



## From the Desk of the Editor

There has been a paradigm shift in the expansion of higher education in Bangladesh during the last ten years of the present Government under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Bangladesh is currently passing through a phenomenon known as demographic dividend and in order to reap the benefits of this once in a life time opportunity the present Government underscored the genuine need of encouraging education, particularly in science and technology and established eight Public Universities of Science and Technology in Bangladesh. It was expected that these universities would focus on Science and Technology-based education only. But unfortunately a number of Vice Chancellors have a tendency to deviate from the fundamental issue of Science and Technology education which the Government rightfully addressed and advised the UGC of Bangladesh to extend all possible cooperation in implementing the policy effectively. The thoughtless departure from the mission and vision of establishing Science & Technology universities by the Government must henceforth be stopped. We must realize the importance of education in science and technology to achieve SDG and MDG and act accordingly. The sooner we realize this the better for the country and thus fulfilling the dream of the Father of the Nation to create Sonar Bangla.

**Prof. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah**  
Member, UGC

## UGC Gold Medals Awarding ceremony



A ceremony to award 'UGC Gold Medal' to eminent researchers and authors was organized at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel on 11 September 2018. Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid, Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, in-charge of the MoE was present as Special Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over it. Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC delivered the address of welcome on the occasion. Thirty-five researchers and authors were awarded the Gold Medals for their outstanding contributions in research and publications in the year 2016 and 2017. Each awardee was given a certificate and a gold medal. A cash award of Tk. 50,000 for writing a book and Tk 30,000 for research publication was also given as encouragement.

The Hon'ble President congratulated the 35 awardees for their outstanding contributions to research publications and writing books. The awards will undoubtedly inspire the teachers and young researchers in their endeavor to broaden the horizon of knowledge and contribute to our national development, he observed.

The Hon'ble President highlighted the role of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh in offering and sustaining quality education and research by the universities for socio-economic development of the country and hoped that teachers will be more accountable and work hard with dedication and commitment.

The Hon'ble President Mr. Abdul Hamid lauded the contribution of Private Sector in the expansion of country's higher studies. He, however, said, 'No business in the name of education will be accepted at all'. Referring to the recent media reports on irregularities in some private universities, the Hon'ble President said that imparting quality teaching by many universities is being hindered due to lack of proper environment, infrastructural opportunities and shortages of efficient teachers.



The Hon'ble President urged the teaching community to offer quality of education and engaged in cutting-edge research at the university level, because education and research is a key driving force for socio-economic development of the country. 'The teachers and researchers will open a new horizon of knowledge through higher education and research and imbued with the utmost responsibilities for the country and nation'- he said.

Noting that the university is not only the place of studies, but also a place of freethinking, he told the teachers and researchers and urged them to inspire the students in various extra-curricular activities. The President advised the students and teachers to contribute to nation building with the spirit of 1971 Liberation War.

Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid, Vice-Chancellor, National University; Professor Dr. Iftekhar Uddin Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong University and Arpita Shams Mizan, Lecturer, Department of Law, Dhaka University expressed their feelings on behalf of the awardees.

University Grants Commission introduced the UGC Award (now UGC Gold Medal) in 1980 to encourage fundamental research and writing books by university teachers.

National Professors, former Chairmen of UGC, Members of UGC, and former Members of UGC, Vice-Chancellors from public and private universities, educationists, Secretary of UGC and officials from President's office and UGC, among others, were present.

### Gold Medal Awarding ceremony

The Prime Minister Gold Medal Awarding ceremony organized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) was held at the Shapla Hall of the Prime Minister's Office on 25 July 2018. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina graced the event as the Chief Guest. A total of 163 students, who secured the highest marks or CGPA in their respective Faculties at different universities of the



country in 2017, were selected by the UGC for the Prime Minister Gold Medal. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Education, was present as the Special Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over it. Secretary of Secondary and Higher Education Division of the Ministry of Education Mr. Md. Sohorab Hossain was present as Guest of Honor. Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC delivered the address of welcome on the occasion. Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister Mr. Md. Nojibur Rahman was present on the occasion.



The Hon'ble Prime Minister, in her speech, stressed on inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all. She noted that only educated manpower, particularly in science and technology, can promote and sustain Bangladesh's graduation to a developing country as well as establish a hunger and poverty free Bangladesh. The Premier mentioned that investment in the education sector is the most effective for the development of the country.

The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that although the public universities are autonomous almost entire budget to run the institutions comes from the government exchequer. "Whatever development is needed for the universities it is actively considered without any delay and necessary fund is provided by the government so that the country never steps backward," she added. The Hon'ble Prime Minister said that spending money for education means building the future generation which will help materialize the dream of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman for establishing 'Sonar Bangla'.

Stressing the need for establishing Higher Education Commission (HEC) for improving standard of higher education, she said the commission is being constituted as it is not possible for the UGC alone to conduct both academic and administrative activities of the universities. "The infrastructure and development of the commission will be made in line with the directives of the Father of the Nation," she said. Sheikh Hasina said the "Accreditation Council Act" has been passed in Parliament to ensure quality of education at the universities.

Ishrat Jahan Priya of the Finance Department of Jagannath University and Sajan Dhar of Business Administration Department of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) of Sylhet, who were awarded the gold medals, also spoke at the function to express their feelings for being awarded the gold medals.

Ministers, Advisers to the Prime Minister, National Professors, former UGC Chairmen, Secretaries of different Ministries, UGC Members, Vice-Chancellors from public and private universities, educationists, high officials from Prime Minister's Office and UGC and parents and guardians of the awardees were, among others, present on the occasion.

## Reception to National Professors



University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh accorded grand reception to three newly-appointed National Professors for their enviable achievements and contribution in many areas of human activities. They are Professor Emeritus Dr. Rafiqul Islam, Professor Emeritus Dr. Anisuzzaman and Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury. UGC organized the programme at its auditorium on 09 July 2018 to honour the much acclaimed educationists for the first time.

Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister for Education graced the reception ceremony as the

Chief Guest. Mr. Md. Sohorab Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education was present as Special Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over the ceremony. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC delivered the address of welcome on the occasion.

Terming National Professors as torch-bearers of the knowledge, the Education Minister said that the nation and country has been enlightened by their knowledge, skills and wisdom. He observed that the National Professor represents an epitome of dignity, conscience, patriotism, devotion and the very essence of human values. The Minister thanked the UGC for organizing such a programme to accord the reception to the renowned educationists.

He said that university is the storehouse of knowledge where new knowledge will be created and disseminated among the stakeholders. Laying emphasis on education to take the country ahead, the Minister said the budgetary allocation has been increased in research in excellence of higher education and creation of new knowledge.

The Chairman of UGC, in his presidential speech, observed that these eminent educationists have given invaluable guidance to us to overcome various crisis confronted by the country. The people will follow footprints of these enlightened educationists.

The Special Guest Mr. Sohorab Hossain said, the government has recognized the deserving people for this position. The three Professors have taught us the virtues of honesty, sincerity and patriotism throughout their lives- he noted.

While speaking on the occasion, newly appointed National Professors expressed their feelings and remembered their teachers and students, who supported them throughout their journey.

Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury said, the satisfaction he got from working for the country, he won't have had sense of accomplishment from anywhere in the world.

Professor Anisuzzaman said that the country has given him much more than he gave to the country.

Professor Rafiqul Islam said, it is because of the love and support of his teachers and students he has come so far.

It may be mentioned here that earlier on 19 June 2018, the government appointed the noted educationists as National Professors for a five year term.

Professors Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Dr. Md. Akhter Hossain, Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali; Members, UGC; Dr. Shahla

Khatun, National Professor; Professor Nazrul Islam, ex-Chairman, UGC; Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid, Vice-Chancellor, National University; Professor Dr. Mijanur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor, Jagannath University and a number of Vice-Chancellors from different public and private universities, educationalists, members of the civil society, high officials from Ministry of Education and UGC, were present on the occasion.

### Memorial Lecture on Bangabandhu



University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh organized a Memorial Lecture on the life and works of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on 16 August 2018 to mark the National Mourning Day. Professor Shamsuzzaman Khan, Director General of Bangla Academy was the Memorial Speaker. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over the function. UGC Secretary Dr. Md. Khaled delivered the welcome address.

Professor Shamsuzzaman said Bangabandhu had a towering personality who galvanized the entire Nation to fight for the emancipation of the people of the then East Pakistan from the clutches of Pakistani Military Junta. Professor Shamsuzzaman narrated at length the struggle and sufferings of Bangabandhu and the events of historical importances that culminated the declaration of Independence of Bangladesh on 26 March 1971. The Honorable speaker urged the young generation to take lesson from the life and works of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The Chairman of UGC observed that Bangabandhu was assassinated and 17 others of his family were killed in a planned conspiracy in 1975. He became Father of the Nation from a humble political worker and urged all to work together to build Bangabandhu's Sonar Bangla.

Professors Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah and Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Members, UGC, Divisional Heads and other officials of UGC were present on the occasion.

### Relevance of the National Mourning Day and Political Economy of Bangladesh



The Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI) organized a discussion meeting entitled Relevance of the National Mourning Day and Political Economy of Bangladesh (1952 to 2041) at the Federation's building in the city's Motijheel on 28 August 2018. Commerce Minister Mr. Tofail Ahmed attended the program as the Chief Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC; Dr. Atiur Rahman, former Governor, Bangladesh Bank; Mr. Abdul Hannan, former Ambassador; Kazi Akram Uddin Ahmed and Mir Nasir Hossain, former FBCCI Presidents spoke at the program. FBCCI President Mr. Md. Shafiu Islam Mohiuddin presided over the meeting.

Speaking on the occasion as the Chief Guest, the Commerce Minister said Bangladesh was a model of poorest countries during Independence, but now it is a model of development. He said 90 per cent of the country's population is now under electricity coverage as electricity production has reached around 18,353 MW. He also mentioned that now Bangladesh has over 700 export products while it was only 25 in 1972.

Speaking at the programme, Dr. Atiur Rahman said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman dreamt of a country that is now being built under the able leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The size of the country's economy was only US\$8.0 billion in 1972, which reached around \$280 billion recently, he said.

The Chairman of UGC said Bangladesh has risen from the ruins and there are so many things in the country now to be proud of. He said 3.7 million students are studying at universities currently while many of the European countries don't even have such a big population. Comparing the Bangladesh's economy with Pakistan, Professor Mannan said the country's export market is now bigger than Pakistan as it is now \$33 billion, compared to Pakistan's \$17 billion.

## Uniform Guidelines for recruitment and promotion of university teachers



As per direction from the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina a uniform guidelines for recruitment, promotion and upgradation of university teachers has been prepared by UGC with active support from the Federation of University Teachers' association. Prior to that a six-member committee with Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member of UGC as its Convener was formed for this purpose. The prepared guidelines was formally submitted to the Ministry of Education with a request that necessary steps be taken for publication of this Guideline as a Gazette Notification by the Government.

The Ministry of Education invited the Vice-Chancellors of public universities of the country on 12 September 2018 for an open discussion on the draft Uniform Guidelines. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, the Hon'ble Minister in-charge of MoE graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, while Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC was present as Special Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member, UGC moderated the discussion. Mr. Abdullah Al Hasan Chowdhury, Additional Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, MoE presided over the meeting.

The Hon'ble Minister stressed the need for uniform guidelines for recruitment, promotion and upgradation of university teachers and said that the Guideline is essential to maintain transparency and objectivity and avoid nepotism and discrimination in selecting teachers at the universities. He also said that recruitment of qualified teachers at tertiary level is very important for quality education and research at higher education institutions.

While speaking at the event, Chairman of UGC observed that the socio-economic development of a country depends on quality education. Discrepancy is prevalent among the teachers and students as there is no uniform guidelines for teachers'

recruitment at university level, he noted. A good number of Vice-Chancellors took part in the deliberations and addressed different aspects included in the Guidelines. They stressed the need for immediate implementation of the guideline with necessary corrections.

Professors Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Members, UGC; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and high officials from Ministry of Education and UGC were present on the occasion.

## Sustainability of UDL



University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh held a knowledge sharing meeting on 06 September 2018 with the Vice-Chancellors of Public Universities of Bangladesh on sustainability of UGC Digital Library (UDL). Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC graced the function as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member of UGC was in the Chair, while Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member, UGC, spoke on the occasion as Special Guest. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC delivered the address of welcome on the occasion. A number of Vice-Chancellors spoke at the meeting. Professor Mannan highlighted the importance of library and, in particular, digital library in promoting higher education and research in Bangladesh. Dr. Mollah said that the Digital Library project was undertaken to keep pace with the globalized world. Professor Akhtar Hossain said that the objectives of Digital Library are to enhance the capacity building of the librarians, researchers, students and faculty members. He urged the librarians to work pro-actively on library management.

At present, 90 organizations including 86 universities of the country are subscribing over 34,000 e-resources through UGC Digital Library, he added.

Vice-Chancellors, Pro-Vice-Chancellors and Librarians from public universities of the country participated in the meeting. High officials from UGC were present at the meeting.

## Wrap-up meeting to finalize ADP project at UGC



A wrap-up meeting to finalize the Asian Development Bank (ADB) project on Computer Science and Engineering in four universities of Bangladesh was held at UGC on 20 September 2018. The universities were University of Dhaka, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Jessore University of Science and Technology and East West University. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman of UGC presided over the meeting. The Chairman welcomed the delegates and hoped that the proposed project will play a significant role for country's human resource development in IT sector.

Mr. Erik A Bloom, Senior Social Sector Specialist of Human and Social Development Division in South Asia Department of ADB was leading a delegate from ADB. He expressed his optimism that by December the DPP will be finalized and the project will be approved by June 2019. Mr. Bloom also mentioned that ADB wants to initiate the project by July, 2019 and UGC will be the implementing authority of the US\$100 million project.

Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member, UGC; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, Khandker Hamidur Rahman, Director, IMCT Division; Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Director, Private University Division and high officials of UGC were also present in the meeting to assist the Chairman.

