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পঞ্চা কলাম

## Help govt efforts for expansion of education: PM

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Tuesday made a fervent appeal to all irrespective of party affiliation to help complement the government efforts for the expansion and development of education in the country, reports BSS.

"Today education is a national issue of us. We have to see education from national perspective. We believe, our initiatives would achieve success through our collective efforts. Our people would be educated, country turn into a self-reliant one and we as a nation would be able to stand on our own feet in the world atlas" she said.

The Prime Minister was addressing as chief guest the function marking the beginning of National Education Weeks, 1994 in Dhaka Tuesday morning at the Osmany Auditorium. She distributed prizes among students of different

schools and colleges for their extra curricular activities and also handed over awards to 24 different institutions and 36 teachers of various schools, madrashas and colleges for their outstanding contributions in the development of education.

Begum Zia said that her government would like to widely spread education as a tool to end poverty by introducing work-oriented education.

"We want to create appropriate hands for work through education. We have to proceed suiting the need and demand of the age,"

she said an added we would become affluent and our importance in the globe would be enhanced if we could transform our population into resources through education.

Begum Zia termed education

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## Expansion of Education

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as human being's birth and constitutional rights saying education ensured responsibilities and accountabilities in social and state life while it is a vehicle of a nation's development and prosperity.

Pointing to the main theme of this year's education week as work-oriented education, she said it would help further expand and enlighten the horizon of education.

Begum Zia said, we as a nation lag behind because of our backwardness in the field of

education and we as a nation will not be able to have our appropriate place in the world if we do not spread the light of education by changing the prevailing situation.

The Prime Minister listed the measures undertaken by the present government for the development of the country's education sector and said it had undertaken effective initiatives to bring welfare oriented and meaningful changes in the education sector.

She pointed out that education topped the budgetary allocation list and far-reaching steps were undertaken to expand and develop work-oriented education.

Begum Zia said that primary education had been declared compulsory to materialise the commitment and constitutional right of education for all.

She said food for education programme was now being implemented to make education cheaper and popular.

The prime Minister said her government had been working relentlessly to create educational infrastructure throughout the country and stressed science and technology education.

She also underscored the need for uprooting campus violence and maintaining congenial academic atmosphere and raising the standard of education. Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar and Education Secretary Ershad Haq also spoke.

Ministers, members of Parliament, educationist and high officials were present in the function.