



IUB

**Independent University,
Bangladesh**

**Sponsored Research (SR)
Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor**

**Overview Report on
SR Activities (2019-2021)**

1. Prologue

One major distinction of the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), which sets it apart from many other institutions, is the emphasis on research. IUB provides substantial financial and other support to its faculty for conducting research. Most of the IUB's Sponsored Research takes place within individual departments and academic units, including the institution's centers and institutes, and through the partnerships IUB has developed with different entities. These activities are critical to the fulfillment of IUB's research agenda. To protect the integrity and transparency of all research activities, IUB already have specific policies and procedures that ensure compliance with the requirements. The Sponsored Research office under the office of Pro-Vice Chancellor was established in 2016.

This report provides an overview of the SR activities, progress and selected outcomes in the recent years.

2. Budget Summary:

Sponsored Research Annual Budget from 2019-2021

SI	FY	Approved Budget (BDT)	Allocated Budget (BDT)	Additional Approval/Surplus (BDT)
1	2019-2020	78,60,000	1,60,14,635	81,54,635 (Additional Approval)
2	2020-2021	1,50,00,000	1,48,10,950	1,89,050 (Surplus)
3	2021-2022	1,52,00,000	1,51,15,381	84,619 (Surplus)

Year wise approved projects:

- **FY 2019-2020: 28**
- **FY 2020-2021: 25**
- **FY 2021-2022: 20**

3. Year wise Major Activities of Sponsored Research Office

2019	
➤	Sponsored Research office sent the 1st Call for Proposals back in 2019 and received a total of 46 research applications.
➤	After that we followed all the step by step processes according to the Sponsored Research Policy and at last, a total 28 proposals were recommended by the URC for final approval
➤	All of them applied for IRB clearance and everyone received a clearance
BoT approved 28 research applications for FY 2019-2020	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BoT Approved on 7th December 2019; Award Distributed from 18th December 2019 	

Summary of Sponsored Research Applications for FY 2019-20

SI	Name of the School	Name of the Total Proposals	Available Fund (BDT)	BoT Approved Fund (BDT)
1	School of Engineering and Computer Science	5	38,50,000	58,16,550
2	School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	5	17,00,000	28,33,625
3	School of Environment Science and Management	9	9,10,000	34,77,960
4	School of Business	7	6,50,000	35,44,500
5	School of Life Sciences	1	5,00,000	2,72,000
6	School of Public Health	1	2,50,000	70,000
	Total	28	78,60,000	1,60,14,635

2020

- Sponsored Research office sent the 2nd Call for Proposals back in 2020 and received a total of 26 research applications.
- After that we followed all the step by step processes according to the Sponsored Research Policy and at last, all 26 proposals were recommended by the URC for final approval as fund was available
- All of them applied for IRB clearance and 25 received the clearance and 01 get rejected.

BoT approval is due to these **25** research applications for FY 2020-2021

Award Distributed in May 2020.

Summary of Sponsored Research Applications for FY 2020-21

SI	Name of the School	Total Submitted Proposals	Total Fund Recommended by URC
1	School of Business and Entrepreneurship	5	BDT 15,49,750
2	School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences	13	BDT 96,91,200
3	School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	4	BDT 16,00,000
4	School of Environment and Life Sciences	2	BDT 14,10,000
5	School of Pharmacy and Public Health	1	BDT 5,60,000
	Total	25	BDT 1,48,10,950

Total Fund Available for FY 2020-2021	BDT 1,50,00,000
Total Fund Recommended by URC	BDT 1,48,10,950
Surplus	BDT 1,89,050

2021

- Sponsored Research office sent the 3rd Call for Proposals back in 2021 and received a total of 34 research applications.
- After that we followed all the step by step processes according to the Sponsored Research Policy and at last, all **20** proposals were recommended by the URC for final approval as fund was available
- All of them applied for IRB clearance and everyone received a clearance

BoT approval is due to these **20** research applications for FY 2021-2022

Award Distributed in December 2021.