## Next generation higher education project proposed by WB

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh organized a day-long workshop on Higher Education Acceleration and Transformation (HEAT) project to be implemented after successful completion of Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) at UGC auditorium on 22 September 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC graced the workshop as the Chief Guest. The Vice-Chancellors of both Public and Private universities were invited to attend the workshop.



Chaired by UGC Member Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, the program was also addressed, among others, by Dr. Mokhlesur Rahman, Senior Operations Officer and Dr. Venkatesh Sundararaman, Lead Economist, World Bank. A number of Vice-Chancellors took part in the discussion.

Professor Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Member, UGC; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary of UGC; Dr. Shiro Nakata, Senior Education Economist, WB; a number of female students, employers, educationists, high-officials from different ministries were also present.

## A Cost-effective Method for Early Detection of Cancer



A team of researchers under the supervision by Dr. Yasmeen Haque, Professor, Department of Physics, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST) has developed a cost-effective method for early detection of cancer in human body by using the principle of Non-linear Optics. The research work was carried out with research grants from Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) under University-Industry collaboration (W-4).

A press conference was arranged by HEQEP at the auditorium of International Mother Language Institute on 05 September 2018 to announce the invention to journalists. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP, Hon'ble Minister in-charge of MoE briefed the journalists. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman;

Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah and Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Members, UGC; Professor Farid Uddin Ahmed, Vice-Chancellor, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology(SUST); Dr. Gauranga Chandra Mohanta ndc, Project Director, HEQEP and Dr. Mokhlesur Rahman, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank spoke at the conference.

Dr. Yasmeen Haque presented her work and explained the innovation to the august audience present at the press conference and responded to the queries from the audience. Senior officials, high officials from MoE, UGC and HEQEP were present on the occasion.

The Hn'ble Education Minister said that the government under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Shaikh Hasina initiated the HEQEP in 2009 to improve the quality of teaching-learning, establish infrastructure for cutting-edge research, and ensure connectivity among higher education institutions with financial help from the World Bank. The Chairman of UGC Professor Abdul Mannan said cancer detection innovations will be a milestone for the country.

## Workshop on National Qualification Framework



Quality Assurance Unit (QAU), University Grants Commission of Bangladesh organized a day-long workshop on National Qualification Framework (NQF), Dhaka Region at UGC auditorium on 20 September 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC graced the workshop as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member, UGC was Special Guest. Professor Dr. Sanjoy Kumar Adhikary, Head of Quality Assurance Unit presided over the workshop. Mr. Ajit Kumar Debnath, Acting Project Director (Joint Secretary), Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) delivered the address of welcome. International QA Expert and Professor of

Nottingham University Malaysia Campus Ms. Rozilini Fernandez Chung facilitated the workshop.

The Chairman of UGC observed that National Qualification Framework is highly needed for ensuring quality education at tertiary level to compete with others in national and international arena in today's competitive world.

Terming education as service not business, he urged the university authority to provide quality education to make the students competent for global employment market. He called upon all concerned with education, especially in higher education sector to work together for building Bangladesh as prosperous and a developed country.

It may be mentioned here that Institutional Quality Assurance Cells have been set up in sixty nine public and private universities of the country for quality assurance of higher education.

Vice-Chancellors from different public and private universities in Dhaka region, Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, Directors of Institutional Quality Assurance Cell of different public and private universities, high officials from UGC, HEQEP and QAU were present on the occasion.

## UGC Chairman attends 73rd Session of UNGA



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the 73<sup>rd</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) as a member of the official delegate led by Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The theme of

the 73<sup>rd</sup> General Debate was Making the United Nations relevant to all people.

During the Session discussion meetings on the following events were held: High-level Event on Action for Peace Keeping, Nelson Mandela Peace Summit, World Economic Forum Sustainable Development Impact Summit, High-level Meeting on fight against tuberculosis, 3<sup>rd</sup> High-level Meeting on a Comprehensive Review of the Progress Achieved in Prevention and Control of Non Communicable Diseases, Roundtable Meeting arranged by US Chamber and Commerce, Conference on Cyber

Security and International Cooperation, High-level Event on the global Compact on Refugees: A model for Greater Solidarity and Cooperation. Professor Mannan participated in a number of the events and actively contributed in the deliberations.

### Certificate awarding ceremony at University Liberal Arts Bangladesh



The certificate giving ceremony of a three-day workshop on Julia TOT Workshop on Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning was held at the auditorium of University Liberal Arts Bangladesh in capital's Dhammendi on 08 September 2018. Posts, Telecommunications and ICT Minister Mr. Mustafa Jabbar attended the event as the Chief Guest. Organized by Jumpers Forum, the function was addressed among others, by Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC, Syed Almas Kabir, President, BASIS and Mr. Habibullah N Karim, Chief Executive, Techno Heaven.

The Chief Guest, in his speech, urged all to raise new generation as suitable for 21<sup>st</sup> century so that we can build a nation enriched in ICT-based knowledge.

"We would not be able to keep pace with the development taking place in ICT sector unless we take necessary steps. We have to select now the tools, which would be used by our kids in future. We have to give knowledge to our children on programming from very early ages," he said,

The ICT Minister stressed on using latest technology on programming, saying if we can send a programmer abroad, he would be able to earn more than 115 thousand dollar annually.

### Inauguration of 7<sup>th</sup> March Bhaban at Dhaka University



The inaugural ceremony of the 7th March Bhaban of Rokeya Hall of Dhaka University (DU) constructed in memory of the historic March 7 speech of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was held on 01 September 2018. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurated the 7th March Bhaban as the Chief Guest. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, in-charge of MoE; Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC were present at the function as the Special Guests while Professor Dr. Aktaruzzaman, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University presided over the ceremony.

The new dormitory constructed at a cost of Tk. 880 million will accommodate 1000 female students. The 7<sup>th</sup> March Bhaban has a five-storey administrative block, service block and a museum. Rare collections of photographs depicting participation and contributions of the women in the Liberation War have been displayed in the museum.

Professor Dr. Abdus Samad, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Admin); Professor Nasrin Ahmed, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Education); Professor Dr. Kamaluddin, Treasurer and Professor Dr. Zinat Huda, Provost, Rokeya Hall, Dhaka University also spoke on the occasion.

Ministers, Parliament Members, National Professors, DU teachers, academicians, political leaders and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

### Project Completion Report of HEQEP

The Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) organized a three daylong workshop on Project Completion Report (PCR) for the Directors, Additional Directors, Office Secretaries and Accountants of Institutional Quality Assurance Cells (IQAC) at the auditorium of University Grants



Commission of Bangladesh(UGC) on 30 June -02 July 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC was present on the occasion as the Chief Guest with Dr Gauranga Chandra Mohanta ndc, Project Director, HEQEP in the chair. Dr. Md. Mokhlesur Rahman, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank, was present on the occasion as Special Guest while Professor Sanjoy Kumar Adhikary, Head, Quality Assurance Unit (QAU) delivered the welcome address.

A total of 138 participants from 69 IQACs of Round 1, 2 and 3 took part in the workshop in three phases.

