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of Bangladesh



Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury  
UGC Chairman  
(State Minister)

## Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury joins UGC as Chairman (State Minister)

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, an eminent educationist, celebrated scientist and efficient administrator joined the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh as its 11th Chairman on May 8, 2011 with the status of State Minister, first of its kind in the Commission. Prior to his joining the UGC he was serving the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and Pharmacology of the University of Dhaka as Professor. He was the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dhaka from September, 1996-November 2001.

Professor Chowdhury obtained his B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. (Thesis) in Biochemistry in 1967 and 1968 respectively securing First Class in both of the examinations from the University of Dhaka. He completed his Ph.D. in Pharmacy in 1976 from the University of Manchester, UK. He also did post-doctoral research at the University of Nottingham, UK (1976-77), and at the Braunschweig Technical University, West Germany (1984) as a DAAD fellow. He carried out research work at the University of Nottingham, UK in 1985 as a Commonwealth Academic Staff Fellow and at the National Institute of Health (INSERM), Paris, France in 1995-96 as an EEC Fellow.

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury was the Dean, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Dhaka (1995-1996), the Chairman, Department of Pharmacy, of the University (1983-1987), Temporary Advisor, Essential Health Technology, WHO-Geneva (2007), Member, National Health Policy Formulating Committee of Bangladesh (1997-2000), Member Drug Appellate Authority, Govt. of Bangladesh (1991-1996), Member, National Drug Control Committee (1984-1990), WHO-Regional Expert on Essential Drugs, Member, WHO Essential Drug Programme Evaluation Team. He is a Fellow of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, the apex body of Science & Technology of the country, President of Bangladesh Association for Advancement of Sciences (1999-2004), Member, Dhaka University Syndicate (1982-1985 & 1993-1996), Member, Dhaka University Senate (1988-1992 & 1993-1996), General Secretary, Dhaka

Economic  
upliftment of the  
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Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury joining UGC as its  
Chairman with the status of State Minister

University Teachers Association (1982-1983).

Professor Chowdhury received a good number of awards and distinctions like Rab Chowdhury Gold Medal by Dhaka University for original research in 1978, Distinguished Citizen Honour for outstanding contribution to higher education in Bangladesh by Addiction Treatment, Rehabilitation and Research Center, BIRBA, and General Hospital in 1999, Gold Medal by ADHUNIK for contributing to anti-smoking campaign in Bangladesh in 1998 and Mercantile Bank Ltd. Gold Medal for his contribution to higher education in 2009.

Professor Chowdhury is a prolific writer, keen researcher and renowned pharmaceutical scientist. He is the author of three books and has over 90 research publications in national and international journals. He was one of the editors of Bangladesh National Formulary (Modern Medicine), was also a member of the Editorial Board of Dhaka University Studies, Part-E and the Editor in Chief of Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Journal. He attended more than 27 international conferences and seminars including millennium Lecture at UNGA in 1999 and General Meeting at UNESCO in 1998.

Professor Chowdhury visited a good number of countries including USA, UK, Germany, France, Netherlands, Sweden, Belgium, Ghana, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Thailand, Singapore, Indonesia, South Korea, Australia and Japan for academic and research purposes.

## There is no alternative to higher education in nation-building activities and economic progress

- New UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury



*UGC Members– Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly and Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahamn welcoming new UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A.K. Azad Chowdhury at UGC*

Professor Dr. A. K. Azad Chowdhury, after joining his new assignment as Chairman, UGC sought support and cooperation from all concerned to successfully run the UGC when former UGC Chairman, UGC Members, Vice-Chancellors of universities, leading educationists, members of civil society and journalists of electronic and print media called on new UGC Chairman. He expressed his determination that he would try his

best to enhance and develop the quality of education at university level and bring transparency, accountability and dynamism in the Commission.

UGC Member– Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman termed Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury as a brilliant academician & efficient administrator. He praised Dr. Azad's academic excellence and contribution to the higher education. He also projected the



*Vice-Chancellors of different universities and other distinguished guests at the reception ceremony of new UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A.K. Azad Chowdhury at UGC*



*Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Vice-Chancellor, National University congratulating Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury for being appointed as the UGC Chairman (State Minister)*

development activities of Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury during his tenure in Dhaka University as its Vice-Chancellor. Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman



*Professor Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman, Chairman, Human Rights Commission felicitating newly appointed UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury at his office*

community. The University of Dhaka often termed as the Oxford of the East, was rated as the best university in South Asia during his tenure as the Vice-Chancellor



*Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury, former Vice-Chancellor of University of Dhaka (DU) and newly appointed Chairman (State Minister) of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh, being given a crest at a reception, organized by Bangladesh Pharmacy Graduates Association at DU Senate Bhaban on May 26, 2011*

observed that the appointment of Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury with the status of State Minister to UGC as its Chairman is a positive sign for teaching



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury speaking on the topic 'New Economic Order for Sustainable Peace' as Chief Guest at the Asia Pacific Peace Conference, held at Dhaka on June 4, 2011*

of the university. He has to his credit 90 research articles published in renowned national and international journals.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury was present as Guest Speaker in a discussion meeting held in memory of Mahbubul Haque at National Press Club, Dhaka on June 4, 2011*



*Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), UGC at a discussion meeting and Madel giving ceremony on the occasion of the 112th birth anniversary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam organized by Bangladesh Shiksha parjabeekhan Society on May 24, 2011 at National Museum Auditorium*



*Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), UGC at a reception ceremony organized by Feni Journalist Forum on May 27, 2011 at National Press Club*

The new UGC Chairman said economic upliftment of the country could be achieved only by building up a knowledge-based society. Creation of new knowledge and its propagation is a must to build a knowledge-based society in the country. He said, 'quantity without quality in education is a disaster'. He urged the



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, as Chief Guest, with the stipend recipient students and the high officials of Exim Bank Ltd. at a stipend giving ceremony, organized by the Exim Bank Foundation on May 29, 2011 at Hotel Sonargaon.*

faculties in various universities to dedicate themselves earnestly to the enrichment of knowledge through research defying resource constrain. Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury stressed the need for research-publication and urged the teachers and researchers to take initiatives for joint research collaboration with the foreign universities. There should not be any compromise on the issue of quality education either by the public or by the private universities, he observed.

Professor Nazrul Islam, the past chairman of UGC, observed that UGC, as the apex body of higher education in the country, not only extends support to the administration and financial sectors of the universities, but also implements some specific programmes for university teachers. He stated that during his four-year tenure at UGC, activities of the Commission were carried out through corporate governance and emphasized the need for foundation



*Bangladesh Private Medical College Association accorded reception to Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury and National Professor Dr. Shahla Khatun at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on June 25, 2001. Hon'ble Finance Minister AMAMuhith is seen awarding crest to Chairman, UGC*

training to successfully run any organization.

Professor Dr. Emajuddin Ahmed, former Vice-Chancellor, University of Dhaka and Vice-Chancellor, University of Development Alternative, Professor Dr. S



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. AK Azad Chowdhury addressing as Special Guest at a conference organized by 'Bangladesh Karigori College Shikkhok Somity' at the National Press Club on May 25, 2011*

M Nazrul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology, Professor Dr.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury being accorded warm reception at Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh on June 16, 2011*

Shariff Enamul Kabir, Vice-Chancellor, Jahangirnagar University, Professor Dr. Hafiz G. A Siddiqi, Vice-Chancellor, North South University, Professor Dr. Md. Mahbub Ullah, Vice-Chancellor, International Islamic University, Chittagong, Professor Dr. Abdul Mannan Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, World University of Bangladesh, among others, were present on the occasion.



*Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh along with other guests, inaugurating a book titled 'Essential Medicines in Rural Treatment' at the National Press Club on June 18, 2011*

UGC Members- Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly were also present on the occasion.

## UGC Chairman (State Minister) calls on the President

Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, Hon'ble President, People's Republic of Bangladesh emphasized on ensuring quality higher education at minimum cost, especially at private universities. The President made this observation when the newly appointed Chairman (State Minister) of the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury called on him at Bangabhaban on May 22, 2011.

The President also asked the Commission to strengthen its monitoring over all public and private universities of the country to ensure standard of higher education. He said some private universities are taking large sum of money as admission and tuition fees and asked UGC to take necessary measures to check this kind of practices of the private universities.

The new UGC Chairman assured the President that he would take necessary steps to ensure the quality of higher education at an affordable cost. He also apprised that he had already inspected seven universities since joining UGC as its Chairman in early May and would visit other universities shortly.

The UGC Chairman (State Minister) proposed to



*Newly appointed Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury calls on Hon'ble President Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban*

upgrade the UGC to CHE (Commission for Higher Education) with more power and autonomy and sought the President's response. The President agreed to extend his all-out support in this regard.

## Reception ceremony of the newly appointed UGC Chairman (State Minister)

A reception ceremony of the newly appointed UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, jointly organized by University Grants Commission (UGC) Officers' Association and UGC Karmokarta Karmachari Parishad, was held on 18 May, 2011 at UGC Auditorium. Mr. Md. Kamal Hossain, President, UGC Officer's Association and Deputy Director, Research and Publication Division, UGC presided over the function.

In his speech, UGC Chairman said, it is the need of the hour to ensure quality higher education in the country. 'We want to take the higher education to a new height so that our graduates compete globally,' he added.

He asserted that he would leave no stone unturned to bring transparency, accountability and dynamism in the Commission.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury speaking at the reception ceremony at UGC*

Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Member, UGC, Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC, Mr. Muhammed Ibrahim Kabir, Director, Finance and Accounts Division, Mr. S. M. Wazed Ali, Deputy Director, Planning and Development Division, Mr. Shahidullah, Former Secretary, UGC spoke on the occasion, among others.

UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum and Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman were also present.

## UGC Chairman (State Minister) attends course on tertiary education in Indonesia



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury along with the other participants of the course 'Transforming Tertiary Education for Innovation and Competitiveness', held at Bali, Indonesia*

A three-member delegation from Bangladesh led by Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh, attended a global tertiary education core course titled 'Transforming Tertiary Education for Innovation and Competitiveness', held in Bali, Indonesia from June 6-9, 2011. The other members of the delegation were Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Member, UGC and Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir, Vice-Chancellor, Jahangirnagar University.

The course was aimed at helping the policy-makers and institutional leaders to enhance levels of understanding for policy reform and improvements in the policy-making environment for tertiary education. The course also included a practical and comprehensive framework for the country teams for analyzing the performance and designing effective approaches for successful tertiary level education reforms.

