



# Moimuna Mata-Shishu Hospital



► *Serving the rural poor in Bangladesh ....*

**2016**

# Contents

The hospital - what it does and its facilities	03
Its background and establishment	05
The hospital's training programme	06
The hospital's organic vegetable garden	06
Meet the hospital's benefactors	07
Benefactors of the second phase of development	09
Future development programme	10
Meet the doctors	11
Meet the management	11

“ *A great gift for the people of my Union, as well those around us.* ”

Abu Hasan Mohammad Abdul Hannan (Hannu)  
Chairman 8no Rohimanpur Union Parishad  
Thakurgaon



# The hospital - What it does and its facilities



## ► Serving the poor rural women and children<sup>1</sup>

The hospital, which has 30 beds, provides the following services:

- Free medical check-ups for pregnant women and newborn babies
- Free basic medicines for the poor, based on donations received
- Pre-natal and post-natal maternity/child care facilities and training.
- Low-cost natural delivery and caesarean services
- Low-cost surgical services and medication for child injuries
- Basic blood, urine and stool tests
- X-ray facilities
- Dental care

On an average week<sup>2</sup>, the hospital treats 400 out-patients, provides free pre-natal check-ups to 60 pregnant women and delivers 10 babies of which 36 percent are by cesarean operation. Post-natal advisory services are continuously provided to about 20 mothers. It performs about 6 surgical operations, mostly appendicitis, haemorrhoids and child injuries.

It employs 3 qualified medical doctors, 6 nurses, 2 paramedics and 10 additional support staff, mostly girls from the surrounding villages.

<sup>1</sup> Mata-shishu in Bengali means 'mother and child'.

<sup>2</sup> Based on the hospital's monthly reports submitted to the Ministry of Health, Government of Bangladesh.





# Its background and establishment



In 2012, in order to address the critical shortage of health-care services for the rural poor who cannot afford the high cost of services provided by the private clinics in the District of Thakurgaon, Bangladesh, Pollibir Unnayan Sangstha, a local Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), in collaboration with the Syed Welfare Trust, the Euroasian Centre for Policy Studies and Management (ERUSMA) and the Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse, France assisted in the establishment of the Moimuna Mata-Shishu Hospital. This hospital has an emergency obstetric care (EOC) and other surgical facilities.



The hospital, a 1000 m<sup>2</sup> building, with options for wide expansion, was designed by Architect Christiaan Hiemstra from the Netherlands and Ms Federica Branca, from Rome, Italy. Engr Zahirul Islam directed its construction. It has 30 beds, an operating theatre and all other facilities for normal and caesarean delivery, EOC and minor surgical operations. The beds, as well as most of the surgical equipment and several other basic elements necessary to start operation were donated by the Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse, France. The Hospital also has an ambulance.



# The hospital's training programme

The hospital provides regular training to pregnant mothers on pre-natal and post-natal care on its premises as well as by house calls. This training programme will be expanded in the second phase of development.



# The hospital's organic vegetable garden

## ► ILO 1% development fund

The hospital also has an Organic Vegetable Garden whose construction was donated by the 1% Development Fund of ILO, Geneva for production of fresh vegetables throughout the year. Vegetables from the garden are provided to the hospital inpatients and outpatients and surplus production is sold at the local market. The profit from the surplus production of vegetables is shared by the women from the nearby villages who are entrusted to manage the vegetable field.



# Meet the hospital's benefactors

“ We are trying. So can you!  
A little bit of help often goes further than  
you think. ”



## Syed Welfare Trust

Thakurgaon, Bangladesh

Provided the land and the cost of construction of the hospital. It provides the operation and maintenance cost of the hospital, including salaries of staff, the doctors, nurses and para-medics.



## Françoise Janicaud-Syed

St. Etienne, France

Contributed to the development of the children's playground in the hospital, including a slide and swing.



## Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse

France

Senator Jean Marie Bockel and Madame Danielle Portal, President and Director respectively of the Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse, France, provided the beds, medical equipment and materials which enabled the hospital to operate. In total, the Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse contributed 8 tonnes of medical material and equipment.





**Louis Bockel**

France

Initiated and facilitated collaboration with Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse after visiting the construction of the Hospital in Rahimanpur, Thakurgaon.



