

Good governance alongside growth imperative

BIDS Critical Conversation starts in city

FE Report

Former adviser of caretaker government Dr. Akbar Ali Khan laid emphasis on ensuring good governance alongside the country's economic growth.

"Not only economic growth, ensuring good governance is also important," he said Sunday at a working session on 'Can Bangladesh continue to grow without good governance', an annual event of the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS).

Dr. Khan said the issue of ensuring good governance becomes important for a country when its economic status upgrades.

He, however, suggested phasing out the existing bonded-warehouse facility in the context of globalisation.

Chaired by former adviser of caretaker government Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, the session at a local hotel was also attended, among others, by Professor at the Department of Economics of the University of Dhaka and Executive Director of the South Asian Network on Economics Dr. Selim Raihan.

In his speech, Dr. Zillur stressed the need for assessing the outcomes of the country's economic growth.

The session was followed by an inaugural function where a former central bank governor said Bangladesh can achieve its upper-middle-income



Former governor of Bangladesh Bank Dr Mohammed Farashuddin speaks at a conference on 'Bangladesh Journey - Accelerating Transformation' - on Sunday. Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) organised the programme in a city hotel. — FE Photo

country status by 2029 at the current economic growth pace.

"At our current growth rate, I think it is possible to reach the upper-middle-income status from the lower-middle-income status by 2029," Dr Mohammed Farashuddin said at a seminar on 'Bangladesh Journey: Accelerating Transformation' in the morning.

"And if we can make double-digit GDP growth by 2022, I think we can reach higher-middle-income threshold by 2027", he said.

Bangladesh became a lower-middle-income

country, joining those with GNI per capita of \$1,046 to \$4,125, on July 1, 2015 and now aims at achieving middle-income country status by 2021.

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies

(BIDS) organised the seminar, part of a two-day event, with Director General DR KAS Murshid presenting the keynote paper at the event's opening session.

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YESTERDAY'S KEY INDICATORS

DSE	DSEX Index	...	5438.24624	83,41760 Points	▼
	DSES Index	...	1262.63956	9,60217 Points	▼
	DS30 Index	...	2024.51854	25,91782 Points	▼
Average selling rates to public (in BDT)					
Foreign Exchange	Bank	USD		Euro	GBP
	SCBs	81.57		88.18	105.30
	FCBs	81.83		88.63	104.81
	PCBs	82.57		90.42	107.13
	Average buying rates from public (in BDT)				
Foreign Exchange	Bank	USD		Euro	GBP
	SCBs	80.60		85.89	102.92
	FCBs	80.85		84.80	100.84
	PCBs	81.59		86.70	103.51
	Money	Call money rate	...		
Previous rate		...			2.50%-4.50%