

# Jt. body to prepare Bengali text books

The Government may soon constitute a joint committee to be concerned with preparation and translation of Bengali text and basic books for the higher levels of education in the country. Education Ministry sources said in Dhaka on Thursday reports BSS.

The joint committee will be formed with the representatives from the Ministry of Education, University Grants Commission, the universities and Bangla Academy.

The committee meant for facilitating use of Bengali at higher levels of education will be responsible for preparation of lists of necessary text books deciding priority for translation and preparation of basic books the sources said.

A meeting held recently with Minister for Education Dr. Abdul Majeed Khan in the chair also underscored the need for compiling an illustrated Bengali dictionary for the students of primary and secondary levels. The dictionary will contain words both used and useable at the primary and secondary levels of education the sources said.

The meeting also stressed for compiling a dictionary of Bengali pronunciation to standardise class room use of Bengali at all levels of education. It also called for standardisation of text book language according to the level of education and students language skill.

The meeting also decided to entrust the National Curriculum and Text Book Board for preparation of books prescribed by the National Curriculum and Syllabi Committee for the higher secondary level students.

It also assigned the board to look after the standard of the books at the level.

Introduction of Bengali pronunciation course in all teachers' training institutes was also considered in the meeting which suggested that such courses should be of short duration and they should be offered on a modular form on a continuing basis.

The meeting which outlined the need for extending facilities for Bengali typing and shorthand upto the upazilla level urged Bangla Academy to resume offering of such courses the sources said.

The Bangla Academy was also called upon to develop a faster usable Bangla type writer keyboard. The meeting observed that technical inefficiency of the present key-board system was also largely responsible for difficulties for introduction of Bengali at all levels of national life.

The meeting also considered the sources said the need to set up more than one institution for teaching Bengali as a foreign language. Such institutions could be opened by the Government or at private initiative the sources added.