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Now 'food for education' scheme

A Sun report

An incentive scheme which maybe known as 'food for education' should receive serious consideration of the government for the successful implementation of the compulsory primary education project.

A highly placed government source said some kind of inducement has to be offered to achieve 100 per cent enrolment rate at the primary level.

The best way to do so is to offer 25 gram of rice or wheat to children in the age group of 5 to 7. But such benefit should only go to children of the distressed family, the source added.

The source said many donors will be willing to bear the burden if the government approves the plan.

He said this could at the beginning may be started at a limited scale should this prove to be encouraging so far enrolment is concerned the "food for education" scheme may further be expanded.

He said enrolment at the primary level after it has been made mandatory by the government has been satisfactory. When contacted, an education ministry source said 3000 more primary school would be set where there were no schools. The World Bank and Asian Development Bank would finance the project.