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The Smart Way to AI

World Health Organization
Bangladesh

MEASLES: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Measles is a highly contagious viral disease that primarily affects children. It is most commonly seen in children who have not been vaccinated or have not completed their full course of vaccines. The best way to protect against measles is to ensure complete vaccination with two doses.



MEASLES SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS:

- Rash all over the body: Typically starts on the face and spreads downwards, lasting about 5-6 days
- High fever
- Runny nose
- Cough
- Red and watery eyes
- Small white spots inside the mouth

HOW TO KEEP YOUR CHILD SAFE:

- Complete two doses of the MR (Measles-Rubella) vaccine at 9 months and 15 months
- Ensure all routine vaccinations are received on time
- Participate in upcoming MR vaccination campaigns
- Avoid contact with suspected (fever and rash) patients
- Seek medical attention immediately if symptoms appear





WHAT TO DO IF SOMEONE HAS MEASLES:

- Get medical care quickly at the nearest health center
- Avoid close contact with the infected person
- Isolate the child (stop them from going to school, crowds, or playgrounds)

WHERE TO GET HELP OR INFORMATION:

- Nearest government health complex
- Local health worker (Health Assistant)



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Message from the Vice Chancellor

Moving Forward with Purpose



Prof. M. Tamim

The past semester has been a period of steady progress for IUB, as we continue to strengthen our academic environment and institutional practices in line with the evolving needs of our community.

One of the highlights of the semester was the successful holding of our 26th Convocation. It was a moment of pride for our graduates and their families, and a reminder of the collective effort that goes into shaping each student's journey at IUB.

Several important policy initiatives have also been undertaken. The IUB Student Code of Conduct has been revised to better reflect present-day realities and to ensure that disciplinary matters are handled with clarity and consistency. Alongside this, we have introduced a Code of Conduct for the Prevention of Sexual Harassment, reaffirming our commitment to a safe and respectful campus for all.

On the academic side, the faculty promotion policy has now been enacted, establishing a clearer and more transparent pathway for professional advancement. We have also taken steps to ensure that colleagues across different types of academic appointments (such as contractual lecturers) feel valued and supported in their roles within the university.

In terms of campus facilities, we have introduced drinking water fountains, likely making IUB one of the first universities in Bangladesh to do so. This is a small but meaningful step towards improving daily convenience while encouraging more sustainable practices.

At the same time, we remain mindful of the broader global context. I would urge all members of the IUB community to exercise restraint in the use of electricity, power, and fuel. Responsible use of resources, along with a sense of discipline in our general conduct, will be important as we move forward.

These developments are part of our ongoing effort to build a university that is not only academically strong, but also responsible, inclusive, and attentive to its wider context.•



The Smart Way to AI: How Artificial Intelligence is Transforming Higher Education

Prof. Md Mamun Habib, PhD

The world of higher education is changing fast, whereas Artificial Intelligence (AI) has moved from a futuristic concept to a daily reality on university campuses. Today, over 75% of students report using AI tools like ChatGPT to research, write, and process information [1]. The question isn't whether AI will change education; it already has. The real challenge for higher education is how institutions can harness AI smartly, ethically, and effectively.

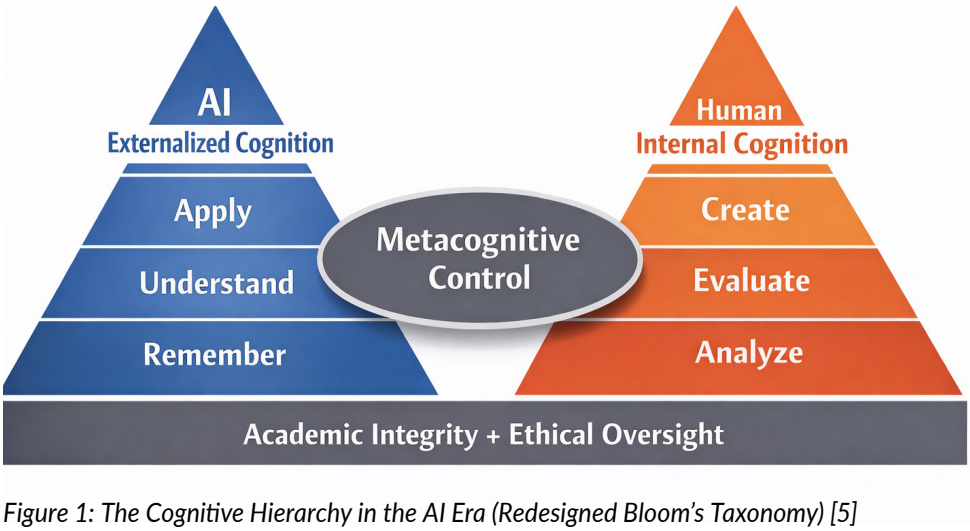

Figure 1: The Cognitive Hierarchy in the AI Era (Redesigned Bloom's Taxonomy) [5]

Why AI Matters More Than Ever

The AI revolution isn't just reshaping classrooms; it's transforming the global workforce. A 2024 study by Microsoft and LinkedIn surveyed 31,000 professionals across 31 countries and found that 66% of employers would hesitate to hire someone without AI skills. Even more striking, 85% of companies expect technology, including AI, to drive business transformation over the next five years [2]. AI fluency is no longer optional; it's a necessity. Students who graduate without understanding how to work with AI risk entering a professional world they aren't prepared for.

Rethinking Assignments and Learning

AI challenges traditional pedagogical models. Assignments designed for memorization are increasingly irrelevant in a world where AI can instantly retrieve and summarize information. Higher education institutions are now redesigning assessments to focus on critical thinking, analysis, and creativity [3].
For example, instead of asking students to write a standard essay, faculty members might:

(a) Require students to evaluate AI-generated content and identify strengths, weaknesses, or biases.

(b) Compare AI outputs against academic sources to assess reliability.

These approaches position students as active participants in learning, ensuring they remain the "expert-in-the-loop" rather than passive consumers of machine-generated content.

Rethinking Bloom's Taxonomy

If AI can retrieve, summarize, explain, and apply content in seconds, what does that mean for how we design learning in higher education?
For decades, *Bloom's Taxonomy* has shaped assignment design and assessment strategy. Nevertheless, generative AI has changed the cognitive landscape.

Prompting AI, the Right Way

AI's effectiveness depends on how users interact with it. ***"Prompt engineering"*** is emerging as a critical skill for students and faculty alike. A weak prompt might be: *"Write my research paper."* Alternatively, a strong prompt would be: *"Using three peer-reviewed articles, create an analytical outline exploring the impact of digital marketing on small businesses, highlighting ethical considerations and long-term trends."* Effective prompting transforms AI into a collaborator, enhancing

learning by encouraging students to:

(a) Develop research skills

(b) Critically assessing sources

Ethics in the Age of AI
With great power comes great responsibility. AI introduces challenges around plagiarism, transparency, and ethical use. Institutions are moving from blanket bans to structured policies emphasizing:

(a) Disclosure: Students declare the extent and purpose of AI use in their work.

(b) Reflection: Assignments include a section where students discuss their interaction with AI, noting corrections, insights, and limitations.

(c) Bias Awareness: Students are taught to critically evaluate AI outputs, recognizing that algorithms may reflect systemic biases or inaccuracies.

Such policies ensure that AI complements learning rather than undermines it, thereby promoting accountability and intellectual integrity.

Faculty and the AI Productivity Dividend
While students are quick to adopt AI, faculty readiness varies widely. Surveys indicate only 17% of educators consider themselves advanced users, while 40% are just starting [1]. Yet AI offers educators significant opportunities:
(a) Automating administrative tasks such as grading, scheduling, and feedback compilation
(b) Mapping curricula and identifying gaps or redundancies
(b) Analyzing student engagement to tailor teaching strategies
This *"productivity dividend"* frees faculty to focus on mentorship, hands-on instruction, and creative course design. In this model, AI enhances, rather than replaces, the human touch in education.

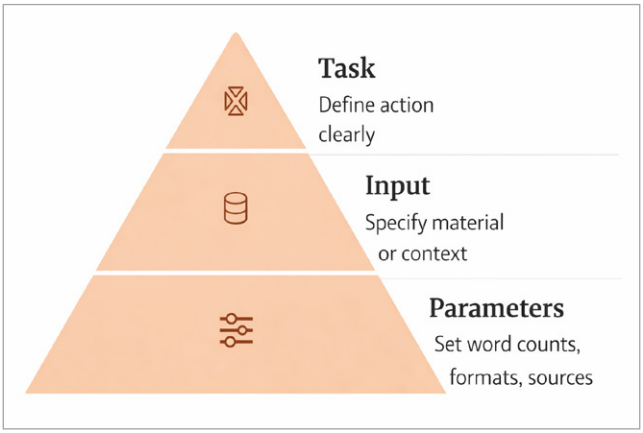

Figure 2: Prompt Engineering for Faculty [4]

The Future of AI in Higher Education
AI is not just a tool; it's a platform for innovation. Future trends may include [3]:

(a) Adaptive Curricula: Courses that adjust dynamically to each student's performance and learning style

(b) Virtual Mentorship: AI-driven guidance available 24/7

(c) Predictive Analytics: Early detection of students who may struggle, allowing timely interventions

(d) Accelerated Research: AI tools assisting faculty and students to explore new frontiers across disciplines

(e) Global Accessibility: AI-powered learning platforms bridging educational gaps, providing access to remote or under-resourced learners

Conclusion
The "smart way" to AI is to embrace it as a partner in education, not a threat [4]. By redesigning assignments, promoting ethical practices, and supporting faculty development, higher education can leverage AI to enhance learning, strengthen critical thinking, and prepare students for a rapidly evolving workforce. Ultimately, the goal is a collaborative future where technology accelerates discovery, but human intellect remains the ultimate driver of knowledge and innovation.•

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[1] Charlena Miller, Doane University, Nebraska, USA (2024). Survey on AI in Higher Education.
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[4] Presented by Laura De La Cruz, Dona Ana Community College, New Mexico State University, ACBSP Conference 2025, Las Vegas, USA
[5] https://www.lauradelacruz.org/, March 2026

Prof. Habib is the Head of the Department of Management under the School of Business and Entrepreneurship at Independent University, Bangladesh

ICEBTM 2025 Promotes Research Collaboration Across 12 Countries

The conference brought together global perspectives on economics, business and technology management, highlighting sustainability-oriented research and innovation. Participants engaged in discussions that connected academic insights with industry practices.



The two-day International Conference on Economics, Business and Technology Management 2025 (ICEBTM 2025) – organized by the School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) – was held on November 14–15, 2025 at The Westin Dhaka, bringing together more than 300 academics, researchers, students and industry leaders from over 12 countries.

The conference, themed "Sustainability Focused Industry Trends in Global Research," featured keynote speeches, industry–academia panel discussions, research paper presentations, posters, a PhD colloquium, a paper writing workshop and a "Meet the Journal Editors" session. Delegates took part from countries including the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, India, Poland, and the United Arab Emirates.

The event opened on November 14 with Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman of the Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC) and Chairman of BRAC, as Chief Guest. He was joined by IUB Board of Trustees Chairman Didar A. Husain; Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Tamim; Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund; Acting Dean of SBE Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmood; and Conference General Chair Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib. Syed Nasim Manzur, Managing Director of Apex Footwear Limited, attended as Guest of Honor.

Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman said, "Exchange of knowledge is central to building what we call a common and shared understanding. The





challenges being faced by Bangladesh are not unique. They are being faced across the world – across the global south and also the developed world. There are commonalities, there are differences, and hopefully, this conference will come to grips with many of these specific challenges that should concentrate in the minds of those present here."

Didar A. Husain said, "Vietnam and China are introducing artificial intelligence [AI] at the school level. They are ready for the 5th Industrial Revolution and we are only trying to graduate from the 3rd. So, there is a long way to go."

Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Tamim said, "We have 70 student papers in this conference, which is a great encouragement for us. We have representatives from more than 12 countries who have come here with ideas and will share their research topics and industry experience. That is a great exposure for our students. We are hosting this conference for our students, so that through them, IUB can contribute to the advancement of this country and also the world of course."

Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund said, "Events like this are fabulous. Those who have been academics for many years and have attended many conferences may have met someone 10, 15, even 20 years ago who is still a friend or colleague, or someone you ended up helping get a job, got a job with, or are now working with. Therefore, I would encourage all, especially the students, to meet people."

Acting Dean of SBE Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmood said, "Our expectation from the conference is that the participation, discussion and sharing of experience will continue among us even after we return to our respective workplaces."

Conference General Chair Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib said, "We first proposed ICEBTM – International Conference on Economics, Business and Technology Management – back in February 2020, aiming to hold the conference in January 2021. Because of the pandemic and other challenges, we had to reschedule it multiple times. I still remember that the theme, 'Sustainability Focused Industry Trends in Global Research,' was brainstormed and finalized during that period. And now, after five years and nine months, we are finally here. Thanks to Almighty Allah!"

Guest of Honor Syed Nasim Manzur said, "Events such as this are critical for Bangladesh's manufacturing sector. As we transition from a manufacturing system that is based purely on arbitrage of labour to manufacturing based on sustainability and core values, these kinds of industry-academia connections are critical for our future success. Bangladesh is privileged to have some of the youngest people in our workforce, but creating the kind of quality jobs that are needed for these people is the challenge for modern industry in Bangladesh."

On the first day, keynote papers were presented by Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman; Prof. Jonathan Liu of Manchester Business School, UK; and Prof. Dr. Maniam Kaliannan of the University of Nottingham Malaysia.



Sessions were chaired by Prof. Dr. M. Tamim; Prof. Dr. Farid A. Sobhani, Vice-Chancellor of Eastern University; and Dr. Derek Westfall of Oregon State University, USA.

Industry leaders joined academia leaders in panel discussions titled "Industry



Talk" and "Academia-Industry Discussion". The academia was represented by Dr. Ferdous Saleheen of Sharjah Maritime Academy, UAE; IUBAT Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab; Chittagong Independent University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. M.M. Nurul Absar; AIUB Pro-Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Md Abdur Rahman; and Prof. Dr. Rajah Rasiah of Malaysia.

Industry leaders included Syed Nasim Manzur, Apex Footwear Managing Director; Amer Salim, Director of Knit Asia Ltd. and Aurum Sweater Ltd.; A K M. Shahnawaj, Managing Director (Current Charge), Dhaka Bank PLC; Niaz Rahim, Group Director, Rahimafrooz; Dr. Ahmad Ahsan, Director, Policy Research Institute; Mirza Sajeeb Rayhan, AmCham representative; Kamran T. Rahman, President, MCCI; Dr. Md Mosharraf Hossain from icddr,b; Dr. Ben Bvepfepfe of CITL (UK); and Emeka Henry Egson (Canada).

Throughout the first day, two parallel sessions featured 80 research paper presentations by faculty, students and scholars from local and international universities and institutions. A "PhD Colloquium and a Paper Producing Workshop" was conducted by leading international academics, who provided important tips on the PhD journey and publishing papers.



The conference continued on November 15 with an award and closing ceremony at The Westin Dhaka. Didar A. Husain, Chairman of IUB's Board of Trustees; Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. M. Tamim; Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund; Acting Dean of SBE Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmud; Conference General Chair Prof. Dr. Md Mamun Habib; and A.K.M. Shahnawaj, Managing Director (Current Charge), Dhaka Bank PLC, spoke at the closing ceremony. IUB Trustee Wajid Ali Khan Panni, Trustee Dr. Husne Ara Ali, and Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmed Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka, were also in attendance. Awards were presented to six best papers of the conference.

At the closing ceremony, Prof. Dr. Mamun Habib said, "We hope to organize thematic student research symposiums every year from now on and a major international conference like ICEBTM every two years. IUB has recently launched the Advancing Undergraduate Research Aspirations [AURA] initiative, which I believe will help develop a culture of research among our students and eventually help us organize these series of symposiums and conferences."

On the second day, keynote papers were presented by Prof. Dr. Rajah Rasiah of the University of Malaya, Malaysia, and Dr. Ahmad





Ahsan, Director of the Policy Research Institute. The session was chaired by Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab, Vice Chancellor of the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT), and Dr. Ben Bvepfepfe, Leeds Trinity University & CILT, UK.

Industry and academia leaders again participated in several "Industry Talk" and "Academia-Industry Discussion" sessions. Speakers from academia included Prof. Dr. M.M. Nurul Absar, VC of Chittagong Independent University; Prof. Dr. Yousuf Mahbubul Islam, VC of Southeast University; Prof. Dr. Shahjahan Khan, VC, Asian University Bangladesh; Prof. Dr. AKM Waresul Karim, Dean, School of Business and Economics, North South University (NSU); Prof. Dr. Nazrul Islam, IUB; Prof. Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, NSU; Prof. Jonathan Liu, Manchester Business School, UK; Dr. Derek Westfall of Oregon State University, USA; Prof. Dr. Md. Sardar; Prof. Dr. Akhtar Hossain, UCSI University, Malaysia; Prof. Dr. Maniam Kaliannan, University of Nottingham, Malaysia; Prof. Ruhul A Salim, Curtin University, Australia; and Dr. Ferdous Saleheen, Sharjah Maritime Academy, UAE.

