

... JUN 1989 ...
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CAMPUS

Special seminar and workshop held at DU

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An important special seminar on "Socio-Economic Situation of Bangladesh and Role of Philosophy" was held on June 1 last at the Institute of Business Administration auditorium of Dhaka University. Prof Abdul Mannan, Vice-Chancellor of DU inaugurated the seminar as chief guest while Mr Gias Kamal Chowdhury, president of Jatiya Press Club attended as its special guest.

Sponsored by Bangladesh Philosophy Association and chaired by Dr Aminul Islam, a foremost philosopher of the country, the seminar was addressed, among others, by Prof Syed Abdur Razzak, Prof Md Abdur Rashid, Prof Md Abdul Bari, Dr Abul Kashem Chowdhury, Dr Md Shahjahan, Dr Abul Barkat, Dr A Q Fazlul Wahid and Mrs Hosne Ara Shahed.

Dr Pradip Roy and Prof. Sharif Harun presented the key-note papers in the seminar while a letter from Principal Dewan Mohammad Azraf, key-philosopher of this sub-continent and President of Bangladesh Philosophy Association, was read out in the seminar.

Prof Mannan in his inaugural speech depicted the coun-

try's prevailing socio-economic situation in gloomy tone and said that the common masses of the country are always being deprived of having the fruits of independence and having a peaceful life.

He urged the philosophers to come forward with their philosophy to back the socio-economic victims' interests. He said that absence of humanitarians in all spheres and fields of our life is the main cause of present unhealthy situation in our socio-economic sector.

Mr Gias Kamal Chowdhury framed the country's socio-economic condition as very critical and fierce one. He called upon all conscious personalities including teachers, educationists, intellectuals, researchers and mainly philosophers to extend their supreme efforts and exercise the freedom of opinions with no sense of self-fear for bringing peace and tranquility in the society.

Dr Pradip in his key-note paper noted that 80% people of our country are below poverty level, 50% landless and the lionshare of our annual budget comes from opportunist countries. The on-going design of our budget is mainly responsible

for the continued sufferings of our poor masses, he added.

He further maintained that shortly after the independence in 1971, a hygienic socio-economic order was just on its way of restoration in the country but the very trend came quickly to an end in 1975 after the political change.

WORKSHOP ON EQUIPMENT

A week-long regional workshop on "Locally Produced Low Cost Equipment (LPLCE) for Chemical Education" began on Friday last at the auditorium of Dhaka University Chemistry Department.

The workshop sponsored by TWAS, UNESCO, FACS, UGC, Ministry of Education and BCS was inaugurated by DU VC Dr A Mannan as chief guest. The inaugural function was also addressed by Prof Fazlul Halim Chowdhury, UNESCO representative and former DU VC, Prof K V Sane of Delhi University and Prof A J Mannan. DU Chemistry Department chairman Dr A J Mahmood was in the chair.

Speaking on the occasion

Prof Mannan said we are to purchase maximum equipments from abroad for science laboratories which cost us heavily. We must have to develop many engineering workshops and factories in our country and to produce all sorts of equipments locally.

He urged the participants to be equipped with latest knowledge and technology of such workshop so that they could gear up the production of low cost equipments.

Twenty-two science teachers of different universities and colleges are taking part in the workshop. Some experts including Dr J B Holbrook of Hongkong University, Prof K V. Sane of Delhi University, Prof K S Rabbani and Dr K S Bhattacharjee also of Delhi University are conducting the workshop.

The topics of their lecture centred on low cost electronic instruments, introduction to modern electronics, fabrication of equipment, molecular models, construction of simple chemical models, use of tools for electronic measurement etc.



Former DU VC Prof. F. H. Chowdhury addressing the regional workshop on Locally Produced Low Cost Equipment for Chemical Education began at DU Chemistry Department auditorium on June 2 last. DU VC Prof. A. Mannan and Delhi University Prof. K.V. Sane are also seen in the picture.