

অরিষ 05 JAN 1993
পৃষ্ঠা ৩০ কলাম ২

Higher edn vital for progress: Sircar

Educationists at a seminar on Monday said a university must be concerned with growth of the economy and development of its supporting community of interest, reports UNB.

They stressed the need for remoulding country's higher education system in that line, suiting the socio-economic structure of an independent country.

Responding, Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar said the government had taken pragmatic steps towards development of primary and secondary education for strengthening the base of higher education.

"Higher education is necessary for national progress", he said speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of the two-day seminar on "Higher Education, Trends and Direction".

The seminar has been arranged in the ICDDR,B conference room on the occasion of introducing the academic programme and prospectus of a private varsity, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB).

Sponsored by the Education, Science, Technology and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT), the function was chaired by Prof. M. Innas Ali and also addressed by Chairman of the University Grants Commission Prof. M. Shamsul Haq, Barrister Moinul Hussain, Dr. Abdul Majeed Khan, Golam Rasul Miah and Towhid Samad.

Prof. A.F. Salahuddin Ahmed presented the keynote paper on Higher Education, Trends and Direction.

The Education Minister said the government had already introduced compulsory primary education in 68 thanas and the entire country would be brought under the programme in phases.

The dropout rate at primary and secondary level can be reduced through non-formal education, he told the function.

He lauded the initiative of establishment of the Independent University and said the BNP government would always patronise expansion and development of higher education for achieving national uplift.

Sircar laid stress on modernisation of technical and medical education through private universities and called for setting up more private universities to meet need of the increasing population of the country. Dr. Majeed Khan said country's traditional higher education had failed due to its place in colonial structure of society and its failure to link with the post-independence emerging new society.

"Today, there is no doubt about the need to design higher education to produce graduates possessing disciplined familiarity with major concept, theories and methods of science and an adequate understanding of specific natural resources issues, with strong commitment to application".

Khan, President of IUB, said a university likewise must be concerned with the growth of economy and the development of its supporting community of interest.

Prof. Shamsul Haq gave emphasis on peace and discipline on the campus for development of higher education of the country.

Barrister Moinul Hussain said country's higher education was now suffering a lot due to political conflicts and frequent campus violence and session jam.

Prof. Salahuddin Ahmed, in his paper, said discovery, training and utilisation of individual talent is of fundamental importance in a free society which is composed of free citizens.

Higher education should promote international understanding and cooperation, the paper said.

"Education for peace is the condition of our survival, and high priority should be given to educational programme", the professor viewed.

Presiding over the function, Prof. M. Innas Ali laid emphasis on qualitative change in the system of higher education for making it effective and developed one.

Madrasa and school education should be integrated for better prospect of country's education, he said.