



Ashrayan Project in English Newspapers



Ashrayan-2 Project
Prime Minister's Office

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**A compilation of News Items on
Ashrayan Project
Published in English Newspapers
from 2021 to 2022**

DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Let's work to make homelessness a thing of the past, Hasina tells UNGA

Let's keep working for a world where homelessness becomes a matter of the past



Golam Mujtaba Dhrubabdnews24.com

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has urged world leaders to continue working on putting an end to homelessness, describing it as “a curse”.

“Homelessness is indeed a curse. It affects people in both developing and developed countries,” she said at a side event on sustainable housing during the 77th United Nations General Assembly in New York on Wednesday.

She mentioned her government’s efforts to support

vulnerable people with home and land without a cost. “Our experience shows it is within our capacity to do something about removing this curse. All our friends and stakeholders gathered here can forge a strong partnership to make that happen.”

Hasina said the new urban agenda provides the world with a useful blueprint for moving forward and the leaders must support the work of the United Nations Human Settlement Programme, or UN-HABITAT,

in supporting countries to implement the agenda.

“Bangladesh will remain engaged with the group of friends here in New York to bring these issues to the forefront. Let us keep working for a world where homelessness becomes a matter of the past,” the prime minister said.

She discussed in detail the Ashrayan project, under which hundreds of thousands of landless-homeless beggars, day

labourers, destitute women, widows, persons with disabilities, elderly-people, the victims of domestic violence, ethnic minority, third gender people, leprosy patients, sweepers, and Harijan, or so-called lower caste, got homes and land.

“These people are now self-employed in their own localities,” Hasina said and that

the project covers not only the cities, rather it includes every village, town, district, island and hilly region.

Under this project, each family is getting ownership of a brick-built house of 400 sq ft area with two bedrooms, one long veranda, a kitchen and a sanitary latrine.

“House is the most basic need of every citizen of the country and it creates opportunities for fulfilling other needs,” Hasina said.

Bangladesh experienced that a home is not just a place to live, she said. “Housing security accelerates a person's economic emancipation and motivates them to live with dignity.”

কালের কণ্ঠ

Kalerkantho Online
21 September, 2022 21:47 PM
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Let's work for a world where no one will stay homeless: PM



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today called upon all the world leaders to form a strong global partnership to say goodbye to the curse of homelessness, saying that she believes a safe and decent shelter is the basic right of every individual.

“Homelessness is indeed a curse. It affects people in both developing and developed countries. Our experience

shows, it is within our capacity to do something about removing this curse. All our friends and stakeholders gathered here can forge a strong partnership to make that happen,” she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing a side-event on “Sustainable and Affordable Housing” which, she said, is an issue she holds very close to her heart.

“The New Urban Agenda provides us with a useful blueprint for moving forward. We must support UN-HABITAT’s work in supporting countries to implement the Agenda. Bangladesh will remain engaged with the Group of Friends here in New York to bring these issues to the forefront. Let us keep working for a world where homelessness becomes a matter of the past,” she said.

Being a densely populated country of 165 million people, she said, Bangladesh could successfully manage the issue of homelessness.

“We are providing the landless-homeless people houses with land free of cost. I am here today to share my experiences of success in building sustainable houses for the underprivileged people across the country,” she added.

After Bangladesh’s independence, Sheikh Hasina said, the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, took initiatives to rehabilitate the landless, homeless and rootless people making it a development priority in 1972.

Counting on the vision of the Father of the Nation, in 1997, the premier said, her government launched a project named ‘Ashrayan’ that means housing for landless-homeless people.

“For last two decades, my government has made the most sincere effort to ensure free of cost housing for all,” she said.

The Prime Minister said their coverage area is not only the cities, rather it includes every village, town, district, island and hilly region of the country.

On the occasion of birth centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, this effort is rejuvenated with bigger standings, she said, adding that just in the last two years, they have built two hundred thousand homes which accommodate about one million people.

“During my premiership of eighteen years, we have accommodated 3.5 million homeless

people in more than half a million of houses. Construction of another 40 thousand houses is presently going on,” she said.

Under this project, each family is getting ownership of a brick-built house of 400 sq. ft area with two-bedrooms, one long verandah, a kitchen and a sanitary latrine, she said.

“We are providing free electricity connections, safe drinking water to every household. We are giving the house and the land with a sufficient homestead area free of cost, which is unique in the history of the world,” she said.

The beneficiaries of these houses are the landless-homeless, beggars, day labourers, destitute women, widows, persons with disabilities, elderly people, the victims of domestic violence, ethnic minority, third gender people, leprosy patients, sweepers, and Harijan community (so-called lower caste), she said.

She also mentioned that they are addressing the climate-victim families too. “We have already accommodated 5 thousand climate-refugee families in 139 multi-storey buildings in Cox’s Bazar.”

Previously, she said, it was a common scenario in Bangladesh that homeless people used to flock to the cities in search of employment and dwelling.

But, since the introduction of Ashrayan project, she said, this trend has almost stopped while these people are now self-employed in their own localities.

“We are following a model of ‘Inclusive Development.’ The model ensures a holistic approach to make a rehabilitat-

ed person self-reliant and self-dignified with economic and social empowerment. The project ensures an equal share of ownership of the land and house for both husband and wife. House is the most basic need of every citizen of the country and it creates opportunities for fulfilling other needs,” she said.

In Bangladesh, the premier, said they have experienced that a home is not just a place to live rather housing security accelerates a person’s economic emancipation and motivates them to live with dignity.

Sheikh Hasina said along with the provision of land and houses, they have made successful arrangements in sending children to primary schools.

Besides, she said, “To deliver primary healthcare, connections have been made with the nearby community clinics. The children and women receive thirty types of medicines free of cost. Homestead gardening, rearing poultry and fish production, including micro and small entrepreneurship activities led by women are in place. These interventions have made the initiative sustainable and eco-friendly.”

President of Malwai, Dr. Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera, Vice-Minister of Ministry of External Affairs of India, Sanjay Verma, Permanent Representative, Slovak Republic to the UN, Michal Mlynár and Director-General, ILO, Guy Ryder, also spoke on the occasion.

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BSS . New York

PM calls for forging strong global partnerships to end homelessness



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The Prime Minister was addressing a side event on “Sustainable and Affordable Housing” which, she said, is an

issue she holds very close to her heart.

“The New Urban Agenda provides us with a useful blueprint for moving forward. We must support UN-HABITAT’s work in supporting countries to implement the agenda. Bangladesh will remain engaged with the Group of Friends here in New York to bring these issues to the forefront. Let us keep working for a world where homelessness becomes a matter

of the past,” she said.

Being a densely populated country of 165 million people, she said, Bangladesh could successfully manage the issue of homelessness.

“We are providing the landless-homeless people houses with land free of cost. I am here today to share my experiences of success in building sustainable houses for the underprivileged people across the country,” she added.

After Bangladesh's independence, Sheikh Hasina said, the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, took initiatives to rehabilitate the landless, homeless and rootless people making it a development priority in 1972.

Counting on the vision of the Father of the Nation, in 1997, the premier said, her government launched a project named 'Ashrayan' that means housing for landless-homeless people.

"For last two decades, my government has made the sincerest effort to ensure free of cost housing for all," she said.

The Prime Minister said their coverage area is not only the cities, rather it includes every village, town, district, island and hilly region of the country.

On the occasion of the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, this effort is rejuvenated with bigger standings, she said, adding that just in the last two years, they have built two hundred thousand homes which accommodate about one million people.

"During my premiership of eighteen years, we have accommodated 3.5 million homeless people in more than half a million of houses. Construction of another 40 thousand houses is presently going on," she said.

Under this project, each family is getting ownership of a brick-built house of 400 sq ft area with two bedrooms, one long verandah, a kitchen and a

sanitary latrine, she said.

"We are providing free electricity connections and safe drinking water to every household. We are giving the house and the land with a sufficient homestead area free of cost, which is unique in the history of the world," she said.

The beneficiaries of these houses are the landless-homeless, beggars, day labourers, destitute women, widows, persons with disabilities, elderly people, the victims of domestic violence, ethnic minority, third gender people, leprosy patients, sweepers, and Harijan community (so-called lower caste), she said.

She also mentioned that they are addressing the climate-victim families too. "We have already accommodated 5 thousand climate-refugee families in 139 multi-storey buildings in Cox's Bazar."

Previously, she said, it was a common scenario in Bangladesh that homeless people used to flock to the cities in search of employment and dwelling.

But, since the introduction of the Ashrayan project, she said, this trend has almost stopped while these people are now self-employed in their localities.

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September 21, 2022

Homelessness is a curse that impacts people everywhere: PM

Staff Reporter

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Wednesday said homelessness is indeed a curse and it affects people in both developing and developed countries.

“Our experience shows, it is within our capacity to do something about removing this curse. All our friends and stakeholders gathered here can forge a strong partnership to make that happen,” she said.

The prime minister said this while speaking at a high-level side event on Sustainable Housing held at her place of residence in New York.

She is now in New York to attend the 77th session of the UNGA.

PM Hasina said Bangladesh, being a densely populated country of 165 million people, could successfully manage the issue of homelessness.

“We’re providing the landless-homeless people houses with land free of cost,” she said, sharing her experiences of

success in building sustainable houses for the underprivileged people across the country.

She mentioned that counting on the vision of the Father of the Nation, her government in 1997 launched a project named ‘Ashrayan’ that means housing for landless-homeless people. For the last two decades, the government has made the most sincere effort to ensure free of cost housing for all.

She mentioned that the coverage areas are not only the cities, rather it includes every village, town, district, island and hilly region of the country.

On the occasion of birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, this effort is rejuvenated with bigger standings, she added.

Hasina cited that just in the last two years, the government has built 200,000 homes which accommodate nearly one million people.

During her premiership of eighteen years the government has accommodated 3.5 million homeless people in more than half a million houses. Construction of another 40 thousand houses is presently going on.

Under this project, each family is getting ownership of a brick-built house of 400-sq feet area with two-bedrooms, one long verandah, a kitchen and a sanitary latrine, she mentioned.

“We’re providing free electricity connections, safe drinking water to every household. We’re giving the house and the land with a sufficient homestead area free of cost, which is unique in the history of the world,” she went on.

The premier said the beneficiaries of these houses are landless-homeless, beggars, day labourers, destitute women, widows, persons with disabilities, elderly-people, the victims of domestic violence, ethnic minority, third gender people, leprosy patients, sweepers, and

Harijan community.

“We are addressing the climate-victim families too. We’ve already accommodated 5,000 climate-refugee families in 139 multistoried buildings in Cox’s Bazar,” she said.

She said previously it was a common scenario in Bangladesh that homeless people used to flock to the cities in search of employment and dwelling. “But, since the introduction of the Ashrayan project, this trend has almost stopped,” she continued.

Hasina said these people are now self-employed in their own localities.

The government is following a model of ‘Inclusive Development.’ The model ensures a holistic approach to make a rehabilitated person self-reliant and self-dignified with

economic and social empowerment. The project ensures an equal share of ownership of the land and house for both husband and wife, she said.

The PM said the house is the most basic need of every citizen of the country and it creates opportunities for fulfilling other needs. “In Bangladesh, we have experienced that a home is not just a place to live. Housing security accelerates a person's economic emancipation and motivates them to live with dignity.”

Along with the provision of land and houses, the government has made successful arrangements in sending children to primary schools, she said.

Besides, she said that to deliver primary healthcare, connections have been made with the nearby community clinics. The

children and women receive thirty types of medicines free of cost.

Homestead gardening, rearing poultry and fish production, including micro and small entrepreneurship activities led by women are in place. These interventions have made the initiative sustainable and eco-friendly, she added.

Sheikh Hasina said the new urban agenda provides a useful blueprint for moving forward.

“We must support UN-HABITAT’s work in supporting countries to implement the Agenda. Bangladesh will remain engaged with the Group of Friends here in New York to bring these issues to the forefront. Let us keep working for a world where homelessness becomes a matter of the past.”

16 Sep 2022, 16:21

'Ashrayan' viewed as 'Sheikh Hasina Model' for inclusive development



BY Syed Shukur Ali Shuvo

DHAKA, Sept 16, 2022 (BSS) - The government's 'Ashrayan' project is being viewed as the 'Sheikh Hasina Model' for inclusive development since it has emerged as blessings for homeless-landless people to find housing facilities under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

"The government has already rehabilitated 7,40,032 families (37,00,160 people) by providing houses with ownership of land under different ministries, divisions, the Ashrayan project

and the executive cell of the Prime Minister's Office," an official familiar with the process told BSS here today.

He said the government has rehabilitated 5,38,139 families (37,00,160 people) under the Ashrayan project since 1997 to August 2022 aimed at bringing marginal section of people to the mainstream.

According to Ashrayan project document, Bangladesh is becoming economically prosperous, socially developed and

technologically advanced with the model of inclusive development.

With a view to bringing qualitative changes in the lives and livelihoods of the people, special attention has been given to ensure the basic needs of the poor, it said.

The project said Bangladesh is making great strides in the path towards progress under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Breaking through all barriers, the Prime Minister keeps on proceeding with the development programmes, including some mega projects, it said.

Through 'Ashrayan-2 Project', Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is bringing the homeless and disadvantaged people in the inclusive development process. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina reaffirmed that not a single person in Bangladesh will be left homeless.

To this end, the government rehabilitated 5,38,139 families under the Ashrayan project since 1997 to August 2022, of which 1,68,048 families through barrack houses, 1,53,853 families through building houses on land owned by beneficiaries, 640 climate victims family through free flats in multi-storied buildings at Khurushkul union in Cox's Bazar, 600 families through specially designed houses for small ethnic communities, 100 families affected by river erosion and 1000 families affected by cyclone Amphan.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is not only allocating land for the landless people, but also arranging free housing for them. She has also offered various new ideas about solving the economic, social and psychological problems arising out of different forms of poverty," a former secretary said.

He said the Ashrayan project is a glowing example of how

housing can be the key vehicle for the welfare of a family and its overall economic and social development.

This new policy for inclusive growth that is poverty eradication has already been well-known as the 'Sheikh Hasina Model.'

The Ashrayan project has six key features including economic self-reliance through increased earning potentials and savings, restoration of dignified livelihoods and social status, empowering women through joint ownership of land and house, human resources development by enhancing skills and competencies through training, extensive afforestation and tree plantation to improve environment quality and ensuring city amenities in villages.

Through the project, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is bringing the landless-homeless and displaced people under inclusive development to make the current economic development sustainable in the long run.

The project said housing is the basic needs of human life, which provides shelter, security, social status and privacy of living in a healthy and comfortable environment.

It creates ground for employment and earning, which is the constitutional obligation of a state to provide decent housing for all to ensure improvement of living standard and enrich-

ment of cultural milieu through planned economic development.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is committed to provide housing to every landless-homeless person of the country. To this, the government allocates the required funds for the project from its revenue. However, private funding (corporate companies/private organizations/any other private enterprises) is also encouraged to add to this initiative of the government.

According to the local needs, overall suitability and geographical conditions of the country the project is building the following types of houses that are semi-pucca two room single-unit houses with a sanitary toilet, a kitchen and veranda. Specially designed house for Char (accreted island) areas, specially designed Machang house for hilly areas, specially designed semi-pucca house for hilly areas, specially designed Tong house for small ethnic communities, multi-storey building, pucca barrack, semi-pucca barrack, corrugated iron sheet barrack and corrugated iron sheet sing house.

Under the project, houses are constructed mainly on khas land/land donated to government/resumed land/land purchased near growth centres/markets and with good connectivity as per the policy on land arrangement for rehabilitation of landless and home-

less, 2021, with the aim of rehabilitating landless-homeless families under Ashrayan-2 project in every upazila, municipality, coastal areas, char (accreted land) areas and hilly areas of the country.

The government avoided environmentally sensitive and critical areas such as flood flow zones, fertile agricultural land, disconnected or remote areas for construction work.

According to the policy, houses are being built on relatively higher land considering the flood level having good drain-

age system. In order to keep the environmental and ecological balance and to stop environmental devastation, special attention is being given while undertaking housing project.

Bangladesh celebrated the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu sheikh Mujibur Rahman from March 17 2020 to March 31, 2022. On the occasion the government declared the year as the Mujib Year (Mujib Borsho) and initiated numerous programmes to support the country's marginalized and disadvantaged people as part of the celebration.

The government undertook various schemes to provide housing for all homeless people in the country. Ashrayan-2 project is one of these programmes, under which the government ensured free housing to about 213,000 landless-homeless families on the occasion of Mujib Year alone.

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a daily with a difference

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'Ashrayan' viewed as 'Sheikh Hasina Model' for inclusive development



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Published at 22 July 2022

25 homeless families get new houses in Mohadevpur



► M Shakhawath Hossain in Mohadevpur

A total of 25 landless and homeless families in Mohadevpur upazila in Naogaon will get new houses as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's "Eid gift" under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over new houses virtually from her official Ganabhaban residence today.

Financed by the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, each house costs Tk 2,40,000.

According to upazila project implementation office, the new houses have been built at Shibganj Sultanpur village under Uttargram union of the upazila.

Regarding this, Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md Mizanur Rahman said, "Nobody will remain homeless in Mujib Barsha. The government has increases allotment of money for building "stronger" houses with "long-lasting" infrastructures for the homeless families."

Bangladesh Post

Published at 22 July 2022

All to get home : PM



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina speaks at a ceremony organised to hand over 26,229 more houses to homeless people in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, joining the event virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban on Thursday.

Photo: PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday expressed her firm conviction that the present government will ensure home for everyone irrespective of their political affiliation and views, saying it's her responsibility as premier to provide decent life to countrymen.

"If anyone has information about landless or homeless, please let us know. Irrespective of their political affiliation and views, we will provide house to them who are homeless. We will also arrange the address and livelihood for them," she said.

The premier said there may be differences in views and of opinion, but, it does not matter as "the country is ours. And I am the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, that means, I am responsible to every citizen of Bangla-

desh".

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of 26,229 more houses to homeless people of five places in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban on Thursday morning.

Sheikh Hasina said even if there are differences in ideals, opinion and belief, the main identity of a human being is human and that is how she considers people.

She continued: "I see human being as a human and I want every person to spend a decent life. That is my father's lesson. That's why I want to provide a good livelihood to every people of this country."

The Prime Minister also declared

Magura and Panchagarh as landless-and-homeless-free districts at the function.

Apart from the nine upazilas of Magura and Panchagarh districts, she simultaneously announced another 43 upazilas of different districts across the country as landless-and-homeless-free.

On this auspicious moment, Sheikh Hasina said, "We are very much happy that due to our initiative we've attained a primary success that all nine upazilas of two districts became fully free from landless and homeless people."

The 43 other upazilas of various districts across the country also got the same status, she said.

"This is the big achievement. I hope, all districts and upazilas of Bangladesh will be free from landless and homeless people this way," she said.

Mentioning that every people of the country will have a house and an address, she said, "Insha Allah we will be able to do that and I believe it."

The prime minister also urged Awami League and all its affiliated organizations, all political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies and public representatives to find out landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage house for them.

"I am asking all . . . to provide information about any landless and homeless people so that we could give them a house and an address," she said.

The premier on Thursday distributed 26,229 more houses to homeless families as part of her government's effort to ensure housing for the landless people.

From her official residence Ganabhaban, she connected virtually with the venue located in Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohamadpur Upazila in Magura district.

At the outset of the ceremony, Asrayan Project Director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

A video documentary on Asrayan Project and homeless-and-landless people was screened.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr. Ahmad Kaikaus moderated the function from Ganabhaban end.

The 52 upazilas, which are declared homeless-free, are - Magura Sadar, Sreepur, Mohamadpur and Shalikh in Magura; Atwari, Panchagarh Sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh; Nawabganj in Dhaka; Madaripur Sadar; Damudya in Shariatpur; Katiadi in Kishoreganj; Gopalpur in

Tangail; Ghior and Satura in Manikganj; Kalukhali in Rajbari; Nagarkanda in Faridpur; Madan in Netrokona; Bhailuka, Nandail, Phulpur and Fulbaria in Mymensingh; Bakshiganj in Jamalpur; Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram; Raipur and Ramganj in Laxmipur; Feni Sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni; Gobindaganj in Gaibandha; Nawabganj in Dinajpur; Baliadangi in Thakurgaon; Dimla in Nilphamari; Raninagar in Naogaon; Panchbibi in Joypurhat; Mohonpur, Charghat and Bagha in Rajshahi; Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura; Bagatipara in Natore; Ishwardi in Pabna; Shibganj in Chapainawabganj; Harinakundu in Jhenaidah; Tala in Satkhira; Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in Patuakhali.

The Prime Minister also said that it is the responsibility of the beneficiaries to protect the houses that have been given to them.

She asked them to develop their lives availing professional training that the government is providing to them and explore their income sources.

"We want that you will procure your own land in the future and build houses there," she said.

Regarding the houses which are being given to the homeless and landless people, Sheikh Hasina noted: "This is not just a house; it is the future, shelter and address of you, your family, and your next generation."

The head of the government regretted that the adverse impact of Covid-19 pandemic and Russia-Ukraine war with US sanction on Russia caused problems for the government to

procure fertiliser and food.

She said, "Inflation shoots up, not only in Bangladesh but worldwide. Prices of essentials have increased, scarcity of food is being seen across the globe, even the developed countries are facing the heat."

In this connection, she mentioned that even developed countries are maintaining austerity in power and fuel.

Sheikh Hasina went on saying that, "We are running our country quite well, but we have to be cautious from now on. We have taken cautionary measures."

She urged all to save electricity, water, fuel and use every inch of land in food production.

"Whatever you want to do, just do it, so you could produce your own food. Then, we will not need to beg to anyone," she added.

Talking about natural calamities like flood, the Prime Minister said that Bangladesh is the country of natural calamities and people of the country have to live with that.

She asked all to remain alert as there might be floods in the Southern region during this monsoon.

She again put emphasis on personal savings, food or money, to face any sort of calamities in the near future.

"We, as the government, are always beside you, if you remain alert, Insha Allah, we will be able to overcome any disaster and we have that ability," she added.

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GOVT WILL ENSURE HOME FOR ALL: PM



► AA News Desk

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today expressed her firm conviction that the present government will ensure home for everyone irrespective of their political affiliation and views, saying it's her responsibility as premier to provide decent life to countrymen.

"If anyone has information about landless or homeless, please let us know. Irrespective of their political affiliation and views, we will provide house to them who are homeless. We

will also arrange the address and livelihood for them," she said.

The premier said there may be differences in views and opinion, but, it does not matter as "the country is ours. And I am the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, that means, I am responsible to every citizen of Bangladesh".

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of 26,229 more houses to homeless people of five places in five districts under the third

phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban here this morning.

