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Raushan urges generous help for Pathakalis

DHAKA, Aug. 28 (BSS): First Lady Begum Raushan Ershad inaugurated here today a Pathakali Medical Clinic at Munshikhola near Pagla with a call for donating generously to Pathakali Trust Fund and serve the downtrodden.

Hundreds of Pathakali members greeted the First Lady when she arrived at the clinic. Two children presented her with bouquets.

Begum Ershad went round various sections of the clinic and talked to the mothers who had turned up at the clinic for the treatment of their children.

Education Minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam, Health and Family Planning Minister Dr. Azizur Rahman, Administrator of Dhaka Municipal Corporation (DMC) M A Malek, State Minister for Education Nitai Roy Chowdhury and Dhaka District Council Chairman Saifur Rahman MP, were, among others, present on the occasion.

Speaking briefly on the occasion, Begum Ershad said the government of President Ershad had taken various programmes for the welfare of the destitute children. Our effort is to provide maximum facilities to the children so that they become worthy citizen of the country, she emphasised.

Begum Ershad said that Pathakali Trust was constituted at the personal initiative of

President Ershad. She described the initiative as great and urged all the well-to-do people of the society to contribute to this trust.

Referring to the various constraints including resources, the First Lady said the government had taken up huge development programme for the destitute children.

She said that already four Pathakali schools were set up in the country while efforts were also being made to set up Pathakali schools in all districts and upazilas.

She called for taking up a long-term national plan for the welfare of the children.

The First Lady signed the Visitors Book wishing the success of organisers in their efforts to serve the humanity. She also planted a sapling at the clinic premise.

Mr Lutfar Rahman, Chairman of Shyampur Union Parishad and Mr Sahabuddin, Chairman of Kunda Union Parishad handed over a cheque for Taka five lakh on behalf of the people of the area to the First Lady for the Pathakali Trust Fund.