



NOV. 25 2002

Experts say

Madrasa education must be modernised

The madrasa curriculum has to be modernized and updated in such a manner that the students after attaining certificates and degrees at different levels can sit for various competitive examinations, including the civil service examination and get jobs in both the public and private sectors, reports BSS.

An expert committee of education ministry recommended in a report on reforms in the education sector that required immediate attention to attain the cherished national goals in the sector.

A system can be evolved to evaluate the overall performance of schools, colleges and madrasas and they can be categorized according to performance.

The experts who included leading academicians observed that at the primary and secondary levels of education, the syllabi followed by the three types of institutions, that is, Bengali-medium schools, English medium schools and madrasas should be coordinated so as to reduce the gap between them.

It pointed out in the report that there is a clear instruction in Article 17 of the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to introduce a uniform and equal education system in all the educational institutions at the primary level throughout the country.

But in reality there are 11 kinds of schools of various standards and streams in Bangladesh, including government and non-government primary schools, kindergartens, ihtedaayi madrasas and schools run by various NGOs. This gap of education standard should have to be minimised.

The committee recommended that measures have to be taken to train the madrasa teachers regularly.

It said the Zonal Directors could be entrusted with the management of the secondary and higher secondary examinations, management of social motivation programmes and inspection and supervision of schools, colleges and madrasas in their concerned zones.