

PKSF Deputy Managing Director Visits RRF



A.Q.M. Gola Mawla, Deputy Managing Director of PKSF, visited the Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) on 22–23 October 2025. During his visit, he attended a discussion meeting with **department heads, Assistant Directors, and Regional Managers** of RRF. The meeting served as a platform to exchange views on program implementation, operational progress, and future collaboration between PKSF and RRF.

Other officials from PKSF and members of the RRF management team were also present at the session. **Mr. Philip Biswas, Executive Director, Rural Reconstruction Foundation and Antony Biswas , Assistant Executive Director, Rural Reconstruction Foundation** attended the meeting and shared valuable insights on strengthening partnership initiatives for sustainable development.



PKSF Training

In the month of October 2025, PKSf nominated two participants from RRF to attend specialized trainings. One of them participated in the training on “*Procurement and Inventory Management*”, while the other joined the training on “*Artificial Intelligence in Integrated Training Program*”

Procurement & Inventory Mgt. Training



Shohag Biswas, Portfolio Officer of the Risk Management Cell, attended a five-day training on “**Procurement and Inventory Management**” organized by PKSf from 12–16 October 2025. The training aimed to enhance participants’ understanding of effective procurement processes and inventory control systems. Through this program, he gained valuable knowledge to strengthen RRF’s operational efficiency and risk management practices.

AI in Integrated Training Program



Umma Sumya, Assistant Trainer, attended a three-day training on “**Artificial Intelligence in Integrated Training Program**” organized by PKSf from 21–23 October 2025. The training enhanced her understanding of how AI can be applied in development and training activities. She gained valuable insights to utilize AI tools for improving training effectiveness and organizational learning.

Internal Training: RRF



In the month of **October 2025**, the RRF Training Unit successfully organized a total of **seven training Courses**, including **two Assistant Manager trainings**. Altogether, **134 participants** attended the sessions, comprising **102 Credit Officers (CO)** and **32 Assistant Managers (Accounts & Loan)**. To enhance the quality of the sessions, the Department Heads of HO and AD Jashore, along with the Regional Manager of Churamankathi, were invited as facilitators to share their valuable field experiences and practical insights with the participants.

Monthly Coordination Meetings Held at RRF



On 12 October 2025, RRF organized its **monthly coordination meeting** at the RRF Head Office with all **Assistant Directors of the Microfinance Zones** under the **Microfinance Program**. The meeting aimed to review ongoing activities, discuss operational strategies, and strengthen the overall program implementation process. Department heads from RRF Head Office attended the session and shared **guidelines, strategies, and best practices** to further enhance program effectiveness and field performance. Despite his extremely busy schedule, **Mr. Antony Biswas, Assistant Executive Director**, honored the meeting with his presence and valuable insights, motivating participants to achieve the organization's development goals with greater efficiency and teamwork.

New Branch, New Possibilities

A new chapter has been added to the development journey of the **Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)**. On 14 October 2025, the **Kutibazar Branch** under the **Muradnagar Region of Brahmanbaria Zone** was officially inaugurated with great success.

The inauguration ceremony was graced by the presence of **RRF's Deputy Director, Assistant Director, Regional Manager**, and the **dedicated staff members** of the concerned branch.

❁ This new beginning opens the door to fresh opportunities for **socio-economic development** of the people in **Kutibazar and its surrounding areas**, marking yet another step forward in RRF's mission of empowering communities.



RRF Observes International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction 2025



On 13 October 2025, the Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) actively participated in a rally organized to mark the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction in Jashore. The rally started from the Deputy Commissioner's Office premises and aimed to raise awareness about disaster preparedness and risk mitigation. Representatives from RRF & various government and non-government organizations, including RRF officials and staff, joined the event, emphasizing the importance of collective efforts in building a resilient and disaster-ready community.

"RRF and JUST Sign MoU to Foster Research and Technical

On 8th October 2025, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Green Biotech Tissue Culture Lab (GBTCL), a sister concern of Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF), and the Laboratory of Nano-Bio & Advanced Materials in Engineering (NAME) under the Department of Chemical Engineering, Jashore University of Science and Technology (JUST). The ceremony took place at RRF Bhaban, Jashore.



