

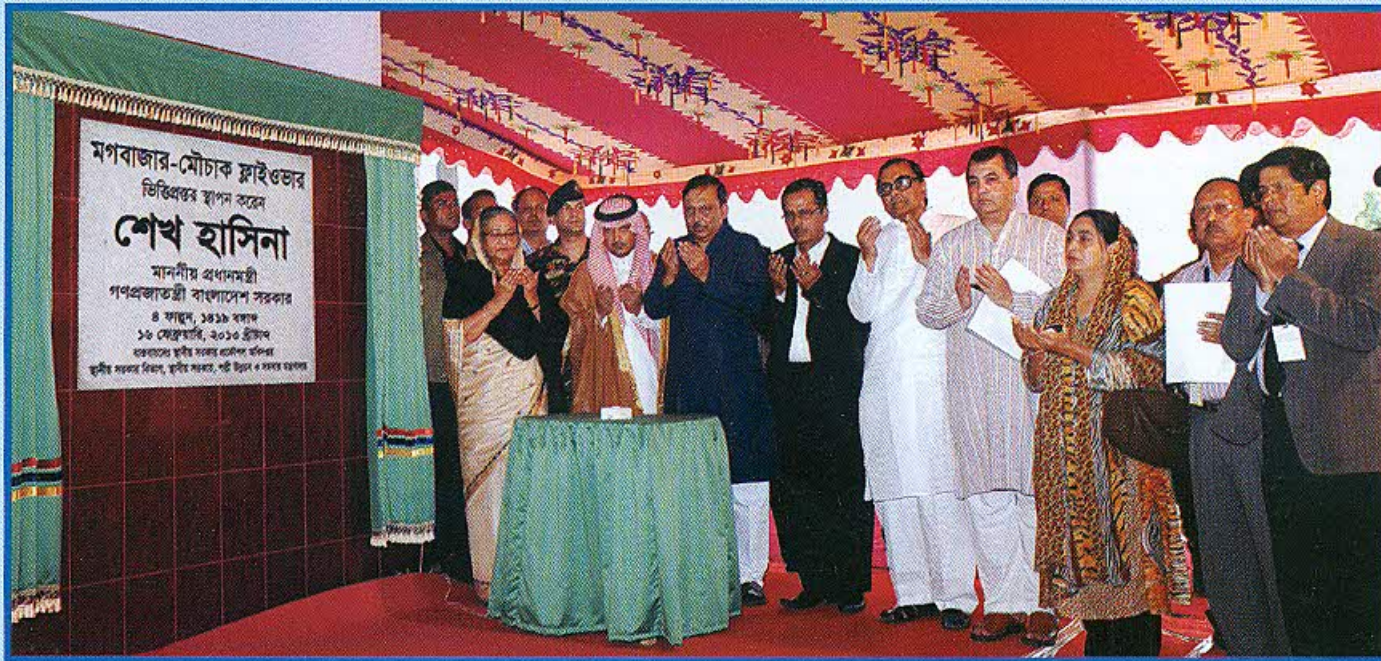
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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of the Maghbazar-Mouchak (Integrated) Flyover in Dhaka on 16 February 2013, to be constructed by LGED.



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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of the much expected Moghbazar-Mouchak (Integrated) Flyover in Dhaka on February 16, 2013. The 8.25 km Flyover has been designed to ease gridlock in eight intersection of the capital. After laying the foundation stone, the Prime Minister in her brief speech laid emphasis on gearing up development activities and urged all to work together putting behind the differences of path and opinion to establish a middle income Bangladesh by 2021. The Prime Minister said, those who do not believe in Bangladesh's independence and the spirit of Liberation War and those had killed freedom fighters and their sons have no right to do politics in Bangladesh. Turning to the war crimes trial, the Prime Minister mentioned, the government has started the trial of the war criminals and will finish it. After assuming office in 2009, the Prime Minister said, her government took a number of big projects under "Strategic Transport Plan" including building of Kuril,

Banani, Jatrabari and Khilgaon Flyovers in Dhaka to remove city's nagging traffic congestion. As a part of this, Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover is being constructed to create a network with these Flyovers to ease plying of vehicles in the capital, she said. Once the Flyover project is implemented, the movement of vehicles in Dhaka city from north to south and from south to north will be much easier.

The Moghbazar-Mouchak Flyover Project will be implemented by the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED). Present on the occasion, among others, were advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, State Minister of LGRD&C, Members of Parliament Mr. Rashed Khan Menon, Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdury, Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, Secretary, LGD, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia H.E. Dr. Abdullah Bin Naser Al-Busairi and Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman.