Sheikh Hasina said even if there are differences in ideals, opinion and beliefs, the main identity of a human being is human and that is how she considers people.

She continued: "I see human being as a human and I want every person to spend a decent life. That is my father's lesson. That's why I want to provide a good livelihood to every people of this country."

The prime minister also declared Magura and Panchagarh as landless-and-homeless free districts at the function.

Apart from the nine upazilas of Magura and Panchagarh districts, she simultaneously announced another 43 upazilas of different districts across the country as landless-and-homeless free.

On this auspicious moment, Sheikh Hasina said, "We are very much happy that due to our initiative we've attained a primary success that all nine upazilas of two districts

GOVT WILL ENSURE HOME FOR ALL: PM

became fully free from landless and homeless people."

The 43 other upazilas of various districts across the country also got the same status, she said.

"This is the big achievement. I hope that, all districts and upazilas of Bangladesh will be free from landless and homeless people this way," she said.

Mentioning that every people of the country will have a house and an address, she said, "Insha Allah we will be able to do that and I believe it."

The prime minister also urged Awami League and its all affiliated organizations, all

political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies and public representatives to find out landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage house for them.

"I am asking all . . . to provide information about any landless and homeless people so that we could give them a house and an address," she said.

The premier today distributed 26,229 more houses to homeless families as part of her government's effort to ensure housing for the landless people.

From her official residence Ganabhaban, she connected

virtually with the venue located in Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur Upazila in Magura district.

At the outset of the ceremony, Ashrayan Project Director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

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PM says govt to ensure home for all

Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha, Dhaka



Prime minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday expressed her firm conviction that the present government would ensure home for everyone, irrespective of their political affiliation and views, saying it's her responsibility as prime minister to provide decent life for countrymen.

'If anyone has information about the landless or homeless, please let us know. Irrespective of their political affiliation and views, we will provide houses for those who are homeless. We will also arrange the address and livelihood for them,' she said.

The prime minister said that there might be differences in views and opinions, but, it did not matter as 'the country is ours. And I am the prime minister of Bangladesh, that means, I am responsible for every citizen of Bangladesh'.

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of 26,229 more houses to homeless people of five places in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from her official residence at Ganabhaban in Dhaka in the

morning.

Sheikh Hasina said that even if there were differences in ideals, opinions, and beliefs, the main identity of a human being was human and that was how she considered people.

She continued, 'I see human being as a human and I want every person to have a decent life. That is my father's lesson. That's why I want to provide a good livelihood to every person in this country.'

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On this auspicious moment, Sheikh Hasina said, 'We are very much happy that due to our initiative, we've attained a primary success that all nine upazilas of two districts have become fully free from landless and

homeless people.’

The 43 other upazilas of various districts across the country also got the same status, she said.

‘This is a big achievement. I hope that all districts and upazilas of Bangladesh will be free from landless and homeless people in this way,’ she said.

Mentioning that every citizen of the country will have a house and an address, she said, ‘Insha Allah, we will be able to do that and I believe it.’

The prime minister also urged the Awami League and its affiliated organisations, all political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies, and public representatives to find landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage houses for them.

‘I am asking all . . . to provide information about any landless and homeless people so that we could give them a house and an address,’ she said.

The prime minister on Thursday distributed 26,229 more houses to homeless families as part of her government’s effort to ensure housing for the landless people.

From her official residence Ganabhaban, she connected virtually with the venue located in Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati upazila in Lakshmipur, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project at Rampal upazila in Bagerhat, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project at Nandail upazila in Mymensingh, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project at Panchagarh sadar upazila and Jangalia Ashrayan Project at Mohammadpur upazila in Magura.

At the outset of the ceremony, Asrayan Project director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

A video documentary on the Asrayan Project and homeless and landless people was screened.

Prime minister’s principal secretary, Ahmad Kaikaus, moderated the function from the Ganabhaban end.

The 52 upazilas, which are declared as homeless-free, are — Magura sadar, Sripur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhna in Magura, Atwari, Panchagarh sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh, Nawabganj in Dhaka, Madaripur sadar, Damudya in Shariatpur, Katiadi in Kishoreganj, Gopalpur in Tangail, Ghior and Sauria in Manikganj, Kalukhali in Rajbari, Nagarkanda in Faridpur, Madan in Netrokona, Bhaluka, Nandail, Phulpur and Fulbaria in Mymensingh, Bakshiganj in Jamalpur, Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram, Raipur and Ramganj in Lakshmipur, Feni sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni, Gobindaganj in Gaibandha, Nawabganj in Dinajpur, Baliadangi in Thakurgaon, Dimla in Nilphamari,

Raninagar in Naogaon, Panchbibi in Joypurhat, Mohonpur, Charghat and Bagha in Rajshahi, Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura, Bagatipara in Natore, Ishwardi in Pabna, Shibganj in Chapainawabganj, Harinakundu in Jhenaidah, Tala in Satkhira, Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in Patuakhali.

The prime minister also said that it was the responsibility of the beneficiaries to protect the houses that had been given to them.

She asked them to develop their lives by availing of professional training that the government was providing to them and by exploring their income sources.

‘We want you to procure your own land in the future and build houses there,’ she said.

Regarding the houses which are being given to the homeless and landless people, Sheikh Hasina noted, ‘This is not just a house; it is the future, shelter, and address of you, your family, and your next generation.’

The head of the government regretted that the adverse impact of Covid pandemic and the Russia-Ukraine war with US sanctions on Russia caused problems for the government in procuring fertiliser and food.

She said, ‘Inflation shoots up worldwide, not only in Bangladesh. Prices of essentials have increased, scarcity of food is being seen across the globe, even the developed countries are facing the heat.’

In this connection, she mentioned that even developed countries are maintaining austerity in power and fuel.

Sheikh Hasina went on saying that, ‘We are running our country quite well, but we have to be cautious from now on. We have taken cautionary measures.’

She urged all to save electricity, water, and fuel and to use every inch of land for food production.

‘Whatever you want to do, just do it, so you could produce your own food. Then, we will not need to beg anyone,’ she added.

Talking about natural calamities like floods, the prime minister said that Bangladesh was a country of natural calamities and the people of the country had to live with that.

She asked all to remain alert as there might be a flood in the southern region during this monsoon season.

She again put emphasis on personal savings, food, or money, to face any sort of calamity in the near future.

‘We, as the government, are always beside you, if you remain alert, Insha Allah, we will be able to overcome any disaster, and we have that ability,’ she added.



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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually joins a ceremony where houses and land were handed over to 26,229 families from five upazilas on Thursday. photo: pid

Govt to ensure home for all: PM

The government will ensure home for everyone irrespective of their political affiliation and views, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said on Thursday.

She said it's her responsibility as Prime Minister to provide decent life to the countrymen.

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of houses to homeless people in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban in the city, reports BSS.

On the day, she distributed 26,229 more houses to homeless families of five places in the five districts connecting virtually from Ganabhaban with the venues located in Charkalakopa Ashrayan Proj-

26,229 more houses distributed among homeless families

ect under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur Upazila in Magura district.

The prime minister also declared Magura and Panchagarh as landless-and-homeless free districts at the function.

Apart from nine upazilas of

Magura and Panchagarh districts, she simultaneously announced another 43 upazilas of different districts across the country as landless-and-homeless free.

At the function, Sheikh Hasina, also the president of ruling Awami League (AL), urged the AL and its all affiliated organisations, all political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies and public representatives to find out landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage house for them.

She also regretted that the adverse impact of Covid-19 pandemic and Russia-Ukraine war with US sanctions on Russia caused problems for the government to procure fertiliser and food.

"Inflation shoots up worldwide, not only in Bangladesh. Prices of essentials have increased, scarcity of food is being seen across the globe, even the developed countries are facing the heat," she said.

In this connection, she noted, that even developed countries are maintaining austerity in power and fuel.

She went on saying that, "We are running our country quite well, but we have to be cautious from now on. We have taken cautionary measures."

She urged all to save electricity, water, fuel and use every inch of land in food production.

"Whatever you want to do, just do it, so you could produce your own food. Then, we will not need to beg to anyone," she mentioned.

Talking about natural calamities like flood, the prime minister said that Bangladesh is the country of natural calamities and people of the country have to live with that.

She asked all to remain alert as there might be a flood in the southern region during the current monsoon season.

She again put emphasis on personal savings, food or money, to face any sort of calamities in the near future.

"We, as the government, are always beside you, if you remain alert, Insha Allah, we will be able to overcome any disaster and we have that ability," she added.

Regarding the houses which are being given to the homeless people, the Prime Minister said: "This is not just a house; it is the future, shelter and address of you, your family, and your next generation."

Reiterating that every people in the country will have a house and an address, she said, "Insha Allah we will be able to do that and I believe it."

At the outset of the ceremony, Asrayan Project Director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

A video documentary on Asrayan Project and homeless-and-landless people was screened.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus moderated the function from Ganabhaban end.

The 52 upazilas, which are declared as homeless-free, are - Magura Sadar, Sreepur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhah in Magura; Atwari, Panchagarh Sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh; Nawabganj in Dhaka; Madaripur Sadar; Damudya in Shariatpur; Katiadi in Kishoreganj; Gopalpur in Tangail; Ghior and Satoria in Manikganj; Kalukhali in Rajbari; Nagarkanda in Faridpur; Madan in Netrokona; Bhalka, Nandail, Fulbaria and Phulpur in Mymensingh; Bakshiganj in Jamalpur; Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram; Raipur and Ramganj in Laxmipur; Feni Sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni; Gobindaganj in Gaibandha; Nawabganj in Dinajpur; Baliadangi in Thakurgaon; Dimla in Nilphamari; Raninagar in Naogaon; Panchbibi in Joypurhat; Mohonpur, Charchat and Bagha in Rajshahi; Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura; Bagatipara in Natore; Ishwardi in Pabna; Shibganj in Chapainawabganj; Harinakundu in Jhenaidah; Tala in Satkhira; Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in Patuakhali

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Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina hands over 26,229 homes to landless families virtually under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project at a press conference from the Prime Minister's Office in the city on Thursday. photo: pid

Govt will ensure home for all homeless: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday expressed her credence that her government will ensure at least a permanent address to all irrespective of party affiliation and said that it is her responsibility as the Prime Minister (PM) to ensure beautiful life of every citizen of the country.

The PM said, "If anyone has information that a person in Bangladesh is landless or homeless, they must inform us. Irrespective of party affiliation, we will provide houses, addresses and livelihood to those who remain homeless."

She said, "There may be differ-

ences of party opinions, it doesn't matter. The country is ours. And I am the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, that means I am responsible for every citizen of Bangladesh."

The Prime Minister said these on Thursday morning in her speech given at the ceremony of handing over land including 26 thousand 229 houses to the landless and homeless under the second phase of the third phase of Ashrayan-2 project across the country.

She handed over the house documents and keys to these landless and homeless people virtually through video confer-

ence from her official residence, Ganabhaban. Besides, she declared 52 upazilas including all the upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts as homeless and landless free.

Sheikh Hasina said, "I see people as people and I want every person to live peaceful life. That is my father's lesson. That is why I want to provide a good life to every person in this country."

Highlighting the success of the country's 52 upazilas, including all the upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts, as a result of her government's actions, the

Prime Minister said, "Hopefully, we can make every upazila of every district of Bangladesh free from landlessness and homelessness in this way. Everyone will have a house, a permanent address, a nice residence and they will live well. And I believe that we can do it."

At this time, the Prime Minister requested the Awami League leaders and all political parties, administration, law enforcement forces, public representatives to find out whether there are any landless or homeless in their respective villages or areas, the government will build their houses.

The Prime Minister said that her government is providing shelter for people from all walks of life. Besides, loans are

provided and training opportunities are created. We also want them to take that opportunity to improve their lives through their own employment and to acquire the ability to buy land and build a house.

"Everyone should stand on his/her own feet and live with dignity, without begging from anyone," she added.

She said along with making this society more beautiful we want to ensure that the people of every village can get all kinds of civic benefits.

On the occasion, the Prime Minister also interacted with the beneficiaries from Ganabhaban virtually connected to five places in five districts.

The places were - Charkalako-

pa Ashrayan project under Ramgati upazila of Laxmipur district, Gaurambha Ashrayan project under Rampal upazila of Bagerhat district, Char Bheramara Ashrayan project under Nandail upazila of Mymensingh district, Mahanpara Ashrayan project under sadar upazila of Panchagarh district and Jangalia Ashrayan project under Mohammadpur upazila of Magura district.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus moderated the programme from Ganabhaban.

At the beginning of the programme, Ashrayan-2 Project Director, Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan, gave a presentation on the project, followed by a video presentation.

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Govt to ensure home for all: PM



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the handover of 26,229 houses to homeless and landless families through videoconferencing from her official residence Ganabhaban on Thursday. —PID photo

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday expressed her firm conviction that the present government will ensure home for everyone irrespective of their political affiliation and views, saying it's her responsibility as premier to provide decent life to countrymen, reports BSS.

"If anyone has information about landless or homeless, please let us know. Irrespective of their political affiliation and views, we will provide house to them who are homeless. We will also arrange the address and livelihood for them," she said.

The premier said there may be differences in views and opinion, but, it does not matter as "the country is ours". "And I am the Prime Minister of Bangladesh. That means I am responsible to every citizen of Bangladesh".

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of 26,229

more houses to homeless people of five places in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban.

- 26,229 more homeless families get houses
- Magura, Panchagarh declared free from the landless and homeless

Sheikh Hasina said even if there are differences in ideals, opinion and beliefs, the main identity of a human being is human and that is how she considers people.

She continued: "I see human being as a human and I want every person to spend a decent life. That is my father's lesson. That's why I want to provide a good livelihood to every people of this country."

The prime minister also declared Magura and Panchagarh as landless- and- homeless free districts at the function.

Apart from the nine upazilas of Magura and Panchagarh districts, she simultaneously announced another 43 upazilas of different districts across the country as landless-and-homeless free.

On this auspicious moment, Sheikh Hasina said, "We are very much happy that due to our initiative we've attained a primary success that all nine upazilas of two districts became fully free from landless and homeless people."

The 43 other upazilas of various districts across the country also got the same status, she said.

"This is the big achievement. I hope that, all districts and upazilas of Bangladesh will be free from landless and homeless people this way," she said.

Mentioning that every people of the country will have a house and an address, she said, "In-sha-Allah we will be able to do that and I believe it."

The prime minister also urged Awami League and its all affiliated organisations, all political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies and public representatives to find out landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage house for them.

"I am asking all . . . to provide information about any landless and homeless people so that we could give them a house and an address," she said.

The premier today distributed 26,229 more houses to homeless families as part of her government's effort to ensure housing for the landless people.

From her official residence Ganabhaban, she connected virtually with the venue located in Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur Upazila in Magura district. At the outset of the ceremony, Asrayan Project Director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

A video documentary on Asrayan Project and homeless-and-land-

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She said, "Inflation shoots up worldwide, not only in Bangladesh. Prices of essentials have increased, scarcity of food is being seen across the globe, even the developed countries are facing the heat."

In this connection, she mentioned that even developed countries are maintaining austerity in power and fuel.

Sheikh Hasina went on saying that, "We are running our country quite well, but we have to be cautious from now on. We have taken cautionary measures."

She urged all to save electricity, water, fuel and use every inch of land in food production.

"Whatever you want to do, just do it, so you could produce your own food. Then, we will not need to beg to anyone," she added.

Talking about natural calamities like flood, the prime minister said that Bangladesh is the country of natural calamities and people of the country have to live with that.

She asked all to remain alert as there might be a flood in the Southern region during this monsoon season.

She again put emphasis on personal savings, food or money, to face any sort of calamities in the near future.

"We, as the government, are always beside you, if you remain alert, In-sha-Allah, we will be able to overcome any disaster and we have that ability," she added.

THE BUSINESS STANDARD

Jahidul Islam

22 July, 2022, 12:00 pm

Ashrayan ending homeless lives of thousands

Prime Minister declared 52 upazilas, including all upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts, as homeless- and landless-free upazilas



Monira Begum and Abul Kashem have been moving from one end to the other in the coastal district of Lakshmpur in search of a place to live since the couple lost their home and arable lands at Boyar Char to coastal erosion.

The couple's 10 long years of homeless life ended after they received the keys to a house in Char Kalakopa village of Ramgati upazila, constructed for the landless and homeless people under the Ashrayan-2 project of the Prime Minister's Office.

Receiving the key and deed of the house after the formal inauguration by the prime minister, Monira Begum told The Business Standard, "I have never felt so much joy in my life in the last decade."

Her husband Abul Hashem thanked the prime minister for providing him and his wife with

shelter.

Homeless and landless people like Monira and Hashem were overwhelmed with joy and happiness as they finally got a permanent address to live.

They expressed their gratitude to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for making their long-cherished dreams of homes owned by them come true.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina virtually distributed the deeds and keys of the newly constructed semi-pucca two-room tin-shed houses on two decimals of land to the beneficiaries under the third phase of the

Ashrayan-2 Project, joining the occasion via video conference from her official Ganabhaban residence in Dhaka.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban.

At Char Kalakopa Ashrayan Project, 142 families received permanent addresses on Thursday.

The prime minister yesterday handed over 26,229 houses to landless and homeless families. Altogether 67,800 more single houses are being handed over across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan Project. Another 8,667 houses are being constructed.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also declared 52 upazilas, including all upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts, as homeless-free and landless-free upazilas.

The prime minister exchanged views with some beneficiaries and other stakeholders connected to five places of the five districts.

Joining from the Char Kalakopa end, Deputy Commissioner of Lakshmipur District Md Anwar Hossain Akand said two upazilas, Ramganj and Raipur, have been declared homeless- and landless-free. He expressed the hope that the district will be announced as homeless-free and landless-free in the next two months.

He also said at the first and second phases of the Ashrayan Project-2, the authorities handed over 1,786 houses to landless and homeless families in the district.

He said the government has set a target of distributing another 1,442 houses under the third phase of the project.

Of the houses, the government has already handed over 280 while another 436 were handed over today, he added.

Work is underway to build the rest of the 726 houses, he added.

Nasima Akter, a beneficiary of the Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project, said after being abandoned by her husband around 12 years ago, she had to maintain her livelihood through begging.

"I was helpless with my two daughters. So, I took to begging as my profession. There was no one to

give me shelter. You (prime minister) have given me shelter. Now, I will ensure education for my children by operating a sewing machine. You have a great heart," she told the prime minister, overwhelmed with joy.

A video documentary was also played on how the landless and homeless people have developed their standard of living after getting benefits that included training and money alongside the houses under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

According to the project details, a total of 1,17,329 single houses were constructed under the first and second phases of the project while 1,85,129 houses were allotted till 2021-2022.

On January 23, 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase and 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

Kajal Rekha, a mother of two daughters, also got a home at the project area. She told The Business Standard, "Nearly five years ago, I lost my husband. Moreover, I had become homeless nearly three years ago as the Meghna, a major river of the country, devoured my husband's home at Wapda Bazar area under Char Alexander. After losing the house, I used to stay at my father's house with my daughters. This created difficulties for my father as he is also leading a poor life."

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, the government has raised the cost and brought about changes in the designs of the houses to make them more sustainable and climate-resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land.

The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more sustainable.

The government is constructing the houses with stronger great beams, rafters and Reinforced Concrete Column (RCC) pillars.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,09,370 families have been rehabilitated between 1997 and fiscal year 2020-21.

The Daily Star

Published at 22 July 2022

Let us know of any homeless person

PM urges people, promises homes for all



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday said her government would ensure home for every countryman.

"If anyone has information about landless or homeless, please let us know. Irrespective of their political affiliation and views, we will provide house to them," she said.

The premier said there might be differences in views and opinion, but "the country is ours. I am the Prime Minister of Bangladesh and that means I am responsible to every citizen of Bangladesh."

She made the remarks at the handing over ceremony of 26,229 more houses to homeless people of five places in five districts under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, connecting virtually from the GonoBhaban.

"I want every person to spend a decent life. That is my father's lesson. That's why I want to provide a good livelihood to every citizen," she continued.

The prime minister also declared Magura and Panchagarh as landless-and-homeless free districts at the function.

Apart from the nine upazilas of Magura and Panchagarh districts, she simultaneously announced another 43 upazilas of different districts across the country as landless-and-homeless free.

Sheikh Hasina said, "We're extremely happy that due to

our initiative we've attained a primary success that all nine upazilas of two districts became fully free from landless and homeless people."

The 43 other upazilas of various districts across the country also got the same status, she said.

"This is the big achievement. I hope that all districts and upazilas of Bangladesh will be free from landless and homeless people this way," she said.

Mentioning that every people of the country will have a house and an address, she said, "Insha Allah we will be able to do that and I believe it."

The prime minister also urged the Awami League and all its affiliated organisations, all political parties, administration, law enforcement agencies and public representatives to find out landless or homeless people, if any, in their respective areas to manage houses for them.

"I am asking all . . . to provide information about any landless and homeless people so that we could give them a house and an address," she said.

At the outset of the ceremony, Asrayan Project Director Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan made a presentation on the activities of the project.

A video documentary on Asrayan Project and homeless-and-landless people was screened.



The Financial Express

Published at July 21, 2022

Ashrayan-2 Project PM hands over 26,229 more houses today

As part of the government's target to ensure housing for all landless and homeless people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over 26,229 more houses to landless and homeless families under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project today, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over the houses virtually under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project, said Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Wednesday.

The places are Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati upazila in Laxmipur district, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail upazila in Mymensingh district, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar upazila in Panchagarh district and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur upazila in Magura district.

Published at July 21, 2022

PM hands over 26,229 houses to homeless families today

As part of the government's target to ensure housing for the landless and homeless people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over 26,229 more houses to landless and homeless families under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project today, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over the houses virtually under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project, said Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Monday.

The premier will be connected virtually from her official Ganabhaban residence with five places in five districts, he mentioned.

The places are Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and

Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur Upazila in Magura district.

Ahmad Kaikaus informed that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will also announce 52 upazilas, including all upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts, as homeless and landless free upazilas.

He said a total of 67,800 more single houses are being handed over across the country under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project.

Among the 67,800 houses, he mentioned, 32,904 single houses were handed over on April 26, 2022 while rest of 8,667 houses are being constructed.

According to the project details, a total of 1,17,329 single houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,85,129 houses were allotted till 2021-2022.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase and 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20

last year.

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land.

The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more sustainable.

The government is constructing the houses having strong great-beam, lintel and Reinforced Concrete Column (RCC) pillar for making the houses more sustainable.

Ahmad Kaikaus informed that Taka 4,028.96 crore was allocated for construction of single houses till the fiscal year 2021-22.

Some 1,242 specially designed houses have been allotted for char region under the third phase, he mentioned.

