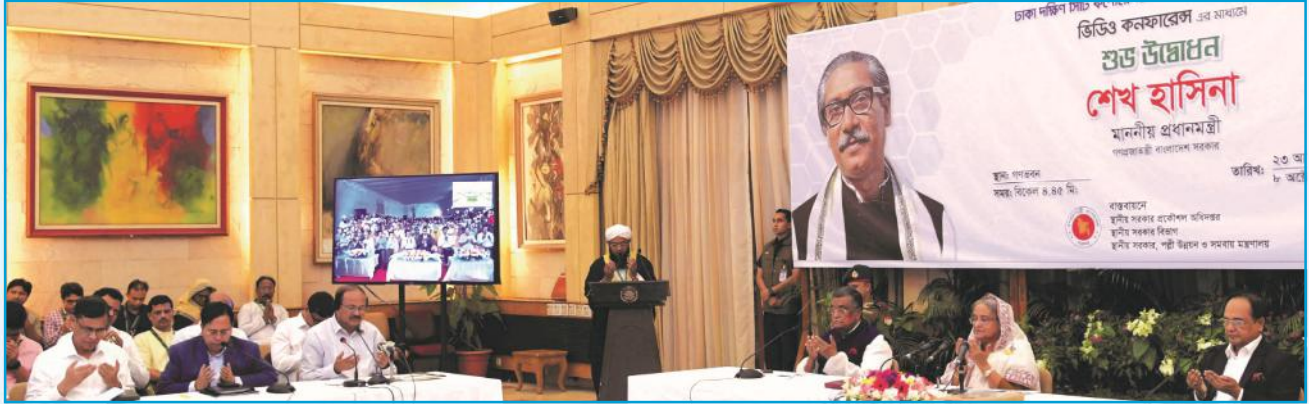


LGED Newsletter

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Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurating the four residential buildings built for cleaners of Dhaka South City Corporation at Dayaganj and Dhalpur in the capital through video conference from the Prime Minister's official residence Gana bhaban

Honourable Prime Minister inaugurates residential buildings for city cleaners

Four multi-storied residential buildings built at Dayaganj and Dhalpur areas in the capital have been inaugurated to solve the longstanding residential problem of the cleaners of Dhaka South City Corporation. A total of three hundred and forty-five families have been accommodated in these apartments. Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated these buildings through video conference from Gana Bhaban on 8 October, 2018. Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain was present at the function. Senior Secretary of Local Government Division Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan gave a video presentation on the project.

Local people including Mayor of Dhaka South City Corporation Mohammad Sayeed Khokon and Chief Executive Officer Khan Mohammad Bilal joined the video conferencing from Dayaganj end. Speaking at the function the Prime Minister said, her government will build accommodation for the homeless people. Addressing the cleaners, she said that her government is implementing such projects to ensure better living conditions and healthy life for the people who keep our urban facilities neat and clean. The Honourable Prime Minister expressed hope that the children of cleanliness workers will turn themselves as worthy citizens through acquiring modern

education. She directed them to use modern equipments in day-to-day cleaning activities. The present government undertook a plan for the construction of five multi-storied buildings at Dayaganj, five at Dhalpur and three at Sutrapur in 2013 for facilitating accommodation of cleaners of Dhaka City Corporation (presently Dhaka South City Corporation) at a cost of 190 crore taka. Under the project, the constructions of four out of 13 multi-storied buildings have been completed while the work on remaining 9 is progressing fast. The Local

Government Engineering Department is implementing the construction work of these residential buildings. With implementation of the project, a total of 1,148 families of cleaners will get modern and time befitting residential facilities. The floor area of each flat is 472 square feet and there are two living rooms, kitchen, one toilet and two verandas. Every building has lift and generator facility for power supply round the clock and there is provision for separate electric sub-station at each colony. The floor of the flat is covered with tiles. There is separate store room and a community hall at every building.



Newly constructed residential buildings for city cleaners

Editorial

Ten years achievements of LGED: The pace of development will continue in coming days

The achievements in rural infrastructure development in last ten years (2009-2018) can be equated with what have been achieved over the last few decades. The miracle has been possible because of the government's farsighted development goals, well-coordinated plans and successful implementation of the uplift programme. Bangladesh has achieved amazing success in all indices of progress. Physical infrastructures developed in the rural areas across the country have contributed to a great extent towards achieving this success.

Bangladesh is now a role model to the developing countries. The United Nations has recognized Bangladesh as a developing country graduated from lower income country. Bangladesh has successfully passed the benchmark in three indices like per head income, human resources and economic stability to this end. Bangladesh has also registered remarkable success in the index of rural communications simultaneously. Bangladesh is progressing fast compared to other developing countries in the index.

It has been referred in a research of World Bank conducted in 2016 that the achievement of Bangladesh is 86.7 per cent in the rural accessibility index. That means 86.7 per cent rural people in the country can have the access to a paved road after walking for thirty minutes or crossing a maximum distance of 2 kilometers on foot. Positive changes have been noticed in the overall development index as a result of well-established road communications built across the country. The employment opportunities have been created; education, health services, trade and commerce are ever expanding thus reducing poverty.

