

HATHAZARI IN CTG

Fakir Mosque, a living testament of history

SIFAYET ULLAH, Ctg

Located beside Krishi Farm Road in the heart of Hathazari upazila of Chattogram stands what is arguably one of the oldest surviving mosques in the division, the Fakir Mosque.

Historians consider the mosque an important relic of the Sultanate era. A broken inscription found next to the structure suggests it was built between 1474 and 1481 during the reign of Sultan Shamsuddin Yusuf Shah.

The mosque is mentioned in *Ahadees-ul-Khawanin*, a book on Chattogram's history written in 1871 by Hamid Ullah Khan. Later, Prof Abdul Karim, historian and former vice-chancellor of Chittagong University, published a reading of the damaged inscription, helping establish the estimated construction period.

Historians said the mosque, originally covering around 1,680 square feet, had long remained abandoned and hidden under dense bushes. It was rediscovered around 200 years ago by a Sufi named Mukim Shah, who cleared the structure and began using it again for prayers.

His grave still stands at the mosque's entrance, and over time the site became known as the Fakir Mosque.

The last major renovation



took place in 1993-94, when a three-storey structure was built adjacent to the building.

A recent visit found that a new prayer hall has been added on the eastern side to accommodate more worshippers, as the old mosque can no longer fit the congregation.

Around 250 to 300 people attend daily prayers, while the number rises to more than 800 during Juma on Fridays.

The mosque's most distinctive feature is its cluster of six small, closely placed rounded domes, each topped with a decorative finial.

The mosque and its adjoining shrine are maintained by the

sixth generation of Mukim Shah's descendants.

"This is an ancient mosque. Our elders used to offer prayers here. We also come regularly," said Abul Fazal, 65, of Gardura union.

Mohammad Lokman, a CU staffer from Rangipara, said, "Since childhood, we have seen people coming from distant places to offer Friday prayers at this mosque. This mosque holds a special significance for the people."

"My ancestor Mukim Shah discovered and restored this mosque. He passed away 134 years ago. Our family has been managing the mosque and the shrine for generations. However, the property has been officially waqf-listed," said Syed Rafiqul-Hasan, the mutawalli and a descendant of Mukim Shah.

Despite being several centuries old, the mosque has not yet been declared a heritage site by the Department of Archaeology. Last year, the DoA included it in an on-site survey list.

"The Fakir Mosque is a living testament of history. The archaeology department should take the initiative to preserve this site urgently," said Bangla Academy fellow and Chattogram-based researcher Md Shamsul Haque.

Contacted, Dr Nahid Sultana, regional director of DoA in Chattogram, said, "Fakir Mosque has been registered as a heritage site in our survey. It will be gazetted, the process is underway. Since it is several hundred years old, we will prepare some guidelines for its preservation."

STATUTORY NOTICE

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF BANGLADESH
HIGH COURT DIVISION
(STATUTORY ORIGINAL JURISDICTION)
COMPANY MATTER NO. 1804 OF 2025
IN THE MATTER OF:

Novo Nordisk Pharma (Private) Limited of 9th Floor, Ninakabro, 227/A Gulshan Link Road, Tejgaon I/A, Dhaka. Petitioner
-Versus-

The Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms and another. Respondents

Notice is hereby given that an application under Section 59 read with Section 60 of the Companies Act, 1994 was moved in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh by the petitioner for reduction of paid-up share capital of **Novo Nordisk Pharma (Private) Limited**. The Hon'ble High Court Division presided by Mr. Justice Ahmed Sohel was pleased to admit the said application on 30.10.2025. Any person interested to object the said application may appear before this Hon'ble Court either in person or through an Advocate and contest the matter. A copy of the said application may be obtained from the undersigned on payment of charges.

(Bishow Jith Deb)
Barrister-at-Law, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh
Old Bailey Chambers, Floor-1, House-4A, Road-84, Gulshan-2,
Dhaka-1212. Mobile-01712249676

Three young

FROM PAGE 3
other projects -- received honourable mentions.

Author, educator and Bishwo Shahitto Kendro founder Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed attended the programme as chief guest.

"Students can succeed in anything if they stay focused and committed. You must move forward by ignoring people's criticism and dare to do something new," he said.

The awardees will receive Brac's Social Entrepreneurs Fellowship to help scale and

sustain their initiatives, said the organisers.

