



NEWSLETTER

July 2025 – December 2025



SIPG Seminar “The Significance of the July Revolution for U.S.–Bangladesh Relations: Looking Back, Looking Forward” (28 July 2025)

SIPG hosted a timely seminar titled “The Significance of the July Revolution for U.S.–Bangladesh Relations: Looking Back, Looking Forward” on 28 July 2025. Distinguished diplomats, scholars, and industry leaders gathered to explore the evolving partnership between Bangladesh and the United States—covering trade, strategy, democratic values, and people-to-people ties in a changing global landscape. The seminar reflected NSU’s commitment to fostering meaningful dialogue on pressing global and regional issues.

The Special Guest was Jon F. Danilowicz, Former U.S. Diplomat. The Keynote Speaker was Mohammad Sufiur Rahman, Senior Research Fellow, SIPG, NSU. Discussants were Mahmud Hasan Khan, President, BGMEA; Professor (Retd.) Shahiduzzaman, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka; Dr. AKM Waresul Karim, Dean, School of Business & Economics, NSU. The Session Chair was Professor Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice-Chancellor, NSU.

Webinar - ‘The Iran–Israel War: Implications for the Global South and Beyond’ (10 July 2025)

SIPG hosted a webinar titled “Iran–Israel War: Implications for South Asia and its Neighbourhood” on 10 July 2025. This timely webinar brought together esteemed scholars and experts to explore the broader geopolitical, security, and economic impacts of the ongoing conflict, especially from the perspective of the Global South.

The distinguished panelists were- Dr. Zeinab Ghasemi Tari, Associate Professor at the Faculty of World Studies, University of Tehran; Professor Qian Feng, Senior Research Fellow at the National Strategy Institute, Tsinghua University, China; Professor Amjad Abbas Khan, University of Punjab, said, Pakistan; Professor Mohammed Nuruzzaman, Department of Political Science and Sociology, NSU; and Professor Mahendra Lama, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India.



Chinese Delegates' Visits to CSCSS, SIPG, NSU Delegation from Yunnan Normal University (YNNU)



We were honored to host a delegation from Yunnan Normal University (YNNU), China, at CSCSS, SIPG, North South University, on July 16, 2025. The roundtable discussion offered meaningful insights into Bangladeshi perspectives on the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the BCIM Economic Corridor, fostering academic exchange and cross-cultural dialogue. SIPG extends its sincere thanks to our guests and participating faculty and students for making this visit intellectually enriching and globally relevant.

Delegation from Yunnan University

On July 30, 2025, CSCSS of SIPG, NSU, welcomed a delegation from Yunnan University's School of Media and Communication, China, for an enriching academic exchange. The visit was facilitated by the Media and Communication Program, while the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG) hosted a dynamic roundtable discussion. The China-South Asia Center for Socio-Cultural Studies (CSCSS) made a meaningful contribution to the session, which explored cross-cultural perspectives in media, communication, and regional collaboration. The visit underscored NSU's commitment to international academic partnerships and intercultural dialogue.



Delegation from Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences

It was a pleasure to host the esteemed delegation from the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences at CSCSS, SIPG on July 1, 2025. Engaging discussions with SIPG scholars opened doors to promising academic cooperation and deeper China-Bangladesh dialogue.



SIPG, NSU & BPATC Renew Strategic Partnership for Excellence in Policy & Governance (14 August 2025)



SIPG of NSU has renewed its Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) on 14 August 2025 to further strengthen collaboration in research, training, and capacity building. This renewed partnership reaffirms our shared commitment to advancing evidence-based policy, promoting good governance, and fostering sustainable development in Bangladesh and beyond.

Dialogue “July Mass Uprising 2024: Gen Z’s Expectations and Achievements” (3 August 2025)

The dialogue titled “জুলাই গণঅভ্যুত্থান ২০২৪: জেন জি’র প্রত্যাশা ও প্রাপ্তি (July Mass Uprising 2024: Gen Z’s Expectations and Achievements)”, held on 3 August 2025 at NSU Audi 801, brought forward timely and important reflections on democracy, citizenship, and the aspirations of the new generation. The discussion featured Professor Abdul Hannan Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of North South University; Professor Salimullah Khan from the Department of History and Philosophy, NSU; and Barrister Fuad Abdullah, politician and political analyst.

