

Education must meet needs of modern age: PM

Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman said on Monday education system should be dynamic and pragmatic to meet the needs of the modern age, reports BSS.

He said this in his inaugural address as chief guest at a two-week national workshop on "Science Education for Teacher Educators" organised by Bangladesh Education Extension and Research Institute in collaboration with British Council at the BEERI auditorium in Dacca.

Shah Aziz said the present Government was firmly determined to make education practical and employment-oriented. He said primary education had been given top priority in the Second Five-Year Plan and that substantial budget had been allocated to this sector.

He said, the Government was determined to free the nation from the curse of illiteracy by 1985 and that so far 27 lakh people had been given functional education. The Prime Minister said "Every village in Bangladesh will have a primary school, because primary education is a constitutional obligation."

This year, the Government had initiated distributing free books and uniform among the needy students. This measure has been taken up to arrest dropouts in the primary level due to poverty, he added.

Shah Aziz said realistic and practical education must be imparted in primary schools.

He said for making science education effective proper training to the educators was a

critical precondition. He called upon the participants in the

workshop on science education

to use their achievements for the benefit of their pupils.

The Prime Minister hoped

that workshop would help raise the standard of science education in the country and guide the nation. He also thanked the British Council for its active collaboration with the workshop.

Presided over by Dr. Hafez Ahmed, DPI, the inaugural session was addressed by Dr. Obaidullah, Director BEERI and Mr. J E Reeves, Science Education Adviser, Ministry of Education. Education Secretary Kazi Fazlur Rahman was also present as special guest.