

Fresh Tissue donates ultrasound machine to cancer hospital



STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Fresh Tissue has donated an ultrasound machine to Bangladesh Cancer Society Hospital and Welfare Home at an event at the hospital in Dhaka yesterday.

The flagship brand of Meghna Group of Industries (MGI) handed over the state-of-the-art machine following its month-long breast cancer screening and awareness campaign titled "Fresh Bangladesh" across 18 districts countrywide in March this year.

"Fresh Bangladesh" is an initiative of MGI. It was launched in March marking International Women's Day. Around 1,000 women received free breast cancer screening at a mobile clinic with ultrasonogram facility, named as "Caravan".

At yesterday's event, MGI Director Barrister Tasnim Mostafa handed over the machine to the hospital authority. Prof Dr MA Hai, director of the hospital; Dr Masumul Haque, its resident medical officer; Prof Dr Golam Mohiuddin Faruque, project director; Kazi Md Mohiuddin, senior general manager (brand) of MGI; and Md Yeasin Mollah, senior DGM (Sales, MPPML) of MGI, were present.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS Annual health checkup for everyone from next year

Says Zahid Maleque STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will start annual health checkup for every citizen in all public hospitals across the country from next year, said Health Minister Zahid Maleque yesterday.

For this, the ministry has undertaken a project under which the service will be launched from January if everything goes properly, the minister said while talking to Bangladesh Health Reporters Forum (BHRF) following an event in Manikganj.

"People will be able to take health checkup service in exchange for money fixed for specific package," he said, adding that this will enable the physicians to detect diseases at the early stage. "This will ultimately reduce the deaths in non-communicable disease," the minister said.

Cumilla choked by congestion

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The same situation was seen after this correspondent visited the Shsongacha bus station area.

Bilkish Akhter, teacher at a Syedpur school, said, "I regularly commute from Cumilla to Syedpur but there is always traffic congestion in the Shsongacha bus station area. There is no discipline in traffic management."

The situation is particularly worse in Kadirpar area, the business hub of Cumilla City. Autorickshaws haphazardly park here and there and the footpaths are occupied by vendors, making it even difficult to walk.

Masuk Altaf Chowdhury, a journalist and president of Cumilla Press Club, said, "The city corporation has

no data on illegal autorickshaws. They have no control over the traffic system."

"The traffic woes won't improve in a day. Imposing strict laws, awareness campaigns and participation of all relevant stakeholders are needed to get rid of gridlocks," he added.

Traffic inspector Russel Bhuiyan said, "There are 54 traffic police deployed in Cumilla town. They work by roster of 27 persons in each shift, which is not sufficient."

"Community policing is very inadequate in Cumilla city. The commercial market buildings don't have enough parking places. In some places, market owners illegally park their vehicles on

roads, which causes congestion," he added.

Contacted, Dr Shafikul Islam, chief executive officer of Cumilla City Corporation, said, "We are going to launch a drive to evict illegal establishments besides Laksham Road at Tomsom bridge in Shaktola area. But there is no plan in the works to widen city roads."

Sunity Chakma, executive engineer of Roads and Highways Department, said a project worth Tk 5,68,93,000 has been taken to construct a U-loop, an overpass and three under passes in Sadar south upazila, Paduar Bazar and Beltoli areas.

The traffic jams would reduce significantly once these projects get completed, he said.

AMENDMENT TO CONSTITUTION Faced veto for trying to exclude state religion: Amu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Awami League leader Amir Hossain Amu yesterday said during the process of bringing 15th amendment to the constitution, they faced opposition among themselves about exclusion of the "state religion".

"We wanted to abolish the state religion. But it could not happen as one or two members vetoed," said Amu, coordinator of AL-led 14-party alliance.

He was speaking at a discussion in Dhaka. A special parliamentary body for constitutional amendment was formed in July 2010 to aid the amendments. Amu was its member. Parliament on June 30, 2011 passed the 15th amendment retaining Islam's status as the state religion.

Earlier, secularism was removed from the constitution through the fifth amendment by Ziaur Rahman, and Islam was declared as the state religion in 1988 by HM Ershad through eighth amendment.

No new train

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Region, "Chattogram-Sylhet is a profitable route and there is a high demand for more trains on this route." He claimed that they have verbally informed the railway ministry for launching new trains on this route.

Husband confesses

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from Community Medical College at Moghbazar, was killed by Reza inside a room of Family Service Apartment residential hotel on Panthapath.

Rab arrested Reza from Chattogram's Muradpur a day after the murder. They also seized a bloodstained clothe, mobile phone, a bag and Jannatul's cellphone from him.

Rab said when Jannatul came to know about her husband's extramarital

affairs, she often tried to counsel him and got into arguments with him.

Following these incidents, Reza had been planning to kill her.

He booked the hotel room on August 10. There, they started arguing again, and at one stage Reza stabbed Jannatul indiscriminately with a knife, according to Rab.

