

Govt has formed a cell to implement Edn policy

The government has formed a cell to implement the "Bangladesh Education Policy 2000" with an expenditure of Taka 30,000 crore in a 12-year period beginning this year, reports BSS.

Officials of the "Bangladesh Education Policy 2000 Implementation Cell" told BSS today that the cell was now engaged in working out the strategies for the implementation of the policy in phases.

The spirit of the Liberation War has been enunciated for the first time as one of the major goals of education, they said, adding that the policy would provide standard

universal education for the development of a modern and democratic country as well as building a creative and enlightened society.

Dwelling on the financial arrangement for the implementation of the policy, officials said out of Taka 30,000 crore, Taka 17,960 crore would be mobilized locally while the rest would be collected from external sources.

The Education Policy introduced in the country for the first time on the basis of Dr Qudrat-e-Khuda Commission report could be amended and improved further based on the need of the hour, they said.

Giving a break-up of the number of educational institutions, teachers and students across the country at different levels, they said primary level institutions are 78,000, teachers 2.75 lakh and students 1.85 crore, junior secondary and secondary level institutions are 15,293, teachers 1,75,597, students 73,79,716, colleges are 2,198, teachers 55,320, students 14,55,169, universities are 30, teachers around 5,000 and students around 80,000.

As per the new structure of the education policy, they said, a pre-primary education with one year duration has been proposed. Compared to current duration of five years, primary education under the new policy will be of eight years while secondary education will be of four years compared to existing five years.

The baccalaureate honours courses will be of four-year duration in place of the present three-year. The existing two-year duration Bachelor degree pass course

will be of three-year and the degree pass course will gradually be abolished. The post-graduation or masters degree will be of one or two years duration as of now, they added.

In Madrasah education, they said, Ebtedayee will be of eight-year duration and Dakhil of four-year. The degree and post-graduation courses in Madrasah education will henceforth come under the jurisdiction of the Islamic University in place of the Madrasah Education Board.

The duration of the technical diploma courses has been extended from three years to four years. A network of technical education centres starting from upazila to national levels will be set up, they said.

Vocational training of one, two and four years of duration is expected to produce adequate number of semi-skilled and skilled technicians, they said, adding that secondary and technical boards will also evaluate courses of Madrasah education other than those purely related to religious subjects.

On evaluation, they said, there will be public examinations at the end of the proposed eight-year primary and Ebtedayee education. The present public examination system at the end of 10 years will however be replaced by a public examination at the end of 12 years.

There will be a scholarship examination at the end of the 10 years. Instead of cardinal evaluation, grading system will be introduced at the secondary level, they said.