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Research Activities

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Roundtable on Banking Sector Governance: Reforms and Impacts

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) organised its second roundtable discussions on topic covered in its flagship report – The State of Governance (SOG) in Bangladesh 2010-11.



Participants at the Roundtable on Banking Sector Governance

The roundtable meeting based on the chapter of SOG 2010-11 entitled “Banking Sector Governance: Reforms and Impacts” was held on 27 April, 2013, at the Conference Room of BRAC Centre Inn, Dhaka.

The event was moderated by Professor Rashed Al Mahmud Titumir, Department of Development Studies, University of Dhaka and Chairman of *Unnayan Anneshan*. The panel discussants of the roundtable discussion were: Professor Abu Ahmed, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman, Economic Advisor of Bangladesh Bank and Dr. Khandakar Golam Moazzem, Additional Director (Research) of Centre for Policy Dialogue. The meeting started with a welcome speech by IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair while M Shahidul Islam, Research Fellow of IGS presented research findings on banking sector reforms and impact on the economy. The discussion was followed by views, remarks and suggestions made by different academics, research experts and professionals working in the country’s economic, finance and banking sector.

Roundtable on the Political Economy of Urban Space in Dhaka City

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) organised a roundtable discussion on “The Political Economy of Urban Space in Dhaka City” on May 25, 2013 at the BRAC Centre Inn Auditorium, Dhaka. The discussion was based on a working paper titled “The Political Economy of Urban Space: Land and Real Estate in Dhaka City” authored by Kazi Nur Mohammed Hossainul Haque, Senior Research Associate, IGS.

IGS Director Dr Rizwan Khair opened the roundtable with a welcome speech. The session was moderated by Professor Nazrul Islam, Chairman of Centre for Urban Studies, while the panel discussants of the roundtable included Professor Fuad Hassan Mallick, Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University, and Dr A T M Nurul Amin from North South University. Senior Research Associate Kazi Hossainul Haquem made the keynote



Participants at the Roundtable Discussion on the Political Economy of Urban Space in Dhaka City

presentation summarising his Working Paper that was followed by comments and suggestions from the participants and panel discussants. The discussion was participated by, among others, Dr Roxana Hafiz, Director, Department of Urban and Regional Planning,

BUET, Dr Ishrat Islam, Department of Architecture, BUET, Engr. Mohammad Abdul Awal, Managing Director of Structural Engineers Ltd, Architect Mr. Sail Ul Haque, Advocate Manzill Murshid, Mr. Sirajul Islam, Town Planner of Dhaka City Corporation, Dr. Taibur Rahman, Ministry of Planning, and Engr Syed Azizul Haque from PWD, Dhaka.

Roundtable Discussion on Politics of Urban Local Governance: A Case of Dhaka City

The Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) organised a roundtable discussion titled “Politics of Urban Local Governance: A Case of Dhaka City” on June 27, 2013 at BRAC Centre Inn Conference Room, Dhaka. The roundtable is being organised as a follow-up event of the research report titled “ STATE OF CITIES: Urban Governance in Dhaka”



Participants and the Panel Discussants at the roundtable discussion on Politics on Urban Local Governance

IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair opened the roundtable with a welcome speech. The session was moderated by Professor Salahuddin M. Aminuzzaman, Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka, while the panel discussants of the roundtable included Professor Aatur Rahman, and Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government and the Executive Chairman of Power and Participation Research Centre (PPRC). The new appointed Executive Director of IGS, Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman presided over the discussions. The authors Muhammad Sirajul Islam and Md. Harun-Or-Rashid made the keynote presentations summarising the chapter in the SoC Report which was followed by comments and suggestions from the panel discussants and participants. The discussion was attended by among others by Professor Emdadul Huq of North South University, Dr. Akhter Hossain of Dhaka University Politician Haider Akber Khan Rono and Dhaka City Mayor aspirants Shirin Akhter, Dr. Tuhin Malik and Journalists Syed Abul Maksud and Kazi Hafiz.

