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# A DECADE OF DEVELOPMENT **BANGLADESH**

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2009-2018

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# A Decade of Development: Bangladesh 2009-2018





# Introduction

The last ten years has been transformative for Bangladesh to say the least. Within this relatively short period of time, Bangladesh went from being a low-income and least developed country to lower middle-income developing country. From pulling millions of people out of the clutches of poverty and exhibiting over 6.6% average economic growth, to sheltering over a million displaced Rohingyas from Myanmar, the days of Bangladesh being in the headlines only for natural disasters seem to long gone.

The risks of natural disaster however is not gone, but far from it. In fact, Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. But the narrative surrounding this low-lying riverine delta seems to be changing. Today, Bangladesh is actually considered by the UNDP to be 'a global leader in disaster management and risk reduction'.

Whereas previously, the conversation surrounding Bangladesh was dominated by aid and donations, now it's more about the nation's remarkable tale of empowering women and bringing hope to developing countries' on poverty and extreme poverty reduction, as remarked by the World Bank President Jim Yong Kim in October 2017 in Dhaka.

From ensuring sanitation facilities for all, to drastically reducing maternal, child and infant mortality rates, the development success stories of Bangladesh are endless, as is often touted in the WHO case studies. Despite challenges, Bangladesh is moving forward, and providing hopes to countries throughout the world that with the right approach, will and mindset, the most difficult of targets can be achieved.

In the last ten years, Bangladesh has seen remarkable progress in almost all major economic, social and human development indicators. This has been coupled with major infrastructural undertakings, massive digitization, efforts to protect the environment, build resilience to natural disasters and climate change and ensure food security for the people.

In this publication, we look at these successes and the progress made between 2009 and 2018, the 'Decade of Development'.

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01

# Economic Development



Poverty rate declined

31.5%

2009

21.8%

2018

*The last ten years have seen Bangladesh's economy transform from a low income least developed one to a lower-middle income developing one. Poverty has declined dramatically as a result. The rate of poverty declined to 21.8 per cent in 2018 from 31.5 per cent in 2009 and extreme poverty rate reduced to 12.9 per cent from 17.6 per cent during the same period.*

1.1

## Landmark Achievements

Since 1975 - Bangladesh had the **Least Developed Country** status

In 2015 Bangladesh recognized by World Bank as **Low-Middle Income Country**

In 2018 - United Nations has recognized Bangladesh as a **Developing Country**

In July 2015, Bangladesh's rising per capita income pushed it out of the lower income country bracket and into the lower middle-income bracket for the first time since its independence in 1971. Within ten years, Bangladesh's per capita income increased from US\$759 to US\$1,752. Now, Bangladesh is aiming for attaining the higher middle-income status by the year 2021.

In March 2018, Bangladesh reached another development milestone as the United Nations Committee for Development Policy (CPD) gave a

letter announcing Bangladesh's eligibility for graduation from a least developed country (LDC) to a developing country. According to the UN, Bangladesh has fulfilled all the eligibility requirements for this graduation and can seek official approval for this advancement, which could take place by 2024.

## 1.2 Effective Use of Plans



These achievements did not appear out of a vacuum. In its 2008 manifesto, Awami League promised 'Vision 2021'. The pledge was to build a middle-income country by 2021. To that end, after formation of government, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina unveiled the long-term development strategy 'Perspective Plan 2010-2021'. Her government also formulated the medium term development plan, to compliment the long term strategy, the Sixth Five Year Plan (2011-2015). As a result, Bangladesh has able to reach the target of becoming a lower middle income country six years before target in 2015.

Now, Bangladesh aims to become a developed country by the year 2041. This next long term vision of the Awami League, 'Vision 2041', is currently being formulated. To compliment this plan, the Seventh Five Year Plan (2016-2020) has already been formulated and being implemented. This also corresponds with the government's target to achieve successes in the next sets of global development goals, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), more information about which is provided in Chapter 4 of this booklet.

## 1.3 Economic Growth

Bangladesh's economic development in the last decade has been impressive to say the least. In the 21st century the average growth rate, so far, has been 6.6 per cent and during the last couple of years it has been over 7 per cent. According to the provisional estimate of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, the GDP growth rate has been 7.86 per cent in FY 2017-18, one of the highest in the world.



According to the International Monetary Fund, Bangladesh is now the 43rd largest economy in the world in terms of nominal GDP while its position is 32nd in terms of purchasing power parity. Bangladesh was also included in the list of top-ten fastest-growing economies in 2017. A projection by PriceWaterhouseCoopers tells that Bangladesh will be the 28th largest economy by 2030 and 23rd largest by 2050.



## 1.4 Macroeconomic Indicators

**Some of Bangladesh's notable economic advancements in the last decade, starting from 2009, include:**

Average GDP growth rate of 6.6 per cent while the developing economies' average GDP growth was 5.1 per cent.

Public investment rose to 8.2 per cent from 4.3 per cent.

Per capita income increased from US\$759 to US\$1,752.

Inflation declined from 12.3 per cent to 5.8 per cent.

Revenue-GDP ratio rose to 10.3 per cent from a low of 9.2 per cent.

The size of budget grew from Tk. 890 billion to Tk. 4,645 billion. (more than 5 times)

Annual import stood at US\$47.0 billion increasing from US\$22.5 billion.

The forex reserve increased from US\$7.5 billion to US\$32.2 billion. (more than quadrupled)

Total FDI inflow increased from \$961 million to \$2454.8 million. (2.5 times)

Total remittance received in 2017-18 was \$14.98 billion which was \$7.9 billion in 2007-08. (doubled)

As economy develops, a country's agriculture, industry and services sectors are also transformed. The economy consolidates during this process of development if the contributions of industry as well as service sectors to GDP are on the rise. In the case of Bangladesh, encouraging signs of structural transformation are gradually becoming visible albeit the strong presence of agricultural sector in food production and employment generation is still there. In FY2005-06, the contributions of agriculture, industry and services sectors to GDP were 19.0, 25.0 and 55.6 per cent whereas according to provisional estimate of FY2017-18, these contributions will be 14.10, 33.71 and 52.18 per cent respectively.

## 1.5 Economic Zones

100

Economic Zones by 2030

\$40

Billion Additional Exports

10

Million New Jobs

To take Bangladesh's growth and development to the next level, the Government has embarked on a massive plan for a huge number of special economic zones across the country.

The Awami League Government enacted the 'Bangladesh Economic Zones Act' in 2010 for establishing economic zones in potential areas to expand/develop export oriented industries and attract foreign investment. In pursuance of this Act, Bangladesh Economic Zone Authority (BEZA) was established under Prime Minister's Office in 2011. Besides, the 'Private Economic Zone Policy 2015' was formulated. Project clearance, visa recommendation and assistance, work permit, import and export permits services are now being processed under one stop service from BEZA. The mission is to establish 100 economic zones in 30,000 hectares of land by 2030.

Establishment of 76 economic zones has been approved so far and the Hon'ble Prime Minister herself has inaugurated 10 of them. Foreign and local investors have started setting up industries in these zones. Development works of additional 26 economic zones are under way. According to Hon'ble Prime Minister's directives, each of the economic zones is being made environment friendly by green afforestation, establishing water reservoir and ensuring proper waste management. These economic zones will be surrounded by planned cities with modern housing that will certainly lead to vibrant economic activities. It is expected that after the establishment of the economic zones, export earnings will increase by additional US\$40 billion and 10 million more jobs will be created.

