

তারিখ 22 JAN 2016  
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The Daily Star

# PM hopes for 100pc literacy rate soon

*She addresses 75th founding anniversary celebration of Madan Mohan College, Sylhet*

UNB, Sylhet

Bangladesh will soon achieve 100 percent literacy rate, hoped Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday.

"The country has already attained 71 percent literacy rate thanks to various pragmatic steps of our government. ...establishing a hunger- and poverty-free Bangladesh is not possible without an educated nation," she said while addressing the platinum jubilee celebration programme of Madan Mohan College in Sylhet.

The prime minister called upon the well-off of society to come forward to further develop the country's educational institutions to achieve 100 percent literacy rate.

Bangladesh got Unesco Literacy Award in 1998 in recognition of the huge achievement, she said.

Hasina said her government had taken various measures to make the

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country's education system time-befitting and science and technology based one.

A medical university will be established in Sylhet as per a government plan to set up such institutions in each divisional headquarters,

she promised. The PM hinted at nationalisation of Madan Mohan College following the demand of the city people. The premier visited Sylhet to join the celebration of the college and inaugurate and lay the foundation stones of 22 development schemes.