

Conjoined twins separated at DMCH

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Doctors at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) have separated two-year-old conjoined twins Labiba and Lamisa through a surgery yesterday.

Starting around 8:30am, the surgeons completed the surgery around 5:00pm, confirmed Prof Dr Asraf Ul Haque, head of paediatric surgery at DMCH.

"The children were kept at the ICU following the surgery," Dr Asraf said during a press conference at the hospital last evening.

On December 13 last year, doctors postponed the surgery due to "complications involving their reproductive organs".

The twins from Nilphamari were admitted to the hospital on September 28 last year. Since then, they have been preparing for surgery under supervision of the paediatric surgery department.



Raushan Ara Akhter (32), locally known as "Paani Apa", has been working as a one-woman army in the battle against the water crisis in Gunari village of Khulna's Dakop upazila. She goes door-to-door, fixing the water tank pipelines in every house to install rainwater harvesting systems and clean the filter.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

Transport workers go on strike

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Lalmonirhat

Transport workers of buses and minibuses in Lalmonirhat went on an indefinite strike yesterday to press home their four-point demand.

Transport workers from Teesta to Burimari Land Port in the district have enforced the strike simultaneously since yesterday morning, said the workers.

Their demands are arrest of their leaders who sold their organisation's property and embezzled the money, a stop to thuggery at bus terminal, an end to attack on transport workers by hired goons and arrest of those who attacked their president's filling station.

Bappi Islam, one of the protesters, said, "We will not join work until our demands are met."

Passengers had to suffer due to the sudden bus strike. They were forced to spend more money on battery-run auto-rickshaws to go to their destinations.

WATER CRISIS IN THE SOUTHWEST

'PAANI APA' to the rescue

DIPANKAR ROY, Khulna

Mitu Sana, a homemaker from Gunari village at Khulna's Dakop upazila, has to go to the Union Parishad pond -- far from her home -- to fetch drinking water.

Mitu's husband and her brother-in-law are both day labourers, and her father-in-law is too old for the job. So the responsibility falls on her shoulders, like every other woman of the region.

"It takes one and a half hours to fetch water from the pond. I need to make the trip twice a day," said Mitu.

In the southwestern region of the country, the water crisis during the dry season is a battle that every woman has to fight. Women of every household have to walk for hours to fetch water from sources far from their homes.

Rainwater, during this season, is the only viable source that can solve the crisis.

Raushan Ara Akhter (32), locally known as "Paani Apa", has been working on that front. She has got training to install rainwater harvesting systems and fix technical issues related to them.

Raushan goes door-to-door, fixing the water tank pipelines of every house and

cleaning the filters.

"We need to prepare all the water tanks to contain rainwater. I have to complete the work in every household in Gunari village before the monsoon," said a determined Raushan.

A recent UNDP survey reveals that 73 percent of the people living in five coastal upazilas -- Koyra, Dakop, Paikgachha of Khulna and Assasuni and Shyamnagar of Satkhira -- drink unsafe saline water.

The survey was carried out on 2,71,464 people of 66,234 households living in 39 unions of the five coastal upazilas, under a project titled "Gender-responsive Coastal Adaptation (GCA)".

Though the permissible salinity level in drinking water is 1,000 mg per litre, residents of the coastal areas consume water with a salinity level between 1,427 mg and 2,406 mg per litre on average, reveals the survey.

During the dry season, the salinity level of tube well water in Shyamnagar goes up to 6,600 mg per litre, more than six times the permissible limit.

Almost all freshwater sources were destroyed in the 2009 cyclone "Aila". All drinkable resources were damaged and

ponds were filled with saline water.

According to the DPHE in Dakop, 1,53,000 people in the upazila have no access to a deep tube well.

Sources in the DPHE said there were some 46 government ponds in the upazila. However, due to lack of maintenance, many of these have dried up.

Under the UNDP project, each family was given a 2,000-litre water tank to contain rainwater in an attempt to solve their drinking water crisis for several months.

"But many people do not know how to manage the filter properly. So I was given training on how to properly install and clean it, to ensure a steady supply of safe drinking water," said Raushan.