IGS Organised a Policy Dialogue on Strengthening Governance in Wetland and Water Bodies Management Policies

IGS organised a day long policy dialogue titled “Strengthening Governance in Wetland and Water Bodies Management Policies” on 11th May 2013, at the Conference Hall of Pabna DC Office. The dialogue was organised with the technical cooperation of Wetland Biodiversity Rehabilitation Project (WBRP) partners GOPA and Centre for Natural Resources Studies (CNRS). More than 31 participants from different GO/NGO stakeholders, fishermen cooperatives, fish traders and media personnel participated in this dialogue. The district level policy dialogue included brainstorming and group discussion sessions which were



Participants at the policy dialogue on ‘Strengthening Governance in Wetland and Water bodies Management Policies’

based on issues raised regarding wetland management from the field studies. Mr. S M Gubair bin Arafat, Research Associate moderated the programme and Mr. Ashfaq Ahmed, Research Assistant, supported the dialogue on behalf of IGS.

IGS Organised Workshop in Satkhira on How to Engage Citizens in Public Procurement

IGS, BRAC University, in collaboration with the Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), IME Division (IMED), Ministry of Planning, organised a workshop on ‘How to Engage Citizens in Public Procurement’ at the Satkhira Officers’ Club Auditorium on 2 June, 2013.

IGS Project Manager (Communications) Ekram Hossain conducted the workshop with the assistance of workshop facilitator Nazmul Arifeen. The workshop was participated by the Deputy Commissioner and other government officials,



Participants at the workshop on ‘How to Engage Citizens in Public Procurement’ at Satkhira

local government representative, members of procuring entities, bidding communities, journalists, and civil society members.

This was the sixth and the last district-level workshop under the Public Procurement Reform Project (PPRP)-II. Other 5 workshops were organised in Narayanganj, Comilla, Moulvibazaar, Rajshahi, and Patuakhali. The workshops were the part of research under PPRP-II in order to formulate a strategy on how to engage citizens in public procurement. IGS is providing technical support to CPTU, IMED of Ministry of Planning under this project.

Trainings/Workshops/Meetings/Lectures

IGS Research Team participated in a Certificate Course on "Governance and Development"

The new recruited members of the IGS research team took part in an Executive Certificate Course on "Governance and Development" at North South University from 5 -18 April 2013. This certificate course



Participants and the Panel of Guests at the Certificate Awarding Ceremony

was designed based on the Master in Public Policy and Governance programme under the Department of General and Continuing Education (GCE). Professionals working in public sector, defense service personnel, development partners, non-profit sectors and research organizations were the participants of the course. Research Associate Saika Nudrat Chowdhury, Research Assistant Afrina Islam, Nabila Zaman and Kazi Niaz Ahmed from IGS participated in this course. On 1 June, 2013, A Certificate Award Ceremony of the course was held at North South University. Dr. A M M Shawkat Ali, Former Advisor to the Caretaker Government was present at the ceremony as the Chief Guest and Professor Md. Abdul Sattar, Acting Vice Chancellor of NSU presided over the ceremony.

IGS Finance Team Attended Training Programme on Global Financial System and Governance

On 5th April 2013 IGS finance team attended a training programme titled "Global Financial System and Governance" at GDLN Centre, BRAC University. This training was jointly organised by Global

Development Training Network and BRAC University. The training were focused on capacity building and creating awareness about the global financial situation.

Training Organised on Procurement Principles and Management

A training programme, titled Procurement Principles and Management was organised by IGS, BRAC University, at IGS Conference Room. There were two batches in this training programme. PPM Batch-1 was held on 05-06 April and PPM Batch-2 was held on 19-20 April, 2013. The training was attended by 14 participants for each batch from



Participants from PPM Batch-1 and PPM Batch-2 Attended the Training Programme

different organisation. Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, awarded certificates among the participants on 6th and 20th April, 2013 respectively. The course was conducted by the training wing of IGS.

IGS Organised Training Programme on Income Tax and VAT



Participants at the Training Programme on Income Tax and VAT

IGS organised a two-day training programme on Income Tax and

VAT for Accounts, Finance and Admin professionals from IGS and BRAC University from 1st -2nd May, 2013. The training was held at the IGS conference room. The training programme was focused on capacity building and creating awareness about the Income Tax and VAT regulations. The programme concluded on 2nd May, 2013 with awarding certificates to the participants by Dr. Nasiruddin Ahmad, Former Chairman of NBR and Professor of IGS.

Training Programme on Procurement Principles and Management



Participants at the Training Programme on PPM- Batch 3

A training programme, titled Procurement Principles and Management (3rd Batch) was organised by IGS, BRAC University, at IGS Conference Room on 3rd and 4th May, 2013. As part of core activities of IGS, this training course was offered to enhance the capacity on Procurement Principle and Management. The training was attended by 14 participants for each batch from different organizations such as BRAC International and BRAC Centre, Water Resources Planning Organisation, Friendship, Swisscontact, Islami Bank Bangladesh etc. Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, awarded certificates among the participants on 4th May, The course was conducted by the training wing of IGS.

