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Pathakali schools in all dists

DHAKA, Dec 2 (BSS): First Lady, Begum Raushan Ershad today said all-out efforts would be taken to set up Pathakali schools in all the districts by next month.

Begum Ershad, who is the chairperson of the Pathakali Trust, was presiding over a meeting of the trust at its office here.

She said these schools will have all the facilities and amenities for the destitute children to earn knowledge and get proper education.

Beside formal education, she said technical and vocational trades should be introduced in the Pathakali schools.

She advised preparation of curriculæ for these schools with technical and trade orientation, utilising the available technical manpower and institutes under the Education Ministry.

The First Lady thanked the UNICEF for its eagerness to the Pathakali concept and assurance of cooperation.

She emphasised the need for participation of all sections of people in the trust activities at the district level.

The meeting was attended by the members of the trust including Education Minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam, Dr. Wahiduddin Ahmed, Dr. M. R. Khan, Dr. Mizanur Rahman Shelly, Advocate Rezaur Rahman, Kazi Salahuddin and Lt. Col. (retd) Mohammad Hussain.

Earlier, Begum Raushan Ershad received donations for the Pathakali Trust from dif-

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ferent organisations and persons, totaling over Taka Five Lakh 50 thousand.

The donors are youth and Sports Minister A B M Ruhul Amin Hawlader on behalf of his Ministry and the Youth Directorate Taka 50,000, Sena Kalayan Sangstha Chairman Brig. Masood Ali Khan on behalf of the Sangstha Taka two lakh, Director General of Primary Education Aziz Ahmed and President of Primary Teachers Association Prof. Abul Kalam Azad on behalf of the government primary school teachers Taka two lakh, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission Taka 51,000, Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research Taka 57,000.

The Science and Technology Division under the Ministry of Education and Bangladesh National Scientific and Technical Documentation Centre (BANSDOC) also donated to the trust fund.