



The Church of Bangladesh

NEWSLETTER

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Volume 21

Message from the Moderator ...

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



It is my great privilege to write and share some news with you, both at home and abroad. I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. As the COB, we have been sustaining ourselves by the grace of God. In my three Dioceses, the members are doing well despite numerous challenges and hardships. The months of May and June were

scorching hot, causing much suffering for the people. The cultivators/farmers faced difficulties in growing their crops effectively, resulting in unsatisfactory harvests. The prices have skyrocketed, making it difficult for the general population to afford basic necessities. Additionally, the government has introduced an ambitious budget for this year and plans to increase the salaries of public servants soon. This will further worsen the situation for most citizens. The church workers have approached me, expressing their sorrows, anxieties, and hardships. It is uncertain how we will navigate this challenging situation. The government's primary approach to overcoming the budget deficit is by printing money at the Bangladesh Bank, but we do not possess the necessary resources. However, amidst all these challenges, God is there to help us. Our prayers are reaching Him, and He knows our needs.

During the past two months, I was ill and had to be admitted to CMC Vellore. I am immensely grateful to the GS of The CSI and his office, who wholeheartedly assisted me. Following my recovery, I traveled to New Delhi to obtain my Taiwan visa since we do not have the Embassy of Taiwan in Dhaka. My wife and I stayed comfortably at the CNI guest house. The Honourable Moderator of the CNI, the new GS Mr. Sumit Dasgupta, and the Treasurer Mr. Gorai provided exceptional hospitality and support. Moreover, the Medical Director of St. Stephen's Hospital in Delhi, along with some of his medical colleagues, showed genuine Christian love and provided necessary medical treatment. Through these experiences within both the CSI and CNI, we have strengthened our friendship and partnership, marking a

significant milestone.

Last month, I attended the General Secretaries AMM in Taiwan, hosted by the Presbyterian Churches in Taiwan. It was wonderful to meet and listen to our CWM family members from seven regions. Together, we prayed and expressed our solidarity with suffering churches, particularly in Taiwan, Ukraine, Russia, Manipur, and Bangladesh, where 1.5 million Rohingyas continue to pose a threat to the Bangladeshi Government. We also addressed the challenges faced by churches in Sudan, Hong Kong, and many other countries where our member churches are located. The GS emphasized that as the World Ecumenical Body, CWM cannot remain silent but must respond with love and action.

Furthermore, USPG, the Methodist Church, UK Oxford Mission UK, The Church of Scotland, the Episcopal Church of Scotland, WCRC, ACF, and the Kirk in Atie (KIA) have been supporting us, and we are profoundly grateful for their partnership in mission.

The organizations Bread for the World, Tear Fund, MCC, Leprosy Mission International, and KIA have been providing their best support to the COB's Shalom. The Disaster Management training programs continue with the assistance of Tear Fund. Despite budget constraints, CMCY is running smoothly, and we are forever thankful to CMD Germany and CMS Switzerland for their love and support during the world's financial crisis. We extend our gratitude to Rose Marie Anttonieti for her love and support, as she visits scattered homes and hostels nationwide, concluding her visit on July 13th. May God grant her good health. With this, I sincerely invite all of you to visit our programs and projects and provide us with valuable suggestions and feedback. We are almost free from Covid now, but dengue fever is escalating in the capital city of Dhaka.

Therefore, do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed, your Heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today. (Matthew 6:31-34)

May God bless us all!

Message from Barishal Diocese



Dear and respected all in Christ,

Greetings to you all in the precious name of Jesus Christ. We hope this message finds you well, as we come together once again to shed light on pressing issues that demand our attention and action. Today, I want to address a grave concern that plagues our world and weighs heavy on our hearts- human trafficking. It is an abhorrent crime that disregards the inherent dignity and worth of every individual, tearing apart families and communities.

The Church has a responsibility to stand firmly against human trafficking and be a beacon of hope for the victims. The Gospel compels us to advocate for justice, protect the vulnerable, and promote the well-being of all people.

Recognizing the urgency of this issue, the Barishal Diocese has actively engaged in the fight against human trafficking. We have organized seminars for clergies, church leaders and also for interfaith leaders to be aware and encourage them to combat this modern-day slavery.

The Church has a responsibility to stand firmly against human trafficking and be a beacon of hope for the victims. The Gospel compels us to advocate for justice, protect the vulnerable, and promote the well-being of all people.