Editor's Note

LGED's rural infrastructure development programmes reduces rural poverty

Rural development is necessary to raise the living standard of the rural poor. The government therefore put more emphasis rightfully on taking up rural infrastructure development programmes.

It would not be hyperbolic to state that LGED has been playing a pivotal role in the rural infrastructure development of the country. LGED has so far constructed 84 thousand 600 Kilometers of pucca roads, 64 thousand 533 kilometers of earthen roads, 11 Lakh 83 thousand 440 meters of bridges and culverts 1742 growth centres and 2450 Union Parishad Complex Bhabans.

With this spectacular development there has been phenomenal changes all over in rural Bangladesh. Tin-shed huts with two or four rooms have swapped the hackneyed thatcheds. The number of school-going children are increasing. The rural scenarios are no longer lack-luster. Even the small markets under the banyan trees are now running in full swing under fortified sheds. Communication between villages and towns has become easier.

Certain factors are to be taken into account for such a change in the rural life. The foremost one is obviously communication. If someone lets loose his range of vision down to the wilderness of pastoral beauty, one certain thing that strikes him most is that a facile communication network can create pulsations in the rural socio-economic spectrum. Improvement in the communication sector has eased terms of access of men and women to the market. The overall improvement of the rural communication network being executed by LGED has been proven to be a great effort in reducing rural poverty through sustainable economic growth.



USAID Bangladesh Mission Director Mr. Robert Greene and Chief Engineer, Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman are seen shaking hands after handing over the agreement to each other at a formal ceremony at LGED Bhaban on 24 March 2013 to implement a 15-million dollar program to strengthen agricultural infrastructure. Also seen in the picture are the State Minister for LGRD&C Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, LGD Secretary Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan and His Excellency the US Ambassador in Bangladesh Mr. Dan W. Mozena.

USAID signs \$ 15 million deal with LGED to strengthen agricultural infrastructure

USAID announced a landmark grant for a four-year \$ 15 million program by signing an agreement between Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and USAID at LGED Bhaban on 24 March 2013. The overall goal of this agreement, the Bangladesh Agricultural Infrastructure Development Project, is to upgrade critical infrastructure that will enhance agricultural productivity, increase farmer incomes, and improve access to markets.

Chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED the agreement signing ceremony was attended by, among others, State Minister for LGRD & C Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, the Local Government Division Secretary Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, the US Ambassador in Bangladesh His Excellency Mr. Dan W. Mozena, and Mission Director of USAID Mr. Richard Greene.

The State Minister for LGRD & Cooperatives and the special guest Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, said, US government is Bangladesh's oldest development partner. In fact, US government helped us after each and every natural disaster when Bangladesh needed the support. The State Minister thanked the US government for choosing LGED as the first agency to implement the government to government cooperation. He also added,

LGED has been playing a great role in developing the women in Bangladesh prioritizing women's emancipation and empowerment to realize the Vision-2021 pronounced by the present government under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

In his speech as the special guest LGD Secretary Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan said, at the request of Economic Relations Department, US government has come forward to implement the "Bangladesh Agriculture Infrastructure Development Program" under its "Agriculture Program and Activities" initiative. It is a large initiative of 243 million dollars and a lot of agencies will be involved to implement it. He added, the project will be implemented following a new reimbursable system. Such system will help to improve quality of works, save time and bring in transparency.

Speaking on the occasion as special guest the US Ambassador His Excellency Mr. Dan W. Mozena said, today we are announcing a four year, \$ 15 million program that is the first time ever that USAID has made a direct grant to an entity of the Government of Bangladesh. He termed LGED as a great partner for them and hoped that LGED will implement the project using their own systems, procedures and regulations.

The US Ambassador also said, the program that LGED will implement is a part of President Obama's food security initiative, called 'Feed the Future'. Under Feed the Future, America in 2012 provided more than \$ 52 million to expand agricultural production and markets, increase incomes, and help reduce under-nutrition in southwest Bangladesh, he added.

The Mission Director of USAID Mr. Robert Greene said, the project will give an important boost to Bangladesh's agricultural development by helping to rehabilitate farm-to-market roads, by building new marketplaces, by providing irrigation and improved drainage for small farmers. He said, USAID is becoming an important partner of Bangladesh.

