



# IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh

## Newsletter

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## IFB celebrates the 105th Birth Anniversary of the late Sir John Wilson, CBE, DCL

IFB celebrated the 105th Birth Anniversary of the late Sir John Wilson, CBE, DCL, the architect of the Global Disability Movement in January 2024. The week-long programme provided treatment to several in-need poor people in Chuadanga district during 18-27 January. IFB organized:

- An Orthopaedic Surgery Camp for 32 patients
- Eye Screening Camps organized at the four sub-districts (Upazila)
- 20% off for all pathological tests at Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre
- Cataract operations of 40 people at Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre



The Orthopaedic surgery camp was conducted by Surgeons and Anaethetists from the Paediatric Orthopaedic Society of Bangladesh (POSB) for patients who could not afford to have the surgery elsewhere.

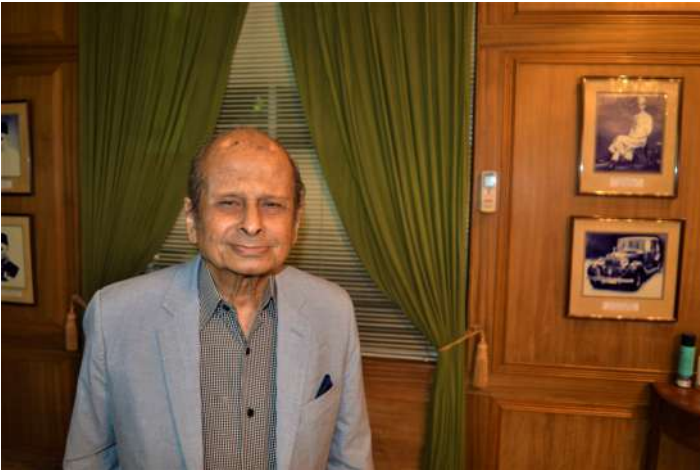
50 orthopaedic surgeries, consisting mostly of clubfoot patients were conducted.

The eye screening camp identified patients with cataracts and was later referred to IMPACT Hospital and Diagnostic Centre for surgery.

Additionally, pathological tests with a 20% subsidy and cataract surgeries for 4 poor persons were conducted at this event, benefitting a lot of poor patients in the district



## Death Anniversary of Former IFB Chairman



On the occasion of the first death anniversary of the late Mr. Anwarul Amin, Past Chairman of IMPACT Foundation Bangladesh, IFB paid tribute and prayed for his eternal peace across the organization by organizing discussion meetings and recalling his contributions to the prevention and cure of avoidable disabilities in Bangladesh. In his memory, an article was published on 29th November 2023 in a nationally esteemed English Newspaper, The Daily Star.

Mr. Amin, a successful innovative Banker, a popular social activist, and a founder-trustee of IFB, contributed to the Organization from 2004 until his demise in 2022 at the age of 87. Under his leadership, the Organization expanded its activities significantly.

## Celebration of World Leprosy Day 2024

The Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh (TLMI, B) supports IFB in identifying, registering, and providing treatment to leprosy patients at Government Health facilities in Chuadanga. World Leprosy Day was celebrated on the last Sunday of January to promote awareness among the general public about the stigma associated with leprosy and to educate them that these people can easily be treated. The theme for this year was “Beat Leprosy”.

The day was celebrated with a parading rally in Chuadanga, followed by a discussion meeting, presided by Dr. Md. Sajjad Hossain, Chuadanga Civil Surgeon, at his office.



Two other rallies were projected from the Alamdanga and Damurhuda Upazila health complexes. Colorful Festoon, Placard, and leaflets were distributed among the people at the rally. IFB also distributed blankets to 10 leprosy patients with support from the Leprosy Mission International Bangladesh (TLMI, B).



**World Leprosy Day (WLD)**  
**is celebrated**  
**on the last Sunday of January.**

## Distribution of Blanket



Every year, the southwestern part of Bangladesh experiences extreme shifts in weather during the winter season, which begins in late November and continues till mid-February. This year was also no different, with two major cold waves experienced by the country in January.

In Chuadanga and Meherpur, the day labourers, the elderly, and children mostly suffer from cold-related diseases. To ease the suffering of the poor, IFB's Chuadanga and Meherpur Programme distributed blankets among the needy and vulnerable people living in Chuadanga and Meherpur, who suffer immensely due to the biting cold that disrupts the day-to-day life of the low-income people.

## Orthopaedic Camp at three project sites



A group of 21 Orthopaedic surgeons and Anaesthetists from the Paediatric Orthopedic Society of Bangladesh (POSB) volunteered at the three IFB project sites: the “Jibon Tari” Floating Hospital, Chuadanga Programme, and the Meherpur Programme, performing 83 orthopaedic surgeries. The event was organized for the marginalized poor people in December 2023.

## “Jibon Tari” moves to new location



The first-ever floating hospital of Bangladesh, “Jibon Tari” moved to a new location on 30th January 2024 after completing its 61st project in the Pirojpur district of Bangladesh. The three-deck specialized hospital is currently moored at Madaripur Sadar Upazila (sub-district) of Madaripur district, on the bank of the river “Arial Khan” providing services to underprivileged people living in the district.



