DHAKA THURSDAY MAY 22, 2025, *JAISHTHA 8, 1432 BS* | A PUBLICATION OF The Daily Star

CAMPUS

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ILLUSTRATION: **NATASHA JAHAN**

RAIAN ABEDIN

No part of *Andor*, the show that serves as a prequel to a prequel following a side character very few had any prior investment in, should work in theory. But with the first season, Tony Gilroy and team somehow delivered one of the most stellar narratives in the Star Wars canon. Rife with themes of revolution and a continued war against imperial forces, the first season triumphed because of its grounded nature and because of how well it portrayed the banality and bureaucracy of fascism.

While not flawless, season two amps up everything that made season one work so well and stands tall as the best a Star Wars story has ever been – yes, even including the original trilogy.

Andor's narrative structure splits a season into four chunks of three-episode arcs. For season two, each of these arcs picks up a year after the previous arc. The result is a season that spans a length of four years worth of time, leading seamlessly into the events of the film that *Andor* is a direct prequel to: *Rogue One*. Spending three episodes on one year's worth of events has its drawbacks – some events do not feel fleshed out and the story feels like it's in a rush to get somewhere else – the overall result is peerless.

Each character has their own version of rebellion – and the way the writers handle their stories is delicate and heartfelt. Very rarely has the character writing in *Star Wars* driven me to tears, and yet Andor achieves this with nearly every single one of its major characters.

The highlight of this season, however, has to be the storyline involving the planet of Ghorman. The events that transpire there are handled with some of the most capable writing and filmmaking I have seen in anything all year.

Although it may be easy to dismiss the show both as a long time fan of the franchise as well as a non-fan, very few shows are written with the level of competency as *Andor*, and to overlook it would simply be doing yourself a disservice.

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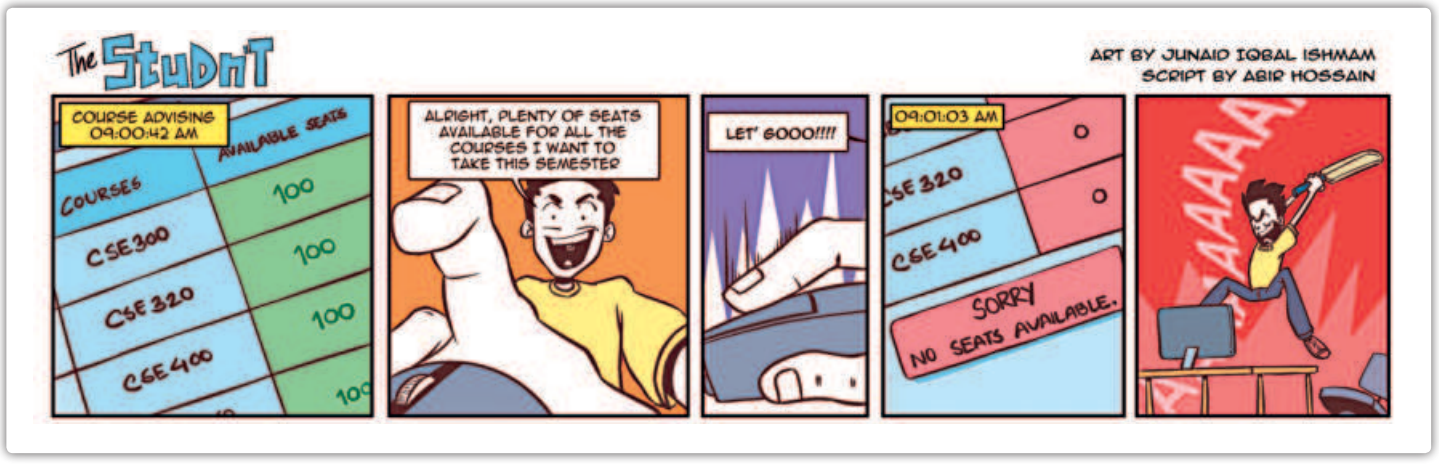

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ISD opens doors to world-class IB education for meritorious students

Students from any background can apply for their IB scholarship programme

ISD Grade 11 Scholar Shaira Samiha wins Second Runner-up position in the Monash Change it Challenge, Bangladesh 2025.