02

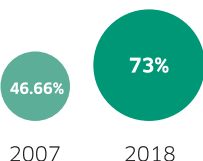
## Human Development

Bangladesh has made rapid progress in human resource development compared to many of her neighbours. In 2009, while the value of our Human Development Index (HDI) was 0.535 it is now 0.608 according to Human Development Report (HDR) 2017 published in 2018. Moreover, Bangladesh is now categorised as a 'Medium Human Development' country. In fact, the stunning progress in this area is attributed to the human development friendly policy-strategy along with channeling of huge resources for relevant sectors that include education, health and skill enhancement.

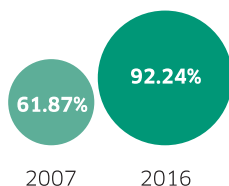
### 2.1 Education



Bangladesh  
Literacy rate



Literacy rate for  
men and women  
aged between 15  
to 24 years

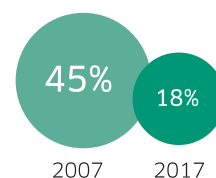


Girls enrolment  
at primary level

99.4%



Dropout rate



In the last ten years, Bangladesh has seen some remarkable improvements in its education sector. The net primary enrolment rate increased to 98 per cent in 2017 compared to 94.8 per cent in 2010 while dropout rate declined from 39.8 per cent to 18.8 per cent. In addition, it was possible to bring down student-teacher ratio from 46:1 to 39:1 and increase the number of stipend holders from 7.9 million to 13 million. Dropout rate at primary level was 45% in 2009 which came down to 18% in 2017. Girls enrolment rate at primary level is 99.4%, in many schools, girls outnumber boys.

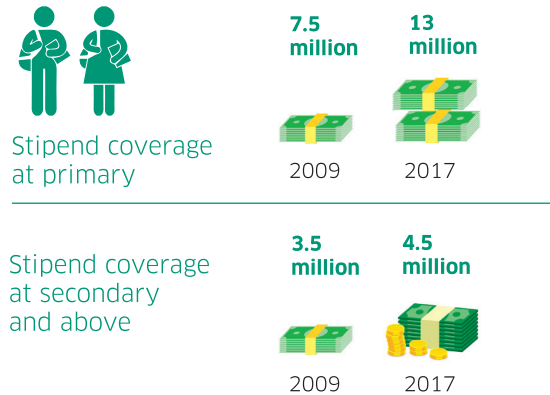


Furthermore, a total of 1,495 primary schools have already been constructed in villages without schools and as many as 26,193 private primary schools have been nationalised and Primary Training Institutes have been built in 11 district headquarters. During this period, a total of 1,08,200 teachers have been recruited and the services of 1,03,000 primary school teachers have been nationalised. Outside mainstream, a total of 3,10,387 out-of-school and dropped-out students are getting opportunity to receive education in 11,162 special 'Ananda' Schools.

With the agenda in mind for promotion of universal and quality education, the Awami League Government formulated the 'National Education Policy 2010' and embarked upon its implementation. A 'National Teachers Education Council' has been formed to help improve quality of education. Total allocation for education has been increased from \$1460 million in 2008-09 FY to \$6316 million in 2018-19 FY.

The government distributed 35.42 million textbooks free of cost among the primary and secondary level (secondary school, lbtedayi and Dakhil madrasa and vocational) students in the academic year 2018. About 58,255 pre-primary and primary level students of five ethnic communities received 14,5063 copies of textbook written in ethnic languages in 2018. Another 8,200 braille textbooks were distributed among visually impaired students. The National Curriculum & Textbook Board has revised 12 textbooks and printed them in multi-colour with papers of good quality.

More than 13 million primary students now receiving stipend disbursed directly into their mothers' bank accounts. At secondary level, 4.5 million students received stipend in 2017. Another 80 thousand students with disabilities have been receiving stipend since 2017. Students of disadvantaged communities like Dalit, Bede, Horijann now receive monthly stipend as incentive. More than 31 million students are currently getting food-support under SEP operational in 104 sub-districts (government finances in 85 sub-districts). About 98,211 students (previously dropped-out) passed primary school completion examination from 2009 to 2012. During ROSC -I. During ROSC-II, another 45,763 students passed the exam in two years.



There is ongoing work to provide quality education for all through various programmes such as: Implementing school feeding programmes in poverty-pockets; Construction and maintenance of educational infrastructures; Ensuring supportive environment together with provision of pure drinking water in educational institutions; Printing primary level books in different languages; Operating pre-primary schools and valuing creative talents; Establishing Prime Minister's Education Assistance Fund; Setting up educational institutions in public sector and nationalisation of private educational institutions; Recruitment of required number of teachers for reducing student-teacher ratio; and Providing training to teachers and encouraging innovation and use/penetration of information technology.

Alongside universal primary education, emphasis is laid on promotion of creative, job-oriented and scientific education from secondary to tertiary levels. Digitization is a key aspect now. E-books have been introduced, 'Upazila ICT Training and Resource Centre' have been established in 125 sub-district while establishment of such centres in another 160 sub-district is under way. One secondary private school has been transformed to model school in each of 315 upazilas and multimedia classrooms have been established in 26,655 schools. 90,000 teachers and 1,500 master-trainers have already been trained for facilitating the use of information and digital technology. 62,000 digital contents have been prepared with which teachers themselves can improve the contents. A

total of 800,000 teachers have been provided with specialised training.

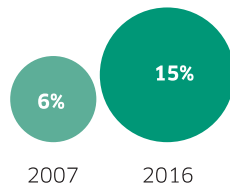
There is also focus on the need for promoting vocational and technical education to create a critical mass of efficient manpower in line with the demand arising from domestic and international markets. 'Information and Communication Technology' has been incorporated in the curriculum for students starting from class VI. A separate division named 'Technical and Madrasah Education Division' has been established in the Ministry of Education to improve technical, vocational and madrasah education more modern and effective.

In the last 10 years, the country has been making progress on Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) reform. A new TVET Act, the National Technical and Vocational Qualification Framework (NTVQF), the National Skills Development Policy (NSDP), Industry Skills Councils (ISC), Competency-based Training and Assessment (CBT&A) are currently in effect. Vocational education programs at both secondary and higher secondary level is regularly being updated; traditional courses are converted into competency-based training. Pre-vocational qualifications were designed under TVET Reform Project; two qualifications have been introduced; Pre-Vocational Level 1 equips candidates with basic language, literacy and numeracy skills relating to an occupation and Pre-Vocational Level 2 adds sector and occupational specific skills.

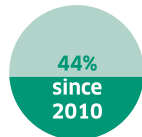




Enrolment  
in Technical and  
Vocational  
Education  
increased



Enrolment of girls  
in technical education  
increased



Access to higher education has been rapidly expanding in the recent years. Student enrolment in higher education increased from 1.4 million in 2010 to about 2.57 million in 2016. This is evident, particularly, from the remarkable growth of private universities over the last two decades. Number of Public University increased to 46 from 31 since 2009. The focus has shifted to quality of higher education. So far Institutional Quality Assurance Cells (IQACs) are activated in 61 public and private universities. Government with support from World Bank has been implementing College Education Development Project since 2016. This \$130 million investment focuses on overhauling the college sub-sector over five years. Through institutional development grants and teachers' professional development program, the project is providing students with an improved teaching/ learning environment for better outcomes.





