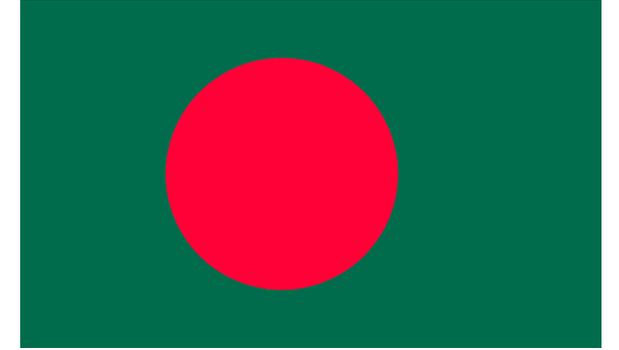


8th International Conference of Women in Physics
(ICWIP 2023) 9-14 July 2023



Challenges for Improving the Status of Women in Physics: Insights from Bangladesh

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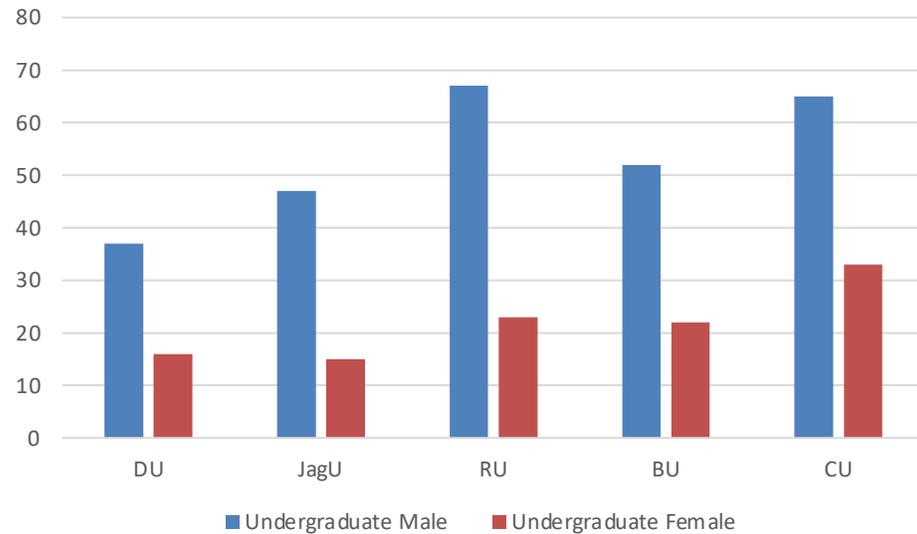
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Abstract

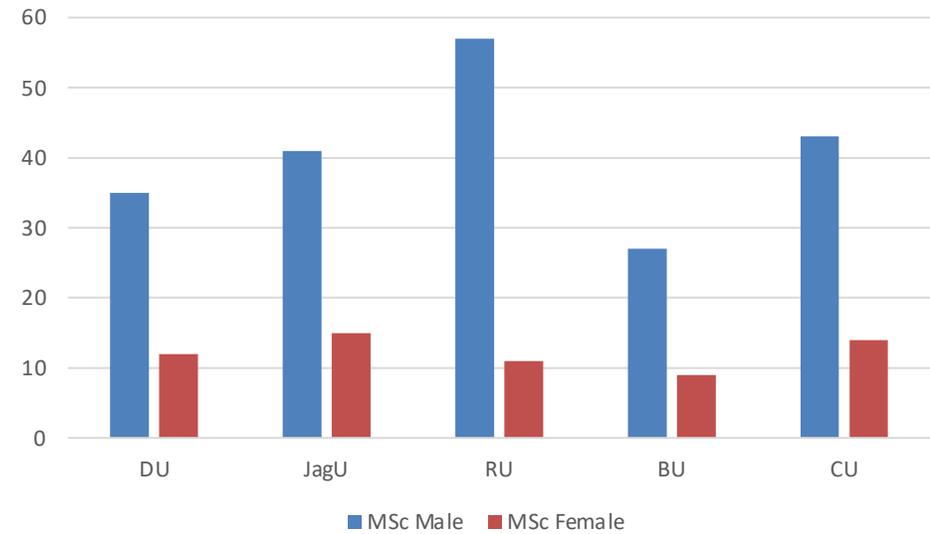
The country report highlights the urgent need to address the challenges faced by women in physics- related fields and careers in Bangladesh. Despite their ability to compete on merit, women's participation in physics career remains lower than men's, though student enrolment is higher than before. The report aims to provide a greater understanding of the underrepresentation of women in physics-related fields and careers, shedding light on the societal biases and stereotypes that impact women's engagement in physics, as well as the difficulties they face in balancing personal and professional obligations. Implicit gender biases and an unfriendly work environment further hinder women's careers in physics. Our recent study reveals that men have more opportunities than women in physics-related fields, adding to the complexity of the situation. Therefore, there is an urgent need for initiatives to address the challenges faced by women in physics. The paper presents data on female faculty, scientists, and student enrolments in physics-related subjects at the country's few academic and research institutions. The study emphasizes the significance of empowering women and encouraging their participation in physics-related fields to assure their presence in the Fourth Industrial Revolution by creating mentorship and networking programs with successful female physicists and professionals [1]. By promoting gender equality and creating a more inclusive work environment, the field of physics can benefit from a more diverse and talented workforce. The paper concludes with a call to action for policymakers, educators, and professionals to work together towards the common goal of increasing women's participation in physics and related fields.

Women in Physics - Present Status in Bangladesh

- Women physics students at the undergraduate level is almost 30 percent as before and drops at the Masters level at 25 percent
- Significant decline in female participation at higher levels of education and careers in physics
- Underrepresentation of women in leadership positions in physics-related fields is significant.