It is important to note that our response to human trafficking is an ongoing journey. We must continue to learn, adapt, and remain vigilant. We must encourage open dialogue, equip ourselves with knowledge, and actively support initiatives that seek to eradicate this heinous crime.

Let us remember that our faith calls us to be the hands and feet of Christ in a broken world. Together, we can create a society where every person is valued, protected, and free from the chains of human trafficking.

With heartfelt prayers and unwavering determination,

Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia



In the present context one of the worst scenarios in Bangladesh is the extreme increase in price of daily necessities in the market, which has caused extreme disaster in people's lives.

Dear sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Let us praise the Lord for His loving acceptance of us. Paul the Apostle taught in Ephesians 1:6, "to the praise and glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved." We love to praise God and are so thankful to Him because the last two months was so hot that people were thinking that they might not be able to survive anymore. But at last we are saved through His blessings. The rainy season has started. Now the environment is so beautiful that we have forgotten the previous hardships. After seeing the beautiful nature, again and again we pronounced that there is God and only He can save us. Although humans are now more advanced than before and technology can do a lot with science. But we know very well that everything is very insignificant to God. Because He is Almighty. Only by His will we can survive.

In the present context one of the worst scenarios in Bangladesh is the extreme increase in price of daily necessities in the market, which has caused extreme disaster in people's lives. The common human being is facing so many problems which have not happened in the last 12 years. In addition, Bangladesh is a country where natural disasters are regular phenomena. Either drought or flood we have to suffer anyone and this is our destiny. How helpless we are, helpless to humans, helpless to nature. However there were sufferings and deaths all around, but human societies have also seen resilience, hope and continuity in the face of catastrophic events. Through our mission work we are trying to be the ray of hope among the hopeless.

Last two months a lot of developmental work has taken place in the Kushtia Diocese. Few seminars took place based on contemporary issues like pastoral care and counseling amid crisis, stewardship and dialogue with others faiths etc.

There are enough opportunities for mission and evangelical work in Rajshahi Deanery especially among the Santali People. We are trying our best to do something good for them. To sum up, we took an oath that being up-to-date with current world affairs we will open our eyes, do the right things at the right time and go through the foot-steps of our Lord Jesus Christ with humility and prayers.

Thank you to all the friends of the Dioceses and partners who have helped us with prayers and other support. May God be with us.

May God be with us.

Rt. Rev. Hemen Halder



Introduction to the Strategic Paper of the Church of Bangladesh

On June 3, 2023, a seminar on the introduction to the methodology paper of the Church of Bangladesh was held in the Idilpur Parish of Madhupur Dinery. The seminar was attended by the dean of Madhupur Dinery, the parish priest, the catechist, and the editorial team of all parishes. The main objective of the seminar was to discuss how we can further develop our respective communities and engage in planning, implementation, and realization. The seminar was moderated by Reverend Jonarson. The seminar was conducted by Mr. Poul Subrata Malakar.

know the thoughts I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and hope” (Jeremiah 29:11). Reverend Jonarson spoke about the verse and urged the present youth to relate to God to understand His plans. He further emphasized that in order to sustain our community, our children, i.e., the youth, need to be at the forefront and play an active role in the community.

Apart from this, the seminar also discussed the negative aspects and their solutions in the Garo society, the current education system, and the reasons for poverty.

A total of 74 youth from various parishes participated in the seminar.

Youth Seminar at the Denary



On June 1 and 2, 2023, a two-day youth seminar was held at the Shridhampara Church of Madhupur Denary. The theme of the conference was “Because I

Tree Plantation Initiative



With the presence of the Moderator and under the guidance and planning of the committee, we have conducted a tree plantation program in the Idilpur Parish of Mymensingh. Approximately 400 saplings have been planted in the sky area. Apart from this, there are plans to plant trees of various types of fruits.



Interfaith Dialogue was organized by Barishal Diocese

On 21st June 2023 an “Interfaith Dialogue” was organized by the Barishal Diocese at St. Paul’s Church, Dhamshar. 56 participants from Hindu, Muslim and Christian religions attended the meeting. The theme of the seminar was “Human Trafficking- Religious Teaching and Our Responsibilities”. Mawlana Md. Shafiqul Islam, Swamiji Amrita Lal and Rt. Rev.

Shourabh Pholia shared speeches on the theme from their religious perspectives.

