



Educated mothers mirror progress

DHAKA, June 19 (BSS): First Lady Begum Raushan Ershad today stressed the need for reawakening in the educational arena through self-realisation by the students after equipping themselves with proper education for a prosperous future of the nation.

She said the nation could be given the flashes of more light and flicker of real hope by inspiring the people to receive education and building up the society basing on knowledge and wisdom.

Begum Ershad was addressing the prize giving ceremony of literary and cultural competition '90 of Titumir Government College here. Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Information Minister Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley, Titumir College Chhatra Sangsad Vice President Anwarul Huq and other representatives of the Sangsad spoke on the occasion, among others.

Earlier, on her arrival at the college premises the First Lady was given a rousing reception by the students of the college. The female students of the college wearing colourful dresses, showered flower petals on Begum Ershad. The First Lady was given guard of honour by the members of Bangladesh Cadet Core and Rover Scout. The students were cheerful to see the First Lady amidst them.

Local M.P. and former V.P. of the College Chhatra Sangsad Sirajuddin Ahmed handed over a cheque of Taka 50,000 for Pathakali Trust to Begum Ershad, who is also the Chairperson of the Trust.

The First Lady said the world is progressing faster and we have to make our development in conformity with the pace of global development. Though it is very hard to achieve but we have to do it

through imparting skills and education to common people, she said.

Emphasising the education of women the First Lady said educated mothers were mirrors of progress of the nation. Thus it was imperative to make the womenfolk educated to help build a prestigious nation in the world body, she said.

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Educated mothers

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Begum Ershad said the government has taken up numerous programmes like universal primary education and free education upto Class eight for girls in non-urban areas to build up an educated nation in the near future.

She said the government facilities should have to be availed aimed at generating hopes in the national life for progress.

Begum Ershad said the students should be inspired to participate in literary and cultural activities to flourish their talents. She said these activities would help in maintaining congenial atmosphere in the educational arena. Begum Ershad called upon the younger generation including the students community to forge a strong movement against drug addiction in the country.

The First Lady called for generating self-employment process to solve the unemployment problems existing in the country

besides the government's efforts to solve it.

Begum Ershad also called upon the students to take initiative on their part to help those who were deprived of education to bring to them the light of education.

Begum Ershad announced the donation of Taka eight lakh for buying a microbus for the college and Taka five lakh to make a fixed deposit, interest of which is to be spent for the welfare of the college students.

The First Lady also assured the students of all possible cooperation to realise their long-standing demands.

KAZI ZAFAR

Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed said President Ershad had attached greater priority to education sector than the previous

governments. He said the President had allocated Taka 1500 crore, the biggest chunk of the budget, for the sector.

Kazi Zafar Ahmed recalled that when President Ershad came to power the budgetary allocation in the sector was a little more than Taka 300 crore.

He said in the 170 years history of primary education, this was for the first time it was made compulsory in this region.

DR. SHELLEY

Information Minister Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelley said education meant turning to light. He said through receiving education in real sense we have to become self-reliant so that we can solve our problems on our own.

He called for private sector endeavour in educational arena to bring success in this sector rather than depending on the government.

The Information Minister called upon the students to participate as the pioneer in development of educational sector of the country.

Later, the First Lady distributed prizes among the winners of the competi-

tion and witness a cultural show presented by the students of the college.