

Zubaida Rahman inaugurates month-long tree plantation prog

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Online Desk : The Ziaur Rahman Foundation (ZRF) has launched a month-long tree plantation campaign and inaugurated the “Science Fair 2026: In Search of Future Scientists,” marking the 45th death anniversary of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman. The programs were formally inaugurated by Dr. Zubaida Rahman, Vice President of ZRF and spouse of Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, on Wednesday. She inaugurated the campaign by planting a neem sapling at the Curzon Hall premises of the University of Dhaka. Later, she officially opened the “Science Fair 2026: In Search of Future Scientists” at the Central Gallery of the Department of Botany.

Dr. Zubaida Rahman paid deep tribute to Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and the late Khaleda Zia. She stated that tree plantation is one of the most effective means of environmental protection, creating shade, and building a beautiful and livable world. She emphasized that teachers and students can play a significant role in developing scientific solutions to various national challenges. She stressed the need for collective efforts to make both rural and urban areas greener, cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing for future generations.

Dr. Rahman urged people not to view tree plantation merely as a ceremonial activity, but to transform it into a “green revolution” through public participation that contributes to economic, social, and intergenerational development. To achieve this goal, she proposed initiatives such as Green Volunteerism, Green Community Service, Climate Youth Fellowships, and the establishment of an Environment-Based Startup Fund. Highlighting the importance of environmental awareness among students, she called for the inclusion of green volunteerism in educational curricula. She also announced that active participation of university teachers and students would be encouraged in the “In Search of Future Scientists” competition.

Dr. Rahman further noted that research, innovation, and healthy competition in fields such as medicine, botany, physics, chemistry, and information technology can provide effective solutions to many of the country’s challenges. She added that new innovations would help reduce public suffering and play a vital role in building a more developed Bangladesh. As part of the nationwide program, tree plantation activities were also inaugurated on the same day at Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and Sylhet Agricultural University.

The event was presided over by Professor Dr. Morshed Hasan Khan, Acting Executive Director of JRF, and moderated by Professor Lutfor Rahman, Convener of the ZRF Committee formed to observe the martyrdom anniversary. Special guests included AFM Yusuf Haider, ABM Obaidul Islam, Dr. Mostafa Aziz Sumon, Director of JRF, and agriculturist Boyzar Rahman. Among others, Professor Dr. Abdus Salam, Pro-Vice Chancellor of the University of Dhaka, deans of various faculties, department chairpersons, teachers, students, and JRF leaders, were present.