



বাংলাদেশ  
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মন্ত্রী কমিশন

# UGC BULLETIN

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## From the Desk of the Editor

University Grants Commission(UGC) of Bangladesh has been organizing Memorial Lecture on the life and works of Bangabandhu marking the martyrdom anniversary of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Mourning Day every year to pay rich tribute to the great leader. The UGC, apex body of country's public and private universities, arranged the Memorial Lecture on the greatest Bengali of thousand years on the occasion of National Mourning Day on 15 August 2020 like every year. An expert delivers Memorial Lecture on the life and works of Bangabandhu to mark the National Mourning Day organized by UGC. An eminent educationist Emeritus Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, who earlier served the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh as its Chairman, was present on the occasion as the Memorial speaker.

Bangabandhu believed that no nation can progress without education. Accordingly, Bangabandhu formed an Education Commission headed by Dr. Qudrat-e-Khuda and the Commission submitted its report in 1974 with a view to modernizing the education to meet the national and global needs that would eventually be transformed into the Golden Bengal as envisioned by the Father of the Nation. Unfortunately, the report was shelved by the subsequent regimes. After come back to power, the Awami League government under the dynamic leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina framed Education Policy, 2010 based on the Dr. Qudrat-e-Khuda Education Commission Report with massive reform of the age-old education system so that the nation could be blessed with a forward-looking, innovative and knowledge-based society. On this mournful day and in the year of birth centenary celebration of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, let's work unitedly to realize his vision for building a Sonar Bangla rising above from greed and not clinging to the centre of power.

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

## UGC observes National Mourning Day



A discussion meeting on the life and works of Bangabandhu marking the 45th Martyrdom Anniversary of Architect of great independence and Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and National Mourning Day-2020 was held on 15 August 2020.

Emeritus Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury, former Chairman, UGC delivered the Memorial speech on the occasion organized in virtual platform. UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah presided over the ceremony while UGC Members-Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain and Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir spoke on the occasion as Special Guests.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC

moderated the event while Md. Omar Faruque, President (Acting), UGC Officers' Association and Md. Anwar Hossain, President, UGC Karmachari Union spoke on the occasion.

Professor Azad Chowdhury, in his memorial speech, noted that Bangabandhu gave autonomy to the university for the expansion of higher education and the practice of free will in the country. Where Pakistan tried to close down the university by enacting black laws, Bangabandhu went completely opposite and paved the way for the cultivation of free will. Teachers' community was highly well-regarded to him, he added. He urged all concerned to work in materialization of Bangabandhu's dream in education sector rising above



from greed and not clinging to the centre of power. Bangabandhu was not only the leader of Bengalis, but also he was the undisputed leader of the whole world.

UGC Chairman, in his presidential speech, noted that revolutionary changes have

taken place in the economy, education and health sectors in the country under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. He urged all to work unitedly for establishing Sonar Bangla of Father of the Nation. He called upon all to take lessons from life and works of Bangabandhu.

Divisional heads, officers-employees of the Commission were present. Rich tribute was paid to Bangabandhu by placing floral wreath at the portrait of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Dhanmondi 32 and Mural of Bangabandhu set up in Commission Bhaban.

## UGC Member Professor Sazzad Hossain's book 'Adommo Bangladesh' launched



The launching ceremony of a book 'Adommo Bangladesh' (Indomitable Bangladesh) written by the renowned ICT Specialist and Member of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Professor Dr. Sazzad Hossain was held on 30 September 2020. Speaker of

the National Parliament Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury virtually participated in the programme as the Chief Guest.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah presided over the ceremony. Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni, MP, Minister for Post and

Telecommunications Division Mustafa Jabbar, State Minister for ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP, Bangladesh Public Service Commission Chairman Md. Sohorab Hossain and Bangladesh Satellite Company Ltd. Chairman Dr. Shahjahan Mahmud spoke on the occasion as Special Guests. National Professor Dr. Rafiqul Islam delivered speech as Chief Discussant while eminent literary personality Selina Hossain gave her speech as Special Discussant on the occasion. Besides, UGC Members-Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum and Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda delivered their speeches as Guests of Honor while UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher delivered the address of welcome.

Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, in her speech delivered in zoom platform, stressed the need for

innovation, research and technology in higher education in building Digital Bangladesh. She also called for utilization of science, ICT and innovation in implementation of the desired goals of indomitable Bangladesh.

She observed, 'we have to hold the issues related to higher education based on science-minded thought, innovation, research and technology'. She laid emphasis on utilization of science, ICT, research and innovation to move forward with the goal of an indomitable Bangladesh. Successful onward advancement and partial picture of wonderful development of Bangladesh under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina have been highlighted in the book, she said. The book also covers employment opportunities, development of skilled human resources, higher education and research to move Bangladesh forward.

The speaker also said, the foundation of indomitable Bangladesh was laid by the hand

of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman showed his dream of establishing Sonar Bangla through setting up a ground station at Betbunia in 1974. Based on this, Bangabandhu Satellite-1 has been launched into space under the bold leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. National unity and patriotism are key to overcoming any crisis. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman presented an independent country to the entire Bengali nation through 7 March speech, she added.

