

New ministry created 2003 declared 'Good Edn year'

As part of her government's intensified programmes for the development of education in the country, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Thursday declared creation of a new ministry named "Ministry of Primary and Mass Education", says BSS.

Existing Primary and Mass Education Division will be turned into the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education and the Prime Minister herself will remain in-charge of the new ministry.

Her declaration of creation of a new ministry came while speaking at the concluding session of the National Education Week at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Centre.

The Prime Minister also announced current year of 2003 as "good education year" with the

aim of ensuring minimum standard of education in every educational institution.

She underlined the need for restructuring the education system in congruity with the demand of the time and ensuring quality education side by side with spread of education to cope with the challenges of the twenty first century.

"We have to introduce planned education system. We have to attach importance on education based on science and technology, professional and vocational education", said Begum Zia at the prize giving ceremony organised on the occasion of the National Education Week.

The Prime Minister called for further enhancing rate of literacy by enrolling each child into the

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2003 declared

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schools and expanding education. Begum Zia underlined the need for flourishing human values and moral spirit through education to make success this year's slogan of education week "education for attaining self-reliance".

She said that in many educational institutions learners were not being able to attain standard education due to lack of academic atmosphere, quality teachers, negligence and lack of undutifulness of the teachers.

The Prime Minister said her government had taken a number of steps to create congenial academic atmosphere in the educational institutions as well as to run the educational institutions properly and fairly, curb terrorism and hold public examinations in cheating free atmosphere.

Begum Zia said new teachers were being appointed and called on ensuring minimum standard of education in every educational institutions.

The Prime Minister said that minimum standard of education in each educational institutions must be ensured within a year.

Begum Zia said the issue of standard of education at different tiers and educational institutions was also very important. Many government, and private educational institutions were imparting quality education to the learners while some others could not attain the expected standard of education.

She urged each teachers to remain attentive throughout the year for flourishing human and moral qualities of the learners with the aim of improving the standard of education.

Begum Zia also said steps have been taken to introduce "Shaheed Ziaur Rahman ICT Scholarship" at different tiers of higher education and the "Prime Minister's Scholarships" at the university levels.

She said decision has been taken to form a national education commission for formulating national education policy incorporating national values and spirit to make education more time benefiting.

The function was addressed, among others, by Education Minister Dr Osman Farooq, State Minister for Education ANH Ehsanul Huq Milon, Deputy Minister for Education Abdus Salam Pintoo, PM's Advisor on primary and Mass education Prof Jahanara Begum and Education Secretary M Shahidul Alam.

The Prime minister distributed prizes among the winners of the nation wide competition on different cultural events, text books among the students of primary schools at free of cost and also among the students of ebtedayi madrasa.

Ministers, MPs, diplomats, teachers, students and academicians attended the function, which was telecast live.