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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the UISC in all the unions of the country through video conferencing with UNDP Administrator Ms. Helen Clark on November 11, 2010



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## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates digitised information & service centres for all unions

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said setting up Union Information and Service Centres (UISC) across the country will accelerate the government efforts to build up a knowledge based digitally advanced nation by 2021. She said this while inaugurating UISC in all 4,451 unions of the country simultaneously through video conferencing with UNDP Administrator and former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark, people of remote Kukrimukri in Bhola district and State Minister for Science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osmany in Jashodal union of Kishorganj district on November 11, 2010. The Prime Minister termed the launching of the Information and Service Centre as an epoch making step towards bringing information services to the door steps of all citizens of the country. She also said, an educated and self-reliant nation is the prerequisite for this. Referring to the inauguration of the Service Centre at union levels, the Prime Minister said the project has been taken up to make the Union Council a knowledge-based institution.

Digital Bangladesh will be free from technology deficit for all the citizens irrespective of rich or poor, educated or illiterate, she said. In this connection Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina listed a number of programmes taken up by her government including the launch of a District Web Portal, Digital Innovation Fair, Workshop on Digital Bangladesh for the Upazila Chairmen and setting up computer lab and education equipment in Teachers' Training College.

It is worthwhile to mention here that LGED is moving forward to transform its activities towards ICT based platform. The Local Government infrastructure database has been developed for the whole country through GIS technology. The piloting of disaster damaged infrastructure database for twenty five upazilas is going on. The procurement process of LGED is going to be reshaped as ICT based system very soon. All maps, database, reports and publications would be up-loaded into LGED's expanded web portal very soon.



# Editor's Note

## Training in LGED

*Training is a Systematic process to develop knowledge, skill and attitude to attain the goal of an organization. There is no alternative of training in orienting people with modern and latest technology. It is the oldest art and newest science. Normally, people acquire knowledge in a particular discipline and enter into services. Job field can't be addressed adequately with mere academic knowledge gained from formal educational institutes. People always need additional orientation or training to be fully acquainted with a job concerned. Technology is developing fast. Concerned people need to cope up with the latest technology. Training is the only tool that enables people to cope up with latest technology.*

*As an organization LGED always emphasizes on training. Training in LGED began in 1982 under erstwhile Works Programme Wing. A Central Training Unit (CTU) at LGED Head Quarter Dhaka and 10 Regional Training Centres were later set-up under LGED in 1998. LGED Training system is decentralized. All the 64 districts and 482 upazilas are covered through 10 Regional Training Centres. It does not mean that training programmes are arranged only at HQ and regional levels. Trainings are also held at district, upazila and union levels depending on the target groups and the types of training. All categories of employees, LGI representatives, contractors and project beneficiaries are covered under training programmes. Effectiveness of training is measured after certain interval by external agents. Training is funded from development projects as well as from GOB revenue budget.*

*The overall objective of LGED Training Unit is to develop capacity of LGED Officials and staff through development of overall training policy, assessment of training need and preparation of annual training plan, development of training modules, implementation and evaluation of training courses. LGED Training Unit develops in-house trainers through Training of Trainers (TOT) course.*

*During the last two decades, LGED has expanded a lot. The image of LGED has also been upgraded at national and international level. Training is one of the important factors behind these.*



Secretary, Local Government Division Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan addressing the engineers of LGED on his maiden visit to LGED HQ on November 9, 2010. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman was present during the occasion.

**'LGED needs to be more dedicated to improve the fate of the people'**

**- Secretary, Local Government Division**

Secretary for Local Government Division Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan appealed to the engineers and project directors of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) to be more dedicated in future to improve the fate of the people of Bangladesh. Speaking at a formal gathering of LGED engineers on November 09, 2010 at LGED Bhaban in Dhaka on his maiden visit to the organization as the Secretary of LG Division he termed LGED as the showcase of the government's development efforts and urged the organization to give proper impetus in implementing the projects within the time-frame. Emphasizing on the quality of works the LGD Secretary said, not even an iota of doubt should ever be raised on the question of quality.