Industry representatives included Niaz Rahim, Group Director of Rahimafrooz Group; A.S.M. Mainuddin Monem, CEO and Managing Director of Abdul Monem Group; Dr. Arif Dowla, Managing Director, ACI PLC; Emeka Henry Egeson (Canada); Rezwanul Kabir, Energypac; Kabir Ahmed, BAFFA; and A Gafur, Director, Abdul Monem Economic Zone Limited.



The second day also featured three parallel sessions where faculty members, researchers, and students from home and abroad presented a total of 126 research papers and 12 posters. A special session titled "Meet the Journal Editors" allowed participants to engage with editors of journals where selected conference papers will later be published.

In total across the two days, ICEBTM 2025 hosted five parallel session blocks, 206 research paper presentations and 12 posters, alongside multiple keynote sessions, industry–academia panels and research capacity-building activities. The conference brought together more than 300 academics, researchers, students and industry leaders from over 12 countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Canada, Japan, Malaysia, India, Poland, and the United Arab Emirates.

ICEBTM 2025 was supported by sponsors including Apex, Guardian Life Insurance, Dhaka Bank PLC, New Asia Group, Abdul Monem Ltd., ACI Motors, Rahimafrooz, Abista FS Limited, Dutch-Bangla Bank PLC, Matador; Hospitality Partner The Westin Dhaka; and Knowledge Partner Bangladesh Brand Forum.•



IUB alum Prof. Osama Khan appointed VC and Chief Executive of UK's University of South Wales



Prof. Osama Khan

Prof. Osama Khan, alumnus of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), has been appointed the next Vice Chancellor and Chief Executive of the University of South Wales (USW), UK. He will assume office in May 2026.

Prof. Khan, who earned his Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) with double major in Finance and Economics (Class of 1999 as the Valedictorian and Summa Cum Laude) at IUB's School of Business and Entrepreneurship, becomes the first academic of Bangladeshi heritage to ascend to the top leadership position at a public university in Europe and America.

He was serving as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) at Aston University. A former investment banker turned academic, Prof. Khan also holds degrees from the University of Cambridge, Lancaster University, and the University of Surrey.

He began his academic career in the UK as an Associate Lecturer at Cambridge and has since held senior posts including Pro Vice-Chancellor at the University of Surrey and executive leadership roles at Solent University. He has taught at leading global institutions such as Surrey Business School, Cambridge Judge Business School, HEC Paris, Copenhagen Business School, and the University of Hong Kong.

Prof. Khan brings over 25 years of experience in higher education, with a strong record of institutional reform, student success, digital learning, and evidence-based academic governance. His leadership at Aston University includes major contributions to academic transformation,



Prof. Khan speaking at his reception at IUB on December 22, 2025



Prof. Khan and IUB Board of Trustees Chairman Didar A. Husain at the reception event

graduate employability outcomes, inclusion initiatives, and research impact. He has also played a prominent role in shaping sector-wide policy on equity and student success in the UK.

On December 22, 2025, IUB accorded a reception to Prof. Khan. The event was organized by the Career Guidance Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR) Office of IUB. The reception was attended by Didar A. Husain, Chairman, Board of Trustees (BoT), IUB and Trustee Dr. Husne Ara Ali; Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim; Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Daniel W. Lund; alongside members of the university's faculty and administration and a number of alumni.

In his speech, Prof. Khan reflected on his academic journey and the decision to enroll at IUB: "IUB is an elemental part of my journey and most of my accomplishments in life are duly credited to IUB. This university gave me my higher education, first job, and amazing faculty that ultimately led me down my path."

Reminiscing the early days of IUB, Didar A. Husain said, "Osama and his parents trusted IUB when we were at our very nascent stage. Today he [Prof. Khan] stands tall, having done so well for himself, and making all of us immensely proud."

Prof. M. Tamim said, "Prof. Osama Khan's story is an inspiration to those who pursue impactful achievements. On this joyful occasion, I hope we are all inspired even more."

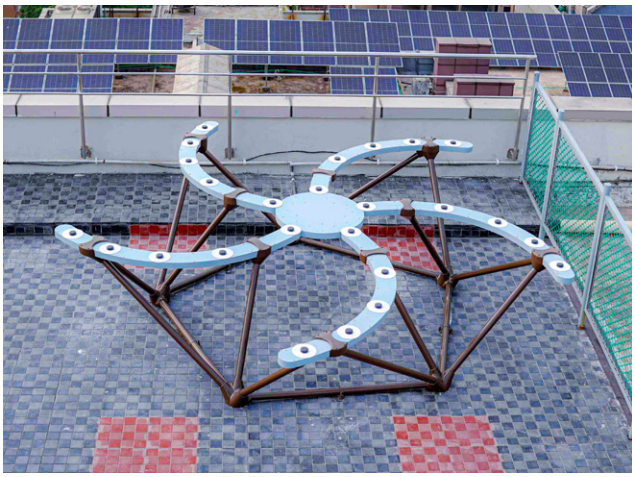
During the event, Trustees and senior officials presented Prof. Khan with an IUB-branded sash, crest and an alumni identity card. It was followed by a cake-cutting ceremony and Prof. Lund's vote of thanks. IUB Alumna Shamarukh Mahjabeen Tori (Summer 1994 batch of General Management and Human Resources program), Director at Regent Inc.; and Sharmeen Islam, Head of CGP&AR, also spoke at the program, which ended with dinner and musical performances.

The event was moderated by Al-Zawad Islam Shadman and was organized and executed by Farjana Hafiz, Assistant Director, and Mukta Rani Nath, Assistant Career Counselor, CGP&AR.•



Prof. Khan receives a crest from Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim at the reception event

CASSA launches Bangladesh's first Transient Array Radio Telescope



The Small Transient Array Radio Telescope (START) installed on the rooftop of IUB's Academic Building

The Center for Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics (CASSA) of IUB launched the country's first Transient Array Radio Telescope (TART) in November 2025, marking a milestone in the nation's entry into radio astronomy instrumentation. Installed on the roof of IUB's 10-storey academic building, the telescope successfully detected radio signals from space for the first time on November 18, 2025. This is not only Bangladesh's first TART but also the only such telescope in the entire Northern Hemisphere. Its commissioning marks the beginning of local capacity in building radio astronomy instruments. To signify this "start," the telescope has been named START – a "small TART."

The array structure of the telescope was fully designed and fabricated at the former Fabrication Laboratory (Fab Lab) of IUB, now part of the IUB 360 initiative. The project received financial support from IUB's Department of Physical Sciences, while the antennas and electronic components were imported from New Zealand. The telescope was first brought online on November 18 under the supervision of Dr. Tim Molteno, Senior Lecturer at the University of Otago, New Zealand. Images of the entire sky, captured by TART telescopes in Bangladesh and in seven Southern Hemisphere countries, can be viewed live at: https://map.elec.ac.nz

Dr. Khan Muhammad Bin Asad, Director of CASSA and Assistant Professor of Physical Sciences, said, "Installing this telescope marks the beginning of astronomical instrumentation in Bangladesh. It took us more than six months to build it. Due to some electronic complications, we were unable to activate it earlier. Dr. Molteno brought several new electronic components with him, and under his supervision, once those were integrated, we were finally able to activate the telescope."

Dr. Asad, who holds a PhD in Radio Astronomy and Astrophysics from the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, added: "START is different from the telescopes we usually know. Telescopes like James Webb or Hubble rely on mirrors to create images from visible light. START, on the other hand, detects invisible radio waves using multiple GPS antennas. Its primary scientific goals are to measure the electron content of Earth's ionosphere and detect electrons and other fermionic particles – commonly called cosmic rays – that strike our atmosphere from space. For imaging research, our main source will be the many GPS satellites orbiting Earth, which will allow us to determine START's properties with high precision."

To provide students from IUB and 10 other universities from across Bangladesh with hands-on experience in building and activating a radio telescope, CASSA organized a five-day workshop. On November 18, the first day of the workshop, Dr. Molteno – one of the global leaders of TART technology – briefed participants on different types of radio telescopes installed around the world.

Dr. Molteno said, "The key advantage of TART is that it is a modern array telescope



CASSA's student volunteers working on the START hardware



Dr. Tim Molteno taking a session during the 5-day workshop that marked the launching of the START

that can be built at low cost. Anyone who can construct this 24-antenna mini-array and produce images from its observations will be capable of working with much larger telescopes. The telescope's more than 250 antenna pairs capture an image of the entire sky every minute. These observations are automatically combined to generate full-sky images. Researchers worldwide are working to advance this technology, and Bangladesh's participation has opened new possibilities. The array designed and built in IUB's Fabrication Lab has proven more efficient and stable than those in other countries."

Installed beside the CASSA office on IUB's academic building rooftop, the telescope has a diameter – the distance between its two farthest antennas – of about 10 feet. Similar telescopes currently exist in Ghana, Kenya, Zambia, Namibia, Mauritius, South Africa, and New Zealand. Several more are being built in different countries. These projects are connected through shared data and knowledge exchange, collectively forming what is known as the Global TART Network.

Dr. Molteno further explained, "Another major advantage of TART is its ability to detect many transient events that optical telescopes cannot. Transients are short-lived cosmic phenomena that appear suddenly and disappear quickly – sometimes within seconds, minutes, or days – such as stellar explosions, radio flashes, or bursts of high-energy emissions. Detecting these fleeting events requires specialized instruments. TART is specifically designed to detect the transient events known as cosmic rays."



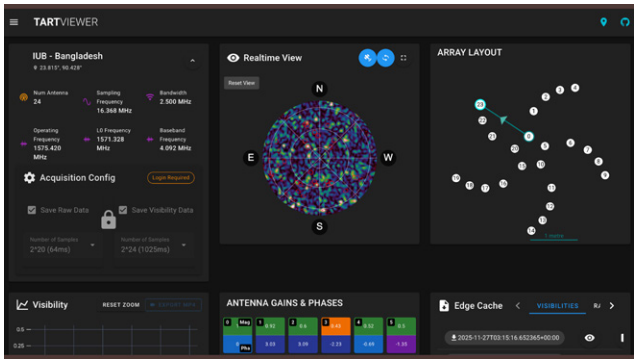
Dr. Tim Molteno speaking at the inaugural session of the workshop

He noted that several large radio telescopes worldwide span sizes from hundreds of meters to several kilometers. These include the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) under construction in South Africa and Australia – set to become the world's largest and most powerful radio telescope, with greatly enhanced sensitivity and data capacity. South Africa also hosts the mid-sized, high-performance MeerKAT telescope, used for deep-space observations. The United States is home to the Very Large Array (VLA) in New Mexico, which produces high-resolution images of the sky from multiple configurations. While SKA, MeerKAT, and VLA serve major global research projects, TART provides an accessible, low-cost alternative for instrumentation and imaging research.

Dr. Asad said, "Building the telescope is not the biggest achievement. The real accomplishment will be using the data from this telescope for advanced research and enabling scientists worldwide to benefit from it. If that happens, Bangladesh will find a place on the global map of astronomy. Apart from IUB, no other university in Bangladesh teaches astronomy. We currently offer several undergraduate courses as part of a minor, and our long-term goal is to launch a full master's program in this field."

At the inauguration ceremony of the workshop on November 18, IUB Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim said, "With our START telescope, Bangladesh has taken its first step into constructing astronomical instruments. This is a proud moment for IUB. One of CASSA's goals is to develop a new generation of space scientists and engineers in Bangladesh. Today marks the beginning of that journey."

Other speakers at the inauguration ceremony of the workshop included IUB Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund; Director of Graduate Studies Prof. Dr. M. Arshad Momen; Dean of the School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences Dr. Habib Bin Muzaffar; Head of the Department of Physical Sciences Dr. Farhad Alam; and Head of the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury.•



A screenshot of the START viewer

Celebrating 10 years of Saima Hall



Residents of Saima Hall pose for a photograph at the 10-year celebration event on November 29, 2026

The IUB community marked the 10th anniversary of Saima Hall, a residential facility established a decade ago to provide free accommodation, meals, and quality higher education to underprivileged female students. A special event was held on November 2025, where students performed music and dance.

Saima Hall began its journey in 2015 with 8 students in a building in Baridhara owned by the family of Trustee A Matin Chowdhury. Over the last decade, the number of students increased to 50. It is funded by the Shaheed Khalek and Major Salek Bir Uttam Trust. IUB Trustee Salma Karim oversees hall operations, supported by a committee comprising IUB officials. Saima Hall students study at IUB with a 100% scholarship. Over the past decade, nearly 70 female students have completed their education at IUB while residing in Saima Hall.

Alumna Atika Humayra, who received the award of top performer of IUB's School of Engineering Technology and Sciences at the 25th Convocation, said, "Saima Hall is not just a residence, it's a family. A safe space where students grow without any limits." Saima Binte Rashid, a current student of Saima Hall from the Department of Global Studies and Governance, said, "Saima Hall provides a significant advantage for students who come from other districts. The hall ensures safety and facilities that support uninterrupted learning and personal growth."

Trustee A Matin Chowdhury announced that Saima Hall will soon be expanded to the remaining floors of the building. To the students, he said, "You have all come from outside Dhaka. Do not forget the people who live in the places that you come from, because you have a responsibility towards them."

Chairman of the Board of Trustees Didar A. Husain said, "Saima Hall is a jewel in our crown because we are able to help underprivileged students to come and shine, to lead a life of respect and dignity."

Trustee Salma Karim said, "Today we are celebrating not just a milestone marked by time, we are celebrating a decade of opportunity, empowerment, and transforming lives, supported by Shaheed Khalek and Major Salek Bir Uttam Trust."

Trustee Towhid Samad said, "This morning when I came here, all my worries about the future of the country went away. I felt young and youthful again. Saima Hall tells me there's hope for this country. IUB's excellence and standing in society is reflected through Saima Hall."

Trustee Rashed Chowdhury said, "When we look at so many girls who have passed out from Saima Hall, it makes us feel good and that our life has been worthwhile. When I was growing up, I always used to hear that there is more pleasure in giving than receiving; now I know it sure is.

Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim said, "Saima Hall has been providing accommodation, food and education to students who may not have moved forward otherwise. I encourage the current students of Saima Hall to make the most out of this opportunity."

Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Daniel W. Lund said, "Celebratory events like this show tangible results of an initiative that started 10 years ago. When I visited Saima Hall, I saw so many smiles, so many happy and contented students."

The event was co-anchored by Syeda Shabnam Afroze and Tasnia Tabassum Prothoma, both current residents of Saima Hall. Musical performances were presented by Ummay Habiba Islam, Moumita Shee Diya, Zarin Afrin Nabila, Sadia Taslima, Moumita Chakroborti, and Kripa Chakma with support from the IUB Music Club. Dance performances were presented by Faria Islam Dona, Impa Khatun, and Kripa Chakma. At the event, the Board of Trustees presented complimentary copies of Begum Rokeya's timeless short story *Sultana's Dream* to all the residents of Saima Hall. The event concluded with recognition of years of dedicated service by Thasina Zaman, Hostel Super, and other support staff.•

Environment and Changing Climate conference sparks insightful discussions



Rupantar Theatre performed potgaan at the ECC conference held on November 20-21, 2026

The Environment & Changing Climate 2025 conference, hosted by Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) in collaboration with the Co-creating Knowledge for Local Adaptation to Climate Change in Least Developed Countries (COLOCAL) project, concluded on November 21, 2025, after two days of insightful discussions and interdisciplinary knowledge-sharing on inclusive climate action.

Starting from November 20, the conference brought together national and international researchers, development practitioners, and community leaders under the theme "Global Strategies and Local Actions" highlighting the event's commitment to a community led and context-specific future for climate change adaptation.

Day one of the conference opened with keynote speeches and presentations from industry experts, including Dr. A Atiq Rahman, Dr. Shahpar Selim, and Dr. Faisal Kabir, focusing on the advancement of evidence-driven research in capacity-building. Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor, IUB; Prof. Daniel W. Lund, Pro Vice Chancellor; and Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean, School of Environment and Life Sciences, also spoke. The opening program also featured artistic performances, with Rupantar Theatre delivering a vibrant potgaan performance about climate justice and gender equity.

This was followed by a musical performance by Muiz Mahfuz Band and their collection of songs addressing plastic pollution and the environment. The day concluded with an alumni roundtable, where graduates from IUB'S Department of Environmental Science and Management discussed the realities and prospects of the climate change and development sector, especially against the backdrop of global funding cuts.

Day two of the event served as the academic focal point of the conference, hosting a diverse roster of oral and poster presentations where researchers presented their work across areas of climate governance, indigenous knowledge, sustainable agriculture, energy transitions, and many more. Complementing the academic sessions, a range of workshops and thematic side events further explored meaningful discussion and pathways for locally-led adaptation.

Highlighting the human dimensions of climate adaptation, NGO leaders from the Dalit and Munda communities of Khulna and Satkhira shared their perspectives, challenges, and history with nature-based solutions, while a session by CIMMYT, Shushilan, and the International Center for Climate Change and Development discussed the tools for locally-led adaptation (LLA). COLOCAL fellows from Bangladesh and Uganda presented their research and explored collaborative opportunities, and Nirmol Bangladesh hosted a workshop on ocean literacy and climate resilience.

