

## Govt shuts Darul Ihsan University

Declares closure of outer campuses of all univs

Staff Correspondent

THE government has declared the closure of Darul Ihsan University and outer campuses of all other private universities.

The education ministry issued an office order in this regard on Monday in accordance with a High Court verdict, said a release of the ministry on Tuesday.

On April 13, the High Court declared all activities of Darul Ihsan University illegal, saying that authorities cannot run the private university as an academic institution as they failed to go by the law.

The High Court pronounced the verdict after hearing 13 writ petitions filed by a group of people and students claiming ownership of the university at times.

The High Court also directed a former deputy director of the University Grants Commission and a senior assistant secretary of the education ministry to deposit Tk 5 lakh each to the state exchequer for their reckless decisions about the university.

The senior assistant secretary had issued a notice in 2001 allowing Darul Ihsan University to open outer

Continued on page 2 Col. 1

## Govt shuts Darul Ihsan University

Continued from page 1

campus and the grant commission official in 2007 allowed the university to open bachelor of law course, although the university had no permission to run any activities.

According to the commission, Darul Ihsan University currently had about 3,000 students with 90 to 100 outer campuses till 2015. A judicial probe commit-

tee in '2012' recommended the closure of the university as it found that university authorities were selling certificates, running illegal campuses and breaching the Private University Act 2010.

Commission officials said that at least four of the 95 private universities were operating at least 200 outer campuses although such campuses were made illegal in 2007.

They said that most outer campuses were being operated by Darul Ihsan University while International Islamic University, BGC Trust University Bangladesh and Southern University of Bangladesh were also spotted by the commission.

BGC Trust University controller M Nurul Huda Sikder told New Age that they had already closed

their outer campuses and informed the government about it.

He, however, declined to say how many outer campuses they had.

None from Darul Ihsan University, International Islamic University and Southern University of Bangladesh could be reached for comments despite repeated attempts.