The Local Government Secretary however admitted that the goodwill of LGED is widely acclaimed at home and abroad for its commitment, skill and competence. In this context he recollected the pioneering role played by late Quamrul Islam Siddique, the founder Chief Engineer of LGED whose towering personality, enormous skill and profound sense of professionalism aptly helped the organization to attain its present height.

Earlier, on his arrival at LGED Headquarters Mr. Khan was cordially received by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED. Upon arrival of the Secretary at the Conference Room of LGED Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Project Director, LGED delivered a brief presentation on the activities of LGED.

In his presentation Mr. Ahmed said, the major areas of LGED's intervention revolve round rural, urban and water sectors. He said, LGED is the key facilitator for local government institutions with result-oriented projects. It has trained and committed manpower that has been implementing 18% to 20% of total ADP allocations every year maintaining labour intensive and gender equity approaches. LGED is dedicated to focus National Policies, he added.

In his formal speech on the occasion Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED said, the major achievement of LGED during the present regime is the procurement of approval to the organization's Service Rule. He said, LGED has been gaining optimum cooperation from the present government. Mr. Ashoke Madhab Roy, Joint Secretary, Local Government Division also spoke on the occasion.

Secretary for Local Government Division later visited different units of LGED to apprise himself of the activities and on-going events in the department.



**"Serving the people at the grassroots is the prime objective of 'Digital Bangladesh' philosophy"**

**- Secretary, Primary & Mass Education Ministry**

Secretary for Primary & Mass Education, Mr. A K M Abdul Awal Mazumder termed serving the people at the grassroots as the prime objective of 'Digital Bangladesh' philosophy. He said this as the chief guest at the inaugural session of a 4-day Review Meeting held on 3 December 2010 at LGED Headquarters in Dhaka to assess the progress, implementation of works, supervision, monitoring and coordination of Primary Education Development Programme-II (PEDP-II) being implemented by LGED. The projects are however undertaken by the Department of Primary Education under the Ministry of Primary & Mass Education, Govt. of Bangladesh.

Chaired by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, the inaugural session was also attended by Mr. Md. Abul Malek, Joint Secretary (Development), Local Government Division.

Speaking at the inaugural session, the Secretary urged upon the engineers of LGED to imprint the marks of skill, transparency and accountability in their works at every stage of development programmes. He said, they would have to complete the development works maintaining quality and time-frame. He said, excellence has no limits and they would have to overcome hindrances in their professional works. No human life is free from thorns, he added.

Speaking at the inaugural session as the special guest Mr. Md. Abdul Malek, Joint Secretary (Development), Local Government Division said, development works worth of Taka 7 thousand crore are being implemented under Primary Education Development programme-II. LGED has been implementing these projects satisfactorily, he said. He also added, the engineers of LGED are quite susceptible, professional, reliable and meritorious. They accomplish their tasks intune with the commitments of the government, he said.



Secretary, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Mr. A K M Abdul Awal Mazumder addressing the inaugural session of the Review Meeting of PEDP-II of LGED in Dhaka on December 3, 2010. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman presided over the session.

Earlier, at the beginning of the inaugural session, Molla Azizul Hoque, Superintending Engineer of LGED delivered a short presentation on the Working Paper for Review Meeting and said, the objectives of the Review Meeting would be to assess the progress, quality control, targets for different components, coordination, implementation of repair/renovation works under revenue budget, financial management and miscellaneous. He also said, the on-going projects under implementation by LGED are - PEDP-II, Registered Non-Government Primary Schools Development Project (3rd phase), Government Primary Schools Reconstruction & Rehabilitation Project (2nd Phase) and Primary School Reconstruction due to Flood 2007 & River Erosion Project.

Finally, in his concluding speech the chairperson Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman said, LGED has been pursuing the goal of serving the people at the grassroots. He said, 131 Upazila Engineers have been employed recently who are working with local government bodies as important agents of change at the grassroot levels. He said, they would be given monthwise targets to construct and reconstruct primary schools at the upazila level and it is hoped that they would successfully complete that. He also hoped to say that the field-level engineers of LGED would be able to identify themselves as true catalysts for a change to improve the lot of the people.

