Novartis International BioCamp - 2008

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NOVARTIS International Biotechnology Leadership Camp (BioCamp) is the pioneering seminar introduced by Novartis that brings young talents from different universities around the globe closer to the biotechnology sector. Each year, the program trains Masters and Post-Doctoral students from across the world bringing the biotechnology and pharmaceutical industry closer to the young talents. The event is open to students from natural sciences and business administration fields. This was the second year in which Bangladesh participated in the event. Hosted by Hong Kong, there were representatives from China, Japan, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Korea, India, Pakistan, Slovenia, Germany, Egypt, Turkey, Mexico, Russia, Taiwan and some others.

In August this year, Novartis (Bangladesh) invited applications from the leading universities of the country. Amongst 68 preliminary candidates, 6 were selected through an analytical and brainstorming session. Subsequently, the short-listed six applicants were interviewed by a panel of judges comprising of university faculty members and officials of Novartis.

The next two months was a combination of reading, learning, coaching by experts, and reading tons of journal papers. One day rolled into another but both of us were charged up and had only one date in mind, the 23rd of October, the day we were to fly for Hong Kong. We reached Hong Kong very early in the morning on October 23.

The first day of networking session brought us face to face with people from many countries and cultures. But the common thing in all of us was the zeal to learn and explore the field of business and biotechnology further.

