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Highest priority to edn sector **Tk 1768.67 cr allocated for fiscal 1996-97**

The government has increased the allocation in the education and religious sector by 60.19 per cent in the Annual Development Programme (ADP) by earmarking the highest amounting to Taka 1768.67 crore for the fiscal 1996-97, a senior official of the Planning Commission said in Dhaka Wednesday, reports BSS.

The revised allocation in the sector for the fiscal 1995-96 was Taka 1104.12 crore.

Of the total allocation, Taka 1170.07 crore would be provided from local resources and the rest 598.60 crore from project aid.

The 1996-97 ADP has 92 projects including 82 under investment programme, eight under technical assistance, and two under own resources.

The 82 investment programmes include 25 projects under Primary and Mass Education Department, 44 projects under Education Ministry, four projects under Defence Ministry and nine projects under Religious Ministry at the cost of Taka 911.97 crore, Tk. 794.31 crore, Taka 21.93 crore and Taka 30 crore respectively.

The eight technical assistance programmes include two projects under Primary and Mass Education Department, and six projects under Education Ministry at a cost of Taka 1.96 crore and Taka 8.33 crore respectively.

The Primary and Mass Education Department and Education Ministry have one project each from their own resources earmarking Taka seven lakh and 10 lakh respectively.

The main projects for the fiscal 1996-97 are: primary school-cum-cyclone centres under the assistance of Saudi grant, Islamic Development Bank, EEC, OPEC grant, Norad,

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Tk 1768.67 cr

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Primary Education Development Programme at Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna, 4000 satellite school construction projects, female secondary school assistance project, home economics college project at Chittagong Divisional Headquarters, development of 16 eommmercial institutes, development of 350 private colleges project, introduction of computer science in selected government colleges, construction of madrasa teachers training institute, introduction of S.S.C. vocational course in at least two private secondary schools in each thana, girls cadet college at Feni, mosque-based children and mass education.