## **MOU signed between LGED and GTZ on slaughterhouse-based biogas plant**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed between LGED and GTZ for disseminating slaughterhouse-based biogas plants in Bangladesh on 08 November 2010. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED and Mr. Erich Ottogomm, Program Coordinator, GTZ signed the MOU on behalf of their respective organization. According to the memorandum of understanding, LGED, with support from GTZ, will construct Biogas Plants in potential slaughterhouses at different geographic locations of the country. Initially, LGED will collect data of the number of animals actually slaughtered in the slaughterhouses from Pourashava and Upazilas. Then two/three sites would be selected as pilot sites for developing the modality of work. Upon successful completion of the pilot plants, a large scale project would be designed for implementation. The plant construction, supervision and monitoring costs would be borne by GTZ, except the local contribution part from the beneficiary. The local committee would operate & maintain the plant and get benefit of gas/electricity and bio-fertilizer. Thus, a part of the local energy demand would be fulfilled.

## LGED to rebuild Aila-torn infrastructure in Satkhira

LGED has proposed for a project to rebuild the Aila-torn infrastructure in Satkhira and rehabilitate the hapless people of the region at a cost of Tk. 15.38 crore. The proposed project is expected to be approved by ECNEC in near future.

It may be recalled here that the devastating cyclone 'Aila' lashed Satkhira, the extreme southern district of Bangladesh adjacent to the Sundarbans, on 25 May 2009 destroying the mileposts of development and kept the people of the region in utter helplessness. The all-engorging cyclone had not only ruined 153.85 kilometers of road built earlier by LGED, but also had caused a havoc on the lives of 65,000 families living in 75 villages of 15 unions of Shyamnagar and Ashashuni upazila. Besides, agricultural produces and shrimpers' perimeters were badly damaged. Woodcutters, apiculturists and fishermen living around the Sundarbans were acutely affected.

LGED, like other departments of the government, dedicated itself to instantaneous rebuilding and rehabilitation programmes to ease the sufferings of the people caused by Aila devastation. Noted among those programmes were immediate repairing of damaged road connections, construction of 4 new cyclone shelters in Padmapukur and Gabura unions and developing 12 others. The proposed project, when implemented, would hopefully bring smiles of fortune to the dismayed people of the region.

## 250 LGED drivers attend Road Safety Workshop

A day-long workshop on Road Use and Road Safety, attended by more than 250 motor vehicle drivers working in LGED was held in Dhaka on 23 October 2010. Chaired by Mr. Md. Gholam Mustafa Patwary, Additional Chief Engineer, LGED the inaugural session of the workshop was graced by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, as the chief guest. The special guest on the occasion was Mr. Md. Ayubur, Rahman, Chairman, BRTA, while the noted film artiste Mr. Illias Kanchon, Chairman of a non-government organization Nirapad Sarak Chai (NISCHA) was the keynote speaker. The



Government Primary school-cum-cyclone shelter being constructed by PEDP-II of LGED at Shyamnagar Upazila under Satkhira district.

workshop was jointly organized by LGED's Second Rural Infrastructure Improvement Project-2 (RIIP-2) and NISCHA.

Speaking on the occasion as the chief guest Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, appealed to the drivers of LGED to drive autos with care, follow traffic rules, traffic signs and signals strictly. The chief guest urged the drivers not to use mobile phones when driving and cautioned them not to forget fastening their seat-belts. He also urged upon all concerned to motivate social awareness on road safety issues.

In his address as the special guest Mr. Md. Ayubur Rahman, Chairman, BRTA, said, the loss of life and property due to road accidents in Bangladesh happens to be enormous. He however appealed to the non-

government organizations to come forward in building up more and more social awareness on road safety issues. He also expressed his satisfaction for LGED's efforts to organize such awareness raising workshops at its headquarters, district and upazila level offices.

Syed Mahbubur Rahman, Project Director, RIIP-2 and Mr. Karsten Tolle, Team Leader of RIIP-2 also addressed the workshop.

Noted film artiste Mr. Illias Kanchan, who is also the Chairman of NISCHA, requested the drivers to drive carefully at a reasonable speed.

Finally, speaking as the chairperson Mr. Md. Gholam Mustafa Patwary put emphasis on creating awareness on road safety issues.