### Annual Performance Agreement with Public Universities



Annual Performance Agreement (APA) with forty Public Universities were signed on 08 July 2018 for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 under the Performance Management Framework Policy of the Government. The major goal of the agreement is to establish good governance and enhance the quality and standard of higher education in the country.

Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the signing ceremony as the Chief Guest while Professor Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Member, UGC was in the Chair. Hon'ble Members, Secretary and high officials of UGC also were present in the meeting. Dr. Md Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Registrars of the Universities signed the agreement on behalf of their respective organizations at the ceremony.

The Chairman of UGC urged the Vice-Chancellors to properly implement the Annual Performance Agreement for establishing good governance and excellence in country's tertiary education.

Professor Mannan emphasized on developing skilled and accomplished manpower for the sake of the country. He asked all concerned to work jointly with a view to materializing the vision 2021 and 2041 set by the Government. Professor Shah Nowaz Ali urged the university authorities to properly utilize the public money and put emphasis on developing the nation through providing quality education.

Professor Dr. Farzana Islam, Vice-Chancellor, Jahangirnagar University, Professor Dr. Kanak Kanti Barua, Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Professor Dr. M. Abdus Sobhan, Vice-Chancellor, Rajshahi University, among others, spoke on the occasion. Vice-Chancellors, Registrars of the Public Universities, high officials from Ministry of Education and UGC, among others, were present on the occasion

### Interactive Program on System Approach for Better Education Results in Tertiary Education



An interactive discussion meeting on 'System Approach for Better Education Results in Tertiary Education (SABER-TE)' was held at UGC Auditorium on 06 July 2018. Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh presided over the meeting. Dr. Koen Geven, Education Specialist, Global Engagement and Knowledge Education, World Bank Group (Education), Washington DC, USA presented the keynote paper on the issue. The presentation was followed by an open discussion on the topic.

Various aspects of higher education including vision, regulatory framework, quality assurance, governance, finance, enrolment, teaching, learning, research, admission test, teachers' training,

publication and relevance of tertiary education came up for the open discussion. A good number of Vice-Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors of different universities of the country took part in the discussion.

Professor Dr. Md. Akhter Hossain, Member, UGC, Vice-Chancellors, Pro Vice-Chancellors from public and private universities, Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, Dr. Gauranga Chandra Mohanta ndc, Project Director (Additional Secretary), Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP), Dr. Md. Mokhlesur Rahman, Senior Operations Officer, World Bank, Dhaka, Director and Additional Directors from UGC and high officials from HEQEP and BdREN among others, were present in the meeting.

### Workshop on Project Completion Report



The AIF Unit of Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) organized a two day-long workshops on Project Completion Report (PCR) at UGC auditorium on 12 and 14 August 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC inaugurated the 2<sup>nd</sup> workshop on 14 August while Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh was present at the inaugural ceremony of the first workshop as the Chief Guest. Dr. Gauranga Chandra Mohanta ndc, Project Director of HEQEP, presided over both the events.

Professor Abdul Mannan congratulated the Sub-project Managers (SPMs) of different public and private universities for successful implementation of the projects. He urged the SPMs to submit the PCRs in due time as the project period will expire on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

Professor Yousuf Ali Mollah, in his speech, emphasized on timely completion of the sub-projects. He called upon the SPMs to utilize the project funds in stipulated time. Otherwise, unutilized funds have to be refunded to HEQEP authority.

A total of 106 sub-project Managers of Round-4

subprojects, industry-university collaborative research sub-projects and Fab Lab sub-projects took part in the workshops.

Mr. Sohel Ahmed, Deputy Project Director of HEQEP, Mr. Md. Ishrat Hossain Khan, AIF Coordinator and officials and consultants of UGC and HEQEP were present at the events.

### Sri Lankan High Commissioner calls on Professor Abdul Mannan



A two member Sri Lankan delegation led by H. E. Crisanthe De Silva, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka in Bangladesh, called on Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC on 10 September 2018. The delegation discussed the matters related to additional fees for internship program from the Sri Lankan Medical students who graduated from the University of Science and Technology Chittagong (USTC).

Professor Mannan welcomed the delegates to UGC and assured the Hon'ble High Commissioner that his office will extend all cooperation to resolve the problems immediately and ask USTC authority to provide the original certificates to the Sri Lankan students by 20 September, this year.

Mr. Crisanthe De Silva, the Hon'ble High Commissioner thanked the Chairman of UGC and said that medical education imparted by Bangladeshi educational institutions is in highly graded in Sri Lanka. He stressed the need for fostering bilateral relationships between Bangladesh and Sri Lanka along with other SAARC countries.

Professors Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Members, UGC; Professor Dr. Mohammad Ismail Khan, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Medical University; Professor Dr. Probhat Chandra Barua, Vice-Chancellor, USTC; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, representatives from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, BMDC, high officials from UGC and USTC were present in the meeting.

## Workshop on Annual Performance Management at CUET



Workshop on Annual Performance Management: Bangladesh Perspective was held at Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology(CUET) on 14 September 2018. The university organized the workshop under National Integrity Strategy implementation aiming to ensure transparency, accountability and good governance and also enhancing excellence in tertiary education at its university. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC addressed the inaugural ceremony of the workshop as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Mohammad Rafiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, CUET, Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Director, Private University Division, UGC delivered speeches as the Special Guests. Professor Dr. Faruque-Uz-Zaman Chowdhury, Registrar, CUET presided over the function. Teachers and officials of CUET, representatives from Cabinet Division, Ministry of Education, UGC and different universities took part in the workshop.

In July 2018, a total of 40 public universities signed the Annual Performance Agreement with UGC for the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 under the Performance Management Framework Policy of the government.

The Chairman of UGC urged CUET authority to bring accountability and transparency in its activities. He also suggested the university authority to make sure the proper use of public money. Professor Mannan underscored the need for disseminating knowledge and carried out research works at higher educational institutions.

### Objective journalism for well-being of people

Education Reporters' Association, Bangladesh (ERAB) organized a function at the International Mother Language Institute on 09 September 2018. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP and in-charge of MoE was present on the occasion as the Chief Guest.



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC; Mr. Md. Sohorab Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Division; Mr. Md. Alamgir, Secretary, Technical and Madrasah Education Division, Ministry of Education; Professor Mahabubur Rahman, Director General of Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, among others, addressed the function with ERAB President Mr. Siddiqur Rahman in the chair.

The Hon'ble Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid urged the journalists of both print and electronic media to objectively publicize the development works under the present Government. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid said despite a number of challenges, Bangladesh has made remarkable and praiseworthy achievements in the education sector. Distribution of free textbooks to the students of primary and secondary schools, increased enrolment and eradicating gender inequality in primary and secondary education have already been acknowledged in different international forums- Mr. Nahid observed.

### Professor of Georgia University visits UGC



Professor Amrit Bart, Dean and Director, Office of Global Programme of the University of Georgia, USA called on Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman of UGC on 31 July 2018. Dr. Md. AM Shahbuddin, Associate Professor of Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and Ms. Afshana Parven of Asian Institute of Technology accompanied Professor Bart.

