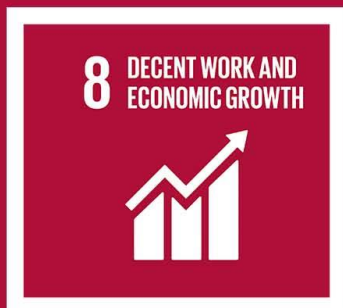




**American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)**

**SDG Activity Report on**

## **SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth**



**Promote sustained,  
inclusive and sustainable  
economic growth, full and  
productive employment  
and decent work for all**

## SDG Activity Report on SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

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## University Activities

### Webinar on “Cost & Management Accounting – Scope & Applications in the Economy” by PCTE & AIUB

The world today, runs on numbers. And while accounting can indeed be a complex concept for some, it is essential for businesses, economies, and people, in general, in order to sustain and grow in the future.

Focused on “Cost & Management Accounting – Scope & Applications in the Economy”, the American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB), together in collaboration with the Punjab College of Technical Education (PCTE), India, co-organized a webinar on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2021 through the Zoom platform. The joint webinar brought together perspectives and practices from both institutions, presented by Mr. Roomee Tareque Moudud FMCA, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Accounting from the Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) and the Director of the Office of Placement & Alumni (OPA) at AIUB, and Mr. Chaksh Sharma, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management and the Coordinator for the Department of Commerce at PCTE, as the esteemed speakers for the program. With almost 300 participants from both institutions, the session highlighted in-depth theories and real-life examples of the cost & management accounting in the local contexts of Bangladesh and India, as well as the relatively evolving global landscape. The presentations were followed by an interactive Q&A session, moderated by Ms. Shama Islam, an Assistant Professor of the Department of Marketing in FBA and the Special Assistant in the Office of the Vice Chancellor and Student Affairs at AIUB, where the discussion furthered into the scope of the core ideas of how cost & management accounting can be adapted, applied, and augmented onto our daily lives, as students, professionals, and citizens. The Welcome Address was presented by Ms. Aishwariya Khanna, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Management of PCTE, with the Vote of Thanks provided by Dr. Mohammad Faridul Alam, the Associate Professor and Head-In-Charge for the Department of Accounting & Finance in FBA at AIUB. Dr. KNS Kang, the Director General of the PCTE Group of Institutes, Dr. Gautam Bansal, the Director of the Department of Business Management in PCTE, and Mr. Himanshu Sood, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Business Management and the Coordinator of the MBA International Business Program at PCTE also shared their remarks and expressed their gratitude to the participants of both institutions.

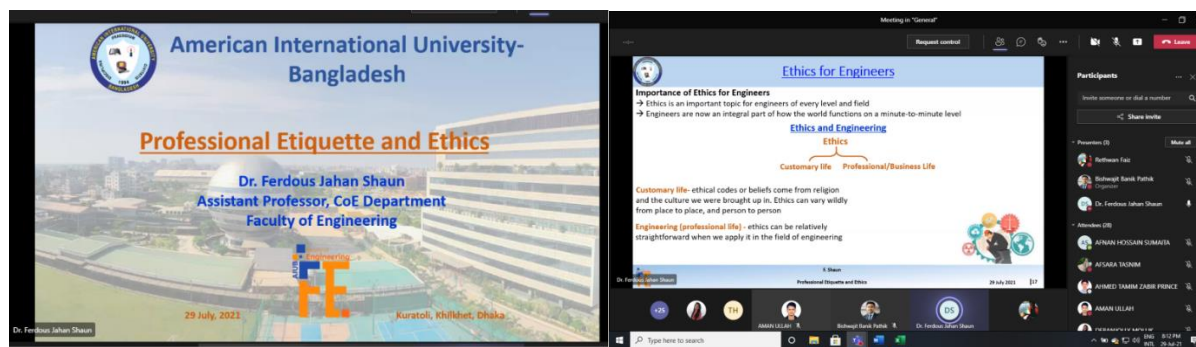
The program marked a positively successful collaboration between AIUB and PCTE, paving the way for developing the partnership for the mutual benefit of the institution and its students in the long run.

## A TECHNICAL SESSION TITLED “PROFESSIONAL ETIQUETTE AND ETHICS”

On July 29, 2021, Faculty of Engineering organized a technical session titled “Professional Etiquette and Ethics” for the interns of “Physical Plant and Infrastructure (Electrical) Division, AIUB”. The program began at 07:30 PM at online platform Microsoft Teams. The purpose of this session was to introduce the procedure to maintain professionalism through etiquette and ethics in corporate houses.

Mr. Biswajit Banik Pathik (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) inaugurated the session with his motivating speech to the audience where he discussed about the importance of knowing corporate etiquette and ethics to become a successful professional. Afterwards Dr. Ferdous Jahan Shaun (Assistant Professor, CoE Department, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) initiated his speech with a vital comparison among the word profession, professional and professionalism. Then he briefly described how ethics plays an important role to the success of any corporation. At the end, he derived a synopsis on etiquette for professional success and professional ethics which by following can lead to the success of interns in their future job. Finally, Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (*Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*) expressed his gratitude towards the speaker in his closing remarks. Mr. Rethwan Faiz (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB), acted as the moderator for this session.

The webinar was graced by the presence of Mr. Kawshik Shikder (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) and Mr. Abir Ahmed (Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB).



## A TECHNICAL SESSION TITLED “CORPORATE STRUCTURE” FOR EEE INTERN STUDENTS

On July 16, 2021, Faculty of Engineering organized a technical session titled “Corporate Structure” for the newly joined EEE interns of “Physical Plant and Infrastructure (Electrical) Division, AIUB”. The program began at 07:30 PM at online platform Zoom. The purpose of this session was to introduce corporate culture & ethics to interns. Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (*Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*) inaugurated the session with his motivating speech to the audience where he discussed about the importance of knowing corporate culture and ethics to become a successful professional.

Afterwards, Engr. Asif-ul-Haque (*1st Senior Deputy Director, in charge Supply Chain, Engine & home appliance after sales, Walton group*) started his speech with highlighting the company profile of Walton group. Then he briefly described the responsibility of each department to make the company successful. At the end, he gave brief idea of the culture an employee should follow at corporate office and shows different scenario at both corporate office and factory where employee must follow ethics. Finally, Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (*Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*) expressed his gratitude towards the speaker in his closing remarks. Mr. Md. Saniat Rahman Zishan (*Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of CoE, AIUB*), acted as the moderator for this session.

The webinar was graced by the presence of Dr. Md. Abdul Mannan (*Professor and Director, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*), Mr. Nafiz Ahmed Chisty (*Associate Professor and Head In-Charge, Dept. of EEE, AIUB*), Mr. Chowdhury Akram Hossain (*Senior Assistant Professor and Special Assistant of OSA, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*) Mr. Biswajit Banik Pathik (*Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*), Mr. Rethwan Faiz (*Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*), Mr. Kawshik Shikder (*Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*), and Mr. Abir Ahmed (*Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB*).

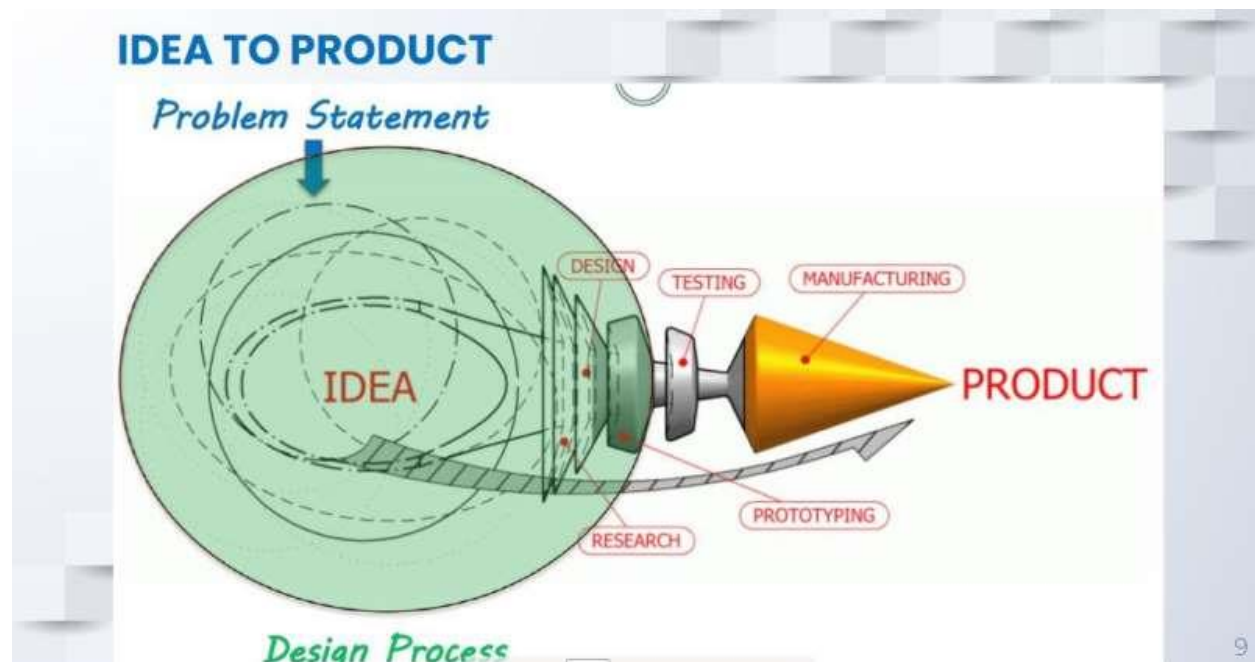


## TECHNICAL SESSION TITLED “ENGINEERING DESIGN PROCESS” FOR EEE INTERN STUDENTS

On 25th July 2021, Faculty of Engineering organized a technical session titled “Engineering Design Process” for the interns of “Physical Plant and Infrastructure (Electrical) Division, AIUB”. The program began at 07:30 PM at online platform Microsoft Teams. The purpose of this session was to introduce the formulation of an Engineering Design and work its way through to obtain an optimum outcome.

Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering) conducted the session with his alluring speech to the audience where he discussed about the importance of having a proper engineering design of a project before implementing it. Prof. Rahman emphasized on attaining a sequential strategy for any engineers to achieve the most desirable outcome of a project. He highlighted on how projects can be made efficient by integrating the simplest solution. Prof. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman elaborated the idea of failure behind a project and its probable solutions regarding a project by giving numerous practical examples. He ended his speech with an optimistic conclusion which will help intern in their future endeavors related to engineering workplaces. Mr. Md. Saniat Rahman Zishan (Associate Professor and Head, Dept. of CoE, AIUB), acted as the moderator for this session.