Picture shows Chief Engineer & Additional Chief Engineer of LGED and Project Director, RIIP-2, Team Leader, RIIP-2, Chairman, BRTA and Chairman, NISCHA attending the Road Safety Workshop held at LGED Bhaban in Dhaka on 23 October 2010 observed silence for one minute to pay respect to all persons killed in road accidents.



## Two of LGED's projects got best performance award of ADB

Asian Development Bank awarded two best performing project management teams of LGED for 2010 in recognition of efficient project implementation. ADB Country Director Mr. Thevakumar Kandiah presented the award to the winning project management teams at a ceremony at Bangladesh Resident Mission in Dhaka on 13 December 2010.

'The awards were given recognizing the project team's excellence in efficiency, result orientation, transparency in procurement, effective project implementation, and efforts to empower women and other criteria', said the ADB Country Director.

The winning project teams of LGED are Urban Governance and Infrastructure Improvement Project and Emergency Disaster Damage Rehabilitation (sector) Project, Part-B: Rural Infrastructure and Part-C: Municipal Infrastructure, both are being executed by LGED, Roads & Highways Department and Bangladesh Water Development Board.

## RTIP's laudable efforts to create job opportunities and cut poverty reduction

[BSS and UNB, two national news agencies of Bangladesh recently carried two separate reports, which were published in the Daily Star dated 26 October 2010. The said reports highlighted LGED's efforts to create job opportunities and reduce poverty reduction through its Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP) in 21 districts of the country. Furnished below are the reports as published in the daily.]

A total of 30,000 rural people got jobs in 21 districts of the country in the last seven years under the Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP). The project, being implemented by Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) with the financial support of the World Bank (WB), has improved over 2,500 km rural roads and built more than 110 growth market centres,



ADB Country Director Mr. Thevakumar Kandiah is flanked by the recipients of prize winning project teams at a ceremony in Dhaka on 13 December 2010. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Farazi Shahabuddin Ahmed, Project Director, EDDRP (Part C: Municipal Infrastructure) LGED and Mr. S.K. Amzad Hossain, Project Director, UGIIIP, LGED are seen in the picture, among others.

said a WB statement. A study on the project shows that new rural roads have made it easier for the children to go to school, healthcare facilities are now more accessible and new economic opportunities opened up for villagers. Female employment rate increased by almost 50 percent and nonagricultural assets increased by 25 percent in the project areas compared to the non-project ones. The final socio-economic monitoring and evaluation study conducted last month shows that travel times are now reduced by 58 percent during dry season and 65 percent during monsoon for motorised vehicles. The International Development Association (IDA), the concessionary arm of the World Bank, is funding \$190 million for this project. The Bank has already disbursed more than \$178 million and the rest will be disbursed by June 2011 when the project would end. Encouraged by the success of the project, the World Bank has assured the government of providing \$350 million (concessional credit) for a second phase of the RTPI to continue improvement of rural Economy. (BSS report)

An impact study of World Bank (WB) shows that female employment rate increased by almost 50 percent and non-agricultural assets increased by 25 to 50 percent as a result of the government's Rural Transport Improvement Project (RTIP). Similarly, poverty reduction rate almost doubled in the project areas. New rural roads have made it easier for the children to go to school, health

care facilities are now more accessible and new economic opportunities have opened up for villagers. The WB is supporting the government in 21 districts in improving the rural transport infrastructure. The RTIP, since its inception in 2003, has maintained and improved more than 2,500 km of rural roads and built or improved more than 110 growth market centres and 30 jetties. The project so far created employment for more than 30,000 persons in the project area. The project's impact area covers over 44,000 square km in 21 Districts. (UNB report)

## Secretary, Local Government Division and Chief Engineer LGED visit Jeddah

An official delegation headed by Secretary, Local Government Division, Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan went on a familiarization visit to Jeddah from 17-24 December, 2010. The other members of the delegation were: Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, Mr. Md. Shahinur Islam, Deputy Secretary, Legislative & Parliament Affairs Division, Ms. Khadiza Begum, Senior Assistant Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Mr. Mohammad Mohsin, & Mr. Md. Mosharraf Hossain, Project Directors,, LGED, Mr. Md. Aminul Islam, Executive Engineer, LGED and Mr. Md. Shafiqul Islam, Assistant Engineer, LGED.

