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Asmara, 8 September 2010 - In a statement it issued in connection with the International Illiteracy Eradication Day, the Ministry of Education noted the need for exerting still more endeavors towards reinforcing the encouraging achievements already scored in uprooting illiteracy.

Study papers indicate that over 30% of the Eritrean population cannot read and write, and that about a quarter of million children have not yet attended classes, the statement explained. In this respect, it underscored the need for taking concerted action towards realizing the envisaged objective of reducing illiteracy to its lowest level by the year 2015.

Stating that eradicating illiteracy is a prerequisite to development and equitable participation, the statement stressed the paramount importance of promoting literacy in the effective implementation of development programs.

The Ministry went on to say that the necessary written materials have already been prepared so as to enhance the adult education programs.

International Illiteracy Eradication Day was marked for the 9th time in Eritrea and 45th at the global level under the theme: "Development and Prosperity through Education and Training."