

# Plan to introduce high-speed electronic trains

## STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Communication Minister Nazmul Huda yesterday said the government is planning to introduce the high-speed electronic train service on the Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet routes.

He said after launching highway on Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet routes, Railway passengers have reduced, for which the government has taken the initiative to introduce the high-speed trains in the country.

Huda said this while he was inaugurating the 11 more Meter Gauge Diesel Electric Main Line Locomotives at a programme organised by BR at Kamalapur Railway Station in the city.

He said the government is also improving the railway tracks and signaling systems to modernise the BR.

"The addition of the new locomotives with the assistance of Korea would significantly enrich the railway," Housing and Public Works Minister Mirza Abbas said.

Communication Secretary Md Shafiqul Islam, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea Seong-Ung Park and BR Director General AFM Mustafizur Rahman were present.

At present Bangladesh Railway has a fleet of 78 Broad Gauge and 197 Meter Gauge out of 275 locomotives. Addition of 11 Meter Gauge locomotives has raised BR's locomotives fleet strength to 286 of which 208 are Meter Gauge.

These new locomotives worth about Tk 214 crore were procured from

the Republic of Korea.

The BR signed a contract agreement with M/S. Samsung Corporation of Korea on September 24 in 2003 for procurement of these new locomotives, manufactured by M/S. ROTEM Company Limited of Korea.

## Workshop on women's studies begins

### STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Women's Studies, Dhaka University (DU), began a three-day curriculum development workshop at a city hotel yesterday.

The workshop is being held under a collaborative project between the Department of Women's Studies of DU and the Institute of Social Studies (ISS), The Hague.

Apart from Bangladeshi representatives, delegates from China, Nepal, India and Pakistan are taking part in the workshop.

The workshop is designed to identify the gaps in the existing curriculum, revise and finalise the course curriculum at the undergraduate level and recommend courses for the Master's and M. Phil. programme.

Dr Nazmunnessa Mahtab, chair of the department, and Dr Amrita Chhachhi spoke at the workshop.

## Curriculum Development

### SS-WS Collaborative Project Department of Women's Studies University of Dhaka

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Dr. Amrita Chhachhi speaks at the curriculum development workshop at a city hotel yesterday. On her left is Dr Najma Chowdhury and on her right is Dr Nazmunnessa Mahtab.