

Adoption of high tech must consider jobs

DCMLA and Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud on Friday underscored the need for building an integrated electronic industry in the country to design and produce micro-processor chip and other components for computers reports BSS.

He said since we are entering into the computer age to keep peace with rest of the world we should not depend solely on import rather think in terms of developing computer technology within the country.

The DCMLA was speaking at the certificate awarding ceremony of Bangladesh Computer Society held at a local hotel. The function was also attended by Maj Gen Mahabbat Jan Chowdhury Minister for

Establishment and Reorganization and Chairman National Computer Committee Prof. A.M. Patwari President of the society and Vice Chancellor Engineering University was in the chair. Prof. M.A. Azim Secretary of the society also spoke on the occasion.

The Energy Minister said our staying away from using computer would be detrimental to the national interest, keeping that interest in mind, the government recently constituted high-powered National Computer Committee to put necessary in this regard he said.

Air Vice Marshal Sultan Mahmud who is the Vice Chairman of the recently formed National Committee for Science and Technology said a special com-

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mittee under its command will review the problems for the growth of electronics industry in the country.

The DCMLA said emphasis should be laid on training programme at various levels on computer technology to build up skilled manpower in this sector.

He said efforts should also be made to assemble small computers by importing chips and other components observing that the Bangladeshi experts were capable of manufacturing computer software to frame programme in education and other sectors.

The Chairman National Computer Committee Major General Mahabbat Jan Chowdhury in his speech described computer as the basic component of the new technological revolution now being experienced the world over.

The advent of the high-technology he pointed out had put the developing countries like Bangladesh in a dilemma between adoption of the technology and utilisation of the existing resources.

He however emphasised that

while adopting new technology the aspects of employment should always be considered.

He said Public Administration Computer Centre and Management Service Wing had already been established to facilitate the collection and storage of information regarding government employees and ensure proper planning for utilisation of manpower.

He referred to the recent steps for decentralisation of administration which he pointed out required maintenance of an efficient management information system to monitor the development of projects in the rural areas through new technology.

The Minister observed that Bangladesh Computer Society could play an important role in coordinating government and private efforts in developing computer technology in the country.

Prof. A.M. Patwari President of the society in his address said that use of computer in the industries could increase the productivity and help efficient management.

About 50 participants received certificates at Fajr's func-