The Government of Bangladesh played a key role in policy and strategy development and implementation of health and nutrition interventions during the last decade. Bangladesh's health and nutrition success was achieved in spite of an array of challenges. Bangladesh's life expectancy is superior to that of other countries in the region and its reduction of its stunting rate was a global success story. Bangladesh's infant mortality, under-five mortality and maternal mortality rates are also better than other countries in the region. The vision of the 7th Five Year Plan by the government includes ensuring optimum nutrition and healthcare services as well as aligning the sector as a fundamental component of human and economic development. Bangladesh also plans to introduce universal health insurance by 2023 that will pay 70% of the medical expenses.

16,438 community clinics and union health centers have been set up which are providing free treatments along with providing 30 types of free medicines. Tele-medicine service has been launched in 43 hospitals around the country for providing medical service at home round the clock. There are now 30,000 satellite clinics for child and maternal healthcare. A 24/7-health service call centre has been introduced in 2016.

103 service centers have been set up for persons with disabilities servicing 500,000 children with autism free of cost. Free medical services are ensured for freedom fighter veterans and their families. A programme for providing vouchers for poor destitute pregnant mothers is being implemented in 53 upazilas. 'Health Protection Programme' has been introduced for people living below poverty line. Under this programme, 68,000 families have been registered in three upazilas, who are receiving OPD and IPD services by using cards.

Because of such people-oriented health services programme, the maternal mortality rate has dropped to 1.76 per 1,000 live births which was 2.59 in 2009. At present, the rate of immunisation of infants less than one year is 82.3 per cent and the rate of feeding vitamin A capsule is 92 per cent. The child mortality rate has declined due to expansion of immunisation programme. Currently, child mortality rate is 28 per 1,000 live births compared to 39 in 2009.

In last 10 years, a number of new hospitals have been constructed together with the increase in the number of beds and massive expansion of other health infrastructures in many hospitals including Dhaka Medical College and Hospital. 16 government and 5 army medical colleges

have been established and 10,660 beds were added to the government hospitals across the country in the last eight years. A multi million dollar burn and plastic surgery specialized hospital is being built.

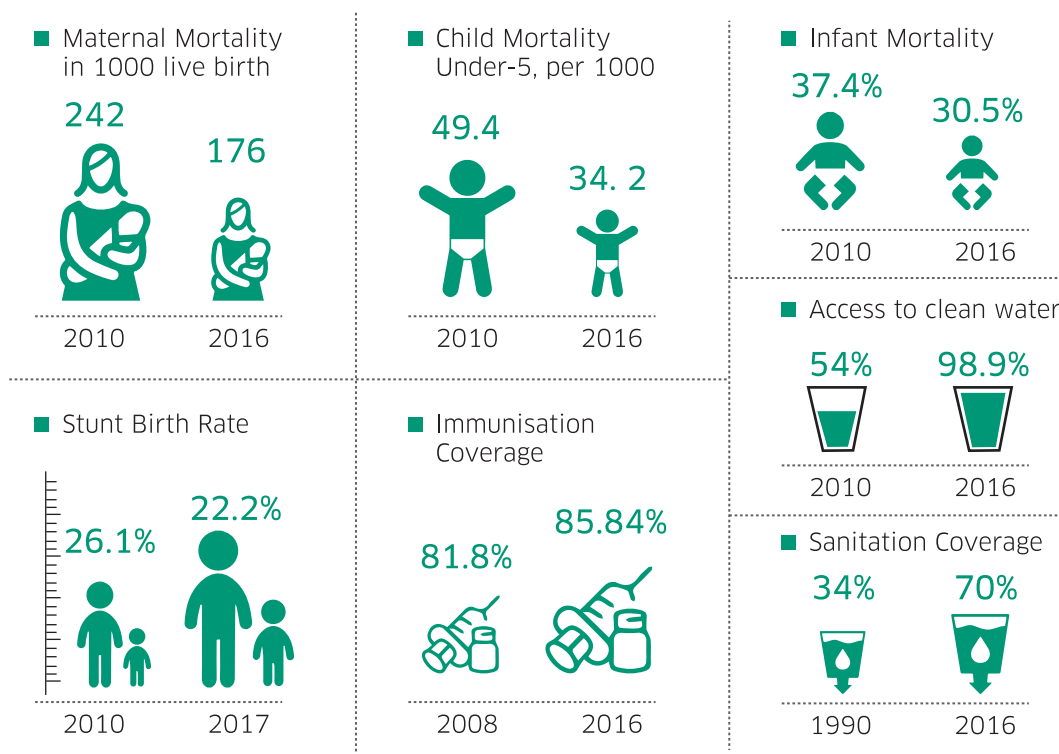
In addition, 15 Child Development Centres have been established for treatment of autism, neurological diseases and epilepsy and 19 hospitals have been declared as women-friendly. In 2016, around 10 thousand nurses have been appointed. The community-based skilled birth attendant (CSBA) training program has been organized in 342 sub districts of 60 districts, and courses introduced for midwifery with 3,000 midwives post created.

Bangladesh has committed \$615 million on family planning under 4th health sector programme for 2017-2021. The amount, which is a 67% increase in allocation from that of the pre-2017 programme, would put Bangladesh on track to attaining the Family Planning 2020 targets. Bangladesh also made several commitments under this sector that include taking strategies to reduce total fertility rate to 2

from 2.3 and increase contraceptive prevalence rate to 75% from 62%.

Bangladesh's achievement in pharmaceutical production is also a matter of pride. Drugs manufactured in Bangladesh are being exported to different countries after meeting 98 per cent of domestic demand. In 2017, medicines worth of Tk. 31.96 billion were exported to 145 countries. Drugs manufactured in Bangladesh have earned reputation globally. In the meantime, Bangladesh has declared the 'Drug Policy 2016'.

Bangladesh has won numerous awards in the last few years for its success in the health sector, including the UN award in 2010 for reducing child mortality rate by two-thirds well ahead of the stipulated timeframe, the 2011 UN "Digital Health for Digital Development" award for outstanding contributions to the use of ICT for health and nutrition and the Global Alliance of Vaccines and Immunization (GAVI) Award received in 2012 for reducing the number of un-immunized children by 52% and best immunization performance among six large populous countries.



Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics & Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



## 2.3 Employment and Skills



In 2009, the unemployment rate in Bangladesh was 5%. At the end of the 2016-17 fiscal year, the unemployment rate came to 4.2%. 1.4 million new jobs were created in 2016-17, which means the total labour force increased by 2.3%. Since 2009, the Awami League Government in the domestic market has created 6.3 million new jobs. The number of working women increased to 18.6 million in 2016-17 from 16.2 million in 2010.

A total of 51,98,914 (more than 5.1 million) male and female Bangladeshi workers have been able to fetch overseas employment from 2009 to 2017. In 2018, the Awami League Government is planning to send more than 1.1 million workers abroad with jobs. As a result of the current government's successful labour diplomacy, Bangladeshi workers have secured overseas employment in 165 countries.