The Chairman of UGC welcomed Professor Bart and highlighted the activities of UGC as an apex body of higher education in Bangladesh. Professor Mannan expressed his hope that a MoU will be signed between UGC and University of Georgia to collaborate and exchange of students and researchers from the universities in Bangladesh.

Hon'ble Members, Secretary and high officials of UGC also were present in the meeting.

## Workshop on Annual Performance Management at BUP



UGC and Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) jointly organized a workshop on "Annual Performance Management: Bangladesh Perspective" at BUP premises on 15 July 2018 to develop administrative capabilities of BUP as well as strengthening transparency and accountability and ensure proper use of assets.

The Chairman of UGC Professor Abdul Mannan graced the workshop as the Chief Guest, while Major General Md. Emdad Ul Bari, Vice-Chancellor, BUP was the Special Guest on the occasion. Professor Dr. M Abul Kashem Mozumder, Pro Vice-Chancellor, BUP; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC; Brigadier General Abul Kashem Md. Ibrahim, Registrar, BUP, among others, were also present on the occasion.

## Workshop on Startup and Business Incubation at UGC

A Knowledge Sharing Programme (KSP) Workshop on Startup and Business Incubation was held at UGC auditorium on 05 August 2018. The programme was organized by Asian Development Bank (ADB) with the financial assistance from Export Import Bank of Korea. This was the Final



Dissemination Workshop for higher education project in IT sector in Bangladesh for developing Startup and Business Incubation to produce skilled IT manpower. The ultimate goal of KSP is to assist the Government of Bangladesh for developing business incubation in the IT Park, academic-industry linkage and capacity building of IT professionals.

Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC graced the workshop as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member, UGC presided over it. Mr. Md. Abdullah Al Hasan Chowdhury, Additional Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, MoE; Mr. Manmohan Parkash, Country Director, ADB Bangladesh Resident Mission were Special Guests. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC delivered the address of welcome on the occasion. Mr. Kyeong-gu Kim, Chief Representative, Export Import Bank of Korea, Bangladesh Office was Guest of Honor on the occasion.

The Chairman of UGC, in his speech said that the forthcoming IT project is highly recommended for capacity building of IT professionals to materialize the dream of Digital Bangladesh. Referring to the skills and knowledge in all branches of human science, he observed that graduates will not rush for jobs rather job will look for graduates.

Professor Yousuf Ali Mollah, in his presidential speech, observed that the concept paper leading to this KSP addressed almost all issues related to the development of IT/ ITEs education in Bangladesh. Professor Mollah informed the audience that ADB has conducted field level surveys and had many meetings with the Vice-Chancellors and focal points of nine proposed universities where the project will invest for IT education.

High officials from UGC and Ministry of Education, representatives from public and private universities and private sector and also development partners attended the workshop.

## APUB holds Discussion on Bangabandhu



Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh (APUB) organized a discussion meeting to mark the National Mourning Day 2018 at International Mother Language Institute on 31 August 2018. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, in-charge of MoE graced the occasion as the Chief Guest while Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC and Mr. Md. Sohorab Hossain, Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education, were present as Special Guests. National Professor Dr. Rafiqul Islam was present at the program. Mr. Md. Benzir Ahmed, former Chairman, APUB also spoke on the occasion. Chairman of APUB Sheikh Kabir Hossain presided over the meeting.

The Hon'ble Minister expressed his opinion that Bangabandhu was an extraordinary man who dreamt of building a secular and democratic 'Sonar Bangla' free from all kind of injustices and exploitation.

The Chairman of UGC Professor Abdul Mannan noted that Bangabandhu lived only for 55 years, and spent 40 percent of the time in prison; 48 percent directly in the field with people and 12 percent with family. He was imprisoned 13 times covering 13 years or 4642 days; faced death more than once. He also said that Bangabandhu was a man of strong character and his indomitable courage was instrumental in overcoming all odds and never deviated from his ideals. He was an epitome of self-respect and patriotism.

Mr. Md. Sohrab Hossain said that Bangabandhu sacrificed his life for the downtrodden people of Bangladesh and did not care for personal gains and relentlessly worked for a prosperous Sonar Bangla.

Members of Board of Trustees of different private universities, Vice-Chancellors, Pro Vice-Chancellors, Treasurers, Registrars, faculty members, officers and students, among others, were present in the ceremony. The program ended with the vote of thanks by Vice Chairman of APUB Professor Abdul Mannan Chowdhury.

## Financial grants for two new universities



Professor Dr. Munaz Ahmed Noor, Vice-Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Digital University and Professor Dr. Rafique Ullah Khan, Vice-Chancellor of Sheikh Hasina University received cheque from Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman of UGC for Financial Year 2018-2019 on 18 September 2018.

The Chairman of UGC congratulated the newly appointed Vice-Chancellors and said that UGC would extend all necessary support and cooperation to establish the universities. The government has established Digital University in Gazipur to help improve the standard of information and communication technology and Sheikh Hasina University in Netrakona for creating opportunities for students in and around that area. Professors Dr. Dil Afroza Begum and Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Members, UGC; Dr. Ferdous Zaman, Director, Research Support and Publication Division; Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Director, Private University Division and officials of UGC were present.

## 4th Convocation of International Islamic University Chittagong



The fourth Convocation of International Islamic University Chittagong (IIUC) was held at its permanent campus at Kumira under Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong on 14 July 2018. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, in-charge of the MoE presided over the Convocation ceremony as the

representative of the Hon'ble President and conferred degrees among the graduating students.

Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission; Professor Mohammad Ali, former Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University and founder Vice-Chancellor of IIUC; Mr. Abdul Karim, former Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister and HE Al Sayeed Ali Bin Sayeed Abdur Rahman Al Hasim, Advisor to the President of United Arab Emirates were present as Special Guests. Professor KM Golam Mohiuddin, Vice-Chancellor of IIUC, delivered the address of welcome.

The Hon'ble Minister said that the Private Universities in Bangladesh are contributing to the economic and social development of the country by imparting education to the students. He further emphasized on enhancing the quality of education in the universities. A total of 22,859 students were conferred degree at the Convocation ceremony.

### 3rd Convocation at Primeasia University



The 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation of Primeasia University was held on July 30, 2018 at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB). Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister, MoE, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh presided over the Ceremony as the representative of the Hon'ble President and conferred degrees to the graduating students.

Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh was present on the occasion as the Special Guest, while High Commissioner of Canada His Excellency Mr. Benoit Prefontaine was the Convocation Speaker. Mr. M. A. Khaleque, Founder and Chairman; Mr. Md. Nazrul Islam, Vice Chairman and other members, Board of Trustees of Primeasia University spoke on the occasion. Professor Dr. Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of Primeasia University delivered the welcome address on the occasion.

### The 15<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary of KUET



Students, teachers and employees of Khulna University of Engineering and Technology (KUET) celebrated its 15<sup>th</sup> founding anniversary on 22 September 2018 with much fanfare and festivity on the campus. On the occasion, the university authorities chalked out a day-long program to celebrate the day. The day's program began with the hoisting of national and university flags by Professor Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Member, UGC as the Chief Guest. The Chief Guest announced the day's program by releasing balloons and pigeons. Later, a colourful procession was brought out which paraded the campus streets and ended at students' welfare center where a discussion was held. Professor Shah Nowaz Ali addressed the discussion meeting as the Chief Guest, while Vice-Chancellor of KUET Professor Dr. Kazi Sazzad Hossain was in the Chair.

