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Pry school enrolment target 95 pc by 2000

Government has fixed a target of enrolling 75 per cent of the country's children at the primary level by the year 2000, reports UNB.

Disclosing this in Parliament on Monday, Education Minister Barrister Jamir Uddin Sircar said enrolment in primary school was 75.5 per cent in 1991 and the target for 1995 has been set at 82 per cent to ensure education for all by the year 2000.

Replying to a question from Niamatullah Sabu (BNP), the Minister said the government had taken up some programmes to implement "Education For All." The programmes include declaring primary education as compulsory, introduction of mass education and formulation of a national work-plan.

Various programmes have been taken up to implement the work-plan by the year 2000, he added.

Responding to a supplementary, Sircar said four teachers will be given appointment for every unregistered primary school.

There is no shortage of fund to implement the mass education programme, he said referring to the highest allocation in the education sector.

Replying to another supplementary from Maj (rtd) Hafizuddin, the Education Minister said that repeated hartal and indiscipline have been hampering the education programmes as well as the development and economic activities in the country.

Replying to another written question from advocate Khairul Anam, the Minister said there are 37,710 government primary schools and 13,344 registered private primary schools in the country.

There is no plan to nationalise any private school at present, he added.

Dropout rates

The Education Minister informed parliament on Monday that dropouts in the primary levels 44.40 per cent while 56.14 per cent in high school level, 53.30 per cent at higher secondary level and 28.40 per cent in higher education.

Replying to a question from Abdur Rab Chowdhury (BNP) Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said the government has taken up massive prog-

rammes, including introduction of double shifts in a number of colleges and setting up new colleges, to reduce the number of dropouts.

More than Tk 2.76 crore has been allocated as grants to different educational institutions of the country during the last fiscal year, he said replying to another question from Ahsanul Haq of BNP.

Moulvibazar sadar thana received the highest grant of Tk 30.55 lakh during the period, the education minister added.