

## National Council for mass literacy

The Government has decided to constitute a National Council for Mass-Literacy headed by Vice-President to devise ways and means to remove the curse of illiteracy from the country, reports BSS.

The decision was taken at an inter-Ministerial meeting held under the chairmanship of President Ziaur Rahman at Bangabhaban on Tuesday.

The Ministers for Planning, Labour and Industrial Welfare, Agriculture, Local Government and Rural Development, Home Affairs, Industries, Health and Population Control, Education, Cultural Affairs, Social Welfare, Women Affairs and Information and Broadcasting will be members of the council. Some non-officials will also be co-opted in the Council. The main objective behind

the constitution of the Council is to launch a mass-literacy campaign in the country for imparting functional education along with the knowledge of three-R's to the vast multitude of men and women in the country who have been deprived of literacy.

The programme is to be implemented primarily through the Union Parishads in co-operation with various voluntary organisations like Jatiya Mahila Sangstha, National Cadet Corps, Boy Scouts, Girl Guides, Youth Organisations, Village Defence Party and others.

The removal of illiteracy was earlier declared by the President as one of the objectives of his 19-point programmes.

The National Council for Mass Literacy will soon hold its first meeting under the chairmanship of the Vice-President to formulate policy and chalk out an action programme.