

Help solve problems of session jams, campus violence : Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia Thursday sought cooperation of every conscious citizen, irrespective of party affiliation and thought, to urgently solve the complex problems like session jam and campus violence, reports BSS.

"Not alone the increase of the number of educational institutions will do all-out efforts also have to be made to improve the standard of education... steps undertaken in the educational field will only then be meaningful when the teachers and students collectively discharge their respective responsibilities. The standard of education will rise if a proper environment is maintained," she said.

Addressing the prize distribution ceremony of the National Education Week 1995 as the chief guest at Osmani Auditorium in Dhaka Thursday morning, the Prime Minister emphasised the need for playing the most significant role by the teachers in maintaining a congenial atmosphere in the educational institu-

tions. Begum Zia handed over awards to the heads of 25 best educational institutions, distributed gold medals among 35 best teachers and 72 best students of different educational institutions across the country for their outstanding performances and talents.

Mentioning that if the teachers discharge their responsibilities with honesty and sincerity then the nation will get skilled and talented citizens, she said and hoped that those who are being awarded today for their special contributions will be able to play a significant role in society as ideal teachers.

Describing the award recipient talented students as the ideals to the student community, the Prime Minister said

keeping in mind the future responsibilities, the student community has to be conscious and active about today's duties and take preparations from now for running the country in the future.

Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar and Education Secretary Irshadul Haq also spoke in the prize distribution ceremony.

The Prime Minister recalled with gratitude the contribution of the teachers in the nation's journey towards development by maintaining healthy educational environment and said they (teachers) are the glory of society.

Begum Zia said the nation takes pride in those successful

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students who have shown their mark of creativity in different fields by flourishing their latent talents.

Terming education as the pre-condition for a country's development and prosperity, she said, "the more a nation is educated, the more developed that nation."

She underscored the need for removing the curse of illiteracy from the nation and turning the hands of the people into the tools of production and said the more quickly the nation can transform into human resources, the more fast it can attain prosperity.

The Prime Minister listed various epoch-making measures initiated and programmes launched by her government for the improvement of the education across the country and said that the present government has attached the highest priority to the education sector to ensure education for all.

Referring to the introduction of the innovative food-for-education programme for the poor students and stipend programme for the female students, she said that as a result of those programmes and steps, the rate of schools enrolment has increased as well as the rate of drop-out has fallen significantly.

The theme of this year's education week is "the role of education in creating human resources."

Ministers, members of Parliament, educationists, civil servants and elite of the city were also present at the prize distribution ceremony which was broadcast live from Osmani Auditorium.