The webinar was graced by the presence of Mr. Chowdhury Akram Hossain (Senior Assistant Professor and Special Assistant of OSA, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB), Mr. Biswajit Banik Pathik (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB), Mr. Rethwan Faiz (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB), Mr. Kawshik Shikder (Assistant Professor, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) and Mr. Abir Ahmed (Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB).





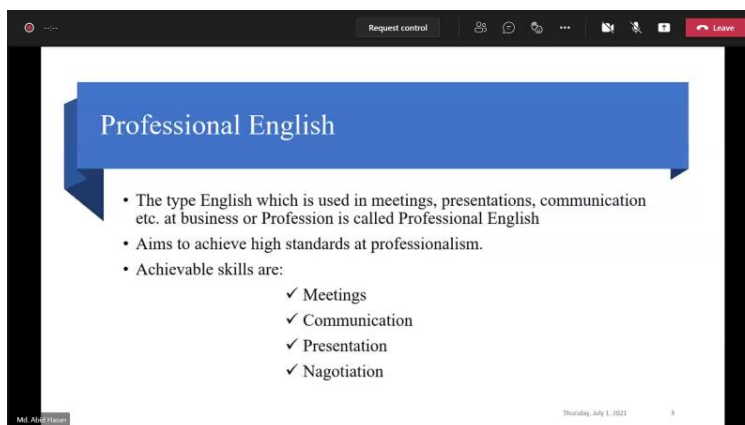
## A WEBINAR TITLED "ENGLISH FOR PROFESSIONALS"

On July 01, 2021, Thursday A webinar titled "English for Professionals" was organized by the Faculty of Engineering, AIUB. The webinar was held from 3:00 PM- 5:00PM on MS Teams platform. The speaker of the webinar was Mr. Md. Abid Hasan, Lecturer, Dept. of EEE, FE, AIUB. The target audience for this webinar was Laboratory Staffs of FE, AIUB.

Dr. ABM Siddique Hossain (Professor and Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) inaugurated the webinar with a motivating speech to the audience where he discussed the prospects of English as a communication medium and emphasized the importance of practicing English in a learning environment. Following that, speaker of the webinar Mr. Md. Abid Hasan started his session by discussing what professional English means. Firstly, he explained the basic properties of 4 types of professional emails, out of which inquiry type emails received the most focus as they are used the most in professional environments. He presented a visual demonstration of a standard email and broke it down into the fundamental parts, showed how to include a signature inside emails and offered tips for keeping things professional. Secondly, he defined memorandum as a reader oriented, clean & concise medium for official communication with numbered/listed points in active case and gave an example where a staff was congratulated for the delivery of an electric vehicle marketing presentation. Thirdly, the speaker spoke about professional minutes that require a dedicated note-taker and are comprised of the keynotes and important discussion items of a meeting. Lastly, the speaker talked about the development of English-speaking skill. He recommended individual effort and practice, and provided links to free online resources.

The session ended with an interactive question answer session between the laboratory staff in the audience and the organizers. Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman (Professor and Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, AIUB) provided the closing remarks by thanking Mr. Abid for the informative session and encouraging laboratory personnel to take initiative in practicing English speaking with the goal of gradual improvement.

Mr. Nafiz Ahmed Chisty (Associate Professor & Head In-Charge, Department of EEE) acted as the moderator for the webinar.





## Lecture Series on “Business at a Crossroads in Post-Pandemic and Way Forward”

As a part of the “Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series”, a regular development initiative of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), an informative webinar entitled, “Business at a Crossroads in Post-Pandemic and Way Forward” was held on 17 June 2021. The webinar was organized by the Faculty of Business Administration in the honor of AIUB’s visionary Founder Chairman Dr. Anwarul Abedin who catalyzed in the substantial transformation of AIUB into its present status.

Mr. Asif A. Chowdhury, Honorary Consul for Chile in Bangladesh, CEO and Managing Director of Chowdhury Group of Companies, President of Japan Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce, and Industry (JBCCI) for the year 2020-2022, was the esteemed guest speaker of this event. During the webinar, Mr. Asif shared his valuable knowledge and experience of 27 years in international business and trade. He discussed current trade situation of Bangladesh with Chile and Japan. He highlighted the areas where students should focus while starting their own business. According to him the mantra of successful business is ‘Investing on Employees: Understanding their Necessity’, providing quality product to the customers knowing their requirement, need and want. He mentioned that in current pandemic situation the greatest challenge is to make a balance between health issues of mass people and prosperity of business & economy of the country. According to him, shipment, both air and ocean is a great challenge in this pandemic situation as shortage of container and restrictions on shipment are affecting the supply chain of freight forwarding business. He emphasized on the fact that E-commerce is the future of business. He discussed numerous valuable ideologies with the participants on related topics. During the question-answer session, Mr. Asif enthusiastically responded to queries raised by the students and faculty members attending the event.

Professor Dr. Charles C. Villanueva, Vice President (Academic) and Dean, Faculty of Business Administration of AIUB delivered an inspiring welcome message. He underscored the role of social media on business in this pandemic situation as business is one of the most affected sectors due to pandemic. After the keynote session, Professor Dr. Nisar Ahmed, MBA and EMBA Program Director, Faculty of Business Administration, AIUB delivered the vote of thanks. He expressed appreciation to the distinguished speaker, to the participants and to Ms. Shahnaz Zarin, Asst. Professor, the organizer of the successful event. After the expression of thanks, Prof. Dr. Charles C Villanueva, presented a digital Certificate of Appreciation to Mr. Asif A. Chowdhury as a token of gratitude for sharing his valuable time and insight, and eventually motivating the students to be successful in their career.

The whole event was held in the Zoom online platform and was joined by about 150 participants. Additionally, more than 1600 viewers witnessed the event in Facebook. The event was well moderated by Ms. Shahnaz Zarin, Assistant Professor, Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management, AIUB.



## Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series “Digital Skills and Mindset to set up a successful Business”

As a part of the “Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series”, a regular initiative of the American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), an informative webinar titled as “Digital Skills and Mindset to set up a successful Business” was held on 27 May 2021. The webinar was organized by the Faculty of Science and Technology in the honor of AIUB’s visionary Founder Chairman Dr. Anwarul Abedin who catalyzed substantial transformation in the educational sector of the country.

Professor Dr Behrang (Hani) Parhizkar, Universiti Tun Abdul Razak, Malaysia; Group CEO at Chamrun Digital Group; CTO at Maslow Trainers & Consultants, Malaysia, was the esteemed guest speaker for the occasion. In his presentation, Professor Parhizkar illustrated his knowledge and experience on digital skills required to set up a business. He highlighted the areas where digital technology can play a vital role for any business. He also discussed numerous valuable ideologies with the audience on related topics.

Dr Dip Nandi (Associate Professor and Director, Faculty of Science and Technology, AIUB) delivered an inspirational welcome message to the audience. He emphasized on AIUB’s stand on prioritizing the importance of improving digital skills and developing a technological mindset to help business ventures. After the keynote session, Associate Professor Mashioor Rahman (Associate Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, AIUB) delivered the vote of thanks towards the distinguished speaker.

Professor Dr Charles Carillo Villanueva, Vice President (Academic) and DEAN, Faculty of Business Administration of AIUB presented digital certificate of appreciation to Professor Parhizkar and thanked him for his valuable speech.

Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Computer Science, Dr Md Mahbub Chowdhury Mishu, acted as the moderator for the webinar. Faculty members, officials, students, alumni of AIUB and professionals from industry were present. With over 500 participants on the Zoom platform and more than 1500 views in Facebook, the webinar was indeed a success.



## WEBINAR ON “HOW STRATEGIC PLANNING TAKES PLACE, MANAGED AND IMPLEMENTED IN PANDEMIC SITUATION IN BAKING SECTOR”

The Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM), AIUB organized a webinar on “How Strategic Planning Takes Place, is Managed and Implemented in Pandemic Situation in Banking Sector” on April 06, 2021 from 05.00 pm to 06.30 pm. The target audience of the webinar was students of Purchasing and Procurement: a major course of OSCM and students of Project Management (Section A, D and E). The guest speaker of the webinar was Mr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman, CEO and Managing Director of Mutual Trust Bank Ltd (MTB).

The webinar was organized to enhance students’ academic learning and to make them understand how strategic planning takes place in real-life, and how it is managed and implemented in this pandemic situation specially in banking sector. The guest speaker started with a brief idea about the banking sector in Bangladesh. Currently there are 61 scheduled banks in Bangladesh under full control and supervision of Bangladesh Bank which is empowered to do so through Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 and Bank company Act, 1991. He mentioned that the most important strategy in this pandemic situation is to make the customer feel that the bank is always there to support them. Banking sector has given more focus on digital banking, investing more on ATM, internet banking software, digitalization of different banking services such as alternate delivery channels to maintain customer service so that customers do not feel neglected, contacting them on a regular basis, emphasizing more on improving call center service, allowing them to pay credit card bills through apps. At MTB, even though a client doesn’t have credit card of MTB but just by having an account of MTB he or she is able to pay credit card bills of another bank. MTB is trying to be more competitive by bringing cost down, placing right things at right time, implementing concept such as inclusive banking, agent banking, Transection, MMS and Bank opening form in Bengali for rural people, providing proper guidance from top management to make employees motivated towards good service to the customer, conducting research, focus group discussion to know about customers’ current needs.

Mr. Mahbub also shared tips and techniques on how to become successful in banking sector from his versatile banking experience. Prior to joining MTB, he was the Managing Director & CEO of the Dhaka Bank Limited. Before that he served the BRAC Bank Limited as Managing Director & CEO and Deputy Managing Director (DMD). He also served Prime Bank Limited as Deputy Managing Director. He has been elected as the Chairman of Association of Bankers, Bangladesh (ABB) for 2018 and 2019 and is serving the association till now. He was accorded with ‘The Asian Banker Leadership Achievement Award’ for Bangladesh for his achievement in the period from 2011 to 2013. He has attended various local and overseas training courses and workshops, and frequently delivers lectures in the field of finance, banking and management.

At the end, the session was opened for students to ask questions. The overwhelming question-and-answer session fully justified the effectiveness and timeliness of the webinar. It showed that

the topic was interesting to them because of its relevancy with current pandemic situation. Around 120 students attended the webinar. The guest speaker appreciated students for their interactive participation.

Prof. Dr. Charles C. Villanueva, VP, Academics and Dean, Faculty of Business Administration inaugurated the webinar with a welcome speech and Prof. Dr. Nisar Ahmed, MBA Program Director and acting Head of OSCM Department delivered the vote of thanks to the guest speaker. The webinar was coordinated by Ms. Shahnaz Zarin Haque, Assistant Professor, Department of OSCM, FBA. The Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM) humbly appreciates the support extended by the AIUB management.

