



The Bhorer Kagoj, a vernacular daily, organised a Roundtable discussion on the education system at Hotel Sheraton yesterday. —Star photo

Bhorer Kagoj Roundtable

16 major obstacles to development of edn

By Staff Correspondent

"The atmosphere of creativity in education system has been systematically destroyed. You have to give the students an opportunity for 'thinking' habits for skill development. Creative thinking is completely absent today which is responsible for the decline in standard of education," said Dr Zafar Iqbal, a teacher of Sylhet Shahjalal University at a roundtable discussion organised by the Bengali Daily Bhorer Kagoj at a city hotel yesterday.

The discussants at the Roundtable on What Direction the Education System is Heading, while identifying various drawbacks in the existing education system, also made a number of recommendations to improve the system.

The Bhorer Kagoj in a paper presented at the Roundtable identified 16 major problems which, it said, were the main obstacles in the way of development of education system. The problems include lack of proper management in educational institutions, corruption and poor vigilance in the education system, deficiency in teachers' training and teachers' tendency of bunking, lack of basic facilities like furniture, apparatus and text books, poor allocation of funds for the education sector in the budget, existence of different methods of education system and lack of coordination among various departments of the education ministry.

"Teachers should do politics for development of standard of education and refrain from being involved in party politics,"

said Dr Shahidul Islam of Rajshahi University.

Making comments on female education, a discussant said, "If a student fails in SSC or HSC examination the student has to wait for a whole year before appearing at the same examination next year. There should be a system, like in the West, in which a student failing in a particular subject can sit for examination only in that particular subject."

She said, "Introduction of such a system will help reduce the growing rate of drop-out of students".

Dr Anisuzzaman a teacher of Dhaka University, said teachers should be trained properly. For that, training facilities for various disciplines should also be developed, he said.

Dr Iqbal Mahmud, Vice-Chancellor of BUET, said, "Is class room teaching really taking place properly? Today's education system has come down to its lowest standard. Today's education system is far below than what it was in the 1950s."

Milia Ali of World Bank observed that the government should give emphasis on skill-based training, look for new strategy and involve local governments at village level about overall for improvement of the standard of education.

She also said "teachers should not be transferred in at least three years."

Speaking on the occasion Education Minister ASHK Sadeque that the draft education policy, recently submitted to the government, will be made public by November 19.