Graduation with Physics Major



M.Sc in Physics

Career Status of Women in Physics in Bangladesh

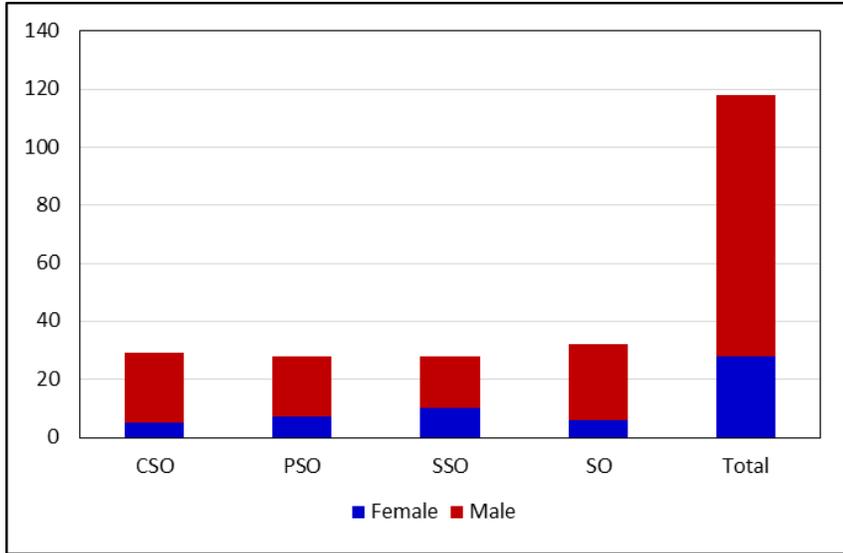


Fig.1 Physicists working as scientists in Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission

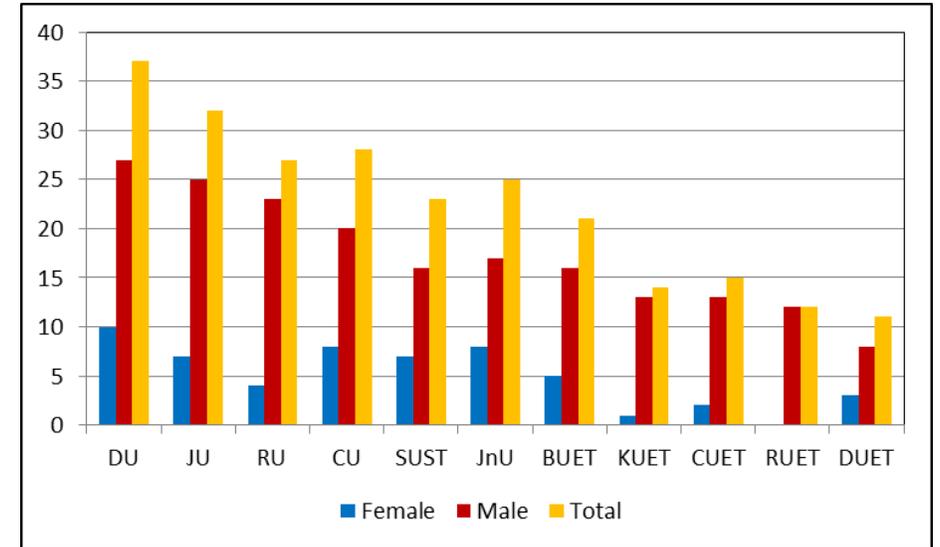


Fig.2 Teachers working at Department of Physics working in various public universities of Bangladesh.

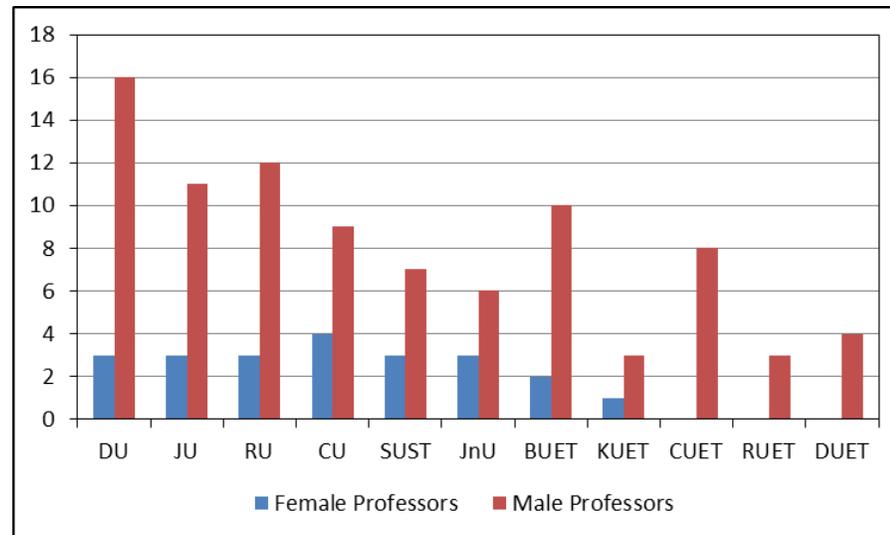


Fig.3 Professors of Physics working in various public universities of Bangladesh.

Activities

References

- S. K. Choudhury, "Initiatives for mentoring women pursuing physics education and careers in Bangladesh", in Women in Physics: 6th IUPAP International Conference on Women in Physics, AIP Conference Proceedings, 2019, 050006.
- Publicly available data from websites of various universities
- Data provided by Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission

Acknowledgements

- We are thankful to IUPUP and Local Organising Committee ICWIP – 2023 for virtual participation.



Poster Session at 1st International Science Conference for Women-2023



With women students of DU Physics



1st International Science Conference for Women-2023



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