It goes without saying that in today's highly competitive world, being good at learning academic knowledge alone in the traditional way is not enough. We are living in a time where qualities such as critical thinking, research, self-management, and social skills are equally important as maintaining traditional academic standards. In Bangladesh, many gifted children cannot access the education they deserve, mainly due to financial constraints. To change this reality, the International School Dhaka (ISD) is offering a groundbreaking scholarship programme to talented candidates so that they can be a part of an exceptional school and study in the world-leading International Baccalaureate (IB) curriculum.

For students who desire a more academically-relevant knowledge and skill-based conceptual curriculum, IB is the best pathway to compete for successful entrance to a quality international university. The curriculum prioritises the students' academic potential and nurtures their interests outside the classroom, focusing on global awareness, intercultural communication, and a sense of social responsibility. Unlike the other curricula, the IB framework prepares students not just for exams, but for life beyond the classroom. Through ISD's scholarship programme, anyone with merit, talent, and passion for learning can reap the benefits of an IB education.

The scholarship programme begins in the Middle Years Programme (MYP) from Grade 6 and is exclusively open to new students from all academic backgrounds. There are multiple examples of students from national curriculum backgrounds receiving the scholarship and thriving under the IB framework. Ajmain, who is joining Grade 11 in August with a 90 percent scholarship, says, "Coming from Faujdarhat Cadet College to A Levels, I was disappointed by the lack of research and service opportunities. The IB's focus on critical thinking, the Extended Essay, and CAS felt like the perfect fit. It was ISD's scholarship that gave me the chance to join a community where I can grow both academically and personally."

ISD's scholarship programme is very inclusive, and all it looks for are students like Ajmain, who are inquisitive and nurture a genuine passion for learning. ISD recognises that intelligence can come in many forms, so it looks beyond grades to find students who show potential, be it in leadership, artistic expression, sports or innovative thinking.

Additionally, as the scholarship now begins in the MYP, it creates the advantage of an academic and social foundation for the students. The early exposure (as young as 11) helps with developing their research skills, time management skills, and provides them with an intellectual confidence that helps them when they advance to the Diploma Programme (DP) and later makes it easier for them to transition into university. These students also consistently demonstrate incomparable university placement rates and get exceptional scholarship opportunities at prestigious institutions globally. This year ISD students were awarded over USD 3 million in degree scholarships from US, UK, Canadian and Australian universities.

What makes this scholarship programme particularly valuable is the international standard that ISD maintains. The school has some of the best facilities in the entire country, including its state-of-the-art laboratories, design centre, and sports facilities. Students also enjoy the benefits of small class sizes, which guarantees the teachers' full attention and care. ISD fosters a true multicultural learning environment with students and highly qualified teachers from the USA, UK, Canada and many other countries, which prepares the students for a world that is deeply interconnected. It helps develop intercultural competencies and a global mindset that employers and universities are increasingly looking for. For parents and students who have long considered international education out of reach, ISD's scholarship programme presents a genuine opportunity to access world-class education right here in Bangladesh.

Reflecting on this opportunity, a current scholarship awardee, Shaira Samiha, says, "ISD's environment has helped me adapt a lot more than I expected. The scholarship not only gave me financial support, but it also helped open doors to new possibilities. Along with a world-class education, I can now enjoy other things that I am passionate about, such as music."

ISD believes that students like Shaira, who have strong academic abilities as well as leadership potential and a commitment to co-curricular activities, are worthy of receiving good opportunities. With this promise, they are providing scholarships ranging from 50 percent to 90 percent off school fees to eligible new students entering Grades 6 to 11, with the registration fee completely waived. Parents and guardians are encouraged to contact ISD regarding any questions and queries they have about this life-changing scholarship opportunity. To know more about the scholarship, you can visit https://www.isdbd.org/scholarship-program/ or contact the Admissions Office on +880 18 9604 5689.

CAREER

Charting the course for a career as a flight attendant

The gate closes, the engines start, and the plane takes off. At 35,000 feet above, the world below blurs into scattered clouds and cities. You might be moving to a new country or going on a vacation to another destination, but for a flight attendant, it is just a part of their everyday job. Becoming a flight attendant is a dream for many as it offers the chance to travel the world and work in an evolving environment. But behind the glamour lies hard work, rigorous qualifications, intense training, and demanding work schedules.