Cross-cutting issues such as the role of universities in economy and society and the construction of innovative partnerships in education and research were also incorporated. Ministers, Senior government policy-makers and ministry executives, officers and project staff of tertiary education institutions and donor organizations of different countries participated at the course. The Chairman presented the higher education scenario of Bangladesh and the progress of the country made in last two years, which received a lot of interest among the participants.

## Full Commission Meeting of UGC



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury and the full-and part-time Members at the 124<sup>th</sup> Full Commission Meeting of UGC*

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh approved a budget of Tk. 1,332.36 crore for 2011-2012 fiscal year for itself and the country's public universities at its 124<sup>th</sup> Full Commission Meeting, held on June 26, 2011 at UGC Bhaban with Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury in the chair. Of the total, Tk. 1,315.26 crore would be spent for the 35 public universities while the rest for the UGC.

The UGC Full Commission also approved the revised budget of Tk. 1,270.78 crore for the universities and Tk. 12.38 crore for UGC for 2010-2011 fiscal year. UGC Full-time and Part-time Members— Mr. Md. Shahab Ullah, Member (Socio-Economic Infrastructure), Planning Commission, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Vice-Chancellor, National University, Professor Dr. Pran Gopal Datta, Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University, Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Mannan Akanda, Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University, Mr. Md. Imdadul Haque, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Professor Dr. M Nurul Islam, Dean (CSE), Mawlana Bhashani Science & Technology University, Professor Dr. Md. Rabiul Haque, Dean (Agriculture), Patuakhali Science & Technology University, Professor Md. Ruhul Amin, Dean (CSE), Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science & Technology University, Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Mr. Muhammad Ibrahim Kabir, Director (F&A), UGC were present at the meeting.

All the full-and part-time Members of UGC congratulated Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury for being appointed as the Chairman of UGC with the status of State Minister. They hoped that the dynamic and effective leadership of Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury would lead the higher education of Bangladesh to a praise-worthy standard.

Speaking on the occasion, Professor Chowdhury said UGC would be transformed into Commission for Higher Education to bring dynamism in the higher education system of our country in line with the international standard. He also said that the role of UGC would be strengthened to ensure accessibility, equality and quality in higher education. UGC would closely monitor all the public and private universities, but it would not be an alternative of proposed Accreditation Council, he added.

The meeting observed that public universities can take initiatives to increase tuition and other fees logically to ensure quality education. Some speakers opined that although quality of education in some private universities is encouraging, the admission and other fees are not affordable to the country's middle and lower-middle class families.

The meeting suggested that private universities can fix their fees considering the socio-economic perspective of the country.

## UGC seeks proposals to improve quality of education

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh sought fresh proposals from universities of Bangladesh to improve the quality of higher education across the country.

'We are looking for innovative ideas and collaborative research proposals to improve the quality of higher education and develop world-class human resources for employment generation at home and abroad,' Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Prof Dr A K Azad Chowdhury said at a press conference at the National Press Club on June 27, 2011. The press conference was organized on the occasion of calling for AIF Sub-Project Proposals under the Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP), being implemented by UGC.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury speaking at the press conference of HEQEP at the National Press Club*

Professor Chowdhury said some Tk. 189cr would be distributed in favour of selected project proposals and each proposal might get between Tk. 16 lakh to Tk. 4.5 crore. However, he said recipients of the first phase of the UGC's Academic Innovation Fund (AIF) might not be eligible for same type of projects.

Professor Chowdhury said UGC has launched a Tk. 681crore project from a concessional loan from the World Bank for five years in 2009 and it has already disbursed Tk. 183 crore in its first phase.

'Quality of higher education remains a big concern for decades and it is time to focus on it as good education is the only and possibly the only way to make the nation move forward,' he added.

UGC Members— Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman and Ms. Kaniz Fatema, ndc, Project Director, HEQEP among others, also spoke on the occasion.

## Vice-Chancellors vow to raise higher education to international standard



*The AUB delegation led by its President BSMMU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Pran Gopal Datta calling on Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury*

The Vice-Chancellors of public universities expressed firm determination to produce quality graduates from their respective universities and decided to set up a higher education complex for raising the country's higher education to an international standard.

The determination was voiced at a view exchange meeting at the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh when a seven-member delegation from Association of Universities of Bangladesh (AUB), led by its President Professor Dr. Pran Gopal Datta, also the Vice-Chancellor of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), called on the newly appointed UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury on May 22, 2011.

The delegation included Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University, Professor

Dr. M A Sattar Mandal, Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Professor Dr. S. M. Nazrul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Vice-Chancellor, National University, Professor Dr. RIM Aminur Rashid, Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Open University, Professor Dr. Shah-e-Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University and Professor Dr. M Khairul Alam Khan, Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Science and Technology University, Gopalganj.

Speaking on the occasion UGC Chairman Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury said, building a higher education complex is the demand of time for improving the higher education of the country to face effectively the challenges of the 21st century.

## Book Launching Ceremony held at UGC

The launching ceremony of a book titled 'Maddoprachcher Itihas: Ottoman Samrajja Theke Jatisatta Rastra,' authored by Professor Emeritus A B M Hussain, Rajshahi University, was held on June 21, 2011 at University Grants Commission (UGC) auditorium. Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhit, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Finance, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh graced the function as Chief Guest with UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury in the Chair. The author of the book Professor Emeritus A B M Hossain was present on the occasion.



*Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhit, MP along with Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury and author of the book Professor Emeritus A B M Hossain and other distinguished guests launching the book titled 'Maddoprachcher Itihas: Ottoman Samrajja Theke Jatisatta Rastra'*

UGC Member Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman delivered the welcome address, while Professor Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman, Chairman, Department of Islamic History and Culture, Dhaka University was a discussant on the book. Professor Shahanara Hussain, wife of the author was also present on the occasion. Dr. Lutfe Alam, Director (R&P), UGC gave the vote of thanks.

The Minister said in his speech, it is important to publish basic books in Bangla language, like the present one, for the expansion of higher education in our country. He highly lauded UGC for publishing such a book and hoped that it would encourage the teachers and researchers to devote themselves in fundamental researches and book writing.

Remarking the book 'Maddoprachcher Itihas: Ottoman Samrajja Theke Jatisatta Rastra' as one of the valuable publications of UGC, Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury said, it is not only a text book for the students of history or for the historians, but will also be useful for general readers at the same time.

Among others, UGC Members— Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, Professor Dr. Md. Abdus Sobhan, Vice-Chancellor, Rajshahi University, Professor Dr. Kazi Shahidullah, Vice-Chancellor, National University, Professor Dr. K. M. Mohsin, former member, UGC and all officers and employees of UGC were present on the occasion.

## Contract signed between UGC and PGCB

An Indefeasible Right of Use (IRU) contract was signed between the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) and the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) for granting UGC the right to use one pair of dark optical fibers from PGCB's country-wide OPGW network against the payment of a sum of Taka 221.884 million. This pair of fibers shall be used to build the Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN), which will connect all the universities and research institutions of the country.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury addressing the contract signing ceremony*

A solemn ceremony was held on the occasion of the signing of the contract on June 20, 2011 at UGC auditorium. Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), UGC, Dr. Md. Harun-ur-Rashid, Chairman, PGCB, UGC Members— Professor

Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum, Ms. Yoko Nagashima, Task Team Leader, World Bank, Kaniz Fatema ndc, Project Director, Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) addressed on this occasion emphasizing the importance of this networking.

UGC Members– Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman, Vice-Chancellors of different universities and concerned officials from PGCB, UGC and World Bank attended the ceremony.

The contract shall be for 20 years. Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Mr. Md. Ashraf Hossain, Company Secretary of PGCB signed the contract on behalf of their respective organizations. UGC will establish the BdREN under the HEQEP, jointly financed by the Government of Bangladesh and World Bank.

The network, built upon this pair of fibers, will be a high bandwidth, high quality, state-of-the-art network only for the use of teachers, students and researchers of the country. It is intended to create a bridge between the academic community of ours and the international community. BdREN is expected to bring forth a huge positive change in the higher education landscape of this country.



*Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC and Mr. Md. Ashraf Hossain, Company Secretary of PGCB signed the contract on behalf of their respective organizations*

The network shall be used for all modern applications such as distance learning, on line lecture sharing, video conferencing, digital library, resource sharing, weather forecasting and disaster management through real time data exchange, tele-medicine and host of other applications. As soon as this national research network is established Bangladesh is going to be connected with Trans Eurasia Information Network 3 (TEIN3). It will definitely enhance research collaboration between our researchers and their international counterparts in other countries.

## British Council and University Grants Commission of Bangladesh explore ideas for joint collaboration

The British Council INSPIRE team headed by its Country Director, Mr. Charles Nuttall OBE, met the new Chairman (State Minister) of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC), Professor Dr A K Azad Chowdhury at latter's office on June 20, 2011 to discuss and explore possibilities of further collaboration in the development of tertiary education in Bangladesh. The British Council in co-operation with UGC has been implementing its INSPIRE project that aims to significantly strengthen academic and research partnerships between UK and Bangladesh since 2008-9.



*Mr. Charles Nuttall OBE, Country Director, British Council-Dhaka met Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A.K. Azad Chowdhury at latter's office*

Professor Chowdhury appreciated the existing collaboration and is very keen to strengthen this in the years to come. It was agreed that this collaboration will be in three main areas: quality assurance and institutional leadership in higher education; the knowledge economy and knowledge transfer for higher education; and English in higher education in Bangladesh.

Professor Chowdhury also stated that UGC will appreciate the British Council's support to take forward the following activities in the near future: organising exchange visit programmes between Bangladesh and UK faculty members; organising training programmes for Bangladesh faculty members (both Public and Private) by bringing senior faculty members from the UK; organising exploratory visits to UK by Bangladesh faculty members and signing of MoUs to have special waiver in tuition fees for higher studies (MS, Ph. D., Post-Doc, etc.), curriculum updating, etc.

Professor Chowdhury also assured the British Council of UGC's on-going support and co-operation to materialize its INSPIRE activities in Bangladesh. Members of the UGC were also present in the meeting.

The next meeting between British Council and UGC is expected to be held at British Council- Dhaka sometime in the 2nd week of July 2011 to work out future collaborative strategies between them.

## Government appoints five National Professors

The government appointed five renowned academicians of the country as National Professors for next five years on June 20, 2011.

Hon'ble President Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, gave consent to these appointments under Bangladesh National Professor (appointment, conditions and facilities) Decisions Act 1981 and special consideration.

