

Maintain sanctity of educational institutions

Two hundred and fifty three conscious citizens of the city made a strong appeal here today to the students, teachers, guardians and patriotic people irrespective of their party affiliations to maintain sanctity and restore congenial atmosphere in educational institutions, reports BSS.

In a joint statement, they said the students are the future leaders of the country. The task for building them into responsible leaders of the nation lie with the teachers and, therefore, the teaching community deserve respect and honour of the entire nation.

But, they regretted, a limited number of ambitious persons engaged in the noble profession were busy to establish themselves as the "registered intellectuals".

They accused these 25-30 so-called registered intellectuals of trying to mislead the entire nation in a calculated manner by inciting the innocent students to disturb the educational atmosphere through politically motivated statements on one pretext or the other.

On the other hand, they added, the entire nation expect from them the guidance to the students on correct path and help maintain peaceful atmosphere to contribute to the improvement of the educational standard and high moral value.

They said they had been witnessing that these 25-30 teachers "registered political intellectuals" provoked the students towards bloody violence and anarchy to fulfil the

desires of a particular section of the people. These people, they added, were pushing not only the student community towards uncertainties but also "exploiting" the national conscience.

The signatories to the statement said though regrettable, it was true that the children of these "registered intellectuals" were studying abroad. They do not have any "concern" for the students in the country and the arrangements for education.

They said the prevalent chaos in the educational institutions resulted in wastage of time years after years for the wards.

(Continued on page 12 col. 5)

Sanctity

(Continued from page 1.)

of the people belonging to middle class, lower middle class, peasants and workers. The examinations is being shifted and the burden of educational expenses on the poor guardians is on the increase.

The situation, they felt, not only left an adverse impact on the national economy, but also the students here also facing a situation in which they found their age crossing the prescribed limits for employment and services, for not holding examinations in time.

In this regard, they said, the so-called intellectuals were silent time and again it is a misfortune for the entire nation. They also demanded immediate re-opening of the Dhaka University and all other universities in view of the normal conditions prevailing in the country and in the national interest.

50 p.c. literacy in 5 years

Education Minister Dr. Abdul Majeed Khan on Thursday reiterated the Government's firm determination to ensure fifty per cent literacy rate within five years ending 1987 and "rehabilitate education" in the country, reports BSS.

Giving a call to all concerned to make concerted efforts with a missionary zeal, Dr. Khan said the Government had been extending all assistance for increasing enrolment in all the classes from one to five, with a view to creating a solid foundation of literacy which would ensure developments in other sectors.

Addressing the upgraded thana education officers of Rajshahi and Khulna divisions at the Shikkha Bhavan, in Dhaka Thursday afternoon the Minister asked them to play the "pioneering role in this regard with devotion and dedication."

The Education Minister said each year since the independence the nation had been spending millions of Taka for the expansion of education, but no significant headway was made so far and added even this year the Government has been spending about 59 crore Taka for the development of primary education alone.

Asking the officers to work with more devotion and sincerity, Dr. Khan said a movement for educating the future generations was a vital need for the day and added "we cannot simply allow the sustenance of the present condition of deterioration in the sphere of education."