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Edn sector third in using ADP fund

Staff Correspondent

The education sector became third in the utilisation of the allocation in the Annual Development Programme (ADP) during the current fiscal year that closes on the 30th of this month due to delay and non-implementation of different projects under this vital sector.

The allocation in ADP for 1991-92 amounted to Taka 639.93 crore but it was reduced to Taka 520.21 crore later. Even after the reduction of the ADP allocation the available fund in this sector could not be fully utilised due to the lack of proper initiative, monitoring and implementing of the projects by the concerned Ministry.

The fund provided by the EEC, France and Saudi Arabia for construction of multi-storied school building in the coastal areas remained unutilised as the work of the project was yet to start. The multi-storied buildings have been planned to serve twin purposes, one as educational institutions and the other as shelters during cyclone and flood.

Meanwhile, the Finance Ministry

turned down a proposal sent by the Ministry of Education for OPEC fund for development schemes in education sector. The Finance Ministry pointed out that the Education Ministry failed to utilise the fund already allocated in the ADP and expressed its doubt over the proper utilisation of further fund by the concerned Ministry.

An official of the Education Ministry told this correspondent that the Ministry had poor performance in utilising the ADP fund in education sector this year due to the lack of proper guidance and initiative in implementing different projects. He complained that the Education Minister could not give proper attention to the implementation of various projects and programmes in education sector. He did not allow the Ministry to function independently for implementation of its projects. He expressed his regret and concern over the lapses in the utilisation of ADP fund in education sector on which the country's future development depends much.