



IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh

Newsletter

August 2023 ● Vol 2 No 2

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Dr. Rezaul Haque, Founder Trustee of IFB visits IMPACT Foundation UK



Dr. Rezaul Haque and his wife, Indrani Haque paid a visit to IMPACT Foundation UK at Haywards Heath, West Sussex, UK in April and met with Pascal Noel, Jackson Medlow Stagg, Lisa Waller, Judi Stagg, Sarah Smith, and Rosie Wiltshire.

Ms Judi Stagg is currently one of the Advisers of UKIF while Ms Sarah Smith and Ms Pascale Noel are designated as Joint CEOs. During the meeting, Dr. Haque had an important discussion on potential future collaboration which included the establishment of a Caregiver Training Centre in Meherpur, IFB staff development training etc.

The idea of a Caregiver Training Centre was much appreciated by the UKIF. During the visit, Dr. Haque also met with Ms Claire E Hick, Trustee and former Chief Executive of UKIF, and Mrs Veronica James, a well-wisher, and supporter of IFB.

The meeting ended with a renewed commitment to strengthening and expanding the partnership between UKIF and IFB.

IFB's icon project- the Impact 'Jibon Tari' Floating Hospital celebrates its 24th Anniversary

The first-ever floating hospital in Bangladesh celebrated its 24th anniversary this year on 10th April. The unique venture of IFB started its journey more than two decades ago on this day with the commitment to take specialized healthcare to the doorstep of the marginalized riverine rural population in Bangladesh.

IFB observed the day in a simple ceremony by decorating the 'Jibon Tari' floating hospital with colorful balloons, festoons, lighting etc.



To mark this auspicious day, the 'Jibon Tari' staff gathered in the evening and recalled the efforts and contributions of the founders who dreamt of a floating hospital for serving the poor riverine people of the country.

The 'Jibon Tari' staff had a memorable evening to celebrate this occasion in a festive way.

A delegation from the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation (KCF), Hong Kong visits IFB

Peter Paul de Groote, Director, and Rita Bonomally, Program Manager, South-East Asia of the Kadoorie Charitable Foundation (KCF), Hong Kong visited Bangladesh and observed IFB's Field and hospital Programmes at Chuadanga and Meherpur in June this year.

They observed the project activities in Mujibnagar Upazila where IFB implemented a 3-year project with the goal to strengthen the Government Health Care Service facility and also increase the utilization of Government hospitals and health centers by the poor, rural population. They met with the beneficiaries in the community and learned their perspective regarding the healthcare needs and impact of IFB's project in the area.

The Director at KCF-Peter Paul de Groote said that IFB was putting an incredible effort in changing the lives of the marginalized people in the region. Program Manager- Rita Bonomally appreciated IFB's community-based programmes.



Graduation Ceremony of the 7th Batch of Impact Nursing Institute



Dr Cecilia Anim, Past President, RCN Foundation attended the graduation ceremony of the 7th batch of INI students. Ms Cecilia distributed crests among the students. Impact Nursing Institute students felt honoured to have her presence at the event.

Dr Cecilia addressed the students describing the future aspects of nursing careers and their roles in society.



At the end of the ceremony, she attended a cultural programme arranged by the nursing students.



Dr Cecilia Anim observed the outreach activities of IFB at Chuadanga and Meherpur where she witnessed TBA training, Home Garden, Mothers' Club meetings, and nutrition demonstration sessions in the community.

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IFB receives 1st installment for construction of the Impact 'Jibon Mela' Nursing Academic Building

IFB received the first installment of financial support from LHFCT, Hong Kong for the construction of Impact 'Jibon Mela' nursing academic building. The construction work has started after signing of the contracts with engineering firms, who were selected through a competitive bidding process. IFB expects to complete the academic building within the approved timeline.



Bangladesh American Charitable Organization (BACHAO) supports IFB since 2014



BACHAO has been supporting the underprivileged, destitute people living in the riverside areas of Bangladesh by providing surgical treatments for the prevention of disability, thus contributing for the alleviation of poverty in rural Bangladesh. With the generous contribution from BACHAO, IFB has supported a total of 350 cataract patients and hearing ability was restored for 186 poor patients till date. In the year 2022-2023, IFB conducted a total of 97 cataract and ENT surgeries with the support from BACHAO.

Expatriate Bangladeshi extends helping hands to IFB

Mr. Ershad, an expatriate Bangladeshi Businessman living in Los Angeles, USA supported IFB in purchasing a number of medical equipment for its newly-built hospital, Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre at Chuadanga.

With his support, IFB procured and installed an anaesthesia machine, an eye operation theatre table, a gynae operation theatre table, and a defibrillator machine for the hospital. All this equipment was essential for the hospital for ensuring quality service and safety for the clients.



The Australian Gynaecological team conducts a day-long workshop for the local gynaecologists and nurses on the latest surgical technique for the treatment of uterine prolapse

Dr. Barbara Ann Hall, Gynaecologist, and Dr. John Taylor (General Practitioner) from DAK Foundation, Australia visited Bangladesh in May 2023. During their visit, they conducted a workshop/training on sacrospinous fixation of prolapse treatment in Bangladesh. Besides, hands-on training was conducted on pre & post-operative patient management for hospital nurses.



