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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the newly constructed Dhanbari Upazila Complex Tangail district on 28 November 2012.

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## Poverty and hunger-free prosperous Bangladesh by 2021

- Prime Minister

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, the opposition must stop to obstruct the war crimes trial. The Prime Minister was addressing a public rally at Dhanbari Nawab Institution Ground in Tangail on 28 November 2012. Highlighting various achievements and development activities taken by the present government the Prime Minister said, Bangladesh has now established its rights in the Bay of Bengal following the maritime boundary verdict over Myanmar, scaling up foreign currency reserves to over \$ 12 billion, extending the social safety net programmes for the poor creating 4 lakh jobs in the public sector while that of 78 lakh in the private sector. She further said, power generation has been increased to 6,500 MW, free distribution of text books upto secondary level at the beginning of the year. People have food and can exercise their rights to franchise when Awami League comes to power.

The Prime Minister also expressed her firm resolve to turn Bangladesh into a poverty and hunger-free prosperous Bangladesh by 2021 when the country will be observing its golden jubilee of independence. "Plots are being hatched to halt the ongoing programmes of the country," she added.

Earlier, the Prime Minister inaugurated the newly constructed Dhanbari Upazila Complex and laid the foundation stone of a 50 bed health complex and a thana in Dhanbari upazila. LGED constructed the Upazila Complex Bhaban on 5.77 acres of land at a cost of Tk. 135 million.

Chaired by Dhanbari upazila Awami League President Mr. Badiul Alam Manju, the rally was also addressed, among others, by Food Minister Mr. Abdur Razzak, Home Minister Mr. Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Cultural Affairs Minister Mr. Abul Kalam Azad and State Minister for LGRD & C Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak.





## Editor's Note

### Cyclone shelter to protect dwellers at coastal belt

Over a period of two decades Bangladesh has embarked on a comprehensive programme to build more cyclone shelters. The government entrusted LGED to construct cyclone shelters and earthen fortresses in the coastal regions. LGED's cyclone shelter project was designed to help the cyclone hit rural families. These cyclone shelters were constructed in Kutubdia, Chokoria, Anwara and Banskali upazila. One earthen fortress (Killa) for each cyclone shelter had also been constructed to protect the cattleheads, pets and domestic goods.

A number of donor agencies like JICA, IFAD, ADB and IDA provided fund for the construction of cyclone shelters and connecting roads. So far LGED has constructed 680 cyclone shelters.

In November 15, 2007 a hurricane grade cyclone named 'Sidr' struck coastal Bangladesh with devastating impact. Over two million people including thousands of fishermen and farmers lost their valuable possessions. They became destitute overnight. In the light of this devastating catastrophe government undertook a project entitled Emergency 2007 Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project, ECRP. LGED has been entrusted to implement the project in three coastal districts of Patuakhali, Borguna and Bhola. So far four cyclone shelters have been constructed under ECRP and construction of 211 cyclone shelters under the project is going on and 12 are on the pipe line. In all 227 cyclone shelters will be constructed under ECRP.

LGED is committed to ensure the safety and security of the people in the coastal regions through building more and more cyclone shelters.



Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, Local Government Division, Ms. Christine Kimes, Operation Adviser of the World Bank, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED and others are seen at the launching ceremony of Second Rural Transport Improvement Project at LGED HQ in Dhaka on 2 December 2012.

### LGED launches a new project to improve rural infrastructure in 26 districts

In view of the fact that rural roads, inland water transport and rural market networks are crucial factors for growth of rural and national economy, the government is going to implement IDA assisted Second Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP-II) through Local Government Engineering Department (LGED). The project was formally launched and a project launching two-day workshop, jointly organized by LGED and the World Bank, was inaugurated today, 02 December, 2012 at LGED Headquarters in Dhaka.

Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, Local Government Division, Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives was present at the inaugural session as the chief guest, while Ms. Christine Kimes, Operation Advisor, World Bank Bangladesh was the special guest. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED chaired the session.

