

## National Science Week

28/4/80

226

Science and technology constitute the greatest factor for development of a country in this modern age. This truth has been firmly established by the achievements of the advanced nations that have dictated themselves emphatically to scientific and technological advancement. The need for a country like Bangladesh is, therefore, to make concerted efforts for development of science and technology that would help achieve its development in all other sectors. This, in other words, explains the point that the study of science and technology has to be made popular among, and easily accessible for, the people, so that those with scientific aptitude can be inspired to play their role in scientific and technological exploration in the near future. In short, as an infrastructure our education system must be productive with scientific, technological and vocational bias. It is, however, heartening that the government has been at work preparing a blueprint for such an education system. And efforts are also being made to raise the standard of research by strengthening a viable infrastructure of science.

In view of our pressing needs, it is imperative that an awareness be created among the people about the paramount importance of science and technology in our life, both individual and national. This calls for bringing and ex-

plaining the achievements of science so that they can be inspired not only to adopt and apply these in their practical life but also to develop their own ideas and innovations in the field of science. It is pragmatic that science fairs and exhibitions are held for the purpose from time to time. And there can be no two opinions about the educative value of the National Science Week. The third of its kind is currently being held at sub-divisional level all over the country—with a view to popularising science and technology. Its activities reportedly include exhibition of science projects, innovative works, debate and symposia.

The week appears to provide opportunity to students and teachers of different academic institutions, members of science clubs and professional and amateur scientists to display their individual achievements and exchange views with each other on scientific matters. This should not, however, be all. The activities of the week should also be enriched with some methods that would help identify the scientific talents from among the visitors, so that they can be picked up and provided with facilities to develop their own scientific potentials. This, we hope, will go a long way in keeping the continuity of scientific exploration for greater interest of the nation.