

Education policy soon

Problems of teachers to be solved: Hasina

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Sunday said the proposed national education policy is being formulated to resolve all problems of the teachers, educational institutions and the education system as a whole, reports BSS.

"We want to develop and expand education system and solve all related problems on the basis of some permanent set of principles and the education policy is being prepared towards this direction", she said.

Addressing the members of a delegation of Bangladesh Non-government Primary Teachers Association who called on her at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in Dhaka the Prime Minister said that all the governments in the past (after 1975) run the education ministry on adhoc basis. As a result, the entire education system has plunged into mismanagements and hill-like problems.

Since taking over the responsibility her government is running every ministry under a set of rules and principles, she said adding "you will soon get the benefits of various welfare oriented steps taken by the government".

Deputy Minister for Mass Education Prof. Zinnatunnessa Talukder, association's Advisor Tofazzel Hosain, Acting President Golam Mohammad and Secretary General Mansur Ali also spoke on the occasion. Teachers' representatives of non-government primary schools across the country were included in the delegation.

The Prime Minister said the teachers, students, educational institutions as well as the entire education system are ridden with innumerable problems. The national educa-

tion policy will be declared soon to overcome all these problems, she added.

Going back to the post liberated Bangladesh the Prime Minister said the great leader and Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman enunciated Dr Kudrat-e-Khuda education Commission for expansion of education and removing all problems and hindrances from the education sector. Unfortunately Bangabandhu could not implement the Kudrat-e-Khuda Commission report as he was brutally assassinated on the fateful night of August 15, 1975 by the vested quarters.

The Prime Minister further said the Father of the Nation at a single stroke gave about one and a half lakh primary teachers the status of government employees for ensuring their economic wellbeing.

Sheikh Hasina said instead of doing any good to the teachers the successive governments in the past vitiated the entire gamut of education by resorting to various nefarious means. Among other things, they destroyed the morality of the students by giving arms in their hands, she added.

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The Prime Minister said since formation of government she was relentlessly working for the expansion of education and removing the problems of the education sector despite resource constraints. Her government has taken revolutionary decision to free the country from the curse of illiteracy by 2006, she added. The Prime Minister called upon the teachers to extend all kinds of cooperation and assistance to her government's thrust to develop education sector as a whole.

The Prime Minister said the whole world is advancing with the development of science and technology and as such we have to develop science and technology to match with the present day competitive world.

The Prime Minister stressed the need for training on modern education system and said her government will take appropriate steps to impart training to the teachers by experts from Home and abroad. "There is no way to improve the standard of education without raising the professional efficiency of the teachers", she added.

The Prime Minister also noted with deep gratitude the heroic role played by the teachers community of the country in the long struggle for re-establishing democracy and the people's right to vote. Her government, after ensuring voting rights of the people, is now engaged in achieving people's right to food. She sought cooperation from people of all walks of life including the teachers to attain this objective.

Referring to the various problems raised by the association leaders the Prime Minister said she will take proper steps after discussion with the Education Minister and other concerned persons to resolve their various problems.