Youth engagement remained a prominent theme across the sessions as well, with the INFLUENCERS group hosting a workshop to equip young leaders with tools for youth-driven climate advocacy, drawing from the experiences of displaced communities in Bangladesh. The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology also hosted a session offering participants insights into the university's public policy division that blends interdisciplinary learning in climate change and governance.

The conference was partially funded by the COLOCAL Project, supported by the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation, which works to advance research and education in locally led climate change adaptation, and build the capacity of universities in Bangladesh, Nepal, Uganda, and Mozambique.•

IUB Theatre becomes Champion in ADC National Drama Fiesta 2025



IUB Theatre became Champion at the ADC National Drama Fiesta 2025, held on December 10, 2025 at the American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB). The inter-university drama competition was organized by the AIUB Drama Club (ADC).

As part of the competition, IUB Theatre staged the third show of its 24th production, Sultanar Swapno, on December 9, 2025, marking the Begum Rokeya Day. The play is a Bangla stage adaptation of Sultana's Dream, an iconic short story written by Begum Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain, a pioneer of women's rights movement in Bengal. IUB's Ahmed Yashfin Sami won the Best Actor Award in the Inter-University Theatre Teams Category for his role "Pandit".

The adaptation and direction were done by Swapnil Sohel. Sultana's Dream was first published in 1905 in The Indian Ladies' Magazine in Madras (now Chennai), India. Set in an imagined society called "Ladyland," the story envisions a world built on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Eight other university-based theatre groups competed in the fiesta. These included teams from the University of Asia Pacific (First Runner-up), Government Titumir College (Second Runner-up), Stamford University Bangladesh, Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, and Southeast University.

The adjudication panel comprised eminent cultural personality Tariq Anam Khan, writer Mozaffor Hossain, and Mohammad Niaz Mojumder, Senior Assistant Professor in the Department of Media and Mass Communication at AIUB.



A scene from the first show of Sultanar Swapno at IUB in November 2025

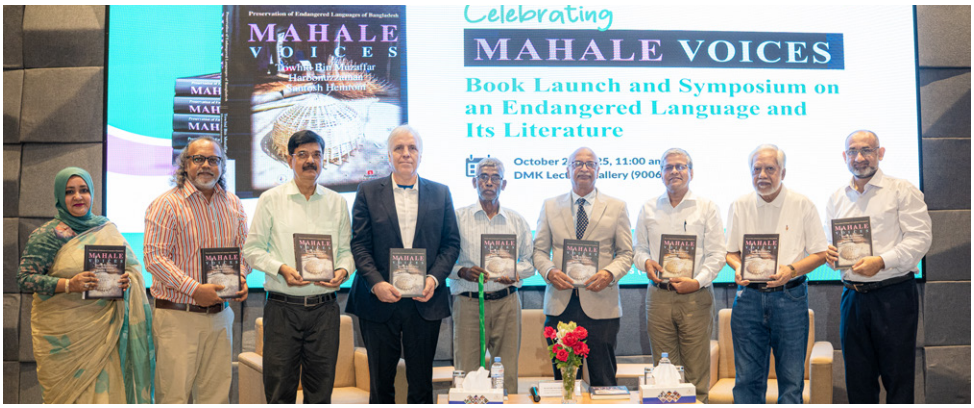
IUB Theatre first staged Sultanar Swapno on November 19 at the IUB Auditorium. Its second show was held on December 6 at the Studio Theatre Hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

Kiron Sarker Jui, who portrayed Begum Rokeya in the staging at IUB, said, "We spent months working together on acting, stage, lighting, sound, costumes, everything. Through the process, we realised how urgent Begum Rokeya's imagined world still is today. For young people like us, this story is more than just a play; it is a chance to rethink equality in a new light."

Momtaz Parvin Mumu, Coordinator of IUB Theatre and Lecturer in the Department of Media and Communication, said adapting a short story for the stage required converting descriptive passages into scenes and dialogue. She said time constraints led to some condensation of characters and events, and the dreamlike setting demanded careful coordination of lighting, set and sound.

Vice Chancellor Prof M. Tamim said the questions Begum Rokeya raised about education, women's empowerment and social structures remain relevant. He praised the cast and crew for presenting the work to contemporary audiences.•

Mahale Voices aims to keep endangered Mahale language alive



IUB launched a research-based book titled *Mahale Voices* to support the preservation of the endangered Mahale language, spoken by the Mahale community in the Rajshahi region. The book was unveiled on October 29, 2025, at the DMK Lecture Gallery on the IUB campus.

The book, jointly published by IUB and Adorn Publication, is authored by Towhid Bin Muzaffar, Assistant Professor in the Department of English and Modern Languages at IUB, with co-authors writer and researcher Haroonuzzaman and Mahale community member Santosh Hemrom.

The unveiling event was organised by IUB's Sasheen Center for Multilingual Excellence (SCMLE) and the Department of English and Modern Languages. SCMLE works on documenting and preserving endangered and lesser-used languages of Bangladesh.

Mahale Voices features 26 folk stories and 24 poems of the Mahale community, compiled in Mahale, Bangla and English. As the Mahale language has no alphabet, the researchers used Roman letters to document the texts. The compilation and translation work took more than three years.

Author Towhid Bin Muzaffar said, "Our work ensures that the Mahale language is documented through the voices of its own people. The stories and poems in this book come directly from the community, reflecting their lived experiences rather than interpretations by outsiders. By bringing these original narratives to light, we are making them accessible not only in Bangladesh but also internationally."

According to UNESCO's Language Vitality and Endangerment framework (2003), a language becomes endangered when it is no longer passed down to younger generations and gradually loses its use in daily life. Social and economic pressures often encourage communities to shift to more widely spoken languages for education, work and social mobility.

Co-author Haroonuzzaman said, "I hope this book serves both as a celebration and a call to action to nurture, protect and carry forward the Mahale language and its literature."

UNESCO's Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger highlights that when a language declines in use at home, in education, cultural practices, or public life, communities risk losing unique cultural knowledge, identity, and heritage embedded in that language.

Co-author Santosh Hemrom, who comes from the Mahale community, said, "If you read this book, you will know about the Mahale community's living conditions, house patterns and socio-economic background. When we wrote this, we had no alphabet, so we tried our best to develop one for this work. It is a matter of pride for our people, as the Mahale community now has its first book in three languages for the world to know."

Prof. Dr. Bokhtiar Ahmed, UNESCO Chair in Language Ecology and Director of SCMLE, said, "This book is an attempt to build a bridge among languages. It places Mahale at the centre, with Bangla and English translations alongside. I believe works like this will help the community, especially the younger generation, connect their language with more widely used languages like Bangla and English. Mr. Towhid Bin Muzaffar has been working on preserving endangered languages for over 12 years and has given us valuable scholarly outcomes, including the Mahale Voices itself."

Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim; Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. Daniel W. Lund; Dr. Naureen Rahnuma, Head of DEML; Samar Soren, Member of UNESCO's Global Taskforce; Mahale community leader Sisti Tudu; Dr. Mustafa Kamal Akand, Professor of Anthropology at University of Rajshahi; and Syed Zakir Hussain, CEO of Adorn Publication, also spoke at the event.

Mahale Voices is available for purchase online on the website of Rokomari and BanglaREADS.•

School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences



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Associate Professor
Department of English and Modern Languages



Sultana Musfika Rahman
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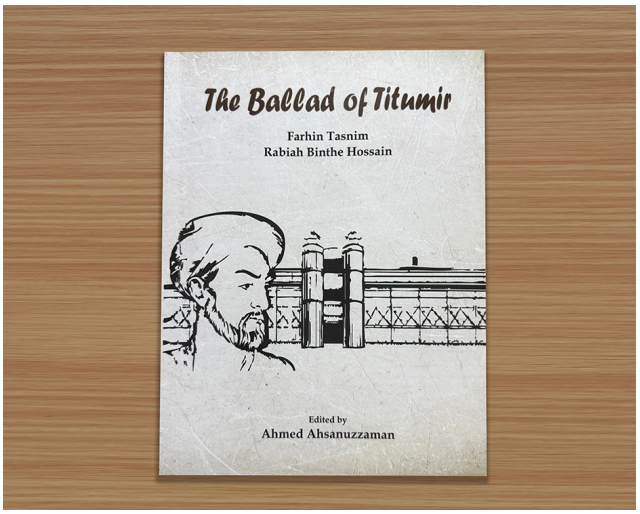
The Ballad of Titumir: Reclaiming a National Epic Hero

Sajid Abdullah and Zarifa Taneer Chowdhury



The Ballad of Titumir (2025), written by Farhin Tasnim and Rabiah Binthe Hossain, and edited by Professor Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, is more than a historical retelling – it is a bold literary undertaking that reimagines one of Bengal's most significant yet often underestimated resistance heroes.

Through the form of an epic poem, the authors elevate Titumir's life to the stature of classical legend, reclaiming him for the formation of national imaginary.

The book compellingly frames Titumir within the tradition of the epic hero. As the authors note, he embodies the defining traits of epic heroism: courage in the face of overwhelming odds, devotion to faith and community, and a death that transforms him into a symbol of collective resilience. He is not portrayed merely as a religious rebel, but as a national figure who confronted both colonial power and entrenched systems of local oppression. His iconic Bamboo Fort stands as much for moral defiance as for tactical ingenuity, securing his place among the most influential Bengalis in history.

Structured across eight books, the poem follows Titumir's journey from his quiet rural beginnings to his confrontational martyrdom. By weaving together recorded history and folk memory, Tasnim and Hossain achieve a rare blend of academic insight and poetic expression.

Their work translates the spirit of oral tradition into an eloquent English narrative that remains accessible to contemporary readers.

The poem's pacing is one of its most impressive strengths. It begins slowly, immersing readers in a landscape marked by poverty, injustice, and rising discontent. This deliberate slowness mirrors the gradual build-up of historical tension. As Titumir's following grows and rebellion looms, the narrative quickens—sentences shorten, images sharpen, and the rhythm tightens, capturing the mounting urgency of the movement.

The climactic confrontation, particularly the depiction of the Bamboo Fort under siege, is delivered with concentrated energy. The swift transition from hope to devastation generates a deep emotional impact, emphasizing that resistance, however heroic, carries a heavy price.

The closing passages soften once more, offering space for reflection and underscoring that Titumir's legacy endures far beyond the tragedy of his death.

The imagery throughout is vivid yet grounded – bamboo groves, turbulent skies, and murmuring crowds. These recurring visuals impart cohesion and emotional depth. The Bamboo Fort symbolizes indigenous identity and resilience; storm imagery evokes both uprising and divine justice; fire and ruin reflect the brutality of colonial rule. The poem's use of repetition, rhythm, and chant-like lines evokes oral storytelling, lending it the cadence of a tale passed down through generations.

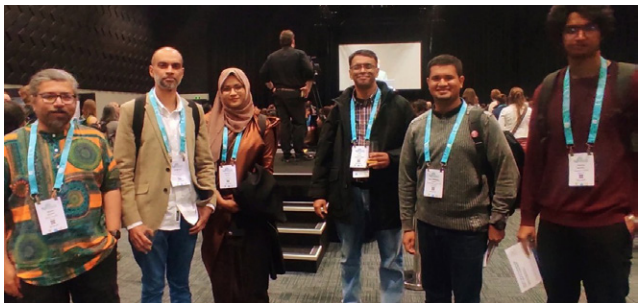
Importantly, the authors resist glorifying violence. Titumir is portrayed not as a flawless mythic figure but as a human being whose heroism emerges from the lived struggles of ordinary people. This creates a powerful sense of shared cultural memory.

Published by the Department of English and Modern Languages, IUB, *The Ballad of Titumir* stands as a moving blend of history, poetry, and national reflection. Its lyrical style, thoughtful pacing, and thematic depth make it both artistically engaging and culturally significant.

As a modern epic, it contributes meaningfully to Bangladeshi literature in English and invites readers to engage with one of the nation's most complex and inspiring figures.•

Sajid Abdullah and Zarifa Taneer Chowdhury are currently pursuing a Master's degree in English Literature at IUB

COLOCAL Project



An IUB delegation participated in the Adaptation Futures 2025 Conference in Christchurch, New Zealand in October 2025

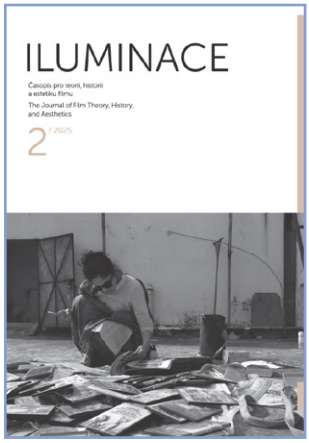
A delegation from IUB participated in the Adaptation Futures 2025 Conference held in Christchurch, New Zealand, from October 13 to 16, 2025. The delegation represented the NORAD-funded COLOCAL project, which works to advance locally led adaptation through collaborative research and partnerships across the Global South and North.

Representing IUB were Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences and Project Coordinator of COLOCAL; and Fahmid Mohtasin, Research Officer for the project. They joined COLOCAL collaborators from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU), including Prof. Matthew Cashmore, Project Lead of COLOCAL, and Prof. Siri Eriksen, for a panel discussion titled "Making Locally Led Adaptation a Reality: Advances from Research on and with Indigenous and Local Peoples." Discussion focused on practical challenges and opportunities in implementing locally led adaptation and on co-producing knowledge that reflects community realities.

The session also included online contributions from Ishrat Jahan, a COLOCAL Fellow from the 2022 cohort at IUB; Graca Jonas, PhD student at Eduardo Mondlane University in Mozambique; and Edwige Marty, PhD student at NMBU in Norway.•

'Living Script' in Q1 journal 'Iluminace'

Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the Department of Media and Communication at IUB, published a significant research article in the Scopus-indexed Q1 journal Iluminace: *The Journal of Film Theory, History, and Aesthetics*, published by the Národní filmový archiv (National Film Archive) in Prague, Czech Republic. The article, titled "The Living Script: Proposing An Adaptive Practice In Humaira Bilkis's Things I Could Never Tell My Mother (2022)," was published on November 11, 2025. Iluminace is a peer-reviewed academic journal known for its interdisciplinary approach and aims to contribute original research to the international academic discourse on cinema



and audiovisual media.

Dr. Firdaus's research introduces the theoretical framework of the "living script." This concept addresses real-time creative, ethical, and narrative adaptation that occurs during the filmmaking process. Using genetic criticism as its analytical approach, the article examines the creative practice of acclaimed Bangladeshi filmmaker Humaira Bilkis in her documentary, *Things I Could Never Tell My Mother.*

The work specifically emphasizes intergenerational and transnational dialogue within the context of the Global South. Bilkis is known for exploring complex human relationships through observation. Her first feature-length film, *Things I Could Never Tell My Mother,* premiered at Visions du Reel and was selected for The International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam (IDFA) 2022's Best of Fests.•

Research and creative work in the Asiatic journal

Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana Khan, Associate Professors Dr. Hafiza Nilofar Khan and Dr. Sarker Hasan Al Zayed from the Department of English and Modern Languages of IUB published research and creative works in the *Asiatic: An International Journal of Asian Literatures, Cultures and Englishes, Volume 19, Number 2,* released in December 2025.

Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana Khan contributed a creative work titled "Reliving Bangladesh July 2024 Revolution: A Collage," presenting a literary composition based on collective voices and experiences related to the July 2024 events in Bangladesh. Dr. Hafiza Nilofar Khan authored a research article titled "Shifting Homes in Bangladeshi Diasporic Writer Iffat Nawaz's Shurjo's Clan," which examines representations of home, migration, and diasporic identity across three generations of Bangladeshi women. Dr. Sarker Hasan Al Zayed authored a memoir titled "Bangladesh July 2024 Movement and After: A Memoir," offering a personal narrative account of the movement and its aftermath.

Asiatic is an international peer-reviewed journal focusing on English-language writings by Asian authors and scholarly studies on Asian societies and cultures. The journal publishes research articles, creative works, and review essays addressing Asian Englishes, literatures in English, diasporic writings, and the cultural and social dimensions of the English language in Asia.•

Q1 article on increasing the capacity of solar cell

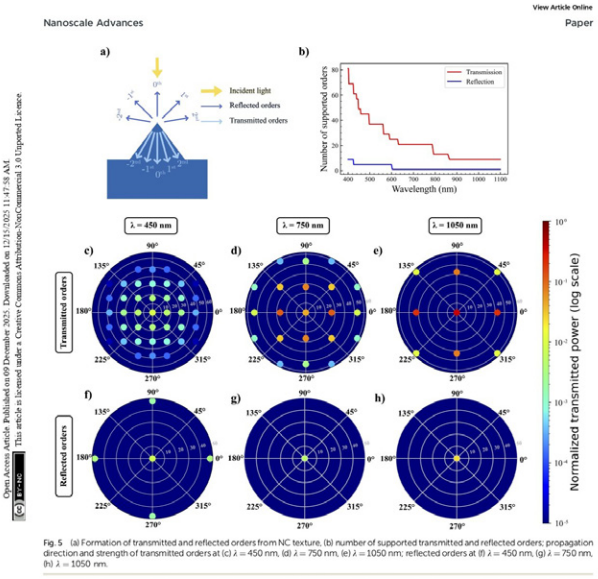


Fig. 5 (a) Formation of transmitted and reflected orders from NC texture, (b) number of supported transmitted and reflected orders; propagation direction and strength of transmitted orders at (c) $\lambda = 450$ nm, (d) $\lambda = 750$ nm, (e) $\lambda = 1050$ nm; reflected orders at (f) $\lambda = 450$ nm, (g) $\lambda = 750$ nm, (h) $\lambda = 1050$ nm.