LGED is contributing to increase production in agriculture and fishery through implementing small scale water resources projects, improving the service delivery for the people

through upgradation of urban local governance system, creating employment, enhancing production in agricultural and non-agricultural sectors through development and management of physical infrastructures and its better management. These activities are enormously contributing to the improvement in life style of the people as well as in poverty alleviation. Today Bangladesh is going ahead with an indomitable speed led by Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina competent successor of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The present government led by Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina took the responsibility of running the country for the third consecutive term following a huge mandate given by the mass in the national parliamentary election held on 30 December, 2018. It is the fourth term that a government led by Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was elected by the people since 1996. Prior to the election, Honourable Prime Minister and President of Bangladesh Awami League Sheikh Hasina announced the election manifesto titled "Samridhir Agrojjatrai Bangladesh" (Bangladesh on march towards prosperity). LGED has a vital role to play in the implementation of the goals and plans enshrined in the manifesto particularly in realizing the goal mentioned in the point 3.10 'My Village-My Town': expansion of modern urban amenities at every village. LGED is working to undertake the next course of actions and design strategies in the light of election manifesto, directives of the Honourable Prime Minister, sustainable development goal, seventh five year plan and the delta plan which will expedite the process of building a prosperous and developed Bangladesh.



S. M. Ghulam Farooque joined as Senior Secretary of the Local Government Division

S. M. Ghulam Farooque joined the Local Government Division as Senior Secretary on 12 September, 2018. Earlier, he served as Senior Secretary of the Rural Development and Co-operatives Division and Secretary of Civil Aviation Tourism Ministry. S. M. Ghulam Farooque held various positions in the government including at field level administration. He joined Bangladesh Civil Service (Administration) Cadre in 1983. S. M. Ghulam Farooque did his graduation and post graduation in Social Science from Dhaka University. He received training at various national and international organizations. He was born to a respectable muslim family on June 1, 1960 in Shariatpur district.

Back to home village after 30 years

(contd. from page 06)

the village by paying the fees on lease valuation. Later, after demarcation of boundary by the Upazila land office, they completed 650 meter link canal connecting the Atharbeki Failla Beel under the 2017-18 fiscal with the financial assistance of the project. Side by side the Kashipur village was made habitable by land filling with the sludge produced during the beel excavation and canal digging. Abdus Salam informed that 125 families who had left the village returned to the village and has set up dwelling while others uprooted from here are likely to come soon. In the meantime, the members with their own initiative have created a permanent fish sanctuary. They have also planted species of water tolerant trees by the side of beel and canal spreading over an area of ten acres. Besides a service area has been built which accommodates an office block and space for holding monthly meetings of the members and other social functions. The villagers now plan to transform the area as an ideal village having a school for children, permanent village protection embankment, mosque and community clinic as well as sanitation and electricity. Besides, plantation of Hijol, Karach and similar species of trees and increased fish production are also on the cards. For the villagers, it is a new lease of life as they are now anchored in the land of their ancestors after long thirty years.

Inauguration of PTI Building at Mirpur in Dhaka

Honourable Primary and Mass Education Minister Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, MP inaugurated the 10-storied building of Dhaka Primary Training Institute (PTI) built for the training of primary teachers at Mirpur in Dhaka on 8 November, 2018. Speaking as Chief Guest on the occasion, the Minister detailed various activities taken by the present government for the development of education. He said, there is no alternative to education to establish a knowledge-based society. He mentioned that Bangladesh has successfully achieved primary education for all and reached the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Gender parity has been established in primary education. He hoped that Primary Teachers' Training Institute will play a pioneering role to develop efficient teaching professionals in the country. In his address as Chairperson of the meeting, local MP (Member of Parliament) Kamal Ahmed Majumder said, the government of Sheikh Hasina is education friendly. The government has arranged mid-day meal



Primary and Mass Education Minister Advocate Mostafizur Rahman, MP inaugurating the 10 storied building of Dhaka PTI

and stipend for the school students. Primary schools are being constructed at remote areas of the country. The education and training infrastructures are now building aiming at developing manpower for advancing standard and qualitative education.

In his address as the special guest at the meeting, Additional Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Khalilur Rahman said, LGED is constructing primary education

infrastructures across the country. As part of it, new PTIs are being constructed in 12 districts with no PTIs. Among others, Additional Secretary (Development) of Primary and Mass Education Ministry Md. Giasuddin and Additional Director General of Primary Education Directorate Sohel Ahmed spoke at the meeting. Officials of the ministry and directorate concerned, teachers and local people were present at the function.

The country is marching ahead under the visionary leadership of the Honourable Prime Minister: Senior Secretary, LGD



Senior Secretary of Local Government Division S. M. Ghulam Farooque addressing the review meeting

Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina the competent successor of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is working for the development of rural infrastructures with a view to improve the lots of the common mass. The country is marching ahead under the foresighted leadership

of the Honourable Prime Minister. Senior Secretary of Local Government Division S. M. Ghulam Farooque said this at the review meeting on LGED's Development Activities held on 12 December, 2018 as the chief guest. He also said, we have to work in a coordinated manner to achieve the goal

of reducing poverty by five per cent by the year 2021 set by the government. The Senior Secretary also said, we have to think about devising the value chain so that the farmers can get fair price of their produces. He called for ensuring quality in the implementation of development works.

Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad said in the meeting that LGED is working for the overall development of the country and about 11 thousand manpower of the agency is working across the country to this end. He said, LGED projects are being implemented maintaining quality standard of the works as per the directives of the Honourable Prime Minister. He said LGED undertakes development projects those directly benefit the common people and will continue to discharge this responsibility in future. Additional Secretary of Local Government Division Dr. Kazi Anwarul Haque, Joint Secretary Mesbah Uddin, Additional Chief Engineers, Superintending Engineers and Project Directors of LGED were present at the meeting.

Denmark Ambassador visits LGED



Ambassador of Denmark Ms. Winnie Estrup Petersen visited GIS section of LGED. Chief Engineer Md. Abul Kalam Azad was also present

Ambassador of Denmark to Bangladesh Ms. Winnie Estrup Petersen called on Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad at the LGED headquarters on 3 December, 2018. They exchanged views on various activities of Climate Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Project being implemented by LGED with financial assistance of Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA). After meeting the Chief Engineer, she visited GIS section and quality control unit of LGED. After visiting the activities of LGED Danish Ambassador expressed satisfaction and said, Denmark government will continue its assistance in the implementation of various development activities of LGED. LGED is implementing a number of projects in co-operation with DANIDA.

World Bank Mission at Multipurpose Disaster Shelter Project

World Bank midterm mission was conducted since 2 to 6 December, 2018 to review the progress of on-going activities of the Multipurpose Disaster Shelter Center Project under implementation by LGED. The mission led by Task Team Leader and Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist Ignacio S. Urtacia. The team included Senior Disaster Risk Management specialist and Co-task Team Leader Swarna Kazi, Senior Operations Officer Stefani Tam, Senior Procurement Specialist Ishtiaq Siddique and Financial Management Specialist Hasib Ehsan Chowdhury. The mission met the officials concerned including Senior

Secretary of the Local Government Division S. M. Ghulam Farooque, Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad and Project Director Javed Karim. The mission expressed satisfaction at the implementation progress of physical infrastructure development of the project. It may be mentioned that Bangladesh is one of the countries vulnerable to floods, tidal surge and natural disasters caused by global climate change. LGED has already completed the Emergency Cyclone Recovery and Restoration Project (ECRRP-2007) in 2018 in order to provide multifaceted services including protection of lives and belongings of the

local people at the time natural disasters. 352 primary school cum cyclone shelters were constructed and another 459 shelters were rehabilitated after the devastating cyclone SIDR in 2007 under this project with assistance of World Bank. As a continuation of this success, the government is implementing the Multipurpose Disaster Shelter Project (MDSP) since 2015 through LGED with the assistance of World Bank. Under the project, 556 new schools cum disaster shelter are being constructed. Besides, 450 school cum disaster shelter are also being rehabilitated.

Orientation for newly appointed Engineers in LGED

Chief Engineer Md. Abul Kalam Azad urged all to discharge their professional duties with honesty, sincerity and efficiency. He was speaking at the inaugural ceremony of an orientation

program organized for the newly appointed Assistant or Upazila Assistant Engineers at LGED headquarters on 28 November, 2018. He said, LGED is working with 26



Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad inaugurating the orientation program for the newly appointed Engineers of LGED

development partners. The organization has earned reputation at home and abroad. Government, people and development partners have shown their trust and confidence on LGED which is increasing day by day. The organization has a team of good and efficient manpower. The huge developmental works now being implemented in rural, urban and small-scale water resources sectors across the country is playing a vital role in the development of life style of the people. Addressing the newly recruited engineers, he said LGED is an excellent engineering agency for learning and achieving professional improvement. He said the bonding between the new entrants and the experienced ones will add a new dimension in the performance of LGED. Additional Chief Engineers and Superintending Engineers of LGED were present at function.

National Resilient Programme (NRP) Workshop held on LGED's Asset Management Framework and Implementation Plan



Group work at the workshop

The physical infrastructures built across the country are faced with various problems caused by climate change and natural disaster. There is no alternative to the construction of climate resilient infrastructures for sustainable development. With this end in view, the innovative technique has to be evolved through conducting research.

Sustainable development strategy should be designed based on past experience. Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad said this at the inaugural session of workshop on LGED's Asset Management Framework and Implementation Plan held on 26 and 27 November, 2018. Project Director of National Resilient

Programme (NRP) part of LGED Md. Jasim Uddin detailed the background of the NRP programme at the meeting. The workshop was arranged under the NRP programme to prepare Asset Management Framework and System for LGED. Discussions were held on Asset Management Framework technique, plan and system at the workshop.

National Resilient Programme is being implemented to overcome the challenges faced by Bangladesh in the construction and maintenance of climate resilient sustainable infrastructures. Objective of this programme is to develop risk free, disabled and gender friendly and inclusive sustainable infrastructures. The NRP will contribute directly towards achieving the target- 6 related to safe water and sanitation, target-9 related to industry, innovation and infrastructure, and target 11 for sustainable city and habitat etc. of SDG declared by the United Nations. The programme is expected to be completed by March, 2022.

Mobile Application: Training on Field Inspection and Monitoring System held

Monitoring of quality of the infrastructures built by LGED across the country is a difficult task. LGED has developed a mobile application titled "Field Inspection and Monitoring System" (FIMS) to make job easier. The Second Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP-2), being implemented with the financial assistance of Bangladesh government and the World Bank has contributed to develop the mobile application.

