

Illiteracy will be removed by yr 2,000

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar on Wednesday told the Jatiya Sangsad that the curse of illiteracy would be removed from the country by the year 2,000, reports BSS.

Participating in the discussion on the vote of thanks to the President for his speech, the Education Minister said that the government had taken all measures to make educational facilities available for all citizens in the country.

Listing measures, he said there are about 70,000 primary schools under compulsory primary education.

Mr. Sircar said the government had signed agreement with 20 countries for the ex-

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pansion of scientific education. About open university the Education Minister said, it is helping those students who cannot afford to be enrolled in regular universities.

Dwelling on the President's speech, Mr. Sircar said President Biswas in his speech had provided a new sense of direction to the nation for all-round development.

Mr. Sircar said President Biswas had touched upon all the vital issues of the country including economic, agricultural and other socio-political sectors and aroused hopes and aspirations of the people.

He criticised the holding of presidential election in open ballot and said such provision was contrary to the basic concept of democracy.