



Khaleda to launch primary stipend project Sept 29

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will formally open the five-year term stipend project for poor students of primary schools across the country at the end of this month, says UNB.

The project will be launched on Sept. 29 or 30 with awarding 3 months' stipend among the poor meritorious students effective from July this year, Prof Jahannara Begum, Advisor to the Prime Minister for Primary and Mass Education Affairs disclosed it to the press on Saturday.

Some 55 lakh poor students of 65,051 selected primary schools of all unions of 467 upazilas will come under the project, to be funded by the government, she said briefing the newsmen.

Six major cities, district headquarters and poura areas will be out of the programme now, but may be included later.

Under the programme, each student of Class I to V will get Tk 100 while Tk 125 if more than one student from a family enroll to primary school.

This will cost the national exchequer around Tk 663 crore each year.

The stipend will be disbursed through banks on the basis of three months cash at a time. Bank account will have to open in the name of student's mother as first guardian. Account can be opened in father's name in the absence of mother.

Student securing less than 40 per cent marks on an average in the immediate last annual examination/evaluation, his or her stipend will be cancelled. And stipend will not be given if the attendance to class fall below 85 per cent without any valid reason.

Management committee of school will make short list of 40 per cent students of a primary school from among the poor as per the criteria. Education Officer or Assistant Education Officer or