A day long training divided into two batches was held on 20 and 21 November, 2018 to exchange views on the overall use of the mobile application. Forty engineers working at field level and at headquarters of LGED took part

in the training. The application is already in use in the monitoring of quality standard of the on-going civil works at field level. Pictures of the civil works, video recording, filling up of inspection form can be shared from the project site with the authority concerned through this mobile application. The special feature of this application will enable the users to design form/template and use them without much complication. Improvement work of the application is currently on to apply in the monitoring of development activities in all sectors of LGED. The information collected through the application can be preserved in mobile phone or in data base for follow up or for future reference.



Trainees at training session

Victory Day 2018 in LGED

(contd. from page 11)

Her new name was given as Nazma Begum. We talked to him this morning also. They live in a slum in Dhaka. Nazma is now in death-bed. She has four children and sometimes I talk to her. Now I want to tell something about LGED. I was a staff of works programme. Later, I joined LGED and then it was transformed into LGED. I remember late Chief Engineer of LGED valiant freedom fighter Quamrul Islam Siddique Sir with great respect. Today, LGED is building sustainable infrastructures across the country. It is playing a vital role in entire development of Bangladesh. I feel so proud to see it.

Bangladesh has to go far ahead

(contd. from page 12)

Local Government, Rural Development and Co-operatives Minister Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, among others, spoke on the occasion. Senior Secretary of Local Government Division Dr. Zafar Ahmed Khan gave the welcome speech. Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Md. Nojibur Rahman moderated the function.



After long 30 years villagers of Kashipur under Nikli upazila of Kishoreganj rebuilding their homestead

Back to home village after 30 years

Haor is a bowl-shaped large tectonic depression. It receives surface runoff water by rivers and khals, and consequently, a haor becomes very extensive water body in the monsoon and dries up mostly in the post-monsoon period. In Bangladesh, haors are found mainly in greater Sylhet and greater Mymensingh regions. During monsoon, a haor is a vast stretch of turbulent water. People here are vulnerable to drowning caused by waves locally known as 'Afal'. Abdus Salam, a poor fisherman of the locality said, Kashipur village under Kishoreganj was completely washed away by the impact of the strong current. Standing at the edge of Atharbeki Failla Beel as the sun set in the horizon, the fisherman in his sixties recollected

memories of never ending struggling life. In an emotion choked voice he sifted through the days of 1975 when the erosion was gradually taking place in Kashipur. The village is a remote locality under Nikli Upazila under Kishoreganj. In 1988 the village inhabited by 315 families was completely devoured by the worst ever floods of living memories triggered by onrush of waters from hill upstream. The trail of devastation left them homeless and the later story was nothing but relentless struggle to keep their body and soul together. Uprooted from their home and hearth, about 200 families took shelter in the neighbouring Indra village of Karimganj Upazila. But the fates of the rest are unknown, said Abdus Salam. Many were forced to change their

profession and are now engaged as seasonal farmer of Jiroti. With an unknown destiny, these farming community turned destitute take shelter in Kahsipur during dry season while in monsoon, they move to Indra and this is going on for the last 30 years. It is a predicament of being nomads in their own homeland. Abdus Salam, while narrating about the floating life in a melancholic tone said practically we had no hope. How can there be a dream since we are people with no direction. "We had lost user rights on the water bodies since we don't have any address though most of us were fishermen", he lamented. When asked "how did you turn around?", Abdus Salam said the Haor Flood Management and Livelihood Development Project (HFMLIP) being implemented by the LGED and financed jointly by JICA and the Government of Bangladesh undertook various steps for the improvement of lifestyle of these destitute families. Under a memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the Local Government Division and the Ministry of Land in 2017, the Atharbeki beel (large water body) was handed over the forty-one bonafide fishermen of Kashipur village for community based water body management. As per provision of the project, the members took decision in their regular meeting for the development of

(See Page 02)



Workers busy in the construction of submersible road

Submersible roads lead to school

Submersible roads: all weather communications in haor areas

The submersible roads built in haor areas have brought a sigh of relief for the local people as they can now commute both during monsoon and dry seasons. The facility has also brought a massive change in the lifestyle of the local community. With the recession of water these infrastructures provide yet another mode of transportation and as such all weathers connectivity has been ensured with the introduction of this innovative communication approach. People can move to even outlying areas or nearby locations with much ease. Be it upazila or district headquarters, the road or

waterway connectivity has ushered in a new era of faster communications. Construction of these submersible roads have been undertaken by LGED in 43 upazilas of the haor region namely in Sunamganj, Hobiganj, Brahmanbaria, Kishoreganj and Netrokona districts under the Haor Infrastructure and Livelihood Improvement Project (HILIP) and Haor Flood Management and Livelihood Improvement Project (HFMLIP). Target for the construction of submersible road has been set at 697 kilometers of which 517.2 kilometer have been completed. The communications system in haor area

differs from those in the plain land as a large area remains under water, except the higher ground of dwellings, for six to seven months in a year. Boat or similar mode of water transport is the only option. Sustainable communications network could not be developed for all seasons since the landmass in the haor goes under water for a considerable period of time. On the other hand, during dry seasons communication gets snapped and the life comes to almost standstill bringing miseries in all spheres of public life including education, health, agriculture and trade and commerce. LGED undertook the initiative of constructing submersible roads in the haor areas to facilitate unhindered communications during the dry seasons and it has started showing positive results. These RCC built submersible roads have brought a visible improvement in the overall socio-economic conditions in the haor areas. The access to road has helped farmers in harvesting paddy within a short time and can procure the cereal after threshing and carry the produce for preservation. Thus the damage to crops have been contained to a great extent.