## Foreign Mission

### New Danish Ambassador impressed over LGED's development activities

The Ambassador of Denmark in Bangladesh His Excellency Mr. Svend Olling paid his maiden visit to the headquarters of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) in Dhaka on 01 December 2010. On his arrival at the LGED Bhaban he was warmly received by the Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman. The Danish Ambassador was then taken to the Conference Room to witness a presentation on the major functions of LGED, delivered by Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Project Director.

In his address to a select gathering of LGED engineers Mr. Olling said, Denmark is a good friend of Bangladesh since its inception. He said, he is happy to hear about the result oriented efforts, gender equity, climate and environment issues of LGED. Terming LGED as a well-organized institution he said the relation between DANIDA and LGED is excellent and it will continue to grow further in future.

In his concluding remarks the Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman said, LGED has been enjoying long experiences of working together with DANIDA and Denmark. He said, DANIDA is also contributing to capacity building efforts of LGED. He then thanked His Excellency the Ambassador of Denmark, the government and the people of



The Danish Ambassador Mr. Svend Olling visiting the GIS unit of LGED, Dhaka on December 1, 2010. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman was present on the occasion.

Denmark for their continuous support to the development of LGED.

### JICA Chief visits LGED HQ

The new Chief Representative of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) in Bangladesh Dr. Takao Toda urged the engineers of Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) to make an innovative approach in rural development through integrating people in making decisions.

Speaking to the engineers of LGED during his visit to LGED headquarters recently Dr. Toda said, it is amazing to note that LGED's

contribution to rural development in Bangladesh is full of commitment and wisdom. He said, JICA feels proud of being a part of LGED. He further hoped to say that the best organization LGED would continue to be the best.

After the formal reception Dr. Toda joined in a presentation session on LGED and Rural Development Engineering Center (RDEC) Project. Mr. Iftekhar Ahmed, Project Director, LGED, presented the presentation.

The Chief Engineer of LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, in his address said, Japanese support to LGED's infrastructure development projects as well as capacity development projects is remarkably outstanding. He said, the bondage of friendship and cooperation between Bangladesh and Japan would continue to grow from strength to strength in future.

After the presentation session the JICA Chief visited different units of LGED to observe the activities related to RDEC Project.

### Review Mission for RIIP-2

A regular joint donor Review Mission comprised of Mr. M. Rafiqul Islam, Senior Project Implementation Officer/Mission Leader, ADB, Ms. Farhana Husna, Project Analyst, ADB, Mr. Habibur Rahman, Implementation Officer, KfW and Ms. Stefanie Halfmann, Implementation Officer, GTZ reviewed the overall implementation status of the Second Rural Infrastructure Improvement.



The Chief Representative of JICA in Bangladesh Dr. Takao Toda is seen addressing the engineers of LGED on his maiden visit to LGED HQ. Chief Engineer, LGED Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman also addressed the gathering.





Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Vice-Chairman, Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangshad Kendrio Command Council, Dhaka and Chief Engineer, LGED is seen addressing as the Special Guest at the investiture ceremony of the newly elected executive body of Kuliarchar Upazila Command of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangshad held on 15 December 2010 at Kuliarchar in Kishoreganj district. Seated on the dais are the Chief Guest Alhaj Najmul Hassan Papon, MP, Kishoreganj, Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, Commander, Muktiyoddha Sangshad, Kuliarchar Upazila and Chairperson of the ceremony, Mr. Md. Asadullah, Commander, Muktiyoddha Sangshad, Zila Unit Command, Kishoreganj, Mr. Md. Musa Mia, CIP, Chairman, Kuliarchar Group, Mr. Abul Hossain Liton, President, Kuliarchar Upazila Awami League and Mr. Md. Badal Rahman, CIP, Member, Bangladesh Jatiyo Samaj Kolyan Parishad as special guests.

Project (RIIP-2) from 24 October to 31 November, 2010. The mission exchanged views with the officials of PMO, RIIP-2 and project consultants. Separate and detailed discussions were held on progress and constraints with the consultants from DSM, IS and TC. The Wrap-up meeting was held on 31 October, 2010 under the chairmanship of Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan, Secretary, Local Government Division, Ministry of LGRD&C. The meeting was attended by Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman, Chief Engineer, LGED, Syed Mahbubur Rahman, Project Director, RIIP-2 and other members from Local Government Division, Planning Commission, Ministry of Communication and Women & Children Affairs and representatives from ADB, KfW, GTZ and project consultants.

