

Help pry schools be tech savvy

PM urges affluent, says most hill tracts schools will be turned residential

UNB, Dhaka

Stressing the importance of digital education, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged the affluent of the society to come up with support like providing multimedia projectors and laptops to primary schools of their respective areas.

"I hope they will donate to schools as gifts and this is my ardent call to the nation," she said.

Hasina was addressing a function while inaugurating the "Primary Education Content; Conversion to Inter-Active Multimedia Digital Version" programme held at her office in the capital.

"Some 1,500 multimedia classrooms have been set up and some 5,000 laptops have been provided, aiming to flourish the operations of multimedia classrooms. It is not so tough to have at least one multimedia classroom in 63,601 primary schools across the country," she said.

Hasina said the government gives greater importance to technology-based education.

"We will take our steps from the government. But all have to come up with self-initiatives... education can free a country from poverty," she stressed.

She emphasised, "The lessons should be more attractive for students and schools should have an encouraging environment. Also parents should not exert too much pressure them."

Most schools in the hilly areas of the Chittagong Hill Tracts will be turned into residential ones for the convenience of students, Hasina reiterated.

The aim of Inter-Active Multimedia Digital Version programme is to prepare interactive and multimedia based content of 17 books in Bangla, English, Mathematics, Science, Bangladesh and World Affairs in light with the curriculum of primary education framed by the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB).

The digital education content will incorporate various kinds of pictures, charts, diagrams, audio, video and other multimedia components and thus presenting those through animation for making the contents more attractive and easily perceptible.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Mostafizur Rahman Fizar, State Minister for ICT Junaid Ahmed Pakak, Brac founder and Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed and Interim Regional Director of Save the Children Michael McGrath also spoke on the occasion.