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IUB Update

INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY BANGLADESH

April-Mid July 2020, Issue: 173-176

IUB EXECUTED MASSIVE RELIEF ACTIVITY DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC





During this devastating COVID-19 pandemic, thousands of underprivileged people are going through a huge crisis of food and essential family needs. Due to this shutdown period, as part of its persistent benevolent activities & commitments for the needy people, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), in collaboration with Sajida Foundation, implemented massive relief activities in various parts of Dhaka slum areas on May 14 & 15, 2020. During this period, foods and other essential commodities were distributed to 2,600 families in Uttara, Vatara, Badda, Satarkul and other slums of the capital city. Each family received 8 kilograms of rice, edible oil, potatoes, daal, onion, chola, sugar, semai, salt, molasses and some other necessary family goods.

Prof. Milan Pagon, Vice Chancellor (Acting), was present and take part in distributing this highly needed and very timely support for the most disadvantaged people of the society. He was accompanied by the Treasurer, Registrar and other senior officials of the University along with the Director, Support of Sajida Foundation, Monirul Islam Khan, Rabiul Karim, Divisional Manager, Sajida Foundation and others.

Followed by the relief distributions, Sajida Foundation volunteers also demonstrated the local people on health & hygiene issues - particularly washing hands and wearing masks on a regular basis.

SAJIDA FOUNDATION

TEACHETH MAN THAT WHICH HE KNEW NOT IUB INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY



IUB HOLDS THE FIRST-EVER ONLINE ORIENTATION PROGRAM FOR SUMMER 2020 SEMESTER

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) implemented its first ever online Orientation Program for Summer 2020 Semester on July 4, 2020, Saturday during this Covid-19 pandemic.

Mr. A Matin Chowdhury, Chairman, Board of Trustees, IUB was the Chief Guest of the program. Mr. Chowdhury, in his speech, emphasized on the fact that IUB has prepared & planned to make every single step to deliver world-class online education to its students. He urged upon the students to adapt this new normal situation and move forward with the world by overcoming all obstacles. Mr. Chowdhury also illustrated the industry scenario that has many positive aspects & opportunities to succeed even during this ongoing pandemic. For this, creative thinking would be utterly crucial, he added.

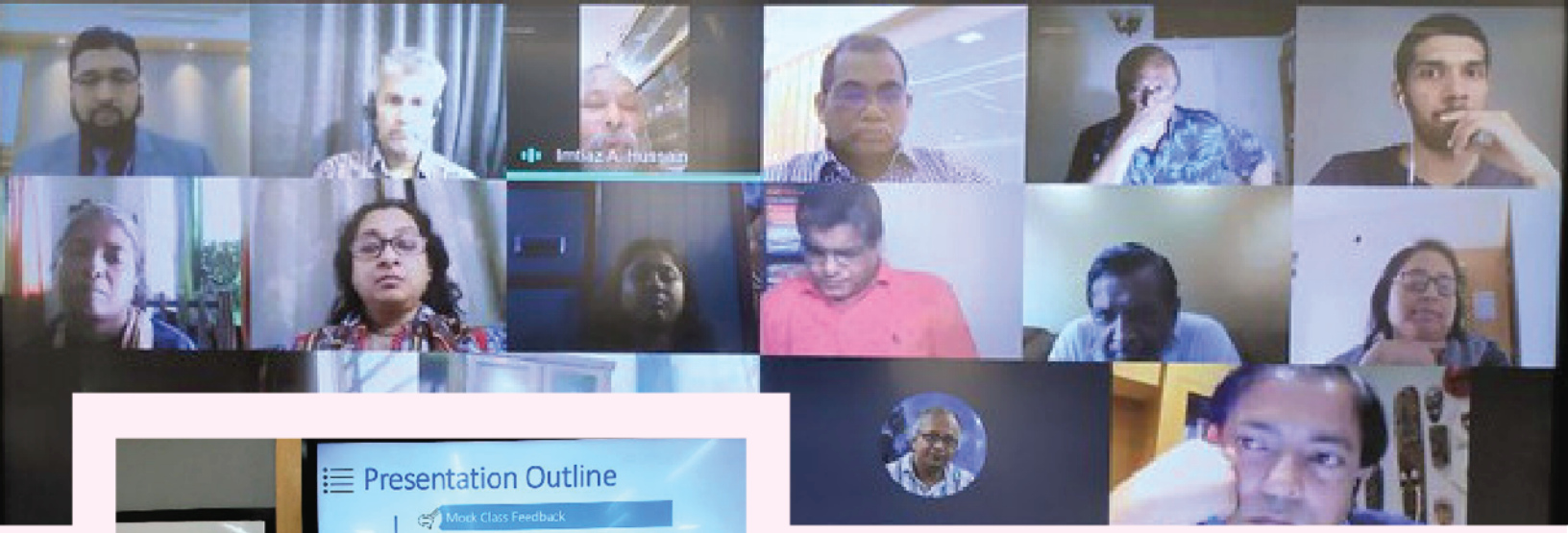
Prof. Milan Pagon, Vice Chancellor (Acting), IUB, heartily thanked the parents & students for choosing IUB towards crafting their lives by coping with new opportunities. As the COVID-19 pandemic rages on, causing classrooms to stay closed, so therefore online education has become imperative, and that is why IUB has taken all necessary action to implement entire online academic activities in true sense, Prof. Pagon underscored. He also highlighted various features that IUB has crafted to face this pandemic and making the University a better & safer place to deliver quality higher education.

