



United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Organisation des Nations Unies pour l'éducation, la science et la culture

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EFA Global Monitoring Report Launched

The EFA (Education for All) Global Monitoring Report 2007 was officially launched on April 25 at the beginning of a two-day discussion meets on April 25-26 at the city's Spectra Centre. The launching of the report was part of Global Action Week (GAW) that is being celebrated from 23-29 April.

To mark the occasion United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) along with Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE) and Institute of Educational Development of BRAC University (BU-IED) organized the report launching event that was followed up by a three-session discussion meet spread over two days.

According to the GMR 2007, Bangladesh fares well in some areas like elimination of gender disparity in primary and secondary education, but is not on track to attain the goal of reducing adult illiteracy by 50% by 2015.

Rasheda K Chowdhury in her welcome speech said the launching of the GMR every year provides a good opportunity to remind the national and global leaders of their commitment to ensure "education for all" that they made in 2000 in Dakar.

Malama Meleisea, UNESCO Representative in Bangladesh, in his speech said, "We need to ask (ourselves) how much development we have made in achieving the EFA goals. The GMR can give us direction for the future and help us re-focus on our endeavours to provide education to all."

Hassan A Keynan, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Dhaka made a presentation highlighting on some of the key aspects of the report while Mosharraf Hossain Bhuiyan, Secretary, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MOPME) discussed the findings of the report.

The focus on the first day's (of April 25) discussion was "Pre-school and Primary Education" while the second day (April 26) was slated for "Secondary and Technical/Vocational Education" and Literacy, Non-formal Education and Life-long Learning".

Dr Ali Akbar Khan, former member, Council of Advisors, while appreciated UNESCO's efforts with regard to improving the education scenario all over the world including Bangladesh, said setting our national priorities is extremely crucial to achieve the "education for all" goals by 2015. Regarding Preschool Education Khan observed that Bangladesh should concentrate on mother education more than anything else. "An educated mother can provide a child with best pre-school learning.

April 26 saw a number of distinguished guests in the development arena including Dr Muhammad Ibrahim, Director, CMES, Kazi Afiquil Alam, former Director of DAM, Md Rafiquzzaman, DG, Bureau of Non-formal Education, Khonoker Mohammed Asaduzzaman, DG, DPE participating in the discussion".