



President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed giving away certificate to a student of the North South University (NSU) at its first convocation in the city yesterday. — Star photo

## First convocation of NSU held

# President calls upon students to build up character

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed yesterday called upon the students to build up character side by side obtaining degrees and academic accomplishments, reports BSS.

"Painstakingly acquired academic accomplishments, intelligence and knowledge are good and valuable. But they can never be a substitute for the nobility of character, a virtue which holds fast to the ideas even in the most adverse of circumstances, a rigorous honesty

in their dealings with others," he said while addressing the first convocation ceremony of North South University (NSU).

A total of 96 students of NSU, country's first private university, received certificates from the President, also the Chancellor of the university.

Justice Ahmed said the main objective of installation of private universities under the Private University Act, 1992, is to create skillful manpower in the country.

He said necessity for making the legislation was felt to meet the increasing demand for higher education which cannot be met by the existing government-controlled universities.

"It is also intended to discourage meritorious students from going abroad seeking such education," he said.

The President said the act prohibits any kind of profit-making by running the private universities on "commercial line"

The President noted with satisfaction that despite many challenges, the NSU has earned reputation at home and abroad through its academic attainments.

NSU president Muslehuddin Ahmed said the university has a formal academic collaboration agreements, with several internationally reputed universities in the USA, and Malaysia. NSU also has an international advisory board.

Ahmed said although the private university act envisages financial assistance to five per cent students, the NSU is providing education to its seven per cent students free of cost.

President of the university of Southern Indian Dr H Ray Hoops, proctor and chairman of the university convocation committee Dr Shawkat Hassan and chairman of the board of governors M A Awal among others also spoke on the occasion.

