

Find out means to tackle environmental problems

President Abdus Sattar on Monday inaugurated in Dacca a six-week long winter workshop on monsoon dynamics expressing his confidence that the workshop would not only benefit the participants but also contribute in promoting local research to find a way to tackle environmental problems, reports BSS.

Observing that research in weather is global in character, the President said at least methods should be developed to give sufficient accurate advance warning so that governments and the people in the climatologically disturbed areas could take necessary precautionary measures.

Organised jointly by Bangladesh Atomic Energy Centre (BAEC) and International Centre for Theoretical Physics, Trieste, Italy the inaugural session of the workshop was also addressed by Dr Anwar Hossain Chairman BAEC and Director General of Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation (BSRRSO) Dr. A.M.

Chowdhury Director BSRRSO Professor S.M. Sharfuddin Director Institute for Advancement of Science and Technology Teaching and Professor M. Shamsher Ali Director BAEC.

President Sattar said the monsoon climate extends from West Africa to Australia where a significant population live in and of which Bangladesh occupies almost the central position. Monsoon rain is the life line of the nations with this type of climate he said adding though science had progressed

tremendously during the past few centuries natural rainfall still determines the fortune of many nations.

The President said Bangladesh had very good weather most of the year but sometimes the wind starts blowing very hard causing cyclones and storm surges and resulting in immense loss of life and property and indescribable human misery. A way must be found out to tackle all these environmental problems he added.

President Sattar said that realising the importance of environmental problems Bangladesh was strengthening its research effort. Bangladesh Space Research and Remote Sensing Organisation, Bangladesh Meteorological Department and different universities of Bangladesh are engaged in a significant way in research on environmental problems, he said and added the government of Bangladesh had given due considerations to the role of science and technology in the nation's economic development.

President Sattar said, besides solving scientific problems workshops of this kind helped international understanding. In a world of strifes and troubles, scientists can play a big role in promoting international peace and friendship.

The President appreciated the role played by different UN bodies like International Atomic Energy Agency, UNESCO International Centre for Theoretical Physics and World Meteorological Organisation in promoting the cause of science and expressed his confidence that the workshop would make us wiser and help us tremendously in understanding the environmental problems on which depends our progress towards a better world.

The winter workshop is being participated by about 75 delegates from home and abroad. The participating countries attending the workshop are Bangladesh, Costa Rica, Pakistan, Indonesia, Mexico, the Philippines, the United States of America, Ghana, India, Sri Lanka, Niger, People's Republic of China, the Federal Republic of Germany, Malaysia, Ethiopia, Columbia, Kenya, Senegal, Nepal and Afghanistan.