



বাংলাদেশ  
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন

# UGC BULLETIN

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## Editor's Note

A delegation of the University Grants Commission (UGC) led by its Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah submitted its 48th Annual Report-2021 to President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban on 12 January 2023.

The report submitted to the President contains a total of 17 recommendations to ensure quality education, innovation, creating new knowledge, and excellence at the university level.

The major recommendations of the report are – development of an implementable guideline to appoint a vice-chancellor, pro-vice-chancellor, and treasurer based on the opinion of UGC; empower UGC to implement the recommendations made by different inquiry committees regarding the irregularities in public universities; formulation of an audit standard, code of ethics, and audit manual the higher education institutes; closure of evening courses in public universities; formation of guidelines to determine the logical amount of land for setting up public university campuses, introduction of an integrated financial guideline and financial manual to restore financial order in the universities, establishment of a university teachers' training academy to develop quality teachers, a central research laboratory for conducting quality research, and a national research council for identifying sectors to conduct research.

Inclusion of the recommendations in the report will bring no visible changes in the quality of higher education unless effective and time-bound measures are taken to implement the recommendations. It is expected that execution of the constructive recommendations would take the country's higher education to the next level of excellence.

Finally, we sincerely thank Chief Advisor, members of the editorial board, concerned officials of PRRI Division of UGC for their wholehearted cooperation to publish the bulletin in time.

**Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher**  
Member, UGC

## UGC's Annual Report-2021 submitted to President



A delegation of the University Grants Commission (UGC) led by its Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah submitted its 48th Annual Report-2021 to President Md. Abdul Hamid at Bangabhaban on 12 January 2023. Other members of the delegation are – UGC Members Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher and UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman.

At the meeting the UGC chairman briefed the President on various aspects of the report and the overall activities of the UGC. He informed to the President that the UGC's research budget has been substantially increased to inspire different research activities in the universities and different policies have been formulated for smooth running of the university's academic and administrative activities.

The report submitted to the President contains a total of 17 recommendations to ensure quality education, innovation, creating new knowledge, and excellence at the university level.

It has been mentioned in the recommendations that most public universities had no fixed policies or methods for appointing vc, pro-vc, and treasurer, and no opinion was sought from the UGC in their appointment process. The report suggested the government prepare an implementable guideline to appoint a vc, pro-vc, and treasurer based on the UGC's opinion.

The UGC said it usually sends reports to the education ministry with recommendations if any irregularities are found, but those recommendations are hardly implemented. The UGC sought power from the government to implement its own recommendations over irregularities.

'It has become urgent for the commission to have the legal power following irregularities in the appointment of the universities' teachers, officials, and employees; admission of extra students; implementation of development projects; allegations of certificate business; and financial irregularities in financial issues,' said the report.

The UGC report, in another recommendation, said that for ensuring accountability and responsibility in the accounting system, auditing was very necessary. The government and the

commission can take effective steps to prepare an audit standard, code of ethics, and audit manual, it said.

The report also recommended that evening courses in public universities be closed and that every university should have an academic master plan on an urgent basis for producing skilled manpower and ensuring international standards in education. The UGC said that universities could prepare master plans in coordination with the commission.

The UGC also recommended the formation of guidelines to

determine the logical amount of land for setting up public university campuses, another guideline for the introduction of academic activities, and an integrated financial guideline and financial manual to restore financial order in the universities.

The recommendations also included the establishment of a university teachers' training academy to develop quality teachers, a central research laboratory for conducting quality research, and a national research council for identifying sectors to conduct research.

## Govt plans to implement smart files in all offices: Zunaid Ahmed

State Minister for Information and Communication Technology Division Junaid Ahmed Palak said that the government has set the goal of implementing smart file, an updated version of digital file, in building a smart Bangladesh. Information and Communication Technology Division is working on the process of linking artificial intelligence, big data analysis, block chain and other frontier technologies with digital file to develop the system. He said that this initiative is being taken to ensure transparency, accountability in government work and establishment of paperless offices.

He made the remarks while delivering address at the launching of D-file system in public universities of the country on 26 February 2023 at UGC auditorium.

Chaired by UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, the function was addressed by the UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Vice-Chancellor of Shahjalal University of Science & Technology Professor Farid



Uddin Ahmed, Project Director of A2i Dr. Dewan Muhammad Humayun Kabir, UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman and Director of the IMCT Division Mohammad Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan.