Extension of Upazila Parishad Complex: new era in public service

The Upazila Parishads (sub-district council) are playing a vital role in providing services to the people at grassroots level. The government is working relentlessly to ensure planned development and good governance through establishing strong local government through decentralizing administrative system. Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina recently directed to prepare upazila based master plan for concerted development activities to ensure expansion of urban civic facilities at local level. The present government undertook the Extension of Administrative Building and Hall Room Construction Project of Upazila Parishad Complex in 2011 to provide government facilities at a faster pace and easily available to the people through extension of upazila parishad infrastructure facilities. Each of the 4-storied administrative buildings with 6-storied foundation has a floor area of 17 thousand feet. A well-furnished multipurpose separate hall room of a floor size of four thousand square feet is being constructed in each upazila under the project. Technology for rainwater harvesting and solar power has been

used in these buildings at the directives of the Honourable Prime Minister. Construction work of extended administrative building and hall room of Upazila Parishad Complex at Araihaaz Upazila in Narayanganj district has recently been completed. Project Implementation Officer of Araihaaz Upazila Abu Sayed Mallik said, we had to work in a small sized room and dampened environment prior to construction of the new extended academic building. There had been lack of proper toilet facilities. There was no waiting room for the service seekers. And now the new buildings have sufficient space, separate toilet facility and airy ambience. He also said that now almost all government organizations can provide services from one place. As a result, time, cost and sufferings of the people have been minimised. A local named Hashem Mrida who came to receive service at upazila said, co-ordination among various offices is necessary to take decision and implement those during disaster. This is easily possible now as almost all government agencies are under one roof. Though

newly created 30 upazila had adequate office space with 40 thousand square feet area which could accommodate offices but the remaining 459 upazila lacked adequate space for housing offices that could cater to the need of the people. In view of this, the upazila parishad extended administrative building and hall room construction project has been undertaken. Under the project, extension work of 233 Upazila Complex have been taken up. The project will be completed within June, 2020.



Extension of administrative building of Araihaaz Upazila Parishad



WMCS President Md. Shafiqur Rahman receives crest

Success of Arua Kalkalia Water Management Cooperative Society (WMCS) Limited

Nabiganj is a upazila under Habiganj district. Due to siltation in the canals in Arua Kalkalia under the upazila, irrigation was affected in 1,350 acres during the irri-boro (paddy) dry season due to water scarcity resulting causing lower production and at times damage to crops. Though the water level in Bijna river was sufficient, it couldn't be used through aqueduct for irrigation considering its distance and higher cost. To address the problem and evolve a sustainable water management system the Arua Kalkalia sub-project was undertaken in 2009-10 fiscal. The

sub-project was implemented in greater Sylhet, Mymensingh and Faridpur zone under the Small Scale Water Resources Project run by LGED and financed by the Government of Bangladesh and the development partner JICA. It has ensured irrigation facility for agriculture while the farmers can transport their harvest during the dry seasons (Chaitra-Boishakh of Bengali calendar) as the canal retains water for navigation. On the other hand the sub-project has helped in increased fish production. Members of the Water Management Cooperative Society

(WMCS) under the sub project are extended loans, from their share and deposit, on easy terms for setting up small scale business, purchasing agricultural implements and foreign employment.

Side by side, rotating micro financing is also provided for poultry rearing, pisciculture etc. for generating employment opportunities among the members and the current repayment is cent percent. These steps have contributed hugely towards employment generation for the members and the poverty rate is declining.

The Arua Kalkalia Water Management Cooperative Society (WMCS) was selected as the best cooperative society in Sylhet division for consecutive two terms under special category in recognition to its remarkable success as the highest payer of cooperative development fund subscription in 2017 and in contributing to activities related to investment and micro financing in 2018. President of the society Md. Shafiqur Rahman dedicated the achievements to the sincere efforts and competent leadership and efficiency of the members in running the business of the society as well as maintaining proper financial management and successful micro financing.

New Bus Terminal in Shibchar Municipality Hassle free service, commuters happy



Shibchar Municipality Bus Terminal

There was no bus terminal in Shibchar Municipal area in Madaripur district. Due to chaotic parking culture, accidents were a regular phenomenon. The traffic jam was also commonplace in the area. There was no rest room for the passengers. They had to wait for bus beside the road and had to get on the vehicle with risk. A bus terminal has been recently built at Shibchar

Municipality under "Important 19 Municipality Infrastructures Development Project" of LGED. With the construction of the bus terminal, sufferings of the people have been reduced to a large extent.

Mayor of Shibchar Municipality Md. Awlad Hossain Khan said, Shibchar will be one of the busiest point for

communications in South and South-West region of the country once the construction of Padma Bridge is completed. The construction of a bus terminal at the entrance of the town was a long standing demand of the residents of Municipality. That demand was fulfilled through the construction of the terminal. He also informed that the site selection and design of the bus terminal has been prepared with sincere efforts, guidance and suggestions of local Member of the National Parliament Noor-E-Alam Chowdhury.