Speaking as chairperson Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, Bangladesh Agriculture Infrastructure Development Program under US "Agriculture Program and Activities" will be implemented in selected 20 districts of Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions. Interventions will include development of 140 km of feeder roads, 40 rural markets, 80 collection centers and 2000 hectares of small irrigation and drainage scheme at a cost of \$ 15 million and will link other value chain initiatives funded by USAID.

At the end of the ceremony, the Agreement signed by the Chief Engineer Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman and the Mission Director of USAID Mr. Robert Greene was handed over to each other.



An orientation workshop on LGED's Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project was held in Dhaka on 24 February 2013. Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman chaired the inaugural session of the workshop. Secretary, LGD, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan was the chief guest. ADB Country Director Ms. M. Teresa Kho was present as the special guest. Mr. M. A. Akhtar Hossain, Project Director, SRIIP, Mr. Habibur Rahman of KfW and Mr. M. Nazrul Islam of ADB also attended the workshop.

Orientation Workshop on LGED's Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project inaugurated

A day-long orientation workshop on Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)'s Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project (SRIIP) was held at LGED Bhaban in Dhaka on 24 February 2013. SRIIP, being implemented by LGED, is a project funded by Asian Development Bank

(ADB), KfW, JFPR and GOB. The project will enhance the accessibility of the rural people to the markets and economic opportunities in 21 districts in the north and west of Bangladesh. The project goal is to increase rural incomes and reduce rural poverty through sustainable economic growth, rural development, social and gender development and improved infrastructure in the project area.

Chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED the inaugural session of the workshop was attended by, among others, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, Local Government Division as the chief guest and Ms. M. Teresa Kho, country Director, BRM, Asian Development Bank (ADB) as the special guest. Besides, Mr. M. Nazrul Islam, Sr. Program Officer (Transport), ADB, Mr. Habibur Rahman, Sr. Program Manager, KfW and Mr. M. A. Akhtar Hossain, Project Director, SRIIP were also present on the occasion.

Speaking as the chief guest Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, LGD Secretary said the present government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, is wielding relentless efforts to make Bangladesh a country of middle income group by 2021 by establishing a 'Digital Bangladesh' in the light of 'Vision-2021'. He also said, LGED has been successfully implementing various development programmes to realize the government's vision.



Loan and Grant agreements were signed between Government of Bangladesh and Asian Development Bank in Dhaka on 9 January, 2013 for implementation of Coastal Climate Resilient Infrastructure Project. The agreements were signed by Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Secretary, ERD and Ms. M. Teresa Kho, ADB Country Director, BRM. The Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman was present during the signing ceremony, among others.

Speaking on the occasion as the special guest Ms. Teresa Kho, Country Director, ADB said, we know rural infrastructure in Bangladesh has considerably improved, enhancing the quality of life of rural people. The mobility of the rural poor has increased. She said, a study found that rural road investments in Bangladesh cut poverty significantly. She further added, we express our appreciation to LGED for its role in building rural infrastructure in Bangladesh and dynamism in project implementation.

Speaking as chairperson Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, at present LGED is implementing 84 projects amounting to BDT 46,698 crore with an ADP allocation of BDT 7569 crore. He said, LGED utilizes around 25% of Annual Development Budget of Government of Bangladesh. Terming ADB as one of the best development partners, the Chief Engineer of LGED said, LGED has long experience of working with ADB and KfW as well. He said, LGED has so far completed 36 projects costing US \$ 943.90 million and currently implementing 9 projects costing US \$ 514.90 million with ADB support.

Earlier, Mr. M. Nazrul Islam, Sr. Program Officer, ADB and Mr. Habibur Rahman, Sr. Program Manager, KfW spoke on the occasion.

At the very initial outset Mr. M. A. Akhtar Hossain, Project Director, SRIIP delivered an address of welcome and presented an overview of the project to the audience.

Tk. 194 cr deal signed to construct School-cum-Cyclone Shelters in Bhola and Patuakhali

The signing ceremony of three contracts, with a total value of over Taka 194 crore (approx. US \$ 24 million) to construct 37 School-cum-Cyclone Shelters in Bhola and Patuakhali, was held on 23 January 2013 in the offices of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) at IDB Bhaban at Dhaka. The signatories to the contracts were Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Mike Hughes, Project Director, IMC



Contracts worth Taka 194 crore for constructing 37 School-cum-Cyclone Shelters in Bhola and Patuakhali was signed on 23 January 2013 in Dhaka. Mr. Tanvirul Haque Probal, Chairman BFL-KNL Joint Venture LTD, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED and Mr. Mike Hughes, Project Director, IMC Worldwide Ltd. are seen handing over the copies of the deal.