Through this event, the Diocese tried to aware the religious leaders and encouraged them to play their role to stop and prevent human trafficking in their respective areas. All agreed to share messages on Human Trafficking to aware people of their places. The participants were happy to join to discuss a social issue and to respond together as human beings. The participants thanked Bishop Shourabh Pholia to take this initiative to bring people in a platform from different faith backgrounds to work together for the benefit of many vulnerable people.



A nine day prayer Movement ‘Thy Kingdom Come’

From 18th May to 27th May, the Barishal Diocese organized a nine day prayer Movement called “Thy Kingdom Come” in response to the call of His Grace Archbishop of Canterbury The Most Revd. Justin Welby. The churches arranged prayer meetings to receive the Holy Spirit and for the Kingdom of God. Rt. Rev. Shourabh Pholia encouraged all to pray for one another and be ready to receive the blessings of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost day. Children, youth, women and all actively participated in the THY KINGDOM prayer movement and received God’s blessings. Bishop S. Pholia extended his thanks to Rt. Rev. Bob Key encouraged the churches in Anglican Communion to carry on the movement.



Conference on Empowerment in Bollovepur Parish

On June 4, 2023, a seminar on empowerment was held at the Bollovepur Immanuel Church for the members. The main topic of the seminar was "How to Empower the Community and how it can contribute economically in community management." The keynote speaker at the seminar was Bishop Hemen Halder from the Diocese of Kushtia. In his speech, the chief guest discussed the situation of the Kushtia Diocese, community management, leadership, peace building, spiritual development, and economic management. Apart from this, prominent and respected individuals in the parish also provided various advisory statements on community management. At this time, the Bishop of the Diocese announced the formation of a committee for community management. This committee will explore the path of community management independently and responsibly.

Through this seminar, the members were inspired and became conscious of giving donations and managing finances with transparency.

Interfaith Dialogue on Women and Child Protection

On June 28, 2023, an interfaith dialogue on "Women and Child Protection in the Light of Religion" was organized at the Hall Room of the Bollovepur Mission School in Deanery. The chairperson of the dialogue was Dean Reverend Mrityunjay Mondal from Bollovepur Deanery. Distinguished individuals from various mosques, priests, Union Council Chairmen, and Hindu religious representative Mr. Debashish Mukherjee, among other notable personalities, were present at the dialogue.

The dialogue focused on the dignity and protection of children and women in the light of Hinduism, Islam, and Christianity. Each religion has emphasized the dignity of children and women. Therefore, it is our responsibility to ensure their protection. The presence of distinguished guests and participants at the conference conveyed the joy and significance of this initiative. Through such dialogues, we will be able to understand and appreciate each other and foster a relationship of goodwill and brotherhood among us.



CWM South Asia Region Members' Mission Forum

We are thrilled to announce the successful completion of the highly anticipated 2023 CWM, South Asia Region Members' Mission Forum. The forum, which took place from 8th to 12th May 2023 at Holiday Inn Hotel, Dhaka, Bangladesh brought together delegates from CWM South Asian member churches, resulting in a truly enriching and transformative experience.

Throughout the forum, participants were engaged in thought-provoking discussions, impactful

presentations, and collaborative activities centered around the theme of LIFE-FLOURISHING COMMUNITIES: ADDRESSING MODERN-DAY SLAVERY. The atmosphere was electric as delegates shared their knowledge, experiences, and insights, fostering an environment of mutual learning and inspiration.

We are delighted to share that COB hosted this international program and was a successful program in every sense. Four participants from the COB performed in this program.

Training For New Church Congregations

We are delighted to inform you that our recent training program, organized in collaboration with

USPG, aimed at enhancing the support provided by the Youth and Women's fellowships to the Parish and its various wings, was a resounding success.

The program took place from 1st to 5th May 2023 at RPG Savar, Dhaka, and was specifically designed for Youth and Women's fellowships.

The primary objective was to equip participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively contribute to the growth and development of their respective congregations in the long term. The focus of the training program is how to support the Parish and its wings for better results in the long term. We were pleased to have a diverse group of participants representing various regions.





An important Visit to the Diocese of Durgapur of Church of North India

In an endeavor to deepen collaboration and knowledge sharing, the Diocese of Durgapur (DoD) welcomed a distinguished visitor from the Church of Bangladesh (CoB). From 12th June to 16th June, Mr. Suvojit Mondal, Program Secretary of the Synod Office of the Church of Bangladesh, had the honor of visiting various initiatives combating human trafficking in the Diocese of Durgapur.