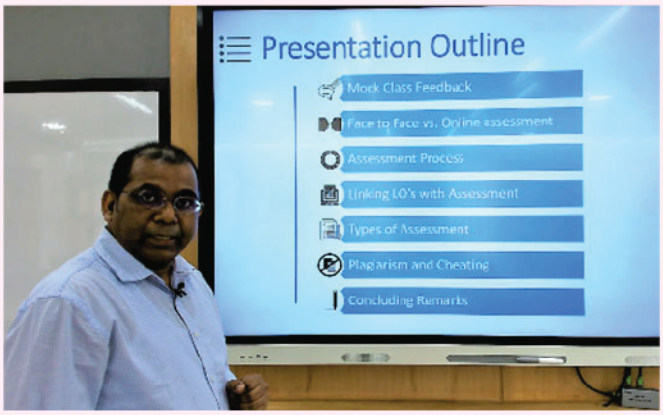
Prof. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed, Acting Dean, School of Business and Entrepreneurship; Dr. Mahady Hasan, Head, CSE, School of Engineering, Technology & Science; Prof. Imtiaz A. Hussain, Acting Dean, School of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences; Prof. Shah M. Farque, Dean, School of Environment & Life Sciences and; Prof. JMA Hannan, Dean, School of Pharmacy & Public Health also talked during this inaugural ceremony and explained all activities & programs that their respective Schools have been offering.

Mr. Md. Anwarul Islam, Registrar, IUB presented the overview of Summer 2020 Semester and during the second phase of the program, he also delivered the essential rules and regulations of IUB before the newly enrolled students and their parents & guardians. Mr. Mahfuz Ahmed, Deputy Director & Head, CITS conducted an online training session on the basics of Google Classroom.

The entire event was moderated by Mr. Kh. Aminul Haque, Director, Media and Public Relations, IUB. This first ever online Orientation Program was jointly organized by the Department of Media and Public Relations and Central Information Technology Services of IUB.

Newly enrolled students, parents, guardians, members of the faculty and management of IUB and a huge number of audience joined & enjoyed this online event through various digital media platforms. The program was broadcasted LIVE on DBC News Television, Prothomalo.com and Dhakatribune.com including IUB Facebook page & YouTube channel.





ONLINE ORIENTATION WORKSHOP

FOR THE FACULTY MEMBERS HELD AT IUB

Being one of the pioneers of online teaching, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organized the first-ever Online Orientation Workshop for its faculty members from June 28-29, 2020. More than 500 fulltime and adjunct faculty members took part in the Workshop where the theme was, 'Learning and Teaching Online'. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Milan Pagon, Vice Chancellor (Acting), IUB.

This two-day Workshop was initiated by the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in collaboration with the Center for Pedagogy and Central Information Technology Services (CITS) at IUB. The initiative was very unique in its kind; by using the state-of-the-art facilities and technical equipment, which were made available to IUB classrooms, this Workshop successfully accommodated the new normal situation sprouted due to Covid-19 pandemic. The Workshop covered numerous objectives including technical and connectivity aspects, pedagogy of online teaching, context and reality of online teaching, delivery and code of conduct, and online assessment. An extensive question-answer session followed each of the discussions with the active participation by the distinguished participants. The resource persons were all IUB personnel, Prof. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed and Obydullah Al Marjuk from IQAC, Prof. Imtiaz A Hussain from Center for Pedagogy and Syed Mahfuz Ahmed and his team from CITS.