Emphasis has been laid on skills development. The Government has formulated the National Skill Development Policy 2011 and a 37-member National Skill Development Council (NSDC) headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister has been formed for coordinating the activities related to skill development, training and employment of 23 ministries/divisions and NGOs. A National Human Resource Development Fund (NHRDF) has been established for ensuring flow of funds for skill development activities/programmes.

Focus has also been put on technical and vocational education and training (TVET). In the last 10 years, 30 new technical training centres and five Marine Technology Institutes were established with public funds. There is now at least one such training centre in every district of the country, denoting decentralization of TVET. During 2009-2017, 1.75 million people aspiring for going abroad have been trained in these training centres.

The Government has approved the 'National Technical and Vocational Qualifications Framework' consistent with the changing demand in the national and international labour markets. The Government has also formed 12 sector-based Industry Skills Councils (ISCs) for networking between labour market and industrial establishments. Formation of three further such Councils are also ongoing.

The Government has been implementing a 10-year 'Skills for Employment and Investment Program' since 2015-16 with the target of developing skills of 1.5 million people in three phases. Under this programme, a total of 1,82,756 people have already been trained in different trades. Of the trained people, employment has been provided for 1,29,900 people.



03

## Social Development

*All-inclusive social policy-strategies including decentralisation and expansion of education for all, pro-people health and family welfare activities, target-oriented social protection programmes, job creating-skill development-training and awareness building programmes pursued during the last 10 years resulted in unprecedented progress in social sector. Poverty rate has now declined to 21.8 percent from 31.5 percent in 2010 and extreme poverty rate has been reduced to 11.3 percent from 17.6 percent. Average life expectancy at birth has now increased to 71.6 years from 67.2 years in 2009. Children and maternal mortality (per thousand live births) rates were 39 and 2.59 respectively in 2005 which declined to 28 and 1.78 respectively in 2016.*



Poverty Rate  
Declined  
Since 2010

21.8%  
from  
31.5%



Extreme Poverty  
Rate Declined  
Since 2010

11.3%  
from  
17.6%



Life Expectancy  
at Birth Increased  
Since 2009

71.6 Years  
from  
67.2 Years

### 3.1 Women Empowerment

Bangladesh is regarded as an example for the empowerment of women in the world. The country has improved gender parity across all sectors ensuring greater participation in socio-economic and political activities. The World Economic Forum recently ranked Bangladesh first in gender equality among South-Asian nations for the second consecutive year. Bangladesh has had a steady climb in the 'Gender Gap Index of 2017, rising to No. 47 in the world.

*The World Economic Forum recently ranked Bangladesh first in gender equality among South-Asian nations for the second consecutive year.*

The government has been encouraging female participation in the workforce, bringing millions of women into the labour force leading to increased productivity and economic growth. The labour force participation rate for women was 36 percent in 2017 which was higher than the South Asian average of 35 percent. Labour force participation of women was 29.2% in 2007. More than 2.3 million women got employed in the last seven years. The number of working women increased to 18.6 million in 2016-17 from 16.2 million in 2010.

Women's participation in agricultural production was promoted through access to agricultural technologies and loans given for agro-processing, homestead gardening, nurseries, bee-keeping and other activities. 43 percent of rural women now contribute to fisheries-related activities. Furthermore, women now make up more than 60 percent of the fish farmers in Bangladesh. Currently, over 4 million women are working in the Ready-made Garment sector (RMG).

Banks and non-bank institutions are offering easy-loan to women entrepreneurs. Women are now getting loan at discounted rate of 10 percent interest and 15 percent refinance fund is reserved for them. Women entrepreneurs are entitled to 10% of the SME fund and 10% industrial plots. In 2017, total 54,000 women entrepreneurs received \$600 million (4,772 Crore BDT) as SME fund. Joyeeta Foundation (a government initiative) has been providing support to 18,000 women entrepreneurs.



The country received loud appreciation in Global forums for astonishing success in promoting women in the political field. In 2011, government increased the number of women reserve seats in Parliament to 50 from 45. Current Bangladesh parliament has 73 women members, which is 20 percent (12.7 percent in 1990) of the total 350 seats. Bangladesh is the only country in South Asia which has a woman prime minister and leader of the House, woman leader of the opposition, woman speaker and deputy leader of the house. There are also reserved seats for women in local level elections. The government also introduced a post of female vice-chairman for each Upazila (sub-division) bringing an amendment to Upazila Parishad Act. Over 12,500 elected female members are working in different tiers of local governance.



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***Bangladesh won Women  
in Parliament (WIP)  
Award for regional  
leadership in the South  
and Southeast Asia  
category for closing gap  
in politics.***

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About 1,100 women are now working in the civil service. Women are playing the role District Commissioner (DC) in 6 districts out of total 64. Among 206 Additional District Commissioners (ADCs), 16 are women. One hundred and six women hold the post of Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) at the sub-district level administrative unit out of total 491 units. Currently 10 women are acting as Secretary at different ministries, which is 13 percent of total number of secretaries. Number of women employees in government jobs increased to 378,354 in 2015 from 227,114 in 2009.

A good number of female officers of Bangladesh Army are now serving in different units. Hundreds of female officers of Bangladesh Air force are working in meteorology, air traffic control, admin, legal, supply, finance, engineering and education branch. Besides, a good number of female officers are serving in supply, engineering, electrical and education branch of Bangladesh Navy. In the recent years, Bangladesh has got acclamation for women's participation and success in different sports i.e. athletics, swimming, shooting, weight lifting etc. Sports associations offer incentives and special training to women participants.

The government has been strengthening the country's policies and legislative framework to ensure women's rights and combat violence against women. The National Women Development Policy 2011 was endorsed to promote women's rights. Under the policy, women have greater rights to employment,

inheritance and education. The Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs has initiated the concept of gender responsive budget from the 2009-10 fiscal year. There is now allocation of gender budget for 43 ministries/divisions, which are concerned with empowering women and gender equality. Allocation for women development was \$ 3244 million in 2009-10, which was increased to \$13,335 million in 2017-18. Average annual growth rate in last 7 years was around 22 percent.

**43** ministries have allocation for gender responsive budget



Allocation  
for women  
development  
increased

**\$3,244  
million**

2009-10

**\$13,335  
million**

2017-18





The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act was enacted in 2010 which was the first recognition of the problem of domestic violence in Bangladesh. Later in 2013, The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Rules was passed for ensuring proper implementation of the act. Recently amended Child Marriage Control Act stipulated strict punishments for marriage of girls below the age of 18.

A National Helpline Center for violence against children and women has been established to provide support to any women and their families who are in need of prompt support and information can get necessary information by calling the 24-hour Helpline Number 109. One Stop Crisis Centre operates in 6 divisions to give medical, legal and police assistance to women victims of violence. There is also a Trauma Counseling Centre.