ALLIN MOHANA BISWAS

The qualifications needed can vary across airlines, but there are some universal requirements. Shamima Akter, a flight attendant at US-Bangla Airlines explained, "Men are generally expected to be at least 168 cm (5 feet 6 inches) tall, while women should be a minimum of 161 cm (5 feet 3 inches). Also, applicants must have an arm span of 212 cm while standing on their toes."

"Regarding physical requirements, the body mass index should generally range from 18-25 for males and 18-22 for females, with weight being proportional to height. Age is also an important factor as most airlines seek candidates between the ages of 18 and 27, though those with prior experience may be considered up to the age of 35. Lastly, good eyesight is crucial, as applicants need perfect vision without the use of corrective lenses or glasses," she added.

As for educational qualifications, Nisha Hossain Mim, a flight attendant at Biman Bangladesh Airlines emphasised that anyone can apply after completing A levels or the HSC examination, which can enable them to start their career at an early age.

Md Toki Tahmid Noman, a flight attendant at Biman Bangladesh stated, "I started while I was still an undergraduate student. It was difficult to balance classes and my job. I recommend joining either after graduation or during the final semester."

Ashiya Hussain, a flight attendant at Qatar Airways shared, "International airlines have a minimum age requirement of 21, and candidates must have completed at least the twelfth grade."

In addition to physical requirements and academic qualifications, language and presentation also play a big role. Toki stressed that fluency in English, a strong vocabulary, confident body language, and people management skills are essential.

While there are guidelines that can dictate the selection process, it remains competitive and multi-layered. Toki described it as: first a viva, then screening which is followed by written tests, and finally another viva. There are also assessments involving group work and written tasks to evaluate an applicant's strengths and weaknesses.

Most airlines publish job vacancies on social media or their official career pages. Once candidates are shortlisted, they are invited for interviews and assessments. Those who make it through begin training before officially joining flights.

The training itself is intense and spans from one to three months depending on the airline. Shamima shared, "Our training covers safety and emergency procedures like using fire extinguishers, oxygen masks, life jackets, and evacuation protocols. We are trained in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and handling medical emergencies like heart attacks or childbirth on board."

Ashiya added, "Our training lasted two months at Qatar Airways. We had exams on every topic regarding safety, first aid, and customer service. Each year, we must renew our training and sit for exams again."

"There is a common misconception that flight attendants are only on board to serve food and drinks. However, passenger safety is a central part of our job. After takeoff, passengers become our responsibility," said Ashiya. "If someone gets sick or needs medical help, we must be prepared to help them."

Handling unpredictable passenger behaviour is also another part of the job. Toki explained, "Some passengers may try to smoke, act aggressively, and treat the aeroplane like their own personal space. In such cases, we have to act tactfully. These incidents happen maybe once or twice a month but having the knowledge to deal with people is extremely important."

Despite the perception many people may have, the job is far from glamorous. Not only is it physically demanding due to the long working hours as well as multiple consecutive flights but also because of the irregular sleep patterns, physical exhaustion, and emotional challenges involved.

"It is not a job that always looks fancy," said Nisha. "You have to deal with difficult situations like emergencies, fire hazards, and medical issues. There are no fixed weekends, and we work on holidays. The job can take you away from your family for long periods, and sometimes you may be required to work 10-to-12-hour shifts. The work schedule is very unpredictable "

"We follow a monthly roster, but it can change at the last minute. Sometimes I have four or five flights in a row and just one day to rest. Other times, I have had ten flights before getting a single day off," she elaborated.

Shamima shared that the demanding schedule also affects her personal life, "I miss a lot of family events – birthdays, weddings, even simple dinners at home. It is tough when your loved ones are celebrating without you."

She added, "My sleep routine is all over the place, and I often feel tired, even on my days off. Staying healthy becomes a challenge, but it is something we just learn to manage."

"We always have to remain ready and on standby. Sometimes I do not know where I will be flying until the night before, and I may suddenly get assigned work," Toki commented.

Despite the challenges, the salary and perks are attractive. Shamima shared, "The salary is determined based on the company and includes different allowances."

"Depending on the airline and experience, salaries can range from BDT 70,000 to over BDT 100,000 in domestic airlines, and up to BDT 400,000 for international airlines, in addition to various allowances and benefits," she added.

