



IGS
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IGS Organised a Seminar on China's Look South and Bangladesh's Look East Policy: Convergences and Constraints



Chinese Ambassador H.E. Li Jun, IGS-BDI Executive Director Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, along with the two keynote speakers at the seminar

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University organised a seminar on Bangladesh-China relation titled "China's Look South and Bangladesh's Look East Policy: Convergences and Constraints" on 9 October, 2013 at the AS Mahmood Seminar Hall, The Daily Star Centre, Dhaka. Chinese Ambassador to Bangladesh H.E. Mr Li Jun was the Chief Guest of the programme, while IGS Executive Director Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman chaired the seminar. The panel discussants of the seminar included Prof. Dr. Amena Mohsin, and Prof. Dr. Delwar Hossain of International Relations Department, Dhaka University, Mr. Sun Binghui, and Mr. Lin Yongliang of China Centre for Contemporary World Studies (CCCWS), Dr. Moinul Islam Mahmud, Chairman of Equity Property Management Limited and Former Ambassador Munshi Faiz Ahmad, Chairman of Bangladesh Institute of International Strategic Studies (BISS).

M. Shahidul Islam, Research Fellow of IGS and Dr. Hu Hao, Research Fellow and Deputy Director of CCCWS presented keynote

papers at the seminar, which followed an open discussion session along with the audience. Among others, Ambassador Farooq Sobhan, President of the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, Ambassador Humayun Kabir, Syed Muhammad Ibrahim, President of Bangladesh Kallyan Party and Air Cdre (Retd.) Ishfaq Ilahi Choudhury, Registrar of BRAC University spoke at the discussion. Distinguished people from diplomatic missions, academia, NGOs and international NGOs, mass media, political parties, business community and civil society also attended the seminar.

Mahbub ul Huq Centre's Human Development Report Launched

IGS organised the launching ceremony of the Human Development Report 2013 titled 'Water for Human Development', published by Pakistan-based renowned Mahbub ul Haq Human Development Centre. The Launching Ceremony was held on 21 October 2013, at the BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium in Dhaka. This was for the first time in Bangladesh that any Bangladeshi institute published Mahbub-ul Huq Centre's Human Development Report.



Distinguished Guests hold copies of the Human Development Report 2013: 'Water for Human Development' at the launching ceremony

Professor Nazrul Islam, former chairman of the University Grants Commission (UGC), was the Chief Guest at the ceremony, while

Professor Ainun Nishat, Vice Chancellor of BRAC University, chaired the programme. Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) was the Special Guest of the ceremony. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Executive Director of IGS-BDI, delivered the welcome speech, while Mr. M. Syeduzzaman, former Finance Minister; Mr. AMM Nasir Uddin, former Secretary, Ministry of Health; Ms. Qamrun Nahar Khanam, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources; and Dr. M. Azaharul Haq, Former Managing Director, WASA also spoke at the ceremony. Academics, researchers, experts, politicians, representatives from think tank and donor agencies, civil society members also attended the event.

The report looked at different aspects of trans-boundary water resource management, impact of climate change, water for people's well-being and economic development and other relevant issues in South Asia. The event was widely covered by the mainstream media.

IGS Annual Report State of Cities Launched

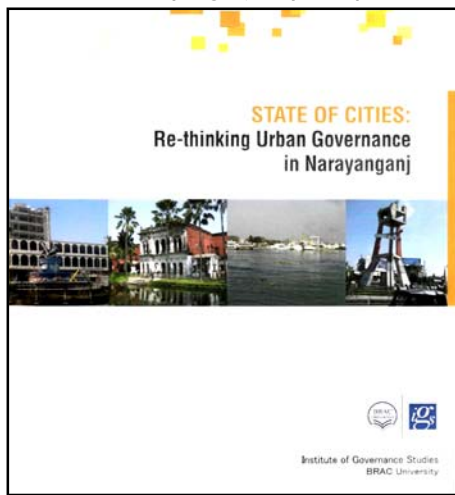
IGS launched its regular annual research report on the State of Cities in Bangladesh titled *State of Cities: Re-thinking Urban Governance in Narayanganj* through the media on 28 October, 2013.

