

Quarterly LGED Newsletter

A News Bulletin of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)

Issue No. 95

October-December, 2009

Regd. No. 24/87



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is seen addressing an anti poverty rally in observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in Dhaka on 17 October 2009.

Inside Pages

- Editor's Note
- Workshop focuses on LGED's commitment to institutional development
- EBRIDP helps develop the socio-economic conditions of rural people
- Chief Engineer LGED attends Cop-MfDR 2009 Annual Meeting in Kuala Lumpur
- LGED accelerates pace of development in Chittagong Hill Tracts
- Formal Training Programme of UP Chairmen under RIIP-II completed
- State Minister for LGRD&C inaugurated Subarnachar Upazila Complex
- State Minister for CHT Affairs inaugurated a bridge in Rangamati district
- Technical Assistance Letter on SRIIP signed
- Foreign Mission
- Foreign Training /Overseas Visit
- National Workshop on development and harmonization of Land Cover Classification held

Work unitedly to eradicate poverty - Prime Minister

The International Day for Eradication of Poverty was observed on October 17, 2009 in Bangladesh with solemn promises to overcome poverty through unity and combined initiative. "Make poverty history": is global call for action against poverty. Responding to this call, all nations round the world have reaffirmed their commitments to poverty alleviation and redesigned their planning approaches to achieve the targets within the shortest possible time. The Bangladesh government has also fixed its target to reduce poverty by half within 2015.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina while addressing an antipoverty rally marking the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty at the Bangabandhu International Convention Centre in Dhaka on October 17, 2009, said that poverty can not be eradicated without curbing corruption. "We want to elevate Bangladesh as a developed country by 2020 as the next year will mark the golden jubilee of our independence," said the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister further added that "we want to build a modern, scientifically and technologically based Bangladesh, a digital one, not only for the urban areas. We will ensure technology for the rural areas." The premier, ministers, law makers and others at the rally took oath administered by the Speaker, to remain united to eradicate poverty.

As we know that over 80% of the people in Bangladesh live in rural areas and majority of them remain unemployed for at least three to five months a year. In view of the wide spread poverty, the government of Bangladesh has given top priority to poverty alleviation. The government has placed high priority to rural development. Development of physical infrastructures in the rural areas is one of the important components of rural development. Physical infrastructure, specially, road network, on one hand, acts as a catalyst in the socio-economic development of the country and on the other hand socio-economic development generates demand and accelerate market forces.

It is worthwhile to mention here that, in line with governments' policies, LGED has been making appreciable contribution in various development activities including construction of feeder roads, other rural roads, bridges and culverts, development of growth centres & rural markets and implementation of small scale water resources project for irrigation. Through construction of rural infrastructure, massive farm and non-farm employment opportunities are being created for the rural poor leading towards reduction of poverty.



Editor's Note

LGED's submersible road - an innovative venture

There was a time when people in haor areas, with no transportable roads, had no other alternative but to walk down long distances. Patients in critical condition were on human shoulders as long as 15-20 miles away in order to reach sadar upazila hospital for treatment. In the water-logged haor areas of Kishoreganj, Netrokona and Sunamganj district, submersible roads, better known as "Dubo Sarak" are now being constructed to facilitate communication system for those ill-fated people and to bring home boro crops with no difficulty. The haor people are amazed to see LGED's effort to construct submersible road. These roads are not much raised from the ground and as such surging rain water cannot damage them. In consequence, no annual repairing expenditure is required to be incurred. LGED created an unprecedented example of public service by constructing a different type of new road. The first experimental submersible road was constructed by LGED's RDP-21 at Itna-Ajmeriganj for 7 km in 1996-97. Later, a number of submersible roads were constructed at Mithamoin-Ghagra, Astogra-Kurdia, Nikli-Gorvi and Morichkhali-Indachulli. Of late, LGEDs Community Based Resource Management Project (CBRM), Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project (RIIP-2) and Eastern Bangladesh Rural Infrastructure Development Project (EBRIDP) are engaged to construct submersible road across the haor of Kishoreganj, Netrokona, Sunamganj and Habiganj districts. CBRMP has meanwhile built 40 km of concrete submersible road in three upazilas-Tahirpur, Dharmapasha and Sullah, RIIP-2 2.13 km in Itna and EBRIDP 37.12 km in Habiganj and Sunamganj. These submersible roads have meanwhile connected around 280 villages with mainland and developed the economy of more than 48000 households. Here the people now have got all season access to market, school and hospital along with other socio-economic amenities. RIIP-2 has plan to build around 46 kilometer of submersible road by the year 2010 in Kishoreganj and Netrokona districts. On the other hand CBRMP has undertaken a scheme to build 8 km of submersible road within 2011 in Sunamganj district.