Special design for portable houses has been made so that the houses can be shifted to

other places in view of any natural disaster like cyclone or flood, he added.

Apart from khas land, he said, the government has purchased 191.79 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people.

Purchasing lands by government is a unique example in the world, he said.

According to project details, Taka 134.49 crore has been allocated for purchasing lands.

A total of 8,462 landless and homeless families will be rehabilitated on the houses to be built on the purchased lands.

The government recovered 5,512.04 acres of khas land from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses for the project on the occasion of Mujib Barsho. Approximate market price of the recovered khas land is Taka 2,967.09 crore.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,09,370 families have been rehabilitated till fiscal year 2020-21 from 1997.

Under the project, rehabilitated families are brought under VGF programs for 3 months.

According to the government policy, the benefits of freedom fighters, the elderly, widows and the disabled are considered with priority under the social benefits program.

Rehabilitated family members are provided with practical and technical training to engage in various productive and income-generating activities.

Micro-credit for their socio-economic development is disbursed from various government agencies (such as Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Cooperatives, Department of Women and Children, Department of Social Services).

Other social organizations and NGOs are also involved in these programs.

Free electricity connection is provided for the rehabilitated families and tube-wells are being installed for safe water at the project site.

Community centres, prayer houses and graveyards, ponds and roads for internal communication are also being facilitated.

Different types of fruits, forest and medicinal trees are being planted in the project area. Homeless people are also being encouraged to be involved in agricultural work.

The unique feature of the Ashrayan Project perceived by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is that there is a special connection of housing activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Building houses alone can have major footprints in the attainment of various sustainable development goals.

Housing is related to positive changes in the areas of education, health, security, empowerment and women's empowerment as well as inclusive development.

July 21, 2022 11:37 AM

PM: More districts will be rid of landlessness, homelessness soon

A total of 52 upazilas of different districts declared to have no landless and homeless families



Ali Asif Shawon from Panchagarh

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday said more districts will become landless-free and homeless-free soon. She made the announcement while declaring Panchagarh and Magura as the country's first two districts having no landless and homeless people, calling it a landmark achievement under her home-for-everyone Ashrayan project.

The premier was speaking on the occasion of a distribution of 26,229 houses among landless families across the country through joining virtually from

her official residence Ganabhaban.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina congratulated the people of these districts and upazilas and said: "I am optimistic that more districts will be landless-free and homeless-free in Bangladesh soon."

"The primary success we have achieved today with our initiatives is that 52 upazilas of our country have zero landless and homeless people. I hope we can keep up this trend," she added.

Sheikh Hasina, who is president of the ruling Awami League, urged the leaders and activists of her party to continue looking for more homeless and landless people around the country in order to fulfill their dreams by giving them semi-pucca houses.

"We will make homes for homeless people whatever their political ideology is. I am prime minister for everyone," she said.

She also said that it is her duty to take care of the people of

Bangladesh. “I don’t care if they support other political parties. This is my country and taking care of the people who live here is my responsibility.”

“I see people as human beings. I just want everyone to live a beautiful life. My father has imparted this lesson to me,” the prime minister added.

“In 1997, the first housing project for the homeless people was taken up by me on Saint Martin’s Island for 70 families after the cyclone. But unfortunately, the BNP stopped the program when it came to power in 2001. Then we restarted it after winning the national parliamentary election of 2008,” she added.

The prime minister said: “The happiness of the homeless and landless people after getting a home is the best achievement for us. A house is not only a house, but it’s also a future of and an address for a family.”

In northern Panchagarh, the government found 4,850 landless-and-homeless people and constructed abodes for all of them, said Md Jahirul Islam, the district’s deputy commissioner.

In the western Magura district, houses have been built for 678 families, official sources said.

Both the districts are agro-based. Bangladesh has a total of 64 districts.

Altogether 52 upazilas of different districts, including all the nine upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura, were also declared as having no landless and homeless families as part of the government’s commitment made on the occasion of Mujib

Year to ensure shelter for all homeless people in the country.

A total of 19,780 landless families were rehabilitated in these 52 upazilas, officials involved with the project said.

They said if anyone is found landless in the two districts and 52 upazilas, the person will immediately be given a house along with land.

The local administration has already been given an order in this regard.

The 52 upazilas are Nawabganj in Dhaka; Madaripur Sadar; Damudya in Shariatpur; Katiadi in Kishoreganj; Gopalpur in Tangail; Ghior and Saturia in Manikganj; Kalukhali in Rajbari; Nagarkanda in Faridpur; Madan in Netrokona; Bhaluka, Nandail, Phulpur and Fulbaria in Mymensingh; Bakshiganj in Jamalpur; Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram; Raipur and Ramganj in Laxmipur; Feni Sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni; Gobindaganj in Gaibandha; Atwari, Panchagarh Sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh; Nawabganj in Dinajpur; Baliadangi in Thakurgaon; Dimla in Nilphamari; Raninagar in Naogaon; Panchbibi in Joypurhat; Mohonpur, Chorghat and Bagha in Rajshahi; Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura; Bagatipara in Natore; Ishwardi in Pabna; Shibganj in Chapainawabganj; Harinakundu in Jhenaidah; Tala in Satkhira; Magura Sadar, Sreepur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhia in Magura; Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in

Patuakhali.

Some 67,800 houses are being provided among landless and homeless families in the third phase of Ashrayan-2, a project of the PMO.

Of these, 32,904 houses were handed over on April 26 last, 26,229 were handed over on July 21 and the construction of 8,667 other houses is still underway.

Earlier, 117,329 semi-pucca houses along with two decimals of land were distributed among the homeless people in the country in the first two phases on January 23, 2021 and June 20, 2021 on the occasion of Mujib Year marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Some Tk4,029 crore was allocated for Ashrayan houses in the 2021-2022 fiscal year.

The government recovered some 5,512 acres of khas lands to construct houses for homeless people throughout the country. The approximate market value of these lands is Tk 2,967 crore.

Besides, the government procured 191.79 acres of land at a cost of Tk 134 crore for construction of houses under the Ashrayan-2 project. And 8,462 landless families have so far been rehabilitated on the procured land.

The government will continue implementing the Ashrayan-2 project despite the global economic crisis as the housing scheme has been contributing to making the rural economy vibrant despite the crisis, said the officials.

প্রথম আলো ENGLISH

Published at July 21, 2022



PM Sheikh Hasina | *File Photo*

No landless, homeless people in 52 upazilas

Panchagarh and Magura were on Thursday officially declared as the country's first two districts having no landless and homeless people in a landmark achievement under prime minister Sheikh Hasina's homes-for-all Ashrayan project.

She made the announcement while distributing 26,229 houses among the landless families across the country, joining virtually from her

official residence Ganabhaban.

In northern Panchagarh, the government found 4,850 landless-and-homeless people and constructed abodes for all of them, said MdJahirul Islam, the district's deputy commissioner.

In western Magura district houses have been built for 678 families, official sources said.

Both the districts are

agro-based. Bangladesh has a total of 64 districts.

A total of 52 upazilas of different districts, including all the nine upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura, was also announced as having no landless and homeless families as part of the government's commitment made on the occasion of the Mujib Year to ensure shelter for all the homeless in the country.

A total of 19,780 landless families were rehabilitated in these 52 upazilas, officials involved with the project said.

They said if anyone is found landless in the two districts and 52 upazilas, the person will immediately be given a house with land.

The local administration has already been given an order in this regard.

Some 67,800 houses are being provided among landless and homeless families in the third phase of Ashrayan-2, a project of the PMO.

Of these, 32,904 houses were handed over on 26 April last,

26,229 ones handed over on 21 July and the construction of 8,667 other houses is still underway.

Earlier, 117,329 semi-pucca houses along with two decimal lands were distributed among the homeless people in the country in the first two phases on 23 January, 2021 and 20 June, 2021 on the occasion of the Mujib Year marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh MujiburRahman.

Some Tk 40.29 billion were allocated for Ashrayan houses in 2021-2022 fiscal.

The government recovered some 5,512 acres of khas lands

to construct houses for homeless people throughout the country and the approximate market value of these lands is Tk 29.67 billion.

Besides, the government procured 191.79 acres of lands at cost of Tk 1.34 billion for the construction of houses under the Ashrayan-2 project. And 8,462 landless families have so far been rehabilitated on the procured lands.

The government will continue implementing the Ashraya-2 project despite the global economic crisis as the housing scheme is contributing to make the rural economy vibrant amid the crisis, said the officials.



A total of 67,800 houses are being provided among landless and homeless families in the third phase of Ashrayan-2. Among them, 32,904 houses were handed over on April 29

Zero homelessness in Panchagarh, Magura as 26,000 receive new homes

Ali Asif Shawon from
Panchagarh

Dreams of having a home will come true for thousands of children in Panchagarh and Magura districts with the handover of over 26,000 more houses under the Ashrayan-2 project today.

With the handover of the houses, the government is set to declare the two districts free from homelessness.

Recipients of the homes told the Dhaka Tribune correspondent on Wednesday they were elated to finally have a place that they could call their own.

Jannatul Khatun, a third grader at Kajaldighi primary school in Panchagarh, lived in a small tin-shed house near the large Kajaldighi pond of Boda Upazila of Panchagarh with her

younger brother as their father is a landless day labourer.

The young girl said she collects pictures from newspapers and magazines as a hobby. When she heard that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was giving pucca houses to homeless people, Jannatul preserved an election poster cutting of the prime minister.

52 Upazilas of different districts no longer have homeless or landless families

“I took very good care of the picture. Every morning, I would look at it and pray that our family would also get a semi-pucca house,” the third

grader said. The district authorities learned of Jannatul and her family when inspecting government khas land to make houses for homeless and landless people.

The family are now living in a semi-pucca house and raising two cows in their yard. Jannatul has been going to school regularly.

“DC sir gave me a new picture of the prime minister. Every morning, I look at the picture after getting up and pray to the Almighty for the welfare of Sheikh Hasina, as my dreams of living in a pucca house have come true. Now I want to become a doctor to serve the people,” Jannatul told this correspondent.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over more than 26,229 houses to homeless people in five districts of the country in the second batch of phase three of the Ashrayan-2 project, according to Dr Ahmad Kaikaus, principal secretary at the Prime Minister's Office.

A total of 52 upazilas of different districts, including all the eight upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura, will also be declared as having no landless and homeless families. The government had made a commitment on the occasion of Mujib Year to ensure shelter for all homeless people in the country, according to the PMO.

The 52 upazilas are Nawabganj in Dhaka; Madaripur Sadar; Damudya in Shariatpur; Katia-di in Kishoreganj; Gopalpur in Tangail; Ghior and Saturia in Manikganj; Kalukhali in Rajbari; Nagarkanda in Faridpur; Madan in Netrokona; Bhalluka, Nandail, Phulpur and Fulbaria in Mymensingh; Bakshiganj in Jamalpur; Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram; Raipur and Ramganj in Laxmipur; Feni Sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni; Gobindaganj in Gaibandha; Atwari, Panchagarh Sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh; Nawabganj in Dinajpur; Baliadangi in Thakurgaon; Dimla in Nilphamari;

Raninagar in Naogaon; Panchbibi in Joypurhat; Mohonpur, Charghat and Bagha in Rajshahi; Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura; Bagatipara in Natore; Ishwardi in Pabna; Shibganj in Chapainawabganj; Harinakundu in Jhenaidah; Tala in Satkhira; Magura Sadar, Sreepur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhia in Magura; Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in Patuakhali.

A total of 67,800 houses are being provided among landless and homeless families in the third phase of Ashrayan-2. Among them, 32,904 houses were handed over on April 26, while 26,229 will be handed over today. The construction of 8,667 other houses is still underway.

Earlier, 117,329 semi-pucca houses along with two decimal land were distributed among the homeless people in the country in the first two phases on January 23, 2021 and June 20, 2021 on the occasion of Mujib Year marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Each home unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda – costing Tk 259,500 without tax and VAT. The cost is Tk 330,000 with tax and VAT.

Alongside the houses, ownership documents of two decimals of land are given to each

family.

Happiness in Panchagarh

Md Johurul Islam, deputy commissioner of Panchagarh district, said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to make the announcement today after handing over 1,413 homes with land to homeless families in Panchagarh sadar upazila's Mahanoara Ashrayan project.

A total of 4,850 families were homeless and landless in this northern district of Rangpur division. In the first two phases of the Ashrayan-2 project, 10,571,359 families received homes with land in this district.

In the first batch of the project's third phase, 1,021 homes were distributed on April 26, and a total of 1,413 homes in the second batch will be handed over on Thursday.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will be present virtually while beneficiaries will attend from the Panchagarh end.

Responding to a question, the district commissioner of Panchagarh said: "We made the announcement through microphones in the village market before making the list of homeless people."

He added: "It is a great achievement for this district. Under this Ashrayan-2 project a total of 15,159 people of this district have received permanent homes."

Published 20 July 2022

2,306 landless families to get houses in Gaibandha, Pirojpur

Our Correspondent

A total of 2,306 landless and homeless families will get houses in two districts- Gaibandha and Pirojpur, on Thursday.

GAIBANDHA: 1,597 homeless people in all seven upazilas of the district will get semi-pucca houses from the government led by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

This was disclosed by Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md. Oliur Rahman at a press conference in his conference room here on Tuesday noon.

In the press conference, DC Oliur Rahman said as many as 26,229 houses would be handed over to landless and homeless families across the country on July 21.

Of them, a total of 1,597 houses would be distributed to landless and homeless people of the district in the second step of the third phase, he also said.

Of the total, 234 families would get houses in Sadar Upazila, 135 in Gobindaganj Upazila, 510 in Sundarganj Upazila, 70 in Saghata Upazila, 318 in Fulchhari Upazila, 140 in Palashbari Upazila, and 70 in Sadullapur Upazila, he added.

A total of 19,780 landless families were rehabilitated in 52 upazilas, the DC said adding that the number of landless and homeless families is zero in the entire Panchagarh and Magura. It is a huge achievement of the government.

Among 52 upazilas, Gobindaganj

Upazila of the district would be announced as landless- and homeless-free upazila on July 21, he continued.

In this context, DC further added, if anyone is found as landless in 52 upazilas, the person will immediately be given the house with land.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is likely to make the announcement on Thursday next during the distribution of 26,229 houses among the landless families across the country, the DC concluded.

In reply to a query, DC Oliur Rahman said, earlier, as many as 694 families of the district got houses under Ashryan Project-2. Taking this, the number of distributed houses would stand to 2,291.

Additional DC (Revenue) Jebun Nahar, Sadar UNO Shariful Alam, Revenue Deputy Collector Md. Jewel Mia were present on the occasion.

PIROJPUR: In the second step of the third phase, 709 more semi-pucca houses will be distributed among landless and houseless people in the district on Thursday.

This information was disclosed at a press briefing held in the conference room of the DC office on Tuesday morning. The press briefing was chaired by DC Mohammed Jahedur Rahman.

Of 709 houses, 215 will be distributed in Pirojpur Sadar Upazila, 36 in Nazirpur Upazila, 70 in Nesarabad Upazila, 20 in Kawkhali Upazila, 46 in Indurkani Upazila, 175 in Bhandaria Upazila and 107 houses in Mathbaria Upazila. Along with the houses, two-decimal land deeds will be handed over.

DC said earlier under the Ashryan Project, a total of 3,407 houses were distributed including 1,175 in the first phase, 2,004 in the second phase and 228 in the first step of the third phase.

With the latest 709 houses, the total numbers of distributed houses will stand at 4,207.

Deeds of the land belong to both husband and wife, for which women empowerment might be strengthened, the DC added.

Each semi-pucca house has been constructed at Tk 2, 59,700 having tube-wells and rain water harvesting system.

DC further said, the upazila taskforce committee has selected the beneficiaries, and their list was sent to the district taskforce committee for approval. So, actual beneficiaries will get houses, he maintained.

Among others, Additional DC (Revenue) Md Humayun Kabir, Revenue Deputy Collector Md Tariqul Alam and journalists of print and electronic media were present at the press briefing.

Published at July20, 2022

436 homeless families to get houses in Lakshmipur

Our Correspondent

LAKSHMIPUR: A total of 436 landless families will get new houses as gift from the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina under the third phase of the Ashrayan Project-2 in the district. Construction works of the houses, which will be handed over to the beneficiary families by this month, have been completed.

“Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will launch the distribution of the houses with land ownership document and keys to the beneficiary families through a videoconferencing from her Ganabhaban residence on July, 21, 2022,” Deputy Commissioner (DC) Md Anwar Hossain Akand said this while conducting a press briefing here on Tuesday.

“At the third phase of Ashrayan Project-2, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resilient,” he said, adding that now the landless and homeless people will

get better quality tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land.

Main thrust of the initiative is to improve the standard of living, ensure basic education, health care and skill development on income generating activities of the beneficiary people.

He also said that so far 1,786 houses have been handed over in the first and second phases of the project.

Additional Deputy commissioner (Revenue) Sajiya Parveen, Additional deputy commissioner (Education and ICT) Maher Nigar, Laxmipur Press Club President Hossain Ahmed Helal, General Secretary Saidul Islam Pabel, among others, were present .

Each of the semi-pucca tin-shed houses, consists of two bedrooms, one kitchen, one toilet, common space and veranda, was built under the project.

Bangladesh Post

Published at July 19th, 2022

26,229 more landless families get govt houses Thursday



Staff Correspondent

Over 26,000 more families, who are landless and homeless, are going to get houses on Thursday, July 21.

As part of the government's target to ensure housing for the landless and homeless people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over 26,229 more houses to the landless and homeless families under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus at a press conference on Monday at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will virtually hand over the houses to the landless and

homeless people on Thursday.

The premier will be connected virtually from her official residence Ganabhaban with five places in five districts, he mentioned.

The places are Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project under Mohammadpur Upazila in

Magura district.

Ahmad Kaikaus informed that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will also announce 52 upazilas, including all upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura districts, as homeless and landless free upazilas.

He said a total of 67,800 more single houses are being handed over across the country under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project.

Among the 67,800 houses, he mentioned, 32,904 single houses were handed over on April 26, 2022 while the rest of 8,667 houses are being constructed.

According to the project details, a

total of 1,17,329 single houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,85,129 houses were allotted till 2021-2022.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase and 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land.

The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more sustainable.

The government is constructing the houses having strong great-beam, lintel and Reinforced Concrete Column (RCC) pillar for making the houses more sustainable.

Ahmad Kaikaus informed that Taka 4,028.96 crore was allocated for construction of single houses till the fiscal year 2021-22.

Some 1,242 specially designed houses have been allotted for the char region under the third phase, he mentioned.

Special design for portable houses has been made so that the houses can be shifted to other places in view of any natural disaster like cyclone or flood, he added.

Apart from khas land, he said, the government has purchased 191.79 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people.

"Purchasing land by the government is a unique example in the world," he said.

According to project details, Taka 134.49 crore has been allocated for purchasing lands.

A total of 8,462 landless and homeless families will be rehabilitated on the houses to be built on the purchased lands.

The government recovered 5,512.04 acres of khas land from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses for the project on the occasion of Mujib Barsho. Approximate market price of the recovered khas land is Taka 2,967.09 crore.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,09,370 families have been rehabilitated till fiscal year 2020-21 from 1997.

Under the project, rehabilitated families are brought under VGF programs for 3 months.

According to the government policy, the benefits of freedom fighters, the elderly, widows and the disabled are considered with priority under the social benefits program.

Rehabilitated family members are provided with practical and technical training to engage in various productive and income-generating activities.

Micro-credit for their socio-economic development is disbursed from various government agencies (such as

Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Cooperatives, Department of Women and Children, Department of Social Services).

Other social organizations and NGOs are also involved in these programs.

Free electricity connection is provided for the rehabilitated families and tube-wells are being installed for safe water at the project site.

Community centres, prayer houses and graveyards, ponds and roads for internal communication are also being facilitated.

Different types of fruits, forest and medicinal trees are being planted in the project area. Homeless people are also being encouraged to be involved in agricultural work.

The unique feature of the Ashrayan Project perceived by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is that there is a special connection of housing activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Building houses alone can have major footprints in the attainment of various sustainable development goals.

Housing is related to positive changes in the areas of education, health, security, empowerment, women's empowerment as well as inclusive development.

Senior Secretary of the PMO Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah and Prime Minister's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim, among others, attended the briefing.



The Financial Express

Published at July 19, 2022

Panchagarh, Magura to become homeless-free dists

The government is going to announce Panchagarh and Magura as the landless and homeless-free districts this week as all the landless families are being rehabilitated with modern abodes and lands there, reports UNB.

A total of 52 upazilas in different districts, including all the eight upazilas of Panchagarh and Magura, will also be announced as having no landless and homeless families as part of the government's commitment made on the occasion of Mujib Year to ensure shelter for all the homeless people in the country.

Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina will make this announcement on Thursday next during the distribution of 26,229 houses among the landless families across the country, said her principal secretary Ahmad Kaikaus at a press briefing held at the Prime Minister's Office on Monday.

Kaikaus said a total of 19,780 landless families were rehabilitated in 52 upazilas. "The number of landless and homeless families is zero in the entire Panchagarh and Magura. It is a huge achievement," he added.

In this context, PMO senior secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah said if anyone is found as landless in the two districts and 52 upazilas, the person will immediately be given a house with land. The local administration has already been instructed in this regard, he said.



52 upazilas have no landless families



Tk 40.29b allocated for Ashrayan houses in fiscal year 2021-22

The 52 upazilas are: Nawabganj in Dhaka, Madaripur Sadar, Damudya in Shariatpur, Katiadi in Kishoreganj, Gopalpur in Tangail, Ghior and Satura in Manikganj, Kalukhali in Rajbari, Nagarkanda in Faridpur, Madan in Netrakona, Bhaluka, Nandail, Phulpur and Fulbaria in Mymensingh, Bakshiganj in Jamalpur, Patiya, Karnaphuli, Satkania and Lohagara in Chattogram, Raipur and Ramganj in Laxmipur, Feni Sadar, Chhagalnaiya, Fulgazi and Parshuram in Feni, Gobindaganj in Gaibandha, Atwari, Panchagarh Sadar, Debiganj, Tetulia and Boda in Panchagarh, Nawabganj in Dinajpur, Baliadangi in Thakurgaon, Dimla in Nilphamari, Raninagar in Naogaon, Panchbibi in Joypurhat, Mohonpur, Charchat and Bagha in Rajshahi, Nandigram and Dupchanchia in Bogura, Bagatipara in Natore, Ishwardi in Pabna, Shibganj in Chapainawabganj, Harinakundu in Jhenaidah, Tala in Satkhira,

Magura Sadar, Sreepur, Mohammadpur and Shalikhia in Magura, Kathalia in Jhalakathi and Dashmina in Patuakhali.

