

Mosques must become centre of learning : PM

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Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman on Monday called upon the imams of the country's one lakh mosques to play an effective role in the socio-economic life of the people through proper propagation of the Islamic tenets, reports BSS.

Addressing the Central Council Session of Bangladesh Masjid Mission in Dacca at the Institute of Engineers' the Prime Minister said, the mosques in Bangladesh should once again become the centres not merely for prayers, but also for all socio-economic activities.

Presided over by Mr. Mohammad Helaluddin, President of the mission, the function was also addressed by Sheikh Fuad Abdul Hamed-Al-Khatib, Saudi Ambassador in Bangladesh and Moulana A. K. M. Sifatullah, Secretary General of the Mission.

Shah Aziz said the mosques should also become centres of learning and research and adult education.

The Prime Minister said Islam is not a religion of self-denial but it urges self-assertion. He said, Islam which is a comprehensive code of life cannot be divided into water-tight compartments. The totality of Islam he added, has to be accepted.

Shah Aziz said, Islam has its own distinct political, eco-

nomical, social and judicial systems.

Quoting from the verses of the Holy Quran, the Prime Minister said, the concept of democracy, freedom of opinion and social justice are enshrined in the Holy Quran.

He said the dynamism and comprehensives of the Islamic ideology must be comprehended and explained to the people.

Speaking on the occasion, Sheikh Fuad Abdul Hameed-Al-Khatib called upon the Muslims to use mosques to perform their responsibilities assigned to them by Allah, the Almighty.

He appealed to the Mission members to strictly adhere to the Islamic principles in their day to day life. Sheikh Fuad prayed for the revival of the past glories of the Muslims.

Moulana A. K. F. Sifatullah said the mission had been doing social services and that it had opened night school at different places besides establishing mosques.