Mitu Sana added, "I am eagerly waiting for the rainy season. It will solve this huge crisis for us."

And Paani Apa is there to the rescue.

"All the families have my contact number. They can call me if they face any issue with the rainwater tank. I go immediately to fix it," said Raushan.

Raushan Ara Akhter is currently working with 88 families, and will soon start with 26 more.

All the families have my contact number. They can call me if they face any issue with the rainwater tank. I go immediately to fix it. Raushan Ara

A journey that ended too soon
5 friends killed, as truck hits car on Ctg-Cox's Bazar highway

FM MIZANUR RAHAMAN, Ctg

Five friends, a car, and a trip to Cox's Bazar -- this was supposed to be one of the many highlights of their lives. It was a time to leave the hustle and bustle of the city behind, but what they didn't know is that the trip they were looking forward to would lead to their demise.

The five youngsters met their fate in a road accident, after a truck collided head-on with their car on Chattogram-Cox's Bazar highway in Lohagara upazila yesterday morning.

The deceased are Md Sakib Risvee (25), Md Sajid Khan (28), Md Monsur Ali (25), Md Harunur Rasid (30) and Saiful Islam (25). They lived in different places of Chattogram, including Sagorika, Andarkillah and Satkania upazila.

Among the dead, Sakib was the founder president of "Xtreme Rollerz of Chittagong", a platform of motorbike stunt riders, while Sajid was the platform's vice president.

Sajid was also involved with Chhatra League in Satkania municipality area. Monsur was a second-year student of Hazi Muhammad Mohsin College.

OC Sirajul Islam of Dohazari Highway Police Station said, "During the incident, Sakib was driving the car, and a dump truck coming from the opposite direction collided with the car around 5:30am, leaving four dead on the spot."

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'Till death do us part'



Mahmudul and Fahmida on the day of their marriage at the hospital on March 9. She passed away yesterday.

PHOTO: COLLECTED

ARUN BIKASH DEY, Ctg

Two lovers. Between them stood the biggest obstacle imaginable -- death itself.

Yet they chose to bet on each other. On March 9, Fahmida Kamal (25) and Mahmudul Hasan (30) got married, despite pressures from family and society.

Fahmida had been struggling with cancer for over a year, and everybody advised Mahmudul against it. But in the end, love won as they exchanged wedding vows at a private hospital in the port city where Fahmida was being treated.

"The bride was dressed in a red sari, while Mahmudul wore pajama and panjabi," said Saifuddin Saki, a maternal grandfather of Fahmida.

"They exchanged garlands, cut a cake and the marriage was registered right at the hospital. Family members, hospital staffers and others present were treated with sweets, cake and dates," he said. But tragically, only 12 days later, Fahmida succumbed to her terminal illness yesterday morning.

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Memo No -General- 400 /Stha

Date : 21 -03-2022

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify for all concern that the following tender have published through e-GP Portal .

SL No	Tender ID	Package No	Name of Works	Publishing Date & Time	Last selling Date & Time	Closing Date & Time
1	676437	DOA-21-08	Software and Database Maintenance (Architecture Engineering & Construction Collection Commercial and AutoCAD-including specialized toolsets Commercial Renewal).	22-Mar-2022 09:00	13-Apr-2022 14:00	13-Apr-2022 15:00

The Interested persons/firms/supplier may visit the web site www.eprocure.gov.bd to get details of the tender.

This is an Online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will not be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP portal (<https://www.eprocure.gov.bd/>) is required. Further information and guideline are available the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

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Memo No. CEDP/PGC/2021-22/016



Date: 21/03/2022

e-Tender Notice 05/2021-2022

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the procurement of following package:

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of supply	Last date and time of tender security submission	Tender closing date & time
1.	676440	Procurement of Furniture & Fixtures for Classrooms, Laboratories, Teachers Council Room and Auditorium for Patiya Govt. College, Chattogram.	06-April-2022 13:00pm	06-April-2022 14:00pm

This is an online tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copy will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered banks' branches up to 4:00pm, 05 April, 2022.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

21/03/2022

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