

NOTICE BOARD

Bangladesh needs highly skilled pool of teachers for assessing students better, research suggests

Educator Shivananda CS shares research findings at Cape Town conference “Schools Now! 2024”

As there are complaints about delivery of engaging lessons in Bangladeshi schools, research shows, very few teachers in the country are skilled in teaching in accordance with each student’s learning pace and style.

However, in the research paper on “Teacher Effectiveness” presented at a recent global conference in South Africa, Principal of DPS STS School Dhaka Dr Shivananda CS noted that schools can offer actionable feedback promoting teachers’ fast-paced development with objective lesson observation criteria.

“More highly skilled and trained teachers are needed in Bangladesh. Many

schools often complain about needing a pool of trained and skilled teachers to deliver engaging lessons,” he stated.

“I hope the research findings will help my fellow peers discover more about teacher effectiveness and help augment teaching quality.”

Dr Shivananda is the sole educator from the country to present a paper at the “Schools Now!” conference, organised by the British



Council, in Cape Town, to promote innovations in teaching and learning and share experience among its partner schools.

Highlighting the need for what is called “learning differentiation” to achieve high learning outcomes, the research has observed that very few teachers are accustomed to the customised teaching-learning methods that allow each student to learn and

grow uniquely.

It has further provided evidence of rapid skills development when schools set measurable goals for each teacher, if they receive customised training support.

In this context, Dr Shivananda pointed out that among their peers, there are teachers whose lesson delivery level exceeds a score of 4.5 out of 5.0 and who can also train their fellow teachers.

The research project, involving teachers from kindergarten to grade 12, commenced in November 2020 and is reviewed annually considering the data gathered after more than 2,500 lesson observations.

Standard Chartered and BRAC University celebrate the first graduation of the co-developed FCC Certification Program

Standard Chartered Bangladesh and BRAC University recently celebrated the graduation of the first batch of financial crime and compliance experts from the “FCC Certification Program”. The programme has been co-developed by Standard Chartered and BRAC University. It bridges academic rigour with the practical requirements of the private sector to tackle the complexities of financial crimes. Launched in early 2024, this initiative was the first of its kind in the country.

The FCC Certification Program highlights the growing importance of raising compliance standards and fighting financial crime to protect the industry and the society. Course topics included identification and prevention of money laundering, terrorist financing, and other illicit financial activities. The importance of ethics, necessary controls, and compliance measures were also covered. Throughout the course, students were mentored by banking professionals and other experts from Standard Chartered Bangladesh, Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU), BRAC Business School, and BRAC University.

During the certificate distribution ceremony, Naser Ezaz Bijoy, Chief Executive Officer, Standard Chartered Bangladesh, emphasised the critical relevance of FCC in today’s rapidly evolving landscape of information and technology. He said, “Fraudulent financial transactions are draining billions of Bangladeshi Taka from the country each year, resulting in significant harm to the government, banks, and the public. By applying the knowledge acquired in this course, we have the opportunity to prevent such illicit activities, providing substantial benefits for governmental bodies, financial institutions, and the community at large.”

Professor Mahboob Rahman, Treasurer, BRAC University, stated that the FCC certificate course will serve as a pivotal milestone in fostering a stronger bridge between industry and academia. He said, “Ethics are essential building blocks for developing

a sustainable financial sector. The function of the University is to inculcate ethics and sympathy in the students along with knowledge.” He underscored the importance of collaboration among all stakeholders, including the government, to eradicate irregularities in the financial sector. He expressed optimism that this certificate programme would significantly enhance academia-industry relations and foster mutual development.

Professor Mujibul Haque, Acting Dean, BRAC Business School, BRAC University, commented that acquiring knowledge in financial crime and compliance will provide students with a distinct



advantage in their professional endeavours, setting them apart from their peers. He said, “This course has been effective in enhancing knowledge and refining skills to the participants, enabling them to better identify and prevent financial crimes.”

The event was led by Prof. Mohammad Mahboob Rahman alongside Naser Ezaz Bijoy and Dr Mohammad Mujibul Haque. The ceremony celebrated the dedication and achievements of the programme’s participants. During the event, students shared their experiences, highlighting its significance as a cornerstone in their academic journey. They highlighted the practical utility of the course, affirming that the skills and knowledge gained will prove invaluable in their professional lives.



NSU celebrates Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’s 104th birth anniversary and National Children’s Day 2024

North South University (NSU) organised a day-long celebration to mark the 104th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation, and National Children’s Day 2024 on March 17 at its campus. The event featured a discussion session and a drawing competition.

Mofidul Hoque, researcher, author, and founder trustee of the Bangladesh Liberation War Museum, attended the event as the Chief Guest. Professor Atiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor of NSU, chaired the session. The national flag was hoisted in the morning, and the campus was decorated with colourful lights. Children aged 4 to 15 participated in the drawing competition organised by NSU.

NSU Treasurer Professor Abdur Rob Khan delivered the opening speech. Following that, Mofidul Hoque discussed the educational period and life philosophy of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He said, “Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’s philosophy of life is ideal for all. We have to work to spread this ideal among children.”

Professor Atiqul Islam emphasised on bringing up the next generation to implement the spirit of Bangabandhu. He said, “Bangabandhu was a very honest, brave and fearless person. He was respectful of his political elders, but never compromised his ideals. The purpose of this event is that the children can cherish this thought of Bangabandhu.”

Seema Ahmad, member of NSU Board of Trustees, said, “Bangabandhu’s love for the country has inspired me since childhood. As he grew up, his social service activities also increased day by day. His foray into politics is an inspiration to all.”

Prizes were distributed among the winners of the drawing competition on the occasion. Deans of all schools, directors, chairpersons of various departments, senior officers, faculty and students of various schools were present on the occasion.