Deva Priya Barua (D. P. Barua)

Deva Priya Barua (D. P. Barua) is a founder Trustee of Education, Science, Technology and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT), the founding Trust of IUB. He was a student of Dhaka University and obtained his M.A. degree in English Literature. With more than 50 years experience in journalism, Mr. Barua retired from the post of Managing Director and Chief Editor of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS) on September 29, 1996 after completing nearly six years’ assignment in the job from 1991 to 1996. He also served BSS as Managing Editor from 1974 to 1991. He visited several countries to cover international events from time to time.

Besides long experience in journalism, he is a well known social figure working for the cause of disabled, particularly persons with mental retardation for nearly 20 years since 1977. A Founder of the Society for the Care and Education of the Mentally Retarded, Bangladesh (SCEMRB), he was Vice-President since its inception from 1977 to 1987 and was later elected President for three terms.

A leading figure of Bangladesh Bouddha Kristi Prachar Sangha (Regional Centre of World Fellowship of Buddhists) for 16 years (1961-1977). At present, he is the Secretary General of Bangladesh National Centre of the Asian Buddhists Conference for Peace (ABCP) and associated with several other socio-cultural Buddhist organizations. He represented the Buddhist Community of Bangladesh in 22 International Buddhist Conferences from 1963 to 1995. In 1972, he participated in the 10th World Buddhist Conference held under the auspices of World Fellowship of Buddhists in Colombo and presented report on “Genocide in occupied Bangladesh and the role of the Buddhist Community in the Liberation Struggle”.

D. P. Barua wrote numerous articles on Buddhism, culture, national heritage, social and development issues in different journals at home and abroad. Bangla Academy published his book on “Life of Benimadhav Barua” and the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh included a written lecture of him on “Influence of Buddhism in the Philosophy of Ancient Bangladesh” in a publication on “Philosophy of Bangladesh”.

He was awarded “International Peace Gold Medal” by the Sixth General Conference of Asian Buddhists for Peace held in Ulan Bator, Mongolia, in 1982 and “Atish Dipankar Gold Medal” by Srijnan Atish Dipankar Research Council, Dhaka. The Bangladesh Supreme Buddhist Sangha Council awarded him the title “Vishwa Shanti Dut”.