

WEB PORTALS OF 64 DISTRICTS LAUNCHED

# Students happy over getting textbooks timely, thank PM

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday launched web portals titled 'Tatthya Batayan' of all 64 districts of the country.

The web portals will help the people get all information about their respective districts as well as education, health, agriculture, administration, history and other areas.

The web portals have been made at the initiative of Access to Information (A2I) Project in collaboration with the cabinet division and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

Addressing the launching ceremony at the Prime Minister's Office, Hasina said making web portals is a significant step towards turning the country into a modern digital Bangladesh.

She said the government has already started the process of bringing all ministries and departments under e-governance system to curb corruption and make the government services faster and better.

She also said the government is working towards removing technological disparity among people of all classes and regions.

Later, the prime minister talked with the people in Panchagarh, Rajshahi



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina opens web portals titled 'Tatthya Batayan' of all 64 districts at her office in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

and Rangamati. **STUDENTS HAPPY** Meem didn't expect so early in her life that she would have direct interaction with the prime minister from her hometown Panchagarh, some 344 kilometres away from the capital.

Such a memorable moment came to her yesterday. The girl of 6-year-old, a student of class 1, was overwhelmed when Hasina talked to her through videoconferencing.

"Dear prime minister, how are you?" the girl asked Hasina with her sweet voice.

She thanked the prime minister for providing them with free textbooks on the very first days of the new year -- a

tangible change that emanates from the 'Charter of Change'.

"I am very glad to have new books," an elated Meem said.

In reply, the prime minister greeted her and told her to be attentive to her studies. "When I was of your age, I also would become very happy to get new books," she said.

Hasina also talked to another girl student, Hironmoy Barman, of Class ten of the District Girls School, Barman, on behalf of all her fellows and schoolchildren, expressed gratitude to the prime minister for timely distribution of textbooks.

In the yesteryears, students used to

suffer much for want of books for a long time at the beginning of an academic session, sometimes due to artificial crisis created by 'book syndicates'.

"It is almost unprecedented in my student life. Unlike previous years, I would not have to waste time for want of books this year," she said.

Hasina said the government had been strongly committed to ensuring timely distribution of textbooks as many students of poor families in the past suffered much due want of textbooks.

Hasina also talked to a cross-section of people of Rajshahi district.

Later, she talked to the people of Rangamati. Public representatives, government officials and civil society members of the hill district talked with the prime minister.

Replying to questions, Hasina expressed her government's strong commitment to ensure all necessary development of the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

She mentioned the government plan to set up a full-fledged university in Rangamati to ensure higher education of all the people living in the hilly region.

"The university is being planned as a unique one in Bangladesh," the prime minister told her audience.