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UGC recommendations

Introduce English as medium of higher edn

Ziaul Ahmed

University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh has recommended for introducing English as the only medium of higher education to ensure quality education.

UGC while recommending this in its annual report-96. Published recently observed that because of a continued detrioration in English education and its application, students find it difficult to understand English books and journals.

UGC urged the government to give the commission more financial and supervisory power to strengthen its role.

In this regard UGC urged to allocate more money in education sector in the national budget.

The UGC also suggested to make available some public funds to the private universities in accordance with their activities and performance.

It further recommended for establishing university resource centre Central Library. Centre of Excellence in selected areas of study on every campus. It also asked to bring all universities within the purview of Internet so that UGC may play a

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monitoring role in making the facilities available to all.

Talking to The Bangladesh Times Prof. Yeazuddin Ahmed, Chairman of UGC said that quality in higher education is a global concern. Policy formulation for quality inprovement in higher education should be formulated in consonance with the social context, he added. Prof Ahmed said that inadequate and declining allocations of funds to higher education in the face of growing demand for it is putting a serious strain on the capability of institutions.

With a view to ensure increased amount of funds to the universities he suggested 100 percent tax exemption for donors who would provide funds to universities and colleges.

On the issue of campus violence. UGC Chairman said a national consensus is needed to overcome campus unrest and linkages between student organisations and political parties should be snapped in the interest of quality of education.

He also said that emphasis should be given on teaching and research performance for recruitment of teachers at higher level teaching position.