IUB Sponsored Research Grant Applications for FY 2021-2022

Summary		URC Recommended			
SI	Name of the School	Total Submitted Proposals	Total Fund Requested	Total Proposals	Fund Recommended
1	School of Business and Entrepreneurship	1	13,90,000	1	13,90,000
2	School of Engineering, Technology and Sciences	21	3,16,97,250	8	78,16,525
3	School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	5	31,74,000	5	31,74,000
4	School of Environment and Life Sciences	6	34,22,090	6	27,34,856
5	School of Pharmacy and Public Health	1	10,60,500	0	0
	Total	34	4,07,43,840	20	1,51,15,381
			Four Crores Seven Lacs Forty Three Thousands Eight Hundred Forty Taka Only		One Crore Fifty One Lacs Fifteen Thousands Three Hundred Eighty One Taka Only
Sponsored Research Budget for FY 2021-2022 at IUB					
	Total Fund Available		1,52,00,000		
	Total Fund Required for SRC Recommendations		1,51,15,381		
	Surplus/Deficit		84,619		

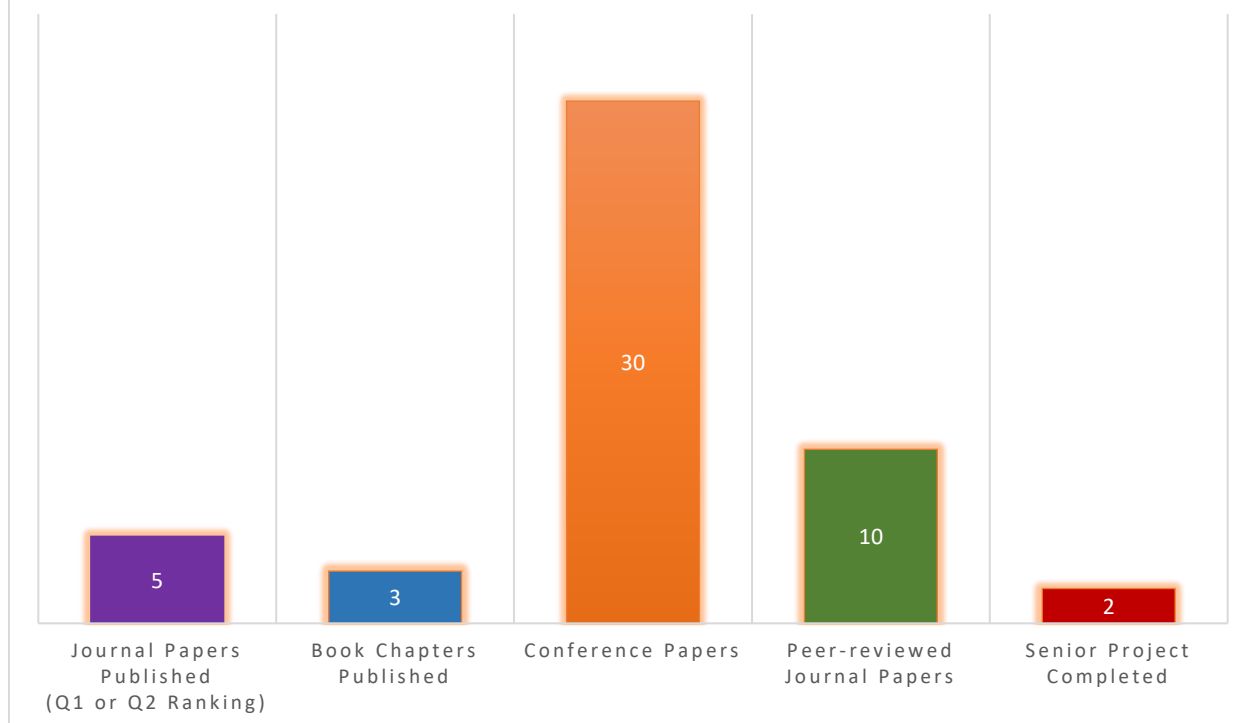
4. Summary of the outcomes of Sponsored Research Projects for FY 2019-2020

A total of 28 projects were approved for the FY 2019-2020 under Sponsored Research at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB). The total allocated budget was **BDT 16,014,635**. The Principal Investigators (PIs) from the various departments started work with great enthusiasm. However, the emergence of the deadly COVID-19 virus resulted in the world coming to a standstill. Multiple projects got stalled and many PIs sought out extensions. The reasons for the extensions were the unavailability of materials/resources, the inaccessibility to the laboratory, and/or the inability to execute field work/surveys, to name a few. Fortunately, all was not lost. Once Bangladesh learnt to maneuver the COVID-19 crisis, the projects resumed in full force.

