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By A Staff Reporter

First Lady Begum Raushan Ershad said on Monday that there was no substitute of education for overall national development. She compared education with mother's milk which has no substitute.

Addressing as the chief guest the inaugural session of a seminar on "Education for All by the Year 2000" at Osmany Memorial Hall, Begum Ershad stressed the need for universal primary education and adult literacy programme for the overall socio-economic development of the country and the nation.

She also emphasised that 100 per cent of the children of the age group six to ten must be brought in primary schools and informal programme should be adopted for the drop-outs with a view to making the primary education universal. She further called for introduction of vocational training course along with literacy programme to attract the illiterate adults.

Presided over by Mr Mahabubur Rahman, Minister for Education, the inaugural session

was also addressed by Mr Golam Sarwar Milon, Deputy Minister for Education and Mr M A Syed, Secretary, Education and Culture Division.

Referring to the importance of education for national development, Minister Mahabubur Rahman observed that the country needed an education system that would be based on religion and bring welfare for the people. He mentioned that people must be given their right to proper and pro-people education so that they could make themselves self-reliant and conscious.

The Minister disclosed that five Government colleges and 21 high schools in the country would be rewarded for their better academic and extra-academic performances.

Organised by the Ministry of Education, the seminar was held as a part of three-day programme on the occasion of National Education Week. A cultural evening will be held in this connection today (Tuesday) and a prize giving ceremony tomorrow (Wednesday).