IGS Organised Training on Strategic Procurement

On 17th and 18th May 2013, IGS organised a training programme on Strategic Procurement, held at IGS



Participants with the IGS Director at the Training Programme on Strategic Procurement at IGS

Conference Room, BRAC University. Total 15 participants from different organizations namely Concern Worldwide, Computer Source Ltd, Beximco Pharmaceuticals Ltd, BRAC Heidelberg Cement Bangladesh Ltd. participated in this training programme. On 18th May, 2013, IGS Director, Dr. Rizwan Khair awarded the certificate to the participants.

IGS Organised Training Programmes on Best Procurement Practices

On 7th and 8th June, 2013 IGS, BRAC University organised a training programme on Best Procurement Practices (Batch -1) at the IGS Conference room. As part of the core



Participants at the Training Programme on Best Procurement Practices Batch 1 (left) and Batch 2 (Right)

activities of IGS, this two-day long training course was offered to enhance the capacity on Best Procurement Practices. The training was attended by 15 participants in each batch from different organizations such as BRAC and Village Education Resource Centre (VERC). Dr. Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, awarded certificates among the participants on 8th June, 2013.

IGS organised 2nd Batch training programme on Best Procurement Practices 28th and 29th June 2013 held at IGS Conference Room. A total of 15 participants from different organizations namely BRAC, Swisscontact, Leads Corporation Ltd. participated in this training programme. On 29th June, 2013, IGS Director, Dr. Rizwan Khair awarded the certificate to the participants.

IGS Researcher Attended a Review Meeting on RTI Implementation Assessment

Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate of IGS, attended a review meeting on Right to Information (RTI) implementation assessment, held on 19th and 20th May 2013 in Atlanta GA, USA. In the meeting, he presented country report on RTI implementation assessment in



Mohammad Sirajul Islam, Research Associate, with other participants of the Review Meeting held in Atlanta GA, USA

Bangladesh. IGS, in a grant agreement with The Carter Center, carried out Pilot Phase II of The Center's Access to Information Legislation Implementation Assessment Tool (IAT) in Bangladesh from March – May 2013. IAT has been applied in six Ministries/Divisions, namely: Ministry of Education, Ministry Agriculture, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, National Board of Revenue, Law & Justice Division and Finance Division.

The meeting was inaugurated by Phil Wise, Vice President, The Carter Center and moderated by Laura Neuman, Manager, Global Access to Information Initiative, The Carter Center. IGS was also involved in Pilot Phase I in 2011 under a grant agreement with The Carter Center which was carried out in Bangladesh, South Africa and Mexico.

IGS Researcher Participated in a Workshop on Environmental Conditions of Bangladesh

On 4th May, 2013, Mr. S M Gubair Bin Arafat, Research Associate, IGS, participated a workshop on "Exploring Environment of BD: Towards Effective Actions" as a speaker, organised by BRAC University Earth & Environment Forum held at the Indoors Games Room, BRAC University. The main purpose of



Research Associate Mr. S M Gubair Bin Arafat presenting at the workshop

this workshop was to explore the environmental conditions of Bangladesh which included an open discussion session by the speakers and certificate awarding ceremony by the organisers.

IGS Director participated in 'Global Institute Linkages Meeting'

On 11 June, 2013 Dr. Khair attended the "Global Institutional Linkages Meeting" arranged by WIEF Foundation and Universiti Teklogi Mara, Malaysia in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. He also made a presentation in the meeting on the *Public Sector Leadership Programme – MA in Governance and Development* offered by IGS, BRAC University.



IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair among the participants of 'Global Institutions Linkages Meeting' in KL, Malaysia

On 11th May 2013, Dr. Rizwan Khair Director, IGS attended the National Consultations on Budget Booklet arranged by *Strengthening Public Expenditure Management Program (SPEMP)*, a project of Ministry of Finance.

On 15th May 2013, Dr. Rizwan Khair, and Naimur Rahman, Chief Operations Officer (COO) of ANSA- SAR attended a meeting with the World Bank in its Dhaka office on in connection with Open Finance Data.

