

Career Highlights of Dr. Shaikh Maqsood Ali, founder Rector of the Bangladesh Public Administration Training Center (BPATC).

Dr. Shaikh Maqsood Ali passed M.A. in Economics in first class from the University of Dhaka in 1956. In 1957, he got a lectureship in economics at the same university. In 1959, he qualified in the Superior Civil Service Examination of Former Pakistan. Simultaneously, he got a Fulbright Scholarship offer to pursue higher degrees in economics in the USA. He decided to join the Central Civil Service of former Pakistan in 1959. In 1961, he was posted as a sub divisional officer of Potuakhali in the district of Barisal in East Pakistan.

During early 1960s, the issue of economic disparity between the two wings of Pakistan became gradually explosive. As a result, a Research and Evaluation Wing was set up in the then East Pakistan Secretariat and Dr. Ali was transferred from the sub-division to this wing for research work. As a result, a regional breakdown of statistics was possible in the Economic Survey of East Pakistan which he published in 1962-63. In 1963, a few Bengali officers of both wings of Pakistan including Dr. Ali were sent to the University of Manchester U.K. for a two-year diploma course in Development Economics. Because of his background in Economics, the University of Manchester withdrew him from the diploma course and allowed him to do his M.A. and PhD within the same period. He completed his M.A. by 1964 but was withdrawn during the middle of his PhD course to teach Development Economics as Deputy Director of the Civil Service Academy in Lahore. He served the Academy for four years (1966-70) before he could go to

complete his PhD (in Development Planning), which he completed by 1972. When he returned to Bangladesh, he was appointed as Joint Secretary of the Ministry of Shipping, Inland Water Transport and Civil Aviation under General Osmany. He played a pioneering role to establish Bangladesh Airlines (Biman) and Civil Aviation. His next job to build up the future Project Implementation Bureau under the President's Secretariat with a group of directors in 1975. In 1976 the government felt that the Establishment Division has no suitable training institution for higher studies and training of the senior civil servants in Bangladesh and assigned him subsequently as the Director General of the Civil Servant's Training Academy (CSTA) and the National Institute of Public Administration (NIPA) under the Ministry of Establishment. He served NIPA within 1975-1984. He then after served as the founder Rector of the Public Administration Training Center (PATC) from 1984-1985. Some highlights of his career to raise NIPA, CSTA and the Public Administration Training Center (PATC) to a level of excellence are mentioned in the attached annexures.

He was Secretary Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation in 1986 and was Member, General Economic Division of the Planning Commission within 1987-1992.

He has worked with many national and international agencies and committees and held many other important responsibilities as an expert and resource person following his retirement including being the Honorary Convener, National Task Force on Poverty Alleviation of the Planning Commission within 1993-2003.

He has a significant number of publications to his credit.

Annexures:

1. Letter to S. Maqsood Ali, D.G., N.I.P.A. from Milton J. Esman
2. Letter to S. Maqsood Ali, Rector, P.A.T.C., from Norman Uphoff, Professor, Cornell University.
3. Letter to S. Maqsood Ali, D.G., N.I.P.A. from Pittsburgh Chapter of Society for International Development.
4. Letter to S. Maqsood Ali, D.G., N.I.P.A. from Wesley W. Posvar, Chancellor, University of Pittsburgh.
5. Organizing Project Management Course for Policy Level Administrators from Commonwealth Asian Countries from 16th to 21st July, 1979, at National Institute of Public Administration (N.I.P.A.) under management and leadership of S. Maqsood Ali.
6. A review article by Shahidul Alam on a book entitled “From East Bengal to Bangladesh, Dynamics and Perspectives”, written by S. Maqsood Ali.
7. A talk on “The Direction of Development Thinking of S. Maqsood Ali”, at MiraCosta College, San Diego, U.S.A. on 28th September, 2010.