



Icche Ghuri Helping and learning together

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Seven high school students, with one goal — to do good for the community. This is the story of *Icche Ghuri*, an initiative by a group of Sunnysdale students who wanted to raise awareness regarding the ongoing dengue epidemic.

Founding members Arpa Banik, Nazif Ishrak, Fatema Binte Faisal, Orthy Aiyana, Rahdin Zaman, Maisoon Amina Rahman and Aisha Hasan are all A Level students at Sunnysdale school.

Their very first campaign named “Stop the Bite” took place in July where the goal was to help spread awareness about the dangers of dengue virus and to educate people on how people can take simple precautionary measures against it.

“For the campaign we designed posters and flyers, included information on signs and symptoms, prevention and treatment of dengue. We discussed extensively with our parents and relatives, most of whom are doctors by profession, to understand what exactly should be talked about in the campaign,” said Arpa Banik, Leader and Event Manager of *Icche Ghuri*.

By the time of the campaign, a total of 32 Sunnysdale students took to the streets of Dhanmondi to go from house to house and spread awareness regarding the fatal disease.

Fatema Binte Faisal, Researcher and Writer of the organisation, talked about how difficult it was to get people to agree to listen. “There were times when people didn’t even allow us to come into their homes,” Fatema added. But that did stop them from pushing forward with their work.

Since their campaign, the organisation has been growing rapidly, with over 50 members, all of whom are currently Sunnysdale students. They have already started working on new projects.

Their latest campaign was a fundraiser titled “Dough Nation” that took place from September 22 - 24. This campaign aimed to raise money for working university students who are the sole earners of their families.

They also have upcoming plans for providing special English Language classes to under-privileged primary school students. The group also wants to conduct workshops on sexual harassment education for children ranging from Class 1 to 6.

Moving forward, the *Icche Ghuri* team hopes to welcome more volunteers from various other schools and even universities to take on a variety of issues in all aspects of social welfare. They stand as a testament that the youth is capable of accomplishing great things not just for themselves, but for their community too.

To find out more, visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/iccheghuribd.org

IUBAT observes World Mental Health Day

Prof. Mahmuda Khanum of the Counseling and Guidance Center of IUBAT, in association with Department of Psychology, IUBAT, observed World Mental Health Day on October 10, 2019. The programme started with a rally followed by psychological assessment and poster presentation on suicide prevention.

IUBAT VC Prof. Dr. Abdur Rab joined the rally with Pro-VC Prof. Dr. Hamida Akthar Begum, Treasurer Prof. Selina Nargis, and other professors.

A psychological assessment was conducted in the ground lobby of IUBAT on different issues such as hopelessness, depression, anxiety, social avoidance and distress, personality disorders, OCD, life satisfaction, etc.

A poster presentation on suicide prevention took place that consisted information on myths, warning signs, risks and factors of suicide. As the theme of this year’s mental health day was “Mental health promotion and suicide prevention”, the whole programme emphasis was on building awareness on suicide prevention.

SEU organises freshers’ reception and orientation programme

Freshers’ reception and orientation programme of the newly admitted students of Computer Science & Engineering (CSE) Department for Fall Semester 2019 under the School of Science & Engineering (SSE) of Southeast University (SEU) was held on October 13, 2019 at the Seminar Hall, Banani, Dhaka. Prof. Dr. ANM Meshquat Uddin, VC of SEU chaired the programme while Md. Rashedul Islam, Additional Secretary, ICT Division was the chief guest. Maj. Gen. Kazi Fakhruddin Ahmed (Retd.), Registrar of SEU welcomed newly enrolled students. Shahriar Manzoor, Chairman of CSE Department, SEU introduced the faculty members to the students. Prof. Dr. AFM Mafizul Islam, Adviser to BOT and Head of BOT Office also addressed guests in the programme. Among others, faculty members, officials, students and their guardians were present.

