



# UGC BULLETIN

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UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION OF BANGLADESH

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## Notes from the Chairman

### Reforming UGC

UGC has spent considerable time in proposing reform of the organization. It required both structural revision and human resource strengthening for better management. When UGC was established under the President's Order (P.O.) No. 10 of 1973, its responsibility was basically limited to facilitating the financial grants from the government to only six universities (all in the public sector). The Commission itself was composed of the Chairman and two full-time members. With increase in the number of universities in the public sector, and the emergence of private universities in the early 1990s, the number of full-time members of UGC was increased to five, with provision for nine part-time members, for the Full Commission with an amendment of the UGC Act in 1998. The UGC Act allows the organization to prepare and approve its own organogram according to its needs. However, for financial approval from the government, the organogram is normally reviewed by the Ministry of Education. The organogram approved by the 119th Full Commission of UGC on 19 May 2010, had proposed an organization of 408 persons. However, due to limitation of financial allocation, not more than 252 persons could be employed so far. Given the increased number of both public and private universities (34+54=88), it has become absolutely necessary to strengthen

the personnel capacity of the Commission. The Commission has very recently approved a new organogram, slightly increasing the total strength to 419 from 408, but significantly restructuring the character of the organization.

At present UGC has six divisions, namely 1. Administrative Division; 2. Finance and Accounts Division; 3. Planning and Development Division; 4. Research and Publication Division; 5. Private University Division; and 6. Training and Instrumentation Division. The proposed UGC will have eight divisions including two new ones namely, the Public University Management Division and the Strategic Planning, Quality Assurance and Right to Information Division. Two of the six original divisions have been renamed. The Research and Publication Division is renamed as Research Support and Publication Division and the Training and Instrumentation Division is renamed as Information Management Communication and Training Division. The two new divisions, Strategic Planning and the Information Management Communication, are expected to play a vital role in achieving the goal of 'Vision 2021' of the present government.



The Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) has a component for strengthening UGC, through establishment of the Strategic Planning, Quality Assurance and Right to Information Division. The Legal Cell has already been set up. The establishment of BdREN facilities in UGC will further support the strengthening of the Commission.

As the organizational structure of UGC is proposed through the new organogram, it has also become necessary to amend the UGC Act, to enable it to have effective authority over private universities and also to establish its autonomous character, so that it really functions as an apex body for higher education institutions in the country and plays a proper role in establishing excellence. We wish well for UGC and a bright future for higher education in Bangladesh.

**Professor Nazrul Islam**

## UGC submits its Annual Report 2009 to the President



UGC Chairman handing over UGC Annual Report 2009 to the Hon'ble President Md. Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban

The University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh submitted its Annual Report 2009 to the Hon'ble President Md. Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban on January 16, 2011.

A six-member delegation of the Commission led by its Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam called on the President and submitted the UGC annual report to him. President Zillur Rahman has asked

the University Grants Commission to increase its monitoring over all public and private universities to ensure quality higher education in the country.

The UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam apprised the President of various activities of the Commission and mentioned that the efforts are underway to establish universities in all districts as per the declaration made by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to expand the scope of higher education.

UGC Members – Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, Research and Publication Director Dr. Md. Lutfu Alam and UGC Secretary Md. Khaled were also present.

## Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the foundation work of Barisal University



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Laying the foundation stone of Barisal University along with Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP, Mr. Amir Hossain Amu MP, Mr. Tofail Ahmed MP, UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam and Barisal University Project Director Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid Khan

The Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of Barisal University was held on 22 February 2011. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was the Chief Guest on this occasion.

Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP, Mr. Amir Hossain Amu MP, Mr. Tofael Ahmed MP, UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Project Director of Barisal

University Professor Dr. Harun-or-Rashid Khan, among others, were with the Prime Minister on the occasion.

Later a view-exchange meeting with the high officials of Barisal Division was held at the local Circuit House with Divisional Commissioner of Barisal Mr. Abu Hena Md. Rahmatul Momenin in the chair.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said that her government has a plan to formulate an integrated project for overall socio-economic development of the country's southern region.

'Barisal and the entire southern region were very much neglected in the field of economic development. We've a plan to implement an integrated project to change the situation,' she said.

## Prime Minister lays foundation-stone of Sheikh Mujib Maritime University



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina along with Shipping Minister Mr. Shajahan Khan and Commandant of Bangladesh Marine Academy Sajjid Hussain at the foundation-stone laying ceremony of Sheikh Mujib Maritime University

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, on February 24, 2011, highlighted the need for quality education in the maritime sector, which would ensure a steady supply of skilled manpower to foreign countries and thereby enhance Bangladesh's

foreign remittances. 'We have already appealed to the United Nations (UN) for demarcation of the country's maritime territory. The UN will soon take necessary measures in this regard. We'll ensure rights to our maritime territory with the help

of international maritime laws, under the supervision of the UN,' said the Prime Minister while she was speaking in the foundation-stone laying ceremony of Sheikh Mujib Maritime University. Earlier, the Prime Minister reviewed the Marine Academy Parade at noon. She also addressed cadets of Bangladesh Marine Academy and handed over prizes. Later, she gave a speech as Chief Guest at the foundation-stone laying ceremony of Sheikh Mujib Maritime University.

'Besides, under the 'Establishing six new marine academies' project, we'll establish such institutes at Barisal, Khulana, Pabna, Rangpur, Narayanganj and Sylhet, at a cost of Tk. 800 crore,' she added.

Shipping Minister Mr. Shajahan Khan, Shipping Ministry Secretary Abdul Manan Hawlader, Nure Alam Chowdhury Liton, and Commandant of Bangladesh Marine Academy Sajjid Hussain, spoke on the occasion.

## Bangladesh University of Textile



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina speaking at the Inaugural Ceremony of Bangladesh University of Textile

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called upon the students to shun violent activities and placed emphasis on optimum use of technology in line with the

government's initiative to achieve 'Digital Bangladesh' by the year 2021. 'Don't be involved in violent activities...rather I will ask you to engage yourselves in maximum

use of ICT to cope with modern technology,' she said addressing a function marking the opening of Bangladesh University of Textile (BUT) on its campus at Tejgaon in the city on March 15, 2011. The Prime Minister said, 'our students are highly meritorious, they just need ideal academic environment and necessary facilities.'