Speaking on the occasion as the chief guest Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan said, LGED is going to start RTIP-II project in 26 districts of Bangladesh for the development of rural accessibility, transport

infrastructures and market facilities and strengthen LGED's institutional capacity for sustainable rural road maintenance at a cost of Taka 3,343 crore. He also said, LGED and its projects have their own Gender Development Strategy and Action Plan. He added, RTIP-II will also give due importance on gender issues. Finally, he said that LGED will be able to implement the project in time.

The Operation Advisor of World Bank Bangladesh Ms. Christine Kimes said, World Bank is a major partner for development in Bangladesh. She said, the implementation of the project will create better connectivity in rural Bangladesh and reduce rural poverty. She said, the project will also promote road safety measures. Another important feature of the project, she added, is to provide adequate support to improve rural waterways.

In his address as chairperson Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, LGED is a decentralized organization where 85% of the workforce work at the grassroot level. He said, RTIP-II project will put emphasis on "Performance Based Maintenance" of rural road network, capacity building of LGED to ensure sustainability in development and maintenance activity. He also expressed his gratitude to World Bank for their support to the project.



Mr. Manzur Rehman, Task Team Leader, RTIP-II and a representative of World Bank, in his address, dwelt at length on Project rationale, project development objectives, project beneficiaries and project components of RTIP-II. He said, on successful completion of the project 5250 kilometers of rural roads will be improved.

Earlier, Mr. Md. Mostafa Kamal, Project Director, RTIP-II delivered an address of welcome and presented an overview of the project.

**'LGED's achievement is very high'**  
- JICA Vice President

Mr. Toshiyuki Kuroyanagi, Vice Present of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) visited Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) Headquarters in Dhaka on 04 December 2012. He was highly impressed to get to know the development approaches and efforts of LGED, an implementing agency of the public sector in Bangladesh.

In an exchange of views with the engineers and officials of LGED at the conference room of LGED Bhaban Mr. Kuroyanagi said, he is highly impressed to know more about LGED which is very successfully implementing rural infrastructure development projects. He said, LGED's achievement is very high. He also assured that Bangladesh-Japan relation



Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED is seen addressing the inaugural session of LGED's two-day Annual Review Meeting-2012 at LGED Headquarter in Dhaka on 13 October 2012.

would continue to grow from strength to strength in future. He further added, whenever you will need, we would be at your side.

Mr. Md. Ashrafur Haque, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED in his turn said, Mr. Kuroyanagi's maiden visit to LGED Headquarters is a memorable moment for LGED. He said, the engineers and employees of LGED feel encouraged and more inspired to have the JICA's top brass among them. He further said, LGED hopes to look forward for further cooperation from Japan in future.

Earlier, on his arrival at the LGED Conference room the JICA Vice President

was given a warm reception. Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Superintending Engineer, LGED delivered a brief power-point presentation on LGED- its administrative set up, major functions, major areas of intervention, development approaches, labour intensive measures, environmental protection, gender equity strategy and application of ICT.

Later, JICA Vice President visited various units of LGED at LGED HQ.

**LGED engineers urged to work for their institution**

The two-day Annual Review meeting of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) for the FY 2012-13 was inaugurated today, 13 October 2012, at LGED Headquarter in Dhaka by LGED Chief Engineer, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, who also chaired the inaugural session.

Speaking on the occasion LGED Chief Engineer said, in a democratic society both the tales of peoples' sufferings and the success stories of their change of fate do have free access to the highest seat of administration. He said, the true pictures of LGED's all activities in the headquarter as well as at the field levels are being transmitted to all corners unhindered. In its consequence, there remains hardly any scope to dodge transparency in LGED's activities.



Vice President of JICA Mr. Toshiyuki Kuroyanagi visited LGED HQ on 4 December 2012 and exchanged views with senior officials of LGED. Additional Chief Engineers, LGED Mr. Md. Ashrafur Haque and Mr. Md. Abdus Shaheed were present during the occasion.



The Chief Engineer pronounced a note of warning to all LGED engineers and said, refrain from doing anything against the interest of your organization. LGED is yours. It's goodwill and disrepute are your goodwill and disrepute, he added. He also urged the engineers to work hard with a sense of ownership of the organization and not with a sense of alienation.

Giving much importance to the Annual Confidential Reports of the officials and employees the Chief Engineer said, these ACRs are needed to be prepared rationally and with no bias. Besides, he also suggested to start e-procurement system in LGED immediately.

