

Adult Education Vs Demand Of The Day

Sir,

Some intellectuals opine that adult education is a crying need of the day in all least developed countries of the world. Various steps were taken to impart adult education in some countries in the last half of the twentieth century. Many dedicated persons took special interest in it. Most of them were optimistic of its success. They thought that adult people would be able to learn something if sincere efforts were made. With the introduction of adult education, illiteracy might, to some extent, be removed from the country, it was hoped.

We know mere learning of reading and writing or putting signature on paper does not last long due to absence of any scope for their application in the practical field. For this reason many countries experienced failure. It is seen that formal education up to class five can also be forgotten forever if it is not in use.

In the year of the new millennium the people of Bangladesh had witnessed attractive signboard the new for adult education in all districts of the country. Top level meeting, seminar and group meeting were held and motivation works were done for this purpose. Books especially written in this connection were distributed among the intended learners. But what happened in the practical field?

In the socio-economic condition of our country nobody is interested to spare any time voluntarily for such work. Service rendered for this purpose is honorary. Moreover, most of the adults are indifferent to getting education. They are not legally bound to do so. Hence achievement in this regard is very poor. We are prompt to realize the importance of everything but have no patience to implement anything.

According to one statistics seven lac men and women were taught in a scheme of adult education spending Taka seven core and eighty lac during the first sixteen years of our independence. But the achievements is quite deplorable. Books distributed for adult education are, sometimes, found available at the grocer's for packing purposes. If so, what was the use of such drum beat?

In this connection I would like to mention that fifty years ago every primary school had three or four teachers. At that time there were hardly fifty to one hundred students in a primary school. Fifty per cent of them were seasonal students. But now-a-days there are five hundred to one thousand students in a primary school. But numbers of teachers have not been increased.

If new primary schools are set up and the number of teachers are increased as per requirements there would be no need to spend for adult education. Because every child would then have access to primary education. Time would come when the percentage of educated people would reach upto the desired level automatically if proper steps were taken in this regard.

We should think what the actual demand of the day is.

Mohammed Abdul Gaffur,
Dohar, Dhaka.

তারিখ
স্বাক্ষর