

Ershad urges students to keep away from politics

07 AUG 1986

Govt attaches highest priority to education

SARSINA (Pirojpur), Aug. 6: President Ershad today said that concerted efforts both by the Government and the individuals could eradicate illiteracy from the society, reports BSS.

Addressing a huge gathering at the Sarsina Madrasah premises here, he said the first message from Allah to Prophet Muhammad (SM) is "to read".

The President referred to his Government's increasing expenditure for the development of educational sector and said private endeavours should supplement Government efforts for the spread of education. He said specially the well-to-do section should come forward in a big way to contribute to the spreading of education for the socio-economic progress.

President Ershad, who was accompanied by leading in-

dustrialist Anwar Hossain of Anwar Group of Industries, businessman Khaled Adel and Jahangir Mohammad Adel, MP, invited them to show their gesture in this regard and they readily agreed to bear the expenditure for building the second floor of the hostel of the Sarsina Madrasah.

He said his Government attaches highest priority to the educational sector and has been providing equal support to all branches of education including Madrasah education.

The President said more than three thousand madrasahs are being given support from the Government. At the same time, the Madrasah education has been reorganised to make it modern and science-based.

He pointed out that lack of proper education gives rise to indiscipline and unruly activi-

ties which retard social progress.

The President said that the teachers have a role to play to make education meaningful and build educated work force.

Turning to the students, President Ershad advised them to

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Teachers Assoc meets Ershad

A delegation of the Federation of Bangladesh Teachers Association led by its Secretary General and Religious Affairs Minister Moulana M.A. Mannan met President H. M. Ershad at the CMLA's Secretariate on Wednesday evening.

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Highest priority

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make best use of their career to become worthy citizens of the country. "Do not indulge in politics during the time of learning, then you will regret throughout your life," he said, adding: "I want to see you become complete man and woman to enhance honour of your parents and the nation."

He referred to four years of his Government and said: "When I accepted the responsibility of running the administration of the country, I submitted myself totally to Allah, invoking His blessings for giving me strength to shoulder the onerous responsibility and lead the country."

The President said for the last four years he has put in untiring endeavours to ameliorate the condition of the commonman. "Now I can say by the grace of Allah, we have proved that we have done something for them and give a pointer before the nation for progress, safeguarding the interest of the toiling masses."

President Ershad spoke of his Government's measures for promoting Islamic values and code of life in the country and said the message of brotherhood and inner strength of Islam can help establish social amity and ensure a balanced development. "Our poverty can be removed if we can inspire

the nation in the spirit of Islamic ideals and lessons," he said.

He said while taking measures to uphold Islamic ideals in the country, his Government at the same time has given due attention to ensuring that people belonging to other faiths can perform their religious rites unhindered. He said Bangladesh is a unique example of communal harmony. "We have been able to earn world appreciation as a tolerant nation where people of different religious faiths are living like brothers and sisters," he said.

President Ershad spoke of his recent visits to SAARC countries where he was given warm reception and honour and said this manifests that the world today recognises Bangladesh as a self-respecting nation striving hard to improve its condition. He said as a nation we have proved that given will and hard work, a nation can prosper surmounting whatever obstacles there may be on way.

Presided over by Pir Sahib of Sarsina Al-Haj Moulana Abu Zafar Mohammad Saleh, the function was also addressed by Religious Affairs Minister Moulana Abdul Mannan.

Earlier, the President offered Fateha at the Mazar of Al-Haj Moulana Nasaruddin Ahmed (RA). The past Pir Sahib of Sarsina.

The President was accorded a warm welcome when he arrived here. Madrasah students and local people lined up both sides of the road he passed through raising welcome slo-

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reports BSS.

Addressing briefly, President Ershad termed the teachers as the architect of the nation and said they should guide our future generation to become worthy citizen.

He said responsibility of the teachers are not confined only to giving lessons in the classes but they should, at the same time mould the character of the students so that they respect their elders and love the youngsters.

Quoting from the holy Quran the President said, Allah help those who help themselves.

"Now today I can say we have traversed a long way in attaining those objective" he added.

Earlier, Moulana Mannan speaking on the occasion listed various measures taken by President Ershad for the welfare of the teachers.