BUET students to take part in Robocon 2005

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Three students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) have developed robots with used motor parts, tissue papers and rollers made from bandage and will show off their invention at the Robocon 2005 competition in Beijing starting from August 27.

The students are scheduled to fly for the Chinese capital today. The Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU) are the organisers of the competition where around 22 teams from 21 countries of the Asia-Pacific region are expected to take part.

The young inventors, who are all from the mechanical engineering department of BUET are Mohammed Ashfaque-ur-Rahman Auvli, Mohammed Rashid Islam Russel and SGM Hossain Mamur. The have named the robots Automatic Pentagon, Mothership, Scotech and Manual Machine.

The students collected the raw materials from the city's Dholailkhali area. The computer chips and circuits were bought from different computer stores in the capital.

Prof. Zahurul Haq of the mechanical engineering department, who supervised the total project, said the most difficult part was to collect the parts for the robots.

"During the primary stages, the roller, which provides power to the robots, was made from tissue papers and bandage papers. Later it was made from aluminium.

"The most important thing however is the fact that our students could take part in such a big hi-tech competition. That is why results do not matter."

The inventors informed that the parts used to create the robots were from motorcars. The parts not available at Dholailkhali were collected from the university's workshop. A Japanese television channel provided the students with US$1,000 to complete the project.