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In praise of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed

SIR Fazle Hasan Abed is the founder and chairman of the BRAC, the world's largest non-governmental organisation. The BRAC, like any other organisation, started its journey modestly and gradually turned into today's giant organisation through untiring efforts of its selfless employees under the leadership of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed. Mr. Abed was born on 27th April 1936 at Habiganj, Sylhet, Bangladesh. He received the Ramon Magsaysay Award, the UNDP Mahbub Ul Haq Award, the inaugural Clinton Global Citizen Award and the inaugural WISE Prize for Education for his invaluable contributions to social improvement. In 2015, he received World Food Prize for his unparallel work on poverty reduction in Bangladesh and 10 other countries. He was also appointed Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in the 2010 New Year Honours for services in tackling poverty and empowering the poor in Bangladesh and globally.

Over 120,000 employees work now for the BRAC. Its primary objective was alleviation of poverty and empowerment of the poor. Under his leadership, in a span of four decades, the BRAC grew to become the largest development organisation in the world in terms of scale and diversity of its interventions. He also founded the BRAC University in 2001 to spread higher education in Bangladesh. He is also the Chairman, Board of Directors of BRAC Bank Limited. In 2014, Abed was ranked 32nd in the list of the World's 50 Greatest Leaders prepared by Fortune.

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