



The IUBAT campus in Uttara.

PHOTOS: SHEIKH MEHEDI MORSHED

IUBAT'S GREEN CAMPUS

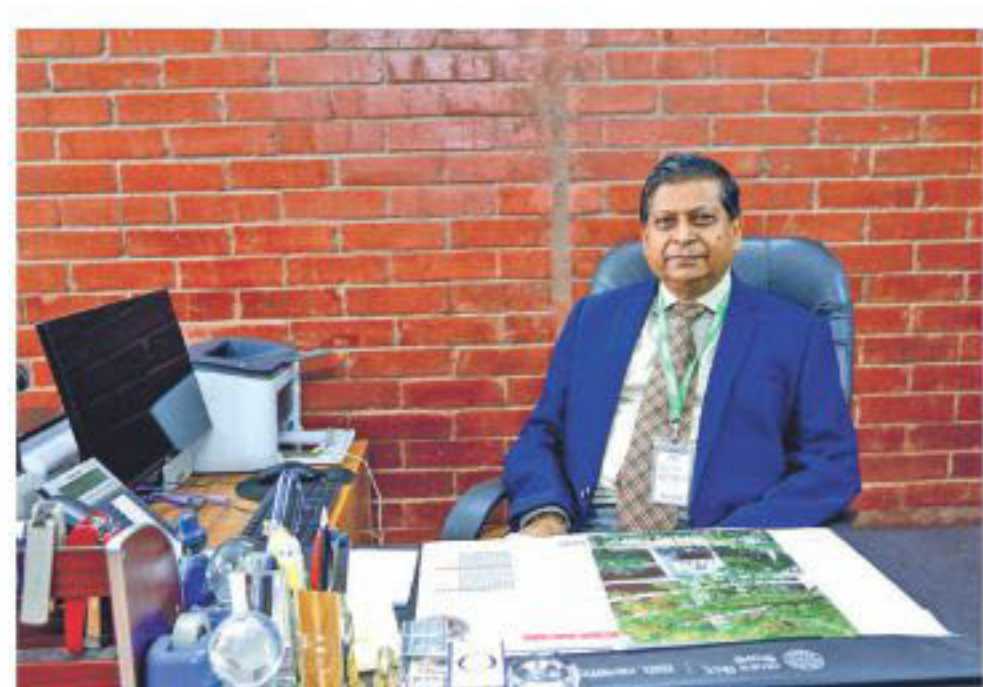
A delightful learning environment

SHARMIN JOYA

International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) is one of the first private universities in Bangladesh, founded by the late Dr Alimullah Miyan. The university started its journey in 1991, in Dhanmondi. However, in 2005, IUBAT's campus was shifted to Uttara, on about 5.5 acres of land in Sector 10, with a beautiful view. The green courtyard of the university consists of a lake, an open basketball ground and a large field bedded with grass.



Students at the cafeteria, made entirely of bamboo.



Professor Dr Abdur Rab, Vice Chancellor, IUBAT.

"When we were students, we were close to the nature," said Professor Dr Abdur Rab, the Vice-Chancellor of IUBAT. "We are the first private university in Bangladesh to build a green campus. We took this initiative so that our children can learn to value nature, just like we did."

With the slogan, "An environment designed for learning," the IUBAT community educates their students about the importance of nature and how to nurture it. They offer a mandatory grooming course which emphasises on how to lead a modern life



Students spending time at the university's green field.

without harming the environment.

IUBAT has two cafeterias, one of which is made entirely of bamboo. One of their unique facilities include a software called 'Moodle', through which students can stay updated about recent academic announcements and programmes of the university. The software was introduced in an attempt to reduce the waste of resources (for example, paper), and familiarise students with digital activities. In addition, IUBAT offers bus facilities, free of charge, to their students.



Members of the IUBAT community throw fishing nets in the pond.

The university has 300 active staff members who clean the campus premises on a regular basis. "Since we are located in a place surrounded by trees and a lake, we make sure that the areas are kept clean," said Md Alamin Sikder Shihab, Deputy Director of Public Relations and Placement. As of now, IUBAT has invested BDT 1.75 million for their green initiatives.

The university campus is a research field for students of the Agriculture Department, however, it offers plenty of opportunities for students from other departments as

well. "Ideally, as students of CSE, we are not expected to work on environmental issues for academic purposes. But our curriculum encourages us to be eco-friendly," says Tanzina Akter Anika. "For instance, this semester, as a co-curricular activity, one of our assignments is planting organic plants. This activity is financed by the university."

IUBAT carries the mission of nurturing young leaders who are not only proactive and competitive about their education and careers, but who also play vital roles in conserving the environment.



IUBAT's own Shaheed Minar, built inside their green courtyard.

EducationUSA's South Asia Fall Tour 2019

University Fair held in Dhaka



PHOTOS: PIYAS BISWAS

SIHINTA SABEEN SHEMBIL

The South Asia Fall Tour 2019, hosted by the American embassy's EducationUSA Student Advising Center, took place on September 7, at Radisson Blu Dhaka Water Garden.

Representatives from 14 US universities, including Louisiana Tech University, Youngstown State University, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, University of Northern Iowa, University of Missouri-Columbia, Springfield College, Montana State University, Boise State University, NYU Tandon School of Engineering, McNeese State University, Mercy College, University of Houston-Victoria, The University of New Mexico, Colorado State University and a consortium representing twelve more institutions, had their corresponding booths at the event.

US Ambassador Earl R Miller opened the event with his statement. "EducationUSA is a US Department of State Network of over 425 international student advising centres in 178 countries, including seven advisers based in Bangladesh," he said. "The network promotes higher education in America to students around the world by offering information about opportunities to study at accredited institutions in the USA. All of EducationUSA's services are free of charge."



During the fair, students had the chance to discuss higher education opportunities, study areas, and financial aid options in the US, among other things, through interactive talks with 26 university representatives and presentation speakers, under one roof.

Two presentations took place at the event. An interactive session, "Higher Study Opportunities in the United States", by AQM Mushfiq Hassan, the outreach coordinator of EducationUSA, followed by another presentation, "F1 Student Visa Seminar", led by a US Embassy consular officer, was organised.

A bilingual panel discussion titled, "Life in the US and its Impact on the

Global Career Market", was also held, before an interactive question-answer session. The discussion was moderated by the EducationUSA Adviser, Md Razoun Siddiky Tohin. It featured Zuhayr Reaz, Rafsanul Hoque Hridoy, Zahidul Islam Zahid and Hasan Al-Mahmud, who are Bangladeshi alumni of US universities.

The hustle and bustle of the gathered crowd, along with their multifarious questions tinted with enthusiasm, demonstrated Bangladeshi students' tenacious ambitions for scholastic merit.

EducationUSA's South Asia Fall Tour 2019 commenced in Bangladesh, and will continue in Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Pakistan throughout September.