

'Students not alone responsible for campus violence'

Speaker Shaikh Razzaque Ali Sunday stressed the need for concerted efforts to solve the "catastrophic" campus violence, reports BSS.

Addressing as the chief guest an open discussion on Campus Violence: Causes and Remedies in Dhaka the Speaker said a political party or the government alone cannot solve this serious problem.

Organised by Ganatantrik Forum, the discussion was presided over by Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury.

Former Vice-Chancellors Prof M Shamsul Huq, Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, Prof M Inmas Ali, Prof A K M Aminul Huq and Prof Mohammad Ali took part in the discussion.

The Speaker said the students were not alone responsible for campus violence but politics and grouping among the teachers also spoiled the sanctity of the campus.

He underlined the need for consensus, cooperation and tolerance among the political parties to tackle the unabated campus violence.

Shaikh Razzaque Ali said in the parliamentary democracy, the role and responsibility of the opposition were immense. If they cooperate with the government, the campus violence would not be a problem, he said.

He said the democratic process must be consolidated if we do not want to see a third force in power any more.

The Speaker said a parliamentary committee comprising members of both the treasury and opposition benches has been constituted to identify the problems of campus violence. The committee is expected to submit its report soon.

The speakers called upon the political parties, including the student organisations, to sit across the table and settle their problems instead of going to the street for the purpose.

Referring to the parliamentary system, Shaikh Razzaque Ali said 46 standing committees have been formed so far for solution of many national problems. All the ministries were made accountable to these parliamentary committees, he said.

Prof M Shamsul Huq, a former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, said the prime responsibility to tackle the campus violence lies with the government. The government will have to take the correct decision in consultation with the opposition, he said.

Prof Huq, now the Chairman of the University Grants Commission, said a nation cannot survive if its education system breaks down.

Prof Shamsul Huq, a former Vice-Chancellor of Rajshahi University, underlined the need for united and sincere efforts of the main political parties for a permanent solution to the campus violence.

Prof Huq, also a former Foreign Minister, hoped that all would come forward being imbued with the spirit of

with the government in its endeavour to solve the problem, he said.

Prof Ali also said the administrative structure of the government is weak and it lacks the power to assert any thing.

Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, a former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University, said the Jatiya Sangsad and the government will have to discharge their responsibilities in tackling campus violence properly.

He also underscored the need for building academic leadership in the department and faculties.

Prof Aminul Huq, a former Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Agriculture University, said the main responsibility to flush out terrorists from the campus lies with the government.

He said the students should be attracted towards good values so that they discard terrorism.

Prof Mohammad Ali, a former Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University, underlined the need for amendment of the University Ordinance of 1973.

He also said law must be allowed to take its own course.

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