Thanking UGC Member Professor Sazzad Hossain for the book, Dr. Shirin Sharmin said, the book 'Adommo Bangladesh' focuses on various topics from the perspective of economic development along with the need for social and economic development in the aftermath of Covid-19, which is commendable.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni said, the book 'Adommo Bangladesh' by Professor

Sazzad Hossain will be an important book for the present and future generations, as various materials including artificial intelligence, robotics, big data have been easily presented in this book to face the challenges of the fourth industrial revolution (4IR).

The book contains 24 articles on Bangladesh's progress, technological advancement and future prospects. The book is dedicated to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on the occasion of her birthday.

It may be mentioned here that Professor Dr. Sazzad Hossain has also been serving Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited as its Director. He has been making outstanding contributions to science and ICT education. His book on 'Programming in C' for the students has already earned popularity. Apart from this, his book 'Adrissho Projukti' (Invisible Technology) written in lucid language on information technology has also gained wide readership.

## Professor Biswajit Chanda joins UGC as Member



Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda, founder Chairman, Department of Law and Land Administration, University of Rajshahi joined the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh as Full-time Member on 03 September 2020. The Government has appointed him for a four year term.

Biswajit Chanda joined the University of Rajshahi as a Lecturer in the Department of Law after completing his LLB

(Honours) and LLM from the same university. Prior to that he practised law in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Previously Professor Chanda served as a Member of Bangladesh Judicial Service Commission; Dean of the Faculty of Law (two consecutive terms), RU; Founding Director of Academic Development and the Centre of Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL) at Rajshahi University, a hub for the training

of teachers of all public and private universities in North Bengal; founding Chairman of the Department of Law & Land Administration, RU ; a Senator of National University and a Member of the Board of Directors at Bangladesh Judicial Administration Training Institute (JATI), Dhaka.

Biswajit Chanda holds a PhD in Law from the renowned School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS), London. The title of his PhD thesis is 'Family Law Reform in Bangladesh: The Need for a Culture-Specific Legal System'. Dr Chanda has widely taught in the areas of Family Law, Comparative Constitutional Law, Judicial Independence and Judicial Activism, Human Rights, International Humanitarian Law, Women Empowerment, Law of Contract, Research Methodology, and Legal Systems.

In London, as a Part-time Teacher or Guest Teacher, he has taught law at SOAS, LSE (London School of Economics &

Political Science), Queen Mary University of London, and in Berlin, at German Federal Foreign Academy.

Professor Chanda organised some international conferences and a number of seminars in London on human rights, trial of war crimes, women empowerment, gender justice, etc. in London as a Research Assistant at SOAS.

As the Dean of the Faculty of Law, he founded a new academic discipline, namely Department of Law and Land Administration, at the University of Rajshahi in 2015.

Professor Chanda has participated in a number of conferences, seminars, workshops and lectures at SOAS, University of Cambridge, LSE, Kings College London, Loughborough University in the UK, Aarhus University in Denmark, National Law University Delhi and National University of Juridical Sciences (NUJS) Kolkata in India, University of Dhaka, University

Grants Commission of Bangladesh, British Council in Dhaka and so forth as a resource person, paper presenter, keynote speaker, discussant or rapporteur.

Dr Chanda published articles and edited book at home and abroad (including Oxford University Press and SOAS). He edited a book jointly with Professor Werner Menski of SOAS Law School titled *Cancer of Extremism in Bangladesh: Proceedings of the European Human Rights Conference on Bangladesh - Extremism, Intolerance & Violence* which was published in 2005 by SOAS, London. It was launched at the House of Lords in London.

Professor Chanda has performed as a supervisor of his PhD and MPhil fellows in his department and at the Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS), University of Rajshahi. Several of these PhD theses have been published as books by his fellows.

## Professor Abu Taher joins UGC as Member



Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, Department of Management at

Chittagong University joined the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh as its Full-time Member on 03 September 2020. The government appointed him for a four year term. Before joining UGC, he had been serving in different positions as the Chairperson, Department of Management, University of Chittagong; Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, University of Chittagong; Treasurer (on deputation), Bangladesh Open University; and Pro-Vice Chancellor (in

Lien), Southeast University, Dhaka; and Chairman (Acting), Jibon Bima Corporation, Dhaka.

Professor Taher is also working as a Director, Board of Directors, Jibon Bima Corporation. He received higher education in Management at Chittagong University; Inha University (South Korea) and Texas A & M University (USA). He secured the first class first in Hons' (1982) and Masters (1983) examinations in Management.

The title of his Ph.D. dissertation was "State Intervention in

Industrial Relations" an important contribution to the colonial and post-colonial third world context. He completed research work at Inha University in South Korea under Jungseok Korean Scholarship. He received highly prestigious senior Fulbright Fellowship awarded by the United States International Agency for Post-Doctoral Program in USA.

Dr. Taher has been involved in higher education for more than 33 years. During his teaching career, he also worked in the College of Business Administration at Inha University as a Non-tenure Track Foreign Professor; and Centre for Change and Conflict Resolution (Texas); Korean Academy of Business Ethics (Seoul) as visiting faculty. His special field of interest is HRM, HRD, Conflict Management and Industrial Relations.