The bus terminal built with a modern architectural design, has a rest room, ticket counter, office room, prayer enclosure, separate toilet for male and female, arrangements for drinking water and parking area.

General Secretary of Shibchar Upazila Bus-Minibus Transport Owners' Association Md. Bachchu Khalifa informed that the number of accidents have come down appreciably with the construction of the bus terminal. As a result, the passengers are getting better services and discipline has been restored.



Anandanagar under Khagrachari Municipality now free from water logging

Anandanagar residents of Khagrachari Municipality now happy

Anandanagar locality of Khagrachari Municipality suffered from water logging the rainy seasons. Local people could not make any earning as the movement used to come to a standstill. A local woman Khaleda Begum informed that the children could not go to school for water logging. She said, to address the situation, Khagrachari Municipality took a major step for infrastructure development based on the need of the people. At present, a visible change has come in the area following the

construction of facilities like road from Anandanagar to TTC police camp via Rupnagar, drain and footpath. Water logging has been minimized while the socio-economic condition showing signs of improvement in the area as a result of these uplift activities and its regular maintenance. Khaleda Begum hoped that Anandanagar will not go under water in the coming days. She also informed that at present there is no problem in carrying agricultural activities. The residents of the area can

go easily from one place to another. Anandanagar people are now happy as the days of sufferings are over.

Several infrastructural development activities were undertaken in Khagrachari Municipality under LGED's Third Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project (UGIIP-3). There is a sigh of relief among the people because the long felt demand of the locality for various infrastructures including road, drain and footpath in different areas including Milonpur, Kalyanpur, APBN which have been implemented under the project. Mayor of the Municipality Md. Rafiqul Alam said, construction and repair work of about 20.82 kilometers road and 15.52 kilometers drain have already been completed under the UGIIP-3 project. The remaining work is on in full swing. Khagrachari Municipality was established in 1984 with an area of 13.05 kilometers. About 72 thousand people are now living in the municipal area. Mayor of the municipality said, the local government institution is working to build a modern, tourist friendly, traffic jam and water logging free neat and clean city.

Six officers went on retirement

LGED's six officer recently took retirement. Of them, six officer took retirement as Additional Chief Engineer while one as Superintending Engineer. They discharged their duties with professionalism and efficiency and kept special contributions to achieve professional betterment of LGED in their long service life.



Ali Ahmed

Additional Chief Engineer of LGED Ali Ahmed went on retirement on 15 October, 2018. He had joined LGED as Thana Engineer on the 1 September in 1983. He was promoted to the post of Additional Chief Engineer in November, 2015.



A.F.M. Munibur Rahman

Additional Chief Engineer of LGED A.F.M. Munibur Rahman went on retirement on 31 December, 2018. He joined LGED as Assistant Engineer on 30 October, 1983. He was promoted as Additional Chief Engineer on 11 February, 2016.



**SM Shahjada, MP, Patuakhali-3
(Galachipa-Dashmina)**

Felicitation to the member of LGED family Mr. SM Shahjada for being elected as Member of Parliament. Mr. SM Shahjada has been elected from Patuakhali-3 (Galachipa-Dashmina) in the National Parliament Election held on 30 December, 2018. He belongs to LGED family as his father Mr. Md. Lutfar Rahman had worked as an Work Assistant at the office of Galachipa Upazila Engineer. At present, he is enjoying retired life.

Mr. SM Shahjada is involved in politics and is a successful businessperson. He attained Honours and Master's Degree from Barishal Brojomohun University College (BM College). He is the eldest among the three siblings and father of one son and two daughters.



P. K. Chowdhury

Additional Chief Engineer of LGED P. K. Chowdhury went on retirement on 31 December, 2018. He joined LGED as Upazila Engineer in January, 1984. He was promoted as Additional Chief Engineer in July, 2018.



Md. Abdul Malek Sarker

Additional Chief Engineer of Local Government Engineering Department Md. Abdul Malek Sarker went on retirement on 11 November, 2018. He joined LGED as Assistant Engineer on 30 January, 1984. He was promoted as Additional Chief Engineer in July, 2018.



Molla Abul Basher

Additional Chief Engineer of LGED Molla Abul Basher went on retirement on 30 December, 2018. He joined LGED as Thana Engineer in April, 1984. He was promoted to the post of Additional Chief Engineer in July, 2018.



Qazi Md. Khurshid Hassan

Superintending Engineer of LGED Qazi Md. Khurshid Hassan went on retirement on 31 October, 2018. He joined at Pangsha Upazila in Rajbari district as Upazila Engineer on June, 1989. He was promoted as Superintending Engineer on 10 January, 2018.

Obituary



Md. Shahidul Islam

Motor vehicle driver of LGED Md. Shahidul Islam died on 16 December, 2018 (Innalillahi...Rajeun). He was 54. He was buried at Chamurkhan graveyard in Uttarkhan Thana. He is survived by his wife, one son, three daughters and a host of well-wishers to mourn his death.