This is the second report of its kind published by IGS, BRAC University. This year's report focuses on Narayanganj city and it has been produced by a BDI-IGS Research team led by Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Professor of Department of Public Administration, Dhaka University. The report takes a holistic approach to understand the existing process of urban governance and service delivery. It analysed the city government: contextualising the concept, service provisions: actors and factors, fiscal strength of City Building and urban land use and social space. In the conclusion, the report comprehends the present state of efficiency and effectiveness of services provided and recommends the areas for possible reforms at Narayanganj City Corporation.

The report will be widely disseminated among the relevant policymakers, academicians, researchers, urban experts, city planners, real estate executives, architects and environmental activists.

The Report can be accessed on IGS official website:

<http://www.igs-bracu.ac.bd/research/state-of-cities>



The cover page of the IGS Research report: 'State of Cities: Re-thinking Urban Governance in Narayanganj'

IGS Launched its Annual Research Report The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2012

The launching of the *State of Governance in Bangladesh 2012*, the annual flagship publication of the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS), BRAC University, was held on 26 December, 2013 at The Daily Star Centre in Dhaka. Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman of the Power and Participation Research Centre and former Advisor to the Caretaker Government was the Chief Guest of the ceremony. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Executive Director of IGS-BDI chaired the event. Dr. Manzoor Ahmed, Senior Adviser, Institute of Educational Development (IED), BRAC University; Mr. Zafar Ullah Khan, former Secretary to the Ministry of Health and Professor Aatur Rahman, President of Bangladesh Political Science Association were the panel discussants of the programme. Dr. Jens Stanislawski and Dr. Ashikur Rahman, both Research Fellows and Syeda Salina Aziz, Senior Research



Distinguished guests holding the copies of IGS annual flagship research report The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2012 at the launching

Associate of IGS, presented the key findings of the report titled, *The State of Governance in Bangladesh 2012: Regions, Representation, Disparity*. Dr. Mahbub Hossain, Executive Director, BRAC; Dr. Tofail Ahmed, local government expert & UNDP Consultant; Dr. Ahsan H Mansur, Executive Director of Policy Research Institute; Mr. AMM Nasir Uddin, former Secretary to the Ministry of Health and Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director, IGS also spoke at the programme. Academics, researchers, experts, politicians, representatives from think tank and donor organisations, civil society members also attended the event.

The report assessed power concentration, parliamentary representation, health and education governance at the district level through a quantitative approach.

Academic Programme

MAGD Courses at a Glance: October-December 2013

During October, MA in Governance and Development (MAGD) programme ran with 4 major courses, namely: Development Economics, Leading Issues in Governance, Public Project Management, Research Methodology and Dissertation. The faculties for these courses included, Professor Akbar Ali Khan of BRAC Business School, Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Institutional Advisor of IGS, Professor Reazul Haque, Professor Abu Eusuf, Professor Salauddin M. Aminuzzaman of Dhaka University and Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam, Academic Coordinator of IGS. The MAGD students have also submitted their dissertation topics to their respective course tutors and course management this month.



Barrister Manzoor Hasan, Institutional Advisor of IGS, along with the MAGD students in one of the lecture sessions

During November, MAGD programme ran with 4 courses, namely: Public Project Management, Public Policy Analysis, basic course in English (special emphasis on IELTS), Public Private Partnership and Dissertation. The mid-term examinations for MAGD course were held in this month. IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair conducted the presentation on Public Policy Analysis.

Research Activities

IGS Researchers attended International Conference in New Delhi

IGS researchers attended the 10th International Conference of the *Network of Asia Pacific Schools and Institutes of Public Administration and Governance (NAPSIPAG)*, held in New Delhi, India from 7th to 9th December, 2013. The conference was organised by the Centre for the Study of Law and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. The theme of the conference was *Locked in Growth Patterns: Rethinking land management and disasters for the post-2015 development agenda for the Asia Pacific*.

