

MIT wins programming world cup in Dhaka, BUET 51st



Held in Dhaka from November 6 to 11, the 45th iteration of the annual International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) World Finals was hosted by the University of Asia Pacific and organised by the Government of Bangladesh, ICT Division and Bangladeshi Computer Council. The ICPC is a world-renowned competition that brings together future leaders of IT, software engineering and computer research fields in an intense contest that tests both the mettle and knowledge of university students from around the globe.

In an exciting race to the top, with a total score of 11, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) from Cambridge, Massachusetts, was awarded as the overall winner of the 45th ICPC. The competition saw 137 teams of university students from 69 countries competing in the grand stage, with 8 teams from Bangladesh joining the global contest this year. Among them, BUET (Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology) was the highest-ranking Bangladeshi university in the competition, ranking 51st overall in the world.

The rankings of the other Bangladeshi universities are as follows:



Shahjalal University of Science and Technology - 56th, University of Dhaka - 82nd, Jahangirnagar University - 98th, North South University - 107th, American International University Bangladesh - 113th, University of Asia Pacific - 119th and Rajshahi University of Engineering & Technology - 122nd.

In terms of international rankings, Peking University from Beijing, China, ranked 2nd overall. The University of Tokyo from Tokyo, Japan, ranked 3rd. Last year's gold medal winners, Seoul National University of South Korea,

tackled one of the first questions in the competition. Their final ranking was 4th.

At its core, the ICPC is an algorithmic programming contest that pits teams of three to solve real-world problems. These teams, representing their respective country and university, must work together to provide innovative, creative and effective solutions to the problems that are provided to them, and in the process, show the spirit of collaboration and unity. As the oldest and largest programming contest in the world, the ICPC has gained

much renown and prestige as a global competition that not only awards the best of the best but also helps many aspiring engineers, researchers and future problem solvers realise their true potential.

Before advancing to the global stage, ICPC hosts regional, local competitions among classmates to determine who will receive the privilege to represent their country and university. The regional selection usually progresses differently but prioritises choosing the most knowledgeable and capable members for the final team. The final regional contests determine which teams qualify for the World Finals. The highest-ranking teams from these regional contests, from six continents of the world, join the global stage to tackle the most challenging questions.

As the emphasis is on problem-solving, ICPC looks into not only the speed and accuracy of the teams answering the questions but also the teamwork and efficiency with which the answers are being provided. Due to its fame for bringing young talents from all over the world under one roof, the ICPC is considered a hub for the great minds of tomorrow to achieve greater heights in the future.