**Cox’s Bazar Medical College**

We the student of Sylhet Women’s Medical College, SWMC-IX were pleased to visit Cox’s Bazar Medical College. Before we to the details of our visit to the institute we would like to see back our historical background of scientific medical services in Bangladesh.

**Historical Background**

1. **Hospitals in Bangladesh**

**Mitford Hospital**

The first hospital seems to be the Mitford Hospital established in 1820, named after Sir Robert Mitford, collector of Dhaka and also a long serving judge of the provincial court of Appeal. During this time there was an alarming Cholera epidemic and at the height of it 150 to 200 persons died daily in Dhaka. Medical facilities were inadequate. Sir Mitford was distressed to see the sufferings of people.Before his death in England in 1836, he bequeathed the bulk of his property (about Rs 800,000) to the government of Bengal for benevolent works in Dhaka including building of a Hospital. This was disputed by his successors but finally in 1850, the Chancery court partially decreed in favour of the Bengal government by virtue of which it received Rs 166,000. With this fund the hospital was started in 1854 on its present site and then known as ‘ KatraPakurtali’, Babu Bazar. Prior to this, the site was occupied by a dutchKuthi (House). From the inception, the hospital was under the administration of a board accountable to Dhaka Municipality. A female ward was established in the hospital in 1882 with generous donation from NowabKhawazaAhsanullah of Dhaka and Raja Rajendra Narayan Roy of Bhawal. NowabAhsanullah also donated Rs 50,000 to set up Lady Dufferin Hospital within the same compound in 1888-89. A European ward was established in the hospital in 1887, and in 18889-90 Raja Sreenath Roy of Bhaggyakul set up an Eye ward at a cost Rs 300, 000 in memory of his mother. It got the recognition of a first grade hospital in 1917. Hospital, a in addition to different wards, accommodated, lecture halls, dissecting rooms, and an out-patient’s department. It remained a general hospital and did not undergo much change in size and types of services over time. It occupies an oblong area of about 12.8 acres (52,000 m2) of land on the river bank and the hospital complex comprises more than 14 blocks of no particular architectural significance but historically important and eventually of utilitarian character.

1. **Medical Colleges in Bangladesh**
2. **Sir Salimullah Medical College:** The pioneer in Bangladesh.

Sir Salimullah Medical College was established in 1875 as Dhaka Medical School in the old part of Dhaka city. Mitford Hospital was a part of the school. Sixteen local kings and philanthropists helped in erecting the medical school building in 1889. The school was made a college in 1962. To acknowledge the contributors of the Nawabs, the college was named after Nawab Sir Salimullah (1871-1915). Until 1957 License of Medical Feculty (LMF) degree was offered from this college. During 1963-1972 condensed courses for MBBS degree was offered. In 1972 it was upgraded as a full-fledged medical college and the first batch students for MBBS degree enrolled in 1973. The civil surgeon of Dhaka was in charge of both the college and the hospital until 1974, when a principal and a superintendent were appointed for the above institution. The superintendent was later (1984) made the director of the hospital. The college offers about 25 courses at the post graduate level.

1. **The prestigious Dhaka Medical College**

At the beginning, the college did not have a building of its own. The present building was there before the **partition** of Bengal in 1905. The building was first used in 1904, as the secretariat (Headquarters) of the newly formed provinces of East Bengal and Assam. During this period the bureaucrats, not doctors used to roam across the busy corridors.

In 1921, when the University of Dhaka began its journey, the building was handed over to the University administration.At that time a part of this huge building was used as the University’s Medical Center, another part as the student’s dormitory and the rest as the administrative wing of the Arts faculty.

In 1939, the Dhaka University Council requested the British Government to establish a medical college in Dhaka. The proposal was postponed due to the Second World War. During the second World War it became an American Armed forces Hospital. The Americans left at the end of the war, the hospital remained.

Dhaka Medical College was established in 1946 and the college began admitting students. Academic classes started on July 10 which was celebrated as **‘’DMC DAY’’.** The 1st year was named K-5, 2ND year k-4, 3rd year K-3, 4th year k-2, 5th year K-1. All the students except k-5 had transferred from the Calcutta Medical College. The main reason behind this was the partition of 1947. At first there were no female students but now about half of the students are females.