State Minister Junaid Ahmed stated that the government is working to establish a cashless society and paperless office as part of building a smart Bangladesh by 2041. As part of this, all the universities of the country will be turned paperless step by step. He advised the university authorities to make gradually all the financial transactions cashless.

He said that in the last six years, more than 1 lakh officials in 11,000 offices of the government have disposed of more than 2 crore files through e-file system. Digital delivery of government services has saved money and time with a financial value of about \$21 billion.

Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah said, we are entering into Smart Bangladesh from the Digital Bangladesh. He opined that service seekers will get smart services and their suffering will be reduced once digital file system is implemented. He advised the university authorities to be serious in implementing digital file.



UGC Members Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, Vice-Chancellors of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology

University, Chittagong University of Science and Technology, Noakhali Science and Technology University, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University, and Sheikh Hasina University attended the function.

Relevant officials from UGC, a2i and universities were also present at the event which was conducted by Deputy Director of the IMCT Division of UGC Mohammad Monir Ullah.

## UGC holds views exchange meet with VCs

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh has informed that a total of 22 general and science and technology universities of the country, including Jagannath and Islami universities, will participate in the cluster admission test for the academic year 2022-2023.

The UGC has directed the universities under the cluster to arrange the admission test within a quickest possible time and start the classes after completing the admission process. The organizers have been advised to be careful to make the admission test process easy and student friendly and to make the cluster admissions unique.

Besides, it has been reported that an integrated admission test will be organized in all universities of the country in the academic year 2023-2024.

This decision was taken in a meeting held at the UGC on Monday regarding the arrangement of the cluster admission test for the academic year 2022-2023 without any flaw and interruption.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah presided over the meeting which was attended by



the UGC Members Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Director of the Public University Management Division Mohammad Jaminur Rahman and relevant officials of UGC.

The meeting discussed elaborately the existing problems of cluster admission system and their possible solutions. It also discusses how to overcome last year's complications in admissions and how to make admissions easier and student friendly.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah said, the cluster

admission system has been highly appreciated by the admission seekers, their guardians and academicians of the country. They termed it as a good test method. There might be some problems in holding the test in the new system, but there is no way to back out. He urged the Vice-Chancellor and others involved in holding the cluster admission test to be sincere to make the test ensure accepted to all.

The UGC chairman advised the concerned authorities to be sensitive in implementing the government's desire regarding the cluster admission test.

## UGC Chairman calls on private universities to comply with regulations

The Chairman of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah has urged the Vice-Chancellors of private universities to follow the existing rules and regulations.

He made this call in a views-exchange meeting with the Vice-Chancellors to bring transparency and dynamism in academic and administrative activities of private universities.

The Private University Division of UGC organized the meeting on 22 March 2023 to ensure quality in higher education and research.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda spoke as the



keynote speaker at the event. Vice-Chancellors of 69 private universities appointed by the Honourable President participated in the meeting and took part in open discussion. UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman and Director of Private University Division Md. Omar Faruque delivered the speech at the event.

Professor Kazi Shahidullah in the meeting stated that Vice-Chancellors should stand against any corruption and irregularities. He urged the VCs to run the university in accordance with the existing laws and regulations and let UGC know in writing if they face any problems. UGC will stand by you if anyone tries to undermine your just rights, he said.

Regarding permanent campuses, he said, legal action will be taken against those universities which

are hesitating to go to permanent campuses or have not taken any initiative even after 12 years of establishment. Besides, he also suggested opening the department and admitting students after completing the proper process. He urged the Board of Trustees and Vice-Chancellors to develop a system and discipline to ensure quality education in private universities.

Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda said that the Vice-Chancellors appointed by honourable President in private universities are eminent academicians and respected persons of the society. He urged the Vice-Chancellors to be vigilant in performing responsibilities as per the Private Universities Act 2010.

Professor Chanda said that attempts are being made to ensure that VC, Pro-VC and Treasurer in

private universities get appointment without delay. He also said that the UGC is working to empower the Vice-Chancellors of private universities and if any major decision is taken, the Vice-Chancellors will be consulted.