He authored and co-authored 10 books of Hons' and Master's Level. He has to his credit over

70 (seventy) research papers published in several refereed journals at home and abroad.

Apart from teaching, Professor Taher completed ten research projects funded by World Bank, International Labor Organization (ILO); access 2 Information; British Council; University Grants Commission; Commonwealth of Learning (COL); Social Science Research Council; Ministry of Planning; GoB as a HR Consultant/ Project Director / Research Fellow/ Sub-Project Manager/ Trainee Verifier. He also attended thirty International Conference and symposia hosted by distinguished institutions like AHRD (USA) USIS, ILO, AMDISA, EAHR (Texas), BEA, KABE (Seoul), AAOU, CEMCA, World Business Institute (Australia) as a participant/ paper presenter/ facilitator/ session chair/ keynote speaker.

As an active academic, Professor Taher has been involved in promoting and

organizing a few Private Universities as an Academic Advisor like Port City International University, Notre Dame University of Bangladesh etc. He has also been Editor and Chief Editor of two refereed journals and members of editorial board in many refereed journals at national and international levels. He has been teaching the HRM major courses at Chittagong University and some Private Universities for quite a long time. He widely lectured and provided consultancy services to different business organizations on the issues of HRM and Labor Laws.

He visited USA, Canada, UK, Singapore, France, South Korea, Hongkong, Malaysia, Thailand, China, Taiwan, Turkey, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Philippines, North Korea and SAARC Countries on academic and research purposes. Family is extremely important in Professor Taher's life. He is blessed with one daughter and two sons.

## UGC to take steps for global ranking : Professor Kazi Shahidullah

The first meeting of a 21-member supervisory committee formed for implementation of Strategic Plan for Higher Education in Bangladesh was held virtually on 07 September 2020. UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah presided over the meeting.

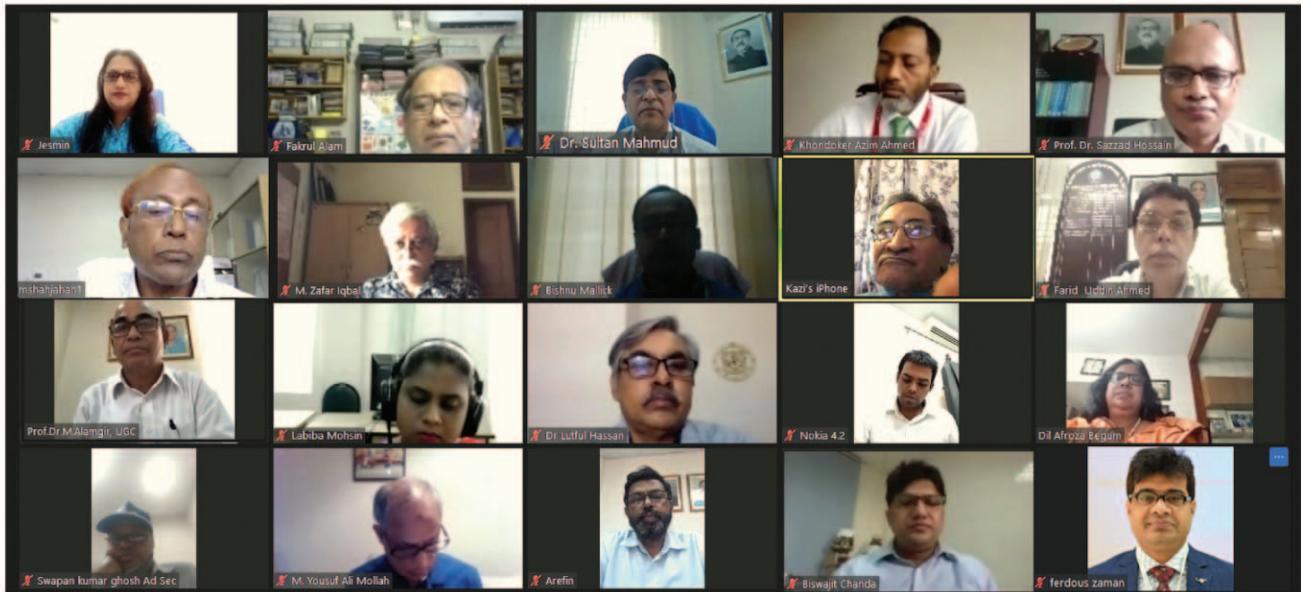
The UGC Chairman, in his presidential speech, noted the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh will take necessary measures to ensure quality higher education at the university level and to secure a strong position in the global

ranking. National Research Council, Central Research Laboratory and University Teacher Training Academy will be established in the country to this effect, he observed.

These initiatives are being emphasized in the SPHE 2018-2030 and these institutions can play an effective role in ensuring the quality of education and availing a strong position in the global ranking, he added. Necessary tasks are underway to determine the structure and nature of these institutions, he mentioned.

