

## Newsletter

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## Silver Jubilee Celebration

### Jibon Tari - A Journey of Healing and Hope

This April, IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh celebrated 25 years of providing specialized and life-changing healthcare services to the poor, underserved, marginalized riverside communities in Bangladesh. The journey dates back to 10th April 1999, when the first-ever floating hospital in Bangladesh was launched on the bank of river Padma at Mawa Ghat of Munshigonj district in the presence of distinguished guests and dignitaries from home and abroad. Late Al hajj Abdus Samad Azad, the then foreign minister of the Government of Bangladesh, Mr. David C Walker, CBO CMG, the then British high commissioner in Bangladesh, late Sir John Wilson (CBE, DCL), the then chairman of UK Impact Foundation, Late Shafat Ahmed Chaudhuri, the founder Chairman of IFB, Late Mr. Anwarul Amin, the immediate past Chairman of IFB, Mr. Enam Ahmed Chaudhury, Chairman, IFB, Founder Trustees Dr. Rezaul Haque and Mr. Monsur Ahmed Choudhuri and many other distinguished guests and friends from UK, India, Nepal, Norway, Hong Kong were present at the inauguration ceremony along with local guests.



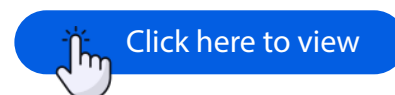
Currently situated at Madaripur Sadar Upazila of Madaripur district, on the bank of the river "Arial Khan", the three-decked hospital provides a wide range of preventive and curative healthcare services at the doorsteps of hard-to-reach, rural communities. The 40-meter-long hospital, staffed with 32 full-time residential staff members, has so far traveled to 22 districts in Bangladesh and offered medical treatment and surgery as well as community engagement programmes, such as training local healthcare workers and traditional birth attendants.







IFB celebrated the silver jubilee event with a day-long programme at the “Jibon Tari” Floating Hospital. Read more about the event under the recent activities section on our website:



## Celebrating World Nurses Day 2024

World Nurses Day, celebrated globally on May 12th, which marks the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. The day recognizes the invaluable contributions of nurses worldwide.

The theme for this year was "Nurses: A Voice to Lead - Our Nurses. Our Future." The theme emphasizes the critical role nurses play in shaping the future of health-care. It underscores the need for investment in nursing education, leadership, and practice to ensure a robust and resilient healthcare system.

IFB's educational project, Impact Nursing Institute (INI) celebrates the day every year to signify the important role nurses play in society. This year, the nursing students at INI celebrated the day with a day-long celebratory programme.



Observation of the day at a glance:

- Flag hoisting at “Jibon Mela” Complex
- Rally from Impact Nursing Institute to Meherpur General Hospital
- Discussion meeting on the importance of World Nurses Day at Impact Nursing Institute

The programme ended with cutting the cake and remembering the contribution of nurses to society.

## A delegation from the Social Services and Management Trust (SSMT) visits Chuadanga and Meherpur

Members of the Board of Trustees, including the Chairman of SSMT, Mrs. Nasreen Subhan visited the Chuadanga and Meherpur programmes of IFB in April. They observed the hospital and community activities and met with the beneficiaries. The members of SSMT were accompanied by Mr. Enam Chaudhury, Chairman, IFB, Dr. Rezaul Haque, Founder Trustee IFB, Mr. Monsur Ahmed Chowdhury, Trustee, and Dr. S M Akbar, Trustee, IFB.



Mrs. Nasreen Subhan enjoyed seeing IFB's projects taking a holistic approach targeted at the most vulnerable people of the community, whose voices are often left unheard. After the day-long visit, they attended a cultural programme organized by the nursing students at Impact Nursing Institute (INI).

*"We are fortunate to have partnered with IMPACT to serve the underprivileged people of the country and improve their lives," Mrs. Nasreen Subhan, Chairman, SSMT.*

## The Project Director from DAK Foundation visits IFB

Ms Anubha Rawat, Project Director, DAK Foundation; Dr. Barbara Ann Hall and Dr. William John Taylor from Australia visited Bangladesh this year to observe the ongoing activities of the Proshanti Project. During the visit, hands-on training for Gynaecologists and nurses on "sacrospinous fixation" for correction of Prolapse of Pelvic Organs (POP) was conducted by Dr. Barbara Hall in four districts of the country. The training included pre & post-operative patient management. The visit took place from February 24 to March 07 2024.





## LHFCT, Hong Kong's support for the “Jibon Mela” Nursing Academic Building

“Jibon Mela” Nursing Academic Building (JMNAB) of the Impact Nursing Institute is expected to be fully ready for academic activities including accommodation for 150 students (50 in each batch) by June 2025.

IFB received significant support from Lutz and Hedda Franz Charitable Trust (LHFCT), Hong Kong, for the construction of the “Jibon Mela” Nursing Academic Building from the second floor onwards.