### 3.2 Children's Development



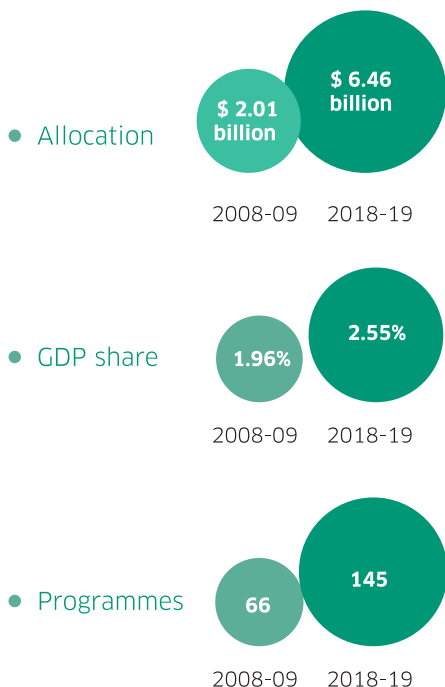
Today's children will translate our vision – both medium and long term. The government is, therefore, implementing multi-faceted programmes for creating appropriate environment for physical and mental development of children. Running child development centres, ensuring safety and education of children who are at the risk of child labour and early marriage, establishment of day-care centres for the children of working mothers are some of these programmes. Programmes like establishment of drop-in centres, emergency night shelter, children friendly zones, open-air school, and tariff-free child helpline are going on for the development of underprivileged children. Besides, national child policy and coordinated policy for preliminary care and development of children have also been formulated.

Children who are employed in risky jobs are now getting skill development training and informal education for duration of 18 months and 6 months respectively. Because of these programme interventions, 90,000 children went back to normal life. In the current year, 60,000 more children shall be brought under these programmes. Furthermore, 38 jobs have been identified that are risky for children after discussion with employers, workers and civil society organisations. The Government has mainstreamed children development in the national planning and budgeting through preparation of Child Budget from FY2015-16. The allocation of budget for children is being increased every year. The goal is to allocate 20 per cent of total budget for children by 2020.

### 3.3 Social Protection



#### Social Security Over the Years



The Government of Bangladesh, in the last decade, has put utmost importance on the sector of social safety. The government started implementing Bangladesh's National Social Security Strategy (NSSS) 2015, which envisions to bring more than 30 million people under social safety net. The NSSS aims to ensure more efficient use of resources, strengthen delivery systems, and move towards social security that tackles risks and priorities the poorest and most vulnerable members of the society.

In last 10 years, the government increased social safety net programs (SSNPs), both in terms of coverage, allocation and volume to ensure financial inclusion and welfare of the disadvantaged and vulnerable communities living in the country. The SSNPs contributed significantly in fighting poverty (in terms of protection and promotion), creating access to education, basic health care, nutrition and financial service for the people leaving in the lower strata of the society.

The Government has increased different rates of social protection allowances aiming at eradicating poverty and establishment of social justice. Total allocation for social security was only Tk 373.2 crore in FY2005-06. This allocation has been raised to Tk.64,656 crore in FY2018-19, which is 2.55 per cent of GDP and 13.92 per cent of total budget. Only 13 percent families enjoyed social protection benefits in 2005; this has been raised to 28.7 per cent in 2016. Social protection programmes have been brought to automated system for avoiding of duplication and ensuring transparency. A digital database of all the beneficiaries of social protection programmes created. At the same time, steps have been undertaken to pay social security allowance to 5 million people through G-to-P (Government to Person). Going forward, these beneficiaries will get their allowances on a particular date sitting at their home.



# 04

## Success in Global Development Goals

### 4.1 The Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)



Bangladesh has been recognized as one of the examples for emulation for other developing countries in implementing the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Bangladesh has made outstanding progress in the areas of poverty alleviation, ensuring food security, primary school enrolment, gender parity in primary and secondary level education, lowering infant and under-five mortality rate and maternal mortality ratio, improving immunization coverage, and reducing the

incidence of communicable diseases. Political commitment from the highest level of the government has driven all government machineries to work in tandem to fulfill the MDG goals. The alignment of national development policies with the goals and targets of MDGs helped speedy implementation of the targets.

#### MDGs: Progress of Bangladesh at a glance

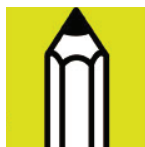


#### MDG 1 Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger

**Aim:**  
Halve by 2015 the proportion of people living below poverty line.

**Progress:**  
Bangladesh showed an impressive poverty reduction from 56.7% in 1991-92 to 24.8% in 2015; the rate of reduction being faster in the present decade than the earlier ones.





**MDG 2**  
Achieve Universal  
Primary Education

**Aim:**  
Ensure that all boys & girls complete a full course of primary schooling.

**Progress:**  
Significant progress has been made in increasing equitable access in education with net enrolment rate of 97.7 per cent and completion rate of 81.3 per cent at primary level in 2015.



**MDG 3**  
Promoting Gender Equity  
and Empowering Women

**Aim:**  
Eliminate gender disparity in primary & secondary education preferably by 2005, and at all levels in 2015.

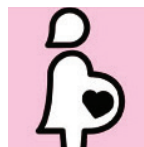
**Progress:**  
Bangladesh achieved the targets of gender parity in primary and secondary education at the national level long before 2015.



**MDG 4**  
Reduce Child Mortality

**Aim:**  
Reduce by two thirds by 2015, the under-five mortality rate.

**Progress:**  
Bangladesh is on track in meeting the target of this goal measured in three different indicators like under-five mortality rate, infant mortality rate and immunization against measles. Under-five mortality rate has been declined to 36 in 2014 from 151 in 1990. The infant mortality rate has declined to 29 per 1,000 live births in 2015 from 94 in 1990. The proportion of one- year old children immunized against measles has increased from 54 per cent in 1991 to 86 per cent in 2013.



**MDG 5**  
Improve Maternal Health

**Aim:**  
Reduce by the three quarters, by 2015, the maternal mortality ratio.

**Progress:**  
Maternal mortality declined from 322 in 2001 to 170 in 2013, a 47% decline in nine years.



**MDG 6**  
Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria  
and other Diseases

**Aim:**  
Have halted by 2015 & begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS.

**Progress:**  
Bangladesh has performed well in halting communicable diseases under this goal. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS in Bangladesh is less than 0.1 per cent and thus is still below an epidemic level.



**MDG 7**  
Ensuring Environmental  
Sustainability

**Aim:**  
Integrate the principals of sustainable development into country policies /programmes & reverse the loss of environmental resources.

**Progress:**  
At present there is 13.40 per cent of land in Bangladesh with tree cover of density of 30 per cent on average which is below the target set for 2015 of 20%.



## MDG 8 Developing a Global Partnership for Development

### Aim:

Develop further an open, rule-based, predictable, non-discriminatory trading and financial system

### Progress:

During the last twenty-five years, Bangladesh, on an average, received US\$ 1.8 billion ODA per year which was well below the amount required-US\$3.0 billion per year having an annual growth of rate of 7.8 per cent, to implement all the MDGs. mobile phone users per 100 populations were 79.76 in 2015 which was zero in 1990. The Internet users per 100 population was 30.39 in 2015, which was 0.15 in 2005.