Submersible roads will be an epoch-making step to spearhead commerce and trade, and for that matter, economic development in the water-logged haor areas. People living in the haor areas now seem to be quite happy with these roads.



Mr. Md. Monowar Hossain Chowdhury, MP is addressing the inaugural session of the workshop on "Efficient Delivery of Rural Infrastructure" on 15 October 2009. The special guests of the workshop were Mr. Monzur Hossain, Secretary, Local Govt. Division and Ms. Tahsin Syed, Operation Adviser, World Bank. The workshop was presided over by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED.

Workshop focuses on LGED's commitment to institutional development

Speakers representing the government, civil society and international development partners were found to be assertive on the issue of LGED's efforts to improve its governance and operational performance to deliver quality infrastructures for the benefit of the people of Bangladesh at a workshop on "Efficient Delivery of Rural Infrastructure" held on 15 October 2009 at LGED Bhaban in Dhaka. The workshop was also designed in a way to shift away LGED's present practices of "public relations" to more strategic forms of communication.

Jointly organized by LGED and the World Bank, the inaugural session of the workshop was attended by, among others, Mr. Md. Monowar Hossain Chowdhury, MP and Member, Parliamentary Standing Committee, Ministry of LGRD & Cooperatives as the Chief Guest. Mr. Monzur Hossain, Secretary, Local Government Division and Ms Tahsin Syed, Operation Adviser, World Bank were Special Guests on the occasion. Mr. Clay Wescott, Team Leader, ORA Mission was also present in the workshop. Chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED the Workshop was largely attended by representatives of the different Ministries of the Government, World Bank, Donor Agencies, Development Partners, LGED and media personnel.

Speaking as the Chief Guest Mr. Md. Monowar Hossain Chowdhury, MP said, the World Bank was the pioneer in giving financial support to LGED in the implementation of rural infrastructure development programmes in 1980s. He said,

the present ORA Report jointly prepared by LGED and World Bank, reflect bright sides as well as dark sides in the implementation process of LGED. He however urged upon LGED to ensure transparency and proper utilization of resources.

He said, the Operational Risk Assessment (ORA) jointly carried out by LGED and the World Bank is an important step in the process of institutional development.

Speaking as the Special Guest Mr. Monzur Hossain, Secretary, LGD said, LGED has the reputation as an "island of excellence" in GOB, with high standards of professionalism, and comparatively robust risk management systems. This reputation stems in part from LGED's willingness to undergo periodic organizational reviews and to implement the recommendations of each review, he said.

The other Special Guest at the inaugural session of the workshop Ms Tahsin Syed, Operation Adviser, World Bank said, World Bank is happy to note that the Govt. of Bangladesh gives infrastructure development a huge priority. She however concluded to say that the World Bank would remain a partner to LGED and Bangladesh.

Speaking as the chairperson Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, the present ORA of LGED, initiated by the World Bank, is an important and critical event in the history of institutional development of LGED. He said, LGED has taken a positive view of the ORA process and expects that the outcome of ORA will contribute towards further institutional development of LGED in future.

Earlier, an address of welcome was delivered by Mr. Md. Abdul Qadir, Project Director, RTIP, LGED.



Technical Assistance (TA) letter on "Technical Assistance for Sustainable Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project" was signed on 20 December 2009 in Dhaka. Mr. Saifuddin Ahmed, Joint Secretary, ERD and Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED are seen signing the TA Letter on behalf of the Government and LGED respectively.

