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## **SPARRSO-BSMRAAU to Collaborate for Space Science Research**

An eight-member BSMRAAU delegation visited SPARRSO on 8 Jun 2022 to discuss areas of mutual interest and collaboration opportunities in the field of space science and research. The delegation included Pro-Vice Chancellor Air Commodore Md Monjur Kabir Bhuiyan along with distinguished expert Air Vice Marshal Mahmud Hussain (retd), Deans and Heads of the department of BSMRAAU. Acting Chairman of SPARRSO Mohammad Mahmud Ali, along with his team comprising Chief Scientific Officers, Principle Scientific Officers, Senior Scientific Officers and faculty members participated in the hour's long discussion.

The statutory mandate of SPARRSO and BSMRAAU – two public entities, has several overlapping areas, offering opportunities for collaboration. The chairman, in his welcome remarks, highlighted that SPARRSO has been engaged in applying space technology for the peaceful purpose to benefit the nation since its inception in 1980. He mentioned that SPARRSO's multidisciplinary research fields include atmospheric science, agriculture, forestry, fishery, water resources, environmental science, geological science and oceanography – most of which are relevant to BSMRAAU's academic and research interests.



In his opening remarks, Distinguished Expert Air Vice Marshal Mahmud outlined



the academic and research programmes of BSMRAAU- the nation's first public university for aviation and aerospace studies. He also mentioned that the unique graduate programmes on space system engineering, satellite technology and space law, offered by BSMRAAU, could be the key areas for academic

collaboration. Collaboration in research projects may include mutually common areas of building pico-satellite, drones and rockets. Mentionable that as the focal organisation of Asia Pacific Space Cooperation Organisation (APSCO), SPARRSO is implementing various programmes on space science research, space technology development and application domain, to which BSMRAAU students and faculty can contribute.

The meeting observed that signing an MoU and assigning focal points would be the appropriate first steps for any future collaboration between the two organisations. It is hoped that the visit will lead to more robust collaboration between the two organisations, accelerate indigenous capacity building and help produce next-generation aerospace scientists, professionals and researchers. The meeting ended with the exchange of crests.



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