

## Radical change in education soon

Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman on Thursday said that a radical change in the education system, making it consistent with the needs of the age of science and technology was going to be introduced soon, reports BSS.

Addressing a function on the occasion of seventh founding anniversary of Mohammadpur Girls High School, he said that a scheme was under active study of the Education Advisory Council.

He said that 30 per cent of recruitment of teachers in all educational institutions including primary schools and madrasa, would have to be from amongst women. He said that this would also apply in cases of other recruitments by both other government and private organisations.

The percentage of recruitment of women would have to be increased gradually to give them their due share on the basis of their percentage in the total population. He said that a legislation to this end was going to be effected.

The founding anniversary function was also addressed by Works Minister, Mr. Abdur Rahman, Mr. Muhammad Modab-

ber a writer and former journalist, Mrs. Shamsunnahar Awal, Headmistress of the school and Dr. Hafez Ahmed, Director of Public Instruction.

Shah Aziz said that if there were still some employees who take salary by thumb impression they would have to learn how to sign before February 21. Otherwise, he added, their salary would be held up. He said that each and every citizen would have to learn how to sign before February 21 next.

He said that the primary education would be made compulsory, free and universal by 1985. He said that the door of secondary education would remain free to all. But, he added, the Government was contemplating measures to restrict higher education only to the meritorious students taking into consideration their aptitudes. Technical education would, however, be widespread under the proposed system, he added.

He said that the Kudrat-E-Khuda Commission Report pertaining to curricula up to primary level has already been implemented and added the remaining part of the report would gradually come into force.

Stressing the need for fast spread of education he said that schools, colleges and Madrasahs were being set up and he asked for more private initiative in this regard. He said that it would be impossible for the Government alone to do the whole job.

The Prime Minister said that teachers' benefits already increased by the Government, would be further increased.

Mr. Abdur Rahman, Works Minister, said that the Government was thinking to provide housing facilities to teachers of private educational institutions in phases.

He said that the local and private initiative was necessary for their development and spread of literacy and education.