EBRIDP helps develop the socio-economic conditions of rural people

The Eastern Bangladesh Rural Infrastructure Development Project (EBRIDP) under the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) was launched in April, 2005 with the financial assistance of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). The EBRIDP covers 9 (nine) districts of Greater Chittagong, Noakhali and Sylhet region covering an area of 26356 square kilometers. The total project cost is Taka 94441.23 lakh. The project duration is 5 (five) years 3 (three) months and is targeted to finish by June, 2010. The major objectives of the project include the improvement of the rural transport network, improvement of the physical facilities at Growth Center Markets and Boat Landing Ghats, providing assistance in rural poverty reduction by involving rural people in economic and social development activities, and the creation of local government institutions as focal point for local development activities. The improvement of rural transport network always plays an important role to reduce the transportation cost and to facilitate the increased agricultural productions.

The major physical components being implemented under the project are upgrading of 885 km upazila road, 108.5 km Union Road, 37.12 km submersible road. The project includes construction of 7095 m bridges/culverts on Upazila and Union Roads. The project also includes development of 67 growth centre markets, 18 boat landing ghats, and construction of 71 Union Parishad Complex buildings. In addition to that 993 km tree plantation

programme has been taken as component along the developed roads under project. Capacity building training to LGED Staff, Labor Contracting Society, LGI representatives and other stakeholders is also a component of the project.

The overall physical progress of the project is about 82% and a significant quantity of roads has been completed. Tree plantation on road embankment slope is completed for 846 km project road. The project has also completed the construction of 58 nos. growth centre markets, 13 Ghats and 62 nos. UPC. In each of growth centre markets, a separate women market section has been constructed comprising five number of shops for woman traders. Presently 240 number of shops have been allotted to woman traders and are efficiently running their business. In addition to the implementation of physical components, the project has completed 24,330 trainee-days for domestic training and 330 trainee-days for overseas training for strengthening the capacity building of LGED's staffs and LGI representatives. The project also employed and trained about 1900 nos. poor women worker through LCS in the tree plantation and road maintenance work.

The project interventions has created a positive effect to rural people by increasing higher farm and non-farm productivity, employment and income opportunities, thereby reducing poverty. Furthermore, the project created direct employment for the rural poor women and reduces the transportation cost of goods and passengers which has a significant impact on economic growth.

Chief Engineer LGED attends Cop-MfDR 2009 Annual Meeting in Kuala Lumpur

Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED attended the 2009 Annual Meeting of the Community of Practice in Managing for Development Results (MfDR) held in Kuala Lumpur from 23 to 25 November 2009. MfDR is an approach that integrates a focus on results in public sector management to achieve sustainable development outcomes. In his presentation during the meeting Mr. Rahman highlighted the Results Framework of LGED as the largest public sector organization in Bangladesh entrusted with planning and implementation of local level rural, urban and small scale water resources infrastructure development programmes. He mentioned that LGED works closely with the local government institutions to ensure peoples' participation and bottom-up process in all stages of project cycle. He said, the brand objective of LGED's development activities is to improve the socio-economic condition of the country through public infrastructure and capacity building of the stakeholders. The Results Framework in LGED has introduced a tool for driving a change management process for better delivery of measurable results, he said.

Obituary



Md. Ansar Ali, working as Assistant Engineer, IWRM Unit, LGED Hq died of a massive cardiac arrest on 25 November 2009 (Inna Lillahi.....Rajeun). He was 47. Graduating from BUET in 1988 Engineer Ali joined LGED as an Assistant Engineer in 1992 and worked successfully in different projects at district and upazila levels. In 2008, he joined the Integrated Water Resources Management Unit and had been working there till his death. He also obtained MBA Degree in 2008. Extremely talented and open-hearted Engr. Ali left behind an eight-year old son, wife and a host of relatives & well-wishers.

