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National service for mass edn.

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CHITTAGONG Aug 16:—A national service for mass education would be introduced in the country so that all matriculates and upwards are obliged to participate in the programme for certain period of time, reports BSS.

This Decision was taken at a meeting of National Economic Council (NEC) at Hizbul Bahr here with President Ziaur Rahman in the chair.

The NEC decided that appropriate laws would be enacted in this regard and a standing committee would be constituted by the Ministry of Education to work out details. The NEC in a detailed discussion took the decision that mass mobilisation for literacy drive must be intensified further by the Ministry of Education and everybody must participate and get involved fully.

According to a NEC decision a cell would be created in the Prime Minister's Secretariat to monitor the implementation of all these programmes aimed at driving out illiteracy from the country.

According to a NEC decision the radio and television must devote at least half hour each day for publicising mass education programme. A complete cycle for about five months should be organised by radio and television to complete the course it decided.

The Village Defence Party (VDP) should also participate in a massive way in the implementation of programme and all industrial units must organise mass education programme and after one year there should be no uneducated employees in any industrial unit.

The teachers and students of all educational institution would be required to participate in the national development work for certain period of time and the Ministry of Education would chalk out programmes in this respect in consultations with the President's Secretariat.

According to another NEC decision more frequent inter Ministerial coordination meeting to be held to further gear up the literacy drive to save the country from the curse of illiteracy.