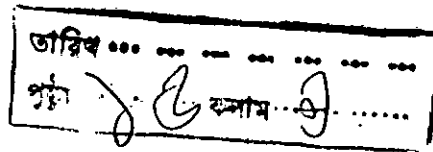


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Adviser says Bangladesh will be freed from illiteracy by 2006

Bangladesh will be freed from illiteracy by the year 2006 while the country's current literacy rate is 65 per cent, Adviser of the Ministries of Education, Science and Technology, Youth and Sports ASM Shahjahan said in Dhaka on Saturday, reports BSS.

He said this while inaugurating a briefing session organized by the Primary and Mass Education division on the occasion of the education tour of the representatives of five African countries to Bangladesh, an official handout said.

Shahjahan said the government provided the highest budgetary allocation of 15 per cent to the education sector, nearly half of it being spent for primary and basic education.

The government from its own

resources is also implementing non-formal education program all over the country, he said. As many as 38 representatives from the five African countries led by their respective delegation heads were present at the briefing session.

The heads of delegations were Education and Cultural Affairs Minister of Tanzania Joseph J. Mungai, Education Minister of Rwanda Emmanuel Mudidi, Education Minister of Nigeria Alh Bello Usman, Minister for Education, Youth and Sports of Sierra Leone Alpha Wurie and State Minister for Education of Cameroon Joseph Owona.

Senior officials of the concerned ministry were also present.