

IT Education In Bangladesh

Uncontrolled proliferation of IT training centres in the country harms the objective, which is, to impart quality IT education to those who want it. Although arguably there are a few outstanding institutions that are producing quality graduates, the larger number of these training centres lack qualified teachers, which means the graduates would also be sub-standard.

The problem is, poor salary structures offered by our institutes has made it extremely difficult to provide quality teaching in the emerging IT sector, which seems to have been already taken over by foreign institutes. India and Malaysia harnessed the private sector for their fast growing needs in manpower. Why our private institutions cannot do as well is for us to find out and remedy.

Our policy-makers must recognise the role they must play or else Information Technology will never "take off" in this country, despite the fact that there is no dearth of talent. Only if we recognise that computer technology—and its companion—Information Technology are powerful tools for change and economic transformation, can we succeed in streamlining our IT training schools.

Of one thing we can be sure, Bangladesh has no time to lose in doing this if it wants to catch up with others.

The need is to upgrade our IT institutes. For this they must be constantly "on their toes", upgrading the curriculum regularly and employing only "top-notch" staff. If they do not, we shall find foreign-based institutes not only increasing in number but usurping our own market—and we shall have no-one to blame but ourselves.