

Keep univ students away from militant acts: president

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PRESIDENT Abdul Hamid on Saturday urged all concerned to remain alert so that university students do not get involved in militant activities.

'Steps need to be taken so that students can know the country's Liberation War, indigenous culture, history and tradition. All, including teachers, guardians, university administrations, will have to remain aware so that students don't indulge in unethical activities or in militant or fundamentalist acts,' he said.

The president made the call while addressing the fifth convocation of South-east University at International Convention Centre, Bashundhara in the capital.

At the convocation, 5292 students received degrees while two gold medals for their outstanding academic results.

'The objective of private universities shouldn't be making profit under any circumstances,' said the president adding that allegations against some private universities of making profit have been published in newspapers which is not acceptable.

President Hamid, also the chancellor of the university, further said. 'We'll have to

ensure that no one can raise question about our higher education. The private universities, despite having their limitations, will have to continue their efforts to ensure the standard of education as per the Private University Act-2010.'

He also said the country's higher education has expanded significantly for the initiatives both by private and public sectors and a large number of students are now studying in the private universities.

'Once a good number of students had to go abroad for study because of limited number of seats in public universities, but now they are not going abroad as they are getting proper education in the country's private universities,' Hamid added.

The president also urged the private university authorities to take steps so that poor and meritorious students can study there as it is expensive for many people to study in private universities.

Industries minister Amir Hossain Amu, chairman of the trustee board of South-east University Trust Rezaul Karim, VC of the university Prof Anwar Hossain spoke on the occasion while Bangladesh Bank governor Atiur Rahman delivered speech as convocation speaker.