The event was organized by the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG) and the NSU Debate Club (NSUDC), with NTV as the media partner. The full dialogue is now available on NTV’s YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tzi31DO2bXk>



Dialogue “In Search of a Democratic and Representative Electoral System” (2 August 2025)

On 2 August 2025, North South University hosted a dialogue titled “একটি গণতান্ত্রিক ও প্রতিনিধিত্বমূলক নির্বাচন পদ্ধতির সন্ধানে (In Search of a Democratic and Representative Electoral System),” organized by SIPG and PUTAB. The event brought together political leaders, academics, and civil society representatives to discuss electoral reform in the post-July Revolution context. Key participants included Badiul Alam Majumdar, Ruhul Kabir Rizvi, Bobby Hajjaj, Tasnim Jara, Mamunul Haque, and Dilara Chowdhury.



EMPG Fall 2025 Admission Test (22 August 2025)



The EMPG Fall 2025 Admission Test was successfully held on 22 August 2025 at NSU! We were delighted to welcome enthusiastic applicants aspiring to join the Executive Master of Public Governance (EMPG) program at SIPG, NSU.

Dhaka-China Day 2025: Celebrating Friendship, Culture, and Collaboration at NSU (25 September 2025)



North South University (NSU), with the support of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Bangladesh, hosted Dhaka-China Day 2025, a vibrant celebration of the enduring friendship between Bangladesh and China. Held at Audi 801 and the Main Auditorium, the day-long event brought together scholars, policymakers, students, and cultural ambassadors for a program filled with dialogue, culture, and creativity.

There were two Technical Sessions and a Youth Forum, preceding the grand inauguration ceremony and cultural performances, followed by a Chinese Film Screening. On 23-24 September 2025, the Dhaka-China Film Festival was held too. The China-South Asia Center for Socio-Cultural Studies (CSCSS) of the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG) and the Confucius Institute at NSU collaborated with the Chinese Embassy in Dhaka to organize these programs.

Dhaka-China Day Film Festival 2025 (23-25 September 2025)

Dhaka-China Day Film Festival, held from September 23 to 25 in the Main Auditorium. Films such as The Truth 1, Ne Jha 1, Utshob, and The Truth 2 offered audiences a cinematic journey into Chinese and Bangladeshi culture, providing an immersive platform for cultural exchange and dialogue. As part of the Dhaka-China Day Film Festival 2025, the 'Utshob' film team came to NSU on 23 September 2025 to meet the students and inaugurate a special screening of the film at NSU Main auditorium.

The wonderful event with the "Utshob" team was graced by Director Tanim Noor, acclaimed actor Zahid Hasan, popular actress Syeda Tuhin Ara Karim, and rising star Sadia Ayman. The China-South Asia Center for Socio-Cultural Studies (CSCSS) of the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG) and the Confucius Institute at NSU collaborated with the Chinese Embassy in Dhaka to organize these programs.

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Policy Dialogue on “Reviving Dhaka’s Rivers: Policy Options for Sustainable Management” (22 September 2025)



A Policy Dialogue on “Reviving Dhaka’s Rivers: Policy Options for Sustainable Management”, held on 22 September 2025, at North South University. The event, jointly organised by SIPG, NSU & H&H Foundation, brought together experts, policymakers, academics, and practitioners to discuss sustainable strategies for the Dhaka Rivers and better Water Management for the future.

SIPG Research Talk on “Strengthening Bangladesh–U.S. Trade Relations: Strategies to Reduce the Trade Gap”(23rd September 2025)

SIPG Research Talk on “Strengthening Bangladesh–U.S. Trade Relations: Strategies to Reduce the Trade Gap” with guest speaker Mr. Philip Grove, Director of Business Development, Ellicott Dredge Enterprises, LLC (U.S.), held on 23rd September 2025 at the SIPG Conference Room, North South University.



EMPG Fall 2025 Orientation Program (20 September 2025)



Orientation Program of the Executive Masters in Policy and Governance (EMPG) – 9th Batch, Fall 2025 was held on 20 September 2025 at the SHSS Conference Room, NSU. It was organized by the SIPG at North South University, and the event welcomed the new cohort of professionals embarking on their journey in governance and policy analysis. The EMPG program is designed to provide international-standard education and training, equipping participants to lead with impact in Bangladesh and beyond.

