

THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER

Unplanned schools hinder tech. edn

By A Staff Correspondent

Mushroom growth of unaffiliated technical institutions in the city has posed a threat to the basic educational system in the country.

The institutions imparting technical education like typing, secretarial course motor driving, computer programming and repairing of electrical equipment function without any recognition of the concerned authority. In order to legalise their business, these institutions obtain trade licence from the Dhaka Municipal Corporation which is a prerequisite to establishing any business firm whatsoever.

Side by side the Directorate of Technical Education under the Education Ministry operates about 25 institutions in the country where similar technical education is imparted. The directorate however denies any responsibility of the unrecognised institutions.

The unrecognised institutions do not follow any standard curriculum and examination procedures but on the other hand issue certificates of merit to the successful students. At a time when the government is attaching much importance to the education sector, these training houses are jeopardising the educational system by way of deviating from the basics like obtaining recognition, following fixed curriculum and standard examination procedures and issuing merit certificates.

This disorder arising out of the mushroom growth of unrecognised technical institutions apparently was the result of shortfalls of the authority concerned. While there exists no system for regularising such education by recognising the private institutions, the government has also not taken up the matter for consideration and initiating steps to curb the growth or bringing these under specific discipline.

The situation has deteriorated following a government decision
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to shift the vocational training institutes under Ministry of Social Welfare. Previously, under the Ministry of Education the vocational institutions numbering about 50 in the country imparted technical education on shorthand, Bengali and English typewriting, repairing of electrical gadgets, carpentry, repairing of automobiles etc.

Although there is similarity in the type of education imparted in vocational and technical institutions they have been placed under two different ministries making too difficult to assess under which ministry the private institutions will fall and who will recognise their education.