The Chief Guest planted a tree sapling at 'Durbar Bangla', a sculptor in memory of martyrs of our glorious war of liberation.

### Workshop on Annual Performance Management in RSTU

A day-long workshop on Annual Performance Management: Bangladesh Perspective was held at Rangamati Science and Technology University (RSTU) on 11 August 2018. The university organized the workshop under National Integrity Strategy (NIS) implementation plan. The objectives of the workshop were to ensure transparency, accountability and good governance and also enhancing excellence in tertiary education at university level. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) graced the function as the Chief Guest, while Professor Dr. Pradanendu Bikash Chakma, Vice-Chancellor, Rangamati Science and Technology University (RSTU) and Md. Shahin Siraj, Deputy Secretary, Administration Division, UGC was the Special



Guests on the occasion. Mr. Anjan Kumar Chakma, Registrar (In-Charge), RSTU presided over the meeting. Mr. Kamrul Hasan, Deputy Secretary, Cabinet Division; Ms. Jakia Pervin, Deputy Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education; Mr. Morshed Alam Khandoker, Senior Assistant Secretary; Mr. Mohammad Nazrul Islam, Senior Assistant Director and Mr. Robiul Islam, Assistant Director, UGC spoke on the occasion as Resource Persons.

The Chairman of UGC emphasized on producing skilled manpower for the sake of nation and country. He urged all concerned to discharge their duties with sincerity, devotion and honesty. Professor Mannan also sought cooperation and assistance from local people and administration for making Rangamati Science and Technology University as the finest university in the country.

Professor Pradanendu Bikash Chakma said that Rangamati Science and Technology University has been relentlessly working for developing better work environment, establishing good governance and skills development of the teachers and officials of the university. He further added that Rangamati Science and Technology University will be able to contribute to implementing the Government's Vision- 2021 through producing world-class graduates. The construction work of temporary infrastructure of the university is expected to be completed by December this year, he hoped.

Officials from UGC, teachers and officials from Rangamati Science and Technology University and focal points of Annual Performance Agreement from different public universities were present on the occasion.

### Mahidol University signs MoU with UGC

A six-member delegation led by Professor Dr. Patcharee Lertrit, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies of Mahidol University, Thailand called on Professor Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Chairman (In-Charge) of



UGC on 27 September 2018. Professor Shah Nowaz Ali welcomed the delegate and expressed his optimism that a MoU between UGC and Mahidol University will help to establish bi-lateral cooperation and collaboration in the field of higher education and research and promote internationalization of higher education in Bangladesh. Mahidol University, the leading university of Thailand, will offer scholarships, fellowships and training facilities for the teachers, researchers, students and the executives of UGC and the universities. Professor Nowaz also proposed to initiate at least five scholarships for the Bangladeshi students.

Mahidol University is well known in the region for offering comprehensive programs on areas like, Medical Science, Engineering and ICT.

Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Director, Private University Division, and Mr. Md. Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan, Additional Director, UGC, were present.

### Delegation from Macquarie University, Sydney at UGC

A four-member delegation from Macquarie University led by Ms. Kathy Humphrey, Director, International Administration, called on Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC on 07 August 2018. The Chairman of UGC welcomed the delegate and expressed his optimism that the linkage established between UGC and Australian Universities will strengthen further and contribute to upgrading and internationalization of higher education in Bangladesh.

Ms. Kathy Humphrey thanked Professor Mannan for inviting her and the team members to UGC and informed that Macquarie University of Australia is willing to offer full scholarships to Bangladeshi students for PhD programs in different disciplines. The university will also provide short courses and training facilities for faculty members of Bangladeshi universities and UGC officials. The initiative is a part



of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between UGC and Macquarie University in 2016.

Dr Julian Droogan, Senior Lecturer; Mr. Tanveer Shaheed, Regional Director, South Asia and Middle East and Mr. Riasat Hossain, Country Manager (South Asia) of Macquarie University assisted Ms. Kathy Humphrey.

Professor Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Member, UGC; Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary; Dr. Shamsul Arefin, Additional Director, Public Relations and Right to Information Division; Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Additional Director, ICC; Mr. Md. Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan, Additional Director, IMCT Division and Mr. Md. Shahin Siraj, Deputy Secretary, Administration Division, UGC, among others, were present.

### Representatives from Honda Foundation visits UGC



A-five member delegation led by Professor Dr. Atsushi SUNAMI, Vice President, National Graduate Institute for policy Studies, Japan & Executive Director of Honda Foundation met the Chairman of UGC on 12 August 2018. Other members of the delegation were Mr. Kazuko Matsumoto, Honorary Adviser, Japan Education and Research Support Foundation & Executive Director, Honda Foundation; Mr. Yuichiro ISHII, Managing Director & CEO of BHL; Mr. Jamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, Advisor, BHL and Md. Akhtaruzzaman Chowdhury, Senior Executive, HR & Administration of BHL. On

behalf of Honda Foundation (established in December 1977 by donations from the founder of Honda Motor Company) Professor Dr. Atsushi SUNAMI expressed his interest to award Young Engineers and Scientist's (Y-E-S) scholarships to the undergraduate students from Bangladesh. At this moment, Honda Foundation conducts this Y-E-S program in 5 countries- Vietnam, India, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos.

The Chairman of UGC thanked Professor Dr. Atsushi SUNAMI for his offer and stressed that our graduates will be benefitted from the opportunity and they will acquire advance knowledge from this opportunity in Japan.

Professors Dr. Mohammad Yousuf Ali Mollah, Dr. Dil Afroza Begum, Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Members of UGC; Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Additional Director, ICC; Mr. Md. Maksudur Rahman Bhuiyan, Additional Director, IMCT Division and Mr. Md. Shahin Siraj, Deputy Secretary, Administration Division, UGC, were present.

### Certificate giving ceremony at UGC



Certificate distributing ceremony of a-three day International Workshop on IPv6 (Internet Protocol Version 6) Deployment in R&E (Research and Education) Network was held at UGC auditorium on 02 August 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC distributed certificates among the participants as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member, UGC presided over the ceremony. Mr. AKM Habibur Rahman, Chief Executive Officer, BdREN delivered the address of welcome on the occasion. Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) organized the training workshop under the auspices of Asi@Connect project administered by TEIN\*cc, South Korea for the network/IT Engineers to acquire the knowledge in deployment of IPv6 in their Research and Education Network. Professor

Mannan, in his speech, urged the Network / IT Engineers to apply the knowledge and experience acquired through the training workshop in their respective work places.

Twenty seven network/IT Engineers from ten countries including Bangladesh participated in the three day workshop.

## Workshop on Communication for Development



The inaugural ceremony of a three-day Research Workshop on Communication for Development (C4D) was held at hotel Amari Dhaka on 12 August 2018. University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) jointly organized the workshop to conduct research on child rights in higher educational institutions of Bangladesh. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC graced the function as the Chief Guest. Ms. Sheema Sen Gupta, Deputy Country Representative, UNICEF, Bangladesh, spoke on the occasion as the Special Guest.

