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Edn. system to be thoroughly recast: PM

KUSHTIA, Dec 15:—Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman has said that the education system would be thoroughly reformed laying emphasis on primary education and vocational training, reports BSS.

The Prime Minister was inaugurating the fifth annual conference of the Kushtia branch of the Institute of Diploma Engineers (IDE) here last night.

He said that under the proposed policy primary education would be declared as a fundamental right along with those of food, clothing, shelter and medicare. Primary education will be made universal, compulsory and free and the process of doing this will be completed by 1985. The number of primary schools will be raised to 65,000 from the present 45,000 so that each village in the country has a primary school under the programme.

The Prime Minister also said that stress would be given on vocational training in the primary schools so that on completion of five years schooling the students could be prepared for vocational training for subsequent gainful employment. He said that the Commonwealth organisation had expressed its readiness to help implement the programme.

Shah Aziz said that the doors of secondary and higher secondary education would remain liberally open but the doors of higher education would be made totally selective and allowed to only the talented students.

Presided over by Mr Tazammul Husain, President of IDE, Bangladesh, the conference was also addressed by Mr Shafuddin Sarker, its Organising Secretary.

The Prime Minister said that the education policy would be reformed to make it suit the requirements of modern age.

He said that the doors of higher education to the diploma engineers would also remain open but on a selective basis alone with the talented students. He said that the vital role being played by the diploma engineers in various fields of development activities would continue.