THE DAILY STAR

5

जातिय ••• •• EFI» (•• 3-1998•• ••• गुर्के

Upgrade BAI

Sir, According to the information appeared in the July 1999 issue of "APEAEN

Newsletter" published from the head office of the 'Asia Pacific Association of Educators in Agriculture & Environment (APEAEN)' in the Philippines. at present, a total of 33 agricultural universities including 4 national agricultural research institutes are there in India. About 15,500 students are annually admitted to these universities. In contrast, although an agro-based country, Bangladesh has only two agricultural universities. Out of three government agri-colleges. two have been upgraded to faculty status of the newly established Science & Technology Universities while the country's oldest agricultural education institution, i.e. Bangladesh Agricultural Institute (BAI), Dhaka has yet to be upgraded to university status. It may be mentioned here that the agricultural colleges established in India and Pakistan during the then British rule have been upgraded to agri-universities long/ ago. But it is a matter of regret/ that BAI which was established in 1938 has not yet been upgraded. Of course the govern ment has undertaken some