Ms. Neha Kapil, C4D Section Chief, UNICEF, Bangladesh and Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Additional Director, ICC, UGC; among others, spoke on the occasion. Academics from Ohio University; 11 public and private universities of Bangladesh; officials from UGC and UNICEF, among others were present.

The Chairman of UGC said the workshop will play a significant role in designing curriculum and conducting participatory research in C4D. He said children are the most precious resources of Bangladesh.

Ms. Sheema Sen Gupta said Bangladesh government is very committed to attaining SDG's target to establish child-right. She also said collaboration with UGC is very important to address the child rights in Bangladesh.

## MoE and UGC organize meeting of private universities



The Education Ministry and the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh jointly organized a view exchange meeting with the Vice-Chancellors of private universities of the country at International Mother Language Institute. The objective of the meeting was to discuss the situation where the students of few private universities were involved in unlawful incidences in the city. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP in-charge of MoE was present on the occasion as the Chief Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over the meeting.

An open discussion took place to find out an amicable solution to the problem prevailing during that period. A number of Vice-Chancellors also took part in the discussion.

## 152<sup>nd</sup> Full Commission meeting of UGC



The 152<sup>nd</sup> Full Commission meeting of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh was held on 13 August 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC presided over the meeting. Full time and part-time Members of UGC and Officials of UGC were present. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC conducted the meeting. The selection of Dr. A K M

Shamsul Arefin, Mr. Md. Kamal Hossain and Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam as Directors were confirmed in the meeting. Ms. Mauli Azad, Mr. Md. Rokonuzzaman, Mr. Bishnu Mallick and Mr. Md. Amirul Islam Shaikh were confirmed as Deputy Directors.

### **Seminar on Improving Rural Lives in Bangladesh: Present and Future**



A seminar on Improving Rural Lives in Bangladesh: Present and Future was held at North South University (NSU) on 12 August 2018. Monash University of Australia and NSU jointly organized the seminar.

State Minister for Information and Communication Technology Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak was the Chief Guest. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC, Her Highness Ms. Julia Niblett, High Commissioner of Australia to Dhaka and Mr. MA Hashem, Chairman, Board of Trustees, NSU attended the seminar as Special Guests. Dr. Asadul Islam of Monash University and Dr. Kanti Ananata Nuzhat of NSU presented papers on progress on education in Bangladesh. Mr. MA Kashem, Member, Board of Trustees of NSU; and Dr Larry Stillman, among others, attended the seminar chaired by Professor Atiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, NSU.

### **Workshop on Annual Performance Management at CVASU**



Workshop on Annual Performance Management was held at Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University on 15 September 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC addressed the workshop as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Goutam Buddha Das, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Professor Dr. Mohammad Ismail Khan, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Medical University, Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, Dr. Md. Fakhrul Islam, Director, Private University Division, UGC and Mr. Mirza Faruk Imam, Registrar, CVASU, spoke on the occasion.

### **Seminar on 'In Quest of World Peace-True Religious Education, Dawah and Protection of Religion'**



A Seminar entitled 'In Quest of World Peace-True Religious Education, Dawah and Protection of Religion' was held at Islamic Foundation Auditorium of Baitul Mokarrom National Mosque on 21 September 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC addressed as the Chairperson of the seminar. Principal Matior Rahman, Hon'ble Minister for Religious Affairs, graced the seminar as the Chief Guest.

### **Review of Research papers at BSMRAU**

A two day long Research Review Workshop was organized by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (BSMRAU) on 16-17 July 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh was present at the inaugural session as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Giashuddin Miah, Vice-Chancellor, BSMRAU presided over the



ceremony. Treasurer of the university Professor Tofayel Ahamed spoke on the occasion as Special Guest. Dr. Nathu Ram Sarker, Director General, BLRI was present as Guest of Honor. Professor Dr. A. K. M. Aminul Islam, Director (Research), BSMRAU did a power point presentation highlighting the progress in research carried out by the teachers and students of BSMRAU. All faculty members and distinguished guests from Public Universities and Agricultural Research Institutes were present on the occasion. A total of 80 scientific papers were presented in six technical sessions of the workshop.

## **Tributes to Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman**



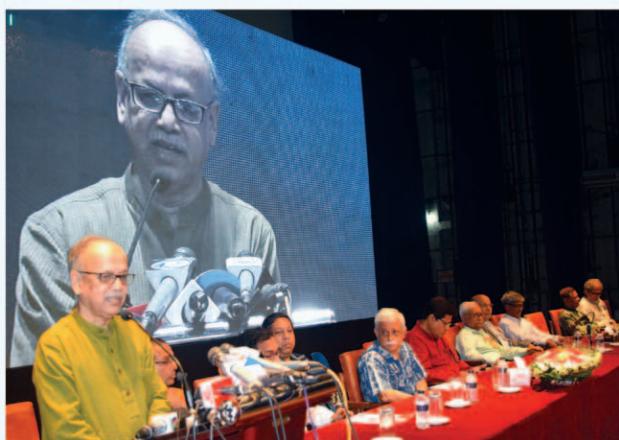
A team comprising Members, high officials and employees from the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh led by its Chairman Professor Abdul Mannan paid rich tribute to the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman by placing wreaths at his portrait at Dhanmondi Road No. 32 on 15 August 2018. They prayed for the salvation of the departed souls of Bangabandhu and his family members.

## Inauguration of development and renovation works at UGC residential area



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC inaugurated the development and renovation works of UGC residential area on 30 July 2018. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary; Mr. Abdur Rezzaque, Director, Planning and Development Division; Khandker Hamidur Rahman, Director, IMCT Division; Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director, SPQA Division; Mr. Md. Shahin Siraj, Deputy Secretary, Administration Division & President of UGC Residential Area Welfare Association and UGC Officials & Employees were present

## UGC Chairman attends Sampriti Bangladesh launching ceremony



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the launching ceremony of Sampriti Bangladesh, a new organisation with prominent citizens, for building a secular country and reduce discrimination in the society. The organization started its journey through an inaugural event at the National Museum with the slogan Gai Sammer Gan (aspire for equality) on 07 July 2018.

## Discussion on Nation-People-Politics: Views from the Side Line



A discussion meeting was held on the book entitled 'Nation-People-Politics: Views from the Side Line' at University of Information Technology and Sciences (UIT) on 24 July 2018. The discussants hoped that the book authored by Professor Abdul Mannan, would help the youths to understand the political philosophy of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Dr. Mohammed Solaiman, VC, UIT presided over the meeting.

Vice-Chancellor of National University Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid joined the program as the Chief Guest while Mr. Md. Abdul Karim, Managing Director, PKSF was present as the Special Guest. Alhaj Sufi Mohamed Mizanur Rahman, Chairman, BoT, UIT was the chief discussant.

