

Call to remove bane of illiteracy

By A Staff Correspondent

The Bangladesh Literacy Society has organised a two-day programme on the occasion of its annual convention and on the eve of the International Literacy Day. The inaugural session was held at the British Council auditorium on Friday. Mr. Ferdaus Khan, a former Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Education was the chief guest at the inaugural session while Mr. Obaidul Huq Editor, The Bangladesh Observer presided. Dr. Syed Shafiqul Hossain, Director, Education Extension and Research Institute and Dr. A.K.M. Obaidullah, Principal, Teachers Training College, Dacca attended the session as special guests.

Prominent among others who addressed the gathering were Mr. A. A. Bazle Rabbi, Mr. M. Shafiqul Islam Khan and Prof. Md. Osman Ghani, President, Vice-President and Secretary General respectively of Bangladesh Literacy Society.

In his speech Mr. Ferdaus Khan stressed the need for launching mass literacy campaign in the country with a view to removing the bane of illiteracy. The chief guest also pleaded for arranging proper training facilities for the teachers who are now engaged in teaching in 100 adult education schools opened in the various parts of the country by the Bangladesh Literacy Society.

In his presidential address, Mr. Obaidul Huq, said that although our country is called

Call to remove

(Continued from page 1)

a developing country, yet in the real sense it is an under-developed one.

Mr. Huq informed that Bangladesh was found second from the bottom in the list of the least developed countries of the world published by the United Nations. He said that the welfare of the society would not be possible unless the scourge of illiteracy was removed. Mr. Obaidul Huq mentioned that the actual percentage of literate people in our country is only 10. With the increase in literacy, the population growth which is a number of problem in our country would automatically decline he added.

Mr. Huq also called upon the educated section of the society to play an effective role in combating illiteracy from the country.

Dr. Shafiqul Hossain said illiteracy is a curse to the society. Literacy helps people to be conscious about their duties and can help build their lives, he added.

Dr. Obaidullah, in his speech urged the people to contribute their individual mite to make the people literate. He also asserted that unless there is mass participation, it would not be possible on the part of the Government to tackle such a gigantic problem.

Mr. Bazle Rabbi, in his speech called upon the teachers coming from the remote places to participate in the workshop organised on the occasion to their own benefits.

Prof. Osman Ghani explained the aims and objectives of the Bangladesh Literacy Society.

Our Staff Correspondent adds from Narayanganj: A discussion meeting will be held under the auspices of Tolaram College today (Saturday) at 5 p.m. on the occasion of the International Literacy.

819179

কলাম

090