

## More emphasis on English in primary education stressed

By DU Correspondent

Instructors of different Primary Training Institutes (PTI) underscored the need for greater emphasis on English language in primary school level and made suggestions for the school teachers yesterday at a workshop at the British Council in the city.

A team of 15 instructors of different PTIs in the country attended English Language Teaching (ELT) courses at the Institute of English Language Education (IELE) in Lancaster University of England in October last year.

The nine-month training course was arranged by the British Council in cooperation with Directorate of Primary

Education of Bangladesh. The project was undertaken by Primary English Resource Centres (PERC) and funded by the Department for International Development, UK.

At the programme the team members delivered a briefing of their training courses regarding use of English in the classroom, interactive way of teaching, coherent lesson planning and more effective use of text books.

They also suggested some changes in the existing module books for the teachers and to translate them into English saying, "There should be a much closer relationship between the content of the modules and the English For Today textbooks."

They emphasised on teaching 'English through English' and not Bengali. "We should explore more interactive ways of teaching other than just classroom lectures," they said.

Among others, Dr Terri Kelly, education advisor, DFID, British High Commission, Dr Simon Kay, deputy director of the British Council, team leader Philip Powell Davis, four Voluntary Services Oversees (VSO) and the instructors were present at the workshop.

The instructors include Md Saiful Islam, Md Shaheed Ullah, Abu Abdullah Md Sanaullah, Tripti Kana Dey, Ahmed Sabiha Akhter, Bijoy Mohan Gosswami, Md Harunur Rahid Bhuiyan, Nasima Akhter, Noor Mohammad Masum, AkM Mujibur Rahman, Sukdev Majumder, Md Nazrul Islam, Ayesha Akhter, Jahor Lal Basak and Md Mofijur Rahman.