

## US varsity teacher for change of edn system

Varsity Correspondent

A noted Bangladeshi-American economist stressed on extensive privatisation of all sectors related to financial dealings, decentralisation of power structure and widening the scope for education for reducing poverty and ensuring sustainable development in Bangladesh.

Prof Amin U Sarkar, Chairman, Department of Economics, Georgia State University, USA, on Tuesday said the principal cause for lagging behind in the development scale was the colonial legacy and political instability. The education system that the country inherited from the British Raj was also responsible for the backwardness, he said.

Underlining increased allocation to Education sector in the annual budget Prof Sarkar said it must be given priority for the existence of the nation in the competitive world. He criticised the trend of giving highest allocation to military sector. "I don't see any utility of army in Bangladesh".

Prof Sarkar was giving a lecture at the International University of Business and Technology (IUBAT) on Tuesday.

Referring to the inactivity of bureaucracy Dr Sarkar said the bureaucracy is still carrying the colonial fragrance, which the British introduced only for serving their purpose.

According to him the only means to develop the country is education as the politicians would privatise the financial sectors and would be rigid in decentralising the power structure.

The existing education system must be changed, he said. But he regretted that most of the policy-makers and even the public university teachers are against any change. The present system do not produce any quality manpower.

He also emphasised on changing the mindset of the younger generation. The most meritorious students after higher secondary level wants to be a military official or a civil servant which ensure them a illegal income, he lamented.