

# 7yrs on, CDA township project yet to take off

## Fatehabad sees rise of unauthorised buildings amid approval freeze

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

The Chattogram Development Authority's (CDA) residential project in West Chararkul of Fatehabad has seen at least six buildings constructed since its launch in 2016, but none has design approval from the authority.

Similarly, hundreds of buildings in adjoining areas have also been built without approved designs over the years.

This stems from a longstanding restriction imposed by CDA as part of its plan to develop a township in Fatehabad. The ban has halted all design approvals for new constructions, leaving residents and landowners in limbo.

CDA first unveiled the township plan in 2007 over 4,700 acres between Chattogram Cantonment and Chittagong University in South Pahartali.

Under the Detailed Area Plan of 2013, the project was expanded to 7,000 acres, with implementation scheduled for July that year and completion by June 2018.

But progress stalled. "The area has over 100 plots. The buildings that have been constructed so far could not be approved. The rest remain vacant as approvals are still on hold," said developer Mohammad Nurul Absar.

In localities like Chowdhury Hat, Borodighirpar and West Amanbazar, landowners have gone ahead with unauthorised construction out of desperation.

Abdul Hamid of West Amanbazar said he built a four-storey building in 2019 without permission.

"I contacted several CDA officers, but they told me that plan approval is halted," he said.

Mohammed Solaiman of Chowdhury Hat shared a similar story. "I waited nearly five years for approval. Eventually, I was left with no choice but to build without it," he said.

A CDA superintendent engineer, seeking anonymity, said the project faltered when land compensation was increased from the mouza rate to three times higher.

"At that rate, developing a housing project in Fatehabad became financially unfeasible, as plots could not be sold at a price high enough to cover the cost," he said.

CDA Chairman Nurul Karim said a committee has been formed to revise the project in line with residents' demands. "The committee has already started field work. We hope they will provide a solution to this longstanding problem," he added.



Workers in Khulna mixing stone and bitumen on top of a pickup truck, with black smoke from the burners polluting the surrounding environment. Such scenes are common during road repairs in villages and pose a constant threat to the natural greenery of the countryside. The photo was taken in the Sajira area yesterday.

PHOTO: HABIBUR RAHMAN

# Potters struggling to stay afloat

SUSHANTA GHOSH, Barishal

Pottery artisans in the southern region are struggling to sustain their craft as rising production costs force them to scale back output.

In Bakerganj upazila's Niamati union, Maheshpur and nearby Ramnagar and Dhalnagar villages -- home to more than 150 pottery families -- artisans have been producing traditional clay items such as pitchers, cooking pots, bowls, yoghurt jars, mosquito-coil stands and water pots for generations.

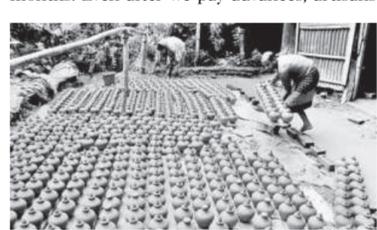
But over the last two years, they have been able to produce barely half of the required items due to a lack of capital.

Artisans explained that the price of a boatload of clay (about 100 maunds), once Tk 3,000 two years ago, has now risen to Tk 4,000. Adding labour, wood and firing costs, total expenses reach Tk 11,000 to 12,000 per batch. Yet wholesale buyers rarely pay more than Tk 20,000 for the finished goods.

While costs have gone up by 20-25 percent, sale prices have increased by only around 5

percent, leaving potters unable to cover expenses.

Wholesale trader Madhusudan Paul of Maheshpur said he once sent trawlers with pottery worth Tk 7-10 lakh to Dhaka every month. "Now I send one shipment every three months. Even after we pay advances, artisans



struggle to supply the goods because of the soaring costs," he said.

Artisan Juvraj Paul noted that while production costs rose sharply, prices of pottery items increased by only Tk 2-5 each. Another potter, Rupak Pal of Kolokathi village, said,

"Clay, labour, wood and paint -- everything has become more expensive. Demand has fallen further because prices had to be raised slightly."

Bauphal Pottery Association President Bishweshwar Paul said the rising costs and falling demand have badly affected artisans.

According to the group Mridshilpi Sammelan O Sammanana, which works for potters' welfare, about 1,200 pottery families live across six southern districts. "Most of them have reduced production, while many have abandoned the craft altogether," said member secretary Tomal Roy.

Artisans such as Rani Bala Pal of Maheshpur said many rely on loans from local NGOs with high interest rates and weekly instalments. "Without low-interest government loans, we cannot survive in this trade," she said.

Nazrul Islam, deputy general manager of BSCIC, said low-interest entrepreneurial loans are available for potters. "But many are not aware of these facilities. Since we do not have monitoring offices at the upazila level, outreach remains limited," he added.

