

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Changing the name of a School

Until 1978 there was no scope of education for the girl students in Balaganj Upazila under Sylhet district. In fact, there was no high school for the girls in this locality.

In 1978 a veteran social worker, Janab Shamsul Huq of village Hamidpur of Balaganj upazila came forward to remove the darkness of illiteracy among women and estab-

lished a girls' high school at his own expenditure of Taka 5 lakhs in this upazila. He named the schools as 'Tayrunnessa Girls' High School' in memory of his mother, Janab Sham-sul Huq is a well-known social worker and connected with a number of Dhaka based welfare organisations. He owns the hotel Park International at Dhaka.

In 1980 the school was approved as a semi-government girls high school and since then have been receiving 50 per cent of the school's expenditure from the government. The other 50 per cent of the

expenditure is being borne by Janab Huq. As the present government has taken step to establish one high school in each and every upazila of the country arrangements have already been made to upgrade the Tayrunnessa Girls' High School into a full-fledged government high school. We welcome the government initiative that is intended to expand educational opportunity for all.

But we are disheartened to learn that Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Balaganj is trying to change the name of the school. We fail to under-

stand why the name of the school should be changed. We think that there is no justification of such move. The fact is that the school was founded by a single man at a cost of 5 lakh taka in memory of his beloved mother to extend the opportunity of female education in this area.

We believe that the sincere efforts of the present government to bring the administration to the doorstep of the vast majority will certainly be hampered by such unjustified and regretful actions of upazila administration. By taking decision to change the

name of Tayrunnessa Girls' High School the Nirbahi Officer of Balaganj upazila may create a misconception about the authority's policies rather than popularising them.

In the past wealthy persons of this country had established numerous educational institutions in memory of their beloved ones. This tradition should be upheld and encouraged these days also. Any decision to change the name of Tayrunnessa Girls' High School will only create confusion in the minds of future entrepreneurs who could come forward to contribute funds to eradicate illiteracy from the society.

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Kasipur

Balaganj

Sylhet.