

Higher education and research

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THE terms education, standard of education, research and creative activities- all of these are closely associated with one another. One cannot be thought of without the another. We can think of better living only if we can achieve standard education. Whenever we think of doing something in order to improve the standard of education as well as make people happy and prosperous, we have to consider researches. We consider research-based education as higher education of quality. Again it is not true that no research is possible without higher education. Formal, informal and higher education and the knowledge and intelligence we achieve are the sources of research.

In respect of standard form of education and research in especially medical science, western countries are in leading position. By dint of rapid development in education and research, some western countries especially United States of America and Canada, are now providing higher education and research worldwide. America has grasped the world market of weapons using their researches. When we want to buy cosmetics, we look forward whether it is made in France or England. Japan has grasped the market of vehicles. The market of machinery and other tools is absolutely owned by Japan and Belgium.

Even the least developed countries with their experiences in research can make their economies prospectful. India is the sole market of garments for female and ornaments among SAARC countries. China and Bangladesh have now earned the prestige of occupying the major part of knit and oven fabrics and readymade garments market.

Immediately after the independence of Bangladesh, we suffered from want of food for 7.5 crores people. Today our population is about 14 crore but yet we do not have so much shortage of food. If we build up embankments on both the banks of the Padma and the Meghna, we will definitely earn the status of rich exporting country despite small natural disasters. Being a least developed country, Bangladesh succeeded in rice research by graduate researchers at BRRI that resulted in inventing 50 high breed varieties of rice and thus Bangladesh has met shortage of food. The history of universities, colleges and university colleges in Bangladesh is more or less of 100 years. It is often heard that the standard of education in Bangladesh is

and research. Favourable political situation, bureaucratic infrastructures are also to be taken into consideration for education, higher education and standard of education. We cannot expect quality in research when teachers, students and researchers are involved in bad politics.

Most important factor in education and research is the required amount of money and resources which are meagre. In practice, the governments of Bangladesh and other countries provide less money and facilities in research. In the whole world most expensive, standard and large-scale researches are held in private universities. Most of the renowned professors, researches and novel laureates are the products of private universities.

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pitifully low. Our universities are meant to provide non-research and pedagogical teaching. We get little research outcome from our universities. More things to get ashamed is that last year a worldwide survey on standard of education ranked four Indian universities among 500 in the world in which neither is from Bangladesh. The education and certificates achieved in Bangladesh is not accepted for jobs abroad.

In order to enhance the standard and research in education, we need to consider a few things that are limited in our country. For research we need ability, standard environment and minimum physical opportunities. Laboratory and library systems are part and parcel of education

In Bangladesh private universities are not only a symbol of hope but they have contributed significantly to the development of the country. Following the standard of education in the western countries these universities have brought upon expansion of education, practical and contemporary opportunities, an environment free from politics and session jam, semester system, rich laboratory and library system and brought about variety. They have also created opportunities for the learned and quality teachers to get jobs as they deserve with suitable returns. They have also contributed a lot in earning foreign currency through education, training, and expertise in the fields of higher

technology, computer science and vocational trainings. Besides, they have facilitated the growing of modern banking, insurance and multinational companies and thus providing these graduates the resulting ultimate benefits of the companies as well as the whole country.

We can hope that the government of Bangladesh will expand the fields of research. The governments should provide funds to public and private universities. As in developed countries there should be the culture that business enterprises, corporate offices, companies and industrial entrepreneurs come forward supporting research activities for the welfare of the country. In addition to that we can get money and resources from the organisations like World Bank or foreign organisations for research development. The businessmen should be ensured that if they support promoting education and research they will get rid of taxes imposed upon them and at the same time we will be able to develop education. This will help people live in peace and prosperity.

So, it is evident that standard education and research help enrich the standard of living. Consequently, working skill will improve; trade and commerce will expand, management will achieve competence; skilled manpower will be produced and per capita income will be increased. Production of commodities and service oriented products and their standard will be increased. People and consumers will get commodities cheap and standard. Finally, we will earn foreign currency by exporting our surplus products. □

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