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Plagiarism turns epidemic, needs law to prevent it: experts

Plagiarism has turned epidemic nowadays and even renowned institutions, including the University of Dhaka, where PhD students were found involved in plagiarism recently, was struggling to rid themselves of the malady, said former caretaker government adviser Akbar Ali Khan.

Speaking at a function at BRAC University in the capital's Mohakhali, he said the government should formulate a policy to address the issue.

Ayesha Abed Library of BRACU and TurnitIndia Private Ltd organized the event titled 'Conclave on Academic and Research Integrity 2018' to disseminate knowledge and awareness about plagiarism in research.

Professor ATM Nurul Amin, chairperson of the economics and social sciences department, said plagiarism resulted from a poverty of ideas, inability to write or being unfamiliar with scholarly writing and coming out of it required building a culture of learning.

Professor K Shamsuddin Mahmood, dean of the School of Law, informed that the issue of plagiarism was not mentioned in any law in Bangladesh.

He said UK was thinking of criminalising contractual cheating, saying that the government of Bangladesh should dwell on a law on plagiarism.

Manzoor Hasan OBE, executive director of BRACU's Centre for Peace and Justice; TurnitIndia Education Pvt Ltd regional director of the South Asia Ashim Sachdeva; Professor Md Golam Samdani Fakir, vice-chancellor of the Green University of Bangladesh; Professor Abdur Rob Khan, dean of North South University's School of Humanities and Social Sciences; Professor and Vice-Chancellor of Primeasia University Abdul Hannan Chowdhury; Professor and Chairperson of English and Humanities of BRACU Firdous Azim; Professor and Chairperson of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of United International University Khawza I Ahmed, among others, spoke on the occasion.

BRACU Vice Chancellor (acting) SN Kairy was special guest while registrar Md Foyzul Islam and other officials were present at the event.

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