

Poor children with cleft-lip to be treated free

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan Cleft Lip and Palate Association (PCLAPA) would provide treatment to maximum number of poor children free of cost from across the country in its hospital and free camps.

This was stated by the Secretary General of PCLAPA, Dr. Ijaz Bashir while addressing the meeting of the association here at Islamabad Club Saturday.

Dr. Akhtar Irfan, a volunteer Tonny Brine, M. Aftab, Syed Anwar Hussain Siddiqi, Ms. Farhat Akhtar Rehman, Zaniab Suleiman and Agha Afzal Hussain also spoke on the occasion.

Dr. Ijaz Bashir speaking on the occasion said that his organisation has established "Bashir Hospital" in Gujrat (Punjab) and also conducted training camps, where the poor patients were provided treatment, including children of various age groups.

He added that after the treatment they are leading a normal and happy life. Dr. Ijaz suggested the parents to treat their children with cleft lip and palates within one year of their birth.

About the future planning of his organisation, Dr. Ijaz said that he wants to set up a hospital equipped with modern facilities in

the country for the free of cost treatment of poor children born with cleft lips and palates.

He added so far more than 100 poor people with cleft lips and palates have registered with his organisation for treatment.

He said the out of 520 newborn children one child is born with cleft lip and palate.

He added that this problem in cleft-lip children could be overcome through surgery and as a result of the surgery a large number of children were treated who are enjoying a normal life.

The speakers on the occasion lauded the contribution of Dr. Ijaz Bashir and his family for the cause of suffering humanity. They also called for maximum donations for the PCLAPA in its efforts for the noble cause and assured their complete support in this regard.

They lauded the services of the volunteers and doctors of the PCLAPA for the treatment of the survivors of the October 8, devastating earthquake in Azad Kashmir and NWFP.

Later the participants announced donations for the development of the organisation in the country. — APP