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Country Report on Terrorism 2020 - Chapter 5 - ISIS-Bangladesh

ISIS-Bangladesh

Aka Caliphate in Bangladesh, Caliphate’s Soldiers in Bangladesh, Soldiers of the Caliphate in Bangladesh, Khalifa’s Soldiers in Bengal, Islamic State Bangladesh, Islamic State in Bangladesh, ISB, ISISB, Abu Jandal al-Bangali, Neo-JMB, New JMB, Neo-Jammat-ul Mujahadeen-Bangladesh

Description: ISIS-Bangladesh was designated as an FTO on February 28, 2018. Created in 2014, ISIS-Bangladesh has described itself as ISIS’s official branch in Bangladesh and was born out of ISIS’s desire to expand its campaign to the Indian subcontinent. Coinciding with the announcement of the caliphate in Iraq and Syria, a group of Bangladeshi nationals pledged allegiance to ISIS and vowed to organize Bengali Muslims under the leadership of then-ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi.

Activities: In 2015, gunmen belonging to ISIS-Bangladesh shot and killed an Italian aid worker in Dhaka. In 2015, ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for injuring 10 people during a Christmas Day suicide attack at a mosque packed with Ahmadi Muslims. In 2016 the group claimed responsibility for an assault on the Holey Artisan Bakery in Dhaka that killed 22 people, including an American. In 2017, ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for twin explosions that targeted a crowd in Sylhet, Bangladesh, killing six people.

In 2019, ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for two explosions in Dhaka that injured four police officers and two civilians. Also in 2019, ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for a small bomb thrown at a Bangladeshi minister in Dhaka, which injured two police officers. Also during that year, the group claimed responsibility for an explosion outside the Awami League office in Khulna.

On February 28 there was an IED blast near a police box in Chattogram, and on July 31 there was an attack at a Hindu temple in the Naogaon district where a crude bomb was planted. ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for both attacks. In July, ISIS-Bangladesh claimed responsibility for an attack on a police station in Dhaka that injured five people, including four police officers.

Strength: ISIS-Bangladesh has several hundred armed supporters.

Location/Area of Operation: Bangladesh

Funding and External Aid: Although ISIS-Bangladesh’s sources of funding are largely unknown, the group does receive some support from ISIS.

ecoi.net summary:

Brief description of the ISIS-Bangladesh (Excerpt of chapter 5 of the country report on terrorism 2020)

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Bangladesh

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Austrian Red Cross
Austrian Centre for Country of Origin and Asylum
Research and Documentation (ACCORD)

Wiedner Hauptstraße 32, 1041 Wien
[T \(Telephone\) +43 1 589 00 583](tel:+43158900583)
[F \(Fax\) +43 1 589 00 589](tel:+43158900589)
info@ecoi.net

Contact
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