Researchers from the EEE Department of IUB published an original peer-reviewed article on ways to increase the sunlight-to-electricity production capacity of thin-film solar cells in Nanoscale Advances, a Q1 journal of the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK).

The article, titled "Broadband light absorption in cadmium telluride thin-film solar cells via composite light trapping techniques," was published on December 9, 2025. It reports on simulation-based methods to improve the performance of cadmium telluride (CdTe) thin-film solar cells through composite light-trapping techniques as part of ongoing departmental research on photovoltaic efficiency.

Nanoscale Advances is a gold open-access journal that publishes original research in nanoscience and nanotechnology and is indexed in Web of Science, Scopus, PubMed Central, and other major scholarly databases. The journal is ranked Q1 by Scopus and SCImago Journal Rank.

The research was fully conceptualized, developed, and brought to completion at the IUB Photonics Simulation Laboratory (IUBPSL). The work was carried out under the supervision of Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, Head of the EEE Department and Director of IUBPSL.

The team comprised EEE alum Asif Al Suny (currently an Adjunct Faculty Member of the EEE Department and Research Assistant at IUBPSL); Tazrian Noor (Research Engineer at IUBPSL); and Md. Hasibul Hossain and Afnan Uzzaman Sheikh (Research Assistants at IUBPSL).•

Workshop on designing induction motor



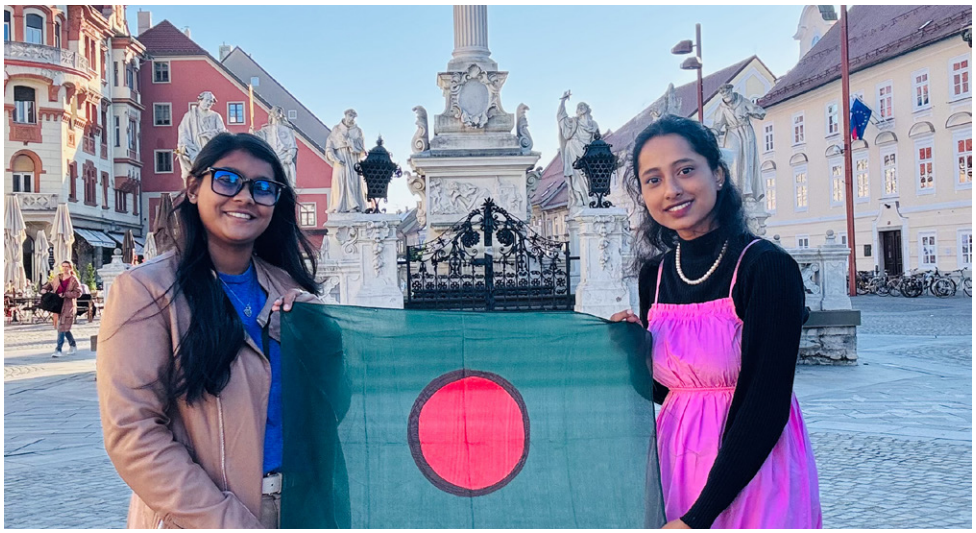
GERC, EEE Department and TEA-LP organized a 2-day workshop on designing induction motors using ANSYS Maxwell in January 2026

The Green Energy Research Center (GERC) and the EEE Department of IUB, in collaboration with Transforming Energy Access - Learning Partnership (TEA-LP), organized a two-day workshop titled "Design, Simulation, and Analysis of Three-Phase Induction Motors Using ANSYS Maxwell" on January 30-31, 2026.

The workshop aimed to train undergraduate and graduate students in redesigning and simulating three-phase induction motors for low-voltage battery-powered applications through practical software-based analysis. The sessions were conducted by Md. Imtiaz Abedin, Lecturer (Adjunct) of EEE and Research Assistant of GERC. The workshop focused on hands-on modeling, simulation, and performance analysis of three-phase induction motors.

The initiative aligns with ongoing research at GERC on repurposing discarded induction motors for sustainable engineering solutions and applied research in electric mobility and agricultural systems in Bangladesh.•

Moutushi and Nafisa's Erasmus+ exchange semester at Maribor



Masuda Alam Moutushi and Dewan Nafisa Azad

Two IUB students – Masuda Alam Moutushi from Computer Science and Engineering and Dewan Nafisa Azad from Environmental Science and Management – went to the University of Maribor, Slovenia, as part of the Erasmus+ Mobility exchange program in late 2025, gaining academic and cross-cultural experience over several months. Of them, Nafisa has already completed her semester abroad and returned home, while Moutushi is continuing an additional semester at Maribor.

Moutushi, a final-year CSE student, arrived in Maribor on September 29, 2025, and began her first semester on October 1. Nafisa, a second-year undergraduate, reached Slovenia on September 30 and started her program on October 5. Both took part in orientation activities organized by the university's International Office and the Erasmus Student Network (ESN), which included welcome sessions, faculty briefings, and campus tours.

At Maribor, the courses Moutushi enrolled in include Web Frameworks and Tools, Computer and Digital Systems, Introduction to Robotics, and Foreign Language II. Her coursework combined theory with practical applications, including lab work using STM microcontrollers and programming in C.

Nafisa took five courses – Biological Risk, Rural Sociology, Microbiology, Tourism and Organic Farming, and Agri-environmental Chemistry – covering both theoretical and applied aspects of environmental studies.

Beyond the classroom, both students engaged in a range of ESN-organized activities and informal exchanges with peers from different countries. Events such as welcome week sessions, international dinners, and cultural programs provided opportunities to interact with a diverse student community. At one such event attended by students from over 20 countries, Bangladeshi cuisine was introduced through dishes prepared by the participants.

The experience also involved adapting to new systems and routines. Both students noted initial challenges related to language, transportation, and administrative processes, but reported that support from faculty, international offices, and fellow students helped them adjust. Daily life included managing accommodation, navigating the city, and using local services such as public transport and bicycle-sharing systems.

Travel within the Schengen area formed part of their broader exposure. Moutushi visited Croatia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Austria, France, Spain, Slovakia and Italy, while Nafisa travelled to several cities including Ljubljana and Piran in Slovenia, as well as Zagreb, Split, and Dubrovnik in Croatia.

Reflecting on the exchange, both students highlighted the value of studying in an international academic environment. Moutushi noted that the experience offered insight into how technology is taught and applied in Europe, while Nafisa emphasized the opportunity to develop communication skills and gain practical understanding of environmental issues in a global context.

The Erasmus+ semester provided them with academic exposure, cross-cultural engagement, and international networks. Having returned to Bangladesh earlier this year, both students resume their studies at IUB with perspectives shaped by their time in Maribor.•

Suvadro attends winter school in Nepal



Suvadro Sarkar, student of Media and Communication at IUB, participated in the 17th International Winter Residential School on Economic, Social and Development Rights (ESDR) and Digital Technology, held from December 15, 2025, to January 5, 2026, in Nepal. The 21-day residential academic program was organized by Kathmandu School of Law to examine economic, social, and development rights through academic sessions focused on digital technology, with participants selected through a competitive application process based on abstract submission and merit. A total of 23 participants from Bangladesh, Nepal, India, and Pakistan took part in the program. Academic sessions included lectures, workshops, group-based activities, simulations, fieldwork, and written assessments.•

Katherine Rick's workshops and sessions



Ms. Katherine Rick conducted a series of workshops and sessions at IUB in October 2025

Ms. Katherine Rick, Director of Professional Development at the British Management University, Uzbekistan, conducted a series of faculty workshops and interactive sessions at IUB in October 2025. The events were organized by the OECE unit of the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor. The three-day faculty development workshop, titled "Advanced Classroom Communications, Vocal Training for Teachers, and Developing Your Teaching Style and Philosophy," was held on October 12, 14, and 19, 2025. On October 16, 2025, Ms. Rick conducted two additional sessions at the DMK Lecture Gallery. They were titled "Ignite Your Mind: Where Curiosity Becomes Drive," and "Symphony of Minds: A New Era of Human–AI Artistic Storytelling," which was jointly organized by OECE and the Department of Media and Communication.•

Dr. Roger Stoller's talk on radiation damage in structural materials

The Office of Pro-Vice Chancellor and the Office of Graduate Studies, Research and Industry Relations of IUB organized a lecture titled "Radiation Damage in Structural Materials: An Overview" on November 20, 2025, featuring Dr. Roger Stoller, Distinguished Research Staff from the Materials Science and Technology Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee, USA. In his technical talk, Dr. Stoller explained radiation damage mechanisms, their effects on structural materials, and current modeling practices. Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IUB, said the program marked the first lecture in a series that will continue over the coming months, noting that the topic provided exposure to an area not commonly covered in regular academic discussions. Dr. Stoller presented an overview of primary radiation damage processes, how particle energies influence defect generation, and a brief summary of microstructural changes in steels. He also highlighted the importance of building awareness and understanding of radiation damage through atomistic simulations.•

English Department's AI literacy workshop

The Department of English and Modern Languages of IUB organized a workshop titled "AI Literacy for Teachers and Researchers" on December 1, 2025 in collaboration with TESOL BD. The workshop, held at the SLASS Faculty Lounge, aimed at supporting teachers and researchers in understanding artificial intelligence and its academic use through a structured training session. It was led by Dr. Lilian W. Mina, Associate Professor of English in Rhetoric and Composition and Director of the Composition Program at the University of Alabama, USA. Dr. Mina provided an overview of AI literacy covering definitions, major categories of AI literacy relevant to academic work, and key considerations for responsible use. The workshop was attended by more than 30 participants from DEML and other departments. •

Prof. Mamun Habib conducts PhD Orientation at SBKU

Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management at IUB, conducted a PhD Orientation Session SBKU University, Cambodia, on January 22, 2026. The session was titled "Blended Disciplines between IT/CS and Other Fields to Suit Current Trends of Labor and Academic Needs". It was organized by the Graduate School of SBKU, to address current labor market and academic needs through interdisciplinary doctoral research, delivered through an academic orientation and interactive discussion.•

IUB continues to excel in the sports arena



The 10-day international tournament, which featured three International Masters and three Fide Masters (FM) from Bangladesh, India and Nepal, was hosted by IUB's Division of Student Activities (DoSA) and the IUB Chess Club, with technical support from the Bangladesh Chess Federation.

Chess

Grandmaster Niaz Murshed, Advisor to the IUB Chess Club, won the 49th National Chess Championship, organized in September-October 2025 in Dhaka by the Bangladesh Chess Federation. It was a round-robin format tournament featuring 14 of the country's top chess players.

The other 13 players included four International Masters, six FIDE Masters, one Candidate Master, and two emerging players. GM Murshed remained undefeated, finishing with 10.5 points in 13 games. Entering the final round tied with International Master Fahad Rahman at 9.5 points, he defeated FIDE Master Subroto Biswas, while Fahad lost to Shakher Ullah.

The IUB Chess Team won the Division Championship of the Collegiate Chess League (CCL) Summer 2025 Team Battle held in July-August 2025.

The members of the team are Amit Bikram Roy (Computer Science and Engineering), and Justin Mathias Baroi (International Business). The global tournament, held online in knockout format with a 10-minutes-plus-2-seconds increment time control, saw participation from over 45 universities worldwide.

The IUB team advanced by defeating Texas A&M University, San Antonio of the United States in the semifinals and the University of Technology of Compiègne of France in the finals.

In October, Amit won both the Team Champion and Best Board titles in the 2nd Division Chess League 2025, held from September 29 to October 5, 2025, at the Bangladesh Chess Federation, Dhaka. Representing Team Checkmate, he scored 6.5 points in 7 games, contributing to the team's overall championship. Amit played on Board-4 across the seven rounds under a 90-minutes-plus-30-seconds increment time control. Team Checkmate comprised Hasan Sk Rashedul (Board 1, 4/7), Candidate Master Masum Hossain (Board 2, 7/9), Jabed Al Azad (Board 3, 6/7), Amit Bikram Roy (Board 4, 6.5/7), Ahmed Feroz (Board 5, 4.5/5), and Abdul Aziz (Board 6, 0/1). Amit achieved a performance rating of 2235, one of the highest in the tournament.

Bangladesh's highest rated International Master (IM) Manon Reja Neer became Champion in the MTB International Masters Chess Tournament, held at IUB on December 14-23, 2025.



IM Manon secured the top spot with 6.5 points in nine games. FM Sakline Mostafa Sajid became Runner-up with 6 points and Bivor Adak (from India) emerged third, also with six points. IM Minhaz Uddin Sagor secured the 4th place with 5.5 points. They received prize money worth BDT 40,000, BDT 30,000, BDT 20,000 and BDT 10,000 respectively. Other players from Bangladesh included IM Abu Sufian Shakil, FM Khondokar Aminul Islam, and Amit Bikram Roy (from IUB). From India, there were Arpon Das (Jr), and FM Singh Gurpreet Pal. Nepal was represented by Silwal Purushottam.



Squash

Md. Raihan, a student of Finance at IUB, became Runner-up in the Men's Member Group of the Turaag Active 5th National Squash Championship 2025. The tournament, held from October 13-16, 2025, featured several other IUB students, including Riazul Jannat Urdho, from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering, who finished fourth in the Open Women's Group. The tournament, co-organized by IUB, the Bangladesh Squash Federation (BSF), Urmi Group, and Turaag Active, featured 180 male and female participants from 25 clubs and institutions. IUB, one of the official venue partners of the tournament, hosted the female segment at the university Squash Court.

Riazul Jannat Urdho and Sayed Hasan Bin Walid became Champions in the female and male categories respectively in the Mehram–IUB Inter-University Squash Tournament 2025, hosted by IUB on December 5-6, 2025. Urdho, a student of Computer Science and Engineering at IUB, defeated Joti Rani Roy, a student of Finance at IUB, in straight sets to clinch the championship. Atifah Ibnat Mounota from the Military Institute of Science and Technology (MIST), secured the third place. Walid, Economics major at East West University, toppled MD. Raihan, Finance major at IUB, in the final in straight sets to become Champion in the male segment. Rafiuzzaman, from the University of Chittagong, secured the third place. A total of 40 players from 13 private and public universities across Bangladesh competed in the tournament.

Powerlifting

M.M. Niaz Morshed, a student of Marketing at IUB, placed second in the 83kg category at the Fitguru Powerlifting Championship 2025 held on October 24, 2025, at Metal Cave Gym, Dhaka. The event featured a number of young powerlifters who competed in 66kg, 74kg, 83kg, and 83+ kg divisions. Niaz competed in the 83kg category and secured the second position with an International Powerlifting Federation (IPF) score of 54.79. The championship brought together participants from across the region and was organized with sponsorship support from Fit Self, Iron Warriors, Krira BD, and Aro Studio, with Metal Cave Gym as the venue partner.

Cricket

The Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) team and IUBCC Blue became champions in the men's and women's divisions of the Intra-IUB Departmental Cricket Tournament 2025, held in December 2025. IUB Cricket Club, with support from the Division of Student Activities (DoSA), organized the tournament on November 20-22 and 28-30, 2025, with participation from 19 departmental teams in the men's segment and two teams in the women's segment. In the men's segment, IUB X Legends (alumni team) finished as Runners-up. In the women's segment, IUBCC Purple finished as Runners-up. Aman Ullah, alumnus of IUB, won the Player of the Tournament award; Arabi Arman from CSE was named Player of the Final; Naim Islam from the Department of Life Sciences and Shahriar Akram from CSE became the best batter and bowler respectively. The tournament was co-sponsored by Enhanfy Global IT Ltd., represented by its Chief Executive Officer Md. Khairul Basher Sujon.