All LGED engineers at the headquarter and at field levels were present on the occasion.

The agenda of the two-day Annual Review Meeting include in-depth reviews on the progress on LGED's on-going projects as well as on e-Procurement system, LGED Website, Webmail, etc.

At the initial outset of the inaugural session an address of welcome was delivered by Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain, Superintending Engineer, LGED.

### LGED Chief Engineer speaks out keys to success in UGIIP for an ADB booklet

Asian Development Bank (ADB), a keen development partner of Bangladesh, has



The Country Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Ms. Teresa Kho and Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman visited an exhibition displaying different commodities produced by micro-financed women in Narayanganj city on 11 November 2012. The Mayor of Narayanganj city Mrs. Selina Hayat was also present during the visit.



State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt. (Retired) AB Tajul Islam was present as the Chief guest at the Inauguration Ceremony of Liberation War Mausoleum at Terosree in Ghior upazila of Manikganj district held on 13 November 2012. Mr. A.B.M. Anwarul Haque, Member of Parliament was the special guest on the occasion. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED and Vice Chairman, Central Command Council, Bangladesh Muktijoddaha Sangsad chaired the session.

brought out in August 2012 a handy booklet entitled 'The Urban Governance & Infrastructure Improvement Project (UGIIP) in Bangladesh'. The lucid contents and vivid real-life pictures in the booklet describe how the UGIIP, being implemented by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), is helping to achieve inclusive growth in Bangladesh by improving urban governance and infrastructure through increased community participation and enhanced capacity of pourashavas to deliver

better municipal services to the people.

The booklet virtually tells the anecdotes behind every positive approach of the project leading to a phenomenal change in urban development efforts of Bangladesh government. What is that phenomenal change?

ADB authorities resorted to a statement given by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED which reads - "However, it was only after policy shifted from mere investment to a performance-based approach that remarkable change came about in the urban development efforts of the Bangladesh government. The approach, which links governance improvement and capacity development with infrastructure investment, started in UGIIP and has reached new heights through on-going UGIIP-II. The performance based mechanism of UGIIP-I & II is now well appreciated among other municipalities, who clearly understand how this project strategy can help them towards sustainability"

The booklet also describes how this new concept in urban development has built a bridge between the people and the pourashavas. The booklet also seeks to showcase the achievements of the select-Pourashavas in their designated tasks, the



lessons learned from their work. Finally, the booklet concludes with a closing remark that the project is not without its challenges. It says, quoting mayors interviewed for this booklet- it will be a tough job to keep the momentum going, especially if foreign funding stops.

## Academic Feat



Mir Tanweer Husain, Senior Assistant Engineer of LGED, has completed Masters in Engineering on Energy and Environmental Management in

September 2012. He pursued the course at the University of Flensburg, Germany under the auspices of DAAD Scholarship. He was selected as one of the eight DAAD scholars from 97 short listed candidates around the world for the course.

## LGED's PSSWRS Project achieves ADB Annual Performance Recognition Award

Asian Development Bank (ADB) has presented Annual Performance Recognition Excellence Award to three Projects of different departments, being implemented by its financial assistance, for outstanding performance in project implementation for the year 2012. The award had been



To construct the Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover in Dhaka city an agreement between LGED and the two constructing firms- M/S Simplex-Navana JV and MCCC (No. 4)-SEL-UDC JV has been signed on 18 November 2012 in Dhaka. Photo shows the signed agreement is being handed over to State Minister for Local Government, Rural Development & Cooperatives Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP. Secretary for LGD Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Chief Engineer LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman and Project Director Mr. Md. Nazmul Alam were present on the occasion.

distributed by Ms. Teresa Kho, Country Director, Bangladesh Resident Mission (BRM), ADB to the winning Project Team Management in a program arranged on the occasion on 9 December, 2012.

Participatory Small Scale Water Resources Sector Project (PSSWRSP) of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) is one of the three projects that have received the award. Excellence in project implementation, transparency in procurement process and performing implementation in timely and effective manner are some of the parameters that have been considered to

adjudge the Project Management Team for the award.