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



With financial support from Lutz and Hedda Franz Charitable Trust (LHFCT), Hong Kong, IFB began construction of the “Jibon Mela” Nursing Academic Building (JMNAB) in Meherpur (from the third floor onwards). IFB received significant support from an international donor for the first two floors of the building. The construction work began earlier in 2021. Construction and other relevant works are progressing well as per the timeline. IFB hopes to complete construction of the six-storied building in June 2025.

## IFB receives significant support for equipment from the DAK Foundation, Australia

Dave and Kerry (DAK) Foundation, Australia has generously supported IFB with several equipment for its three IFB hospitals. The instruments, as listed below, were urgently needed for providing uninterrupted and safe medical services to the patients.

- Operation Theatre Light for IFB's Meherpur Hospital
- Operation Theatre table for IFB's Meherpur Hospital
- Cardiac Monitor for IFB's Meherpur, Chuadanga, and the “Jibon Tari” Floating hospital.
- Cell counter machine for IFB's Meherpur and “Jibon Tari” Floating hospital
- Photocopier Machine for “Jibon Tari”
- Inter Ferential Therapy (IFT) for Chuadanga
- Gynae OT table for Chuadanga
- Ultra Sound Therapy (UST) for Chuadanga

**dak**FOUNDATION

## IFB receives financial support from Social Services and Management Trust (SSMT)

Social Services and Management Trust (SSMT) supports IFB with a monthly grant for the “Jibon Tari” floating hospital, which started its journey in 1999. The boat hospital is already 24 years and 10 months old. During this period with their kind donation, re-furnishing and maintenance work of the floating hospital, like replacing the old washing machine, refrigerator, deep fridge, mattress for the patient bed, and a telephone set were done. Additionally, IFB replaced part of the rooftop awning shed of the boat hospital.

## IFB receives support from BACHAO

IFB received financial support from the Bangladeshi American Charitable Organization (BACHAO), USA for another round of cataract and ENT surgeries for the marginalized population by the “Jibon Tari” floating hospital. IFB will provide surgical treatments to 120 in-need patients by June 2024.

## Grace Anamika Chowdhury, serving patients at Impact “Jibon Mela” Hospital



Grace Anamika Chowdhury, a 4th batch alumni of Impact Nursing Institute has been currently serving the patients at Impact “Jibon Mela” Hospital since 2022. Anamika completed her Diploma in Nursing Science and Midwifery from the Impact Nursing Institute and obtained her registration in 2020.

Before joining Impact “Jibon Mela” Health Centre, Anamika served as a Staff Nurse at one of the biggest and most renowned private hospitals in Bangladesh, The Square Hospital, where she served in the CCU ward until 2021.

She got married at Meherpur in early 2022. This caused her to move permanently to Meherpur. Anamika later joined “Jibon Mela” in 2022, and has been serving the patients since then.

While talking to her, she said, “I am happy to return to my birthplace, Meherpur, and serve the patients in this district. Nursing is a noble profession. I always dreamt of serving ailing patients so that they can enjoy a comfortable hospital stay. Being close to my family and continuing my job helps me to manage both my family and my job perfectly. I am thankful to my teachers and my family members who helped me to reach this potential in life.”



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Clubfoot patient, Habibur was born to Shumon and Bonna 5 years ago. He is the firstborn child to Bonna and Shumon and lives in a village named Doulatdiar in Chuadanga district. Shumon and Bonna were very happy at the news of the pregnancy. Shumon cared for his wife and even accompanied her to doctor's visits.

Not only from her husband, Bonna also received care and attention from her in-laws, who supported her throughout her pregnancy. But it was during the time of delivery that Bonna experienced severe labor pain which caused the family to rush her to a nearby clinic, where she delivered the baby.

"It is a boy", stated the doctor. The news came as joy to the family. But all the happiness was shadowed when Shumon noticed that his son had a curved leg.

Quoting Shumon, "I cannot explain how I felt at that moment. It felt like my wife and I were doomed or under a bad spell. We talked to the doctor, who informed us about Impact Hospital and Diagnostic Centre at Kedarganj, Chuadanga. He suggested we take our son to Impact Hospital where children born with clubfeet are treated. We returned home and took our son to the hospital for a checkup. Upon arriving, the Medical Officer examined our son and advised us to return after a couple of days when my baby would be 21 days old. On his advice, we took our son to the hospital after a few days. The doctor closely examined my son and suggested that little Habibur needed several serial plasters before being given brace shoes. But he also informed us that we need to strictly follow the treatment procedure for maximum benefit of our child."

Shumon added, "My wife and I agreed to the treatment procedure. My child was treated at the Impact Hospital. He has undergone several serial plasters before being given brace shoes."

During the follow-up of Habibur, Shumon exclaimed, "I do not have words to explain how glad I am. My son can play and run. I did not have any idea that these little children were provided treatment at the hospital. I thank everyone at the hospital for the support they provided to us."



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