

Dr Sabur Khan elected first vice president of AUAP

CITY DESK

Dr Md Sabur Khan, chairman, Board of Trustees at Daffodil International University (DIU), has been elected the first vice president of Association of Universities of Asia and the Pacific (AUAP) for 2021-2022, says a press release.

The announcement came on November 18 at the 14th general conference of AUAP hosted by Lyceum of the Philippines University, Batangas.

Dr Peter P Laurel was elected president of AUAP and took oath and Dr Hari Mohan Gupta, chancellor, Jagran Lake City University, India, was elected as the second vice president of AUAP. After two years, Dr Khan will lead AUAP as the 17th president for two more years till 2024, the release adds.

The conference was also addressed, among others, by Prof Dr Wiclit Srisa, founder president of AUAP; and Dr Mohammad Nili Ahmabadadi, immediate past president of AUAP.



Taiwan says Trump cabinet member to visit, angering China

REUTERS, Taipei

cabinet-level head of the US Environmental Protection Agency, Andrew Wheeler, will visit Taiwan, the island's premier said yesterday, in what will be the third visit by a senior U.S. official since August, drawing anger from Beijing.

China, which claims democratically-run Taiwan as its own territory, reacted with fury when the U.S. Health Secretary Alex Azar came to Taipei in August, followed by U.S. Undersecretary of State Keith Krach in September, sending fighter jets near the island each time.

The Trump administration has ramped up support for Taiwan, including with new arms sales, alarming China.

Taiwan Premier Su Tseng-chang told reporters Taiwan-U.S. interactions had been increasing.

"At the invitation of Foreign Minister Joseph Wu, the head of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will come to Taiwan, to have bilateral discussions on international cooperation on environmental protection issues," Su said.

The trip will "be further beneficial to the relationship between the two countries", Su added.

Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said Wu had extended the invite to Wheeler last year, and that it would announce details at an "appropriate time".

In Beijing, a foreign ministry spokesman said China opposed any official exchanges between the United States and Taiwan, and urged Washington to fully recognise the sensitivity of the Taiwan issue.

"China will make a legitimate and necessary response in accordance with how the situation develops," Zhao Lijian told a daily news briefing, without elaborating.

The EPA did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The New York Times reported that Wheeler's three-day trip was scheduled for the week of Dec. 5.

The paper quoted James Hewitt, a spokesman for Wheeler, as saying the agency was still working through logistics but that Wheeler was invited to Taiwan "to collaborate on issues including the Save our Seas initiative and marine litter, air quality, and children's health".

Monowara Habib appointed DCAG (senior)

CITY DESK

Monowara Habib, an officer of the 8th batch of BCS (audit & accounts) cadre, has been appointed the deputy comptroller and auditor general (senior) on November 16, thus becoming the executive head of Audit & Accounts Department, says a press release.



This appointment made her the 44th officer to hold this post of DCAG (senior) and also the very first among the female officers in the history of the department.

Before joining this post, Monowara Habib worked at various important capacities of the government during her long career as a civil servant.

The newly appointed DCAG (senior) vowed to do everything within her might to fulfill everyone's expectations.

Armed Forces

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Masihuzzaman Serniabat will place wreaths at the Shikha Anirban on behalf of their respective forces.

On the occasion, chiefs of the three services will call on the president at the Bangabhaban and the prime minister at the Gono Bhaban on the day.

PM's Security Affairs Adviser Major General (ret'd) Tarique Ahmed Siddique and principal staff officer of the Armed Forces Division will be present at the meeting with the PM.

The authorities, however, have decided to celebrate the day this year on a limited-scale due to the coronavirus pandemic. Therefore, Bangladesh Navy ships in Dhaka, Khulna, Chandpur, Barishal and Chattogram will not be open for the general people this year.

The Bangladesh Betar would broadcast the "Special Durbar" programme at 7:30pm today.

Later, the "Special Anirban" programme would be telecast by other private television channels, while the national dailies will publish special supplements highlighting the significance of the day.

Pakistan to repatriate

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Bangladesh and the Federal Republic of Germany.

