

Jatiya Sangsad body

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for employment, etc. gripped the younger generation giving way to frustration. This condition was largely responsible for forcing a section of the youths to take arms, he said.

But, the Education Minister pointed out, many educational institutions existed in this country where no violence took place at all.

Even in this city, he said, there is a school named "Ideal High School" in Motijheel, where 4000 students study and make brilliant results but no signs of terrorism is there.

Prof. Chowdhury said there is a Commerce College in dhanmondi where the students are free from all kind of violence. I visited them the other day and the students presented me with a ball-point pen inscribed with: "There is no smoking and no politics here," he said.

The Minister said the situation in the BUET is also highly appreciable. There is another institution in Joydevpur, which is also free from violence and is known for good results.

Listing the reasons for campus violence, Prof. Chowdhury said there is no denying the fact that a section of political leadership, patronage and harbour hoodlums for their selfish ends.

The Education Minister said the scope for education had to be widened so that more and more students were given the opportunity for education. The private medical colleges are doing good and the present government is thinking of encouraging the setting up of private university, he said.

About his visit to Chittagong University, the minister said. He made the trip to see for himself the situation there.

"We met the Vice-Chancellor and his wife at their residence" he said. He denied having requested the VC to step down.

Newspapers reports that I was given garland or bouquets were highly exaggerated, he said, adding that he had asked the VC if he wanted to come out from the campus. But the VC and his wife were unwilling to do so although they said they were mentally very disturbed.

Referring to the report on the Commission set up by the interim Government headed by a judge, the Minister said the report, among other matters, observed that the Vice-Chancellor is largely responsible for this situation. It also listed politics among the teachers as other reasons, he said.

Referring to the observation by Mr. Rashed Khan Menon that the student organisations did not function as the direct wings of the political parties earlier, the Education Minister said he would like to see restoration of this situation today if all the parties agreed.

He said he could discuss the matter with the leaders of his own party if the other parties agreed not to control the student organisations directly.

The Minister also urged political parties for restraint in using language against opponents.

Prof. Chowdhury said it was necessary to make an evaluation why the students who generally unite in hours of challenges like that of 1971 Liberation War and the recent mass upsurge fell apart and clash among themselves.

The Minister thanked all the members who took part in the discussions on the important subject Sunday and Mondays and said he felt he was benefited by their comments and observations on the matter although he did not agree with all of them.

He expressed the hope that the Parliamentary Committee on the issue could perform a commendable job by finding ways how the menace of campus violence could be eliminated.

Referring to the recovery of arms, the Deputy Leader of the House said we would have to look for the source of arms and their factories.

of 10 years imprisonment. But he said it should be examined now whether it was necessary to raise the jail term.

He said he liked the suggestion about maintaining restraint while making political statements, he said it could have augured well for us if we could be careful about uttering words like "removal" and "elimination" hurled against each other.

He said the future of the country will really be very good if we could maintain the atmosphere that had been created in the Sangsad.

He said the people at the level of political leadership must not give any shelter to the arms-sholders. He said mere declaration would not be sufficient. One must be guided by the pricks of the conscience.

He said he had already pointed out that educational arena should be made attractive to the students. He said discipline must be ensured in the students halls and admission to the halls should be made on the basis of merit.

He said the rule for checking the entrance of outsiders into the halls should be reintroduced.

Prof. B. Chowdhury said formulation of laws was necessary against the forcible realisation of toll. He said the provision of punishment for committing such crime should be a minimum of 10 years. He said there may be provision even for capital punishment if we all are agreeable to it.

He said the Opposition members can also bring a Bill in this regard on the Private Member's Day.

About auto-promotion, he said the opinion of the University authorities and the educationists of the country should receive priority.

As regards maintenance of law and order on the campus he said some Vice-Chancellors were hesitant about the entry and use of police on the campus. He said raising of campus police for the universities could also be examined.

He said it is true the students have been overtaken by despair. He said the formulation of a national education policy should also be taken into consideration.

About the proposal for allowance for the passed-out students, he said the financial condition of the country should be taken into account in this regard. He said the possibility of widening employment opportunity in the private sector should also be explored.

Regarding the joint declaration about the elimination of campus violence by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, JSD (Inu), Jamaat and Moitri, Prof. B. Chowdhury said almost all the Sangsad members would welcome such a declaration.