Academic Programmes

MA in Governance and Development Programme

The 5th Batch of the MA in Governance and Development programme started on 5th May at BCDM, Savar with 25 different public sector officials. Out of these 25 students, 14 from BCS Administration Cadre, 5 from Information Cadre, another 4 students from Education, Family Planning, Police and Roads & Highways Cadres and 2 students from Securities and Exchange Commission and Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD), Comilla are attending this MAGD Programme for one year. The first semester commenced from May 2013.

During the first semester of the Course, among other faculty members, Honorable Advisor to the Prime



MAGD 5th Batch Students with Academic Coordinator Dr. Zohurul Islam & Professor & Research Coordinator Dr. Nasiruddin Ahmed

Minister of Bangladesh, Dr. Gowher Rizvi took classes on *Innovative Governance*. Another Course on *Learning from People* is being conducted by Professor Golam Samdani Fakir, Vice Chancellor of Green University and Dr. Salahuddin Ahmad, Managing Editor, The Daily Star.

Masters in Procurement and Supply Management (MPSM)

IGS, BRAC University started its Masters in Procurement and Supply Management (MPSM) from Summer Semester 2013 at BRAC University. 24 participants from different procurement and supply chain organisations are taking this course and classes started from 16 May, 2013.

CIPS Examination Held

The May series examination of Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply (CIPS) was held at IGS from 20-24th May, 2013. A total of 27 candidates from different organisations appeared at the examination. At the same time, classes of CIPS private sector for Level-4, 5 and 6 are going on as before.

'Environmental Management and Governance' Course (EMG) Field Visit to Gazipur Attended by Students of 'Environmental Management and Governance' Course



Participants of Environmental Management and Governance Course during field visit at the Eco-Lab Battery Ltd

On June 28 & 29, participants of Environmental Management and Governance (EMG) course visited the Eco-Lab Battery Ltd located at Sreepur Pourashava in Gazipur district. The two-day long field visit was organised by IGS and conducted as a part of the Module: 413, 'Tools for Evaluation and Experiential Learning'. Where participants experienced how to conduct *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)* under the supervision of Senior EIA consultant Mr. Ikbal Hassan. This field visit was coordinated by Research Associate of IGS Mr. S M Gubair Bin Arafat.

Certificate Awarding of 'Environmental Management and Governance' Course

IGS Director Dr. Rizwan Khair handed over the certificates to the students who successfully completed the three-month long 4th Certificate Programme of 'Environmental Management and Governance' course. This award ceremony was held on June 30, 2013 at the IGS conference room. This Certificate course was jointly conducted by B R A C University and Manitoba University, Canada.



Dr Rizwan Khair, Director of IGS, handing over Certificates to the students at the ceremony

ANSA-SAR Activities

ANSA- SAR Funded Meetings in Rangpur and Jamalpur

ANSA SAR funded two separate *Community Score Card (CSC)* experience sharing meetings organized by Manusher Jonno Foundation and PRIP Trust. Manusher Jonno Foundation had organised the experience sharing meeting on 'Primary Education and Social Accountability at Begum Rokeya auditorium of Rangpur-Dinajpur Rural Services (RDRS) Rangpur, on 27th April, 2013. Government and NGO officials, headmasters and presidents of different government primary school managing committees (SMC), District and Upazila level Primary Education Officers, Upazila Nirbahi Officers, union parishad chairmen and members, community leaders, guardians, civil society members, and elite of greater Rangpur participated in the meeting. Ms Nuzhat Jabin, Programme Manager and Ms Aneesa Rahman, Programme Associate represented ANSA SAR at the meeting.

On 30th April, 2013, PRIP Trust had organised their experience sharing meeting on Citizen's Engagement for Quality Service at DC Office, Conference Room, Jamalpur. The chief guest was the Deputy Commissioner (DC), Jamalpur, Md Delwar Haider. Participants included civil surgeons from the Jamalpur Civil Surgeon Office and other representatives of civil society organizations. Mr Musthafizur Rahman Khan, Project Officer, ANSA SAR represented ANSA at the meeting.

ANSA-SAR & PRIP Trust Organised Mobile Phone based Skill Training

From 16-27 April, 2013 ANSA-SAR & PRIP Trust organised a Mobile Phone based Skill Training in Urban and Rural Level for the citizens who are getting public services. In the training the citizens were taught how to evaluate the services of public services through mobile software. This training was a part of the project called "*Improvement of Quality and Delivery Mechanism of Public Services through ICT based Citizens' Monitoring Initiatives*" in Rajshahi. Each of



Training on ICT Based Monitoring services

the training sessions had 50 participants. The first training was held in Rajshahi city for 12 No. ward and remaining three training were held in Dhamkura Union of Rajshahi.