SIPG Hosted the UN Day Conference 2025 (23 October 2025)

The conference- “United Nations Day: Critical Review and Evaluation of UN Reform” was held on 23 October 2025 at NSU. This special event featured distinguished speakers Dr. Nazia Khanum OBE and Dr. David Cheesman from UNA–Luton (UK), along with Prof. Imran Rahman (ULAB), Barrister Manzoor Hasan OBE (CPJ, BracU), and Dr. Mohammed Nuruzzaman (NSU). It was jointly organized by SIPG–NSU and H&H Foundation, in collaboration with UNA–Luton (UK). The seminar explored how the United Nations can reform its structures—particularly the use of veto power—to ensure greater accountability and global equity.



CMS Research talk (16 October 2025)

The CMS Research talk on “Internal Migration, Youth Employment and Societal Transformations in Bangladesh” was held on 16 October 2025. The speaker was Dr. Selim Reza, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science and Sociology, and Coordinator, CMS, SIPG, NSU. This research explored how youth migration from rural areas to cities like Dhaka influences employment opportunities and drives significant socio-cultural changes across Bangladesh.



The poster for the CMS Research Talk features a blue background with white and yellow text. At the top right, there are logos for SIPG and CMS. The main title is "Internal Migration, Youth Employment and Societal Transformations in Bangladesh". Below the title, the date and time are listed as "16 October, 2025 11.00 AM". The location is "SIPG conference Room (NAC 1058)". A circular portrait of Dr. Selim Reza is on the right. His name and title "Speaker" are prominently displayed. Below that, his full name and professional credentials are listed: "Associate Professor, Coordinator, Center for Migration Studies (CMS), South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG), Additional Director (ELT), Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), North South University".

DSCSC Participants Join a Certificate Course on Negotiation in EMPG



10 participants from the Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC) are currently attending the certificate course EMPG515 – Negotiation Tools and Techniques as part of the Executive Masters in Policy and Governance (EMPG) program, Fall 2025, alongside the 9th batch of EMPG students. This course equips professionals with advanced skills in negotiation, strategy, and policy decision-making.

The CMS Coordinator meets the Director of the Russian House in Dhaka (30 October 2025)

On 30 October 2025, Dr. Selim Reza, Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Centre for Migration Studies (CMS) of SIPG, NSU, met with Ms. Alexandra Khlevnoy, the new Director of the Russian House in Dhaka. The meeting was fruitful and forward-looking, exploring opportunities for academic collaboration between SIPG, NSU, and Russian institutions. Ms. Khlevnoy expressed a strong interest in establishing a Centre for Russian Studies at North South University, paving the way for enhanced Bangladesh–Russia academic and cultural cooperation.



SIPG Talk on “Electoral Governance in Bangladesh: Challenges and Possibilities of the 2026 General Election.” (9 November 2025)

The SIPG Talk on “Electoral Governance in Bangladesh: Challenges and Possibilities of the 2026 General Election” was held on 9 November 2025. Brig. Gen. (Retd.) Dr. M. Sakhawat Hussain, Adviser to the Ministry of Shipping and the Ministry of Labour and Employment, and a Former Election Commissioner of Bangladesh, shared his invaluable insights on electoral institutions, governance reforms, and democratic preparedness ahead of the 2026 General Election.



CMS Member Delivered a Lecture at NDC (9 October 2025)

Dr. Mohammad Jalal Uddin Sikder, Associate Professor and Member of the Center for Migration Studies (CMS), delivered an engaging lecture at the National Defence College (NDC) on 9 October 2025.



SIPG Talk on “Charting a Lasting Stability in Myanmar” (13 November 2025)



SIPG Talk on “Charting a Lasting Stability in Myanmar” was held on 13 November 2025. The Speaker was Dr. Kawser Ahmed, Executive Director of the Conflict and Resilience Research Institute, Canada (CRRIC).

SIPG Talk on 'Contemporary Foreign Policy of Russia' (18 November 2025)



SIPG Talk on 'Contemporary Foreign Policy of Russia' was held on 18 November 2025. The speaker was Dr. Nikolay Yagodka, Deputy Dean for International Affairs, Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University). He brought valuable insights into Russia's evolving strategic posture in global affairs.

SIPG Director Presented at the NSU SHSS Faculty Seminar (5 November 2025)

Professor Sk Tawfique M. Haque, Professor of Political Science and Director, SIPG, presented his paper "Youth-Led Movements to Governance Reform: What Nepal's Gen Z uprising can learn from Bangladesh's 'Monsoon Uprising' and Sri Lanka's 'Aragalaya'" at the NSU SHSS Faculty Seminar Series held on 5 November 2025. The event featured Dr. Israt Zakia Sultana as the discussant and Mr. Labib Mahmud as the moderator.



