

UGC to decide soon on launching PhD progs in private univs

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Bangladesh University Grants Commission chairman Professor SMA Faiz addresses an exchange of views with stakeholders on the Private Universities Act-2010 (Amendment-2024) at the UGC auditorium in Dhaka on Monday. | Press release

Bangladesh University Grants Commission chairman Professor SMA Faiz has said that a decision will be taken soon on launching PhD programmes in private universities in the country.

Approval will be given to suitable universities to launch PhD programmes after verifying their overall capacity, he said while speaking as chief guest at an exchange of views with stakeholders on the Private Universities Act-2010 (Amendment-2024) at the UGC auditorium, said a press release.

'Universities are an integral part of society. Various problems of society also affect universities. Therefore, universities should conduct research on social problems and find solutions to the problems,' he said and called on the university authorities to take necessary initiatives to fulfil their expectations by seriously understanding the aspirations and mental state of students in the changing social and political context.

He also commented that the UGC did not want to be a regulatory authority but rather a supporting institution to play a role in improving the quality of higher education and research.

Presided over by UGC Private Universities Department director Md Sultan Mahmud Bhuiyan, member in charge of the UGC Private Universities department Professor Mohammad Anwar Hossen was present as a special guest at the meeting.

He expressed his opinion that initiatives could be taken to amend the Private Universities Act-2010 for the smooth management of private universities to meet the needs of the era. He called on all stakeholders to make this initiative of UGC successful by providing well-considered opinions.

Dhaka University vice-chancellor Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan, Rajshahi University VC Saleh Hasan Nakib, Jagannath University VC Professor Rezaul Karim, North South University VC Professor Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, East West University VC Professor Shams Rahman, National University pro-VC Professor Md Nurul Islam, BRAC University dean Professor Yusuf Haider, Bangladesh Private Universities Association president and Daffodil International University board of trustees chairman Md Sabur Khan and former chairman of the National Board of Revenue Mohammad Abdul Majid, among others, were present at the meeting.

Nuri Shahreen Islam, senior assistant director, UGC Private Universities Division, moderated the programme.