LGED accelerates pace of development in Chittagong Hill Tracts

The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), consists of Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban hill districts in the southeastern part of Bangladesh. The region is dominated by steep hills and narrow valleys, many of which are remote. Most of the inhabitants in the CHT region live below the poverty line and more than half of the population is tribal people. With the signing of the historic peace accord between the members of Parbatta Chattagram Jana Shanghati Samity and the Government of Bangladesh a new era ushering in to realise micro-economic reforms in the less developed Chittagong Hill Tracts region has come into force.

The objective of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Project (CHTRDP) was to reduce incident of absolute poverty among the rural CHT people through undertaking community development activities, infrastructure development and expanding income generation in the entire CHT region.

Under CHTRDP upgrading basic rural infrastructure of upazila & union roads including bridges and culverts are being implemented by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED). A total 56 km. of 5 (five) upazila road including 1390 m bridge/culvert and 197 km. of 32 (thirty two) union roads including 2950 m bridge culvert have been constructed. A total of 2040 small community based subprojects under the CD component were implemented in 111 unions of three hill districts. The subprojects were classified as economic and social category, irrigation/agriculture sub-project under



Mr. Dipankar Talukder, MP, State Minister for Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs inaugurated the bridge on Bilaichari sadar-Farua Bazar Road in Rangamati on 5 October 2009.

economic category and the subprojects of safe drinking water, education, road communication and others under social category.

The micro-finance component of this project aimed at the generation of additional income through expansion and/or development of micro enterprises at the firm and household level to reduce poverty among the project targets beneficiaries.

The physical work of the project has been successfully completed on June 2009 and the people of this area getting benefits from this project. It may be mentioned that the impact of the project activities has been evaluated by the consultant team.

Under normal GOB programmes LGED has implemented so far 337 km upazila road including 4896 m bridge / culvert, 176 km union road including 1844 m bridge/culvert and 555 km village road (Type A&B) including 1700 m bridge / culvert in CHT Region. Besides, LGED has been implementing rural maintenance programme

round the year through LCS for creation of employment especially for destitute women in CHT Region.

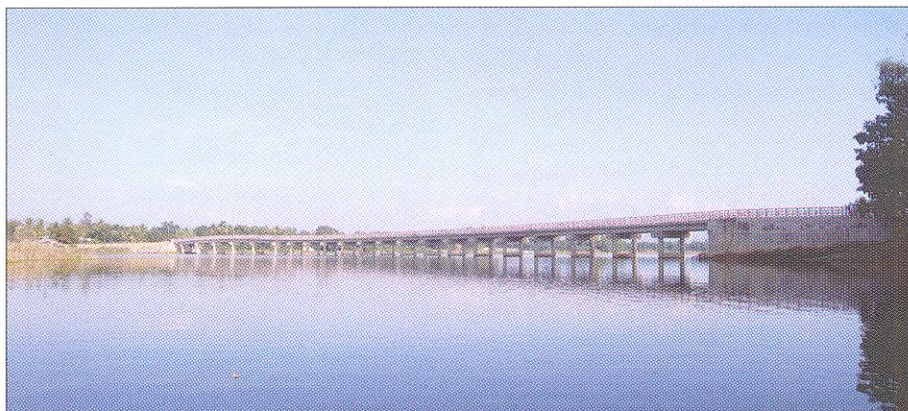
Efforts have also been made to construct 30 cross-dams measuring 635 meters in Khagrachari district. A total of 111 water control structures have been implemented by LGED in the three districts of CHT.

It is to be mentioned here that Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Development Project, Phase-II will be started from 2011 with financial assistance from ADB.

The impact of the road improvement has increased household income of rural communities in the project area by providing employment opportunities in road construction, increased crops production for marketing, sell of more goods in market, reduced transportation cost, rearing more livestock or poultry, easy access to market, school, hospital and increased social benefits by offering easier access to public facilities.

Besides LGED is currently implementing the Rural Infrastructure Development Project : Chittagong Hill Tracts (RIDP : CHT) at a cost of Taka 10567.00 lakh for developing Upazila road and Union road including structure, Growth center & Tree plantation. It is expected to be completed by the year 2011.

