

British Council hosts safeguarding workshop for madrassah teachers

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| *Press release*

The British Council has recently conducted a workshop titled Learning, Sharing and Safeguarding at the Bangladesh Madrassah Teachers' Training Institute in Gazipur.

Approximately 80 madrassah teachers from all divisions of the country attended the workshop, said a press release on Wednesday.

These teachers will become master trainers of English teaching by the end of 2025.

The event, part of the ongoing collaboration between the British Council and the Directorate of Madrassah Education, aimed towards enhancing the quality of English education in Madrassahs through comprehensive curriculum development, effective training, ensuring safeguarding practices, and continuous professional development.

In collaboration with the Madrassah Teacher Training Institute, both organisations have agreed to implement a safeguarding learning initiative.

This initiative aims to empower and equip teachers, enhancing their ability to influence society positively, given their strong impact within their institutions, and local communities.

In February 2024, the British Council and DME signed a memorandum of understanding that signifies a pivotal agreement for a capacity-building programme targeting teachers and educators in the Bangladesh Madrassah Teachers' Training Institute and English teachers in madrassahs across the nation.

The workshop also focused on reviewing the progress of the partnership between the British Council and the BMTTI.

KM Kabirul Islam, secretary, Technical and Madrasah Education Division, was present at the event as chief guest.

He addressed the participants, saying, 'The British Council and the Government of Bangladesh recognise you as invaluable assets to the country. Your practice and continuous learning are crucial.'

David Knox, director of programmes at the British Council, emphasised the significance of the initiative, stating, 'We appreciate the Bangladesh Madrasah Teachers' Training Institute and the Government of Bangladesh for their commitment and collaboration in strengthening the capacity of the vast teaching resources within the madrasah education system.'

Professor Mahmudul Hoque, principal of BMTTI, chaired the event and expressed his gratitude, stating, 'I thank the British Council for taking this initiative as one of the few international development organisations to step forward and prioritise teachers' professional development and continuous professional growth. It is the only organisation that has come forward to work with us.'

Among the other guests were Md Abdul Mannan, director general, Directorate of Madrassah Education; Aklima Akter Mili, National Safeguarding manager; Shamresh Saha and Sahelee Naz, English and school education team, British Council; and senior officials from the DME and BMTTI, who graced the event with their presence.