Earlier Prof. Milan Pagon discussed the challenges and opportunities of higher education in the new normal settings by inspiring and motivating the faculty members and Prof. Sarwar Uddin Ahmed welcomed the participants. The Workshop unveiled a new horizon of opportunities in learning and teaching, if realized, IUB can be a path-breaking institution at the advent of online teaching in the higher education sector in Bangladesh.

WE MOURN

We are deeply shocked and grieved at the sad demise of Mr. D P Barua, the founding Trustee of ESTCDT, the founding trust of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) who passed away on July 8, 2020. Mr. Barua was a language movement hero who also held the position of the Managing Director and Chief Editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) until 1996.

On behalf of the Education, Science, Technology & Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT) and the IUB Board of Trustees, Members of the Faculty and Management, Students and Alumni; we express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to his departed soul.





WE MOURN

We are deeply shocked and grieved at the sad demise of the honorable Trustee of Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), Abdul Monem who passed away on May 31, 2020 (Inna Lillahe Wa Inna Ilahe Rajeun). Late Abdul Monem was also the Chairman & Managing Director of Abdul Monem Group. He was buried at his home town, Brahmanbaria after his Namaz e Janaza.

On behalf of the Education, Science, Technology & Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT) and the IUB Board of Trustees, Members of the Faculty and Management, Students and Alumni; we express our heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to grant eternal peace to his departed soul.



OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT

OF IUB STUDENT

IUB EEE graduate, Salwaa Ara Khan has secured a valuable position by becoming the member of an exclusive tabulation team for a prestigious international debating tournament titled, "Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championship".

The Australasian Intervarsity Debating Championship is an annual tournament, and is considered to be one of the most aspiring championship titles for all debaters in the highly competitive field of inter-university debating. This year, the tournament is going to be held online from July 12-17 which is being organized by Monash University, Australia that will cater to hundreds of universities from across Australia, New Zealand, and Asia.

Salwaa started her journey as a general member of Independent University Bangladesh Debating Club (IUBDC), where she got opportunities to showcase her immense talent and expertise in crunching numbers to function a debate tournament. With her success in tabulation she has earned the position of being an executive member of IUBDC as well as Bangladesh Debating Council (BDC). She was also the Vice Chair of Women in Engineering IEEE Student Branch (WIE IEEE SB). Salwaa Ara Khan, being the first ever female Tab Director of debate tournaments hosted in prestigious schools and universities of Dhaka, has also made her way to be the first Bangladeshi ever to win the distinguished honor of representing her country in the tab team of a grand international debating tournament. She was selected amidst competition from all over the continent to become the first Bangladeshi to hold this honor.

EEE FACULTY DELIVERS KEYNOTE SPEECH AT THE BANGLADESH INNOVATION SUMMIT 2020

Dr. Md. Abdur Razzak, Professor of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) department at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) delivered a keynote speech on "Why Research is Important for Innovation?" at the Bangladesh Innovation Summit 2020 organized by Bangladesh Innovation Forum. The State Minister for ICT, Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak MP, officially inaugurated the 2-day virtual Summit. A total of 30 national and international speakers delivered keynote addresses in 17 sessions. More than 100,000 participants including students, IT experts, and entrepreneurs from home and abroad were registered in the summit. More than 500 participants joined on Prof. Razzak's online presentation. A large number of participants joined the Q&A and discussion session after the presentation.

