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## BUET holds ICT seminar

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Guests attend a daylong seminar on digital accessibility for university initiatives held at the Bangladesh University of Engineering recently. — Press release

A daylong hybrid seminar on ‘Digital Accessibility Key to Promoting Inclusive University Initiatives in Bangladesh’ was held recently at the Bangladesh University of Engineering alongside on the Zoom platform.

The seminar, jointly organised with Aspire to Innovate (a2i) of the government’s ICT division, started with a welcome speech by Rubaiyat Hossain Mondal, director, the Institute of Information and Communication Technology, BUET.

Vashkar Bhattacharjee, who has lifetime experiences of visual disability, working as the National Consultant for Accessibility in the a2i Programme of ICT Division, was the keynote speaker.

He discussed the significant obstacles and opportunities faced by disabled students in higher education, as well as the active role of policymakers in Bangladesh.

He also gave a brief overview of multimedia talking books, accessible reading materials, an accessible dictionary, web accessibility, Digital Accessible Information System, etc, as well as research directions for digital accessibility on a national scale.

In conclusion, he provided a summary of national and international laws and policies pertaining to digital accessibility and emphasized the importance of constructing a disability innovation lab in Bangladesh.

After the speech of the keynote speaker, Saiful Islam, Professor at IICT, BUET, concluded the seminar by thanking all the guests, organisers, facilitators, and participants.

This seminar was graced by Mufti Mahmud, associate professor of Nottingham Trent University, UK; Md Liakot Ali, Hossen Asiful Mustafa, associate professor, and Md Jarez Miah, assistant professor of IICT, BUET and Manik Mahmud, head of Social Innovation Cluster, a2i.

The event was covered by Shafak Shahriar Sozol, a research assistant of DIVERSASIA project at BUET and MM Tariqul Huq, a young professional of a2i programme.



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