The appointed National Professors are— Professor Sardar Fazlul Karim, former Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Dhaka; Professor AF Salahuddin Ahmed, former Professor, Department of History, University of Dhaka; Professor Rangalal Sen, former Professor, Department of Sociology, University Dhaka; Professor Mustafa Nur ul Islam, former Professor, Department of Bangla, Jahangirnagar University and Dr. Shahla Khatun, former Professor, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University.

The newly appointed National Professors will get their honorarium from the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh.

They can undertake research on the subjects of their choice with any organization, but the Education Ministry and the UGC should be informed about it.

## Professor Nazrul Islam completes his tenure as UGC Chairman on May 6, 2011



Professor Nazrul Islam successfully completed his tenure as UGC Chairman on May 6, 2011. Professor Islam, who was the successor of Professor Dr. M. Asaduzzaman joined the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) on May 7, 2007. During his tenure, Private University Act, 2010 was

approved by Government. The Commission under his leadership approved a new organogram with 419 manpower. Under the new organogram, eight divisions have been setup instead of six. The new divisions are Public University Management Division and Strategic Planning, Quality Assurance and Right to Information Division. In addition, two of the six original divisions have been renamed. UGC formulated a guideline to stop the sexual harassment in country's higher education institutions and the Commission has handed over it to the concerned ministry. During his tenure, Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) was launched.

## 19 distinguished researchers adorned with UGC Award



*Hon'ble Finance Minister Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, M.P. addressing as Chief Guest at the UGC award ceremony*

The University Grants Commission of Bangladesh honoured nineteen distinguished researchers of different public and private universities with UGC Award for their fundamental and innovative research publications. UGC handed over the prestigious award to the researchers at a ceremony held at its own auditorium on April 27, 2011. Mr. Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, MP, Hon'ble Finance Minister graced the function as Chief Guest while distinguished scholar and researcher Professor Emeritus Dr. Anisuzzaman was present as the Special Guest. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam chaired the ceremony.

The recipients of the award for 2008 were: Dr. Asit Roy, Department of Theatre and Music, University of Rajshahi (Arts and Humanities), Professor Dr. Abdul Maleque, Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka (Law and Education), Dr. Pranab Kumar Panday, Associate Professor, Department of Public Administration, University of Rajshahi (Social Sciences), Dr. Mohammed Kamrul Huda, Associate Professor, Department of Botany, University of Chittagong (Biological Sciences), Dr. Mohammed Jasim Uddin, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering & Polymer Science, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (Chemical Sciences), Professor Dr. Md. Tofazzal Islam, Department of Biotechnology, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University (Agricultural Sciences), Professor Dr. A.A. Mamun, Department of Physics, Jahangirnagar University (Physical and Mathematical Sciences), Dr. Md. Ali Ahammad Shoukat Choudhury, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, BUET (Engineering and Technology), Professor Dr. Md. Abdus Samad, Department of Veterinary Medicine, Bangladesh Agricultural University (Text Book). The recipients for 2009 were: Dr. Ridwanul Hoque, Assistant Professor, Department of Law, University of Dhaka (Law and Education), Dr. Sayan Chakrabarty, Associate Professor Department of Economics, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (Social Sciences), Professor Dr. M. Enamullah, Department of Chemistry, Jahangirnagar University (Chemical Sciences),

Professor Dr. Khan Md. Shaiful Islam, Department of Animal Nutrition, Bangladesh Agricultural University (Agricultural Sciences), Professor Dr. M. Ataharul Islam, Department of Statistics, Biostatistics and Informatics, University of Dhaka (Physical and Mathematical Sciences), Dr. Khairul Alam, Assistant Professor, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, East West University (Engineering and Technology), Dhaka, Dr. Mohammad Nasir Uddin, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry, University of Chittagong (Clinical and Pharmaceutical Sciences), Professor Dr. Anwar Hossain, Department of Microbiology, University of Dhaka (Medical Sciences), Dr. Diba Hossain, Institute of Education & Research, University of Dhaka (Text Book) and Professor Dr. M. Ataharul Islam, Department of Statistics, Biostatistics and Informatics, University of Dhaka (Reference Book).

The Minister, in his speech, said economic upliftment of the country could be achieved only by building up a knowledge-based society. This requires the spreading of higher education and enhancement of its quality. He opined that research is essential for the enhancement of the quality of higher education. He, mentioning the limitation of the Government, observed that we allocate very limited resources for higher education especially for research. He urged the faculties in various universities to dedicate themselves earnestly to the enrichment of knowledge through research defying resource scarcity. The Special Guest Dr. Anisuzzaman stressed the need for research-publication and urged the teachers and researchers to take initiatives for joint research collaboration with foreign universities.

UGC Chairman, in his presidential speech, observed that UGC, as the apex body of higher education in the country, not only extends support to the administration and financial sectors of the universities, but also implements some specific programmes for university teachers. He stated that UGC Award stands for recognizing and encouraging the university teachers in their devotion to advanced research and publication. He appealed to the Finance Minister to allocate more budget in the field of research.

