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National computer body formed

The government has constituted an 11-member national computer committee with Major General Mahabbat Jan Chowdhury, Minister for Establishment and Reorganisation as Chairman to formulate strategy and policy guidelines for development of computer technology in the country says a PID handout.

The other members of the committee are Major General Mozammel Hossain PSO to C-in-C; Dr. A.M. Patwari Vice Chancellor BUET and President Bangladesh Computer Society; M. Mujibul Haq, member (Programming) Planning Commission; M. Saiduzzaman Secretary Finance Division; Dr. A.K. M. Golam Robbani Secretary Statistics Division; S.B. Chowdhury Secretary IRD and Chairman NBR; Dr Anwar Hossain Chairman Atomic Energy Commission; Brig. Khaled Amirul Karim Director Signals Army Headquarters; M F A Siddiqui President Bangladesh Institution of Engineers and Col Anwar Hossain Chowdhury Colonel Staff Implementation CMLA Secretariat.

Col. Anwar Hossain Chowdhury has been made member-Secretary of the committee.

The terms of reference of the committee are : (a) Formulation of strategy and policy guidelines for promotion and systemic transfer and development of computer technology in the country, (b) Identification and Selection of application areas and fixation of their priorities (c) Formulation of action plan for developing necessary trained manpower (d) Formulation of policy guidelines for (i) procurement and installation of hardware and software from abroad (ii) standardization of hardware and software as an industry (iii) ensuring optimum utilization of hardware particular the main frames (iv) promotion of higher training and research in the field of computer science and its applications (v) control and supervision of private sector training activities (vi) promotion and development of requisite infrastructural facilities for rapid computerization (vii) after-sale service and maintenance by the manufacturers/suppliers (viii) allocation of resources for promotion and maintenance of hardware (ix) procurement of spare parts and supplies for computer equipment and related infrastructural facilities, (x) providing assistance to the prospective users in respect of Configuration; software and system development, (xi) improvement and harmonization of emoluments and other service conditions of computer personnel in the country; (xii) computer activity at national regional and international level.

The committee may co-opt such other members as may be required for efficient discharge of its functions.

It may also form separate sub-committee and working groups consisting of users and computer experts in hardware, software and system development.

The committee may also undertake any other activity on computerization as may be required in the interest of public service.