

Thrust on motivating the poor to take skill development training

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RAJSHAHI, July 10: Speakers at a workshop here urged all stakeholders to motivate and encourage the poor people to skill development training for improving their living and livelihood condition.

They said the government is providing skills training towards creating employment for five lakh individuals by 2020 with a view to helping poverty elimination and ensuring sustainable development in the country.

So, all the government and non-government agencies, people of local government institutions, and members of the civil society should work together so that the targeted people can avail the training scope properly.

The Finance Division of the Ministry of Finance organized the Upazila level workshop on Social Marketing Strategy of the Skills for Employment Investment Program (SEIP) at Paba Upazila Hall room in the district on Sunday.

SEIP and PIACT Bangladesh jointly supported the workshop participated by officials of line departments, teachers, public representatives, journalists and other stakeholders.

Upazila Chairman Begum Khairunnessa and Vice-Chairman Ashraf Haque addressed the workshop as chief guest and special guest respectively with Upazila Nirbahi Officer Hamidul Haque in the chair.

Union Parishad Chairman Akhter Faruque, Journalist Nazmul Hassan and Brac District Representative Jahedul Islam also spoke.

During his keynote presentation, Zia Uddin, coordinator of Social Marketing of SEIP, said they are giving utmost priority to ensure enrolment of females and the disadvantaged communities, including ethnic community, people from remote place like chars and persons with disabilities in the training.

SEIP training is provided free of cost and participants are given training allowances. Disadvantaged communities are given special stipend in addition to training allowances, he said.

The training is being given in nine priority areas including garments and textile industries, construction, information and communication technology, shipbuilding, leather and

footwear industry, tourism and hospitality, nursing and health technology and agro-processing.

The government's move came in line with the government's vision to make Bangladesh a middle-income country by 2021, before going on to attain developed country status by 2041, he added.

He said the country's growth is now productivity-driven and the training will enhance the growth.

In the first phase of SEIP, a total of five lakh workforce will be trained by 2020. ◆BSS