Chaired by Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP, the function was also addressed by Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal MP, Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh Professor Nazrul Islam and BUT Vice-Chancellor Dr. Nitai Chandra Sutradhar.

On September 26, 2010 the Jatiya Sangsad passed the Bangladesh University of Textile Act. The only university of its kind, BUT has been upgraded from College of Textile Technology and it is the 34th public university in the country.

## Publication Ceremony held at UGC

A publication ceremony of two books – *Kabita Anjali* and *UGC Art Works Collection* was held on January 17, 2011 at University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh auditorium. Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Mr. Abul Kalam Azad MP graced the function as Chief Guest while Education Secretary and renowned poet Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, eminent artist Professor Hashem Khan and poet Professor Dr. Khondokar Ashraf Hossain were the Special Guests. UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam presided over the function.



*Information and Cultural Affairs Minister Mr. Abul Kalam Azad MP along with UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Education Secretary Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, artist Professor Hashem Khan and poet Professor Dr. Khandokar Ashraf Hossain at the book publication ceremony held at UGC*

The Minister in his speech highly lauded the Commission for organizing such function. He said, the university teachers have pioneered the field of aesthetics through their works alongside teaching and research. He said, the teacher-cum-artists and poets of our country have played their significant role in contributing to the nation building activities as and when necessary. He appealed to the university teachers to engage themselves more in creative works like modern arts, sculptures and poetry. The Minister assured the artiste community of extending necessary cooperation to carry out their creative activities.

Education Secretary observed that publication of fundamental and creative books was one of the activities of UGC and such books on higher education published by UGC have been making the education qualitative. Poems have infused enormous encouragement to our national movements including the Liberation War. The importance of arts, sculpture and literature is undeniable for flourishing the human civilization, he observed.

UGC Chairman, in his presidential speech said, Bangladesh has earned a commendable position for its cultivation of modern arts and sculpture in the global scenario. In this regard, he mentioned, the university teachers are the pioneers in this arena. Referring to the

poem, Professor Islam said, poets through their creative activities have made our literature rich.

It may be mentioned here that UGC, the apex body for academic institutions of tertiary level, organized two programmes in 2008 and 2009 to mark the International Mother Language Day. In 2008, UGC hosted an Art Workshop and in 2009 a self-composed poem recitation programme with the participation of university teacher-artists. *Kabita Anjali* and *UGC Art Works Collection*, published by UGC were the compilations of those poems recited and the art works drawn by the university teachers.

Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC delivered the welcome speech. UGC Members – Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Hakim, Professor Dr. Md. Tajul Islam, Vice-Chancellors of different universities, university teachers who participated in the art workshop and self-composed poem recitation programme and UGC employees were present on the occasion.

Later, a cultural soiree performed by the Rabindra, Nazrul and modern artistes was held, keeping the audience spellbound. University teacher-cum-artiste Laisa Ahmed Lisa, Leena Taposi Khan, Dr. Fahim Hasan Shahed and teachers and students of the Department of Music, University of Dhaka performed on this occasion.

## UGC-British Council workshop on 'Quality assurance and enhancement in higher education: Experience in the UK and possible implications for Bangladesh' held



*Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP along with UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, UGC Secretary Mr. Md. Khaled and Mr. Charles Nuttall OBE, Director, British Council-Bangladesh at the Policy Dialogue Workshop on quality assurance, jointly organized by UGC and British Council-Bangladesh*

A two-day Policy Dialogue Workshop on 'Quality assurance and enhancement in higher education: Experience in the UK and possible implications for Bangladesh', jointly organized by University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and British Council-Bangladesh was held on March 2-3, 2011 at Dhaka.



*Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, UGC with the participants of the workshop*

The workshop was designed to culminate the outcomes of British Council's Higher Education Project INSPIRE, which aims to strengthen the academic and research partnerships between Bangladesh and UK universities. Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP, Education Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as Chief Guest of the inaugural session of the workshop, while UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam presided over the function. Besides, Mr. Charles Nuttall OBE, Director, British Council-Bangladesh, and UGC Secretary Mr. Md. Khaled also spoke on the occasion. Dr. Robert William Munn, Emeritus Professor of Chemical Physics, University of Manchester, UK conducted the workshop.

Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP said, 'we have made much headway with our education system and I hope this workshop will help further develop our education system so that Bangladeshi students are benefited tremendously. The government is determined to ensure transparency and accountability in higher education'.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam said, 'we are pleased that British Council is supporting Bangladesh's higher education by providing with resources to develop and enhance quality assurance; we can learn much by sharing the experiences of UK and Bangladesh.'

Vice-Chancellors, Pro Vice-Chancellors, Deans and other officials from public and private universities took part at the workshop.

### **Meeting of the Governing Board of the South Asian University was held in New Delhi**

The 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Governing Board of the South Asian University was held in New Delhi on 7 March 2011.

Seven SAARC Member States had nominated two persons each to serve on the Governing Board of the

University. All fourteen Members attended the maiden meeting. The Secretary General of SAARC also sent her representative to participate. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and Mr. Sufiur Rahman, Director General, SAARC Desk, represented Bangladesh as Board Members.

Professor Mohammad Osman Babury, Afghanistan's Deputy Minister for Higher Education, was elected Chairman of the Governing Board, a position that he will hold for a one-year term.

The Governing Board appointed Professor G.K. Chadha as the first President of the South Asian University for a five-year term. A former Vice Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University and former member of the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, Professor Chadha has been the CEO of the South Asian University Project Office since May 2008 and guided the process that enabled the University to start its academic operations in August 2010.

The Governing Board considered various matters and proposals placed before it, and provided valuable guidance and recommendations. As the apex policy organ of the South Asian University, the Governing Board's inputs, suggestions and approvals will ensure the proper development and smooth operations of the University.

Members of the Governing Board noted the absence of nominees from Pakistan at its first meeting. Recognising the importance of Pakistan in participating fully in all the processes, tasks and funding of the South Asian University, the Board requested the Secretary General of SAARC to request the Government of Pakistan to nominate its members to the Governing Board as early as possible, and also its Focal Point for conducting the South Asian University's Common Entrance Examination which is scheduled to be held on 21 May in select cities in all SAARC Member States for admitting students into six courses that are on offer in the academic year beginning in July 2011.