UGC Member Prof. Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman, in his welcome speech, observed, UGC recognizes the basic fact that research is required for enhancing knowledge and also getting access to the global knowledge bank. He noted that our faculties are not less talented than the faculties of the developed countries of the west. They only need adequate resources and incentives to make their research output competitive. Dr. Diba Hossain, the UGC Award recipient said, research is the pre-requisite of knowledge-based society. She observed that research stands for searching truth, information, history and culture and application of science and technology. Another recipient Dr. Jashim Uddin observed, UGC Award is a good initiative to consolidate the nation's academic foundation. The Commission had so far awarded 74 scholars on four different occasions in various fields during the period 1980-2007. UGC Members Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Amena Begum and Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly were also present on the occasion.

## New executive committee of UGC Officers' Association takes oath



*Newly elected executive committee of UGC Officers' Association taking oath from UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam*

The 5th Installation Ceremony-2011 of University Grants Commission (UGC) Officers' Association was held at UGC Auditorium on April 19, 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC was present as Chief Guest at the function and the newly elected executive committee for the tenure of 2011-2012 took oath from him. Members of UGC— Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor. Dr. Amena Begum, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly and Professor Dr. M. Muhibur Rahman were also present on the occasion.

Mr. Md. Kamal Hossain, Deputy Director, UGC was elected as the President of the new executive committee of UGC Officers' Association, while Mr. Dewan Golam Sarwar, Senior Assistant Director, UGC was elected as General Secretary.

Other members of the committee are: Vice-President-1 Mr. Md. Omar Faruque, Vice-President-2 Ms. Mauli Azad, Joint Secretary Mr. Md. Jalal Ahmed, Treasurer Mr. Md. Abdul Mannan, Organizing Secretary Mr. Md. Jamal Uddin, Sports and Cultural Secretary Mr. Md. Mustafejur Rahman, Members— Mr. Mohammad Masud Hossain, Mr. Md. Mostafizar Rahman and Engr. Mohammad Ziaur Rahman. All divisional heads, officers and staff of UGC were also present on the occasion.

## Certificate giving ceremony

Certificate giving ceremony of two courses offered by University Grants Commission of Bangladesh: 1. Computer Application for Office Automation and 2. Basic Spreadsheet Analysis held on April 20, 2011. Professor Dr. Amena Begum presided over the ceremony and UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was present as Chief Guest. The duration of both courses was 24 hours (2 hours per day). In Computer



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam handing over certificates among the participants*

Application for Office Automation course forty-one (41) participants received the certificates, out of which thirty-five are from UGC and rest from HEQEP. Five (5) participants got the certificate on Basic Spreadsheet Analysis and all of them are from UGC.

## Results of the Entrance Test of South Asian University, India

Results of the Entrance Test for admissions to various academic programmes of South Asian University, New Delhi have been published. The test was held on May 21, 2011. Thirty-seven Bangladeshi applicants have succeeded in getting admission for the academic session 2011-2012. The number of successful candidates is: M.A (Development Economics)-4, M.A (International Relations)-5, M.Sc. (Biotechnology)-6, M.A (Sociology)-10, M.Sc. (Computer Science)-6 and L.L.M (Master of Laws)-6.

## University of Dhaka

### MoU signed between ICCR and DU

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) and the University of Dhaka (DU) was signed on May 12, 2011 regarding establishment of 'Tagore Chair' by ICCR at the DU. High Commissioner of India in Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Rajeet Mitter and DU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique signed the MoU on behalf of ICCR and DU respectively at a ceremony held at the latter's office.

Deputy High Commissioner Mr. Sanjay Bhattacharya, First Secretary Dr. Manoj Kumar Mohapatra and Director of Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre Mr. Ankan Banerjee of the Indian High Commission were present on the occasion.

As per the MoU, ICCR in consultation with DU will appoint a competent academician who would be a Tagore-expert to hold this Chair.

Salary, allowances and all other costs of the 'Tagore Chair' will be borne by ICCR, while DU will provide all local facilities. The Chair will commence from July 1, 2011.

Congratulating and thanking the High Commissioner and the Indian Government for establishing the Chair at DU, Vice-Chancellor Professor Arefin Siddique expressed hope that the collaboration and friendly relations between Bangladesh and India will be further strengthened through this MoU.

High Commissioner Mr. Rajet Mitter termed the MoU signing ceremony as a historic occasion and hoped that this will help expand collaboration and cooperation between ICCR and DU as well as between India and Bangladesh.

## Jahangirnagar University

### International Conference on English Language



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury addressing the inaugural ceremony of the conference, organized by JU English Department*

A two-day long international conference on 'Thinking Other-wise with/in English Studies', organized by the English Department of Jahangirnagar University (JU), was held during 13-14 May 2011 at the seminar room of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC), Savar.

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) inaugurated the conference as Chief Guest, while Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir, Vice-Chancellor, JU addressed the session as Special Guest.

Professor Dr. Shamsad Mortuza, Convener of the Conference gave the thematic introduction while Mr. Mashrur Hossain, Chairman of the Department presided over the inaugural session. Professor Rajagopalan Radhakrishnan, Chancellor's Professor of English and Comparative Literature, University of California, USA presented the keynote paper.

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury said, as English is the medium of worldwide communication, there is no alternative to learn and practice English language to compete effectively with the rest of the world.

He also asked the authorities of both public and private universities of the country to ensure quality higher education. He said, 'Higher education institutions across the country, in both public and private hands, have failed to keep up the quality of higher education. The authorities of these institutions have to pay more attention to it.'

More than 200 participants from home and abroad participated in the conference while a total of 75 papers were presented by scholars from Australia, USA, India, Nepal and Bangladesh.

