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## 2,61,878 imparted education in three categories under UEP

A total of 2,61,878 people were imparted education in three categories under Universal Education Programme (UEP) during the last five years by Proshika Manobik Unnayan Kendra, a press release of the organisation said in Dhaka Saturday.

Proshika further set a target to educate another 9.84 lakh people during the next five years in its endeavours to supplement the government efforts for achieving its target to raise the country's literacy rate from the present 24 percent to 60 percent by the year 2000. The government has set this target after enacting a law in the parliament making primary education compulsory in the country.

During the last five years, Proshika set up 7,719 centre and imparted education to 1,39,711 persons under its adult literacy programme.

The organisation, under its post literacy programme, organised 844 Pathchakra (study circle) where 28,058 persons received educational facilities.

This programme is aimed at increasing and maintaining the habit of reading and writing of the neoliterates.

A library in each centre, containing papers, periodicals and books relating to health and nutrition, homestead gardening, income generation, social forestry, family welfare and basic idea of environment and ecology, has been set up for the neoliterates.

Under the children's schooling programme, the organisation, during the period under review, enabled to enrol 85,049 boys and girls of their target families to various educational institutions. Besides providing with books and other materials, the poor parents were motivated that sending their offsprings to schools would not become an economic burden for them.

Under non-formal primary education (NFPE), 301 centres have been set up and 9,060 children between 8-10 years old were enrolled there. This NFPE programme was aimed at developing habits, attitudes and skills for the underprivileged children who have no means to reach the formal course of primary education system.

While elaborating its targets for the next five years the press release added that 20,000 centres for four lakh people would be set up under its adult literacy programme while 2,900 centres for 1,01,500 persons would be made available for post literacy programme.

Proshika would take necessary measures to enrol 1,75

lakh boys and girls with various primary schools under children's schooling programme and it would set up another 10,250 centres for accommodating 3,07,500 children under non-formal primary education programme.

Highlighting the salient features of its universal education programme, the press release said literacy skill, among others things, would assist the poor to participate effectively at all levels of society and thus become potent contributors to the process of building a just, productive and equitable society.