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## Shell launches information centre at BUET

Recently Shell Companies in Bangladesh, on behalf of its co-venturers, Cairn Energy PLC and HBR Energy Inc. funded and launched an Information Centre at the Department of Petroleum and Mineral Resource Engineering (PMRE), Bangladesh University of Engineering Technology (BUET). The centre provides computer support, multimedia projector, overhead projector, printer, photocopier, other equipment such as bookshelves, file cabinets, air conditioner and Shell publications. The facility was tailored based on specific needs of the students and academics of the department, says a Press release.

Reinier Reddinguis, Chairman, Shell Companies in Bangladesh, Dr Enamul Haq, Dean of Engineering, BUET, Dr M Tamim, Chairman-Department of PMRE, BUET, Professor Edmond Gomez, BUET, other Professors and students of BUET and staff of Shell Companies in Bangladesh were present at the inauguration ceremony.

The objective of the centre is to share information and resources with students and researchers of the PMRE department, BUET and build the resource base for future Petroleum and Mineral Resources Engineers of Bangladesh. It is intended to promote the study of these fields of engineering to meet corresponding demand for these professions in the petroleum industry in Bangladesh. The future expansion and maintenance of the facility is expected through additional financial and technical support from other sources.

In a speech, Reddinguis said he was very pleased at the launch of the centre at BUET, as it is an important step in Shell's commitment to contribute to the capacity building and sharing of knowledge and technology in Bangladesh. He said: "we (Shell) have a wealth of information and knowledge through our long years in the petroleum industry and it is only right for us to want to share that accumulated experience... However, we do not expect or desire that this sharing of knowledge be a one-way process. With this Information Centre we welcome and anticipate a cross-institutional exchange of ideas and views as both our organisations have a lot to gain through open dialogue and exchange". As a follow-up to this centre, joint events between Shell and BUET such as seminars, workshops and the publication of scientific papers in recognised journals are anticipated.

Reddinguis went on to say: "Bangladesh is in an opportune position to tap into the natural mineral wealth it possesses and who better to do so, than specialists from its own country. We have specifically chosen to focus on the PMRE section of BUET as we have a business case for wanting to promote Petroleum and Mineral Resource engineering in Bangladesh... Shell has a long-term commitment to working in partnership with Bangladesh and it is in our interest to be able to recruit Bangladeshi experts for future projects from these fields study".

Two other such Information Centres are planned for the future—a second at the Geological Department of Dhaka University and a third centre at the Bangladesh Petroleum Institute.