Out of the 28 active projects, 11 projects have been completed, 11 PIs have applied for extensions and 6 projects have been closed. The final remaining balance stands at **BDT 6,039,283** which shows that approximately 62.28% of the fund has been exhausted. Among the completed projects, several PIs have done a remarkable job in publishing in highly ranked journals. Dr. Md. Ashraful Amin from the Computer Science and Engineering (CSE) department published 1 peer-reviewed Journal Paper, 3 Book Chapters and 22 Conference Papers. His colleague from the same department, Dr. AKM Mahbubur Rahman, published 2 peer-reviewed journal papers, 5 conference papers and also created a well-annotated dataset which is an incredible feat. In summary, **5 Journal** papers have been published in well-reputed journals with either **Q1** or **Q2** rankings; **30 conference papers** and **3 book chapters** have been published; **10 peer-reviewed Journal papers** are enroute to publication; **2 senior projects** have been completed.

The Sponsored Research Unit is working to organize an internal conference with the completed projects of FY2019-20 very soon. The outcome of the conference will be shared with the relevant governance bodies including the Academic Council and the Board of Trustees.

OUTCOME OF THE SPONSORED RESEARCH PROJECTS FOR FY 2019-20



- **Example of Journals:**

Rahman, A., Anam, A. S. M., & Yeasin, M. (2020). Robust modeling of epistemic mental states. *Multimedia Tools and Applications*, 79(47), 35785-35809.

- **Example of Book Chapter:**

Daneshgadeh, S., Ahmed, T., & Pathan, A. S. K. (2020). The Kernel-Based Online Anomaly Detection Algorithm: Detailed Derivation and Development. In *Security Analytics for the Internet of Everything* (pp. 155-192). CRC Press.

- **Example of Conference Papers:**

Leon, M., Islam, S., Akter, J., Sakib, N., & Islam, M. (2022). Analysis of EEG Signal Classification for Application in SSVEP-Based BCI Using Convolutional Neural Network. In *Proceedings of the International Conference on Big Data, IoT, and Machine Learning* (pp. 593-606). Springer, Singapore.

5. Recent Reform and important elements and steps

- **Formation of the Sponsored Research Review Sub-Committee**

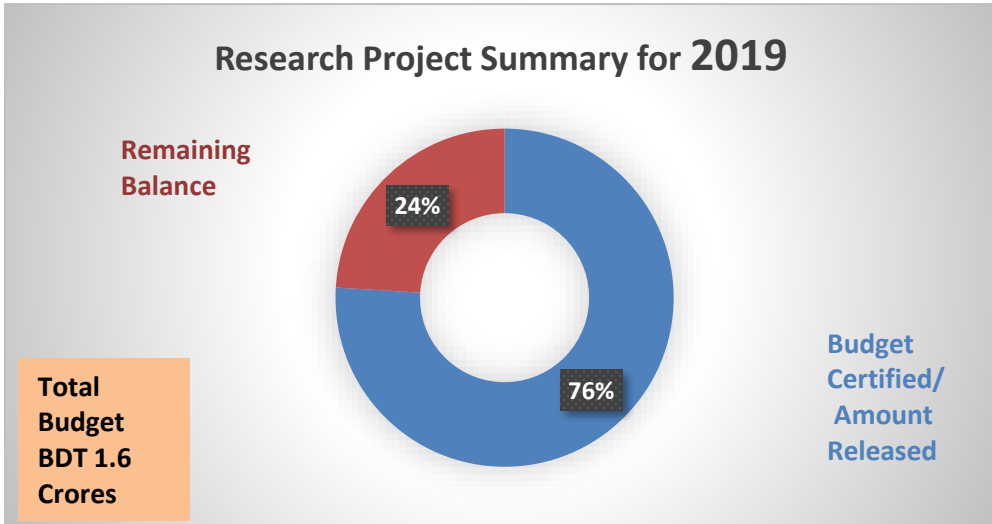
The University Research Committee (URC) recommended to form a Sponsored Research Review Sub-Committee in order to review the current modalities of the sponsored research scheme and recommend ways of improvement under the leadership of Professor Shah M. Faruque, PhD; Dean, School of Environment and Life Sciences. The Committee has produced a draft of a revised policy which will be updated and finalized soon.