IGS Senior Research Associate Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Research Associates Farhana Razzaque and Faiz Ahmad Chowdhury presented 3 separate papers at the conference. The title of Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque and Faiz A

Finally, MAGD programme ran with Public Private Partnership, Public Policy Analysis and a wrap up discussion on governance issues in Bangladesh during December. The semester final examinations have started in this month and MAGD students sat for examinations of two modules. Public Policy Analysis cases were presented by IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair. Simultaneously, dissertation is being carried out and topic-wise supervisor was assigned by IGS Academic Coordinator Dr. Md. Zohurul Islam.

CIPS November Series Examinations

The Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) November 2013 examinations were held from 18-22 November at the BRAC University. A total 94 examinees from different public and private sector offices and organisations appeared in the examinations. Examinations were held in two shifts a day to cover 28 units of CIPS course. The examinations were conducted by IGS training wing.

Admission Test of Masters in Procurement and Supply Management held

The admission test of Masters in Procurement and Supply Management (MPSM), spring 2014, was held on 27 December 2013. This is the 5th batch of MPSM. A total of 13 participants from different organisations took part in this admission test and the class will commence from mid January 2014.

Chowdhury's papers were respectively *Citizen Enthusiasm vis-à-vis Government Inertia in Responding to New Forms of Urban Disaster: the case of Rana Plaza*



IGS Researcher Faiz Ahmed Chowdhury at the 10th NAPSIPAG International Conference in New Delhi

disaster and Tidal River Management (TRM): A Community Response to Climate Change in South West Bangladesh. Farhana Razzaque presented a paper titled, *GO-NGO Partnership for Disaster Management in Bangladesh: Approaches, Strategies and Institutional Challenges.*

IGS Research Fellow attended The 3rd Bangladesh-China Cooperation Dialogue in China

The 3rd Bangladesh-China Cooperation Dialogue, jointly organised by Yunnan Development Research Centre (YDRC) and Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS), was held on 30-31 December, 2013 in Kunming, China. The theme of this dialogue was Pragmatic Cooperation on Bangladesh China India Myanmar (BCIM) Growth Corridor. IGS Research Fellow M. Shahidul Islam presented two papers at the dialogue on 30 December, 2013 namely China-Bangladesh Connectivity and China-Chittagong Industrial Cooperation.



IGS Research Fellow M. Shahidul Islam presenting his paper at the 3rd Bangladesh-China Cooperation Dialogue in Kunming, China

IGS Co-organised 'The Second Policy Analysis Workshop'

IGS in collaboration with Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) conducted a week-long workshop on policy analysis titled, *The Second Policy Analysis Workshop* under NUFFIC project during 24-28 November 2013 at BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka. The workshop was supported by two Netherlands based partner organisations of the NUFFIC project - MDF Training and Consultancy (MDF) and International Institute of Social Studies (ISS). A number of officials from BPATC and research faculty members of

IGS, Syeda Salina Aziz, Kazi Nurmohammad Hossainul Haque, Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Md. Harun-Or-Rashid, S M Gubair Bin Arafat, Farhana Razzaque, and Programme Manager Nuzhat Jabin participated in the workshop. Mr. Sunil Tankha from ISS and Dr. Rizwan Khair from IGS facilitated the workshop.

The workshop aimed to make a more thoughtful, effective, and equitable participation in policy analysis work, especially in the making of choices about action. The workshop sought to achieve this goal by giving participants more understanding of techniques/tools and of processes, including concepts, theories, frameworks, more skills in using all these and in contributing as a policy player. More importantly, the workshop was organised to help participants design a curriculum and develop a course about preparing, designing, selecting and analysing 'public policy'. It



Participants at the Second Policy Analysis Workshop at BRAC Centre Inn

was mainly on and in prescriptive policy analysis, the content and use of analytical (and procedural) approaches and methods to guide policy design and choice.