**Webinar**  
Participant: Students of Purchasing and Procurement-A major course of OSCM and Project Management (Sec: A, D & E)

**TOPIC:**  
**"HOW STRATEGIC PLANNING TAKES PLACE, MANAGED AND IMPLEMENTED IN PANDEMIC SITUATION IN A BANKING SECTOR"**

▼ Tuesday, 6 April 2021  
▲ Time: 5.00 pm - 6.30 pm

Platform: **Zoom**

Organized by  
**Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management**  
Faculty of Business administration

**American International University-Bangladesh**

**Mr. Syed Mahbubur Rahman**  
MD and CEO  
Mutual Trust Bank

## ARCHITECTURE WEBINAR HELD ON: “PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ARCHITECTS IN THE CONTEXT OF BANGLADESH’

The Department of Architecture, AIUB organized a webinar on Dec 17, 2020 at 7 pm. The webinar titled “Professional ethics and code of conduct for Architects in the context of Bangladesh” was organized for the students and faculty members of the Department of Architecture.

The resource speaker, Ar. Mamnoon Rashid Chowdhury is serving the 23<sup>rd</sup> Executive Committee as the Vice President, National Affairs, Institute of Architects Bangladesh (IAB). He is also a partner of one of the most successful architectural consultancies of the country- DWM4. As an Architect he takes deep interest in the necessity of the code of conduct and professional ethics for practicing Architect's.

The students of Architecture Department AIUB along with the Alumni were benefited from the discussion. The speaker started with a presentation which emphasized on the code of conduct and the importance of ethical values evident throughout an Architect's professional career in the context of Bangladesh. He also shared experiences from his professional life. The webinar was very insightful and engaging for the faculty members and students as well. The webinar was followed by a question-answer session with enthusiastic participation from the audience.

The webinar was streamed live on AIUB's official social media page, which reached almost 6000 views and was widely shared among the students and Alumni of AIUB. The webinar was coordinated by the Head of Architecture Department, Associate Professor, M. Arefeen Ibrahim.





## Lecture Series on Economic Impact of COVID 19 on Bangladesh Telecommunication Sector

Department of Economics of American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB) organized a webinar as a part of Dr. Anwarul Abedin Lecture Series with Robi Axiata Limited titled ‘Economic Impact of COVID-19 on Bangladesh Telecommunication Sector’. Mr. Mahtab Uddin Ahmed, MD & CEO of Robi Axiata Limited, was the resource speaker for the webinar which was held on 17 December 2020 using ZOOM platform.

Mr. Mahtab spoke on how Robi introduced different business strategies and provided technological support to ensure connectivity, and he focused on how employability and socio-economic welfare were properly addressed by Robi during the early stage of COVID-19. Mr. Mahtab also discussed the economic contribution and role of telecommunication sector in Bangladesh and gave guidelines to the students on how to prepare themselves for future challenges.

Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, Vice Chancellor of AIUB, discussed about the objectives and expected outcome of the webinar in her inspirational messages. She acknowledged the support of Robi provided to the student community for ensuring uninterrupted online classes.

Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam acknowledged the support of the management of the university in his closing remarks. Deans from other Faculties, academic and administrative staff of the university, students and staff from Robi attended the webinar.

Dr. ABM Rahmatullah, Associate Dean of FASS, being the anchor of the program, greeted all the participants and in the end thanked everyone for joining the webinar in ZOOM and through AIUB facebook page where there were 62 shares and more than 7600 viewers. The archive of this webinar shows that it has become the most popular video in AIUB facebook page.



## Webinars on “Supply Chain Resilience” and “Boeing and The Boeing Supply Chain”

The Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management (OSCM), Faculty of Business Administration organized two webinars on Tuesday, 1 December and on Wednesday, 2 December 2020. The first webinar on “Supply Chain Resilience” was held on Tuesday, 1 December 2020 from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM for the OSCM major students and faculty members. The resource speaker, Mr. Jim Rice, Deputy Director, Center for Transportation and Logistics (CTL) and Director, Supply Chain Exchange Program, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA spoke on the basics of supply chain resilience, supply chain risk management vs. supply chain resilience and some solutions-resilience aspects expected in the future. The second webinar was titled “Boeing and the Boeing Supply Chain” and was held on Wednesday, 2 December 2020 at 2:00 PM with the resource speaker Dr. Derek Westfall, Senior Supply Chain Analyst, Adjunct Professor, Portland State University, USA. He discussed on how Boeing, Airbus and the Airline Industry conduct operations in their supply chain. Both webinars were very insightful and addressed contemporary issues of Supply Chain Management.

There were Question and Answer sessions at the end of both webinars. The speakers were impressed on the line of questioning by the students which reflected their keen interest in the area of OSCM. Prof. Dr. Charles C. Villanueva, Vice President, Academics and Dean, Faculty of Business Administration delivered welcome speech and vote of thanks in both seminars. AIUB-FBA was overwhelmed for the opportunity to host such distinguished speakers in the field of Supply Chain Management. The webinars were coordinated by Mr. Mohammad Ali, Assistant Professor, Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management.

### The Boeing Company

- ▶ 120K employees worldwide
- ▶ Largest Aerospace company in the world
- ▶ Commercial aircraft built in Puget Sound and South Carolina
- ▶ Major Defense Plants in St. Louis, Philadelphia, Mesa
- ▶ Boeing Portland a local Parts manufacturer
  - ▶ Currently 1000 employees / had 1700 pre-737 Max

World's Largest Building

777 Production

787 Production

Derek Westfall

Mohammad Ali

Charles Villanueva

Abdullah Al Mahm...

MD. TAHMID ZAMAN



Virtual Lecture on Global Supply Chain delivered by Andrea S. Patrucco, Assistant Professor, Penn State University, PA

The Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management, Faculty of Business Administration organized a virtual seminar on “Global supply chain management and managing supplier involvement in NPD: how to take supplier collaboration to the next level ” on 11 March, 2020 at AIUB permanent campus, for the Executive MBA students and regular MBA students of courses Service Operations Management and Distribution Management. The resource speaker was Andrea S. Patrucco, Assistant Professor, Program coordinator, Project and Supply Chain Management, PENN STATE UNIVERSITY, PA, USA. The main objectives of this seminar were to provide our students to be virtually connected with an eminent resource speaker of a foreign country with the aid of our strong logistics support. The speaker very eloquently explained the engaging suppliers in collaborative innovation, the role of the purchasing department and management of triadic department. Prof. Andrea is very much enjoyed the question answer session where students and teachers spontaneously participated.

Dr. Nisar Ahmed, Professor and Director of MBA Programs, Faculty of Business Administration inaugurated the seminar with a welcome speech. Dr. Saad Hasan, Dr. Mohammad Rashedul Hoque, Dr. Partha Prasad Chowdhury, Mr. Mohammad Ali were present at the event.

The seminar was coordinated by Mr. Mohammad Ali, Assistant Professor. The Department of Operations and Supply Chain Management gratefully appreciates the support extended by the AIUB management.



## Faculty Research and Publication

Survival of Bangladesh economy during covid-19 recession with the use of technology: an application of Keynesian approach

Author: Dr. Ashraf Uddin et al.

### Brief Description:

The Covid-19 (coronavirus) crisis is severe, and will have a horrendous financial and economic effect on all over the world. Consequently, this pandemic has jeopardized the rising economy of Bangladesh. The country's economy largely depends on Ready-made Garments, remittances, and export of agricultural products. In response to this unusual 'Great Recession', Bangladesh is exploring the use of technologies to fight back this recession amidst the ongoing social distancing, self-isolation and travel limitations. This study critically analyzes and explores the financial policies adapted by the Bangladesh government. The study identifies that the government is applying Keynesian approach and providing adequate incentives and subsidies in order to strengthen the economy. In addition, the study draws insight into how the government is spending a significant amount on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and popularizing ICT platforms to uphold financial activities. It also elaborates on the implications of a huge government budget in several sectors through ICT. However, the government slightly misuses the budget by allying with corruption and money laundering. Finally, the study successfully advocates that, although the Keynesian approach invites issues like debt, inflation, and unemployment but the government prefers the Keynesian approach (direct assistance or subsidies from the government) to protect Bangladesh economy.

Source: <https://www.acseusa.org/journal/index.php/aijscm/article/view/35>

Factors, Observed During Covid-19 to Overcome Financial Crisis: A Case of Bangladesh

Author: Dr. Ashraf Uddin et al.

### Brief Description:

Covid-19 has furiously affected the world economy. Despite the world's suffering, Bangladesh has shown a new model of surviving from devastating financial crisis. There are several factors, rarely observed during the pre-pandemic period, helped Bangladesh to stand up adopting the new normal. We have identified that the factors were not directly the results of Government policies, but the necessity people had to change to live the new normal. In this paper, several directions of financial activities and sectors have been explored with evidence and insights in the context of Bangladesh.

Source: <https://ajse.aiub.edu/index.php/ajse/article/view/151>

## Users Acceptance of Mobile Finance Service in Bangladesh and the impact of COVID-19: Extended UTAUT2

Author: S A M Manzur Hossain Khan et al.

### Brief Description:

Population of Bangladesh is 164 million, but there are 165 million mobile phone subscribers. Mobile phone usage is one of the fastest growing phenomena of the country. Globally, among many mobile based services, Mobile Financing is one of the most rapidly expanding sector. Bangladesh is yet to see a significant growth in this arena. There have been numerous studies conducted on the types of Mobile Financing Services (MFS) and their reach in Bangladesh. But not too many studies were conducted on the factors that influences users to adopt MFS and their behavioral intension. Moreover, the recent crisis of COVID-19 pandemic seemed to have an impact on the usage of MFS which is also another unexplored research domain. This study analyzes the factors influencing MFS users of Bangladesh and also explores the impact of COVID-19 on the user's behavioral intension. The Unified Theory of Acceptance and Use of Technology (UTAUT) model in combination with Entrepreneurial Potential Model has been modified and adopted in this study. This study explores the correlation of Performance Expectancy (PE), Effort Expectancy (EE), Social Influence (SI), Facilitating Conditions (FC), Price Value (V) on Behavioral Intention (BI) on MFS users. It also studies the moderation effect of COVID-19 on the relationship between MFS users' Behavioral Intension and Use Behavior. The correlating factors effect positively on the MFS users' behavioral intention. But the COVID-19 impact was found ineffective in moderating their use behavior. The framework of this research is a novel one and can be adopted for similar studies.

Source: <https://doi.org/10.53799/ajse.v20i3.193>

## MANAGING INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION IN ASIA: A CASE STUDY ON THE LOCAL EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM AT PLAY IN THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY – BANGLADESH [AIUB]

Author: Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna et al.