Volleyball

The men's team of the IUB Volleyball Club finished as Runners-up in Spike Fest, an inter-university volleyball tournament held at BRAC University on December 7-8, 2025. The IUB women's team finished 5th. On their way to the final, the men's team defeated ULAB (2-1), AIUB (2-1), and NSU (2-1) in the group stages, followed by BRAC University (2-1) in the semi-final. In the final, IUB lost to DIU (0-2). The tournament was conducted under BRAC University's organizational oversight, with logistical and coaching support provided by IUB's Division of Student Affairs.•



The 26th Convocation Photo Gallery
January 21, 2026






















MUSICAL
EVENING




Independent University, Bangladesh
21 January 2026
SELS




Independent University, Bangladesh
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21 January 2026


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21 January 2026
SPPH

Prof. Dr. Borhan Uddin Khan elected AsianSIL President



Prof. Dr. Borhan Uddin Khan, Advisor to the Department of Law of IUB, was elected President of the Asian Society of International Law (AsianSIL) on November 14, 2025. Prof. Khan was elected to the prestigious position during AsianSIL's 10th General Meeting. AsianSIL, established in 2007, is a regional platform for international law scholarship and professional engagement across Asia. Its past Presidents include Professor Owada Hisashi, Xue Hanqin, Professor Surakiat Sathirathai, and Paik Jin-Hyun. The meeting also elected Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nazmuzzaman Bhuian, Dean of the School of Law at IUB, and Dr. Muhammad Mahbubur Rahman, Head of the Department of Law at IUB, to the AsianSIL Executive Council for two years. Prof. Dr. Bhuian will serve as one of the organization's Vice-Presidents. Their responsibilities will include contributing to AsianSIL's academic and administrative activities through participation in its council proceedings.•

Dr. Md. Tarek Habib attains IEEE Senior Member Grade



Dr. Md. Tarek Habib, Associate Professor of Computer Science and Engineering at IUB, has been elevated to the grade of Senior Member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). The announcement was made on January 17, 2026, in recognition of his professional experience and sustained performance in IEEE-designated fields. The IEEE Senior Member grade is the highest professional grade for which an IEEE member may apply and is awarded following evaluation of professional standing, technical or academic contributions, leadership, and responsibility. The elevation process requires a minimum of 10 years of professional practice, evidence of significant performance for at least five years, and peer references from current IEEE Senior Members or Fellows.•

Prof. Mamun Habib receives multiple international recognitions



Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management at IUB, was included in the 7th edition of "Britishpedia – Encyclopedia of Successful People in Malaysia and Singapore", an international biographical reference published by British Publishing House Ltd, UK. The publication recognises professionals and academics whose work has made significant impact in their respective fields. Prof. Habib spent a significant part of his academic career in Malaysia and Southeast Asia, where he taught, supervised Ph.D. scholars, served as Ph.D. external examiner, conducted research, and collaborated with universities and industries. In December 2025, Prof. Habib received the prestigious 'Excellence Researcher Award' at the International Higher Education Excellence Award 2025, conferred by Shinawatra University, Thailand. The award, presented on December 22, 2025, recognized research impact and international academic collaboration. The same month, Prof. Habib was honored with the "Supply Chain Management Award" at the 8th IEOM Bangladesh International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management.•

Khandakar Tahmid Rejwan receives Chair's Award at DU

Khandakar Tahmid Rejwan, Lecturer of Global Studies and Governance at IUB, received the prestigious Chair's Award from the University of Dhaka (DU), his alma mater in January 2025. Mr. Rejwan earned his MSS and BSS degrees from the Department of International Relations of DU. He got the recognition for securing "First Class First" positions in the merit lists of both his undergrad and master's final examinations. He was also the valedictorian of his class of graduates at the corresponding convocation of DU. The award was conferred by the



Department of International Relations, and Mr. Rejwan is the inaugural recipient.•

IUB faculty drive academic and global engagement



Prof. Dr. Zakir Hossain Raju, from the Department of Media and Communication of IUB, presented a research paper at the 30th Anniversary Conference hosted by the largest Korean Studies Department in Europe, based at Sofia University, Sofia, Bulgaria. Held from October 12-14, 2025, the conference, themed "Korea: One Peninsula, Multiple Dimensions," explored Korea's global cultural impact, connectivity, and associated challenges and opportunities. Dr. Raju's paper was titled "The Role of K-Cinema as a Leader in Inter-Asia: Connections of Korean Film Festivals in Developing Bangladesh Cinema". In November 2025, Prof. Raju spoke at a seminar at Bangla Academy organized to commemorate the centenary of filmmaker Ritwik Kumar Ghatak. He discussed Ghatak's treatment of displacement and identity, highlighting his portrayal of marginalized communities and the socio-political divisions of post-partition Bengal. Also in November, he participated as a Special Guest and discussant at the national workshop titled "Marginalized and Excluded Communities of Bangladesh" at the CIRDAP Auditorium in Dhaka. The workshop reviewed structural conditions affecting marginalized groups through a research-driven discussion framework involving representatives from multiple sectors. In December, Prof. Raju joined the Jury Panel for the European Film Festival 2025, held in Dhaka. His role included reviewing films submitted by young Bangladeshi creators within a defined thematic and technical framework.



Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ahsanuzzaman, from the Department of English and Modern Languages, delivered a talk on Norwegian writers Henrik Ibsen and Jon Fosse at the residence of the Norwegian Ambassador in Dhaka on November 6, 2025. In his talk, Prof. Ahsanuzzaman – who did his MPhil and PhD in Ibsen Studies at the University of Oslo, Norway – compared and contrasted the style, diction, and dominant themes in the writings of Ibsen, the eminent 19th-century playwright, and Fosse, winner of the 2023 Nobel Prize in Literature. According to Prof. Ahsanuzzaman, both Ibsen and Fosse explored human emotions, loneliness, and the quest for meaning in life, but in contrasting ways. Ibsen addressed contemporary 19th-century social and moral issues by highlighting social hypocrisy and constraints on individuals. Fosse, on the other hand, is less interested in social commentary; his plays are dominated by silence, repetition, and interior monologues that reveal the

inner conflicts of human beings. The talk served as an early build-up event ahead of the 200th anniversary of Henrik Ibsen's birth, which will be celebrated globally in 2028.



Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak, from the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, delivered a keynote address titled "Mitigating the Challenge of the 5th Industrial Revolution and Sustainable Development Goals via Smart Energy, Robotics, IoT, and AI" at Green University of Bangladesh (GUB) on December 1, 2025. The event, organized by the EEE Department of GUB to celebrate EEE Day 2025, brought together over 150 students and faculty members to examine how emerging technologies can support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and address the challenges of the 5th Industrial Revolution. The session included presentations, case discussions, and a question-and-answer segment. In his keynote, Prof. Razzak discussed smart energy systems, robotics, IoT-enabled infrastructures, and AI-driven innovations, covering research trends, practical applications, and the evolving skill requirements for engineers in a cyber-physical era. Also in December, Prof. Razzak attended Power Express 2.0 as an invited panelist. The topic of the panel discussion was "Collaborative Pathway for Green Energy Future". Power Express 2.0 was a day-long program organized by the IEEE PES NSU Student Branch Chapter, which brought together academics, researchers, and young engineers to discuss Bangladesh's energy landscape. Dr. Razzak participated in discussions on green energy challenges, renewable technology adoption, and multi-sector collaboration.

From October 2025 to January 2026, **Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib**, Head of the Department of Management at IUB, delivered several lectures and keynote presentations on sustainable supply chain management and other related



matters at international conferences and seminars in various countries. This includes the ICMAEE 2025 and AIBIEC 2025 in China; Emerging Scientist Season IV Conference in Dubai, UAE; 2025 International Virtual Conference on Technovation, Technoentrepreneurship, and AI for Economic Diversification, organized by Ecosystem Consultants in Kuwait; ICRSSEMA-2025 in Sydney, Australia; ICAKMPET-2026 in the Philippines; and MESKCON 2026 – International Conference in Kerala, India. In addition, he attended a "Meet the Editors" session at Eastern University in Dhaka at the 7th International Conference on Integrated Sciences (ICIS) 2025 in October 2025. In January 2026, Prof. Habib represented IUB's School of Business Entrepreneurship at the AACSB Virtual Ambassador meeting to support engagement, coordination, and collaboration among AACSB members and accredited institutions.

Prof. Dr. Hafizur Rahman, Head of the Department of



Environmental Science and Management, represented the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)–IUB at the 30th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP30) held in Belém, Brazil in November 2025. He participated in high-level meetings, side sessions, and technical discussions throughout the conference. He took part in the "Global Goal on Adaptation" meeting organized by the UNFCCC. He also spoke at a session hosted at the International Organization for Migration Pavilion, where discussions covered climate-induced displacement, mobility patterns, and related resilience challenges. He outlined how environmental pressures intersect with population movement and local response mechanisms. Prof. Rahman also spoke at a side event titled "Locally Led Adaptation and Climate Finance," jointly organized by ICCCAD–IUB and the Economic Relations Division of the Ministry of Finance, Government of Bangladesh.



Dr. Bilkis Banu, Associate Professor of Public Health represented IUB in the "SocialTech Summit 2025: The 7th International Conference on Healthcare, SDGs, and Social Business", held from October 2-4, 2025, at Hiroshima University, Japan. She delivered a presentation titled "Empowering Health in the Digital Age: Advancing Self-Management and Patient Care through Telehealth and mHealth." She also presented two research papers: "Role of Smartphone Application-Based Telehealth Technology in Diabetes Management: Evidence from a Randomized Trial in Bangladesh," and "Gestational Diabetes in Bangladesh: A Multi-Stakeholder Perspective on Self-Management and Challenges." The conference, hosted by the Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences, Hiroshima University, brought together academics, clinicians, and professionals from across the world to discuss healthcare, SDGs, and social business.

Dr. Nagesh Rao, Associate Professor of English and Modern Languages, conducted a seminar titled "Alienation and Freedom: Fanon's Path to Decolonization" on October 8, 2025 at IUB. He also delivered a lecture in



which he presented Fanon's intellectual legacy, focusing on his analyses of colonial structures, social identity, and liberation movements. The discussion addressed the relevance of Fanon's ideas for contemporary political and cultural contexts. Participants engaged with questions on decolonization, identity, and social transformation. The seminar was part of DEML's ongoing initiative to provide structured platforms for scholarly engagement with critical intellectual traditions and

contemporary debates in literature, culture, and political thought.



Dr. Md. Shaiful Islam, Assistant Professor of English and Modern Languages, facilitated the U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Secondary School English Teacher Training 2025 held from October 31 to November 1, 2025, at the Yasin Ali Training Building of the Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research Institute (BSRI), Ishwardi, Pabna. The training was co-facilitied by Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Associate Professor of English at American International University Bangladesh (AIUB). It was organized by the Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and the Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA), with support from the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka, to advance the professional development of secondary school English teachers in Bangladesh.

Dr. Anisur Rahman, Associate Professor of Law, signed a contract with the Melbourne University Press on October 16, 2025 for a scholarly monograph titled "Reconfiguring Muslim Marriage: Law, Islam, and Modernity in South



Asia". It will be published under the Asian Law and Society Series, with publication scheduled for November 2026. The book examines debates on Muslim modernity in South Asia through the legal and social institution of marriage and is based on academic research in law and society. The study analyzes colonial South Asia and postcolonial developments in Pakistan and Bangladesh, focusing on marriage as a site of legal and religious interpretation. The book is developed from Dr. Rahman's doctoral research completed at the National University of Singapore and contributes to scholarship in legal history, Islamic law and society, and law and religion.

Dr. Farhad Alam, Head and Associate Professor, and **Dr. Md. Readul Mahmud**, Associate Professor in the Department of Physical Sciences, participated in the 6th International Conference on Physics for Sustainable Development and Technology (ICPSDT 2025) held from October 29–30, 2025



at the Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology (CUET). Dr. Alam co-chaired the Keynote Session-III and served as a judge in the Poster Session. Dr. Mahmud presented a paper titled "Design



and Numerical Examination of a SAR '(Y-T)' Micromixer" in Technical Session IVA: Nano Physics and Applications.•

IUB strengthens quality assurance through policy, training and outreach

The Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of IUB undertook a series of initiatives in late 2025 to strengthen quality assurance systems, align institutional practices with accreditation standards, and enhance academic and administrative performance.

On October 9, 2025, IQAC held a meeting with members of the Program Self-Assessment Committee (PSAC) and Faculty Quality Assurance Committee (FQAC) to discuss policy issues, strategic planning and the development of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Inaugurated by Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, the meeting focused on aligning institutional processes with national accreditation requirements and international standards.

The 11th Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) meeting, held on October 30, 2025 and chaired by the Vice Chancellor, reviewed ongoing QA activities and approved key decisions, including implementation of KPIs from Spring 2026, adoption of a new course file policy, pilot testing of a revised faculty evaluation form, and initiation of an Academic Master Plan, alongside continued support for accreditation efforts.

Discussions emphasized integrating quality assurance into broader institutional strategy, improving teaching-learning methodologies, strengthening research capacity, enhancing student services, and expanding industry-academic collaboration. Participants also reviewed KPIs related to curriculum, faculty development, research output, graduate employability, stakeholder engagement and administrative efficiency, with agreement to form working groups for implementation.



IQAC hosted an experience-sharing session in November 2025 with representatives from 18 universities and officials from BAC

Faculty development remained a key priority. A two-day workshop on "Designing Outcome-Based Assessments and Teaching-Learning Strategies for Quality Education," held on October 16 and 18, brought together 134 faculty members. The sessions focused on Outcome-Based Education (OBE), including alignment of Program Educational Objectives, Program Learning Outcomes and Course Learning Outcomes, and the application of Bloom's Taxonomy in assessment design.

The workshop also covered student-centered teaching approaches such as problem-based learning, flipped classrooms and collaborative methods, alongside the use of digital tools and Learning Management Systems. In a related development, IQAC Director Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak presented on outcome-based assessment at the 1st National Conference on Advancing Quality Assurance in Higher Education on November 13, 2025, highlighting the use of rubrics and data-driven evaluation to support continuous improvement.

IQAC also organized student development seminars in October 2025. A session on "Social and Behavioral Change Communications," conducted by Tony Michael Gomez, focused on communication strategies in health, education and social contexts, while another seminar on "Design Thinking for the Future Solutions" introduced students to human-centered problem-solving approaches. More than 100 participants attended each session.

Administrative capacity building was addressed through a workshop on online tax return submission held on October 23, where faculty and staff received practical guidance on using the National Board of Revenue's e-Return system, including income calculation, documentation and submission procedures.

As part of national collaboration efforts, IQAC hosted an experience-sharing session on November 22 with representatives from 18 universities and officials from the Bangladesh Accreditation Council (BAC). The session highlighted IUB's practices in Self-Assessment Reports, outcome-based education, curriculum alignment and stakeholder engagement, while facilitating discussions on accreditation requirements and quality assurance challenges.

Overall, the initiatives reflect a structured approach to strengthening quality assurance through policy alignment, faculty training, student engagement and inter-university collaboration.•

Bangladesh's first env awareness cartoon character 'Toru'



Jannatul Ferdous Mohona, student of Environmental Science and Management at IUB, introduced "Toru", Bangladesh's first environmental awareness cartoon character, through her youth-led initiative Project Arodhya. The character was officially introduced online on January 13, 2024, to promote environmental and social awareness among children and youth through creative education and storytelling. Toru aims to teach children about environmental protection, hygiene, and basic human rights. The character's visual illustration was developed by Rio Das, a student of the Department of Media and Communication at IUB, who contributed to the visual design.

Zubair Ahmed Khan, a final-year student of Finance at IUB and President of Environmental Trailblazers club, was the project coordinator for "Toru: The Daughter of the Earth". He managed project operations and outreach activities, ensuring the initiative reached children and young audiences effectively. The initiative began in 2024 with the aim of creating a Bangladeshi animated character focused on environmental education, inspired by UNICEF's Meena but reflecting local culture and environmental priorities.•

Mim wins 2nd Best Poster Award at ICLS 2025

Jannat Sultana Mim, student of Life Sciences, won the 2nd Best Poster Presentation Award in the Plant, Agriculture and Food Biotechnology category at the International Conference on Life Sciences (ICLS) 2025, held at Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), Sylhet, on October 17–18, 2025. She received the award for presenting her senior project research on genetic engineering approaches to improve rice salinity tolerance under the supervision of Dr. Sabrina M. Elias.

Her poster, titled "Enhancing Salinity Tolerance in Rice under Salt Stress through CRISPR/Cas9-Mediated Knockdown and Overexpression of Rice Calcium ATPase Gene," outlined work on the OsACA9 gene to examine ion regulation and stress-response pathways in Oryza sativa using CRISPR/Cas9-based gene modulation.

The conference was attended by Prof. Dr. A. M. Sarwaruddin Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of SUST, as Chief Guest; Prof. Dr. Mohamad Abdur Rob, Vice Chancellor of Manarat International University, as Guest of Honour; and Prof. Dr. Md. Alimul Islam, Vice Chancellor of Sylhet Agricultural University, as Conference Patron. Prof. Dr. Md. Shajedul Karim, Pro Vice Chancellor of SUST, and Prof. Dr. Md. Ismail Hossain, Treasurer of SUST, were Special Guests.•

CSE students win 3-Minute Thesis Competition

A team of final-year undergraduate students of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) won the 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Bangladesh 2025. The competition was held on October 12, 2025, through a virtual platform coordinated from Dhaka by Elite Research Lab LLC. Team THREE comprised Yousra Tabassum, Nusrat Sultana, and Anika Islam, who represented IUB's Center for Computational & Data Sciences (CCDS). They advanced through the poster submission stage, the recorded presentation stage, and the live virtual presentation stage to secure the top position.

Team THREE presented a research, titled "Segment Anything Model 2 (SAM 2) for Accurate Flood Detection in Remote Sensing Imagery," published in the 2024 IEEE Computer Society Conference Proceedings through CEII-2024 in Singapore. The research was supervised by Dr. Ashraful Islam, Director of CCDS and Assistant Professor in the Department of CSE at IUB.