The construction was launched in 2021 with the support from IMPACT Foundation UK.



## IFB receives Support from IMPACT Foundation UK



IMPACT Foundation UK has kindly responded to an urgent appeal from IFB by providing financial support for the procurement of three anesthesia machines to replace the banned halothane-based anesthesia machines with Isoflurane-based machines at its three IFB hospitals.



## DAK Foundation, Australia supports hospital equipment

IFB received financial support from the Dave and Kerry (DAK) Foundation to purchase the following equipment for its two static hospitals at Chuadanga and Meherpur, as well as the "Jibon Tari" Floating Hospital, which serves the nation's impoverished riverine population.

- Operation Theatre Light for Meherpur Hospital
- Operation Theatre table for Meherpur Hospital
- Cardiac Monitor for Meherpur, and Chuadanga.
- ECG machine for Meherpur and the "Jibon Tari" Floating hospital
- Cell counter machine for "Jibon Tari" Floating hospital
- Photocopier Machine for "Jibon Tari"
- Inter Ferential Therapy (IFT) for Chuadanga
- Gynae OT table for Chuadanga
- Ultrasound Therapy (UST) for Chuadanga



## BACHAO continues to support IFB

The Bangladeshi American Charitable Organization (BACHAO), based in California, USA, has a long-standing commitment to supporting underprivileged communities in Bangladesh. BACHAO's partnership with IFB is part of its broader strategy to support effective and impactful initiatives in Bangladesh. This year, BACHAO supported IFB with a grant for the provision of cataract and ENT surgical treatments for 120 poor patients.

## Farzana Akter, a dedicated nurse providing healthcare at "Jibon Tari" Floating Hospital

Farzana Akter, a dedicated Nurse serving ailing patients at the "Jibon Tari" Floating hospital was born and raised in Gangni Upazila of Meherpur district. Farzana, a graduate of Impact Nursing Institute (INI), enrolled herself in the first batch in 2014.

Graduating in 2017, Farzana joined "Jibon Tari" the same year in June. Since then, she has been serving patients at the hospital with affection and care. During the last 7 years, she has exhibited determination and passion towards her duties. Farzana has been working as an Operation Theatre (OT) in charge for the past year.

Farzana recalled her early days at "Jibon Tari" stating, "The initial days on "Jibon Tari" were challenging for me, especially, adapting to the new environment and dealing with the emotional toll of staying away from family members. With days, I learned to navigate through the challenges. I became acquainted with my colleagues. The patients feel like my family now."



While reflecting on her journey at the floating hospital, Farzana quotes, "These seven years have been a story of resilience and compassion. I cannot explain how satisfied I feel seeing patients leave the hospital with smiling faces after treatment. When I joined here, I did not know how to carry on for days without seeing my family members, but the endless support I received from my colleagues helped me adapt to the challenging environment."

Farzana's compassion and love towards the patients exemplify the spirit of "Jibon Tari" and its mission to bring healthcare to the in-need patients. While "Jibon Tari" celebrated its 25th anniversary this April, IFB acknowledges the contribution of everyone at "Jibon Tari" who made the last 25 years' journey a success.



## A Leg to Stand on (ALTSO)

continues to support

Clubfoot treatment



Amir Hamza, aged 7 years, was born to Mr. Moshiur and Mrs. Lovely in a small village at Meherpur. Moshiur earns a living for the whole family by working at a private job. Both of them have two children, a 7-year-old son, Amir Hamza, and a 4-year-old daughter. During the pregnancy with Amir, Lovely visited the hospital regularly. She described that her husband and in-laws took special care of her during the whole pregnancy period.

While describing the day of her delivery, Lovely said, “I was experiencing low water (amniotic fluid), so the doctor advised me a cesarean section delivery. Accordingly, I had a C-section. My boy, Amir was born healthy. The arrival of our first child brought happiness to the family. We were overjoyed and content. However, as Amir was growing old, we noticed that he missed steps while walking. We visited a local doctor, who informed us that Amir will recover as he grows up.

Later, when he was three years old, we noticed the problem worsened. Not knowing what to do, we discussed with many relatives and neighbors about the condition of our son. One of our neighbors suggested that we visit the Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre where patients like Amir are treated with care.”

Lovely continued, “We were feeling helpless. The hospital was our only hope. My husband and I took our son to Impact Hospital, where the on-duty Medical Officer examined our son and suggested a series of treatments, including surgery at the beginning and a series of plasters. We agreed for the rehabilitation of our son. Amir went through the treatment procedures as advised by the doctor.”

“Amir is a grade 3 student now. He goes to school and plays with other children. We are happy that our son has recovered. He can now lead a life like any other boy of his age,” stated Lovely.

Lovely thanked everyone at Impact Hospital, Chuadanga for their support. Amir’s bright smile is a testament to the success of the treatment and the love that surrounded him every step of the way.



bKash

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