Worldwide Limited and the Chairman of the respective construction firms.

The signed contracts represent the third phase of construction of the School-cum-Cyclone Shelters Program. They will bring the total number of shelters under construction to 109. The Program anticipates construction of a total number of around 190 Shelters (including 109 under construction). These shelters are planned to be constructed throughout the Bangladesh coastal belt, from Shyamnagar in Satkhira district in the west across to Cox's Bazar district in the southeast.

It might be recalled that a large scale devastation was caused in the coastal belt of Bangladesh in the wake of cyclone SIDR on 15 November 2007. In order to support the rehabilitation efforts, Fael Khair (an anonymous philanthropist) donated an amount of US \$ 130 million and entrusted the same to the IDB for implementation. It is learnt, as per the desire of the donor, 85% of the amount (US \$ 110 million) is to be used for the construction of about 190 school-cum-cyclone shelters in areas potentially threatened by cyclones. These schools with an estimated life span of at least 100 years could be used as shelters for the population living in the surrounding areas during any future cyclones, including providing shelter

for the domestic pets of the local people.

The remaining 15% of the amount (US \$ 20 million) would be utilized for assistance in the form of agricultural inputs to the farmers for buying fertilizers and seed as well as to recoup the lost equipment, domestic pets, fishing nets and boats.

Academic Feat



Engr. Partha Pradip Sarkar, Assistant Engineer (Mechanical), LGED, Dhaka & Project Manager (additional charge), Sustainable Rural Energy, LGED HQ

is awarded the degree of Master of Business Administration (MBA) with major in Human Resource Management (HRM) from the University of Dhaka in 2012. He obtained a Cumulative Grade Point average of 3.81 on a scale of 4.00. Mr. Sarkar graduated in mechanical engineering from Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) in 1993 and secured 1st class. He did brilliant results throughout his academic career. He joined LGED in 1996. Mr. Sarkar received JICA-sponsored two months training on "Construction Equipment & Mechanized Construction Management" held at JICA Centre, Yokohama, Japan in 2010.

Rural Road Maintenance Guidelines approved

Rural Road and Structure Maintenance Policy-January, 2013 was approved in the cabinet meeting on 28th January, 2013 to mitigate human sufferings encountered in the road communication of the country. The policy aims at rapid economic growth in rural areas of the country and promoting good governance in this sector. The policy explicitly state ways and means of procuring funds from divergent sources beyond the revenue budget and distribution of duties and responsibilities between LGED and LGIs regarding road maintenance. In addition to that, the policy has opened up new opportunities to manage and maintain rural roads through public-private partnership (PPP).

A major buck of Bangladesh's extensive road networks is rural in nature, of which 84,600 kilometers are rural roads and 11,83,440 meters of bridges/culverts have been developed. In order to make these developed rural roads more sustainable and long-lasting, this exclusive policy for rural roads maintenance has been framed.

Under the said policy, the responsibility of maintaining upazila roads, union roads and vital pucca rural roads has been assigned to LGED, while that for all earthen and paved village roads has been given to LGIs i.e. Zila Parishads, Upazila Parishads and Union Parishads.

The policy includes opportunities of enhanced allocation of fund from the revenue sector at ever-increasing rates. Apart from this, it includes opportunities for implementation of maintenance, rehabilitation and improvement of geometric standards of roads under different development projects of LGED in those roads where they were badly damaged in the past because of lack of back-log maintenance or affected by uncontrolled movement of heavy vehicles. For the maintenance of village roads under LGIs, the policy categorically spells out the provision of fund allocation on priority basis from the development budget of LGIs considering the need of the local people and financial capacity of LGIs. The policy also embodies the opportunities for funding by other stakeholders of rural roads such as local



In continuation of the observance of International Women's Day 2013, a seminar on "Women's right to information: A commitment to build Digital Bangladesh" was held at the LGED auditorium in Dhaka on 27 March 2013. Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan was the chief guest of the programme while it was chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED. President of LGED's Gender Development Forum and Additional Chief Engineer Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad and Member Secretary of the LGED's Gender Development Forum, Sayeda Asma Khatun were present on the occasion, among others.

transport owners, operators, traders etc.

The policy envisions an improved and safer rural transportation system so that a comfortable, safe, cost effective and time saving transportation in rural roads develops. At the same time, it deems rapid economic growth in rural areas and the good governance in this sector.

