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DAILY STAR

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পৃষ্ঠা ৯ কলাম ৫

### An emotional declaration

Sir, On September 18, 1997, the Prime Minister declared that 12 technological universities would be established in the country. She made this declaration at the convocation ceremony of IIT at Gazipur. The Prime Minister is not a common woman. She represents 12 crore people. So we don't expect her to say anything out of emotion. A leader's emotional activity may plunge a country into turmoil.

There are eighty lakh educated unemployed people in the country and 50 per cent of the people live below the poverty line. The whole country is in the grip of the mastans. Five basic needs/elements for living are far away from the doors of common men. No government of this country is concerned to deal with their economic problems in pragmatic ways. If they were, at least a little improvement could be achieved.

Over a period of 26th years, we could not have established even a single technological university like BUET in the country — a full-fledged medical college or a university like Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Agriversity. Not a single educational institution like cadet colleges has been established after independence. We inherited 76 jute mills. How many of them are operating — let alone establishing new ones?

So, why this emotional declaration?

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