Trainings/Short Courses/Workshops

Workshop on Requisition, Specification and Essentials of Procurement

A workshop on *Requisition, Specification and Essentials of Procurement* was held at the BRAC Centre Inn on 7th November, 2013. A total of 30 participants from different departments of BRAC, those who are involved with procurement participated in this workshop. The workshop was



Participants during a group work at the workshop on Requisition, Specification and Essentials of Procurement

conducted by two IGS faculties, Mr. Rashed Morshed and Mr. Md. Zikrul Islam. IGS training wing facilitated the workshop.

Training on Effective Supply Management



IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair with the participants of the Training on Effective Supply Management

IGS organised a two-day training programme on *Effective Supply Management: Analytical Techniques for Decision Making* on 15-16 November, 2013 at IGS Conference room. A total of 14 participants from different organisations such as, Titas Gas, T&D Co. Ltd., Munshi Enterprise Ltd. BRAC University, BRAC, UCEP, Rahim Afrooz Distribution Ltd., Saiham Group and UNHCR attended this short training course. The focus of the training was on the analytical techniques for decision making. IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair handed over the certificates among the participants on 16th November. The course was conducted by IGS faculty Mr. Arafat Ishtiaque and facilitated by IGS training wing.

IGS Staff attended Training Sessions on Grant Management Essentials

Md. Nurul Hyder Bhuiyan, Senior Finance Officer and Narayan Chandra Das, Finance Officer of IGS, attended a two-day training programme on *FM8: Grant Management Essentials: How to Keep Your Donors Happy*, held at Hotel Lake Castle, Dhaka on 1 & 2 December 2013. The training programme was conducted by UK-based Management Accounting for Non Governmental Organisations (MANGO). This training included sessions on responsibilities and routines, assessing and complying with grant terms & conditions, donor reporting and managing relationships. The training was attended by representatives from different national and international organisations such as GIZ, Orbis International, WaterAid, Swisscontact, Rupantor, RDF and many others.

Exhaustive Training Course on BRAC Procurement Guideline and Implementation Procedure

A three-day long Exhaustive Training Course on BRAC Procurement Guideline and Implementation Procedure



Participants and the trainers at the BPGIP training Course at BRAC Centre

(BPGIP) was held on 4, 5 and 7 December 2013 at the BRAC Centre. A total of 31 participants from different departments of BRAC, who are involved with procurement, participated in this training course. IGS faculties Mr. Rashed Morshed and Mr. Zikrul Islam conducted the training.

IGS Staff attended a GIZ and ACC Workshop on Media Award

A preparatory workshop for introducing an *Investigative Reporting against Corruption Award* for journalists in Bangladesh was held on 14 November 2013 at the Chitra Hall of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Dhaka. This workshop was jointly organised by GIZ and Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Bangladesh. The meeting was conducted by GIZ Senior Advisor Tim Pfanmueller and attended by representatives from think tanks, media and the ACC. IGS Project Manager (Communications) Ekram Hossain attended the programme.

The objective of the workshop was twofold. Firstly, the workshop would help to develop criteria that will guide the selection process of the winners of this award and secondly to define a jury as well as a consortium which will chair the media prize. The meeting was attended by among others, ACC Commissioner Md. Shahabuddin Chuppu and Director Abdur Rob Nokib, senior journalist Abed Khan, BFUJ President and the CEO of *Boishakhi* Television Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul, DG of Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) Shah Alamgir, GIZ officials Vinay Kumar Jha and Sandra Voglreiter.

IGS Co-organised a Short Course on Urban Health and Governance

IGS, in partnership with James P. Grant School of Public Health (JPGSPH) of BRAC Institute of Global Health (BIGH) and BRAC Development Institute (BDI) organised a four-day short course on *Urban Health and Governance* from November 1-4, 2013, at JPGSPH, Mohakhali, Dhaka. IGS Senior Researcher Kazi Nurmuhammad Hossainul Haque was one of the resource persons in the course. A total of 25 participants from different organisations such as: icddr; Save the Children, Unicef, BRAC Health



IGS researcher Kazi Nurmuhammad Hossainul Haque during one of his lectures at the Short course on Urban Health and Governance Course

Division and IGS attended this course. IGS Communications Assistant Sameeah Zahangir participated in the course.