Key attendees included professors from JUST—Dr. Zaved Hossain Khan, Dr. Md. Shirazul Islam, Dr. M. Mahfuzur Rahman, and Dr. Selina Akter—as well as RRF officials, including Executive Director Mr. Philip Biswas, Dr. Asit Baran Mondal, Mr. Pradwip Kumar Singh. Under the MoU, both parties will collaborate to promote technical cooperation in research and development, training, capacity building, technology transfer, consultancy, and other areas of mutual research interest.

RRF Distributes Grant Cheques to Entrepreneurs under RMTP Sub-Project



On 29 October 2025, at the RRF Headquarters, Jashore, the Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) distributed grant cheques among six small entrepreneurs and two presidents of fish traders' associations under the sub-project titled "Safe Fish and Fish Product Production and Marketing" of the Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP).

The cheques were handed over by Mr. Philip Biswas,

Founder and Executive Director of RRF, with the aim of successfully implementing activities related to e-commerce exhibition and creation of decent working environments in local fish markets.





199th Executive Committee Meeting of RRF



The **199th Executive Committee (EC) meeting** of the **Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)** was held on **16 October 2025** at the **RRF Headquarters, Jashore**. The meeting was chaired by **Kolpona Sarakar**, with participation from EC members and **Executive Director Mr. Philip Biswas**. During the meeting, various organizational matters, including ongoing projects and future initiatives, were discussed. The committee reviewed progress reports and provided guidance to strengthen program implementation. Key decisions were taken to ensure effective execution of RRF's development activities.

Agreement between Pubali Bank PLC. & RRF



An agreement was signed between RRF and Pubali Bank on 16 October 2025 at RRF Headquarters. The ceremony was attended by RRF Chairman Kolpona Sarakar, Executive Director Mr. Philip Biswas, Director of Finance & Accounts, Pubali Bank Manager, EC members, and other officials. The agreement aims to strengthen financial collaboration and support RRF's development initiatives.



Life Skills Training Conducted :Under RAISE Project

On 21 October 2025, a *Master Craftsperson Refresher Program* was organized at the RRF Chanchra Training Centre. A total of 34 participants took part in the program. The refresher training aimed to enhance the technical skills and knowledge of master craftsperson's, ensuring the quality and standardization of their work. Participants engaged in interactive sessions, practical demonstrations, and discussions to strengthen their expertise and stay updated with modern techniques in their respective crafts.



Free Veterinary Camps Vaccinate 269 Goats under RHL Project



In October 2025, the RHL Project organized three free veterinary medical camps at Baraikhali, Sankhivanga, and Kudghata villages in Morelganj Upazila. Inaugurated by Dr. Md. Abu Hanif, Upazila Livestock Officer, the camps saw participation from RRF officials and Upazila livestock staff. A total of 269 goats belonging to 88 beneficiaries were vaccinated against PPR, helping protect livestock, reduce mortality, and enhance productivity. Similar veterinary camps will continue across the project areas.

Crab Fattening and Farming Training for RHL Beneficiaries



During the reporting month, RRF organized four batches of training on Crab Fattening and Farming for 81 RHL beneficiaries under the project plan. Sessions were led by Mr. Abdullah Al Modasser, Upazila Marine Fisheries Officer, and Mrs. Fathema Akther, Best Entrepreneur of Morelganj 2025, with coordination by Mr. Waliullah Shuvo of RRF. The training included practical demonstrations on cage preparation, feeding, disease control, harvesting, marketing, and record keeping. Participants expressed satisfaction and committed to applying the techniques to boost productivity, strengthen climate-resilient livelihoods, and improve household income in the coastal region.



Training on Product Branding Held under RMTP in Jhikargacha



Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP) organized a training on product branding at the entrepreneurial level in Katakhal, Jhikargacha, Jashore. A total of 25 participants (Male-11, Female-14) took part in the session focused on brand identity, packaging and labeling, market analysis, customer targeting, and brand promotion strategies. The training also emphasized branding in the fisheries sector, quality assurance, and the importance of customer feedback for product development.

