

President

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Academic year loss won't be allowed: Ershad

RANGPUR Mar. 5.—President Hussain Muhammad Ershad said here today that Secondary School Certificate examinations will be held as scheduled and all arrangements have been made in this regard reports BSS. He said the Government cannot allow ruining of a valuable academic year of lakhs of S.S.C. examinees at the whim of a section of teachers.

He hoped that the private school teachers will join their duties immediately in the greater national interest.

The President was addressing a mammoth public meeting at the Collectorate Maidan here. The meeting was also addressed by Jute Minister M.A Sattar Land Administration and Land Reforms Minister Mayeedul Islam Adviser to the President Dr. Fazle Rabbi Chowdhury and State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Shafiqul Ghan Shapan.

President Ershad said from his firm conviction that teachers being the architect of future generation are the most respected persons in the society. He has with pleasure accepted the office of the Chairman of Bangladesh Teachers Association Federation to come to their aid. So far the Government has extended a number of financial benefits to the teachers including the private school and college teachers to ameliorate their condition and

establish them in an honourable position in society.

Listing the measures he said arrangements have been made for providing 60 per cent of revised basic salary enhanced house rent and medical allowances and two additional increments for the private school teachers from government source. Never in the past the teachers of the private school got so much benefits from government exchequers, he pointed out.

The President observed that the deliberate actions of the private schools teachers this time amounts to loosing of

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Academic year loss

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valuable year from the academic life of the students. He told the teachers to ask their conscience whether it is logical on their part to pay-off their debt to society in such a negative manner of resorting to strike when society has done so much for them. Giving a resume of his efforts for holding of elections for peaceful transition to democracy the President called upon all political parties to participate in the April 26 parliamentary elections for upholding democratic values.

The President said only polls verdicts reflect the public opinion. He said making of Press statements, and holding of rallies of political activities at Hatitil Mukarram do not ventilate the opinion of the people.

He said elections were postponed thrice in the past with the hope that good sense will prevail upon the opposition political parties and they will come out of cotery interest to honour democratic norms. The President told the opposition political parties who were

in power in the past not to be afraid of facing the people in polls for their past wrong doings. If you believe in democracy go to the people requesting for apology of your past misdeeds and win their verdict he told the parties.

President Ershad told the meeting amidst cheers that a paper mill and a jute mill will be set up in Rangpur.

Earlier the President laid the foundation stone of Rangpur Bar Association building and inaugurated the Rangpur gymnasium the bar association building is being built at a cost of Tk. 60 lakh provided as grant by the President.

The foundation laying ceremony was also attended by the ZMLA Zone 'B' Major General Mahmudul Hasan.