These six courses are: MA (Development Economics), M.Sc. (Computer Science), M.Sc. (Biotechnology), MA (Sociology), MA (International Relations) and LL.M (Master of Laws).

### **UGC Chairman Attends Conference on Urbanization**

A Special Conference on Urbanization, Traffic Jam and Environment, organized by Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA) and Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN), was held on January 8, 2011 at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of Management (BIM).



*State Minister for Environment and Forest Dr. Hasan Mahmud MP, Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of UGC and Vice-President of BAPA, Professor Dr. Mozaffar Ahmed and other distinguished guests at the concluding session of the special conference on Urbanization, Traffic Jam and Environment*

The State Minister for Housing & Public Works Advocate Abdul Mannan Khan MP was present as Chief Guest at the inaugural session of the Conference, while Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Former Professor, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET) was the Special Guest. BAPA President Professor Muzaffar Ahmed presided over the session.

There were 10 parallel sessions for around 44 scientific papers, 2 Plenary and 2 General Sessions in the day-long programme. The General and Plenary Sessions included issues of urbanization outside Dhaka city, traffic issues & transport policy, sustainable urbanization in Bangladesh and urbanization issues of Bangladesh.

The concluding session of the conference was graced by Dr. Hasan Mahmud MP, State Minister for Environment and Forest as Chief Guest, while Professor Nazrul Islam, Vice President of BAPA and Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh chaired the session.

### **Malaysian High Commissioner calls on UGC Chairman**

The Malaysian High Commissioner in Bangladesh His Excellency Mr. Jamaluddin Sabeh called on Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh at the latter's office on February 8, 2011. Dr. Wong Kah Hieng, Principal, Perdana College of Malaysia, Bangladesh was with him at that time.

Welcoming them at his office UGC Chairman briefed them about the activities of UGC. They discussed about various issues regarding the problems and prospects of higher education in Bangladesh and Malaysia.



*Malaysian High Commissioner in Bangladesh H.E. Mr. Jamaluddin Sabeh at the office of UGC Chairman*

They also held talks on bi-lateral issues of both the countries, specially the investment prospects of Malaysia in the field of higher education in Bangladesh. Among others, UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly and UGC Secretary Mr. Md. Khaled were also present at the meeting.

### **UGC Chairman Inaugurates Debating Competition**

The inaugural ceremony of 'Sandalina Prothom Alo Viqarunnisa Noon Debating Club 6th Children, 16th Inter-School, 6th Inter-College and 14th Inter-Club Debating Competition 2011', organized by Viqarunnisa Noon Debating Club, was held on 10 February 2011.

Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Mr. Anisul Haque, Deputy Editor, The Daily Prothom Alo and Mr. Zafar Ahmed, Executive Vice-President, Sales and Marketing, Kohinoor Chemical Co. (Bangladesh) Ltd. were present as Special Guests. Mr. Rashed Khan Menon MP, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Education and Chairman of the Governing body of Viqarunnisa Noon School and College chaired the programme. Among others, Ms. Hosne Ara Begum, Principal of the College and the Chief Patron of Viqarunnisa Noon Debating Club was also present on the occasion.

### **UGC Chairman chairs discussion meeting on Paintings of Rabindranath**

A discussion meeting on 'Paintings of Rabindranath', on the occasion of Immortal Ekushey Book Fair 2011 was held at Bangla Academy premise on February 16, 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh presided over the programme. Professor Borhanuddin Khan



*Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and other distinguished guests at the discussion meeting on 'Paintings of Rabindranath'*

Jahangir presented the keynote paper while Professor Abul Mansur, art critic Mr. Moinuddin Khaled and Mr. Sharif Atiq-uz-Zaman took part in the discussion.

After the discussion meeting, UGC Chairman also launched a book named *Gola Vaura Bidhoba Mayur* by Poet Shamsul Arefin.

### **UGC Chairman attends Conference on History and Heritage**

Itihas O Oitijjho Sammelon-2011 (Conference on History and Heritage-2011), organized by Itihas Academy, was held on 18 February 2011 at Asiatic Society Auditorium. Barrister Shafiq Ahmed, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was present as Chief Guest, while Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh, Professor Dr. Sirajul Islam, President, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh, Professor Shamsur Rahman, and Director General, National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) were present as Special Guests.

Dr. A K M Yakub Ali, Professor Emeritus, Department of Islamic History and Culture, Rajshahi University presented the keynote paper. Itihas Academy President Professor Dr. K M Mohsin presided over the programme.

### **UGC Chairman inaugurates Art Exhibition of Japanese Artist**

The inaugural Ceremony of a nine day-long Printmaking Workshop and Art Exhibition of visiting Japanese Artist Fudezuka Toshihisa was held on February 25, 2011. The workshop was held at Cosmos Atelier71 Printmaking Studio and the exhibition was held at the Gallery Cosmos in the city.

Chief Information Commissioner Mr. Muhammad Zamir and UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam jointly inaugurated the event.

### **UGC Chairman attends book launching ceremony**

A book titled 'City of an Architect' by Mahbubur Rahman was launched at Asiatic Society Auditorium in Dhaka. Information Minister Mr. Abul Kalam Azad MP was the Chief Guest of the programme. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh; Professor Dr. Sharif uddin Ahmed, Department of History, Dhaka University; Haroon-ur Rashid, Head of Architecture Department, North South University; Architect Mustapha Khalid Palash, Chairman of Delvistaa Foundation; Architect Shahzia Islam, among others, spoke on the occasion.

The speakers discussed the content, writings and the sketches of the book. The book includes 162 sketches of historically and culturally significant buildings in Dhaka. The sketches were done by architecture students of North South University and University Teknologi Malaysia. The book describes the splendour of the city's architecture and its historical values.



*(From left) Mahbubur Rahman, Mustapha Khalid Palash, Haroon-ur Rashid, Shahzia Islam, Information Minister Mr. Abul Kalam Azad MP, UGC Chairman Prof. Nazrul Islam and Prof. Sharif uddin Ahmed at the book launching ceremony*

Professor Nazrul Islam said, 'we have been neglecting our heritage. This is most unfortunate for a nation. This scenario is almost identical for all the heritage sites across the country.'

He further said, 'the book is divided into several phases. It's informative and has lots of sketches with wonderful descriptions. Readers can finish the book in one sitting; it's almost like reading a novel.'