ECNEC approves 15 projects of LGED during October-December 2018



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina presiding over ECNEC meeting

Executive Committee of National Economic Council (ECNEC) gave approval to 15 projects for implementation by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) involving a cost of 16,181.86 crore taka during last October-December 2018. The projects have been approved at several ECNEC meetings presided over by ECNEC Chairperson and Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at NEC conference room at

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the capital. The approved projects are: Rural Connectivity Improvement Project, Bangladesh Emergency Assistance Project (LGED part); Rural Infrastructure Development Project in Khulna, Bagherhat and Satkhira districts; Jashore Region Rural Infrastructure Development Project, Emergency Multi-sector Rohingya Crisis Response Project-World Bank, Disaster Risk Management

Enhancement Project (LGED part), Greater Kushtia District Rural Infrastructure Development Project, Greater Dhaka Rural Infrastructure Development Project-4, Disaster Damaged and others Important Rural Infrastructure Development Project, Rural Road Rehabilitation Project, Kadam Rasul Bridge Construction Project on the river Shitolakha near number 5 Gudara Ghat of Narayanganj City Corporation, Second Urban Region Development Project, City Infrastructure Development Project of Tangail municipality, Infrastructure Development Project of Five Municipalities in Cumilla district and Tepakhola Lake Development Project in Faridpur city.

Main objectives of the projects include increasing production in agriculture and non-agriculture sectors through rural communication infrastructure development and maintenance, expansion of trade and commerce, employment creation, poverty alleviation and improvement of lifestyle. At the same time, providing services to community through sustainable and planned city infrastructure development.



A group of students visiting a stall of LGED set up at Development Fair 2018 held at the International Trade Fair ground in Dhaka

National Development Fair: Indomitable Bangladesh on March Towards Development

The fourth National Development Fair was held across the country from 4 to 6 October, 2018 with the aim to showcase the development activities of the government. Honourable Prime Minister inaugurated the three day long fair held in all districts and upazilas of the country including the capital through video conference from Prime Minister official residence Gana bhaban. The development activities of government and the success achieved in different sectors were on display in the development fair

which aims to build Bangladesh as a middle income country by 2021 and developed country by 2041. The selected ten initiatives of the Honourable Prime Minister, international recognitions and successess, developing Bangladesh in line with the vision 2021 and 2041, information technology, Bangabandhu Satellite, Padma Bridge, different mega projects including Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant and investment potentials of the country were displayed in the fair. Various government organizations including Local

Government Engineering Department (LGED), banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions took part in the fair. A detailed work plan was chalked out to depict the successes achieved by LGED was taken up for the fair. LGED had set up stalls at all upazila and district level and also participated in the fair held at the International Trade Fair ground at Agargaon in the capital. Information materials like booklets were published from districts and upazilas detailing the success of LGED in the construction of physical and social infrastructure in rural, urban and small scale water resource sectors during 2009-2018. The stalls were designed in line with the thoughts of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, LGED's futuristic plans and achievements of the government. LGED produced a documentary film on 'Indomitable Bangladesh on March towards Development' which was displayed at all districts an upazila level stalls across the country. The well-decorated stalls displaying information, pictures and graphics related to LGED's activities drew large number of visitors. The mass people can know about the activities of LGED through this display. It may be mentioned that of the stalls put up by LGED across the country, 200 were awarded by district administration.

Celebration of the Great Victory Day 2018 in LGED



Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad handing over crest to valiant freedom fighter Shafiu Alam Mia as a mark of honour

LGED celebrated the great victory day 2018 in a befitting manner. Discussion meeting and a colourful cultural function were held at LGED headquarters on 17 December, 2018 to mark the day. Highlight of this year's celebration included reception to two Valliant Freedom Fighters who were the staff members of LGED and handing over crest in recognition of their contribution in the war of liberation.

Speaking on the occasion as chief guest, Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad said, we got independence under the leadership of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Had he been amidst us today, the country would have achieved progress, prosperity and development much earlier. The Chief Engineer said, Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is relentlessly working for overall development of the country. She has already taken various steps for the welfare of freedom fighters. The construction of house named 'Bir Nibas' is one of the steps for the insolvent freedom fighters. Additional Chief Engineer Md. Khalilur Rahman who chaired the function said, LGED is implementing massive development activities across the country inspired by the spirit of great liberation war for building a happy and prosperous Bangladesh. Among others, Additional Chief Engineers Khandaker Alinoor, P. K. Chowdhury and A.F.M. Munibur Rahman addressed at the function.

Valliant Freedom Fighters Upazila Engineer Shafiu Alam and Accountant Abdul Mannan, who went on retirement from LGED, were accorded reception at the function. Chief Engineer Md. Abul

Kalam Azad handed over crests to the Valliant Freedom Fighters for their participation in the war of liberation. At the function two Valliant Freedom Fighters recollected the memories of the liberation war in 1971 and the audience became emotion choked as they listened to the vivid description of atrocities of the Pakistani occupation force as well as the valour and courage of the freedom fighters. The second part of the function was presentation of a colourful cultural function titled 'Ruposhi Bangla' (Bangladesh, the land of beauty).



Artists presenting dance drama

A Freedom Fighter reminisces the days of 71

At the discussion meeting arranged to mark the great victory day 2018, former Accountant valiant freedom fighter Abdul Mannan recollected the memories of the liberation war.

(verbatim) At the very outset I would like to remember the greatest Bangalee ever born and architect of our independence father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman; 3 million martyrs and 2 lakh mothers and sisters who were physically and mentally tortured during the liberation war. Because of their supreme sacrifices, we have achieved

our independence and got a country-Bangladesh.