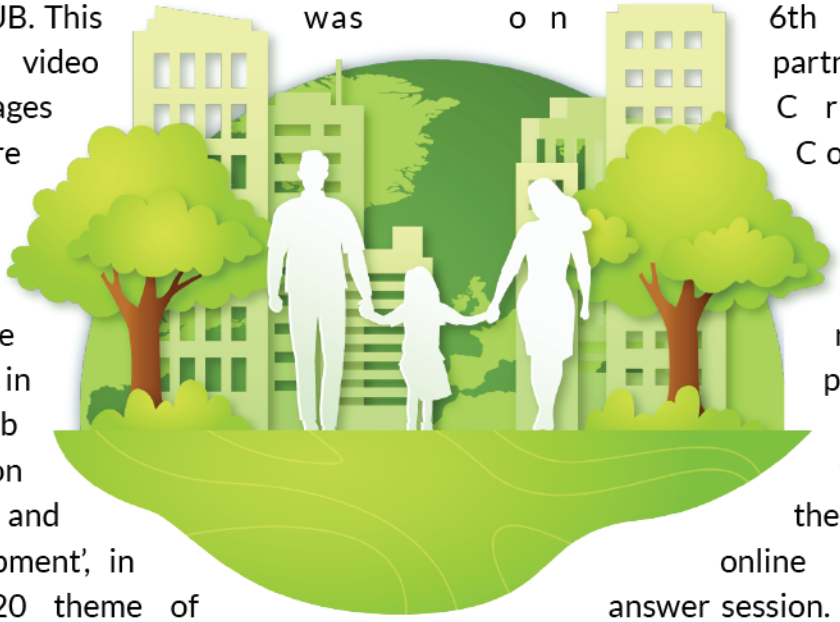


GREEN PLANET CLUB, IUB CELEBRATES

WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020

The Green Planet Club at IUB celebrated World Environment Day 2020. Keeping in mind the safety of all its members during this pandemic and the restrictions in place, the club organised a series of virtual activities to commemorate this day. GPC, IUB hosted a three-day celebration with a plethora of activities to engage not only its club members, but all those who are environment enthusiasts.

The events were inaugurated with a video message from Dr K A Rabbani, Head of Department of Environmental Science and Management, IUB. This was followed by a video compilation of messages from the club's Core Body members encouraging the general public to do their part for the environment. Later in the day, the club hosted a webinar on 'Biodiversity and Sustainable Development', in line with the 2020 theme of Environment Day. Moderated by Mr Shohail Bin Saifullah, a student of IUB and President of GPC, IUB, the speakers of the session were Dr Haseeb Md Irfanullah, Independent Consultant and Visiting Research Fellow at Centre for Sustainable Development (CSD) at University of Liberal Arts, Bangladesh (ULAB), and Mr Istiakh Ahmed Barson, Program Coordinator at the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD). Mr. Istiakh Ahmed talked about climate change and biodiversity while Dr. Irfanullah spoke about the Bangladesh Delta Plan (BDP2100), nature-based solutions and discussed some of his work regarding climate change. The session was concluding with a Vote of Thanks from the club coordinator, Mr Ekhtekharul Islam. One of the students of IUB, Ms. Odrika Ajmayeen Odrika performed an Environmental Song in the evening to round up the day.