Mr. Md Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) received the award on behalf of the Project Management Team from Ms. Teresa Kho. The program was attended by concerned Government and ADB officials.

## Agreement signed to construct Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover by LGED

To mitigate traffic jams in Dhaka city an Agreement was signed on 18 November 2012, between the implementing agency Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and the selected construction firms M/S. Simplex-Navana JV and M/S MCCC (No. 4)-SEL-UDC JV to construct Maghbazar-Mouchak (Combined) Flyover. The total cost of the said project is Taka 772.70 crore, of which Saudi Fund for Development (SDF) will provide Taka 375.25 crore and OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) will provide Taka 196.98 crore. Bangladesh Government will however contribute Taka 200.47 crore.

Held at LGED Bhawan in Dhaka, the Signing Ceremony of the Agreement was attended by the State Minister for LGRD& Cooperatives Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, LGD Secretary Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan



Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman is seen receiving the Annual Performance Recognition Excellence Award for LGED's PSSWRSP from Ms. Teresa Kho, Country Director Asian Development Bank on 9 December 2012.



and Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman. The Agreement was signed by Mr Nazrul Islam, Executive Engineer, LGED Dhaka Division on behalf of LGED and by Mr. Gautam Banerjee and Mr. Zhu Ya, the two representatives from the said two constructing firms.

After the Agreement was signed, the State Minister for LGRD & Cooperatives said, to mitigate the suffering of the residents of the megacity Dhaka the present government has been trying hard to prove its accountability. He said, a number of flyovers are under construction in Dhaka city which will be commissioned in near future. He also said, the construction of Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover will bring Dhaka city under a total flyover network.

Speaking on the occasion LGD Secretary Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan said, Construction of Moghbazar-Mouchak (Combined) Flyover Project will be the biggest challenge for LGED. He however hopefully said, LGED would be capable of implementing the project within the stipulated time. The Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman conveyed a vote of thanks to those who were present at the ceremony.



To celebrate the Victory Day, 2012 Local Government Division organized a three-day Victory Fair, symposium and cultural function at the LGED auditorium in Dhaka. On the concluding day of the Victory Day Fair on December 17, 2012 Finance Minister Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhit attended a discussion programme as chief guest. State Minister of the Ministry of the Liberation War Affairs Capt. (Retd.) AB Tajul Islam was the special guest. It was chaired by Mr. K.M. Mozammel Haque, Additional Secretary, Local Government Division. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman and Managing Director Dhaka WASA Mr. Taksim A. Khan were present on the occasion.

**"Consistent rural development efforts stabilized our position in spite of global recession and climate debacle"**  
-Finance Minister at LGD organized Bijoy Mela

Speaking as the chief guest at the concluding session of a three-day Bijoy Mela titled 'Bijoy Theke Bijoye' and a symposium organized by the Local Government Division in Dhaka on 17 December 2012, the Minister for Finance Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhit, MP, said, during the last

3 or 4 years we have been able to stabilize our position in spite of global economic recession and climate debacle. He said, that could be made possible because of our consistent efforts in rural development and contribution of LGED to that effect is inestimable.

Chaired by Mr. K.M. Mozammel Haque, Additional Secretary, Local Government Division, the victory day symposium was also graced by the presence of State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt. (Retd.) AB Tajul Islam, MP as the special guest. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED. Managing Director of Dhaka WASA Mr. Taksim A. Khan and Administrator of Dhaka City Corporation (North) Mr. Md. Mahmud Reza Khan were also present on the occasion among others.

The Finance Minister further added, what we have achieved in last 3 or 4 years is not mean. We have wiped out the curses like terrorism and communalism. We have been able to reduce poverty to some extent. He said, at present we are producing 36 million tonnes of food crops to eliminate famines. People are now ensured to have clothings. He also said, we have achieved a good progress in children's access to primary education, though the number of dropouts is still outstanding. We have overcome the loss of lives due to diarrhoea by successfully implementing ORT programme in public health sector, he further added.



State Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, inaugurated the 'Bijoy Theke Bijoye' Fair at LGED Bhavan in Dhaka on December 15, 2012. Organised by the Local Government Division the inaugural ceremony of the Fair was also attended by Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, LGD and Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED.





Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is seen blessing Printi Day with much affection on 18 October 2012 at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in Dhaka for winning First Prize in Sheikh Russel Cultural Competition for Children-2012, held earlier in September 2012. The national competition was organized by Sheikh Russel National Children's Council to mark the birth anniversary of Shahid Sheikh Russel, the youngest son of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Printi Day is the daughter of Mr. Uttam Kumar Dey, an Accountant of LGED, Narsingdi and Mrs. Lipi Dey.

Speaking on the occasion as the special guest the State Minister for Liberation War Affairs Capt. (Retd.) AB Tajul Islam, MP, said,

freedom fighters. He said, during the last 4 years as many as 72 such projects have been approved and those are laden with the

commitment to realize the present government's Vision-2021. He further added, LGED has undertaken the responsibility to erect 136 monuments of the Liberation War.

In his address as chairperson Mr. K.M. Mozammel Haque, Additional Secretary, LGD, said when any government pronounces a plan or vision, people in general deem it to be their determination and hope. He said, the present government's Vision-2021 is a vision like that.

Earlier, on 15 December 2012 LGD organized Bijoy Mela was inaugurated by the State Minister for LGRD & Cooperatives Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, Secretary for Local Government Division Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan and Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman were also present on the occasion among others.



Minister for LGRD & Cooperatives, Syed Ashrafur Islam, MP, inaugurated the Narashunda River Re-excavation Programme under a project of LGED on 22 November 2012 in Kishoreganj. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Zillur Rahman, Administrator Kishoreganj District Council and Mr. Mazharul Islam, Mayor, Kishoreganj Municipality are also seen seated on the dais.

we achieved independence through a Liberation War. The trials of the war criminals of 1971 are now progressing ahead under the present government as a commitment to fulfil one of their election manifestoes. He also said, Jamaat-i-Islam along with BNP is hatching conspiracies to foil the trials. He however cautioned the people to resist such conspiracies and appealed to them to strengthen the hands of Bangabandhu's daughter Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in fulfilling her commitment.

Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, the present government has taken up a number projects for welfare of the



Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman laid the foundation stone of a 210.30 meter long bridge on Kusumhati Bazar-Nandina GC road under Sherpur Sadar Upazila on 8 December 2012. Mr. Atiur Rahman Atique MP and Mr. Humayun Kabir Roman, Mayor, Sherpur Pouroshava were present on the occasion.





Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of Sreemongal Union Parishad Complex on 01 December 2012.

## Government ensured peace and security among the common people - Prime Minister

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said, conspiracies are being hatched when the country is moving forward. Various ill-attempts are underway to take Bangladesh backward, she alleged. The Prime Minister was addressing a public rally at Moulavibazar on 01 December 2012. Highlighting various achievements and development activities taken by the present government, the Prime Minister said, her government has been upgrading all the upazila health complexes to 50 beds from 31

beds. The government's other successes, she said, include reducing the rate of inflation, distributing text books free of cost up to secondary level, employing four lakh people in the public sector and 78 lakh in the private sector, increasing the salaries and allowances of government officials and employees, bringing down the prices of essentials, and overall ensuring of peace and security among the common people. The Prime Minister expressed her firm resolve to build a hunger and poverty free 'Sonar

Bangla' by 2021 imbued with the spirit of the great War of Liberation. Earlier, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of Sreemongal Union Parishad Complex. She also inaugurated Muktiyoddha Sangsad Bhaban Complex, Technical Training Centre and Jatio Mohila Sangstha.

Chaired by Moulavibazar district Awami League President Mr. Abdus Shahid, MP, the meeting was also addressed among others, by Syed Ashraful Islam Minister of LGED & Cooperatives.



This year's Victory Day theme was 'Bijoy Theke Bijoye' and to mark the day a grand Victory Day parade took place at National Parade ground in Dhaka on 16 December 2012. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina took the salute and reviewed the parade. Achievements of various ministries were also displayed which highlighted the government efforts to realise the Vision-2021. The display evinced keen interest amongst the audience. The display vehicle of LGED, as seen in the picture, rolled on the parade ground highlighting some major development activities of LGED.

Editor : Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, Local Govt. Engineering Department, LGED Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207