

DHAKA Monday 21 May 2012 07 Jaishtha 1419 BS 28 Jamadi-us-sani 1433 HIJRI

## Chandrobot 2nd-generation takes flight to Nasa

→ Md. Wahiduzzaman



An automated robot made by some BRACU students will contest at Nasa's 3rd annual Lunabotics Mining Competition this year. This is a university-level competition designed to engage and retain students in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

BRAC University's School of Engineering and Computer Science invented the Chandrobot-2, which has been given life with artificial intelligence.

Dr. Md Khalilur Rahman, Associate Professor and chief adviser to the project, is very confident about performing successfully in the contest this year. Last time their

Chandrobot earned a lot of accolades but could not win the competition because of some shortcomings. After its remodeling, the BRACU team is now confident of success.

Prof Ainun Nishat, Vice-chancellor of the university, launched the robot at the institution's Indoor Games Room recently. Professor Dr. Md. Golam Samdani Fakir was present there.

The competition will be held at Kennedy Space Centre in Florida, USA, on May 21-26. The team led by Jonayet Hossain is comprised of three faculty members: Khalilur Rahman, Belal Bhuiyan and Mosaddequr Rahman and 10 students: Mohammad Hasan, Kazi Mohammad, Mashiur Rahman, Sarah Binte Nosair, Fahim Al Hasnaeen, Meem Gazi, Nabil Shaker, Bonny Amin Khan and Khairul Hassan.

Robi Axiata Limited sponsored the team to attend the prestigious competition of Nasa this year. Zabid Ahsan, Executive Vice President, Brand and Market Communications of Robi Axiata Limited, was present at the launching ceremony. He assured that they would contribute to such research projects in future.