



Enhed:
TILSKUD

Dato:
07-05-2025

Sagsnummer:
2015-16908/ 2706663

23/00440

C-sag:
C1885

Suspicion of irregularities in relation to DanChurchAid's (DCA) activities in Bangladesh

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark (MFA) supports the Danish NGO, DanChurchAid (DCA), through a strategic partnership for the period 2022-2025 with a yearly grant of DKK 200 million. DCA supports a local partner, Unite Theatre for Social Action (UTSA), in Bangladesh to promote women's empowerment among Rohingya refugees with disabilities. The project duration is from January to December 2022 and DKK 2,250,000 has been disbursed to UTSA in this period.

Suspicion of irregularities arose in August 2022 when DCA received several emails with allegations that four daily workers under the activity were paid less than what was agreed and that three other UTSA staff had been requested to return up to a month's salary to the UTSA management. Furthermore, the emails alleged that UTSA staff had produced fake documentation relating to the purchase of office equipment, rent, and transportation. The amount under suspicion is DKK 13,415.

A forensic audit was conducted and showed that UTSA had engaged in fraudulent practices and misused DCA's funds. DCA is terminating all cooperation with UTSA, and is claiming the return of unspent funds. An additional forensic audit will be initiated on other projects granted to UTSA if the audit turns out inconclusive for some of the transactions. None of these projects are financed by the MFA. DCA is exploring how to retrieve funds misused by UTSA.

A follow-up report will be forwarded when there are further developments in the case.