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## The Bangladesh Times

### New syllabus for classes VI, IX, XI FROM 1996

Government is going to introduce new syllabus for classes VI, IX and XI from January 1996. A national steering committee, consisting of educationists and administrators of educational institutions headed by Education Secretary has been formed to formulate the guiding principles and code for writing of books as well as denationalising publication of books. 29 subject-based experts are already at work. After the formulation of guiding principles, evaluation and revaluation it is expected that the new syllabus will be ready before December next year, according to concerned sources, reports Media Syndicate.

Government is firm to

develop education to an international standard and make it income-generating and vocational. The Education Ministry is now engaged in restructuring education levels, subject list and syllabus. General education, vocational education and madrasa education will be sub-systems in the overall education system and classes VI to X will be divided into lower secondary, secondary and higher secondary levels. Though the structure may look separate the whole system will be integrated.

Though the general education and madrasah sub-systems will be there in the lower, secondary state i.e. classes VI to VIII, education under three subsystems will start in the secondary level, i.e. from class IX. All the three sub-systems will have compulsory subjects including English, Bangla and Mathematics and numbers will also be allocated for elective subjects. English and Bangla will be compulsory at the higher secondary stage. No numbers will be allocated for the compulsory subjects. "Religion" will continue to be taught in the secondary level of both general education and vocational education.