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## Physical training to be included in curricula

DHAKA, July 12, (BSS) : State Minister for Youth and Sports H M A Gaffar said here today that physical training and sports would be included in the academic curricula upto class eight as a compulsory subject of 100 marks.

Announcing the long-awaited country's first-ever national sports policy at a Press conference. The State Minister expressed government's firm determination to implement the movement of sports for all in Bangladesh.

Stressing the need for training the budding athletes, the State Minister said it could make a sportsman more disciplined and a good athlete. He also said that physical training and sports would also be included in the curricula of secondary, higher secondary madrassa, and university level as optional subject of 100 marks.

Disclosing the policy, Mr. Gaffar said the planned sports training infrastructure has been made to grow the sporting interest in all-section of people in the country.

He said, Khas land would be allocated to educational institutions for using them as sports grounds.

Explaining the salient features of the policy, the State Minister said one sports-field and one pond would be made available in each village. One sports complex in each upazila and a complete stadium, gymnasium and swimming pool in each district headquarters would be completed by the end of Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Besides, sporting facilities would also be provided in the office of Government, semi-Government and autonomous bodies including private and public mills for ensuring mass participation.

The Government has given special importance in taking schemes of training to raise the standard of games and sports in the country. Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Pratisthan (BKSP) and National Sports Council would play a

pioneer role in this context with short-term, mid-term and long-term schemes, the Minister said.

He said, Bangladesh would participate in the international games in abroad and to organise international events here following the olympic charter aimed at extending relationship with the brotherly countries.

The State Minister said, to solve the shortage of coaches, the two physical training colleges would be modernised so that it could produce more coaches in future.

The players, who have displayed outstanding performances in national and international games, would be honoured.

Highlighting the world-wide fair-play campaign, the Minister said, Bangladesh would also introduce the campaign distributing prizes among the best disciplined players and teams.