

DMCH ONE-STOP EMERGENCY CENTRE

Providing quality care under one roof

SHAHEEN MOLLAH and HELEMUL ALAM

Cumilla resident Billal Hossain was brought to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) in a critical condition after being stabbed by an auto-rickshaw driver recently.

Initially, the farmer from Dighirpar in Bhangura area was taken to a local hospital. As his condition deteriorated, doctors referred him to DMCH. So the worried family members took him to the hospital's One-stop Emergency Centre.

Billal needed prompt care and treatment.

The duty doctor tended to him right away and completed necessary tests such as X-ray and blood test at the emergency centre within shortest possible time.

Billal was then taken to the operation theatre (OT) and after a successful operation he was shifted to a ward.

The entire process was completed within two hours.

As the hospital was able to provide Billal with all the necessary medical tests and emergency services at the one-stop centre, it was possible to take him to the OT within such a short time, perform the surgery and thus save his life, said a doctor at the emergency.

The same happened with Shipon Miah. He was stabbed by muggers in the capital's Uttarkhan area recently and was brought to DMCH, where he received prompt services at the emergency centre and was able to recover.

The abovementioned cases are not any isolated or special incident; rather it has become a common scene at the DMCH One-stop Emergency Centre, where patients are provided necessary tests and primary treatment right away -- all under one roof.

Patients are shifted to relevant wards once their condition becomes stable.

The emergency centre was launched on January 6 this year.

"Earlier, we would have to send a patient to a ward even if his or her condition was critical," said Nasir Ahmed, office assistant of the admission section at DMCH.



Nearly 2,000 patients arrive at the emergency section of DMCH every day, who receive the first round of service at the one-stop centre.

FILE PHOTO

"Before, all the tests like X-ray, blood and ultrasonography had to be done at the wards, which took around two hours to complete as patients had to travel to different corners of the hospital," he added.

Now, Nasir said, it takes around 15 to 20 minutes to get admitted and complete the necessary pathological tests.

The centre is located in a five-storey building, also known as the "new building", with an operation theatre on the second floor and post-anaesthesia care unit on the first.

The emergency centre has 15 beds, including four in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU), six in High-Dependency Unit (HDU) and five observation beds, along with all diagnostic test equipment including CT scan, ECG, nebulisation, cardiac monitor, digital X-ray, ultrasonography, and a mini pathology laboratory.

There is also a five-bed casualty observation ward and a three-bed minor OT to treat patients of neuro-surgery and head injuries.

Earlier, patients often faced hassles as pathological and radiological tests (x-ray, radiography, ultrasound, CT scans, MRI etc) were done in separate units.

Radiological tests were conducted on the north side of the hospital, about 200 metres away from the emergency. Now, blood and pathology tests as well as blood typing and cross-matching can be conducted in the new building for emergency patients.

"Around 1,700 to 1,800 patients come to emergency unit every day. It was difficult for two medical officers and four emergency doctors to provide treatment to such a huge number of patients properly," said Brig Gen AKM Nasir Uddin,

director of DMCH.

"Considering the situation, DMCH authorities have taken an initiative to set up all the test equipment and bring all facilities under one roof, so that patients do not need to wander around. This kills time and worsens their condition," he said.

The director said there are 40 doctors at the One-stop Emergency Centre, who are performing their duties in rotation and around 50 nurses are working round the clock.

"We are also trying to develop the emergency services further," he added.

The director, however, said there is still a crisis of manpower and they could not start a children's ward due to the shortage.

Still, emergency services at the hospital have improved significantly since they launched the centre, Nasir said.

Scuffle during mugging led to biker's murder

Assailant gives confessional statement, sent to jail

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A Tk 50 ride on contract became the last trip for biker Milon Sheikh, who was killed by a mugger posing as a pillion passenger on Malibagh-Mouchak flyover on August 26.

Milon picked up Nur Uddin alias Sumon on his bike from Malibagh's Abul Hotel area to take him to Gulistan around 2:15am. When they reached the middle of the flyover, Sumon told him to stop and let him drive the bike.

A scuffle ensued between the two. Sumon slit Milon's throat with a paper cutter knife, and fled the spot with the latter's bike and mobile phone.

This came to light after the detective branch (DB) of police arrested the alleged murderer from Shahjahanpur area of the capital around 3am yesterday, said Abdul Baten, additional commissioner (DB) of

Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) at a press briefing held at DMP Media Centre.

Police also recovered the rider's Dayang-150cc motorcycle, Samsung J-5 mobile phone, and two helmets from Sumon's possession.

"Sumon admitted to the crime during primary interrogation," the DB official said, adding that the arrestee was earlier involved in small theft but has no previous criminal record with any police station.

Sumon also gave confessional statement before a Dhaka court yesterday afternoon.

Investigation officer of the case produced Sumon before the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Baki Billah and pleaded to record his statement. Accepting the plea, the court recorded his statement under section 164 and sent him to jail afterwards.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 3

'Unite instead of doing politics over Rohingya crisis'

Nasim urges all parties

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League presidium member and former minister Mohammed Nasim yesterday called upon all political parties in the country to unite for solving the Rohingya crisis, instead of politicising the issue.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gave the Rohingyas shelter considering humanitarian aspects... What we're seeing now is an evil force initiating conspiracy centring the Rohingya issue," said Nasim.

"I sincerely request the international community to put pressure on the Myanmar government for repatriation of the Rohingyas. Our country is too small and overpopulated to accommodate them," he added.

Nasim, also spokesperson of the 14-party alliance led by AL, made the remarks at a condolence meeting held at Institution of Diploma Engineers, Bangladesh auditorium in the capital.

The alliance organised the event in memory of Prof Muzaffar Ahmed -- an iconic political figure and Liberation War organiser -- who passed away at a hospital in Dhaka on August 23.