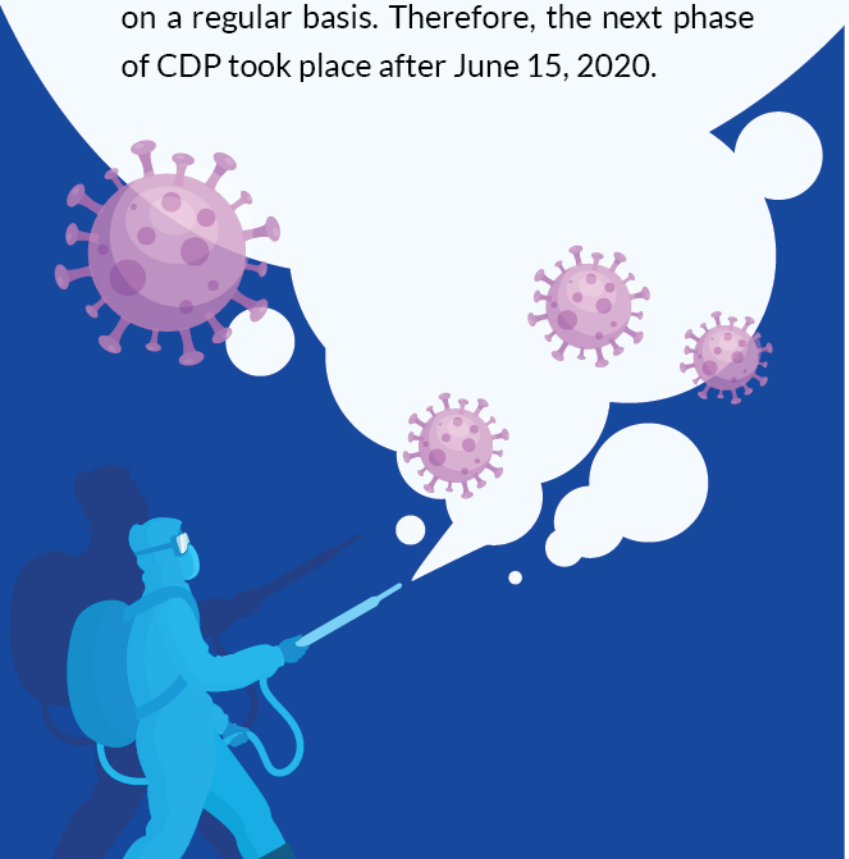


A virtual field trip to the Turtle Conservation Centre in Bhawal was conducted on 6th June in partnership with the Creative Conservation Alliance on this occasion as well. A good number of participant were present in the virtual space and there was a lively online question and answer session. On 7th June, the club held an Environment themed Quiz and shared artwork on the theme of biodiversity as designed by the members of the club. Throughout the celebrations, attendees and viewers were strongly encouraged to stay home and stay safe this pandemic. GPC, IUB wishes everyone a Happy World Environment Day.

IUB CAMPUS **DISINFECTION PROGRAM (CDP)**

After a two and half-month lockdown period, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) is going to resume its office activities in a limited scale from June 2, 2020. Therefore, to ensure absolute safe environment for the personnel who will be coming to office on roster duties and to uphold the health & hygiene policy of the government during COVID-19 pandemic, IUB campus was thoroughly disinfected through a 2-day comprehensive Campus Disinfection Program (CDP) from May 31-June 1, 2020.

However, while ensuring a healthy, hygienic & safe place for all concerned at IUB would a continuous endeavor for the University, CDP activity will be performed at the IUB Campus on a regular basis. Therefore, the next phase of CDP took place after June 15, 2020.





HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY OF **IUB ALUMNI DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

During this devastating situation of Coronavirus pandemic, Shihab Chowdhury an alumni (EEE Department at IUB) organized hand wash and antibacterial spray event at different places of Rangpur. He distributed 200 PPE, 500 KN-95 mask to Doctors, Police & journalist. He also distributed food items to 400 needy families.

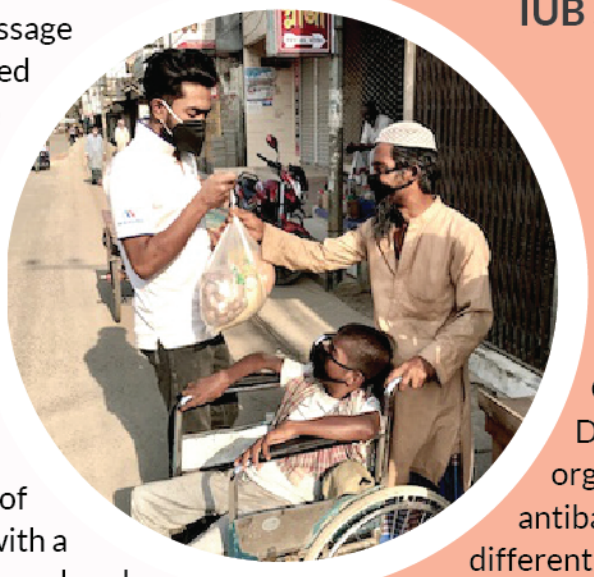




HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITIES OF IUB
GREEN PLANET CLUB

Green Planet Club (GPC) at IUB, under the guidance of the Dean of the School of Environmental Science and Management (SESM), successfully organized its COVID-19 awareness campaign at Procheshta Foundation School recently. The goal of this campaign was to raise awareness regarding Coronavirus among the group of underprivileged children who themselves and/or their families are most vulnerable to this epidemic that has gripped our world currently.

The campaign started with a message from the Dean of SESM, followed by a general introduction to the disease COVID-19 and the myths associated with it. Students were then explained how this virus had come into being and what are the ways it is spreading among us humans. The club representatives then presented various methods of prevention of risk catching this disease, along with a detailed video instruction on proper hand washing practice. An interactive game was then played with the groups of students to evaluate how well they would ensure their own safety and the safety of their families in the case of possible exposure to COVID-19. Each student was then gifted with a bag which contained Coronavirus risk prevention instructional charts, soaps, hand sanitizers, tissues, masks, stationaries and chocolates. Club Coordinator, Mr. Ekhtekharul Islam concluded the campaign by thanking everyone for their cooperation.



HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY OF IUB STUDENT DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During this devastating situation of Coronavirus pandemic, Toufiq Islam Omi from EEE Department at IUB organized hand wash and antibacterial spray event at different places of Dhaka. He also distributed food items to 300 needy families.