During his visit, Mr. Suvojit Mondal had the opportunity to explore and gain insights into the ongoing Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) efforts spearheaded by the Diocese of Durgapur. The visit, made possible through a grant from the United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG), aimed to foster mutual learning and facilitate a joint venture between the CoB and the DoD.

The tour encompassed several significant locations where the Diocese of Durgapur is actively involved in combating human trafficking. Among the places visited were the AHT works in Malda, Dinajpur, Baldahura Safe Home, Sewing Centre in Balashpur, and Kaliagonj. These sites represent the heart of the Diocese's commitment to addressing the pressing issue of human trafficking in the region.

Throughout his stay, Mr. Suvojit Mondal engaged in meaningful discussions with representatives from the Diocese of Durgapur, exchanging knowledge, experiences, and best practices in the fight against human trafficking. The visit allowed for a fruitful exploration of potential areas for future collaboration

between the CoB and the DoD, leveraging their collective efforts and resources to combat this grave social issue.

The visit of Mr. Suvojit Mondal to the Diocese of Durgapur marks a significant milestone in the partnership between the CoB and the DoD. It highlights the shared commitment of both organizations to address the menace of human trafficking and to work collaboratively toward its eradication.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the honorable Bishop Sameer Khimla, the Diocese of Durgapur, Mr. Raja Moses the Program Coordinator of the AHT, and all those involved in facilitating this visit. Their unwavering support and hospitality have made this knowledge-sharing initiative a resounding success.



St. Andrew's Theological College



Convocation of St. Andrews Theological College

The first time convocation of St. Andrews Theological College held on 19 May 2023 and SAT College at St. Andrews Church, 54 Baribag, Mirpur-2, Dhaka. Theme: "Go, Make Disciples to All Nations". Revd. John Probhudan Hira, Principal of SATC-COB, began the convocation with a message of congratulations to the BTh graduates. He emphasized the importance of theological study in transforming individuals and enabling them to transform others. He encouraged the graduates to continue their journey of learning and to strive to be humble and servant leaders in their ministry.

The Most Revd. Samuel S Mankhin, Moderator and Bishop of Dhaka, who served as the Chief Guest, expressed his overwhelming joy and blessings to the graduates. He urged everyone to pray for SATC's financial sustainability and ministry, emphasizing the college's crucial role in preparing pastors, evangelists, and spiritual leaders for the mission and ministry of churches in Bangladesh.

Bishop Shourabh Pholia, a special guest, extended his well-wishes to the graduates and emphasized the transformative power of theological study. He encouraged the graduates to continue digging deep in their studies and to embody humility and servant leadership.

Another special guest, Bishop Hemen Halder, expressed

his thoughts through a song, highlighting the importance of humility and continuous study.

Mrs. Matilda Tina Baidya, Coordinator of KIA BD (Kerk in Actie), began her address by quoting 2 Timothy 2:2, emphasizing the importance of passing on knowledge to reliable people who can teach others. She congratulated the graduates and expressed gratitude to the lecturers for their hard work. She highlighted the role of KIA in supporting SATC to become a better and more qualitative college.

The ceremony saw the conferring of BTh graduation certificates and transcripts to 26 graduates from the Senate of Serampore College and University in West Bengal, India. The graduates also received the Convocation JOYOGAN Magazine, Chrest (a publication), and a sermon book from the college. Additionally, each graduate received a Bible, generously provided by Pastor Anwar Hossain, the Director of Heed Bangladesh.

The convocation was attended by approximately 160 people, including board members, special guests from various church denominations and organizations, local church leaders, and relatives. It was a significant and blessed event for SATC, marking a milestone in the graduates' theological education and their preparation for future ministry.



Shalom

... a development organisation of Church of Bangladesh

Annual General Meeting of Shalom held



The 8th Annual General Meeting of Shalom- Church of Bangladesh was held at Savar Retreat and Prayer Garden on 28th May 2023. Honorable Chairman Rt. Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Moderator- Church of Bangladesh; Vice Chairman Rt. Revd. Shourabh Pholia, Deputy Moderator- Church of Bangladesh; Rt. Revd. Hemen Halder, Bishop- Kushtia Diocese and all other respected General Body members were present in the meeting. The General Body has constituted a new executive committee for the next 3 years.

