

## Nahid again promises punishment for errant private universities

*Speaks at Eastern University convocation*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government will not let those private universities continue which have not complied with the minimum prerequisites to become universities, said Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid yesterday.

Speaking at the fourth convocation of Eastern University in the capital, Nahid once again promised to take legal actions against such universities soon.

According to University Grants Commission's website, the government has so far approved 80 private universities since 1992.

Convocation speaker Dr Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to a caretaker government, said mere production-oriented skill development is not enough, but rather higher education must involve knowledge in combination with the values of age-old teaching to address political and social problems.

A total of 5,000 students have so far graduated from the university including 2,000 this year.

Dr Abdur Rab, vice-chancellor of Eastern University, and its Trustee Board Chairman Enayet Ullah also spoke.