Vice-Chancellors in the views-exchange meeting raised few important issues which includes amendment of the Private University Act, allow private universities to give Mphil and PhD degrees conditionally, reduce the lengthy procedure for appointing Vice-Chancellors, Pro Vice-Chancellors and Treasurers, increase the power of Vice-Chancellors in running universities, make provision to take the opinion of Vice-Chancellors in taking important decisions to improve the quality of education and research in private universities, introduce uniform grading system, implementation of minimum pay structure, allocate budget in research sector for private universities, formulate service rules, formulate of strategic plans, develop inter-university research networks, quick release of foreign funds for research and declare Ashulia as an Education City.

Senior officials of UGC were present at the meeting which was conducted by the Senior Assistant Director of UGC Shahnaz Sultana.

## UGC urges universities to properly follow financial rules

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah called upon the Vice-Chancellors to properly follow the government rules and regulations in spending money in public universities.

The UGC chairman made the call while delivering address at the opening ceremony of the workshop titled 'Formulation of

budget for public universities and its implementation' as the Chief Guest on 12 January 2023.

Presided over by UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, the day-long workshop held on the virtual platform, was addressed by the Additional Director of Finance and Accounts Division of the Commission Md. Rezaul Karim

Hawladar and Deputy Director of the Directorate of Education Audit Shakila Zaman.

UGC Chairman in his speech stated that financial irregularities of the organizations are now a major headache for the government. He called upon all concerned to properly comply with the existing rules on financial matters to



prevent financial irregularities in public universities and bring down audit objections to zero level.

He directed the officials concerned to deliver the appropriate interpretation of the rules and regulations before the university authorities, coming out of all kinds of inhibitions. He also said that if a person makes concessions in financial matters, he will have to take responsibility for the crime.

UGC Chairman also said that allegations of serious financial irregularities against some public universities are being published in the media. Being in charge of supervision, UGC also has to take responsibility for this. Unpleasant words are also being heard from the concerned Parliamentary Standing Committee and the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General. He said that UGC is strengthening the audit program to prevent financial irregularities.

He urged the Audit Cell to play a strong role in maintaining the reputation of public universities and in running the university smoothly.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Md.



Abu Taher in his speech urges relevant authorities of public universities to prevent financial irregularities and maintain financial discipline in public universities. He called for proper utilization of resources, ensure transparency and accountability and establishment of good governance to deal with the financial crisis. He also urged everyone to maintain austerity in all areas due to the global economic crisis.

He requested the Vice-Chancellors to make the Audit Cell of the University completely independent and

ensure a proper working environment to prevent the recurrence of irregularities.

Besides, the UGC has suggested conducting audits with professional accounting personnel to ensure transparency and accountability in the accounting system and bring down audit objections to zero level.

Conducted by Robiul Islam, Senior Assistant Director and Innovation Focal Point of UGC, the workshop was participated by the heads of finance and accounts divisions and relevant officials of audit cells of 48 public universities.

## UGC's initiative to use software to bring financial transparency in universities

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has taken the initiative to use software to strengthen financial transparency and discipline and to ensure speedy service delivery in the country's public universities. Besides, initiatives have also been taken to modernize the audit cell.

In this regard, Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher said, the use of 'Audit Management and Monitoring System 2.0' software will increase transparency, accountability and dynamics in the financial sector and transparency in the audit process.



He said this in the speech of the chief guest at the inauguration of the day-long training on 'Audit Management and Monitoring System 2.0' software. UGC organized the training at

Chittagong University (CU) on 25 March 2023.

Professor Dr. Shireen Akhter, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Chittagong, presided over the inaugural ceremony of the training

where Professor Benu Kumar Dey, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic), was the Special Guest. Md. Rezaul Karim Hawlader, Additional Director, Finance and Accounts Division of UGC and Mohammad Amimul Ehsan Kabir, Director, Directorate of Education Audit, conducted sessions as the resource persons.

Professor Md. Abu Taher said that the current government is determined to ensure transparency and accountability in

all areas including finances in public universities. Various action plans are being implemented to ensure transparency and accountability in different sectors of the government.

He said that through this training, the concerned persons will get important guidance in carrying out financial audit and will find specific guidelines in the management of audit cell of the university.

Professor Dr. Shireen Akhter in

her speech stated that Audit plays a vital role to ensure financial transparency, accountability and good governance in every organizations. The participants of today's training will play an important role in ensuring the financial transparency and accountability in their respective organizations by applying the knowledge they gained from the experts of the training.

## UGC places wreaths at the mural of Bangabandhu on historic 7th March



The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) paid a rich tribute to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing floral wreaths at his mural on the occasion of the historic 7th March Day.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Members Professor

Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir and UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman were present at the event.