ANSA SAR – PTF Book Launch

ANSA-SAR in collaboration with Partnership for Transparency Fund (PTF) has published a brand new book by Pierre Landell-Mills titled "*Citizens Against Corruption- Report from the Frontlines*" on 30th April 2013 at India International Center, Delhi. This book tells the story of how groups of courageous and dedicated citizens across the globe are taking direct action to root out corruption. It draws on over 200 unique case studies that describe impressive initiatives undertaken over the past decade by 130 civil society organizations (CSOs) in 51 countries that were supported by PTF to engage directly with public agencies to stop the bribery and extortion that damages peoples' lives and obstructs social and economic progress.

Ongoing ICT Based Citizens' Monitoring Evaluation

Affiliated Network for Social Accountability-South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) in partnership with PRIP Trust has been working for increasing participation of citizens in public service monitoring in Rajshahi District through a project called "*Improvement of Quality and Delivery Mechanism of Public Services through ICT based Citizens' Monitoring Initiatives*". The project has been launched for enhancing capacity of citizens' groups in ICT- based public service monitoring, increasing use of ICT-based technology in public service monitoring and strengthening collective efforts for improved and quality public services, provisions through policy advocacy.

As a part of the project activities on 16-27 April, 2013 ANSA-SAR & PRIP Trust organized Mobile Phone based Skill Training in Urban and Rural Level for the citizens who are getting public services. In the trainings they were taught on how to evaluate the services of public services through mobile software. The first four training was held in Rajshahi city for Ward 12 and remaining three training were held in Dhamkura Union of Rajshahi.

COO of ANSA-SAR Attended a Seminar on Public Service Delivery

Drawing on the book- "*Citizens Against Corruption- Report from the Frontlines*", published by ANSA-SAR in collaboration with PTF, a seminar was held on 5th May, 2013 in Delhi, India on "How Civil Society Empowerment Improves Governance and Development Results of Public Service Delivery". The seminar featured presentations of experiences, lessons and outcomes of Civil Society Organisations (CSO).

This was followed by a discussion of what works and why - on how CSOs have energised local citizens to demand better services from their public providers. It highlighted some key messages for the development aid agencies to radically rethink their approach to assisting CSOs. Vinay Bhargava, Chief Technical Adviser & Member of the Board, Partnership for Transparency Fund, Naimur Rahman, Chief Operating Officer, Affiliated Network for Social Accountability – South Asia & Global, Gopakumar Krishnan Thampi, Fellow, Institute of Governance Studies, BRAC University, Bangladesh and WooChong Um, Deputy Director General, Regional and Sustainable Development Department, Asian Development Bank were among the panel of speakers.

Workshop on "Role of Governance in Climate Change Induced Migration

With the support from Affiliated Network for Social Accountability- South Asia Region (ANSA-SAR) the *Center for Climate Change and Environmental Research*



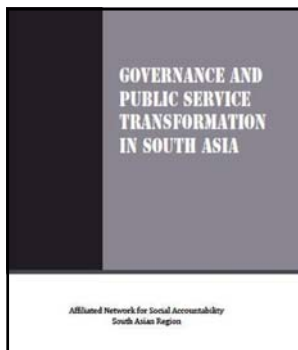
Panel discussants and the participants at the Workshop on Climate Change Induced Migration

(C3ER) of BRAC University has successfully completed a research on “Role of Governance in Climate Change Induced Migration.” The overall objective of the research

was to enhance the knowledge base on climate change induced migration from the coastal regions of Bangladesh. Two unions of Satkhira district had been investigated in this study, to track the evidence based climate change induced migration.

To disseminate the findings of this study a workshop was held on 22 June, 2013 at BRAC Center Inn. The keynote paper was presented by the Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Prof. Dr. Ainun Nishat. The function was also addressed, among others, by the Additional Secretary and National Project Director of the Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme (Phase II), Mohammad Abdul Qayyum, and Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Dr Aparup Chowdhury.

Publications of IGS



Publication of the Governance and Public Service Transformation Conference Report

A Conference Report was published based on the two day International Conference on Governance and Public Service Transformation in South Asia held on 7 – 9 December 2012 at the Hotel Ruposhi Bangla, Dhaka. This conference was organised by IGS and Affiliated Network for Social Accountability - South Asia Region (ANSA - SAR) in collaboration with United Nations Millennium Campaign - Asia and Pacific Region, Public Affairs Centre (PAC), India, Governance and Public Policy Programme of North-South University and Monash University Governance Research Unit (MGRU).