In conformity with the peace accord, LGED has taken a lead among government agencies in exploring a conscious path of sustainable development in CHT region through introduction of mountain-specific technologies and development practices.



A panoramic scene of the bridge through Jhagrabil Rangamati stretches over Kaptai Lake. The bridge was constructed by LGED.

Foreign Mission

ADB Mission visits Bagerhat LGED : A high level Mission from Asian Development Bank visited Bagerhat to see for themselves LGED's development activities under implementation. In Bagerhat, the construction works of 39 Government Primary School-cum-Cyclone Shelters are in progress under ADB funded project especially in Sidr/2007 affected areas. The Mission visited the H.K. Mistridanga Government Primary School-cum-Cyclone Shelter at Morelganj upazila. The Mission included Mr. Curtis S. Chin, Director, ADB and Mr. Paul J. Heytens, ADB Country Director, Bangladesh. Mr. Md. Lokman Hakim, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED and Executive Engineer, LGED, Bagerhat accompanied the Mission, among others. The Mission spoke high on the qualitative standard of the construction skill of LGED.

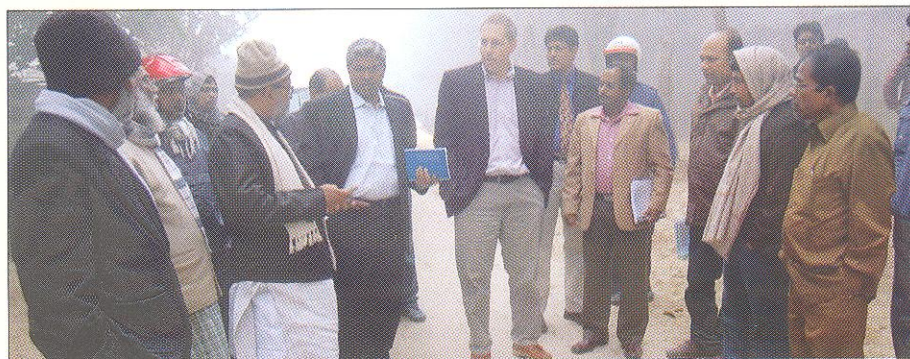


Mr. Curtis S. Chin, Director, ADB and Mr. Paul J. Heytens, Country Director, ADB, BRM visited the government primary school-cum-cyclone shelter at Morelganj upazila under Bagerhat district on 29 October 2009. Mr. Md. Lokman Hakim, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED was present during the visit.

ADB Mission visits Chapai Nawabganj and Rangamati Pourashava : The Country Director of Asian Development Bank (ADB) Mr. Paul J. Heytens, visited Chapai Nawabganj Pourashava on 14 and 15 December 2009 to see for himself the implementation process of

Heytens also visited the truck terminal constructed by UGIIP under Chapai Nawabganj Pourashava and expressed his satisfaction to see the trend of revenue earning and management process. The Country Director also held discussions with the Mayor of Chapai Nawabganj Paurashava, Professor Ataur Rahman. Mayor of Singra Pourashava Mr. Shamim Al Rajee, Project Director of UGIIP Mr. SK Amzad Hossain and Senior Project Implementation Officer of ADB Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam accompanied the Country Director during his visit to different project sites of UGIIP. Earlier, on 4 December, 2009, the Country Director of ADB visited the various infrastructures constructed by UGIIP at Rangamati Pourashava and witnessed the poverty alleviation, microfinance and slum development programme in Rangamati.

Mayor of Rangamati Pourashava Mr. Md. Habibur Rahman, Senior Project Implementation Officer of ADB Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, LGED's Superintending Engineer of Chittagong Circle Mr. Md. Shah Alam and Project Director of UGIIP Mr. Sk. Amzad Hossain were present, among others, on the occasion.



Mr. Paul J. Heytens, ADB Country Director visited the implementation process of UGIIP under Chapai Nawabganj Pourashava on 14-15 December 2009. Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, SPIO, ADB and Sk Amzad Hossain, Project Director, UGIIP were present on the occasion.

