

UNESCO will help improve primary edn.

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BANGKOK Feb 23:—The United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) is to assist the Bangladesh Ministry of Education on the implementation of a nearly two and a half-million dollar project for the improvement and expansion of primary education in the country reports BSS.

According to UNESCO sources the project to be financed by the International Development Association aims at improving the programmes and services of the Academy for Fundamental Education and eight Primary Teacher Training Institutes in Bangladesh. It also includes the development of new and additional learning methods and materials.

The sources said UNESCO will also assist and advise the Education Ministry in bring-

ing about qualitative improvement of primary level administration at the sub-divisional and thana levels. The specific methods and materials will be developed for the newly created post of Assistant Thana Education officer, responsible for the direct supervision of primary teaching.

Bangladesh government being at the helm of affairs will provide support services and UNESCO will be responsible for administering the technical assistance which include the provision of experts and materials as well as the cost of fellowships for Bangladeshi nationals.

UNESCO first offered to advise and assist Bangladesh in the execution of the project when the organization's Director General, Mr. Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, paid an official visit to the country in January 1979. This was in response to the government's expressed desire to secure the cooperation of UNESCO and other agencies to achieve the goals of universal primary education.

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