



In 1974, he was appointed the principal of Dhaka Physical Education College. This gave him the opportunity to completely change the culture of the college as far as sports was concerned. At that time, physical education was rather a neglected field. "Most often I used to be called PT Sir," says Alim. He worked very hard and spent all his time and energy throughout his 18-year tenure and changed the fate of the college. He built a swimming pool and introduced some new sports in the college. He was also the man to introduce sports song in the college. Alim also initiated scholarships abroad for the students of the college. From 1976-78 he was the general secretary of National Sports Control Board. From 1974-89 he was the president of Physical Teacher's Summit. He was also the vice-president of Bangladesh Cycling Generation.

In 1979 Alim got a call from the president. Zia was always in favour of the development of sports and games all over the country. One day he called Alim and asked him what could be done for the development of sports. Alim's proposal was to establish a national institute of sports like many developed countries. It was 1979.

He also proposed that physical education should be made compulsory and that in every educational institution there should be a physical education teacher. Zia readily accepted his first proposal and asked Alim to start working for a national institute of sports. Once he had the government backing, Alim began his work and the Bangladesh Institute of Sports (BIS) was established in Savar on 100 acres of land. He was the first director of this institute and graced the post for three years. BIS was later turned into Bangladesh Krira Shikkha Protishthan (BKSP).

But is BKSP on the right track and taking our sports forward? Is Alim happy with the state of BKSP? "No, I am not happy. Because today BKSP is full of corruption." In 1982 he joined the Physical Education College again. He retired in 1989.

Alim believes that it is important for the government to be actively involved in helping to identify and pick athletes from across the country.

There is also another more cerebral side to Alim. He has written some 42



Alim (extreme right) with his wife and sons.