Dr Sharif uddin Ahmed said, 'years of irregularities and negligence by the authorities concerned have led to damage, destruction and even unlawful occupation of archaeological sites across the country, but such continuous loss of national heritage has failed to yield the concerned departments' attention.'

Haroon-ur Rashid said that the book covers many areas and it provides insight into several unknown historical stories about the city. Rahman's contribution to the country through this book is much appreciated, he added.

## UGC Personnel News

### Md. Khaled



Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC attended a day-long national seminar on 'Quality needs in Higher Education' organized by Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) on March 22, 2011. The theme of the seminar was 'Approaches for Quality Needs in Higher Education: Bangladesh Perspective.' Md. Khaled presented a paper titled 'Roadmap to Formation of an Accreditation Council for Quality Assurance in Bangladesh' in the conference.

### Dr. Nasima Rahman



University of Dhaka at its Syndicate Meeting held on December 30, 2010 awarded Ph.D. degree to Ms. Nasima Rahman for her thesis 'The Role of Micro Credit for Creation of Women Entrepreneur in Bangladesh : An Anthropological Study' completed under the supervision of Professor Dr. Anwarullah Chowdhury. Ms. Nasima Rahman is working as Deputy Director of Research and Publication Division, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh.

### Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan



Dr. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Deputy Secretary (Scholarship), UGC attended a two day-long national conference titled 'Shaping the Contours of a Higher Education Policy in Nepal', held during February 10-11, 2011 in Kathmandu, Nepal. The conference was organized by the Ministry of Education of Nepal in collaboration with the National Planning Commission (NPC), the University Grants Commission of Nepal and the UNESCO Office in Kathmandu. Dr. Bhuiyan presented a paper on 'Higher Education in Bangladesh : Practice and Challenges' in this conference.

### Engineer Mohammad Ziaur Rahman



Engineer Mohammad Ziaur Rahman, Assistant Secretary, UGC, has received his M. Sc. in Electrical and Electronic Engineering degree from the 10th BUET Convocation, which was held on February 3, 2011 at BUET campus. The title of his thesis is: 'Capacity Forecasting and Design of an Optical Fiber Backbone Network in Bangladesh.' The research has been conducted under the supervision of Professor Dr. Md.

Saifur Rahman, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, BUET.

He has also attended the 52nd Convention of IEB and National Seminar on 'Engineers' Role in Socio-Economic Development and Environment', organized by IEB and presented a technical paper on 'Progress of Solar Panel Manufacturing Process in Bangladesh and its Challenges' in February 2011. He has also been elected a member of 'Electrical and Electronic Engineering Divisional Committee' of IEB for 2011-2012 term.

## Public Universities News

### University of Dhaka

#### Recipient of Independence Award 2011

The University of Dhaka received the Independence Award, the highest state recognition, this year in the category of education. Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice-Chancellor, Dhaka University received the award from the Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on behalf of the university on March 24, 2011 at the Independence Award 2011 Distribution Ceremony at Osmani Auditorium.

It may be noted that the University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh nominated Dhaka University for the award. UGC congratulates the University.

Besides DU, Bangladesh Police in the category of independence and liberation war and seven personalities- Gaus Khan (posthumous), Sangharaj Jyotipal Mahathero (posthumous), Dr. Neelima Ibrahim (posthumous) Nutan Chandra Singho (posthumous), AKM Shamsuzzoha (posthumous). Air Vice-Marshal (rtd) Abdul Karim Khandaker, Beer Uttam (independence and liberation war) and M Abul Hashem Khan (culture) were given the accolade this year.

- The Annual Exhibition of the Artworks of the students of Sculpture Department of Fine Arts Faculty, University of Dhaka was inaugurated by Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh as Chief Guest on February 12, 2011 at the Zainul Gallery of Fine Arts Faculty. Professor Emdadul Haque Md. Matlub Ali, Dean, Faculty of Fine Arts, Dhaka University presided over the programme. Among others, Professor Md. Hamiduzzaman Khan, Chairman, Department of Sculpture, DU was also present on the occasion.

### Bangladesh Agricultural University

A two day-long Participatory Workshop, organized by Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) Teachers Association, with the aim of formulating recommendations for improving academic quality of BAU graduates, was held at BAU during January 8-9, 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University

Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh graced the plenary session of the workshop as Chief Guest, while Professor Dr. M. A. Sattar Mandal, Vice-Chancellor, BAU was present as Chief Patron of the session.

The workshop included four interactive sessions, one students' session, two teachers' sessions and one plenary and recommendation session.

- Hon'ble President Zillur Rahman has urged the country's agriculture scientists to invent climate and salinity tolerant species of paddy and vegetables in the changing circumstances of global warming.



*Hon'ble President Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman handing over Chancellor's Gold Medal to a convocnee student at the 6th convocation of Bangladesh Agricultural University*

'It is a great challenge for us to face the negative impact of the global climate change,' he said while presiding over the 6th Convocation of Bangladesh Agricultural University on March 8, 2011.

Dr. Prabhu Pingali, Deputy Director, Agriculture Development Division of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, was the Convocation Speaker.

The President said that devastating cyclones like Sidr and Aila have harmed the environment over a vast area while salinity is gradually increasing in the southern region of the country.

'Due to the country's geographical location, we will have to live in such environment and adapt ourselves to it,' he added.

BAU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. MA Sattar Mandal, among others, also spoke on the occasion.

At the Convocation 5992 graduates, 6,438 post-graduates and 263 Ph.D. convocnees were conferred degrees.

### **Jahangirnagar University**

To build a developed Bangladesh through the establishment of democracy in all sectors, everybody has to come ahead with the government, said Sayed Ashrafur Islam, LGRD Minister, Government of the



*Jahangirnagar University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir handing over a crest to LGRD Minister Sayed Ashrafur Islam at the reception programme at Jahangirnagar University*

People's Republic of Bangladesh. The people of the country must have the scope to know about the accountability and responsibility of the rulers for ensuring democracy, so that corruption, terrorism and nepotism do not exist in the society, the Minister also said. Student politics is necessary for building proper future leadership and it should not be used for terrorism, extortion or any kind of nuisance in the universities, he added. He warned the politicians mentioning the recent revolution in Egypt and Tunisia and urged everybody to work for the betterment of the people so that Bangladesh could reach its 'vision 2021.' The minister urged the students to achieve knowledge for building a golden and rich country. Sayed Ashrafur Islam made these remarks as Chief Guest at a reception programme on February 12, 2011 at Jahangirnagar University campus. Presided over by Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University Professor Dr. Shariff Enamul Kabir, Professor Dr. A K Azad Chowdhury, former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University was the Special Guest of the programme. Pro Vice-Chancellor (academic) Professor Dr. Mohammed Muniruzzaman, Pro Vice-Chancellor (administration) Professor Dr. Md. Forhad Hossain, and faculty deans attended the programme.