Brac's Amra Notun Network has been supporting university students across 17 districts by providing life skills training, mentorship and leadership development to more than 2,600 young people since 2018.

Some of those trained by the network have earned recognition from organisations such as NASA, the Gates Foundation and the United Nations.

Boost readiness

FROM PAGE 3

Chattogram Arakan Fault along the Chattogram-Teknaf belt and the Sagaing Fault in Myanmar together put the country at extremely high seismic risk. Rapid urbanisation, high population density, violations of building codes and narrow road networks further heighten the danger, they added.

In his welcome address, JCX Developments Ltd Managing Director Md Iqbal Hossain Chowdhury said recent tremors felt in Dhaka are a stark reminder of the country's vulnerability.

"With rapid urbanisation, dense population and weak building structures, a major earthquake could cause devastating losses. Awareness, preparedness and capacity building are the need of the hour," he said.

The seminar noted that more than 200 earthquakes have been recorded in Bangladesh over the past century, with frequency increasing since last year.

Experts also said immense energy has been accumulating for 800 to 1,000 years in the subduction zone from Sylhet to Teknaf, posing one of the country's most serious geological threats.

Japanese experts Keiichiro Sako and Hisaya Sugiyama, both specialising in earthquake-resistant architectural design, shared lessons from Japan's post-earthquake experiences, highlighting safe infrastructure, resilient design and modern sustainable construction standards.

Speakers at the seminar included Prof M Shamim Z Bosunia, Buet Prof Syed Fakhru Amin, Rehab President Wahiduzzaman, senior vice president Liqat Ali and Rajuk Chief Urban Planner Ashraful Islam.

Memo No: 53.23.0000.043.03.019.25.6716
EOI Ref No: PKSF/SMART/S-16

Date: 30 November 2025

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF)
PKSF Bhaban-1, E-4/B, Agargaon Administrative Area, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka-1207
Phone: 88-02-222218331-33, 02-222218335-39; Website: <https://www.pksf.org.bd>

Request for Expression of Interest (REOI) For Selection of Individual Consultant

Memo No: 53.23.0000.043.03.019.25.6716
EOI Ref No: PKSF/SMART/S-16

Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Sustainable Microenterprise and Resilient Transformation (SMART) Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services (Package: PKSF/SMART/S-16 - Selection of individual consultant for feasibility study on the potential of a cashless cluster under SMART Project) by an individual consultant (national). The scope of work and the qualification and experience required for the assignment are detailed in the Terms of Reference (TOR).

The Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation (PKSF) now invites eligible applicants to express their interest and provide information regarding their qualification (complete CV as per the prescribed format) to perform the service. A consultant will be selected in accordance with the *Individual Consultant Selection (ICS)* method set out in the World Bank Procurement Regulations. The evaluation criteria are **Educational qualification, Relevant work experience (research experience and feasibility studies), Work experience with MFIs, FinTechs, or development agencies, Experience in development partner funded project, and Experience in microenterprise (ME) development projects or digital finance related projects**. It is expected that the service will be commenced in January 2025 and continued over a period of 4.5 months. A lump-sum contract will be signed with the awarded consultant.

Interested consultants are required to submit their applications in accordance with the standard CV format. Copy of the TOR and the CV format can be downloaded from the website (www.pksf.org.bd/tender) or obtained from the PKSF office within 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM. EOI shall be submitted by **15 December 2025 till 02.00 PM** at the PKSF office (Room-103, Desk-109) in a sealed envelope to the undersigned and clearly marked "Expression of Interest (EOI) for Selection of individual consultant for feasibility study on the potential of a cashless cluster under SMART Project (Package: PKSF/SMART/S-16)". All the necessary documents in support of educational qualifications, experiences, and other criteria mentioned in the TOR have to be submitted with the EOI.

PKSF reserves the right to reject any or all applications at any time without assigning any reason whatsoever.

(Md. Mashiar Rahman)
Deputy Managing Director, PKSF

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

4 journos hurt in attack 'led by BNP leader'
OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Mymensingh

Four journalists were injured in an attack allegedly carried out by a BNP leader and his followers in Mymensingh's Trishal upazila yesterday.

The injured journalists are Motiur Rahman Selim, 45, of Samakal; Abdullah Al Fahad, 30, of Kalbela; SM Masud Rana, of Sakaler Somoy; and Rakibul Hasan Sumon, 27, of Naya Shatabdi, said police.

