



## Strengthen anti-militancy awareness

PM tells Islamic scholars

UNB, Dhaka

Reiterating her firm resolve to free the country from terrorism and militancy, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday urged all, including Alem-Ulema, to strengthen the spirit against terrorism and militancy among the common people.

"I think a strong public opinion has been created across the country against terrorism and militancy which is very good news. A good spirit has also been

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created among the countrymen and it's very much essential to strengthen this spirit against terrorism and militancy," she said.

Country's Alem-Ulema could play a very important role to this end through preaching Islam and its true lessons among common people, said the PM.

Hasina was delivering her speech at a conference titled "Terrorism and Militancy in Islam's Outlook and Our Steps" organised by Bangladesh Jamiutul Ulama at Krishibid Institution in the capital.

Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan, Religious Affairs Minister Motiur Rahman and Bangladesh Jamiutul Ulama President and Khatib of historic Sholakia Eidgah in Kishoreganj Moulana Farid Uddin Masud spoke on the occasion.

Earlier, Moulana Farid handed over to the PM a copy of the "Fatwa" against terrorism and militancy bearing the signatures of around one lakh Alems, including 10,000 female Alems.

Quoting various verses from the Holy Quran, Hasina said it could not be the lesson of Islam that anyone

would go to heaven and get "Hur Pori" through killing innocent people here.

She also mentioned that those who unleash terrorism and bring disasters are defying the message of Islam.

"I cannot understand how they could go to heaven as they [terrorists and militants] are killing people, creating unrest, defying the Holy Quran and the directives of our Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH)," she said.

The PM called upon the Alem-Ulema to find out ways to bring back

the wrongdoers to the right path. "You'll have to think and take right measures so that everyone gets right lessons of our religion."

Urging the Alem-Ulema to extensively take part in the countrywide committees being formed against terrorism and militancy, she said, "Please, create awareness among common people that the path of terrorism, militancy and killings is a wrong and unjust path and surely not the path of Islam."

Hasina said although she had earlier formed a commission to work out

the curriculum for Qawmi Madrasa, but unfortunately there has not been any consensus over it.

She said since attacks are being unleashed against the holy religion, there is an urgent need to get united and fix the curriculum for the Qawmi Madrasa with the united efforts of all.

The premier also suggested the religious affairs minister to expedite the process, adding that the number of commission members could be increased to accomplish the task.

The PM said once the curriculum is

finalised for Qawmi Madrasa, their students will be able to study in Arabic Universities and could also find better job opportunities both at home and abroad.

It is not at all acceptable to anyone that this holy religion will be maligned due to the unruly and inhuman acts of some people, she said.

The prime minister said her government has already taken a decision to build a mosque and Islamic cultural education centre in every upazila and district so that no one could misguide people by misinterpreting Islam.