Welcoming NORAD & the Royal Norwegian Embassy Delegation at SIPG, NSU (27 November 2025)

On Thursday, 27 November 2025, we had the honor of hosting H.E. Ambassador Håkon Arvid Gulbrandsen and the distinguished team from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and the Royal Norwegian Embassy. SIPG has a long-standing collaboration with NORAD and Norway in academia, research, policy engagement, and capacity-building initiatives. The visit fostered meaningful discussions on future partnerships and academic cooperation.



Welcoming a Delegation from the Russian House and RUDN University (12 November 2025)

On 12 November 2025, North South University warmly welcomed representatives from the Russian House and esteemed professors from the Peoples' Friendship University of Russia (RUDN University). Ms. Alexandra Khlevnoy (Director, Russian House), Mr. George Latsuzbaya (Deputy Director), along with RUDN scholars, Dr. Vladimir Sinyachkin, Dr. Nikolai Yagodka, and Mr. Daniil Emchenko, visited NSU to discuss future academic collaboration, cultural exchange, and the establishment of a cultural and research center. As part of their visit, the delegation also toured the South Asian Institute of Policy and Governance (SIPG).



CSCSS of SIPG Welcomed Academics from the Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences (YASS), China, at NSU (2 November 2025)

China-South Asia Center for Socio-Cultural Studies (CSCSS) of SIPG was honored to host a delegation from the Institute of Bangladesh Studies, Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences (YASS), China, on 2 November 2025. The discussion focused on the Rohingya issue, regional cooperation among Bangladesh, China, and Myanmar, and the upcoming national election in Bangladesh. The exchange provided a valuable platform for academic dialogue, policy insight, and the strengthening of cross-border research collaboration.



SIPG Research Talk on “Multimodal Data-driven Exploration of Emotional Eruption of the July Movement through Qualitative, NLP, and Image Analysis” (28 December 2025)

SIPG successfully hosted a thought-provoking SIPG Research Talk on “Multimodal Data-driven Exploration of Emotional Eruption of the July Movement through Qualitative, NLP, and Image Analysis” on 28 December 2025. Professor Nova Ahmed of the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering, NSU, and her team of young researchers at North South University HCI Research - DIAL Lab shared cutting-edge interdisciplinary insights by integrating qualitative research, natural language processing (NLP), and image analysis to unpack the emotional dynamics of the July Movement.

The session sparked rich discussions on digital governance, social movements, and data-driven research, reinforcing SIPG’s commitment to innovative policy-relevant scholarship under its 2025 research initiatives

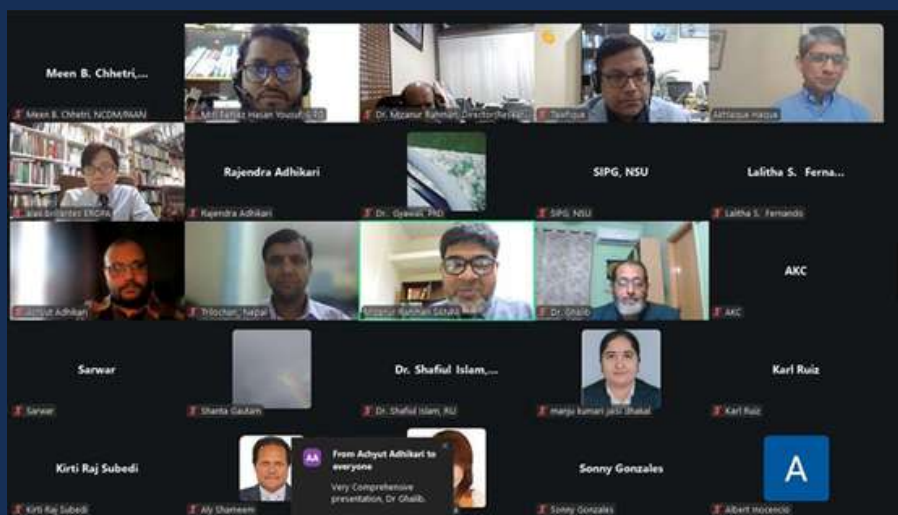


SIPG-SANPA Webinar- “From People’s Movements to Governance Reforms: Lessons from the Uprising of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal.” (7 December 2025)

The SIPG-SANPA Webinar, titled “From People’s Movements to Governance Reforms: Lessons from the Uprising of Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal,” was held on December 7, 2025. The session featured a distinguished lineup of scholars and practitioners from across South Asia.