UGC Chairman Professor Kazi Shahidullah stated that he was present at the public meeting in Suhrawardy Udyan on the day of the historic March 7 speech. The

entire Suhrawardy Udyan was full of slogans.

He said that the March 7 speech was a turning point in the liberation war. This speech was a clear direction for the people to get ready for the liberation war. People of this land was happy with the Bangabandhu's call for freedom and independence.

Director, General Services, Estate and Engineering Division Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan; Director of Public University Management Division and also the President of UGC Officers Association Mohammad Jaminur Rahman, General Secretary, Md. Golam Dosfogir, President and General Secretary of UGC Employees' Union Nurul Islam Bepari and Saiful Islam and officials and employees of UGC were present at the time.

## UGC Chairman exchanges views with Australian delegates

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and a delegation of the State Government of Victoria, Australia held a views-exchange meeting on 17 January at UGC meeting room. UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi

Shahidullah presided over the meeting.

UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda, Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher and UGC

Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman were present at the event.

The three-member Australian delegation was led by Global Victoria's Commissioner to South Asia Michelle Wade.





Michelle Wade in the meeting informed that Australia has several reputed universities. The high quality teaching methods of these

universities provide quality education to the students. He also said that the state government of Victoria is interested in providing

technical and technological knowledge to teachers and students in the field of higher education in Bangladesh.

UGC Chairman in said in the meeting that education has turned a big business in the world. But education system or investment in education in Bangladesh is not for business purpose. Education should be treated as a social responsibility rather than a commodity. He also said that foreign investment in education in Bangladesh should be meaningful and student-friendly.

## Int'l workshop on DWDM Technology held

A five-day international workshop on 'Capacity Development on DWDM Technology' ended on 09 February 2023 in the conference room of Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BDREN) in UGC Bhaban.

Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Member of UGC and also the Member of BdREN Trust, was present at the inaugural ceremony of the workshop as the Chief Guest on 05 February 2023. 12 trainees from different universities of the country and 07 trainees from Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Laos participated in the workshop. The workshop was organized by BdREN Trust with funding from the Asi@Connect project. The workshop provided hands-on training on Installation, Operation and Maintenance of



Cisco ONS 15454 DWDM equipment.

Professor Alamgir in his speech at the workshop pointed out the importance of modern technology and highlighted how the workshop will benefit the participants. He called for ensuring seamless data

transfer and cyber security in a short period of time.

Chief Executive Officer of BdREN Trust Mohammad Tawrit, trainers and officials of the Trust were present at the event which was conducted by Md. Ariful Islam, Manager of BdREN.

## Malaysia to give scholarships to university teachers

The Xiamen University Malaysia has decided to provide 10 scholarships for Masters and Ph.D programs for university teachers in the country.

The decision was disclosed in a meeting held between UGC Member Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and President of Xiamen

University Malaysia Professor Wang Ruifang at UGC meeting room on 02 March 2023. A four-member delegation from Xiamen University Malaysia led by Professor Wang Ruifang participated in the meeting.

Professor Wang Ruifang said the Xiamen University Malaysia is

giving the scholarships under the Memorandum of Understanding signed between UGC and Xiamen University Malaysia in 2019. Under the MoU, the university teachers of Bangladesh will be given scholarships in Maritime, Marine Technology, Deep Learning, AI, Cyber Security and Mechatronics.



In the meeting, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda said, under this agreement, cooperation will be available in carrying out collaborative research and development of learning and teaching methods in the higher education institute of Malaysia. He

opined that scholarship, education and research facilities, Masters and PhD programs in Xiamen University Malaysia will play a role in improving the quality of higher education and research in our country.

He also said that Bangladesh has

the opportunity to work jointly with Malaysia in many areas of higher education. Both countries will be benefited if this possibility is fully utilized. He said that necessary cooperation will be provided by UGC in this case.

Notably, Xiamen University Malaysia is the first overseas campus established by a famous Chinese university and the first Chinese university branch campus in Malaysia.

UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Director of the Research Support and Publication Division Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam and relevant UGC officials was present at the meeting.