The principal secretary said some 67,800 houses are being provided among landless and homeless families in the third phase of Ashrayan-2, a project of the PMO.

Of these, 32,904 houses were handed over on April 26 last, 26,229 ones will be handed over on July 21 next and the construction of 8,667 other houses is still underway, he added.

Earlier, 117,329 semi-pucca houses along with two decimal lands were distributed among the homeless people in the country in the first two phases on January 23, 2021 and June 20, 2021 on the occasion of Mujib Year marking the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Some Tk 40.29 billion (4,029 crore) were allocated for Ashrayan houses in fiscal year 2021-2022.

The government recovered some 5,512 acres of Khas lands to construct houses for homeless people throughout the country and approximate market value of these lands is Tk 29.67 billion.

Besides, the government procured 191.79 acres of lands at cost of Tk 1.34 billion for construction of houses under the Ashrayan-2 project. And 8,462 landless families have so far been rehabilitated on the procured lands.

Shining**bd**

Published at 18 July 2022

PM to hand over another 26,229 houses to homeless Thursday



As part of the government's target to ensure housing for the landless and homeless people, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over 26,229 more houses to landless and homeless families under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project on Thursday (July 21).

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will virtually hand over deeds and keys of houses to the landless and homeless people on Thursday," Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus told reporters at a press briefing here on Monday at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The

premier will be connected virtually from her official Ganabhaban residence with five places in five districts, he mentioned.

The places are Charkalakopa Ashrayan Project under Ramgati Upazila in Lakshmipur District, Gaurambha Ashrayan Project under Rampal Upazila in Bagerhat district, Char Velamari Ashrayan Project under Nandail Upazila in Mymensingh District, Mahan Para Ashrayan Project under Panchagarh Sadar Upazila in Panchagarh District and Jangalia Ashrayan Project

under Mohammadpur Upazila in Magura district.

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8,667 houses are being constructed.

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On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase and 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land. The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more sustainable.

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Apart from khas land, he said, the government has purchased 191.79 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people.

"Purchasing lands by government is a unique example in the world," he said.

According to project details, Taka 134.49 crore has been allocated for purchasing lands.

A total of 8,462 landless and homeless families will be rehabilitated on the houses to be built on the purchased lands.

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Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,09,370 families have been rehabilitated till fiscal year 2020-21 from 1997.

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Other social organizations and NGOs are also involved in these programs.

Free electricity connection is provided for the rehabilitated families and tube-wells are being installed for safe water at the project site.

Community centres, prayer houses and graveyards, ponds and roads for internal communication are also being facilitated.

Different types of fruits, forest and medicinal trees are being planted in the project area. Homeless people are also being encouraged to be involved in agricultural work.

The unique feature of the Ashrayan Project perceived by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is that there is a special connection of housing activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Building houses alone can have major footprints in the attainment of various sustainable development goals.

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Senior Secretary of the PMO Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah and Prime Minister's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim, among others, attended the briefing.

BSS

ARAB NEWS



Published at 12 July 2022

Without land, Bangladesh's Manta people live — and die — on boats

- **More than 30 million people around the world had to relocate within their home countries due to natural disasters in 2020, nearly 4.5 million of them in Bangladesh**

MOJU CHOWDHURY HAT, Bangladesh: Shahida Begum's family lost their land along Bangladesh's ever-eroding river deltas so long ago that none of her family can remember a life on land.

"I was born on a boat on the

river, like my father and grandfather. I heard we started living on boats after losing our land and house to the Meghna River," Begum, 30, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

Today, Begum's entire community -known as the

Manta people — live aboard small boats on two of the nation's major rivers. It's a challenging way to survive — but one more Bangladeshi may be driven to adopt as climate change and sea level rise speed land erosion.



Only in death are most Manta taken permanently ashore — to be buried in the soil in accordance with Muslim tradition.

"We neither float our dead into the river nor burn them," said SohrabMajhi, a Manta leader whose buoyant community lives near MojuChowdhury Hat, a market village in southeast Bangladesh.

"We have to have good relations with people who have at least some land where we can bury our dead."

The Manta used to be farmers and fishermen until the rising rivers engulfed their land and forced them to move onto the Meghna River and its offshoot, the Tetulia, Majhi explained.

Today, increasingly intense cyclones, heavy rains and other natural disasters — like the flash floods earlier this month that stranded more than 4.5 million people and killed dozens in northeast Bangladesh are battering Manta boats and incomes, he said.

Without a permanent address, most Manta don't qualify for state services. They have called on the government to give them houses on land and national identity cards that will let their children go to school.

"There is nothing for us. I want the next generation to be educated and do something for us and our community," said Chan Miah, a 58-year-old fisherman.

"We are exhausted from this

life. We want a place where we can live in peace."

INVISIBLE COMMUNITY

More than 30 million people around the world had to relocate within their home countries due to natural disasters in 2020, nearly 4.5 million of them in Bangladesh, data from the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre shows.

One of the drivers of all that movement is erosion, when heavy, erratic rainfall and flooding worsened by climate change eat away at riverbanks, causing rivers to swell and swallow the land <https://news.trust.org/item/2020606082445-jmvs3> around them.

According to a report by the Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services, based in Dhaka, from 1973 to 2017 Bangladesh lost more than 162,000 hectares of land (400,310 acres) — double the size of Singapore — to three of its largest rivers.

G a w h e r N a y e e m W a h r a , director of disaster management and climate change at the development organisation BRAC, estimates there are about 300,000 Manta living on boats around the country — and the number is growing.

"They are taking to the boats as a last resort to survival," said Wahra.

Manta families spend up to 12 hours a day catching fish to sell

at coastal fish markets or to other fishermen, said Majhi, the Manta leader.

But earning a living fishing is getting harder, he said, with fish populations shrinking due to the dominance of commercial fishing as well as overfishing driven by a growing population.

Every dry season, Manta families have to move with the receding river water and follow the fish, meaning they never stay in one place for more than three months.

That constant movement contributes to them being invisible to the government, Majhi said.

"We are denied our basic rights, such as food, shelter, education - and it's continuing from generation to generation. We are in the shadows of civilisation," he said.

'THIS DIFFICULT LIFE'

Living on boats also makes the community more vulnerable to increasingly frequent and violent storms.

RatnaAkter, 21, recalled the time she and her husband nearly drowned when they dove into the river to rescue their 4-year-old son, who had fallen in while the family was fishing during heavy rains.

"We were able to catch him, but by then our boat had drifted far from us. We tried to swim to the bank of the river, but our energy was failing," Akter said.

They were saved when her foot

got tangled in their long fishing net, which they followed back to their boat.

With climate experts warning that extreme weather events will only get worse, Bangladesh can't afford to ignore the growing number of people whose lives are being uprooted by rising rivers, said Mohammad Azaz, chairman of the River and Delta Research Centre, a local non-governmental group.

"River erosion is not a short-term event," he noted.

Azaz said the government should focus on making sure affected communities can quickly get back to earning money to support themselves.

Nurul Islam Patwari, deputy director of District Social Services for Bangladesh's government, said his

department already has various programmes to help Manta families improve their living standards, including training in handicrafts such as tailoring.

He added that community members need to get their national identity cards if they want to access help from the state.

"Then, if they contact us about government benefits — including old age allowance, widow allowance — we will help them," he said.

More than two dozen Manta families have been given houses — the first step to an identity card — under the long-running Ashrayan development project, which has so far provided housing for more than 507,000 previously homeless families.

But some, like Jahanara

Begum, 38, have rejected the government's help because the homes on offer are located too far inland, cutting them off from their livelihoods.

"The house is too far from our fishing area, it takes too long to get there, so we didn't accept it," said Begum.

For now, the Manta wait for a solution that will let them build safer, more stable lives on land — but simultaneously remain close enough to rivers.

"I don't want to live in the water anymore. There is no future for my children here," said AsmaBanu, 28, a mother of three who was born and raised on her family's boat on the Meghna River.

"If my children could be educated, they would at least get rid of this difficult life," she said.

Published : 18 June 2022



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is going to distribute 53,340 more houses among homeless people under the second phase of Ashrayan-2 project on Sunday (June 20). A view of the cluster of houses built under the project at Bhanga upazila in Faripur. The photo was taken on Thursday. Photo: BP

Great initiative from PM 53,340 homes to be distributed Sunday

Kailash Sarkar

This is simply a mega project. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina took up an unprecedented project to build houses for the poor and landless people of the country, which has created new hopes among the poor.

As this is a great gift for them from the Prime Minister, they prayed for her long life.

This extraordinary effort to raise the social status of the poor has earned global plaudit for Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

As part of the scheme, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is going to distribute more 53,340 houses in the second phase.

The government, under the direct supervision of the Prime Minister's Office, have been building and distributing among landless and homeless poor people across the country.

These houses have been built considering all aspects of healthy living such as space, environment, nature and sanitation facilities.

Earlier, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 69,904 houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

According to sources, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to inaugurate the distribution of these houses virtually on June 20 (Sunday) under the second phase of the

Asrayan-2 project.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Thursday said, "It's a (housing project) inclusive development model which was never implemented by anyone or any country earlier in the world."

He also mentioned that this initiative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has now become a social campaign.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahub Hossain and PMO Director General (Administration) Mohd. Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern

abode will also be given to both husband and wife of each family.

"The tin-shed pucca houses will be given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families," said Dr Ahmad Kaikaus.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people, he said.

Dr Kaikaus said each family is getting the assets worth some Taka 2.6 lakh, if the value of two-decimal land is on an average Taka 50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Taka 2 lakh, while the cost of utility connectivity (electricity and gas) is some Taka 10,000.

Mentioning that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997, he said a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project run by the PMO.

On Sunday next, the highest 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2512 in Mymensingh and 1979 in Sylhet division.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-K) is 293,361 in the country, while that of only homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.

Published at 27 April 2022

None will remain homeless in country: PM

daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, also said, "I know the soul of my father will get peace today when he sees that his people are smiling."

The premier said a survey found that over 8 lakh homeless and landless people are in the country, adding her government is working to bring everyone under the housing scheme in phases as part of their "Mujib Borsho" pledge. She urged all especially the Awami League leaders and activists to stand beside the distressed people being imbued with the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as he wanted to bring smile on the people's faces by giving them an improved and beautiful life. "We're the soldiers of the ideal of Bangabandhu. So, the power to me is to serve the people and work for the people. And I am now working to ensure that none will remain homeless in Bangladesh," she said.

She also said her government illuminate every house of the country ensuring cent percent electricity and is now working to make sure home for hundred percent homeless and landless people.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some

beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four places of the four districts.

The four places are: Poradia Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtola Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar Upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar Upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara Upazila in Chattogram district.

Expressing the feelings of getting houses, some beneficiaries thanked the prime minister for providing them home and thus secure their lives.

They prayed for long life of Sheikh Hasina and wanted her to see as the Prime Minister time and again, calling her as the touchstone of the development. Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban end.

A video documentary was also screened on how the landless

and

homeless people have developed their life standard after getting benefits that included training and money alongside the houses under the Ashrayan-2 Project. So far, 150,233 houses were handed over in three phases under the Ashrayan-2 Project as part of the government pledge to bring landless and homeless people across the country under housing facilities in the Mujib Borsho. On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase while 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

The government is set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project. Of those, the premier has already handed over 32,904 houses today.

According to the project details, so far 1,17,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,83,003 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Sheikh Hasina said that her government had initiated the housing scheme providing houses to 70 families by building a barrack house on Saint Martin Island after a cyclone storm in 1997. But Khaleda Zia told the media that she did not know anything about the 1991 cyclone as if she was sleeping, said the Premier.

"But, I didn't sleep after the cyclone in 1997 and round the clock I inquired about the measures taken to tackle the natural disaster, cancelling a state visit to Spain," she said. After assuming power in 2009 for the second time, she said, they took a housing scheme to provide more resilient dwellings to the landless and homeless people following the footsteps of Father of the Nation, who initiated the "Guchchha Gram" project in the then Noakhali now Lakshmipur district to rehabilitate the distressed people.

Urging all the countrymen to work in unison for the country's development as they did while facing the Covid-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister alerted them to remain vigilant as a section of people, who did not want the country's independence, do not want the country's progress.

She added that there might be no example in the world of what Bangladesh has successfully done facing the Covid-19 pandemic involving people of all strata of life, including government agencies such as armed forces, police and BGB.

The Prime Minister also called upon all to remain cautious as the Coronavirus has spread further in different countries. Regarding the Covid-19 vaccination, she said, "Despite a country of limited resources, Bangladesh is administering the Covid-19 vaccine at free of cost, while many developed countries could not do so."

Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh has transformed into a developing country with her government's tireless efforts and attained due honor and dignity that had lost after the assassination of Father of the Nation along with most of his family members on August 15, 1975. "We have to step forward with the honor which Bangladesh is currently getting. None can neglect Bangladesh now and none can dare to say that Bangladesh is a country of disaster and famine. They're now saying Bangladesh is a role model of development," she said with a proud voice. The Prime Minister credited the

people for the development of Bangladesh as they voted for the Awami League time and again. Sheikh Hasina came down heavily on the post-1975 governments including the governments of Zia, Ershad and Khaleda Zia for doing nothing for the development of Bangladesh and the welfare of its people rather they patronized anti-liberation war elements to be elected members of parliament, adviser and minister.

The Prime Minister said they did nothing for the people rather they made their own fortune as the state was then run by war criminals and by those people, who did not want the country's independence and had no love for the country and its people.

They rather tried to erase the name of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and imposed a ban on playing the historic 7th March speech of Bangabandhu and JoyBangla slogan.

"The history cannot be erased. None can now remove the name of Bangabandhu while the Joy Bangla slogan has come again and the 7th March Speech of Bangabandhu has now become a world documentary heritage," she added.

Daily INDUSTRY

Published at 27 April 2022



No one to stay homeless in Bangladesh: PM

Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday vowed to ensure houses for all the homeless people at a programme marking the handing over about 33,000 government-built homes to another batch of extremely poor families as her Eid gift.

"We've been able to ensure electricity for 100 per cent people. Now 100 per cent (homeless)

people will get the houses. None will remain landless and shelterless in Bangladesh," she said. The prime minister was addressing the house distribution function among 32,904 homeless and landless

families across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project. She inaugurated the distribution of semi-pucca abodes, joining a virtual function from her official residence Ganobhaban in the morning.

Sheikh Hasina exchanged views with beneficiaries from the four cluster housing places at Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur, Barguna Sadar Upazila, Sirajganj Sadar Upazila and Anwara Upazila in Chattogram through a videoconfer-ence. The PM said she doesn't know whether such a housing initiative was taken

in any other country across the world. To me, power is to serve the people and work for the people. So, today I've been working so that not a single person will remain homeless or shelter-less in Bangladesh," she asserted. She said alongside building Digital Bangladesh with modern technology and knowledge, the biggest goal of her government is to change the fate of the destitute people—who have no future or can't dare to dream. "We've been working to execute the goal," she said. Hasina, also the president of Bangladesh Awami League, asked her party leaders and activists to follow the

ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to bring smiles on the faces of unhappy people.

"We have to go forward overcoming all barriers. Inshallah, well build 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by the Father of the Nation," she said. The PM said the government rehabilitated not only destitute people, but also the neglected communities like leprosy patients, Bede (water gipsy) and trans-gender by providing houses under the Ashrayan project.

She said her government has given recognition to the trans-gender community by giving them with a separate identity. No transgender child should be separated from the family. Islam has also ensured their rights in the family, she added. Noting that Bangladesh has earned global dignity, she said no one now can ignore Bangladesh and dare to term it a disaster- and famine-hit country. "Rather Bangladesh is a role model for development," said the prime minister. Hasina expressed her gratitude to the people and voters for giving her

scope to serve them by electing her time and again. In an oblique reference to the recent TIB's claim that spending on Covid vaccination lacks transparency, the PM said it would not be enough to count the prices of vaccines only, rather it needs to count all the expenditures spent during the vaccination programme.

She said it needs to count the expenditures spent behind the volunteers, health workers and doctors, vaccination centres, procurement of refrigerators to keep vaccines at minus 25-70 degree Celsius, construction of AC rooms in the rural areas to supply the vaccines up to Union-level, procurement of vaccination kits including syringes and personal protective equipment (PPEs) for the manpower of the vaccination programme, and other purposes.

"If you add all the costs, you will get accurate information and know how many thousand crore taka was spent behind it," she said, adding that the government vaccinated the people at free of cost. Referring to the resurgence in Covid-19 infection rate in different

countries, Hasina asked all to remain cautious and follow the health protocol.

The distribution of the houses along with land came as part of the government's initiative to provide houses to all landless and homeless families on the occasion of uMujib Year" as the prime minister promised that no one will remain without a home in the country. Each unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda costing Tk 259,500 without tax and VAT. The amount is Tk 330,000 with tax and VAT. Alongside the houses, the ownership documents of a two decimal land were given to each family.

Earlier, the government had given 63,999 houses on January 23, 2021 in the first phase, while 53,330 houses on June 20, 2021 in the second phase under the Ashrayan-2, a project of the Prime Minister's Office, during the Mujib Year. The Ashrayan Project also rehabilitated 507,244 landless and homeless families from 1997 to December 2022. PMO Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah conducted the house distribution function.

THE BUSINESS STANDARD

Published at 27 April, 2022

‘My house is like a five-star hotel’: Gratitude pours from Ashrayan beneficiaries

Under the third phase of the Ashrayan Project-2, some 32,904 houses have been handed over to homeless people in four upazilas across the country



Photo: Collected

For the first time in her life, Rahima Akhter has a house of her own. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over the premises to her on Tuesday through a video conference.

"There's the sea on one side and mountains on the other. Looking at the building, it looks like a five-star hotel!" an exhilarated Rahima told the premier on the day.

Rahima is one of the thousands of beneficiaries of the third phase of the government's Ashrayan

Project-2, under which homeless people are being provided with homes and two decimal lands as gifts from the prime minister.

As an expression of her gratitude towards the premier, she recently sewed two NakshiKanthas for the PM as gifts in return.



Rahima said she teaches Arabic to children living in other houses under the project in Chattogram's Anwara, while her daughter teaches them Bangla, English and Maths.

"We earn around Tk10,000 -15,000 a month. We bought a refrigerator. We also bought a television so we could see you [Sheikh Hasina] every day. Besides, we bought a bed," she told the Prime Minister.

Yaar Mohammad, a fisherman and another beneficiary of Ashrayan-2 in Anwara, said, "I was completely helpless. My parents could not provide me with shelter. You have given a fisherman like me home. I am very grateful."

He invited Sheikh Hasina to visit his house.

Under the third phase of the government housing project, some 32,904 houses have been handed over to homeless people in four upazilas across the country – Faridpur's Nagarkanda, Barguna Sadar, Sirajganj Sadar and Chattogram's Anwara.

Aziza Sultana, a college student from Sirajganj, said, "My father is no more. My mother works in other people's houses. Honourable prime minister, I have received a house from you as a gift for Eid. We have never had such a happy

Eid."

"Before this, there was no permanent place for me to study. I can now study better than before," an emotional Aziza told the premier.

She also invited the PM to Sirajganj, saying, "We eagerly want to see you up front. Please visit us if you can spare some time. We pray for your long life."

The young girl also promised to help other children in the project with their studies and sports.

In Faridpur's Nagarkanda upazila, Rusha Rani Malo is one of the beneficiaries who has received a house beside a river.

Speaking to the premier, Malo said she did not have a roof over her head until the government gifted her one.

Malo, whose husband is a fisherman, told Sheikh Hasina, "I want to cook and feed you the fish caught by my husband. Come visit us.

"We had no land. I never thought we would have a house. You have given us a house with land as a gift. We are very happy to have this house."

Published at 27 April, 2022 12:00 AM

None to remain homeless: PM

32,904 families get homes as Eid gift



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the distribution of houses among 33,000 homeless and landless families as her Eid gift through videoconferencing from her official residence Ganabhaban on Tuesday. – PID PHOTO

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday reiterated her pledge that none would remain homeless and landless in the country, saying she considered power as a way to serve the people, reports BSS.

"None will remain homeless, landless and without address in Bangladesh. We are working to

implement that target," she said. The premier said this while virtually distributing 32,904 houses to the beneficiaries at 492 upazilas across the country in the third phase under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

The prime minister joined the handing over ceremony from her official Ganabhaban residence.

She said her government is committed to building a prosperous and developed Bangladesh and bringing smiles on the faces of everyone by giving them an improved

and better life as envisioned by the Father of the Nation.

The prime minister said they have given land and houses to 32,409 people under Ashrayan-2 Project, adding, "I'm giving those to them as Eid gift, I like most the smile on their faces whenever they receive their own home."

She said all classes of under-privileged people such as Bede (river-gypsy), third gender, tea worker, leprosy patients, differently abled persons have been brought under the housing scheme.

Sheikh Hasina, the elder daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh MujiburRahman, also said, "I know the soul of my father will get peace today when he sees that his people are smiling."

The premier said a survey found that over 8 lakh homeless and landless people are in the country, adding her government is working to bring everyone under the housing scheme in phases as part of their "Mujib Barsho" pledge.

She urged all especially the Awami League leaders and activists to stand beside the distressed people being imbued with the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as he wanted to bring smile on the people's faces by giving them an improved and beautiful life.

"We're the soldiers of the ideal of Bangabandhu. So, the power to me is to serve the people and work for the people. And I am now working to ensure that none will remain homeless in Bangladesh," she said.

She also said her government illuminate every house of the country ensuring cent percent electricity and is now working to make sure home for hundred percent homeless and landless people.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four places of the four districts.

The four places are: Poradia Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtola Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar Upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar Upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara Upazila in Chattogram district.

Expressing the feelings of getting houses, some beneficiaries thanked the prime minister for providing them home and thus secure their lives.

They prayed for long life of Sheikh Hasina and wanted her to see as the Prime Minister time and again, calling her as the touchstone of the development. Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban end.

A video documentary was also screened on how the landless and homeless people have developed their life standard after getting benefits that included training and money alongside the houses under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

So far, 150,233 houses were handed over in three phases under the Ashrayan-2 Project as part of the government

pledge to bring landless and homeless people across the country under housing facilities in the Mujib Barsho.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase while 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

The government is set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project. Of those, the premier has already handed over 32,904 houses on Tuesday.

According to the project details, so far 117,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 183,003 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Sheikh Hasina said that her government had initiated the housing scheme providing houses to 70 families by building a barrack house on Saint Martin Island after a cyclone storm in 1997.

But Khaleda Zia told the media that she did not know anything about the 1991 cyclone as if she was sleeping, said the Premier. "But, I didn't sleep after the cyclone in 1997 and round the clock I inquired about the measures taken to tackle the natural disaster, cancelling a

state visit to Spain," she said.

