

## Nahid warns action against 'militancy' at educational institutions

Staff Correspondent

THE education minister, Nurul Islam Nahid, on Wednesday warned that government would take action if any students and teachers were found having connection with 'militancy'.

Nahid made the remark at a press conference at his office at the secretariat while answering to queries from journalists about what was the stance of the education ministry with regard to the arrest of five North South University students in connection with the killing of blogger Ahmed Rajib Haider.

Many suspect that some of teachers of the university were also linked with

spreading 'militancy' on the campus.

Rajib was active participant of the Shahbagh protests which the youths began on February 5 hours after the International Crimes Tribunal 2 sentenced Jamaat's assistant general secretary Abdul Quader Moilla to life term. The youths have been demanding death penalty for all war criminals.

Nurul Islam Nahid said they had communicated with the North South University authorities and the university was taking various steps.

According to detectives, an Islami Chhatra Shibir activist orchestrated the killing of blogger Ahmed Rajib Haider, and five NSU

students confessed their involvement in the killing. Monirul Islam, joint commissioner of Dhaka Metropolitan Police, told reporters on March 2.

NSU authorities suspended studentship of the five students, Faisal bin Nayeem alias Dwip, Maksudul Has-san Anik, Ehsan Reza Rumman, Naim Sikder Irad, and Nafis Imtiaz. They were all studying in various departments at the university.

Not only students, if we find any teachers involved with the incidents and militancy we will take actions after an investigation,' Nahid said.

The ministry would launch programmes to make teachers aware about 'mili-

tant activities', he added.

Nahid also announced that the ministry would launch a 'creative talent hunt programme' across the country on March 11.

Twelve students would get Tk 1 lakh each and a certificate under the merit hunt programme. Students from class VI to XII divided in three groups would join the contest.

Ministry officials expected that about one million students would join the contest which would be held at Upazila level from March 11 to March 13, at district level from March 16 to March 18, at divisional level from March 21 to March 24 and at national level from March 29 to March 30.