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Int'l Literacy Day today Call to help wipe out illiteracy

Our Staff Reporter adds: The International literacy Day will be observed in Bangladesh today (Thursday) in a befitting manner as elsewhere in the world. Ministry of Education and its different wings and various organisations have chalked out elaborate programmes to mark the day.

BISWAS

On the eve of the day, President Abdur Rahman Biswas in a message called upon the people to take a fresh vow to uproot the curse of illiteracy from the country and build up a happy and prosperous nation. He said illiterate people are main obstacle to development and only education can turn the population into productive human resources.

KHALEDA

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in a message sought co-operation of conscious section of the society to make the government efforts a success in eradicating illiteracy. She said right to education

is guaranteed by the constitution of Bangladesh. Let us come forward to make every man and woman educated" she added in the message.

Prime Minister said the pre-

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Int'l Literacy Day today

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priority to education and taken initiatives to ensure Primary education for all. She mentioned that Food for Education Programme had been taken up for the poor and stipends introduced in the secondary level to spread female education. She further said a national plan has been taken to ensure education for all by the year 2000.

Begum Zia in her message termed the International Literacy Day as more significant in the context of Bangladesh.

HASINA

UNB report says: Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina has called for combatting the curse of illiteracy to establish a poverty-free Bangladesh.

In a message on Wednesday on the eve of International Literacy Day, she expressed concern at the downward trend of literacy in the country and said it had taken "an alarming shape because of the government's indifference to the problem."

Hasina mentioned that Awami League, in its manifesto, incorporated literacy programme and compulsory free primary education with due priority. "We want to remove illiteracy in next 10 years under specific programmes ensuring education for the poor."

On the occasion, Primary and mass education department will hold a discussion meeting at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

President Abdur Rahman Bishwas will attend the programme as the Chief Guest

while Information Minister Barrister Nazmul Huda will be there as special guest. Later prizes will be distributed among the winners of the essay writing and photographic competition organised by the primary and Mass Education Department on the occasion of International Literacy Day.

The National Association of UNESCO clubs in Bangladesh in co-operation with the UNESCO, Paris will organise a 2-day training workshop on mass literacy, prevention of AIDS and protection of environment at the BANBEIS auditorium, Palashy, at 10 am today (Thursday).

Education Minister Barrister Jamiruddin Sircar will be the chief guest while Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Emajuddin Ahmed will attend the programme as special guest.

TORCH PROCESSION

BSS adds: An impressive torch procession was brought out in the capital on Wednesday in observance of the International Literacy Day.

The colourful procession was a part of massive programmes taken by "Gano Shiksharata Avijan", an organisation for Campaigning for Popular Education (Campe) in observance of the day across the country.

The colourful procession was started from the National Museum and concluded at the central Shahed Minar via National Press Club.

Besides organisations activists, a large number of students of various educational institutions, members of Girls' Guides, boys Scouts, Rover

Scouts, educationists and cultural figures took part in the procession.

At the start of the procession the Campe Director and eminent educationist Dr. Abdullah-al-Muti Sarfuddin called upon the people of all walks of life to come forward to remove the curse of illiteracy from the society.

The organisation also held a cultural function and staged a drama on mass-literacy drive at the central Shahed Minar. It will also hold an art competition for children today Thursday at 3-00 pm at the institute of Fine Arts and Crafts.