IFB receives significant support for equipment from UK IMPACT Foundation

Establishment of Neonatal ICU

UKIF has successfully mobilized funds for the purchase of a number of medical equipment to establish a neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at IFB's new hospital in Chuadanga. The equipment includes a NICU bed; body warmer machines; incubators; nebulizer machines; mechanical ventilator machines and a set of smaller equipment for the NICU unit. The NICU unit will bring a distinguishable change in IFB's hospital service quality for neonatal care at Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre. This will immensely benefit local people as there is no such ICU set up in the district, which will prevent neonatal mortality and morbidity to some extent.

Digital X-Ray machines and OCT Angiography



UK IMPACT Foundation supported for 2 X-ray machines for Chuadanga and Meherpur Hospitals and an OCT angiography machine for Chuadanga Hospital. The X-ray machines and the OCT machines are in use, which has significantly increased the capacity and quality of hospital services.



IFB receives support from Smile Train USA for the new hospital in Chuadanga

Smile Train USA supported IFB in the procurement of 3 major pieces of equipment for IFB's hospital at Chuadanga. A video laryngoscope, an anesthesia machine, and a multi-parameter monitor with ETCO2 will be installed soon at Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre in Chuadanga after the completion of the procurement procedure. The equipment is essential for the safety of the children for operation in general, specially the cleft lip/palate.

A Leg to Stand on (ALTSO)'s support for Rural Clubfoot patients



Five-year-old Yousuf first came to Impact Hospital at Chuadanga when he was only one month old. His parents, Enamul and Eti, were sad and depressed when they brought their son to the hospital.

Eti was shocked to learn that her son was born with curved legs after the delivery. Thunder struck her face. She turned blank and did not know what to tell her husband, who stays abroad.

After returning home, she talked to her relatives, who advised her to visit Impact Hospital at Chuadanga. Without any further delay, Eti took Yousuf to the hospital where the doctor examined the little boy and advised her to return with her son after 3 weeks.

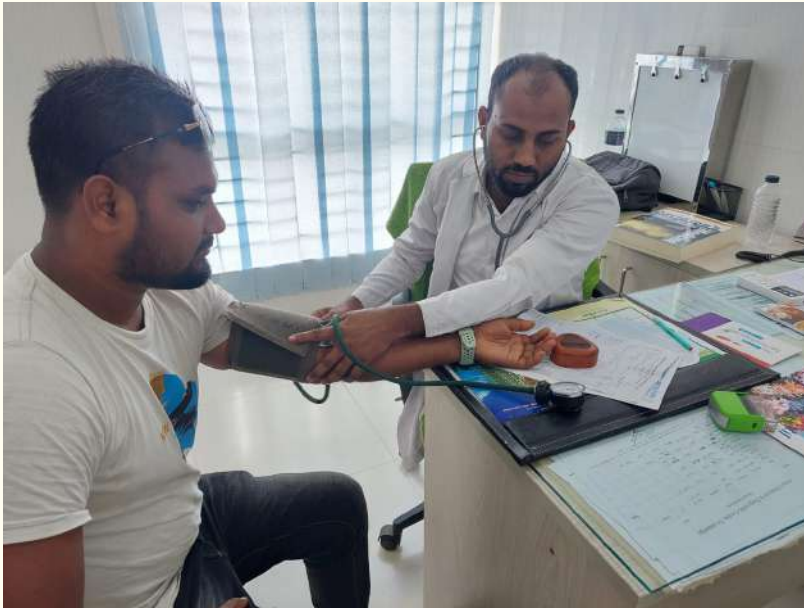
Accordingly, she took her son to the hospital after 3 weeks when the little boy, Yousuf, went through multiple serial plasters, followed by brace shoes to correct the clubfoot deformity.

Eti said, "I thought my son would be able to walk freely as I started to see changes in his feet. So, I sometimes neglected making him wear the brace shoes. As a result, he could not walk properly when he grew older. His feet did not touch the ground when he tried to walk. I took my son to Impact Hospital again. The Doctor-in-Charge examined my boy and suggested an operation."

She continued, "My baby had his operation, and was given brace shoes. The Doctor advised that Yousuf needed to wear the shoes on a regular basis. I made sure I did not make the mistakes I did before. I made him wear the shoes, and my baby can now walk properly like the other children. I am so happy. I can only thank the staff at IFB Hospital for their support."



Abdul Motaleb serves poor patients with a passion



Dr. Abdul Motaleb, Medical Officer, at Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre, has been serving the patients at Chuadanga for 1 year. He has been attending the patients at the hospital and also at IFB's satellite clinics since his joining.

When asked about his experiences, Mr. Motaleb said, "I have worked in various hospitals but I never had the opportunity to work for the underprivileged people. It feels good to learn about the life of these people. Every person has their own story. I feel honored to serve these people, I am grateful to IFB for giving me this opportunity to serve the poor, rural people at Chuadanga."



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