



Press Release, Cox's Bazar, 27th May 2018

Official launch of Maternal and Child Health Care Center in Balukhali camp 9 in Ukhiya by the COAST Trust and Mercy Malaysia

Health Care Facilities Must Needed for the Mother and Child (MCHC) of FDMNs and host community

Cox's Bazar, 27th May 2018. Official launch of Maternal and Child Health Care (MCHC) center happened today with the support of COAST and MERCY Malaysia at Balukhali camps 9, Ukhiya. The Executive Director chaired the event where the chief guest was Mr. Chailau Marma, Additional Superintendent of Police at Ukhiya circle. Engineer Mr. Hanafi Ramli, Executive Council Member and Engineer Amran Mahzan the Executive Director of Mercy Malaysia, Dr. Mehrab, representative of Upazila Health Office, Ukhiya, Nurul Absar Chowdhury, the panel chairman of Palongkhali Union Parishad, Abu Morshed Chowdhury of Cox's Bazar Chamber of Commerce were present as special guests.

Razaul Karim Chowdhury has delivered the welcome speeches at the launching program. He welcomed to all to join this program specially participants who came from Mercy Malaysia. He mentioned background the partnership between COAST and MERCY. He thanked MERCY for their great initiatives and support COAST in humanitarian responses in this huge humanitarian crisis. He said that mothers and children from FDMNs (Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals) will be benefitted from the Centre and gradually this support goes to host community.

Mr. Chailau Marma said that COAST started her continuous support to FDMNs from the very beginning of influxes with cooked food, pure drinking water, establishing toilets and tube wells. Besides, COAST has also installed 5 sets of bathing places for the police, who are engaged with security concern in the different camps. He has précised and appreciated for establishing this MCHC and also thanked to COAST and Mercy Malaysia.

Imam Hossain, the head *Maji* (a leader of a block) of Kutupalong camp said that this hospital can provide health services to the people especially mother and children. Although we have many problems in the camp, but we can get good health services from this COAST-MERCY hospital.

Mr. Nurul Absar Chowdhury, the Panel Chairman of Palongkhali Union Parishad said that the largest Rongingya camp belongs to his ward and they are suffering different diseases. He also mentioned that due to the lack of proper medical health services, many of them are died. But this is very great initiative and he would help and cooperate if necessary.

Dr. Mehrab, representative of Upazila Health Office, Ukhiya said that MERCY Malaysia is an international NGO and delivering health care facilities around the globe and especially for the refugees crisis. It also come to support Rohingya community in Bangladesh that is really timely and effective for the needy people. He would continued the support in case of any referral issues from this centre.



Abu Murshed Chowdhury said this is very timely decision to establish this kind of medical service center and he requested to other national and international NGOs to come in the ground and support in health sector.

Engineer Mr. Amran Mahzan said that COAST is a respected and reliable organization in Bangladesh. He said that they are happy and feel proud to have partnership with COAST. They will continue they support to COAST so that Rohingyas and host communities will be benefitted from this centre.

Later on, the both Executive Directors launched the centre through cutting the ribbon and then all guests and visitors went around the MCHC. Mr. Sanat Kumar Bhowmik, Director of COAST moderated the launching ceremony.