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Seminar on education

Call to ban politics by teachers, students

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Speakers at a National Seminar on Saturday suggested banning of politics by the students and teachers to help restore congenial educational atmosphere in the country's public universities specially the Dhaka University (DU).

The speakers made serious allegation of nepotism, corruption, extortion and criminal activities on the campuses and recruitment process of teachers as well as holding of BCS examinations by the Public Service Commission (PSC).

The seminar on "Improving the Standard of Education of Public Universities: Dhaka University" organised by DU' 67 Club, was held at Abacus Convention Center, Easkaton Garden area in the city on Saturday.

Prof. Sayed Manjurul Islam of English Department of DU ensuring the need for ensuring transparency and accountability of the teachers and refinement of students politics to restore the academic atmosphere in the country's public universities.

University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Prof. M. Asaduzzaman said that the teachers of public university go abroad without taking leave from the authorities concerned and remain about in the classes regularly. They have never felt themselves accountable to the concerned authorities for their irregularities. "Education is the backbone of nations and teachers is the backbone of education," he said.

Additions and modifications should be brought about in the 1973 Ordinance to ensure accountability of the teachers and student's, he proposed.

Referring to students' politics, he, said the prevailing trend of students' politics should be stopped without delay to impart education smoothly.

Prof. Asif Nazrul of DU said that there is no country in the world that the student's indulge in such malpractice in the name of student's politics as in the public universities in Bangladesh.

Referring to 95 per cent teach-

ers of DU who grabbed the posts of Dean, Senate and Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) to gain political interest evading their main duties and responsibilities.

Prof. Abdul Moyeed Chowdhury urged the government to make the educational grants tax free to boost the academic activities in the educational institutions.

Among others, DU' 67 Club President Sohel Ahmed Chowdhury and Secretary General Prof. M. Solaiman, Prof. Abdullah Abu Sayed, Researchers Prof. Hafiz G A Siddique, Prof. Fakrul Islam, Prof. Manjur Rahman, Prof. Anisuzzaman also spoke at the seminar.

Green Delta Insurance Company Ltd. was the sponsor of the seminar.