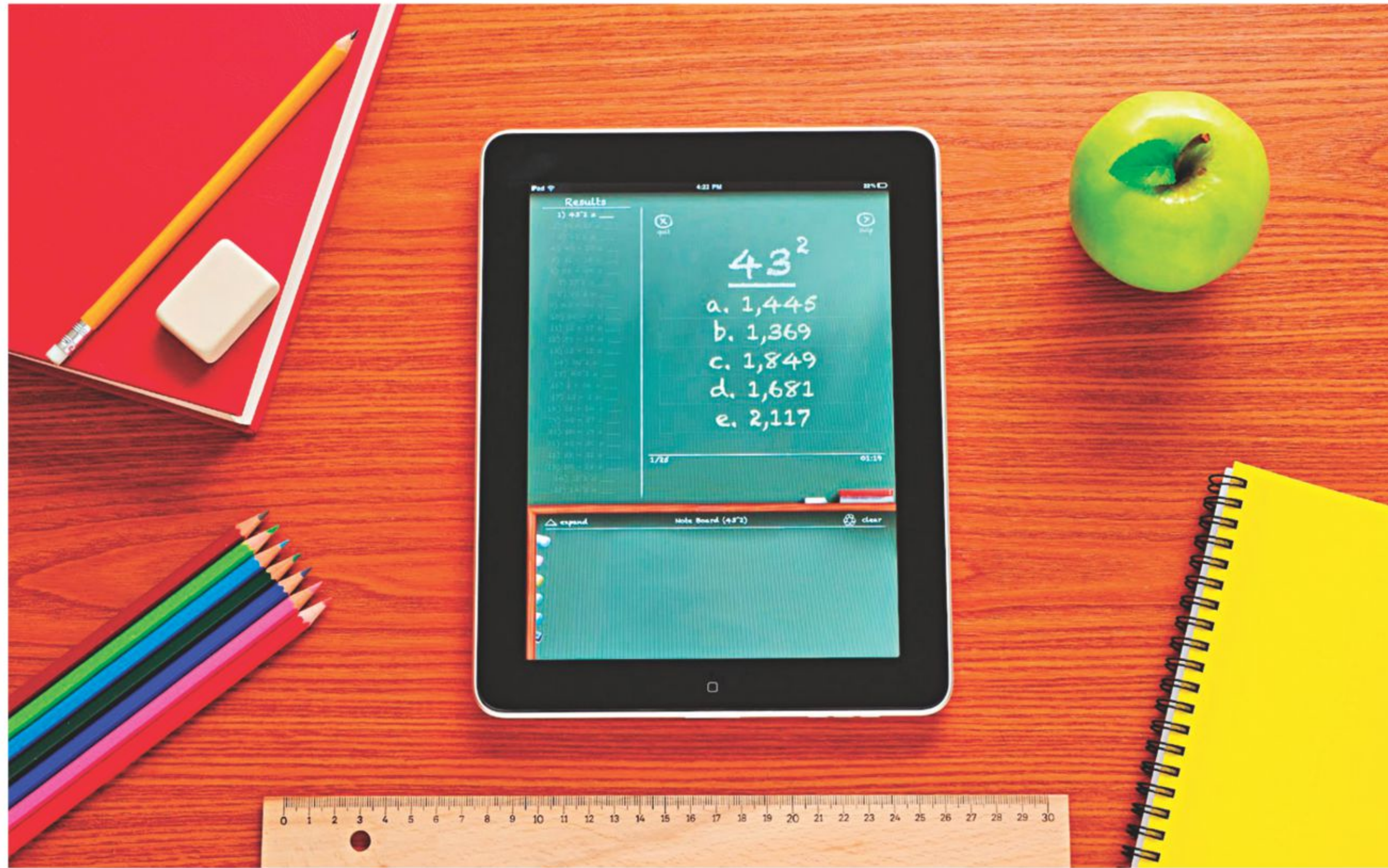


# Democratic and digitalisation ...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

possible that these buildings will turn out to be like the post offices. Use of technology needs to be put forward while using the resources of the private universities. It has been noticed that the classes in the public universities often get closed due to student uprisings, strikes, and shutdowns. As a result, the courses do not end in time and session jams increase. Classes are closed at the private universities too but the teachers of the private universities send course outlines to the students online and the students are downloading them with their phones and computers and even sitting for the



To accelerate the revolution of higher education, the emphasis needs to be put on research and development, skilled teachers, environment of teaching, extra-curricular activities/clubs, quality of education, and the working skills of the graduates.

exams online to finish the courses on time. So it is proven that it is not necessary that studying has to be done in a classroom of a building. Studies can go on outside the classroom and that is what is happening.

There is no need to set up libraries taking up thousands of square feet of space. If all the books and journals of the library are digitised, the students can read them from their homes. This way, there is no need for the students to crowd inside libraries or to occupy extra space.

In this era of technology and globalisation, the experts who are

believers of revolutionising education, think of constructing highly expensive buildings for a permanent campus as an obstacle. The traditional universities are bound to be obsolete because of information technology, distant learning, and technological inventions. Whether the building is a rental or permanent should not be the concern.

Rather, the matter of concern should be whether there is a suitable environment for teaching. We are jumping into making expensive buildings but soon they will become antiquated.

World Bank, in a recent report, mentioned that Bangladesh is developing in education despite the poor management. To accelerate the revolution of

higher education, the emphasis needs to be put on research and development, skilled teachers, environment of teaching, extra-curricular activities/clubs, quality of education, and the working skills of the graduates. The role of education in sustainable development is very important in South Asia, and especially in Bangladesh. Not only prioritising

infrastructure, supervision or just making graduates, rather, the proper use of technology to create the future leaders of the country needs to be given importance above all.

*The writer is Professor, Institute of Business Administration, University of Dhaka, and Chairman, Northern University Bangladesh*



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