

## Help achieve education for all by year 2000: Sircar

Education Minister Barrister Zamiruddin Sircar Saturday underscored the need for post-literacy continuing education to retain the knowledge of the neo-literates and school dropouts and help achieve education for all by the year 2000, reports BSS.

He was speaking as the chief guest at the inaugural function of a three-day workshop on "development of curriculum and learning materials for post-literacy continuing education" held at the National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) in Dhaka.

The Minister said that the learning materials for post-literacy continuing education should be based on life oriented education of the rural people.

State Minister for Education Principal Md Eunus Khan and Education Secretary Shafiul Alam were the special guests at the function.

Chaired by Additional Secretary of the Ministry Abdullah Harun Pasha, the inaugural function was also addressed by UNICEF Representative Dr Dilwar Ali Khan, Executive Director of Non-formal education Prof. S.M. Sifuddin and Director Sheikh Gulam Mostafa.

The objective of the workshop is to prepare a need-based curriculum and guide line for preparing learning materials for post literacy continuing education.

The workshop will also assess the problems and needs of the neo-literates and review the existing post-literacy materials and leaflets of different development departments and agencies.

Thirty four government and NGO representatives are participating in the workshop jointly sponsored by expansion of integrated non-formal education programme and UNICEF.

The Education Minister said the curriculum of the post literacy education programme should include information on agriculture, forestry, fisheries, livestock, poultry, tree plantation, gardening, normal social code of conduct, simple accounting as well as family laws.

Principal Eunus Khan said the books for post literacy education should be written in a language easy to understand by the neo-literates. He said the letters also should be comparatively bigger so that the old people in the rural areas having no class do, not find any difficulty to read them.

Mr. Shafiul Alam said a two-year pilot project for non formal education at a cost of Taka 49 crore had been started in May last to retain the literacy of the neo-literates in 69 thanas.

He said under this programme 690 libraries would be set up in 69 thanas. Each of the libraries would have one librarian and one supervisor in

each thana would supervise the libraries, he added.

Dr Dilwar Ali Khan said needs of the adults should be addressed in preparing a post literacy continuing education curriculum. He suggested a half-yearly review workshop to ascertain the situation in the thanas.

In his presidential address, Abdullah Harun Pasha said the proposed libraries under the post literacy education programme would be supplied with books, magazines, newspapers, leaflets of different extension departments and different other education materials suitable for the neo-literates.

44