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## Ershad arrives in Pattaya, addresses confce today

PATTAYA (Thailand), Mar. 4:—President Hussain Muhammad Ershad arrived here today to attend the world conference on "Education for All," reports BSS.

The President will address the opening session of the conference tomorrow at Jomtien, a sea-side resort here, as the specially invited guest.

President Ershad drove here this afternoon from Bangkok.

The five-day conference is sponsored jointly by the four UN bodies—UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank, and several other associate organisations and the Government of Thailand.

President Ershad will address the opening session on a joint invitation from the heads of four sponsoring UN bodies together with three other heads of state from Kenya, Equador and The Maldives.

Earlier, on arrival at the Bangkok's Don Muang International Airport, President Ershad was received by the Thai Deputy Minister for Education, Mr. Sakul Sriprom.

High officials of the Thai Ministry of Education and representatives of

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the sponsors of the conference were present at the airport. Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand Maj. Gen. Moinul Hossain Choudhury and officials of the Embassy were also present to receive the President.

Immediately after a lighting from the Bangladesh Biman aircraft the President was escorted to the VVIP lounge of the airport. From the airport, he drove straight here, 160 kms east of Bangkok.

Besides, an eight-member Bangladesh delegation led by Education Minister Sheikh Shahidul Islam is also attending the conference. The conference, first of its kind and expected to be attended by 1,500 delegates from all countries of the world, will issue a declaration and adopt the framework of action in the field of education.

Regional conferences were earlier held in ten cities of the world including Dhaka preparatory to this conference which is expected to announce political pledge to the UN commitment of education for all by 2000 A.D.

In a brief interview with the Thai TV network at the Don Muang International Airport, President Ershad expressed the hope that the conference would help undertake a coordinated action to wipe out illiteracy from the globe.

He also mentioned the steps taken in Bangladesh to attain the objective of education for all by 2000 A.D.