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333 multi-purpose cyclone shelters to be built : Saifur

1 lakh tons of wheat will be given to school children

The government will distribute one lakh metric tons of wheat among the poor school-going children under the "food for education programme" this year, an official handout said on Wednesday, reports BSS.

A project to this effect at a cost of Tk. 72 crore was approved at a meeting of the executive committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC)

held in Dhaka Wednesday Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman presided.

Under the project, 5,55,450 children belonging to 3703 primary schools under 435 thanas of 61 districts of the country will be benefited. Each of the children who maintains 85 per cent presence of the total working days in school will be given 15 k.g. of wheat per month subject to the maximum of 30 kg. per family.

It was also decided in the ECNEC meeting to build a total of 333 multipurpose buildings for school cum disaster shelter within June 84 in 22 thanas of the Greater Chittagong and Noakhali districts severely affected by the devastating cyclone of April 91.

These multipurpose three storied buildings would also accommodate a mosque and a clinic. Total expenditure in-

volved is Tk. 180 crore which included a Saudi grant of Tk 177 crore.

Out of 333 shelters, construction of 138 shelters is nearing completion and the rest are expected to be completed as per schedule.

The meeting also approved a Japanese aided project to construct 4 (four) boarding bridges for the terminal building of the Zia International Airport at a cost of Tk. 15 crore. After completion, the passengers are expected to get the direct boarding facilities from December-93.

ECNEC meeting also approved three other projects at a cost of Tk. 50 crore to be undertaken by the Communication, Youth and Sports, Energy and Mineral Resources Ministries.

Concerned ministers, members of the Planning Commission, secretaries attended the meeting.