- **Regular Conduct of meeting of University Research Committee (URC)**

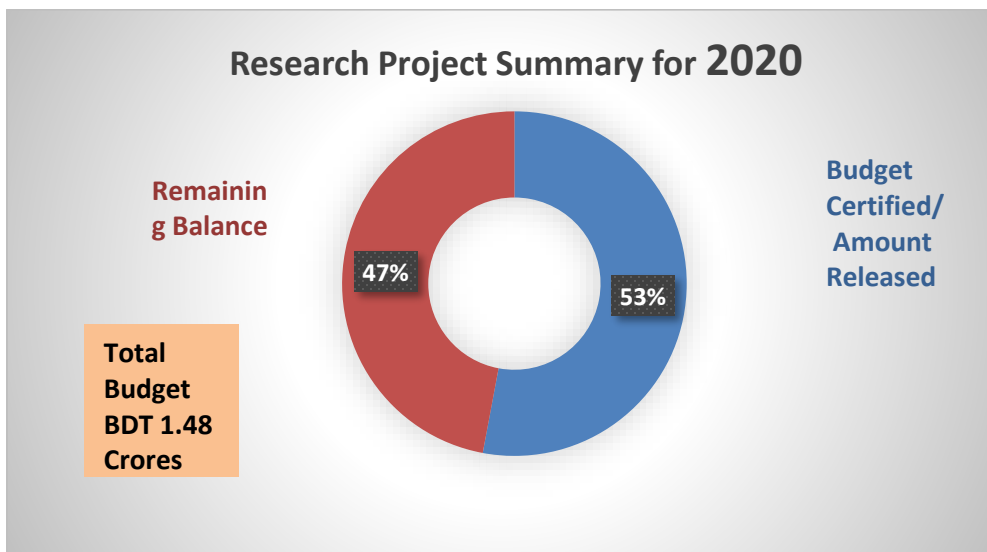
Other Steps:

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the researchers could not go for field/ empirical data collection and several PI's sought for project extension. The URC has considered the extension of some projects.
- The Sponsored Research Unit is also working towards organizing an internal conference with the completed projects of FY2019-20 which is nearing completion. The outcome of the conference will be furnished in the BOT for their consumption.
- A courtesy meeting was held on Monday, November 15, 2021 between Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan, PhD., Pro-Vice Chancellor, IUB and Professor M Rezwan Khan, Executive Director, Institute for Advanced Research (IAR), United International University (UIU), Dhaka, at the Pro- Vice Chancellors' Office of IUB. During the meeting, Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan, Pro-Vice Chancellor, IUB thanked Professor M Rezwan Khan for his visit and interest on research collaboration with IUB.
- The Sponsored Research Unit and Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), IUB jointly organized an Online Workshop on Bibliometric Analysis on January 27, 2022.
- After the resignation of Mr. Abdulla Hil Shafi, Senior Officer of the Office, Mr. Hasan Saimum Wahab, Asst. Director of Pro Vice Chancellor's Office is currently working as in Charge of the Sponsored Research Unit. The recruitment of a Senior Officer in this Unit is under process.

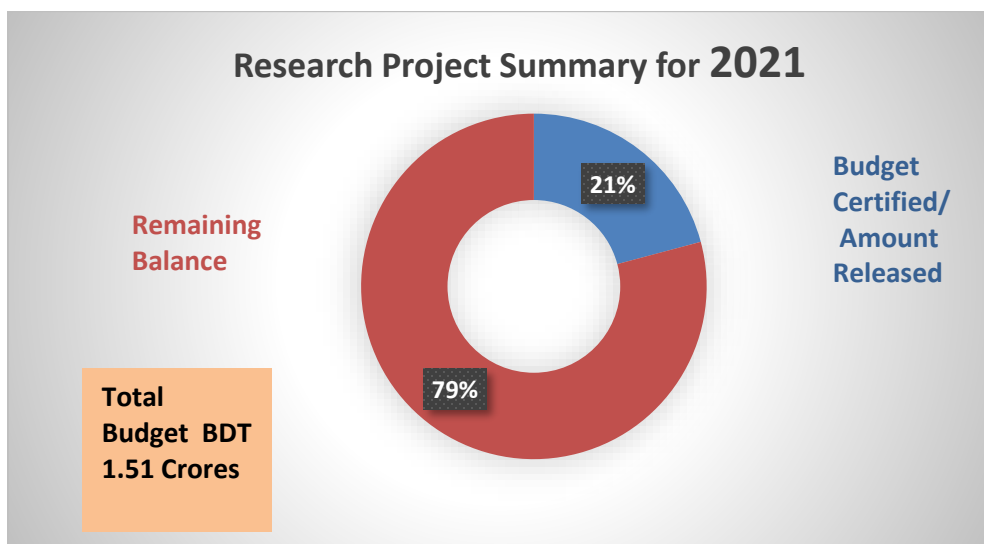
PIE Chart of Budget Utilization:



- 11 Projects completed
- 11 Projects extended
- 6 Projects closed



- Total 25 Projects
- All are ongoing
- Mostly two years' projects



- Total 20 Projects
- All are ongoing
- Mostly two years' projects