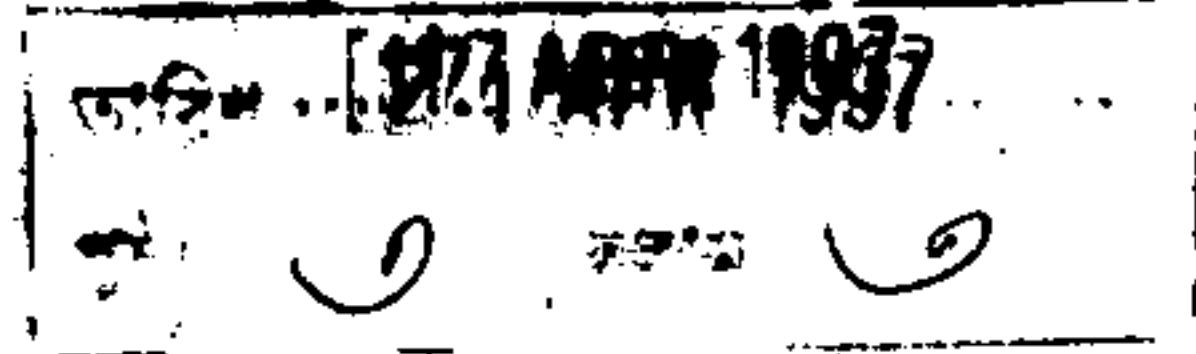


17 APR 1997

The Bangladesh Times

Adult literacy programme launched in 41 thanas

Department of Non-Formal Education of Primary and Mass Education Division has launched an adult literacy programme in 41 thanas of 30 districts, reports UNB.

Some 3.60 lakh people aged between 11-45 would be educated under the programme to be implemented by 99 non-government organisations.

Deputy Minister for Primary and Mass Education Prof Zinatun Nesa Talukder disclosed this while she was inaugurating a day-long orientation course of NGO representatives and concerned officials on

implementation of the programme at Planning and Development Academy in Dhaka on Tuesday.

Prof Zinatun Nesa further said that the government has undertaken programme to raise adult literacy rate to 70 per cent by the year 2000, said a PID handout.

The adult literacy rate is only 44.30 per cent although about 95 per cent children of the country have been enrolled in primary schools, she stated.

"The NGOs could play a pivotal role in raising the adult literacy rate", the Minister said, adding that success in all the fields could be achieved gradually if we would free the nation from the curse of illiteracy.

Education Secretary Dr Sadat Hussain, Non-Formal Education Department DG Khandaker Shahidul Islam, Swanirbhar Bangladesh chairman SM Al-Hossaini and Forum for Non-Formal Education Programme adviser Kazi Azhar also spoke on the occasion.