Motiur lodged a case with Trishal Police Station, accusing four people, including joint convener of Harihampur union unit BNP Saiful Islam Swapon, said OC Monsur Ahmed.

Quoting the case statement, he said the journalists went to Horirampur village to gather information regarding a land grabbing allegation around 10:30am.

When they reached the spot, a group of people led by Swapon, who is also a union parishad member, attacked them with sticks. Locals rescued and took them to Trishal health complex.

Motiur and Masud are currently undergoing treatment at the hospital, while two others were released after receiving first aid, said the OC.

Police arrested Swapon and his accomplice Zia soon after the incident.

"Drives are ongoing to arrest the other accused," said the OC.

50 hurt as two BNP factions clash in Faridpur

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Faridpur

Two factions of BNP locked into a clash over establishing supremacy in Faridpur's Saltha upazila yesterday.

At least 50 people were injured, and several houses and shops were also vandalised during the clash that started around 8:00am at the Batiagatti Bazar area under Gatti union, witnesses said.

Confirming the clash, Sub-Inspector Maruf Hasan of Saltha Police Station said police managed to bring the situation under control by around 12:00pm.

However, he could not immediately confirm the exact number of injuries or the full extent of the property damage.



According to locals, there had been a long-standing rivalry between Nuru Matubber, a ward member in the union, and Zahid Matubber over establishing supremacy in the locality. They both were the supporters of Awami League but joined BNP following the change of government on August 5 last year, said Saltha upazila unit BNP Senior Joint General Secretary Khandaker Khairul Bashar.

As the conflict between the two escalated yesterday, both sides clashed with lethal weapons, rods, bricks, and stones. Residents from nearby villages also joined the clash, the witnesses said.

The injured were admitted to different hospitals in Faridpur and other areas.

Contacted, Md Shahinul Islam, upazila health and family planning officer at Saltha Upazila Health Complex, said seven people were given first aid at the facility following the clash.

Attempts to reach both Nuru and Zahid for comment were unsuccessful.

Partners in Population and Development (PPD)

An Inter-Governmental Organization Promoting South-South Cooperation

Vacancy Announcement for the position of Head of Finance

PPD is a Southern-led, Southern-run Intergovernmental Organization of 28 developing countries headquartered in Dhaka, Bangladesh. PPD is seeking a highly qualified Head of Finance to lead the organization's financial strategy and operations at its Secretariat in Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Requirements:

- Advanced degree (Master's required; PhD preferred) in Finance/Accounting
- Chartered Accountant (ACCA/ACA or equivalent) – mandatory
- Minimum 15 years' senior-level experience, including Big 4 (or equivalent) Accounting firms or multinational exposure
- Proficiency in major accounting software (e.g., Tally, NetSuite, QuickBooks, SAP, Xero)
- Experience in international or UN organizations is an asset
- Fluency in English required

Application Deadline : 15 December 2025

Duty Station : Dhaka, Bangladesh

Eligible Applicants : Candidates from PPD Member Countries

For the full Terms of Reference (TOR), visit: <http://www.partners-popdev.org>

Interested candidates should submit their resume by email or by postal address below with a motivation letter stating why they are suitable for the position, along with certified copies of degrees, diplomas and certificates including names and contact details (organization, phone number and e-mail address) of three referees not later than 15 December, 2025.

Executive Director

Partners in Population and Development (PPD)

Plot- 17 B & C, Block-F, Agargaon Administrative Zone, Sher-E-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka- 1207, Email: jobs@ppdsec.org



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- Edexcel, Cambridge Int. Exams. and Int. Baccalaureate (IB)
- O-Level Minimum 30 in 5 Subjects & A-Level Minimum 12 in 2 Subjects

(Applicants are eligible to apply upon fulfillment of conditions)

Application Deadline: December 24, 2025

Applicants have to apply through

www.icsb.org.bd

or Scan the QR code

Admission circular and other information is available at www.icsb.edu.bd

Call for more Info: 09609350350 / Ex-101, 01708030804 (Dhaka) & 09609350350 / Ex-115, 01342373847 (Chattogram)

Head Office: ICSB Campus, Padma Life Tower, (8th Floor) 115 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Bangla Motor, Dhaka-1000.