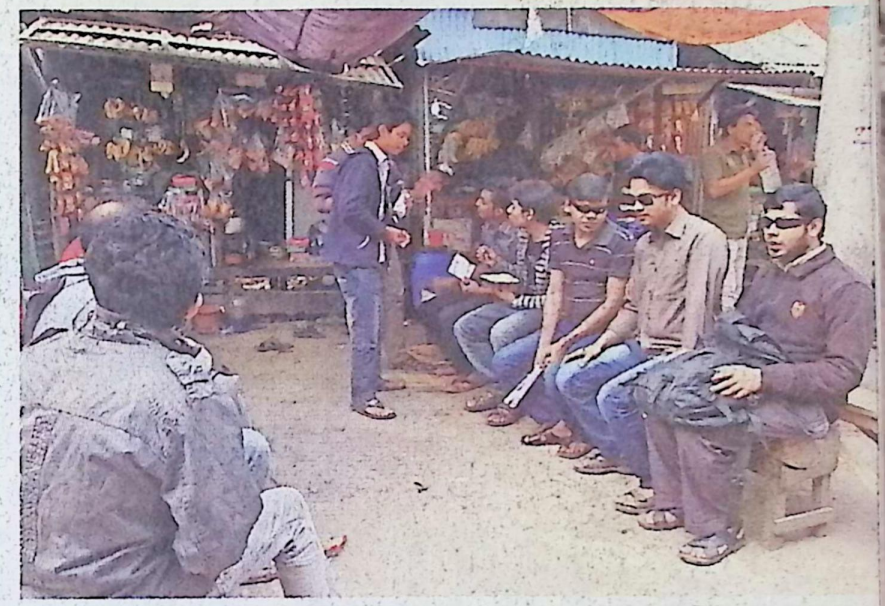
blind friends study and can perform so well. They mostly take help from the Resource Centre for the Visual Impaired Students attached to the Central Library which offers a good number of reference books and educational equipments for the blind students. Then there is the Department of Special Education at the Institute of Education and Research which is also working to make the country's education system endly to these students with special needs.

Things are far from enough, though. Students with visual impairment are not allowed to get enrolled into all the departments of the university. They are totally banned from the science faculty and have limited access to some departments of other faculties. In this regard, Dr Diba Hussain says, "The main problem of accessing higher education to the visual impaired students is the absence of appropriate technologies in our country. For visual impaired students we need to use more technology based methods such as online examination system, online submission of assignments, audibility enhancing equipments in the classroom, and above all empathy for these students.

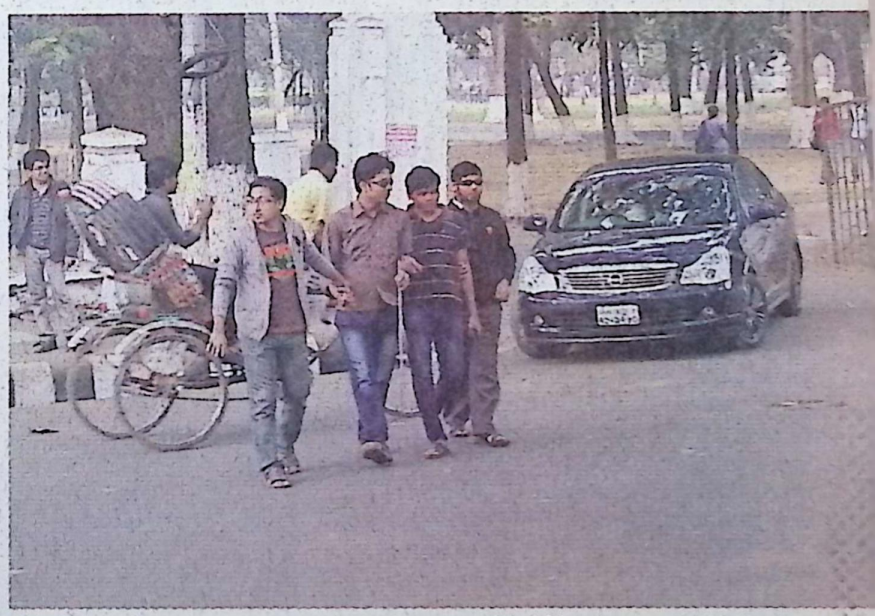
Another expert on this field Shahrier Haider says, "In no other country of the world are the visually impaired students officially barred from getting higher education in selected disciplines. These students can't flourish their talents only because of our negligence. All we need to improve this condition is well equipped training facility for the teachers to teach these students."

These youths, despite their impairment, are no less capable of utilising the opportunities that DU offers. Mahbub Murshed, a blind student of political science department participated at the T20 world cup cricket for the blind held in India on 2012. Blind students of Dhaka University regularly participate in national debate competitions, chess competitions and bring glory to the university.

It is time the university creates a friendlier environment for its blind students so that they can continue their studies and perform even better. Many blind students can't develop their inner talents due to our traditional approach to education, ending up with a mediocre CGPA. Even the streets, yards, the dormitories, the footpaths in the campus are not at all friendly for their mobility. In many cases they have to seek another's help for moving in their own campus. Above all, our government has to create employment opportunities for these brave young men and women so that they can contribute their skills and expertise to society.



Enjoying hall life, sharing the experience. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS



DU students are always eager to help their unsighted friends. PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

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