During the liberation war, though I was in tender age, I had an intense desire to go to the war. Captain Huda used to take some of us who were young to the border area every day. At first, we were not prepared to face the firing by the Pakistani occupation forces and we had to retreat. But again, we gave a test of bravery by fighting against the Pakistani forces with courage. Later, we got a chance to go to India for undergoing training. After training, of the 400 freedom fighters of Gopalganj, we 50 freedom fighters of Muksudpur dispersed to different camps for fighting. We had guerilla training. The training included firing a couple of shots. As a result, the enemy side will fire. We will attack them once the ammunitions of the enemy side exhaust by continuous firing. We carried out several small attacks but the big front fight took place at presently Dignagar of Muksudpur Upazila. There was a camp of Pakistani forces and we fought for three days and three nights without any recess. Our 12 freedom fighters were martyred in the fight. Of them, my cousin was martyred while fighting beside me but we killed 100 Pakistani forces in the battle.

The fight over, we saw four or five girls in the bunker who were sitting crouching. Of them, two or three girls ran away from there. Who were these girls? I couldn't recognise. At this stage, one girl in her tears said, they have (Military) finished everything. I asked her, who are you? Later, I understood that they were the brave women. Her name was Kanon Bala and we rescued her. Then we went to hand her over to her parents. But they refused to take her saying that she is not our daughter, we shall not accept her. We (freedom fighters) included her in our team. Later, we arranged her marriage with freedom fighter Sheikh Mosharraf Hossain and he accepted her.

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Valiant freedom fighter Abdul Mannan narrating the days of the liberation war

Bangladesh has to go far ahead: Honourable Prime Minister



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina talking to local beneficiaries while inaugurating various physical infrastructures built by LGED through video conference from Gana Bhaban

Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has said the achievements of Bangladesh in reaching the highway to development during the last decade is remarkable and termed it as “making impossible possible”. She said, “I don’t know whether any country in the world could perform such massive development works within this short period. But we have accomplished that mission and Bangladesh has to go far ahead.” Honourable Prime Minister made the remarks while inaugurating 33 developing works in 20 districts through video conference from Gana Bhaban on 11 October, 2018.

Inaugurating seven long bridges, one jetty, extended administrative building and hall room of nine upazila parishads, six urban maternity centres and ten urban health centres built by Local Government Engineering Department the Honourable Prime Minister said, “I have dedicated my life for materializing the ideals of father of the nation and nurtured those principles in my heart.” She also said, the grand alliance government led by Awami League which took office, following the 9th parliamentary election in 2008, began implementing huge development activities across the country. Her government is making all out efforts to ensure that the people can have a better lifestyle. The Honourable Prime Minister inaugurated 228 meter long bridge on river Dhepa at Kantajeu temple road in Dinajpur, 560 meter long ‘Shaheed Lieutenant Sheikh Jamal Bridge’ and 560 meter long ‘Shaheed Major General Khaled Mosharrar Beer Uttam Bridge’ on

river Brahmaputra in Jamalpur, 520.60 meter long ‘Deshratno Janonnetri Sheikh Hasina Bridge’ on river Dhaleshwari in Tangail, 315 meter long bridge at Sreepur upazila in Gazipur, 686.75 meter long ‘ Sheikh Lutfar Rahman Bridge’ on river Arial Khan in Madaripur and ‘Sheikh Russel Bridge’ on river Chitra in Narail at the function. Besides, the 550 meter long jetty built at Tekhnaf –Myanmar Transit river terminal also inaugurated. With the construction of these infrastructures, internal road communications of the districts and adjoining areas will be faster and thus save time and cost. The Honourable Prime Minister inaugurated the extended academic building and hall room of upazila parishads built at Domar in Nilphamari, Atrai and Raninagar in

Naogaon, Singra in Natore, Tarash in Sirajganj, Sadar upazila in Kishoreganj, Satoria in Manikganj, Sharsha in Jashore and Sadar upazila in Noakhali at the same function. These buildings have been constructed to provide faster and easier public services to the local people. At the same function, the Honourable Prime Minister also inaugurated six storied urban maternity centres built at section 1 in Mirpur under Dhaka North City Corporation, Dhirashram at South Kolar Bazar of Gazipur City Corporation, East Khasbag of Rangpur City Corporation, Harua of Kishoreganj Municipality, Miller para of Kushtia Municipality and Gopalganj Municipality, and three storied urban health centers built at Niler para of Gazipur, Kamlapur, Bauband and Rasulpur of Cumilla, Ershadnagar and Jummapur of Rangpur, Baradi and Borokhada of Kushtia and Nurani and Tarapasha of Kishoreganj. These maternity and urban health centers equipped with modern facilities have been constructed to provide primary health care services for women, children and poor in urban areas. LGED constructed these buildings under ‘Urban Primary Health-care Services Delivery Project’ and implemented by the Local Government Engineering Department. The Honourable Prime Minister, while inaugurating the projects directed authorities concerned for proper maintenance of these important installations. She also talked to local beneficiaries of Madaripur, Cumilla, Naogaon, Mymensingh and Gazipur districts through video conference.

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Senior Secretary of Local Government Division S. M. Ghulam Farooque and Chief Engineer of LGED Md. Abul Kalam Azad placing floral wreaths at the portrait of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Dhanmandi 32 number on great victory day, 16 December 2018. Officers and staff of Local Government Division and the LGED were present