Professor Kazi Shahidullah further said Accreditation Council has already been established and National Qualification Framework has also been formulated. Various courses and lab accredited activities at university level have been undertaken, he said. He sought valuable suggestions and necessary cooperation from the concerned authorities and institutions.

Moderated by UGC Member Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, the meeting was attended by UGC Members



Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda, Professor Dr. Lutful Hasan, Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Professor Farid Uddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Professor Dr. Zafor Iqbal, Professor Dr. Md. Yusuf Ali Mollah, former Member, UGC Professor Dr. Fakrul Alam, Dr. Ferdous

Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC and representatives from different ministries and organizations.

Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director, SPQA Division, UGC delivered the address of welcome while Bishnu Mallick, Deputy Director, SPQA Division, UGC and Member Secretary of the committee highlighted different aspects of implementation progress of SPHE 2018-2030.

Professor Alamgir, in his speech, observed that SPHE needs to be closely monitored and supervised in order to implement it for 13 years. Under the strategic plan, the allocation of GDP in the higher education sector must be increased to 2% by 2022, he observed. In addition, the Strategic Plan has set a target of allocating 6 % of GDP to the country's higher education sector by 2030.

## UGC signs Annual Performance Agreement with public universities

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh signed Annual Performance Agreement (APA) with 15 public universities of the country for fiscal year 2020-2021 under the Performance Management Framework Policy of the government. The agreement signing ceremony for the current year and evaluation meeting of APA for 2019-2020 fiscal year was held on 13 September 2020 at UGC auditorium.

Annual Performance Agreement

between UGC and the concerned universities was held in the first phase in limited extent in compliance with health guidelines due to covid -19. APA has been introduced to enhance transparency and accountability in government activities, ensure proper utilization of resources and improve institutional capacity.

With Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC in the chair, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Chairman,

UGC participated virtually in the agreement signing ceremony as the Chief Guest. 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 spoke on the occasion as Special Guests. Secretary (Additional Charge) of the Commission and registrars of the concerned universities signed the agreements on behalf



of their respective organizations at UGC.

Addressing the programme in virtual platform, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah said University Grants Commission of Bangladesh has been working to ensure overall progress of higher education, ensure transparency, accountability and encourage outcome-based activities. As part of it, UGC has been signing APA with public universities of

the country.

UGC Chairman, in his speech, observed that registrars play their vital roles in university administration. Several public universities are working with acting registrars. The Vice-Chancellors of the universities should appoint permanent registrar quickly, as the registrars cooperate the Vice-Chancellors to run universities in accordance with

existing rules and regulations. A lot of things of a university depend on a skilled and hardworking registrar. He, to this end, called for capacity building of the registrar. Professor Shahidullah further said there is a lack of discipline in public universities at present. Maintaining institutional rules and proper implementation of existing regulations are highly needed to take the university forward. The activities of a registrar, in this regard, are to place accurate information to the Vice-Chancellor.

Registrars, focal points of APA from 15 public universities and high officials from UGC, among others, were present on the occasion. It may be mentioned here that UGC has been signing Annual Performance Agreement with public universities from 2016-17 fiscal year.

## Ensure good Governance at universities : UGC Chairman



University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh has signed Annual Performance Agreement (APA) with 15 public universities of the country in the second phase for fiscal year 2020-2021 under the Performance Management Framework Policy of the government. The agreement signing ceremony for the current year and evaluation meeting of APA for 2019-2020 fiscal year was held on 14 September 2020 at UGC auditorium.

APA has been introduced to enhance transparency and accountability in government

activities, ensure proper utilization of resources and improve institutional capacity.

With Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC in the chair, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Chairman, UGC virtually participated in the agreement signing ceremony as the Chief Guest. 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

spoke on the occasion as Special Guests. Secretary (Additional Charge) of the Commission and registrars of the concerned universities signed the agreements on behalf of their respective organizations at UGC.

Addressing the programme in virtual platform, UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah said discipline and quality administration play important role in higher education. Good governance must be established to take the higher education

forward. He said that proper utilization of resources has to be ensured. People's hard-earned money can never be wasted. Successful implementation of Annual Performance Agreement has to be ensured, he noted.

Registrars, focal points of APA from 14 public universities and high officials from UGC, among others, were present on the occasion. Since Fiscal Year 2016-2017 UGC has been signing Annual Performance Agreement with public universities.

## Zero tolerance policy to Fight irregularities : UGC Chairman

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh, in the third phase, signed Annual Performance Agreement (APA) with 16 public universities of the country for 2020-2021 fiscal years under the Performance Management Framework Policy of the government on 15 September 2020 at UGC auditorium. The APA has been introduced to bring transparency and accountability in government activities, ensure proper utilization of resources

and improve institutional capacity.

UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah was connected with the agreement signing ceremony virtually as the Chief Guest. In speech virtually delivered by him, UGC Chairman called upon the Vice-Chancellors and Registrars of public universities to work within the rules and regulations and said action will be taken if any kind of irregularities is detected.

"The UGC's job is to ensure that the laws and regulations of the university are properly followed. There is no chance of going outside the law. UGC will adopt 'zero tolerance' policy against any kind of irregularities," he said.

