



DU in Media

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The Bangladesh Today





The Daily Observer

The Dhaka Tribune

DU ramps up security

Plans search operations ahead of DUCSU polls

Search operations will be conducted at six main entrances of Dhaka University (DU) from 6pm to 8am everyday as part of tightened security measures on the campus, the university administration announced Tuesday.

The decision came in light of the prevailing campus security situation and in preparation for the upcoming Dhaka University Central Students' Union (DUCSU) election.

Members of the university's proctorial team alongside personnel from Ansar and Armed Police Battalion (APBn) will conduct the searches through checkpoints, DU Public Relations Office said in a press release.

The decisions were taken at a meeting held Monday at the Vice-Chancellor's office.

The meeting, chaired by DU Vice-Chancellor Prof Dr. Niaz Ahmad Khan reviewed the security strategy on campus.

The university administration also decided to request additional patrols by army personnel around the campus to strengthen security.

A striking force comprising members of law enforcement agencies will also be deployed inside the university.

Regular drives will be carried out to remove vagrants from the campus and meetings will be held with student organisations to maintain peace

and order.

The meeting also decided to send letters to the Ministry of Law to expedite the trial of the murder case of Shammo and to the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) for accelerating the proceedings in the Tofazzal murder case.

In response to the recent recovery of homemade explosives (cocktails) on campus, university authorities said the on-duty security guard has been interrogated.

Intelligence agencies, including the National Security Intelligence (NSI) and Directorate General of Forces Intelligence (DGFI), have intensified their field-level surveillance. —UNB

DU ramps up security, plans search operations ahead of DUSCU polls

Agencies

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The Asian Age

Malaysia Cultural Exhibition begins at DU



► AA Entertainment Desk

The two-day "Malaysia Cultural Exhibition 2025" began on Tuesday at the University of Dhaka, offering visitors an immersive glimpse into Malaysia's vibrant and diverse cultural heritage.

"Cultural exchange plays a vital role in fostering understanding between nations and is one of the key elements in promoting mutual respect," said Malaysian High Commissioner to Bangladesh Mohammad Suhaidi Osman while inaugurating the event at the auditorium of the Institute of Modern Languages (IML). He said

this event is not only aimed at showcasing Malaysian culture but also at sparking curiosity among students about different cultures and building friendly ties between the two nations, BSS reports.

Expressing optimism about the impact of the exhibition, the envoy said, "I hope that through this exhibition, students will become more curious about Malaysia and will make an effort to appreciate its cultural richness."

The envoy expressed his belief that the event would increase the interest of the Bangladeshis in learning more about Malaysia and inspire to travel there.

He also noted with pleasure that 2026 has been officially declared as "Visit Malaysia Year," encouraging more international engagement.

Vice Chancellor of the University of Dhaka Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan, Director of the Institute of Modern Languages Professor Mohammad Absar Kamal, and students from various academic years of the institute were present at the ceremony.

The exhibition marks the continued cultural collaboration between the High Commission of Malaysia in Dhaka and the Centre for Global Studies (CGS) at University Pendidikan Sultan Idris (UPSI).

In 2023, this partnership led to the establishment of a dedicated Malay Studies Centre at the IML, which has since fostered growing academic and cultural ties between Bangladesh and Malaysia. Visitors to the exhibition can enjoy an array of traditional Malaysian arts, crafts, and live performances.

The showcase features a rich mix of customs, cuisine, textiles, and music-highlighting the multicultural fabric of Malaysian society.

Organizers noted that the exhibition offers an excellent platform for students, academics, and the general public to deepen their understanding and appreciation of Malaysian culture.

The event is supported by Batik Air and EDOTCO Bangladesh, whose sponsorship has played a crucial role in making the exhibition a success. Their involvement underscores the growing importance of international cultural exchange and cooperation.

The Malaysia Cultural Exhibition 2025 will continue through Wednesday and is open to all.



The Financial Express



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METRO/NEWS

19-06-2025

DU's research programmes face stagnation amid poor funding, bureaucracy

It awarded fewer than 100 PhDs annually since 2014

ARMAN HOSSEN

Dhaka University, the country's leading public university, has seen little progress in its MPhil and PhD programmes over the past decade, stalled by chronic underfunding, outdated procedures, and poor research support despite repeated promises of reform.

From 2014-15 to 2022-23 academic years, the university awarded fewer than 100 PhDs each year, except in 2023-24 when 105 students earned the degree.

MPhil completion rates have been even lower, ranging between just 51 and 88 students per year.

University officials estimate that over half of MPhil students and an even larger share of PhD candidates drop out before finishing, mainly due to financial hardship and bureaucratic red tape.

Although MPhil programmes are meant to be completed within two years and PhDs in three to five years, delays are routine. One of the primary obstacles is funding. In the current fiscal year, DU allocated just 2.8 per cent of its total budget to research – a modest rise from 1.63 per cent in 2022-23. Currently, only 50 MPhil students receive a Tk 10,000 monthly stipend, while 32 PhD students receive Tk 20,000 – figures widely seen as insufficient amid rising living costs. To make matters worse, students who fail to complete their degrees must repay the stipend, further discouraging research enrolment.

The application process for MPhil and PhD programmes remains painfully outdated.

Prospective students must find a supervisor manually, print and submit paper forms, deposit Tk 1,000 in a bank, and pass through six layers of manual approval at the registrar building – a process made worse by the absence of digital systems. Faculty members say the stagnation in research output is hurting DU's global standing and contributing to brain drain. Many departments still lack basic research infrastructure, and students face challenges in publishing in reputable journals due to poor institutional support.

As a result, top candidates increasingly prefer foreign universities with better funding and facilities.

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) of the university Prof Mamun Ahmed acknowledged that limited career opportunities discourage students from pursuing research.

However, he said the university plans to launch a fully funded PhD programme, which could help address the current challenges.

"Fewer students choose research because of the lack of viable career paths. We're planning a fully funded PhD programme, where the university will cover most or all of the costs. This could be a game changer," he added.

DU Vice-Chancellor Prof Niaz Ahmed Khan pointed to past political unrest as a key barrier to reforms but noted that several initiatives are now underway.

"We've formed a special committee to improve DU's ranking. Funding is being allocated for publication costs, new research projects are being launched, and research methodology courses are now mandatory across all departments," he said. He added that the university is committed to maintaining research quality and is now focusing on increasing the number of research students.

"Political instability affected our ability to make progress, but we've already begun to implement improvements," he also said.

Tariq Manzoor, a professor in the Bangla Department, underscored the need for stronger institutional commitment.

"Without proper funding and student support, we can't expect students to feel motivated to pursue research. The university must respond to their socio-economic needs," he told The Financial Express.

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Over half of
research students
drop out mid-prog

MPhil completion
rates remain lower
than PhDs

Application process
remains fully
manual, outdated

Authorities allocate
only 2.8pc budget
to research

Plan fully funded PhD programme to reform