BDM and CHS Training held at Central Office



Training on Basic Disaster Management was conducted on May 22nd, 23rd and 24th through DMCA project at Shalom Central Office. Mr. Abdur Rahman and Mr. Alim Shekh from CCDB facilitated the training.

Another training Core Humanitarian Standards CHS held in Shalom Central Office on 29th and 30th May 2023. Mr. Faiem Ahmed from the German Red Cross facilitated the training. Twenty key staff of Shalom received the trainings by the support of Tearfund.



MCC Bangladesh Country Head Mr. Gregory Vanderbilt has visited Shalom

Partner organization MCC Bangladesh country head Mr. Gregory Vanderbilt visited Shalom Central Office on 26th June 2023. During the visit Mr. Gregory Vanderbilt and the honorable Chairman of Shalom Rt. Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Moderator- Church of Bangladesh was greeted with flowers. Director of Shalom, Mr. Ronan Gomes, presented the activities of MCC along with other activities of Shalom. At this time, Mr. Gregory Vanderbilt expressed satisfaction with Shalom's various humanitarian and development programs. He also mentioned that he was already very happy to visit the Integrated Food Security for Aboriginal Community- Haluaghat and Multi-Lingual Pre-Primary Education- Rajshahi projects implementing with the support of MCC. Mr. Gregory said, currently MCC is interested in working with climate change and minority groups. There may be opportunities to work with Shalom in new partnerships in the future.

At this time, the honorable Chairman of Shalom Rt. Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin said, "We have our own unused infrastructure in Madhupur and Meherpur. In the future MCC can start any new projects. There are also opportunities to conduct climate change and disaster risk reduction programs in Barishal and Mongla regions. He gave responsibilities to Director and Program Coordinator to communicate with MCC for new partnership in new areas.

Finally, Mr. Gregory Vanderbilt thanked to Shalom and Church of Bangladesh for the warm welcome and hospitality.



CoB-CMCY

Christian Ministry to Children & Youth

Visit of Mrs. Rose-Marie Antonietti, Chairwoman, CMS- Switzerland



On June 26, 2023; CMS-Chairwoman Mrs. Rose Marie Antonietti has kindly come to visit Bangladesh and will visit different projects of CMCY and furthermore attend the CMCY BoT and Executive Meetings. On July 13, 2023; Mrs. Antonietti will leave Bangladesh for Switzerland. CMCY is extremely thankful to Mrs. Antonietti, Mr. Bruno Antonietti and each generous donor for their steadfast love, sacrifice and loving prayers for CMCY programs in Bangladesh.

The Christian Mission Service (CMS) is a Non-government and Non-profitable Christian Mission Service for the Church and vulnerable children and youth to serve them in a holistic manner so that the holy name of the Lord glorifies and very destitutes can come up in life and become happy. CMS is one of the best friends to Church of Bangladesh and CMCY since many past years. CMS support and loving prayers ensure punctuality, prosperity and peace among its stakeholders. CMCY is extremely thankful to CMS for her generous support towards the needy communities. May God bless them all abundantly.

CMCY- student has completed their SSC Exam

The Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination is a public examination in Bangladesh under the Ministry of Education. This exam. is held based on the books of classes nine and ten. In this year a total of 29,72,163 students took part in the SSC examination and among them 59 are from the CMCY supported hostels. Praise the Lord that each CMCY- student has completed their exam. with good health and are much confident to score better results and also to have a bright future in life.

CoB-Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi

Two years of Dental Unit

(1st June 2021-31 May 2023)

On June 1st, 2021, the Chairman of Mission Hospital successfully established a dental unit in the hospital, with the direct presence of the Convenors of the local Board of Trustees, utilizing Zoom online prayer during the challenging times of the Corona pandemic. Over the course of two years, a total of 1,205 individuals have received services from the dental unit, with an average of 120 people benefitting from dental care services each month.



Dental Block of Christian Mission Hospital Rajshahi



Dental Unit of CMHR

We express our heartfelt gratitude to the CMD Foundation Germany, a voluntary organization whose invaluable support has been instrumental in our achievements. We extend our deepest thanks to Dr. Silvia Schmidtman and Mr. W. Schmidtman of Germany, who have dedicated their time and effort by making multiple visits to our country. Their tireless work has set an exemplary standard for providing dental care to orphans and underprivileged children in our nation.