ADB Country Director visits LGED Project in Rangamati : Mr. Paul J. Heytens, Country Director, BRM, ADB visited ADB supported project in Rangamati and Khagrachari on 3-5 December, 2009. The team comprised of Mr. Rafiqul Islam, SPIO, and Mr. Gobinda Bar, Head, External Relations, BRM, ADB. They visited Kaptai-Rangamati via Borodam Upazila Road implemented by LGED under CHTRDP. The total length of the road is 18.36 km including 7 nos. large bridge. With the construction of this road about 50,000 peoples of the area are getting benefit. The road has enabled easy access to market for marketization of agricultural products and will augment tourism industry. The ADB Team was happy to observe the quality work of the road and very much impressed to learn the positive comments of the beneficiaries about the road. During the visit Mr. Md. Mokbul Hossain, PD, CHTRDP, Mr. Swapan Kumar Das, DPD, and Mr. Ashish Kumar Paul, Executive Engineer, LGED Rangamati were present, among others.

LGED's Urban Governance & Infrastructure Improvement Project (UGIIP). On December 15, he visited Rajarampur, Charmohonpur, Methorpara public toilet and Shaheed Shatuhall market. Later, on the day he visited the Alinagar Bhootpukur region to witness the progress of poverty alleviation, microfinance and slum development programmes. Mr.



ADB Country Director Mr. Paul J. Heytens visited the Kaptai-Rangamati via Borodam upazila road being constructed by CHTRDP of LGED. Mr. Mokbul Hossain, Project Director, CHTRDP, Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, SPIO, ADB and Mr. Swapan Kumar Das, Deputy Project Director, LGED were present, among others, during the visit.



State Minister of LGRD&C Mr. Jahangir Kabir Nanak inaugurated the newly constructed Subarnachar Upazila Complex on 14 November 2009. Mr. Afsarul Amin, Minister of Primary and Mass Education, Mr. Ekramul Karim Chowdhury MP, Noakhali-4 and Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED were present during the inaugural ceremony. The four storied complex was built by LGED at a cost of Taka six crore and twenty lakh.

National Workshop on development and harmonization of Land Cover Classification held

A four-day national workshop on "Development and Harmonization of Land Cover Classification of Bangladesh within the Hindu Kush Himalayan Region" (HKH) began in Dhaka on 21 December 2009. Jointly organized by International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) and Local Government Engineering Department (LGED), the inaugural session was attended by among others, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED as the chief guest. Mr. Birendra Bajrachrya, GIS Specialist, ICIMOD, Mr. Golam Mostofa Patwary, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED and Mr. Salman Siddique, Remote Sensing Specialist, Nepal, ICIMOD were also present on the occasion.

The chief guest of the inaugural session, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahaman, Chief Engineer, LGED in his address said that "ICIMOD & LGED are working together since quite long back. ICIMOD is an excellent institution to promote Geo-Information Technology among the partner organizations and LGED as a partner organization has received substantial support in terms of capacity building and technology transfer" He also said that, LGED had introduced Upazila Plan Book in early nineties were preparation of Upazila Landuse Plan was a component of the Upazila level planning application. It was a unique example of local level planning with participatory approach. LGED always follows participatory approach in its every stage of project implementation cycle." Finally the Chief Engineer observed that "over the period, to address the ever increased demands of

infrastructure side development in the rural and urban area and water sector throughout the country, LGED has institutionalized GIS, MIS and ICT as means to deliver services quickly and with proper quality. LGED is proud to have the owner of the largest geo-spatial database among the public sector organizations in our country."

Earlier, outlining the objectives of the workshop, Mr. Salman Siddique, Remote Sensing Specialist and Training Coordinator from International Center for Integrated Mountain Development, Nepal (ICIMOD) said the land cover should come under an unified legend within the eight member countries of ICIMOD. He further said that to thwart ecological imbalance no individual country can possibly handle it significantly. As such, international cooperation is urgently felt to arrive at a common legend of land cover classification

The inaugural session was also addressed by Mr. Birendra Bajrachrya, GIS specialist ICIMOD, Nepal and Mr Md. Golam Mostafa Patwary, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED. At



Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman inaugurated the four day long LGED-ICIMOD sponsored national workshop on Development and Harmonization of Land Cover Classification of Bangladesh within the HKH Region on 21 December 2009 at the LGED Hq

the outset of the workshop Mr. Munir Siddiquee, Unit Incharge of GIS Unit, LGED delivered an address of welcome.

