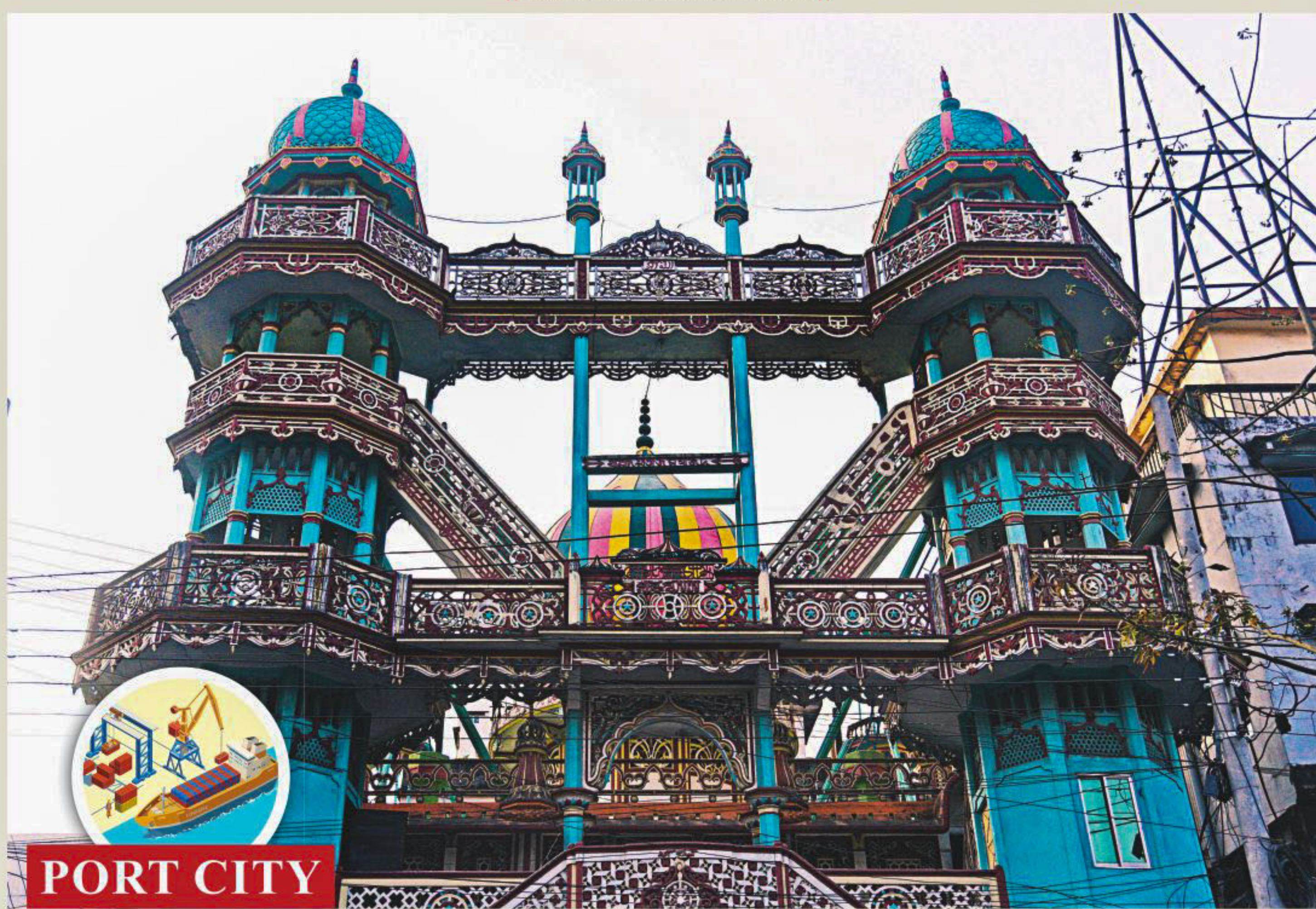


CHANDANPURA MOSQUE

A sight to behold

|| AMIR HASAN SHAHRIAR ||



PORT CITY CHRONICLES

PHOTO: RAJIB RAIHAN

Despite the hustle and bustle of ever-busy Nawab Siraj ud-Daulah Road in port city, a structure with multiple domes and soaring minarets painted in bright colours compels a passer-by to halt and behold its beauty and majesty.