The competition began with 238 teams submitting one-page graphical slides following the official 3MT template. A total of 52 teams entered the video presentation round, out of which 14 reached the final stage for live virtual presentations and a two-minute question session with the panel.•

Rahat's team Bored Tunnelers win Bangladesh ICT and Innovation Award 2025



Bored Tunnelers (BT), a cross-institutional team of Bangladeshi university students, of which IUB EEE major Md Rahat Al Mamun is a key member, qualified for the finals of Elon Musk's "Not-A-Boring Competition" and won the Bangladesh ICT and Innovation Award 2025 in the Organisation-Industry category.

Rahat worked on the MTBM's autonomous navigation and precision steering systems as part of the robotics software team, enabling trenchless underground construction and autonomous control. The MTBM was designed and tested through two full-scale prototypes over two years, integrating robotics, hydraulic propulsion, autonomous steering, and precision instrumentation to perform efficient underground tunneling for utilities and infrastructure.•

IUB becomes Runner-Up in Supply Chain Research Challenge 5.0



Team 'frfr' from IUB secured the 1st Runner-Up position at the Supply Chain Research Challenge 5.0, held on October 24, 2025. The competition was organized by the Bangladesh Institute of Human Resource Management (BIHRM). The IUB team included Mahmudul Islam Raiyan and Marjan Ferdous Tasbih from the Department of Finance, and Mubashwara Mehzabeen from the Department of Economics. They were joined by Irsa Farhad from BRAC University and Md. Adnan Habib Shovon from the Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka.

The 5th edition of the competition engaged over 100 teams nationwide. The top three teams were recognized at the 10th Supply Chain Convention. Team 'frfr' presented a paper titled "Gen-Z's Intention to Use Crowd Logistics in Dhaka: An Integrated UTAUT–UTAUT2–SET Framework." The study analyzed technological and behavioral factors influencing Gen-Z's adoption of crowd logistics services in Dhaka, integrating three theoretical models: UTAUT, UTAUT2, and SET. The paper was published in Supply Chain Insider, Vol. 17, No. 1 (2025), and is available online.•

Abir's team wins Silver in Seoul Int'l Invention Fair 2025

Economics major Abir Hossen and his team "Calibrator-Z" won the Silver Medal at the Seoul International Invention Fair (SIIF) 2025, held from December 3 to 6, 2025, in Seoul, South Korea. The Fair was hosted by the Ministry of Intellectual Property of the Republic of Korea and organized by the Korea Invention Promotion Association. The event brought together 578 teams from 19 countries.

Team Calibrator-Z showcased a project titled BlueWave Clean Tech – a solar-powered smart water-cleaning robot designed to monitor, analyze, and purify polluted water bodies. The system integrates real-time water quality analysis with electro-coagulation and nano-bubble purification technologies to remove heavy metals, chemicals, microplastics, and harmful microorganisms. The robot also collects floating plastic waste and converts it into usable hydrocarbon fuels through automated processing, operating entirely on solar power.

Calibrator-Z was led by Abdullah Ibnah Hasan, with Md Maruf Miah and Jarif Ahmed of Kent State University (USA) serving as co-leads. Other team members included Md Jakaria Miah, Samir Ahamad, and Jayed Abdullah, Khalid Bin Walid, and Istiak Ahmed from Adamjee Cantonment College.

The team participated in the competition with sponsorship support from Hamko Industries Limited. Abir's participation was facilitated by the Department of Economics and the Office of the Dean of IUB's School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE).•

Tanzila wins Best Flash Talk award at GIWISCB Asia 2025

Tanzila Khatun, a student of Life Sciences at IUB, won the Best Flash Talk with Poster Presentation award at the International Conference on Genome Informatics (GIW/ISCB Asia 2025 – Asian Student Council Symposium), held on December 10, 2025, at the University of Hong Kong. She won the award for presenting her bachelor's senior project, titled "Genome Assembly and Gene Identification of Biosurfactant-Producing Bacteria for Environmental Bioremediation," conducted under the supervision of Dr. Sabrina M. Elias from the Department of Life Sciences.

Her award followed a competitive abstract review and evaluation process conducted through a virtual presentation format. Tanzila is enrolled in the Biochemistry and Biotechnology program at IUB. The study focused on identifying genes in biosurfactant-producing bacteria and examining their relevance to environmental bioremediation, with particular emphasis on pollution reduction through biological mechanisms. The abstract was published in the official conference booklet, and an extended abstract was published in Briefings in Bioinformatics by Oxford University Press.•

FormulaE team's EV system secures first place at Innoverse Bangladesh 2025



IUB FormulaE, a team of students from the Department of EEE, secured First Place in the Shaheed Tanvin Innovation Award category at Innoverse Bangladesh 2025 on November 14–15, 2025, at BUET. The winning project showcases a fully self-developed EV powertrain designed for a Formula Student Electric Vehicle. Central to the system is a redesigned low-voltage three-phase induction motor engineered to improve safety, accessibility, and efficiency for local EV applications. Complementing this is an in-house Variable Frequency Drive (VFD), a technically advanced innovation rarely undertaken at the undergraduate level in Bangladesh. The powertrain is driven by a 60V LiFePO4 battery pack equipped with a smart Battery Management System (BMS) to ensure enhanced safety, longevity, and performance.

IUB FormulaE operates under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Khosru Md Salim. The team was founded and is led by Md. Imtiaz Abedin, Adjunct Faculty in the Department of EEE and Research Assistant at GERC. Team members include: Md Mohiuddin Shuvo, Kallyen Kumar Tirtho, Syed Alif Ahmed Prothom, Kazi Shafin Al-Fee, Mahir Asif Sadman, Feroj Al Morsadi, Nowfil Bin Atiq, Mahady Mohammad Mainul, Nafisa Amin, Md Tahsin Hoq Bhuiyan, Md Shafin Rahman, Khadizatul Kubra Mow, Ankit Roy, Shakil Talukder, Tazwarul Amin, Arifin Imran, Sadman Sami, and Rayat Al Mueed.•



Dance Club performed at the Opening Ceremony of the AFC Asian Cup Qualifier match between Bangladesh and Hong Kong, on October 9, 2025, at the National Football Stadium in Dhaka



Journalism Club welcomed the winter season with "Under the Stars", an open-air cultural night held on December 3, 2025



Twenty-six IUB students received Gold Standard Awards at the 10th Gold Award Ceremony of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Foundation Bangladesh on January 19, 2026



DEA-IUB club distributed winter clothes among underprivileged families in Kurigram on December 25, 2025, with support from Mutual Trust Bank PLC



School of Law organised the 2nd Intra-School Set Speech Competition on November 20-23, 2025



Office of the Registrar organized the Academic Awards Ceremony 2025 on December 4, 2025, recognizing students for outstanding academic performance



The Office of Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations organized the Spring 2026 Orientation program on January 15, 2026



IUB Rover Scout Group conducted a humanitarian outreach drive in Dhaka city on January 27, 2026



IUB and UPL signed an MoU on January 18 to publish a commemorative volume honoring Prof Niaz Zaman



*Students of English and Modern Languages staged **Helen**, a contemporary adaptation of Ibsen's play **Hedda Gabler** at the university auditorium on December 11, 2025*



EEE Department and IEEE IUB Student Branch organized Freshers' Fiesta on October 14, 2025at the IUB Auditorium



CSE Department organized the "Hello World" orientation program for incoming Autumn 2025 students on October 9, 2025 at the IUB Auditorium

CGP&AR drives industry engagement and skill development



CGP&AR organized a Financial Literacy Program, titled "Tarunner Utshab 2025", in collaboration with Dhaka Bank PLC on October 14, 2025

The Office of Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a series of career-focused events between October 2025 and January 2026, aimed at strengthening student employability through industry engagement, skills development and practical exposure.

The office hosted multiple sessions with banking institutions. A financial literacy program titled "Tarunner Utshab 2025" was held on October 14 in collaboration with Dhaka Bank PLC, featuring senior bank officials and an on-campus booth from October 14–16 for recruitment information and student services. On October 15, CGP&AR organized a "Career Talk" with BRAC Bank PLC, where IUB alumni and bank officials shared insights on banking careers, workplace culture and the Young Leaders Program. A further seminar on November 17 with Midland Bank PLC focused on financial literacy, inclusion and personal finance management, led by the bank's Managing Director and CEO.

Career pathways beyond banking were explored through industry sessions and recruitment initiatives. On October 21, CGP&AR partnered with LightCastle Partners to host a session on "Breaking Into Consulting: Skills, Mindset & Career Pathways," where speakers discussed consulting careers, recruitment processes and professional expectations, alongside an interactive quiz. Earlier, on October 20, CGP&AR and the Independent HR Society (IHRS) organized on-campus interviews with NetCom Learning Bangladesh for positions including AI Trainer and Sales Development Representative, providing students with direct exposure to recruitment processes.

Skill development remained a key focus across programs. On November 19, CGP&AR hosted "The Art of Effective Communication: How to Speak, Listen and Influence," conducted by Tasnim Hasan, Founder and CEO of INFLUSIO. The session emphasized active listening, clarity, empathy and real-world communication scenarios through role-play exercises. On November 30, a seminar titled "Future of Computer Science & Artificial Intelligence by University of Brighton" introduced students to global trends in AI, machine learning, cybersecurity and international study pathways, including UK higher education structures and placement opportunities.

The office also organized a large-scale career development event, "Career Compass 2025," on November 11 in collaboration with JCI Manikganj. Featuring 10 speakers from diverse industries, the program included panel discussions on strategic career growth, leadership, entrepreneurship and digital careers. Around 200 students participated in sessions covering innovation, freelancing, global job markets and brand communication, along with networking and certificate distribution.

Across these initiatives, CGP&AR engaged students with industry professionals, alumni and recruiters, providing exposure to career opportunities, financial literacy, communication skills and emerging job market trends, in line with IUB's focus on graduate employability and career readiness.•

IHRS promotes career readiness through training and skill development



IHRS and the Department of Human Resource Management organized a lecture on organizational behavior and manpower forecasting on November 8, 2025

The Independent HR Society (IHRS) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a series of student-focused initiatives between October and December 2025, aimed at strengthening career preparedness through industry engagement, practical training and personal development.

IHRS began the period with a career guidance session titled "From Campus to Career: Roadmap to the Dream Job" on October 11, 2025. The session featured Akramul Haque, Manager of Factory Sales at Avery Dennison Bangladesh Ltd., and Rafiqul Islam, Senior Sales Manager at Coats Digital, who discussed employability skills including communication, networking, personal branding and digital competency. The speakers also addressed CV writing and interview preparation, while encouraging students to view career development as a continuous process.

On October 30, IHRS organized the "Free HR and Payroll Management Training and Certification Program" in partnership with Genuine Technology & Research Limited (GTR) under Project Turag. Conducted by HR professionals from GTR, the training focused on payroll systems, HR documentation, employee data management and compliance practices. The program, primarily designed for HRM430 students, aimed to connect academic learning with workplace applications and was open to other students and recent graduates.

Continuing its academic-industry linkage efforts, IHRS, in collaboration with the Department of Human Resource Management, organized a CorpoLecture on November 8 titled "Connecting Corporate: Organizational Behavior and Manpower Forecasting." The session was conducted by Mazed Hossain Makki, Assistant Manager, Talent Acquisition at bKash Limited, who discussed organizational behavior, manpower planning and the application of extracurricular experience in corporate settings. Topics included conflict management using the Thomas-Kilmann Theory, networking strategies and personal development considerations such as expectation management and career planning.

IHRS also addressed personal development and mental well-being through a session titled "From Confusion to Clarity" on November 29, featuring Business Coach Zaved Parvez, CEO of Restart Yourself. He discussed purpose, resilience and common misconceptions about success, drawing on his professional experiences. The session emphasized mental health awareness, self-awareness and continuous learning, followed by an interactive discussion with participants.

The series concluded with a workshop on December 4 titled "The Science and Art of Presentation," conducted by Nur-E-Alam Siddiki, Lecturer of Human Resource Management at IUB. The session focused on presentation techniques including storytelling, audience analysis, structured content development, body language and effective use of visuals. Participants engaged in practical exercises designed to improve delivery and communication skills.

Through these initiatives, IHRS provided students with exposure to industry expectations, technical knowledge and essential soft skills, supporting their transition from academic life to professional careers.•

Departments and clubs expand career-focused initiatives across IUB



Finance Department organized a Mock Job Interview session for Autumn 2025 internship students on December 8, 2025

Various departments and student clubs of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a range of career-oriented activities between October and December 2025, focusing on employability, practical skills and industry engagement.

The Independent Management and Entrepreneurship Club (IMEC) launched its three-level career development program "Career Lift" on October 19 with the first session on "Profile Preparation." Conducted by Samuel Mursalin, the session focused on building professional profiles aligned with modern recruitment practices, including applicant tracking system (ATS)-compatible CVs and LinkedIn optimization. The program will continue with sessions on CV review and mock interviews to prepare students for corporate recruitment processes.

The Independent International Business Forum (IIBF), with support from MACES, organized the "Elevator Pitch Competition 2025" on October 20 under the theme "Why Should a Company Hire You?". Participants submitted 60-second pitch videos, with 13 finalists advancing to the live round. Annaya Amin became Champion, followed by Rabbi Hossain and Md. Mahmudul Islam. The event focused on communication, persuasion and personal branding, with participants from multiple disciplines.

Academic departments also conducted structured career preparation sessions. The Department of Accounting organized a mock interview session on November 27 for BBA 499A internship students, where industry professionals from BRAC Bank PLC and Hasan Mohin Chartered Accountants assessed interview readiness and provided feedback. Similarly, the Department of Finance conducted mock job interviews on December 8 for 58 internship students, covering technical and situational questions related to financial reporting, investment analysis and risk management. Industry experts from bKash, Strategic Finance Ltd. and Shimanto Bank PLC evaluated students and provided individualized feedback.

Technical skill development was addressed through a workshop titled "Microsoft Excel Skills for Students: Basics to Brilliance," organized by the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) in collaboration with BanglaCAT on December 4. The session, conducted by a BanglaCAT data analyst, covered data handling, formulas and practical applications in engineering and supply chain contexts. The workshop also included discussions on industry expectations, with participation from BanglaCAT leadership and IUB alumni.

Across these initiatives, departments and clubs created opportunities for students to engage with industry professionals, develop communication and technical skills, and gain exposure to recruitment processes. The activities reflect a coordinated effort to connect academic learning with professional requirements and enhance student readiness for evolving job markets.

Marketing department's Brand Management session



The Department of Marketing organized a Brand Management session on November 20, 2025. The event discussed branding structures and industry processes through a keynote, discussion, presentation and question-answer session.

The keynote was delivered by Mr. Md. Mashur Ul Islam, Brand Lead – BFC at Nestlé Bangladesh PLC and an alumnus of IUB. He outlined brand-building processes, positioning structures, communication practices, and operational considerations in competitive markets. Students asked questions on recruitment preparation, workplace procedures, corporate functions, and category-specific roles.

The Q&A addressed issues related to interview expectations, organisational processes, sales responsibilities, and the use of academic indicators such as CGPA in entry-level recruitment. The responses provided procedural clarity on industry practices.

The Chief Guest was Mohammed Sohel Islam, Senior Lecturer of Marketing at IUB. Faculty members Dr. Easnin Ara, Zakia Binte Jamal, Suman Prosad Saha, Nahin Sultana, and Md. Azzajur Rahman participated in the discussion. •

Prof. Mamun Habib speaks on AI, ESG and skills

Prof. Dr. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management at IUB, joined a panel at the "The Human–AI Synergy: Redefining Roles, Skills, and Work Design" held at the 7th National HR Convention 2025 in December 2025 at Dhaka Sheraton. It was organized by the Federation of Bangladesh Human Resource Organizations. In January 2026, Prof. Habib delivered a keynote speech at the 44th Mid-Term Executive Board Meeting of the International Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractors' Associations (IFAWPCA) in Dhaka. The keynote was titled "Incorporating ESG in the Construction Industry: A Sustainable Approach". Also in January 2026, Prof. Habib delivered another keynote presentation at the Bangladesh Skills Summit 2026 at the Senate Bhaban of University of Dhaka. The keynote was titled "Transforming Higher Education for the Skill-based Economy: A Paradigm Shift." •

Central bank AD speaks at 8th Economics Lecture Series

The Department of Economics organized the 8th Economics Lecture Series titled "The Role of Central Banks in the Economy" on October 23, 2025, at the DMK Lecture Gallery, IUB. The event was supported by the Independent Economic Society (IES). Dr. Md. Azad Uddin, Additional Director of Bangladesh Bank, delivered the keynote presentation where he discussed the history of money and finance, including the barter system and its evolution; the two-sector economy model and its theoretical applications; the financial system of Bangladesh; and the tools and implementation of monetary policy. His presentation also covered economic policy classifications, methods of assessing economic health, open market operations, discount rate policies, and green and sustainable financing. A question-and-answer session followed, where faculty members and students actively participated in discussions on economic models, monetary tools, and policy implementation.•

EEE faculties participate in MCCI roundtable



Two faculty members from the EEE Department participated in a roundtable titled "Advancing Bangladesh's Semiconductor Industry" on October 25, 2025. It was organized by the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MCCI) at the M. Anis Ud Dowla Conference Hall, Police Plaza Concord, in Gulshan, Dhaka. The event included sessions on MCCI's Semiconductor Roadmap overview, investment and policy discussions, academia–industry collaboration, student perspectives, and a networking dinner.