"I have visited 18 countries so far and stayed at top hotels during layovers, which is an added bonus. In Biman Bangladesh, my parents, my husband and my child can also get a free ticket annually," said Nisha.

Ashiya, who is currently living in Doha, also spoke of accommodation and transportation which her company takes care of. She shared that one of the best parts of working for an international airline is that it has given her the chance to live in a new country, experience different cultures, and feel supported.

"Flight attendants find joy in their work, especially when they can provide excellent service and ensure passenger safety. We always give our best to maintain the five-star reputation of the airline," Ashiya remarked.

In terms of career progression, flight attendants can get promoted based on performance and experience. Aparna Paul, a junior purser at Biman Bangladesh who has worked for 24 years said, "Some get promoted after five years, while others do 10. I was promoted after 20 years."

Aparna also added, "Those whose health withers often retire early. Since Biman is a national carrier, the retirement policy is similar to that of the government retirement policy. We also receive a generous amount of gratuity. However, if anyone retires early, they receive a lowered percentage of the gratuity."

Despite the demanding nature of the job, employees receive free medical checkups and access to the best medical facilities. Although the long working hours tend to take a toll on them, the support they receive makes it manageable.

Moreover, the post-retirement path is diverse. Toki noted, "Most flight attendants retire after 20 to 30 years of service. After retirement, many move on to become airline consultants or trainers, while others may become entrepreneurs. Some even settle down abroad. The possibilities are wide open, which can help build a career in almost any field."

Reflecting on his own journey, Toki shared the job satisfaction he has derived from his work, "I feel proud serving and representing my country. When I tell people abroad that I am a flight attendant from Bangladesh, they are often pleasantly surprised. The pride and recognition make the job truly fulfilling."

Becoming a flight attendant requires hard work, dedication, and the ability to adapt to different situations. While it is not always as glamorous as it appears, it is a career that offers adventure, financial stability, and the chance to explore the world. For those who dream of having a workplace amidst the clouds, this job might be the right choice for you.

ILLUSTRATION: **ABIR HOSSAIN**

NOTICE BOARD

AIUB INAUGURATES JAPAN CORNER

The American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) proudly hosted the inauguration ceremony of the Japan Corner, a dedicated space in the university library that aims to foster cultural exchange, academic collaboration, and mutual understanding between Japan and Bangladesh. The event took place on May 12 with guests from the Embassy of Japan, AIUB administration, faculty members, and students in attendance.

The Japan Corner was established through sponsorship by The Nippon Foundation in Japan with administrative support from the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research, and coordination from the Embassy of Japan in Bangladesh. It features a curated collection of books, multimedia resources, and cultural artefacts that promote Japanese language, arts, and education.

The collection includes 186 books, donated under The

Read Japan Project, initiated by The Nippon Foundation in 2008. The project seeks to promote a deeper understanding of Japan by distributing English-language books about the country to universities and libraries worldwide. Now administered by the Tokyo Foundation for Policy Research, the initiative targets young researchers, opinion leaders, and intellectuals interested in Japan and its global impact.

The ceremony was graced by Saida Shinichi, Ambassador of Japan to Bangladesh, as the Chief Guest. He was warmly welcomed by Nadia Anwar, Founder Member and Chairman of the AIUB Board of Trustees (BoT); Dr Hasanul A Hasan, Founder Member, BoT; Ishtiaque Abedin, Founder Member, BoT; and Dr Carmen Z Lamagna, Member, BoT.

Also present were Prof. Dr Saiful Islam, Vice Chancellor; Prof. Dr Md Abdur Rahman, Pro-Vice Chancellor; Dr Nisar Ahmed, Treasurer; Prof. Dr Manzur H Khan, Proctor; Group Captain (Retd) Dr Mohammad Zahidul Islam Khan, Registrar; and the deans of various faculties. From the Embassy of Japan, Yamamoto Kyohei, Second Secretary and Deputy Head of the Public Relations & Culture Section, accompanied the Ambassador.

AUST holds its 12th convocation

Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) organised its 12th Convocation on May 14 at the Bangladesh-China Friendship Exhibition Center in Purbachal, Dhaka. The event honoured the achievements of graduating students and recognised their dedication to academic excellence and innovation.

Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, Adviser, Ministry of Finance and Ministry of Science and Technology, presided over the ceremony on behalf of the Chancellor of AUST and President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. He conferred graduate and post-graduate degrees to 9,426 students in different disciplines. In recognition of exceptional academic achievements, 11 students were awarded the "Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah Padak".

Dr Salehuddin Ahmed congratulated the new graduates and their families. Addressing the young graduates, he said, "We do not want you to be just a successful engineer, an expert in information technology, or a scientist. We want you to be a conscious citizen, a humane and visionary individual, and a patriotic person. Wherever you are, may you be a beacon of light for others."

AUST Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Md Ashraful Hoque praised all graduates for their academic accomplishments. He requested the graduates to learn from their mistakes, remain humble in success, and persevere through failure. He also said, "Our students are not confined to achievements within the country only. They have also demonstrated their competence, generosity, and leadership on the international stage. They have made us proud, and I firmly believe they will continue to do so."

Professor Dr Ainun Nishat, a pioneering expert in water resource management and climate change in Bangladesh, graced the occasion as the convocation speaker. He extended heartfelt greetings and congratulations to everyone. Addressing the graduating students, he said, " Our country and the world are facing many challenges – climate change, technological transformation, economic inequality, and social unrest. But in your hands lies the power to be part of the solution. So, find a big purpose within your own work. Be empathetic to others, stand by those who suffer, and use your knowledge to make the world a better place."

Professor Dr Golam Rahman, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, AUST, greeted the graduates and said, "Our university has always emphasised moral education, research-based knowledge creation, and innovation. We want our graduates to rise not merely with the goal of securing jobs but with the capacity to create employment. Be entrepreneurs, innovators, and leaders." Members of the Board of Trustees, Treasurer, deans of the faculties, heads of all disciplines, Vice-Chancellors of other universities, members of the AUST syndicate, academic council, finance and development committee, faculty members, officers, parents, and guardians of the graduating students were present at the event. Professor Dr Mohammed Mahbubur Rahman, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of AUST, delivered the closing remarks.

NSU welcomes freshers in Summer 2025 orientation programme

North South University (NSU) hosted its summer semester orientation programme. In the orientation programme, a total of 75 students were awarded scholarships at varying rates, including 100 percent merit scholarships granted to 21 students in recognition of their exceptional performance in the Bachelor's (Honours) admission test.

Dr M Fouzul Kabir Khan, Adviser to the Ministries of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources; Road Transport and Bridges & Railways of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, attended the event as the Chief Guest. The event was also graced by Special Guest Azim Uddin Ahmed, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of NSU. The session was chaired by Professor Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor of NSU. Other members of the Board of Trustees, NSU, were also present at the programme.

The programme commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran and the national anthem, followed by a documentary screening. NSU Registrar Dr Ahmed Tazmeen delivered the welcome speech.

Professor Md Rizwanul Islam, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences; Professor Shazzad Hosain, Dean of the School of Engineering and Physical Sciences; Professor Dipak Kumar Mitra, Dean of the School of Health and Life Sciences; and Professor AKM Waresul Karim, Dean of the School of Business and Economics, introduced their respective schools.

Dr M Fouzul Kabir Khan said, "You are entering university at a very challenging time. On one hand, there are incredible opportunities with the rise of AI, robotics, and other emerging technologies. On the other hand, traditional education is changing fast. Many top companies, like Google and Microsoft, no longer see a degree as a must for hiring. It's still good to have one, but what matters more now are your skills and how you keep learning. So, don't limit yourself to just what's taught in class. Be curious, take initiative, and keep learning in every way you can."

Azim Uddin Ahmed said, "Standing here today brings back many memories. I have addressed students and parents from this stage many times before. Congratulations to all the new students of NSU. I sincerely hope you all go far in life."

Professor Abdul Hannan Chowdhury said, "For over thirty years, this campus has been home to the country's leading private university, as recognised by THE and QS rankings. We focus not only on academic excellence but also on holistic development through over 30 active student clubs and engagement opportunities. Our goal is to produce not just graduates, but ethical, sincere, and morally responsible individuals. I urge all students to follow NSU's rules and guidelines, which will help shape you into highly valued members of society."

