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South Asian University to be set up in India

The South Asian University under the auspices of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), would be set up in India, reports BSS.

This was decided at an expert group meeting held on March 8 and 9. The expert group comprises the heads of university grant commission and equivalent bodies of SAARC countries agreed in the meeting that the proposed university would be set up somewhere in India.

The meeting was presided over by Indian UGC Chairman Professor Sukhdeo Thorat, while Prof. Dr. M. Asaduzzaman, Chairman, University Grants Commission (UGC) of Bangladesh was present at the meeting.

Prof. Asaduzzaman said the South Asian University will be located at a best possible place of India where a congenial academic atmosphere will prevail. The admission and job will be on the basis of merit, he said.

He said the university will be a unique world-class university like Harvard and Cambridge University. The university will be funded by public private ownership. The member countries of SAARC will provide fund on the basis of their capacity. Philanthropists will also finance for establishing the university. It will be governed by a governing body drawing two members from each SAARC countries.

The proposed South Asian University will conduct both first degree and postgraduate degree. There shall be mutual recognition of degrees and certificates awarded by the universities in all the SAARC member countries. The university will be expensive but there shall be provision for free education for the poor meritorious students, he added.