

## **Dr Baharul Islam**

Dr Baharul Islam has been working in the area of ICT Policy, Telecom Regulations and eGovernment in Asia and Africa for more than a decade. He has recently taken over as the Chairman and CEO of the South Asia Development Gateway – an initiative for SAARC region. He is also a member of the High Power Committee on International Cooperation, Government of Mizoram in India.

Dr Islam completed his Masters from Aligarh University (India). He did his B.Ed. and LLB from Assam University, PhD on New Technologies for Education from Tezpur University (India) and Post-doctorate on Internet-based instructions at Asian Institute of Technology (Bangkok, Thailand). He did his LLM (IT & Telecom Law) at the University of Strathclyde (UK).

Starting career as a university faculty in English & Computational Linguistics, he has taken keen interest in broadening the ICT implications for mass access and developmental use. As an institution builder, he initiated the Center for Educational Technology at the National Institute of Technology, Silchar, India where he taught for more than eight years. He was part of the faculty during the initial years of development of Kigali Institute of Science, Technology & Management (KIST), Rwanda in 2000-2001. In 2002-2003, Dr Islam was seconded to the Addis Ababa University on a UNDP funded capacity building program as an Associate Professor. He received TWO Certificates of Recognition from The World Bank in 2003 and 2007 for his project proposals on the Education of Disabled Children in Ethiopia and Eye care for Tribals in the Northeast.

He was earlier working as a specialist on ICT policy and e-Government with the UN Commission for Africa (UNECA) and UN Economic Commission for Asia (ESCAP). He has been involved in various UN projects in Asia and Africa and developed national and regional ICT policies and eGovernment Strategies for many countries. He has written a chapter of the first Encyclopedia of Digital Governance. His latest publications includes *e -Government Strategy for the Gambia* (Published by UNECA) and a National ICT Policy called *NICI Policy and Plans for The Gambia* (just finished) commissioned by UNECA.

Before taking up his UN assignments, Dr Islam was working as a Reader in the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) in India. He has keen interest in parliamentary debate and participated at the BBC World Debate on “Free Media & Development” in Rome (2006). He may be reached at Cell: (+91) 94350 72356 or Email at [islamb@un.org](mailto:islamb@un.org)

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