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Open 'varsity planned

Education Minister Mahbubur Rahman said in Dhaka on Wednesday that the Government was considering the setting up of an open university in the country, reports BSS.

Speaking at an Eid reunion, organised by the Bangladesh Institute of Distant Education

(BIDE) Mr. Mahbub said that the setting up of the proposed open university would create opportunities to the people, particularly to the professionals and service holders for higher education.

Under the open university the students would not have to attend class round the year, he said and added that such open universities were in operation in different countries of the region including India and Thailand.

The Education Minister referred to the proposal of the BIDE for opening the open university and assured the proposers that the ministry would extend all cooperation in this connection.

Mr. Mahbub stressed on the need for further expansion of the distant education programme in the country. He said a special convocation would

be arranged for graduates of the BIDE in the near future.

So far 14,000 teachers have enrolled with the institute and 3,000 of them have already graduated.

The reunion was addressed among others by the Planning Commission Member, Kazi Fazlur Rahman, the Education Secretary, M.A. Sayeed. A large number of teachers and graduates of the BIDE attended.