**পাওয়ার গ্রিড বাংলাদেশ পিএলসি**  
**POWER GRID BANGLADESH PLC**  
(An Enterprise of Bangladesh Power Development Board)

Grid Bhaban, Avenue-3, Jahurul Islam City, Aftabnagar, Badda, Dhaka-1212 Web: www.powergrid.gov.bd  
স্মারক নং- ২৭.২১.০০০০.৬৬৩.৪৪.০০১.২৫.৩২৭ তারিখঃ ১৮/০৯/২০২৫খ্রিঃ

**e-Auction বিজ্ঞপ্তি**

পাওয়ার গ্রিডের জিএমডি, ঢাকা (সেন্ট্রাল) দপ্তরের আওতাধীন নিম্নবর্ণিত নিলাম বিজ্ঞপ্তিটি ওয়েব লিংক <https://auction.powergrid.gov.bd>-এ পাওয়া যাবে।

ID	Description	Closing Date and Time
৯৯২	জিএমডি, ঢাকা-সেন্ট্রাল দপ্তরের আওতাধীন রামপুরা ২৩০ কেডি, মানিকনগর ২৩০ ও ১৩২ কেডি, গুলশান ১৩২ কেডি এবং ক্যান্টনমেন্ট ১৩২ কেডি গ্রিড উপকেন্দ্র সমূহের স্ক্যাপ ও পুরাতন অব্যবহারযোগ্য মালামাল সমূহ যেখানে যে অবস্থায় আছে) e-auction পদ্ধতিতে নিলামকরণ।	১৯-১০-২০২৫ খ্রি. বিকাল ০৪:০০ টা

অগ্রহী প্রতিষ্ঠানকে <https://auction.powergrid.gov.bd> সাইটের মাধ্যমে নিলামে অংশগ্রহণের জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

প্রকৌশলী মোঃ তাজুদ্দীন ইসলাম  
নির্বাহী প্রকৌশলী, জিএমডি, ঢাকা (সেন্ট্রাল)

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs  
Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP)  
**Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY)**  
Paribahan Pool Bhaban (7th Floor), Room No. 810, Secretariat Link Road, Dhaka  
<https://mowca.gov.bd>

**Re-Tender Notice**  
**Invitation for Re-Tender for Hiring of Vehicles for SIMCBP**  
**Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project**

1	Ministry/Division	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
2	Agency	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
3	Procuring entity name	Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP) / Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project
4	Procuring entity code	Not used at present
5	Procuring entity district	Dhaka
6	Invitation for	Service Provider Firm for Hiring Vehicles and Transport Facilities
7	Invitation Ref No.	MOWCA/SIMCBP/NCS-01/15/2025/69
8	Date	Issued on 25/09/2025
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>		
9	Procurement method	National Open Tendering Method (NCS)
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>		
10	Budget and source of funds	Development Budget, World Bank (IDA) Credit
11	Development partners (if applicable)	World Bank (IDA)
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>		
12	Project/programme code (if applicable)	N/A
13	Project/programme name (if applicable)	Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP) / Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project
14	Tender Package No.	MOWCA/SIMCBP/BEIBEY/NCS-1
15	Tender package name	Service Provider Firm for Hiring Vehicles and Transport Facilities
	Date	Time
16	Tender publication date	26 September 2025
17	Tender last selling date (up to the day before the day of the deadline for Submission)	14 October 2025 4:00 pm
	Date	Time
18	Tender closing date and time	15 October 2025 2:00pm
19	Tender opening date and time	15 October 2025 2:30pm
20	Name & address of the office(s)	Address
	- Selling and receiving tender document (principal)	Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP) / Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project, Room No. 811, Level-7, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Dhaka-1000.
No conditions apply for sale, purchase or distribution of tender documents.		
	- Opening tender document	Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP) / Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project, Room No. 810, Level-7, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Dhaka-1000.
21	Place/date/time of pre-tender meeting (optional)	Date Time
		NA NA
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>		
22	Brief eligibility and qualification of tenderer	As mentioned in Tender Document
23	Brief description of service and associated goods	Hiring of two Vehicle (Jeep & Microbus) for Official Purposes
24	Price of tender document (BDT)	BDT 1,000.00 (one thousand only)
25	Tender Security and work completion timeline:	
	Package No.	Location
	NCS-1	Dhaka
	Service Provider Firm for Hiring Vehicles and Transport Facilities	3,50,000.00 (three lakh fifty thousand) only
		38 (thirty-eight) months
26	Name of official inviting tender	Dr. Prakash Kanti Chowdhury
27	Designation of official inviting tender	Project Director (Joint Secretary)
28	Address of official inviting tender	Supporting Implementation of the Mother and Child Benefit Programme (SIMCBP) / Bangladesh Enhancing Investments and Benefits for Early Years (BEIBEY) Project, Room No. 810, Level-7, Paribahan Pool Bhaban, Dhaka-1000.
29	Contact details of official inviting tender	Telephone: 00-88-02-55100646 Electronic mail address: pkbey@simcbp@gmail.com
The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all tenders or annul the Tender proceedings.		

