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Anarchy by public university students not acceptable: PM

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Prime minister Sheikh Hasina, with others, poses for a photograph in a programme marking inauguration of newly built March 7 building of Begum Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University on Saturday. — Focus Bangla photo

Prime minister Sheikh Hasina on Saturday said any anarchic activity by the students of public universities is not acceptable at all as they are availing of the education facility with public money.

‘Indiscipline is not acceptable, never. All must follow rules, if anyone wants to get education from any public institution he or she has to abide by the rules and regulations of that educational institution and act accordingly. That’s what we want from the students as does the nation,’ she said.

The prime minister said this while inaugurating 7 March Bhaban, a newly constructed residential building for female students inside Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University.

In Bangladesh, she said, a student avail of the higher education probably at the cheapest cost in the world. ‘And all the education expenses are borne by the government....100 per cent expenses are provided by the government. I don’t know whether this exists in any other countries of the world. So, the students must honour this system.’

Chaired by DU vice-chancellor Md Akhtaruzzaman, the function was addressed, among others, by education minister Nurul Islam Nahid, University Grants Commission chairman Prof Abdul Mannan, DU pro-vice-chancellor (academic) Professor Nasreen Ahmad, DU pro-vice-chancellor (administration) Professor Muhammad Samad, DU treasurer Professor M Kamal Uddin and Rokeya Hall provost Professor Jinat Huda.

The 11-stoery '7 March Bhaban' constructed at a cost of Tk 88 crore with all modern facilities.

The prime minister reiterated her stance to see the expenses in education as the investment which will be useful for building the country. 'The people of the country will be built as good human resources...the teachers will deliver their lessons properly while the students will take that accordinglythese lessons are not mere academic ones, these will be needed in all spheres of life to develop their lifestyle.'

She asked the students to give special attention to their education so that the positive results of their education can be spread for the mass people of the country. Sheikh Hasina said the government has taken an initiative to diversify the education from primary to tertiary levels. For this, the government has formed Prime Minister's Education Assistance Trust Fund.

She put emphasis on creating skilled and effective manpower for the trade, commerce and other sectors of the country. 'Keeping that view in mind, the government has taken steps to establish universities in all big districts across the country.'

She also mentioned that the government has formed Bangabandhu Science and Technology Fellowship Trust giving emphasis on research works because no country can move forward without giving proper attention to research.

About the Dhaka University, the prime minister said all movements that gave something to the country and its people had started from this university. 'Dhaka University is the birthplace of all movements that helped achieve the Bengali nation.'

Recalling the barbaric August 15, 1975 massacre, she said the killing was just to reestablish the anti-liberation force in the country. Hasina said Awami League runs the government with an ideal. 'Power is not the matter of luxury and enjoyment to me...to me, power is performing of the responsibility given by people,' she added.

On her arrival at the stage, Lipi Akter and Sraboni Islam, students of Rokeya Hall, adorned the prime minister.

Students of the Department of Music and Dance performed songs and dances at the function highlighting the Liberation War spirit.

Earlier, the prime minister opened the building by unveiling its plaque. She also visited the museum and signed the visitors' book.

The building, which will accommodate 1,000 students, has a five-storey administrative block, service block and museum.

In its museum, the 7th March speech, rare photographs of the armed struggle of the Bengalis and information regarding the participation and contributions of women to the Liberation War were placed.



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