### **Bangladesh Open University**

A Certificate Awarding Ceremony of five day-long workshop on Multimedia Programme Development, organized by Bangladesh Open University (BOU), was held on February 8, 2011 at Dhaka. The co-sponsors of the workshop are Ministry of Education, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh (UGC) and Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada. Education Secretary Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury distributed certificates among the participants. Professor Nazrul Islam Chairman, University Grants Commission of Bangladesh and Vice-Chancellor of BOU Professor Dr.



*Education Secretary Dr. Kamal Abdul Naser Chowdhury, UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, Bangladesh Open University Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. R.I.M. Aminur Rashid and other distinguished guests at the certificate awarding ceremony of the workshop on Multimedia Programme Development*

R.I.M. Aminur Rashid were also present on the occasion. The purpose of the workshop is to develop academic collaboration among universities of the SAARC region aiming at enhancing capacity, improving quality teaching and creating partnerships. A total of forty-two teachers and officers from the universities of India, Pakistan, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal and Bangladesh participated in the workshop. Professor Santi Narayan Ghosh, the Treasurer of BOU was the convener of the workshop.

Deans, Professors, Registrar, Directors and high officials were also present on the occasion.

- A three day-long workshop on 'Tutor Training', jointly organized by Bangladesh Open University and Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Canada on Open and Distance Learning (ODL) was held on February 22-24, 2011 at Gazipur. Vice-Chancellor of BOU Professor Dr. R.I.M. Aminur Rashid inaugurated the workshop and said that the participants of the workshop can enhance their knowledge on ICT and ODL through this workshop. A total of fifty-four tutors of the SSC and HSC programmes of BOU and the faculty members participated in the workshop.

Professor A Saha, Vice-Chancellor, University of Tripura, India distributed certificates among the participants in the closing ceremony on February 24, 2011 at BOU.

### **Khulna University of Engineering & Technology**

A three day-long International Conference on 'Solid Waste Management in Developing Countries' was held at Khulna University of Engineering & Technology (KUET) on 13-15 February 2011. Mayor of Khulna City Corporation (KCC) Mr. Talukdar Abdul Khaleque inaugurated the conference as Chief Guest. Vice-Chancellor of KUET Professor Dr. Muhammed Alamgir presided over the inaugural ceremony. Professor Dr.

Echard Craft, Bauhaus University Weimar, Germany and ORBIT Association & Professor Dr. Raffaello Cossu, Padova University of Italy and International Waste Working Group (IWG) addressed as Special Guests. Scientists, scholars, teachers, academicians and many others from home and abroad were present in the inaugural ceremony.

### **Shahjalal University of Science and Technology**

A three day-long conference on Environmental Technology and Construction Engineering was held on March 1, 2011 at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet.

SUST Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Md. Saleh Uddin inaugurated the conference.

Former Vice-Chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, Professor Dr. AMM Safiullah, addressed the inaugural session as Chief Guest, while the SUST Applied Science Faculty Dean, Professor Dr. Muhammad Jafar Iqbal and the Khulna University of Science and Technology Professor Dr. Muhammad Alamgir joined the programme as Special Guests.

SUST Civil and Environmental Engineering Department organised the conference to find out the ways of sustainable development in environmental technology and construction engineering to cope with global warming.

### **Jagannath University**

A seminar was held on 'War Criminal Trial and Media Responsibility' to mark the Jagannath University Journalist Associations' (JnUJA) fourth founding anniversary at University Central Auditorium on March 9, 2011. Former Home Minister Mr. Mohammad Nasim was present as Chief Guest while Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed inaugurated the seminar. President of the Federal Union of Journalists Mr. Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury, BSS Managing Editor Aizul Islam Bhuyan, Daily Samakal Managing Editor Abu Sayed Khan, University Treasurer Professor Dr. Sawkat Jahangir also spoke on the occasion. JnUJA president Mohiuddin Ahmed presided over the seminar.

- Teachers, students and employees of Jagannath University on March 8, 2011 demanded that the government should take initiative to free its twelve residential halls and lands occupied by various quarters for a long time. They made this demand from a human chain formed at the Shahid Minar of the campus. Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed said that the university authorities had been trying to retrieve the residential halls. He also urged the government to evict the grabbers and sought the Hon'ble Prime Minister's help in this regard.

## Bangladesh University of Professionals

A seminar on 'Approaches for Quality Needs in Higher Education: Bangladesh Perspective', organized by Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP), was held on 22 March 2011 at A2 Hall, DSCSC, Mirpur, Dhaka. Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed, Advisor (Education, Social Development & Political Affairs) to the Hon'ble Prime Minister inaugurated the seminar as Chief Guest, while Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh was present as Special Guest. BUP Vice-Chancellor Major General Md. Shafiqul Islam, ndc, psc presided over it, while Commodore Jasim Uddin, Dean FSSS, BUP delivered the welcome address.

Professor Dr. Charles C. Villanueva, Dean, Faculty of Business Administration, American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) presented the keynote paper. The seminar was aimed to integrate the concept of quality assurance in higher learning with enhanced levels of international compatibility through capacity building. Papers on various issues regarding quality assessment in higher education and quality needs in the universities of Bangladesh were presented at the Business Session by Professor Shirley Gregor, Australian National University, Australia; Professor Dr. AMM Safiullah, former Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET); Dr. Tim Turner, Australian Defence Force Academy, UNSW, Australia; Professor Farhat Anwar, Dhaka University; Mr. Md. Khaled, Secretary, UGC of Bangladesh; Professor Mozhar Ali, AIF Management Specialist, Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP), UGC and Professor Dr. Charles C. Villanueva, Dean, AIUB. The Business Session was chaired by Professor Dr. Jamilur Reza Choudhury, Former Vice-Chancellor, BRAC University.

