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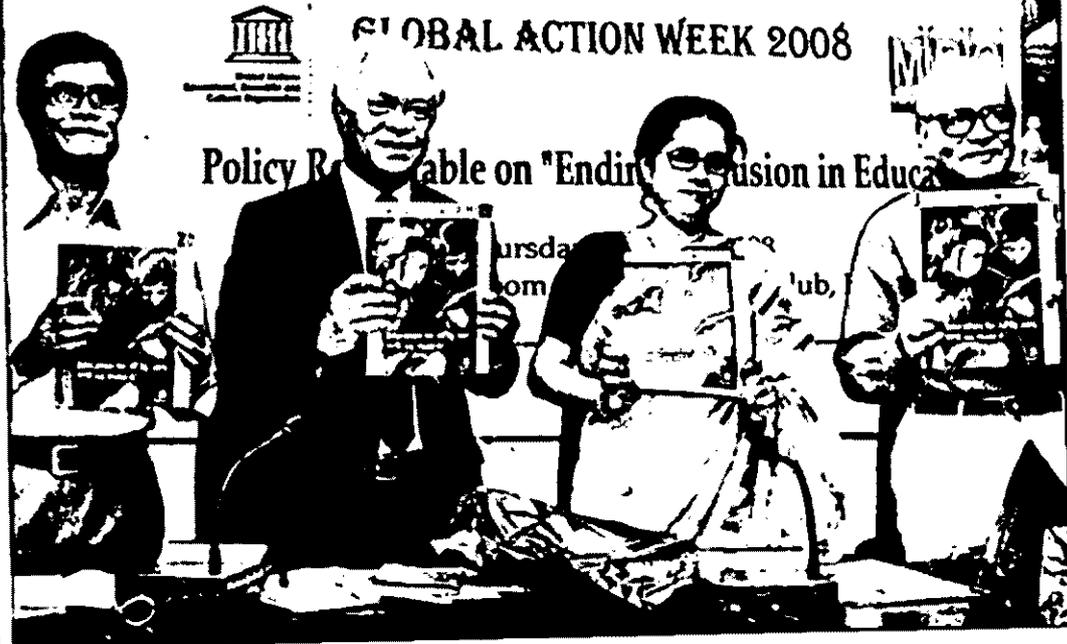


PHOTO: STAR

Primary and Mass Education Adviser Rasheda K Choudhury launches 'EFA Global Monitoring Report-2008' of Unesco at the National Press Club in the city yesterday. (From left) Dr Muhammad Samad, Malama Meleisea, Rasheda K Choudhury and Prof Muzaffer Ahmad hold copies of the report at the launching ceremony.

Stipends for 60pc pry students to reduce dropout: Rasheda

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Primary and Mass Education Adviser Rasheda K Choudhury yesterday said 60 percent children in primary level will be given stipends for reducing dropout rate and increasing girls' education in the country.

"Now we provide stipend for 40 percent students, especially female ones, in primary level. We have taken a plan to increase the stipend covering 60 percent students in primary level," said Rasheda while addressing as chief guest at the launching ceremony of Unesco's 'EFA Global Monitoring Report-2008'.

She also said the local education calendar will be introduced very soon so that access to primary education can be increased.

"Education for all cannot be ensured without changing our attitude on all children -- both poor

and rich," the adviser also said, adding that strong political commitment and attempts are much needed for reaching education for all in the country.

Unesco Dhaka in collaboration with the Media Professionals Group organised the report launching ceremony and a policy roundtable on 'Ending Exclusion in Education' at the National Press Club in the city.

With noted economist and TIB Chairman Prof Muzaffer Ahmad in the chair, the roundtable was also addressed by former education minister Dr M Osman Farruk, Unesco Dhaka Director and Representative Malama Meleisea, Reza Mahmud Al Huda of Care Bangladesh, Dhaka University Institute of Social Welfare and Research Dr Muhammad Samad, Jatiya Party leader GM Kader and Media Professionals Group Director Samar Roy.