

South Korean corporate giant LG Electronics to support icddr,b's Dhaka Hospital

The labour union of one of South Korea's largest electronics companies, LG Electronics Inc., and icddr,b have signed a memorandum of understanding that will provide \$95,000 to enhance patient care.

10 November 2014, Dhaka, Bangladesh: At a special event at icddr,b today the vice chairman of LG Electronics Inc. Labour Union Headquarters Mr Sang-Geol Lee signed a memorandum of understanding with icddr,b's executive director Professor John D. Clemens committing a donation of US\$95,000 to icddr,b's Dhaka Hospital.

The hospital—known locally as 'The Cholera Hospital'—provides free-of-charge care to around 120,000 patients a year suffering from diarrhoeal diseases. The majority of patients are children under five years of age.

The donation from LG Electronics Inc. will enable icddr,b to improve its hospital facilities and provide treatment to approximately 1,200 patients over the next four months. The donation handover ceremony marked the launch of a partnership between the South Korean corporate giant and the internationally-renowned research institute aimed at improving the health of the people of Bangladesh.

During the ceremony the Labour Union Headquarters Vice Chairman Mr Sang-Geol Lee told the audience, "LGE employees carefully save their money through "Bank of Love" and using that money all over the world where necessary. In 2014 we decided to utilise and use those funds in Bangladesh."

Chief guest at the ceremony, H.E. Mr. Lee Yun Young, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea also commended the partnership, sayings "Korea is supporting Bangladesh in rural and agricultural development, ICT and reducing climate change impacts." Appreciating Bangladesh's growth and performance in socio-economic development and achieving MDGs during the programme, H.E. Mr Lee hoped that, Bangladesh could follow the Korean model of development, as Korea once an aid recipient developing country, achieved its remarkable development through proper utilisation of its human capital, foreign assistance and others.

"We are very excited at this new partnership," icddr,b executive director Professor John D. Clemens added. "It is a fine example of how corporate social responsibility can support the type of public health services that we provide at the Dhaka Hospital. We look forward to a long-term relationship with LG, and through them with the people of South Korea."

The representatives of LG's Labour Union completed their visit to icddr,b by touring the Dhaka Hospital where they saw first-hand the clinical care and services provided to patients.

Accompanying Mr Sang-Geol Lee was Union headquarters Chief Secretary Sung-Kyu Kim, Yeongtaek 1 Branch Director General Mr Gi-Hak Kim, Pyeongtaek 2 Branch Director General Mr Yong-Sun Lee, Cheongju Branch Director General Mr Jong-Tae Lee, Gumi Branch Director General Mr Jung- Jong You, Changwon 1 Branch Director General Jin-Seong Kim, Changwon 2 Branch Director General Chang-Ok Kim and LG Electronics Inc. Headquarters Labor Relations Team Manager Mr Jin-Ho Kim.

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Note to the Editor**LG Electronics Inc. and Labour Union:**

LG Electronics was established in 1958 and has since led the way into the advanced digital era thanks to the technological expertise acquired by manufacturing many home appliances such as radios and TVs. LG Electronics has unveiled many new products, applied **Innovative** technologies in the form of mobile devices and digital TVs, **Air conditioners** in the 21st century and continues to reinforce its status as a global company. The LG Labour Union embarked on its socially responsible initiatives in 2010 with the establishment of the LG Electronics Inc. Union Social Responsibility (USR) Charter. Under the USR umbrella LG Electronics have adopted economic, social and environmental issues within and beyond South Korea through its overseas branches.

LG donated Mosquito away air conditioners along with some commercial air conditioners to ensure the better treatment of the patients. Mosquito away air conditioner is a unique technology of LG that repels mosquitoes by using ultrasonic sound, which is totally environmental-friendly.

About icddr,b

icddr,b (International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh) is a not-for-profit international health research institution located in Bangladesh. Dedicated to saving lives through research and treatment, icddr,b addresses some of the most critical health concerns facing the world today, ranging from improving neonatal survival to HIV/AIDS. In collaboration with academic and research institutions throughout the world, icddr,b conducts research, training and extension activities, as well as programme-based activities, to develop and share knowledge for global lifesaving solutions.