

# Govt to make edn. main key to uplift : Ahsan

By A Staff Correspondent

President Justice A. F. M. Ahsanuddin Chowdhury said on Friday that the government was determined to build education as the main instrument of national development. The conscious people of the society should come forward with a helping hand to cooperate with the government for the reformation and development of the country's education system, the President added.

Addressing a function, organised by the Foundation for Research on Education Planning and Development (FREPD), Bangladesh in celebration of its 10th founding anniversary at Civil Officers' Training Academy (COTA) as the chief guest, the President said that the lapses and shortcomings of the existing education system are being identified carefully on the basis of opinions of a cross-section of people. The people can become productive manpower through education, he said.

The President said that for the overall development programmes, we need skilled manpower. We also need correct statistics for the best utilisation of our limited resources, he maintained. The people of developing countries could not be turned into human wealth in absence of proper

training, he regretted.

There is need for proper planning for solution of the existing problems and lapses in our education system, he said. The plan should be formulated based on correct information and necessary analysis, the President said.

President Justice Chowdhury stressing the need for research in education said that the national moral values can be stimulated through real education. We have to ensure employment opportunities for the vast manpower through realistic education, he said.

Expressing his satisfaction over the research performances of the FREPD, the President hoped that it would undertake more such projects identifying the problems of our education system. He also appreciated the contributions of all those associated with the foundation.

Presided over by the President of FREPD, and former Foreign Minister Prof. M. Shamsul Huq, the function was also addressed by Prof. Mohammad Shamsul Huq, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University and Mr. K. A. Kashem, Secretary, FREPD.

The Vice-Chancellor said it was unfortunate that we usually do not get correct statistics on any aspect.

Prof. Shamsul Huq, President, FREPD urged for Government and non-Government help for setting up of a trust fund and a building of its own for stability and viability of the foundation. He also mentioned a number of research studies undertaken by the foundation. The research studies include "non-formal education as a development strategy, students services and welfare in six universities of Bangladesh and the situation of children in Bangladesh. Mr. Huq also expressed his gratefulness to the Education Ministry of Bangladesh for the grant the foundation received from it.

Dr. Shafia Khatun, Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs was among others who attended it.