## UGC installs stall in Ekushey Book Fair



The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has participated in Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2023 with 75 sellable textbooks, research and translation books for higher education level. Besides, more than two hundred textbooks and translated books published by the Commission at various times have been put on display at the stall of UGC at the book fair.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain visited the book

stall on 11 February 2023 on the premises of Bangla Academy. Director of the Research Support and Publication Division Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Additional Director Shahin Siraj, Senior Assistant Director Mohammad Nazrul Islam and relevant officials and employees of UGC were present during the time.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Sazzad Hossain urged the new generation to visit the fair and buy books. Inspired by the theme of

this year's book fair, 'Read books, build country, Bangabandhu's Bangladesh', he urged people to give books as gifts to their loved ones.

He also said that UGC publishes new books every year on higher education in the country. UGC's initiative will remain continued in publishing quality textbooks for higher education sector.

He urged the teachers of the university to come forward in producing quality books. He expressed hope that students, teachers and researchers of the university will be highly benefited with the publications of the UGC.

The notable books published by UGC in this year's book fair are- History of the Origin of Independent Bangladesh, Bengali Language and Literature, Achievements in Higher Education in Bangladesh, Deep Learning Fundamentals, Nuclear Power in Bangladesh and Beyond, Digital Logic Design, Technological Management and Development Nations, Organizational Behavior, Strategic Management in Search of Excellence, Introduction to Open Channel Hydraulics etc.



## UGC member calls for implementation of RTIA to build Smart Bangladesh



Member of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher has called for the implementation of the Right to Information Act (RTIA) to ensure the citizens' right to information and to build a smart Bangladesh.

He made the remark while addressing as the Chief Guest at the inaugural ceremony of a day-long training program at UGC to raise public awareness about the Right to Information Act and implement the RTIA work plan. The Public Relations and Right to Information Division of UGC

arranged the workshop for the newly appointed 17 officials and employees of UGC.

UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman was present at the event as Special Guests with Director of the Public Relations and Right to Information Division Dr. AKM Shamsul Arefin in the chair.

Professor Md. Abu Taher said, Smart Citizen is an important part of Smart Bangladesh. And to be a smart citizen, the citizens must be aware about their rights. Similarly, as a smart government, the government should also be

sincere in fulfilling the rights of the citizens.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman said that the implementation of the Right to Information Act is necessary to establish a welfare state. He urged the concerned authorities to ensure free flow of information to ensure transparency and accountability in higher education institutions and UGC.

Dr. Shamsul Arefin said that obtaining information is a legal and constitutional right of the citizen. He urged the concerned officials to ensure that the public gets the information. He emphasized on increasing public awareness in implementation of Right to Information Act.

Deputy Director of Public Relations and Right to Information Division and also the RTIA focal point Mohammad Abdul Mannan and Deputy Director of Public University Management Division and also the APA focal point Md. Golam Doştogir conducted sessions at the training.

## UGC's initiative to preserve information of universities through digital means

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has taken the initiative to preserve various important information and documents of the public and private universities of the country through digital means.

The data and information of higher education institutions can be properly stored and easily searched from anywhere by using the cloud storage service of Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) Data Center.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda made the remarks while delivering address as the Chief Guest at the opening ceremony of a workshop on the guidelines of using the cloud



storage services of BDREN Data Center. The Private University Division of UGC arranged the daylong workshop with the assistance of BdREN at UGC auditorium on 06 February 2023.

UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman and Chief Executive Officer of BdREN Mohammad Tawrit were present at the

workshop as Special Guest which was chaired by the Director of Private University Division Md. Omar Faruque.

Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda stated that the file management of the country's higher education institutions will be modernized and improved with the use of digital technology. This timely initiative by

UGC will help fulfill the government's commitment to establish paperless offices.

As a result, deforestation will be reduced resulting less carbon emissions and thus preventing environmental degradation. He also said that by storing official information and documents through digital means, the country will move a step ahead towards