## 4.2 The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

To replicate its MDGs successes in the post-2015 development agenda, Bangladesh has already started planning and implementing programmes to realize the next sets of global development goals, the sustainable development goals (SDGs). The steps taken so far include:

- Firstly, the country has accommodated the SDGs in its medium and long term national development plans. Bangladesh integrated the 2030 Agenda in its 7th Five Year Plan (2016-2020). This offered a tremendous

opportunity to implement the 2030 Agenda, while reflecting the priorities of the SDGs in the national plan.

The Government has adopted the “Whole of Society” approach to ensure wider participation of NGOs, development partners, private sector, media and civil society organizations in the process of formulation of the Action Plan and implementation of the SDGs. To spearhead the process, ‘SDGs Implementation and Monitoring Committee’ has been formed at the Prime Minister’s Office to facilitate and implementation of SDGs Action Plan.

Mapping of Ministries: Bangladesh has clearly identified the responsibilities of the ministries and agencies to achieve the SDGs. Bangladesh has mapped out lead, co-lead and associate ministries against each target of the SDGs. This mapping exercise is expected to reduce duplication of efforts, enhance synergy and help formulate action plans.

Data gap analysis: Bangladesh Planning Commission conducted a review of various means of data generation in the country. It reveals that Bangladesh has data for 70 indicators and partially available data for 108 indicators but need to devise new mechanism for data mining for the remaining 63 indicators.

National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework: Bangladesh is in the process of finalizing a Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for SDGs implementation. This framework will have a macro level web based data repository system to facilitate data collection, analysis, progress tracking and reporting. This is available for all to see in [sdg.gov.bd](http://sdg.gov.bd)



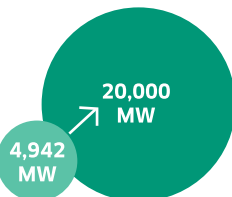
05

## Physical Infrastructure Development

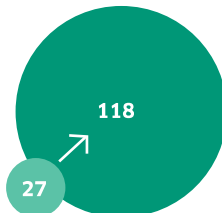
### 5.1 Power and Energy

In 9 years

Power generation capacity increased



Number of power plants rose



Construction of **2,622-circuit km** transmission line

Construction of **174,000 km** distribution line

Power and energy are the main priority sector of the current Awami League government. Back in January 2009 when they took office, power generation capacity of the country was 4,942 MW. Against this backdrop, the government prepared the 'Power Sector Master Plan' with a coordinated development strategy for power generation, transmission and distribution and implemented various activities following this plan. The targets were to scale up power generation to 24,000 MW by 2021 and ensure electricity supply to all in affordable price.

Within ten years, the number of power plants rose to 118 from 27 and power generation capacity has now increased by three times to 20,000 MW. Maximum power generation record reached 10,958 MW from 3,268 MW in 2009. During last nine years, construction of 2,622-circuit km transmission line, 174,000 km distribution line has been completed. Length of present transmission and distribution lines are 10,680 circuit km and 450,000 km respectively. System loss of power has reduced to 11 per cent from 16.9 per cent during this period. Overall, the percentage of population under electricity coverage has increased to 90 per cent from 47 per cent.

In order to ensure energy security, emphasis has been put on exploration of new oil and gas fields



in the country. Oil and gas exploration activities were hampered due to financial constraint during previous regime. During this government's tenure, 'Gas Development Fund' in 2009 has been set up to assist BAPEX in exploring oil and gas exploration and conducting seismic survey and the 'Energy Security Fund' has been established in 2015 for ensuring energy security. With sincere efforts, the storage capacity of oil has enhanced to 1.2 million metric tonnes from 0.8 million

The total number of natural gas fields is now 27 including the newly discovered gas field in Bhola. Gas is currently being extracted from 20 fields. Gas production capacity has increased to 2,750 million cft from 1,744 million cft in January 2009. Considering the demand of power and other industries for gas, steps have been taken to import Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). Two Floating Storage and Regasification Units have already been established in Maheshkhali of Chattogram for importing 1,000 million cft LNG daily.

## 5.2 Communication and Ports

In communications sector, emphasis has been laid on the development of integrated mode of transport combining road, rail and waterways. Easing traffic congestion and safe mode transport is another area of focus. Under various projects from FY2008-09 to FY2016-17, 465 KM roads were converted to 4-lane highways including Dhaka-Chattogram national highway, Dhaka-Mymensingh national highway, Nabinagar-DEPZ Chandra highway, Jatrabari-Kachpur highway; 3,931 km highways have been strengthened and 4,592 km highways have been widened; 842 bridges and 3,546 culverts were constructed/reconstructed.

In addition to repair and maintenance of 1,594 km district highways, mentionable numbers of flyover and railway overpasses were also constructed during this period. Some milestone projects were implemented including Mayor Hanif Flyover, Bishwaroad-Airport connecting flyover, Mirpur-Airport road flyover, Bahadderhat flyover and Hatirjheel project during this period. Implementation of mega project like Padma Bridge with the country's own finance has definitely upheld Bangladesh's image globally. Half of the work has already been

completed including successful foundation of 4 spans of the Padma Bridge. Work on Dhaka's first metro rail is progressing ahead of schedule, with initial limited operations expected to begin next year. Construction of Dhaka Elevated Expressway is also ongoing.

Significant steps have been taken to develop the rail sector as well. The Railway Division has been converted into a full-fledged Ministry. 298 km of new railways, 276 rail bridges and 82 station buildings were constructed after 2009; 249 km railways were converted to dual gauge and 62 non-operating rail-stations were operationalized. We have introduced 116 new trains and expanded services of 36 trains during this period. Particularly, capacity of Bangladesh Railway in transporting goods and passengers has been increased substantially as a result of converting 249 km railway into double-line out of 321 km railways of the most important Dhaka-Chattogram corridor. Train tickets are now easily available and information regarding location of trains can now be easily known through mobile phone and internet under e-ticketing service.



The current Government has developed sea, river and land ports for facilitating export and internal trade. The country's third seaport at Payra was developed and opened in August 2016 by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Currently, a master plan is on the cards for developing a deep-sea port there as well. Dredging of different rivers and river ports of the country including river and harbour area of the Pashur river and the Mongla port is being carried out for the development of river ports and for improvement of river ways navigation of the country. Modernisation of Mongla sea port, Benapole, Vomra and Nakgaon land ports were completed. Inland container depot has been constructed in Pangaon near Dhaka.

### 5.3 Fast Track Mega Projects

Ten growth-generating large projects, identified as 'Mega Projects', have been brought under special supervision of the Hon'ble Prime Minister for rapid implementation. These projects are: (1) Padma Multi-purpose Bridge Project (2) Padma Rail Bridge Project (3) Rooppur Nuclear Power Project (4) Rampal Coal Based Power Project (5) Chattogram-Dohajari to Ramu-Coxes Bazar and Ramu-Gundum Railway Construction Project (6) Dhaka Mass Rapid Transit Development Project (7) Construction of Payra Sea port (First Phase) Project (8) Sonadia Deep Sea port (9) Matarbari Ultra Super Critical Coal Fired Power Project and (10) Construction of Maheshkhali Floating LNG Terminal Project.

A high-powered 'Fast Track Monitoring Committee' headed by Hon'ble Prime Minister has been formed for close monitoring of these projects. On the other hand, 'Fast Track Taskforce' has been formed headed by the Principal Secretary, Prime Minister's Office for monitoring implementation of the decisions of this Committee.





