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Secondary Education And Teachers' Training

Most people will agree our educational system is in the doldrums. Many experts over the years have voiced their opinions of what is wrong and some have even recommended solutions or action plans but the fact remains that education is still below standard. One of the main reasons is a lack of properly trained and qualified teachers. Therefore it comes as no surprise that recommendations coming out of a recent International Conference on Contemporary Secondary Education and Teachers' Training, sponsored by the Ministry of Education and the European Commission, focus on this aspect of the problem.

The suggestion is that Bangladeshi teachers should be exposed to the modern teaching techniques adopted in developed countries. In view of the declining standards of teaching in the country, the teachers' training system should also be restructured, say experts. This advice ought to be taken seriously if the standard of education is to be improved. Built-in flaws in the system have been the bane of education in Bangladesh for far too long, directly contributing to the present low standard from primary to the university level.

By and large, teaching as a profession is still considered to be a respectable vocation, therefore there is still hope it can be saved from further decline. When we remember that a teacher has the power to mould the minds of our children we would all treat them with the respect they deserve, and it goes without saying that if a pupil is to become a worthy citizen, only the best of teachers will do. Unfortunately, this is not always the case. One of the causes can be ascribed to the lack of facilities for imparting training to teachers.

As the continuous decline in the standard of education is of concern, especially in these days of greater international competition, restructuring the teachers' training system is imperative. Having thrown our children into the lions' den and forced them to compete with their foreign counterparts, we must now do all we can to maintain parity in education. Some seem to think that the only way to ensure the proper grooming of our children is by importing teachers. It is here we beg to differ, we have enough qualified people of our own. And please note: some of the more prestigious schools in the city that have imported teachers have not demonstrated anything extraordinary in the way of success.