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President Zillur Rahman addressing the convocation of East West University at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre in city on Sunday.

Photo: PID

## President urges all not to turn education into commodity

DHAKA: President Zillur Rahman has urged the authorities of all universities in the country to make practical education compulsory in their curricula so students could acquire knowledge about reality and contribute to national development. He also asked the authorities concerned to ensure that education is not turned into a commodity for the greater interest of the nation. The President made the remarks while presiding over the 10th convocation of the East West University (EWU) held at Bangabandhu International Conference Center in the city on Sunday. Education Minister Nurul Islam Nahid.

EWU trustee board chairman Dr Mohammad Farashuddin and EWU vice chancellor Prof Dr Mohammad Sharif also spoke on the occasion. Dhaka University vice chancellor Dr AAMS Arefin Sidduque was the convocation speaker.

Addressing the function, President Zillur Rahamn said the main objective of higher education is to create human resources who will be able to contribute in solving the national problems being imbued with own culture.

"We'll have to know the strategy how the knowledge acquired from university can be properly applied in our national development."

He said apart from bookish education, the students will have to acquire practical knowledge about life and earth that will guide them to resolve various problems in national life.

The President stressed that modern and time befitting knowledge should be enriched with information technology.

Zillur Rahman said over 50 private universities in the country have been providing higher education along with the public universities. These universities would have to ensure quality education.

A total of 1,073 students, both graduates and post-graduates, have been con-

ferred degrees at the convocation.

In his address as the Convocation Speaker, Prof Arefin Siddique said a university can be truly evaluated by the quality and competence of their graduates.

Referring to a Chinese proverb, he said sow paddy on yearly plan, plant tree to make a success of 10-year plan, and provide education and training to the new generation to make a success of the plan for whole life.

"It is our commitment that every student will advance and build their life in a planned way," said the DU vice-chancellor. UNB