## Agriculture and Food Security

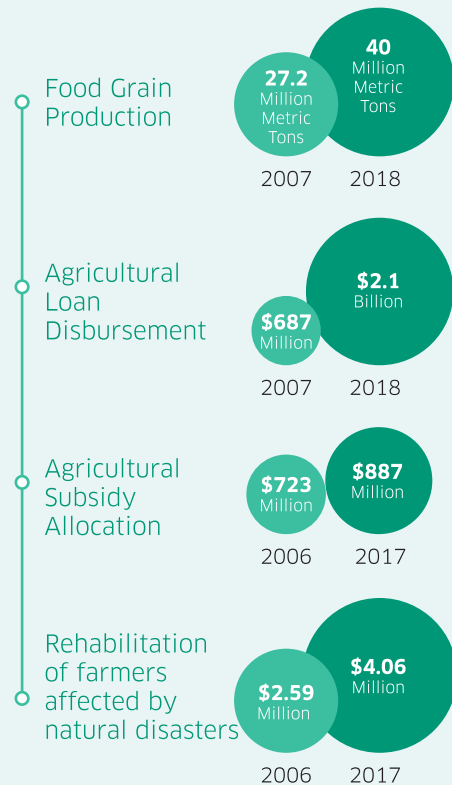


### 6.1

### Agriculture

Under the current government headed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, steps have been taken to further develop Bangladesh's agriculture sector including: scaling up subsidy on agricultural inputs, ensuring fair price and supply of agricultural inputs; introduction of cards on fertilizer, availability of seeds and other agricultural inputs; mechanisation of irrigation and farming; diversification and marketing of crops, agricultural rehabilitation support expansion of small irrigation facilities, reduction of water logging, production of improved quality and high yielding varieties of seeds and their preservation and distribution.

In the next fiscal year, a target has been set to innovate 22 new varieties of crops and 21 new technologies. Implementation of various programmes are underway to increase food production by expanding the coverage of agricultural land and by creating the opportunities of multiple cropping line of expansion of irrigation by using ground water in various regions of the country. Crop yield per hectare increased from 3.77 Metric Tons to 4.6 Metric Tons in the last nine years.





## 6.2 Food Security



The current Awami League government's goal is to ensure adequate supply of safe and nutritious food and maintain adequate stock of food grain for emergency. At present, the food grains storage capacity is 2.12 million metric tonnes at government level. In order to raise this capacity to 27 million metric tonnes, construction of additional modern food silos having the capacity of 6,40,000 metric tonnes is underway. Steps have been taken to build 8 modern steel silos with the capacity of 5,35,500 metric tonnes at 8 strategic locations of the country. Side-by-side, steps have been taken to ensure food security by undertaking capacity development projects and establishing testing laboratories for 'Bangladesh Safe Food Authority'. In addition, digital technology based programmes have been taken up to improve the monitoring and data management capacity of the Ministry of Food.

A number of laws, regulations and rules have been enacted in recent years to ensure food safety including the Food Safety Act, 2013, the Food Safety (chemical contamination, toxin and harmful residues) Regulations, 2017, the Food Sample collection, testing and analysis Regulations, 2017, the Food Safety (Use of Food Products) Regulations, 2017, the Food Safety (Wrapped Food Labeling) Rules, 2017, the Food Safety (Food Forfeiting and Administrative Procedure) Rules, 2017 and the Food Safety Authority (Technical committee) Rules, 2017.

## 6.3 Fisheries



*FAO ranked Bangladesh  
3rd in inland fish  
production and the  
4th largest producer  
of fresh water fish in  
the world.*

Bangladesh has always been known for its riverine fishes. Recently there has been a silent revolution in fish farming in ponds and canals of the country. Bangladesh has achieved self-sufficiency in the production of fish. According to International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), fish production in Bangladesh has increased by 25 times. Fish farmers are now commercially marketing 75 percent of the fish produced in the country. In FY18, Bangladesh earned \$ 535 million by exporting around 69,000 metric tons of fish and fish products. About 17 million people of the country are directly or indirectly involved in the fishery sector, which is 11 percent of the total population. About 6,00,000 new jobs are being made this year.



07

## Disaster Management, Environmental Protection and Climate Change

*Over the last ten years, Bangladesh has done remarkably well in disaster management, disaster preparedness, environmental protection and climate change adaptation and resilience building. Bangladesh is signatory to a number of international agreements on environment, disasters, and climate including those relating to: Biodiversity, Climate Change, Climate Change-Kyoto Protocol, Paris Agreement on Climate Change, Desertification, Endangered Species, Environmental Modification, Hazardous Wastes, Law of the Sea, Ozone Layer Protection, Ship Pollution, Wetlands, Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction, etc.*

7.1

Climate



To address the risks of climate change, in 2009 Bangladesh developed and released the Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP), which was the first of its kind at that time. It was developed entirely by Bangladeshi experts with Bangladesh government's own funds, following an elaborate consultation with a wide variety of stakeholders from different groups. This is being implemented with funding support from the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF) that was set up by the government of Bangladesh with its own money.

55%

Increased  
budgetary allocation  
in last 3 years

\$1.74

Billion budget under  
Bangladesh Climate  
Change Trust Fund

The current government has also increased budgetary allocation by 55 percent in last three years to Taka 146 billion from Taka 94 billion for facing the adverse impacts of climate change. Investment is being made on technology for resilience too. Bangladeshi scientists have developed almost 200 varieties of crops that are resilient to changing climactic conditions and techniques to grow crops in less fertile soil.

7.2

Environment

Under Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's leadership, the Bangladesh Constitution was amended in 2011 to include a constitutional directive to the State to protect the environment and natural resources for current and future generations. Prioritized in the constitution along with wetlands and wildlife, the forestry policies initiative by Prime Minister Hasina has provided a natural barrier from some extreme weather events and the country's forests cover has increased by almost 10 per cent. In a major initiative to protect environment, human health and livelihoods, legislation is being enacted to step up regulation of the coastal pollution from the ship-breaking industry that employs a huge workforce in hazardous conditions.

As of October 2015, 13,139 hectares of block plantations and 1,505 kms of strip plantations had been completed under the massive forestation programme. Under the social forestry programme from 1981-2017, forests were created on about 84,378 hectares of land and 68,830-kilometer roads. As many as 6,25,955 people were benefitted from the programme among them 1,21,507 being women. Over the

last nine years the coverage of forest has been increased from 9 percent to 17 percent.

Green technology is also being emphasized. Bangladesh leads the way in use of solar home systems, with 4.5 million households using solar photovoltaic systems. Use of solar power plants for supplying power to the national grid is also on the way. 7 of the world's top 10 green garment factories in the world are in Bangladesh. The country is now an emerging leader in green industrialization. The readymade garments(RMG) industry's steps and achievements so far in environmental sustainability would contribute towards ushering in a new era in the industrial sector of Bangladesh.

