

Uniform education urged

Our Correspondent

COMILLA: A two-day national workshop on "Essential learning Continuum in the context of universal primary education" jointly organised by the National Curriculum and Text Book Board, and United Nations International Childrens Emergency Fund was concluded at the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) Comilla on April 17 with a call to make primary education compulsory.

Eminent educationists, Scholars, representatives of UNICEF and other international agencies participated in it.

Mr Hedayet Ahmed, secretary Ministry of Education presided over the inaugural session of the workshop on April 16. Dr. Zahi

Ull Islam Bhuiyan, Director General, Primary Education, Dr. A H M Karim, Director General Secondary and Higher Education Prof. Md. Eliasuddin, Chairman National Curriculum and Text Book Board, also spoke at the opening session.

The workshop was to develop an attractive curriculum for primary school children.

Prof. Adarsha Khanna, UNESCO adviser, in a paper presented at the workshop said that the facilities available to most of the primary schools in Bangladesh were very limited. In most of the class rooms, black board and chalk are the only available educational aid.

She noted that the normal teacher-pupil ratio in primary schools of Bangladesh is expected

to be 1:50, with a more vigorous campaign for more enrolment, the ratio might increase further. The teachers have to be trained to engage childrens in guided self-learning activities, she said.

Prof. Emazuddin Ahmed, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University, Dr. Quazi Din Mohammad, Prof. A.F.M. Khodadad Khan, Prof. Syed Hymayun Kabir, Prof. Sanjeeda Khatun of the same University, Mrs. Rabeya Sultana, Principal Home Economic College Dhaka took part in the deliberations of the workshop among others.

The workshop urged the government to enact laws to make primary education compulsory and free and also to introduce uniform system of education at all level.