## Patuakhali Science and Technology University

The first Convocation of Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) was held on February 27, 2011 at the university campus.

Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP presided over the Convocation as the representative of PSTU's Hon'ble Chancellor and President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, while Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission, was the Convocation Speaker.

In his speech the Education Minister said, 'the young generation must learn modern technology to contribute to the development of the country as the present government is giving all-out supports in this regard. At the same time, they should build themselves as the honest citizens of the country, and ameliorate morality and ethics,' The Minister was glad to learn that no classes and exams were suspended in this university in last two years.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam, PSTU Vice-Chancellor Dr. Syed Shakawat Hossain also delivered speech at the Convocation. Barisal City Corporation Mayor Mr. Shawkot Hossain Hiron, Dharendra Debnath Shambhu MP, DC of Patuakhali Mr. Mohammad Yousuf, Police Super Mr. Azad Mia, Dumki Upazila Parishad Chairman Mr. Harun-or-Rashid Howlader, AL district unit Secretary Mr. Khan Mosharraf Hossain, Members of Academic Council, journalists and distinguished guests were also present at the Convocation.

The PSTU authority conferred graduation degree on 720 students of different faculties of the years from 2007 to 2010 and also on those who completed MS and PhD programmes by December 2010. Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP handed over gold medals to 11 convoocees for their outstanding results.

● A sculpture named 'Joy Bangla', built in memory of the great Liberation War, was inaugurated at Patuakhali Science and Technology University (PSTU) on March 30, 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh and an eminent art critic of the country was present as



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam along with UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, PSTU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Syed Sakhawat Hussain and Director of Janata Bank Ltd. Advocate Baloram Poddar unveiling the plaque of the sculpture 'Joy Bangla' at Patuakhali Science and Technology University*

Chief Guest on the occasion, while UGC Member Professor Dr. Atful Hye Shibly, sculptor Professor Hamiduzzaman Khan and Director of Janata Bank Limited Advocate Baloram Poddar were present as Special Guests. PSTU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Syed Sakhawat Hussain presided over the programme.

UGC and Janata Bank Limited jointly funded to build the sculpture, which is placed in front of the Administrative Building of PSTU.

## Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University

The 1st Convocation of Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HDSTU) was held on December 9, 2010. Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP presided over the occasion as the representative of Hon'ble Chancellor Md. Zillur Rahman, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh while former Governor of Bangladesh Bank Dr. Md. Farashuddin was present as the Convocation Speaker. HDSTU Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. M. Afzal Hossain was the convener of the programme.

In his speech Education Minister gave heartfelt congratulations to the new graduates of HDSTU. He expressed his desire that these graduates will play their proper role to build a poverty and hunger free enlightened Bangladesh. He also said that within a decade of its establishment, HDSTU has achieved significant progress and has created a good image in the arena of education and research of Bangladesh.

In the 1st Convocation 818 successful students of different programmes were awarded certificates. Of them, 9 got Ph.D., 79 secured MS and 730 obtained Bachelor degrees.

## BRAC University

A seminar on 'Prevention of Diabetes' was held at BRAC University on March 1, 2011. The Diabetic Association of Bangladesh in association with BRAC University organized this seminar with a view to raising awareness about diabetes and ways to its prevention.

President of the Diabetic Association of Bangladesh Professor AK Azad Khan was present as Chief Guest while Professor Tofayel Ahmed presented the keynote paper on diabetes at the seminar. Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice-Chancellor, BRAC University presided over the seminar. Professor Azad Khan said diabetes is an epidemic disease across the world. Anyone irrespective of age, sex or socio-economic background might be affected by diabetes.

Professor Tofayel Ahmed said physical inactivity is the prime reason of diabetes. 'At least 19 lakh people die per year due to physical inactivity', he said adding that diabetes is preventable. Regular physical exercise and bringing change in diet habit can prevent diabetes.

● 6<sup>th</sup> Convocation of BRAC University was held on February 7, 2011 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka. Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP was the Chief Guest and Mary Robinson, Hon'ble former President of the Republic of Ireland was the Convocation Speaker. Sir Fazle Hasan

Abed, the Special Guest has expressed his hope that the BRAC University will continue to play its role in providing quality education in the country. Professor Dr. Ainun Nishat, Vice-Chancellor, BRAC University presided over the Convocation.

## Bangladesh University

Bangladesh University organized an orientation for its Spring 2011 freshers on March 12, 2011 at its campus. In the programme Professor Dr. A. K. M. Aminul Haque, National Professor and former Vice-Chancellor, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh was present as Chief Guest. Dr. Md. Shafiqul Islam, Professor, Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology was present as Special Guest. Professor Dr. Golam Ali Fakir, Vice-Chancellor (in-charge) of Bangladesh University presided over the orientation programme.

National Professor Dr. A. K. M. Aminul Haque in his address asked the students to broaden their horizon of knowledge to lead a real human life. Members of Board of Trustees of Bangladesh University Engineer M.A. Ghulam Dastagir, Quazi Mozaher Ali, Head, Department of Business Administration, Professor Dr. Rowshan Kamal, and Head, Department of CSE Mr. Sadiq Iqbal spoke on the occasion, among others. The faculty members and the students were present in the programme.

## Gono Bishwabidyalay



*Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP,  
Education Minister*



*Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman  
University Grants Commission*

Gono Bishwabidyalay celebrated its 1st Convocation on January 12, 2011 at Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Savar. Education Minister Mr. Nurul Islam Nahid MP presided over the Convocation Ceremony on behalf of the Chancellor of the University and Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman. Chairman of the University Grants Commission of Bangladesh Professor Nazrul Islam graced the occasion as Special Guest. Professor Dr. A.F. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Emeritus Professor of Dhaka University was the Convocation Speaker. 624 graduates from three faculties were awarded certificates in the Convocation. Treasurer, Deans and Members of the Trustee Board of the Gono Bishwabidyalay and the Gonoshasthaya Kendra, Vice-



*Professor Dr. Sirajul Islam  
Chowdhury, Convocation Speaker*



*Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmed  
VC, Gono Bishwabidyalay*

Chancellors and Pro Vice-Chancellors from different universities and local elite were present on the occasion.

