

2022-04-16

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Staff Correspondent 16 April, 2022, 00:14

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Independent University, Bangladesh vice-chancellor Tanweer Hasan, Bandarban University vice-chancellor AF Imam Ali and Lumbini Limited managing director Shah Md Sultan Uddin Iqbal sign two agreements at the temporary campus of Bandarban University in Bandarban town area on Wednesday to facilitate research. Bir Bahadur Ushwe Sing, Minister for Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, attends the programme as chief guest. — Press release

Diaspora community forum

Independent University, Bangladesh has signed two memorandums of understanding with Bandarban University and Lumbini Limited to facilitate research.

The MoUs were signed at the temporary campus of Bandarban University in Bandarban town area on Wednesday, said a press release.

Bir Bahadur Ushwe Sing, Minister for Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs, attended the programme as chief guest.

IUB vice-chancellor Tanweer Hasan, Bandarban University vice-chancellor AF Imam Ali and Lumbini Limited managing director Shah Md Sultan Uddin Iqbal signed the MoUs on behalf of their respected organizations.

Shahadat Musharraf Khan, chairman of Lumbini Limited, was also present at the programme, among others.

According to the first MoU signed between IUB and Bandarban University, IUB will provide opportunities to BU students for training and technical assistance to strengthen leadership, faculty development and institutional capacity.

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The two universities will also work to resurrect some of the endangered languages and cultures of the local ethnic communities through IUB's Centre for Endangered Languages.

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The other tripartite MoU, signed between IUB, BU and Lumbini Limited says that the three organisations will establish an exchange programme through which two students from BU will spend two semesters of a particular year at the IUB campus in Dhaka.

At least one of those students will come from an ethnic community. Lumbini Limited has allocated a grant of Tk 2,50,000 per student per year for a four-year period.

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In the chief guest's speech, Bir Bahadur Ushwe Sing said: 'Young men and women from the hill tracts region are very keen about education. Bandarban University was established with an aim to bring affordable education to their doorsteps.'

Bandarban University, the first public-private-partnership (PPP) university in Bangladesh, started its journey in 2019. Nearly 250 students from the three hill districts of Bandarban, Rangamati and Khagrachhari, and also Chittagong's Rangunia and Satkania are currently studying

Established in 2009, Lumbini Limited is the only fully export-oriented readymade garment factory in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region which specialises in knitwear sweaters.

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