CANADA READY TO HELP IMPLEMENT 5-YEAR PLAN

Canada is willing to participate in the first five-year plan of Bangladesh, informs Jacque Gerrin, vice president of Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Earlier, a three-member CIDA delegation under his leadership called on the Bangabandhu at the Gono Bhaban today. Gerrin is learnt to have discussed with the PM a long-term bilateral assistance programme. Canada

also pledges 30 million dollars' aid to Bangladesh during 1973-74.

NATIONAL POPULATION COUNCIL FORMED

A national population council with the Bangabandhu as the patron-in-chief is formed. The national body will sit once a year. It will be set as the supreme policy-making body on the population problem in the country. Its policies will be executed by the National Family Planning Board.

SOURCES: November 22, 1972 issues of Bangladesh Observer, Dainik Bangla and Dainik Ittefaq.

DU suspends

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formulating the policy due to Covid-19 pandemic, said sources.

A week after the country reported its first novel coronavirus cases on March 8, the DU authorities suspended all academic activities till March 28. The suspension was later extended for an indefinite period.

Amid such a situation, the Business Studies faculty announced the schedule of the admission without notifying the VC and the two pro-VCs.

The VC and Pro-VCs said they were not informed about yesterday's exam.

Soon after the news of holding the admission test spread on social media on Thursday, it drew a huge flak from former and current students of the

university. They slammed the decision saying that the authorities should not hold the test amid the Covid-19 situation and without formulating a policy.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Prof Akhtuzzaman said, "I was not aware of the admission test being held. I came to know about it through some media reports. I asked the Dean to suspend the exam and formulate a guideline regarding the evening MBA courses."

Prof Moin claimed that they were preparing for holding the test following the university's rules and regulations and that they have postponed the exam because of a "misunderstanding".

India keen to work

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Dhaka and the Indian Defence Ministry organised the programme.

Raj said the close proximity of Indian shipyards to Bangladesh is an additional advantage for both the countries.

"This may result in a long-term strategic partnership in production, development and maintenance. It will be a win-win situation for both the nations to achieve their common objectives. The strategic partnership between India-Bangladesh can become a pillar of regional strength and economic cooperation," the FICCI quoted Raj as saying in a press release.

Sanjay Jaju, additional secretary (defence production) of the ministry, said the Indian defence sector has a lot of potential and invited Bangladeshi companies to invest in this sector.

"We have opened up two defence industrial corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and both corridors

will leverage existing ordnance factories and private manufactures in the region. We invite investments from Bangladesh in these corridors and explore opportunities where we can co-produce and co-develop equipment for mutual use," Raju said.

Addressing the programme, Khalid Mahmud Chowdhury, minister of shipping in Bangladesh, said Bangladesh is the third largest economy in South Asia with a rich history in ship-building.

"Today, ship-building is a growing industry in Bangladesh and has great potential. Since independence, Bangladesh has created a large fleet of 20,000 inland and coastal commercial vessels," he said.

Vikram K Doraiswami, Indian High Commissioner in Dhaka, said, "There is a natural synergy between India and Bangladesh in working together to develop and leverage each other's capacities as a matter of jointly harnessing capabilities for each other."

Man held

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Police Station alleging rape yesterday night.

She mentioned in the case that the accused used to go to her house almost all the time.

On November 19, around 8:00am, she left his teenage daughter at home and went outside.

At that time, the accused entered her house, found the girl alone and tried to rape her.

When her daughter screamed, she quickly returned home and found that the accused left her daughter and ran away.

Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Jashore Kotwali Police Station, said they arrested the accused after a case was filed with the police station.

Vaccine roll-out nears in US

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when Pfizer and BioNTech file an emergency use authorisation request with the US Food and Drug Administration.

"The documents will be finalised today and tomorrow and submitted to the FDA," BioNTech co-founder Ugur Sahin told AFP on Thursday.

The scientific head of the US operation to develop a vaccine said the final green light would probably come in December.

The BioNTech/Pfizer shot and another one being developed by the US firm Moderna have taken the lead in the global chase for a vaccine.

