

2nd shift in polytechnic institutes worth emulating

The Education Minister, Dr. Abdul Majeed Khan, said in Dhaka on Monday that introduction of second shift in the polytechnic institutes had provided educational facilities to additional 4,000 students annually, establishing an example for others to follow, reports BSS.

The polytechnic institutes have introduced the second shift from April 20 last to bridge the gap of academic programmes that were behind schedule since the independence.

Describing it as a "very significant step" in utilisation of time and resources by educational institutions, the Minister urged all other institutions to follow the example "to arrest

the decay" in the field of education.

Addressing the Principals of the engineering colleges, polytechnic institutes and other technical institutions, Dr Khan said arrangements were also underway to involve these institutions with other spheres of the national developmental activities.

Dr Khan stressed the need for integrating education, work experience and income in the technical education. He said this would enable the students to engage themselves in developmental activities, the teachers to improve their skill and the institutions to augment their material resources and generate their own funds.

These funds, the Minister said, could be used in turn for the benefit of the poor students or for any other purpose the

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Polytechnic

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respective institute decided on its own discretion.

CONSULTATIVE BODY

The Education Minister said a national-level consultative committee on technical education would soon be set up for solving the problems of the technical educational institutions and promoting their all-round development and effectiveness.

Representatives from all technical educational institutions, including the engineering university, would be taken into the committee to be headed by the Minister himself, he said.

Turning to the political activities in the educational campuses, Dr Khan said, the facilities and resources extended for educational purposes should not be allowed to be 'misused or abused'. He urged the heads of educational institutions to maintain academic sanctity and atmosphere in their respective campuses.

LOITERING STUDENTS

Expressing deep concern at behind the schedule academic programmes in the educational institutions, Dr Khan said lakhs of students have been loitering in the streets, falling to get chances for higher education.

"They have no place in the society, no prospects for employment and no avenue for higher education", the Minister said. He asked the teachers whether they would be able to solve their own problems keeping the future generation in uncertainties.

Dr Khan regretted that the universities were also lagging behind academic schedule, causing sufferings to the student community. "Could the universities open a second shift considering the sufferings of the vast youth forces that now face total desparation", the Minister asked the university authorities.