

Task force for mass edn. to be formed

A high level meeting to discuss the progress of activities of primary and mass education division was held on Tuesday night with Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in the chair at her Secretariat, reports BSS.

The meeting decided to form a task force soon to recommend steps aimed at turning the primary and mass literacy programme into a social movement. Steps to strengthen formal and non-formal education was discussed at the meeting.

Various problems standing on way to success of primary and mass literacy programmes figured prominently in the discussion.

The absence of infrastructural facilities and necessary number of teachers were identified as some of the major problems in the primary education sector.

The use of national media to motivate the people for the success of compulsory and universal primary education came up for discussion the utilisation of the services of imams of the mosques and madrasahs for the

success of primary and mass education programme was also discussed.

Among others, Planning Minister Zahir Uddin Khan, State Minister for Education Principal Yunus Khan, Cabinet Secretary Ayubur Rahman, Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister K.M. Rabbani, Planning Commission Member M. Mokammel Huq and Additional Secretary in-charge of Primary and Mass Education Division M. Raquibuddin were present at the meeting.

Primary and Mass Education Division was earlier created to intensify steps for the success of on-going compulsory primary education, which has been identified as a national priority. The compulsory primary education programme has already been started in 64 thanas since January last.

The mass literacy programme of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman which had been dropped by the autocratic Ershad Government, has been reviewed by the present government. The programme has been started in 43 thanas under 38 districts.