Situated in the old part of Chattogram, Chandanpura Mosque is one of the most famous landmarks in the city as well as a popular tourist attraction for its impressive architecture.

With its spacious interior, slender columns, elongated buttresses and intricately designed balusters, Masjid-e-Siraj ud-Daulah, locally known as Chandanpura Jame Masjid, is one of the great examples of Mughal-inspired architecture.

According to historians, it was built in 1870 by one Master Abdul Hamid, a contractor. After its construction, the mosque used to be known as Hamidia-Taj-Masjid. Builders and architects from Lucknow and Mumbai (of India) were brought in for the work.

Later in 1947, Abu Syed Dobhash, a descendant of Hamid, took the initiative to renovate the mosque, which was completed in 1952. It had cost around Tk 4 lakh for the renovation.

At present, a committee formed by descendants of Dobhash looks after the mosque.

The two-storey structure with an entrance in the middle has two staircases zigzagging to the top of two minarets on both sides. Railings of the staircases are decorated with multi-coloured floral designs. Both minarets are around seven-storey tall.

In total, there are five domes with a large onion dome at the centre -- surrounded by structures intricately designed like petals. "Chandanpura mosque stands out for its delicate ornamentation," said architect Kuheli Chowdhury.

The teacher of Premier University, Chattogram added, "The massive vaulted-gate was constructed not only as an entrance, but also to welcome all. Alongside being a prayer hall, this mosque offered people a place to unwind."

She said the major attraction of the structure are the minarets. "They were constructed in such a way that sunlight can enter the floors easily." While visiting the place, people often get mesmerised by this "hide and seek" between sunlight and shadows, she added.

The mosque is located between

Andarkilla and Chawkbazar intersections -- two densely-populated areas in the city. Locals worry that rapid urban sprawl may eventually have a negative impact on the area, especially the structure.

"This mosque is a part of our identity. It never ceases to amaze us even after so many years. Before, we could see it from afar. But the surrounding is not the same anymore. The area is suffering from unplanned urbanisation," said Safayet Adib, a banker by profession.

Many nearby buildings are also blocking the view, said locals. During a recent visit, this correspondent also saw several multi-storied buildings were being constructed in the area while heavy vehicles plying the adjacent roads throughout the day.

Architect Kuheli said when heavy vehicles continue to ply the road next to the mosque, its columns vibrate. Base of the structure may become unstable due to that, she said.

"In order to preserve the mosque, it is necessary to ban movement of heavy vehicles on the road or if needed shift it elsewhere. Otherwise, it will be difficult to preserve the mosque, despite all the maintenance works," she said.

Four black stone Vishnu idols recovered in Naogaon



PHOTO: COLLECTED

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi

A taskforce of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) recovered four black stone idols of Hindu god Vishnu, worth Tk 1.25 crore, from Naogaon on Wednesday night.

The idols -- weighing from 13 to 38 kilograms -- were found abandoned in Borshail area of Sadar upazila, said Lt Col AKM Ariful Islam, commanding officer of BGB-16 in Naogaon, yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, the taskforce led by Executive Magistrate BM Tarikuzzaman raided the area and found the idols near a residence, he said.

Members of law enforcement agencies

assisted during the drive, he added.

Lt Col Ariful said they suspect some smugglers hid the idols there and were planning to take those out of the country. The idols, which are under their custody at the moment, will be submitted to a court on the next working day to decide the next course of action, he added.

Mohammad Suhrawardy, officer-in-charge of Naogaon Model Police Station, said a team from the police station were present during the drive. He said they will investigate the matter, once the paramilitary force hands over the [seized evidence] to them.

Helpline 333 launched in Sylhet

Info services to reach citizens' doorsteps, says foreign minister

BSS, Sylhet

Government helpline service "333" was launched in Sylhet yesterday, to provide information on the procedure of receiving public services.

