

Govt to build 670 new schools, colleges : Milon

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Online Desk : The government has initiated the construction of 670 new secondary-level schools and colleges across different districts and upazilas, Education Minister ANM Ehsanul Hoque Milon said, adding that it is a major programme in the country's education sector. He, also the Primary and Mass Education Minister, shared this information while addressing a workshop organised by the UNICEF at Sheraton Hotel in Dhaka's Banani on Sunday afternoon, June 14.

About girls' enrollment, Milon said that although statistics showed their participation decreased, their presence is seen comparatively higher than that of boys in rural areas. The progress commenced through the 'Food for Education' programme launched by former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and, later, it transformed into cash assistance and stipend, he noted.

Mentioning that girls' participation in education increased significantly as a result of the stipend, the minister said the facility subsequently expanded to the higher secondary level and is being gradually introduced to the degree level.

The government has planned to launch such assistance for both girls and boys in the future, he added. About child marriage, Milon said this is still happening secretly; however, the government's stance is strict. Regarding madrasa education, the minister said technical education is being included in madrasas, so that these are more effective and job-oriented.