

Speakers underscore importance of green financing



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Speakers at a discussion highlighted the potential of solar energy and the OPEX model, in which third-party investors finance solar projects.

The Department of Architecture at North South University (NSU), in collaboration with the Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL), hosted the panel discussion on “The Role of Green Finance in Advancing Renewable Energy and Sustainable Development in Bangladesh.”

The speakers also emphasised green financing initiatives, such as solar home systems, irrigation solutions, electric vehicles, and energy-efficient programmes.

Experts from academia, industry, and government convened to discuss the critical role of green finance in ensuring a sustainable energy future for Bangladesh.

The panel featured distinguished speakers, including Nazmul Haque, chief

investment officer, and Alamgir Morshed, executive director and CEO of IDCOL.

Alamgir Morshed, CEO of IDCOL, expressed interest in funding sustainability initiatives on NSU campus and proposed considering the university as a pilot project for energy efficiency measures.

Panelists underscored the urgency of energy efficiency in buildings, which account for 56% of Bangladesh’s total energy consumption.

The discussion stressed the need to bridge the academia-industry gap, urging universities to lead research-driven solutions for a sustainable energy transition.

Bangladesh Bank’s mandate requiring 5% of commercial loans to be allocated for green finance has already reached 16%, yet challenges remain, including long loan durations and high costs. Proposed solutions included green bonds and regulatory incentives to enhance financing mechanisms.