### Brief Description:

As the world advances on multiple fronts - digitally, socially, and economically - change has become an inevitable paradox of the progress, one that comes with both opportunities and challenges. Literacy has always been a persistent issue in the developing communities, a by-product of the pre-existing conditions of poverty, handicapped by poor governance and infrastructure even further. But over the years, developing countries have been doing just that - developing. From countries in South America to those in Africa and Asia, have all been making their way through the uphill battle of growth. In Asia, India and China lead the initial transition, playing to their strengths of low cost resources and a bustling population, while adapting

technological innovations, positioning them at a strategic vantage point. But many others soon followed. And succeeded.

“Internationalization of education can be seen as a response by academic institutions to a globalized world. It is a response to a new age marked by globalization, competition, and marketization. Educational institutions are now acting across borders in almost all countries.” “A number of countries across Asia have been competing over the last decade to attract the best and brightest from around world to develop resolute regional hubs for educational development in a bid to drive technological innovation and economic growth.” “There is a lot of growth potential in this part of the world for private and international schools, mainly as a result of the continued growth of the economies in East and Southeast Asia. Insights on the development prospects as well as challenges confronting the education sector in the region enable stakeholders to take advantage of the opportunities and hopefully mitigate the risks.”

Today, education is internationalized to expand on cultural and economic linkages in an attempt to catalyze and drive the growth of not just the institutions themselves, but of the country by extension. Based on international curriculums, adopting global learning materials, they cater to the varying needs of the diverse student base, evolving teaching methods to keep up with the trends of business, science, and arts around the world. These internationalized institutions play a pivotal role in ensuring quality education that integrates a ‘glocal’ perspective. The American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB) has always tried to elevate itself from the national standards, eventually making their mark as one of the top private universities in Bangladesh, but it didn’t come easy. Established in 1994, academia was an entirely different story for AIUB back then. Access to international journals and research papers was limited, as was learning materials that incorporated both global theories with practical examples and cases from the local market. Collaborations with other institutions was not as lucrative as they are deemed today. Nonetheless, over time, things changed. They were bound to. AIUB embraced an international curriculum, working with foreign institutions to gain access to learning materials and encourage further research and development to enrich their faculty and student base together. And that pursuit of excellence in education is still underway at AIUB, for they believe, there is no end to learning and improving if you want to be better than the best.

### [A Study on Entrepreneurial Intention of University Students in Bangladesh](#)

Author: Samia Shabnaz et al.

#### Brief Description:

Entrepreneurial intention is the function of motives and barriers encountered by the university students during their studies. As the unemployment rate among the university graduates is the highest in Bangladesh, the research focused on university students with the aim to predict their entrepreneurial behaviors. Previous studies identified different environmental contexts of the

countries have different influence on the perception regarding motives and barriers of entrepreneurial intention of the students. Hence, to stimulate the development of entrepreneurship, it is important to uncover university student's perceptions regarding the motives and barriers to develop entrepreneurship and their influences on entrepreneurial intention of the graduates. To conduct the research, the primary data were collected from 398 business students using simple random sampling method through self-administered questionnaire. Descriptive statistics were used to analyze the demographic profiles of the respondents. A multivariate statistical technique like Factor Analysis was used to identify the factors influencing entrepreneurial intention and Regression Analysis was used to predict the significant impact factors. It is evident in the study that the driving factors like autonomy and market opportunity has significant positive impact whereas barriers like financial and government support, lack of skills has significant negative impact on the student's entrepreneurial intentions. This paper will assist the policy makers, educational institutions and researchers to develop several implementable strategies like enterprise education, liberal tax system, financial and regulatory support to promote entrepreneurship in a developing country like Bangladesh.

Source: <https://ccsenet.org/journal/index.php/ibr/article/view/0/45873>

#### Major challenges in combating epidemics like COVID-19 in the developing countries

Author: MD. MANZURUL HASAN et al.

##### Brief Description:

On the rise of the COVID-19 epidemic, the developing countries have been struggling severely due to heterogeneous challenges. This paper aims to identify those challenges and to find possible causes to help future disease control and management especially during such epidemics. The challenges are not straight forward rather these are results of inadequate medical facilities, disruptive mismanagement in the government ecosystem, financial strength, social problem and the list goes on. This paper is based on report, data and other studies from various sources. We observed that many problems are inter-linked and mainly results of lower economy. Some other problems like political issues, lack of awareness, superstitions are inherited social problems. This paper also discusses about the root causes which create and stimulate the problems. For the ongoing identified problems some precautions have been advised

Source: <http://ijmscrr.in/index.php/ijmscrr/article/view/113/78>

### Factors, Observed during Covid-19, to Overcome Financial Crisis: a Case of Bangladesh

Author: MD. MANZURUL HASAN et al.

#### Brief Description:

Covid-19 has furiously affected the world economy. Despite the world's suffering, Bangladesh has shown a new model of surviving from devastating financial crisis. There are several factors, rarely observed during the pre-pandemic period, helped Bangladesh to stand up adopting the new normal. We have identified that the factors were not directly the results of Government policies, but the necessity people had to change to live the new normal. In this paper, several directions of financial activities and sectors have been explored with evidence and insights in the context of Bangladesh.

Source: <http://ajse.aiub.edu/index.php/ajse/article/view/151/93>

### Survival of Bangladesh Economy during Covid-19 Recession with the Use of Technology: An Application of Keynesian Approach

Author: MD. MANZURUL HASAN et al.

#### Brief Description:

Covid-19 has furiously affected the world economy. Despite the world's suffering, Bangladesh has shown a new model of surviving from devastating financial crisis. There are several factors, rarely observed during the pre-pandemic period, helped Bangladesh to stand up adopting the new normal. We have identified that the factors were not directly the results of Government policies, but the necessity people had to change to live the new normal. In this paper, several directions of financial activities and sectors have been explored with evidence and insights in the context of Bangladesh.

Source: <https://doi.org/10.46545/aijscm.v2i1.311>

### Uprooting VS Replanting: The Age-Old Tug of War in Education

Author: Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna

#### Brief Description:

Progress is neither automatic nor inevitable, but it is impossible without deviating from the norm. Change is the only constant in our lives, and those who refuse to change their minds, will not be able to change anything else. But ironically, that is the one thing most of us are unwilling to do – change. We keep repeating the same process over and over again, expecting a different result. And that, is insanity. But then again, all these great minds were called crazy once. Martin Luther

King. Frank Vincent Zappa. George Bernard Shaw. Albert Einstein. Visionary minds in their own right but told off as ‘not in their right minds’.

Rewind back even just 5 years ago, and compare that to another 10 years back, the world was a different place then, just the way it is now. Economically. Politically. Socially. Culturally. And of course, educationally. In numbers, we have probably come a long way. On all counts, perhaps. Take literacy, for example. According to data from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and UNESCO, compiled by Our World in Data, literacy has gone up from 12.05% in 1800s to 86.25% in 2016. There are less and less children dropping out of school, from 381 million in 1998 to 263 million in 2014. From a scattered global gender ratio ranging between 8% to 74% amongst developing and developed nations back in 1870, the world has moved forward towards closing that gender parity in education, nearing 100% in European, North and Latin American regions, and varying between 80-90% in the Middle East, Africa, Asia and the Pacific. But that is the bigger picture. Once you zoom into the localities across the regions, the scenario may seem a tad bit different. Despite the apparent waves of changes made in education over the past century, there is still about 14% illiteracy around the world, even more prevalent in some countries than others. There are still over 2 million more girls than boys dropping out of school even in the 21st century. Still a 20% difference in the gender ratio between the East and the West. We are living in a world and time where there is still a cross-country inequality of 20-50% even today! The quality, impact, and value of an education from an American or European institution is still considered the ‘gold standard’, although several institutions in Asia and the Pacific have made their mark in their own fields on their own accord.

And the educational system itself was not any different. Or was it? The enrollments in schools, colleges, and universities surged sometime around the 90s. There were certain institutions that were considered the elites, and competition to get in them was as crazy as the tuition they charged at the time. If we think back on higher education, there was a phase when public universities in the country were considered as the ‘deshi-double’ of the sought-after Ivy-Leagues. According to an article in the World Education News + Reviews (WENR), some 95% of upper-secondary school graduates do not make it to these institutions – in 2015, 17 applicants competed for a single enrollment in public universities! That, in itself, was probably one of the catalysts that lead to the 106 private universities that cropped up over the past decade, mushrooming the country with educational options beyond its 46 public universities. Despite the few discrepancies stated by the University Grants Commission (UGC) on the approval of some of these institutions on various grounds, they are all still very much there. Some trailblazing, some running, some barely operational, perhaps, but at one point of time, education was a tug of war between all 152 institutions across the country. In some ways, it still is. We are living in the 21st Century. We cannot be forcing our students to learn the same way we did 10 years ago! Time has changed, and its high time our teaching does too!

If our grandparents (or in some cases, even our parents) enrolled in universities now, they would be in for more than just a cultural shock. And we would probably have a few choice words coming



out of our mouths if we were sent back to universities in their era. The brick-and-mortar model of an institution within the 4 walls of a classroom, with teachers sharing their knowledge, taking tests and assigning homework, focused on and encouraging repetition and memorization as the standard for being ranked in a pre-defined grading system – how much of that has changed over the years? Pre-Pandemic, in a lot of cases, most educational institutions still followed a system that was heavily reliant on traditional models. Almost clinging to it as though their existence was dependent on it. For the most part, we are still bound within the walls of the old classrooms (or those of the screens now). The majority of higher education institutions (HEIs), still, intentionally or unconsciously, coax repetition and memorization as the most effective approach to studying. Most are still defined by marks and grades, regardless of whether they actually reflect the actual level of knowledge or skills. Feel free to debate with me on this, but if that wasn't the case, then why have HEIs, in general, been so reluctant on adopting hybrid class formats that uses both online and on-campus modes of teaching and learning before 2020? Why else, do we still practice formats of quizzes and assignments that either require you to memorize and repeat on paper or copy and paste off the internet? Why else, do we still have the persistent 'Golden GPA 5' notion prevailing, despite meme-worthy examples that prove my moot point that they may have the scores but lack the substance to establish it? Because, normally, we don't tend to move forward without a push, right? But now, nothing is normal anymore, is it?