The workshop was attended by 21 specialists from among 15 organizations of the country.

Foreign Training / Overseas Visit

▷ Syed Mahboob Hasan, Additional Secretary, Local Government Division, Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain, Deputy Secretary, Local Government Division and Mr. S.K. Amzad Hossain, Project Director, LGED participated in the "Regional Workshop on Sustainable Urbanization" held in Shanghai, China from 02-06 November 2009.

▷ Mr. Md. Ahsan Habib, Deputy Project Director, LGED took part in the Training Course on "Conflict Management" held in Denmark from 19 October 2009 to 20 November 2009.

▷ Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain, Project Director, LGED attended the Workshop on "Sustainable Urban Mobility in Asia (SUMA) Summit" held in India from 27 October to 01 November 2009.

▷ Mr. Md. Khalilur Rahman, Project Director, MIDPCR, LGED and Mr. Ajit Kumar Das, Accounts Officer, MIDPCR, LGED attended the "Financial Management Training and Study Tour" held in Nepal from 2-8 December 2009.

▷ Messrs Md. Aminul Islam, Md. Golam Mowla & Md. Sharif Uddin, Assistant Engineers of LGED and Messrs Md. Sabiul Islam & ABM Khorshed Alam, Upazila Engineers of LGED attended the Training Course on "Technical Information Exchanging Program (TIEP)" held in Phnom Penh, Cambodia from 06-12 December 2009.

Training Programme of UP Chairmen under RIIP-II concludes

Union Parishad Management Training Programme for 1832 UP Chairmen under 23 districts of Second Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project (RIIP-II), LGED has recently been concluded. The last batch (57th batch) of UP Chairmen participated in 3-day residential training session during 27-28 October 2009. The training programme has been implemented to enhance institutional capacity of Union Parishad functionaries including UP Chairmen through Institutional Support (IS) Component under ADB financial assistance. Mr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman, Project Director, RIIP-II, LGED inaugurated the Training Programme of last batch of UP Chairmen.



Minister for Post and Telecommunication Mr. Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju, MP laid the foundation stone of the bridge between Serampur-Baashgari and Hasnabad GC-Kunderpara road under Raipur upazila of Narsingdi district on 19 December 2009. The bridge will be constructed by RIIP-II of LGED. Project Director, RIIP-II, Mr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman was present, among others, during the occasion.

pipe culvert/U-drain, 7 rural market and 78 km tree plantation. So far, RRMAIDP has generated 1.50 million labour days of which 94% are women labour days. In addition to

created employment opportunities for poor LCS women by involving them in rural infrastructure development works and thereby providing opportunities to take part in nation building works.



Mr. K.M. Khalid MP and Mr. Monzur Hossain, Secretary, Local Government Division visited the Sabu Sarker registered non-government primary school under Muktagacha upazila in Mymensingh district on 11 December 2009

Women Labour Based road works are encouraging in RRMAIDP

Women members of the LCS (Labour Contracting Society) are seen working in a labour based road improvement work in Barguna district under Rural Roads & Market Access Infrastructures Development Project of LGED funded by Danida. LCS women are involved for construction of earthen road, pipe culvert/U-drain, pavement works, rural market, tree plantation & caretaking and road maintenance works. Schemes are being implemented by LCS contract directly. LCS women are also working as labour sub-contractor under a traditional contractor in implementing the schemes. Since inception of the project LCS women have successfully completed 635 km earthen road, 32 km Upazila road pavement, 14 km Union road pavement, 24 km HBB pavement, 102 m

scheme implementation, LCS women are given training on awareness raising and skill development, income generating activities and functional literacy. A total of 8170 women have received functional literacy training under RRMAIDP. The project has



Women members of the LCS are seen engaged in road maintenance work under RRMAIDP

Academic Feat



Mr. S.M. Monirul Islam, Executive Engineer (Mechanical), LGED Hq. passed Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme from Bangladesh Open University in March 2009. He obtained CGPA 3.23 out of 4. He had also completed his graduation in B.Sc. Engineering in Mechanical from BUET in 1995. He joined LGED in April 1996.



