

# NEWS LETTER

## JANUARY

### 2017

#### One more centre of CRP starts its journey

A new centre of CRP started its journey in Pabna considering the demand of patients coming to CRP-Savar from the northern part of the country. CRP-Pabna started to provide services in the premises of Pabna Diabetic Samity from 1st January, 2017. Including this centre there are a total of 10 CRP centres operating across the country. A total of 7 staff including therapists and administrative staff are working there. All outpatient services similar to CRP-Savar are available in this centre.



#### A New Year gift for CRP's SCI patients



The first day of 2017 started with a surprise for the Spinal cord injury patients at CRP-Savar. It was from Mr. A B M Moinul Hasib, Senior Vice President and Manager of Trust Bank. He sent a New Year cake for the patients. It was distributed among all patients in the in-patients unit. The patients were very happy receiving the gift.





### Brac Bank donated Tk. 10 lac to CRP

The employees of BRAC Bank has organized a mini marathon titled "BRAC Bank DOUR 2017 † Kalyaner Pothochola" to raise funds for charity. This is the first such marathon initiative by a bank in the country. Mr. Annisul Haq, Mayor, Dhaka North City Corporation attended the program as the Chief Guest at the annual marathon at South Plaza area of Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban on January 6, 2017. Mr. Selim R.F. Hussain, Managing Director & CEO, BRAC Bank Limited and the employees of BRAC Bank across the country took part in the marathon for a social cause. The officials of other private banks, corporate houses and media and film celebrities also participated in the marathon. On the occasion, the employees raised funds which the company doubled and they donated Tk. 10 lac to the Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) which provides treatment and rehabilitation support to disabled people. After the marathon, Mr. Selim R.F. Hussain, Managing Director & CEO, BRAC Bank Limited, handed over the cheque to Md. Shafiq-ul Islam, Executive Director of CRP.

### TESCO project trainee selection for job

CRP's Madhob Memorial Vocational Training Institute (VTI) organized a selection programme for the industrial sewing machine operators under TESCO project on 18th January, 2017 at CRP-Savar. One representative from TESCO, eight factory representatives, one representative from CRP's Inclusive Job Centre, 24 participants with disability, CRP's Rehabilitation Manager and VTI's staff were present in the program. Among the participants, ten were selected by factory managers. The Representative from TESCO committed to ensure employment for the rest of the participants as soon as possible.



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## Hanif Sanket visits CRP

Mr. Hanif Sanket, the renowned media personality and host of a popular TV programme "Ittadi" visited CRP on 25th January 2017. Following a presentation of CRP's services a discussion session regarding collaborative working, on awareness issues about disability, with CRP's staff was held at CRP's conference room. Some disabled patients shared their experience with Mr. Hanif Sanket. The issue of scarf injury caused by the faulty design of easy bikes was also discussed and he promised to do something for its prevention by making people aware of it. Then he visited the services and programmes of CRP. During his visit CRP's Founder and Coordinator, Dr. Valerie A. Taylor and TRP's Chairman Mohammad Saidur Rahman accompanied him.



## CRP's SCI patients receive a gift of blankets

The Chittagong University, Management Department (1995-1996) donated 170 blankets and some old clothes for the poor SCI patients and vocational trainees of CRP on 27 January, 2017 at the park Rabindro Sarobar, Dhanmondi Lake. CRP's Donor Liaison Officer, Kaniz Fatema (3rd from left) received the donation on behalf of CRP. These blankets have been distributed to all centres of CRP throughout the country and CRP is very grateful for this kind support and looking forward to future collaboration with this team.





### Annual Sponsored Walk 2017

Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) organized the Annual Sponsored Walk on Friday, 27th January, 2017 at 8.00 a.m. at Gulshan-2 Lake Park. The purpose of the walk was to increase awareness among the general public about disability issues as well as to raise funds for patients' rehabilitation. The slogan for this Sponsored Walk was, 'Break Barriers, Open Doors: for an inclusive society and development for all'

Students from Milestone School and College and Shaheed Mansur Ali Medical College joined the walk with their parents and teachers. Members from Gulshan Club, Gulshan Society and foreign volunteers also participated. The sponsored walk was joined by Dr. Valerie A. Taylor, Founder and Coordinator, CRP; Md. Shafiq-ul Islam, Executive Director of CRP and Mohammad Saidur Rahman, Chairman of the Trust for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (TRP). Many patients, children of William and Marie Taylor Inclusive School and staff of CRP participated in the event. Each wheelchair user was accompanied by a person walking with them. The event was supported by Transcom Beverages Ltd. for rice meal and Epyllion Group for T-shirts.



Dominic Poggi, Occupational Therapy Student from UK



Dominic Poggi, a student of Occupational Therapy from York St. John University, UK, started his 2nd year clinical placement in the Hand Therapy Unit for 4 weeks and Spinal Cord Injury Unit for further 4 weeks under OT department from 3rd January till 10th of March. Along with the clinical placement he is also involved in different social events like playing sports including wheelchair basketball with SCI patients and table tennis. Dominic also brought some OT text books donated by York St. John University. He has expressed his experiences so far: "I have found all the staff, patients and people involved with CRP to be extremely welcoming and friendly to me since the first minute and that feeling has not changed despite my continued appearance here. The learning experience, not just clinical but in life in general, has been enormous, despite some language barriers everyone is keen to engage with me. I have been fortunate for invitations to various different social and cultural events, such as barbecue, picnics and various cultural events."



For Donation & Membership  
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### Sima needs a helping hand

Sima is 25 years of age, a woman from Kaliakoir. She is the youngest daughter of her parents. Her father is a mason and happily married her off in 2012. When she was two months' pregnant her husband went to Singapore for a job. From then the torture of her in-laws started. She went to her mothers' home and her husband stopped all communication. She continued her studies for BA by providing tuition to school students. Her child is now 3 years old but still devoid of fatherly affection as his father abandoned the family. Sima, the single mother, was already struggling and suddenly another accident occurred. On December 3, she was returning from the tuition class by an easy bike. She was sitting just behind the drivers' seat and her orna/scarf slipped through the gap between the two seats and caught in the motor. She lost all sensation and muscle power below her neck. She was immediately taken to Kaliakoir Hospital and then to Enam Medical College. She was on traction for 20 days there and then referred to Neuro Science Hospital for an operation. They suggested no operation was needed and referred her to CRP. The doctors of CRP sent her documents to specialized surgeons overseas and a team of specialized spine surgeons came from Spain. They operated on her on 13th February 2017 and her severe cervical dislocation was rectified. Her rehabilitation process will start soon and as a tetraplegic patient she will need more than 3 months. The doctors are hoping to allow her to sit soon.

Sima's family is now uncertain about their future. It is impossible for the poor old father to support the family alone and bear the expenses of his daughters' treatment. The poor family is grateful for all the support they are receiving from CRP but still need some more support for completing her rehabilitation here.