Teachers' due recognition in society govt's aim: Ershad

Far reaching plan for universal pry education.

H A Staff Reporter

President and CMLA Lt. Gen H.M. Hishad on Sunday announced a realistic and far reaching programment of the Government to implift literacy to the people, particularly in the 10-30-year age group, in the 37,000 villages where primary schools are locatcd.

Amid] applause, the President also anhounced that the villages and frimary schools which would attain success in this regard, would be awarded.

President Ershad was inaugur rating la two-day national convention on policy and plan for univertalisation of primary education at the Shishu Academy auditorium. The inaugural function was also addressed by Education Minister Dr A. Majeed Khan and Education Secretary, Kazi kalaluddin Ahmed.

A btal of 580 participants from Warious disciplines include ing apazila nirbahi officers, teachers, school managing committed members, education departnient officials, representaves of NGOs, UP representaes. Government officials and resentatives of international tain sations are attending the dition.

walldent Ershad called upon imbers of the teaching proand educated section to fresh pledge to cradi-

the society. "Many years have the 100 per cent children by 1979, elapsed, but we could not make he said and posed the question standard of the primary educaa breakthrough in the educating "what we could do in reality?" the masses", he said. He said The rate of admission of the "let all of us set a target that children into schools did not inwithin the next four years we crease and, on the other hand, can say that 50 per cent of our the number of drop-outs had population is literate".

President Ershad said that the children had the fundamental, that the Government had taken rights to receive education. "We the universal primary education have to restore the dreamful days for our children for the better future. This can only be possible by extensive expansion of education facilities for the children".

The President said that all the primary schools in the country were nationalised immediately after the independence without having any prior experience and preparations. In the First Five-Year Plan, target was set for the introduction of universal printary education and it was propothat primary education

cate the curse of illiteracy from would be made compulsory to increased, he said.

President Gen. Ershad said as the main strategy for buildlug a strong foundation of literacy in the country.

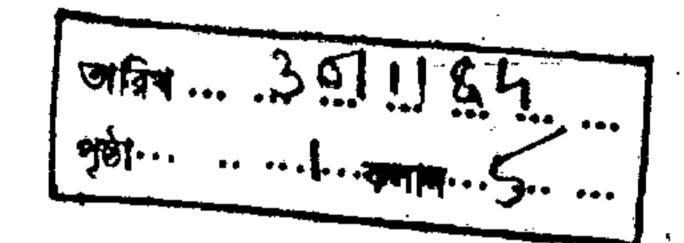
In this regard he said the universal education programme had been taken and was being implemented under the supervision of Ministry of Education. The objectives of the programme included creation of more facilities in the primary schools and increase the number of stud. dents particularly girl students improve the academic atmosphere in the educational instiautions and check drop-outs and repeatation introduction of im-

proved curriculum and text books and raise the qualitative tion and minimise the unit cost of education.

The President said that the Government wanted to build up citizens] equipped with religious end moral conscience and sense of beauty by integrating education with experience. He said that the Government had taken a number of measures with a view to implement these principles which included creation of better physical facilities in the schools free supply of books and equipment strengthening of

school sinspection and supervi-Could on page 8 cal 4

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Pry education

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sion system appointment of necessary number of teachers inservice training for the teachers and turning the primary schools into community learning centres..

President Ershad said that the Government wanted to accord the teaching community. their due recognition in the society. The Government he said was also making efforts to solve their financial problems. He said the Government's policy was to respect their hopes and espirations. The teaching community should also be conscious of their responsibilities to the nation he said. He reminded them that only better financial benefits could not enhance their social position. They would have to earn it by their contribution and dedication to the cause of spreading, education and setting up superior standard of morality

ment was to complete education for five years of at least 50 per cent of the children who reachgoal of universal primary edu- level. cation over the next five years. He said the Government has

MAJEED KHAN

Dr Abdul Majeed Khan said prinary education is the foundation of education system of any country. Unless this base is strong, it will not be possible to build an active educated society as required by a nation. he said adding: keeping this in view, the Government has put emphasis on an education sysem which will be able to meet

the requirements of the coun-

The Minister pointed out that although 56 per cent of the school-going children get thene selves admitted into schools yet it is regrettable that out of them only 10 to 12 per cent can pass the fifth class. This huge wastage in the field of primary education cannot be tolerated any more, he added,

He said the objective of the present Government is to identify primary education as the basic education level and to build an "education movement" throughout the country to remove the curse of illiteracy from the society. The measures taken in this respect are the expansion and strengthening of primary education and to turn the primary schools as the community learning centres, he added.

The Minister said the Govern The President said that the to materialise the programme immediate goal of the Govern- of universal primary education which includes collection of accurate statistics on primary education, appointment of .12,000 ed the age of six years in 1983 primary teachers in vacant posts, by 1987. He said that all out regular professional training to essorts should be made to con- education administrators, inspec. tain the students who now got tors and teachers, adoption of a themselves admitted to schools, scientific primary education sysupto class five. He hoped that tem, turning of all the primary all concerned including teachers, schools into community learning guardians and opinion makers centres and ensuring of proper would perform their due roles in primary education administrathis regard. He said that if the tion and management at upazila

was achieved, then the level of been spending about Taka one. universal education would be in hundred crore in respect of sapreased to class eight in the lary and other expenditure for primary school teachers. This? huge expenditure will be mean-BSS adds: Speaking on the ingful if we can successfully imeccasion, the Education Minister plement the programme of universal primary education in the country, he added.