

Staff reporter

Worried at the spread of drug abuse spoiling youths, President Abdul Hamid on Wednesday urged scouts to build a social movement against the drug addiction.

“The deadly drug addiction has been derailing youths, creating a serious social trouble. I urge scouts to build a social movement against drug addiction. I believe the scouts’ activities would play a positive role in preventing drug addition,” he said.

The President, also the chief scouts of the country, said this while inaugurating the 43rd Annual Meeting (Triennial) of the National Council of Bangladesh Scouts at the Osmani Memorial Hall in the city.

Mentioning that the youths are the spirit of the nation and chief architects to build the nation, Abdul Hamid said, “It’s our duty to build them as good citizens. That is why I think scouting is a proper platform in this regard.”

He went on saying, “I’m happy to know the number of scouts is on the rise but it is yet to reach the expected level comparing to the country’s population. More than one scout team could be formed in each educational institution for increasing the number of scouts.”

Abdul Hamid urged all to increase the number of scouts to 15 lakh from the existing 13 lakh and said the creative activities of scouting must be in all educational institutions for physical and mental development of the country’s children, adolescents and youths.

The President said the country’s youngsters must be engaged in building ‘Digital Bangladesh’ maintaining pace with the ongoing trend of global information technology.

Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid and Chief National Commissioner of Bangladesh Scouts Abul Kalam Azad spoke at the program held with Bangladesh Scouts President Abdul Karim in the chair.

At the programme, 12 scouts were awarded the 'Silver Tiger', while 15 the 'Silver Hilsa', three the President's Rover Scout Award and 54 the President's Scout Award.