hospital where Rashid succumbed to his injuries.

3 fake doctors jailed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chapainawabganj

A mobile court sentenced three fake doctors to jail in Chapainawabganj town yesterday.

They are Yousof Ali, 35, son of Nur Mohammad, Abul Kashem, 28, son of Abdur Rakib of Diar Dhainagar village; and Minhajul, 19, son of Abdur Mannan of Debinagar village under Sadar upazila.



PHOTO: STAR

A woman harvests kakrol (teasle gourd) from her farmland at Chinipara village in Mahendranagar union of Lalmonirhat district.

No headway in probe

FROM PAGE 20

to identify the killers of Dipan, said Mashrukure Rahman, deputy commissioner of detective branch (South) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP).

"A lot of people had gone and come out of the market on that day. We have got suspicious movement of some people and are looking into it," he said.

None of the three attackers was identified in Lalmatia incident, said police.

On Saturday, Dipan, owner of Jagriti Prokashani, was hacked to death at his office at Aziz Super Market in Shahbagh, and another publisher, Ahmedur Rashid Tutul of Shuddhoswar Prokashani along with two bloggers was severely wounded at Lalmatia almost around the same time.

On Wednesday, traders of the market told reporters that they saw in the footage suspicious activities of a youth moving around in the market after Dipan had reached the parking area on the fateful day.

Around half an hour later, the youth was seen leaving the market with five

others.

Asked about the progress of investigation into the case, Dipan's father Prof Abul Quasem Fazlu Huq yesterday said the law enforcement and different intelligence agencies were trying to identify the murderers, but he was not informed of any new development.

He said he had no idea about the persons who were reportedly identified by traders in the footage of CCTV cameras installed on the entry and exit points of the market.

"Even police have not informed me about that. I have just come to know it from media reports," he said.

Responding to a query about getting justice, Prof Quasem said investigations of the previous incidents were carried out in a similar way, but there was no headway.

Meanwhile, five policemen were deployed at the apartment building of Prof Quasem in Paribagh yesterday, a day after he expressed his sense of insecurity.

Mintu Kumar Roy, a constable, said they along with the security men of the

building were guarding it round the clock.

Although Prof Quasem was happy with the police deployment, he was still concerned about his safety outside.

"I am going out. But if they [assailants] kill me now, what will happen then?" he told journalists, waiting in front of his house, on his way to attend a protest programme on the attacks at Kataban.

At the programme, he said the continuous killings that were going on were related to politics, economics and culture of the country.

Human beings with good moral sense cannot emerge from the existing education system, he said.

Citing the proverb "Charity begins at home", Quasem said political parties were the home of state machinery.

If the parties did not become transparent, democracy would not be restored although hired intellectuals spoke much about it, he said.

He urged all not to forget Dipan and other slain writer-bloggers.

Selection grade, time scale

FROM PAGE 20

discrepancy, the finance minister said the criteria of time scale and selection grade under the existing pay scale would be dropped in the new one.

Instead, an alternative system would be introduced that would automatically upgrade public servants' grades after a certain period, he said.

In response to a query as to whether the government has backtracked from its stance on the selection grade and time scale, the minister said, "We never had a rigid stance on this issue."

Explaining the alternative system, he said, if an employee stays in the same

grade for 10 years at a stretch, s/he will receive salary in the next grade from the 11th year.

After that, he added, if s/he stays in the same post for six years, they will again be upgraded to the next grade.

A finance ministry official said a meeting of the cabinet committee on salary discrepancy on November 20 would reach a final decision on these issues.

Under the existing system, government staffs get time scale and an upper grade after a certain period when they do not get promotion in due time.

Under the new scale, public servants will also see

their salaries rise on a five percent incremental basis every year instead of the time scale and selection grade.

However, if the time scale and selection grade are restored, the yearly increase of salary on five percent incremental basis will have to be scrapped, he said adding existence of the two at a time would put pressure on the budget.

After the cabinet approved the new pay scale on September 7, government staffs and teachers under the banner of different associations have launched movements demanding restoration of selection grade and time scale.

জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশন

(২০০৯ সালের জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশন আইন দ্বারা প্রতিষ্ঠিত
একটি সংবিধিবদ্ধ স্বাধীন রাষ্ট্রীয় প্রতিষ্ঠান)

গুলফেশী প্লাজা (১২তম তলা), ৮, শহীদ সাংবাদিক সেলিনা পারভীন সড়ক,
মগবাজার, ঢাকা-১২১৭
www.nhrc.org.bd

তারিখঃ ০৩/১১/২০১৫

উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি

জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশন কর্তৃক নিম্নোক্ত বিষয়ের উপর স্টাডি রিপোর্ট করার জন্য উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট থেকে নিজস্ব লেটারহেড প্যাডে সীলমোহরকৃত আবেদন গ্রহণ করা হবে।
১৯/১১/২০১৫ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকার মধ্যে Technical Proposal আহ্বান করা হচ্ছে।

- Freedom of Religion and Expression in the Shadow of State Religion: Bangladesh in context.
- Rule of Law and Impunity: Effect of colonial laws on human rights.
- Anatomy of the NHRC Act of 2009 in the context of the Paris Principles.
- Safe Migration and its Challenges: A situational analysis of Bangladesh.
- Cultural Rights in the perspective of indivisibility of Human Rights: Bangladesh context.
- Understanding the identity of 'Hijra': Policy implications.
- Determining constitutionality of Death Penalty under the Penal Laws in Bangladesh.

বিবরণ

- ১। Technical Proposal দাখিল করার জন্য প্রয়োজনীয় তথ্যাদি- Terms of Reference (TOR) কমিশন কার্যালয় হতে সংগ্রহ করা যাবে।
- ২। আগামী ১৯/১১/২০১৫ইং তারিখ বেলা ১২.০০ ঘটিকার (যদি কেউ উপস্থিত থাকেন) সম্মুখে উন্মুক্ত দরপত্র বিজ্ঞপ্তি খোলা হবে।
- ৩। জাতীয় মানবাধিকার কমিশন কোনরূপ কারণ দর্শানো ব্যতিরেকে যে কোন বা সকল বিজ্ঞপ্তি গ্রহণ বা বাতিল করার ক্ষমতা সংরক্ষণ করেন।

এম. রবিউল ইসলাম
সহকারী পরিচালক (প্রশাসন ও অর্থ)
অতিরিক্ত দায়িত্ব
ফোনঃ ৯৩৫১০১৭

জিডি-৩৪৯০