Her father later filed a murder case against Reza with Kalabagan Police Station.

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Invitation for Tender Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board. Includes details on tender specifications, dates, and contact information for the Board.

Want to buy a car?

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"We have applied for permanent dumping stations. The situation will improve when we get that," he added.

Sources said police are now working to get four permanent dumping stations in DMP.

WHY CAN'T THEY BE AUCTIONED OFF FASTER?

Police officials said there is hardly any claim of ownership for vehicles involved in crimes.

Asked about the legal bar for early disposal of seized vehicles, Ehsanul Haque Shomaji, former metropolitan public prosecutor, said a court order is mandatory for it.

The IO can apply for early disposal of vehicles to avoid them being damaged, but there is no legal obligation for this, the lawyer told this newspaper.

But that also depends on court jurisdiction, he

added.

A high official of DMP, requesting anonymity, said if the investigation officer applies for early disposal, then all responsibility will fall on them.

The IO has to mention in the court that the vehicle is not needed in the case anymore, the officer told this newspaper.

WHY SUCH LOW PRICES? Meanwhile, authorities are now being compelled to reduce the base price at auctions, as they are not getting bids from traders, said Sk Md Mahub-E-Rabbani, director (road safety) of BRTA.

"They [traders] often do not take part in auctions in groups when the base price is high. One time, we did not get any bid even after calling an auction for a vehicle three times," he said.

"Eventually, we have no other option but to reduce the base price," he added.

People who are still interested in the auctions now, said the auctions have lost their appeal after the 2008 BRTA order.

"There was no bar to re-register after buying a vehicle through auction earlier. But that was stopped in 2008," said Md Jamil Hossain.

"Since 2008, we are only allowed to profit from a vehicle as scrap even if its condition is good. That's why we offer a low price," said Jamil.

Jamil was one of the two participants found waiting at Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate court on March 20 for the auction of a motorbike. The auction did not take place as the magistrate did not appear.

"When re-registration was allowed, the auction had a vibrant look. Many people, including men of the ruling party and its affiliated organisations, used to take part," he

recalled.

He said another reason for the low price was the vehicles' poor condition.

A MATTER OF REVENUE If these vehicles are put on auction faster, authorities may get more revenue, according to insiders.

Jafor Hossain, deputy commissioner of prosecution at DMP, said police have no role in the auction, as BRTA fixes the rate and a magistrate oversees the auction.

Asked about the government losing revenue, Jafor said that is up to the decisions of BRTA and the court.

Sometimes, vehicles in good condition are put up for auction, so a discussion can definitely take place about registering auctioned vehicles, he added.

[Our court correspondent Emrul Hasan Bappi also contributed to this report.]

Manikganj remembers

Tareque Masud, Mishuk Munier

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj

People from all strata of life paid tributes to renowned filmmaker Tareque Masud and journalist Mishuk Munier in Manikganj on the occasion of their 11th death anniversary yesterday.

They placed floral wreaths at a memorial built in their memory in Joka area of Ghior upazila on Dhaka-Aricha highway, where the two died after a fatal road accident on August 13, 2011.

Later, a human chain and a tree plantation programme were held.

Tareque Masud-Mishuk Munier Smriti Parishad, Manikganj Press Club and other organisations arranged the programmes.

AL leader, sons sued

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supporters of Azizar have been made accused in the case.

The other injured journalists are Prothom Alo's Lalmonirhat correspondent Abdur Rob Suzon and Ekhn Television's Lalmonirhat correspondent Mahfuzul Islam Bakul.

All the three are undergoing treatment

at Lalmonirhat Sadar Hospital.

OC Ershadul said, "Azizar and his sons went into hiding after the incident. Police are trying to arrest the accused."

The journalists were beaten on August 12 evening when they were collecting information about an alleged abduction in Sakorpar village, the OC said.

Five Chhatra Union

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he said. "We have informed police about the attack," he said.

Contacted, Arafat Hossain, convener of the college unit of BCL, said regular students attacked the Chhatra Union activists as they wanted to bring in outsiders to participate in their protest.

"At that time, Chhatra League leaders and activists were present there," he

added.

Abdur Razzak, officer-in-charge of Boalkhali Police Station, said there was a clash between two student groups on the campus. "We sent police to the spot to bring the situation under control. We also rescued and sent the injured to a hospital."

No one has filed any written complaint in this regard, the OC said.

Port city lost 120 hills

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in Salimpur was 3,100 acres. But in the last two decades, those have been cut and destroyed. Now thousands of houses have been built on those hills, he added.

The environment forum also placed a seven-point demand, including arrest of those involved in razing hills, at the press conference.

Mozammel Haque, former Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology, Manjurul Kibria, professor of Zoology Department of Chittagong University and Chowdhury Farid, president of Bangladesh Environment Forum's Chattogram chapter, among others, were present.

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