Speaking on the virtual platform, he said that there are various pressures on university authorities. "If someone bows down amid pressure and breaks the law or commits irregularities, they will not be exempted. Legal action will be taken against them." He requested the Vice-Chancellors and Registrars to perform their duties in accordance with the existing laws and regulations in various matters including recruitment, promotion and finance. The UGC Chairman also said UGC will later conduct audits after Covid-19 pandemic is over at public universities if necessary.

The UGC chairman said, "At the end of your term, you must stay aware of various issues including recruitment." You will



try to improve the administrative and academic environment based on the rules. In order to meet the development goals of the government and ensure quality education for sustainable development, it is necessary to abide by the laws and regulations, he said.

Speakers at the meeting called upon the universities to ensure quality education so that five to six universities could be top-ranked globally in the golden jubilee of the country's independence.

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 spoke on the occasion as Special Guests. Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC presided over the meeting and signed the agreements on behalf on UGC.

## UGC signs APA with Ministry of Education



Annual Performance Agreement (APA) for 2020-2021 fiscal year

was signed between Secondary and Higher Education Division,

Ministry of Education (MoE) and University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh at Ministry of Education on 30 July 2020.

Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni, MP was present at the agreement signing ceremony as the Chief Guest while Deputy Education Minister Mohibul Hassan Chowdhury, MP as Special Guest. Md. Mahbub Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, MoE presided over it. Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC signed the agreement on behalf of UGC.

## UGC, Janata Bank sign MoU for house building loan

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and Janata Bank Limited, UGC Bhaban Branch on 16 August 2020 under the government's house building loan policy.

Teachers, officers and employees of UGC will get the house building loan under this

agreement. They will get the house building loan from Tk 20 lakh upto Tk. 75 lakh at a five percent simple interest. The government will pay remaining four percent interest for a period of twenty years.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge) of UGC and Md. Sazzad Hossain, Manager, Janata Bank Ltd, UGC Bhaban Branch signed the agreement at

UGC on behalf of their respective organizations.

Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Member, UGC was present as Chief Guest while Md. Ismail Hossain, Deputy Managing Director, Janata bank Ltd was present on the occasion as Special Guest.

Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director, Strategic Planning and



Quality Assurance Division, Dr. Shamsul Arefin, Director, Public Relations and Right to Information Division, Md. Kamal Hossain, Director, Public University Management Division, Dr. Md. Fakhru Islam, Director, Private University Division, Md. Omar Faruque, Director (Current Charge), Research Support and Publication Division, Md. Shah Alam, Director (Additional Charge), Finance and Accounts Division, UGC, Md. Murshedul Kabir, General Manager and Md. Ruhul Kabir, Assistant General Manager, Janata Bank Ltd., among others, were present during the time.

While speaking as the Chief

Guest Professor Alamgir said, this loan agreement will be milestone for University Grants Commission of Bangladesh. He noted that every service holder has a dream of a house or flat but a huge amount of money is needed for implementation of this fundamental demand. It is not possible to meet up it through salary. Direct government assistance is important for this. He extended thanks to the Bangladesh government for providing loan on easy terms to the public servants adding the honest service holders in the public sector will be encouraged to work through this initiative. Through the loan facilities, UGC officials and

employees will be able to fulfill their dreams of buying house / flat. Their long cherished dream will be materialized, he noted.

Md. Ismail Hossain, Deputy Managing Director, Janata bank Ltd said, a bridge will be created between UGC and Janata Bank through this loan agreement. He said that the loan would be provided as per the official rules and there would be no confidential charges of any kind. He said. this state-owned scheduled bank is sincerely committed to providing services and advice.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman said, UGC is giving hundred percent guarantee in loan payment. Nobody here will be loan defaulter. He urged Janata Bank Ltd. Authority to smoothly disburse loan to the officers and employees of UGC as per rules.

Representatives from UGC Officers' Association and Karmachari Union and Officials from UGC and Janata Bank Ltd. were present at the agreement signing ceremony.

## New UGC Members Prof. Biswajit Chanda, Prof. Abu Taher pay tribute to Bangabandhu



Two newly-appointed Members of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh- Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr Md. Abu Taher paid tribute to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreath at his portrait at 32 No, Dhanmondi in the capital on 06 September 2020.

During the time, Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional



## UGC Members Prof. Biswajit Chanda, Prof. Abu Taher pay homage to Bangabandhu at Tungipara



The two newly appointed UGC Members- Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher paid homage at the mausoleum of Bangabandhu at Tungipara in Gopalganj.

They paid tributes to the great architect of the independence and Founder of UGC by placing wreaths at the altar of mausoleum of Bangabandhu on 25 September 2020. During the time, a special munajat was

Charge), UGC, Md. Omar Faruque, President (Acting) and Dr. Md. Mohibul Hasan, General Secretary, UGC Officers Association and President and General Secretary of Karmachari Union were present.