Mr. Syed Ashrafur Islam MP, Minister for LGRD&C is seen addressing the upazila level officials of Aushtagram under Kishoreganj district. Speaker of the National Parliament Mr. Abdul Hamid also addressed the officials. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman was present, among others, on the occasion.

Implement development programmes for haor people with earnestness - LGRD Minister

Minister for Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives Syed Ashrafur Islam, MP called upon the upazila level officials of Aushtagram upazila under Kishoreganj district to implement development programmes for the haor people with utmost earnestness. The Minister was addressing the upazila level officials of Aushtagram involved in development programmes. The Minister said that the government has undertaken a number of development programmes specially in the sector of communication, education and the infrastructure development for the haor areas. The Minister reminded the officials that they should give top priority on implementing development programmes in their areas.

Speaker of the National Parliament Mr. Abdul Hamid while addressing the Aushtagram upazila officials urged that they should serve the less-privileged people with all sincerity and shun corruption. He further said that the officials should discharge their duties for the welfare of the people without any fear and

hesitation. He urged the officials to monitor closely the development works and should demonstrate satisfactory progress.

Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman in his address at the meeting of the upazila officials highlighted LGED's efforts toward the development of the haor areas of Kishoreganj district with particular reference to progress made in the construction of submersible roads in haor areas. He informed the meeting that a separate project, amounting to Taka 804 crore, for the development of the haor areas has already been submitted to the government for approval. Chief Engineer, DPHE, Mr. Md. Nuruzzaman said that necessary arrangements will be taken on priority basis for the supply of pure drinking water and improved sanitation facilities for the people of the haor areas. At the outset of the meeting the Deputy Commissioner of Kishoreganj district Mr. Shah Kamal appraised the meeting about the development related works so far achieved under Aushtagram. The meeting was attended by, among others, Mr. Afzal Hossain, MP., Mr. Bhanulal Das, Superintendent of Police, Kishoreganj, Mr. Zahirul Huq Nasim, Upazila Chairman, Aushtagram Upazila Parishad and Advocate Shahjahan, Upazila Chairman, Mithamoin.



Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman and the KfW Director Mr. Christoph Isenmann are seen exchanging documents on separate Agreement to the Financing Agreement with KfW on 8 December 2009 in Dhaka.

LGED accords with KfW to implement UGIIP-2

A Financing Agreement was signed on 7 December 2009 to determine German Financial Cooperation with the People's Republic of Bangladesh relating to LGED's Second Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement (Sector) Project costing around Taka 243 crore.

Later, LGED as the implementing agency of the said project, signed a Separate Agreement to the Financing Agreement with the German banking organization KfW on 8 December 2009 at LGED Headquarters in Dhaka. Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman and Country Director, KfW Mr. Christoph Isenmann signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations.

On the strength of the Agreement LGED and KfW would work hand in hand to implement Second Urban Governance & Infrastructure Improvement (Sector) Project (UGIIP-2) in a bid to develop urban infrastructure and through participatory approach. KfW, it is learnt, would fund around Taka 243 crore for the project.

Mr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Senior Project Implementation Officer, ADB was present on the occasion to represent ADB-BRM. Besides, Mr. Md. Nazmul Hassan, Additional Chief Engineer (Urban Management), Mr. Md. Golam Mostafa Patwary, Additional Chief Engineer (Maintenance), Mr. Md. Azizul Haque, Superintending Engineer (Urban Management), Mr. Md. Nurullah, Project Director, S.K Amzad Hossain, Project Director, UGIIP and Deputy Project Directors Mr. Md. Nur Hossain Hawlader and Mr. Md. Mohirul Islam Khan (UGIIP-2) were also present on the occasion, among others.

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