## Bangladesh University of Professionals

**M. Phil. and Ph.D. programmes launched**



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury and BUPhigh officials at the inaugural ceremony of M.Phil and Ph.D programme*

Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) launched M. Phil. and Ph.D. programmes at its campus. Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister) of University Grants Commission of Bangladesh formally inaugurated the programme on June 1, 2011. Vice-Chancellor of BAU, Major General Chowdhury Hasan Sarwady, BB, ndc, psc presided over the function. Senior faculty members, officers and students were present at the programme.

### New Vice-Chancellor joins



Major General Chowdhury Hasan Sarwady BB, ndc, psc joined Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) as its Vice-Chancellor on April 24, 2011. Before joining BUP he was the Director General of Bangladesh Ansar and VDP.

## Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University

**A seminar on higher education held**

A seminar on 'Higher Education of Bangladesh in Facing the Challenges of Globalization: Problems and Prospects' was held at the Sher-e-Bangla Agricultural University (SAU) on May 19, 2011. UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury was present as the Chief Guest while Professor Dr. Md. Shah-E-Alam, Vice Chancellor, SAU, was the Special Guest. Professor Dr. Md. Sarowar Hossain, President SAU Teachers' Association presided over the function.



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury addressing the AIF Promotional Workshop of HEQEP at SAU*

UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Azad Chowdhury, in his speech said that the researchers would have to take the responsibility to advance the country through generation of new innovation and ideas with a view to elevating the public university to the global standard.

Professor Dr. Md. Rafiqul Islam, Chairman, Department of Agricultural Extension & Information System, SAU presented the keynote paper in the seminar.

## Noakhali Science and Technology University

**Reception Ceremony**



*Hon'ble UGC Chairman (State Minister) Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury at the reception ceremony of NSTU*

A reception was accorded to Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury newly appointed Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh at Noakhali Science and Technology University (NSTU) on May 23, 2001.

Professor A K M Sayedul Haque Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, NSTU presided over the function, while Professor Dr. Abdul Jalil Mia, Vice-Chancellor, Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur, Professor Dr. Shahid Ullah Talukder, Vice-Chancellor, Sylhet Agricultural University, Professor Dr. M. Afzal Hossain, Vice-chancellor, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Dinajpur, Professor Dr. Abdul Mannan Akanda, Vice-Chancellor, Bangabandhu Agricultural University, Gazipur, Dhaka University Professor Dr. M Wahiduzzaman, Secretary, *Bishshobiddaloy Shadhinota Shikkhok Porishod* and Mr. Mahfuzur Rahman, Chief Executive, Bangladesh Computer Council were present as Special Guests.

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury in his speech said, if we can create quality graduates, we can capture the world job market and it has already been started by NSTU students. He appreciated the NSTU environment and assured the students of all facilities in the university.

## Chittagong University

### Seminar on urbanization

A Seminar on 'Bangladesh in Urbanization and Democratization', organized by the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies (GES) of Chittagong University (CU), was held on 23 April 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh presented the keynote paper at the seminar with Dr. Alak Paul, Chairman, GES Department, CU in the Chair. Professor Dr. Mohammad Alauddin, Vice-Chancellor (Acting), CU was also present on the occasion.

Professor Emeritus Dr. Jamal Nazrul Islam, UGC Professor Dr. Alamgir Mohammad Sirajuddin, Professor Dr. Saroj Kanti Singh Hazari, Vice-Chancellor, BGC Trust University, Chittagong, Professor Dr. Mohammad Nural Anwar, Dean, Biological Science Faculty, CU, among others, participated at the seminar.

### New Vice-Chancellor appointed

Professor Md. Anwarul Azim Arif, Department of Management Studies, Chittagong University (CU) was appointed the new Vice-Chancellor of CU on June 14, 2011.

Earlier, Professor Arif served as Pro Vice-Chancellor of CU from July 10 to November 13, 2001. Later, he took over as Vice-Chancellor of Premier University for four years.

## Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University

### 1<sup>st</sup> Convocation



*Hon'ble President Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman handing over certificates to the graduates and Ph.D. awardees*

Hon'ble President Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman called for increasing medical research activities at the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU), the only institution of higher medical education and research in the country, to help create world-class specialist physicians. 'I hope the researches to be conducted from this institution will not only bring benefits for the patients but will also play important role in the medical arena of the world,' he said.

The President gave the above call while presiding over the 1st Convocation of the BSMMU at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre on June 21, 2011.

Hon'ble Health Minister Dr. AFM Ruhul Haque, MP, Hon'ble Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Health Adviser to the Prime Minister Professor Dr. Syed Modasser Ali, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister) of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury and BSMMU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Pran Gopal Datta, among others, also spoke on the occasion.

A former adviser to the Caretaker Government and also former Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, was the Convocation Speaker.

## North South University

### Career Fair

The Department of Career and Professional Development Services (CPDS) of North South University (NSU) organized the 7<sup>th</sup> National Career Fair, under the title sponsor of Rabi Axiata Ltd. on May 28, 2011 at the NSU Bashundhara campus.