STUDY ABROAD

UNITED KINGDOM'S Immigration White Paper 2025

What students should know

TAMJIDUL HOQUE

ILLUSTRATION: **SYEDA AFRIN TARANNUM**

Amongst the Bangladeshi students aspiring to pursue higher education abroad, the United Kingdom is a popular destination for various reasons. However, with the UK immigration policies coming under further scrutiny, it's important to be aware of the recent developments surrounding the student visa and how it can potentially affect you before you set out to the UK for your studies.

Due to criticism about the rising number of immigrants, the UK government had already introduced multiple changes to its student visa policy, including a dependent ban on students coming to study postgraduate taught courses, as part of its immigration policy changes in 2024. The effects of those changes were seen immediately.

The UK saw a 14 percent decrease in the number of sponsored student visas in 2024 compared to the previous year. The biggest declines were seen in students coming from countries like Nigeria, Bangladesh and India. This drop in international students has also contributed to a decline in net immigration to the UK by around 20 percent.

Now, the newly elected Labour government seems to be looking to double down on efforts to reduce net immigration, with Prime Minister Sir Keir Starmer introducing his Immigration White Paper. White papers are documents introduced by the UK government that set out their proposals for future legislation. According to him, the immigration White Paper includes a "comprehensive plan" to tackle high net immigration.

> "It's frustrating for international students who have already spent a lot of tuition fees and moved with the current rules in mind. My plan was to work in the finance sector but I am now reconsidering as I feel like working 10 years to qualify for settlement can be frustrating. I am considering to pursue a PhD or moving to another country, maybe somewhere in Europe or Australia," Mohammad says.

While the Immigration White Paper covers various sectors of immigration, special attention was given to student visa policies, and changes are proposed with the intention to reduce international students. The reasoning given for this was that a large number of overseas students moved from university into low-paid work and applied to move from a study visa into the asylum system. A large number of these asylum applications reportedly appeared to be fraud.

However, international students are still important to the UK due to their contribution to the economy. Thus, the drastic changes that were rumoured to be proposed before the white paper was published were not brought forward. Regardless, some proposals were still made that will make it harder for students to choose the UK as their study abroad destination if implemented.

The first notable proposal is the reduction in the length of the graduate visa or post-study work permit, which has been proposed to be reduced to 18 months from two years. This will be less than the current length of post-study work permit in Australia and Canada, which are two years and three years, respectively.

The Graduate Visa is a key factor for many students in choosing the UK, including Md Tanzim Islam, a BBA graduate from University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) who is currently planning to apply to study MSc in Business Analytics in the UK soon.

"I plan to apply for a full-time job in the UK after graduation but I am worried that it will become harder for me to secure a job within limited time, if the proposals in the white paper are implemented such as reduction of length of the post-study work permit," Tanzim says.

The white paper also mentioned considering 'introducing a levy on higher education provider income from international students, to be reinvested into the higher education and skills system'. This can lead to an increase in tuition fees at universities throughout the UK for international students.

In addition to that, proposals also stated that sponsoring institutions will face tougher requirements in order to recruit international students and will be subject to a Basic Compliance Assessment (BCA), which will be an annual assessment used to monitor each sponsor's level of compliance. Sponsors that fail may have their sponsorship licence revoked and temporarily be removed from the Register of Student Sponsors for up to two years.

In addition to the above-mentioned changes, other changes are also proposed that may affect a student's plans after graduation, such as the standard qualifying period for settlement in the UK has been proposed to be increased to 10 years from five.

This is a matter of concern for many students who have already moved to the UK. One of them is Mohammad Fardin Rohid, who is currently pursuing an MSc International Banking and Finance degree at London Metropolitan University.

"It's frustrating for international students who have already spent a lot of tuition fees and moved with the current rules in mind. My plan was to work in the finance sector but I am now reconsidering as I feel like working 10 years to qualify for settlement can be frustrating. I am considering to pursue a PhD or moving to another country, maybe somewhere in Europe or Australia," Mohammad says.

While there is a lot of discussion going on around these proposals, it is important to remember that these changes are not yet law. Thus, none of the changes mentioned has been implemented yet, and it is yet to be decided whether these changes will come into effect if they do.

Regardless, any student planning to go to the UK in the near future should keep an eye on the reforms and see if they can affect them, as the UK government's drive for reducing net immigration is very real. This whole situation may put the Bangladeshi students in an uncertain situation in terms of whether to select the UK as their study abroad destination in the future.