Manarat College hosts freshers’ reception programme

At the A Levels freshers reception at Manarat College held on September 26, 2019, Shah Abdul Hannan, former Secretary, a renowned Islamic thinker and Chairman of Manarat Trust, said that there is an ongoing humanitarian crisis all over the world because of the lack of good humans. Hannan was present at the ceremony as the chief guest.

The reception ceremony was chaired by Brig. Gen. (Retd.) Md. Mehdi Hassan Pramanik, psc, Principal of Manarat Dhaka International School and College. He said that Manarat College has been ensuring quality education since its inception in 1979. Apart from imparting theoretical and practical knowledge, students are provided with such lessons as to be good humans.

The welcome speech was delivered by Tahera Tasneem, Coordinator of O and A Levels and Associate Professor of the Department of Biology. Prof. Dr. M. Umar Ali, member of Manarat Trust and former VC of Manarat University; A B Jafor Ahmed, Secretary of Manarat Trust; Fatima Jemaima Rahman and Mohammad Farooque, Vice Principals of Manarat Dhaka International School and College were present. Akib Jawad Ononto and Akhirun Nahar Mim delivered speeches from the new students.

DIU holds national finale of Get in the Ring 2019

The national final of Get in the Ring, a global startup competition where promising start-ups of different public and private universities of Bangladesh fight to fly to the Global Meet Up, was held on October 12, 2019 at the Pan Pacific Hotel Sonargaon Ball Room.

Rakibur Rahman and Shariar Al Mamun of “Eshara”, a project working with Bangla sign language for physically challenged people won the championship of the national final, beating 11 other competitors. Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF Bangladesh) and RTV were the organising partners of the event.

State Minister of ICT Division Zunaid Ahmed Palak MP graced the occasion as the chief guest. Dr. Md. Sabur Khan, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Daffodil International University (DIU) presided over the programme. Niaz Rahim, Group Director of Rahimafrooz Bangladesh; Dr. Nazmul Hossain, Country Representative, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF Bangladesh); Syed Ashik Rahman, CEO, RTV; and Andreas Hartmann, Head, Development Cooperation, Federal Republic of Germany, Dhaka were present as the special guests.

The judges panel comprised Kazi M Aminul Islam, Former Chairman, Bangladesh Investment Authority; Md. Abdur Rahim Khan, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce; Hossain Khaled, Managing Director (Automobile and Real Estate Division) of Anwar Group of Industries; Md. Tarek Uddin, Senior Vice President, Premier Bank Ltd.; and Nayeema Imam Chowdhury, Women Leadership and Gender Specialist of St. Francis Xavier University of Canada. DIU is the national host of this international competition known as the Olympic Games of start-ups. Earlier in 2015, DIU organised this competition for the first time in the country.



BUBT hosts 4th convocation

The 4th convocation of Bangladesh University of Business & Technology (BUBT) was held on October 10, 2019 at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center, Dhaka. Education Minister Dr. Dipu Moni MP awarded degrees and medals to students as the chair of the convocation on behalf of the President of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh and Chancellor of the university.

Chairman of University Grants Commission (UGC) Prof. Dr. Kazi Shahidullah attended the session as the special guest. Dr. Alastair Dawson, Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor and Vice President, Central Queensland University, Australia was the convocation speaker. He said, “Never stop learning, seek wisdom from where you can find it, share what you know with others. And above all, be kind to your fellow citizens”. With the help of Registrar and four deans of BUBT, 3192 students were awarded graduation and post-graduation certificates, while five highly meritorious students were awarded gold medals.

Prof. Dr. Shafique Ahmed Siddique, Chairman, BUBT Trust addressed the graduating students. Prof. Md. Abu Saleh, VC of BUBT delivered the welcome speech. In the concluding part, a cultural show was presented by the artists including Razib and Kona. Members of the BUBT Trust, Syndicate and the Academic Council, Treasurer, Advisor, Student Affairs, Director of Research Center and other Directors, Controller of Examinations, Joint Registrar, Joint Director (AC), Chairmen of different departments, faculty members, officers, graduating students of the university and distinguished guests.