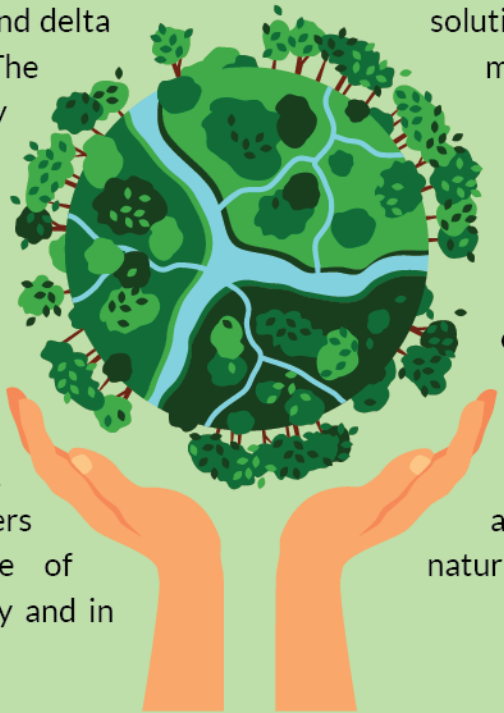


Amid a nationwide lockdown to stem the spread of Coronavirus, hundreds of thousands of low-income workers in Bangladesh are badly-affected. Owing to the current situation, Sociology Club IUB and IUB Anthropology Club, with the assistance of Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, have successfully distributed necessary food items among 100 Garo families and 52 Fisherman families at Fulbaria in Mymensing.

HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY OF SOCIOLOGY CLUB IUB AND IUB ANTHROPOLOGY CLUB DURING CORONA PANDEMIC

RIVER CONSERVATION CLUB OF IUB CELEBRATES WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY 2020 BY ORGANISING WEBINAR ON "CHALLENGES OF RIVER MANAGEMENT"

To celebrate World Environment Day 2020, River Conservation Club (RCC) of IUB has organized a webinar titled "Challenges of River Management". In this online dialogue, Dr. Catharine Terwisscha Van, a specialist in Delta Flood and Water from Wageningen University and Mohammad Azaz, independent researcher and Director of Riverine People, delivered their technical discourse on river and delta management in Bangladesh. The welcome speech was given by Dr. K. A. Rabbani, Head of the Department of Environmental Science and Management of IUB and the webinar was hosted by Dr. Chowdhury Kamrul Hasan, Senior Lecturer of the same department. In this webinar, the distinguished speakers emphasised the significance of rivers in both the biodiversity and in ecosystem balance. They also highlighted that the waterbodies not only provide food and shelter for a variety of fishes and other organisms, but also ensures source of water required for a healthy climate. Dr. Catharien recommended a well-coordinated and interconnected systems for delta management in Bangladesh and she emphasized that solution for a particular community may not address the challenges face by other communities. Mr. Azaz described the important role river channels play in terms of the environment and how it maintains the environmental parameters. The webinar ended with a slogan Dr. C. K. Hasan: "If we conserve rivers, we conserve biodiversity, and thus we conserve our mother nature. We can do this".





IUB STUDENTS CREATING IMPACT TO MAKE THE DIFFERENCE DURING THE PANDEMIC

A team of 4 IUB students making endeavors and creating huge impacts to make the difference during this COVID-19 pandemic in Bangladesh. They have produced 3D printed 1,000 face shields that are currently being used by front line emergency personnel, mainly doctors who received them for free. They also distributed 3D printed 300 ear savers to help doctors fight the long hours in a mask. Mushfiqur Rahman Saad and Waqar Ahmad from EEE department; Ishtiaque Ahmed from CSE department and Bushra E Anjum from MCB department were involved in this achievement.

Within a span of week they also created an automatic disinfection chamber, currently multiple are being set up and one of them is operation at Anwar Khan Modern Medical College Hospital. They also partnered with engineers and other open source help around the world to create a robust Ventilator which has now just finished prototyping and is going into the medical trial stages, with the potential to save thousands of lives.



HUMANITARIAN ACTIVITY OF IUB STUDENTS DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

During this COVID-19 pandemic, IUB students formed a group named 'Akuti' to help underprivileged people. They already have provided food items like rice, oil, dal, salt, etc. over 150 families. Akuti now consists of a group of dedicated students creating a bridge between people in need of help and those who are willing to help.

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