After assuming power in 2009 for the second time, she said, they took a housing scheme to provide more resilient dwellings to the landless and homeless people following the footsteps of Father of the Nation, who initiated the "Guchchha Gram" project in the then Noakhali now Lakshmiপুর district to rehabilitate the distressed people.

Urging all the countrymen to work in unison for the country's development as they did while facing the Covid-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister alerted them to remain vigilant as a section of people, who did not want the country's independence, do not want the country's progress.

She added that there might be no example in the world of what Bangladesh has successfully done facing the Covid-19 pandemic involving people of all strata of life, including government agencies such as armed forces, police and BGB.

The Prime Minister also called upon all to remain cautious as the Coronavirus has spread

further in different countries.

Regarding the Covid-19 vaccination, she said, "Despite a country of limited resources, Bangladesh is administering the Covid-19 vaccine at free of cost, while many developed countries could not do so."

Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh has transformed into a developing country with her government's tireless efforts and attained due honour and dignity that had lost after the assassination of Father of the Nation along with most of his family members on August 15, 1975.

"We have to step forward with the honour which Bangladesh is currently getting. None can neglect Bangladesh now and none can dare to say that Bangladesh is a country of disaster and famine. They're now saying Bangladesh is a role model of development," she said with a proud voice.

The Prime Minister credited the people for the development of Bangladesh as they voted for the Awami League time and again.

Sheikh Hasina came down heavily on the post-1975

governments including the governments of Zia, Ershad and Khaleda Zia for doing nothing for the development of Bangladesh and the welfare of its people rather they patronised anti-liberation war elements to be elected members of parliament, adviser and minister.

The Prime Minister said they did nothing for the people rather they made their own fortune as the state was then run by war criminals and by those people, who did not want the country's independence and had no love for the country and its people.

They rather tried to erase the name of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and imposed a ban on playing the historic 7th March speech of Bangabandhu and Joy Bangla slogan.

"The history cannot be erased. None can now remove the name of Bangabandhu while the Joy Bangla slogan has come again and the 7th March Speech of Bangabandhu has now become a world documentary heritage," she added.

The Daily Star

Wed Apr 27, 2022 12:00 AM Last update on: Wed Apr 27, 2022 02:03 AM

No one to be homeless in Bangladesh

Says PM while giving homes to 33,000 families

UNB, Dhaka



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday pledged to ensure houses for all homeless people in the country.

"We have been able to ensure electricity for 100 percent people. Now 100 percent [homeless] people will get houses. None will remain landless and shelter-less in Bangladesh," she said.

The premier was addressing a programme marking the handover of about 33,000 government-built homes to another batch of extremely poor families as her Eid gift under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project. She joined the event from the Gono Bhaban virtually.

Hasina, also the Awami League president, said she didn't know whether such a housing initiative was taken in any other country in the world.

"To me, power is to serve the people and work for the people. So, today I've been working so that not a single person remains homeless or shelter-less in Bangladesh."

The PM asked her party leaders and activists to follow the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to bring smiles on the faces of unhappy people.

In an oblique reference to the recent claim by TIB that spending on Covid vaccination

lacked transparency, Hasina said it would not be enough to count the prices of vaccines only, rather all expenditures of the vaccination programme should be counted.

"If you add all costs, you will get accurate information and know how many thousand crore taka was spent for it," she said, adding that the government vaccinated people free of cost.

Referring to the resurgence in Covid-19 in different countries, she asked all to remain cautious and follow the health protocol.

Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, senior secretary at the Prime Minister's Office, conducted the house distribution function.



The Financial Express

Published: April 27, 2022

No one to stay homeless: PM

33,000 destitute families get homes



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina shares a light moment as she virtually joins an event on Tuesday marking the handover of houses to 3 families as an 'Eid gift' under the third phase of the Ashrayan Project — PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday vowed to ensure houses for all the homeless people at a programme marking the handing over about 33,000 government-built homes to another batch of extremely poor families as her Eid gift, reports UNB.

"We've been able to ensure electricity for 100 per cent people. Now 100 per cent (homeless) people will get the houses. None will remain landless and shelter-less in Bangladesh," she said.

The prime minister was addressing the house distribution function among

32,904 homeless and landless families across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project.

She inaugurated the distribution of semi-pucca abodes, joining a virtual function from her official residence Ganobhaban in the morning.

Sheikh Hasina exchanged views with beneficiaries from the four cluster housing places at Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur, Barguna Sadar Upazila, Sirajganj Sadar Upazila and Anwara Upazila in Chattogram through a videoconference.

The PM said she doesn't know whether such a housing initiative was taken in any other country across the world.

"To me, power is to serve the people and work for the people. So, today I've been working so that not a single person will remain homeless or shelter-less in Bangladesh," she asserted.

She said alongside building Digital Bangladesh with modern technology and knowledge, the biggest goal of her government is to change the fate of the destitute people --who have no future or can't dare to dream. "We've been working to execute the goal,"

she said.

Hasina, also the president of Bangladesh Awami League, asked her party leaders and activists to follow the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to bring smiles on the faces of unhappy people.

"We have to go forward overcoming all barriers. Inshallah, we'll build 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by the Father of the Nation," she said.

The PM said the government rehabilitated not only destitute people, but also the neglected communities like leprosy patients, Bede (water gipsy) and transgender by providing houses under the Ashrayan project.

She said her government has given recognition to the transgender community by giving them with a separate identity. No transgender child should be separated from the family. Islam has also ensured their rights in the family, she added.

Noting that Bangladesh has earned global dignity, she said no one now can ignore Bangladesh and dare to term it a disaster- and famine-hit country. "Rather Bangladesh is a role model for development," said the prime minister.

Hasina expressed her gratitude to the people and voters for giving her scope to serve them by electing her time and again.

All costs behind vaccination needs to be counted: Hasina

In an oblique reference to the recent TIB's claim that spending on Covid vaccination lacks transparency, the PM said it would not be enough to count the prices of vaccines only, rather it needs to count all the expenditures spent during the vaccination programme.

She said it needs to count the expenditures spent behind the volunteers, health workers and doctors, vaccination centres, procurement of refrigerators to keep vaccines at minus 25-70 degree Celsius, construction of AC rooms in the rural areas to supply the vaccines up to Union-level, procurement of vaccination kits including syringes and personal protective equipment (PPEs) for the manpower of the vaccination programme, and other purposes.

"If you add all the costs, you will get accurate information and know how many thousand crore taka was spent behind it," she said, adding that the government vaccinated the people at free of cost.

Referring to the resurgence in

Covid-19 infection rate in different countries, Hasina asked all to remain cautious and follow the health protocol.

The distribution of the houses along with land came as part of the government's initiative to provide houses to all landless and homeless families on the occasion of "Mujib Year" as the prime minister promised that no one will remain without a home in the country.

Each unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda costing Tk 259,500 without tax and VAT. The amount is Tk 330,000 with tax and VAT.

Alongside the houses, the ownership documents of a two decimal land were given to each family.

Earlier, the government had given 63,999 houses on January 23, 2021 in the first phase, while 53,330 houses on June 20, 2021 in the second phase under the Ashrayan-2, a project of the Prime Minister's Office, during the Mujib Year.

The Ashrayan Project also rehabilitated 507,244 landless and homeless families from 1997 to December 2022.

PMO Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah conducted the house distribution function.

None will remain homeless in country: PM



Prime minister Sheikh Hasina.

Prime minister Sheikh Hasina reiterated her pledge that nobody would remain homeless and landless in the country, saying that she considered power as a way to serve the people.

‘None will remain homeless, landless and without address in Bangladesh. We are working to implement that target,’ she said.

She said this while virtually distributing 32,904 houses to the beneficiaries in 492 upazilas across the country in the third phase under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

The prime minister joined the handover ceremony from her official Ganabhaban residence.

She said that her government was committed to building a prosperous and developed Bangladesh and bringing smiles on the faces of everyone by giving them an improved and better life as envisioned by the country’s founding president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The prime minister said that they had given land and houses to 32,409 people on the day under the Ashrayan-2 Project, adding, ‘I’m giving those to them as Eid gifts. I like the

smile on their faces most whenever they receive their own home.’

She said that all classes of under-privileged people such as Bede, third gender, tea workers, leprosy patients, differently-abled persons had been brought under the housing scheme.

Sheikh Hasina also said, ‘I know the soul of my father will get peace today when he sees that his people are smiling.’

The premier said that a survey found that over 8 lakh homeless and landless people were in the country, adding that her government is working to bring

everyone under the housing scheme in phases as part of their Mujib Barsha pledge.

She urged all, especially the Awami League leaders and activists, to stand beside the distressed people being imbued with the ideology of Sheikh Mujib as he wanted to bring smiles on the people's faces by giving them an improved and beautiful life.

'We're the soldiers of the ideals of Bangabandhu. So, the power to me is to serve the people and work for the people. And I am now working to ensure that none will remain homeless in Bangladesh,' she said.

She also said that her government illuminated every house of the country ensuring electricity and was now working to make sure homes for hundred percent homeless and landless people.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four places of the four districts.

The four places are Poradia

Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtala Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara upazila in Chattogram district.

Expressing the feelings of getting houses, some beneficiaries thanked the prime minister for providing them home and thus securing their lives.

Prime Minister's Office senior secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah moderated the function, while PM's press secretary Ihsanul Karim and project director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban.

A video documentary was also screened on how the landless and homeless people developed their life standard after getting benefits that included training and money alongside the houses under the Ashrayan-2

Project.

So far, 150,233 houses were handed over in three phases under the Ashrayan-2 Project as part of the government pledge to bring landless and homeless people across the country under housing facilities in the Mujib Barsha.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase while 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20, 2021.

The government is set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project. Of those, the prime minister handed over 32,904 houses on Tuesday.

According to the project details, so far 1,17,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,83,003 houses were allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Jago News Desk
Published: 26 April 2022, 12:36 PM

32,904 more families' dream of owning a home becomes true



Dream of owning a home of 32,904 more homeless and landless families has come into reality as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Tuesday handed over houses to them at government expenses, raising the total beneficiaries' number to 150,233 under Ashrayan-2 Project.

The premier virtually distributed the deeds and keys of the newly constructed tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two

decimals of land to the beneficiaries under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project as her gift ahead of the Eid-ul-Fitr.

She joined the programme via video conference from her official Ganabhaban residence.

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Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtola Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar Upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar Upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara Upazila in Chattogram district.

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The government has set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project.

Of those, the premier has already handed over 32,904 houses today.

The houses were constructed in 492 upazilas across the country.

According to the project details, so far 1,17,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,83,003 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Under the project, ownership of land and house is being given in the joint names of husband and wife of landless, homeless, marginalised and uprooted families, it said.

Each unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda costing TK 259,500 without tax

and VAT. The amount is TK 330,000 with tax and VAT.

In the third phase of Ashrayan-2 project, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resilient.

The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more durable.

The government is constructing the houses having strong great-beam, lintel and Reinforced concrete column (RCC) pillar for making the houses more sustainable.

So far Taka 3,972 crore 7 lakh 5 thousand was allocated for construction of houses as of current fiscal year.

Apart from khas land, the government has purchased 168.32 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people. Taka 115.33 crore has already been allocated for purchasing lands.

The government recovered 5,512.04 acres of khas land worth of Tk 2,967 crore 9 lakh from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses under the project.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,07,244 families have been rehabilitated till March,

2022 from 1997 while the rehabilitated families are brought under VGF programs for three months.

Rehabilitated family members are provided with practical and technical training to engage in various productive and income-generating activities.

Micro-credit for their socio-economic development is disbursed from various government agencies such as Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Cooperatives, Department of Women and Children, Department of Social Services.

Free electricity connection is provided to the rehabilitated families and tube-wells are being installed for safe water at the project site.

The housing schemes are being included to community centres, prayer houses and graveyards, ponds and roads for internal communication.

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban end.

A video documentary on developed life standard of beneficiary people under Ashrayan-2 Project was screened.

BANGLA INSIDER

Insider Desk

Publish: 01:06 PM, 26 Apr, 2022

32,904 more families get homes as PM's Eid gift



Dream of owning a home of 32,904 more homeless and landless families has come into reality as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today handed over houses to them at government expenses, raising the total beneficiaries' number to 150,233 under Ashrayan-2 Project.

The premier virtually distributed the deeds and keys of the newly constructed tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land to the beneficiaries under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project as her gift ahead of the Eid-ul-Fitr.

She joined the programme via video conference from her

official Ganabhaban residence here.

The prime minister said, "Land and houses were handed over to 32,409 homeless and landless families under Ashrayan-2 Project today. I am giving those as the gift of the upcoming Eid-ul-Fitr."

She said her government has rehabilitated all the landless and homeless families in phases as part of the Mujib Borsho programme.

She added: "I like most the smile of the people after they get home".

The premier said Bede (river-gypsy), third gender, tea

worker, leprosy patients, differently abled persons irrespective of all classes of under-privileged people were brought under the housing project to give them a beautiful life.

She urged all especially the Awami League leaders and activists to stand beside the distressed people being imbued with the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as he wanted to bring smile on the people's faces by giving them an improved and beautiful life.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four

places of the four districts.

The four places are: Poradia Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtola Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar Upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar Upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara Upazila in Chattogram district.

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The houses were constructed in 492 upazilas across the country.

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The government recovered 5,512.04 acres of khas land worth of Tk 2,967 crore 9 lakh from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses under the project.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,07,244 families have been rehabilitated till March, 2022 from 1997 while the rehabilitated families are brought under VGF programs for three months.

Rehabilitated family members are provided with practical and technical training to engage in various productive and income-generating activities.

Micro-credit for their socio-economic development is disbursed from various government agencies such as Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Cooperatives, Department of Women and Children, Department of Social Services.

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A video documentary on developed life standard of beneficiary people under Ashrayan-2 Project was screened.

- BSS

None will remain homeless in country: PM

Staff Correspondent daily-bangladesh.com

Published: 09:46 PM, 26 April 2022



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today distributed 32,904 houses to the beneficiaries at 492 Upazilas across the country in the third phase under the Ashrayan-2 Project joining virtually from her Ganabhaban resident- PID

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina reiterated her pledge that none would remain homeless and landless in the country, saying she considered power as a way to serve the people.

"None will remain homeless, landless and without address in Bangladesh. We are working to implement that target," she said.

She said this while virtually distributing 32,904 houses to the beneficiaries at 492

upazilas across the country in the third phase under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

The prime minister joined the handing over ceremony from her official Ganabhaban residence.

She said her government is committed to building a prosperous and developed Bangladesh and bringing smiles on the faces of everyone by giving them an improved and better life as envisioned by

the Father of the Nation.

The prime minister said they have given land and houses to 32,409 people today under Ashrayan-2 Project, adding, "I'm giving those to them as Eid gift, I like most the smile on their faces whenever they receive their own home."

She said all classes of under-privileged people such as Bede (river-gypsy), third gender, tea worker, leprosy patients, differently abled

persons have been brought under the housing scheme.

Sheikh Hasina, the elder daughter of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, also said, "I know the soul of my father will get peace today when he sees that his people are smiling."

The premier said a survey found that over 8 lakh homeless and landless people are in the country, adding her government is working to bring everyone under the housing scheme in phases as part of their "Mujib Borsho" pledge.

She urged all especially the Awami League leaders and activists to stand beside the distressed people being imbued with the ideology of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as he wanted to bring smile on the people's faces by giving them an improved and beautiful life.

"We're the soldiers of the ideal of Bangabandhu. So, the power to me is to serve the people and work for the people. And I am now working to ensure that none will remain homeless in Bangladesh," she said.

She also said her government illuminate every house of the country ensuring cent percent electricity and is now working to make sure home for hundred percent homeless and landless people.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four places of the four districts.

The four places are: Poradia Balia Ashrayan Project under Nagarkanda Upazila in Faridpur district, Khajurtola Ashrayan Project under Barguna Sadar Upazila in Barguna district, Khokshabari Ashrayan Project under Sirajganj Sadar Upazila in Sirajganj district and Hajigaon Ashrayan Project under Anwara Upazila in Chattogram district.

Expressing the feelings of getting houses, some beneficiaries thanked the prime minister for providing them home and thus secure their lives.

They prayed for long life of Sheikh Hasina and wanted her to see as the Prime Minister time and again, calling her as the touchstone of the development.

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban end.

A video documentary was also screened on how the landless and homeless people have developed their life standard after getting benefits that included training and money alongside the houses under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

So far, 150,233 houses were handed over in three phases under the Ashrayan-2 Project as part of the government pledge to bring landless and homeless

people across the country under housing facilities in the Mujib Borsho.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase while 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

The government is set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project. Of those, the premier has already handed over 32,904 houses today.

According to the project details, so far 1,17,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,83,003 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Sheikh Hasina said that her government had initiated the housing scheme providing houses to 70 families by building a barrack house on Saint Martin Island after a cyclone storm in 1997.

But Khaleda Zia told the media that she did not know anything about the 1991 cyclone as if she was sleeping, said the Premier.

"But, I didn't sleep after the cyclone in 1997 and round the clock I inquired about the measures taken to tackle the natural disaster, cancelling a state visit to Spain," she said.

After assuming power in 2009

for the second time, she said, they took a housing scheme to provide more resilient dwellings to the landless and homeless people following the footsteps of Father of the Nation, who initiated the "Guchchha Gram" project in the then Noakhali now Lakshmipur district to rehabilitate the distressed people.

Urging all the countrymen to work in unison for the country's development as they did while facing the Covid-19 pandemic, the Prime Minister alerted them to remain vigilant as a section of people, who did not want the country's independence, do not want the country's progress.

She added that there might be no example in the world of what Bangladesh has successfully done facing the Covid-19 pandemic involving people of all strata of life, including government agencies such as armed forces, police and BGB.

The Prime Minister also called upon all to remain cautious as the Coronavirus has spread further in different countries.

Regarding the Covid-19 vaccination, she said, "Despite a country of limited resources, Bangladesh is administering the Covid-19 vaccine at free of cost, while many developed countries could not do so."

Sheikh Hasina said Bangladesh has transformed into a developing country with her government's tireless efforts and attained due honour and dignity that had lost after the assassination of Father of the Nation along with most of his family members on August 15, 1975.

"We have to step forward with the honour which Bangladesh is currently getting. None can neglect Bangladesh now and none can dare to say that Bangladesh is a country of disaster and famine. They're now saying Bangladesh is a role model of development," she said with a proud voice.

The Prime Minister credited the people for the development of Bangladesh as they voted for the Awami League time and again.

Sheikh Hasina came down heavily on the post-1975

governments including the governments of Zia, Ershad and Khaleda Zia for doing nothing for the development of Bangladesh and the welfare of its people rather they patronized anti-liberation war elements to be elected members of parliament, adviser and minister.

The Prime Minister said they did nothing for the people rather they made their own fortune as the state was then run by war criminals and by those people, who did not want the country's independence and had no love for the country and its people.

They rather tried to erase the name of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and imposed a ban on playing the historic 7th March speech of Bangabandhu and Joy Bangla slogan.

"The history cannot be erased. None can now remove the name of Bangabandhu while the Joy Bangla slogan has come again and the 7th March Speech of Bangabandhu has now become a world documentary heritage," she added.

Published at 26 April, 2022

Fulfilling dreams for Eid: 33,000 families get new homes



The cost has been set and design of the houses improved in the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project, PMO sources say

Ali Asif Shawon, Barguna

Tens of thousands of homeless families are gearing up to finally celebrate Eid in a place that they can call their own.

“I have spent a lot of Eids in my 30 years of life. When I was a child I enjoyed Eid with my family. After my teenage years, I left home and celebrated Eid with our Hijra community in

various places like a floating person. But this is the first time I am going to celebrate this biggest festival of our religion in my own house. It is like a dream come true,” said Shimu Akhter, a third gender person.

Shimu is one of 22 homeless people from the Hijra community who are set to

receive new housing at the Khajurtola Ashrayan project in Barguna. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will virtually hand over 32,904 houses to landless and homeless families across the country under the Ashrayan-2 project today.

Altogether 50 families in Barguna will get homes this

time, according to the District Commissioner's Office.

On a visit to Khajurtola Ashrayan project, located about 3km from the Police Line near the centre of the district, this correspondent spoke with some of the recipients of the new permanent houses. They include Mohammald Belal, a 20-year-old with a physical disability; Ayesha, a pregnant woman; Akhi, wife of a day labourer; and Biva Rani, a Hindu member of the Hijra community.

All of them shared tales of suffering, and said they were delighted to finally have their own homes.

A total of 117,329 single houses have been constructed under the first and second phases of the Ashrayan-2 project since the beginning of 2021. The houses handed over under the third phase today will take the total to over 150,000.

The Ashrayan project is the largest housing project in the world so far, with over 700,000 families rehabilitated since its inception in 1997. According to the project details, it will add substance to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Housing is related to positive changes in the areas of education, health, security,

empowerment, women's empowerment, and inclusive development.

Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, senior secretary at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), said the government had increased the cost and brought about changes in the design of the houses built under the third phase to make them more sustainable and climate resilient.

“The cost of each house has been increased to Taka 259,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make them more durable and ensure better quality,” he added.

Published at 26 Apr 2022, 12:27

32,904 more families' dream of owning a home becomes true



PM Sheikh Hasina

Dream of owning a home of 32,904 more homeless and landless families has come into reality as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today handed over houses to them at government expenses, raising the total beneficiaries' number to 150,233 under Ashrayan-2 Project.

The premier virtually distributed the deeds and keys of the newly constructed tin-shed semi-pucca houses on two decimals of land to the beneficiaries under the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project as her gift ahead of the Eid-ul-Fitr, reports BSS.

She joined the programme via video conference from her official Ganabhaban residence here.

The prime minister also exchanged views with some

beneficiaries and other stakeholders connecting to four places of the four districts.

The four places are: PoradiaBaliaAshrayan Project under NagarkandaUpazila in Faridpur district, KhajurtolaAshrayan Project under BargunaSadarUpazila in Barguna district, KhokshabariAshrayan Project under SirajganjSadarUpazila in Sirajganj district and HajigaonAshrayan Project under AnwaraUpazila in Chattogram district.

So far, 150,233 houses were handed over in three phases under the Ashrayan-2 Project as part of the government pledge to bring every landless and homeless people across the country under housing facilities in the MujibBorsho.

On January 23 in 2021, 63,999 homeless and landless families received houses under the first phase while 53,330 families got a roof over their heads under second phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20 last year.

The government has set to distribute 65,674 more houses among the landless and homeless people across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project.

Of those, the premier has already handed over 32,904 houses today.

The houses were constructed in 492 upazilas across the country.

According to the project details, so far 1,17,329 houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,83,003 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022.