It may be mentioned here that the Ministry of Education, on 03 September 2020, issued a circular appointing Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda, Chairperson of Department of Law and Land Administration, University of Rajshahi and Professor Dr. Md. Abu Taher, Department of Management, University of Chittagong, as the Full-time member of the UGC. On that day, they submitted their joining letters to the UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah. The new members will serve the Commission for the next four years.

offered seeking salvation of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and his family members, who were brutally killed on 15 August. The Members expressed their firm commitment in building Sonar Bangla of Bangabandhu and implementing his dream in higher education.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), Dr. Shamsul Arefin, Director, Public Relations and Right to Information Division, Md. Kamal Hossain, Director, Public University Management Division, Md. Omar Faruque, Director (Current Charge), Research Support and Publication Division were present during the time.

## Prof. Sazzad Hossain, convenor of Bangabandhu Birth Centenary Celebration Committee pays homage



The Bangabandhu Birth Centenary Celebration Committee of UGC led by its Member and Convenor of the committee paid tribute to Father of

the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Tungipara in Gopalganj on 26 September 2020. A special munajat was also offered seeking eternal peace of

the departed souls of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members, who were brutally killed on August 15, 1975.

UGC Members Professor Biswajit Chanda and Professor Md Abu Taher, Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (additional charge), Dr. Shamsul Arefin, Director, PRRI Division, Md Kamal Hossain, Director, Public University Management Division, Md Omar Faruque, Director (current charge), Research Support and Publication Division and Bishnu Mallick, Member Secretary, birth centenary celebration committee, UGC were present.

## UGC Member Prof. Muhammed Alamgir inaugurates tree plantation programme at UGC residential area



Inauguration of tree plantation programme was held at UGC residential area on 17 August 2020. The programme was undertaken marking the birth centenary celebration of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir, Member, UGC formally inaugurated the programme as the Chief Guest. He planted fruit, forest and medicinal saplings as the Chief Guest at the event.

A short programme was organized due to the Corona epidemic in compliance with health guidelines due to Covid -19. Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC was present on the occasion as Special Guest. Besides, Zafor Ahmed Jahanger, Joint Secretary, UGC and members of UGC Residential Welfare Committee, among others, were present on the occasion.

## UGC Member Prof. Muhammed Alamgir launches ambulance service for UGC



Ambulance service has been launched for officers and employees of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh. From now on, the officials working at UGC will be able to avail the ambulance service for emergency treatment. Ambulance service

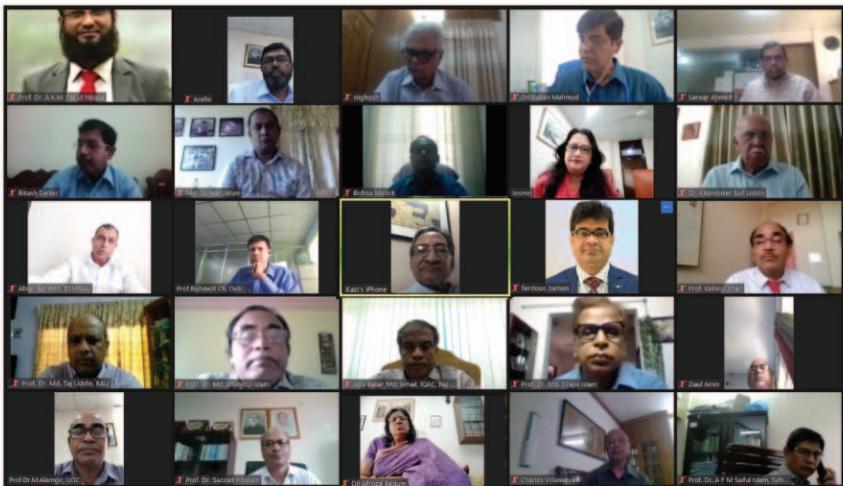
could be taken on the advice by Medical officer of UGC Medical Centre.

UGC Member Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir officially inaugurated the ambulance. During the time, Professor Dr. Biswajit Chanda, Member, UGC,

Professor Dr. Abu Taher, Member, UGC and Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC, Divisional Heads, Medical Officer, Nurse and other officers-employees of the Commission were present.

In his inaugural address, Professor Alamgir said this important vehicle was added to the transport pool of UGC for the first time. A draft guideline has already been formulated on access and use of ambulance services. At the same time, he urged the officers and employees of UGC to take special care of their health. In addition, he advised everyone to perform official activities by maintaining hygiene rules during corona time.

## IQAC to form post covid-19 online education policy : UGC Chairman



A virtual discussion meeting on "The role, challenges and way-out of IQAC (Institutional Quality Assurance Cell) during Covid-19 pandemic" was held on 03 September 2020. UGC Chairman Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah attended the

meeting virtually as the Chief Guest.

With UGC Member Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir in the chair, the meeting was, among others, attended by UGC Members- Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum,

Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, UGC Secretary (Additional Charge) Dr. Ferdous Zaman and divisional heads of the commission. Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director, SPQA Division, UGC delivered the address of welcome.

He said the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) will have to form the post covid-19 policy for online education so that the universities can ensure proper evaluation and quality.

