

## UGC finds 29 foreign institutions running without permission

Varsity Correspondent

The University Grants Commission (UGC) has identified 29 foreign educational institutions offering graduate and post-graduate courses, as illegal as they are operating in Bangladesh without prior permission of the government. A team of UGC, the regulatory body for the country's private and public universities, recently visited a number of foreign educational institutions and found 29 institutions running academic activities without taking prior permission of the UGC or other authorities concerned.

The UGC has already sent a list of those institutions to the education ministry recommending to take action against them within a reasonable time. It was gathered that these foreign educational institutions have been doing brisk business in the country for long in the name of providing higher education to the students.

According to sources, most of these educational institutions are located in the capital city of Dhaka and in the city's Dhanmondi and Bapuni area.

A record number of foreign educational institutions ranging

from 40 to 50 have set up their campuses over the years across the country with the purpose of providing higher education to the students. But in fact they have become business centres, according to reliable sources.

UGC Chairman Professor M Asaduzzaman termed these foreign educational institutions as so-called universities, saying that most of the overseas institutions are minting money in the name of providing higher education.

Prof. Asad also said, "The authorities are luring the students through lucrative advertisements in the print media to get themselves admitted into their institutions".

Heavily coming down on the foreign educational institutions operating in the country, the UGC Chairman said, two types of faults were found with them.

They have neither taken permission from the authorities concerned nor have they been able to equip their institutions with necessary logistics.

He said the illegal foreign educational institutions should be closed down.