Under the project, ownership of land and house is being given in the joint names of husband and wife of landless, homeless, marginalised and uprooted families, it said.

Each unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda costing TK 259,500 without tax and VAT. The amount is TK 330,000 with tax and VAT.

In the third phase of Ashrayan-2 project, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make the houses more sustainable and climate-resil-

ient.

The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more durable.

The government is constructing the houses having strong great-beam, lintel and Reinforced concrete column (RCC) pillar for making the houses more sustainable.

So far Taka 3,972 crore 7 lakh 5 thousand was allocated for construction of houses as of current fiscal year.

Apart from khas land, the government has purchased 168.32 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people. Taka 115.33 crore has already been allocated for purchasing lands.

The government recovered 5,512.04 acres of khas land worth of Tk 2,967 crore 9 lakh from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses under the project.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 5,07,244 families have been rehabilitated till March, 2022 from 1997 while the rehabilitated families are brought under VGF programs for three months.

Rehabilitated family members

are provided with practical and technical training to engage in various productive and income-generating activities.

Micro-credit for their socio-economic development is disbursed from various government agencies such as Bangladesh Rural Development Board, Cooperatives, Department of Women and Children, Department of Social Services.

Free electricity connection is provided to the rehabilitated families and tube-wells are being installed for safe water at the project site.

The housing schemes are being included to community centres, prayer houses and graveyards, ponds and roads for internal communication.

Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel-Hossain Miah moderated the function while PM's Press Secretary Ihsanul Karim and Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Project Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan were present at Ganabhaban end.

A video documentary on developed life standard of beneficiary people under Ashrayan-2 Project was screened.

Published: APR 25, 2022

PM's Ashrayan Project: Homeless Hanufa, thousands more to get own homes on Tuesday



For the first time in her life, 24-year-old Hanufa is going to celebrate an Eid festival in her own land and house.

“I’m so happy. This is going to be a different Eid-ul-Fitr for me,” said Hanufa, who got the house with land as a gift of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina under her government’s Ashrayan Project-2 at Khoksa Union of Sirajganj district.

The young woman, who lost her eyesight when she was just one and half-year old due to typhoid said in an emotion-choked voice, “This is the first Eid I’ll celebrate in my own house, in my own land.” “There is electricity too.”

She has been enlisted to get a house from the Project at its Thrid phase. Some 44 families will get house with land this time.

In the first phase some 100 families and in the second phase another 122 families got houses from the Ashrayan Project 2.

“I used to live on Wapda Dhal (embankment of water development board), in my life I never had a day that passed without having humiliation from others. My dream comes true, the Sheikh Hasina government makes my dream a

reality,” she told a group of visiting reporters on Monday.

Hanufa lives on begging in Sirajganj city, but the house has made her to dream big.

“I want to take up poultry farming and get out of begging,” she proudly said about her future plan for living.

An excited Hanufa looks forward to receive the papers on the land-and-house from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through video links on Tuesday. She will be one of the 44 recipients at Khoksa union.

Visiting the area it was seen that the families who got their

houses in phases one and two are now well settled in their own abodes. They planted various types of trees and are growing vegetables around their houses. Some were seen running small grocery shops and tea stalls they have opened for livelihoods.



“We are very much satisfied with our present condition and will try our best to uplift our condition in the coming future,” they said thanking the prime minister for giving them the opportunity to live a better life.

The prime minister will inaugurate the distribution of houses among 32,904 landless and homeless families across the country under the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 Project on Tuesday ahead of Eid-ul-Fitr.

The houses and lands are being given to the poor families as part of the government’s aim to ensure that none will remain homeless in fulfillment of the dream of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh MujiburRahman.

The PM will join the inauguration programme virtually from her official residence Ganobhaban at 11 am. She will be connected virtually with Kaichail union of Nagarkanda under Faridpur district, Gourichonna union of BargunaSadar under Barguna

district, Khokshabari union of SirajganjSadar under Sirajganj district and Barkhain union of Anwara Upazila under Chattogram district.

PMO Senior Secretary Md. Tofazzel Hossain Miah on Sunday told reporters at PMO office that each unit has two rooms, a kitchen, a toilet and a veranda costing Tk 2,59,500 without tax and VAT.

Alongside the houses, the ownership documents of a two decimal land will be given to each family.

In the first phase the government has given 63,999 houses on January 23, 2021 while 53,330 houses on June 20, 2021.

In the third phase approval has been given to build 65,674 houses while 32,904 houses will be handed over on Tuesday.

The number of allocated single houses in 2021-22 fiscal is 1,83,003 worth Tk 3972.07 crore.

The number of specially

designed houses for the island areas is 1242. Portable houses are given to homeless families staying in Char lands so that they can move their houses during soil erosion.

The PMO senior secretary told that the recovered Khas lands from the illegal occupation across the country is 5512.04 acres with an estimated price of Tk 2967.09 crore.

The government purchased 168.32 acres of land for the Ashrayan project till now

which cost Tk 115.33 crore.

The Ashrayan Project also rehabilitated 5,07,244 landless and homeless families from 1997 to December 2022.

Describing Ashrayan project as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's model for inclusive development, Md. Tofazzel said, "The living standard of a person improves radically (after getting a permanent house). It will help implement eight targets of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)."

THE BUSINESS STANDARD

TBS Report

24 April, 2022, 06:05 pm

Last modified: 24 April, 2022, 10:24 pm

PM to hand over 32,904 houses to homeless families as Eid gifts **A total of 5,07,244 landless and homeless families have been rehabilitated under this project**



A total of 32,904 landless, homeless and marginalised poor families in the country are set to receive houses on Tuesday as gifts from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Fitr.

Each family will get a semi-pucca house with two decimals of land, said senior

secretary to the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Md Tofazzal Hossain Mia at a press briefing on Sunday (24 April).

In the third phase of the Ashrayan-2 project of the Prime Minister's Office, the houses will be handed over across four project areas in Dhaka, Barishal, Rajshahi and

Chattogram.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand over the houses at a virtual ceremony connecting with Poradia, Khajurtola, Khokshabari and Hajigaon Ashrayan Projects.

A total of 1,17,321 families got houses in the first two phases of

the Ashrayan project. For the third phase, the construction of 65,674 single houses is underway, said the PMO Secretary.

He also told the briefing that the government has spent Tk2,59,500 for the construction of each house in the third phase. Adding the price of two decimal land given to the landless along with the house, its value in some areas will exceed one crore taka.

So far, 5512 acres of government land has been freed from influential land grabbers from all over the country, with a market value of around Tk 3,000 crore.

"The Prime Minister has instructed us to buy land and build houses in areas where the government does not have land," he said and added that so far, 168 acres of land has been purchased across the country under the Ashrayan project at a

cost of Taka 115.33 crore.

Tofazzal Hossain said that the number of landless and homeless people in the country is 2.69 lakh and the number of families who have land but no house is 8 lakh.

He also said that the prime minister has approved the design of portable houses for the homeless in the char areas so that they can move their abode in the event of flood or river erosion.

For people living in hill areas, Tong – traditional hill houses – houses have been built with locally collected material and designs of their choice.

The government has allocated Tk 3,972 crore for the construction of 1,83,003 houses in the current fiscal year.

In the year after independence, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur

Rahman visited Charporagachha village in Ramgati upazila of today's Lakshmipur district and directed to rehabilitate the landless and homeless.

In 1997, the Prime Minister took up the Ashrayan project to rehabilitate the coastal people of Cox's Bazar who became homeless during the cyclone.

A total of 5,07,244 landless and homeless families have been rehabilitated under this project from 1997 to last March.

In response to a question from The Business Standard, Tofazzal Hossain said that houses are being provided to the landless and homeless people in the government database.

"The government will take similar measures in the future for people who may become homeless due to natural calamities," he added.

THE BUSINESS STANDARD

Published at 24 April 2022

How Ashrayan project helps attaining SDGs

The PM's housing project for the poor brings crucial socio-economic changes in rural Bangladesh

With wife and three children, Bede community man Sohel Mia lives in a polythene-made tent by the road at a nondescript village in Kaliganj upazila. The gypsy family travel all around the country round the year. Sohel says he cannot admit his kids to school thanks to their lack of a permanent address.

"If I had a permanent house, I would be travelling around leaving the family at home. My daughters then could have schooling and medical treatment when required," the man told The Business Standard.

Like Sohel Mia, some 31 Bede families are now staying at the Kaliganj village. Their gypsy days are nearing an end as 59 homes are being built for them on a vast land by a water body under the Ashrayan-2 Project.

The project aiming at providing shelter to 50,000 families was taken up in 2014. At the first phase, half of the targeted people were handed over with land and houses. Though the project had been struggling with implementation initially, now Ashrayan-2 – which is supervised by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) while the

houses are said to be a gift from the PM to the poor — is one of the fast-moving projects in the Annual Development Programme (ADP).

Centring the Mujib Year celebration, the project beneficiaries were raised to 6 lakh families. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, the number of homeless people in the country will come down to almost zero once the project is implemented.

According to sources in the PMO, in the first phase on 23 January last year, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over land and homes to 66,189 families across the country. On the same day, rehabilitation for 3,715 families in 743 barracks was also inaugurated.

On June 20 of the same year,

land and new houses were given to another 53,340 families in the second phase. In the first two phases, more than 1.17 lakh families got houses. In the third phase, another 65,474 single houses are under construction.

Tofazzel Hossain Miah, senior secretary to the PMO, told The Business Standard that the dream of the premier is to improve the quality of life of the people. The housing project helps the country attain at least eight of the 17 goals of the sustainable development goal (SDG).

Cost escalation for stronger houses

The government increased Tk88,500 for per unit of house under the project and set it at Tk2.59 lakh, which was Tk1.71

lakh in the first phase.

Tofazzel Hossain Miah said the cost escalation is to enhance the strength and durability of the houses.

He told TBS that third phase houses would use the cement concrete base, while shelters in previous two phases were built on brick foundations.

In the third phase, homes for the poor are being constructed in Magura Sadar. Magura Upazila Nirhabii Officer Yasin Kabir said the houses are being built focusing on durability.

Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan, project director of Ashrayan-2, said they have taken special measures to make the third phase houses more durable and strong.

Portable homes for erosion-prone areas

For fishermen, portable homes are being built in river erosion-prone areas under the project. Such 5,078 housing units will cost Tk370 crore. Besides, there will be special houses for the ethnic people in the three districts of the Chattoogram Hill Tracts.

Although people of small ethnic groups in the plains will get semi-pucca houses like other homeless people, 20 "tong ghars" will be built for the Rakhine community in Barguna.

Tofazzel Hossain Miah said Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has instructed them to build houses according to the needs of the beneficiaries.

"Many char areas erode and inundate during the monsoons. Portable houses are being built there to avert property damages," he added.

Floating Manta people get home

From birth to death, the landless Manta community used to spend their entire lives on water in Patuakhali's Rangabali upazila. Parents of the community would tie the babies to the bed of their boats so that the kids do not roll into water.

The government has already provided houses to 29 of 96 Manta families who have been living in boats floating on River Rangabali since 1984. The PMO officials said the remaining families will be rehabilitated gradually.

Nayan Tara, 80, has been able to sleep in a house on the land for the first time since birth. The Manta woman said she had been on the boat since she was born.

"I have been at peace for a year now after getting home," she told TBS.

Her home has a power connection, energy-saving lights and a ceiling fan. "We don't have to pay any electricity bill," she said. However, Nayan Tara has installed a small solar panel recently with her own money.

Another Manta woman Julekha Begum got her house two months ago. She used to catch and sell fish with her husband while she used to live on the boat. Now she no longer goes fishing, as she wants to do

household chores and educate her two daughters and one son.

Environment in focus

Magura Upazila Nirhabii Officer Yasin Kabir said they have arranged mushroom cultivation training for the families to be rehabilitated under the housing project.

He said there are empty spaces next to each house, where it is possible to increase income through mushroom cultivation.

Meanwhile, Kaliganj Upazila Nirhabii Officer Sadia Jerin also said arrangements will be made for income generating works for the beneficiaries.

She said the housing site to rehabilitate the Bede community has already been brought under road communication. "A mosque and a park will be built there. There will also be arrangements for income generating work according to qualifications and skills of the people."

Tofazzel Hossain Miah said each housing unit will have empty space next to it. There will be arrangements for vegetable cultivation and poultry farming on the free space. Besides, various types of training and tree planting are being arranged with a special focus on the environment.

In a separate note, the PMO officials said 155 acres of public land worth around Tk3,000crore has been reclaimed across the country so far while implementing the Ashrayan-2 Project.

Bangladesh Post

By Bauphal Correspondent

Published : 20 Apr 2022 08:20 PM

Move for full rehabilitation of landless, homeless in Bauphal



A review and exchange meeting has been held in Bauphal to bring the landless and homeless families under 100% rehabilitation. The review and exchange of views meeting was held at the Upazila Parishad auditorium at 11am on Wednesday.

Former Chief Whip ASM Firoz MP, President of the Government Institutions Committee of the Jatiya Sangsad was present as the chief guest at the function presided over by Upazila Nirbahi Officer Md. Al Amin. Patuakhali Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Kamal Hossain, Upazila Chairman Abdul Motaleb Hawlader, Vice-Chairman Mosaref Hossain Khan, Women Vice-Chairman Maryam Begum Nishu, Assistant Commissioner

(Land) Md. Bayezid Hossain and others were present as special guests.

Atul Chandra Pal, senior journalist and former president of Bauphal Press Club, among others, spoke at the review and exchange of views meeting. Shahjahan Munshi, former president of the Freedom Fighters Command Council. Samsul Alam Mia, Naomala UP Chairman. Kamal Hossain, Adabaria UP Chairman Manjurul Alam, Chandradwip UP Chairman Enamul Haque Alkach Mollah and Press Club President Prof Amirul Islam.

It was informed in the meeting that 100 families from the current list have been prepared for handing over the houses. The pre-arranged review and exchange

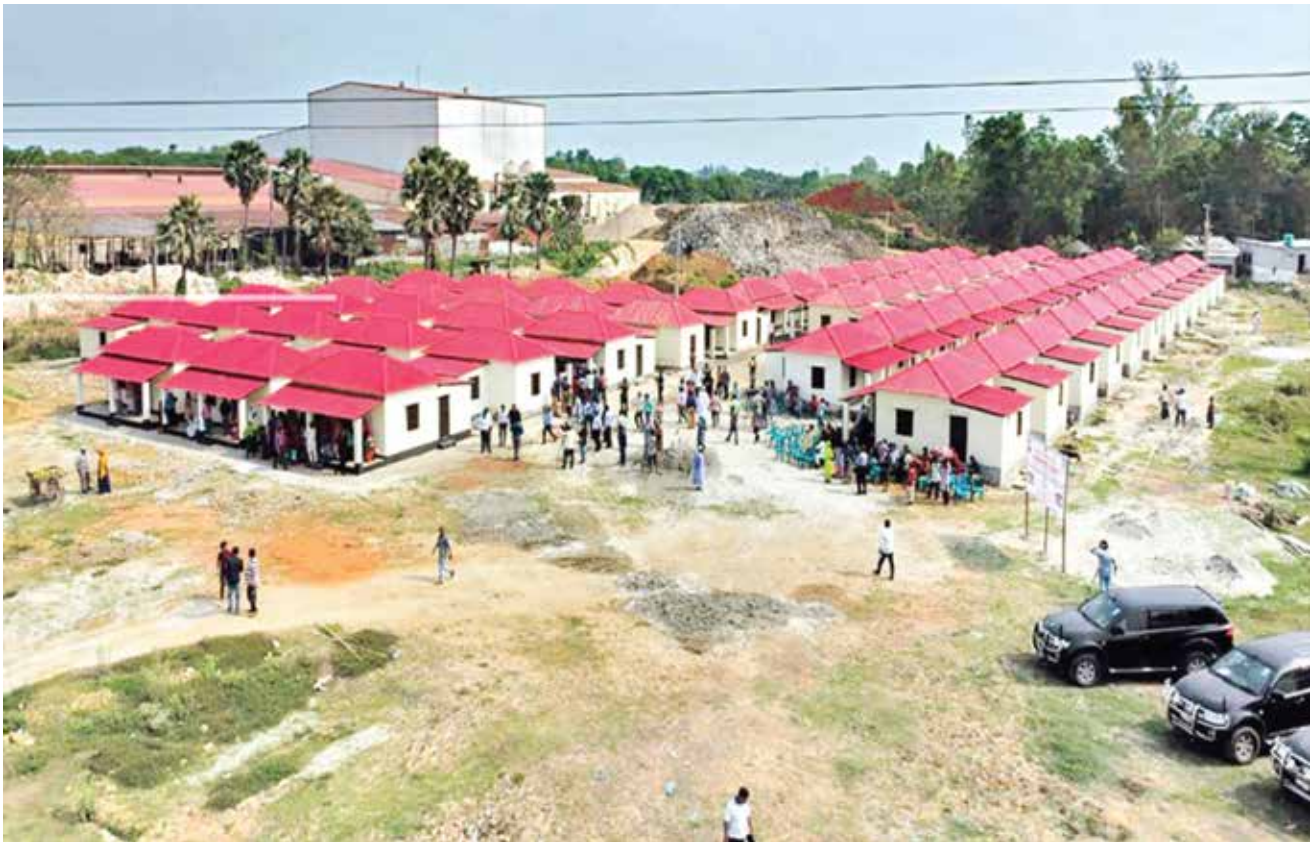
meeting was supposed to be attended by a large number of people including the UP chairmen but the attendance was meager. Out of 15 UP chairmen of the upazila, only 3 were present. The local MP and deputy commissioner expressed their displeasure.

Meanwhile, Deputy Commissioner Mohammad Kamal Hossain said that the passionate project of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is to rehabilitate the landless and homeless. It is unfortunate that the chairmen are absent from the review and exchange of meetings held for the implementation of that project. It was decided at the review and exchange meeting that the final list would be prepared by announcements through mikes in each union by April 28.

The Daily Star

Thu Mar 31, 2022 12:00 AM Last update on: Thu Mar 31, 2022 11:08 AM
Dipan Nandy

Ashrayan project keeps spreading smiles among homeless



Twenty years ago, Mominul Islam lost his house in Chilmari, Kurigram to river erosion. In search of fortune, he migrated from there to Savar's Shimulia union. Although it was no easy task, he managed to eke out a living working on other people's land.

But the good times are about to arrive for Mominul. As part of the Prime Minister's Office's Ashrayan project, he is set to

have a house of his own again.

Along with Mominul, 65,474 families have been allotted houses in the second phase of the project, as a Mujib Borsho gift from the prime minister for the landless and homeless.

After the houses are completed, the PM will officially handover these semi-permanent houses, along with 200 acres of land, free of cost at a convenient time.

Mominul spoke to this correspondent while inspecting the project site at Gohailbari in Shimulia yesterday.

"I lost everything and came here 20 years ago," he said. "I was running my family by farming on other people's land. I cannot believe I'm about to get a house of my own, that too as a gift from the prime minister."

Sixty-four families will be provided single houses at the project site at Gohailbari. Twenty four of them have already been selected through lottery, while the rest are to be picked soon as well.

Each house will be brick-walled, roofed with colourful tin-shed. Floors will be made of concrete, while there will be two bedrooms with a tin canopy, a kitchen, a toilet and an open front porch.

Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan, project director of Ashrayan-2, told The Daily Star that it will be the first and largest instance of providing free housing to so many people in the history of the world.

"Special care is being taken in land selection. Taking experience from the first two phases of the project, the houses are being made in even more sustainable manner," he said.

In the third phase, the cost of constructing each house has increased, with each set to cost Tk 259,500, compared to Tk 171,000 for the first phase and Tk 195,000 for the second.

However, as a result of being exempt from tax and VAT, the houses can be constructed at a cheaper price than the market price, said officials concerned.

Bangladesh Post

a daily with a difference

By BSS, Published : 30 Mar 2022 10:20 PM | Updated : 31 Mar 2022 03:37 PM

Govt recovers 5,512 acres of khas land to ensure housing for landless



The government has recovered 5512.04 acres of khas land from illegal occupation across the country to construct houses for landless under the Ashrayan-2 Project on the occasion of Mujib Barsho.

Approximate market price of the recovered khas land is Taka 2,967 crore 9 lakh.

Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan on Wednesday revealed the information at a press briefing at the Gohailbari Ashrayan at Shimulia union under Savar upazila.

Apart from khas land, he said, the government has purchased 155 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people.

Purchasing lands by government is a unique example in the world. Taka 108 crore 91 lakh 20 thousand has been allocated for purchasing lands, he added.

He mentioned that a total of 6,891 landless and homeless families will be rehabilitated on the houses to be built at purchased lands.

Prime Minister's Deputy Press Secretary Hasan Jahid Tusher and Assistant Press Secretary M M Emrul Kayas were present on the occasion while Savar Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Md Mazharul Islam and Shimulia Union Parishad Chairman ABM Azaharul Islam Suruj also spoke on the occasion.

Md Mazharul Islam said the government has recovered 1.41

acres land which was occupied by Dhaka Shanghai Ceramics Limited in Gohailbari area under Shimulia union of Savar upazila.

Dhaka-Shanghai Ceramics was founded by a group of pro-BNP businessman and politician Mossadak Ali Falu.

Approximate market price of the recovered khas land is around Taka 2,967 crore, Mazharul Islam said. At the place, he said, the government is constructing 64 houses for the homeless families.

"While recovering the land, we faced challenges in several times. But, we overcame every difficulties successfully and recovered the land," he added.

Earlier, at a press briefing at

Prime Minister's Office, Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah said as part of the government's target to ensure housing for the landless and homeless people 65,474 more single houses are being constructed under third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project.

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, he said, the government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make Ashrayan houses more sustainable and climate-resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality abodes along with two decimals of land, he added. He mentioned the cost against each house has been increased to Taka 2,59,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more durable and spectacular.

Besides, portable houses are

given to homeless families staying in Char lands so that they can move their abode during soil erosion, he said.

A total of 1,17,329 single houses were constructed under first and second phases of the project while 1,82,803 houses have been allotted till the current fiscal year of 2021-2022. Taka 3971 crore 6 lakh 83 thousand was allocated for construction of single houses till current fiscal year.

Some 1042 specially designed houses have been allotted for char region under the third phase. Special design has been made as the houses can be shifted to other places in view of any natural disaster like cyclone or flood.

Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 7,08,003 families have been rehabilitated till current

fiscal year since 1997. The number of rehabilitated people is 35,40,015 (estimated as five persons in a family).

According to project details, the unique feature of the Ashrayan Project perceived by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is that there is a special connection of housing activities with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Building houses alone can have major footprints in the attainment of various sustainable development goals.