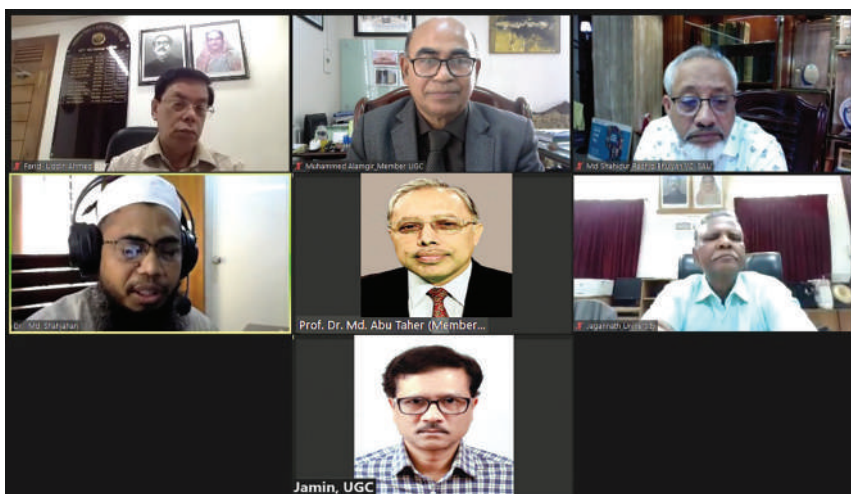
building a Smart Bangladesh announced by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman in his speech stated that storing and searching important information and documents of UGC and more than 160 universities of the country through manual means is time-consuming. Besides, as space is not available for manual

storage of these information and documents, initiatives have been taken to store them in digital means.

Senior Assistant Director of Private University Division Shariful Islam conducted the workshop which was attended by the officials and employees of the relevant Division.

## UGC calls for quick arrangement of cluster admission test



The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has called upon the relevant public universities to quickly organize the admission test for the academic year 2022-2023 in cluster system.

UGC Member and Convener of the relevant committee, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, urged the relevant public universities to organize a fair and smooth admission test utilizing the experience of the previous years and issue notice for admission mentioning the date for the start

and end of the admission process and the start of the education activities.

He made this call on 06 March 2023 in a review meeting related to the completion of admission tests and admission programs in public universities in the academic year 2021-2022.

Held in virtual platform, the meeting was joined by UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, Vice-chancellor of Shahjalal University of Science

and Technology Professor Farid Uddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor of Jagannath University Professor Dr. Md. Imdadul Hoque, Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University Professor Dr. Md. Shahidur Rashid Bhuiyan, Dean of the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Faculty of Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET) Professor Dr. Md. Shahjahan, and Director of the Public University Management Division of UGC Mohammad Jaminur Rahman.

Professor Md. Abu Taher stated that all the conditions and information related to the admission test should be mentioned in the circular and prospectus and these conditions should be kept unchanged until the admission process is completed.

He also urged the concerned committee to take measures to allow students to take part in admission test at the place of their choice. Besides, he also suggested updating the software used in the admission test process to make it student friendly.

## UGC focuses on quality of education, not increase in number

Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir has called on all concerned to focus on ensuring the quality of education rather than increasing the number of students in higher education institutions.

He made the call during an exchange of views with a delegation of two members of Nottingham University. The meeting was held on 31 January 2023 at the office room of

Professor Muhammed Alamgir.

The University of Nottingham is providing subject-specific training to teachers engaged in higher education in colleges across the





country to improve their teaching skills Under the College Education Development Project (CEDP). In the meeting, the delegation highlighted various aspects of the progress of teachers' training.

In the meeting, Professor Alamgir said that teachers, laboratories and infrastructure are very important in launching any

program in higher education institutions. But, many universities of the country are starting education programs without fulfilling these conditions which is very unfortunate. Due to this, the country is deprived of producing quality graduates suitable for the labor market. He said that attention should be paid to ensure

that students are not deprived of quality higher education.

The UGC Member also said that the government should be more sincere in ensuring the quality of higher education at the college level. For this purpose, curriculum should be designed that meets market demands and teachers should be trained. He said that the relevant authorities should focus on providing career-oriented and skill-based higher education rather than allowing the opening of Honors and Masters courses in colleges.

Rozilini Mary Fernandez Chung, director of the Centre for Academic Partnership and Engagement of the Malaysian campus of the University of Nottingham, Ranjit Singh Gill, Associate Professor of the same university and Dr. AKM Khalilur Rahman, Senior Program Officer of CEDP were present at the meeting.

## UGC Member exchanges views with Nepalese delegation

A delegation of Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI) held a views-exchange meeting with University Grants Commission of Bangladesh. The meeting was held on 27 February at the UGC meeting room with UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain in the chair.

Members of the Nepalese delegation Nav Raj Khatiwada and Dr. Shankar Shrestha, President and Executive Director of NDRI respectively and Dr. Jyoti Giri, Associate Professor of Tribhuvan University, participated in the views-exchange meeting which was led by former Minister of Environment, Science and Technology Affairs of Nepal Ganesh Shah.

Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain in his speech delivered an overview



about the higher education scenario of Bangladesh. In his speech, he highlighted the economic progress of Bangladesh in the past years as well as the establishment of specialized universities to produce human resources with specialized skills. He said, Bangladesh has the opportunity to work jointly with Nepal in many areas of higher education. Both countries will

benefit if this possibility is fully utilized.

President of NDRI Nav Raj Khatiwada said that many students from Nepal come to Bangladesh to pursue medical and engineering studies. On the other hand, Nepal has a long experience in tourism and hospitality management education. In this case Bangladeshi

students can complete a part of their education in Nepal.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain requested the delegation of NDRI to send a

specific proposal through identifying the areas of joint cooperation in higher education. He assured the delegation that necessary cooperation will be provided by UGC in this regard.

UGC Senior Assistant Director Md. Mamun conducted the views-exchange meeting where relevant officials of UGC were present.

## UGC issues public notice regarding 18 private universities

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has issued a public notice on 19 January 2023 regarding actions to be taken against 18 private universities that failed to shift all activities to permanent campuses within the stipulated time frame.

It has been mentioned in the notice that the UGC decided to stop the admission of new students in all programs in four private universities of the country as no visible steps were taken by these universities to transfer all the activities to the permanent campus and to build the campus within the stipulated period in complying with the letter issued by UGC earlier.

The universities are Stamford University Bangladesh, Asa University, Prime Asia University and Victoria University.

The admission of new students in the temporary campuses of State University and Manarat International University will be completely closed. However, the programs conducted at the permanent campuses of these two universities will continue as usual.

Dhaka International University, Royal University, Southeast University, City University, The



বাংলাদেশ  
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মঞ্জুরী কমিশন

Millennium University and Bangladesh University have been given time till 31 March 2023 to transfer their entire activities including educational programs to the permanent campus, considering the visible progress regarding the transfer to the permanent campus and construction of the campus in complying with the letter of UGC.

In case of failure to transfer all programs including educational programs to the permanent campus within the mentioned time frame, the admission of new students in all programs will be completely stopped from 1 April 2023.

The notification also said that considering the visible progress and written commitment regarding the transfer to the permanent campus and the construction of the campus, BRAC University,

University of Development Alternative, Green University, Uttara University, Presidency University and The People's University have been given time to transfer all education programs to the permanent campus by 30 June 2023.

In case of failure to transfer the entire program including educational programs to the permanent campus within the stipulated time frame, the admission of new students in all programs will be completely stopped from July 1, 2023 in the concerned universities.

All temporary campuses or buildings other than the permanent campus of these universities will be considered illegal.

According to the public notification, the University Grants Commission issued a letter on 11 April 2022 directed the universities whose temporary certificates expired and were not transferred to the permanent campus to transfer to the permanent campus by 31 December 2022. The admission of new students would be stopped from 01 January 2023 if these universities failed to comply with the instructions of the letter.

## UGC Member Dr. Dil Afroza gets Education Award

Member of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum has been awarded with Education Award 2023 in recognition of her special contribution to the field of education.

The Bangladesh Education Observers Society (BSPS) awarded her this honor in a ceremony organized at the International Mother Language Institute in the capital on 01 March 2023.

Prominent lawyer Barrister M.

Amir-UI Islam handed over the award to UGC Member Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum as the Chief Guest of the event.

BSPS has honored few eminent persons of the country for their exemplary contribution in the field



of education, law and war of independence.

Chairman of BSPS Principal M Shariful Islam presided over the ceremony which was attended, among others, by the former Vice-Chancellor of Open University Professor Dr. M. Shamser Ali, former Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University Kamal Ahmed, Professor of Dhaka University AHM Mostafizur Rahman and Chairman of Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited Shahjahan Mahmud.

Barriſter Amir-UI Islam in his speech ſtated that books are the carrier of learning. Quality books are needed for the ſpread of education. He urged the textbook board to prepare textbooks on practical and real-life ſubjects.



Professor Dr. Dil Afroza thanked the organizers for organizing the diſcuſſion on 'Smart Education, Smart Bangladesh'. He requested

the government to convene a meeting with eminent educationiſts of the country to formulate a proper plan on education.

## UGC Member Dr. Abu Taher gets Mahatma Gandhi Peace Award



Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, Member of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, has been awarded with Mahatma Gandhi International Peace Award-2023 as recognition of his

ſpecial contribution to the field of country's financial ſervices.

