

106 106

## Broad-based Edn plan to reduce poverty: Farruk

Education Minister Dr. Osman Farruk on Tuesday said the education system must be broad-based and aimed at income-generating programme to reduce poverty, reports BSS.

As such, there should be rural-based education programme as majority of the country's population live in rural areas, he said while inaugurating a workshop on "Quality Education for Poverty Reduction" in Dhaka.

At the same time, the Minister stressed the need for qualitative improvement in education rather than only quantitative growth.

He said: "So we have to design a new system to build skilled manpower through the education process, and that would be the main route to poverty reduction programme."

State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Huq Milon also addressed the workshop presided over the Education Secretary Mohammad Shahidul Islam. ERD Secretary Anisul Haq Chowdhury, BIDS senior research fellow Dr. Binayak Sen, and Additional Secretary, Ministry of Education Abdur Rashid, among others spoke at the inaugural session.

Chief of Planning in the Ministry of Education Gopal Chandra Sen presented the keynote paper.

Education Minister Dr. Farruk said poor quality of education eventually results in rising drop-outs and falling enrolment rates.

"We must look for knowledge revolution to proceed towards qualitative education," he stressed.

State Minister for Education Ehsanul Huq Milon said there is no alternative to qualitative education.

He said teachers are appointed not only to teach in the class rooms. The teachings, passed on to the students, should also be supervised and monitored, he opined.

Gopal Chandra Sen, in his keynote paper, said the government will prepare an action plan for the improvement of quality in education by motivating teachers to their profession and recruiting quality teachers for vacant posts.

He said a national experts committee has been formed to identify the possible areas of reforms in the education sector and make recommendations in this regard.

He said the government has taken up some steps for improvement of quality in education. The steps included establishment of language centres at six divisional headquarters for training in communicative English, new initiatives at all educational institutions for popularising communicative English, elimination of violence or terrorism from all educational institutions and computer education at all stages.