GD-2094  
Dr. Prakash Kanti Chowdhury  
Project Director (Joint Secretary)

## TIB slams

FROM PAGE 3

"But even in those cases, delegations rarely exceed a hundred members," said Dr Ittekkharuzzaman, executive director of TIB.

He questioned the potential benefits of sending more than a hundred delegates to the ongoing 80th session of the UNGA. "The country, its people and the taxpayers have the right to know what will be gained from such a move and what messages were conveyed by the decision."

The TIB statement said the previous authoritarian regime had normalised the practice, with the number in some instances exceeding two hundred.

"We hoped that a government established through an unprecedented, blood-soaked student and people's uprising -- with a pledge to reform the state based on transparency, accountability and good governance -- would abandon such practices," the statement said.

Regrettably, it said, the interim government has chosen to follow the same path. "It is unfortunate that, despite issuing a circular after assuming office with explicit instructions to stop unnecessary foreign trips and the misuse of public funds, the government has undermined confidence in its own position by sending a delegation of over a hundred members to the 80th UN General Assembly."

The statement also raised questions on what criteria determined the composition of the delegation. "Were the areas of meaningful participation in line with the agenda of the General Assembly and the national interest considered?"

It demanded a clear explanation on the matter. "Such questionable precedents are deeply embarrassing and disappointing for an interim government formed in the aftermath of the public uprising."

**Bangladesh Bank**  
Common Services Department-1  
(Equipment Section)  
Head Office, Dhaka-1000  
Website: [www.bb.org.bd](http://www.bb.org.bd)

**Invitation for Tenders**

**Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka**

1	Procuring entity name	Bangladesh Bank			
2	Procuring entity code	Not used at present			
3	Procuring entity district	Dhaka			
4	Invitation for	Procurement of Original HP Black Print Cartridge (CF276A) for HP Laser Jet Pro M404dn Printer of Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.			
5	Invitation Ref No.	CSD-1(Equip)69(9)/2025-33			
6	Date	24/09/2025			
<b>KEY INFORMATION</b>					
7	Procurement method	Open Tendering Method			
<b>FUNDING INFORMATION</b>					
8	Budget and source of funds	Own source			
<b>PARTICULAR INFORMATION</b>					
		Date			
9	Tender publication date	24/09/2025			
10	Tender last selling date	Not applicable			
		Date Time			
11	Tender closing date and time	15/10/2025 02:15pm			
12	Tender opening date and time	15/10/2025 02:30pm			
13	Name & address of the office(s)	Address			
	- Receiving tender document	BB website and hard copy of Tender Security			
	- Opening tender document	Common Services Department-1, 6th Floor, Annex-2 Building, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.			
<b>INFORMATION FOR TENDERER</b>					
14	Brief eligibility of tenderer	Tenderers having 5 years overall business experience and minimum specific experience as Supplier in supply of similar Goods of at least 3 (three) contract(s) of similar nature successfully completed within the last 3 (three) years.			
15	Brief description of goods or works	Supply of 300 (Three hundred) PCs Original HP Black Print Cartridge (CF276A) for HP Laser Jet Pro M404dn Printer of Bangladesh Bank, Head Office.			
16	Lot No.	Identification of lot	Location	Tender security amount (Tk)	Completion time in weeks/months from the date of contract signing/Award of Contract
	1	Original HP Black Print Cartridge (CF276A) for HP Laser Jet Pro M404dn Printer	CSD-1	Tk 1,00,000.00	8 weeks
<b>PROCURING ENTITY DETAILS</b>					
17	Name of official inviting tender	Swapan Kumar Goswami			
18	Designation of official inviting tender	Director			
19	Address of official inviting tender	Common Services Department-1, Bangladesh Bank, Head Office, Dhaka.			
20	Contact details of official inviting tender	Tel: 9530148, Fax: 9530120, E-mail: <a href="mailto:swapan.goswami@bb.org.bd">swapan.goswami@bb.org.bd</a>			
21	The procuring entity reserves the right to reject all Tenders or annul the Tender proceedings				

DGP: 48/2025-2606  
Date: 25-09-2025

ব্যাহকিং ও আর্থিক সেবা পেতে হয়রানির শিকার হলে কিংবা কোনো অভিযোগ থাকলে ১৬২৩৬ নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

**Swapan Kumar Goswami**  
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GD-2098