

Fake doctorate holder

The pro-vice-chancellor of the North South University (NSU), a reputed private university of the country, has lost his job for submitting a false certificate of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). A report on this appeared in this newspaper yesterday. The report said ANM Meshquat Uddin joined the NSU citing he holds a PhD degree from Cleveland State University, Ohio, USA. However, members of the NSU trustee board doubted the claim and launched an enquiry. After the probe the board found that Meshquat studied at the said university but did not obtain any PhD degree from the institution. The certificate he submitted was a fake one. He was given 48 hours to submit his documents in support of his degree. As he failed to do so, the authorities dismissed him from service.

It is almost unthinkable that a university teacher can resort to such a fraudulent practice for personal gain.

THE NSU

AUTHORITIES DESERVE APPRECIATION FOR TAKING SWIFT AND SURGICAL TYPE ACTION IN THIS MATTER. IT ONLY GOES TO SHOW THEIR COMMITMENT TO QUALITY EDUCATION. FOR LONG IT HAS HAD THE REPUTATION AS THE NUMBER ONE PRIVATE SECTOR UNIVERSITY IN THE COUNTRY

Indulging in malpractice for reaping benefits has become a culture in our country these days. This has spread to various spheres of our national life. There is a 'racket' which is engaged in selling fake certificates in exchange of money. Seizure of fake currency notes by law enforcement agencies and fake doctors rendering medical treatment to patients make newspaper headlines often. Submission of fake freedom fighters' certificates by some top bureaucrats for extension of their jobs created great indignation in recent times. One of the bureaucrats went into voluntary retirement recently to escape humiliation while another was forced to retire.

However, holding top position in a university by using fake certificate is rare. It occurs once in a blue moon. But there is no scope to ignore this kind of incident. Cheating of this nature should not be allowed to continue in the highest seats of learning. The NSU authorities deserve appreciation for taking swift and surgical action in this matter. It only goes to show their commitment to quality education. For long it has had the reputation as the number one private sector university in the country.

The authorities of other universities and educational institutions of the country should be alert and launch investigation, so that persons with fake certificates or dubious academic attainments cannot serve in these institutions. Bangladeshi students studying in different countries have managed to hold the image of the country high. A few mischievous elements must not be allowed to spoil this fine image. If information about these incidents of fraudulence spread beyond the geographical boundaries of the country, the opportunities of Bangladeshi students to study abroad may be squeezed. It is the responsibility of the government to root out this kind of malpractice in the shortest possible time.