Housing is related to positive changes in the areas of education, health, security, empowerment, women's empowerment as well as inclusive development.



The Financial Express

Published: March 30, 2022 18:34:47 | Updated: March 31, 2022 11:04:46

65,474 more families to get homes under Ashrayan Project



The government has raised the cost and brought changes in design to make Ashrayan houses more sustainable and resident-friendly.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality abodes along with at least two decimals of land.

Some 65,474 houses are now being constructed with new designs and higher costs. The homeless families will get the houses in the third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project, reports UNB.

The cost of each house has been increased to Tk 259,500 from Tk 190,000 to make the houses more durable and spectacular, said Senior Secretary of Prime Minister's Office Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah.

Besides, portable houses are given to homeless families staying in Char lands so that they can move their houses during soil erosion, he said.

Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan said the houses which are being constructed in the third phase will be more sustainable, reports UNB.

"The cost against each house was increased by Tk 69,000 and changes were made in structural design to make the house more long-lasting," he said while visiting 64 houses at Gohailbari Ashrayan site in Shimulia Union under Ashulia circle in Savar Upazila of Dhaka district on Wednesday.

"We will hand over the third phase houses as soon as possible," said the project director.

Earlier, a total of 117,329 pucca-houses with two decimal of land were provided to the landless and homeless people as the gift of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina under Ashrayan-2 project in the first two phases in 2021 on the occasion of Mujib Year.

As of the current fiscal year, Tk

39.71 billion has been allocated for the construction of the houses to implement Sheikh Hasina's dream to keep no homeless people in the country, according to the Ashrayan factsheet.

Since the Ashrayan houses are constructed on Khas lands and purchased lands, a total of 155 acres of land were purchased across the country.

The allocation against the purchased lands is Tk 1.09 billion and some 6,891 families are being rehabilitated in the purchased lands.

Besides, 155 acres of Khas lands were recovered from illegal occupants in the Mujib Year and the market price of the Khas lands is approximately Tk 29.67 billion.

Sheikh Hasina-led government launched Ashrayan project in June 1997 and some 3.50 million people of 708,003 homeless families have so far been rehabilitated with domiciles.

Published: 30 Mar 2022, 17:45

Ashrayan-2: 65,474 more homeless families to get shelters



SAVAR, Dhaka, March 30, 2022 (BSS) - As part of the government's target to ensure housing for the landless and homeless people, 65,474 more single

houses are being constructed under third phase of Ashrayan-2 Project.

At the third phase of Ashrayan-2, the government has raised the cost and

brought changes in design to make houses more sustainable and climate-

resilient.

Now the landless and homeless people will get better quality

abodes along with two decimals of land. The cost against each house has been increased to Taka 259,500 from Taka 1,91,000 to make the houses more durable and spectacular, Senior Secretary of Prime Minister's Office (PMO) Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah told reporters on Tuesday at PMO.

Besides, portable houses are given to homeless families staying in Char lands so that they can move their abode during soil erosion, he said.

At a press briefing at Gohailbari Ashrayan in Shimulia union under Savar upazila today -- before which two groups of journalists under

the arrangement of PMO went on a three-day field visit to Ashrayan Project in countryside -- Project Director of Ashrayan-2 Abu Saleh Mohammad Ferdous Khan said on the occasion of the 'Mujib Barsho', the government is constructing 65,474 more single houses for homeless and landless families under third phase of Ashrayan-2. He said the government is constructing the houses having strong great-beam, lintel and Reinforced concrete column (RCC) pillar for making the houses more sustainable.

A total of 1,17,329 single houses were constructed under first and second phases of the

project while 1,82,803 houses have been allotted till the

current fiscal year of 2021-2022, he added.

He said, adding Taka 3,971 crore 6 lakh 83 thousand was allocated for

construction of single houses till current fiscal year.

Some 1042 specially designed houses have been allotted for char region under the third phase. Special design has been made so that the houses can be shifted to other places in view of any natural disaster like cyclone or flood.

Apart from khas land, he said, the government has purchased 155 acres of land for rehabilitating homeless and landless people. Purchasing lands by

government is a unique

example in the world. Taka 108 crore 91 lakh 20

thousand has been allocated for purchasing lands, he added.

He mentioned that a total of 6891 landless and homeless families will be

rehabilitated on the houses to be built at purchased lands.

The government recovered 5512.04 acres of khas land from illegal occupation across the country for constructing houses for the project on the occasion of Mujib Barsho, he added.

He said the approximate market price of the recovered khas land is Taka 2967 crore 9 lakh. Under the Ashrayan project, a total of 7,08,003 families have been

rehabilitated till current fiscal year since 1997. The number of

rehabilitated people is 35,40,015 (estimated as five persons in a family).

According to project details, the unique feature of the Ashrayan Project

perceived by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is that there is a special

connection of housing activities with the United Nations Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs). Building houses alone can have major footprints in the attainment of various sustainable development goals.

Housing is related to positive changes in the areas of education, health,

security, empowerment, women's empowerment as well as inclusive development.

THE DELEGATE

An International Publication of Your Choice

Published at 5 July 2021

Ashrayan offers new life to thousands of homeless



People throughout the country, including the remote areas, are enjoying the benefits of the development and progress while thousands of homeless and landless people are getting permanent homes of their own as a part of the government's pledge of not letting anyone remain homeless in the country.

Food, shelter and clothing are basic needs to sustain a human life. But many people living below the poverty line in under-developed and developing countries are devoid of these basic needs, especially shelter.

In the last 12 years, Bangladesh witnessed a huge uplift in socio-economic indexes with reduction of poverty rate to a remarkable extent.

People throughout the country, including the remote areas, are enjoying the benefits of the development and progress while thousands of homeless and landless people are getting permanent homes of their own as a part of the government's pledge of not letting anyone remain homeless in the country.

Middle aged Asu Das had become homeless nearly five years ago as Karnaphuli, a major river in the country's south-eastern part, devoured his home two times at Rangunia upazila in Chattogram district.

Das, a CNG-run auto-rickshaw driver, had to lead a miserable life along with other family members, including his old mother, after losing his home for the second time in 2017.

He used to stay at the residences of his poor relatives for some days. But the relatives were also unable to afford that for long. Later, he along with his family started living in open sky on footpath in Chattogram city.

"I lost my home two times within a decade in erosion of river Karnaphuli. Later, I didn't have any home of my own. I led a very miserable life along with my wife Pinki Das and my old mother," Asu Das told BSS while sharing his bitter experience of life.

He said: "A few years ago, I started to drive CNG, but the income is not enough for maintaining all expenses, including house rent."

Now, the government's

Ashrayan Project appeared as “god from the machine” for Asu Das as he got a two-room semi-pucca tin-shed house of his own on two decimal lands like thousands of other homeless people. Through this, a dream came true for Das and his family members.

Asu Das used live from hand to mouth and he could never imagine that he would have his own house with water and electricity facilities.

As part of the government’s campaign to bring all landless and homeless families under housing facility, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 53,340 houses under the second phase of Ashrayan 2 project on June 20.

The Prime Minister had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997 and 3,73,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project run by the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO).

Elderly Dulal, a physically challenged rickshaw puller of the Brahmanbaria sadar upazila, had also been leading a distressful life along with five other family members at a rented house at Brahmanbaria

town.

Though he lost his right hand at the age of seven, he was fighting against poverty thumping his disabilities. But he couldn’t earn enough for bringing smile on faces of his family members due to his limitations.

“I am working as a rickshaw puller instead of begging. But the income is not enough for my family. Moreover, I didn’t have any home of my own. I led a very miserable life along with my wife and four sons,” Dulal told BSS.

Like Asu Das, Dulal also got a house in the village of Jangal under Sultanpur union in Brahmanbaria district.

Ashrayan-2 Project Director Md Mahub Hossain said the government prepared a list of 885,622 families in 2020, of which 293,361 families are landless and homeless and 592,261 families have 1-10 decimal land but no housing facility.

Of them 69,904 houses were handed over under the first phase of the project on January 23 this year on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Another 53,340 houses were distributed under the second phase of the project on June 20.

The government also rehabilitated 600 climate refugees in 20 five-storey buildings at Khurushkul in Cox’s Bazar last year.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government’s move to rehabilitate the country’s homeless people.

Each family is getting the property worth Taka 2.6 lakh, if the value of two-decimal land is on an average Taka 50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Taka 2 lakh, while the cost of utility connectivity (electricity and gas) is Taka 10,000.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal land alongside a modern abode is being given to both husband and wife of each family.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-K) is 293,361 in the country, while the number of only homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.

25th June, 2021 12:00:00 AM

Homes for the Homeless Establishing a Just and Caring Society



Dr. Akhter Hussain

A couple of days earlier, Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 53,340 houses to the landless and homeless families as a part of her government's pledge to end homelessness in the country. Here it should be mentioned that on January 23, over 69,904 homeless and landless families also received houses from the prime minister under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. It is scheduled that 100,000 more houses will be given by December to rehabilitate the country's homeless people. The distributed houses are tin-shed pucca houses on

two decimals of land. It is reported that each family is given the assets worth Taka 2.6 lakh, as the value of two-decimal land is on an average Taka 50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Tk 2 lakh, while the cost of utility connection (electricity and gas) is around Tk 10,000. The government undertook the Ashrayan project under the direct supervision of the Prime Minister's Office and a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project. The Ashrayan project also supports the landless and homeless families through income generating activities like handicrafts, poul-

try, pisciculture, gardening, agriculture, cattle rearing, etc. This is just one of the many notable initiatives of the current government striving for improving the lives of the poor and the marginalised. However, the social safety net programs received a great leap forward (1998) during the first tenure of the Awami League Government after the restoration of democracy in the early 90s of the last century. Some of the important initiatives include old age allowance, widow and destitute women allowance; maternity allowance for poor mothers; lactating mother assistance program; allowance for the financially insolvent disabled citizens, stipend for the

disabled students, a health program to provide free physiotherapy and other treatments to the disabled people, and support to non-government orphanages. There is provision for open market sale of food items for low income people; the Vulnerable Group Develop-

ment Program, Vulnerable Group Feeding Program and Gratuitous Relief Program provide food assistance and employment generation opportunities. There is also 'One House One Farm' project for near landless households to develop family farms centering

on fisheries, poultry, cattle rearing, nursery, kitchen and vegetable gardening. The Comprehensive Village Development Program helps the poor in the poverty stricken areas with self-employment.



Currently, the entire world including Bangladesh is reeling under the all-encompassing devastating Coronavirus led pandemic. The economic activities came to a standstill and peoples' lives and livelihoods are under constant threat. The government of Bangladesh has undertaken a number of incentive packages to the tune of 1.30 lac crores of Taka to save the economy and the people. In the budget for the year 2021-22, the government has proposed to allocate Taka 1,07,614 crore for the social safety net programs. The proposed amount is 17.83 percent of the total budget and 3.11 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP). Here it should be pointed out that for the first time, the budgetary

allocation meant for the poor and vulnerable crossed Taka 1 lakh crore. It was Tk 95,574 crore in last year's revised budget. It is envisaged that the funds will be used to implement and expand the coverage of various social security programs. It was mentioned that from the next fiscal year, the 100 per cent coverage of the old age allowance holders will be extended to 150 upazilas. This will add more new beneficiaries with additional allocation. The beneficiaries in other categories will increase substantially in the coming years.

Here it needs to be mentioned that Bangladesh was established with the sacrifices of

millions of lives to establish an egalitarian society. Towards that end, the Constitution of the country framed just within a year of independence included the fundamentals of the state policy to translate the hopes and aspirations of the people of the country. The Part II of the Constitution that includes the Fundamental Principles of State policy states among others that 'It shall be a fundamental responsibility of the State to attain, through planned economic growth, a constant increase of productive forces and a steady improvement in the material and cultural standard of living of the people, with a view to securing to its citizens –(a) the provision of the basic necessities of life, including food, clothing, shel-

ter, education and medical care; (d) the right to social security, that is to say, to public assistance in cases of undeserved want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by widows or orphans or in old age, or in other such cases'. In the light of the provisions of the Constitution, Bangabandhu's government just after the liberation brought back and rehabilitated about 10 million refugees those went to India to save their lives from the atrocities of the Pakistani occupation forces. Several

other measures were taken during those days to rehabilitate others suffered during the liberation war under some form of social safety net programs. The ever increasing coverage of the different safety net programs speaks of the desire and intention of the country and especially of the current government that we are relentlessly trying to establish a caring society with our meager or limited resources especially for the poor and marginalized citizens of the country. Here it needs to be pointed out that

other initiatives are on to bring out people from the clutches of poverty. In this area Bangladesh has also registered impressive progress though now to some extent reversed due to the negative impacts of the pandemic in all walks of lives. However, with the picking up of the economic activities the country will be able to reduce poverty substantially in the coming years.

(The different sources of information are acknowledged with gratitude)

Published at 20 June 2021

Bangladesh provides houses for another 53,000 homeless families

The government has provided houses for 53,000 more families as part of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's Mujib Year gift.



Staff Correspondentbdnews24.com

Published : 20 June 2021, 03:00 PM, Updated : 20 June 2021, 04:21 PM

The prime minister inaugurated the second phase of the project to give houses along with 200 acres of land for free via video conference on Sunday.

“It is our aim to ensure that there are no homeless or landless people in Bangladesh - a dream nurtured by the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. We're following this policy and will continue to do so,” Hasina said.

She urged everyone to inform the government if they know any homeless people. “We'll arrange for their housing. I feel that my father's soul will rest in peace if I can do this much.”

Highlighting her government's efforts to combat the coronavirus pandemic, Hasina urged everyone to follow the government's health protocols.

Hasina provided Tk 50 million in funds from the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Trust to provide COVID-19 assistance.

The first initiative of the fund has been the construction of houses for homeless people.

The project aims to implement Hasina's plan to leave no one homeless during Mujib Year.

About 70,000 landless and homeless families across the country got their houses along with pieces of land under the project in January.

Another 100,000 families are likely to get houses and land by December.

The government also aims to train marginalised people for jobs, said Prime Minister's Principal

Secretary Ahmed Kaykaus. People from different backgrounds have joined the initiative, he said.

In 1997, the Prime Minister's Office initiated the Ashrayan project in order to rehabilitate homeless and landless families, which has been run under the direct supervision of the prime minister.

Under the project, over 373,000 homeless and landless families were given houses from 1997 to 2021.

Marking the Mujib Year, the government introduced 'Housing Policy 2020' to provide houses to all homeless families.

It made lists of over 885,000 homeless families and took the steps to “change their lives”.

The Business Post

19 Jun 2021 16:34:46 | Update: 19 Jun 2021 16:34:46

UNB

PM to distribute over 53,000 new houses to homeless Sunday

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's pledge to provide housing to the country's homeless people rolls on in full swing defying odds of pandemic and inclement weather.

The long-time dream of over 53,340 homeless and landless families to have their own homes is going to be fulfilled on Sunday.

The prime minister will inaugurate the second phase distribution of semi-pucca houses marking the Mujib Year through a videoconference from her official residence Ganabhaban in Dhaka.

The government has promised to provide a permanent address for every homeless person of the country on the occasion of the golden jubilee of the independence and birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

These families will be provided with modern homes and land ownership documents across the country under Ashrayan-2 project on the day.

According to officials at the Prime Minister's Office, the joint ownership documents of the two-decimal homes along with a tin-roofed pucca dwelling will be given to both husband and wife of a family ensuring gender equality.

Besides, 1,00,000 more houses

will be given by December next as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people in the Mujib Year.

On January 23, 70,000 such houses along with documents were given to homeless and landless people in the first phase of the project in line with the prime minister's announcement that there would be no homeless and landless people in Bangladesh. Each family is getting overall property worth Tk 2.6 lakh.

A total of 3,73,562 houses have so far been given to homeless families under Sheikh Hasina's Ashrayan project run by the PMO.

On Sunday, the highest number 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 7,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2,512 in Mymensingh, and 1,979 in Sylhet division.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-Ka) is 2,93,361 in the country, while that of just-homeless families (under

class-Kha) is 5,92,261.

In order to make the houses more sustainable and durable, the PMO brought changes in the design and increased allocation by Tk 20,000 against each house.

The field officials were asked to keep the construction works under constant vigilance to ensure the best quality and prevent any sort of irregularity.

Senior officials have visited the construction sites across the country to check the quality of construction works.

Besides, Tk 5,000 will be given against each house as the transport cost in the plain land while the transportation cost for char, haor, and hilly areas has been set at Tk 7,000.

The deputy commissioners and the upazila nirbahi officers had been asked to expedite the construction of the houses coordinating with all the local elected representatives.

The officials concerned were also asked to bring all the small ethnic communities and the underprivileged groups like transgender, bede, and horijan under the housing scheme.



53,340 more homeless families to get houses as PM's gift on Sunday

Staff Correspondent

Prime Minister (PM) Sheikh Hasina is going to give 53,340 more houses to the landless and homeless as Mujib Year, birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, gift across the country under the second phase of Ashrayan-2 Project on June 20.

Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus on Thursday at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said as part of Sheikh Hasina's government

campaign 'no one will remain homeless in Bangladesh'.

The PM is going to inaugurate the distribution of the tin-shed pucca houses virtually on Sunday.

"It is an inclusive development model which has never been implemented by anyone or any country earlier in the world. The initiative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has now become a social campaign," he added.

Kaikaus also said a plan is there to give another 100,000 houses

to homeless and landless families by December.

Earlier, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 69,904 houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of Mujib Year.

House along with two-decimal land will be given free of cost to the homeless and landless people. Husband and wife of each family will get joint ownership of the house and land,

according to the scheme.

Dr Kaikaus said each family is getting the assets worth some Tk 2.6 lakh, if the value of two-decimal land is on an average Tk50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Tk 2 lakh, while the cost of utility connectivity (electricity and gas) is some Tk10, 000.

Mentioning that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan Project in 1997, he said a total of 373,562

houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan Project run by the PMO.

On Sunday next, the highest 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur Division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2512 in Mymensingh and 1979 in Sylhet Division.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan Project, the

number of homeless and landless families (under class-Ka) is 293,361 in the country, while that of only homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahbub Hossain and PMO Director General (Administration) Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present.

প্রথম আলো ENGLISH

Prothom Alo English Desk

Published: 17 Jun 2021, 18: 25

Over 53,000 homeless families to get homes



Over 53,340 homeless and landless families are going to receive well-built homes on Sunday as prime minister Sheikh Hasina's focus on addressing the accommodation problem of the homeless continues even during the pandemic, reports UNB.

These families will be provided with modern homes and land ownership documents across the country under Ashrayan-2 project on the day.

The Prime Minister will inaugurate the second-phase distribution of semi-pucca houses in the Mujib Year through a video-conference from Ganobhaban.

"The houses will be given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families on 20 June next (Sunday)," said PM's principal secretary Ahmad Kaikaus at a press conference in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Thursday.

The joint ownership documents of the two-decimal homes

along with a tin-roofed pucca dwelling will be given to both the husband and wife of each family ensuring gender equality, he said.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people in the Mujib Year, said Kaikaus.

On 23 January last, 70,000 such houses along with documents were given to homeless and landless people in the first

phase of the project in line with the prime minister's announcement that there would be no homeless and landless people in Bangladesh, Kaikaus said.

He said it is prime minister Sheikh Hasina's unique model in the world to rehabilitate homeless people.

The principal secretary said this is how each family is getting overall property worth Tk 260,000.

Mentioning that prime minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997, Kaikaus said a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project run by the PMO.

On Sunday next, the highest 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2512

in Mymensingh and 1979 in Sylhet divisions.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-K) is 293,361 in the country, while that of just-homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.

Published: 17 June 2021

PM to gift 53k more houses to homeless

AA News Desk

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will give 53,340 more houses to the landless and homeless families as part of her government's campaign to bring all landless and homeless families under housing scheme.

The premier is scheduled to inaugurate the distribution of these houses virtually on June 20 (Sunday) under the second phase of the Asrayan-2 project, said Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus on Thursday at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), BSS reports.

"It's a (housing project) inclusive development model which was never implemented by anyone or any country earlier in the world," he said, mentioning that this initiative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has now become a social campaign.

Earlier, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 69,904 houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahbub Hossain and PMO Director General (Administration) Mohd. Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern abode will also be given to both husband and wife of each family.

"The tin-shed pucca houses will be given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families," said Dr Ahmad Kaikaus.

Shohel Mamun, back from Khulna
Published at 03:42 pm June 17th, 2021

Ashrayan project has saved us from uncertain future



Some 53,340 houses will be handed over to homeless and landless families across Bangladesh as part of the second phase of Ashrayan project on Sunday

Shila Das, a soft-spoken 55-year-old woman, has been living at her own house at Kathaltola under Domuriya Upazila in Khulna since January after having been homeless since the emergence of Bangladesh in 1971.

Like Shila, 69,904 families received houses as part of a government project initiated by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. On January 23, the first phase of the distribution got underway. It is the largest shelter distribution event in the world so far.

“Once I got the key to the house I was really surprised; it is the biggest gift in my life,” said Shila Das.

“We had some land which was sold to move to India but we didn’t leave as my father died when I was only a 10-year-old. So, I have been staying at other people’s places since my childhood. When my only daughter was five years old, my husband left Bangladesh for India and never contacted us. My daughter, Lata, is now 27 years old. Her husband is a van-puller and they have a son and a daughter. All five of us

are now living here,” said Shila Das.

Her daughter Lata Das said: “Since my childhood I have seen my mother work at the house next door. They gave us food but no more than twice a day as they too were not financially stable.”

“I dropped out of school when I was in class 3. I had to work at home and in the fields. I was sexually harassed, physically tortured many times even while working in the field. I also had to endure natural disasters,” she said.

“During Sidr – an extremely severe cyclonic storm which hit the coastal districts, including Khulna in 2007 – I was 13 years old and had to stay at a neighbour’s house and was sexually harassed,” she added.

“With my son and daughter now growing up, we are very much happy as a home like this can ensure our safety and remove fears of sexual harassment,” she added.

Interestingly, there has been no recent study on homeless people and their sexual vulnerability in Bangladesh.

Khushi Kabir, a prominent human rights activist, said:

“Homelessness is an enormous social problem not only in Bangladesh but across the world. Homeless women, adolescents and children are particularly vulnerable to multiple forms of victimization, including forced, coerced, or manipulated sexual activity.”

She said in Bangladesh there was a social bonding that might assist in overcoming such challenges, but the rate of victimization was still high.

“Homeless people are abused more than others as they are not empowered,” she added. “The Ashrayan project is one of the

good initiatives taken by the government. If it is possible to implement it successfully, a social change will be visible soon,” she added.

As part of the house and rehabilitation program on the occasion of Mujib Year, being observed to celebrate the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the government plans to provide houses to as many as 900,000 homeless people all over Bangladesh.

