

## PM pins hope on technology to check graft

Opens 125 upazila  
ICT training centres

UNB, Dhaka

Prime  
Minister  
Sheikh

Hasina yes-  
terday said it  
would be  
easier to free the society  
from corruption by making  
the best use of technology.

She was inaugurating  
the upazila ICT training  
and resource centres  
(UITRCEs) in 125 selected  
upazilas through video  
conference from her office.

Technology will make it  
easy for the government to

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implement development projects  
promptly, strengthen monitoring and  
expedite the pace of development in  
the country, said the PM.

The government with support  
from Korean Exim Bank imple-  
mented the project involving Tk 403  
crore. Another 160 UITRCEs will be  
set up under the project in phases.

Hasina said the country's educa-  
tion system would fully be based on  
ICT. The government will set up a  
UITRCE in every upazila to provide  
training to all teachers on ICT so that  
they can teach their students in the  
classroom, she added.

She termed the inauguration of  
the UITRCEs a milestone in the his-  
tory of the country's education sys-  
tem. She mentioned that her govern-  
ment also set up 5,275 union digital  
centres. Besides, 8,000 post offices  
will be turned into digital centres in  
phases.

The PM said the main aim of her  
government is to ensure balanced  
development of the country and  
eradicate poverty through education.

"The aim of our government is to  
reduce the income inequality  
between the rich and the poor.... We  
want to develop the country where  
people would get a better life.  
Without education, we can't elimi-  
nate poverty from the country."

The UITRCEs, the premier said,  
will be turned into full-fledged ICT  
training labs which would speed up  
the ICT training for the teachers and  
students at primary and post-primary  
level institutions at the grassroots.

The UITRCEs will be utilised for  
ICT education of teachers, access to  
information for students, teachers,  
citizens, and the local Education  
Management Information System  
(EMIS) data centres.

Education Minister Nurul Islam  
Nahid and South Korean  
Ambassador to Bangladesh Ahn  
Seong-doo were present as special  
guests at the function.