

Venom Research Center Visit of CVASU undergraduate students



A cohort of 93 students of FVM-24th batch in 6 groups headed by Prof. Dr. Shahneaz Ali Khan, Head, Department of Physiology, Biochemistry and Pharmacology and Dr. Amir Hossan Shaikat, Associate Professor of same department visited Venom Research Center, Bangladesh located in Chittagong Medical College in the early December, 2022. This center is a scientific project under the non-communicable disease control program of the Directorate of Health under the Ministry of Health to develop antivenom against the venom of venomous snakes in Bangladesh. The other faculties of this department led the 6 groups and departmental supporting staffs also joined there. This center is working relentlessly to develop an antidote to save people bitten by snakes. About 300 venomous snakes of different species collected from different parts of the country are being researched. The snakes of different species are being reared there in boxes arranged in rows. Snakes are collected from different parts of the country and kept in quarantine for 40 days first. After the necessary process including treatment those are kept in separate boxes in serpentarium. Then the venom is collected from the snake through various steps. Besides, mice are reared and bred as food for snakes and toxicological trials at the Venom Research Center. In this visit, the students got the knowledge on features, distribution and reproduction of venomous and non-venomous snake, procedure of venom collection, venom profiling and antivenom production which will eventually aid in non-communicable disease control. After the formal lecture of Research Associate Mr. Mizanur Rahman, the students got demonstration of restraining of snake, their feeding and observed the management of mice kept in venom research center. On the final day, the Head of the department discussed about possible research collaboration between this research center and the department. Hopefully, this two organization will sign an MoU shortly. We also

hope this type of visit will enhance the co-curricular knowledge among the research organization with academics. The department is earnestly grateful to the center for their heartiest support and co-operation to make this visit successful. Finally, the department handover a souvenir crest to the snake venom center for their efforts in anti-venom production and support of this co-curricular exchange visit.



Students and faculties of CVASU visiting Venom Research Center, CVASU