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Call for regional efforts to fight illiteracy

Education Minister Zamiruddin Sircar laid emphasis on increased regional cooperation for eradicating poverty, hunger and illiteracy prevailing in the South-Asian countries, reports UNB.

He was speaking as chief guest at the inaugural session of SAARC expert group meeting on modernization of curriculum held at the International Conference Centre (ICC) in Dhaka yesterday (Saturday).

Sircar said the concept of curriculum varies from country to country but it must aim at focusing on immediate problems of the people for improving their living conditions.

He said the contents should be selective and designed to ensure learner's participation.

Chaired by Education Secretary and Chairman of the National Committee on SAARC, the meeting was addressed by State Minister for Education Principal

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Md Eunus Khan as special guest.

The Education Minister said, the concept of South-Asian Regional Cooperation was first mooted by Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman who visualised a better future for the region.

The present democratic government will take steps to reduce the bureaucratic excesses in the education system through decentralising some management functions to the lowest unit, he said. It will avoid delays and encourage new ideas and initiatives, he added.

He said, neither democratization nor modernization is possible without education and literacy.

It is political commitment of the present government to undertake a massive programme of universal primary education and mass education programme for making education meaningful, he said.

He also called upon the participants to make valuable recommendations for modernization of curriculum.

State Minister for Education Principal Md Eunus Khan also laid emphasis on taking into consideration socio-economic and religious conditions of the country while modernizing the curriculum.

In his address the Education Secretary ANM Eusuf said, curriculum development is a continuous process and efforts are needed to review and modify it by a competent body of experts.