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Drive to raise literacy rate

Education Minister Dr. Abdul Majeed Khan has said a programme to increase the literacy rate up to 50 per cent by 1985 has been taken up by the Government.

He told ENA with an optimistic note that the country could get rid of the curse of illiteracy by next 10 years if concerted efforts could be made from now on.

He said the programme to eradicate illiteracy include providing students with books free of cost. It also includes supply of standard furniture to improve physical facilities to all primary schools, motivating guardians to send their ward to schools, introduction of standard curriculum, improvement of the standard of teaching through training etc.

The Minister said if these programmes could be implemented the rate of literacy as envisaged could be achieved in next five years.

According to an estimate the literacy rate above 15 years of age is in between 22 to 24 per cent.