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BRAC University holds debate on energy transition

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Speakers take part in a debate on energy transition arranged by BRAC Business School of BRAC University at the capital's BRAC Centre Inn on Monday. — Press release

BRAC Business School of BRAC University arranged a debate at the capital's BRAC Centre Inn on Monday highlighting the question — 'Is the switch from local natural gas to other finite energy sources the right transition path for Bangladesh?'

BRAC University pro-vice chancellor Md Tamim, also former special assistant to the chief adviser to the caretaker government, BRAC Bank chairman Ahsan H Mansur, also Policy Research Institute executive director, Dhaka

University's geology department professor Badrul Imam and Power Cell director general Muhammad Hossain were in favour of the motion.

On the other hand, Christian von Hirschhausen, professor of Economic and Infrastructure Policy, Berlin University of Technology, and research director, DIW Berlin; Jon Cloke, National Network Manager, UK Low Carbon Energy for Development Network and consultant for Renewable Energy Act for Bangladesh; Nurul Aktar, CEO and director of Energypac Electronics, and vice president, Bangladesh Solar and Renewable Energy Association; and Shahriar Chowdhury, director, Centre for Energy Research at United International

University were against the motion.

Sebastian Groh, assistant professor of BBS and managing director of SOLshare, was the moderator in the debate.

Both teams put strong arguments with logic on the table to make their points. The issues discussed ranged from challenges to opportunities in the energy sector of Bangladesh; such as energy security, supply-demand, feasibility, fuel diversification and climate change.

However, all the debaters agreed that the energy transition track should be clean, efficient and feasible.

A pro-active audience listened to the points and counter-points, also took part in an audience poll. As the floor was open to the audience they engaged themselves through questions and comments.

Professor Vincent Chang, president and vice-chancellor of BRAC University congratulated the debaters and concluded this first Real Talk event.



Editor: **Nurul Kabir**, Published by the Chairman, Editorial Board ASM Shahidullah Khan on behalf of Media New Age Ltd. 30 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 Phone: 880-2-8170450-56 (PABX), Fax: 880-2-8170457

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