

Plan to set up scientific research house

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia said in Dhaka on Thursday that the Government had a plan to set up a national scientific research house in the capital to promote science and technology in keeping with the needs of the coming century, reports BSS.

Begum Zia said "we want to progress in science and technological sector suiting to the needs of the coming century."

Addressing a function, organised in connection with the 1990 award giving ceremony of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences at International Conference Centre in Dhaka the Prime Minister called upon scientists to be imbued with the spirit of patriotism and utilise their talents and experiences for the welfare of people.

Education Minister Prof Badrud-
doza Chowdhury, President of Bang-
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Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Prof. M. Innas Ali, Education Secretary A.N.M. Eusuf and Division of Science and Technology Secretary Abul Hashem also spoke on the occasion among others.

The recipients of the 1990 Academy Award are: Prof M. Samsher Ali, Prof Mahmudul Ameen, Prof Md. Wahhaj Uddin, Prof Khundkar Siddique-e-Rabbani and Dr. Lutfur Rahman Khan.

Describing the facilities to be made available at the National Research Centre Begum Zia said scientists from all disciplines will have an access to the centre to carry out scientific researches. The centre will be provided with necessary equipment and appliances and it will also have a modern science library.

She said the Government was also contemplating to introduce national science award for original and extraordinary innovation and research work.

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Begum Zia invited suggestions from scientists to make the existing National Science and Technology Parishad stronger and more active. She said Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman had formulated the national science and technology policy in 1980 and under his initiative the National Science and Technology Parishad was established in the country.

Begum Zia said the nation is a victim of brain drain as there are poor facilities in the country because of resource constraints. She said though we were struck by poverty, our people did not lag behind in talent and wisdom. The students from our country were doing enviable results abroad and making significant contribution to the scientific research work there, she said.

She called upon the scientists to extend their cooperation in checking brain drain.

Begum Zia called upon the affluent section of society to help the government implement its plan for promoting science and technology in the country. She said it was necessary to coordinate theoretical and practical knowledge in scientific pursuits.

Begum Zia said "we have to transform scientific research work into a national movement to achieve our target."

Recalling her husband Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman's contribution to the development of science and technology Begum Zia declared taka one lakh grant for the Bangladesh Academy of sciences.

The Prime Minister congratulated the Science Academy for its cooperation extended to scientists in carrying out scientific research works in the country despite its resource constraints.

Education Minister Prof Badrud-
doza Chowdhury said the present government has the political will to promote the science and technology. He called upon scientists to carry out research work with newer thoughts and ideas to benefit the common people of the country.

Later, the Prime Minister distributed the academy awards to the recipients.