

Education sector shows rosy picture

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 in due time, formulated a national education policy, fixed specific dates for beginning of classes, examinations and publishing textbooks to students of primary and secondary levels; introduced online admission system at different levels; and put an apparent curb on coaching and admission business. Teachers' demands were aplenty, yet the government provided them with monthly pay order (MPO) facility and announced to nationalise all 26,284 non-government primary schools after around 39 years. But in reverse, it could not contain campus violence, which could have helped it earn more accolades. Unrest at different public universities continued in the last four years with clashes between associate bodies of the ruling and opposition parties and intra-party conflicts. However, ensuring quality education still remains a big challenge for the government and to do so more around 3.68 crore students are being handed over to unified education system in the country has been at its implementation stage with the ministry preparing an education act in light of it. However, proper implementation of the policy will be a major challenge as no specific budgetary allocation has yet been made to that end. Although the government claims to have met its target of sending more than 99 percent children to primary schools, reducing the huge dropout rate further and imparting quality education are still two major tasks to fulfil. Another remarkable feat is the rise in pass rates in the public examinations like SSC and HSC and the number of candidates for these exams. For example, pass rate in SSC examination that was 67.41 percent in 2009 rose to 86.32 percent in 2012. One of the main reasons behind the success is introduction of creative method of all 26,284 non-government primary schools also soothes the teachers. Introducing multimedia classroom at 20,000 schools and setting up 1,500 more primary schools across the country were two other major steps taken by the government. With one year in hand, the education ministry wants to implement the projects they have taken up to ensure quality education. "It's the guardians, students, teachers, and, above all, people who will judge us considering the country's reality. But I'm not much satisfied with the pace of our work," Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid told The Daily Star. "The main challenge ahead of us is ensuring quality education and attaining the global standard," he added.

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