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Education to all by 2000

DHAKA, May 11. (BSS) Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed today said that a national consensus was of prime importance to implement the Government plan of providing education to all by the year 2000.

"We have to make a great leap forward in this regard," he said.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed, who is in charge of the Ministry of Education, was speaking as the chief guest at the 16th annual conference of the Foundation for Research on Educational Planning and Development (FREPD) at the National Institute of Educational Administration, Extension and Research.

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National Professor and President of FREPD, M. Shamsul Huq, presided over the function. Education Secretary A. N. M. Eusuf and Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. Maniruzzaman Miah were the special guest. The function was also addressed by Prof. M. Ferdouse Khan, Chairman, Research Board of FREPD and Dr. Muhammad Nurul Huq, Member-Secretary of FREPD.

The Prime Minister reiterated that the Government of President Ershad was committed to implement the plan. In this regard he referred to the various steps taken by the Government such as making primary education compulsory upto class five and free education for girls upto class eight outside municipal areas.

He said that a planned strategy had to be adopted to bring about basic and qualitative change in the education sector. He said FREPD could contribute a lot in this regard.

The Prime Minister said the implementation of compulsory primary education would not be successful unless the basic change was made in the education sector.

Prof. Maniruzzaman Miah said it would be a remarkable achievement of the present Government if it could provide education to all by 2000.

Mr. A. N. M. Ershad said that education should be integrated with work to make it meaningful.

Prof. M. Shamsul Huq said that multi-disciplinary research was needed for development in the education sector.