Ms. Taherunnesa Abdullah, President of the Gono Bishwabidyalay Trustee Board welcomed the guests and graduates on behalf of the university. Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor of the University in his speech outlined the background of the foundation of the University, its aim and objectives and categorically expressed that the university has no commercial bias and has been maintaining the standard of education right from the beginning. Its aim is to develop the human resources and help the students to become competent and patriotic citizens.

Professor Dr. A.F. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury in his speech commented that the activities of Gono Bishwabidyalay are highly admirable. He was happy to see that the University is led by the spirit of freedom struggle and Liberation War, provide education to the poor and backward population of the country and endeavoring to reduce gender difference. He opined that a university is not only an institution for imparting book-based knowledge but also a centre to generate in the students the sense of responsibility and obligation to the society at large.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam in his speech appreciated the way the Gono Bishwabidyalay is progressing. He was glad to see that the university is planning to shift to its permanent campus very soon. Professor Nazrul Islam expressed his hope that the expansion of the university will be carried out in a pragmatic way and standard of education will be ensured.

The Education Minister in his speech said that he was happy to see that Gono Bishwabidyalay has progressed admirably since its establishment in 1998. He expressed his hope that the authorities of the university will maintain this trend and uphold the standard of education. He categorically opined that the ministry does not differentiate between the public and private universities. The ministry is interested to see that the standard of education is maintained in a meaningful way, whether it is in the public or private university.

## **University of Asia Pacific**

The foundation stone laying ceremony of the University of Asia Pacific was held with unveiling of the plaque by Hon'ble President Md. Zillur Rahman at Dhaka on March 20, 2011. The President in his speech praised the achievement of the University so far in the academic field and extra-curricular activities.

The Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Engineer M. Abu Taher and Vice-Chancellor of the University, Professor Dr. Abdul Matin Patwari spoke on the occasion.

UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam was present as Special Guest on this occasion.

## **Bangladesh University of Business and Technology**

Hon'ble President Md. Zillur Rahman on March 21, 2011 urged the university students to make their due contribution to turn the country into a developed and rich nation within next ten years when it will celebrate the golden jubilee of its independence.

The President gave the call while addressing the 1st Convocation of Bangladesh University of Business and Technology (BUBT) held at the Bangabandhu International Conference Centre, Dhaka.

Adviser to the Prime Minister Professor Dr. Alauddin Ahmed and University Grants Commission Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam also spoke on the occasion while Professor Rehman Sobhan was the Convocation Speaker.

Chairman of BUBT Trustee Board Professor Dr. Shafique Ahmed Siddique and BUBT Vice-Chancellor Professor Md. Abu Saleh, among others, also spoke on the occasion.

## **IBAIS University**

The Scholarship Awarding Ceremony of IBAIS University for the years 2008 and 2009 was held on March 10, 2011. Professor Dr. Zakaria Lincoln, President of the University was the Chief Guest. Professor Dr. Khandkar Rezaur Rahman, Vice-Chancellor of IBAIS University presided over the ceremony. Registrar Professor Dr. Munibur Rahman Chowdhury delivered the welcome address. In three categories 366 students were awarded scholarships totaling Taka 10 lac 71 thousand.

## **Northern University Bangladesh**

Department of Law, Northern University Bangladesh (NUB) organized a seminar on 'Media (Print and Electronic) Laws of Bangladesh: Problems and Prospects and Freedom of Press and Contempt of Court Interface' on February 26, 2011. Barrister Shafique Ahmed, Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs was present as Chief Guest.



*Barrister Shafique Ahmed, Minister, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs at the seminar on Media Laws of Bangladesh, organized by Northern University Bangladesh*

Professor Dr. AWM Abdul Huq, Dean, Faculty of Law, NUB presided over the function while Professor Dr. M Shamsul Haque, Vice-Chancellor, NUB delivered the inaugural speech. Barrister Khondaker M. S. Kawser presented the keynote paper.

Barrister Shafique Ahmed said present government believes in the freedom of press and that is why the government has passed a law in favor of media. No one can harass a journalist if (s)he publishes authentic and realistic news. Court is the last shelter of people, so we should comment with proper care, he added.

### University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh

University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) awarded scholarships to its highest-achieving students at its own campus on February 3, 2011. The Award Ceremony was attended by ULAB Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Rafiqul Islam and Heads of Departments. Scholarship Patron and President of ULAB Board of Trustees Kazi Shahed Ahmed was also present to give out the awards.

### State University of Bangladesh

Department of English Studies of State University of Bangladesh (SUB) organised a seminar on English



*Professor AMM Hamidur Rahman, Head of English Studies Department, SUB speaking at the seminar on English Language, Literature and ELT*

Language, Literature and ELT for prospective M.A. students at SUB campus on January 21, 2011. Professor A.M.M Hamidur Rahman, Head of the Department of English Studies presided over the seminar.

Dr A.K.M Waliul Islam, Associate Professor of the Institute of Modern Languages (IML), University of Dhaka and Adjunct Faculty of SUB, Professor Shafi Ahmed of Jahangirnagar University, Professor Tahmina Ahmed, Begum Shahnaz Sinha of University of Dhaka and Professor A Y M Ekram-ud-Daulah, Registrar (SUB) also spoke on the occasion.

### Eastern University

The 2nd Convocation of Eastern University was held on January 16, 2011 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka. Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chancellor of Eastern University Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman presided over the convocation. Professor Said Irandoust, President of the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand, was the Convocation Speaker.



*Professor Said Irandoust, President of the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand; Professor Dr. A.K.M. Saiful Majid, Vice Chancellor, Eastern University; Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman, Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; Professor Dr. ABM Shahidul Islam, Chairman, Eastern University Foundation and Professor Dr. Abdur Rab, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Eastern University (from left)*

Hon'ble Chancellor Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman urged the graduating students to dedicate themselves for the welfare of the hard-working common people of the country. He also asked the authorities of private universities to ensure that higher education is not made certificate-based under any circumstances.

The welcome address was given by the Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. A.K.M. Saiful Majid. The Chairman of Eastern University Foundation Professor Dr. ABM Shahidul Islam and Pro Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Abdur Rab also spoke on the occasion.

The Convocation Speaker Professor Said Irandoust commended the efforts and achievements of Eastern

University. He expressed his hope that Eastern University would soon achieve a very prestigious position in the higher education sector of South Asian region.

