

Education given top priority for development: Khaleda

BOGRA, Nov. 30:—Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia today reiterated the significance of making the education programme taken by her government success to infuse momentum in the national development and progress, says BSS.

Begum Zia called upon the parents to send their children to schools when she visited some remote villages under Gabtoli thana of the district today.

During her day-long visit the Prime Minister went to ten villages and addressed series of path way meetings. At all places she talked to the villagers and enquired about their welfare.

She told the villagers that her government was giving top-most priority to education as it had been witnessed all over the world that "the nation which is more educated is in fact more developed".

While talking to the rural people, especially the women members of the families she suggested them to send their children to schools for studying.

The Prime Minister visited different schools in the areas and talked to the students.

Talking to the tiny students with motherly affection the Prime Minister told them not to miss their classes. "Don't miss your classes. You have to become some one great in life," she said.

While passing through the village roads the Prime Minister saw a dilapidated school building. It was Buritola primary school. There was no seating arrangement in the school. The school had a hay roof and children do not have adequate room to sit together and attend their classes.

The Prime Minister was saddened to see the condition of the school. She went into the thatched school building and sat on the only bench of the school. She talked to the students of the school. She gave her commitment to the students to provide assistance to improve the condition of their school.

The Prime Minister spent more than four hours in the villages of Gabtoli. Her presence had stirred the lives of the villages with enthusiasm and happiness. The men, women and children gathered on both sides of the road, on premises, houses and everywhere to see the Prime Minister.

Begum Zia talked to the villages at various places stopping her car. The people tried all their best to have a glimpse of the Prime Minister.

The farmers who were working in the fields came and stood besides the road to see the Prime Minister. Begum Zia talked to the farmers and enquired about their problems. She said we had reduced the price of fertilizer and other agricultural in-

puts. Begum Zia told the farmers that her government would do everything to solve the problems of the farmers. The farmers informed her that they were harvesting their crops with enthusiasm.

When the car which was carrying the Prime Minister entered an area of a Hindu community the women welcomed her by giving "Ulu Dhani".

The Prime Minister went into three houses in Taturia village and talked to the women members of the families. She wanted to know about their way of life. The villagers were naturally very happy to find the country's Prime Minister amid them. Some of them even invited her to

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take lunch with them.

The Prime Minister told them that the Government had given loans for the improvement of the condition of women. She said you have to take up projects like poultry farming, growing vegetables and sewing to become self reliant. It will not work if you sit inside houses. You have to work. If you work your families will prosper and the country will prosper in turn.

She also suggested them to plant trees in the premises of their houses.

After ending her mass people contact in the villages of Gabtoli the Prime Minister addressed a big workers rally organised by local BNP at Gabtoli Pilot High School ground.

The Prime Minister gave a fervent call to the workers to continue to work with dedication and sincerity to strengthen the party base at grass-roots level to help the Government implement the development programmes.

The Prime Minister said the workers had to work shunning all petty interest to live upto the aspirations of the people from the ruling party of the democratic government.

She said no indiscipline created on the selfish interest would be tolerated within the party and stern action would be taken against those who would break any discipline of the party.

During her visit to Bogra the Prime Minister was accompanied by State Minister for Finance Mojibor Rahman, Helaluddin Talukdar Lalu MP, Habibur Rahman MP and Shahinara Huq MP.