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Tamjidul Hoque is a LLB graduate, you can contact him at tamjidulh@gmail.com

Prime Bank on a mission to revolutionise academic banking with PrimeAcademia

PrimeAcademia presents itself as a one-stop banking solution for the academic institutions and its students, teachers and associated stakeholders, setting a new standard in education-sector banking. But what exactly is PrimeAcademia and how is it revolutionising academic banking?

CAMPUS DESK

Managing finances within academic institutions is often a fragmented and complicated process. Students, parents, teachers, and institutions frequently rely on multiple, disconnected banking services—resulting in operational challenges and missed opportunities for tailored financial support.

PrimeAcademia, Prime Bank's latest innovation, addresses this gap by offering a unified and comprehensive financial solution for all educational stakeholders under one integrated platform. This initiative is particularly vital in a country where around 30 million people remain unbanked, and nearly 72 percent of the population lacks basic financial literacy.

What is PrimeAcademia

PrimeAcademia is a comprehensive banking platform tailored to the unique financial needs of academic institutions, their staffs, students, and parents. Developed by Prime Bank PLC., the solution simplifies financial management through services like digital fee collection, payroll processing, tailored savings accounts, and education-focused loans.

It includes institutional accounts with competitive interest or profit options, insurance-backed savings plans for teachers, and loan facilities for parents, ensuring that financial support is accessible at every level of the academic ecosystem.

What kind of services does PrimeAcademia offer?

PrimeAcademia provides a full suite of services to streamline financial operations in educational institutions both in Conventional and Islamic Banking mode. These include:

- Profit or interest-bearing current accounts offering competitive rates up to 4 percent p.a.
- Digital fee collection through prime bank owned software 'prime collect' beyond the mobile financial services, debit/credit cards, mobile apps and internet banking.
- Tools for bulk and individual salary disbursements, VAT/tax payments, and government dues.
- Investment and financing options for institutions.

Teachers receive dedicated savings accounts with attractive returns up to 5 percent p.a. and insurance coverage up to BDT 3 lac. They also benefit from personal and professional loan facilities along with pre-approved credit card.

Students are offered youth-targeted savings accounts—earning 5 percent p.a returns for those under 18 and 4 percent p.a for those above. PrimeAcademia also provides student file services to aid in studying abroad.

Parents can access education loans and investment options to ease tuition and academic expenses.

With these features, PrimeAcademia emerges as a robust, one-stop banking solution for the academic sector.

Why PrimeAcademia is a timely initiative

In today's digital world, efficiency and accessibility in banking are not luxuries—they are necessities. With educational institutions managing a complex array of financial responsibilities, the need for an integrated solution has never been greater.

"We view young people as catalysts for inclusive growth. PrimeAcademia helps them access tailored banking services and practical financial education, unlocking their potential for lifelong success," says M M Mahbub Hasan, Head of Financial Inclusion and School Banking at Prime Bank PLC.

The situation is particularly pressing in Bangladesh, where the youth population stands at 46 million, and over 4.7 million of them are university students. Alarmingly, a significant portion of this group still lacks basic financial literacy. Given that youth comprise 36.53 percent of the total workforce, their financial empowerment is not only a personal need but a national priority.

By streamlining banking for students, staff, and parents, PrimeAcademia simplifies financial operations while promoting financial inclusion and economic participation.

A crucial step toward financial literacy

Many students complete their education without acquiring essential financial knowledge—an oversight with long-term consequences. PrimeAcademia aims to change that by instilling responsible financial habits and offering practical tools early in life.

Through youth savings accounts and financial engagement programmes, the initiative encourages saving, budgeting, and informed decision-making—paving the way for a financially literate generation.

Transforming academic banking for the future

In a sector long constrained by outdated financial systems, PrimeAcademia is a breath of fresh air. It empowers educational institutions with digital solutions and equips students, teachers, and parents with tools for a better financial future.

"Educational institutions are at the heart of social and economic progress. Through PrimeAcademia, we are delivering institution-focused banking solutions and seamless digital integration to support the education sector's financial infrastructure," says M Nazeem A Choudhury, Deputy Managing Director at Prime Bank PLC.

As Bangladesh looks toward a future shaped by its youth, initiatives like PrimeAcademia are not just innovative—they are essential.