

Community school / Community project starts

MIRZAPUR (Tangail), May 16.— The first ever community school project in the country was formally inaugurated here today by Education Minister, Dr Abdul Majeed Khan, at the Mirzapur Pilot Girls' High School, reports BSS.

Sixty two similar projects started functioning throughout the country last week, an official source said. "By this year 200 such schools will be set up in the rural thanas. Of them 92 will be completed by June next", the source added.

These projects will be run on experimental basis for four years to study the feasibility and viability in the country as centres of education and development in the respective areas. They will be expanded in 200 thanas by next year, the source said.

In each of the thanas, one boys' high school and one girls' high schools will be selected under the project to form a community school unit, the source said.

The Education Minister said the community school projects were aimed at opening avenues for technical and vocational education and training for both the students and villagers and to help bring closer education to practical life.

Dr Khan said the project was designed to turn the educational institutions as the nucleus of education, learning and development in the locality to support speedy and integrated development of the rural people.

The projects would be gradually linked up with the community learning centres, which are being opened in the primary schools. The centres would be turned into venues

for get-together of rural people and meeting place of the development functionaries in the rural community, the Minister said.

The Education Minister said the projects aimed at removing the gap between the educated and uneducated, between the literate and the illiterate and establishing a closer relationship between education and practical life on the one hand and schools and the society on the other.

Describing it as a very significant step Dr Khan said it has widened the scope of the schools to play more important role in expanding education and developing technical competence in the rural communities and added without proper development of skills in the people, the standard of living was bound to fall.

Dr Khan however said that all projects for their success (Continued on page 12 col. 3)

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ful implementation were depended on the will and active cooperation of the common man and appealed to the members of the public to extend their whole-hearted cooperation for the success of the community school project.

He said in the past many a projects were failed and in fact our life was conditioned by "national failure" and urged the people to reverse the trend and architect stories of success, "which in turn will lead to further successes."

Among others, the function was also addressed by Director General of Secondary and Higher Education Brigadier AKM Shamsul Islam and Deputy Commissioner of Tangail.

The Education Minister also visited the Bharateswari Homes where he took salute from a disciplined and colourful march past by the school students.

The Minister in his short speech on the occasion said a sense of devotion realised through disciplined pursuit of knowledge in the institution would lead the students to success in their lives.

He also opened another community school project at the Sadaya Krishna Pilot High School here and on his way back to Dhaka paid a surprise visit to the Higher Secondary Certificate examination centre at Bhawal Badre Alam Government College.