

47

## UCEP plans to setup more schools

Staff Correspondent

The Underprivileged Children's Educational Programmes (UCEP), working as a non-government organisation to provide functional education and vocational training to the poor working children, will establish more general educational institutions to reach the light of education to the deprived poor children.

Addressing a Press conference at the National Press Club on Thursday, Chairman of the UCEP's Board of Governors Maj. Gen (retd) Amjad Khan Chowdhury informed the journalists that 13 new schools would be established in Dhaka, Chittagong and Khulna by 1996 and with establishment of these schools the total number of schools will rise to 35.

The Press conference was attended, among others, by the UCEP Vice-President R.M.H. Hijree, members Prof. Abu Hamid A. Latif, Prof. M. Hafizul Islam, Prof. K.M. Mohsin, Barrister Abul Mansur, Mrs. Nilufar Mahmood, Director Prof. Ahmadullah Mia, Managers of different disciplines Dr. Wahidur Rahman, Md. Abul Kashem, Masud Hossain and Mizanur Rahman.

Maj Gen Amjad Khan said with the implementation of UCEP's expansion programme, the number of general students will be 19500 by 1996, adding that the total number of school is now 22 with 12,000 students. "We have a plan to establish a technical school in Khulna in July this year," he said adding a total of 725 students are being given technical training on different trade course in two technical schools in Dhaka and Chittagong.

Mr. Amjad Khan said UCEP will also establish three micro-enterprises in the coming year with a view to facilitate the students to work both as entrepreneurs and workers. UCEP has already established a job placement component with job placement officer for each division to arrange employment for their students.

He said Government of Bangladesh and other foreign donor agencies like DANIDA, NORAD, SDC and SKIP have been extending cooperation to the programmes of UCEP. In recent days some local industrialists also have extended their assistance to UCEP programmes, he said.

He sought cooperation of the local donors to UCEP programmes so that UCEP can decrease its dependency on foreign aids.