EU Commission president Ursula von der Leyen said the European bloc could also approve both before the end of the year.

A separate candidate vaccine being

developed by the University of Oxford and AstraZeneca has shown to be safe and effective in a smaller study of older adults.

The head of an Indian company contracted to make AstraZeneca Plc's COVID vaccine said it could deliver it to health care workers and elderly Indians by January as the country's caseload of infections crossed nine million yesterday.

The UK government is hoping that its production can be ramped up quickly if it passes its final hurdle in a phase 3 trial and is approved.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock yesterday said Britain could ease stringent Covid-19 rules to allow families to gather for Christmas as signs indicate that coronavirus cases are starting to flatten as a result of current lockdowns.

Climate change devastated

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Except this time, it was global warming rather than global cooling that did them in, with the planet heating up more quickly than the dinos' capacity to adapt.

Scientists have found evidence of this traumatic event some 179 million years ago in plant fossils in Argentine Patagonia.

Crippled by manpower shortage

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The government established the bank in 2010 to provide collateral-free loans to migrant workers for employment, loans to returnees to assist them in getting employment in the country, facilitate sending remittance, and encourage wage-earners to invest in the country, according to the bank's official website.

On April 20, 2011, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina formally inaugurated the bank during the Dhaka Consultation of the Colombo Process, a forum of labour-sending countries in Asia.

The bank accepts deposits, extends loans to migrants and returnees, and buys and sells foreign currencies.

Up to August 2020, it has sanctioned migrant loans worth Tk 516 crore with a recovery rate of about 86 percent. The loan amount was disbursed to 42,613 people, said the bank's website.

Besides, it provided rehabilitation loans to 170 people with a recovery rate of about 62 percent.

The bank usually grants migrant loans of up to Tk 2 lakh for each individual, while rehabilitation loans for returnees range from Tk 2 lakh to Tk 10 lakh. Both loans are sanctioned at nine percent interest rate.

Besides providing loans, the bank also handles fees collections from about 2,000 overseas job-seekers per day across the country.

The bank's assets value is about Tk 628.83 crore, according to the audit report on its financial statements for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

Mahtab Zabin, managing director of Probashi Kallyan Bank, pointed at manpower shortage and said the bank has submitted a proposal for additional manpower, which was at the final stage.

"Once we get the manpower, we will be able to fulfil all targets swiftly," she told this newspaper over phone recently.

Douglas Stuart wins Booker

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that my mother is in every page of this book and without her I wouldn't be here and my work wouldn't be here," he told the award ceremony on Thursday, which had to be mostly held remotely because of a lockdown in England to stop the spread of Covid-19.

"My mother unfortunately suffered with addiction and didn't survive that addiction," he said.

"And so for 30 years I've carried an awful lot of sort of loss and love and pain, and I wanted really just to tell the story of what it was like to grow up queer in Glasgow, to grow up with a parent who you love but you couldn't save."

He described the book as a "love story" looking at the kind of "unconditional, often-tested love" that children can have for flawed parents.

He said that he had carried "a lot of love and pain" and writing the book was "incredibly healing for me."

He also paid tribute to his native city, saying that "growing up in Glasgow I think is one of the greatest inspirations of my life."

Stuart was one of four debut novelists among the six finalists for one of the world's most prestigious literary awards.

Ahead of the announcement, British bookmakers had backed Stuart to claim the prize for the best work of English-language fiction published in the UK and Ireland.

He was chosen as winner from the most diverse shortlist in the prize's five-decade history at a ceremony featuring contributions from former US president Barack Obama and the Duchess of Cornwall.

Past laureates have included celebrated writers from Ian McEwan and Julian Barnes to Kazuo Ishiguro and Roddy Doyle.

Paul Beatty became the first American winner when the Booker bowed to pressure and began including authors from outside the Commonwealth, Ireland and Zimbabwe in 2013.

This year's finalists also included American Avni Doshi's first novel "Burnt Sugar" alongside fellow US debutants Diane Cook ("The New Wilderness") and Brandon Taylor ("Real Life").