Over time, the original 100 bed hospital has grown to become Bangladesh’s largest hospital. After adding 500 beds on October 3, 2013. DMCH is now a 2300 bed hospital.

Major W. J. Virgin, the head of the committee formed to establish the Dhaka Medical College, was the first principal. At the beginning there were only 4 departments- Medical, Surgery, Gynaecology, and Otolaryngology (ENT). Since the college did not have Anatomy department nor a physiology department the students attended those classes at Mitford Medical School (now the Sir Salimullah Medical College). After a month, Professor of Anatomy PashupatiBasuand and Professor of Physiology Hiralol Saha joined the staff and the classes began in ward number 22 of hospital.

There was no lecture hall or dissection gallery at that time. These needs were met after the foundation of the college building in 1955. The institute did not have any student housing. Male students were allowed to reside in Dhaka University’s student halls, but girls had to live at home. The college and hospital premises were expanded with temporary sheds, some of which were built for outdoor services of the hospital and some for the student housing. New buildings for housing, college and hospital were constructed in phases; a dormitory for girls in 1952, a dormitory for male students in 1954-55, a new complex of academic and hospital building, Dhaka Medical College Hospital-2 (DMCH-2), was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on October 3, 2013.

**Cox’s Bazar Medical College in brief**

Cox’s Bazar Medical College is one of the 23 Governmental Medical Colleges and amongst the newer ones in Bangladesh. The hospital was established in the year of 2008 in the premises of Cox’s Bazar Sadar Hospital with relatively smaller college building and thus very much limited facilities. We came to know that a college building is under construction from its present existence towards the main city. At present there are 23 government medical colleges and 61 private medical colleges totaling 84. In the last 10 yrs time a significant number of new medical colleges has been added in Government sector as well as in private sector. According to a statistic of 20065 in Bangladesh there are 678 Governmental hospitals and 1005 private hospitals. At this situation we can look back at the history of Hospitals and medical colleges of Bangladesh.

* Day of visit: 20th December, 2015
* Name of the organization: Cox’s Bazar Medical College
* Location: Cox’s Bazar Medical College Road, Cox’s Bazar
* Year of establishment: 2008
* Administrative approval: 13th November, 2008
* Student admission: 28-29th January, 2009 with 49 students
* Starting of class (First Batch): 1st February, 2009.

**Physical facilities:**

**College building:** Very limited, 4 stored college building block holds about 17,500 square feet of space in the premises of Cox’s bazar Sadar Hospital. It is temporary.

**Hospital:** ZilaSadar Hospital

**No. of Bed:** 250

**Floor space:** 168303

The college is holdingit’s academic classes and other related courses in a temporary campus because the permanent campus is under construction. The classes are being held with the cox’s Bazar Sadar Hospital.

**Hostel:**They are accommodated in 5 stored buildings which are rented by government. A total of 186 students residing in hostels.

**Staffing**

**Total Teachers:** 58

**Other staffs:** 06

**Principal:** Prof. Dr. Asok Kumar Datta

**Vice Principal:** Dr. Arup Dutta Bappi (Associate Professor)

Out of 58 teachers 31 are in the pre & para-clinical departments listed below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Department** | **Number of teachers** |
| Anatomy | 05 |
| Physiology | 04 |
| Bio-chemistry | 02 |
| Community Medicine | 04 |
| Pharmacology | 05 |
| Pathology | 05 |
| Microbiology | 04 |
| Forensic Medicine | 04 |
| Total | 31 |

**Community Medicine** department is headed by Dr. Ma Yan Nu, Assistant Professor.

**Latest Information about the main campus of Cox’s Bazar Medical College**

* Acquired land for main campus: 20.00 Acres
* Acquired land for roads: 1.36 Acres
* Construction work for Cox’s Bazar Medical College academic building is going on
* Up to 2nd floor, construction is completed.
* Construction of permanent campus & academic building will be completed within the year 2014.
* Road construction is completed.
* 2 Hospital building is under construction.

With above mentioned advancement we hope this medical college is going to be one of the most beautiful medical college in Bangladesh.