Two officials of India Bangladesh Cultural Council on handed over the award to Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher at his office room on 13

march 2023. Secretary of the Commission Dr. Ferdous Zaman was preſent at that time.

It ſhould be noted that Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher joined UGC as a full-time member in September 2020. He was the Chairman of the Department of Management and Dean of the Faculty of Business Adminiſtration of Chittagong University.

Besides, he was the Pro Vice-Chancellor of Southeast University and Treasurer of Bangladesh Open University appointed by the honourable President of Bangladesh. He alſo ſerved as the Acting Chairman of Jibon Bima Corporation for ſome time.

More than 107 of his articles have been published in the reputed journals in home and abroad. 15 books on business adminiſtration written by him are being taught as textbooks at Honors and Maſters level.

## UGC Member Dr. Sazzad Hossain gets Australian Leadership Award

Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Member, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has been awarded with Australian Academy of Business Leadership Award (AABL) in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the expansion of higher education in Bangladesh.

The information regarding the award was disclosed through a press release issued by the Vice-President of AABL on 12 March 2023.

Mentionable that Dr. Sazzad



Hossain is also a Director of Bangladesh Satellite Company

Limited (BSCL). He was born on 16 December 1968 in Chittagong.

Professor Sazzad Hussain completed his Bachelor degree from Moscow Technical University and Master's and Ph.D degree in Computer Engineering from Portland State University, USA. His research interests are Quantum Computing, Internet of Things, Nano Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data Technology etc. He is serving as the President of Education Research and Development Forum of Bangladesh.

## UGC celebrates birth anniversary of Bangabandhu



The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has celebrated the 103rd birth anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Children's Day 2023. UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah at the event called upon all to hold the ideals of Bangabandhu and practice them in personal life.

Marking the day, tributes were paid by placing wreaths at the

mural of the Father of the Nation at the UGC building. The cake was cut to celebrate the birthday of Bangabandhu, the architect of Bangladesh's independence and the founder of UGC.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Members Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher; UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman, were present at the event as Special Guests.

Director of the General Services, Estate and Engineering Division Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director of the Public Relations and Right to Information Division Dr. AKM Shamsul Arefin, Director of the Research Support and Publication Division Dr. Md. Fakhru Islam, Director of the Private University Division Md. Omar Faruque, Director of the Public University Management Division and also the President of UGC Officers Association Mohammad Jaminur Rahman, Director of the IMCT Division Mohammad Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan and Director (Acting) of the Strategic Planning and Quality Assurance Division Dr. Durga Rani Sarker, President and General Secretary of UGC Employees' Union Nurul Islam Bepari and Saiful Islam, among others, were present at the function jointly arranged by the UGC Officers Association and UGC Employees' Union.



## UGC pays homage to language martyrs

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) has paid rich tributes to the heroic martyrs of the language movement at the Central Shaheed Minar on the occasion of Amar Ekushey and International Mother Language Day.

UGC Members, officials and employees laid wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar to pay deep respect to the martyrs of the language movement in the early morning of 21st February.

UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher; UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman; Director of the Private University Division Md. Omar Faruque; Director of the Public University Management Division



and also the President of UGC Officers Association Muhammad Jaminur Rahman; Acting Director of Strategic Planning and Quality Assurance Division Dr. Durga Rani Sarker; General Secretary of the

Officers Association Md. Golam Dostogir; President and General Secretary of UGC Employees' Union Nurul Islam Bepari and Saiful Islam were present, among others, at that time.

## UGC pays tribute on Independence Day

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh has paid homage to the heroes of country's Independence War by placing wreaths at the National Mausoleum in Savar marking the great Independence Day.

UGC Members, officers and staff and executive members of UGC Officers Association and Employees Union placed wreaths at the altar of National Mausoleum in Savar on 26 March 2023. National heroes were remembered with reverence at that time.

UGC Members Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, UGC Secretary Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Director of the Private University Division Md.



Omar Faruque, Director of the Public University Management Division and also the President of UGC Officers Association Mohammad Jaminur Rahman, Director of Strategic Planning and Quality Assurance Division Dr. Durga Rani Sarker, General

Secretary of UGC Officers Association Md. Golam Dostogir, President and General Secretary of UGC Employees' Union Nurul Islam Bepari and Saiful, among others, were present during the time.

## Chief Adviser

**Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah**  
Chairman, UGC

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