**Sylvaine Thomas**

France

Dedicated her time in facilitating contact with Centre Hospitalier de Mulhouse in arranging shipment of the materials.



**Gladis & Andrew Marr**

United States

Facilitated in obtaining the ambulance for the hospital.



**Dierk Stegan**

Hamburg, Germany

Facilitated shipment of the ambulance for the hospital.



**Major (Retd) Taneem Hasan**

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Contributed the X-ray machine in collaboration with Mr Tazeem Hasan, his brother who also raises Taka 100,000.00 (one-hundred thousand) each year towards providing free medicine to the poor patients of the hospital.



**Dr Veronique Gillet & Engr. Fabrizio Gambetti**

Rome, Italy

They have been a continuous source of support and inspiration in establishing the hospital.







**Azmat Ashraf**

Ontario, Canada

Contributed the ECG machine and towards upgrading the room where the ECG machine is located.



**Mr & Mrs Dewan Sadek Afzal**

Sylhet, Bangladesh

Provided the analyser for the laboratory.



**Christina Liamzon & Edgar Valenzuela**

The Philippines

Contributed in the purchase of the furniture for the reception area.



**Abdul Latif**

Georgia, USA

Contributed towards furnishing the hospital.



**Engr. Zahirul Islam**

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Contributed his services by supervising and guiding the construction works of the hospital.

## Benefactors of the second phase of development

Two Freedom Fighters for the liberation of Bangladesh, who wish to remain anonymous, are donating the 2nd Phase of Development.

The other contributors for further development are Mr Azmat Ashraf from Canada and Mr Materne Maetz from France.



# Future development programme

## ► The hospital's expansion plan

The hospital is expanding by adding an additional floor with a space of 1 000 m<sup>2</sup> (10 000 sq. ft.). The 2nd floor will house:

- (i) an additional 30 beds for inpatients;
- (ii) a centre for training young mothers and relevant village women in childcare, nutrition, pre-and post-natal care;
- (iii) specialized care units for newborns; and
- (iv) accommodation for doctors and nurses needed for specialized care. These specialized personnel are not willing to work in rural areas unless provided with proper accommodation facilities.

## ► Future option (Subject to availability of collaborative partners and funding)

There have been proposals to build a Geriatric Ward to assist and provide advice and appropriate medical care for the elderly who are left alone in their houses. This has become a critical need for the rural elderly as their able-bodied children migrate to urban centres abroad, leaving their aging parents alone at home.



# Meet the doctors



**Dr Tahsiba Mow**

M.B.B.S  
Post Graduate Training in gynaecology  
Female & Child Specialist



**Dr Ohaedur Zaman Sojib**

M.B.B.S  
Medicine & Child Specialist



**Dr M.D. Arshad Ali**

M.B.B.S  
M.S. Surgery

The visiting doctors are Dr Monalisa Islam (Munni), M.B.B.S., B.C.S. (Health), MPH (Epid) and Dr Natasa Islam, Dental Surgeon.

# Meet the management

A Board of Directors, consisting of representatives of the local government authorities, the district medical officer, hospital staff and a few selected local NGOs, manages the hospital. Dr Saifullah Syed, President, Pollibir Unnayan Sangstha [Pollibir Development Organization, a local NGO] and former Chief, Policy Assistance Branch for Asia and the Pacific, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, is the current Chairman of the Board of Directors. He can be contacted for matters related to the hospital by e-mail: [saifullah.syed@erusma.org](mailto:saifullah.syed@erusma.org) or [saifullah1.syed@gmail.com](mailto:saifullah1.syed@gmail.com). Dr Lutfa Begum, MBBS, specializing in gynaecology is the hospital's Chief Adviser.

Dr Riazul Islam, MBBS, former Assistant-Director, Gaibandha District Hospital, is the Chief Medical Officer. Mr Ahmed Raja, Manager, is responsible for regular management of the hospital. He works in close collaboration with Dr Riazul Islam, Chief Medical Officer, and under the supervision of the Board of Directors.



**Saifullah Syed**

Chairman, Board of Directors



**Ahmed Raja**

Hospital Manager



**Dr Md. Riazul Islam, M.B.B.S.**

Chief Medical Officer





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