



// Pry school students to get Tk 100 each, girls Edn free upto HSC

The Executive Committee of National Economic Council (NEC) on Wednesday decided to introduce 'Taka 100' monthly stipend for all primary school students scrapping the existing stipend for Education programme, reports BSS.

In its first meeting after the assumption of the new government, ECNEC also decided to introduce free girls education upto higher secondary level instead of previous SSC level, a planning commission Press release said in Dhaka.

The meeting with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the presence of the girls securing first division in SSC would receive monthly stipend worth Taka 65 in addition to the facilities of exempted tuition fees.

The meeting approved 10 development projects to be completed

at a cost of about Taka 23,690.50 crore along with taking several major decisions on the education sector.

The cost includes project assistance worth Taka 582.20 crore.

Under the ECNEC decision, from now on the students of all government and private primary schools will receive monthly stipend worth Taka 100 per head instead of food to avoid "irregularities and anomalies" particularly linked to dealerships.

If two students belong to one family they will get a total of Taka 125, the meeting decided.

The Press release said so far 22 lakh children belonging to 21 lakh families were getting the facilities of the Food for Education, which covered only 27 per cent areas or 40 per cent poor students of the country. But ECNEC decision of providing the stipend will cover

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100 per cent primary students, handout said on Wednesday.

The approved projects are: completion of Tongi-Ashulia road, construction of Dour-Mirpur road, Ali mazar and construction of connecting road up to Mirpur bridge, upgradation of Zir Keraniganj-Nobabganj-Dohar Srinagar road into regional road, expansion of Mukti Swasth construction of Goainghat bridge on Chengirkhal river, Karnal bridge, Bhairab bridge, jute sub-project of BADC, stipend for higher secondary level girls, female secondary school assistance project (Second phase) and expansion of pisciculture upazila level (Second phase).

Finance and Planning Minister M Saifur Rahman, LGR Minister Cooperatives Minister Mannan Bhuiyan, Agriculture Minister Motiur Rahman, Communications Minister Nazmul Huda, Industries Minister MK Anwar, Post and telecommunications Minister Mohammad Aminul Education Minister Dr Faruq, Water Resources Minister L K Siddiqi, Commerce Minister Amir Khasru Mahmud, Fisheries and Livestock Minister Sadeq Hossain, Advisor on Primary and Secondary Education Prof Jahanara State Minister for Science and Technology Lutfor Rahr and State Minister for Environment and Mineral Resources A Mosharrat Hossain attended the meeting. State Minister for Finance and Planning Kabir Talukder attended the meeting on special invitation. Cabinet Secretary, Secretary to Prime Minister, members of the Planning Commission, ERD Secretary