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National primary education week begins

Staff Correspondent | Published at 12:53am on March 13, 2023



The state minister for primary and mass education Md Zakir Hossain on Sunday said that the new national curriculum would remove the burden of memorised knowledge from the students.

The new curriculum will help grow qualities of leadership among students, he said at an event to inaugurate the National Primary Education Week across the country.

The implementation of the new national school curriculum is facing challenges after it has been introduced to Classes I, VI and VII across the country this year as all teachers are yet to receive training.

The National Curriculum and Textbook Board on February 10 withdrew two textbooks for Classes VI and VII amid widespread criticism and many students did not get textbooks till February 27.

Due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the ministry is observing the week this year after two years, said a press release issued by the ministry.

The state minister inaugurated the week at the Osmani Memorial Auditorium in the capital.

This year the theme of the week is 'Quality primary education, initiation for forming smart Bangladesh.'

At the opening ceremony, Zakir Hossain said that the newly introduced curriculum would remove burden of memorisation from the students – both physically and mentally.

The new curriculum will arouse the power of curiosity, questions, investigation, research and thinking among the students, he continued.

While chairing the ceremony on Sunday, primary and mass education ministry secretary Farid Ahmed said that the government's initiatives for appointment of teachers, online transfer, unique identity for the students, developing the pre-primary education to two years, formation of new curriculum and providing primary scholarships would ensure quality primary education.

Directorate of Primary Education director general Shah Rezwan Hayat was also present, among others, at the event.

For observing the week, the ministry has taken different programmes including countrywide sports, cultural programmes, discussions and education fairs.

At the Dhaka event, Primary Education Awards for the years of 2019 and 2022 were distributed.

In 2019, a total of 111 people – 21 people under 21 categories for people and institution and 90 children under sports and cultural competitions and in 2022, a total of 105 people – 21 people under 21 categories and 84 children under sports and cultural competitions got the awards.

For the sports and cultural competitions, the students securing the first, second and third positions got Tk 20,000, Tk 15,000 and Tk 10,000 respectively as well as certificates and crests.

For the people and institution categories, the winners got Tk 25,000, a certificate and a crest each.



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