



The Bangladesh Observer Unanimous resolution in JS

# End to politics of arms on the campus a must

By A Staff Correspondent

Jatiya Sangsad unanimously passed a private member's resolution on Thursday calling for putting an end to politics of arms on the campus for creating a congenial academic atmosphere.

The resolution moved by Mr. Asaduzzaman of Bangladesh Awami League was supported by Treasury Bench and other Opposition groups. All members of the House were united on this issue and expressed grave concern over the deterioration of the academic atmosphere throwing the future generation to an uncertainty.

Home Minister Prof. M.A. Matin suggested for raising campus police to maintain peace in the university and the halls. The Deputy Speaker Mr. M. Korban Ali who was in the chair called for taking stern action to cleanse the university and other educational institutions of arms as the whole nation was united on this issue. He termed this day as a unique day in the history of our

Parliament as all the members were united on this vital national issue. Winding up the discussion on the resolution Leader of the House Prime Minister Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury said that the Government was determined to cleanse the university halls and other educational institutions and sought cooperation of all. He said the police conducts the raids in the halls and on the campus when they are sure that there are arms there.

The Prime Minister said the arrested students of the Mohsin Hall were granted bail by the court and was not released by the Government. At this stage, the Opposition pleaded for detention. The Prime Minister assured them that he would move a Bill if the Opposition agrees to support for detention of the persons who would be caught with arms. Mr. Chowdhury expressed concern at the loss of academic years by our future generation and said there must be an end to arms politics on the campus. He further assured the House that the Government would take stern action against those who would carry arms irrespective of party affiliation.

Earlier, participating in the discussion, the leader of the Opposition Sheikh Hasina said the campus should be free of arms and congenial atmosphere must be created for saving the nation. She, however, said that arms politics must be ended in our national politics. Without

doing that she said the campus could not be cleared of the arms. Sheikh Hasina said it must be determined first whether arms would control politics or politics would control arms. If this issue is decided once and for all in our national life whole society would be cleansed, she opined.

Sheikh Hasina accused that the Government-backed students organisation was being supplied with arms. That must be stopped. She also said the arms entered the campus after the incident of 15th August, 1975.

Deputy Prime Minister Moudud Ahmed contested this and said the arms politics started in the campus in 1972. She quoted from different newspapers the display of arms in those days by the ruling party backed students in campus. Mr. Moudud suggested that for cleansing the campus of arms, a national consensus was necessary and laws must be equally applied to all irrespective of parties and the outsiders must be ousted from the university halls.

See Page 10 Col. 1

## Campus

From Page 1 Col.3

Home Minister M.A. Matin said arms politics was going on in the Dhaka University. He also said the students threatened the teachers with arms for allowing them to copy in the examination and to earn money by getting tenders. He said some professors and proctor of the Dhaka University has resigned protesting the arm vandalism on the campus. Mr. Matin said all students must be given the identity cards to sort out the outsiders from the campus.

Taking part in the discussion, Mr. Tofael Ahmed said the Government backed politicians were patronising the musclemen with arms. He cited the example of one Sarwar who was nabbed in Dhaka College during the last election who named Air Vice-Marshal (Retd) Aminul Islam as his patron. Mr. Aminul Islam protested this and said on inquiry it was found that Sarwar is the supporter of Awami League and Sarwar's mother testified that their family always supported Awami League.

Education Minister Mr. Mahbubur Rahman also assured the House that the Government was determined to end the arms politics on the campus. He said that the resolution moved by Mr. Asaduzzaman had echoed the concern of President Hussain Muhammad Ershad. He called for a national consensus on this issue.

The discussion was participated by Mr. Quamruzzaman, Suranjit Sen Gupta, Mr. Ainuddin Ahmed, Mr. Mujibur Rahman, Mr. A.S.M. Abdur Rab and Mr. Sultan Raja.

Earlier, moving his resolution Mr. Asaduzzaman expressed concern over the display of arms on the campus and uncertainty of the future of our younger generations. He said that the Government must take action to end this situation and held that if the politics of arms was not ended in the campus it would be failure of the Government.