The course identified and appraised emergent issues of urban areas, both globally and within Bangladesh, including the social, political, environmental and economic determinants of health which have implications for health and inequalities in poor urban

environments. A half day field trip to Mohakhali Sattola Boundary Slum in Dhaka was organised to sensitise participants to the lived reality of the urban poor and will encourage participants to critically think about the challenges facing these communities. Current interventions in the health, lived environment, water and sanitation sectors that address the health needs of the urban poor were assessed and explored through a variety of methods including guest lectures, group activities and case studies.

IGS Staff Attended Urban Health Symposium

A two-day symposium on *Urban Health: Taking Actions for Healthy Cities in Bangladesh* was held on 22-23rd November 2013 at PKSF Auditorium, Agargaon, Dhaka. The event was organised in collaboration with the Centre for Urban Equity and Health, JPGSPH, BRAC University, Eminence Associates for Social Development, Bangladesh Urban Health Network



A breakout session at the Urban Health Symposium: Taking Action for Healthy Cities

and Centre for Equity and Health Systems, icddr. The event was jointly sponsored by GIZ and International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada. IGS Researcher Nabila Zaman and Communications Assistant Sameeah Zahangir attended this event.

The event was organised with the objective to create awareness of urban health and health equity consequences of current policies and practices in different sectors, to simulate dialogue and problem-solving about how to move towards healthy public policy and practice across sectors and lastly to initiate collective thinking about the post 2015 agenda and the promotion of healthy cities in Bangladesh.

The symposium brought together a diverse community of concerned scientists, policy makers, as well as individuals and organisations committed to making Bangladesh's cities healthy and productive. The event was divided into plenary and breakout sessions, which were conducted by renowned

figures of national and international civil society organisations and public sectors. The event was attended by among others, Dr. Sadia Chowdhury, Executive Director of BIGH, Dr. Sabina Rashid, Dean of JPGSPH at BIGH, Prof. Alayne Adams, Senior Social Scientist, icddr, Dr. Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury, Vice Chair of BRAC, Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of Centre for Urban Studies, Dr. Aminul Islam, Assistant Country Director, UNDP, Prof. Fuad H Mallick, Pro Vice Chancellor of BRAC University and Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and Executive Chairperson of Power and Participation Research Centre.

IGS Staff attended Training on Financial Management for NGOs

IGS Finance Officer Narayan Chandra Das attended a five-day training programme on *FMI: Practical Financial Management to NGOs: Getting the Basics Right* held at Hotel Lake Castle, Dhaka from November 24-28, 2013. The training programme was conducted by UK-based Management Accounting for Non Governmental



IGS Finance Officer Narayan Chandra receiving his certificate after successful completion of the training on FMI: Practical Financial Management to NGOs

Organisations (MANGO). The training was attended by representatives from different organisations such as SDC, World Fish, Swisscontact, SKS, NDP, Taranga and RDF.

Miscellaneous Activities

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development Retreat Held

As part of the recent merger of IGS and BRAC Development Institute (BDI) under the new header of BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), a retreat for the senior management staff members of the

two institutes was held on 23 and 28 December 2013. The first round of the retreat was held in BDI conference room on 23rd and the second round on 28th December at IGS conference room. The meeting agenda included BIGD objectives and vision, core research priorities, staffing structures and organogram, consulting services and financial issues. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Salehuddin

Ahmed, the former Pro-Vice Chancellor of BRAC University.

Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Executive Director of BIGD, Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, Research Fellows Dr. Jens Stanislawski, M. Shahidul Islam, Senior Research Associate Syeda Salina Aziz, Programme Manager Nuzhat Jabin, Research Assistants Nabila Zaman and Afrina Islam, Senior Manager Salahuddin Mahmud and Admin Manager Nahid Waliul from IGS attended this programme. Dr. Ferdous Jahan, Simeen Mahmud, Dr. Sohela Nazneen, Mohammad Kamruzzaman, Alamgir Kabir, Dr. Mirza M. Hassan, Maheen Sultan from BDI also attended the retreat.

IGS-BDI Executive Director Attended a Seminar on Development Ideas: Linking Research to Policy

A day-long seminar on *Development Ideas: Linking Research to Policy* was jointly organised by International Growth Centre (IGC) and Economic Research Group on 27 December, 2013 at the Conference Hall of the Daily Star Centre in Dhaka.

Among others, Dr. Atiur Rahman, Governor of Bangladesh Bank; Dr. Shamsul Alam, Member, General Economic Division, Planning Commission; Mr. Mahbub Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce; Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud, Chairman of Economic Research Group; Professor Salim Rashid, Professor Emeritus of University of Illinois, USA; Dr. Minhaj Mahmud, Research Fellow of BIDS; Dr. Fahad Khalil, Professor

of Economics, Washington University were present at the policy sessions of the seminar. Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Country Director of IGC Bangladesh Research Programme and Executive Director of IGS-BDI, chaired the seminar.

IGS-BDI Executive Director held Meetings with Prominent Academics

Executive Director of IGS-BDI Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman held several meetings with some prominent academics of Bangladesh regarding the merger issue of IGS and BRAC Development Institute (BDI). Among others, he had meetings with Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud, Chairman of Economic Research Group, Professor Salim Rashid, Emeritus Professor of University of Illinois, USA, Dr. Fahad Khalil, Professor of Economics, Washington University, Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman of the Power and Participation Research Centre, Mr. AMM Nasir Uddin, former Secretary to the Ministry of Health, Mr. Fazlul Kabir Khan, former Secretary of Government of Bangladesh, Mr. Siddiqur Rahman Osmani, University of Belfast, Northern Ireland. These meetings were took place between 22 to 28 December 2013.

IGS Director Made Presentation before The BRAC Governing Board

IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair made a presentation before the BRAC Governing Board on the newly formed BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) and its future activities on 3rd December 2013 at the BRAC Centre Inn.

Publications/Op Eds by IGS Staff from October- December 2013

The New Age: [Universal health coverage: Where does Bangladesh stand?](#), Nabila Zaman, 23 October, 2013

The Daily Star: [Funding of political parties](#), Faiz A. Chowdhury, 13 October, 2013

The Daily Star: [South-South Award: Celebrating Bangladesh's success](#), Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, 9 October, 2013

The The Daily Star: [Violence and order in natural state](#) by M. Shahidul Islam, 2 November, 2013

The Kaler Kantho: [Political Culture and Election Time Government](#) by Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, 28 November, 2013

The Daily Independent: [Anti-Corruption Drive: A Challenge to Governance \(Print Edition\)](#) by Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, 29 November, 2013

The Daily Star: [Let girls be girls not brides](#) by Rubayet Hamid, 30 November, 2013

The Daily Star: [Saving a Southern promise](#) by M. Shahidul Islam, 5 December, 2013

The Independent: [Searching for a breakthrough in the political stand-off](#) by Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, 15 December, 2013

The Daily Sun: [Amended act fades the success of anti corruption initiatives](#) by Md. Rafiqul Islam Talukdar, 21 December, 2013

Newsletter

Public-Private Stakeholders' Committee (PPSC) Newsletter titled: '*Public Procurement Watch*'- 15th edition.

Interview of IGS Research Fellow Published in Chinese magazine The Link Times, a monthly magazine in China, published an interview of IGS Research Fellow M Shahidul Islam titled, '*Conversing with an Economist*', which appeared in its November 2013 issue.

The interview can be accessed at the link below:

http://www.mshahidulislam.com/book-doc/Interview_Geoeconomics&Strategy_times_October%202013.pdf

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