Prof. Sk. Tawfique M. Haque, Director of SIPG, NSU, delivered an insightful keynote address, examining the political, social, and governance implications of recent uprisings in the region.

The webinar was moderated by Prof. Akhlaque Haque, President of SANPA, who provided thoughtful framing and guided a rich discussion among the panelists. We extend our sincere appreciation to all speakers and participants for contributing to an engaging and thought-provoking discussion on the evolving dynamics of people’s movements and governance reforms in South Asia.



CSCSS Coordinator Dr. Rubyat attended the 8th Joint Forum on Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation (27 November 2025)

CSCSS Coordinator Dr. Rubyat attended the 8th Joint Forum on Yunnan-Bangladesh Cooperation held on 27 November 2025 at The Westin Dhaka, featuring a high-level delegation from the Development Research Center of the Yunnan Provincial People's Government (YNDRC). The forum brought together academics, policymakers, and researchers from both Bangladesh and Yunnan to exchange insights on trade, tourism, technology, and future avenues of collaboration. During the Q&A session, Mr. Zhang Xianwei, Director of YNDRC, acknowledged the ongoing works of CSCSS and expressed a strong interest in future cooperation, highlighting the potential for enhanced research partnerships, joint initiatives, and deeper institutional engagement. CSCSS looks forward to strengthening academic and policy collaboration between Bangladesh and Yunnan in the years ahead.



SIPG Director Attended a Series of Academic Meetings in China

As part of SIPG's ongoing international academic engagement, Professor Sk. Tawfique M. Haque, Director of the SIPG, attended a series of academic meetings in China from 12 to 20 December 2025. He met with professors from the School of Public Administration at East China Normal University (ECNU) in Shanghai to discuss avenues for academic collaboration and policy-oriented research. Professor Haque also conducted meetings with the Vice President, Dean, and faculty members of Nanjing Audit University, exploring opportunities for institutional cooperation in governance and international studies.

He also presented a paper at the Shanghai Institute of International Studies titled "Development of BCM+I Economic Corridor: A Phased Approach to Regional Connectivity and Cooperation," examining South Asia-India economic relations and alternative connectivity pathways under the BRI.



CMS Coordinator's Media Engagement



Dr. Selim Reza, Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Center for Migration Studies (CMS), was invited by BanglaVision TV to share his expert insights on the structural challenges and practical implications faced by overseas Bangladeshis, particularly concerning passport and visa-related issues, on 20 December 2025.

▶ Watch the full discussion: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZPkfLehdUDw>

Publications

We are pleased to share that Dr. Ishtiaq Jamil, Dr. Hasan Muhammad Baniamin, Dr. Narendra Raj Paudel, and Dr. Prabin Babu Adhikari have contributed a book chapter titled “Public Service Motivation in the Civil Service of Nepal” to the Routledge Handbook of Public Policy in South Asia, published by Routledge.

The chapter examines public service motivation within Nepal’s civil service and contributes to broader scholarly discussions on governance, public administration, and policy practices in South Asia. This publication reflects an important academic contribution to the field of public policy and regional governance studies.

Read the chapter here: [Dr. Ishtiaq Jamil, Dr. Hasan Muhammad Baniamin, Dr. Narendra Raj Paudel, and Dr. Prabin Babu Adhikari on the publication of their book chapter:](#)

[“Public Service Motivation in the Civil Service of Nepal”](#)

[Published in the Routledge Handbook of Public Policy in South Asia by Routledge.](#)

[Read the chapter here: https://surl.li/fahbft](https://surl.li/fahbft)

Dr. Hasan Muhammad Baniamin has co-authored a journal article titled “Compliance and Reactance in the Face of Authority Advice: An Experiment on Religious Gatherings in India during COVID-19” with Lawrence McKay.

The article has been published in the Journal of Asian and African Studies. It examines how individuals respond to authoritative advice in sensitive social and religious contexts, focusing on religious gatherings in India during the COVID-19 pandemic. The study contributes to important discussions on public compliance, behavioural responses, governance, and crisis communication in South Asia.

Read the article here: <https://doi.org/10.1177/00219096251365457>

New SIPG Working Paper No. 13- "The Third Sector and the State: Civil Society, Policy Advocacy, and Governance in Bangladesh"

It explores the crucial role that CSOs play in shaping public policy, promoting transparency, and enhancing democracy. Grounded in in-depth interviews and document analysis, the study offers key insights into the strategies, challenges, and impact of CSOs on governance.

