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Examinations And Opposition Programmes

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Opposition leader Begum Khaleda Zia's statement asking for public examinations of schools and colleges to be completed by November 24 needs to be reconsidered for very genuine reasons: Information since gathered from school management sources and guardians of students, set to sit for examinations, is that examination schedules, already rearranged because of the 7 and 8 November shut-down cannot be further tampered with as desired by the opposition leadership. And that for no political reasons. Very real practical problems schools will face from further contingencies affecting their examination programmes. This has to be appreciated by the political opposition.

And on purely academic grounds and the difficulties as pointed out by the school authorities and students' guardians—mothers and fathers—the opposition leadership needs to readjust their agitational programmes henceforward.

Politically, of course, the opposition will stand to gain by doing so, i.e. by complying with the wishes and desires of school authorities and guardians.

Needless to say, the opposition's protest programmes, generally speaking, need to be so arranged as would create the least possible difficulties for such vital national sectors as education and, among others, for such ones as health or hospital services. It also needs to revise and increase the number of institutions that should be kept out of hartal or shut-downs. By so doing they will not only do the duty they owe to the country. They will also politically gain by it.