A total of 141 IQAC directors, representing both public and private universities of the country took part in the meeting. The UGC Chairman called upon the university teachers to ensure quality of online education and said the respective university

authorities need to provide solutions to the issues that the students are facing regarding internet facility and device availability.

The UGC Chairman advised the universities concerned to continue online classes and said that even if the educational institutions reopen following the introduction of a covid-19 vaccine, the importance of online education will not diminish in any way. He called upon the teachers' community to take forward online education activities using existing resources. He said that online

education activities will have to be continued in the post-covid-19 era.

IQAC will be responsible for formulating a policy on online education to ensure its quality, he said. He advised those associated with the country's higher education to become accustomed with online education. He also urged the teachers, students and parents to keep a positive attitude during the ongoing crisis

Professor Kazi Shahidullah also praised the strong role of the media in ensuring quality higher education in the country adding

that the UGC is working to ensure Teletalk internet services to the students at a nominal cost.

Professor Alamgir, in his presidential speech observed that the students did not face any major adversity for taking effective measures at the beginning of the corona. The role of IQACs is very important to this end, he noted.

At the meeting, IQAC Directors of the private and public universities assured that they are committed to ensuring quality and standard education despite existing challenges of online education in universities.

## UGC Member Professor Sazzad Hossain visits Venom Research Centre, CMC



Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Member, UGC visited Venom Research Centre of Chittagong Medical College (CMC) on 06 August 2020. During the time, Professor Dr. Md. Shamim Hasan, Principal of Chittagong Medical College (CMC) and Professor Dr. Selim Mohammad Jahangir, Department of Pharmacology, CMC welcomed him. The center is a scientific project under the

Non-Communicable Disease Control Program of the Department of Health, the Ministry of Health aiming at developing antivenom against poison of venomous snakes in Bangladesh which has been running since 2018.

UGC Member Professor Sazzad Hossain went round entire centre including its laboratory, serpentarium, quarantine room and rat breeding room.

Professor Dr. Aniruddha Ghosh, Professor Dr. Md. Abdus Sattar and Professor Dr. Abdullah Abu Sayed- the researchers of the centre, explained the process of making antivenom and other scientific research activities.

After the visit, the UGC Member highly lauded the activities of the centre and thanked the Department of Health for its non-communicable disease control programme and Chittagong Medical College for taking the initiative.

Professor Sazzad Hossain emphasized the need for advanced research in areas of medicine and education for establishing Bangabandhu's Sonar Bangla. He gave various suggestions for further improvement of the center. During the visit, Professor Dr. Subhash Majumder and Dr. Mejbahuddin Ahmed were present.

## UGC Member Professor Sazzad Hossain visits CVASU



Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, Member, UGC visited Covid-19 Testing Lab and online education activities of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (CVASU) on 28 July 2020.

During the time, he also visited the second campus of CVASU in Hathazari and the activities of the research projects. He applauded the various steps undertaken by CVASU for tackling Covid-19 and stressed

the need for undertaking new projects for advanced research in this regard.

Dr. Sazzad Hossain, in his speech, noted that the people of Chittagong region have been benefited from the activities of CVASU to tackle Covid-19. He thanked the university administration for this. He also said that the activities of CVASU are encouraging.

Professor Dr. Gautam Buddha Das, Vice-Chancellor, CVASU, Achinta Kumar Chakrabarti and Chief Engineer, CVASU and Engineer Koushik Nandi, Project Director of Establishment of Second Campus of CVASU were present.

## UGC Member Prof. Sazzad Hossain calls for keeping online education activities



A two-day long training programme on Virtual Office Management and Techniques was held on 20 July 2020. Training Section of IMCT Division, UGC organized the training programme. UGC

Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain was present in the inaugural and closing ceremony of the programme as the Chief Guest.

Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain, in his speech, called

upon the country's university authorities and UGC to take activities forward with the help of technology due to the current corona situation. He made the observation while speaking as the Chief Guest at a training programme organized by IMCT Division, UGC on 20 July 2020.

He observed that acquiring skills, knowledge and building capacity with regard to the latest technology are highly needed for all concerned with higher education for corona pandemic. He advised the teachers-students and officials of higher education institutions to make maximum use of modern technology.

Professor Sazzad Hossain further said, we have to give

more importance in use of frontier technology to face the challenges of fourth industrial revolution in reality of covid-19. There is no alternative to technological knowledge marking the birth centenary celebration of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh

Mujibur Rahman and building Digital Bangladesh.

Ten officers from UGC participated in the training programme. Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge) and Mohammad Monirullah, Deputy Director, IMCT Division, UGC were present.

Dr. Ferdous Zaman, in his speech, said that use of modern technology in producing skilled manpower is imperative in today's world. He emphasized on performing official work through e-filling.

## Training Programme on office management held at UGC



A two-day long training programme on Virtual Office Management and Techniques was held on 05-06 August 2020. Training Section of IMCT Division, UGC organized the training programme. UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Sazzad Hossain was present in the inaugural and closing ceremony of the programme as the Chief Guest.

Professor Dr. Sazzad Hossain observed that universities have to play role in building Sonar Bangla as dreamt by Bangabandhu. The more research, innovation and technological development will be achieved in the country, the more we will move forward.