Nasim asked all not to do politics over the Rohingya crisis.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

TAKING BRIBE

Shipping dept surveyor caught red-handed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Hours after the arrest of surveyor of Department of Shipping Mirza Saifur Rahman while he was taking bribe from a service seeker, Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) yesterday filed a case against him.

A team led by ACC's Assistant Director Abdul Wadud arrested Saifur from his office around 11:30am. He later filed the case.

According to the case statement, manager of MS Shipping Lines Moniruzzaman has been in charge of a ship, MV Khadizatul Kobra.

On June 7, the ship was damaged after it collided with a sand-laden bulkhead in Narayanganj.

Moniruzzaman requested Saifur to survey the ship.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 4

Abul Mansur Ahmad's birth anniversary today

CITY DESK

Today marks the 121st birth anniversary of renowned litterateur, journalist and politician Abul Mansur Ahmad. On this day in 1898, he was born in Dhanikhola village of Mymensingh district.



To commemorate the day, Abul Mansur Ahmad Smriti Parishad will give away prizes among the winners of an essay competition on the eminent personality on September 7 (Saturday) at 4pm in Professor Muzaffar Ahmed Choudhury Auditorium of Social Science Faculty Building at Dhaka University. At the programme, Prof Serajul Islam Choudhury, essayist Syed Abul Maksud, Prof Bishwajit Ghosh, Prof Mahbub Murshid, Prof Md Chengish Khan and journalist Kajal Rashid Shahin will speak with National Professor Anisuzzaman in the chair.

Abul Mansur Ahmad is one of the leading satirical writers of Bangla literature.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

DENGUE OUTBREAK

Rain may worsen situation: experts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Though the number of dengue patients have come down in the last two days, experts yesterday observed that there is still a chance that the number may increase, as the city saw rain on the first day of September.

According to experts, dengue infections may increase in September and October if the rain continues, creating suitable weather conditions for Aedes mosquitoes to breed.

According to Dhaka Met office, most districts experienced rain yesterday, of which Dhaka got 40-millimetre rainfall, while Kishoreganj saw 43mm, Khulna 43mm, Mongla 40mm and Tangail 42mm.

Kinkar Ghosh, epidemiologist at Dhaka Shishu Hospital, said that if there is intermittent rains in September, there is a chance of an increase in dengue cases.

But it will remain under control if necessary steps are taken and ongoing drive against Aedes mosquitoes are continued, he said.

Prof Kabirul Bashar, an entomologist of Jahangirnagar University, also stressed the need for continuing the ongoing Aedes mosquito control activities. "Though I do not think September will be top in terms of dengue cases this year, as the peak period has already passed just before Eid, authorities concerned as well as people will have to continue their anti-mosquito activities at least till October," he said.

According to Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), 865 dengue patients were admitted to different hospitals across the country in 24 hours till 8am yesterday, raising the tally of patients to 71,962.

Among them, 41,494 are in Dhaka.

Meanwhile, one more patient died of dengue yesterday at Dhaka

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2



This car -- belonging to a lawmaker as per a plaque and sticker on the windshield -- was seen parked on the road in Panthapath yesterday. Moreover, the SUV is faced against traffic movement, suggesting it might have been driven on the wrong side.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

PHOTO OF THE DAY

ANISUR RAHMAN



Finding no shade from the sun, this rickshaw puller decided to rest under his rickshaw, putting the vehicle's seat and plastic rain cover to good use. The photo was taken on Sunday in front of BFDC.

SEE PAGE 4 COL 2

ARSON ATTACK CASE

Eight top leaders of BNP secure bail

COURT CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir and seven other BNP leaders yesterday secured bail in an arson attack case, filed in October last year.

The other BNP leaders who got bail in the case are: Barrister Moudud Ahmed, Mirza Abbas, Goyeshwar Chandra Roy, Amir Khasru Mahmud Chowdhury, Dr Moyeen Khan, Ruhul Kuddus Talukder Dulu and Nazrul Islam Khan.

After they surrendered before the court seeking bail, Metropolitan Magistrate Sarafuzzaman Ansary granted their prayers on the grounds that they will appear before the court on every scheduled date.

The case was filed on October 1 last year with Hatirjheel Police Station against Mirza Fakhru and 55 others.

According to the prosecution, it was alleged that some party supporters blasted crude bombs, attacked police in an attempt to kill them, vandalised vehicles and obstructed police duties in Moghbazar area around 8:15pm on September 30 last year.

The leaders delivered "provocative and anti-government speeches" at the rally in Suhrawardy Udyan on that date, and party supporters committed the offences while returning from the programme.

Following the case, Fakhru and seven others surrendered before the High Court, seeking bail.

After the hearing, the HC then granted them anticipatory bail and directed them to appear before the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court of Dhaka after a month of submission of the police report.

DHAKA TODAY

CLEANING CAMPAIGN

Porichchonnotar Ongkar Venue: Central Shaheed Minar Time: 10am

HEALTH PROGRAMME

Dengue Awareness and Protection Organiser: Health Plus Service Venue: Muktiyodha Complex, Mirpur 1 Time: 3pm

EXHIBITION

Secretive Works of an Outsider by Waziuddin Mamun Venue: Kalakendra, Mohammadpur Time: 4:30pm-8pm

SEMINAR

Consumer Rights Protection Venue: Department of Development Studies, Dhaka University Time: 2pm

MUSIC

Chitropot Venue: EMK Center, Dhanmondi Time: 6:30pm

DANCE WORKSHOP

Salsa Beginners Class Organiser: The Salsa Circle Venue: Jatra Biroti, Banani Time: 7:30pm

Advertisement for 'পরিষ্কৃত্যার অঙ্গীকার' (Purification Commitment) featuring logos of DBC and other organizations.