April to June 2022

# E-NEWSLETTER

Quarterly newsletter of the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP)

#### World Autism Awareness Day 2022

CRP observed "World Autism Awareness Day 2022" on 2nd April with the theme 'Inclusive Quality Education for All'. Special group therapy was conducted for children with autism and their mother by the Paediatric Department successfully. Dr. Valerie Ann. Taylor, the honourable Founder and Coordinator of CRP, was present at the program. To observe this day a rally was also arranged by SCIDAB.



Autistic Children participated in group activity



Guests inagurating the Basketball Court at Manikganj

Preparation of a friendly match

## CRP Manikganj Basketball Court inaugurated

On 24 April, 2022, CRP Manikganj Basketball Court was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Mr. Md. Muneer Hussain, Managing Director, Continental Garments Ind. (Pvt.) Ltd. The construction of the court was funded by the Continental Garments Ind. (Pvt.) Ltd. CRP's Founder and Coordinator along with the Executive Director attended the programme. A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Mohammad Sohrab Hossain, Executive Director, CRP.

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#### Marks & Start Experience Sharing Programme and Iftar Mahfil

CRP organized a regular program of Marks & Start Project's Experience Sharing and Iftar Mahfil on April 19, 2022 at CRP Savar Head Office. The program was supported by Marks & Spencer Bangladesh Sourcing Office. A total of 500 guests including representatives of 40 factories participated in the program. The program was launched in the presence Dr. Valerie A. Taylor and Shwapna Bhawmick, Country Head of Marks & Spencer. The Marks & Start project employees shared their life changing stories very eloquently. It was not possible to select the best contributor for the last three years for the COVID 19 situation; i.e. 2019, 2020 & 2021 fiscal years. Therefore, this year the best work of three years is awarded together.

Marks & Start project has been running for 17 years. For this long journey and very good partnership Marks & Spencer pays a special tribute to CRP. Dr. Valerie A. Taylor received the special award and Shwapna Bhawmick, Country Head of Marks & Spencer presented the felicitation.

Meghna Group has been awarded as the best employer of the year of 2019. The Best Employer of the year 2020 was awarded to Epyllion Style Ltd. and SQ Group for 2021. A total of six experienced workers from the Industrial Sewing and Linking trades were also honored for their outstanding work. The main objective of this project is to ensure training and employment of the marginalized communities.



CRP participated in 'Bangabandhu Para Table Tennis Tournament 2022'

In collaboration with Bangladesh Wheelchair Sports Foundation, the National Para Olympic Committee of Bangladesh organized 'Bangabandhu Para Table Tennis Tournament 2022' on June 10, 2022, at the Table Tennis Court of Jatiya Krira Parishad Bhavan. The event was presided over by the Secretary General of the National Para Olympic Committee of Bangladesh, Engineer Md. Maksudur Rahman and the Executive Director of CRP, Dr. Md. Sohrab Hossain. A total of 9 persons with disabilities including 5 wheelchair users from CRP participated in this tournament and won both the champion's and runner's up trophy in the wheelchair category.



The Merger Ceremony of an Endowment Fund in joint collaboration of Motherland Charitable Foundation (MCF) and CRP, was held on May 10, 2022, Tuesday at CRP-Savar, Head Office. The program started with the welcoming video speech of Dr. Valerie Ann Taylor, Founder and Coordinator of CRP. After that Mr. Syed Nuruzzaman the Founder Chairman of MCF, USA has delivered his speech. Also, Dr. Shah Mohammad Farid, Director of MCF and Syed Arefen, Vice Chairman, MCF and Head of Supply Chain & Emergency Response, at United Nations World Food Program shared their valuable words. A vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Mohammad Sohrab Hossain, Executive Director of CRP. A Dua Mahfil and Cake cutting ceremony also took place. MCF is a non-profit, tax-free organization, registered in the USA working for the development of the poor, marginalized and persons with disabilities of Bangladesh agreed to support the Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (CRP) for the development of a special Endowment fund named CRP-Motherland Charitable Endowment Fund. The purpose of the fund is to provide educational support to the meritorious poor students so that they can carry out their studies and become skilled manpower in the future.



Fund handover ceremony of MCF and CRP

#### Valerie received The National Environment Award 2020

For her outstanding role in environmental protection and pollution prevention through many activities of CRP, Valerie A. Taylor, Founder of CRP was selected for the National Environment Award 2020. On behalf of her, the Executive Director of CRP, Dr. Md. Sohrab Hossain received the award on 5th June,2022 in the virtual presence of Honorable Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina as the Chief Guest at BICC Centre, Agargaon, Dhaka. Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Md. Shahab Uddin were present there as Special Guest.

The important aspects of her contribution to the environment which was recognized by the authority are for instances: CRP is raising awareness and creating a sense of responsibility for maintaining a natural balance through the participation of people living in communities, including medical and rehabilitation services for persons with disabilities. Moreover, various initiatives were taken by CRP to protect the environment including efficient waste management, CRP-discovered oxidation ponds or water purification ponds to prevent environmental pollution, compost made from kitchen waste, low-cost patient file making, and recycled paper-based technology. CRP Nursery also produces and sells a variety of plants at low cost, operates accessible gardens for persons with disabilities, and regularly plants a variety of medicinal and fruit plants at 13 centres of CRP each year. Apart from training people with disabilities to be self-reliant as well as responsible towards nature, training is imparted including mushroom cultivation, animal husbandry and Beekeeping.