He made the observation as the Chief Guest at a training programme organized by Training section of IMCT

Division, UGC on 05 August 2020 at UGC. He further said that we have been able to tackle cyclone, Covid-19 epidemic and floods one after another under the leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. We have to play responsible role from respective positions to this end, he said.

Appreciating the hard work of the UGC officials and employees, he said that there is no alternative to acquiring skills in modern technology. He emphasized on further skills development through such necessary training.

Ten officers of UGC participated in the training programme. Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Secretary (Additional Charge), UGC was present on the occasion as Special Guests Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan, Additional Director, IMCT Division and Mohammad Monirullah, Deputy Director, Training Section, IMCT, UGC were also present on the occasion.

## Activities of Private University Division

- A three-member committee headed by Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC visited the permanent campus of Metropolitan University, Sylhet on 19-20 September 2020.

- A four-member committee consisting one subject expert and headed by Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC visited the laboratory facilities for BSc in EEE program of Dhaka

International University on 13 September 2020.

- A four-member committee headed by Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC visited the Cox's Bazar

International University on 13 September 2020 to investigate on the matter of deciding the founder of the University.

- A four-member committee headed by Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC visited the proposed new

address of Ahsania Mission University of Science and Technology on 24 August 2020.

## UGC Chairman condoles death of UGC's Ex-Deputy Director Abdus Salam



Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh expressed condolence at the death of former Deputy Director of the Commission Md. Abdus Salam. He prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and extended deep sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Md. Abdus Salam passed away (Innalillahi wa inna ilaihi rajiun)

due to cardiac attack at a local hospital of Dhaka on 21 September. He died at the age of 80. He left behind brothers and sisters, relatives, colleagues and a host of well wishers to mourn his death. He was unmarried in personal life. He was buried at family graveyard in Bancharampur of Brahmanbaria district.

## UGC calls for proper use of employment rules, research funds in public universities

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh has sent letters to the Vice-Chancellors of 45 public universities of the country to ensure proper implementation and observance of the rules / regulations of the public universities, proper use of funds allocated for research and to prepare lists of financially indigent students for purchase of devices. These requests were made in three separate letters written to the Vice-Chancellors of the public university. The letters signed by Md. Kamal Hossain, Director, Public University Management Division, UGC have been sent to the vice chancellors of the university.

It is the duty of a teacher-officer or employee working in a public university to follow and abide by the employment rules /



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বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় মন্ত্রী কমিশন

regulations of his / her university. According to the employment rules / regulations, no teacher, officer or employee working in the university can be directly or indirectly involved in any other government or non-government organization or profitable organization or personally run any business organization without the permission of the appropriate authority. But some of the teachers, officials and

employees of some public universities are working in various government and non-government organizations flouting the employment rules / regulations without the prior approval of the authorities, while some of them are also running private businesses, which have come to the notice of the commission. Such activities are clear violation of employment rules. In the overall interest of the university, the Vice-Chancellors were requested to ensure the proper implementation, follow-up and compliance of the rules / regulations of the respective universities.

The government allocates funds to the country's public universities for its management and development activities every financial year. The Commission allocates funds to this sector with

emphasis on research activities. The concerned authorities of the university invite for research projects with the help of allocated funds and provide financial grants in favour of the finally approved projects at the end of examination of the research projects received. It is mentionable that although there is a rule to spend the money of the research sector on research activities, some universities have violated this rule which, has been observed by the

Commission. All funds allocated to the research sector are requested to ensure provision for spending on selected research project activities only.

Students and their parents are facing severe losses as public universities like other educational institutions in the country, have been closed for a long time to protect students from corona virus infection. A meeting was virtually held between UGC and Vice Chancellors on 25 June 2020 in

order to facilitate the students in this unfortunate situation in a bid to start online education activities in public universities. A letter has been sent to the Education Minister from the Commission to provide free data to the students with high speed internet facility and to ensure the availability of smart phones under soft loans / grants in order to ensure that all students can participate in online education activities based on the opinion of the Vice-Chancellors.

## University students to get Teletalk internet at nominal cost

The government mobile operator-Teletalk Bangladesh Limited will provide internet bandwidth to the students of country's public and private universities at nominal price to keep the online education activities ongoing.

The learners of 42 public and 68 private universities which are using the Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) platform run by UGC will get these facilities.

The students will be able to participate in the online classes through Zoom application. For this reason, the students will be



under teletalk network. The students will get these facilities in exchange of 100 taka recharge per month. The recharged money will be deposited to the original accounts of the students. This money will be spent for voice call and data. Unused money will be added to the next recharge. However, the learners will not be

able to enjoy these facilities, if they recharge below 100 taka and do not have minimum data in SIM.

Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) has sent letter to all mobile operators including Teletalk Bangladesh Limited on 21 July 2020 so that students could use online education resource free of cost. In response to BdREN's call, teletalk issued a consent letter to BdREN on August 28, 2020. In the letter, teletalk informed that teletalk considers itself lucky to be involved in the initiative of BdREN in this national crisis.



**Stay Safe**



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