



Ershad elected BFTA Chairman Teachers urged to keep campus free from indiscipline

President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said in Dhaka on Thursday that the teachers should play a pioneering role to keep the educational arena free from indiscipline as well as to maintain congenial atmosphere there, reports BSS.

Speaking at the meeting of the National Executive Committee of Bangladesh Federation of Teachers Association (BFTA) at Bangabhaban held under his chairmanship, the

President said the nation would remain grateful to them if they could achieve this objective.

At the outset of the meeting the Secretary General of the Federation, Principal A K M Shahidullah, read out the report on the progress of the activities of the organisation saying that its activities had been streamlined.

The National Executive Committee of the BFTA represen-

ting three lakh and fifty seven thousand teachers of government and non-government schools and colleges and madrasahs unanimously elected a 45-member national executive committee of the federation for a three-year term with President Ershad as the Chairman and Principal A K M Shahidullah as the Secretary General.

Recalling his long association with the federation the President said he was happy to note that its activities had been streamlined properly and expressed his firm confidence that it would now be able to achieve the objective for which it came into being.

He said he was aware of the problems of the teachers and noted with happiness over the formulation of recommendations by the committee of the Education Ministry for solution of the problems of the teachers. He said now steps would be taken to implement these recommendations.

President Ershad said one

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Teachers urged

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of the prime objective of his government was to establish the teachers in their rightful place in the society so that could play their designated noble role of building the future generations.

Referring to the commendable contributions made by the teachers in facing the recent devastating floods in the country, he mentioned with thanks the donations of Taka one crore fifteen lakh they had given for their flood stricken brethren despite their own constraints.

The President said besides the services rendered by the teachers to mitigate the suffering of the flood affected people, schools and colleges in the flood hit areas were used as relief camps.

He said because of the solid unity of the nation and cooperation rendered by all sections of the people, the country could overcome the floods of unprecedented magnitude this year. He thanked all including the teachers for their services to the suffering humanity.

President Ershad told the teachers of the steps taken by the government for prevention of the menace of recurring floods in the country. He also told them about his visits to India, China, Nepal and Bhutan for solving the problem through regional approach.

The Secretary General of the Federation, Principal A K M Shahidullah, expressed the solidarity of the entire teaching community of the country with the efforts of President Ershad for serving the cause of suffering humanity. He said the teachers had been with President Ershad in the past and would continue to be with him in the coming days.

In a special resolution unanimously adopted in the meeting of the National Executive Committee of the BFTA commended President Ershad for successfully tackling the recent unprecedented floods in the country.

The meeting observed that this was possible as the people

of all walks of life became united under the leadership of President Ershad in facing the floods with courage as well as mobilisation of the Armed Forces in rescue and relief operations.

The resolution readout by Prof Kazi Farooq Ahmed said that the revival of people's consciousness as that of the War of Liberation in 1971 in facing the floods in 1988 would remain as an example to be followed in history.

It said President Ershad had earned honour for the nation by dint of his hard labour, foresightedness and coordination on the basis of greater national unity in facing the flood. He also achieved diplomatic success for the country as the 43rd meeting of the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a resolution seeking international assistance for implementing short medium and long term flood mitigating programmes.

It also observed that signing of the U.S. Congress Bill on "disaster assistance for Bangladesh" by President Ronald Reagan was the clear recognition of President Ershad's programmes and expression of the unstinted friendship of the people of America with the people of Bangladesh.

Referring to the visit of President Ershad to India, Nepal, Bhutan and China seeking regional cooperation for mitigating the occurrence of disastrous floods in Bangladesh the resolution said this had opened a new vista of regional cooperation and achieved a positive progress in this regard.

The meeting termed the formation of National Disaster Prevention Council on the basis of national unity as an historical event. It said the whole nation had its support to the post-flood relief and rehabilitation programmes of the government including Taka 150 crore agricultural rehabilitation programme, distribution of Taka 1,200 crore agricultural loan and Taka 50 crore loan for purchasing draught animal.

It said that the decision for forming Rin Shalis Board was an epoch-making step which also had the support of the whole nation.

The meeting announced full cooperation of the federation in implementing the schemes undertaken by the Education Ministry for reconstruction of the damaged educational institutions.

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Prof. A. K. M. Ali Reza, Vice-Chairman of the Federation, moved some amendments to Constitution of the federation which were unanimously adopted at the meeting. The amendments were later approved by its Chairman President Ershad.

Maulana Khondoker Nasiruddin, Joint Secretary General of the federation moved a resolution proposing to have a bank account for the BFTA which was adopted unanimously.

Sheikh Amanullah, Vice-Chairman of the Federation, proposed the names of the 45-member National Executive Committee of the Federation which was unanimously elected.

The President was informed that an office had been set up for the federation in Dhaka. Deputy Prime Minister and Political Adviser to the President Kazi Zafar Ahmed was present.