Zimbabwean author Tsitsi Dangarembga ("This Mournable Body") and Ethiopian-American Maaza Mengiste ("The Shadow King") were the only established authors on the list.

The list was whittled down by a panel of five judges from a US-dominated longlist of 13 finalists, which had included veteran Hilary Mantel.

Margaret Busby, chair of the five 2020 judges, said before announcing the prize that "discovering great literature depends on freeing the imagination, being open to welcoming the new."

"I don't think I'm breaking the rules to say this: please read all the books on the shortlist," she added.

Dangarembga's final volume in her trilogy that started with "Nervous Conditions" chronicles the journey of a young girl from Zimbabwe sinking into poverty.

Mengiste, the first Ethiopian author to make the Booker's shortlist, tells the story of the uprising against the Italian invasion in the 1930s.

এপার্টমেন্ট ভাড়া/বিক্রয় হইবে

কলকাতা নগর সিআরএস এমএন একটি বাসস্থানে ফেব্রুয়ারি মাসে দুইবার পরেও মনে হবে বাইরের মতোই খোলা মেলা। উত্তর-পশ্চিম গুলশানে গেরিটিক্যাল কনস্ট্রাক্ট ফে-সুই এপার্টমেন্ট (২০১৬)। অভ্যন্তরিক, বিলাসী এবং মাননিক ইন্টেরিওর। পূর্ব, দক্ষিণ ও উত্তর দিক সম্পূর্ণ সোলার, চমৎকার আলো-বাতাস খেলা। ৪ বেড (১ টি বেড কিলচেনে মার্জ করা হয়েছে), ৪ বাথ, সু-কিউবিক কিলচেন (গ্রেট এন্ড ড্রাইং কিলচেন অপসন), ড্রইং, ডাইনিং, ওপেন লাউজ, সার্কেল বেড, বাথ, ফুট-ওয়েস্ট, ৩০০০ বর্গফুট + অতিরিক্ত ১২০ বর্গফুট বাগান ও বার-বি-কিউ এরিয়া। ৩ টি কঁর পার্কিং সহ আধুনিক সুরক্ষা সুবিধা। রেজিষ্ট্রেশন, দলিলপত্র আদায়কৃত। যোগাযোগ: ০১৩১৯৬৩৬৪১; am.baashaar@gmail.com

Consultant for Developing Training Module on Supply Chain Resilience

National Resilience Program (NRP) under Programming Division requires service of a National Consultant for Developing Training Module on Supply Chain Resilience for 30 days to be contracted by UNDP. For ToR and application procedures, please visit following link: https://jobs.undp.org/cj_view_job.cfm?cur_job_id=95340

Application deadline: 25 November 2020 D-141

brac

Invitation for Tender (IFT) for Baseline and Follow-up Investigations for MDR-TB Patients between Diagnostic Centre And Communicable Disease (TB Control Programme), BRAC

Tenders are hereby invited from Diagnostic Centres for Baseline and Follow-up Investigations for MDR-TB Patients Between Diagnostic Centre And Communicable Disease (TB Control Programme), BRAC.

Project Name	TB Control Programme
Source of Fund	The Global Fund
Tender Package No	BPD-TB/05-2020
Reference No & Date	IFT/BRAC/BPD-TB/20-10 Date: 18 November, 2020
Tender Name	Baseline and Follow-up Investigations for MDR-TB Patients
Time for Delivery	As per Tender Documents
Price of the Tender Documents	Tk. 1000/- (Non-refundable)
Tender Security	As per tender documents
Tender Documents Available	BRAC Procurement Department, 4th Floor, Gulshan Tower (Opposite to BRAC Center), Mohakhali, Dhaka - 1212
Date & Time for Selling Documents	22 November, 2020 to 05 December, 2020 Between 11 AM to 3 PM
Tender Dropping Place, Date & Time	Tender Box - 03, BRAC Procurement Department, Ground Floor, BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka - 1212. 06 December, 2020 between 10 AM to 2:00 PM
Tender Opening Place, Date & Time	Ground Floor, BRAC Center 06 December, 2020 at 3:00 pm.