## Foreign Training/ Overseas Visit

- Mr. Md. Nazmul Hasan, Additional Chief Engineer, Urban Management, LGED and Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Project Director, SSWRDP-JICA, LGED participated in the Study visit on "Arcelor Mittal Group Hot Rolled Steel Sheet Pile Plants Operations in Europe" held in Paris and Luxembourg from 08 November to 13 November 2010.
- Mr. Md. Mohirul Islam Khan, Deputy Project Director, UGIIP-2, LGED participated in the Conference on "The Environment of the poor in the context of Climate change and the Green Economy: Making Sustainable Development more inclusive" held in New Delhi, India from 24 November to 26 November 2010.

- Mr. Mohammad Zakir Hossain, Assistant Engineer, UGIIP-2, LGED participated in the Exchange visit on "Participatory Development Programme in Urban Areas" held in Cairo from 27 November to 03 December 2010.
- Mr. Partha Pradip Sarkar, Assistant Engineer (Mech.), LGED participated in the Group Training Course on "Construction Equipment and Mechanized Construction Management" held in Japan from 31 August to 26 November 2010.
- Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Assistant Engineer, LGED attended the "Seminar on Public Works Administration in Regional Government" held in Japan from 07 September 30 October 2010.
- Mr. Md. Shahdat Hossain, Community Organizer, Upazila Sadar, LGED, Gazipur participated in the Counterpart Training Course on "Integrated Agriculture and Rural Development through the participation of Local Farmers" held in Japan from 14 November to 18 December 2010.



The joint Review Mission of ADB, KfW and GTZ for RIIP-II of LGED attended a wrap up meeting on 31 October, 2010 under the chairmanship of the Secretary, Local Government Division Mr. Abu Alam Md. Shahid Khan. Mr. Md. Wahidur Rahman Chief Engineer, LGED was present in the meeting, among others.

## Academic Feat



Mr. Mir Tanweer Husain, Project Manager, Sustainable Rural Energy, LGED has left for Germany on December 31, 2010 on a 'DAAD-Scholarship' to study Master of Engineering in Energy and Environmental Management at the University of Flensburg. This year Mr. Husain is the only Bangladeshi recipient of the DAAD Scholarship.





President Md. Zillur Rahman is seen addressing a gathering of Rajshahi Engineering Old Students Association in Dhaka on December 2, 2010.

## President urge engineers to build a hunger and poverty free "Sonar Bangla"

President Md. Zillur Rahman urged the engineers to work with patriotism for the welfare of common people. "Through concerted efforts, I hope you will make more contributions to the welfare of the country in future", the President said while addressing a gathering of Rajshahi Engineering Old Students Association (REOSA) at Osmani Memorial Auditorium, Dhaka on December 2, 2010. He called on the engineers to work for turning the hard life of common people into an easy one with the help of technology.

"We have to advance with a target to turn Bangladesh as a middle income country by 2021 on the occasion of the Golden Jubilee of our independence," the President said.

Describing engineers as the makers of development and carriers of progress, the President said country's all big infrastructures were built by them and civilization is moving forward based on their creativity, talent and wisdom. The President also urged the engineers to take initiatives to

develop renewable energy especially biogas in line with the conventional power and energy to locally mitigate the huge demand of electricity.

Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, MP, Vice President of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology, Dr. Sirajul Karim Chowdhury, REOSA President, Engineer Shah Khaled Reza and General Secretary Engineer M Toufique Islam also addressed the convocation.



With the commitment to fulfil the nation's goal to build a Digital Bangladesh and realize the Charter of Change as declared in 'Vision 2021' by the present government LGED took part in the colourful Victory Day Parade held at National Parade Ground in Dhaka on 16 December, 2010. The picture shows LGED's vehicle, specially decorated to exhibit some pictorial icons of LGED's development programmes, that queued up the parade participated by Freedom Fighters, Army, Navy, Air Force, BNCC, Bangladesh Rifles, Police, Ansar-VDP, Fire Service and Civil Defence and other organizations.

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