It took an entire pandemic to expose the vulnerable flaws in the systems of governance around the world, and it did the same for education in Bangladesh. The institutions have long been rooted so deeply into their conventional curriculum, course structure, lecture contents, etc. that they have seemingly become a depiction of 'the glass is full'. So full to the brim, that there is no scope left for any additional concoction! The minute you try, it spills over! Such is the condition of the education system in general here. WENR also stated in the same article, that most university's curriculum is said to be 'of limited relevance to the needs of the industry'. Apparently, 16% of graduates were unemployed in 2017, while many local companies preferred to hire 'better educated foreign graduates' instead. Despite the authorities' attempts to address the 'quality of education' since 2009, little progress seems to have been made in reality, as opposed to all the comprehensive paperwork that has gone into it. Taking off the rose-colored glasses, and taking up a magnifying glass on this, as institutions of higher education, we may have checked off on the list of what is deemed necessary for a 'high-quality top-notch university', but when it comes to actualizing the weight and magnitude of what that stands for, I'm afraid, many of us are still faltering.

We tend to relapse into our old ways, whenever we have to deal with the uncertainty that comes with change. Much like how majority of the world population seems to be doing in terms of the pandemic at the moment. We ourselves keep repeating history. We just don't brush up on it too often. Every time we have had a crisis, whether that is the World Wars or the Industrial Revolution, the Plague or the Covid-19, we start off in denial before we make our way towards acceptance. Even when it came to the closure of educational institutions due to the pandemic, most remained in denial, thinking it was just for a few weeks. Soon, 1 month turned into 4, with

only a handful of institutions shifting to a virtual educational framework. Some were more expeditious than others. Some are still a work-in-progress. And some are yet to adapt. And there's nothing wrong with that. In a developing country with challenges of its own, limited resources and expertise renders us helpless to accelerate our own pace – everyone has their own timeline, after all, right? But when we can understand that when it comes to countries, industries, and organizations, why is it so difficult to do the same when it comes to people? Whether it be children growing up, or in school/college/university, or young adults at the cusp of their careers, we have a terrible tendency to generalize. And therein lies one of the greatest problems of today – standardization.

Everyone has a different wavelength that they thrive in – some write better, some calculate better, some paint better, some analyze better, some create better – one size does not fit all! Especially not in education. You can neither judge nor criticize them on the same grounds. And you can't determine the best of the lot that way either. As Albert Einstein said, "Everyone's a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid." On paper, sure, you'd be being fair, giving everyone the same form of assessment to ensure they have an equal opportunity to excel. But what we need today, if we are to have a real chance at not just competing on the global landscape, but conquering it, is to concentrate on the potency of equity, adaptability, and innovation. Of course, in order to be feasible, standardization has become a necessity to a certain extent, but knowing how to get the best of both worlds and strike that balance is the key. Some parts of the assessments may be uniform, say designing a sales promotion campaign for a product/service for the students of a Marketing 101 class. But the selection of the product/service, the mediums to use, the material to develop, and the idea of the campaign itself should vary across the board. Sure, they would all have to pitch their campaign (again, a uniform requirement of the assessment), but they should be free to use their creativity on how to make the pitch! The quizzes may all test their knowledge, critical-thinking, and analytical ability on say, Training & Developing in a Human Resource Management class. But while they may be required to know particular terminology and concepts, their interpretation and implementation of that on a hypothetical HR issue should have merits on their own rights. And most importantly, you can obviously have the same topics covered in all sections of an Introduction to Business course, but if the teaching in each of them is coerced into being uniform in every single aspect, then the learning will inevitably become monotonous, involuntary, and nonreciprocal. And that will only produce sub-standard rudimentary mechanical bots, not proficient intellectual global change-agents.

Before, students sat down, listened to their teacher, took notes, did tests and exercises. But the generation of students we have today, have been nurtured in the exposure of technology. They can no longer just sit through a nonreciprocal lecture in monotony. They need a form of education that challenges them to bring out the best in them. Catalyzed by the pandemic, we have gone from one end of the learning spectrum to another (from face-to-face to online), but as a result we skipped the phases in between – blended and hybrid learning. Blended learning is already an extremely constructive concept that has been implemented in various institutions

across the world, and now that we have explored the landscape of online learning, we can rein in the strengths of both formats, capitalizing on how hybrid learning can feed into each other in the long run. Learning cannot be uniform, it is meant to be unique. Teaching cannot be narrated, rather nurtured. Education was not supposed to be dormant or docile, but pioneering and progressive. Novel, as it were. It is now or never, for if we hesitate at the cusp of change, we may slowly, but surely succumb.

According to an article in Times Higher Education, an International Student Survey conducted by educational consultants Hobsons, concluded that the top factors that students considered when choosing a university was first, and foremost, the quality of education (30%), followed by the availability of scholarships (29.9%), and the institutional ranking (23.5%). Now that in itself, says something. Students today, are well-aware of the global cut-throat competition that they are setting themselves up for once they graduate. And no one wants to get into that arena without proper armors and ammunition. They want to go in and they want to be prepared for it. So, that age-old ideology of 'sponge-absorption and regurgitation' in education has got to go! Uniformity and standardization needs to be curbed! Versatility, creativity, practicality must be intensified and sustained!

A wise man once told me, 'If it works, it's obsolete!', and to this day, those words ring true, for whatever we learn and teach today, may no longer be applicable tomorrow. So, the concept of lean thinking's 'continuous improvement', is not just for manufacturers anymore. It is very much so, for the service industry as well. And education is one of the most crucial service for any generation. It lends itself to the progress of all other products and services, in a way, if you think about it. And while some of us may be striving every single day to achieve that, others remain lagging behind, or worse, stagnant. Integrating online modules, virtual platforms, or technological enhancements may exchange a portion of face-to-face class time, but that doesn't necessarily mean it would replace the entire notion of face-to-face interactions in education altogether. That coalesced with face-to-face interactions infuse dynamic advantages that are difficult, if not impossible to replicate otherwise, creating an incredibly powerful learning opportunity, creating a synergy between the different interactive experiential collaborative means of education. Overhauling the existing teaching-and-learning methods to emphasize more on the developing the knowledge, skills, and attitude of the students instead of just standardizing them has become imperative. I don't know if this has become a pattern nowadays, where everything becomes an argument, for and against, but it doesn't necessarily have to be, does it? Why must it be a tug of war between uprooting from traditional inefficacious practices and replanting unorthodox progressive ideas? Why can't we just learn something from the old and foster it into teaching something new? It may be difficult, but it isn't impossible, is it? The idea is to build on greater heights from what we have now, and that does not always equate to demolishing the foundation and starting from scratch. Sometimes, it's just a matter of uprooting to replant into a better spot of earth. That's how we can nourish. Grow. Blossom.

### Major challenges in combating epidemics like COVID-19 in the developing countries

Author: MD. MEHEDI HASSAN ONIK et al.

#### Brief Description:

On the rise of the COVID-19 epidemic, the developing countries have been struggling severely due to heterogeneous challenges. This paper aims to identify those challenges and to find possible causes to help future disease control and management especially during such epidemics. The challenges are not straight forward rather these are results of inadequate medical facilities, disruptive mismanagement in the government ecosystem, financial strength, social problem and the list goes on. This paper is based on report, data and other studies from various sources. We observed that many problems are inter-linked and mainly results of lower economy. Some other problems like political issues, lack of awareness, superstitions are inherited social problems. This paper also discusses about the root causes which create and stimulate the problems. For the ongoing identified problems some precautions have been advised.

Source: <http://ijmscrr.in/index.php/ijmscrr/article/view/113/78>

### Factors, Observed during Covid-19, to Overcome Financial Crisis: a Case of Bangladesh

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Covid-19 has furiously affected the world economy. Despite the world's suffering, Bangladesh has shown a new model of surviving from devastating financial crisis. There are several factors, rarely observed during the pre-pandemic period, helped Bangladesh to stand up adopting the new normal. We have identified that the factors were not directly the results of Government policies, but the necessity people had to change to live the new normal. In this paper, several directions of financial activities and sectors have been explored with evidence and insights in the context of Bangladesh.

Source: <https://ajse.aiub.edu/index.php/ajse/article/view/151/93>.

### Two Decades of Tax Revenue Dynamics: Bangladesh Panorama.

Author: Dr. Mohammad Faridul Alam et al.

#### Brief Description:

This paper aims to analyze the dynamics of Bangladesh Tax System for the last two decades. This paper also intends to bring out the salient features of the existing tax structure to provide some relevant policy recommendations. Despite having impressive story of progress with its resilient and steady GDP growth of more than 6% for a number of years, Bangladesh has one of the lowest

tax to GDP ratios in the world many years (it has stood 9.8 percent in the year 2016-17), which is one of the lowest among its neighboring countries and similar economies. Tax revenues has been contributing more than 80% of the total government revenue for the last two decades with a dominance of indirect tax contribution, although it has witnessed a decreasing trend in the last decade. Although direct tax contribution is around 37% of the tax revenue, it is collected from less than 1% of the population of the country with an indication of dissatisfactory compliance behavior of the taxpayers. Such performance places Bangladesh in 152nd position among 190 economies in the Paying Taxes 2018 study, as well as 148th position among 157 economies as per the Commitment to Reducing Inequality (CRI) Index 2018. Two decades of comparative study reveals that necessary reform measures should be taken to address the non-compliance problem with an expectation to improve the tax performance through an optimal and balanced tax system, that may reduce the degree of inequality in society.

Source: <https://ajbe.aiub.edu/index.php/ajbe/article/view/16/36>

### Working conditions and occupational stress among nurses in Bangladesh: a cross-sectional pilot study

Author: Rezwanul Haque et al.

#### Brief Description:

#### Background

Breast cancer is the most commonly occurring cancer among women in low-resourced countries. Reduction of its impacts is achievable with regular screening and early detection. The main aim of the study was to examine the role of wealth stratified inequality in the utilisation breast cancer screening (BCS) services and identified potential factors contribute to the observed inequalities.

#### Methods

A population-based cross-sectional multi-country analysis was used to study the utilisation of BCS services. Regression-based decomposition analyses were applied to examine the magnitude of the impact of inequalities on the utilisation of BCS services and to identify potential factors contributing to these outcomes. Observations from 140,974 women aged greater than or equal to 40 years were used in the analysis from 14 low-resource countries from the latest available national-level Demographic and Health Surveys (2008–09 to 2016).

#### Results

The population-weighted mean utilisation of BCS services was low at 15.41% (95% CI: 15.22, 15.60), varying from 80.82% in European countries to 25.26% in South American countries, 16.95% in North American countries, 15.06% in Asia and 13.84% in African countries. Women with higher socioeconomic status (SES) had higher utilisation of BCS services (15%) than those

with lower SES (9%). A high degree of inequality in accessing and the use of BCS services existed in all study countries across geographical areas. Older women, access to limited mass media communication, being insured, rurality and low wealth score were found to be significantly associated with lower utilisation of BCS services. Together they explained approximately 60% in the total inequality in utilisation of BCS services.