'LGED is committed to realize women's empowerment through 100% implementation of Vision-2021'

- Speakers at a seminar on International Women's Day at LGED Bhawan

In observance of the International Women's Day 2013, the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) arranged a seminar on this year's theme- "Women's Right to Information, A Commitment to Build Digital Bangladesh", held at LGED Bhawan in Dhaka. Chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, the seminar was attended by, among others, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, Local Government Division as the chief guest.

Speaking on the occasion the Local Government Division Secretary said, LGED has been implementing various development programmes in the light of the government's poverty reduction and National Women Development Policies. LGED, he said, has created employment and self-employment opportunities for women by organizing the destitute women to form the labour contracting societies. He said, LGED's gender activities deserve admirations.

Local Government Secretary further said, In accordance with the declarations of the 4th International Women's Conference 1995, held in Beijing, Bangladesh National Women's Policy was framed. He added women's empowerment and gender-equity related issues have been incorporated in the present government's Vision-2021, National Women Development Policy-2011 and in Sixth Five Year Plan. Besides, Family Violence (Defence & Safety) Act-2010 has been passed by the Ninth Jatiyo Sangshad at the behest of the present government, he said.

In his address as chairperson the Chief Engineer of LGED said, the Bangladesh Constitution ensures women's participation in all spheres of national life in a bid to provide equal rights to men and women. He also said, LGED has been working relentlessly to realize

women's empowerment with firm determination to implement Vision-2021 fully, which has been pronounced by Sheikh Hasina's government.

Earlier, the Member-Secretary of LGED Gender & Development Forum Syeda Asma Khatun delivered an address of welcome and her deliberations on the theme of the International Women's Day. The Additional Chief Engineer and President of LGED Gender & Development Forum Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad also spoke on the occasion.

Names of nine successful women, who have been participating in LGED's rural, urban and water resources infrastructure projects, were announced in the seminar. They were, in order of merit, first- Jaheda Begum of Sunamganj Sadar, Sunamganj district, second- Sondhya Rani of Patharghata, Barguna district and third- Kazi Sharmin of Madhukhali, Faridpur district in the rural development sector. In the water resources development sector, the successful women were- first- Rupa Banu of Laxmipur Sadar, Laxmipur district, second- Ranu Begum of Jhalakathi Sadar, Jhalakathi district and third- Tanjila Khatun of Chapai Nawabganj Sadar, Chapai Nawabganj district. In the urban development sector- first- Sheuli Akhtar of Jamalpur Sadar, Jamalpur district, second- Sonia Begum of Dhaka City Corporation (South), Dhaka district and third- Nargis of Naogaon Sadar, Naogaon district.

Government okays NOBIDE Project for Implementation by LGED

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) held in Dhaka to-day, 05 March 2013, a project titled Northern Bangladesh Integrated Development Project (NOBIDEP) costing Tk.2705.94 crore has been approved. The project, funded by JICA loan of Tk. 2127.57 crore and GOB contribution of Tk. 578.37 crore, will be implemented by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) under Local Government Division. The project area of NOBIDEP is constituted of 8 districts (Rangpur, Gaibandha, Lalmonirhat, Nilphamari, Dinajpur,



The ADB Mission is seen holding a discussion with officials of Union Parishad and members of business community relating to the possible piloting activities on Rural Water Supply and development of Pachpir Rural Market in Gaibandha district on 11 March, 2013.

Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Kurigram) in Rangpur Division and 6 districts (Netrokona, Kishoreganj, Sherpur, Jamalpur, Mymensingh and Tangail) in Dhaka Division.

Apart from rural infrastructure improvement in the project area, the said project will also implement governance capacity building programmes to develop infrastructure and establish good governance in 18 pourashavas. The prime objective of the project is to improve rural and urban infrastructure, extend services in rural and urban areas, and to develop good governance in the respective pourashavas of 14 districts in the northern region of the country. The project period begins in March 2013 and will terminate in June 2019.

Foreign Mission

Joint ADB and KfW Mission visited SRIIP Project areas:

ADB Mission visited Northern Bangladesh from 9 March to 11 March, 2013 to see for themselves different development activities being undertaken under SRIIP of LGED. The Mission observed the ongoing development activities under different subprojects in Natore, Rajshahi, Chapai Nawabganj, Naogaon and Gaibandha districts. The Mission exchanged views with 3 (three) Pilot Union Parishads Chairmen, Members,

Secretaries and other community people relating to various development programmes of TA Project under SRIIP. They also visited a number of roads which are now being constructed by SRIIP. The Mission also visited some possible sites earmarked for market. The ADB Mission was headed by Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam, Senior PIO (Transport), ADB, BRM. Other members of the mission were Ms. Ferdousi Sultana, Sr. Social Development Officer, ADB, Ms. Shadhona Mohal, ADB, Mr. Md. Akhsanul Islam, ADB and Mr. Md. Ali Akhtar Hossain, PD, SRIIP, LGED.