The faculty members were Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of EEE, and Dr. Kh Shahriya Zaman, Lecturer in the same department and a semiconductor chip design specialist. They shared their perspectives on the state of microelectronics education, the demand for skilled graduates in the sector, and the role of universities in bridging academic and industrial goals. They underscored IUB's ongoing initiatives to enhance collaboration with the private sector in developing a competent semiconductor workforce.•

Admissions office expands outreach in divisional cities



The IUB-MDS Debate Festival 2025 was held on December 20, 2025, in Mymensingh

The Office of Admissions, Financial Aid and International Relations (AFA&IR) of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized a series of outreach initiatives between October 2025 and January 2026 across Khulna, Mymensingh and Chattogram, engaging students, educators and institutions through academic dialogue and debate platforms.

Roundtable on higher studies in Khulna

IUB organized a roundtable titled "Higher Studies: Pathways and Opportunities" on October 16, 2025 in Khulna. The session brought together educators, administrators, journalists and prospective students to discuss higher education opportunities in Bangladesh and abroad.

IUB representatives presented academic programs, scholarships and international collaborations, while discussions emphasized global competencies, critical thinking and leadership. Participants highlighted the importance of such initiatives outside Dhaka and encouraged continued engagement with regional institutions.

Inter-school debate competition in Khulna

IUB sponsored the Inter-School Debate Competition 2025, held on October 14–16 at Khulna District Shilpakala Academy. Organized by Prantika Residential Area Janokallan Samiti, the competition featured eight schools and aimed to develop critical thinking and communication skills.

Khulna Public School & College emerged champion, defeating Navy School and College in the final. IUB representatives attended the event and highlighted the university's commitment to nurturing analytical skills among school students.

Inter-college debate festival in Mymensingh

In collaboration with the Mymensingh Debating Society (MDS), IUB organized the IUB MDS Debate Festival 2025 on December 20 in Mymensingh. The event brought together 16 teams from colleges across the region, providing a platform for intellectual exchange and debate practice.

The initiative focused on strengthening logical reasoning, articulation and academic engagement among college students, with IUB facilitating overall coordination and outreach.

Inter-college debate competition in Chattogram

IUB, in partnership with Drishti Chattogram, organized the two-day English debate competition "Game of Logic-2026" on January 29–30, 2026 at the Chattogram Theatre Auditorium. The event saw participation from over 300 students representing 18 institutions.

Chattogram Cantonment Public College won the competition, defeating Halishahar Cantonment Public School and College in the final. Fairuz Tafannum Nusaiba was named Debater of the Final, while Afnan Anjum Nidhi became Debater of the Tournament.

The program also included a workshop on debating skills and discussions emphasizing critical thinking and evidence-based argumentation.•



IUB and Drishti Chattogram organized the English debate competition "Game of Logic-2026" on January 29–30, 2026 at the Chattogram Theatre Auditorium

Life Sciences dept organizes DLS Alumni Day



The Department of Life Sciences organized the DLS Alumni Day on November 29, 2025, to connect former students with the department. The program opened with the national anthem, followed by a welcome address from Dr. Ashrafus Safa, Head of the Department of Life Sciences. Dr. Safa outlined the purpose and introduced the session. Vice Chancellor, Prof. M. Tamim spoke on the importance of sustained alumni–university engagement. The Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences, Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, also delivered remarks.

Khandker Md Iftekhar Haider, Treasurer; Asif Parvez, Registrar; Prof. Shah M. Faruque from the Department of Life Sciences; and Prof. Hafizur Rahman, Head of the Department of Environmental Science and Management, were also present. The Career Guidance, Placement and Alumni Relations (CGP&AR) office supported the event with gift items for the alumni.•

CCDS wins twin awards at 2025 IEEE SCOReD in Malaysia

The Center for Computational & Data Sciences (CCDS) won the Best Paper and the Best Presenter Awards at 2025 IEEE 23rd Student Conference on Research and Development (SCOReD), held on November 25–26 at Universiti Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The Best Paper Award was given for the work titled "Effectiveness of Transfer Learning Approach for Low-Resource Bangla Dialect Translation," authored by Dewan Rakin Ahamed Remal, Sinthia Chowdhury, Jahanggir Hossain Setu, and Nabarun Halder.

The Best Presenter Award was received by Faiza Omar Arpita for her presentation on "Preliminary Design of a Culturally Tailored AI-Integrated mHealth App for Gestational Diabetes and Excessive Weight Management in Bangladesh." Arpita is a current MSc in Computer Science student at IUB.

Dr. Ashraful Islam, Director, CCDS; and Asif Mahmud, Co-Director, Industry & Partnership Wing, CCDS, joined the conference along with three students of MSc in Computer Science and four students of BSc in Computer Science and Engineering (CSE). The group presented 14 accepted papers authored by 32 MSc Thesis and BSc Senior Project students under the supervision of CCDS wing directors and co-directors. The works covered areas connected to data science, AI-driven systems, informatics, blockchain, natural language processing, and computer vision.•

KSI and Korean Embassy host special lecture

The Korean Embassy and King Sejong Institute (KSI) of IUB, organized a special lecture and a certificate awarding ceremony for the 1st and 2nd semester students of 2025 of KSI's Korean language course at the Embassy's Conference Room on November 18, 2025. The event included a lecture on leadership and recognized students who completed Korean language courses, with participation from H.E. Park Young-sik, Ambassador of Korea to Bangladesh, and Prof. Dr. Zakir Hossain Raju, Director of KSI Dhaka 2; Ms. Eunseon Park, Korean language teacher at KSI, and 42 students. Ambassador Park delivered a lecture on global and national leadership, addressing leadership challenges and the historical and contemporary relationship between Korea and Bangladesh. Prof. Raju outlined the cooperation between IUB and the Korean Embassy, noting its academic value and contributions to the development of language and cultural studies. During the certificate awarding segment, Ambassador Park and Prof. Raju presented certificates and gifts to 42 students, who completed Korean language courses from elementary to intermediate levels, marking the formal conclusion of the program.•

CASSA launches 'Cosmic HerStory' project



The Center for Astronomy, Space Science and Astrophysics (CASSA) initiated the "Cosmic HerStory" project to address gender gaps in astronomy education by providing supervised technical training and science communication instruction for young women. Cosmic HerStory, funded by the British Council Bangladesh under the WOW (Women of the World) Bangladesh Chapter, will run from Jan-Aug 2026 and include training and workshops. The first workshop was held during January 15-17, 2026, as part of CASSA's outreach program Durbin. The three-day Durbin Workshop covered telescope optics, observational methods, astrophotography, image processing, and science writing. The workshop enrolled 20 participants from nine institutions across Dhaka, Chattogram, and Pabna. The official grant agreement was signed on December 22, 2025, by Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, and Maarya Rehman, Deputy Director, British Council Bangladesh. The project is supervised by Dr. Lamiya Mowla, Assistant Professor, Wellesley College, USA, and Associate Member, CASSA; Dr. Syeda Lammim Ahad from the University of Waterloo, Canada; and Dr. Khan Muhammad Bin Asad, Director, CASSA. In 2026, Durbin-related activities are supported primarily through the WOW grant, with additional in-kind support from remaining Dunlap Institute resources.•

CBoBS-GSG national dialogue on blue economy



The Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies (CBoBS) and the Department of Global Studies and Governance (GSG) of IUB jointly organized a seminar titled "Global Shipping Issues Affecting Bangladesh: Challenges and Pathways to Resilient Solutions for Blue Economy" on October 12, 2025, at IUB. The event brought together key policymakers, industry leaders, and academics to assess global shipping challenges and outline strategies to strengthen Bangladesh's maritime resilience and blue economy.

Brigadier General (Retd) Dr. M. Sakhawat Hussain, former Advisor to the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Jute and Textiles, attended the seminar as Chief Guest. Dr. Hussain emphasized that sustainable port development and international investment are central to Bangladesh's global trade connectivity.

Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, delivered the welcome remarks. Rear Admiral Md Khurshed Alam (Retd), Director of CBoBS, presented the keynote address highlighting the relationship between ecological responsibility and economic growth.

The discussion included remarks from Prof. Md. Mamun Habib, Head of the Department of Management, School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE), IUB; Khandaker R. Zaman, Managing Director and CEO of ALLSEAS Shipping Ltd.; Azam J. Chowdhury, Chairman of the Bangladesh Ocean Going Ship Owners' Association (BOGSOA); and Mohammad Yousuf, Senior Secretary of the Ministry of Shipping.•

Life Sciences dept hosts BAS Academy Lecture

The Department of Life Sciences (DLS) hosted the Academy Lecture of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) on October 30, 2025 at Lecture Gallery 7002. Prof. Emdadul Haque Chowdhury, Fellow of BAS and former Vice Chancellor of Bangladesh Agricultural University, delivered a scientific lecture at the event, which examined how migratory birds may contribute to the spread of antibiotic resistance.

Prof. Shah M. Faruque, former Dean of IUB's School of Environment and Life Sciences, moderated the event. Dr. Ashrafus Safa, former Head of DLS, chaired the session. Prof. Zahurul Karim, President of BAS and former Secretary of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, attended as the Chief Guest.

Dr. Samiul Haque, Director of BAS, was present alongside BAS fellows, staff members, DLS faculty members and students. The coordination was conducted by Dr. Sabrina Elias, Associate Professor, DLS, and Ms. Nowshin Tarannum, Lecturer, DLS. The session concluded with a Q&A segment that extended the discussion between the audience and panel.•

Seminar on Green Shipbuilding

The Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM) organized a seminar titled "Green Shipbuilding: Impact on Environmental Sustainability" on October 28, 2025, at the DMK Lecture Gallery. The seminar explored global trends in green shipbuilding, Bangladesh's Strategic Vision (2025–2035), and the integration of eco-friendly practices in the maritime sector.

Prof. Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Head of DESM, opened the seminar with his welcome remarks emphasizing the integration of environmental responsibility with industrial innovation. Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences (SELS), highlighted IUB's focus on research-based learning and green innovation. Rear Admiral Md. Khurshed Alam (Retd.), Director of IUB's Center for Bay of Bengal Studies (CBoBS), addressed the strategic importance of sustainable maritime development for Bangladesh's blue economy. Engr. Md. Sakhawat Hossain, M.E.O Class-1 (U.K), Chairman of WMS, SST, and TSD Ltd, delivered the keynote address.

The seminar concluded with a question-and-answer session, where students interacted with the keynote speaker on green technology adoption, policy challenges, and Bangladesh's capacity to lead in sustainable shipbuilding.•

First-ever Norwegian Film Festival in Bangladesh



IUB hosted the first-ever Norwegian Film Festival in Bangladesh on October 13, 2025. Jointly organized by the Department of English and Modern Languages and the Department of Media and Communication, the festival featured the screening of three Norwegian films — *No Other Land* (documentary), *Let the River* Flow (feature film), and *Maybe Just for You* (short film).

The day-long, open-to-all event celebrated the power of cinema as a universal language that connects people and cultures beyond borders. The selected films explored diverse human experiences, inspiring empathy, and reflection on global social and cultural issues.

IUB Vice Chancellor Prof. M. Tamim and the Ambassador of Norway to Bangladesh, Mr. Håkon Arald Gulbrandsen, jointly inaugurated the festival at the DMK Lecture Gallery. Faculty members, students, and guests attended the screenings throughout the day.•

Students participate in Helmet Advocacy



IUB participated in the "Bangladesh Standard Helmet Advocacy Forum to Create Awareness", organized by the World Bank on November 8, 2025, at the Aga Khan Centre, Dhaka. It included representatives from four universities — IUB, NSU, AIUB and EWU — and brought together policymakers, educators, and development partners to address helmet standardization and road safety education.

IUB's 15-member student team, coordinated by DoSA, displayed a short video and delivered a presentation, highlighting the dangers of not using standard helmets. The participants were guided by Fatema Tuz Zohora, Officer at DoSA, along with junior officers who assisted in project coordination.

Guests included Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IUB; Dr. Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of NSU; Mr. Sitangshu Shekhar Biswas, Director of BRTA; and Ms. Dilshad Sultan Dossani, Senior Officer at World Bank.•

Accounting dept celebrates Int'l Accounting Day

The Department of Accounting celebrated the International Accounting Day on November 10, 2025, at the Multi-Purpose Hall to recognize the role of accounting in business and society. The program brought together faculty members, students, and industry professionals and included discussions on accounting ethics, professional body membership, and career development in accounting. The event featured presentations and briefings on IUB's collaboration with ICAB, ICMAB, and ACCA Bangladesh.

Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, delivered the keynote address as Chief Guest. Prof. Daniel W. Lund, Pro Vice-Chancellor and Guest of Honor, addressed the societal role of accountants. Prof. Dr. Raisul Awal Mahmood, Dean of the School of Business and Entrepreneurship (SBE), presented the welcome remarks, highlighting the relevance of accounting in contemporary business.

The program included speeches by three professional accountants: Readud Sajiad, FCA, Associate Director at Coats Global; Syed Najibullah, CMA, Consultant at ThinkWell - both Alumni of IUB; and Nurul Karim Patwery, ACMA, Head of Treasury at IDLC Finance Ltd. The speakers focused on professional skills, career prospects, and accounting practices that support transparency and sustainable growth.•

Prof. Lund discusses psychopathic behavior

The Department of Media & Communication launched its new "Talk on Paper" series on November 6, 2025, in the SLASS Faculty Lounge, with the inaugural session, titled "Functional Psychopathic Behavior in Higher Education", presented by Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of IUB. The talk was moderated by Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the host department.

In his presentation, Prof. Lund addressed the vital need "to tackle behaviors like manipulation that harm workplace well-being and mental health" – a theme that resonates with global goals for good health, quality education, and strong institutions. He distinguished between psychopathy and sociopathy, outlining key traits and providing examples relevant to higher education, such as exaggerated self-promotion, academic misconduct, and workplace bullying. He also examined the "Dark Triad" – Machiavellianism, Narcissism, and Psychopathy – as interconnected behaviors that can disrupt professional environments.

Moving from diagnosis to solution, Dr. Lund outlined several practical approaches for identifying and managing such behavior. He emphasized the need for stronger recruitment processes, clear codes of conduct, confidential reporting systems, counseling support, and robust institutional policies to address behavioral misconduct.•

Literary conversation with Zia Haider Rahman



The Department of English and Modern Languages (DEML) hosted a literary session titled "Words and Worlds: A Literary Conversation with Zia Haider Rahman" on November 9, 2025, at the DMK Lecture Gallery. The dialogue examined the role of literature in identity, freedom of expression, and social understanding. Prof. Dr. Razia Sultana Khan, Advisor, DEML, led the discussion with Zia Haider Rahman. Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor of IUB, and Prof. Dr. Bokhtiar Ahmed, Dean of IUB's School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, were in attendance.

British writer Zia Haider Rahman, author of the James Tait Black Memorial Prize winning novel *In the Light of What We Know*, read selected excerpts from his novel and shared insights on narrative form, identity, and global perspectives. Students and faculty engaged in a lively interactive session, inquiring about literary influences, the writing process, and the role of literature in society. The event concluded with a broader discussion on the analytical and reflective power of literature in shaping social change.•

English Dept's workshop on academic writing

The Department of English and Modern Languages (DEML) organized a workshop titled "Academic Writing Through the Lens of an Editor" on November 11, 2025, at the SLASS Faculty Lounge. The session was led by Prof. Dr. Md. Mahmudul Hasan, from the International Islamic University Malaysia and Editor-in-Chief of Asiatic: IIUM Journal of English Language and Literature.

The session outlined core components of academic manuscripts and clarified the editorial workflow used in scholarly journals, including peer-review expectations, submission protocols, and the sequence of steps authors must follow from initial submission to final acceptance. Participants were briefed on manuscript structure, citation requirements, and revision guidelines.

The event drew over 50 participants, including students and faculty members from DEML and other departments. The workshop included a question-and-answer segment where attendees inquired about issues related to manuscript preparation, journal selection, and peer-review procedures.•

Mainuddin Khaled's masterclass on art



The Department of Media and Communication organized a masterclass titled "1971 War of Liberation in Painting and Sculptures" on December 6, 2025 to support the Foundation Course BDS109: Bangladesh 1971 Through the Lenses.

The session examined the representation of the Liberation War in paintings and sculpture, outlining how visual works contribute to historical interpretation and public memory. Mr. Khaled discussed the role of visual documentation in national struggle narratives and explained how artistic perspectives inform broader engagement with Bangladesh's history. Faculty members involved in BDS109 and more than 600 students participated in the session.•

CSE and IUBPC host Programming Week



The Department of Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) and the IUB Programming Club (IUBPC) organized Programming Week Autumn '25, an intra-university programming, pitch, and project event on November 27–29, 2025.

It featured the Intra-IUB Programming Contest, InnoVerse: Tech Business Pitch Competition, and a Tech Project Showcase with a combined prize pool of BDT 40,000. Participants advanced through screening rounds before the final assessments.