### Conclusions

The level of wealth relates to the inequality in accessing BCS amongst reproductive women in these 14 low-resource countries. The findings may assist policymakers to develop risk-pooling financial mechanisms and design strategies to increase community awareness of BCS services. These strategies may contribute to reducing inequalities associated with achieving higher rates of the utilisation of BCS services.

Source: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10389-021-01482-5>

### Image Processing Based Feature Extraction of Bangladeshi Banknotes

Author: Raihan Uddin Ahmed et al.

#### Brief Description:

Counterfeit currency is a burning question throughout the world. The counterfeiters are becoming harder to track down because of their rapid adoption of and adaptation with highly advanced technology. One of the most effective methods to stop counterfeiting can be the widespread use of counterfeit detection tools/software that are easily available and are efficient in terms of cost, reliability and accuracy. This paper presents a core software system to build a robust automated counterfeit currency detection tool for Bangladeshi bank notes. The software detects fake currency by extracting existing features of banknotes such as micro-printing, optically variable ink (OVI), water-mark, iridescent ink, security thread and ultraviolet lines using OCR (Optical Character recognition), Contour Analysis, Face Recognition, Speeded UP Robust Features (SURF) and Canny Edge & Hough transformation algorithm of OpenCV. The success rate of this software can be measured in terms of accuracy and speed. This paper also focuses on the pros and cons of implementation details that may degrade the performance of image processing based paper currency authentication systems.

Source: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/7083521?arnumber=7083521>

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Author: MD. SIYAMUL ISLAM et al.

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Source: <http://ajse.aiub.edu/index.php/ajse/article/view/151/93>

### Survival of Bangladesh Economy during Covid-19 Recession with the Use of Technology: An Application of Keynesian Approach

Author: MD. SIYAMUL ISLAM et al.

#### Brief Description:

The Covid-19 (coronavirus) crisis is severe, and will have a horrendous financial and economic effect on all over the world. Consequently, this pandemic has jeopardized the rising economy of Bangladesh. The country's economy largely depends on Ready-made Garments, remittances, and



export of agricultural products. In response to this unusual 'Great Recession', Bangladesh is exploring the use of technologies to fight back this recession amidst the ongoing social distancing, self-isolation and travel limitations. This study critically analyzes and explores the financial policies adapted by the Bangladesh government. The study identifies that the government is applying Keynesian approach and providing adequate incentives and subsidies in order to strengthen the economy. In addition, the study draws insight into how the government is spending a significant amount on Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and popularizing ICT platforms to uphold financial activities. It also elaborates on the implications of a huge government budget in several sectors through ICT. However, the government slightly misuses the budget by allying with corruption and money laundering. Finally, the study successfully advocates that, although the Keynesian approach invites issues like debt, inflation, and unemployment but the government prefers the Keynesian approach (direct assistance or subsidies from the government) to protect Bangladesh economy.

Source: <https://www.acseusa.org/journal/index.php/aijscm/article/view/35>

### Designing and Performance Analysis of a Small-Scale Power Generating System Utilizing Rail Locomotives.

Author: Susmita Ghosh et al.

#### Brief Description:

This paper illustrates a project work which approaches the design of a power generating system that will utilize the speed of a train. The circuit diagram of the project work has been first drawn on Fritzing based on the proposed idea and the whole system hardware is designed. The successful generated output power is displayed on LCD display. In the proposed model, A SD card has been used whose function is to store the generated parameters at a certain time interval. The prime aim of the aforementioned project is to fulfill the requirements of electrical appliances like fan, bulb etc. on a train coach using the generated power. To employ the kinetic energy of the air to generate power by implementing suitable arrangements in train is the goal of the considered project. The success of the project depicts that the implementation of this technology will certainly help in reducing the consumption of fossil fuels and thus contributes positively in terms of global warming.

Source: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9200145>

## Design and Implementation of Temperature & Relative Humidity Control System for Poultry Farm.

Author: Susmita Ghosh et al.

### Brief Description:

This paper presents a control strategy for automatic temperature and humidity control systems for poultry farms. This work aims to build a simple but automated smart Poultry Farm device that will be suitable for a poultry farm environment for controlling temperature and relative humidity. Moreover, for better understanding of inside environment of the poultry farms survey analysis (for the maximum temperature, minimum temperature and relative humidity) had done for 12 months of 2019 on different areas/places of 100 poultry farms of Bangladesh. Additionally, the process of controlling the temperature and relative humidity control uses a microcontroller (ATmega328p) that receives data from the sensor AM2302 and controls suitable temperature and humidity by using a logic algorithm code. Poultry needs a standard temperature and humidity which have been set within 20 °C-25 °C and 60%-80% respectively. Nevertheless, an LCD display (16\*2) with Matrix keypad (4\*4) has been included in the device by which farmers can easily set, operate and check the required temperature and humidity inside the poultry farms. Finally, sensor testing and device administration results are documented to achieve the success of the research.

Source: <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/9200032>

বিকাশ হয়নি পর্যটন সংস্কৃতির

Author: Dr. Mohammad Mahbub Rabbani et al.

### Brief Description:

দুটো ভিন্নধর্মী অভিজ্ঞতা দিয়ে শুরু করা যাক। ২০১০ সালের অগাস্ট মাস। দক্ষিণ কোরিয়া থেকে জাপানের তয়ামা শহরে গেলাম একটা আন্তর্জাতিক কনফারেন্সে যোগ দিতে। দিনের সেশন শেষে বিকালে একটু সময় পেলাম। ভাবলাম হোটেলের আশেপাশে একটু ঘুরে দেখি। কনফারেন্সে অংশ নেওয়া সবার জন্য সরবরাহকৃত কনফারেন্স মেটেরিয়েলস এর মধ্যে একটা থ্রি-ফোল্ড লিফলেটও দেওয়া আছে যাতে তয়ামা শহরের দর্শনীয় স্থানগুলোর উল্লেখ আছে।

যেহেতু বিকাল হয়ে গেছে তাই হাতে ঘোরাঘুরির সময় কম। হোটেলের সবচেয়ে কাছের ২০ মিনিট হাঁটা পথের একটা জায়গা লিফলেট থেকে বাছাই করলাম। ম্যাপ দেখে দেখে হেঁটেই ওই জায়গায় পৌঁছে রীতিমত হতাশ হলাম! দশ ফুট বাই দশফুট একটা ছোট্ট ঘর, একটা পানির কল, আর তার পাশে একটা প্রবাহমান খাল। লোকজন এ কল থেকে পানি নিয়ে খাচ্ছে। এটা নাকি একটা দর্শনীয় স্থান, একটা প্রাচীন টেম্পল!

ঘটনাটা মনে পড়লো এ কারণে যে জাপানের পর্যটন বিভাগ তাদের দেশের ইতিহাস ঐতিহ্যের সব খুঁটিনাটি বিষয়কেও কনফারেন্সে আগত ব্যক্তিদের সামনে তুলে ধরেছে। নিশ্চয়ই ওই জায়গাটারও কোন ইতিহাস আছে। সময়ের অভাবে ওই জায়গা সম্পর্কে আগে বিস্তারিত জেনে তারপর বেড়াতে যেতে পারিনি। অবশ্য পর দিন আমাদের প্রেজেন্টেশন সেশন না থাকায় দূরবর্তী তাতিয়ামা মাউন্টেন দেখতে গিয়েছিলাম যেখানে মধ্য গ্রীষ্মেও ১৮ ফুট পুরুত্বের বরফ থাকে। এত সহজে কম খরচে এত সুন্দর জায়গা ভ্রমণ করতে পেরে আমরা এতটাই খুশি হয়েছিলাম যে তা স্মৃতিতে আজও অম্লান। যে কয়দিন তয়ামাতে ছিলাম অবসরে আশেপাশের

কয়েকটি স্থাপনাও পরিদর্শন করেছিলাম। জাপানি ভাষা জানিনা, তারাও ইংরেজি তেমন জানে না, তথাপি ঘুরাঘুরি করতে আমাদের কোন অসুবিধা হয়নি।

অন্যদিকে, ১৯৯৭-৯৮ সালের কোন এক সময় গিয়েছিলাম কক্সবাজার। আমি তখন চট্টগ্রাম বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের ছাত্র। লন্ডন থেকে কিছু বন্ধু এবং ছোটভাই এসেছিল দেশে; তাদের সঙ্গে দিতেই মূলত তখন দল বেঁধে আমাদের কক্সবাজার যাওয়া। রাতের বাসে চড়ে সকালে কক্সবাজার পৌঁছাই। আমার এখনও মনে পড়ে সেই রাতে আমি বাসে ঘুমাইনি। চাঁদনি রাতে রাস্তার আশেপাশের যে দৃশ্যগুলো উপভোগ করেছিলাম তা সত্যি ভুলবার নয়। যাইহোক, সকালে হোটেলে ব্যাগ রেখে নাস্তা খেয়ে সবাই নেমে পড়ি সমুদ্রে। সারা দিন হৈ-হুল্লোড় করে সন্ধ্যায় হোটেলে ফিরে রাতের খাবার খেয়েই শুয়ে পড়ি। সবাই এতটাই ক্লান্ত ছিলাম যে পরদিন ভোরে ঘুম ভাঙেনি তাই পরিকল্পনায় থাকা সত্ত্বেও সূর্যোদয় দেখতে সৈকতে যেতে পারিনি। আমরা সবাই বেঘোরে ঘুমাচ্ছি কিন্তু লন্ডন থেকে আগত ছোটভাই মনি ভোরেই ক্যামেরা নিয়ে বিচে চলে যায়। সকাল দশটার দিকে আমার ঘুম ভাঙে পুলিশের হাঁকডাক শোনে। চোখ মেলে চেয়ে দেখি হোটেল কক্ষে পুলিশ, মনির মাথায় ব্যান্ডেজ। বিস্ময়ে ঘটনা জানতে পারলাম যে, ছিনতাইকারীরা মনিকে মেরে মাথা ফাটিয়ে তার ক্যামেরা ও টাকাপয়সা নিয়ে গেছে।

হাসপাতালে প্রাথমিক চিকিৎসা নিয়ে সে থানায় গেছে। পুলিশ অনেক চেষ্টা করেও নাকি ছিনতাইকারীদের ধরতে পারেনি, তার ক্যামেরাও উদ্ধার করে দিতে পারেনি। কপাল ভালো যে, সন্ত্রাসীরা তাকে মেরে ফেলেনি। যাই হোক, এ ঘটনার পর, টুর প্লান সংক্ষিপ্ত করে ওইদিন সন্ধ্যাতেই আমরা কক্সবাজার ত্যাগ করি। মনি এবং তার বন্ধুরা এর পর আর কোনদিন কক্সবাজার বেড়াতে গিয়েছে কিনা জানি না। আমি অবশ্য এর পরেও কয়েকবার কক্সবাজার গিয়েছি। পরিস্থিতি আগের চেয়ে খানিকটা উন্নত হয়েছে বলে মনে হয়েছে।