Later, a Joint Mission of ADB and KfW visited Jessore, Chuadanga, Meherpur, Kushtia and Jhenaidah districts from 22 March to 23 March 2013 to explore the possible sites for development programmes to be undertaken by SRIIP of LGED. The possible sites were Munshiganj growth centre under Chuadanga district, Narkelbaria bazar under Jessore, Meherpur-Dariapur growth centre via Jadabpur-Baidyanathpur road under Meherpur district and Gorabaria pucca road to Paachbaria road via Shreerampur Bazaar Road under Jhenaidah. The Joint Mission members were comprised of Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam, Senior PIO, ADB, BRM and Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Senior Programme Manager, KfW and Mr. Md. Ali Akhtar Hossain, PD, SRIIP, LGED. The Mission continued their work upto 31 March, 2013.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is seen addressing the inaugural session of a two-day International Conference on Local Government. The conference was jointly organized by Municipal Association of Bangladesh (MAB) and Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum (BUPF). State Minister of LGRD&C Advocate Jahangir Kabir Nanak, MP, MAB President, Advocate Azmatullah Khan, President of BUPF, Mr. Mahbubur Rahman Tulu, Secretary, Local Government Division, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Danish Ambassador Mr. Svend Olling and the US Ambassador Mr. Dan W. Mozena were present on the occasion, among others.

Prime Minister urges for democratic trend to strengthen local government

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina stressed the need for continuation of democracy, stating that establishment of a strong local government system was not possible without uninterrupted democracy.

"The central government will only be involved in policy making, monitoring and budget allocation, while the local government bodies will carry out all development activities- this is our aim. But for this, a permanent democratic trend is needed," she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing as chief guest at the inaugural session of a two-day international conference on local government in the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka. The conference was jointly organized by Municipal Association of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Union Parishad Forum. She said people did not realize the notion that public representatives were their servants. The opportunity to empower local government bodies never came as the country's

democracy stumbled and was disrupted repeatedly after independence, she said.

The government wants to hand over sectors like education, health, law and order and infrastructure to local government bodies so that people do not need to go to the capital or divisional cities, she said. "We want to conduct all our activities through local government bodies", the Prime Minister said, reiterating her government's firm commitment to ensure people's empowerment.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated Kabirhat Upazila Parishad Complex, Sonaimuri Upazila Parishad Complex and laid the foundation stone of Noakhali Sadar Upazila Complex and Paurashava Bhavan on 8 January 2013.



The Hatirjheel-Begunbari project in Dhaka was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on 2 January 2013.

'Government to restore lost glory of Dhaka' -Prime Minister

The much awaited Hatirjheel-Begunbari project was inaugurated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina amidst a great media hype on 2 January 2013. "It's a new-year gift of our government for the citizens of the capital" the Prime Minister said opening up 8.80-kilometer service road, a nine-kilometer east west connecting express road, a nine-kilometer footpath, a ten-kilometer lakeside walkway, 477-meter of bridges, 260-meter viaduct, 400-meter overpass for traffic. A modern sewerage network and drainage system were set up so that water of the lake

is not contaminated. The lake will now play a crucial role in groundwater recharge. This is the first major road link expansion undertaking in the country in nearly two decades. Addressing a ceremony on the occasion the Prime Minister said, her government is pledged bound to restore the lost glory of Dhaka, grown up bit by bit on the bank of the Buriganga. The Prime Minister said flyovers, elevated expressways, commuter train services, underground tunnels and ring-roads around the capital are being constructed.

The Prime Minister called upon the city dwellers to supplement the government efforts to the protect environment and the aesthetic beauty of Dhaka city.

The Rajdhani Unnayan Katiripakha (RAJUK), Dhaka WASA and Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) along with an army engineering corps implemented different components of the scheme from 2008. The Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) worked as a consultant.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laid the foundation stone of five primary school-cum-cyclone shelters in Patuakhali on 19 March 2013 to be constructed by LGED's ECRP. The Prime Minister also inaugurated six primary school-cum-cyclone shelters in Pirojpur on the same day, constructed by LGED's ECRP.