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Science inseparable part of life: President

President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed on Thursday urged scientists to utilise science and technology as a strong weapon for building the country and helping it to stand as an independent nation with its heads high in the twentyfirst century, reports BSS.

Speaking as the chief guest at the gold medal award ceremony for scientists for their outstanding contribution to the field of science and technology at Osmany Memorial auditorium in Dhaka the President said science has now been recognised as a way of life throughout the world.

But science as a way of life, he regretted, has not yet been established fully in our social life.

The President said the use of science and technology has contributed to the unprecedented development in the peoples' food, clothing, housing, education, medical and communication systems in the twentieth century.

Today science, he said, is an inseparable part of the life and culture of human beings. Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed said no one could show a strong political commitment so far in our country for utilising science and technology to build the nation. Science and Tech-

nology, he said, could not yet be properly utilised in the exploration, use and development of our available resources.

The President urged all concerned to remain pledge-bound to utilise science and technology in building the nation and achieving its progress.

Organised by the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) the ceremony was also addressed by State Minister for Science and Technology and Planning Dr. Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir, Nobel Laureate Dr. Norman E. Borlaug as guest of honour, Vice-President of BAS Prof. M. Shamsher Ali and Secretary of BAS Dr. Z. Karim. President of BAS Prof. Kalamuddin Ahmed delivered the address of welcome.

The President distributed gold medals among four renowned scientists of the country for their outstanding contributions to the field of science and technology. The recipients were: Dr. Sharif Enamul Kabir, a teacher of the Department of Chemistry of Jahangirnagar University, Dr. A.S. Mohammad Abdul Hasib, a teacher of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Dr. Golam Mohammad Bhuiyan, a teacher of the Department of Physics of Dhaka University and Dr. Syed Atiqul Huq, Associate Professor of the Department of Medicine of IPGMR.

Justice Shahabuddin also distributed certificates among a host of young scientists from schools and colleges.

Justice Shahabuddin welcomed Dr. Norman E. Borlaug who earned reputation worldwide as a pathfinder of green revolution.

The President referred to the significant contributions of the Muslim scientists of the Middle Age including Alkarkhi, Al-Beruni, Ibne Sina, Ibne Yunus and Ali Habne Isa to the development of science.

He also recalled the contributions of late Nobel Laureate Prof. Abdus Salam in recent time. The President lauded the activities of Bangladesh Academy of Sciences and called for government patronization to make its programmes broad-based.

He also thanked the awardees and said the recognition of their contributions would help them work with newer zeal and enthusiasm.