At Mission Hospital, we are committed to providing affordable dental treatment to economically disadvantaged patients, while also offering services to those who can afford it at a slightly lower cost than other institutions. Our philosophy revolves around delivering high-quality service at a reasonable price, and we are humbled by the acceptance and trust we have garnered from the community. Notably, 3 out of 5 staff members are senior doctors and their expertise is complemented by fulltime support of a skilled technologist.

As more patients seek our services, we believe that our standing in the community is strengthening. Moreover, in our dedication to serving the needs of the community, we offer a 50% cost reduction for any treatment required by the children or staff of CMD/ CMS Orphanage Hostel.



Dr Chand Sultana Reshma is serving a patient

We express our deepest gratitude to our German friends' organization, as well as the dedicated doctor couple, for their unwavering support and contributions. We extend our best wishes for their long and fulfilling lives. Lastly, we extend our heartfelt thanks to our esteemed Chairman for his invaluable assistance in this endeavor.

CoB-Nursing Institute, Rajshahi



The Nursing Institute at CMHR is dedicated to producing skilled, efficient, and dedicated nurses. The institute offers a Diploma in Nursing Science and Midwifery program following the BNMC Curriculum and Syllabus.

In the recent Licentiate Examination held on March 30th, all 40 final-year students who participated passed the examination. They have also applied for the Registered Nurse Registration Card and Certificate from the Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council (BNMC) and are currently awaiting their documents.

The results of the final examination for the 3rd-year students, comprising 49 individuals, are pending. These students are currently on leave and will commence a six-month internship once the results are announced. Additionally, the 2nd-year (51 students) and 1st-year (44 students) students are currently attending classes at the Nursing Institute and gaining clinical practice at the Christian Mission Hospital. They too are eagerly waiting to write their final examinations.

The Nursing Institute admitted 60 new students in the first week of June 2023, in accordance with its seat capacity. Among them, there are 12 male students and 48 female students. The new 1st-year students will begin their classes on July 9th, 2023. They will be accommodated in the hostel from July 1st to July 7th. It is noteworthy that this year marks the first time the Nursing Institute has admitted 60 students.

In terms of seminars and training, the Menonite Central Committee (MCC) sponsored an awareness training program on two topics: Kangaroo Mother Care and Safe Motherhood. All teachers, students,

and staff attended this program and gained valuable insights.

In terms of development, the Nursing Institute has completed the construction of a new building for the boys' hostel. The building comprises three rooms, three toilets, and two showers. Additionally, the walkway and safety tank work have been completed, and 12 boys have already been shifted to the new hostel.



Please keep our Nursing Institute, students, and staff in your prayers.

Sulota Drong,
Principal, Nursing Institute, CMHR.

CoB-Bollobhpur Hospital



Greetings from Bollobhpur hospital

May was very hot and dry, and the underground water levels are falling rapidly.

In Bollobhpur village most of the tube wells which supply families with necessary water have failed, a great problem for all.

In the hospital we have to supply water not only for the hospital wards, but for over 100 students in training, which is becoming a headache for us all.

Now we hear of a new system with deep level pipe and underground motor which will bring water easily to the surface, and I hope that in my next letter I will be able to report that the new system has been set up, and then is now no problem with water supply. Climate change is becoming a real day to day problem, and the daily paper tells us that every country is facing the same problem.

In the nursing school, there have been end of the year examination for several groups, for we have two intakes in a year, one in January and another in July, In order to be able to train more.

And those who passed their final examination last December are preparing to leave for new horizons at the end of the month.

The immediate juniors have sat the final examination this month, our old friend Doctor Alok, a senior government doctor, coming to conduct the viva examination. He was pleased with them all.

And again we are expecting a new group of girls to commence their training in mid July(next month)

The NTC kitchen and store room, now very old and dilapidated are now under repair, newly plastered walls and a new roof to replace the old.

Another extra expense, which we cannot really afford but it needs to be done, and alongside we try to keep our students well fed, and comfortable, with fans whirring in their rooms to cope with the excessive heat. Our electricity bills are also excessive.

But you all are alongside with your prayers and support, for which we are more than grateful.

Please continue with us, and keep our little hospital, our patients and our girls and boys in training in your prayers.

God blessing be with you all.

Sister G M Rose

Director Bollobhpur Hospital.