দুটো ঘটনার উল্লেখ করলাম আমাদের পর্যটন খাতের দুর্ভাবস্থা তুলে ধরার জন্য। কবি বলেছেন, “এমন দেশটি কোথাও খুঁজে পাবে নাকো তুমি, সকল দেশের রানি সে যে আমার জন্মভূমি।” বাংলাদেশটা আসলেই অনেক সুন্দর। রানির মত সুন্দর! প্রাকৃতিক সৌন্দর্য, সাংস্কৃতিক বৈচিত্র্য আর সুপ্রাচীন ঐতিহ্যের এক দারুণ সমাহার আমাদের এই বাংলাদেশে। সিলেট অঞ্চলের চা বাগান, পাহাড়, জলাশয়, কক্সবাজারের দীর্ঘতম সমুদ্র সৈকত, খুলনার বিশ্বের সবচেয়ে বড় ম্যানগ্রোভ বন সুন্দরবন, সারা দেশে ছড়িয়ে থাকা হাওর-বাওর, নদী-জলাশয়, ঐতিহাসিক স্থাপনা; কী নেই আমাদের দেশে! আমরা চাইলেই নিজের দেশের সৌন্দর্য প্রাণভরে নিজেরা উপভোগ করতে পারি, ইতিহাস ঐতিহ্য সম্পর্কে জানতে পারি বিভিন্ন স্থানে বেড়ানোর মাধ্যমে।

বিদেশিরা আমাদের দেশে বেড়াতে আসতে পারে, মুফ্ততা নিয়ে ফিরে যেতে পারে কিন্তু আমাদের পর্যটন খাত এখনও সেভাবে গড়ে ওঠেনি। দেশের তরুণ প্রজন্মের মধ্যে ভ্রমণ সংস্কৃতি উল্লেখযোগ্যভাবে গড়ে উঠেছে। কিন্তু পর্যটক সহায়ক ব্যবস্থা এখনও তেমনভাবে গড়ে উঠেনি। বিস্তারিতের জন্য সাম্প্রতিক সময়ে দেশের বিভিন্ন জায়গায়, বিশেষভাবে বড় শহর থেকে একটু দূরে বেশ কিছু রিসোর্ট নামের তারকা হোটেল গড়ে উঠেছে। এসব তারকা রিসোর্ট গড়ে উঠার পেছনে অন্যতম কারণ হচ্ছে নিরাপত্তা। বিস্তারিতের জন্য নাগরিক জীবনের ক্লাস্তি কাটাতে এসব রিসোর্টে রাতযাপন নিরাপদ মনে করেন। কিন্তু এসব রিসোর্ট দেশি-বিদেশি সাধারণ পর্যটকদের টানতে পারছে বলে মনে হয় না। দেশের পর্যটন খাতকে শক্তিশালী করার জন্য মৌলিক যে বিষয়গুলো বিদ্যমান থাকা দরকার সেসব বিষয় এখনও সেভাবে গড়ে উঠেনি। পর্যটন সংস্কৃতি গড়ে না উঠায় আমরা এখনও পর্যটন অর্থনীতি নির্ভর দেশগুলোর কাতারে আমাদের পর্যটনকে নিয়ে যেতে পারিনি। আমরা আজও পর্যটন এর আধুনিক ব্র্যান্ডিং করতে পারিনি।

যেকোন দেশের পর্যটনের উন্নয়নের জন্য সবচেয়ে বেশি যে বিষয়টা থাকা প্রয়োজন তা হচ্ছে আকর্ষণীয় স্থান সমূহের স্থানীয় সাধারণ মানুষের আন্তরিকতা। স্থানীয় লোকজন আন্তরিক এবং সৎ না হলে স্থানীয় পর্যটন কোনওভাবেই গড়ে উঠবে না। বাইরের একটা লোক কোন এলাকায় যেয়ে যদি স্বাচ্ছন্দ্য বোধ না করে, তবে সে সেখানে যাবে কেন? থাকা-খাওয়া এবং বেড়ানোর জায়গার মানুষগুলোর ব্যবহার যদি অমায়িক না হয়, তবে যে কেউ এক ধরনের অস্বস্তিতে ভুগবে এবং তার বেড়ানোর আনন্দটাই নষ্ট হয়ে যাবে। পর্যটন সংস্কৃতি গড়ে উঠলে স্থানীয়রা পর্যটন-বান্ধব হবে। পর্যটন সংস্কৃতি নিয়ে দেশে তেমন আলোচনা হতে দেখা বা শোনা যায়নি। যে কোন দেশের পর্যটন উন্নয়নের জন্য প্রয়োজন পর্যটন সংস্কৃতি গড়ে তোলা। পর্যটনকে স্কুল কলেজের পাঠ্যসূচিতে অন্তর্ভুক্ত করতে হবে যাতে করে পর্যটন সংস্কৃতি গড়ে উঠে।

স্থানীয়দের আন্তরিকতা থাকার পাশাপাশি সামাজিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করা সবচেয়ে বেশি জরুরি। নিরাপত্তার বিষয়টিও অনেকাংশে নির্ভর করে স্থানীয়দের আচরণের উপর। চুরি-ছিনতাই, বাড়তি মূল্যে পণ্য বিক্রয়, প্রতারণাপূর্ণ সেবা প্রদান ইত্যাদি স্থানীয়দের এড়িয়ে বাইরে থেকে লোক এসে করতে পারে না। ফলে প্রশাসনের পাশাপাশি স্থানীয় বাসিন্দাদেরই সামাজিক নিরাপত্তা নিশ্চিত করতে হবে। কোন একটি এলাকার লোকজনের আন্তরিকতাপূর্ণ ব্যবহার, পর্যটকের নির্বিঘ্ন ঘোরাফেরা, সাশ্রয়ী ও যৌক্তিক মূল্যে সার্বক্ষণিক সেবা প্রদান নিশ্চিত করতে পারলে দেশি বিদেশি সব পর্যটকই ওই এলাকা ভ্রমণে উৎসাহিত হবেন। যেকোনও দেশের পর্যটন স্থানগুলোর মধ্যে উল্লেখযোগ্য হচ্ছে সেসব দেশের প্রাচীন শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান। মানুষ বিভিন্ন বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়/কলেজ ক্যাম্পাস ঘুরে দেখতে পছন্দ করে। আমাদের দেশে শিক্ষাপ্রতিষ্ঠান ঘুরে দেখার তীক্ষ্ণ অভিজ্ঞতা অনেকের আছে।

সিলেট এমসি কলেজে স্বামীর সাথে বেড়াতে যাওয়া নারী ধর্ষিত হয়েছেন কলেজ ক্যাম্পাসেই। এরপর কেউ এমসি কলেজ দেখতে যাবার সাহস করবে বলে মনে হয় না।

কোথাও বেড়াতে যাওয়ার অন্যতম একটা বিবেচনার বিষয় হচ্ছে যাতায়াত ব্যবস্থা। সড়ক নিরাপত্তা সেখানে অনেক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয়। অনেক কষ্টে মানুষ কোথাও বেড়াতে যেতে চাইবে কেন? রাস্তাঘাট ভাঙ্গা বা দুর্ঘটনাপ্রবণ হলে ঐ পথ কে মাড়াবে? আধুনিক জীবনের চ্যালেঞ্জ মোকাবেলা করতে করতে মানুষ যখন হাফিয়ে উঠে তখনই চায় কোথাও বেড়িয়ে একটু চাপমুক্ত হয়ে আসতে। সেখানে কোথাও যাওয়ার জন্য যদি আরও বেশি চাপ নিতে হয় তবে মানুষ সেদিকে যাবে না। সহজ ও সহজলভ্য যাতায়াত, নির্বিঘ্ন ভ্রমণ নিশ্চিত করতে পারলে পর্যটন এগিয়ে যাবেই।

যেকোনও দর্শনীয় স্থানকে আকর্ষণীয় এবং অন্যের কাছে আগ্রহের বিষয় করে তুলতে প্রয়োজন তথ্যের পর্যাপ্ত সরবরাহ। বিভিন্ন মাধ্যমে ওইসব স্থান সম্পর্কে নির্ভরযোগ্য পর্যাপ্ত তথ্য সরবরাহ করলেই মানুষ ঐসব জায়গা ভ্রমণে আগ্রহী হবে। জায়গাটি কেমন, কেনো সেটা দর্শনীয় স্থান, কিভাবে যেতে হবে, কোথায় থাকা খাওয়া যাবে, খরচ কেমন পড়বে এবং সেখানে গেলে কী অর্জন হবে তার বিস্তারিত বর্ণনা ইলেক্ট্রনিক এবং প্রিন্ট মাধ্যমে দিতে হবে। ইলেক্ট্রনিক মাধ্যমে সেইসব জায়গায় ভার্চুয়াল ট্যুরের ব্যবস্থা থাকলে মানুষ ঐসব জায়গা ভ্রমণে আগ্রহী হবে। দেশি-বিদেশি পর্যটকদের আকৃষ্ট করতে পর্যাপ্ত তথ্য অনলাইনে থাকা চাই এবং সেটা হওয়া উচিত নির্ভরযোগ্য। বাংলায়, ইংরেজিতে এবং সম্ভব হলে অন্যান্য ভাষায়ও পর্যাপ্ত তথ্য রাখতে হবে অনলাইনে। ছবি, ভিডিও, ম্যাপ, প্রয়োজনীয় যোগাযোগ নাম্বার ইত্যাদিসহ ট্যুরিস্ট স্পটগুলোকে আকর্ষণীয়ভাবে উপস্থাপন করতে হবে। তবেই যে কেউ সেসব তথ্য পড়ে কোন একটা স্থানের প্রতি আকৃষ্ট হবে। দেশিয় মিডিয়ায় পর্যটন স্পটগুলো নিয়ে নিয়মিত প্রতিবেদন প্রকাশ ও প্রচার করতে হবে। বিদেশে অবস্থানরত দূতাবাসগুলো নিয়মিত পর্যটন মেলার আয়োজন করতে পারে, দূতাবাসে পর্যটন সহায়ক ডেস্ক স্থাপন করতে পারে। তবেই বিদেশীরা বাংলাদেশ সম্পর্কে জানতে এবং বাংলাদেশ ভ্রমণে আগ্রহী হবে। সাম্প্রতিক সময়ে কিছু ট্রাভেলার স্বেচ্ছায় বিভিন্ন ব্লগ বা ওয়েবসাইটে ভ্রমণ বিষয়ক তথ্য শেয়ার করেন যা কিনা কেবলই তাদের নিজস্ব অভিজ্ঞতালব্ধ তথ্য। সার্বিক তথ্যভাণ্ডার থাকে পর্যটনের দেখভালের দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত দপ্তরের কাছে। ফলে তথ্য তাদেরকেই সরবরাহ করতে হবে এবং সেটা অবশ্যই মানুষের হাতের নাগালে থাকবে।