CRP's ED giving speech during the event

Guests visiting the Day centre facility at CRP-Mirpur

# **CRP-Mirpur Mental Health Day centre inauguration**

CRP has successfully arranged the Meaningful Social Access for Persons with Mental Health Needs Project Inception event and CRP-Mirpur Mental Health Day centre inauguration ceremony on May 28, 2022. The project locations are Dhaka, Gazipur, Manikganj, Narayanganj and Tangail. The purpose of the project is to provide mental healthcare support to persons with mental health needs through two Day-centers which are situated at CRP-Ganakbari and CRP-Mirpur, and comprehensive psychosocial rehabilitation of the clients. The project adheres to providing vocational training to its beneficiaries and supports them to start income generating activities by themselves. From January to June 2022, the project undertook various initiatives as per the project implementation plan.

This project is funded by The Kadoorie Charitable Foundation (KCF). Prof. Dr Mohammad Robed Amin, Line Director of Non-Communicable Disease Control, Director General of Health Services, Dhaka, Bangladesh, was the Chief Guest of the event. Prof. Dr Bidhan Ranjon Roy Podder, the Director of the National Institute of Mental Health, and Prof. Dr Mohammad Mahmudur Rahman, President, Clinical Psychology Society, were special guests. The Executive Director of CRP, Dr. Md. Sohrab Hossain chaired the programme. Speakers and participants requested the society and other organizations to come forward to help people with mental health needs. They also thanked CRP for taking the initiative to introduce Mental Health Day Centre to assist the government to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal.

# The Honorable Shaoquett Chaher Moselmane visited CRP

The Honorable Shaoquett Chaher Moselmane had a quick visit to CRP Savar, Head office. He is an Australian Politician who has been a member of the New South Wales Legislative Council since 2009 and is a member of the Parliamentary Australian Labor Party.

# Selection program of Marks & Starts Project and PKSF



Selected trainees posed for photo

A successful selection program was jointly organized by Marks & Starts Project and PKSF on June 13 2022, at CRP Savar. During the program, 67 physically challenged persons were offered employment in various readymade garment industries. The purpose of the program is to provide job opportunities to potential persons with disabilities so that they can earn to support themselves.



#### **Annual Cultural Competition of WMTS**

On 25 July 2022, William and Marie Taylor School's annual cultural competition and prize distribution program was held at the Reddaway Hall, CRP. The program was held in two groups, group A (Play- Class one, Beli, Golap, Dalia, Rongon) and group B (Class 2-class 5 and vocational). 18 students of William and Marie Taylor School participated in the Holy Quran and the Holy Gita recitation, Hamd, Naat, Gazal competition. A Total of 31 students participated in the poetry recitation competition. 14 students participated in the music and dance competition. The annual cultural competition concluded with a very attractive and exciting dance performance by the students.



### **Cub Scout Oath Ceremony by WMTS**

A total of 132 students of William and Marie Taylor School (WMTS) participated in the Cub Scout Oath Ceremony held on May 26, 2022. During this event, 18 new Cub Scout students including 8 children with disabilities received membership badges according to the rules of Bangladesh Scout. In this event the Special Guests were Roksana Akter, District Cub Leader, Dhaka and Mahmuda Nasrin, Upazilla Cub Leader, Savar, Nehar Afroz and Md. Abdur Rahim Ferdousi, Former Cub Leaders of Savar Upazilla were also present. Professor Md. Obaidul Hoque, Vice Principal, BHPI was present with the teachers and parents of WMTS. Md. Abdullah Al Zubayer, Principal of WMTS and CRP authorities provided full support to conduct this program. At the end of the program, a cultural program was performed with the participation of WMTS Cub Scout students. The Oath taking ceremony was conducted by Ratan Chandra Malakar, Cub Leader, WMTS.



All guests inagurated the stone plaque of the building of CRP Moulvibazar centre

# **CRP Moulvibazar- Afsarul and Aktarul Haque Center inauguration**

The inauguration of CRP Moulvibazar- Afsarul and Aktarul Haque Center was held on June 23, 2022. Mir Nahid Ahsan, Deputy Commissioner and District Magistrate, Moulvibazar was present as a Chief Guest. Mr. Daichi Iwasaki, Second Secretary, Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh, Mohammad Zakaria, Superintendent of Police, Moulvibazar and Md. Fazlur Rahman, Mayor of Moulvibazar Municipality were present as special guests in the inauguration ceremony. The Chairperson of this program was Muhammad Saidur Rahman, Chairman of Trust for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed (TRP). Closing remarks were delivered by Dr. Muhammad Sohrab Hossain, Executive Director of CRP. Also, CRP officials and dignitaries of the area were present at the event. At the end of the ceremony, the plaque of the centre was unveiled by the honourable guests. The ground floor of CRP Moulvibazar- Afsarul & Aktarul Haque Center was funded by Japan Embassy.

# **A Case Summary**

Dr. Mohammad Imtiaz, 67-years old male, came to Physiotherapy Department of CRP-Mirpur on the 1st of April, 2022. He had pain in his lower back region and lower limb. He also had difficulty in walking. Dr. Imtiaz, himself is a medical professional and was not motivated to take Physiotherapy treatment. He went to many surgeons and they advised him to undergo for surgical treatment. However, he came to know about the CRP and came to the outdoor Physiotherapy Department. After a complete Physical examination, he was diagnosed as a patient of low back pain, spondylolisthesis and lumber stenosis.

After several sessions of treatment from 1st April, 2022 to June, 2022 his condition dramatically improved and now he can walk up to 15 minutes without complaining of any discomfort, which is a great success for this type of condition. We advised him to continue follow up in outdoor Physiotherapy department.

