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IMAGE GENERATED BY: AI MODEL DALL-E

Matching university education with contemporary needs

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"Hence, the need for data analytics. But one thing you'll see is that UIU is not alone in making changes. New courses are being added to several universities diving into data and machine learning, and this is a trend that will continue as we move forward," adds Dr. Swakkhar.

Another point that is often raised when the discussion of reforming education comes around is the need for universities to invest more in research. With BRAC University currently in the lead in this particular race, the time has come for other universities—public, private, or otherwise—to reassess the importance research

plays in today's society. As it stands today, no university in Bangladesh may be considered a 'Research University', and this gap can lead to a halt in overall progress, as research-based work is often directly linked to development in industry. However, even if a full-fledged 'Research University' does not occur in the next decade, there is no doubt about the need for greater focus on research from universities of all nature.

To this, Dr. Kabir added, "For Bangladesh to grow in different sectors, it needs to involve its students more prominently in research. The facilities in Life Sciences labs can be extremely

limiting at times, and if universities aren't paying attention our healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors may start falling behind."

There is, however, a significant distinction to be made here. Since Bangladesh is home to five different kinds of universities, not just private and public, the internal framework of how they operate will also vary drastically across different categories. Hence, significant changes may look different for each university. The need for the change, however, is paramount.

Raian Abedin is a poet, a student of Biochemistry, and a contributor at The Daily Star.

Reforming education for it to be viable and helpful in preparing students for today's fast-moving world is of utmost importance.

In today's world where new in-demand jobs and special fields of expertise explode into popularity at unprecedented rates, universities have a responsibility to respond by adapting quickly and efficiently.



PHOTO:
MUHAMMAD RIZWAN