



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina distributing gold medals among the meritorious graduates of Kushtia Islamic University at its second convocation ceremony on Sunday.

Military rule

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tongue, knowledge base will be strong if the students take instruction in Bengali," she said mentioning the recognition of 21st February as International Mother Language Day.

She said now, February 21 would be observed around the world like May Day. The whole world will remember the sacrifice of blood by Bengali people for the

cause of mother tongue, she said assuring that the government will take effective steps for making Bangla the medium of learning.

Terming teachers architect of the nation, the Prime Minister requested them to impart modern, liberal, progressive, production-oriented and welfare education to the students to groom worthy citizens.

If students can be given the best education, Bangladesh will turn into a competent nation, a beautiful and progressive country, she said calling upon the teachers to perform their noble duty with sincerity, dedication and honesty.

The Prime Minister, who earlier inaugurated two residential halls - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Hall and Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib Hall - for the students of the university, announced that one more hall would be constructed soon naming after "Lalan Shah".

Addressing the function Prof Anisuzzaman said in Bangladesh demand for higher education is greater than the number of people having higher education.

Military rule brought political, economic disaster: Hasina

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY (Kushtia), Dec 5:— Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said for two decades of military rule the country suffered moral, political and economic disaster that pushed the nation towards a murky future, reports UNB.

She made the observations while addressing the 2nd convocation of the Islamic University this (Sunday) morning, making a call for teachers, students and academics to help protect the country from this rot.

"Now it's the duty of the teachers, students, politicians and responsible and educated personalities to save the country from further ruination by spreading the light of education and maintaining honest and simple life with high morals," said the Prime Minister.

"If we cannot save society from such moral degradation, then it will go astray," she said suggesting all to live honest life. "We'll have to save the country from moral degradation and reach the nation towards light by removing all darkness."

Hasina urged the teachers to show the way and give solution of the problems in education sector. And the government, which is very sincere for improving standard of education, will take all possible steps for the development of education.

She regretted that taking a degree had become more important rather than attaining real education. "Everybody is hankering after pomp and grandeur, becoming eager to earn money by any means."

function that after forming government, the administration had taken sincere steps to remove social, political, economic problems and establish a healthy culture in every sphere of life. "We have taken steps to bring a qualitative change in all levels of the state."

The government has taken basic and effective steps for immediate and long-term welfare of the people, she said mentioning the steps taken for improving standard of education.

It also took step to introduce a modern, scientific, technology-oriented timely education and in this light draft of the education policy had been finalised. Islamic education is also assimilating modern science.

Hasina told the Islamic University convocation gathering that the government is adopting the education policy in light of Dr Qudrat-e-Khoda education report, made during the rule of father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, for introducing a modern and scientific education system.

The government has given the highest allocation for the education sector with a view to spreading education rapidly and started setting up 12 science and technology universities in the country.

For the effective steps of the government literacy rate in the country has risen to 58 per cent in last three years from 47 per cent, she pointed out as an outcome of the priority given to education.

The PM hoped that the country would be freed from illiteracy by year 2006.

Prof M Anisuzzaman addressed the function as Convocation Speaker, while it was also addressed by Education Minister ASHK Sadique and Vice-Chancellor Prof Muhammad Kayes Uddin.

Referring to the speech of Prof Anisuzzaman, who stressed tutelage in Bengali, the Prime Minister said if the students do not take their education in mother tongue, they would not be able to understand the essence of instruction.

"We will have to give up the hesitation of learning in mother tongue."

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