The business pitch competition was evaluated by Mr. Fardin Farhan Khan, Business Development Engineer at SMEC International Pty. Ltd.; and Ms. Tazreen Z Chowdhury, Key Account Manager at Vivasoft Ltd. The Tech Project Showcase was evaluated by Dr. Asif Mahmood, Assistant Professor of CSE at IUB, and Mr. Ehsanul Alam Sabbir, Senior SQA Engineer at Vivasoft Ltd. The programming contest was coordinated and judged by Mr. Sajed Imtenanul Hoque, Lecturer of CSE at IUB, and Dr. Mahmood.•

EEE Dept's seminar on Building Code

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE), IEEE PES IUB Student Branch Chapter and the IEEE IUB Student Branch organized a seminar on the "Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) – Electrical Part" on November 20, 2025.

Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Professor in the EEE Department, delivered the keynote presentation, explaining the key aspects of BNBC electrical provisions and their relevance for safe, reliable, and efficient building infrastructure. The seminar included an interactive Q&A session that allowed students to engage directly with the speaker and clarify practical implementation issues.

More than 80 students attended the seminar. During the Q&A, participants inquired about project-level safety compliance, regulatory requirements, and the evolving responsibilities of electrical engineers.•

Post-COP30 climate action dialogue



The Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM) and the Institute of Climate Change, Environment & Sustainability (ICCES) organized a post-dialogue event titled "Shared Mandate, Shared Future: Collaborative Climate Action in the Post-COP30 Era in Bangladesh" on December 14, 2025, at IUB.

The programme began with reflections from Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean, School of Environment and Life Sciences, IUB, and Sheikh Tajul Islam Tuhin, Chairman & Founder, ICCES. Samia Tunazzin, Executive and Founding Member, ICCES, and Assistant Manager, Sustainability, DBL Group, highlighted inclusive, action-oriented climate engagement. Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah, Independent Consultant and Adjunct Professor at IUB, and Maria Akter, Project Manager, ICCCAD, IUB, discussed translating international negotiations into context-specific national action.

The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Fazle Rabbi Sadeque Ahmed, Deputy Managing Director, PKSF. A panel discussion on "Loss & Damage Finance After COP30: Opportunities and Risks for Bangladesh" featured AKM Sohel, UN Wing Chief, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance; Professor Dr. Md. Hafizur Rahman, Head, DESM, IUB; Dr. Munjurul Hannan Khan, Executive Director, NACOM; and Sumaiya Binte Selim, Programme Coordinator, Gender & Youth, ICCCAD, IUB.•

Roundtable on AI in public health and pharmacy

The Center for Computational & Data Sciences (CCDS) organized a roundtable, titled "Applications of AI in Public Health and Pharmacy" on January 15, 2026. The event involved CCDS research supervisors from different wings; 23 faculty members from IUB's School of Pharmacy and Public Health (SPPH); and a five-member delegation from the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) of the Government of Bangladesh, led by Dr. Zakir Hossain Habib, Principal Scientific Officer. Dr. Ashraful Islam, Director of CCDS, presented an overview of AI-driven research applications in public health and pharmacy, outlining ongoing and completed public health service research initiatives conducted by different wings of CCDS.

Participants included Dr. Kamran ul Baset, Dean, SPPH; Dr. Zenat Zebin Hossain, Head, Department of Public Health; Dr. AKM Mahbubur Rahman, Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering; and Dr. Nasrin Akhter, Head, Department of Pharmacy, Independent University, Bangladesh.•

SPPH seminar on Transdisciplinary Research

The School of Pharmacy and Public Health (SPPH) organized a seminar, titled "Transdisciplinary Research for Population and Public Health in Bangladesh", on December 6, 2025. It examined how integrated research methods can support national public health priorities through presentations and structured stakeholder discussions.

Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor of IUB, presided over the seminar. Prof. Dr. Sayeba Akhter, Chairperson of BMRC, attended as the Chief Guest. Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, Director at UGC, joined as special guest.

Participants came from BMRC, DGHS, public and private universities, medical colleges, research organizations, public health organizations, UN agencies, NGOs, and professional groups.

A "World Café" session followed, where participants discussed challenges, collaboration needs, and potential approaches for transdisciplinary research in Bangladesh. Dr. Bhuiyan, Prof. Akhter and Prof. Lund also addressed the session, outlining institutional perspectives on coordinated public health research. The seminar concluded with a vote of thanks from Dr. Kamran Ul Baset, Dean of SPPH.•

Public lecture highlights France-Bangladesh ties



The Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies (CBoBS) and the Department of Global Studies and Governance (GSG), in collaboration with Marana Foundation, organized an academic lecture, titled "France and the World: Bangladesh in It" on January 26, 2026. The lecture examined France's global role and its engagement with Bangladesh through discussions on foreign policy, development cooperation, and the Indo-Pacific strategy. H.E. Dr. Jean-Marc Séré-Charlet, Ambassador of France to Bangladesh, delivered the keynote address.

The lecture was moderated by Rear Admiral Md. Khurshed Alam (Retd), Director of CBoBS. Dr. Md Shanawez Hossain, Associate Professor and Head of GSG, shared his reflections on the historic narrative and future aspirations of both nations for strengthening academic and economic activities. Ambassador Tariq A. Karim (Retd), Advisor CBoBS, was present along with other senior officials from the diplomatic corps.

The panel included Mr. Masud Khan, Chairman of the Marana Foundation; Ms. Nahar Khan, President and Executive Chair of the Marana Foundation; Mr. Didar A. Hussain, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, IUB; Prof. Dr. M. Tamim, Vice-Chancellor; and Prof. Dr. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice-Chancellor.•

Short course on Navigating COP 30

The OECE unit of the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor and IUB-ICCCAD conducted a short course titled "Tracking Global Climate Negotiations: Navigating COP without Going to COP." Supported by the Embassy of Sweden, Dhaka, this annual initiative is part of the CAP-RES project under IUB-ICCCAD. The course is designed to equip professionals with the knowledge and tools to interpret global climate negotiations and translate them into practical local action.

The program began on November 11, 2025, bringing together a diverse group of professionals from around the world to explore key issues discussed at COP 30, including Loss and Damage, Climate Finance, the Global Goal on Adaptation, and Resilience in Water, Food, and Agriculture.

The sessions ran from November 11-24, 2025, followed by a series of webinars through February 2026. Participants also receive access to curated COP-related resources such as documents, blogs, newsletters, and videos to ensure the materials remain relevant and up to date.

This year, more than 80 participants from countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America have joined the program. Countries represented include Algeria, Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Nigeria, the Philippines, South Africa, and Vietnam, among others.•

Master's seminar on climate action

The Department of Environmental Science and Management (DESM) organized a Master's seminar, titled "Climate Action and Global Initiatives" on January 31, 2026. It aimed to link academic learning with international climate governance and diplomacy through presentations and discussions on global climate frameworks, policy mechanisms, and Bangladesh's participation in climate negotiations.

Dr. K. Ayaz Rabbani, Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences, and Prof. Dr. Hafizur Rahman, Head of DESM, spoke at the seminar. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Mohammad Navid Safiullah, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. It covered the greenhouse effect and major global climate frameworks, including IPCC, UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol, and the Paris Agreement, with discussion on the principle of Common But Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR).

The session also addressed Bangladesh's participation in Conference of the Parties (COP) negotiations and its commitments under Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). It concluded with a discussion on collective climate action and youth engagement in climate initiatives.•

Media and Communication faculties lead review of Bangladesh's Film Ecosystem



On December 10, 2025, the British Council unveiled "Cinema as a Creative Industry" part of the nationwide research project "Mapping Bangladesh's Film Ecosystem and Inclusive Growth Potential", a policy review led by faculty from the Department of Media and Communication.

The research team was led by Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the Department of Media and Communication, who served as Principal Investigator. He was joined by Co-Investigator Dr. Mohiul Islam, Assistant Professor, and Dilshad Hossain Dodul, Senior Lecturer from the same department. Undergraduate student Hashmita served as a research assistant. The research was commissioned by the British Council and implemented by Dhaka DocLab.

Applying the British Council's global research framework alongside local industry data, the team worked to map the film sector, review existing policy mechanisms, and develop recommendations to support structured industry growth. Initiated in February 2025, the study utilized surveys and consultations with producers, independent filmmakers, cinema hall owners, students, and other stakeholders across Bangladesh.•

IUB Library becomes IFLA member

The IUB Library became an official member of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) on January 01, 2026.

The membership aligns library services with international standards through formal affiliation with the global organization for libraries and information services.

It also enables the IUB Library to engage with international library networks, professional frameworks, and knowledge-sharing platforms associated with IFLA, supporting the development of library services in line with established global practices.

IFLA works to advance library and information services worldwide by promoting professional standards, supporting education and research, encouraging access to information, and representing the interests of libraries and their communities at the global level.

Through this membership, the IUB Library is positioned to participate in international professional initiatives and contribute to global discussions on library and information services.•

GSG, Global Gatekeepers observe Global Day



The Department of Global Studies and Governance (GSG) and its student club Global Gatekeepers observed Global Day 2025 on November 23, 2025. The three-day flagship event included an academic seminar, the award-giving ceremony of the IUB Global Intra Model United Nations (IUBGIMUN) 2025, and a colorful cultural program.

The activities marked the closing of the two-day IUBGIMUN Conference held on November 21–22, organized by the Global Gatekeepers club. GSG and Global Gatekeepers observe Global Day as the department's foundation day each year, with a large-scale celebration aligned with the United Nations theme.

Japanese performer Mae Watanabe, of the musical duo Bajna Beat, performed a bilingual song titled "Ami Laal-shobujer Desh, Tumi Shurjodoyer Desh." Awards and recognitions were then presented to Executive Board members, delegates, and committee performers. The cultural program featured a series of performances by IUB students and guest artists.•

IHRS visits Arla Foods factory

The Independent HR Society (IHRS) visited the manufacturing facility of Arla Foods Bangladesh Ltd. at Konabari, Gazipur, on October 23, 2025, to provide students with practical exposure to human resource and business operations. Nine students participated, gaining firsthand experience of facility operations, HR practices, and organizational processes.

During the visit, participants toured Arla's facilities and observed supply chain management, quality control measures, and sustainability practices. The visit highlighted how global operational standards are applied in the local market context.

The session concluded with discussions led by Mr. Md. Ali Ahsan Khan, Head of HR; Mr. Md. Selim, HRBP – Factory and Supply Chains; and Mr. Rajib Jony, Head of Operations. The speakers explained recruitment, compensation, performance appraisal systems, and company initiatives related to employee well-being, inclusion, and workplace safety.•

IUB Rover Scout Group launched

The IUB Rover Scout Group was officially launched during a program held at the DMK Lecture Gallery on November 27, 2025 with 120 participants. The initiative aims to provide students with leadership and community service opportunities. The program began with the opening of the IUB Rover Den and a Foundation Tree Plantation near Gate-5. The ceremony was led by Prof. M. Tamim, Vice Chancellor and President of the IUB Rover Scout Group.

Prof. Tamim outlined how Rover Scouting aligns with IUB's mission to develop responsible, service-oriented graduates and emphasized its role in practical leadership development. Prof. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor and Vice President of the IUB Rover Scout Group, reflected on scouting values and their integration with the academic environment at IUB.

Dr. Mohammad Akkas Ali Akash, Secretary, Bangladesh Scouts, Dhaka District Rover; Prof. Dr. Maniruzzaman Khandakar, Leader Trainer and Former Dean, Faculty of Life & Earth Science at Jagannath University; Muhammad Omar Ali, Leader Trainer and Commissioner, Dhaka District Rover; and Atif M. Safi, Head, DoSA, also attended the program.•

IEEE IUB Student Branch celebrates IEEE Day



The IEEE IUB Student Branch celebrated its 15th anniversary in conjunction with the global IEEE Day 2025 on October 13, 2025. The event commemorated the branch's establishment, highlighting its contributions to student research and technological engagement and encouraging collaboration among IEEE chapters. The program featured speeches, a campus rally, and interactive sessions organized by the branch and its associated chapters and affinity groups.

Prof. Dr. M. Abdur Razzak, founder and mentor of the IEEE IUB Student Branch, attended the program as the Chief Guest. Dr. Mustafa Habib Chowdhury, Branch Counselor of IEEE IUB Student Branch and Head of the EEE Department, delivered the welcome remarks.

Speakers included Dr. Md. Kafiul Islam, Faculty Advisor of IEEE IUB Industry Applications Society; Dr. Kh. Shahriya Zaman, Faculty Advisor of IEEE IUB Robotics and Automation Society; and Dr. Afroza Sultana, Faculty Advisor of IEEE IUB Women in Engineering Affinity Group. Mr. Atif M. Safi, Head of the Division of Student Activities, also addressed the audience.•

Environmental Trailblazers organizes another edition of 'Shekor'



The Environmental Trailblazers Club organized "Shekor", a cultural fair, from December 7-9, 2025, at the Student Activity Area. The fair connected cultural heritage with environmental sustainability through exhibitions, live demonstrations, and installations. It featured stalls representing 8 divisions of Bangladesh, highlighting region-specific crafts, materials, and traditional practices. Exhibits included tea culture and Monipuri handloom from Sylhet; bamboo crafts and indigenous handicrafts from Chattogram; jute-based products and paddy straw art from Khulna; palm leaf and shital pati weaving from Barishal; silk and decorative pottery from Rajshahi; shatranji weaving from Rangpur; and nakshi kantha embroidery from Mymensingh. Each stall promoted use of natural materials and traditional processes. The event was conducted under the guidance of Jannatul Ferdous Mohona.

Planning and execution were led by student members of the Environmental Trailblazers Club, who managed coordination, logistics, stall design, artisan engagement, and outreach over a preparation period of more than three months.•

Jarif and Nafiza place in top 20 at IARCO 2025

Jarif Billah and Nafiza Tasnim, both students of Environmental Science and Management at IUB, secured places in the Top 20 in the Senior category at the International Academic Research Competition (IARCO) 2025. The results were announced on November 9, 2025.

The global event brought together participants from universities across 37 countries to showcase original academic research across multiple disciplines. Jarif presented his research, titled "Blurred Boundaries: Intersectionality between Humans and Urban Animals in Dhaka," while Nafiza's study "Valorization of Invasive Species into Sustainable Fertilizer" focused on sustainable resource management.

IARCO 2025 featured 265 participants from 200 institutions worldwide, with 38 participants selected for final recognition. The competition was supported by Youth Research Journal, .ME Domain, and Hack Club.•

Shakila represents IUB at UNDP Summit

Shakila Tamasum, a student of Biochemistry & Biotechnology, represented IUB at the Futurenation Summit 2025, held on November 30, 2025. She served on the summit's Super30 event management team.

Futurenation is a national youth development initiative led by UNDP Bangladesh in collaboration with government and private partners including the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) and Grameenphone Ltd. The "Frontier Technology Leadership Training" also took place during the summit.

Under the initiative, 1,500 students and faculty members from 75 universities in Bangladesh will receive year-long professional training in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Science, and Cybersecurity through HarvardX. At the summit, a total of 18 IUB students were selected for the fully-funded HarvardX courses under the Futurenation scholarship scheme. Additionally, 20 students from the Department of Computer Science and Engineering were awarded Futurenation scholarships across key technology streams under the national program.•

IPC organizes photography workshop



Independent Photography Club organized "The Traveling Lens: A Travel Photography Workshop" on December 9, 2025 in collaboration with SONY Bangladesh. The workshop was conducted by Rony Sharafat and Anirban Kaisar, who led sessions on travel photography fundamentals, visual storytelling, camera equipment, and field techniques with hands-on demonstrations for participants.

Prof. Daniel W. Lund, Pro-Vice Chancellor; Dr. Imran Firdaus, Head of the Department of Media and Communication; and Refat Ara Jerin, Co-Coordinator of IPC attended the workshop.

The SONY delegation included Makiyama Kazuteru, General Manager, Imaging Marketing Division, Sony Electronics Japan; Bae Jihoon, President, Sony Singapore; Joshua Jing Xuan, Country Head, Sony Electronics Bangladesh; Alex Loon, Head of Operations, Fortune Sky Limited; Ozawa Yuki; and Negishi Masahiro. Ahsanul Kabir Pallab, Representative of Sony Bangladesh, also contributed.•

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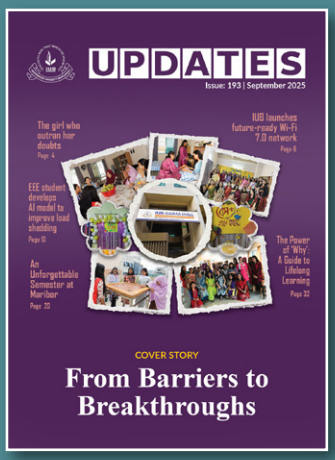



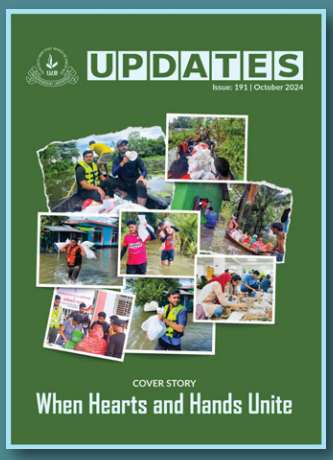









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