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Scientific And Technical Education

Most governments now realise that increasing scientific and technically based education is the only way the standard of living of the people can be improved. The continued pursuit in the past of outdated and theory-based curricula has resulted in too many people unable to find the work they needed for survival. That this is at last being replaced by a more modern view of the world and education is pleasing for today's world is more and more technically oriented than ever. The news of a plan to set up twelve new universities in science and technology can, therefore, be seen only as a welcome addition to the education scene.

The race to keep pace with science and technology also means we can expect to see these new universities functioning within a very short time. We know that, in the coming millennium, if we want the standard of living to improve, we must be more dependent on the application of science and technology on life.

The twelve universities of science and technology to be taken up by the Ministry of Education, are to be in the public sector which is also good news for they will be within the reach of the average student. There are far too many students passing the HSC examinations who, having failed to gain admission into one of the universities, are now wasting away their time.

If the scheme does materialise as hoped, some of these students will get the opportunity to study modern subjects. However, there seems to be one flaw in the programme, for under the plan, these new universities will be funded from our own domestic resources which may not be so easy to achieve. However, the fact that the universities are planned to be built at the district headquarters and are to be provided with residential accommodation for students, will be good for students who now have to come to Dhaka. Reportedly, the project document has already been submitted to the Planning Commission with a request for its inclusion in the revised Annual Development Programme, if so, there should be no cause for delay in putting the plan into action.

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