

Work for poverty-free Bangladesh

President urges people

UNB, Dhaka

President Zillur Rahman yesterday urged people from all walks of life to perform their duties sincerely to build a hunger and poverty free Bangladesh under 'Vision 2021' based on information technology.

"The present government is committed to establishing rule of law in the country alongside fulfilling the people's basic needs -- food, clothes, accommodation, education and healthcare," he said while speaking as the chief guest at the ICMAB Convocation 2009 at Hotel Sonargaon in the city.

The president said that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has already declared the 'Vision 2021' programme to fulfil people's expectations.

He stressed the need for adopting the latest developments of the most beneficial information technology for the welfare of the nation.

"Unprecedented development of the information technology at the beginning of the century has turned the world into a 'global village' and the influence of globalisation has put us face to face with various challenges," he said.

President Zillur said Bangladesh, a country with bright prospects, has huge manpower and also a thousand year-old heritage and culture.

"Our big asset is the hardworking and brave people of the country.

With their united efforts we'll have to build a happy and prosperous Bangladesh."

He said the cost and management accountants with their knowledge and experience could play a significant role to ensure acceptability and transparency of financial statements in the public and private sectors.

"Transparency and accountability in the financial sector is essential to protecting the public interest."

The president stressed the need for raising the standard of the Institute of Cost Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) to international level. "There is no alternative to professionalism in strengthening one's position in today's competitive world."

"While discharging duties, you should place public interest and patriotism above everything else," President Zillur said.

The convocation was attended by Commerce Minister Mohammad Faruk Khan as special guest while Dhaka University

Vice Chancellor Prof Dr AAMS Arefin Siddique was the convocation speaker.


ICMAB President ABM Shamsuddin Ahmed, former ICMAB president AKM Delwar Hossain and convener of convocation Zahir Uddin Ahmed also spoke on the occasion.

Addressing the function, Faruk Khan urged the accountants to independently perform

their duties to help build a 'Digital Bangladesh'.

"You should use your valuable knowledge for the welfare of the people and development of Bangladesh," he said.

A total of 158 fellows and associate members of the ICMAB received certificates at the convocation.



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President Zillur Rahman gives away a certificate to a successful graduate at the ICMAB Convocation 2009 at Hotel Sonargaon in the city yesterday.

WATER, SANITATION Proper utilisation of fund stressed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a press conference yesterday laid emphasis on proper utilisation of budgetary allocation for water and sanitation sector and redistribution of current allocation to invest in hygiene promotion.

WaterAid Bangladesh in association with Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) sector partners organised the press conference at the National Press Club.

Dr Khairul Islam, country representative of WaterAid, presented the keynote at the programme.

Economist Dr Abul Barakat analysed this year's budget implications for water supply and sanitation sub-sector at the press conference.

Dr Khairul praised the government for having taken the lead to ensure sufficient policies and strategies to take forward and guide various works related to water and sanitation in the country.

"With the current level of capacity, we don't ask for money, what we want is utilisation of the allocated fund to its full," he said.

He also suggested to redistribute the current allocations to invest in hygiene promotion and emphasised on the needs of the sector to be brought under a separate

budget line in the Five Year Plan Format and National Budget.

The speakers also recommended involvement of local government institutes (LGI) especially Upazila Parishad to augment the budget implementation for the sector. They also asked for mechanism so that poor people can take part in project cycle for their own development.

A number of challenges for water and sanitation sector were also highlighted at the press conference which include inadequate supply of arsenic free and safe drinking water, environmental pollution, and lack of initiatives from the local governments.

Concern over killing by BSF

METRO DESK

National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) expressed concern over the killing of Bangladeshi cattle trader by BSF on Thursday at Burimari in Lalmonirhat, says a press release.

The commission regarded the action of the BSF as violation of human rights and urged all concerned to stop recurrence of such incidents in future.

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