Foreign Minister Dr AK Abdul Momen launched the call centre at a ceremony at Kazi Nazrul Islam Auditorium in the city, with Deputy Commissioner M Kazi Emdadul Islam in the chair.

"Citizens will not have to go to government offices, rather services will come to their doorsteps [with this helpline]. Now our target is to turn Bangladesh into a developed country by 2041," he said.

With the motto "Government information and services anytime", this helpline will not only provide information but citizens can also lodge complaints about social problems and get response from the deputy commissioners and upazila nirbahi officers, he said.

The minister also expressed his sincere thanks to Prime Minister's ICT Affairs Adviser Sajeb Wazed Joy for taking the initiative.

Anyone can dial the 24-hour helpline to lodge complaints about social problems like child marriage, or get information about government offices, officers, tourist attractions, and use of online dealing license system, he added.

The ministry also developed the android, iOS and web application called "Dutabash" to provide 34 services including authentication of birth certificate, educational certificate, marriage certificate, marital status certificate, police clearance certificate, recruitment agreement, commercial paper and documents on exports and imports.

Badal laid to rest

FROM PAGE 3

Fazle Rabbi Miah, and leader of the Opposition Raushan Ershad also paid homage to Badal by laying wreaths.

Leaders of the 14-Party Alliance, JSD, and Workers Party of Bangladesh also placed wreaths on the coffin of Badal.

A large number of people including ministers, chief whip, whips, lawmakers, senior leaders of different political parties and officials and employees of the JS attended the janaza.

A smartly turned out contingent of police gave the state salute, while bugle played the last post on the occasion.

Badal was 67 years old and suffering from various diseases for the last two years. He was elected lawmaker thrice from Chattogram-8.

Born in 1952 in Saroyatoli, Badal's first foray into politics was with Chhatra League. In 1971, he actively took part in the Liberation War, and joined JSD after liberation.



PHOTO: STAR

Chattogram-8 lawmaker Mayeen Uddin Khan Badal is given a guard of honour at the Jamiyatul Falah mosque in the port city, after his second namaz-e-janaza.

Four killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least four people were killed and 25 were injured in road accidents in two districts yesterday, according to reports from our correspondent in Sylhet and a news agency.

Three people, including a child died while 25 others were injured, when a Zakiganj upazila-bound bus from Sylhet city plunged into a roadside ditch in Babur Bazar area of the upazila yesterday, reports our Sylhet correspondent.

The accident occurred at around 4:30pm.

The deceased were identified as -- Nasima Akhter, 22, from the upazila's Hail Islampur village; her daughter Ruhena Begum, 2; and Nurzahan Begum, 50, hailing Manikpur village in the same upazila.

Quoting witnesses, Sudipta Roy, additional superintendent of police (Zakiganj circle) of Sylhet District Police, said, "The road to Zakiganj is narrow and as it was raining, the road became slippery. The bus driver lost control over the steering while he was overtaking another vehicle at a high speed, and plunged into a roadside ditch."

"Locals started the rescue operation, and were followed shortly by the Fire Service and Civil Defense team," he added.

"The deceased as well as 13 other critically injured passengers of the bus have been sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital. Others are undergoing treatment at Zakiganj Upazila Health Complex," Sudipta said.

At Fatullah in Narayanganj, the acting headmistress of Police Lines School was killed after being hit by a three-wheeler in front of the school in Majdail area on Friday night, reports UNB.

The deceased was identified as Mahmuda Khanam, 43, wife of Mahub Alam of Hajiganj in Chandpur.

Asadduzaman, a teacher at the school, said Mahmuda was hit by a three-wheeler at 6pm in front of the school gate when she was returning home after the police promotion exam.

Locals initially took her to the 300-bed Hospital in the area. She was later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors pronounced her dead around 7:30pm. The body was kept at the morgue for autopsy, said Bacchu Mia, in-charge of DMCH police outpost.

