



Bangladesh University of Professionals

Online Learning Initiatives of Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) amid Covid-19 Lockdown Situation

Bangladesh University of Professionals is a unique education rendering institution in the country. It stands unique firstly, for its administration completely run by Armed Forces and secondly, for its wide range of faculties and degrees conducted by both in house departments/faculties and affiliated institutions. BUP terminated all educational activities following the government's instruction on March 19, 2020 as a response to likely Covid 19 outbreak. From March 22, 2020, BUP started conducting online academic curriculum after approval from University Grant Commission (UGC). The purposes of such initiative were to:

- Ensure timely delivery of the knowledge/lessons to the students for avoiding any term loss or academic session jam
- Maintain the orientation of student's mindset towards study
- Maintain a constant link with the students for providing psychological and if necessary any kind of support during the pandemic period

This quick transition was possible due to the sincere preparation of course kit covering course materials, lectures, references, presentations and assignments by the faculties and timely uploading the same in the BUP UCAM i.e. University Comprehensive Academic Manager (a customized academic management web application developed for BUP). The students with their individual UCAM account provided by BUP can access these materials from any part of the globe. For the conduct of the classes, the faculties are using different web based platforms/applications namely You Tube, Google Class Rooms, ZOOM, Face Book etc. The faculties are maintaining their intra collaboration using UCAM. Utilizing all these platforms and

applications both delivery of the knowledge and conduct of online tests, deposition of assignments, presentations by students are being done. For facilitating the online classes BUP is providing complementary mobile data to all faculties and to the students with special need. Some platforms are also being used by MPhil and PhD researchers for attending course work and maintaining constant communication with the supervisors. It is mentionable that BUP ICT Centre is constantly supporting entire initiative. The major affiliated institutes are also conducting the programs with same tempo.

The pandemic has created severe psychological pressure in all corners of the society. As such, conducts of online academic Programs are kept very flexible. Regular online meetings are being conducted with the BUP leadership and deans to match the delivery of the lessons and mental strength of the students. If felt necessary, such program will be conducted with planned holidays between sessions, rescheduling the dates of assessments, exams or even rescheduling the semesters.

BUP believes in 'Excellence Through Knowledge', that underlines the fact of providing quality service to the society. On that point, all our students and all the members of the society are equally important to us. Beside the academic programs BUP has already donated in the Honorable Prime Minister's Relief Fund, conducted essential ration and relief distribution to the people in need in the areas around BUP localities.

Covid 19, the pandemic that has not been experienced by the human race before. Surely, the end of this pandemic will present a new social structure in future. Being an academic institution, BUP will make all the endeavors using the faculties and the professionals to outline the shape of the future society in a post pandemic situation and find out the appropriate tools for serving the same.

Major General Ataul Hakim Sarwar Hasan, SBP, SGP, ndc, afwc, psc, PhD
Vice Chancellor
Bangladesh University of Professionals