

Education Policy okayed

The cabinet on Monday okayed the National Education Policy-2010 aimed to introduce a science and technology-based modern education system with the spirit of education for all without any discrimination, non-communalism and War of Liberation, reports BSS.

The approval was given at the regular cabinet meeting held at Bangladesh Secretariat with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina in the chair.

Briefing newsmen after the meeting, Prime Minister's Press Secretary Abul Kalam Azad said the new education policy was endorsed restructuring the education levels with provision for free and compulsory primary schooling up to class eight.

He said the new policy will elevate the primary education from class five to class eight while secondary education from class nine to class

and free education from class nine to class twelve.

Azad said a terminal examination would be held at upazila, municipality and thana level on a common question paper at the end of class ten. Besides, according to the new policy, all students will get the chance to study their respective religions as well as moral education.

He said the policy was formulated to instil among the students the sense of human values alongside bringing about the required change in the education system to make it compatible to the international standard.

The policy envisages the aim of madrasah education to build "good faith in almighty Allah and his prophet (SM) and enable the students to perceive the essence of Islam, the religion of peace." It also stipulates that aligning with

other modes of education, religion and moral education will be studied at the "Ibtidaiyye" or primary level education of madrasahs along with compulsory subjects like Bangla, English, Bangladesh studies, mathematics, social studies, environment and climate change, and science.

Referring to the post-independence government's initiative to formulate a time befitting modern education system in the country, the Press Secretary said Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman after the country's independence formed an Education Commission led by Dr Kudrat-E-Khuda aiming at building a science and technology based modern education system.

But, he said after the brutal assassination of Bangabandhu with most of his family members on August 15, 1975, the post-1975 government did not take any initiative to implement the report of the commission.

He said after a long span of time Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's previous government after coming to power in 1996 formed an Education Commission led by Professor Shamsul Haq in 1997 and later it submitted the report.

But, the BNP-led four-party alliance government after coming to power in 2001 did not take any initiative to implement the report of the national education policy. Later, the present Awami League government led by Prime Minister Sheikh after assuming office took initiative to formulate a time befitting, science and technology based modern education.

The Press Secretary said
(See Back Page Col. 5)

Edn policy

(From Page 1 Col. 7)

The report of Prof Shamsul Haq on the National Education Policy was placed in today's cabinet meeting after bringing some necessary amendments to make it a time befitting and modern one.

Replying to a question, he said opinions given by different stakeholders including madrasah teachers and Islamic scholars were accommodated in the policy with due consideration.

He said the newly introduced primary center exami-

nations in class five and junior school certificate examinations in class eight will also be on.

According to the new policy, he said the three-year degree course would be turned into four-year honours course in phases. Besides, a non-government education commission would be constituted in non-government educational institutions for recruiting teachers and imparting them training.

He said proposals were made in the National Education Policy for expansion of technical and vocational training education by setting up more polytechnic, textile institute and leather technology institute across the country.

The new education policy also suggested that the government form a permanent education commission and frame an integrated education act to impart training to the teachers for ensuring quality of education.

Besides, it proposed providing adequate facilities for the teachers ensuring their dignity aiming at encouraging meritorious students to join the teaching profession.

Apart from this, the meeting approved the amendment proposals to the "Ain-Stringkhala Bighnakari Aparadh (Druia Bichar) Sangshodhan Ain-2010" (Law and Order Disruption Crimes (speedy trial) Act-2010) and Condition for Recruitment of class-1 and class-2, gazetted officers outside the cadre (tariff, revenue and VAT) Act-2010, Customs Act-1969 and Value Added Tax- 1991.