BRAC Procurement Department, BRAC Center, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka 1212, Phone 9881265 Ext 3020

পুট বিক্রয় উত্তরা ৪নং সেটের পৌনে ৮ কাঠা ও পূর্বচলে ১নং সেটের ১০ কাঠার পুট জরুরী ভিত্তিতে বিক্রয় হবে। যোগাযোগ: ০১৮৩৩-৩৩৮৯৯৭ ০১৭১২-৫৮৬২০৪	CAR PURCHASE Looking for used Porsche/Mercedes-Benz Car (Any Model) for personal use. Contact : 01705398931	ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয় বারিধারা ডিপ্লোম্যাটিক জোন ৩৫২৫ ব্লক: দক্ষিণমুখী ৪র্থ ফলা সিঙ্গেল ইউনিট ফাইনালিস্টার মাসের ইন্টেরিয়র সহ ব্র্যান্ডনিউ ফ্ল্যাট বিক্রয় হইবে। যোগাযোগ: ০১৭১৩-৯০৯০৪৮
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CAREER OPPORTUNITY

NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY
Center of Excellence in Higher Education

The first private university in Bangladesh, seeks applications for the following position:

Technical Writing Specialist, Office of Research: 1 position

Job Description:

- Assist and support the Director, Office of Research-NSU and the Director, Office of the Graduate Studies in the training of NSU faculty in using the "Grammarly" software (to which NSU has subscribed) for initial editing of draft research papers.
- Provide technical editing support to individual faculty in the organization and structuring of research papers according to a variety of journal style requirements, improving the logic of presentation of the narrative in the papers, editing according to standards of English grammar and accuracy of technical concepts, etc.
- Proofreading final versions of papers as requested by faculty prior to submit to journals
- Assisting individual faculty with editing papers as required when papers are accepted on condition of revision of writing style
- Assist Office of Research-NSU staff in production of office newsletters and documents
- Any other duties as assigned by the Director, Office of Research-NSU

Qualifications:

- Master's degree in Technical writing, Technical Communication, English as a Second Language, or equivalent.

Age limit: Ideally 25-32 years

Research Grant Writing Specialist, Office of Research: 1 position

Job Description:

- Keep track of and inform core faculty of calls/requests for applications (CFA/RFA) for research grants from within Bangladesh and externally internationally, consistent with core faculty research interests within the schools and departments
- Receive and review draft grant research proposals from NSU core faculty, editing proposal narratives as appropriate to the grant requirements and assisting with budget justification
- Review the specific grant application criteria of the grant agency to assure draft grant proposals satisfy the main grant component requirements as specified in the CFA/RFA
- Coordinate with core faculty on a timely scheduled revision of grant applications consistent with best practices and in view of grant submission deadlines
- Track applications through submittal to award decision and maintain Office of Research-NSU data accordingly for quarterly and annual reporting
- As appropriate to each School and its department areas of specialization, draft templates and sample grant writing guidelines to facilitate initial draft writing
- Any other duties as assigned by the Director, Office of Research-NSU

Qualifications:

- Master's degree preferably in a natural science or engineering discipline

Job Experience:

- At least 2 years of experience in grant writing in a research organization, including proprietary research organizations and/or institutions of higher education.
- Grant writing skills should be sufficient to support grant writing in the natural sciences, engineering, social sciences, and the humanities.

Age limit: Ideally 25-32 years

Monthly Salary: An attractive salary packages & benefits will be offered to the successful candidate.

Other Benefits: Provident Fund, Gratuity, Festival Bonuses, Group Insurance, in-house free Medical Consultation etc.

Only short-listed candidates will be called for interview.

Candidates may apply with complete CV, two photographs, copies of certificates, transcripts and other credentials by **12 December, 2020** by e-mail or in hard copy.

**Department of Administration
NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY**
Bashundhara, Dhaka - 1229
E-mail to: nsuhr@northsouth.edu