



Medical University

Sir,

It is learnt from various news media that a medical university is going to be set up in Bangladesh next year. An amount of Taka 15 crore, as reported, will be needed to construct the necessary buildings. (The recurrent expenses will come next.)

It is told that the proposed medical university will help Bangladesh to attain "Health for All by the Year 2000" by raising the standard of medical education in this country.

But unfortunately the miserable condition existing in the sphere of medical education, preventive and curative medicine in Bangladesh is not due to any fault with the universities to which the medical colleges and other medical institutions are affiliated.

The causes of the pitiable state in the health sector in this country are many. I am giving herewith a list of some of these:—

1. Unabated population growth
2. Poor economic condition of and illiteracy among the vast majority of the people of this country.
3. Poor sanitary condition prevailing in the whole of the country including the so-called cities. (only 3% of the population of this country are reported to be using sanitary latrines.)
4. Paucity of pure drinking water. (Only 40% of the population of Bangladesh can regularly drink pure drinking water.)
5. Inadequate facilities for the prevention of communicable diseases.
6. Inadequate facilities for investigation and treatment of all kinds of diseases in medical college and other hospital in the country.
6. Poor administrative control over the health personnel.
7. Infiltration by political parties into the student community of medical institutions.

A medical university can correct none of these faults. I think it will wiser to spend the amount of fifteen crore taka on equipping the medical colleges and medical college hospitals for real benefit of the country.

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