14th death anniversary of Enayetullah Khan today

CITY DESK

Today is the 14th death anniversary of Enayetullah Khan, the founding editor of English daily New Age and editor-in-chief of the weekly Holiday.



A titan of Bangladeshi journalism for over four decades, Enayetullah Khan passed away in Toronto, Canada on November 10, 2005 at the age of 66, said a press release. He had been suffering from cancer of the pancreas.

Beginning his journalism career as a cub reporter for the then Pakistan Observer in 1959, Enayetullah Khan went on to establish the weekly Holiday in August 1965, before taking over as its editor in 1966.

He founded the daily New Age as its editor and publisher in June 2003. He was also the editor of the Bangladesh Times between 1975 and 1977. He was awarded the Ekushey Padak for excellence in journalism.

He served as a minister of the Bangladesh government (1977-1978) and as an ambassador to China, SEE PAGE 4 COL 5

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ASSET DEVELOPMENTS

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Health Services Division
Health Economics Unit
14/2, Tophkana Road (3rd Floor), Dhaka-1000

Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) for Recruiting Research Firm (National)

1.	Ministry/division	Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
2.	Procuring entity name	Health Economics and Financing Operational Plan.
3.	Procuring entity district	Dhaka.
4.	Expression of interest for selection of	Research Organization.
5.	EOI Ref No.	45.05.0000.006.31.003.19.01(02)
6.	Date	November 05, 2019.
KEY INFORMATION		
7.	Procurement method	QCBS.
8.	Budget and source of funds	GoB (Rev.).
9.	Development partner	NA.
PARTICULAR INFORMATION		
10.	Project/programme code	NA
11.	Project/programme name	Estimating Costs of Treatment in ICU of different Public Hospitals in Dhaka.
		Date Time
12.	EOI closing date and time	November 21, 2019 14:00 hours.
INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT		
13.	Brief description of the assignment	Policy makers attempt to use financial resources economically due to continuous increasing healthcare expenditures. It is also true for Bangladesh. Intensive care units can be used more effectively and efficiently through cost analysis per patient. The costs of ICU comprise a significant portion of hospital overhead costs. The high costs of ICUs are also associated with numerous factors. Additionally, staff expenses comprise the largest portion of the ICU overhead costs. There are no reliable statistics regarding the number of ICUs in public facilities of Dhaka as well as their bed capacities, No. of patients getting admitted per month, services offered, equipment, qualification of health professionals, cost/benefits and mortality rates of these ICUs. Therefore, this study aims to determine the profit/loss ratio and the service costs in ICU based on the length of ICU stay.
14.	Experience, resource and delivery capacity required	To be selected, the organization must have the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Familiarity with the health, nutrition and population sector program Extensive expertise on economic evaluation related exercises Proven expertise in cost analysis of health sectors Proven ability to manage and conduct large data set Proven expertise in quality report writing & policy recommendations in English.
15.	Other details (if applicable)	EOI should be submitted in sealed envelope clearly marked "Request for EOI for Estimating Costs of Treatment in ICU of different Public Hospitals in Dhaka" to the undersigned within November 21, 14:00 hours.
16.	Indicative start date (month/year)	January, 2020.
17.	Indicative completion time (month/year)	April, 2020.
18.	Other detail (if applicable)	Not applicable.
19.	Association with native/foreign firm is	Not applicable.
20.	Phrasing of services	Not applicable.
PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS		
21.	Name of official inviting expression of interest (EOI)	Dr Mohd. Shahad Hossain Mahmud.
22.	Designation of official inviting EOI	Director General (Additional Secretary), Health Economics Unit and Line Director (Health Economics and Financing).
23.	Address of official inviting EOI	Health Economics Unit, 14/2, Tophkana Road (3rd Floor), Dhaka 1000.
24.	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone-9586822, Fax: 9582207, e-mail: dg@heu.gov.bd, mahmud5212@yahoo.com
The procuring entity reserves the right to accept or reject all EOIs.		
Director General (Additional Secretary) Health Economics Unit & Line Director (Health Economics and Financing OP)		

GD-1850