Campaign Organized to Promote Soil and Water Testing among Fish Farmers under RMTP



Rural Microenterprise Transformation Project (RMTP) organized three campaign batches through local service providers to encourage fish farmers to test their soil and water. A total of 90 participants (Male-26, Female-64) from different areas of Jashore took part in the initiative. The campaign aimed to raise awareness about the importance of soil and water testing to enhance production, ensure sustainability, and make testing services easily accessible for fish farmers.

PKSF Deputy Managing Director-1 Visits SMART Project



and progress of the project during the visit.

PKSF Deputy Managing Director-1, Mr. AQM Golam Maula, along with Md. Sorful Islam, DGM, visited the Jhikargacha Cluster under the SMART Project. During the visit, they met female stakeholder Mrs. Sajada Begum and observed her ecological farming shed. Mr. Antony Biswas, AED and Director (Microfinance), along with DD (Microfinance)-1, AD (Jashore Zone), RM (Navaron), SBM (Jhikargacha-1), and SMART Project staff were also present. The DMD-1 highly appreciated the initiatives



Training on Climate Vulnerability and Environmental Management Held under SMART Project



A training on *Climate Vulnerability and Environmental Management* was organized at Jhikargacha-1 Branch under the SMART Project, with the participation of 25 micro-entrepreneurs. Dr. Md. Humayun Kabir Siraji, PSO, SRDI Jashore, and Md. Safiul Alom, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography and Environment, Jhikargacha Mohila College, served as resource persons.

Special Meeting Held to Strengthen Partnership in Chougacha under BD-17 Project



A special meeting was held on October 28, 2025, at the BRDB Hall Room, Chougacha, Jashore, to strengthen partnerships among local traders, stakeholders, and government departments. A total of 37 participants, including cooperative leaders, farmers, and representatives from A.R. Malik, Insaf, and Ispahani, attended the event.

The UNO of Chougacha, as chief guest, emphasized joint efforts to improve vegetable production, marketing, and climate-smart practices under the RRF-Heifer International Bangladesh project.

Barnamala Bidyapith News



• **Typhoid Vaccination Campaign 2025 a:** The *Typhoid Vaccination Campaign 2025* is being conducted at Barnamala Bidyapith. Alongside the vaccination activities, regular classes, cultural events, and co-curricular programs are also continuing as usual. Under the supervision of the school authorities, students are participating in awareness sessions and receiving vaccines while maintaining proper health and safety guidelines.

• **World Handwashing Day was celebrated on 15 October 2025 with the students**

World Handwashing Day was celebrated on 15 October 2025 at Barnamala Bidyapith School to raise awareness about the importance of hand hygiene. Teachers and students actively participated in demonstrations and discussions on proper handwashing practices to promote good health and hygiene habits among children.





Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET) Training assessment

The *Accelerating and Strengthening Skills for Economic Transformation (ASSET)* training assessment was conducted on 25 October 2025 at the RRF Chachra Training Center. The assessment aimed to evaluate participants' skills and learning outcomes to support their economic empowerment and career development.



ENRICH Program HIGHLIGHTS

"Tarunno Utsav 2025" Celebrated under Samridhi Program



From 19 to 22 October 2025, the *Tarunno Utsav 2025* was celebrated in Noldi Union, Lohagara Upazila, under the Samridhi Program. As part of the "Customer Service Week" activities, a non-communicable disease prevention campaign was organized, offering free diabetes and blood pressure screening through static clinics, providing primary healthcare services to the community. The event also included cleanliness drives, social health awareness sessions, and annual sports and cultural programs.

- **Social and health Awareness Meeting and Held under Samridhi Adolescent Program**



Under the *Samridhi Adolescent Program* of RRF, a **social and health awareness meeting** along with a **soft skills development training** was held on 21 October 2025 at Lahuria Union, Lohagara, Narail. The session aimed to enhance adolescents' knowledge on health, hygiene, and social awareness while improving their communication and personal development skills.

The program was **implemented by Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)** with the **support of Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)**.

RRF PPEPP-EU Events Highlights



- ### Specialized Eye Health Camp Held in Bolibunia Union under PPEPP-EU Project

On 28 October 2025, a specialized eye health camp was organized in Bolibunia Union under the PPEPP-EU project. The camp was conducted in collaboration with Reverend Abdul Wadud Memorial Hospital. During the camp, 9 patients with cataracts were identified, and general treatment services were provided to 74 eye patients. The 9 cataract patients were referred to the hospital for cataract surgery.

