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Literacy Day to be observed September 8

International Literacy Day will be observed on 8 September. Various non-governmental organizations have drawn up elaborate programmes for the observance of the Day, says a UNIC Press release.

An important opportunity in the struggle against illiteracy will be 1990, designated as International Literacy Year by the United Nations. UNESCO, as lead agency for the Year, now has the opportunity to mobilize major international efforts to carry through a ten-year plan of action. Its initial objective is to eliminate illiteracy by the year 2000.

First commemorated in 1967, International Literacy Day is marked each year by UNESCO with the rewarding of four literacy prizes.

To mark the occasion, Bangladesh Council for Mass Education will organize a discussion meeting in co-operation with the United Nations Information Centre, Dhaka, on 6 September at 11 a.m. at the Centre's premises. Mr. A.K. Khandaker, Minister, Ministry of Planning of the Government of Bangladesh will be present at the meeting as chief guest.

Association of Development Agencies in Bangladesh (ADAB) will observe the Day on 7 September by organizing a discussion forum in co-operation with UNIC Dhaka at 4 p.m. at the UNIC auditorium with Education Minister Mr. Sheikh Shabidul Islam as chief guest.

The day will also be observed by the Bangladesh National UNESCO Clubs Association through a separate function on 8 September at UNIC premises at 4 p.m. where Works Minister Mr. Mostafa Jamal Haider will be present as chief guest.