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Khaleda asks students to fight terrorism

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Tuesday called upon the student community to fight against terrorism in the same spirit as they fought against autocracy for nine years to establish democracy, says BSS.

The Prime Minister said unless he could eradicate terrorism, it would be difficult to successfully implement any development programme.

Speaking on the occasion of joining JCD of more than 300 student leaders and workers from different student organisations led by CUCSU Vice-President Najimuddin at the Sugandha in Dhaka on Tuesday evening, Begum Khaleda Zia said, "We have to solve unemployment problem and illiteracy unitedly to take the nation to the path of progress."

Begum Khaleda Zia stressed the need for unity of all sections of people to help consolidate democracy which has been established by

forcing out the autocratic regime. In this connection she said, "BNP believes in multi-party democracy and also welcomes constructive criticism." Begum Zia further said, "If our lapses and mistakes are pointed out, we will take corrective measures".

She said, "BNP believes in communal harmony and equal respect for all irrespective their religious beliefs".

She also recalled the contributions of the entire nation in the country's Liberation War.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia blamed the nine-year autocratic rule for patronising terrorism. Unless and until terrorism and unemployment were eradicated from society, it would be difficult to materialise any welfare-oriented programme, she mentioned.

She called upon the student community to help spread mass education.

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tion programme aimed at poverty alleviation plan of her government and thus bring smile in the faces of the millions.

Begum Zia also urged all those who joined the JCD to strengthen the politics of Bangadeshi nationalism and help materialise the dream of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.

Begum Zia listed some of the development programmes undertaken by her government. She said, her government had undertaken bottom-up approach in making villages as the focal point of development. Referring to various programmes for spreading education Begum Zia mentioned the compulsory Primary Education Programme and establishment of open university.

In this connection she said, Bangladesh is lagging behind in attaining literacy rate compared to some of the neighbouring countries. It was the collective responsibility to solve all the problems and build up the nation, she said.

Prime Minister Begum Zia said, the construction of a residential hall for female students of Chittagong University would be taken up and the demand for another hall for male students would be considered later. She also assured help for the family of Faruq, a student of Chittagong University who was killed in violence on the campus.

Among others, Communications Minister Col (Retd) Oli Ahmed, Education Minister Jamiruddin Sircar, Information Minister Nazmul Huda, Environment and Forest Minister Abdullah Al-Noman, Planning Minister Zahiruddin Khan, Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation Meer Nasir Uddin, Advocate Mojibur Rahman, Secretary, Student Affairs, Amanullah Aman MP and also Vice-President, DUCSU Elias Ali, General Secretary, JCD, Khairul Kabir Khokan, General Secretary, DUCSU and Najimuddin Alam, AGS, DUCSU, also addressed on the occasion.