

PM assures govt support to varsity authorities

Punish students if found involved in terrorism

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Friday called upon the authorities to take necessary punitive measures against the students if he or she was found involved in terrorism and unethical activities and expel them from the university, says BSS.

She stated it clearly that her government would give all support to all actions of the university authorities taken against anyone to curb terrorism. She said "We want to make it clear that we are determined to take action against anyone whoever will resort to terrorism on the campus." Begum Zia was talking to the leaders of teachers association, Deans of all Faculties, Provosts and Syndicate members and Pro-Vice-Chancellor Wakil Ahmed of Dhaka University who met her at her Sugandha office. The teachers were led by Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Emajuddin Ahmed.

The Prime Minister gave her assurance that the government will never show any leniency to anyone, found responsible for terrorism and unethical activities in the campus. The teachers also gave their assurance to help the government in curbing terrorism. They appreciated the sincere efforts of the Prime Minister to eliminate terrorism from the campus and requested her to take certain steps including banning rallies within the campus area and constituting campus police.

They also informed the Prime Minister that the Syndicate had decided that the police would not need any prior permission of the university authorities to arrest any terrorist. The Prime Minister said terrorism could not be curbed alone by the government. Government efforts cannot be successful unless it is supported by all concerned quarters, she said. Begum Zia expressed her sorrow at the November 1 incident in the campus and said that directives had already been given to take stern measures against those who were responsible for the violence and killing.

She said "it is our commitment to maintain congenial atmospheres in the educational institutions and for this we are carrying out all our efforts. Begum Zia said measures would be taken to implement the decision if taken by the teachers to ban rallies in the campus. The Prime Minister said "we will do everything to bring to book the persons responsible for recent killing in the campus." Dr Faizur Rahman, Prof Mahabbat Jan, Dr Aminul Islam, Prof Abul Kalam, Prof Manzur Morshed, Prof Anwarullah Chowdhury, and Prof. Tauhidul Anwar spoke on the occasion among others. Energy Minister Dr. Khandoker Mosharraf Hossain and Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar were also present.