The Conference Report highlights the themes of different papers that were presented in the four thematic sessions of the conference, deliberations of the delegates from 10 countries representing civil society, academia, government, and international institutions and the Dhaka Declaration on Governance adopted after the Conference.

Op-eds and Publications by IGS Staff:

The Daily Samakal: [The Fate of Citizens Inactivities](#) by Syeda Salina Aziz and Ekram Hossain, 8 April 2013, [pdf](#)

The Financial Express: [Growth in uncertain times](#) by M Shahidul Islam, 20 April 2013:

The Financial Express: [Making central bank operationally effective](#) by M Shahidul Islam, 30 April 2013

The Financial Express: [Saving state-owned banks from government intervention](#) by M Shahidul Islam, 30 April 2013

The Dhaka Tribune: [Are we sheep?](#) by Manzoor Hasan, 10 May 2013, [pdf](#)

The Samakal: [The Crisis of Democracy and the role of intellectuals](#) by Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, 11 June 2013, [pdf](#)

The Daily Star: [The RMG sector and external links](#) by Kazi Niaz Ahmed, 24 June 2013, [pdf](#)

The Foreign Affairs Insights and Reviews : [Middle East Democratisation: Institutional Challenges](#) by Sultan Mohammed Zakaria, Vol:1, No. 3, June 2013

Research Report: *Exploring State of Governance at Union-Level and Its Relevance for Wider Influencing*, May 2013, by Dr. Akhter Hussain in collaboration with CARE and IGS, BRAC University. Editorial team consisted of Munir Uddin

Shamim, Senior Programme Manager, Rubayet Hamid and Kazi Niaz Ahmed, Research Assistant, IGS <http://www.igs-bracu.ac.bd/research/other-publications-by-staff>

IGS Working Paper Series No. 08/2013: by Jannatul Fardosh, *Access to Water in Urban Poor Settlements: Addressing Crisis through Good Governance*, April 2013

IGS Working Paper Series No. 09/2013: by Jannatul Fardosh, *Domestic Violence against Women in Bangladesh: Discovering Two Sides of A Coin*, June 2013

IGS Working Paper Series No. 10/2013: by M. Shahidul Islam & Mohammad Nasir Uddin Khan, *Access to Urban Basic Services and Determinants of Satisfaction: A Comparison by Non-slum and Slum Dwellers in Dhaka City*, June 2013

IGS Working Paper Series No. 11/2013: by Dr. Nasiruddin Ahmed, *Improving Tax Compliance in Bangladesh: A Study of Value-Added Tax (VAT)*, June 2013

Public Procurement Watch, Newsletter, 11th Issue, by Public-Private Stakeholders Committee (PPSC), Central Procurement Technical Unit (CPTU), IME Division, Ministry of Planning and IGS, BRAC University, June 2013

Appointment of Executive Director of IGS



The newly appointed Executive Director of IGS, Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman

Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman appointed as Executive Director of IGS

As part of transformation of the Institute of Governance Studies (IGS) as a regional centre of research on governance issues and strengthening of the institution, Dr. Sultan Hafeez Rahman, the former Director General of Asian Development Bank (ADB), South Asia, has been appointed as the Executive Director of IGS. He joined on 24 June 2013.

Dr. Rahman, a reputed economist, started his professional career in the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) in 1975. From September 1992 to June 2012, Dr. Rahman has carried out varied important responsibilities in ADB for 20 years. And at the time of his retirement from ADB he held the position of 'Director General' which is the senior most position held by a Bangladeshi in an international organisation. An alumni of the prestigious Stanford University in the United States, Dr. Rahman obtained his Ph.D. and M.A. Degrees from there and M. A. in Economics from the Vanderbilt University. He was also educated at Dhaka University, Chittagong College and Faujdarhat Cadet College.

Throughout his professional career of 37 years Dr. Rahman presented papers, participated in, organised and chaired many workshops, seminars and conferences around the world. He has worked in Cambodia, Thailand, Viet Nam, Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Bangladesh as well as 14 Pacific Island countries in the northern and southern Pacific Ocean region. Dr. Rahman has published on a wide range of economic issues. His current research interests are in the areas of economic growth and inequality, 'green growth,' macroeconomic policy, financial sector policy, governance and regional economic cooperation and integration.