পর্যটন বিষয়ক তথ্য সরবরাহের আরেকটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ মাধ্যম হচ্ছে বাস টার্মিনাল, রেল স্টেশন, লঞ্চ ঘাট, নদী বন্দর, বিমান বন্দরে তথ্য অফিস স্থাপন করা এবং সেসব অফিসে প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত, পারদর্শী ও আন্তরিক কর্মচারী নিয়োগ দেওয়া। আন্তরিকতা এখানে খুবই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয়। কেউ কোন তথ্য জানতে চাইলে বা সহযোগিতা চাইলে তা যেনো চাহিবা মাত্রই পাওয়া যায়। অফিসের অবস্থানটিও হতে হবে এমন জায়গায় যেনো একজন পর্যটক যানবাহন থেকে নেমে ডানে-বায়ে তাকালেই পর্যটনের অফিস তার চোখে পড়ে। সেখান থেকে কোন একটা স্থানে যাওয়ার সবচেয়ে সহজ এবং সস্তা উপায়টি বাতলে দিবেন দায়িত্বপ্রাপ্ত কর্মকর্তা। তখনই পর্যটক কোন একটা জায়গা ভ্রমণে স্বাচ্ছন্দ বোধ করবেন।

দর্শনীয় স্থান সমূহে প্রয়োজনমত প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত গাইড থাকা উচিত। ইংরেজিতে পারদর্শী গাইড থাকলে ভালো। গাইড এর আচরণ, পোশাক হতে হবে সাবলীল, ফি হতে হবে যৌক্তিক, ব্যবহার হতে হবে আন্তরিক যাতে ভ্রমিত স্থানের পাশাপাশি গাইডকেও মানুষ অনেকদিন মনে রাখে। লাউয়াছড়া ভ্রমণের সময় সাথে থাকা গাইডের নাম আমার মনে নেই, চেহারাও কোনওদিন মনে পড়ে না, কিন্তু নেপালের পোখারার ডেভিস ফল পরিদর্শনে গাইড হিসাবে সাথে থাকা ছোট্ট দেবীকে প্রায়ই মনে পড়ে। পর্যটন স্থানগুলোতে নারীর প্রতি পজিটিভ মনোভাব, নারীর নিরাপত্তা বিধান, শিশুর নিরাপদ বিচরণ নিশ্চিত করতে হবে। সবচেয়ে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয়, পর্যটন স্পটগুলোতে পর্যাপ্ত সংখ্যক পরিষ্কার পাবলিক টয়লেট এর ব্যবস্থা নিশ্চিত করতে হবে।

২০০৮ সালের দিকে দক্ষিণ কোরিয়ার বুসান শহর থেকে বেশ খানিকটা দূরে একটা বিল দেখতে গিয়েছিলাম। সেখানে শরতকালে প্রচুর পরিযায়ী পাখি আসে। পাকা সড়ক থেকে ঝোপঝাড়পূর্ণ মেঠো পথ ধরে পায়ে হেঁটে প্রায় দুই কিলোমিটার দূরে একটা ওয়াচ টাওয়ার। বাইনোকুলার দিয়ে পাখি দেখা যায়। কিন্তু ঝোপঝাড়পূর্ণ পায়ে হাঁটা পথে নারী এবং পুরুষের জন্য আলাদা অন্তত তিনটি পাবলিক টয়লেট দেখতে পেলাম যার মধ্যে টয়লেট টিস্যু পর্যাপ্ত দেওয়া আছে। অথচ আমাদের দেশে মেয়েরা ঘর থেকে বেরোবার আগে ঠিকমত পানি খাবে কিনা সেটা দশবার ভেবে নেয়।

পর্যটন যেকোনও একটা দেশের অর্থনীতিকে সমৃদ্ধ করে, ঐতিহ্যকে বিশ্ববাসীর সামনে পজিটিভলি তুলে ধরে এবং স্থানীয় জনসাধারণের রুটিনজিরও সংস্থান করে। বিশ্বের বহু দেশের আয়ের গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অংশ আসে পর্যটন থেকে। সেসব দেশের মানুষ পর্যটকদের অতিথি গণ্য করে। পর্যটন এর উন্নয়নের কাজে নিয়োজিত আমাদের দপ্তরগুলো, স্থানীয় জনগণ এবং সর্বোপরি সবাই মিলে কাজ করলে অসংখ্য পর্যটন স্পট এর অধিকারী বাংলাদেশ একদিন পর্যটন শিল্পে অনেক উন্নতি করতে পারবে। আমি পর্যটন বিষয়ক কোন বিশেষজ্ঞ নই, তেমন কোন নিয়মিত পর্যটকও নই। পর্যটন বিষয়ে ব্যক্তিগত আগ্রহ থেকে দেশের সাধারণ একজন নাগরিক হিসেবে আমার পর্যবেক্ষণটা এ লেখার মাধ্যমে তুলে ধরেছি। সার্বিকভাবে নিরাপদ পর্যটন নিশ্চিত করার মাধ্যমে দেশ একদিন পৃথিবীর বুকো মাথা উঁচু করে দাঁড়াবে এটাই প্রত্যাশা।

Source: <https://opinion.bdnews24.com/bangla/archives/63912>

### Analysis of dynamic interactions in a bubble-particle system in presence of an acoustic field

Author: Dr. Dilruba Yasmin et al.

#### Brief Description:

Use of an acoustic field in flotation is known to improve mineral recovery. However, studies in this area are rather limited and in general there is a lack of a mechanistic description of the collision and collection efficiency of particles in presence of an external acoustic field. This study aims to contribute to this knowledge gap by developing a simplified 3D numerical model of single bubble-particle interactions based on a discrete element method (DEM) based approach. Volume mode oscillatory behaviour of the bubble was modelled within the theoretical spherical shape limit ( $0.1 \leq Bo \leq 0.5$ ) using 1D Rayleigh-Plesset equation in a quiescent liquid medium and one-way coupled to particle motion obtained through DEM. Interaction dynamics were simulated for various operating conditions involving three parameters, namely oscillation amplitude ratio ( $\epsilon \leq 0.1$ ), excitation frequency (below and above resonance frequency) and bubble-particle surface-to-surface distance ( $\sim 1.0$  to  $10.6\%$  of bubble radius). Regime maps were constructed to establish suitable combinations of these three operating parameters to represent the collision and attachment behaviour of a particle with the oscillating bubble. While conventional flotation models predict particle collision efficiency based on the nearest streamline adjacent to the bubble surface, application of an acoustic field on a bubble was shown to incur collision with a particle in the far field away from the interface due to oscillatory motion. It was noted that although such collisions occurred in the below-resonance-frequency regime ( $\sim 35$  to  $79$  Hz), particle attachment did not occur due to weakening of the attractive capillary force. In the above-resonance-frequency regime ( $3.61$ – $14.4$  kHz), however, particle attachment was predicted and attachment probability increased in the vicinity of the bubble resonance frequency.

Source: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0892687518304813>

### COVID-19: Increasing Production Cost and Its Effect on RMG Sector of Bangladesh

Author: Md. Faruque Hossain et al.

#### Brief Description:

The garments sector of Bangladesh is playing a major role in the growth of the rapidly growing economy of the country. According to World Bank in 1972, the total GDP of Bangladesh was US\$29 billion which grew to \$173.82 billion in 2014, where \$31 billion came from the export sector and 82% of that was the contribution of the RMG sector. This industry is badly affected by the burden of the increased utility bills and unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. According to BGMEA, international buyers canceled or postponed at least 3.16 billion worth shipments which affected 1142 garments and 2.26 million workers, working in those garments. Therefore, this study is an attempt to find out the effect of increased gas and electricity bills as well as COVID-

19 pandemic on RMG sector, consequences of COVID-19 pandemic, condition of workers and owners', steps taken by Government and BGMEA, and the solution and precautionary to avoid such problem in the future. The research tools are the questionnaire for workers, and interview schedule for factory management and owners. Samples were taken randomly from different levels of management and workers. The study divulges most of the owners and workers are not happy with the government's decision of increasing utility bills especially the electricity bill amid the pandemic was deadly for them. The BGMEA was in dilemma from the very beginning of the pandemic which created more confusion among the workers due to lack of collective decision-making leadership. Terminating workers even after the government's request puts the workers in a tight situation however some garments are not terminating workers and they have no intention to do this in the future. Concluding remarks, the government should give clear instructions to BGMEA about the safety of workers and stop terminating them. To save the industry they should work together, and the government should also reconsider the decision of increasing the gas and electricity bill.

Source: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/352029276\\_COVID-19\\_Increasing\\_Production\\_Cost\\_and\\_Its\\_Effect\\_on\\_RMG\\_Sector\\_of\\_Bangladesh](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/352029276_COVID-19_Increasing_Production_Cost_and_Its_Effect_on_RMG_Sector_of_Bangladesh)

### Correlation Between Social Compliance and Export Competitiveness in the RMG Industry of Bangladesh

Author: Md. Faruque Hossain et al.

#### Brief Description:

Having survived one disaster after another, the Readymade Garments (RMG) industry of Bangladesh progressed swiftly, becoming the second-largest exporter of textiles and clothing. Prior to remediation programs launched by Accord-Alliance in the aftermath of the Rana Plaza incident, RMG companies have not been as keen about social compliance as they are now. Therefore, this research seeks to investigate the correlation between social and export competitiveness. Sales data of fifty-two RMG companies over the last five years were collected and analysed to determine the sales trend. The results of the analysis show there is an upward trend in the sales data. This means social compliance has not affected sales revenue. On the contrary, the results confirm what the literature states-social compliance attracts more export orders. A thorough literature review led to the development of a hypothesis stating social compliance and export competitiveness have a positive correlation. There are, however, other factors to consider when discussing export competitiveness such as lead time management, supply chain management, government's fiscal policies, trade pacts, port efficiencies, energy supplies, cotton imports, backward and forward linkages, tariff and currency depreciation affect competitiveness of cotton exports. Shortening the lead time can boost export competitiveness of Bangladeshi textiles and clothing in the long run. Implementing supply chain management systems will help to optimize lead time and developing the local backward linkage industry will

curb exporters' dependence on imported raw materials and thereby shorten lead time further. However, further research along with primary data will provide the accuracy and relevance required for a research of this scope.

Source:

[https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343254103 Correlation Between Social Compliance and Export Competitiveness in the RMG Industry of Bangladesh](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343254103)