

MONTHLY UPDATES, MARCH 2012

Inception of 4th Batch of the MA in Governance and Development (MAGD)

On 4 March, the 4th batch of MAGD classes has started at BCDM, Savar. This year altogether a number of twenty four students of which three female and the rest twenty one male belonging to 4 cadre of Bangladesh Civil Service have been enrolled in the class.

CIPS Students left for UK for Level VI Exams

On 18 March, Cohort II of the **Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS)** left for UK for the completion of CIPS Level VI exams. The duration of the period for the exam is nine weeks.

Bangladesh Youth Survey Conference



IGS in collaboration with Colombo University organised a Joint Regional Conference at Mount Lavinia, Sri Lanka during March 22-24 named “Giving Youth A Voice”. This brought together quite a number of core stakeholders who have been engaged in youth policies and youth studies in the region. Speakers from six countries, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Bhutan and Pakistan, as well as Germany were invited. Their presentations covered the fields that are of core interest to youth and youth policies, namely education, employment and vocational training, political participation, family and community, youth and IT, as well as overall topics of youth policies.

The conference was participated by around 40 scholars, who presented 23 papers within 2 and half days. These were followed by lively debates and exchanges of views and assessments. The three core groups were those from Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh, where youth surveys have been carried out over the past few years. Besides the Colombo University and the IGS team, these included the team from the Centre for Study of Developing Societies (CSDS) in New Delhi, who had conducted the Indian Youth Survey. Policy makers were represented by key persons from the Ministry of Youth and Skill Development (Sri Lanka), as well as for the Dept. of Youth Affairs (Bhutan). From the side of development partners, young professionals from UNDP Pakistan and Bangladesh, and from Unicef Bhutan had joined the conference. Other academics were from Lucknow, Heidelberg, Bath

(UK) and Bielefeld University. One core group for debate were Sri Lankan youth from several Youth Federations, as well as from the Sri Lankan Youth Parliament, including the Youth Prime Minister.

From the side of IGS, the participants were Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Advisor, Dr. Elvira Graner (Co-Organiser and Research Fellow), Kazi Nur Mohammad Hossainul Haque, Senior Research Associate, Salina Aziz, Senior Research Associate, Fatema Samina Yasmin, Research Assistant and Rigan Chakma, Research Assistant.

IGS Director delivered lecture in the BPATC

On 28 March Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS conducted a class on Public Policy Analysis at BPATC, Savar for the senior government mid officials. The lecture was the part of their Senior Staff Course.

IGS Researcher Contributed in the New Paper

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Coordinator of IGS was interviewed by China Daily on China-Bangladesh relations. The interview was titled, “Silk Route Builds Bridge” which was published in China Daily on 23 March. Mr. Islam also published an article in the Daily Star named “Of Youth and Indian Elections” in the OPED on 20 March.

FGD’s Conducted

On 10 and 29 March two Focused Group Discussions were arranged by Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, Research Associate with the public officials and journalists respectively. The purpose of these two programs was to gather information from both parties in order to prepare a policy note on “Role of Media in Engaging Citizen in Public Procurement in Bangladesh” under PPSC project.