Coverage of forest increased

9%

Before 9 years

17%

After 9 years



Forests created on  
about **84,378**  
hectares of land and  
**68,830**-kilometer  
roads between  
1982 to 2017



**4.5 million**  
households using solar  
photovoltaic systems



**7 of the world's top 10**  
green garment factories in the  
world are in Bangladesh



7.3	Disasters
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*As a result of her initiatives in climate and environment, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina was awarded with the UN's highest environmental accolade in 2015, the Champion of the Earth.*

The Coastal Greenbelt Project has been created to protect the southern part of Bangladesh, which is surrounded by the Bay of Bengal, from cyclones. Dense forest covers along the coastline, particularly mangroves, form an effective buffer. By boosting this cover, we helped reduce the death toll to about 200 from the hurricanes Aila in 2009 and Mahasen in 2013 combined, compared to 140,000 in a single cyclone in 1991. About 2,10,000 hectares of coastal gardens have been created to protect people from natural disasters.

The construction of 61 new cyclone shelters (CSs) under the Multipurpose Cyclone Shelter (MPCSs) Construction Project worth \$ 25 million means Bangladesh now has approximately 2500 CSs and MPCSs. The New MPCSs are fitted with solar panels and rainwater-harvesting devices. They provide universal access to better accommodate the needs of people with disabilities and the elderly, and include separate rooms for nursing mothers. The facilities also offer a separate floor for livestock.

There are other major and noteworthy disaster related projects of the government which aim to deliver reliable weather, water, and climate information services, facilitate recovery from the damage to livelihoods and infrastructure caused by the cyclones, building resilience of urban communities to natural disasters, and building coastal embankments.



Uttar Seral Government Primary School, which is also a cyclone shelter in Agulchara, Barishal

08

## Digital Bangladesh



### 8.1 Digitization for Sustainable Development

In 2009, the Awami League Government embarked on the mission to build a 'Digital Bangladesh', which sought to transform Bangladesh into a technologically advanced nation and utilize the usage of ICT (Information and Communication technology) as a tool for development and sustainability. To that end, the country has come a long way. When the Digital Bangladesh efforts started nine years ago only 20 million of Bangladeshis were accessing mobile phone. Today that number has grown to more than 150 million and is still climbing.

A total of 5,286 digital centers have been set up across the country that already served 367 people million times with services like registration of 75 million births, and providing essential information to more than 2 million overseas job-seekers. Around 2 million ICT professionals, along with, 10,000 ICT entrepreneurs have become self-reliant, helping the country earn around \$300 million over the years and turning Bangladesh as an emerging hub for ICT outsourcing. The total size of the ICT market in Bangladesh was merely \$26 million in 2008, which now has reached \$600 million. With the introduction of the country's first satellite into orbit, Bangabandhu-1, the country has entered the space age in May 2018.

#### Bangabandhu-1 Satellite



**Launched on 11th May**  
(US Standard Time) from  
Kennedy Space Centre,  
Florida



**Orbital Slot 119.1**  
**degree** east longitude



Covers South Asia,  
Central Asia, Indonesia  
and the Philippines



Internet coverage  
in most **remote areas**



Effective **disaster**  
**preparedness**



**Uninterrupted**  
**internet** service

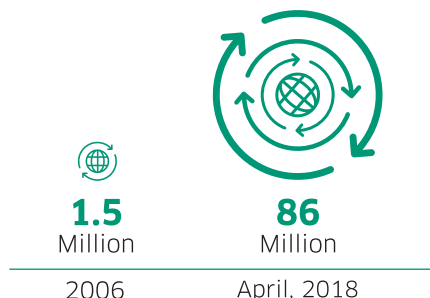


**Earning foreign currency**



**Faster broadcast** service

## ■ Internet Users



99% people and 95% geographic area of Bangladesh have been brought under mobile telecommunications service and network coverage. To ensure the latest mobile technology for the people, the Government of Bangladesh has launched 4G/LTE (fourth generation/long term evolution) mobile technology. Government is already planning to introduce 5G by 2019 which will make Bangladesh as one of the front running countries to launch the latest mobile technology.

### Bangladesh: ICT Essentials

ICT Education	<b>75,000</b> ICT professionals being trained by Government
	<b>170,000</b> educational institutions to have multimedia labs
	<b>24,122</b> teachers being trained on ICT equipment
ICT Sector Earnings	2008: \$26 Million 2016: <b>\$600 Million</b>
ICT Export Earnings	2017: <b>\$ 800 Million</b>
Budgetary Allocation for ICT	2008: \$ 25.6 Million 2016: \$ 205.4 Million 2018: <b>\$ 1.43 Billion</b>

## 8.2 ICT, Employment & Outsourcing

### ■ Some planned ICT infrastructure

  
**16**  
Hi-Tech Parks

  
**7**  
Software Technology Parks

  
**10**  
IT Training, Incubation & Business Centres

  
**Tier-IV**  
Data Center

There has been a rapid rise in the outsourcing landscape with international ratings placing Bangladesh in the league of top ten destinations around the globe. Oxford survey ranked Bangladesh as the 2nd largest source of freelancers. According to the technology website, Tech in Asia, Bangladesh is ranked as the 7th most popular destinations for outsourcing among 186 countries. According to the latest estimates, there are over half a million-registered freelancers in Bangladesh and the number is growing steadily. Capital city Dhaka enjoys the 3rd position in Upwork, among the global outsourcing cities.

More than US\$ 100 million is projected to be the earnings from the sector by 2020 as per current growth trajectory. However, given the various initiatives taken by the Government, the aim is to help the industry earn \$5 billion in software export and outsourcing by 2021. Plans have been also laid out to generate 200,000 employments in outsourcing every year from 2021. The latest Global Service Location Index (GSLI) by one of the world's top management consulting organizations A.T. Kearney has reaffirmed Bangladesh as among the top outsourcing locations in the globe.



### 8.3 ICT Training

To create a pool of skilled ICT human resources, the Government, through the ICT Division is providing training under a number of programmes including:

1

**Training  
3,342  
people**  
under  
Freelancer to  
Entrepreneur  
programme

2

**6-month  
extensive  
training to  
10,000 youth**  
on online  
outsourcing  
under LICT

3

**Training  
5,120 youth**  
on professional  
outsourcing  
under Learning  
and Earning  
project

4

**Training  
20,000  
women**  
and 1,920  
media  
professionals  
in ICT

5

**Training  
166,000  
women**  
on IT/ITES under  
“Sustainable  
Women  
Development on  
ICT” program  
via Digital  
Buses

6

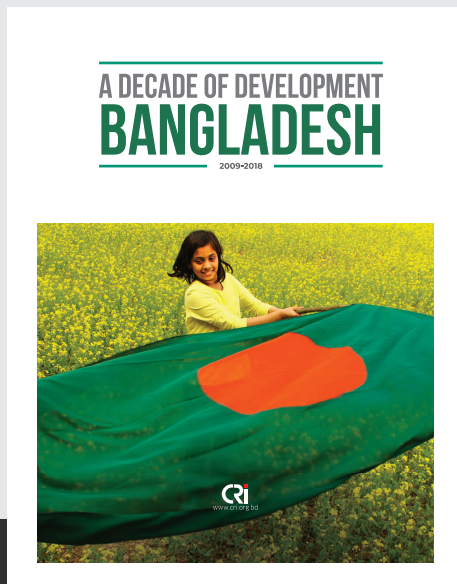
**Training  
3,500 youth**  
on  
e-commerce











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