- ### Nutrition and Primary Health Services through PVC Satellite Clinic

Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF), Bolibunia Branch, PPEPP-EU Project Unit, extends its greetings and congratulations to all. Through the PVC satellite clinic, the branch provides essential nutrition and primary healthcare services, including the distribution of medicines as needed, ensuring better health support for the local community.



- ### PPEPP-EU Project Supports Livelihoods in Ramchandrapur Union with Goat Grants and Loans

Under the PPEPP-EU project's livelihood component in Ramchandrapur Union, two members received three goats each as grants. They were also included under the loan program, and a total of BDT 90,000 has been disbursed alongside income-generating activities. This initiative aims to enhance their livelihoods and promote sustainable economic development.



Walking Stick Distributed to Elderly Club Members



to elder care and community support.

RRF organized a **support program for elderly club members**, distributing **walking sticks to 21 members of the Sarathi Club**. Alongside, **free medicines and health check-up camps** were conducted to ensure regular health monitoring.

Additionally, **daily nutritious snacks** were served across all **four elderly clubs**. The initiative aimed to **promote the well-being, mobility, and overall health of senior community members**, reflecting RRF's continued commitment

Pre-School Activities of the Month



In **October 2025**, RRF's **Preschool and Daycare Program** conducted several activities, including the **6th tutorial exam** for preschool students, an **outdoor meeting at Khalasipara Preschool**, and a **mother school visit** involving students and their guardians. Additionally, a **child survey for 2026 admissions** was carried out to facilitate future enrollment planning. These initiatives highlight RRF's commitment to **quality early childhood education and active engagement with children and parents**.

RRF Organizes Blood Grouping Camp Under Community Healthcare Program

On **12 October 2025**, under the RRF **Community Healthcare Program**, a **blood grouping camp** was organized at **Kochua Primary School, Jashore**. Students and local residents participated in the camp to have their blood groups tested. The initiative aimed to raise awareness about personal health and the importance of knowing one's blood group. Medical staff provided guidance on basic health practices and encouraged regular health check-ups. This effort reflects RRF's commitment to promoting community health and preventive healthcare services in rural areas.



Empowering Bangladesh's Youth: The Crucial Role of Technical and Vocational Skill Development and Microfinance

Philip Biswas, Executive Director, Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF)



“Bangladesh is home to a vibrant and growing young population, with nearly two-thirds of its citizens under the age of 35. This demographic represents enormous potential, but also a pressing responsibility. Unemployment, underemployment, and lack of access to market-relevant skills continue to challenge rural and urban youth alike. Preparing them to participate meaningfully in the nation’s economy is essential for sustainable development.

The Rural Reconstruction Foundation (RRF) has long recognized that technical and vocational education and training (TVET) is a transformative pathway for youth empowerment. RRF is conducting a broad range of skill-based training programs, including Food and Beverage, Bakery and Pastry, IT Freelancing, Auto Mechanics, and Electronic and Electrical Mechanics. These programs are designed to provide practical, hands-on experience, equipping young people with

employable skills while nurturing creativity, self-reliance, and entrepreneurial potential.

However, skill training alone cannot guarantee success. Young people also need resources to apply their abilities and launch productive ventures. This is where microfinance plays a vital role. Through small and affordable loans, youth are empowered to establish small businesses, invest in income-generating activities, and take ownership of their economic future. When combined with technical training, mentoring, and market access support, microfinance becomes a powerful enabler of sustainable livelihoods.

RRF’s integrated approach—linking quality skill development with financial literacy, entrepreneurial support, and market connectivity—has demonstrated measurable benefits. Not only does it enhance employability, but it also reduces poverty, prevents rural-to-urban migration, and stimulates local economies. Young people are able to pursue income-generating activities with confidence, contributing to both their own well-being and the nation’s economic growth.

Investing in youth is not simply an economic strategy; it is a social and moral imperative. By harnessing the energy, creativity, and potential of Bangladesh’s young generation, RRF envisions a future where every youth is equipped with the skills, knowledge, and financial means to build a prosperous life. Skill development and financial inclusion must go hand in hand, ensuring that no young person is left behind and that the country’s human capital drives sustainable development for decades to come.



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