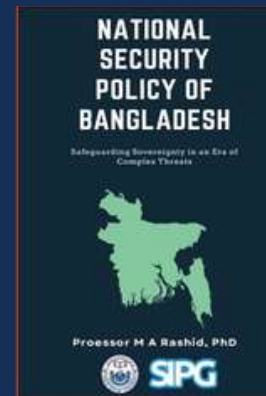
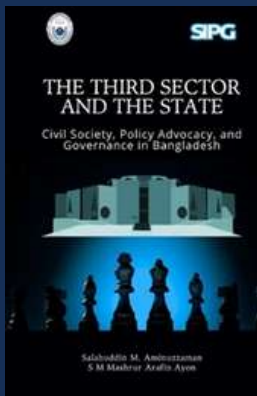
Authors: Dr. Salahuddin M. Aminuzzaman & S M Mashrur Arafin Ayon

Read Details: <https://tinyurl.com/4kj3t58a>

SIPG is pleased to share its latest working paper, “National Security Policy of Bangladesh: Safeguarding Sovereignty in an Era of Complex Threats”, authored by Professor M. A. Rashid, PhD, Senior Research Fellow, SIPG, North South University.

The paper offers a timely and in-depth analysis of Bangladesh’s national security policy in the context of evolving traditional and non-traditional threats, with important implications for sovereignty, governance, and strategic planning.

[Read the full paper:](#) <https://www.northsouth.edu/.../national-security-policy...>



Professor Sk. Tawfique M. Haque, Director of the SIPG, co-authored a book chapter titled- Introduction to Section Cultural Heritage and Governance. In: Saloul, I., Baillie, B. (eds) The Palgrave Encyclopedia of Cultural Heritage and Conflict. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-61493-5_299-1

Achievements

CSCSS Coordinator visited Shandong Province, China

Dr. S.M. Rubyat, Assistant Professor & Coordinator of the China–South Asia Center for Socio-Cultural Studies (CSCSS), SIPG, NSU, proudly represented Bangladesh at the prestigious 2025 Visiting Program for Young Sinologists, held from September 9 to 29, 2025, in Shandong Province, P.R. China.

This program, organized by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of China, brought together 23 scholars from 18 countries to explore the richness of Chinese civilization, encompassing traditional culture, archaeology, economic development, and rural revitalization.

Dr. Rubyat also participated in the 2025 China International Confucius Cultural Festival at the Nishan Sacred Land, visiting the Confucius Mansion, Cemetery, and Museum — a profound journey into China’s philosophical and cultural heritage.

A proud moment for SIPG and NSU in fostering international academic collaboration and cultural exchange!



SIPG Research Associate Awarded the ‘Study at SCU’ Graduate Exchange Program at Sichuan University, China

We are proud to share that Mahmud Bin Morshad, Research Associate (IT & Communication) at SIPG, and a student of the Executive Master’s in Policy and Governance (EMPG) at North South University, has been awarded the “Study at SCU” Outstanding Student Scholarship at Sichuan University, China.

He is currently enrolled as a General Visiting Scholar in International Relations at the Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS), gaining valuable academic and cultural exposure under this prestigious program. We wish him continued success in your journey of learning and global exchange.



SIPG Research Associate Represents Bangladesh at the China–South Asia Young Envoys Program 2025

Md. Parvez Hasan Yousuf, Research Associate at SIPG, North South University (NSU), proudly represented Bangladesh as part of the NSU delegation at the prestigious China–South Asia Young Envoys Program and Chinese Bridge Summer Camp 2025, held from 20 October to 2 November 2025 at Yunnan University, China. Organized by the School of International Chinese Language and Education, Yunnan University, the 14-day program brought together 63 young participants from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Nepal to explore the richness of Chinese civilization — including its traditional culture, architecture, economic development, and rural revitalization.

A proud moment for SIPG and NSU in fostering international academic collaboration and cultural exchange!



SIPG RA has been awarded the Commonwealth and Cambridge Trust Scholarships

We are delighted to share that Mashrur Ayon, Research Associate of SIPG, has been awarded the Commonwealth and Cambridge Trust Scholarships. He will be pursuing his MPhil at the University of Cambridge. Earlier this year, Mashrur was also offered the McCall MacBain Scholarship Entrance Award at McGill University and the AIT Scholarship at the Asian Institute of Technology. We wish Mashrur all the very best in his future endeavours.



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