Professor Dr. A.K. Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission of Bangladesh inaugurated the event as Chief Guest

Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, Hon'ble Chairman (State Minister), University Grants Commission of Bangladesh inaugurated the event as Chief Guest while Professor Dr. Hafiz G A Siddiqui, Vice-Chancellor, NSU, Dr. Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Dean, School of Business, NSU, Mr. Azim Uddin Ahmed, Chairman, Board of Trustees, NSU Foundation and Mr. Matiul Islam Nowshad, Chief Human Resources Officer, Robi were also present at the programme.

## State University of Bangladesh

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Convocation

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Convocation Ceremony of State University of Bangladesh (SUB) was held at Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka on April 25, 2011. Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and also the Chancellor of the University presided over the occasion while Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as Special Guest.

Dr. Anisuzzaman, Professor Emeritus, University of Dhaka spoke on the occasion as Convocation Speaker. Professor Dr. Iftekhar Ghani Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, SUB and Dr. A M Shamim, President, Board of Trustees, SUB also spoke on the occasion.

The President called upon the university graduates to get established in their career through self-employment after obtaining higher education.

Emphasizing on quality higher education, the President also said people without quality education would not be able to sustain in the present day highly competitive world.

## Independent University, Bangladesh

### 'Sing the Jatiya Sangeet in Every School, Everyday'

The Rotary Club of Shymoli-Dhaka, Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra Parishad and Independent University,

Bangladesh (IUB), Dhaka jointly launched the project 'Sing the Jatiya Sangeet in Every School, Everyday' on March 28, 2011 at IUB's permanent campus at Bashundhara. Professor Dr. M Omar Rahman, Vice-Chancellor (In-charge), IUB, Rtn. Seyedur Rahman, President, Rotary Club of Shyamoli-Dhaka, Sabda Sainik Dr. Zahid Hossain Pradhan, President, Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra Parishad, and Mr. A Quaiyum Khan, Member of the IUB Trust spoke, among others, on this occasion. Under this project a pool of singers chosen from all over the country will be trained and encouraged to volunteer in their respective community and locality to help schools and institutions becoming proficient in singing the Jatiya Sangeet.

In the launching programme of the project the artists of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra Parishad entertained the audience with patriotic songs.

## Daffodil International University

### Seminar on 'Tobacco Control Act and Bangladesh'

Mr. Md. Abdus Shahid, Hon'ble Chief Whip, National Parliament of Bangladesh said, 'It is impossible to make the anti-tobacco movement a success without raising our values and creating social awareness with the participation of people from all walks of life. In this regard young generation, specially the students can play a vital role.' He made the above remark while addressing as Chief Guest at a seminar on 'Tobacco Control Act and Bangladesh', jointly organized by Daffodil International University (DIU) and Association for Prevention of Drug Abuse (MANAS) on May 26, 2011 to mark the 'World Tobacco Free Day' 2011 at DIU Auditorium.

Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Daffodil International University presided over the programme, while Professor Dr. Arup Ratan Choudhury, founder President of MANAS and Member of National Task Force on Tobacco Control presented the keynote paper.

The seminar was also addressed by Professor Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics, DIU, Ferdous Wahid, Joint Secretary of MANAS and country's renowned artist, Motiur Rahman Talukder, Organizing Secretary of MANAS and Syed Mizanur Rahman, Coordinator, Career Development Center, DIU.

### New Vice-Chancellor joins



Professor Dr. Lutfar Rahman, founder Chairman of Computer Science and Engineering Department, University of Dhaka and the founder Vice-Chancellor of Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur joined Daffodil International University (DIU) as its Vice-Chancellor on April 20, 2011.

Prior to joining as Vice-Chancellor he was working as Dean (part-time) of the Faculty of Science and Information Technology of DIU.

## Eastern University

### Foundation-Stone laying of permanent campus

The Foundation-Stone of the permanent campus of Eastern University was laid at Uttara on April 29, 2011. The Chief Guest of the programme Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP, Hon'ble Education Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh laid the stone ceremonially. Professor Dr. AKM Saiful Majid, Vice-Chancellor of Eastern University delivered the welcome address while it was presided over by Professor Dr. ABM Shahidul Islam, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Eastern University. It was also the 8th anniversary of the university.



*Hon'ble Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP unveiling the plaque of foundation-stone laying ceremony of permanent campus of Eastern University*

Appreciating the steps undertaken for developing the permanent campus, Chief Guest Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid, MP said 'it is a historical day for Eastern University. Through building permanent campus Eastern University is entering into a new era. It will definitely promote the qualitative development of the University. I expect that other private universities will build their own permanent campuses following the example of Eastern University'.

## Asian University for Women

### Foundation-stone laying ceremony

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that the Asian University for Women (AUW) would act as a bridge between the nations of Asia and help to extend collaboration for the development of this region. She said this while addressing the foundation-stone laying ceremony of AUW at Chittagong on April 26, 2011 as Chief Guest.



*Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina laying the foundation-stone of AUW*

Chaired by Cherie Blair, Chancellor of AUW and former first lady of UK, the function was also addressed by Dr. Dipu Moni M.P., Hon'ble Foreign Minister, Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid M.P., Hon'ble Education Minister, Ngozi Ikonjo Iweala, Managing Director, World Bank, Mr. Kamal Ahmed, Acting Vice-Chancellor, AUW, Professor Dr. Mary J Sansalone, Provost, AUW and senior government officials.

It is expected that the construction work of the university will be completed by 2013. World famous American architect Moshe Safdi designed the layout of the university.



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