## Maritime University to play vital role for utilizing maritime resources



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the certificate awarding ceremony on Supply Chain Management; Freight Forwarding, Marine Insurance and Claim at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Maritime University (BSMRMU) on 16 September 2018. Rear Admiral M Khaled Iqbal, Vice-Chancellor, BSMRMU addressed the

ceremony. Professor Mannan said the university will play an important role in the development of the country by utilizing the maritime resources of Bangladesh.

## Conference on Media, Communication and Journalism at Chittagong University



A three-day International Conference on 'Media, Communication and Journalism: Prospects and Challenges in Bangladesh and Beyond' was held at Chittagong University (CU) in July 2018. Communication and Journalism Department of CU organized the Conference. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the closing ceremony as the Chief Guest.

## Tech-Cultural Exchange Beyond CP: Cultural Transformation in Digital Ecosystem



The opening ceremony of a two-day International Symposium on Cultural Transformation in Digital Ecosystem was held on 02 July 2018 at Samson H. Chowdhury Centre, Dhaka Club Limited. Professor Abdul Mannan, Hon'ble Chairman, UGC graced the function as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Member, UGC presided over the programme. Mr. AKM Habibur Rahnan, CEO, Bangladesh Research and Education Network

(BdREN) gave the welcome address. Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) organized the Symposium to build a long term exchange platform for tech-culture fusion that connects applications, data, people and processes quickly from anyone to anywhere.

In his address, Professor Abdul Mannan said that technology is the best way to overcome time, space and money constraints. He said IT is changing rapidly in the world and Bangladesh adopted with the new technology effectively. He also said technology also brought cultural change in our society.

### Power Point Presentation by different universities

#### a) Jagannath University

A-four member delegation from Jagannath University led by its Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Mijanur Rahman made a Power Point Presentation of a development project proposal on “জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের নতুন ক্যাম্পাস স্থাপন: ভূমি অধিগ্রহণ ও উন্নয়ন” at an appraisal meeting held on 08th July 2018 at UGC Bhaban. The committee recommended a project proposal of Tk. 1,92,094.39Lac (One thousand nine hundred twenty crore ninety four lac and thirty nine thousands).

#### b) Comilla University



A-four member delegation from Comilla University led by its Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Emran Kabir Chowdhury made a Power Point Presentation of a development project proposal on “কুমিল্লা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিকর্তৃ উন্নয়ন” at an appraisal meeting held on 23 September 2018 at UGC Bhaban. The committee recommended a project proposal of Tk. 1,65,550.00 Lac (One thousand six hundred fifty five crore and fifty lac).

#### c) Dhaka University

A-three member delegation from Dhaka University led by its Planning Director Mr. Jiban Kumar Mishra made a Power Point Presentation of a development project proposal on “ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের শতবর্ষ পূর্তি: উন্নয়ন প্রকল্প-১” at an appraisal meeting held on 09th September 2018 at UGC Bhaban. The committee recommended a project proposal of Tk. 141298.30 Lac (One thousand four hundred twelve crore and ninety eight lac and thirty thousand).

#### d) Bangladesh Agricultural University

A-two member delegation from Bangladesh Agricultural University led by its Project Director Professor Rakibul Islam Khan made a Power Point Presentation of a development project proposal on “হাওর ও চর উন্নয়ন ইনসিটিউট প্রতিষ্ঠা” at an appraisal meeting held on 25th September 2018 at UGC Bhaban. The committee recommended a project proposal of Tk. 5000.00 Lac (Five thousand crore).

#### e) Shahjalal University of Science and Technology



A-five member delegation from Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet led by its Registrar Mr. Muhammad Isfaqul Hossain made a Power Point Presentation of a development project proposal on “শাহজালাল বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিকর্তৃ উন্নয়ন (২য় পর্যায়)” at an appraisal meeting held on 25th September 2018 at UGC Bhaban. The committee recommended a project proposal of Tk. 92768.69 Lac (Nine hundred twenty seven crore sixty eight lac and sixty nine thousand).

All the meetings were presided over by Professor Dr. M. Shah Nowaz Ali, Member, UGC. Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Dr. Durga Rani Sarker, Additional Director, Planning and Development Division, UGC were present in the meeting.

## Inauguration of a Lab at CVASU



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC, inaugurated the postgraduate laboratory of Animal Science and Nutrition Department of Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University. Professor Dr. Goutam Buddha Das, Vice-Chancellor Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, among others, were present.

## Orientation Programme at Jahangirnagar University



Jahangirnagar University (JU) organized an orientation programme for the 'freshers' at Jahir Raihan Auditorium on the campus on 26 July 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC addressed the orientation ceremony as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Farzana Islam, Vice-Chancellor, JU presided over the ceremony.

## UGC Chairman meets Commonwealth Scholarship awardees



UGC Chairman Professor Abdul Mannan addressed the Commonwealth Scholarship awardees at British Council in Bangladesh on 14 August 2018. Funded by the UK Department for International Development, Commonwealth Master's Scholarships enable talented and motivated individuals to gain the knowledge and skills required for sustainable development, and are aimed at those who could not otherwise afford to study in the UK.

## UGC Chairman inaugurates Hospital Database Management Software



Inaugural ceremony of a workshop entitled Hospital Database Management Software of SAQTVH' CVASU was held on 15 September 2018. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC, inaugurated the workshop as the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Goutam Buddha Das, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Professor Dr. Ismail Khan, Vice-Chancellor, Chittagong Medical University and Dr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, among others, were present.

## Bangabandhu remembered at DU



Institute of Business Administration (IBA) of University of Dhaka observed the 43<sup>rd</sup> death anniversary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the National Mourning Day. Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC attended the programs as the Chief Guest. Director of IBA Professor Syed Farhat Anwar presided over the ceremony.

### Condolence message at the death of Golam Sarwar - Editor of Samakal



Professor Abdul Mannan, Chairman, UGC expressed profound shock at the death of veteran journalist and Editor of Bangla daily Samakal - Mr. Golam Sarwar. Professor Mannan said that the death of Mr. Golam Sarwar is an irreparable loss

in the field of journalism and hoped that the people of Bangladesh will remember the contributions of Golam Sarwar in objective journalism and literature.

Mr. Golam Sarwar, also Ekushey Padak winner, was always vocal to uphold the spirit of Liberation War of Bangladesh and fought for the legitimate rights and demands of journalist community. He was involved in progressive movements of the country. Professor Mannan prayed for eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed deep sympathy to the bereaved family members.

### Newly Elected Executive Committee of UGC Karmachari Union



Mr. Md. Anwar Hossain and Mr. Md. Saiful Islam have been elected President and General Secretary respectively in the 2<sup>nd</sup> general election to 9-Member Executive Committee of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Karmachari Union. The election was held on 13 August 2018. Other office bearers are Mr. Md. Monir Hosain as Vice-President; Mr. Md. Juel Mian, as Joint Secretary; Mr. Md. Abdul Motaleb as Organizing Secretary; Mr. Md. Nazmul Hasan as Treasurer; Mr. Md. Tajul Islam as Publicity Secretary; Mr. Md. Aminul Islam as Office Secretary and Mr. Md. Nur Islam as Cultural and Sports Secretary. The committee will discharge its duties for the next two years.



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Chairman, UGC

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