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64

# International Literacy Day today

## **Education basic right of people: Khaleda**

The International Literacy Day will be observed country-wide today (Monday) in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

Education Ministry and Primary Education and Mass Education Division have jointly organised a discussion meeting on "education for all" at the auditorium of the National Museum at 9 am on the day.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar will inaugurate the discussion meeting as the chief guest. State Minister for Education principal Md Eunus Khan and Education Secretary Shafiqul Alam will attend the inaugural function as special guests. Secretary in-charge of Primary Education and Mass Education Division

**Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmed will preside over the function.**

> Chief of planning cell of the ministry of education Dr. FK Chowdhury will present keynote paper in the discussion meeting. Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Open University Dr. M Shamser Ali, Dr. Abdul-  
lah Al-Muti Sharafuddin, SM Al-Hossain, Principal Mokarram Hossain, Kazi Rasiqu<sup>l</sup> Alam and Prof Osman Gani will participate in the discussion meeting. Abdullah Haroon Pasha will preside over the discussion meeting.

Meanwhile Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Monday called for creating a mass awareness in every nook and corner of the country for freeing it from the curse of illiteracy.

The Prime Minister, in a message on the eve of International Literacy Day said, 'let us take a vow afresh by all, irrespective of cast, creed and religion, to free the nation from the curse of illiteracy by imparting education to the people.'

Begum Zia said education is a basic right of the people. She said the government has initiated a mass education programme along with making primary education compulsory aimed at implementing this right. Terming literacy as a massive problem, the Prime Minister said the government cannot solve this problem alone.

She said, we have to work

Contd. on page 3 col. 2

## **Education basic right**

Contd. from page 1

unitedly with a commitment to ensure education for all by the year 2000.

The Prime Minister wished overall success of International Literacy Day.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas on Monday called for making the government's country-wide mass literacy programme a success through concerted efforts of all.

In a message marking the International Literacy Day, President Biswas said the importance of education in the socio-economic development and consolidation of democracy was boundless for which the government had given top priority in the education sector.

He said the present government was pledge-bound to fulfil basic needs including education in the country. "Education provides inspiration to consolidate independence and sovereignty of the country and improve living standard of the people," he also said in the message. In this respect, the President stressed the need for ensuring peace in the society and creating extensive awareness among the masses for spreading education all over the country.

He called upon all concerned including the educated people to extend their sincere cooperation towards government efforts to remove illiteracy from the country. President Biswas wished all success of the programme in spreading education and knowledge on the occasion of the International Literacy Day.