### **Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology**

The combined campaign of Shanto Mariam Foundation, Shanto Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT) and Sundarban Courier Service (Pvt.) Ltd has started with the slogan 'Vote for Sundarban.' A civil reception was organized on this occasion on January 19, 2011 at the Novo Convention Centre, Dhaka. Former Chief Adviser of Caretaker Government and Chief Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman was Chief Guest of the reception.



*Industry Minister Mr. Dilip Barua and Mr. Md. Immamul Kabir Shanto, Chairman, Shanto-Mariam Foundation is presenting a crest to the renowned actress & Special Ambassador of UNFPA Ms. Monisha Koirala. Also seen in the picture are Secretary, Ministry of Information, Mr. Hedayetullah Al Mamun, Ambassador of South Korea, HE Mr. Taiyong Chou and the Vice Chancellor of SMUCT Professor Dr. Shamsul Haq*

Industry Minister Mr. Dilip Barua, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Mr. Promode Mankin MP, litterateur Professor Dr. Mustafa Nurul Islam, Foreign Secretary Mr. Mizarul Quayes, Director General of Bangla Academy Mr. Shamsuzzaman Khan, Director General of Shilpakala Academy Mr. Kamal Lohani, Artist Professor Hashem Khan, Cultural Secretary Ms. Suraiya Begum and many other noted personalities were present on the occasion

Renowned actress and UNFPA Special Ambassador Ms. Monisha Koirala was present as the Guest of Honour. Singer Mamtaz Begum MP presented songs in a solo music program. The civil society members expressed their support for this campaign by voting for Sundarban in the programme.

### **American International University-Bangladesh**

The 11th Convocation of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) was held on January 30, 2011 at Bangabandhu International Conference Center,

Dhaka. Hon'ble President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and Chancellor of AIUB Mr. Md. Zillur Rahman presided over the Convocation. It was also attended by the Former Advisor of the Caretaker Government, Ministry of Education, Science and ICT, Mr. ASM Shahjahan as Convocation Speaker.

The Chairman of AIUB Trustee Board Dr. Anwarul Abedin and the Vice-Chancellor of AIUB Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna also spoke on the occasion. On this occasion 1537 graduates were conferred their degrees for successfully completing all the academic requirements for the Bachelor and Masters Degree Programmes of the University.

- A launching ceremony and meet the press at Academia-Technology Alliance was held at Dhaka on March 9, 2011, jointly organized by American International University, DANIDA, Microsoft and Admiral IT. Commerce Minister, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Mr. Muhammad Faruk Khan MP was present as the Chief Guest while Ambassador of Royal Danish Embassy HE Mr. Svend Olling was the Special Guest on the occasion. The programme was presided over by Vice-Chancellor of American International University-Bangladesh Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna. Business Development Director of Admiral IT Mr. Frands Sharpe and Microsoft Dynamics Business Applications Regional Director of SE Asia and Korea Mr. Sandie Overtveld also spoke on the occasion.

### **Daffodil International University**

Daffodil International University (DIU) observed its 10th Foundation Day and Foundation-Stone Laying Ceremony of permanent campus at Ashulia Model Town of Amin Mohammad Group, Savar, Dhaka on February 10, 2011 with great enthusiasm.

Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Mr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Trustees of DIU presided over the



*UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam along with other distinguished guests at the foundation-stone laying ceremony of the permanent campus of Daffodil International University*

programme. Professor Dr. Aminul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, DIU delivered the address of welcome.

Addressing as Chief Guest Professor Nazrul Islam appreciated the initiative of building permanent campus of Daffodil International University and urged other private universities to follow it. He hoped that DIU authority would be able to fulfill the demand and expectation of the students to shape up the University as a full-fledged world class one by providing all sorts of facilities required for an international standard university.

Mr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, DIU said that DIU started to distribute free laptop to keep the students in tune with modern ICT knowledge. He expressed his dream to build Daffodil International University permanent campus with administrative blocks, auditorium, ICT centre, play ground, gymnasium, swimming pool and tennis court.

Professor Dr. Aminul Islam, Vice-Chancellor, DIU welcomed all at the ceremony and highlighted the different academic activities of the University.

The day-long programme included bus rally, pitha utshab, foundation-stone laying, blood donation programme, vote for Sundarban, games and sports, fun events and raffle draw, picnic and live concert.

### **Southeast University**

Southeast University (SEU) organized a Colloquium on Architectural Education and Exhibition at the SEU Seminar Hall on 13 January 2011. Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh inaugurated the ceremony as Chief Guest, while Professor Dr. ANM Meshquat Uddin, Vice-Chancellor (acting) presided over it. Professor Meer Mobashsher Ali, Chairman, Department of Architecture, Southeast University, Lt. Col. (Retd) Md. Ali Ambial Haque Khan, Registrar, SEU, Professor Syed Fakhru Hassan, Chairman, Department of Textile Engineering, SEU, Engineer Bashirul Haque, Engineer Mahbubur Rahman, Engineer Abu Sayeed, Architect Abdus Salam and Engineer M. A. Wakil Khan were present on the occasion.

### **Independent University, Bangladesh**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Computer Processing of Bangla, 2011 (ICCPB-2011), jointly organized by Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) and Bangladesh Computer Council, was held on Saturday, 19 February 2011 at IUB's permanent campus at Bashundhara, Dhaka. State Minister for Science and Information & Communication Technology Architect Yeafes Osman attended the programme as Chief Guest, while Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh was present as Special Guest.

It is the continuation of paying tributes to the language martyrs and an effort to share the recent knowledge gathered by research and development works of the researchers of the globe. A total of 19 researchers from



*State Minister for Science and Information & Communication Technology Architect Yeafes Osman, UGC Chairman Professor Nazrul Islam and other distinguished guests at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International conference on Computer Processing of Bangla, jointly organized by IUB and BCC*

Bangladesh, India, Korea, Japan and USA presented their papers in this conference.

Professor Ajoy Kumar Roy, Vice-Chancellor, Bengal Engineering and Science University, Shibpur, India and Professor Bidyut Baran Chaudhuri, Head of the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition Unit of Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata, India presented the keynote papers.

Introductory address, vote of thanks and concluding remarks was delivered by Dr. M Abdus Sobhan, Professor, School of Engineering and Computer Science, IUB and Chair, Organizing Committee, ICCPB 2011.



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