The Daily Star

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BSS, Dhaka

PM to gift 53,340 more houses to homeless families on June 20



A view of a cluster of houses in Rupganj's Murapara area, built under the Ashrayan-2 project. File photo/Anisur Rahman

A view of a cluster of houses in Rupganj's Murapara area, built under the Ashrayan-2 project. File photo/Anisur Rahman

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will give 53,340 more houses to landless and homeless families as part of her government's campaign to bring all such destitute families under housing scheme.

The premier is scheduled to inaugurate the handover cere-

mony virtually on June 20 (Sunday) under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 project, said Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus today at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

"It's (housing project) an inclusive development model which was never implemented by anyone or any country earlier in the world," he said, mentioning that this initiative of Prime

Minister Sheikh Hasina has now become a social campaign.

Earlier, PM handed over 69,904 houses to homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahub Hossain and PMO

Director General (Administration) Mohd. Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern abode will also be given to the husband and wife of each family.

"The tin-shed pucca houses will be given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families," said Dr Ahmad Kaikaus.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people, he said.

Dr Kaikaus said each family is getting assets worth some Taka 2.6 lakh, if the value of two-decimal land is on an average Taka 50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Taka 2 lakh, while the cost of utility connectivity (electricity and gas) is some Taka 10,000.

Mentioning that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997, he said a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project.

On Sunday next, 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2,512 in Mymensingh and 1,979 in Sylhet divisions.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-K) is 293,361 in the country, while that of only homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.



The Financial Express

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PM to gift 53,340 more houses to homeless families



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will give 53,340 more houses to the landless and homeless families as part of her government's campaign to bring all landless and homeless families under housing scheme.

The premier is scheduled to inaugurate the distribution of these houses virtually on June 20 (Sunday) under the second phase of the Asrayan-2 project, said Prime Minister's Principal

Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus today (Thursday) at a press conference at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

"It's a (housing project) inclusive development model which was never implemented by anyone or any country earlier in the world," he said, mentioning that this initiative of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has now become a social campaign.

Earlier, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina handed over 69,904 houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahbub Hossain and PMO Director General (Administra-

tion) Mohd. Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern abode will also be given to both husband and wife of each family, reports BSS.

“The tin-shed pucca houses will be given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families,” said Dr Ahmad Kaikaus.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government’s move to rehabilitate the country’s homeless people, he said.

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Mentioning that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997, he said a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project run by the PMO.

On Sunday next, the highest 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2512 in Mymensingh and 1979 in Sylhet division.

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THE BUSINESS STANDARD

17 June, 2021, 10:05 pm

53,340 more homeless to get new houses

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the distribution of these houses virtually on 20 June under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 project



The government will provide 53,340 more houses to the landless and homeless families as part of its campaign to bring all such families under the housing scheme.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to inaugurate the distribution of these houses virtually on 20 June under the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 project, her Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus said at a press conference on Thursday.

"It is an inclusive development model which was never implemented by anyone or any coun-

try earlier in the world," said Kaikaus at the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), adding that Sheikh Hasina's initiative has now become a social campaign.

Previously, the prime minister handed over 69,904 houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23 under the first phase of the project on the occasion of the birth centenary

of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

PMO Secretary Md Tofazzel Hossain Miah, Project Director Md Mahub Hossain and PMO Director General (Administration) Mohd Ahsan Kibria Siddiqui were present at Thursday's press brief.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern abode will also be given to both husband and wife of each family. "The tin-shed pucca houses will be

given to 53,340 more homeless and landless families," said Dr Ahmad Kaikaus.

Besides, 100,000 more houses will be given by December next as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people, he added.

Dr Kaikaus further said each family is getting the assets worth some Tk2.6 lakh, if the value of two-decimal land is considered on an average Tk50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly Tk2 lakh, while the cost of utility connectivity (electricity and gas) is some Tk10,000.

Mentioning that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had undertaken the Ashrayan project in 1997, he said a total of 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project

run by the PMO.

On next Sunday, the highest 12,436 houses will be given in Rangpur division, while 10,547 in Chattogram, 7,630 in Dhaka, 7,172 in Rajshahi, 37,153 in Barishal, 911 in Khulna, 2512 in Mymensingh and 1979 in Sylhet division.

According to the lists prepared under the Ashrayan project, the number of homeless and landless families (under class-K) is 293,361 in the country, while that of only homeless families (under class-Kha) is 592,261.

More 53,000 homeless families to get land, houses



The government will give houses to more 53,000 families, who have no land or home, as Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's gift in Mujib Year.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the distribution through a virtual program on Sunday.

Under the project, landless and

homeless families will get houses along with two decimal pieces of land.

Ahmad Kaikaus, principal secretary to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, announced this at a press conference on Thursday.

69,904 landless and homeless families across the country got

their houses along with two decimal pieces of land under the project in January.

Gifting of homes to the homeless and landless people of Bangladesh marks the biggest festival in Mujib Year, the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, he said.

Ashrayan 2: Over 53,000 landless, homeless families to get houses



An aerial view of the houses built under the government's Ashrayan project, to be handed over to homeless people under Phase 2 of the project on Sunday, June 20, 2021, in Donuria upazila, Khulna Dhaka Tribune

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will hand the houses over to the recipients, in the second phase of the nationwide housing and rehabilitation program

Some 53,340 houses are ready to be handed over to homeless and landless families across Bangladesh under the Ashrayan project on Sunday.

This is the second phase of the government's nationwide housing and rehabilitation program for the destitute.

"Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will kick off the second phase

of house handover to 53,340 families on Sunday," PM's Principal Secretary Dr Ahmad Kaikaus said at a press briefing in Dhaka on Thursday.

"Not a single person will be homeless in Bangladesh in the Mujib Year," he added.

In Teota village under Shibaloy upazila, Manikganj, 24 units of houses have been prepared for 24 enlisted homeless families.

"The government wants to eliminate homelessness in Bangladesh by distributing houses and land," said Md

Mahbub Hossain, project director, Ashrayan 2, during a visit to the project location.

"Along with the pucca houses, the poor families have got the ownership papers of two decimals of plot as well. All these houses have been constructed on khas land," he added.

As a part of the house and rehabilitation program on the occasion of Mujib Year, being observed to celebrate the birth centenary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman, the government plans to provide houses to as many as 900,000 homeless people across Bangladesh.

On January 23, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina kicked off the ambitious project by initiating the first phase of the project, handing over houses to some 66,189 landless and homeless families as a gift, via videoconference.

Houses built for the second phase of the government housing project Ashrayan in Khulna. The local authority constructed the houses following the prime minister's directive, at the cost of Tk1,168 crore. Each of the houses, built on two decimals of land having two rooms, one balcony, and one toilet besides having a connection of electricity and water, cost Tk1.75 lakh.

However, the cost rose to

Tk1.85-2 lakh for each house during the second phase.

In addition, the families will receive some extra money as well to furnish the houses. Homeless families in flatlands will be given Tk5,000 each, and families in haor areas will be given Tk7,000.

The beneficiaries will gradually be trained to enable themselves for a better livelihood, per the government plan.

A well-received initiative

Shibaloy upazila parishad Chairman Rezaur Rahman, also a freedom fighter, said the Ashrayan project was a blessing for the homeless people.

“Those listed to get housing under this project have been homeless for many years. They used to take shelter in other people's houses. Now they are getting houses of their own - for

the first time in their lives. What could be a greater gift?”

Rabeya Khatun, a beneficiary of the project at Teota village, is overjoyed that she is going to be a homeowner.

“We still can't believe that we are getting such a great house as a gift from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. We appreciate the initiative taken by the government,” she said.

Monnaf, an elderly beneficiary, said: “I have somehow managed to live my life here. We suffered under the sun, rain and storm. Getting a house from the prime minister is the best thing that ever happened in my life. Now I am just counting the days.”

A young man named Sumon said: “Our scarcity is endless. I hope I can change my life after getting the house. Our fathers and grandfathers have had a hard time living here.”

June 17th, 2021 at 4:53 pm

53,340 more homes to be handed to landless families



by Staff Correspondent in Dhaka

The government will hand 53,340 more homes to families having no accommodation to live in as part of its campaign to bring all landless people under the national housing scheme.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is scheduled to distribute those homes among the landless families on Sunday, the Prime Minister's Principal Secretary Ahmad Kaikaus told reporters on Thursday.

The Prime Minister will inaugurate the distribution ceremony of the second phase of the Ashrayan-2 project through a

video conferencing from her official Ganabhaban residence.

Earlier, Prime Minister Hasina gave 69,904 tin-roofed houses to the homeless and landless families on January 23.

Under the scheme, joint ownership of two-decimal house land alongside a modern abode will also be given to both husband and wife of each family.

By December next year, 100,000 more houses will be given as part of the government's move to rehabilitate the country's homeless people,

Kaikaus said.

He said each family is getting the assets worth some 2.6 lakh takas, if the value of two-decimal land is on an average Taka 50,000. The construction cost of every house is nearly 200,000 taka, while the cost of utility connectivity is some 10,000 taka.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina undertook the Ashrayan project in 1997. Some 373,562 houses have so far been given to homeless and landless families under the Ashrayan project since then.



Another 53,000 homeless families will receive PM Hasina's gift house in June

Dhaka, May 4: Another 53,500 more landless families will be given houses under Asrayan Project-2 in June. The information was given at a review meeting at the Prime Minister's Office on Monday (May 3) on the progress of ongoing housing construction under the Asrayan project.

About 70,000 houses and landless families were given houses as a gift from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in January on the occasion of Mujib Year.

A total of 53,434 houses are being constructed in the second phase.

Of these, 7,280 are in Dhaka division, 2,512 in Mymensingh division, 10,562 in Chittagong division, 12,391 in Rangpur division, 7,172 in Rajshahi division, 3,911 in Khulna division, 7,627 in Barisal division and 1,969 in Sylhet division are under construction.

The review meeting was chaired by Chief Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr. Ahmed Kaikaus. Md. Mahub Hossain, Project Director of Asrayan-2 highlighted the progress of the work during the presentation.

Next year, the government will distribute 1,25,000 pucca houses among the homeless and landless. Field administration officials have been asked to prepare for the construction of the second phase of the houses, which will be provided by the government next year. Homeless people are getting houses as a gift from Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in Mujib Year.

Instructing the officials to ensure the quality of the houses, Chief Secretary to the Prime Minister Dr Ahmed Kaikaus said, "There will be no compromise on quality. If any deviation is found, we will show zero tolerance. No deviation will be tolerated. We will not take the matter lightly. We will not allow anyone to tarnish the reputation of such an initiative."

He added that the program to build houses for the homeless and landless is rare in the world. The Prime Minister is passionate about building houses for helpless people and is constantly in touch with the officials, Kaikaus stated.

The Daily Star

PM's laudable initiative to give houses to the homeless

It is an innovative, unique example to follow

Sun Jan 24, 2021 12:00 AM Last update on: Sun Jan 24, 2021 12:55 AM



A view of a cluster of houses in Rupganj's Murapara area built under the Ashrayan-2 project, on January 21, 2021. The government is building such houses for landless and homeless families to mark Mujib Borsho. Photo: Anisur Rahman

We applaud Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her government for inaugurating the Ashrayan 2 project aimed at

rehabilitating homeless, landless people of the country, providing them with well-constructed houses with basic facilities. It is truly a remarkable endeavour that has been initiated in commemoration of Mujib Borsho, marking the birth centenary of Bangabandhu.

So far, the PM has already given these houses to 66,189

families who have no land and no shelter to call home. The government has spent Tk 1,168 crore for the first batch of houses constructed. Landlessness and homelessness plague thousands of people in this country. Many have lost their precious homesteads to river erosion or sold off their land to survive or meet family emergencies. Others have never even known what it is like to

have a roof over their heads. For such people, being given a house on a piece of land that they can call their own is nothing short of a miracle. What is remarkable about this project is that apart from the houses, the disadvantaged families received ownership papers of two decimal land parcels. This will be a huge relief to these families who constantly struggle to pay rent, sometimes living on the streets when they can't even do that. It will also boost their self-esteem.

The PMO will also rehabilitate 3,715 homeless families in 743 barracks in 44 villages of 21 districts as part of this endeavour. It is impressive that the PMO prepared a list of more than eight and a half lakh people in 2020 that included

those who were homeless, landless or had small pieces of land but no houses. Such quick results from a project is quite unique and praiseworthy.

We especially applaud the government for including the elderly, widows and persons with disabilities in the list of beneficiaries of this project. The beneficiaries will be provided with basic facilities such as health, education and utility services. According to Ashrayan's PD, another list has been prepared of almost six lakh families from all over the country, who own land but do not have houses or have homes that are substandard, as part of the Mujib Borsho initiative.

At a time when the pandemic has led to widespread jobless-

ness and economic hardship, this project could not be more crucial and welcome. Targeting the most marginalised groups has been a wise and compassionate approach, and the efficiency with which the PMO has been able to successfully hand over the houses to the beneficiaries shows that it is possible to implement such projects with proper planning and sincerity. We hope that such innovative projects to alleviate the overpowering helplessness of poor, landless people will continue to be initiated in both rural and urban areas and implemented with transparency and honesty. The PM has shown how it is done and this should be an example to follow by her administration.

The Daily Star

This is our biggest celebration: PM says while giving away homes to homeless

BSS, Dhaka

Sat Jan 23, 2021 11:42 AM Last update on: Sat Jan 23, 2021 03:42 PM



A view of a cluster of houses in Rupganj's Murapara area, built under the Ashrayan-2 project. The photo was taken on Thursday. Photo: Anisur Rahman

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina today said that her government would ensure accommodation for all marking Mujib Borsho.

"We have set a target in Mujib Borsho that not a single person will remain without address or home. I will ensure an address

for everyone," she said while giving away homes to 66,189 families alongside rehabilitating 3,715 others in the barracks under Ashrayan-2 Project.

Joining the programme virtually from her official residence Gono Bhaban in Dhaka, the Prime Minister asked all concerned, particularly the local administrations, to hand over ownerships of the houses to the beneficiaries.

She said that as many as 320,000 families had earlier been given homes while work on building one lakh more houses for the landless and homeless will start soon.

The Prime Minister said she was elated today as she managed to give a large number of houses to landless and homeless people during winter.

On the occasion, she said, "This is the largest celebration. There

is no better way to celebrate than providing homes to landless and homeless people on such a large scale."

Sheikh Hasina said that the souls of her father (Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman) and her mother and lakhs of martyrs who made supreme sacrifice for the country's Liberation War will rest in peace as such a huge number of people received their own homes.

Referring to giving homes to marginalised people such as dalit, harijan, transgender, tea workers and others, she said that her government has been working tirelessly to ensure improved lives for cross-section of people.

She said that they have also rehabilitated climate refugees with giving homes at Khuruskul in Cox's Bazar while 100 more buildings are being built for them.

She said Bangabandhu had a five-year plan to make Bangladesh a developed country, adding, "The people of Bangla-

desh could have had improved lives if Bangabandhu could have implemented it."

The Prime Minister later exchanged views with the beneficiaries, local Awami League leaders and public representatives who got connected to the programme from Kathaltala village of Atalia union under Dumuria upazila in Khulna district, Nizbari village of Kamarpukur union under Syedpur upazila in Nilphamari, Kartali village of Gazipur union under Chunarughat upazila in Habiganj, and Salla village of Baliadanga union under Sadar upazila in Chapainawabganj district.

A video documentary was screened on the government's effort to rehabilitate the landless and homeless people.

While exchanging greetings, Sheikh Hasina urged all to identify homeless and landless people in their respective localities as the government has a target to provide homes to everyone marking Mujib Borsho and the golden jubilee

of the country's independence.

The government has built 66,189 houses at a cost of Taka 1,168 crore for homeless people on the occasion of Mujib Borsho. Each of the houses was built on two decimals of land having two rooms, one corridor and one latrine alongside connection of electricity and water.

The residents of the houses will be given necessary training to ensure their earnings and after completion of the training they will get a loan from the government.

Besides, the Ashrayan Project under the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) rehabilitated 3,715 families by constructing 743 barracks under 44 project villages in 36 upazilas in 21 districts during Mujib Borsho.

The Ashrayan Project has prepared a list of 885,622 families in 2020, including 293,361 landless and homeless families, and 592,261 families having 1-10 decimal land but no housing facility.

Newspapers links

Sl No	Date	Name of Newspaper	News Heading Link
1	22 Sept 2022	bdnews24.com	https://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/kf78k1i67g
2	21 Sept. 2022	The Daily Kaler Kantho	https://www.kalerkantho.com/english/online/national/2022/09/21/39569
3	21 Sep 2022	The Business Post	https://businesspostbd.com/national/pm-calls-for-forging-strong-global-partnerships-to-end-homelessness
4	21 Sept. 2022	The Country Today	https://dailycountrytodaybd.com/story/homelessness-is-a-curse-that-impacts-people-everywhere:-pm
5	16 Sep 2022	BSS	https://www.bssnews.net/news/82895
6	16 Sep 2022	Bangladesh post	https://bangladeshpost.net/posts/ashrayan-viewed-as-sheikh-hasina-model-for-inclusive-dev-94846
7	22 July 2022	Daily Asian Age	https://dailyasianage.com/ep/2022/07/21/index.php?page=5
8	22 July 2022	Bangladesh Post	https://bangladeshpost.net/posts/all-to-get-home-pm-90517
9	22 July 2022	Daily Asian Age	https://dailyasianage.com/ep/2022/07/22/index.php?page=1
10	22 July 2022	New Age bd	https://epaper.newagebd.net/22-07-2022/1
11	22 July 2022	The Financial Express	https://epaper.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/?archiev=yes&arch_date=22-07-2022#
12	22 July 2022	The Observer	https://epaper.observerbd.com/2022/07/22/
13	22 July 2022	The Daily Sun	http://www.edailysun.com/arc/archive/2022-07-22#tab1
14	22 July 2022	The Business Standard	https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/ashrayan-ending-homeless-lives-thousands-462938
15	22 July 2022	The daily star	https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/let-us-know-any-homeless-person-3076296
16	21 July 2022	The Financial Express	https://epaper.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/?archiev=yes&arch_date=21-07-2022#
17	21 July 2022	The Daily Sun	http://www.edailysun.com/arc/pre_page/2022-07-21/1#tab1
18	21 July 2022	Dhaka Tribune	https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2022/07/21/pm-hasina-no-one-without-land-and-home-in-panchagarh-magura
19	21 July 2022	English Prothomalo	https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/kkeolobz0h

20	20 July 2022	The Daily Observer	https://epaper.observerbd.com/2022/07/20/
21	20 July 2022	The Daily Sun	http://www.edailysun.com/arc/next_page/2022-07-20/10#tab1
22	19 July 2022	Bangladesh Post	https://bangladeshpost.net/epaper/2022-07-19
23	19 July 2022	The Financial Express	https://epaper.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/?archiev=yes&arch_date=19-07-2022#
24	18 July 2022	Shining bd	https://www.shiningbd.com/article/special-top-1/574
25	12 July 2022	Arab News	https://www.arabnews.com/node/2120801/world
26	27 April 2022	The Asian Age	https://dailyasianage.com/ep/2022/04/27/index.php?page=11
27	27 April 2022	Daily Industry	https://edailyindustry.com/2022/04/27/
28	27 April 2022	The Business Standard	https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/my-house-five-star-hotel-gratitude-pours-asrayan-beneficiaries-410094
29	27 April 2022	Daily Sun	https://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/617863/None-to-remain-homeless:-PM/2022-04-27
30	27 April 2022	The Daily Star	https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/no-one-be-homeless-bangladesh-3013171
31	27 April 2022	The Financial Express	https://today.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/last-page/no-one-to-stay-homeless-pm-1650996564
32	26 April 2022	New Age	https://www.newagebd.net/article/169057/none-will-remain-homeless-in-country-pm
33	26 April 2022	Jago news 24	https://www.jagonews24.com/en/national/news/61530
34	26 April 2022	Bangla insider	https://www.banglainsider.com/en/inside-bangladesh/110941/32904-more-families-get-homes-as-PMs-Eid-gift
35	26 April 2022	Daily Bangladesh	https://www.daily-bangladesh.com/english/national/72244
36	26 April 2022	Dhaka Tribune	https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2022/04/26/fulfilling-dreams-for-eid-33000-families-get-new-homes
37	26 April 2022	English Ittefaq	https://en.ittefaq.com.bd/1469/32-904-more-families-dream-of-owning-a-home

38	25 April 2022	UNB United News of Bangladesh	https://unb.com.bd/category/Bangladesh/pms-ashrayan-project-homeless-hanufa-thousands-more-to-get-own-homes-on-tuesday/91779
39	24 April 2022	The Business Standard	https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/pm-hand-over-32904-houses-homeless-families-cid-gifts-408846
40	24 April 2022	The Business Standard	https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/how-ashrayan-project-helps-attaining-sdgs-408958
41	20 April 2022	Bangladesh post	https://www.google.com/search?q=move+for+full+rehabilitation+of+landless%2C+homeless+in+bauphal&oq=move+for+full+rehabilitation+of+landless%2C+homeless+in+bauphal&aqs=chrome..69i57.47071j0j4&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8
42	31 March 2022	The Daily Star	https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/ashrayan-project-keeps-spreading-smiles-2994571
43	30 March 2022	Bangladesh Post	https://bangladeshpost.net/
44	30 March 2022	The Financial Express	https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/public/national/65474-more-families-to-get-homes-under-ashrayan-project-1648643687
45	30 March 2022	BSS	https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/53277
46	5 July 2021	The Delegate	https://thedelegate.net/ashrayan-new-life-of-homeless/
47	20 June 2021	BD News 24	https://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/bangladesh-provides-houses-for-another-53000-homeless-families
48	25 June 2021	The Daily Sun	https://www.daily-sun.com/post/560798/Establishing-a-Just-and-Caring-Society
49	19 June 2021	Business Post bd	https://businesspostbd.com/national/pm-to-distribute-over-53-000-new-houses-to-homeless-sunday-19321
50	18 June 2021	The Observer	https://www.observerbd.com/news.php?id=317783
51	17 June 2021	English Prothomalo	https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/government/over-53000-homeless-families-to-get-homes
52	17 June 2021	The Asian Age	https://dailyasianage.com/ep/2021/06/18/index.php?page=1
53	17 June 2021	Dhaka Tribune	https://archive.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/06/17/ashrayan-project-has-saved-us-from-uncertain-future?fbclid=IwAR14XsGEPMIIZ7brkancaa-C9siRU_MzcH4POAgLAK9bqu4ZpL530AZdQ4I

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55	17 June 2021	The Financial Express	https://www.thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/pm-to-gift-53340-more-houses-to-homeless-families-1623928424
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