

Tk 700cr plan for science

The Government has prepared a Taka 700 crore draft five-year plan on science to meet future needs of the scientific and technological development of the country, reports BSS.

This was disclosed by Prof. M. Innas Ali, Science Adviser to the President, at a farewell reception given on his retirement from the University by Physics Department at the Curzon Hall lawn on Wednesday afternoon.

He said that about one-third of the proposed amount would be spent for education and research in the different institutions with particular emphasis on technical science.

Presided over by Prof. M. Muhtashem Hussain, Chairman of the Department, the meeting was attended by the students and teachers of the Science Faculty, Dacca University. Dr. Mafizulla Kabir, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, was also present in the reception.

Prof. Innas Ali said there may not be shortage of money in implementing the plan but he apprehended shortage of scientific and technological manpower.

He said the scientists and technologists should come forward and work hard to implement Government's science policy in eradicating poverty from the country. In this context he also referred to the importance of rural technology.

Referring to the technical education and its practical implementation, the Science Adviser said Government has a plan to advance long-term soft-loan to help the persons educated in science and technology in setting up small workshops on private entrepreneurship.

He said there are about 12,000 graduates in general science subjects in the country and of them about 3,000 are from the Physics Department.

Prof. Innas Ali, a reputed scientist and educationist, retired from his 29 years teaching life in last June at the age of 60.

Born in 1916 under Barhatta Police Station in Mymensingh district, Prof. Innas Ali did his M.Sc. in Physics from Dacca University in 1940, M.S. in Electrical Engineering from the University of New York in 1948 and joined Dacca University Physics

Department the same year.

Prof. Ali obtained Ph.D. degree in Nuclear Physics from the University of London in 1955. He has about 100 research publications to his credit. He also written some scientific text books in Bengali.

During his long association with the Physics Department, Prof. Ali worked hard to build the Department. He also worked on deputation as Member, Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, from 1963-67, as Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong University 1972-73, as Member, Univer-

sity Grants Commission and Chairman, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission from 1973-76. He was appointed to the present post on September 1976.

Prof. Ali contributed a lot in popularising science. He was elected President of Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science, Pakistan Association of the Scientists and Member of Scientific Profession, Member, Pakistan National Science Council. He was fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences and at present is the Vice-President of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences.