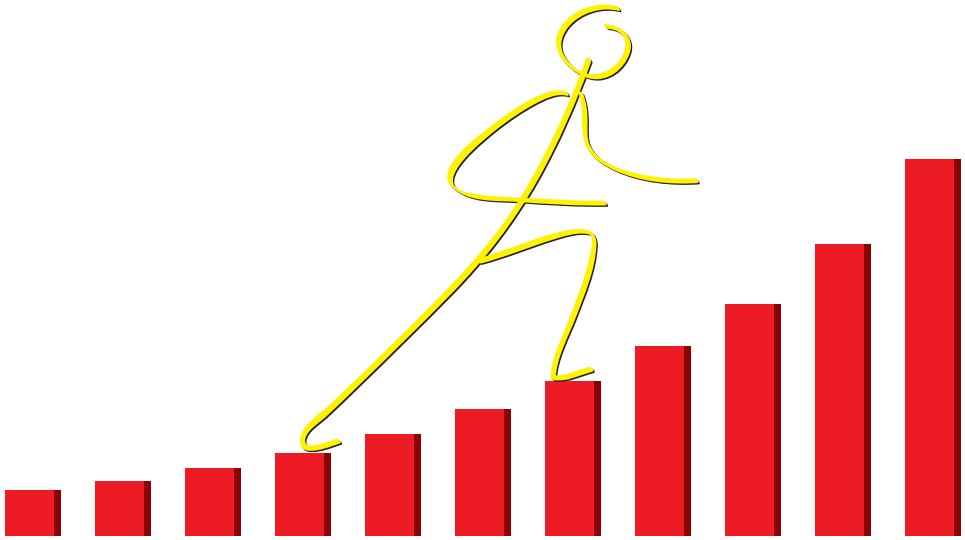

Moving **Ahead**

National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II
(FY 2009 - 11)

General Economics Division
Planning Commission
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
October 2008

Moving Ahead

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بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

CHIEF ADVISER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEPOLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

Message

Providing a decent life to all citizens through poverty eradication is one of the constitutional obligations for the Government of Bangladesh. Since independence, successive governments have made progress in the struggle to attain the vision of poverty-free Bangladesh. Bangladesh has already achieved several targets of Millennium Development Goals, including gender parity in primary and secondary schooling. We are also on track to achieve most other targets, including universal primary school enrolment and reducing the rates of under-five child mortality and the infant mortality. These achievements have been possible due to steadily increasing its broad-based economic growth rate above 6 percent for the last couple of years.

However, much more remains to be done to eradicate poverty as currently about 55 million of our citizens live below the poverty line. In this regard, I am pleased that the second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) of Bangladesh titled **'Moving Ahead: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II (FY 2009-11)'** has been prepared by the Planning Commission. The NSAPR II is prepared with extensive consultations with the stakeholders, academia, researchers, NGOs and members of civil society both at national and regional levels. It aims at poverty reduction through pro-poor macroeconomic management. and by creating decent employment through private sector development and an emphasis on small and medium enterprise development. The Strategy also aims at social protection of vulnerable groups, regional balance, protection of fundamental human rights, good governance and effective public service delivery in a corruption-free democratic environment.

The success of implementation of the programmes will depend on the action plans of the different ministries and divisions based on the policy matrices outlined in the NSAPR II document as well as follow-up monitoring of implementation progress.

I hope that all government ministries and divisions will put forth their fullest effort to meet the challenge. I also hope that development partners will come forward to support our efforts to face this most crucial and basic challenge of reducing poverty.

Fakhruddin Ahmed

Dr. A. B. Mirza Md. Azizul Islam
Adviser
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MESSAGE

The second Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP) of Bangladesh titled '**Moving Ahead: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction (NSAPR) II, FY 2009-11**' has been prepared as a sequel to the first one '**Unlocking the Potential: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction**' and embodies policies and strategies for achieving accelerated poverty reduction during FY 09-11. NSAPR II strives to accelerate poverty reduction through concerted government efforts, private sector development, and effective participation of NGOs and the civil society. The commitment of Bangladesh to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the South Asian Development Goals (SDGs) and other international agreements relevant to economic and social development was duly considered in formulating the strategies.

The incidence of poverty has been declining in Bangladesh over time. The national head count ratio of poverty declined from 56.6 percent in 1991 to 48.9 percent in 2000 and further to 40.0 percent in 2005. This translates into an annual average rate of decline of 1.9 percent during the period 1991 - 2000, and 3.6 percent during the 2000 - 05 period. With this trend of decline, poverty should have declined to 35.0 percent in 2008. However, due to two serious floods and cyclone Sidr in 2007 and the recent international commodity price increases, mainly for food and fuel, some of the reduction in poverty occurring since 2005 has been negated. A Joint Loss and Damage Assessment Team of the Government and international experts estimated that the total damage and losses caused by the cyclone Sidr was Tk. 115.6 billion (US$ 1.7 billion). The poverty rate has been estimated at 38.0 percent in 2008.

Bangladesh has recorded significant advances in basic human development indicators and by 2004 it graduated to the league of medium human development countries. Bangladesh has already achieved several targets of MDGs including gender parity in primary and secondary schooling and on track in achieving most other targets including halving the proportion of population below national poverty line, achieving universal primary school enrolment, and reducing the under-five child mortality and the infant mortality rate. These achievements have been possible as Bangladesh has always placed poverty reduction in the forefront of its development strategy.

The NSAPR II outlines a comprehensive medium–term strategy for poverty reduction through faster pro-poor economic growth. It aims at poverty reduction through pro-poor macroeconomic management, creating decent employment opportunities, and development of small and medium enterprises. It also aims at protection of the vulnerable people, regional balance, fundamental human rights, good governance and effective public service delivery.

The NSAPR II puts emphasis on strategies to tackle emerging issues like food security and climate change in the context of recent rise of prices of food grains in the world markets due to, inter alia, diversion of food grains to bio-fuel production and adverse impact of climate change. Food

security strategies embrace both physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet dietary needs of the vulnerable groups. Food security will be ensured through OMS (Open Market Sales), VGD (Vulnerable Group Development), VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding), TR (Test Relief), GR (Gratuitous Relief), FFW (Food for Work), and food assistance in three hill districts along with nearly fifty other social safety-net programs, including newly initiated 100 days Employment Scheme. In the NSARP II period the number of programs, budget size and the target group coverage will be enhanced for social protection including food security.

Climate change poses a significant threat to the fight against poverty in Bangladesh. Being a low-lying country with a funnel-shaped coast, Bangladesh is exposed to cyclones, storm surges, seasonal flooding and salinity intrusion. The prevailing high incidence of poverty, and population density makes Bangladesh more vulnerable to climate change. Climate change and variability have already impacted on the life and livelihoods of the people in the coastal areas and in the arid and semi-arid region of Bangladesh. A significant proportion of population could be displaced in Bangladesh through climate-induced flooding, tropical cyclones and storm surges. NSAPR II emphasizes mainstreaming and strengthening climate change adaptation across various sectors- improved crop, watershed and coastal zone management including aforestation, cyclone shelters, embankments, salinity control measures, public awareness, climate research, and data collection. Accordingly a Climate Change Fund with Government resources has already been created where development partners can contribute. A multi-donor Trust Fund is also in the offing.

The estimated total need for resources to implement the goals and targets of NSAPR II will be around Tk. 2568 billion at FY08 prices, most of which will be met from the domestically generated resources. However, there will be a resource gap of around Tk. 631 billion at FY08 prices or around US$ 9.0 billion. I hope that the development partners will come forward as per their commitment in the context of MDG 8 to meet the resource gap in implementing the NSAPR II.

The NSAPR II has been prepared by the Government after extensive consultations with the stakeholders, academia, researchers, NGOs and civil societies both at the national and regional levels. It is prepared by the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission as the National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP) with active cooperation from all the Ministries/Divisions and Government Agencies. Short term local consultants were hired to assist the eighteen thematic committees at the Ministry/Division level to prepare background papers and at the GED to assist the preparation of NSAPR II. The preparation process was guided by the 'National Steering Committee on PRS' headed by the Principal Secretary of the Government. The NSAPR II (FY2009-11) is a policy and strategy document. Its implementation will be continuously monitored and it will be updated and adjusted drawing lessons from implementation experience.

I congratulate the General Economics Division (GED) of the Planning Commission as the National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP) for successfully drafting the document '**Moving Ahead: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II**'. I thank the members of the National Steering Committee on PRS for effectively steering the preparation of the document. I am grateful to all the participants in the NSAPR II consultation meetings at the national and regional level. I gratefully acknowledge the encouragement of the Honorable Chief Adviser towards completing the NSAPR II.

Dr. A. B. Mirza Md. Azizul Islam

FOREWORD

Bangladesh has established a credible record of pro-poor economic growth over the decades. It has also been graduated to the medium human development group of countries by the UNDP's ranking. At a comparatively low level of development, Bangladesh has a success story to be on track and achieving many targets of the MDGs. Since poverty is multi-dimensional and there are many emerging issues in pro-poor growth, the battle against poverty has to be waged with undaunted vigour on many fronts. Poverty reduction or poverty alleviation has been a major thrust in all Plan documents since the emergence of independent and sovereign Bangladesh. With the completion of the Fifth Five Year Plan in 2002, Bangladesh switched over to Medium Term Budgetary Framework and undertook measures for pro-poor economic growth and to achieve the MDGs by 2015. With these ends in view, an Interim Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (I-PRSP) titled **A National Strategy for Economic Growth, Poverty Reduction and Social Development** was adopted in March 2003. Since then the Government pursued a wide range of socio-economic actions for poverty reduction and directed to prepare a full-blown PRS. Accordingly, PRSP was prepared and adopted by the government titled as **Unlocking the Potential: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction (NSAPR),** 2004/05-2006/07. In the meeting of the NEC held in April, 2007 it was decided to extend the period of NSAPR upto June 2008. In October 2007, the government decided to prepare second PRSP. As a sequel to the first PRSP the second NSAPR titled **Moving Ahead: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction** for 2008/09-2010/2011 was prepared. It was approved by the NEC in its meeting held on October 23, 2008.

The General Economics Division of the Planning Commission was designated as the National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP) by the government and entrusted with the task of preparing PRSP for Bangladesh. A National Steering Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Prime Minister consisting of Secretaries of relevant Ministries was formed in September 2003. Similar procedure has been followed in the preparation of the second PRSP.

The Steering Committee headed by the Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Adviser approved the broad work-plans and monitored the progress of preparing the second PRSP under the guidance of the Hon'ble Adviser for Finance and Planning. The NPFP, the GED, and its officers followed the work plans and decisions of the Steering Committee and the Independent Monitoring Committee headed by Professor Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud. The key issues of the present state of the economy were grouped into eighteen thematic areas. For each area a committee was formed with the relevant Secretary of the Ministry as the Chair.

One short term consultant was assigned to each thematic group. Each thematic group held several meetings. The GED organised three regional meetings, consultation meetings of concerned intelligentsia on 18 thematic papers, a meeting with development partners and two days' national consultation on the draft PRSP in Dhaka. The core drafting team for the second PRSP included Jafar Ahmed Chowdhury (Secretary, Planning Division and Member, General Economics Division), Dr. M. Ismail Hossain (Professor, Jahangir Nagar University), Dr. M. Golam Sarwar (Joint Chief, GED), Dr. Kaniz Siddique and Dr. Momdel Hossain. Moreover, researchers from BIDS and academia of different Universities rendered their valuable suggestions to the preparation of the thematic papers. The continuing brainstorming exercises and overall co-ordination of drafting works were performed under the leadership of the Member, General Economics Division.

We are most grateful to the Hon'ble Finance and Planning Adviser for his valuable guidance. We are grateful to the Steering Committee for its fruitful guidance and work-plans in preparing the second PRSP. Heartfelt gratitude also goes to Professor Dr. Wahiduddin Mahmud and Dr. Saleh Uddin Ahmed, Governor, Bangladesh Bank for their valuable suggestions. Our sincere appreciation goes for the concerned Divisional Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners for organising the regional level consultation meetings. We congratulate all the distinguished members including professionals, academicians, different trade and local bodies and those of the civil society who participated in different consultation meetings and gave valuable inputs. These distinguished participants as well as development partners deserve appreciation for their thoughtful comments on the substance and preparation of the second PRSP. We express gratitude to the Hon'ble Advisers and Special Assistants for their valuable suggestions. We apologise for any lapses or omissions for which we are alone responsible.

Ali Imam Majumder
Chairman
Steering Committee for the
Preparation of the PRSP

Jafar Ahmed Chowdhury
Member-Secretary
Steering Committee for the
Preparation of the PRSP

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Abbreviations

ACC	Anti- Corruption Commission
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADP	Annual Development Programme
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
AMC	Alternative Medical Care
ANC	Ante-Natal Care
AQMP	Air Quality Monitoring Project
ARI	Acute Respiratory Infection
ARISE	Appropriate Resources for Improving Street Children Improvement Project
ASA	Association for Social Advancement
BADC	Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation
BAEC	Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission
BANBEIS	Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics
BANSDOC	Bangladesh National Scientific & Technical Documentation Centre
BARC	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council
BARD	Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development
BARI	Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute
BAU	Bangladesh Agricultural University
BB	Bangladesh Bank
BBS	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
BCAS	Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies
BCC	Behaviour Change Communication
BCSIR	Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
BDHS	Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey
BERC	Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission
BGMEA	Bangladesh Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association
BIDS	Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies
BIM	Bangladesh Institute of Management
BIMAN	Biman Bangladesh Airlines
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
BINP	Bangladesh Integrated Nutrition Programme
BITAC	Bangladesh Industrial and Technical Assistance Centre
BIWTA	Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority
BIWTC	Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation
BKB	Bangladesh Krishi Bank
BMA	Bangladesh Medical Association
BMD	Bangladesh Metrological Department
BMDC	Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council
BMET	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training
BNC	Bangladesh Nursing Council
BNS	Bangladesh Naval Ship
BOI	Board of Investment

BOT	Build, Operate & Transfer
BPC	Bangladesh Pharmacy Council
BPDB	Bangladesh Power Development Board
BPO	Bangladesh Post Office
BR	Bangladesh Railway
BRAC	Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee
BRDB	Bangladesh Rural Development Board
BRRI	International Rice Research Institute
BRTC	Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation
BSCIC	Bangladesh Small & Cottage Industries Corporation
BSTI	Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute
BTRC	Bangladesh Telecom Regulatory Commission
BTTB	Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board
BUET	Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology
BWDB	Bangladesh Water Development Board
CA	Chief Adviser
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBN	Cost of Basic Needs
CBO	Community Based Organization
CBR	Community Based Rehabilitation
CC	Community Clinic
CCCI	Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industries
CCD	Convention to Combat Desertification
CCDB	Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh
CDs	Communicable Diseases
CDD	Control of Diarrhoeal Disease
CDMP	Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme
CDSP	Char Development and Settlement Project
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CEGIS	Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
CEmOC	Comprehensive Emergency Obstetrical Care
CETP	Common Effluent Treatment Plant
CGAP	Consultative Group to Assist the Poor
CHT	Chittagong Hill Tracts
CICS	Computerized Inventory Control System
CIPRAD	Centre for Indigenous Peoples Research and Development
CL	Child Labour
CMCA	Case Management and Court Administration
CMSD	Central Medical Store Depots
CNC	Community Nutrition Centre
CNG	Compressed Natural Gas
CNP	Community Nutrition Programme
CPA	Chittagong Port Authority
CPD	Centre for Policy Dialogue

CPP	Cyclone Preparedness Programme
CPR	Contraceptive Prevalence Rate
CPRs	Common Property Resources
CRA	Community Risk Assessment
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSBA	Community Skilled Birth Attendants
CSDDWS	Committee for Speedy Dissemination of Disaster Related Warning Signal
CSE	Chittagong Security Exchange
CSO	Community Support Organisation
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTMS	Computerized Terminal Management
CZPDC	Central Zone Power Distribution Company
DAE	Department of Agricultural Extension
DAM	Department of Agricultural Marketing
DCCI	Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries
DDA	Department of Drug Administration
DDC	Development Design Consultants
DEA	Decentralised Action Research
DESA	Dhaka Electric Supply Authority
DESCO	Dhaka Electric Supply Company
DFP	Department of Films and Publications/Directorate of Family Planning
DGFP	Directorate General of Family Planning
DGHS	Directorate General of Health Services
DHS	Demographic and Health Survey
DIFE	Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments
DLS	Department of Livestock Services
DM	Disaster Management
DMB	Disaster Management Bureau
DMIC	Disaster Management Information Centre
DMTATF	Disaster Management Training and Public Awareness Building Task Force
DOE	Directorate of Environment
DOF	Department of Fisheries
DOTS	Directly Observed Treatment Short course
DPDT	Department of Patent, Design and Trademark
DPHE	Department of Public Health Engineering
DPP	Development Project Proforma
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
DSL	Digital Subscriber Line
DTW	Deep Tube Well
DYD	Department of Youth Development
ECA	Ecologically Critical Area
ECC	Environmental Clearance Certificate
ECNWRC	Executive Committee of the National Water Resources Council
E-governance	Electronic governance

EGWS	Electricity, Gas and Water Sector
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
EMTAP	Economic Management of Technical Assistance Project
EPB	Export Promotion Bureau
EPZ	Export Processing Zone
ERD	External Resource Division
ESD	Essential Service Delivery
ETP	Effluent Treatment Plant
EPI	Expanded Programme on Immunization
FCD	Flood Control and Drainage
FD	Finance Division
FDI	Foreign Direct Investment
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FFW	Food For Works
FIAC	Farmer's Information and Advisory Centre
FIQC	Fish Quality Control
FP	Family Planning
GCM	Growth Centre Market
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GED	General Economics Division
GHG	Green House Gas
GM	Genetically Modified
GMP	Growth Monitoring and Promotion
GMOs	Genetically Modified Organisms
GNP	Gross National Product
GOB	Government of Bangladesh
GPWM	Guideline for Participatory Water Management
GR	Gratuitous Relief
GW	Ground Water
H&FWC	Health and Family Welfare Centre
HIES	Household Income and Expenditure Survey
HIV	Human Immune Virus
HNPSP	Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Programme
HQ	Headquarter
HRD	Human Resources Development
HYV	High Yielding Variety
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Authority
ICD	Inland Container Depot.
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICT	Inland Container Terminal
ICTPs	International Conventions, Treaties and Protocols
ICZM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IDCOL	Infrastructure Development Company Limited.

IEM	Information, Education and Monitoring
IFC	International Finance Corporation.
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMCI	Integrated Management of Child Illness
IMDMCC	Inter Ministerial Disaster Management Co-ordination Committee
IMED	Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
IPHN	Institute of Public Health Nutrition
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IRIs	Industrial Relations Institutes
IT	Information Technology
IWM	Institute of Water Modeling
IWT	Inland Water Transport.
JPUF	Jatiya Pratibandhi Unnayan Foundation
KGF	Krishi Gabeshana Foundation
km	Kilo meter
KWh	Kilowatt hours
LAN	Local Area Network
LFPR	Labour Force Participation Rate
LG	Local Government
LGD	Local Government Division
LGED	Local Government Engineering Department
LMIS	Logistics Management Information System
LPG	Liquefied Petroleum Gas
LGIs	Local Government Institutions
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MEWOE	Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment
MFA	Ministry of Foreign Affairs
MFA	Multi-Fibre Arrangements
MFI	Micro Finance Institution
MIDAS	Micro Industries Development Assistance Society
MIS	Management Information System
MLE	Ministry of Labour and Employment
MMR	Maternal Mortality rate
MNCs	Multinational Corporations
MoA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoC	Ministry of Communication
MoC	Ministry of Commerce.
MoCHTA	Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs
MoE	Ministry of Establishment
MoE	Ministry of Education
MoEF	Ministry of Environment and Forest

MoPEMR	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources
MoF	Ministry of Finance
MoFDM	Ministry of Food and Disaster Management
MoFL	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoHFW	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoIn	Ministry of Industries
MoTJ	Ministry of Textiles and Jute
MoL	Ministry of Land
MoLE	Ministry of Labour & Employment
MoLGRD&C	Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives
MoLJ&PA	Ministry of Law, Justice & Parliament Affairs
MoP	Ministry of Planning
MoPME	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
MoS	Ministry of Shipping
MoSICT	Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology
MoSW	Ministry of Social Welfare
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCA	Ministry of Women & Children Affairs
MoWR	Ministry of Water Resources
MPA	Mongla Port Authority
MP	Member of Parliament
MSME	Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprise
MT	Metric Ton
MTBF	Medium Term Budgetary Framework
MTMF	Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework
MV	Motor Vessel
MW	Mega Watt
NAP	National Action Plan
NAPA	National Adaptation Programme of Action
NARS	National Agricultural Research System
NBR	National Board of Revenue
NBSAP	National Bio-diversity Strategy and Action Plan
NCBs	Nationalized Commercial Banks
NCDs	Non-Communicable Diseases
NCSDT	National Council for Skill Development and Training
NCT	Newmooring Container Terminal
NCWD	National Council for Women's Development
NDMC	National Disaster Management Council
NDP	National Drug Policy
NEMAP	National Environment Management Action Plan
NEMEW	National Electro-Medical Equipment Workshop
NFE	Non Formal Education
NGO	Non-Government Organization

NGOAB	Non Governmental Organization Affairs Bureau
NGOCC	Non Governmental Organization Coordination Committee
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NIB	National Institute of Biotechnology
NMC	National Monitoring Centre
NNP	National Nutrition Programme
NPA	National Plan of Action
NPFP	National Poverty Focal Point
NPL	Non Performing loan
NPWA	National Policy for Women's Advancement
NSAPR	National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction
NWMP	National Water Management Plan
NWP	National Water Policy
NWR	National Water Resources
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OMS	Open Market Sales
OSH	Occupational Safety and Health
PAs	Protected Areas
PBS	Palli Bidhyut Samity
PCB	Printed Circuit-Board
PCJSS	Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samiti
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PDB	Power Development Board
PDBF	Palli Daridra Bimochon Foundation
PFA	Platform for Action
PFIs	Partner Finance Institutions
PGD	Post Graduate Degree
PHC	Primary Health Care
PKSF	Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation
PLAGE	Policy Leadership and Advocacy for Gender Equality
PLC	Public Limited Company
PLMC	Procurement and Logistics Management Cell
PNC	Post-Natal Care
PM	Prime Minister
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PRA	Participatory Rural Appraisal
PRS	Poverty Reduction Strategy
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
PSC	Public Service Commission:
PSC	Production Sharing Contract
PSD	Private Sector Development
PSI	Pre-Shipment Inspection
PSTN	Public Service Telephone Network
PV	Photovoltaic

R&D	Research and Development
RCC	Reinforced Cement Concrete
REB	Rural Electrification Board
REOPA	Rural Employment Opportunity for Protection of Public Property
RHD	Roads And Highways Department
RMC	Rural Mother Centre
RMG	Readymade Garments
RNFA	Rural Non-Farm Activities
RNFE	Rural Non-Farm Enterprises
RNFS	Rural Non-farm Sector
RO-RO	Roll On Roll Off
RRAP	Risk Reduction Action Planning
RRC	Regulatory Reforms Commission
RRI	River Research Institute
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAFTA	South Asia Free Trade Agreement
SBA	School Based Assessment
SBA	Skilled Birth Attendants
SCITI	Small and Cottage Industries Training Institute
SDGs	SAARC Development Goals
SDNBD	Sustainable Development Networking Programme
SEC	Security Exchange Commission
SEDF	Small Enterprise Development Facility
SEF	Small Enterprise Fund
SEZ	Special Economic Zone
SHED	Society for Environment and Human Development
SIA	Social Impact Assessment
SICT	Support to ICT Task Force
SIDR	Name of the disastrous cyclone (Bangladesh, 2007)
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SMEF	Small and Medium Enterprises Fund
SMESDP	Small and Medium Enterprises Support and Development Programme
SMEWP	Small Enterprise Web Portal
SMTQ	Standard, Metrology, Test and Quality
SOD	Standing Orders on Disaster
SOEs	State-Owned Enterprises
SOP	Standing Operating Procedure
SPM	Suspended Particulate Matters
SSC	Secondary School Certificate
SSEP	Smiling Sun Franchise Program
SSNP	Social Safety Net Programme
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
SZPDC	South Zone Power Distribution Company Limited
TB	Tuberculosis

TEU	Twenty Equivalent Unit
TFP	Total Factor Productivity.
TNA	Training Needs Assessment
TOE	Table of Equipments
TPC	Tripartite Productivity Committee
TPP	Technical Project Proforma/Proposal.
TR	Test Relief
TRM	Tidal River Management
TSCs	Technical Schools and Colleges
TTCs	Technical Training Centres
TVET	Technical and Vocational Education and Training
UGC	University Grants Commission
UHC	Upazila Health Complex
UHFWC	Union Health and Facmily Welfare Centre
UN	United Nations
UNCAC	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPHCP	Urban Primary Health Care Project
VAT	Value Added Tax
VAW	Violence against Women
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VGF	Vulnerable Group Feeding
WARPO	Water Resources Planning Organization
WASA	Water Supply and Sewerage Authority
WEDP	Women Entrepreneurs Development Programme
WEEH	Women's Empowerment through Employment and Health
WEF	Women Entrepreneurs Forum
WFCL	Worst Form of Child Labour
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WID	Women in Development
WMF	Water Management Federation
WMG	Water Management Group
WMIP	Water Management Improvement Project
WMO	Water Management Organization
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WTO	World Trade Organization
WWF	Workers Welfare Fund
WZPDC	West Zone Power Distribution Company Limited

Executive Summary

Bangladesh has always placed poverty reduction at the forefront of its development strategy. The second NSAPR, titled "Moving Ahead: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction II," has been prepared as a sequel to the first one and embodies policies and strategies for achieving accelerated poverty reduction during FY09-FY11. Recent development experience of the country with its emerging strengths as well as vulnerabilities and its resilient people underpin the strategies. NSAPR II strives to accelerate poverty reduction through private sector development, concerted and supportive government efforts, and effective participation of NGOs and the civil society in a corruption free democratic society. The commitment of the Bangladesh to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the South Asian Development Goals (SDGs) and other international agreements relevant to economic and social development were duly considered in formulating the strategies. The strategies also sought to strike a balance between the short-term exigencies and the medium and long-term development of the economy.

1. Past Achievements in Poverty Reduction

The incidence of poverty has been declining in Bangladesh over time, with a sharp decline occurring between 2000 and 2005. The national head count rate of poverty declined from 56.6 percent in 1991 to 48.9 percent in 2000, and further to 40 percent in 2005. This translates into an annual average rate of decline of 1.9 percent during the 1991 - 2000 period, and 4.6 percent during the 2000 - 05 period. During the same period the incidence of rural poverty declined at the rate of 1.6 percent and 4.3 percent respectively. The rate of urban poverty reduction has been higher in both periods- 2.5 percent during the 1991 - 2000 period and 4.9 percent during the 2000 - 05 period. Increase in returns to occupation, increase in remittances and a relatively large decline in family size have contributed to the larger fall in urban poverty.

Incidence of extreme poverty measured by the lower poverty line declined from 41 percent in 1991 to 37.9 percent in 2000 and further to 25.1 percent in 2005, implying an annual average rate of decline of 5.9 percent and 5.4 in the two time periods respectively. Thus the poverty of the poorer people has declined at a faster rate than that of the relatively less poor ones. A similar trend is observed in the case of rural and urban poverty.

The poverty gap and squared poverty gap measures also show improvements. Using the upper poverty line the poverty gap declined at the rate of 5.9 percent and the squared poverty gap at the rate of 7.4 percent at the national level during the 2000-05 period. Using the lower poverty line, the poverty gap declined at the rate of 12.6 percent and the squared poverty gap at the rate of 16.9 percent at the national level during the 2000-05 period. The rate of decline of these poverty measures has been much higher than that of the headcount rate. More rapid decline in the poverty gap and the squared poverty gap indicate greater improvement of the poor at lower income levels but the improvement was not enough for all to cross the poverty line. The improvement of poverty measures reflects the positive impact of the pro-poor strategy of the government over the years, focusing on growth, human development and social safety nets and NGO social activities and broad-based micro-credit operations and a growth process led by an expanding and vibrant private sector. It should be noted, however, that the impact of growth on poverty reduction has been neutralized to some extent by the increasing inequality of income in the country– the Gini coefficient increased from 0.39 in 1991 to 0.47 in 2005, implying an average annual increase of 1.47 percent during the period.

Progress in Attainment of MDGs: Bangladesh's progress towards attainment of MDGs has been encouraging in many respects but it also faces challenges in many areas. Bangladesh is on track in

case of majority of the indicators, with prospects for earlier attainment of targets in case of some of the indicators. The success in gender parity in primary and secondary education will require continued government efforts to be sustainable. The country lags behind in case of adult literacy rate, access to safe drinking water, maternal mortality rate, and primary school completion rate. However, participation of women in politics and wage employment is far from the desired level. Similarly, access to tenurial security, essential drugs, telecommunication services and the internet and PCs has been quite limited.

2. Multidimensionality of Poverty

2.1 Higher Vulnerability of Women to Poverty: There are some special aspects to women's poverty. The total number of poor women is higher than that of poor men. Various micro studies indicate that the 'hardcore' poor are largely women. The proportion of ultra poor (intake of 1600 k.cal) and extreme poor (intake of 1805 k.cal) is higher for female-headed households than male-headed households. The special features of women's poverty require a gender perspective in the pro-poor growth strategy.

2.2 Persistence of Regional Variation in Poverty: Sharp regional contrasts exist in the incidence of poverty. In 2005 the poverty headcount ranged from a low of 32 percent in Dhaka and 34 percent in Chittagong and Sylhet to over 50 percent in Barisal and Rajshahi. Poverty measured by the lower poverty line gives a similar picture- lower incidence of poverty in the eastern region compared with the western region of the country. Special policy measures are needed to accelerate poverty reduction in the regions lagging behind.

2.3 Persistence of Extreme and Chronic Poverty: The latest BBS data shows that 19.5 percent of the country's population suffer from extreme poverty. People living in remote and vulnerable areas like river banks and char areas, remote hilly areas, and certain groups of indigenous and disadvantaged people are the usual victims of extreme poverty. About 25-30 million people have been estimated to live in poverty for prolonged periods of time i.e., they live in chronic poverty. Investment in infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities in the lean period, and increased coverage of social safety net programmes will improve their poverty situation.

3. Development Vision of the NSAPR II

The development vision of the NSAPR II puts people at centre stage. It aims at poverty reduction and improvement of living standards, improving health, quality of education and other service delivery, and providing a life-friendly environment and shelter. It also aims at the protection of fundamental human rights and freedom, achievement of gender equality and regional balance, and preservation of a democratic framework. It emphasizes faster growth of the economy, focusing on broad participation of the people and ensuring distribution of income to the poorer sections of the community.

Broad Based and Pro-poor Growth: Past achievements in poverty reduction indicate that it has been helped by acceleration in the rate of growth of both aggregate and per capita income arising from the growth of agriculture, industry and services and benefiting all segments of the population, including the poor. The informal sector, which includes small–scale processing and manufacturing and various informal services, producing a large share of the GDP and employing about 78 percent of the labour force has contributed to growth and employment generation. The growth of this sector has been largely demand driven, the impetus arising from agricultural growth, export of RMG and remittance flows.

Past GDP growth originated from accumulation of capital, increase in effective labour reflecting a combination of labour force and human capital and total factor productivity (TFP) growth, with

TFP growth contributing more than accumulation of physical and human capital. Another factor which has also contributed to the acceleration of growth is the reforms in institutions, making them more market oriented and growth friendly.

Broadening and Deepening the Development Process: To sustain and strengthen the pro-poor growth process emphasis will be given to broadening and deepening it to make it more pro-poor. A larger number of the poor will have to be able to participate in the growth process and benefit from increased income, reduced risk and vulnerability and social protection. Accordingly, emphasis is given on strengthening safety net programmes, ensuring regional balance in development, controlling population growth, facilitating decentralized growth with emphasis on rural towns and the meso-economy, strengthening the focus on women's advancement and rights, ensuring environmental protection, creating human capital, strengthening the implementation monitoring progress by generating data and information, and gaining from the population dividend.

Global and Domestic Challenges towards Pro-Poor Growth: Emerging global phenomena and changes in the domestic scenario are posing a threat to the pro-poor growth prospects of Bangladesh and the well-being of its people, particularly the poor. The emerging threats at the global level are climate change and increasing prices of essentials, particularly food grains, and energy, and at the domestic level are the political instability and occasional supply shocks.

4. Medium-Term Macroeconomic Framework

During the NSAPR II the government remains committed to managing the key macroeconomic policy instruments, namely, fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies, combined with enhanced supervision and surveillance of the financial system to maintain macroeconomic stability, provide safeguards against adverse external or domestic shocks and create an enabling environment for pro-poor economic growth.

The medium-term macroeconomic framework has been developed against the backdrop of increased global uncertainty and sharp increases in the international prices of oil and basic food items. GDP growth is projected to increase to 6.5, 7.0 and 7.2 percent in FY 09, FY10 and FY11 respectively and the rate of inflation is projected to decline from 9.0 percent in FY09 to 7.5 percent and 7.0 percent in the following two years.

5. Maintaining Stable Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-poor Growth

The government is committed to maintaining a stable macroeconomic environment as a strategy for achieving higher economic growth and accelerated poverty reduction. The key focus of the policies for maintaining macroeconomic stability will include: (i) improving productivity by enhancing the contribution of total factor productivity to growth; (ii) lowering the level and variability of inflation; (iii) harmonising the fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies; (iv) enhancing supervision and surveillance of the financial system; (v) containing fiscal and current account deficits at sustainable levels; (vi) maintaining the stability of the real exchange rate and reducing the interest rate spread to encourage private investment; and (vii) maintaining foreign exchange reserves at least for three months of import payments and short-term debt payments. Further, the institutions required for a stable democracy which encourages political competition but forbids political hostilities having a negative impact on output and employment will be strengthened.

Achieving accelerated economic growth for poverty reduction will depend on several approaches: (i) increased accumulation of capital, enhanced supply of effective labour and improvement in total factor productivity, with greater emphasis on the last one; (ii) promoting the growth of sectors like agriculture, SMEs and services focusing on the pro-poor segments of the sectors; and (iii) promoting the growth of rural towns and the meso-economy.

A strategy to raise the investment rate for building higher capital stock will be complemented by a savings policy to mobilise domestic resources to finance investment. Financial products with varying liquidity, risks and returns will be developed to provide a range of options for the savings of people with different degrees of liquidity preference and risk-averseness. Corporate saving will be encouraged by offering favourable treatment to retained earnings which are invested.

Public savings will be increased by enhancing government revenue and rationalising and prioritizing government expenditure. Future drives for revenue collection will be oriented to the expansion of the tax base, curbing tax evasion, checking leakage in the tax collection system, more transparency in the tax collection system and diffusion of tax rules. There will be online facilities of tax payment so that taxpayers can avoid any hassle with the tax officials.

The tax base will be broadened by bringing agriculture and the informal sector under the tax net and the administration of land tax will be handed over to the tax collection department. The exemption regime will also be critically examined. This applies to all types of direct and indirect taxes. But the real broadening of the tax-base will consist in expanding tax administration to areas hitherto untouched but already taxable under law. This will require strengthening the tax administration thorough reforms. In order to increase non-tax revenue, the core state-owned enterprises like the post offices and the registration departments will be reformed and their fees and charges will be raised to reflect long-term price movements.

Official Development Assistance (ODA): ODA with less conditionality, grants and concessionary loans will be sought. Aid effectiveness will be improved through alignment of aid with national priorities, systems and procedures, increased accountability, eliminating duplication of efforts and harmonising policies and procedures of development partners, and better monitoring of aid utilization.

Monetary Policy: Bangladesh Bank will continue to pursue a prudent monetary policy to maintain reasonable price stability and promote sustainable higher growth of the economy, to maintain adequate flow of credit with the banks keeping a reasonable spread and to maintain a competitive exchange rate. The role of NGO-MFIs as financial institutions will be strengthened through the efficient functioning of the Micro-credit Regulatory Authority. The growth performance of the economy will be improved, with emphasis on agricultural growth, and monetary policy will be geared to maintain a balance between reducing the inflation rate and supporting higher growth.

Promoting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI): FDI has played a critical role in the early phase of the RMG industry and has been important for the development of the minerals and energy sectors and recently the telecommunications sector. Bangladesh has a very liberal foreign direct investment regime. There are no restrictions on foreign equity participation or on the repatriation of profits and income. No prior approval is required for foreign investment. In spite of the liberal investment regime, the annual flow of FDI has been small- less than US $ 540 million during 2000-07. FDI will be attracted by addressing the image problem of the country and coming up with well-advertised business support services aimed at reducing the cost of doing business. An essential element of FDI policy will be to attract foreign investment, particularly from those countries that have extended preferential market access to Bangladesh's exports.

External Sector Management: There has been sustained robust growth of export earnings and remittances by overseas workers. The external sector policy will be geared to sustain the export growth achieved in the recent past through diversification of exports and enhancing the existing exports, to enhance remittance flows, and ensure a steady flow of imports required to attain the targeted growth rate of the economy and to satisfy consumer demand. External sector management will focus on appropriate macroeconomic and trade policies, and sectoral policies for removing supply-side constraints, demand-side problems, rationalization of export incentives and leveraging

regional trading arrangements. Bangladesh Bank seeks to maintain relative exchange rate stability to ensure the competitiveness of tradable sectors and mitigate the excessive fluctuation of rates unrelated to economic fundamentals and build up foreign exchange reserves to cushion adverse external shocks.

6. Promoting Decent Employment

The labour force is estimated to grow to 58.3 million by 2011, resulting in an incremental labour force of 5.4 million during 2009-11. Including the current backlog of 1.9 million unemployed, 7.3 million additional jobs will have to be created during 2009-11, requiring an employment growth rate of 4.7 percent. The employment issue is much more challenging if one considers the case for productive employment for the underemployed labour force. The incremental employment during 2009-11 period is projected to be 5.3 million. Several approaches will be adopted to ease the employment problem: (i) introducing policies for making growth more employment-friendly. (ii) increasing overseas migration of workers, and (II) undertaking special schemes for job creation (especially through micro-credit) and employment-based safety nets through public works programmes.

Overseas employment has greatly contributed to the absorption of the increasing labour force in the country. The annual flow of migrant workers has increased from 6,087 in 1976 to 8,21,223 in 2007, with a 17.1 percent trend rate of growth.

The government will introduce a guaranteed employment programme in the FY2008-09 for the rural people during the lean season. The main aim of this new programme is to guarantee 100 days of work in a year. If the government fails to provide work, it will compensate the persons during the lean season with cash.

Policies and Strategies for Decent Employment: Employment considerations will be mainstreamed into the programmes/ projects of different ministries in two ways: (i) the ministries will routinely undertake *ex ante* employment impact analysis of projects/programmes to be submitted for inclusion in the budget; and (ii) they will regularly undertake *ex post* employment impact analysis of implemented programmes and projects in order to monitor and evaluate their successes and failures in achieving the targets.

A comprehensive employment strategy involves investing in dynamic sectors of the economy; promoting micro and small enterprises, where most employment is generated; and building strong linkages between dynamic sectors and small firms. It is in this context that promoting entrepreneurship plays a crucial role.

Skill training being imparted through various public sector and private sector institutes will be expanded, especially for women, and the quality and content of vocational training will be upgraded and reoriented in general to cater to the emerging needs of the economy. For skill upgrade of the workers in the unorganised sector, flexibility in the duration, training and location of training courses will be introduced. Skills of entrepreneurship, management and marketing will be introduced as part of training courses.

The programmes for labour welfare will lay emphasis on the promotion of harmonious industrial relations, social protection, improvement of OSH, elimination of CL, and enforcement of labour laws especially those relating to unorganised labour, women workers and child labour.

7. Improving the Environment for Private Sector Development (PSD)

The private sector acts as the engine of growth in a market economy. The government has introduced a broad range of policy and institutional changes having positive impact on private

sector development. Enhanced efforts will be made to support the private sector-led development during the NSAPR II. It will maintain macroeconomic stability to provide a conducive environment for private investment. Other measures for private sector development will focus on removing infrastructural constraints, creating a deeper and more efficient financial sector, developing best practices for microfinance, developing the capital market, addressing skills shortages in the labour market, promoting regulatory transparency, improving access to land for private enterprises, promoting development of economic zones, technology development, women entrepreneurship development, promoting corporate social responsibility, promoting public-private dialogue and enactment of a competition law. The Regulatory Reforms Commission (RRC) will work to streamline and upgrade the regulatory and legal framework that governs business and investment. The Bangladesh Better Business Forum (BBBF) comprising senior representatives of the public and private sectors will provide systematic feedback to the public sector.

8. Land Use Policy and Management

Land use policy will ensure the best possible use of land resources and delivery of land related services to the people through modernized and efficient land administration. The future strategies to overcome land policy and management problems will be mainly concerned with land administrative reform i.e. updating and simplifying laws relating to land-use management. This will lead to pro-poor governance and ultimately to poverty reduction. The strategies are: (a) modernization of the land records and land management system, (b) allotment of agricultural Khas land to landless and assetless people to improve their living conditions, (c) ensuring planned use of land through enforcement of the provisions of the existing laws and promulgation of new laws, (c) ensuring proper management of Jalmahal, Balumahal and other Sairat mahals for poverty reduction, (d) protection and conservation of wet lands, hilly areas, tea gardens, and rubber gardens, and (e) taking measures to help accretion of coastal land.

9. Agriculture and Forestry

Production of all major crops - rice, jute, pulses, oilseed, and sugarcane- increased steadily during the first NSAPR period. Other sub-sectors i.e., fisheries, livestock, and poultry also enjoyed substantial growth during the same period. However, higher growth is required in these sectors to enhance their pro-poor impact and to meet the growing demand.

The challenges of improved performance in the agricultural sector will be addressed through a set of policies and strategies in the NSAPR II period. In the crop sub-sector the strategies will focus on productivity gains, diversification to high value crops, pro-market input distribution, biotechnology research and development, technology generation and dissemination, strengthening of NARS institutes, demand-driven agricultural extension, revamping the agricultural marketing system, agro-processing activities, creating employment opportunities, especially for women, increasing cropping intensity through diversification to high value crops, creating enabling agri-business development services and market opportunities both for domestic and international markets, promoting small and medium enterprises, export promotion and development of AEZ-based technology, climate change adaptive technology, extension of irrigation, flood protection and drainage coverage, and agricultural subsidy.

In the fisheries sub-sector the strategies will address the issues concerning increasing productivity, small-scale pond carp polyculture, small-scale cage culture, stocking beels and oxbow lakes, rice-prawn culture, pen culture, shrimp (bagda and golda) production, fisheries research and extension, management of jalmahal, increasing productivity in marine and brackish water fisheries, quality control, human resource development, and meeting the increasing demand of fish farmers for information on aquaculture and fisheries management.

In the livestock sub-sector the issues related to livestock and poultry husbandry, cost-effective quality feed supply, research and extension support, and closely supervised services, women's employment in the livestock sub-sector, disease incidence, and export of livestock products will receive attention.

In the forestry sub-sector the strategies will aim at biodiversity conservation, wildlife protection, access of the poor to public commons, afforestation and tree plantation, and soil and water conservation. In addition, they will focus on social awareness and capacity building, shifting cultivation, deforestation, and climate change.

10. Water Resources Development and Management

The vision for the water resources sector is acquisition of water resources, optimizing various uses, and managing water resources for poverty reduction and sustainable development for securing the lives and properties of the people, especially the poor from water-related disasters. Participatory planning and implementation of water sector programmes/projects will be a continuing process.

The strategies of water resources development and management will be grouped under six major heads: (i) the main rivers of Bangladesh will be developed for the expansion of the multipurpose use of water resources, management for navigation, erosion control, and development of hydropower; (ii) flood protection and storm-water drainage measures will be undertaken with the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing FCD and FCD/I systems in a participatory manner and protection of rural and urban areas from floods; (iii) disaster management programmes will include provisions of cyclone protection, early warning and forecasting systems with adequate lead time, flood proofing shelters, control of riverbank erosion, drought management and rationalization of groundwater resources and climate change adaptation; (iv) adequate provisions will be made for water management for agriculture through public sector irrigation development and flood management and drainage; (v) protection of the natural environment and aquatic resources will be ensured with water pollution monitoring and control, water management for fisheries and ecologically sensitive areas and raising awareness of all stakeholders to support environmental measures; and (iv) development of institutions in the water sector will be ensured.

11. Urban Development

Bangladesh is experiencing rapid urbanization, the proportion of urban population reaching 24.6 percent in 2006. Urbanization has incidental growth promotion and poverty reduction potential but puts heavy pressure on the development of utilities to meet demand for a rapidly growing urban population. The urbanization policy would encompass spatial, economic, social, cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of urban life directed towards achieving an urban society free from hunger and poverty with ample access to education, health, shelter, and basic services and a secure and liveable environment at home and workplace. It will be a society sensitive to women, children and the aged.

12. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development

The vision of the SME development is to turn it into a more dynamic sector to be able to play a pivotal role in achieving the national goal of accelerated pro-poor growth, sustained poverty reduction and faster rate of economic development and social progress during the NSAPR II period and beyond. The government will, through its policy support to the SMEs, play the role of a facilitator to provide them a level playing field. The sector suffers from a multiple constraints and challenges. Lack of access to finance, infrastructural bottlenecks (especially unreliable access to power), low levels of technological competence, difficulty in market access and regulatory barriers are cited by the SME entrepreneurs as binding constraints. The intensity of these common operational impediments tends to hurt the smallest of the SMEs the most.

The policies and strategies for promoting SMEs growth and competitiveness in the coming years will be formulated to address the issues related to access to finance focusing on a comprehensive and inclusive credit policy, human resources development focusing on fostering the entrepreneurial spirit, technology and product quality and standards, subcontracting/ ancillarisation, production networking, access to markets, gender sensitivity, regional spread, and policy coordination and cooperation for policy implementation.

13. Essential Infrastructure for Pro-poor Economic Growth

The link between infrastructure and growth is well established and recent literature also establishes a close link between infrastructure and pro-poor growth. Infrastructure development including the development of power and energy, and transport and communication links enhances growth and creates employment opportunities. Access of the poor to the infrastructure generates pro-poor growth.

13.1 Power and Energy

The vision of the power sector is to provide access to affordable and reliable electricity to all citizens of Bangladesh by 2020. The main goal is to provide quality and reliable power at affordable prices to the people of Bangladesh for the desired economic, social and human development of the country through system expansion with a prudent least cost plan, efficiency improvement through institutional and structural reform and establishment of commercial arrangements among the sector entities.

Non-renewable energy comprising gas and coal will play a critical role in achieving the goals of NSAPR II. Realization of the growth targets envisaged in the NSAPR will require more than 10 percent annual growth in energy. The major challenge of the sector will be to meet country's energy requirements in keeping with its increasing demand.

The existing National Energy Policy (NEP) is being updated to provide guidelines for achieving energy security for the country. An action plan will be worked out to improve the operational and financial performance of Petrobangla umbrella. Also Gas Act will be enacted providing action-plans for proper accountability. The policy for public-private partnership for operating companies of Petrobangla will be formulated so that both domestic and foreign entrepreneurs may participate.

The National Coal Policy is being formulated for concomitant development of coal to meet the growing energy demand. Bangladesh will have to focus on the exploitation of huge coal reserve immediately, especially for power generation, leaving gas for fertilizer, CNG, commercial and industrial usage. Power Sector Master Plan (PSMP) which is fully based on gas-fired power plants must be revised and made realistic.

The major strategies to meet the demand for petroleum products will include increasing the LPG bottling capacity and increasing the refining capacity, expansion of the storage capacity of petroleum products, improvement of the distribution system by putting a second oil installation, and enhancement of the capability to handle large vessels to reduce losses in import operations.

Renewable Energy: The main goal is to develop, disseminate, promote and extend the renewable energy technology to the rural people to meet their energy needs for lighting and cooking purposes by using sustainable and inexhaustible environment friendly renewable energy sources. Strategic actions will include providing institutional support including procurement and training to the employees participating in the RE programmes, exemptions of all duties and taxes on imported solar panels, giving assistance to NGOs for enhancing their RE programmes, particularly solar power and bio-gas plant programmes, encouraging local entrepreneurs to set up assembly plants to make solar panels locally with imported solar cells.

13.2 Transport

Roads: The road sub-sector has expanded significantly, with profound effects on growth and poverty reduction. The strategies in this sub-sector will address a wide range of issues. An integrated National Transport Policy will be formulated and a Road Master Plan will be adopted for developing the country's road network. A National Highway Authority to facilitate public and private participation in road sector development and a Road Fund Authority to enhance implementation of the maintenance programme will be established. The institutional capability of RHD will be strengthened further.

Projects will be chosen with a focus on pro-poor growth and gender equity. A legal and financial framework will be created to encourage private investment in road sector development. Social impact study, particularly for district/zila road schemes and projects will be conducted. Asian Highway Routes will be completed according to international standards. The resourceful coastal areas will be brought under the road network system. Regional balance will be established in the road sector development programme. Construction of missing links, particularly on national and regional highway networks will be expedited. The development of Dhaka city roads will be emphasized. The various aspects of road safety will be addressed properly.

Railway: The main goal of Bangladesh Railway is to sustain its growth momentum to contribute to the development efforts of the country through providing wider connectivity and mass transportation facilities at a comparatively cheap price. The strategic options include the preparation of a master plan for the development of Bangladesh Railway (BR), undertaking projects for double-tracking to enhance the line capacity of the Dhaka-Chittagong Corridor, undertaking rehabilitation projects, and the implementation of a programme of organizational and policy reforms. A separate Railway Division will be established under the Ministry of Communication for developing rail transport services as a modern and cheap mode of transportation.

Waterway: The main goal of water transport is to ensure the smooth and safe navigation of cargo and passenger vessels. In order to overcome the current and emerging problems programmes will be undertaken for dredging important waterways and river routes and the construction of an inland river container terminal. Besides, the IWTA will make provision for providing facilities at different landing ports, landing facilities in the coastal area, and pontoons at wayside landings.

Ports: The main goal is to enhance efficiency and productivity against pre-set indicators through improving the quality of services and facilities to the port users and stakeholders at competitive prices and to upgrade Chittagong Port to a world-class port. Before the state of emergency declared in 2007, the inefficiency, costliness, insecurity and related issues made Chittagong Port one of the more insecure and inefficient as well as costly ports of the world. The port activities have got momentum and many irregularities have been duly addressed and eliminated since January 2007 with the introduction of recent reform initiatives for enhancing the productivity and efficiency of the Port.

13.3 Post and Telecommunication: The main goal of development of the post and telecommunication infrastructure is to improve the quality of services. The concerned strategies for the development of postal services include the introduction of an ICT-based postal network to keep it connected with customers, qualitative change in postal services, and continuous improvement of products, work process reengineering, creating a business development cell and providing quality services to the people. The strategies to solve the problems are extending the ICT facility, empowering rural people, minimizing the digital gap and extending the digital telephone facilities at Upazila Growth Centres.

14. Housing and Shelter

The vision for housing development is to ensure housing for all by 2025. The National Housing Policy of 2004 seeks to solve the housing problem, create an enabling and conducive environment to accommodate the weaker sections of the population and mitigate the unsolved and emerging problems of housing.

A Land Management Policy, in conjunction with the data base and the Land Use Policy of 2006 should form the basis for delineating the land that could be allocated for housing, particularly for the poor. The housing problems in Dhaka city will be addressed comprehensively. Provisions will be made for low-cost housing for low and middle income people and vulnerable groups. Housing finance will take into consideration the provisions for all the three income groups, low, middle and high. The private sector including NGOs and CBOs are to be motivated to target low-income groups for providing shelter and services. With a view to optimizing the use of resources, emphasis will be given on evolving and promoting low-cost housing technology suitable for middle and lower income people.

15. Social Protection for the Vulnerable

Attention will be given to activities that are directly targeted to benefit the extreme poor, women in poverty, landless poor and other vulnerable groups for faster poverty reduction. The activities include Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs), Food Security, Disaster Management, Micro-credit and Rural Non-farm Activities (RNFA).

15.1 Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs): Safety net programmes have been getting increasing attention from the Government as well as NGOs. There has been a shift in approach to the social safety net from a *charity approach to* a right-based *development approach*. At present, the social safety net activities are based on five criteria, namely, income, occupation, physical ability, ethnicity, gender and number of children, and regional disparity.

Safety net interventions provide the protection from and prevention of chronic poverty, transient poverty and falling into poverty. Despite all the positive implications, the SSNPs suffer from some weaknesses like inadequate coverage. SSNPs will be extended to target all the extreme poor, address the needs of all the poor through encouraging NGOs, the private sector and the informal sector by augmenting their role and contributions to enlarge the social safety net and attempt to increase coverage proportionate to the increased budget in each year.

15.2 Food Security: Food security embraces both physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet dietary needs. Food security is ensured through five major food transfer programmes, namely, VGD, FFW, VGF, TR, and GR. Main problems of access to food relate to lack of purchasing power and seasonal shortage of food.

15.3 Disaster Management: Bangladesh has been the worst victim of natural calamities, which cause huge loss of lives and properties almost every year. The poor people are affected disproportionately and often the non-poor or transient-poor become poor. The Government aims at protection of lives and properties from and prevention of any kind of hazards with priority given to disaster risk management along with mitigation. The Government policy for proper handling of disasters is to co-ordinate the efforts taken at different stages in the disaster management cycle, like disaster management practice, disaster mitigation, emergency preparedness, emergency response, disaster management mechanism, early recovery and immediate rehabilitation, space technology and disaster management, space technology in disaster prediction, warning, flood monitoring, mapping and use of internet facilities for disaster monitoring, prediction and information dissemination.

15.4 Micro-credit: Bangladesh is a global centre of excellence in micro-finance and has one of the largest borrowers of micro-credit in the world. The micro-credit movement is described as a privatization of public safety net programmes. Implementation of the micro-credit programme reduces the cost of the anti-poverty programme for the government, such as expenditure on health, welfare, and education. The number of active borrowers has crossed 16 million, with a staggering 70 percent of poor households having access to this credit. Alongside NGOs different ministries/divisions/agencies of the government have also undertaken a sizable number of micro-credit programmes. The government is committed to making the existing micro-credit system more effective as a poverty reduction tool.

15.5 Rural Non-Farm Activities (RFNAs): RNFA include all non-crop activities within the rural and small urban and peri-urban areas. Further expansion in these activities can be an important catalyst for poverty reduction. RNFAs will be fostered as an important and effective poverty reduction strategy and women's advancement by ensuring more women's participation in RNFAs. The Government will identify the roles of both the public and private sectors for the development of RNFAs, and will encourage local and foreign entrepreneurs to promote the RNFAs.

16. Human Development

The two most important aspects of human development are knowledge and good health. Deprivation of either of them is a form of poverty - knowledge poverty and health poverty. These are also most effective tools for overcoming income poverty. The government is cognizant of the importance of human development as a long-run sustainable development strategy for Bangladesh and has been maintaining an emphasis on it for the last three decades.

16.1 Education: In expanding the knowledge base, education will be the primary tool and the government intends to expand education coverage at all levels. Special efforts will be made to expand primary, secondary, vocational and non-formal education. Utmost importance will be given to improve the quality of education. Attention will be given to increase people's access to information, building research capacity and awareness among people, particularly at the grassroots level.

16.2 Health: Bangladesh has made significant progress in health outcomes. But major challenge remains regarding effective service delivery to address existing as well as emerging threats facing different groups of people. The government is committed to ensure quality health, nutrition and family welfare services, which are affordable, attainable and acceptable to its citizens. The government's focus is on increasing health status, reducing health inequalities, expanding access to social safety net and encouraging affordable service delivery systems for everybody. For the poor and vulnerable, existing safety nets will be further expanded and consolidated not only to ensure access of the poor to public health care services but also to raise their voices and establish ownership through community participation.

17. Ensuring Participation, Social Inclusion and Empowerment

People consist of heterogeneous groups with different identities. These groups face different realities, obstacles, and opportunities and have different needs and priorities. Development strategies need to take such differences into consideration to remove obstacles, address needs and expand opportunities for the people. It is essential to identify the excluded, dis-empowered, and vulnerable members of society. Some of them are women, children, indigenous people, people with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

The vision for Women's Advancement and Rights is to create a society where men and women will have equal opportunities and will enjoy all the fundamental rights on an equal basis. The NSAPR II sets out the goals for addressing poverty to establish the overall rights of women, achieve gender equality and empower women, and include women in the mainstream of development activities.

Differential treatment of children, the extreme poor, persons with disabilities and indigenous people is all pervasive and will be addressed in an effective manner for poverty reduction and development to benefit all. Proper attention is given in the NSAPR II to the hopes and aspirations of these groups of people.

18. Promoting Good Governance

Good governance is one of the essential preconditions of socio-economic development and poverty reduction. Corruption is often both a cause and an effect of weak governance. Improving governance and reducing corruption are crucial to helping poor people escape poverty and to achieve the MDGs.

The vision of the Government of Bangladesh in terms of good governance is to ensure effective parliamentary process, law and order, pro-people public services, an improved legal and judicial system, and to strengthen local government and establish a corruption-free society with social justice.

19. Ensuring Efficient Delivery of Public Services

The main goal of public services delivery is to ensure adequate, effective and low-cost services to the people. The government has undertaken reforms in key areas like transport, power and energy, and telecommunication paving the way for private sector operation to make the delivery system more effective and efficient. The government has also been implementing reforms in the police and the judiciary to ensure safety, security and protection of life, liberty and wealth and to uphold the rule of law. Efforts will be made in developing public-private partnership and NGO-government cooperation to improve efficiency in the management of service delivery in some of the essential utility services.

20. Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change for Sustainable Development

In the midst of widespread poverty and natural resource depletion in the country, the government strives to produce a proper mix of pro-environment and pro-development policies. The environmental challenges are in the forms of water and air pollution, land degradation, extreme degradation of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, unsustainable agricultural practices and unplanned urban growth. There is the further challenge of overcoming weak environmental governance. In this area the vision is to achieve poverty-free environmental sustainability in Bangladesh. The aims is to meet the needs of current and future generations by ensuring environment-friendly development, allowing common people access to public lands and resources and checking the various kinds of pollution that harm the poor disproportionately, particularly poor women and children. Climate change has compounded the problems of environmental degradation. Appropriate measures will be taken to adapt and mitigate to climate change. Environment and climate change issues will be mainstreamed in the development process.

21. Enhancing Productivity and Efficiency through Science and Technology

The major goal of the science and technology policy is to make Bangladesh a poverty-free, prosperous country through the application of science and technology. The quality of life of people of the disadvantaged strata will be improved through enhancing quality of education and health care by innovative application of ICT, enhancing productivity in agriculture through the

application of biotechnology and inspiring the creation of jobs through technological growth induced by a more reliable availability of power through the promotion and application of atomic energy. Development of modern biotechnology will be promoted on the areas of bio-fuel, biomedical and agricultural research.

22. Indicative Costs of Achieving Goals and Targets Set Out in NSAPR-II

In assessing the resource requirement for NSAPR-II implementation, a macro/micro approach was taken. At the macro level, expenditure projection from the medium-term budgetary framework was taken into consideration. At the micro level, the cost of implementing the activities to achieve the desired goals and targets in each thematic area was taken into consideration. These indicative costs were identified in consultation with the relevant stakeholders in the concerned ministries on the basis of unit costs. Effort was made to avoid overlaps and not to overestimate implementation needs. The total need for resources during FY09-FY11 to achieve the goals and targets recommended in 18 thematic areas comes to Tk. 2567.99 billion at FY08 prices. The total government expenditure including non-discretionary expenditures is estimated at Tk.3190.44 billion at FY08 prices. The maximum value of domestic resources that can be mobilised during the NSAPR-II implementation period from revenue collection and domestic borrowing (sustainable level of borrowing is considered as 2 percent of GDP) is estimated at Tk.2559.50 billion resulting in a resource gap of Tk.630.94 billion at FY08 prices or US$9.01 billion.

23. Strengthening Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

The implementation arrangements and monitoring and evaluation mechanism of NSAPR-II have been clearly articulated. The major responsibility for the implementation of the strategy lies with the concerned ministries and their agencies comprising different thematic groups as well as other ministries and agencies responsible for the implementation of the crosscutting issues. Other actors that will play an active role in the implementation include the private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs), NGOs, and regulatory commissions. The development partners will play a supportive role in the implementation of the NSAPR-II.

The institutional framework for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mostly similar to what was proposed in the NSAPR-I. A list of indicators has been developed for monitoring. For carrying out M&E effectively a set of capacity building issues will be addressed:

- Capacity of BBS will be strengthened to enable it to conduct surveys, census and special surveys to produce quality data. The timing of these activities needs to match that of preparation as well as monitoring and evaluation of NSAPR-II;
- Capacity-building of NPFP will be addressed to enable it to guide the working groups and coordinate their activities and carry out the analytical work;
- The planning wings/units in the ministries will be strengthened with adequate manpower having appropriate skills; and
- A general awareness of the process of implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of NSAPR II will be created among all public officials through workshops and training programmes.

Monitoring and evaluation will not be limited to the government system only. NGOs, CBOs, research organizations and academic institutions will be encouraged to undertake monitoring through the generation of relevant data.

Chapter 1

Past Achievements and Vision for Pro-Poor Growth

1.1 Policy Continuity

Bangladesh has always placed poverty reduction at the forefront of its development strategy. The First Five Year Plan (1973-78) set poverty reduction as its foremost objective and sought to achieve poverty reduction through employment generation and accelerated growth accompanied by appropriate policies for equitable distribution of income. Poverty reduction remained the cornerstone of development policy in successive development plans. The Fifth Five Year Plan (1997-2002) developed a comprehensive strategy for poverty reduction with three major elements, namely, a pro-poor plan for alleviation of rural poverty, an indicative strategy for poverty alleviation and an outline for institutional development at the local level for implementation of the pro-poor projects.

In view of the persistent and widespread poverty and slow rate of poverty reduction over the years the Government adopted a strategy for accelerated poverty reduction contained in the document "Unlocking the Potential: The National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction" (NSAPR) for FY05-FY07. The strategy differed significantly from earlier development plans in its emphasis on participation of the stakeholders in formulating it. Another feature of the strategy is the development of an institutional framework for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the NSAPR and the attainment of MDGs in terms of a set of performance indicators. Delay in preparing the NSAPR affected the formulation of projects and programmes within its framework and hence the implementation of the strategy. For this reason the NSAPR was extended up to June 2008 by updating the Medium Term Macroeconomic Framework and its operational contents.

The second NSAPR has been prepared as a sequel to the first for achieving accelerated poverty reduction through higher pro-poor growth during FY09-FY11. It is based on the recent development experience and the emerging strengths as well as vulnerabilities of the country and its resilient people. The strengths include continued macroeconomic stability (except for the inflation rate), increased saving rate, continued accelerating growth of the manufacturing sector, sustained high export growth, acceleration in remittance flow, dynamism of rural non-farm activities, resilience of the economy, and improved disaster management capacity of the government, NGOs and the community. The vulnerabilities of the economy include both developments in the domestic economy like recurrence of disasters accentuated by climate change, and rising prices of food grains and developments in the international economy like rising prices of rice and wheat and other essential commodities as well as rising price of energy and uncertainties in world trade negotiations. The strategies try to balance between short-term exigencies and long-term development of the economy. For example, while comprehensive social protection and food and nutrition programmes for the poor along with increased food production are needed in the short to medium term, in the long term a rise in agricultural production through increasing productivity and better marketing arrangements to ensure a reasonable return to farmers need to be emphasised. It focuses on private sector development, concerted and supportive government efforts, and effective participation of the civil society in a corruption free democratic society. It is committed to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and takes into consideration the SAARC Development Goals (SDGs) and other international agreements, protocols and covenants in formulating the strategies. Above all, the multi-dimensional nature of poverty and the need for a multi-dimensional approach to poverty reduction have been duly recognized.

Notwithstanding the broad policy continuity in development efforts, it is likely that successive PRS will differ in approach and the relative emphasis on different sectors and sub-sectors in terms of their contribution to accelerated poverty reduction. NSAPR II differs from the first in several respects. First, NSAPR II has more conceptual clarity in delineating the approach to poverty reduction. Secondly, taking into consideration the multidimensional nature of poverty, the number of thematic areas was expanded to 18 from 12 in the first NSAPR. Thirdly, in view of the infrastructural bottlenecks to development, especially shortage of power, a new strategic block on infrastructure has been included. Similarly, in recognition of the importance of technology and ICT in increasing productivity to achieve a higher rate of growth a new supporting strategy on technology including ICT has been included. Fourthly, indicative costs of the goals and targets of NSAPR II have been provided and the probable resource gap of its implementation has been identified. Finally, a mechanism has been outlined to facilitate the implementation of NSAPR II by the Ministries/Divisions/Agencies.

1.2 Achievements in Poverty Reduction

The incidence of poverty has been declining in Bangladesh over time, with a sharp decline between 2000 and 2005 (Table 1.1). The national head count rate of poverty measured by the upper poverty line declined from 56.6 percent in 1991-92 to 48.9 percent in 2000 and further to 40 percent in 2005. Thus poverty declined at an annual average rate of 1.9 percent during the period from 1991-92 to 2000 and at the rate of 3.6 percent during the 2000-05 period. During these periods the incidence of rural poverty declined at the rate of 1.6 percent and 3.3 percent respectively. The rate of urban poverty reduction has been higher in both periods, 2.5 percent during the period from 1991-92 to 2000 and 3.9 percent during the 2000-05 period. Increase in returns to occupation, increase in remittances and a larger decline in family size have contributed to a larger fall in urban poverty.

Table 1.1: Head Count Rate (CBN) of Poverty, 1991/92 to 2005
(Percent)

Residence	Upper poverty line				Lower poverty line			
	2005	2000	1995-96	1991-92	2005	2000	1995-96	1991-92
National	40.0	48.9	50.1	56.6	25.1	34.3	35.1	41.0
Rural	43.8	52.3	54.5	58.7	28.6	37.9	39.4	43.7
Urban	28.4	35.2	27.8	42.7	14.6	20.0	13.7	23.6

Source: BBS, Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2005.

The headcount rate measured by the lower poverty line declined from 41 percent in 1991-92 to 34.3 percent in 2000 and further to 25.1 percent in 2005, implying an annual average rate of decline of 5.9 percent and 5.4 percent in the two time periods respectively. Thus poverty of the poorer people has declined at a faster rate than that of the less poor ones. This trend is observed in the cases of both rural and urban poverty.

The poverty gap and the squared poverty gap measures also show improvements in poverty reduction (Table 1.2). Using the upper poverty line, the poverty gap declined at the rate of 5.9 percent and the squared poverty gap at the rate of 7.4 percent at the national level during the 2000-05 period.

Using the lower poverty line, the poverty gap declined at the rate of 12.6 percent and the squared poverty gap at the rate of 16.9 percent at the national level during the 2000-05 period. The rate of decline of these measures has been much higher than that of the headcount rate. More rapid declines in the poverty gap and the squared poverty gap imply faster declines in the depth and the severity of poverty. It also indicates greater improvement among the poor at the lower income level,

taking them closer to the poverty line. But the improvement falls short of enabling them to cross the poverty line. Further, the inequality in consumption among the poor has been falling. The improvement of poverty measures reflects the positive impact of the pro-poor strategy of the government focusing over the years on growth, human development and social safety nets, the social activities of NGOs, broad-based micro credit operations and a growth process led by an expanding and vibrant private sector. It should be noted, however, that the impact of growth on poverty reduction has been neutralized to some extent by increasing inequality of income in the country – the Gini coefficient increased from 0.39 in 1991 to 0.47 in 2005 implying an average annual increase of 1.47 percent during the period. Notwithstanding the progress in poverty reduction there is little room for complacency.

Table1.2: Poverty Gap and Squared Poverty Gap, 2000 and 2005

(Percent)

Residence	Upper poverty lines				Lower poverty lines			
	Poverty gap		Squared poverty gap		Poverty gap		Squared poverty gap	
	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000	2005	2000
National	9.0	12.8	2.9	4.6	4.6	7.5	1.3	2.4
Rural	9.8	13.7	3.1	4.9	5.3	8.3	1.5	2.6
Urban	6.5	9.1	2.1	3.3	2.6	4.1	0.7	1.2

Source: BBS, Household income and Expenditure Survey 2005.

The incidence of poverty is higher than in some of our neighbouring countries, like Bhutan with 31.7 percent (2004), India with 27.5 percent (2004-05), and Sri Lanka with 22.7 percent (2002). The high incidence of poverty in absolute terms as well as in the regional context calls for accelerated government efforts at achieving higher growth, fostering productive employment, improving human capital and social protection.

1.2.1 Achievements of NSAPR Macroeconomic Targets

In view of the uncertainties in the external sector, declining ODA (Official Development Assistance) and domestic infrastructural constraints, NSAPR (2005-08) projected modest but accelerated growth rate of the economy (Table 1.3). The actual growth rate exceeded the projected rate in FY06 but fell short of the projected rate in subsequent years. The growth shortfall in FY07 originated from the decline in growth rates in crop and livestock sub-sectors while that in FY08 was caused by two consecutive floods which damaged the aman crop and the devastating cyclone Sidr. Notwithstanding the deviations of actual growth rates, a sustained growth rate of above 6.0 percent during the last few years is a noteworthy achievement demonstrating the resilience of the economy.

The CPI inflation rate has consistently exceeded the projected inflation rate reaching 9.9 percent in FY08 from 6.5 percent in FY05. Inflation has been primarily a supply side phenomenon resulting from domestic supply failure of food grains as well as rise in the prices of food items in the international market. Rise in oil prices has accentuated the inflationary pressure.

Gross domestic investment as a proportion of GDP fell short of targets during NSAPR though it remained above 24 percent over the period. It increased until FY06 but declined in the following two years. The falling investment/GDP ratio is attributable to the declining investment rate in the public sector. Despite many odds private sector investment rate continued to increase albeit slowly during the period demonstrating dynamism of the emerging private sector.

Both revenue/GDP ratio and expenditure/GDP ratio remained below the projected levels until FY07 indicating slack in both revenue administration and project design and implementation. However, in FY08 both revenue/GDP ratio and expenditure/GDP ratio exceeded the target rates.

Concerted efforts at revenue collection and the anti-corruption drive of the government contributed to the improved revenue performance. Expenditure/GDP ratio increased because of large jump in non-development expenditure owing to increased subsidy and transfer payments, interest payments and investment in equity.

Table 1.3: Achievements of NSAPR Macroeconomic Targets

Indicators	2004-05	2005-06		2006-07		2007-08	
	Actual	NSAPR Target	Achieved	NSAPR Target	Achieved	NSAPR Target	Achieved (Prov.)
Real GDP Growth (%)	5.5	6.5	6.6	6.8	6.5	6.5	6.2
CPI Inflation (% GDP)	6.5	6.5	7.2	6.0	7.2	7.5	9.9
Gross Domestic Investment (% GDP)	24.4	25.0	24.7	25.5	24.3	24.9	24.2
Total Revenue	10.4	11.0	10.3	11.3	10.3	10.8	11.2
Total Expenditure	13.9	15.5	14.0	15.7	13.5	16.4	17.3
Overall Balance (excl. Grants)	-3.5	-4.5	-3.6	-4.4	-3.2	-5.6	-6.1
Domestic Borrowing	1.9	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.2	3.6	3.7
External Financing	1.6	2.5	1.5	2.5	1.0	2.0	2.4
Exports, f.o.b (% change)	14.0	14.0	21.5	12.0	15.8	13.5	16.0
Imports, c.i.f (% change)	20.6	15.0	12.1	13.5	16.6	17.0	25.0
Remittances (US$ million)	3848	…	4802	…	5979	….	7653
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	-1.0	-1.7	0.9	-2.0	1.4	1.1	0.7

Source: Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh Economic Review, 2008.

The budget deficit has remained below the projected level until FY07 but it exceeded sharply in FY08. Domestic borrowing exceeded the projected level during the period while external borrowing remained below the projected level except in FY08.

Export performance of the economy has been much better than the projections made in NSAPR I. Cautious projection of export growth due to uncertainties in the export markets and adequate response of the entrepreneurs to market opportunities resulted in such a phenomenon. Import growth was slow in FY06 but faster in the following years reaching 25 percent in FY08. Recent import surge has been caused by rise in price of food-grains and other essential food items, increase in food-grains import and rise in international oil price. The current account balance has been very low both in the negative and the positive side. The astounding growth of remittance has contributed significantly to improved current account balance.

1.2.2 Attainment of MDGs

The first initiative to prepare the Bangladesh MDG Progress Report was undertaken jointly by the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the UN Country Team in Bangladesh in 2005. The Report identified different levels of progress of the indicators. The Government has prepared a second report on progress of MDGs in 2007.

Bangladesh has made impressive progress towards attainment of MDGs by 2015. In case of majority of the indicators Bangladesh is on track with prospect for earlier attainment of targets of some of the indicators. It has been successful in achieving gender parity in primary and secondary education. It is on track to achieve the targets of 'halving the proportion of people living below poverty line and suffer from hunger', 'net enrolment ratio in primary education', and 'reduce child

mortality'. However, it lags behind in case of some indicators like primary school completion rate (67 percent) and adult literacy rate (54 percent), access to safe drinking water by rural people (79 percent), and maternal mortality ratio (290 per 100,000 live births). Similarly, participation of women in wage employment is far from the desired level and access to tenurial security, essential drugs, and PCs and Internet services has been quite limited. Bangladesh will need sustained government efforts to attain the MDGs by 2015 and hold on the achievement beyond 2015.

1.3 Challenges in Implementation of PRS

Identification of strategies for accelerated poverty reduction is a challenging task. However, it is much more challenging to implement these strategies and achieve desired goals and targets. Thus it will perhaps be no exaggeration to say that problems related to the effective implementation of policies, regulations, laws, projects and programmes have proved to be the most important factor in the struggle to achieve desired poverty reduction. Implementation failures have become so endemic that improving on implementation is seen as a critical strategic challenge. Thus attention must be given to ensuring efficient implementation of PRS.

It is expected that NSAPR implementation will take place through formulation and implementation of the budget. The core of the nation's political philosophy, policies and strategies is to establish Bangladesh as an economically prosperous country free from the various aspects of poverty. The national annual budget is also formulated keeping these as goals and objectives. Thus all ministries are expected to undertake activities and actions to achieve the strategic objectives that are spelled out in the NSAPR in the policy matrix and also in the text. Because, at the line ministry level, activities and actions can be undertaken only if there is an allocation of resources, the implementation of the NSAPR is being done through the formulation and implementation of the annual budget.

Since FY03, the budget preparation process has been undergoing various reforms. The main objectives of these reforms are to ensure macroeconomic stability and to formulate a budget consistent with the macroeconomic scenario and linked to policies. To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of public expenditure and to ensure the attainment of the goals set out in the poverty reduction strategy, the government has already started to move away from the traditional incremental budgeting process towards a Medium-Term Budget Framework (MTBF) process.

The MTBF initiative is intended to support the implementation of the NSAPR by ensuring that (i) GoB's fiscal management contributes to macroeconomic stability and supports an enabling environment for economic growth and poverty reduction, and (ii) public resources are allocated through a more strategic and policy-led budget planning process directed towards priority programmes identified in the NSAPR and in supporting sector level strategies.

Budgeting under MTBF has been rolled out slowly in the line ministries. The MTBF process started from FY06 with four ministries and gradually expanded to cover sixteen line ministries in the FY09 budget. The total expenditure of these ministries constituted about 60 percent of the total public expenditure. Thus, important and large-spending ministries were all included in this process.

In the light of the experiences with the implementation of the NSAPR it is important to understand the necessity for (i) awareness building and PRS orientation for the stakeholders of the line ministries, divisions, departments, and directorates, (ii) communication between the National Poverty Focal Point and all the line ministries /divisions emphasising that activities undertaken by the Ministries / Divisions have to be consistent with the activities described in the relevant policy matrices in the NSAPR, and (iii) wide dissemination of the PRS document to the officials of all ministries, divisions, departments and directorates. The awareness building and skill acquisition needs to be provided through appropriate mechanisms like workshops and training programmes.

1.4 Development Vision

The development vision of the NSAPR places people at centre stage. It aims at poverty reduction and improvement of living standards, improving health, quality of education and quality of service delivery and providing a life friendly environment and shelter. It also aims at the protection of fundamental human rights and freedom, achievement of gender equality and regional balance, and preservation of a liberal democratic framework. It emphasizes faster growth of the economy focusing on broad participation of people and ensuring distribution of income to the poorer sections of the community.

1.4.1 Pro-poor Growth as a Development Strategy

The experience of the last few decades indicates that on average economic growth in Bangladesh has been associated with reduction in income poverty and even faster reduction of non-income poverty. Poverty reduction, however, has not proceeded at the same rate with growth of income in different sub-periods. The variation in the rate of poverty reduction in different sub-periods provides some evidence that growth can be more or less pro-poor depending on other factors. The success of designing a pro-poor growth strategy depends on the identification of those factors and the way in which the impediments created by those are removed. Accordingly, the strategies in the paper focus on the removal of the institutional and policy induced biases against the poor as well as the adoption of direct pro-poor policies to unleash the energy and aspirations of the poor. It may be noted that a simple measure of pro-poor growth is given by the growth elasticity of poverty defined as the ratio of the percentage change in the poverty headcount ratio to the percentage change in the growth rate. The higher is the growth elasticity of poverty, the more pro-poor is economic growth.

Pro-poor growth is understood to indicate a growth process which reduces poverty, and preferably would mean a growth system where the poorer sections get a proportionately greater share of the benefits of growth leading to their eventual graduation out of poverty. The incidence of poverty along with the poverty gap and the severity of poverty needs to be addressed in a synergic way to ensure pro-poor growth. Elimination of extreme poverty and reduction of the incidence of poverty consistent with MDGs need to go together in addressing the problem of poverty reduction in the framework of pro-poor growth. There may be intra-poor upward mobility below the poverty line but no freedom from poverty.

The incidence of poverty falls even with growing inequality in the society if the income of the poor grows at a very high pace along with the high growth of income of the non-poor. High growth helps poverty reduction but its impact is partly neutralised by increased inequality. Reduction of inequality in income distribution is required for making growth more pro-poor apart from its value in creating a more egalitarian and stable society.

Given the multi-dimensional nature of poverty, pro-poor growth has to address multi-dimensional inclusiveness relating to economic well being, human development, access to infrastructural facilities, social and cultural development and political empowerment, and cover gender, ethnicity, region, communities and individuals. The need for a pro-poor growth strategy emerges out of the fact that poverty not only destroys the self-respect of the poor but also acts as a barrier to development as it limits demand, squeezes human capability and hampers social cohesion and political stability. A pro-poor growth strategy is thus a precondition for more sustainable and stable development in Bangladesh.

1.4.2 Sources and Nature of Growth

There has been some acceleration in the rate of growth of both aggregate and per capita incomes over the years. The benefit of growth for the poor, however, depends on the sources and nature of growth. Broad-based growth embracing all sectors of the economy, especially of the sectors generating productive employment for the poor, generates more benefits for the poor. All three broad sectors of the economy, agriculture, industry and services, contributed to the growth of the economy and its acceleration. Agriculture which is still the mainstay of Bangladesh for providing employment and food security has been growing at a modest rate of 3.2 percent during FY01-FY07. The agricultural growth rate exhibits wide annual variation generated mainly by natural shocks like floods, droughts and cyclones. The remarkable feature of agriculture is, however, its capacity to adjust to such shocks. A drop in aman crop production is often compensated by an increase in that of dry season boro rice, thus moderating the negative impact of shocks on growth. The manufacturing sector has been growing at an increasing rate, the growth rate reaching from 6.7 percent in FY01 to 11.19 percent in FY07 with a plateau in FY02. The growth of small-scale manufacturing value added has been greater in recent years. Sectors like construction, electricity, gas and water have been steadily growing at the rate of 8 percent in the last seven years. Among the service sectors, trade, transport, hotels and restaurants have shown steady growth, nearing 7 percent per annum during the same period. Thus growth has been broad-based, led by the crop sector in agriculture, RMG and construction in industry and trade, transport and hotels and restaurants in the service sector.

The improved growth performance of the economy can be looked at from another perspective. The informal sector including small–scale processing and manufacturing and various informal services produces a large share of the GDP and employs about 78 percent of the labour force. The acceleration of growth of this labour intensive sector has contributed to increased growth and employment generation. The growth of this sector has been largely demand driven, the impetus arising from agricultural growth, export of RMG and remittance flows. The future challenge is to sustain the trend in growth acceleration in the face of both long-term domestic constraints and short and medium-term domestic and international shocks.

1.4.3 Role of Public and Private Sector in Generating Growth

Taking a simple view of growth caused by enhanced capital accumulation through increased investment, the role of the public and private sectors in generating growth can be assessed. Public investment as a proportion of total investment has declined from 32 percent in 1995-96 to less than a quarter in recent years, implying the increasingly dominant role of the private sector in generating growth. This is an outcome of the Government policy to pursue private sector-led development in the economy. Nevertheless, the role of the Government in generating growth has remained important for several reasons. First, public investment in critical sectors of the infrastructure like transport and communication, power and energy, ports and human capital enhances the efficiency of private investment. Secondly, the Government supports the private sector through facilitating development-friendly institutions– property rights, rule of law, market-oriented incentives, sound monetary policy, sustainable public finances and governance. Finally, public investment can determine the structure of growth by allocating resources to the social sectors like education, health, and rural infrastructure. The future growth of the economy will be primarily dependent on the private sector complemented and supported by an effective government.

1.4.4 Future Growth: Productivity, Capital, Employment and Institutions

Past GDP growth in Bangladesh has been driven by accumulation of capital, increase in the size of effective labour reflecting a combination of labour force and human capital and total factor productivity (TFP) growth. Since the 1990s, while labour force and capital stock have been growing

at an annual average rate of 2.17 and 1.10 percent respectively, TFP has been growing at the rate of 1.16 percent. The contribution of human capital to growth has been small- the average education level grew at the rate of 0.34 percent. The growth accounting exercise reveals the importance of TFP in determining long-term growth in the economy, the gains in TFP originating from both rice and non-rice sectors. Another factor which has also contributed to the acceleration of growth is the reforms in institutions, making them more market oriented and growth friendly. The future growth rate of the economy has to be enhanced by focusing on the determinants of growth, with emphasis on TFP growth.

Increasing Total Factor Productivity Growth: Future acceleration of growth will depend to a considerable extent on sustained increase in total factor productivity growth. In order to increase TFP growth, technology infusion will need to be facilitated through emphasis on R & D in all sectors of the economy and inflow of FDI. It is understood that the generation, adaptation and diffusion of technology and good practices will depend on the creativity and entrepreneurship of the private sector. The efficiency of resource allocation will have to be improved through removing bottlenecks in the economy. A broad range of issues will need to be addressed including removal of infrastructural constraints like electricity, telecommunications, transport, and ports, and removal of binding regulatory barriers. Further, the government will have to be more result focused in its expenditure management so that use of inputs leads to measurable and monitorable outputs, outcomes and impact. The impact of negative productivity shocks generated by natural disasters will be moderated through better management of natural disasters, enhancing the capacity of the poor to face the disaster and supporting the efforts of the entrepreneurs to overcome damages to production, plants and machinery.

Increasing Private Investment: Private investment as a proportion of GDP has been rising steadily, reaching 18.7 percent in 2005-06 and remained at about the same level in 2006-07. Unrealized potential for private investment exists in all sectors of the economy, agriculture, industry and services, and in both formal and informal sectors. The translation of unrealized potential into reality will require an improved investment climate, defined as the "policy, institutional and behavioural environment, both present and expected, that influences the returns, and risks, associated with investment." Three broad components of the investment climate will be addressed – macroeconomic conditions, governance and infrastructure.

Enhancing the Supply of Effective Labour: Effective labour reflects a combination of labour force and human capital. With high population density and lack of adequate natural resources, Bangladesh is perennially a labour surplus economy having a high rate of underemployment. The stock of human capital is rising but it is low and suffers from a mismatch with the demand side of the labour market. Emphasis will be given on the development of human capital through investment in health, nutrition and education. Investment in health and nutrition will focus on improving general health, and cognitive skills promotion of the labour force. Investment in education and skills will focus on improving the quality of education and training at all levels. Training institutes will need to restructure and reorient their courses to be able to quickly respond to the emerging labour demand in the organized sector of the economy. For upgrading skills of the workers in the unorganised sector, flexibility in the duration, training and location of training courses would need to be introduced. To the extent that a sizeable proportion of employment would have to be self-employment in tiny and small units in various sectors, the training system should also gear up not only for providing hard skills for suitable trades, but also the soft skills of entrepreneurship, management and marketing. Besides, attention needs to be paid to retraining and re-deployment of retrenched workers and workers losing jobs due to privatization and closure of factories. Above all, training facilities will be made accessible to those in extreme poverty, women, indigenous people, and persons with disabilities located all over the country.

Reforming Institutions: Institutions play an important role in generating growth. Institutions affect growth through their effect on both the level as well as productivity of investment. While institutions change when a group of persons with political power think that the change will best suit their interest, the process leading to the actual shape of the institution is a complex one. As is well known, Bangladesh has been undergoing a continuous process of policy and institutional changes since the early eighties, the pace of change varying over different sub-periods. Policies and institutional improvements that help promote growth and poverty reduction will be continued in the second NSAPR period. These will include improving the quality of economic governance, lowering regulatory and administrative burdens on businesses, promoting openness to trade, fostering labour market flexibility, enhancing human and infrastructure development, improving the quality of financial intermediation, maintaining macroeconomic stability and ensuring the rule of law.

1.5 Broadening and Deepening the Development Process

While the growth process envisaged above will contribute to poverty reduction, emphasis will also be given to broadening and deepening the process to make the results more pro-poor. A larger number of the poor will have to be able to participate in the growth process and benefit from increased incomes, reduced risk and vulnerability and social protection.

1.5.1 Strengthening Safety Net Programmes

A safety net ensures a minimum level of income and consumption for everyone in the society or a subgroup of people. Safety net programmes are redistributive in nature and a mechanism for causing poverty alleviation. They constitute an element in the process of growth or rather pro-poor growth. The concept of a safety net would include all kinds of cash and kind transfers to the poor, all welfare activities, and unemployment benefits for the retrenched workers, subsidized health care, and shelters for the homeless and subsidized services like pension benefits, which prevent individuals from falling into poverty and reduce vulnerability.

The Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has been pursuing a number of safety net programmes for more than three decades. The existing safety net programmes provide limited coverage, and hence cannot cope with the magnitude of extreme poverty that exists in the country. A number of ministries are involved in implementing and monitoring safety net programmes. Many are funded with donor money. Budgetary provisions are ad-hoc. Thus often the extent, nature and mechanisms of most of the safety net programmes change with a change of government.

An effective, extensive and development oriented social protection and safety net programme is recognized as an integral part of the poverty reduction strategy of Bangladesh where a large number of people live in extreme poverty, and face various kinds of overt discrimination and extreme vulnerability. The current safety net programmes need to be consolidated and strengthened in terms of targeting and coverage.

1.5.2 Ensuring Regional Balance in Development

Though Bangladesh is a country with a small land area and a relatively homogeneous population, economic development has not advanced at the same rate in all the regions of the country. Poverty reduction cannot be expected to occur at the same rate across regions and population groups. But the contrast in the incidence of poverty between the eastern and western parts of the country with a headcount ratio between 32 and 34 percent in the eastern part comprising Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet Divisions and between 47 and 52 percent in the western part comprising Barisal, Khulna and Rajshahi Divisions is glaring and has recently emerged as a policy concern. Special attention will be given to bring dynamism in the economy of the western region through provision of infrastructural facilities, credit and fiscal incentives, facilitating migration of workers to foreign countries,

encouraging locational dispersion of industries and creation of regional growth centres, providing training and skill generation, promoting rural non-farm activities and increasing the coverage of SSNPs. This will be achieved by introducing a regional dimension in the allocation and utilization of resources within the current sectoral approach to formulating policies, plans, programmes and projects.

1.5.3 Decentralized Growth with emphasis on Rural Towns and the Meso-economy

Decentralized growth with the participation of a larger number of people throughout the length and breadth of the country will have greater impact on poverty reduction. Two things stand out prominently in this context: promoting the growth of rural towns and bringing the meso-economy into the mainstream economy. Rural towns or semi-urban areas growing outside the municipal areas have shown dynamism in generating employment and can promote those non-farm activities that can serve income elastic consumer demand. Rural towns have some advantages as a pro-poor growth strategy. Towns facilitate a more efficient delivery of public utilities like health, education, electricity, water and sewerage, sanitation, transport, telephone and internet services and gas, with the possibility of some poor people having access to these services. Towns provide greater income earning opportunities through both self and wage employment. Growth of rural towns will reduce the flow of migrants to bigger cities, especially Dhaka which is under great stress in providing efficient public services. The pro-poor character of towns is reflected in a lower incidence of poverty in urban areas compared with rural areas. Growth of rural towns will be promoted through improved provision of public utilities, better connectivity, planned development of towns and land use planning.

In recent years, Bangladesh's development has benefited significantly from the vibrant growth of the meso-economy: formal and informal activities in service, trade, construction and small industries burgeoning in the rural market centres in response to the demand generated by agriculture, remittance and a mutually reinforcing service sector. Traditional policy interventions with a sectoral focus have not served the growth requirements of the meso-economy properly because of its unique nature. The agents in the meso-economy will be supported through appropriate credit facilities, skills training and technology upgrade to enhance the dynamism of the sector and enable it to integrate with the growing formal sector.

1.5.4 Strengthening the Focus on Women's Advancement and Rights

Women in Bangladesh have made important first-round progress in visibility and mobility. Gains made by the female population in primary and secondary education, access to birth control measures and micro-credit compare favourably with those in other developing countries. Positive social attitudes towards women's economic participation too have become near universal. However, beyond these achievements of visibility and mobility lie new constraints and new strategic challenges.

Further progress has to contend, in particular, with entrenched patriarchal attitudes which seek to keep many social and political spaces off-limits to women, and expose them to the insecurities of public spaces which effectively inhibit fuller engagement by women with the unfolding opportunities. Roads and transports, government offices, police stations, courts, market places i.e. all manner of public spaces, remain extremely women-unfriendly. At issue too are social attitudes which put low priority on maternal health and thereby present a deep-seated obstacle to progress on this critical MDG indicator. The other strategic challenge in enhancing women's advancement is the question of female labour productivity.

The culmination of extensiveness and intensity of discriminations against women are manifested in terms of negative sex ratio (103 in 2001) in Bangladesh and violence against women. In terms of violence women are victims of rape, acid attacks, assault and murder/suicide and trafficking. The

occurrence of domestic violence is endemic in all groups and classes. Thus a critical engagement in this area will be central to a road-map on accelerated poverty reduction. The strategy has to include addressing women's advancement and rights issues in the mainstream activities such as the national policies and at the policy, programme and project levels of all the ministries so that women can actively participate in the development process and also benefit from it.

1.5.5 Ensuring Environmental Protection

Human lives and livelihood in Bangladesh are intricately intertwined with nature. Consequently no process of development and eradication of poverty can be conceived of without effectively caring for the environment and placing sustainable development at centre-stage. On the other hand, as the poor depend heavily on nature for their livelihood, without the whole-hearted involvement of the poor, caring for the environment becomes an extremely difficult task. Bangladesh is a signatory to the Multilateral Environmental Agreement by which the Government is committed to undertake certain environmental management actions which will be largely beneficial to the poor.

Operationally, poverty-environment linkages are evident at two levels - one is conservation of nature and natural resources for sustainable livelihood, while the other is controlling/combating pollution for the maintenance of biodiversity and protection of human health. The macroeconomic and sectoral policies of the Government must consider their impacts on the environment. The policy choice involves a choice between ,on the one hand, the country's effort to grow fast, ignoring environmental concerns, causing long-term damage to the environment and lower growth and reduced poverty reduction and, on the other hand, the imperative for Bangladesh to grow faster in the short-run in order to reduce poverty. Therefore a careful balancing act must be orchestrated where economic growth is maximized without compromising environmental protection and safety. Policies and actions of the Government must not cause marginalization of the poor and force them to intensify over-utilization of the open access natural resource base, or make it more vulnerable to pollution hazards.

1.5.6 Gaining from the Population Dividend

Bangladesh has undergone a demographic transition from high birth and mortality rates and low life expectancy to low birth and mortality rates and high life expectancy, resulting in a higher proportion of young and working age population and a lower dependency rate. The relatively higher proportion of the working age population can create virtuous cycles of growth commonly known as the demographic dividend. A higher proportion of working age population leads to relatively high per capita income, increased savings, increased investment, higher growth and higher employment. Reaping the benefits of the demographic dividend will, however, require appropriate policies to create adequate productive jobs. If the growing labour force is not matched by the number of jobs, both unemployment and underemployment will result, indicating missed opportunities. Macroeconomic and sectoral policies including labour market policies will be geared towards providing productive employment to the growing labour force to reap the demographic dividend.

1.5.7 Controlling Population Growth

Bangladesh has achieved remarkable success in reducing the population growth rate; its population is currently growing at the rate of 1.48 percent per annum. An estimated population of 146 million living in an area of 147 thousand square kilometres gives a population density of 952 persons per square kilometre, the highest in the world excepting a few island economies. If measures are taken according to the National Population Policy, Bangladesh is likely to achieve net replacement level fertility (i.e. NRR=1 or TFR of 2.1). Notwithstanding these potential achievements, its population is likely to increase to 233 million in 2051. Such a phenomenal increase in population will have obvious implications for its socio-economic development including high man-land ratio, reduced

agricultural land, pressure on utilities, pressure on the job market, and declining quality of education and health services, especially for the poor. In this context population planning will take a number of initiatives such as:

(i) highlighting the population problem through the National Population Council and enlisting public support for population planning and development;
(ii) pursuing both population influencing and responsive measures as envisaged in the National Population Policy;
(iii) implement family planning and reproductive health programmes vigorously; and
(iv) strengthening inter-ministerial coordination to engage other ministries to participate and get involved in all population planning activities.

Population growth which was once considered the number one problem, slipped in priority during the last decade. It will be brought back to its original position again.

1.5.8 Strengthening Implementation Monitoring by Generating Data and Information

Successful implementation of the poverty reduction strategies and achievements of the goals of poverty reduction require a well-designed monitoring process to be in place both at the macro and the micro levels. Monitoring the progress of PRS will consist of continuous assessment of the flow of inputs/expenditure for the fulfilment of specific objectives and appropriate utilization of inputs. While monitoring the processes and inputs of poverty reduction activities is essential, this must be accompanied by periodic assessment of actual progress in various output and outcome indicators at the macro, sectoral, programme and project levels. Monitoring is essential to make informed decisions, re-set priorities, revise the targets, and undertake new activities and increase transparency and accountability of the Government by making monitoring results available for public knowledge. For effective monitoring, indicators have to be identified and for reporting on indicators reliable and credible data and information are essential. Data generation through surveys, participatory assessments, and researches is essential. In this respect it is essential to undertake measures to create capacity of concerned organisations to generate different types of data and information relevant to monitoring.

1.6 Emerging Issues in Pro-Poor Growth

While the traditional sources of poverty continue to persist, some emerging global phenomena and change in the domestic scenario are posing further threats to the pro-poor growth prospects of Bangladesh and the well being of its people, particularly the poor. The emerging threats at the global level are mainly climate change, increasing prices of essentials, and more recently financial crisis, and at the domestic level are corruption, unplanned urbanization and power and energy shortage.

1.6.1 Climate Change: Increasing Occurrence of Natural Disaster

Climate change is already happening. Glaciers are melting, sea levels have risen, and cyclones, tornados, floods and droughts are becoming more frequent as well as more intense. With rising carbon emission levels, climate change is likely to get worse before it gets better. The anticipated climate change impacts in Bangladesh would be manifested in two ways in two contrasting regions, such as (i) the southern part towards the sea will experience drainage congestion due to higher water and river bed levels, salinisation of soil and water resources due to lower river flows, sea-level rise and more intense disasters including cyclones and storm surges with higher risks because of higher water levels, and (ii) the other part of the country in the north-western region will be subject to scarcity of water leading to drought condition and aridity with less rainfall and higher temperature. Tropical cyclones and tornados which strike the country periodically and annually and create untold misery and loss of life, and damage to property and ecosystems, are likely to increase in frequency

and intensity. Against the backdrop of this adverse climate change scenario the people would be struggling desperately for their livelihood which has already fallen into the seriously vulnerable category.

Climate change has already emerged as a serious challenge to development in general and poverty reduction in particular. Bangladesh has experienced unnecessary loss of lives and property due to climatic factors such as too frequent occurrence of cyclones, tidal bores, and a rise in sea level leading to salinity, floods and landslide due to torrential rains. The country has also experienced low crop yields due to unfavourable climatic factors. Current damages are already too high. Climate change poses serious challenges in terms of change in the spatio-temporal pattern of rainfall with more intensity in the southeast region and rainfall scarcity in the northwest region; drainage congestion due to higher water levels in the confluence with the rise of sea level, and river bank erosion, frequent floods and prolonged and widespread drought, greater salinity on the surface, in the ground and soil in the coastal zone. Bangladesh needs a strategic policy and programmes for climate resilient sustainable development.

1.6.2 Rising Prices of Essential Goods

Inflation has continued to rise in recent years, increasing from 7.2 percent in FY 07 to 9.9 percent in FY08. The key domestic factors driving inflation are:

(i) destruction of crops and properties because of two floods and a devastating cyclone;
(ii) political and market uncertainty;
(iii) supply side constraints (infrastructure, cartels etc.); and
(iv) inflationary expectations.

Domestic prices of basic quality rice increased from about Tk 25 per kg to Tk 35 per kg within a period of two months. Adding fuel to the fire, prices of essential commodities like oil, food and edible oil have been soaring in the international market, exerting upward pressure on domestic inflation rate. What is of real concern is that there is little possibility for the situation to get better in the international market. The recent boom in food prices reflects the following factors:

(i) strong demand for bio fuel partly driven by policy measures in the US and Europe;
(ii) increased demand from emerging markets; and
(iii) adverse supply shocks.

Price increase causes hardship for people from all walks of life; its consequences are alarming for the poor especially those with fixed incomes.

1.6.3 Increasing Drive for a Corruption-Free Society

This caretaker government has taken up various anti-corruption drives to bring a qualitative change in the political, economic and social scenario of the country. Some of these actions are: (i) undertaking of Operation Cleanup throughout the country to nab corrupt suspects and criminals; (ii) setting up of special tribunals to try cases of corruption, money laundering and terrorism; (iii) reconstitution and strengthening of the Anti-Corruption Commission; and (iv) promoting the reformation of politics as a social movement, freeing it from criminalization.

These actions are a move in the right direction for attaining a corruption free democratic society. However, this has transmitted a shock to the economy, leading to a fall in business confidence, with negative impact on domestic investment, output and prices in the short term. The uncertainty about the future drive for a Corruption-Free society after the election complicates the situation. If the next government continues the momentum for creating a corruption free society, as desirable as it might be, it will create some instability for a period as the nation needs to adjust to a new way of

doing business. The other possible scenario is going back to the older system. The nation endures uncertainty as it waits to see what will emerge.

1.6.4 Unplanned Urbanization

While growth of rural townships has positive effects on the growth of the rural economy and poverty reduction, unplanned spontaneous urbanization is a potential source of some major urban as well as economy wide problems. Growth of urban centres at dispersed locations uses up land, leading to decline in agricultural land. Lack of advanced planning for road infrastructure and public transportation, installation of electric, gas, water, sewerage and telephone lines, provision of civic amenities like parks, lakes and other recreational facilities, utilization of urban public land and rivers and waste management makes it difficult to provide adequate and quality urban utility services. Lack of concern for the urban poor and slum dwellers leads to their continued impoverishment. It points to the need for comprehensive urban development and adoption of an integrated approach to urbanization, embracing cluster development of adjacent towns or a provision for satellite towns. One way to address this problem is to prepare and implement a master plan/land use plans of each urban centre and strategic plans of regional and local authorities. These tasks will be undertaken by the city development authorities and city corporations at city level, municipalities at Zila and Upazila town levels and Zila Parishad/administration, Upazila Parishad/administration and Union Parishad in the rural areas.

1.6.5 Power and Energy Shortage

Power and energy sector suffers from a host of problems which have undermined their capacity to cater for faster growth of the economy. Power shortage have adversely affected production; raised cost of production; reduced life of capital stock and resulted in poor consumer service. Lack of adequate supply of gas has acted as a constraint on gas based electricity generation.

The growth projections in the NSAPR II imply an increase in demand growth for gas by 10 percent per annum. This will further worsen the supply-demand situation in the gas sector with negative impact on the gas based industries unless gas exploration, extraction and distribution are speeded up to avert such a situation. Power and energy sector can act as an important handicap in achieving the pro-poor growth targets of the NSAPR II.

1.7 Participatory Process in the Formulation of NSAPR II

The General Economics Division of the Planning Commission as the National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP) remains responsible for the coordination of activities leading to the preparation of NSAPR II. The GED undertook a process of intensive consultation with the stakeholders in the formulation of NSAPR II. The National Steering Committee identified 18 thematic areas of the economy which would contribute to accelerated poverty reduction in the next three years. Accordingly, 18 thematic groups comprising the lead Ministry and associate Ministries/ Divisions/Agencies were formed to prepare thematic reports which form the basis of NSAPR II (Annex-1). A national level consultation was held in Dhaka on the draft thematic reports with participation by academics, researchers, NGOs, CBOs, the media and government officials. A second consultation was held at Barisal for two days focussing on national as well as regional issues, with a focus on the impact of Sidr on poverty, and strategies to overcome and mitigate the impact of such disasters. The participants were drawn from a wide spectrum of the population of Barisal division – people at the grassroots level representing various occupations and professions, NGOs, CBOs, government officials and consultants to the NSAPR preparation programme. The thematic reports were finalised reflecting the findings and recommendations of both the consultations.

The structure of NSAPR II was finalised through a consultative process. The initial structure was proposed by GED and approved by the Chairman, Independent Committee for Monitoring and

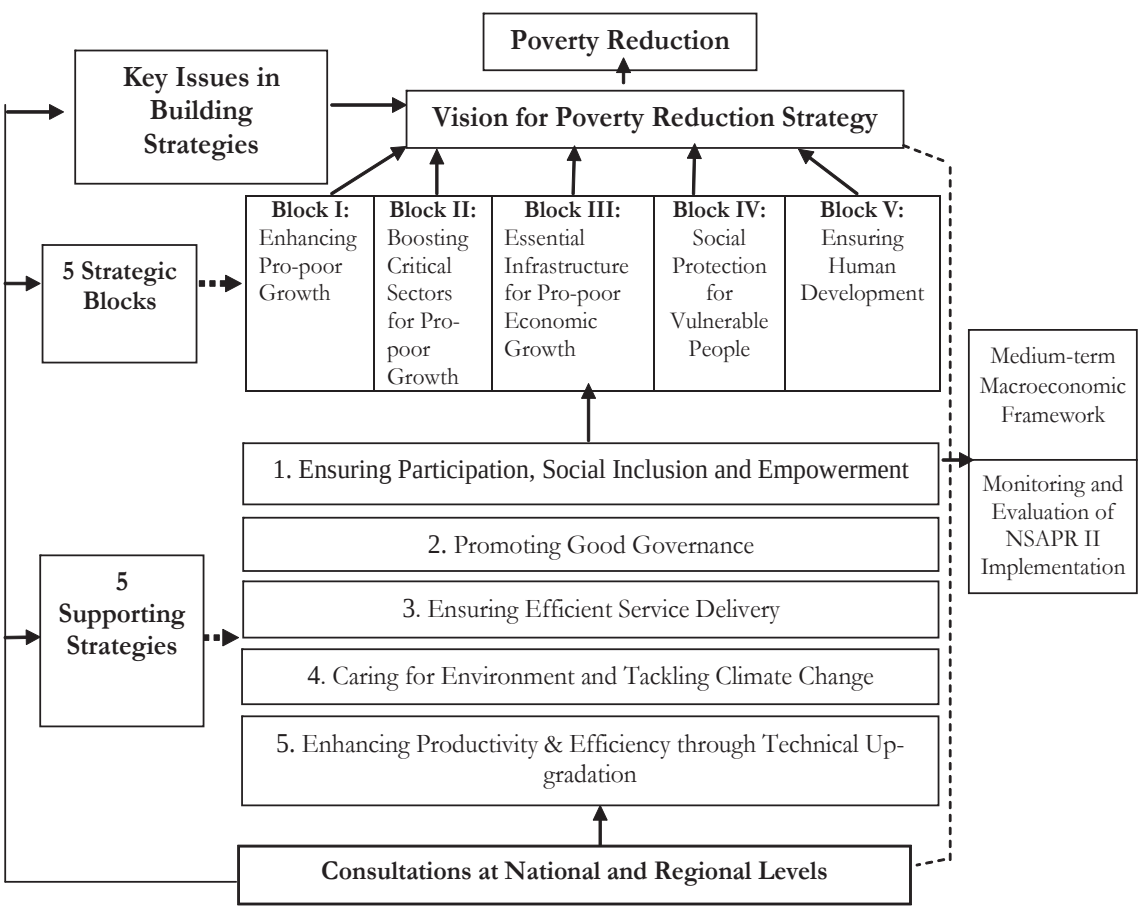
Evaluation of PRS and Attainment of MDGs, with some changes. A consultation was held on the structure in Dhaka with participation by academics, researchers, NGOs and CBOs. The structure of NSAPR II was finalised incorporating the comments made in the consultation meeting and the observations of the Honourable Adviser for Finance and Planning.

There have been several consultations on the draft NSAPR II. First, a two-day national level consultation was held in Dhaka with NGOs, CBOs, representatives of CCIs, academics, researchers and thematic groups. A second consultation was held in Dhaka with the development partners. Two regional consultations were held – one at Rajshahi and the other at Rangamati, with participation of NGOs, CBOs, representatives of local government, representatives of chambers of commerce and industry, the media and government officials. In addition, useful written comments were provided by NGOs, development partners and various ministries. The draft NSAPR II was finalised giving due consideration to the valuable comments received at different consultation meetings as well as the written comments. A summary of the recommendations made in different consultation meetings is presented in Annex -2.

1.8 Framework and Structure of NSAPR II

The framework for NSAPR II (Flowchart 1.1) indicates that the main goal of this document is poverty reduction. This goal is based on a vision for poverty reduction. This vision is formed on the basis of an understanding of key issues of the present state of the economy. To fulfil the vision of poverty reduction, five strategic blocks are identified. These five blocks are:

Flowchart 1.1: NSAPR II Framework



(i) enhancing pro-poor growth,
(ii) boosting critical sectors for pro-poor growth,
(iii) essential infrastructure for pro-poor economic growth,
(iv) social protection for vulnerable people, and
(v) ensuring human development.

The framework also identifies five supporting strategies or crosscutting issues. These are:

(i) ensuring participation, social inclusion and empowerment of all classes of people,
(ii) promoting good governance by ensuring transparency, accountability and the rule of law,
(iii) providing service delivery efficiently and effectively, particularly to the poor,
(iv) caring for environmental problems and tackling climate change for sustainable development, and
(v) enhancing productivity and efficiency through technical up-gradation.

Identification of problems and recommendations of actions to be taken for the five strategic blocks and five supporting strategies are based on consultations with the stakeholders at national and regional levels as well as the eighteen Thematic Committee Reports.

The NSAPR II document contains seven chapters. Chapter 1 introduces past achievements and the vision for pro-poor economic growth. Chapter 2 deals with the current poverty situation in the economy, focusing on its multiple dimensions and determinants. A medium-term macroeconomic framework with projections for key macroeconomic variables over the second PRSP period has been presented in Chapter 3. Chapter 4 discusses the roadmap for pro-poor economic growth comprising five strategic blocks, namely, macroeconomic environment for pro-poor economic growth, critical areas of focus for pro-poor economic growth, essential infrastructure for pro-poor economic growth, social protection for the vulnerable and human development. The critical areas include agriculture and forestry, water resources development and management, small and medium enterprises development, promoting decent development, improving the environment for private sector development and addressing land-related policy and administration issues. In Chapter 5 the supporting strategies for accelerated poverty reduction are discussed. The five supporting strategies are ensuring participation, social inclusion, and empowerment, promoting good governance, ensuring efficient delivery of public services, caring for the environment and tackling climate change and enhancing productivity and efficiency through science and technology. Indicative costs of achieving goals and targets of the PRSP are presented in Chapter 6. Chapter 7 provides a brief overview of how to strengthen the institutional structure for PRS implementation.

Chapter 2

Current Poverty Situation: Multiple Dimensions and Determinants

2.1 Dimensions of Poverty

Poverty is usually defined as a situation in which a household or a person is unable to achieve a certain minimum level of welfare based on an a priori yardstick. It is measured in Bangladesh as a minimum level of expenditure which can meet a person's basic needs, comprising food and non-food items. However, it is recognised that poverty has multi-dimensional characteristics and the poverty reduction strategy needs to consider the non-income aspects of poverty as well. Further, the incidence of poverty is marked by variation across groups of people and regions as mentioned in Chapter 1. Keeping in mind the multiple sources, a few aspects of poverty relevant to the formulation of NASPR II are highlighted.

2. 1.1 Trends in Human Poverty

All the indicators of human poverty like life expectancy at birth, infant mortality rate, population having access to drinking water, adult literacy rate and gross enrolment ratio show improvement since 2000 (Table 2.1). However, the adult literacy rate is still low and the challenge to increase the rate remains a major concern. The progress in human poverty indicators has been an outcome of increasing government emphasis on health and education sectors as manifested in the rising share of these sectors in total government expenditure, various government policies to enhance access of the poor to these services, the positive response of parents to government policies and the improved growth performance of the economy. The government efforts have been complemented by NGOs as well as private sector participation. However, while NGOs focus on delivering services to the poor, the private sector serves the relatively rich section of the society.

Table 2.1: Human Poverty Indicators

Region	Life expectancy (years)		Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births		Population having access to drinking water (%)		Adult literacy rate (%)		Gross enrolment ratio	
	2000	2006	2000	2006	2000	2006	2000	2006	2000	2005
National	63.6	65.4	58	45	96.7	97.6	48.4	53.7	102.0	105.6
Urban	-	-	44	38	99	99.2	66.9	69.4	103.7	107.46
Rural	-	-	62	47	96.1	97.1	43.5	48.9	101.6	104.42

Source: BBS, Report on Sample Vital Registration System, 2004 and 2005-6.

2.1.2 Trends in Income Inequality

Economic growth in Bangladesh has been broad based, benefiting people at large and as the discussion above shows the benefits have reached the poorer sections of the society. However, the possibility of unequal distribution of income remains- benefiting some groups more than others. Different rounds of Household Expenditure Survey/Household Income and Expenditure Survey show a long-term trend in deterioration of income distribution (Table 2.2). The trend has continued in 2005.

Table 2.2: Income Distribution, 2000 and 2005
(Percentage of income)

Income accruing to	2005			2000		
	Total	Rural	Urban	Total	Rural	Urban
Lower 5%	0.77	0.88	0.67	0.93	1.07	0.79
Bottom 40%	14.36	15.84	13.3	15.96	18.31	13.61
Top 10%	37.64	33.92	41.08	38.01	32.81	41.32
Top 5%	26.93	23.03	30.37	28.34	23.52	31.32
Income Gini Coefficient	0.467	0.428	0.497	0.451	0.393	0.497

Source: BBS, Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2005.

The lower 5% of the population receives 0.77 percent of the total income, which is down from its previous level of 0.93 percent in 2000. The bottom 40% of the population which coincides with the poverty line receives only 14.36 percent of the total income. On the other hand, the top 5% of the population receives more than a quarter of the total income. However, the income shares of both the lower 40 percent and the upper 10 percent of the population have declined, while those of the population belonging to 5th to 9th deciles have increased, the highest income gains accruing to the 9th decile. The increase in income inequality is reflected in the slow but irreversible rise in the Gini coefficient.

The worsening income distribution is a matter of concern because it may generate social discontent and impede development. More importantly, it exerts a negative impact on the poverty reducing effects of growth. The rising inequality in income distribution can be interpreted as a manifestation of the long-term inverted U relationship between growth and inequality as emphasized in early development literature. However, the development experience of the East Asian countries shows that it is possible to achieve faster poverty reduction through accelerated growth without increasing inequality by undertaking large investments in education, nutrition, and health. Bangladesh has notably laid heavy emphasis on these areas in the NSAPR to stem the deterioration in income distribution.

2.1.3 Women's Poverty

There are three aspects of women's poverty which make it important as a separate issue, namely, women have a higher incidence of poverty than men, their poverty is more severe than that of men, and there is a trend towards greater poverty among women, particularly associated with rising rates of FHHs. The nature and causes of women's poverty need some elaboration.

Intra-household inequalities and bias against women and girls: The household is a key site of gender discrimination and subordination and is thus an important focus for examining gender and poverty issues. Lack of gender-disaggregated data on income and other welfare measures makes empirical assessment of poverty trends and incidence by gender impossible. Consideration of poverty often neglects differentials between men and women in terms of their access to income, resources and services. Such differentials may occur within households between men and women, or between individuals (i.e. between single men and single women), or between households, i.e. between women-headed households and male-headed households. There are also gender-based differentials in vulnerability to illness and violence.

Customary biases and intra-household inequalities lead to lower consumption by and fewer benefits for women and girls among lower-income groups. Intra-household inequalities are found to exacerbate the vulnerability of women and girls. Skewed sex ratios showing a higher male population relative to female population suggests the presence of discrimination against women in health and nutrition, originating within the household, along with female feticide.

Female Headed Households and Extreme Poverty: One special aspect of women's poverty is that the total number of poor women is higher than that of poor men. Among the male-headed households below the poverty line, the number of male and female members on average is expected to be the same. To those female poor one also needs to add the number of total women in female-headed households below the poverty line. Some studies reveal that women head 25 percent of all landless households. Various micro studies indicate that the 'hard-core' poor are largely women. The number of ultra poor (intake of 1600 k.cal) and extreme poor (intake of 1805 k.cal) is higher in female headed households than in male headed households. The HIES 2005 reveals that about 29.6 percent of divorced/widowed women are living in poverty against the national average of 25.1 percent.

Higher risk of becoming Poor: Women are more susceptible to becoming poor when they lose the male earning members of the family because of abandonment, divorce, or death. The rate of divorce and abandonment is higher among the poor, both in the urban and the rural areas of Bangladesh. Even middle class and lower middle class families fall below poverty line in case of the death of male earning members and divorces. Virtually all women are vulnerable.

Higher Social Vulnerability: Women's social vulnerability is all-pervasive and endemic. Women's social subordination makes them more vulnerable to poverty. Women have very few rights and choice in taking personal decisions regarding education, marriage, child bearing, family expenditure pattern, participation in the labour market and income generating activities. Discrimination against women at the social level is reflected in their confinement within the homestead, lack of mobility in the public space, and early marriage (average marriage age for women is 20.2 and that for men is 27.6 years) and the practice of dowry (although it is illegal). Women have weak protection socially and legally in the event of the break-up of marriages, a high level of social vulnerability such as losing honour, and a high rate of divorce and abandonment (15 percent of all rural households are single-female headed). They easily fall in the trap of trafficking. The legal and customary frameworks often do not treat women as autonomous citizens. Rather they are treated as dependents or minors with the result that women cannot seek jobs, remain employed, or take a loan without the permission of the husband or father.

Lower Opportunities to Overcome Poverty: Once women become poor, they face greater obstacles in overcoming poverty because of no or low access to economic assets, human capacities, opportunities, and mobility. Women in poverty are often denied access to critical inputs like land, employment and inheritance. Women's labour is often undervalued and their health and nutritional needs are not given adequate attention. Poor women lack sufficient access to education and training support services. Their participation in decision making at home and in the community is minimal. Hence, bringing a gender dimension to poverty would have the distinct advantage of improving the socio-economic status of women and reduce their poverty and vulnerability. Women's geographic and occupational mobility is constrained by family and childrearing responsibilities. Labour-market discrimination and occupational segregation result in women being concentrated in the low-wage secondary employment sectors, the informal sector, and the contingent of "flexible labour".

2.1.4 Incidence of Poverty by Divisions

As mentioned in Chapter 1 regional differences in the incidence of poverty were quite sharp in 2005 - the poverty headcount ranged from a low of 32 percent in Dhaka and 34 percent in Chittagong and Sylhet to over 50 percent in Barisal and Rajshahi (Table 2.3). Poverty measured by the lower poverty line gives a similar picture- lower incidence of poverty in the eastern part compared with the western region of the country.

Reasons for Regional Differences in Poverty Reduction: The sharp contrast between the eastern and western regions of the country in the incidence of poverty and rate of poverty

reduction can be explained in terms of some economic factors. Real per capita consumption expenditure depends on real per capita income which in turn depends on covariates that foster income growth and returns to those covariates. It has been observed that there exists a statistically significant difference in some of the covariates of the households between the eastern and the western regions. Households in the eastern region have more assets comprising house, land, business and durable goods compared with those in the western region. Agricultural employment and self-employment are more common in the western region. However, there is no statistically significant difference between manufacturing and service sector employment between households in the two regions. Foreign remittance is received by a larger proportion of households in the eastern region. There is no significant difference between households in community characteristics (like electricity), the exception being access to banking.

Table 2.3: Incidence of Poverty by Division, 2005 and 2000
(Percent)

Poverty line and Division	2005			2000		
	National	Rural	Urban	National	Rural	Urban
Lower poverty line						
National	25.1	28.6	14.6	34.3	37.9	20.0
Barisal	35.6	37.2	26.4	34.7	35.9	21.7
Chittagong	16.1	18.7	8.1	27.5	30.1	17.1
Dhaka	19.9	26.1	9.6	34.5	43.6	15.8
Khulna	31.6	32.7	27.8	32.3	34.0	23.0
Rajshahi	34.5	35.6	28.4	42.7	43.9	34.5
Sylhet	20.8	22.3	11.0	26.7	26.1	35.2
Upper poverty line						
National	40.0	43.8	28.4	48.9	52.3	35.2
Barisal	52.0	54.1	40.4	53.1	55.1	32.0
Chittagong	34.0	36.0	27.8	45.7	46.3	44.2
Dhaka	32.0	39.0	20.2	46.7	55.9	28.2
Khulna	45.7	46.5	43.2	45.1	46.4	38.5
Rajshahi	51.2	52.3	45.2	56.7	58.5	44.5
Sylhet	33.8	36.1	18.6	42.4	41.9	49.6

Source: BBS, Household Income and Expenditure Survey 2005.

However, there is significant difference in returns to the covariates. For example, returns to education increases with the level of education and difference between the two regions is quite sharp at all levels of education, especially at levels above the secondary level. Thus the differential growth of real per capita consumption is attributable to both differences in household characteristics as well as to returns to those characteristics.

The persistence of these differences is attributable, among others, to the emergence of two growth poles, namely, Dhaka and Chittagong, in the eastern region and easier access of people living in this part of the country to these cities. Growth of these cities is spreading in the nearby rural areas. People in the western part of the country have less access to the growth poles because of lesser connectivity. Faster poverty reduction in the western region of the country will be achieved through investment in the infrastructure, especially road infrastructure and bridges. The bridge over the Padma, by increasing connectivity, will help increase the return to household characteristics. The toll

on the Jamuna Bridge may be reassessed to reduce cost of transport and increase connectivity. Another policy would consist of investment in human capital and improvement in employment opportunities which may improve household characteristics. In addition, investment in urban infrastructure and services in urban areas in the western region will help improve household characteristics and returns to those characteristics.

2.1.5 Extreme and Chronic Poverty

Chronic poverty is defined as a situation where people live in poverty for a prolonged period of time - often spanning generations. Extreme poverty is a situation where people persist in deep poverty, i.e. at the bottom of the poverty ladder. HIES 2005 estimates that about 27.0 million people live in extreme poverty in Bangladesh, which accounts for about 19.5% of the total population.

Regarding chronic poverty, 31 percent of the rural population have been suffering from the indignity of chronic poverty (i.e. low consumption, hunger and under-nutrition, lack of access to basic health services, illiteracy and other deprivations) for more than a decade, as reported in a BIDS study. About 19 percent of rural households cannot have 'full three meals' a day and about 10 percent subsist on two meals or less for a number of months every year. The report also estimated that 25 to 30 million of the country's citizens are chronically poor. Adverse changes in household structure (e.g. increase in dependency ratio); continuing with agriculture as a means of livelihood but unable to adopt improved practices; decline in natural and financial assets; and suffering from one or more shocks, natural shock, health shock, violence against women, etc. are responsible for the non-poor slipping into poverty. Helping them deal with such shocks more effectively through social protection schemes, better governance and changing attitudes (e.g., health behaviour and dowry) could keep many out of chronic poverty.

Further, it is found that the maternal nutritional status is a strong predictor of child nutritional status (and thus the educational status and productivity of the latter). Women's health and well-being are therefore important factors for stopping the transmission of poverty between generations. There are also health shocks that cause a slide into long-term poverty for many people. It is important to ensure the access of the extreme poor and the chronic poor to education, health care and microfinance and remove market barriers to help them get out of poverty.

2.1.6 Pockets of Extreme Poverty

Persistence of extreme poverty in some identified areas of the country has been a stark reality in Bangladesh. People living in remote char areas with few assets and lack of employment opportunities in a particular period of the year are the usual victims of extreme poverty. Besides, people living in remote areas of the hill tracts region and indigenous people are also victims of extreme poverty. Investment in the infrastructure, creation of employment opportunities in the lean period, and increased coverage of SSNPs will improve the poverty situation.

2.2 Major Determinants of Poverty in Bangladesh

The multiple sources of poverty and its manifestation in different forms have been emphasized. However, some of the factors are more important than others and these needs to be focused on in designing a pro-poor growth strategy.

2.2.1 Lack of Access to Resource and Knowledge

An important cause of poverty is that the poor have little or no access to resources of various kinds. They usually have no land and access to funds or credit, and lack education, skills and good health. They have limited access to information and are victims of misinformation. Declining

cultivable land, water bodies, natural forest and wood land due to the building of houses and road construction also reduce poor peoples' access to common natural resources and sources of livelihood. The lack of access creates a vicious circle, which deepens poverty and makes the process of overcoming poverty more difficult.

2.2.2 Natural Disasters and Environmental Degradations

Bangladesh is one of the world's most disaster-prone countries. The kinds of natural disasters that occur in Bangladesh are floods, river erosion, cyclones, tidal waves and drought. Bangladesh is also located in the earthquake zone though there has been no major earthquake in the recent past. Available statistics indicate that the frequency of natural disasters in Bangladesh has been increasing in recent years.

Natural disasters swell the ranks of the poor and make the poor even poorer in several ways. Many people die during the natural disasters as well as in the aftermath. Many, particularly the infirm, suffer disabilities and distress and experience extreme misery, and there is widespread destruction of personal properties and the infrastructure.

The victims of natural disasters are mainly poor people because they often end up living in high risk or environmentally degraded areas. Vulnerable people are economically fragile by definition and less able to recover from disasters. Their savings or assets are few, or for many, non-existent. When a disaster strikes, it destroys not only existing wealth, but also income opportunities and livelihoods, thereby further increasing the vulnerability of the already poor population. This fragile ecological situation is also under continuous threats from environmental degradation. Environmental damages are mainly taking place in the forms of soil erosion, deforestation, increased water salinity, and water body pollution. Two bouts of severe floods and a devastating cyclone - Sidr, in 2007 - demonstrate the vulnerability of the country, especially the poor.

2.2.3 Population Growth

Bangladesh is now Asia's fifth and the world's eighth most populous country. More importantly, while Bangladesh has already reached the 'plimsoll level' of its carrying capacity, population still has great potential to increase in size given its present growth rate.

The HIES 2005 reveals that the incidence of poverty generally increases with family size except for households with the highest number of members. A large population with a high dependency ratio, lowers saving and hence the growth rate of the country. It also affects the country's ability to provide public utilities to all citizens, especially the poor living in remote areas. This creates a situation of persistent poverty among the poor. Demographic changes in upcoming years are likely to affect poverty and hunger in adverse ways.

2.3 Likely Scenario of Poverty Beyond 2005

Since HIES is conducted at some time interval, official statistics on the poverty situation of the country are not available beyond 2005. However, based on past growth rate and associated trends in poverty reduction an approximate estimate of poverty can be derived. It has been observed in Bangladesh that the rate of poverty reduction has not been uniform in different time periods. In this situation two scenarios can be drawn, one based on the recent trends and the other based on trends over a longer period. The growth elasticity of poverty between 2000 and 2005 is estimated to be 0.45 while that between 1991-92 and 2005 is 0.38. Given the growth of the economy between 2005 and 2007, the head count ratio declines by 4.2 percentage points if the higher value of elasticity is used and by 3.5 percentage points if the lower value of elasticity is used. Thus in 2007 the headcount ratio of poverty could vary between 35.8 and 36.5 percent. This is not surprising. A

substantial reduction in the poverty gap index during 2000-05 means that a large proportion of the poor are close to the poverty line and a small increase in their incomes can pull many of them out of poverty.

The gains in poverty reduction, however, have been eroded to some extent in the recent past, especially in the early months of 2008 because of a sharp increase in the price of rice and other essential commodities. The share of expenditure on food in the total expenditure of the population in the 4th decile which coincides with the poverty line is 66 percent, with a higher share for the population in the lower deciles. The same share for those in the 5th decile is 64.4 percent. Erosion in their purchasing power will make the poor much poorer and push those above the poverty line again into poverty. The negative impact will, however, be somewhat moderated for those with a flexible income. Available evidence suggests that the food price shock has increased poverty by 3 percentage points. Thus, the current poverty headcount rate would vary between 38.8 and 39.0 percent. Growth in income and productive employment will enable the poor to overcome the price shock and consequently poverty.

Chapter 3

Medium-Term Macroeconomic Framework

The medium-term macroeconomic framework has been developed against the backdrop of increased global uncertainty and the sharp increase in the international prices of petroleum and basic food items. The increase in the price of rice is of particular concern for Bangladesh as it threatens the food security of a large proportion of the people and undermines the progress made in recent years in poverty reduction. The financial crisis in the developed world has added further uncertainty to future developments though its impact on Bangladesh cannot be gauged yet.

3.1 Bangladesh in an Integrated World

Bangladesh has gained from the globalisation of the world economy. It has become a major exporter of ready-made garments (RMGs) and has developed other niche export markets. It has also benefited from the remittances of Bangladeshis working in the Gulf and other labour scarce economies. However, while the openness of the economy helps drive growth it also renders the economy sensitive to changes in the world economy, particularly in global output and demand, adverse developments in commodity markets and terms of trade, and reductions in the volume of world trade. Bangladesh's economic prospects are therefore closely linked to trends and developments in the world economy and this makes macroeconomic management more complicated.

3.1.1 Nature of Bangladesh's Integration with the Rest of the World

Bangladesh is integrated with the world economy primarily through trade, and also through foreign direct investment. The nature of its integration with the global economy can be appreciated by looking at some major items of its current account. In FY07 the total trade/GDP ratio was 40.3 percent while the export/GDP ratio was 17.6 percent. Its main export item is garments, which constitutes more than 75.0 percent of total exports. Bangladesh is also dependent on imports, particularly for petroleum, food (particularly rice, wheat, pulses, sugar and edible oil), intermediate and capital goods. The import/GDP ratio was 22.7 percent in that year. Import of industrial raw materials and capital goods comprises 54.2 percent of total imports. Thus growth in the industrial sector is highly dependent on imports. Import of petroleum & petroleum products constitutes 12.7 percent of total imports. Remittance/total foreign exchange earnings ratio is 29.4 percent and remittance is 8.8 percent of GDP. Remittance has increased at the rate of 32.4 percent in FY08 helping to reduce the current account balance. Any disturbance in the world economy in the form of reduced demand for exports, decline in export prices, higher price of imports or reduced flow of remittance will have an adverse effect on growth, employment, price level and poverty in the economy, while a favourable development will have the opposite effect. Thus Bangladesh is part of the global economy where it is subject to both the benefits and adverse effects of developments in the rest of the world and increasing openness has added a new dimension to the macroeconomic management of the economy. In the context of increasing dependence of our economic performance on the global economy it is pertinent to have an overview of the state of the world economy.

3.1.2 The World Economy – Recent Developments and Outlook

Global output: Global economic growth slowed marginally from 5.0 percent in 2006 to 4.9 percent in 2007. Robust growth in China, India and Russia, and strong economic performance in emerging markets and developing countries contributed to this growth. However, in the US economic growth slowed down to 2.2 percent affected by the continued downturn in the housing market. Economic growth has also slowed down in the Euro area and in Japan. As these countries are important export destinations for Bangladeshi exports, particularly garments, the economic slowdown can be expected to reduce demand for our exports.

In anticipation of future developments, the baseline projections for the global economy have been marked down moderately from earlier projections. The largest downward revision in growth is in the US and countries that are closely linked to the US economy, namely, Canada, Mexico and parts of emerging Asia. Growth for the USA in 2008 is now projected to be 0.5 percent. In the Euro area growth has been marked down to 1.4 percent and in Japan to 1.4 percent. Among the emerging markets and developing countries, growth is expected to remain strong.

World Trade: The volume of world trade grew by 6.8 percent in 2007, compared to 9.2 percent in 2006. The decline in growth in the volume of exports took place in advanced economies as well as the emerging and developing economies. Imports by volume grew during 2007 by 4.2 percent in the advanced economies and 12.8 percent in the emerging markets and developing economies. The current account deficit of advanced economies in 2007 reached US$463.3 billion while the emerging markets and developing countries registered a surplus of US$630.9 billion. These major imbalances occurred as a result of the large current account deficit of the United States and the surpluses in Japan, China, the oil exporting countries and a number of other Asian countries.

Financial Market Crisis: The financial market crisis and the housing market downturn in the U.S. have recently developed into a global financial crisis. Various agencies and regulators as well as the governments around the world have been taking comprehensive steps to deal with the crisis. However, the risk of a recession developing into a deeper and more widespread recession affecting the world economy is very high. Deep and prolonged recession might exert adverse effects on our exports and growth.

3.1.3 World Commodity Markets and Risks

The world commodity and energy price index rose by 44.0 percent during the period from February 2007 to February 2008, dominated by resurgence in oil prices and supported by rising metal and food prices. Oil prices rose by 68.0 percent during the 12 months to March 2008, reflecting sustained demand growth in the face of tight supply. Food prices rose by 43 percent in the 12 months to March 2008. The recent boom in food prices reflects the following factors: (i) strong demand for bio fuel, partly driven by policy measures in the US and Europe; (ii) increased demand from emerging markets; (iii) adverse supply shocks in the world market ; and (iv) restrictions on exports and setting of high export price of rice by the major rice exporting countries.

The most notable medium to short-term risks in the world economy that are of concern to Bangladesh are: (i) the sharp rise in food prices leading to social instability, disrupting trade in international agricultural markets; (ii) further increase in oil prices against the backdrop of limited spare capacity; (iii) geopolitical uncertainties particularly around the middle-eastern countries; (iv) increased competition within emerging markets for international capital flows; and (v) continued large global trade imbalances. The potential for a disorderly correction of global imbalances remains a concern as this could impose heavy costs on the global economy. However, a smooth, market-led correction of these imbalances remains the most likely outcome.

3.2 Key Macroeconomic Indicators: Trends, Projections and Policy Thrust

A macroeconomic forecast for the economy has been developed for FY09-FY11, taking account of the uncertain global economic outlook and continued uncertainties over domestic developments. The forecast represents a cautiously optimistic scenario that is consistent with recent trends but also takes account of the impact of fiscal policy reforms. Table 3.1 shows the key medium-term macroeconomic indicators for the NSAPR II period. A discussion of the four key elements of the macroeconomic framework, namely, real sector (output and investment), monetary sector, external sector and fiscal sector is provided.

Table 3.1: Medium-term Macroeconomic Framework

	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
	Actual		Estimate	Projected	Projected	Projected
Real Sector						
Real GDP growth (%)	6.6	6.5	6.2	6.5	7.0	7.2
CPI Inflation (%)	7.2	7.2	9.9	9.0	7.5	7.0
GDP Deflator (% change)	5.2	5.6	8.0	7.5	6.5	6.0
Gross Domestic Investment (% GDP)	24.7	24.3	24.2	24.4	26.3	27.0
Fiscal Sector (% of GDP)						
Total Revenue	10.3	10.3	11.2	11.3	11.7	11.9
Tax	8.2	8.1	8.9	9.3	9.6	9.8
Non-Tax	2.2	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.1
Total Expenditure	14.0	13.5	17.3	16.3	16.1	15.9
Current Expenditure	8.9	9.3	10.6	10.1	10.9	10.8
Of which: Interest Payment	2.0	2.0	2.2	2.0	2.0	2.0
Overall Balance (excl. Grants)	-3.6	-3.2	-6.1	-5.0	-4.4	-4.0
Financing (net)	3.6	3.2	6.1	5.0	4.4	4.0
Domestic Borrowing	2.1	2.2	3.7	2.8	2.2	2.0
Borrowing from the Banking System	1.4	1.2	1.9	2.2	1.8	1.7
Non-bank borrowing	0.7	0.9	1.8	0.6	0.4	0.3
External Borrowing	1.5	1.0	2.4	2.2	2.2	2.0
Monetary Scetor (% change)						
Net Domestic Assets	19.5	12.6	18.5	17.5	17.3	17.1
Private Sector Credit	18.3	15.1	16.0	17.0	19.0	19.0
Broad Money	19.3	17.1	17.6	16.9	15.8	15.3
External Sector						
Exports, f.o.b (% change)	21.5	15.8	16.0	16.5	17.0	17.5
Imports, c.i.f (% change)	12.1	16.6	26.1	21.0	21.0	21.0
Remittances (US$ million)	4802	5979	7653	9490	11862	14828
Current Account Balance (% of GDP)	1.3	1.4	0.7	- 0.9	- 1.3	- 1.7
Gross Official Reserve (US$ million)	3484	5077	6100	6200	6350	6500
Gross Official Reserves (months of Imports)	2.7	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.7	2.3

3.2.1 Growth and Investment

As mentioned earlier, in recent years GDP growth has continued to be strong at more than 6.0 percent. Growth has been driven by sustained agricultural expansion and substantially increased output in the services and industrial sectors (Box 3.1). For FY07, growth in the agricultural sector is estimated at 4.69 percent; this growth was achieved through higher production of boro and other vegetables particularly potatoes. Jute production also increased. Growth in industrial sector is estimated to be 8.38 percent in FY07. Growth in the service sector is estimated at 6.21 percent.

Growth in FY08 declined to 6.21 percent due to the adverse impact of two successive floods, the super cyclone Sidr and the outbreak of bird flu that has devastated the vibrant poultry sector. The political crisis at the end of 2006 continued to have a lagged impact on the economy in the first part of FY08. The anti-corruption drive initiated in early 2007 also resulted in some disruption to the activities of the private sector, which adversely affected economic growth. However, remittances which have an important role in fuelling growth increased by 31.2 percent during July-May of FY08, compared with the same period of the previous year.

GDP growth is projected to increase to 6.5, 7.0 and 7.2 percent in FY09, FY10 and FY11 respectively. The assumptions underlying the medium-term projections for economic growth are:

(i) Sustained macroeconomic stability;

(ii) Increased investment facilitated by reductions in the cost of borrowing following recent BB's initiatives to lower rates of interest for lending;

(iii) Increased growth in the industrial and services sectors, particularly in SMEs;

(iv) Strengthened growth in the agriculture sector facilitated by recent initiatives to boost productivity in the sector;

(v) Diversification in crop production and non-farm sector growth;

(vi) Expansion and product diversification of the export sector;

(vii) Adverse impact of the lifting of quota on China, on RMG production, and exports will be manageable;

(viii) Increased efficiency and technological progress across the economy partly driven by increased investment in information and communication technology (ICT);

(ix) Successful implementation of structural reforms;

(x) Improved business and investment climate following implementation of the recommendations of the Bangladesh Better Business Forum; and

(xi) Orderly return to political government following the elections planned at the end of 2008.

Gross domestic investment which registered a fall to 24.2 percent of GDP in FY08 from 24.3 percent in FY07 is forecast to increase to 24.4 percent of GDP in FY09, 26.3 percent in FY10 and 27.0 percent in FY11.

In recent years Bangladesh has become a more attractive, competitive and low-cost destination for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). This has been a result of the introduction and implementation of investment friendly economic policies and strategies. However, endemic corruption in certain sectors has been damaging to the image of Bangladesh as a country for potential investment. Successful implementation of anti-corruption measures, improvement in governance and removal

of infrastructural constraints should facilitate future FDI by creating a more positive international image of Bangladesh as a safe and profitable country to do business.

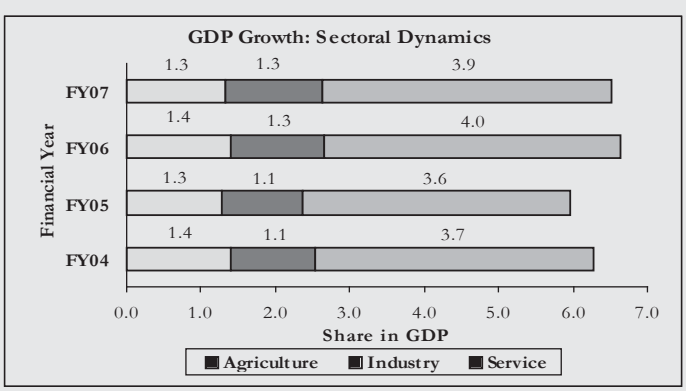
Box 3.1: Sectoral Composition of Economic Growth

Despite its diminishing relevance to GDP, the agriculture sector continues to play a significant role in the economy. In FY07 the sector accounted for 20.4 percent of GDP at constant prices. The sector is projected to grow at an average rate of 3.7 percent annually during FY09-11. This forecast assumes increased production of paddy, through greater use of high yielding varieties, introduction of modern agricultural technologies and enhanced marketing facilities. Pisciculture and animal husbandry are also rapidly changing from traditional non-farm based to farm based production. The government's agricultural policy emphasises the creation of an enabling environment so that agricultural production can move from a predominantly subsistence production towards a more diversified and higher valued commercial production base. In support of this policy, GoB has increased the budgetary allocation for expansion and development of agriculture and agro-based industries. GoB is also increasing funding for agricultural credit and subsidies.

The contribution of the industrial sector to GDP was around 19.9 percent in FY07 with output estimated to increase by 10.6 percent in constant prices during the year. The sector is forecast to grow at an average rate of 11.7 percent annually during FY09-11. Small and Medium Enterprises play a pivotal role in the sector, particularly for employment generation in rural and urban areas, thereby reducing poverty. To promote the role of SMEs in accelerating the pace of industrialisation GoB is currently formulating a separate SME policy.

The services sector accounts for 59.7 percent of GDP in FY07 at constant prices. Growth in the sector is driven by increases in the demand for services arising from the expansion of the agricultural and industrial sectors. The sector is forecasted to grow at an annual rate of 6.5 percent during FY09-11. The following chart shows the sectoral distribution and dynamics of GDP growth.

Sectoral Growth rates, 2003/04 to 2006/07



3.2.2 Fiscal Sector

The fiscal policy has sought to maintain macroeconomic stability, foster economic growth and accelerate poverty reduction. During the 2nd NSAPR period the fiscal policy will focus on maintaining macroeconomic stability and fiscal sustainability and promoting pro-poor economic

growth while reducing vulnerability to domestic and international shocks, ensuring food security, and encouraging social inclusion.

In order to meet the growing demands on government revenue to achieve the fiscal objectives, enhanced domestic revenue mobilisation will be a key element of the medium-term fiscal strategy. During FY08 there was a positive response to the government's coordinated efforts to strengthen revenue administration. Total revenue increased to 11.2 percent of GDP in FY08, compared to 10.3 percent of GDP in the previous year. Additionally, the arrears of BPC to NBR have been cleared. Despite increased revenue, the budget deficit increased markedly to 6.1 percent of GDP. The increase in the deficit was mainly due to a sharp increase in revenue expenditure.

The size of the ADP was reduced by Taka 40.0 billion during the year owing to low implementation performance caused particularly by floods and "Sidr'. An additional amount of about Taka 70.0 billion was allocated in the revised budget to meet increased costs of subsidies for petroleum and food following continued rapid price rises in the international market. Total expenditure in FY08 increased to 17.3 percent of GDP. The sharp increase in expenditure in FY08 was due to bringing into the budget the liabilities associated with the fuel subsidies provided through BPC and increased food subsidies to ensure food security.

During FY09-FY11, total revenue is projected to grow by 16.7 percent annually to Taka 945.2 billion in FY11. As a share of GDP, total revenue is forecast to increase from 11.2 percent in FY08 to 11.9 percent in FY11 in response to the continued implementation of GoB's tax policy and administration reform programme. The focus on increasing revenue collection is crucial to the success of the government in financing the NSAPR which envisages increased spending on different sectors/subsectors like agriculture, disaster management, human development, physical infrastructure and poverty reduction programmes with control over domestic borrowing. During FY09-FY11 total government expenditure is projected to grow by 12.3 percent per annum to Taka 1260.2 billion in the terminal year of the 2nd NSAPR. As a share of GDP, total expenditure is forecast to decline from 17.3 percent in FY08 to 15.9 percent in FY11 as a result of better prioritisation of spending and cutbacks in subsidies as prices of petroleum products are allowed to adjust towards their market levels. Implementation of the 2nd NSAPR will continuously emphasise the importance of making more effective and efficient use of available budgetary resources.

Budget deficit is kept at a low level consistent with a sustainable inter-temporal growth of the national debt. Domestic borrowing is being restrained within acceptable levels, declining to 2 percent of GDP in FY11 while emphasis is being given on mobilizing grants and concessional foreign official assistance in support of public investment in social and infrastructural sectors. Enhanced efforts are underway to mobilise domestic resources to reduce budget deficit as well as dependence on external resources. In support of the poverty reduction goal, each year additional resources are being allocated towards poverty reducing activities covering all dimensions of poverty: human poverty, income poverty, social disparity, gender inequality and social security. The fiscal deficit is projected to decrease from 6.1 percent of GDP in FY08 to 4.0 percent of GDP in FY11 as a result of better prioritisation of spending and cutbacks in subsidies as mentioned above.

3.2.3 Monetary Sector

The monetary and credit policy of Bangladesh Bank is primarily geared towards maintaining price and exchange rate stability, and promoting low levels of interest in the banking system, underpinning broad-based economic growth in the country. Inflation (Box 3.2) and output growth rate are emphasised as the basic policy targets. Responding to external (sharp increase in commodity prices) and domestic shocks the monetary policy stance of FY08 aimed at containing inflation within tolerable limit by way of market intervention (selling foreign exchange in the market) and channelling credit flows to productive and employment generating activities to recoup

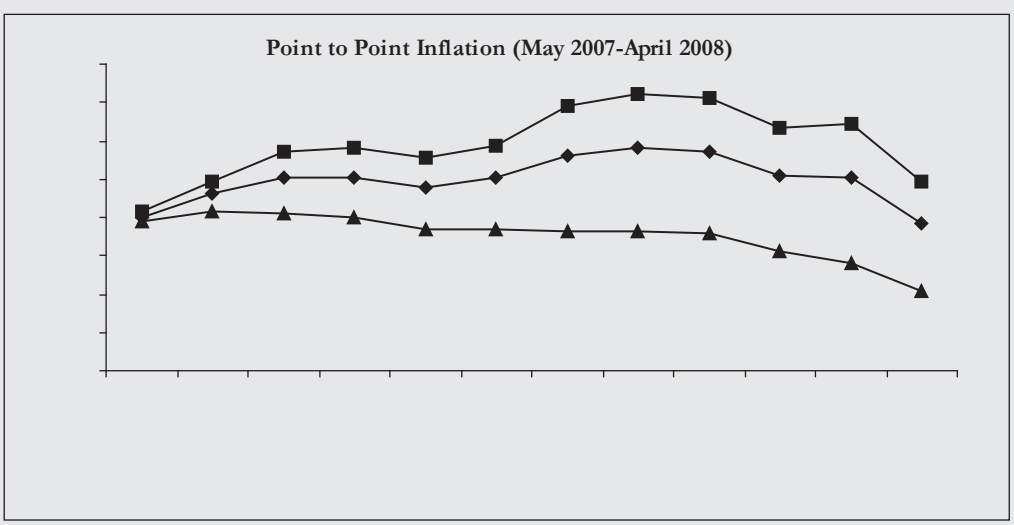
the losses arising from the two floods, cyclone, and improve the domestic supply situation. A prime target for these policies has been the agriculture sector and the rural economy.

In FY07 broad money (M2) grew by 17.1 percent compared with 19.3 percent in the previous year. Net Credit to the government from the banking system grew by 13.8 percent. Credit to the private sector grew by 15.1 percent. In FY08 the broad money growth has been 17.6 percent and growth rate of credit to the private sector has been 25.2 percent. The growth of broad money is projected at 16.9, 15.8 and 15.3 percent in FY09, FY10 and FY11 respectively.

Box 3.2: Domestic Inflation

Inflation has continued to rise in recent years, increasing from 6.5 percent in FY05 to 7.2 percent in FY 07. Recent inflationary trends are shown below. The key factors driving inflation are: (i) political and market uncertainty; (ii) high oil price; (iii) high import price of food and essential commodities; (iv) high levels of remittances; (v) supply side constraints (infrastructure, cartels etc.); and inflationary expectation.

In order to restrain inflation, Bangladesh Bank has been pursuing a monetary policy which has resulted in several hikes in key policy rates, although recently it has reduced the key policy rates to boost the economy. The government is taking measures to break up trading cartels. It is also undertaking open market sale of essential goods to augment market supply. Tariffs on a number of essential goods have been withdrawn or reduced. Other administrative measures are also being applied to tackle the current trend of price increases. Inflation for FY09 is forecast at 9.0 percent and is then expected to fall to 7.5 percent in FY10 and 7.0 percent in FY11.



Average CPI inflation at national level stood at 7.2 percent in FY07, the same rate as prevailed in FY06. The average inflation rate in FY08 rose to 9.94 percent owing largely to increase in the prices of oil and other essential commodities in the international market which has been passed through to domestic prices in various degrees as well as increase in domestic price of rice caused by supply shock. During FY08 interest rates and other instruments have been employed with the objective of controlling inflation. Average CPI inflation is forecast at 9.0 percent during FY09 and is then expected to fall to 7.5 percent in FY10, and fall further to 7.0 percent in FY11.

3.2.4 External Sector

Foreign Trade: Export performance has been robust and sustained in recent years. From FY04-06 export receipts (in US$) grew at an average annual rate of 17.7 percent, and in FY07 they grew by 15.8 percent. The political disturbances at the end of 2006 led to a marked deterioration in export performance at the beginning of FY08 with year on year growth slowing to 14.7 percent during July-April of the year. However, export performance subsequently picked up and growth for the whole of FY08 is now forecast at 16.0 percent. Exports remain heavily reliant on the RMG sector which has accounted for about 75.0 percent of total export earnings in recent years with no other sector accounting for more than 5.0 percent. However, in recent years some new exports like ICT, pharmaceuticals and shipbuilding, have emerged which have strong potentials for future growth.

Export growth over the medium term will be significantly influenced by developments in the world economy. As noted above, these are surrounded by much greater uncertainty than in the recent past. Additionally, it is still not clear how the abolition of quota restrictions on Chinese RMG exports will impact on Bangladesh's RMG exports. The economic slowdown in the US and the Euro region could impact negatively on exports because about 55 percent of Bangladesh's exports go to these markets. However, the likelihood of a negative impact on Bangladesh's RMG exports, because of the abolition of quota restrictions on China's RMG, is assumed to be less significant. Given that garment production is becoming more expensive in China, it is shifting towards the high end of production and its domestic market is expanding fast, the likelihood of moving demand for garments away from China to Bangladesh is quite high. Reflecting these concerns export growth is projected to recover moderately and increase to 16.5 percent in FY09, 17.0 percent in FY10 and 17.5 percent in FY11. In order to secure sustained long-term export growth, export diversification both in terms of products and destination remains a key element of GoB's trade development strategy. These will both minimise the risks of over-dependence on a single sector and region and provide additional employment opportunities.

Imports increased by 16.6 percent in FY07 rising from 12.1 percent in FY06. In FY08 the impact of two floods and the cyclone Sidr coupled with rapidly increasing international prices, particularly of food items and oil, resulted in a near threefold increase in the value of food imports. For the FY08 imports growth is estimated at 26.07 percent. Imports are projected to grow by 21.0 percent per annum during FY09-FY11.

Analysis of import data for FY07 shows that the share of industrial raw materials, capital machinery and intermediate goods accounted for approximately 55.5 percent of total imports. By contrast, the share of consumer goods accounted for 8.9 percent of total imports and petroleum products 12.7 percent. The high proportion of imported producer goods in total imports reflects the usual dependence of the growth of the economy on imported capital and intermediate goods. Especially, the export oriented RMG industry is highly dependent on imported capital goods and raw materials.

Balance of Payments: The trade balance showed an average deficit of 4.7 percent of GDP during FY04-FY06; it reached 7.0 percent of GDP in FY08. Due to the relative slowdown in growth of exports and strong growth in imports due to factors alluded to above the current account balance in FY 08 is estimated to be 0.7 percent of GDP and is forecast at - 0.9, - 1.3, and - 1.7 percent of GDP in FY09, FY10 and FY11 respectively. It will be possible to maintain a current account surplus because of a larger expected flow of remittances.

Foreign Exchange Reserves: Gross official foreign exchange reserves increased from US$ 3.5 billion in FY06 to US$ 6.1 billion in FY08 representing about 3.2 months of imports. They are expected to reach US$ 6.3 billion in FY09, US$6.4 billion in FY10 and US$6.5 billion in FY11. The

increasing level of foreign exchange reserves will act as a cushion against potential adverse shocks to the economy. The levels of foreign exchange reserves are expected to cover 3.0 months of imports during FY09 – FY11.

Remittances: Bangladesh's foreign exchange earnings have been bolstered by a substantial inflow of remittances from non-resident Bangladeshis. Increasing outflow of migrant workers, close monitoring of implementation of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, various measures to facilitate easy and fast transfer of money from the remitter to his home, and tighter global surveillance on the flow of money are expected to result in continued increase in remittances. They are projected to increase at an annual rate of around 25.0 percent during FY09-FY11 reaching US$14.8 billion in the terminal year of the 2nd NSAPR. The increase in remittance flows has provided increasing support to the balance on the current account and resulted in positive current account balances in FY06 and the FY07.

Exchange Rate: The nominal Taka/US$ exchange rate has depreciated moderately at an average rate of 4.1 percent over the last three years, although the fall in the value of the US dollar against other world currencies means that the real exchange rate has depreciated more significantly. In FY08 the Taka has appreciated against the US$ by 0.6 percent. Under the current flexible exchange rate system the exchange rate is determined by the market forces of demand and supply. However, Bangladesh Bank will intervene in the market to reduce the risk of sharp exchange rate fluctuations to foster smooth flow of trade and investment. High levels of inflow of remittances and strong export growth will facilitate exchange rate stability and competitiveness of exports.

In sum the medium term macroeconomic framework represents a cautious optimism based on the strengths and the vulnerabilities of the economy. The economy's growth rate is expected to rise, the inflation rate to fall, and investment rate to rise. The budget deficit will continuously fall as a result of actions on both revenue and expenditure sides. Bangladesh Bank will pursue such monetary policy that would balance between objectives of higher growth and lower inflation. Increasing export growth, stable import growth and rising remittance flow will result in some increase in the current account deficit. The current account deficit will be financed by both foreign official assistance and FDI.

Chapter 4

Roadmap for Pro-poor Economic Growth: Strategic Blocks

Growth of a particular sector or improvement in any specific area of the economy is likely to exert some positive impact on poverty reduction. However, past experience in Bangladesh and elsewhere shows that some of the sectors have greater impact on poverty reduction. Similarly, a certain type of environment needs to be maintained and certain conditions need to be fulfilled for accelerated poverty reduction. Accordingly, five strategic blocks have been identified as the key constituents of the strategy for accelerated poverty reduction:

Strategic Block I: Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-poor Economic Growth
Strategic Block II: Critical Areas of Focus for Pro-poor Economic Growth
Strategic Block III Building Essential Infrastructure for Pro-poor Economic Growth
Strategic Block IV: Social Protection for the Vulnerable
Strategic Block V: Human Development

4.1 Strategic Block I: Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-poor Economic Growth

The Government is committed to maintain a stable macroeconomic environment as a strategy for achieving higher economic growth and accelerated poverty reduction. The key aspects of macroeconomic stability include high economic growth, low and stable inflation, low budget deficit, sustainable external balance and increased productive employment. Macroeconomic stability will be maintained mainly through prudent fiscal and monetary policies and a supportive external sector policy focusing on the management of both supply and demand sides of the economy.

4.1.1 Recent Macroeconomic Performance

A relatively stable macroeconomic environment characterised by increasing growth rate, steadily rising inflation rate, a comfortable budget and external sector balance and low unemployment rate was maintained till 2006-07. In 2007-08 domestic and international shocks disturbed the stability; the economy experienced lower growth and higher inflation rate.

Growth: The economy has improved its growth performance since 2000-01. The growth rate peaked at 6.63 percent in 2005-06 from 5.27 percent in 2000-01 but declined afterwards. In 2007-08 the economy grew at the rate of 6.21 percent despite two floods which damaged the aman crop in the affected areas, the devastating cyclone 'Sidr' in the coastal area and sharp increase in the international price of energy. The long-term growth of the economy originated from both factor accumulation (capital and labour) as well as growth in total factor productivity (TFP). The occasional downward slide in the growth rate has been caused by exogenous demand or supply shocks to the economy- both internal and external.

Fiscal Performance: Revenue/GDP ratio has been rising steadily, indicating the increased tax effort of the government. It increased from 9.6 percent in 2000-01 to 11.2 percent in 2007-08, and the increase was sustained by continued revenue reforms. The unprecedented increase in revenue/GDP ratio in 2007-08 has, to some extent, been a result of concerted efforts of the government to expand the tax net and establish a corruption free society. Government expenditure/GDP ratio does not exhibit any trend during this period; it varied from 14.6 percent in 2003-04 to 15 percent in 2004-05. However, in 2007-08 expenditure/GDP ratio peaked at 17.3 percent, largely because of an increase in expenditure on SSNPs which was undertaken to mitigate the impact of Sidr and cushion the poor from the increase in the price of food grains. A modest

increase in revenue/GDP ratio accompanied by a stable expenditure/GDP ratio has led to a decline in the overall budget deficit/GDP ratio over time, with the exception of 2007-08 when it peaked at 6.1 percent. External financing/GDP ratio rose from 2.00 percent in 2000-01 to 2.4 percent in 2007-08 with fluctuations in the intervening period. These fiscal developments are a sign of prudent fiscal management. However, a stable expenditure/GDP ratio accompanied by stable aid flows during implementation of the first NSAPR which envisaged more investment and support from development partners, implies a less than expected impact of government expenditure on poverty reduction.

Inflation: The annual rate of inflation has been steadily rising from 1.94 percent in 2000-01 to 7.22 percent in 2006-07, implying a more than 5 percentage point increase in the inflation rate during the period. In 2007-08 the average annual rate of inflation peaked at 9.94 percent. The inflation rate in recent years has been fuelled by increases in both food prices and non-food prices. Increases in domestic food prices caused by production shortfalls, increases in international prices of major agricultural imports, depreciation of the taka, increased international prices, the upward adjustment of domestic energy prices, and an increase in the domestic aggregate demand originating mainly from the growth of exports and remittances generated the inflationary pressure. Controlling inflation poses a significant challenge because of its external origin and budgetary constraints on cushioning the economy from the international price shock. Increased availability of rice through enhanced domestic production of boro rice and import of rice to support the SSNPs and the building up of government stocks has moderated the inflation rate towards the end of 2007-08.

External sector: There has been a continuous increase in exports except in 2001-02 when the world recession reduced the demand for exports. Exports increased from US$6,419 million in 2000-01 to US$12,053 million in 2006-07 and further to US$12639 million in 2007-08(July-May). Imports experienced a similar sustained increase over the period from US$8439 million in 2000-01 to US $15511 million in 2006-07 and further to US$17646 million in 2007-08(July-April) with the exception in 2001-02. The most notable development in the external sector has been the astounding growth in remittances in recent years. Workers' remittances increased from US$1882 million to US$7940 million during this period. The increase in remittance flows has provided increasing support to the balance on current account and resulted in a positive current account balance.

Current macroeconomic problems: The macro economy shows several areas of weaknesses and potential challenges. Raising the investment/GDP ratio from its recent stagnant level around 24 percent is an important challenge. Sustaining the revenue growth achieved in 2007-08 will be a challenging task in macroeconomic management. The high and rising inflation rate due to the factors mentioned above has been causing miseries to the fixed-income groups and, more importantly, threatening the past gains in poverty reduction. Despite robust growth of exports in the past, export performance in future may face significant challenges and uncertainties arising from strong competition in its major export, i.e., RMG from China and other major RMG exporting countries. Finally, providing productive employment to the growing labour force, especially the poor, will remain a major challenge.

4.1.2 Ensuring Political Stability in a Democratic Framework

Bangladesh has been in and out of the democratic system and has experimented with the alternative forms of democracy over the years. It has also made a profound change in the form of the government managing the election through the introduction of the caretaker government. All these have been done to make elections transparent and reflective of the true aspirations of the people. But institutional weaknesses have permitted the persistence of confrontational politics which threatens the very spirit of democracy. The political programmes in the form of hartals often turned violent, leading to loss of life, property and production. Ingenious entrepreneurs and

resourceful workers have tried to compensate the production loss amidst a hostile situation but all could not be recouped. It has been particularly bad for the poor engaged in the transport sector, petty shopkeepers and hawkers. The Government is determined to put an end to such politics which is anti-people and anti-poor. This will be achieved through strengthening the institutions required for a stable liberal democracy which encourages political competition but forbids political hostilities. The reforms will pave the way for a capable, modern and visionary leadership which is essential for sustaining higher growth in the long-term.

4.1.3 Ensuring Macroeconomic Stability

The Government is committed to managing the key macroeconomic policy instruments, namely fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies, combined with enhanced supervision and surveillance of the financial system, providing safeguards against adverse external or domestic shocks and creating an enabling environment for pro-poor private sector-led economic growth. Macroeconomic stability sometimes involves a trade-off between growth and stability but a judicious use of policies can avoid or minimize the trade-off and promote growth. The key focus of the policies for maintaining macroeconomic stability will include:

- Improving productivity by enhancing the contribution of total factor productivity to growth;
- lowering the level and variability of inflation
- harmonising the fiscal, monetary and exchange rate policies;
- enhancing supervision and surveillance of the financial system;
- restricting fiscal and current account deficits at sustainable levels;
- maintaining stability of the real exchange rate and reducing the interest rate spread to encourage private investment; and
- building foreign exchange reserves at least for three months of import payment and short-term debt payment.

4.1.4 Accelerating Growth for Poverty Reduction

Achieving accelerated economic growth for poverty reduction will be based on several approaches: (i) increased accumulation of capital, enhanced supply of effective labour and improvement in total factor productivity; (ii) promoting growth of broad sectors like agriculture, industry and services focusing on the more pro-poor segments of the sectors; (iii) promoting growth of rural towns and the meso-economy. Other aspects of the growth policy will include channelling an increasing share of government expenditure to social and infrastructural sectors and directly poverty reducing programmes/projects, guiding the interactions between poverty, growth and inequality in favour of employment and the income of the poor and fostering growth through complementary use of public and private capital.

Another aspect of pro-poor growth is to promote regional balance. Major government measures will be to increase the share of expenditure in less developed areas, keep block allocations for such regions, provide incentives to the private sector for investment, remove infrastructural constraints, increase connectivity between the eastern and the western regions, provide incentives for developing local resource-based exports and facilitate more manpower exports.

4.1.5 Monetary Policy: Reducing the Rate of Inflation

Bangladesh Bank will continue to pursue such monetary policy that would contain inflation within tolerable limit and promote higher growth of the economy, to maintain an adequate flow of credit from the banks, keeping a reasonable spread, say 5 percent, for them and to maintain a competitive exchange rate avoiding undesirable fluctuations in the rate. Bangladesh Bank will use

a number of indirect as well as direct monetary and credit policy instruments, including repo and reverse repo arrangements, cash reserve requirement and a statutory liquidity ratio of financial institutions and discount window facilities. It may be noted that Bangladesh Bank's role in monetary policy operations has been segregated from its role in government debt management. The arrangement of the Government's bank borrowings is being supervised by the Cash and Debt Management Committee. The new arrangement includes a widened Ways and Means Advance limit and auctions of treasury bills and bonds according to volumes pre-announced in the borrowing calendar.

Under the on-going financial sector reforms programme wide-ranging reforms have been introduced to enhance the financial intermediary role of the banking sector through improved legal aspects, corporate governance, loan recovery, exchange and interest rate management, NCB's functions, and risk management. The efficiency of the banking sector would be enhanced through (i) corporatization of the NCBs, (ii) restructuring of the specialized banks, (iii) merger and amalgamation of banks and financial institutions, and (iv) lowering of NPL ratio, strengthening of legal footholds, benchmarking of corporate governance, adopting BASLE II principles, introducing a risk management system, developing a credit rating system and improving accounting standards. The role of NGO-MFIs will be strengthened through the efficient functioning of the Micro-credit Regulatory Authority.

Reducing the Rate of Inflation: A high inflation rate exerts a negative impact on the poor. The government will seek to reduce the rate of inflation from its current high rate through policy measures focusing on both supply and demand management. On the supply side measures will be directed at improving the growth performance of the economy, with emphasis on agricultural growth. On the demand side, such monetary policy will be devised that would maintain a balance between reducing inflation rate and supporting higher growth. Further, the fiscal policy will be geared towards containing the budget deficit within reasonable limits.

4.1.6 Promoting Saving and Investment

The funds for investment which adds to capital stock come from two sources: national savings consisting of private savings and government savings and foreign savings consisting of foreign official saving or foreign aid, foreign direct investment and foreign commercial borrowing. Domestic saving as a proportion of GDP has been rising over time, reaching 20.1 percent in 2007-08, government saving being less than 2 percent of GDP. The picture of national saving is impressive, having increased to 29.2 percent in 2007-08 from 25.4 percent in 2004 owing to the large inflow of remittances.

The phenomenal growth of remittances in recent years has resulted in an excess of national savings over domestic investment as investment did not increase at the same rate. The positive savings-investment balance is reflected in a surplus in the current accounts and a build-up of foreign reserves. While household saving increases with the level of income, it may be restricted by the lack of savings instruments that yield a reasonable return. The government has undertaken wide-ranging reforms of the capital market to make it attractive to domestic savers and investors. Besides shares, other financial products with varying liquidity, risks and returns will also be developed to provide a range of options for the savers. Corporate saving will be encouraged by offering favourable tax treatment on retained earnings which are invested.

Increasing Public Saving through Raising Government Revenue: Public saving can be increased by increasing government revenue and restraining the government's current expenditure or raising it at a lower rate. In the medium term emphasis will be given on raising government revenue to increase public saving.

Future drives for revenue collection will be oriented to an expansion of the tax base, curbing tax evasion, checking leakage in the tax collection system, placement at designated places of legal advisers to deal with grievances of tax payers, more transparency, accountability and efficiency in the revenue administration and tax collection system, diffusion of tax rules to create a tax friendly atmosphere and providing more client oriented services, reducing discretionary power in tax laws and undertaking reforms and capacity building of revenue administration. The tax base will be broadened by bringing those sectors under the tax net which are either outside tax net or pay minimal tax as well as bringing new persons under tax net. Agriculture, fisheries and the informal sector will be brought under the tax net. The exemption regime will also be critically examined to see if there are areas needing re-imposition or restructuring of taxes.

The real broadening of the tax-base means expanding tax administration in areas hitherto untouched by it, although they might already be taxable under law. For example, except for a few goods and services all types of wholesale and retail trade are under VAT. However, actual application of the law and collection of taxes from these sources is still limited. Revenue from VAT will be increased through establishing strong monitoring system, reducing discretionary power and building more trust on VAT payees, increasing VAT base by identifying new tax payers, and simplifying VAT rules and regulations and more transparency and accountability in VAT administration. The same applies to personal income tax. Income above a certain level is subject to taxes at different rates depending on the total annual income and expenditure of the person concerned. But many of the urban dwellers, and most of those in the rural areas, hardly pay any taxes. Broadening of the tax-base therefore means installing an efficient tax administration through major reform. One way to reform is to create a semi-autonomous Revenue Authority delinked from the Civil Service. This kind of revenue administration has been introduced in some developing countries with a positive impact on revenue collection and needs to be given serious consideration.

In order to increase non-tax revenue, the hard core state owned enterprises like the post offices or the registration departments should be reformed and their fees and charges should be raised keeping in mind the general price-level in the country. Post offices can expand coverage of banking services to other eligible branches, act as income tax payment points and as a remittance corridor.

Official Development Assistance: In the past official development assistance (ODA) has been important for Bangladesh in financing the domestic saving-investment and foreign exchange gaps. With increasing growth in per capita income, faster growth of exports relative to imports and impressive growth in remittances, the dependence on foreign aid for closing the dual gaps has declined sharply in recent years. However, the importance of aid has persisted for several reasons:

- Though the share of aid in financing the development budget has declined substantially from 75-80 percent during the 1980s, it still finances 40-45 percent of the development budget.
- Foreign aid is critical in financing infrastructural development, anti-poverty programmes, food security, disaster management and social sector programmes.
- Achievement of MDGs requires substantial resources in some areas, which can come from a sustained and increased flow of aid.

It is pertinent to note that a global development partnership has been made an integral part of MDGs under the UN framework and Bangladesh should press for more untied and concessional aid. Foreign aid with less conditionalities, grants and concessionary loans will be sought. The government, jointly with the development partners, are in the process of developing a joint cooperation strategy (JCS) in the interest of enhancing aid effectiveness following the Paris Declaration. JCS will focus on, among other things, the alignment of aid with national priorities, systems and procedures, increasing accountability, eliminating duplication of efforts and

rationalizing donor activities, reforming and simplifying donor policies and procedures, and better monitoring of utilization of development aid.

Promoting Foreign Direct Investment: Foreign direct investment (FDI) can play an important role in poverty reduction in Bangladesh by facilitating employment creation, technology transfer, improvement in managerial skills, access to external markets and social transformation. Bangladesh has a very liberal foreign direct investment regime. There are no restrictions on foreign equity participation or on repatriation of profits and income.

In spite of the liberal investment regime, the annual flow of FDI has been small - less than US $ 540 million during the years 2000-07. Foreign investment during 2000-07 was modest and is characterized by substantial repatriation of profits and dividends. Against an equity capital inflow of about $3.0 billion during 2000-07, remittance outflow was to the extent of $2.7 billion, i.e. 92 percent of total equity investment. However, the remittance outflow becomes 50 percent if we include reinvested profit to equity.

The main factor that contributed to the modest inflow of FDI is Bangladesh's poor image with regard to policy discontinuity, bureaucratic red-tape, corruption, an underdeveloped infrastructure, poor port management, a deficient legal system, political disturbances and an unsatisfactory law and order situation. While improvements have been made in these areas, resulting in improvement of the business environment, Bangladesh needs to address its image problem, project Bangladesh as a viable, profitable and secure investment destination and come up with well-advertised business support services aimed at reducing the cost of doing business.

4.1.7 External Sector Management

Sustained robust growth of exports and remittances has helped the country to maintain the current account deficit at a very low level and build up foreign exchange reserves in recent years. External sector policy will be geared to sustain the export growth achieved in the recent past, enhance remittance flows, and ensure a steady flow of imports required to attain the targeted growth rate of the economy and meet consumer demand. The external sector policy issues have been raised as much as possible in export policy 2006-09 and import policy 2006-09. The export policy 2006-09 classifies exports into two groups - highest priority sectors and special development sectors with appropriate policy support.

Addressing Supply-Side Issues: The government efforts will focus on reduction of the trade transaction cost and delivery time through effective trade facilitation measures, one-stop export facilities including the issue of export registration certificates at EPB, graduation to higher valued and skill-intensive products, increased quality of the products, and initiatives for accreditation and testing facilities. It should be noted that BSTI implemented a project called "Market Access and Trade Facilitation Support for South Asia through Strengthening Institutional and National Capacity Related to Standard, Metrology Testing and Quality" (SMTQ) aiming at enhancing national capacities for setting up a Hazardous Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP), ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 schemes at enterprise level and the capacity of national certification bodies to assess such systems. Focus will also be given on problems related to lack of production and trade policy to satisfy high quality and standard requirements in the developed countries, the narrow supply base and its poor response to changing international demand, lack of investment funds and high interest rates, weak physical infrastructure including lack of connectivity with neighbouring countries, high port and transport costs, low technological and R&D level to address the problems of international competitiveness, and poor entrepreneurship and management skills. Appropriate measures will be adopted to promote EPB's 'One District One Product' export strategy with focus on districts with higher incidence of poverty.

Addressing Demand Side Issues: The government will continue to enhance its capacity to address the demand side issues properly and also to encourage the private sector to build up its capacity to resolve such issues. The pertinent issues include increased preferential market access, limited market access, complex rules of origin and restrictive trade policies and non-tariff barriers in the buying countries, social campaigns and pressure groups regarding human rights and the environment in the buying countries as a pretext against imports from Bangladesh, discriminatory market access granted to the competitors by the buying countries, e.g. under AGOA, and lack of adequate market information.

Reforming Trade Policies: The government will continue to reduce the anti-export bias through rationalization of tariffs and removal of non-tariff barriers to trade. The various incentive schemes for export promotion will be critically examined to make them more effective, results focused and transparent.

Improving Flow of Remittance: Increasing the flow of remittance involves several issues. One set of issues include markets for migrant workers, particularly for women workers, institutional arrangements for migration, including the services of the recruitment agencies, financing of migration, welfare of returnee migrants, protection of rights of migrants abroad, discipline and behaviour pattern of migrants. The other set of issues involve the flow of remittance through the formal channel. There are several complaints against the recruiting agencies and the officers of embassies abroad regarding long waiting time in getting the jobs and the high cost involved in reaching the hiring countries. There are discrepancies regarding the rate of remuneration and type of jobs from the promises initially made on the eve of departure from the country.

To make the sector more dynamic the Ministry of Expatriates Welfare & Overseas Employment has prepared the Overseas Employment Policy 2007 focusing on (i) Protecting the rights of migrant workers abroad and within the country; (ii) Sustaining current labour markets and exploring new markets; (iii) Developing Human Resource; (iv) Reforming the Recruitment Process; (v) Ensuring welfare of the expatriates; (vi) Strengthening institutions for inexpensive and fast transfer of remittances and ensuring investment opportunities; (vi) Ensuring economic and social reintegration of returnee migrants; and (vii) Disciplining the behavioural pattern of migrants.

In order to increase workers' remittances and expand remittance inflow through the banking channel various steps have been taken including expansion of the drawing system of Bangladeshi banks with a larger number of foreign exchange houses, measures for quick disbursement of remittances, fixing of an annual minimum limit of remittance for the exchange houses of UK, Canada and USA, close observation of the drawing mechanism of banks and concerned exchange houses, and implementation of the Money Laundering Act 2003. Future strategies and policies will emphasize exploiting the potential for high growth of remittances from oil exporting countries, skill training for outsourcing as migrant workers, resolving the problem of overseas workers by the missions abroad, exploring the market through a study of overseas employment, and simplification of procedures of recruitment, linking training institutes and recruiting agencies, regulating the recruiting agencies to ensure that they send manpower abroad without unnecessary hassle. (For detail discussion, please see section on Promoting Decent Employment)

Multilateral and Regional Trading Arrangements: Bangladesh is a member of the WTO and a number of regional trading arrangements like SAFTA and BIMSTEC. The possibility of bilateral free trade agreements with India, Pakistan and the U.S.A. has also been raised on different occasions. Trading arrangements involve a shift from the existing pattern of trade, production, investment and employment to a different pattern leading to gains and losses for a particular country. Bangladesh can enhance its gains and minimize its losses if it negotiates skilfully. In this context, the need for an improved capacity for negotiation has been considered a critical aspect of trade agreements. Some of the negotiations under the WTO will bring losses to

Bangladesh, e.g., Bangladesh will lose from the global agricultural negotiations as a net food importing country. Similarly, after the NAMA negotiations involving elimination or reduction of bound tariff rates and bringing unbound tariff rates under binding commitments which will be subject to formula cuts, Bangladesh will suffer losses due to preference erosion in countries (e.g., EU and Canada) where Bangladesh enjoys duty-free, quota-free access. At the same time Bangladesh will stand to gain from negotiations on providing duty-free, quota-free market access to LDCs, in mode 4 under the services trade liberalization, and in Aid for Trade. Bangladesh will need to create skilled manpower with relevant language skills which have been expanding demand in foreign markets, e.g., for nurses.

Bangladesh will need to negotiate, along with other LDCs, with the EU for relaxing the rules of origin. Bangladesh will also need to request support to fulfil the sanitary and phyto-sanitary (SPS) provisions in developed country markets, especially the EU. Under the Aid for Trade negotiations Bangladesh can seek assistance for building infrastructure for export development. Under services trade liberalization, Bangladesh along with other developing countries can seek liberalization of movement of natural persons under mode 4 and thus have access to developed country markets.

Under the regional trading arrangements Bangladesh will need to seek duty free access for its exports to advanced developing country markets like India and Pakistan. It will also need to encourage foreign investment to promote exports to both developed and developing countries.

4.2 Strategic Block II: Critical Areas of Focus for Pro-poor Economic Growth

4.2.1 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development

The SME sector will turn into a more dynamic sector to be able to play a pivotal role in achieving the national goal of accelerated pro-poor growth, sustained poverty alleviation and faster rate of economic and social progress during the NSAPR II period and beyond.

Progress in the SME Sector: There is a very high density of SMEs in the industrial economy of Bangladesh, constituting over 99 percent of private sector industrial establishments and providing job opportunities to roughly 70 to 80 percent of the non-agricultural labour force. The SMEs are growing over time and contributing to enterprise creation, private entrepreneurship development, and employment generation. The relative SME share in manufacturing value added to GDP varies between 28 to 30 percent. Their contribution to national exports (varying between 12 to 40 percent in different industries) is also not insignificant. The greater proportion of the SMEs (58 percent of establishments and 55 percent of jobs created by them in 2006) being spread in the rural locations offers better prospects for industrial dispersal. There is, however, significant dispersion in the regional distribution of the SMEs. Their distribution across broad administrative divisions as well as across the districts reflects both inter and intra-regional concentration. For example, while about 31 percent of the SMEs are located in Dhaka division only 5 percent are located in Sylhet division.

There has been increased women's involvement in the SMEs, especially home-based micro enterprises spread over the production of clothing and textiles (boutiques and handicrafts, weaving and spinning) livestock and dairy, and retail sales etc. Relatively small enterprises owned by women entrepreneurs are mostly of the sole proprietorship type which needs low investments. It is observed that only 6 percent of the MSMEs are owned by women as proprietors and their representation in the MSME workforce is found to be less than 10 percent as workers.

An enabling policy environment and institutional infrastructure is indispensable for accelerated SME growth. Further, in the event of changes and adjustments in existing policies and the regulatory and institutional framework SMEs are often faced with a discriminatory environment. A neutral policy environment is a necessity to spur SME growth. The Government has established

an SME Foundation in 2006. The underlying philosophy of the governments, policy support to SMEs is to play the role of a facilitator, removing operational bottlenecks, neutralizing market failures and providing necessary promotional support. This perspective, ensuring equality in access to information, technology, human capacity building, finance, markets, infrastructural facilities, and business development services constitutes the core of government policy initiatives and programmes designed for the SME sector. Built-in among the SME assistance package are also some special arrangements designed to address the parity issue adversely affecting women and educated young potential entrepreneurs. Some of the major areas of policy interventions of SMEP – 2005 are briefly discussed.

- The tax related activities include measures for removing anomalies in taxation policies affecting the local electronics industry and unearthing anomalies in the border taxation policies, and inclusion of tax practices in the FY07 budget which benefited domestic manufacturing of UPS/IPS.
- Other advocacy works include knowledge creation (BBS update of SME data base) about SMEs, organization of the National SME Women Entrepreneurs Conferences, opening of a special window in the BSTI office to ensure fast-tracking of SMEs' quality and standards certification needs, preparation of a Training Needs Assessment (TNA) for capacity building of the SME entrepreneurs, training of a large pool of male and female entrepreneurs in a variety of business development areas, and instructions by Bangladesh Bank to lower bank interest rates (at 10 percent); and set aside 10 percent of the SEF funds for women.
- Development of SME WEB PORTAL (SMEWP) to disseminate detailed information on business start-up requirements and formalities, (trade license, fire and boiler clearance etc.) government policies, access to finance, and domestic and external market information. The Government has established a Small Enterprise Fund (SEF). The creation of a Women Entrepreneurs Forum (WEF) in order to foster women entrepreneurship and its inclusion as an integral part of the SME Foundation is being highly instrumental in promoting active and productive participation of women in business enterprises.
- The National Association of Small and Cottage Industries of Bangladesh (NASCIB) works as the apex trade body for SMEs in Bangladesh. The services provided to the SMEs include policy advocacy, information dissemination, capacity building, market promotion and technology upgrade through participation in the policy making process and executing agreements with the donor agencies.

There have also been private sector initiatives for SME promotion. MIDAS has successfully introduced many innovative models of small-scale and micro enterprises which have been replicated by other promotional institutions. Chambers of Commerce and Industries (CCIs) and various trade associations also play important advocacy roles in promoting SMEs, through working as pressure groups in influencing government policies in favour of SME development. Among the CCIs, FBCCI, DCCI and CCCI play an important part in supporting SME growth through undertaking various special schemes.

Constraints and Challenges to SME Growth in Bangladesh: Despite these initiatives the SME sector continues to suffer from a multiple of known constraints and challenges. Lack of access to finance, infrastructural bottlenecks (especially access to unreliable power), low levels of technological competence, difficult market access and regulatory barriers are cited by the SME entrepreneurs as constraints. The intensity of these common operational impediments tends to hurt the smallest of the SMEs the most.

Notwithstanding the wide-ranging economic reforms carried out in Bangladesh and commensurate policy changes in recent years, the SMEs are currently faced with much greater external competition and hence a greater challenge to expand market shares. The problems of limited international market experience, poor quality control and product standardization, strict compliance requirements to environmental protection standards etc. must also be tackled so that the SMEs can be successfully integrated into the global market.

Other important challenges include fierce market competition both in existing and new markets. Sophisticated consumer preferences and market standards and various non-price factors, such as quality, health and safety and ecological compatibility of products and processes which determine competitive advantage also pose significant challenges. In the changed market perspectives, introduction of new products and processes, more innovative design, shorter product cycles and smaller output batches, greater mass customization, and more just-in-time delivery etc. have become the critical determinants of survival and growth of the SMEs.

Policies and Strategies for Future Development of SMEs: SMEs can benefit from rich opportunities. The important opportunities include more gainful trade, increased flow of finance and technology, greater scope for inter-firm linkages, enhanced collective efficiency, technological and innovative capabilities and hence competitiveness. The proliferation of a complex network of international and cross-border supply chains has also widened the potentials and opportunities for involvement of the SMEs through subcontracting and outsourcing relationships. It is against the backdrop of these impending challenges and opportunities that the policies and strategies for promoting SME growth and competitiveness in the coming years need to be formulated.

Access to Finance: To fill up the credit gap a comprehensive and inclusive credit policy for the sector needs to be formulated with, among others, the following features:

- Increase in the flow of formal private sector credit into the sector in general and micro enterprises and women entrepreneurs in particular through introduction of new and innovative credit schemes and financial instruments by the banks. In this context, collaboration between the PFIs and MFIs will be necessary.
- Collateral requirements for SME loans will be scaled down and a switch from immovable assets to movable assets for collaterals needs to be practiced.
- Current high rates of interest charged on SME loans must be substantially brought down by the commercial banks.

Human Resources Development: For nurturing the entrepreneurial spirit, the development of suitable courses on entrepreneurial skill development and their inclusion perhaps at school and college levels may be ideal, drawing from the Malaysian examples.

Technology and Product Quality and Standards: Supply of quality products demands progressive assimilation of new and more sophisticated technologies, higher rates of innovation and switching from the current low-labour cost based comparative advantage to high efficiency and innovation-based competitive advantage. Strengthening of partnership between the private entrepreneurs and the R&D institutions, universities, other stakeholders, along with Government patronization is the way forward.

Subcontracting: Inter-firm linkages and networking, especially through the practice of subcontracting may also help enhance both domestic and external competitiveness. This may cause the overall manufacturing cost to be relatively low and will add to high efficiency and greater competitiveness. The closest emulative experience in this regard is that of India where under planned government initiative, the subcontracting (called ancilarisation in India) endeavour is helping setting up of SMEs in almost every sector of manufacturing industries.

Production Networking: It is important for countries like Bangladesh to get integrated with global and regional economies (ASEAN and SAARC in particular) through the international value chains of productions. Development of "Horizontal Production Networking" among firms of identical size is also another new initiative which will help to achieve efficiency in mass production irrespective of the size of units. The Centre Satellite System Programme in Taiwan, Vendor Support Programme in Malaysia, and Production Networks for Exports in China are examples of some successful initiatives for improving collective production efficiency drives (especially of the SMEs) which improve the capacity to innovate and access the new markets.

Access to Markets: The efforts at strengthening and consolidating the facilities created by the SMEF web portal and the hipline centres by the SMEF must be continuously and meticulously pursued, particularly to make these facilities cost-effective and user-friendly to the SME entrepreneurs. The SMEs must be encouraged to make the most use of the ICT and e-commerce facilities and services in production, marketing and networking. However, parallel efforts must also be made to create supply-side capacity building.

To enhance international market competitiveness of the agro-based SME food products suggestions are: making the producers aware about the international food safety standards, strengthening of the BSTI product certification system and establishment of one national Referral Centre for Certification and a Food Agro-Processing Park containing quality and standards certification facilities. Further, to facilitate entry into export markets provision of incentives in both cash and kind (i.e. air cargo facilities, refrigerators and vans etc. for food products preservation and transportation) is emphasized by experts and professionals.

Gender Sensitivity: All SME centric policies and strategies must clearly exhibit gender sensitivity through including special schemes and programmes which are pro-women and designed to address barriers hindering women entrepreneurship development. The WEF in the SMEF should perform as an effective watchdog to safeguard women's interests as equal partners in business development activities. The WEF must remain constantly vigilant to oversee the progress of implementation of the Bangladesh Bank directives to the commercial banks to extend bank loans to women entrepreneurs at concessional terms.

Regional Dimension: Economically depressed regions with high incidence of poverty, especially the western region of the country, should be allocated resources to develop SMEs for creating both self-employment and wage-employment opportunities with explicit priorities.

Policy Coordination and Cooperation for Policy Implementation: Improved policy coordination at the national level should be religiously pursued through effective dialogue and discourse among the relevant stakeholders while formulating SME policies and designing implementation strategies. Meaningful SME representation to present their interests in such efforts should be ensured. Dialogue between the private sector stakeholders and the SME entrepreneurs is equally important. The SMEF can play the important role of providing a forum to facilitate such dialogues on a continued basis. A strong coordination committee at the local level headed perhaps by the SMEF can be formed at least in each district so that the service delivery mechanisms get sufficiently decentralized.

4.2.2 Promoting Decent Employment

Creation of productive employment and improvement of labour welfare is essential to achieve the national goals of reducing both income and human poverty. The issues of employment generation and labour welfare will be seen in the light of full and productive employment and decent work for all where decent work is defined as 'opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, and security and human dignity'.

Characteristics of the Labour Market: The labour market in Bangladesh is characterized by (i) high rate of labour force growth, (ii) low rates of unemployment, (iii) predominance of employment in agriculture followed by the services sector, (iv) existence of high under employment, (v) dominant rural share in employment, (vi) smaller share of female employment, and (vii) low wage rates.

The LFPR in Bangladesh increased from 54.9 percent in 1999-2000 to 58.5 percent in 2005-06 with male LFPR increasing from 84 percent to 86.8 percent and female LFPR increasing from 23.9 percent to 29.2 percent during the same period. In the urban areas, the LFPR remained virtually unchanged, while in the rural areas it improved significantly over the same period.

Unemployment Rate: The number of people out of work in Bangladesh climbed to 2.1 million in 2005-06 from 1.7 million in 1999-2000 with an unemployment rate of 4.2 percent. The unemployment rate provides a partial picture of the labour market because unemployment does not take into account underemployment, or more importantly, poverty-level employment. There are large disparities in unemployment by region, age, sex and education levels. Thus, there is far more unemployment in the rural than in the urban regions. By age, the largest proportion of unemployed is those between 15 and 39 years old. Across sex, the unemployment rate is 3.4 percent for the male and 7.0 percent for the female population. In terms of educational attainment, unemployment increases with increase in education levels.

Underemployment Rate: In Bangladesh, a large segment of the employed population is underemployed, meaning that they work less than 35 hours a week. The rate of underemployment has increased from 16.6 percent in 1999-2000 to 24.5 percent in 2005-06. The male underemployment rate has increased from 7.4 percent to 10.9 percent and female underemployment from 52.8 percent to 68.3 percent during the same period.

Informal Employment: The share of the informal sector (including agriculture) in total employment increased from 75.3 percent in 1999-2000 to 78.5 percent in 2005-06. The enhanced employment share reflects in part the fact that the informal sector is a refuge sector for those who fail to get absorbed in other sectors.

Labour Force Projections and Required Employment Growth: With a current labour force growth rate of 3.32 percent annually, the labour force will grow to 54.60 million in 2008-09, 56.41 million in 2009-10, and 58.28 million in 2010-11, resulting in an incremental labour force of 5.44 million during 2009-11 (Table 4.1). Similarly if the prevailing employment growth trend continues, total employment will increase to 52.25 million in 2008-09, 53.97 million in 2009-10, and 55.75 million in 2010-11, with an incremental employment of 5.17 million during the same period. It means that given the existing trends of labour force and employment growth, 7.32 million additional jobs (including a backlog of 1.88 million unemployed) will have to be created during 2009-11 requiring an employment growth rate of 4.7 percent. Besides, if the existing trend of underemployment continues, underemployed persons will amount to 26.58 million during 2009-11. To create productive employment for at least 75 percent of these underemployed people (19.94 million), 27.26 million additional productive employments will have to be created during 2009-11.

The projected increase in employment will account for 96.9 percent of projected increase in the labour force, making a not so significant dent on the existing unemployment and underemployment in the economy. This indicates the challenge of employment generation to absorb the labour force. Several approaches can be adopted to ease the employment problem: (i) introducing policies for making growth more employment-friendly; (ii) increasing overseas migration of workers; and (iii) undertaking special schemes for job creation (especially through micro-credit) and employment-based safety nets through public works programmes.

Table 4.1: Employment Projections for the 2008-09/ 2010-11 Period

Sector	GDP 2008-09	GDP 2010-11	△Y	ηiλi	△E
Agriculture	652129	746597	94468	23.40	2210.55
Mining & Quarrying	39793	45733	5940	1.60	9.50
Manufacturing	581315	665543	84228	8.27	696.57
Electricity, Gas & Water	57023	65439	8416	1.68	14.14
Construction	318707	364747	46040	3.93	180.94
Trade, Hotel & Restaurant	490464	561435	70971	11.38	807.65
Transport, Storage & Communication	340296	389658	49362	10.68	527.19
Finance & Business services and Real Estate	296759	339836	43077	4.80	206.77
Health, Education, Public Admin. & Defence	250003	286295	36292	5.33	193.44
Community & Personal Services	221056	253204	32148	13.20	424.35
All Sectors	3247546	3718487	470942	…	5271.10

Notes: (i) All values in 1995-96 million Taka; employment in thousands of workers; and incremental labour intensity in workers per million Taka; (ii) The following method is used for projecting increases in sectoral employment: Ei=(ηi)(λi)Yi, where, Ei is the incremental employment in the i-th sector, ηi is the elasticity of employment in the i-th sector, λi is the average labour intensity (employment per unit of value added) in the i-th sector and Yi is the change in value added in sector i over the period of projection.

Labour Market Policies/Programmes and Employment

Job Creation Programmes: Existing labour market policies and programmes underline the importance of a rights-based approach to employment and of guaranteeing employment promotion especially through micro-credit and employment-based social safety nets through public works programmes (for details see section on micro-credit and social safety nets in **S**trategic Block IV: Protecting the Vulnerable). The coverage, funding and effectiveness of the existing employment generation programmes appear to be limited. The existing programmes cannot guarantee a minimum number of jobs and income security to the poor. In the existing job creation programmes job and income security remain essentially supplementary.

The government has introduced guaranteed employment programme of Tk. 20 billion in the FY09 budget for the rural people. The scheme seeks to provide guaranteed employment to one member of every household below a threshold income level for at least 100 days a year, especially during the lean (M*onga)* season. The guaranteed employment programme will address the regional dimension of poverty channelling more resources to the western region of the country. The government is also planning to widen the existing SSN programmes by introducing some new ones targeting the ultra-poor.

Foreign Employment: Overseas employment during the period from 1976 to January 2008 totalled 5.48 million with foreign remittances of US$ 48.69 billion. Annual flow of migrant workers has increased from 6,087 in 1976 to 832609 in 2007 with an annual rate of growth of 17.37 percent. There is a need for coming up with innovative schemes for funding the prospective job seekers abroad. A substantial number of the expatriate wage earners are victims of unscrupulous manpower agents who extract substantial sums of money from job seekers for arranging employment abroad. Some Banks/Financial Institutions have initiated an expatriate lending project whereby the bank will advance money to the prospective job seekers who will repay the loan from their remittances. Similarly, PKSF has introduced a programme targeting people from Monga areas. This programme will be extended to other depressed areas of the western region of the country.

According to MEWOE (2007), the long-term strategies for expanding overseas employment include: (i) entering new markets for overseas employment, (ii) expanding representation in existing overseas labour markets, (iii) improving skill training for exporting skilled workers, (iv) undertaking special initiative for exporting workers from M*onga* areas, (v) managing welfare programmes for migrant workers, (vi) controlling the recruiting agencies and bringing transparency in the migration process, (vii) increasing the inflow of remittances and ensuring their proper use, (viii) undertaking a special initiative for exporting women workers, and (ix) increasing the skill and role of Bangladesh missions abroad in exporting workers.

By and large, in order to promote foreign employment it is necessary to annually conduct an integrated market survey of foreign demand by country and skill category, and accordingly existing training course curricula may be revised and updated and new training courses may be introduced in employable trades. It is equally important to create and manage institutional, technical and financial infrastructure for proper training and easily sending the trained people abroad at a higher rate with a focus on women and people from the M*onga* and other backward areas.

Government has taken a number of measures for the welfare of remittance earning workers. Wage Earners' Welfare fund is being used for several important activities like repatriation of mortal remains of workers from host countries, burials, and financial assistance to the sick and distressed and to heirs of the deceased who are not getting any compensation from the employer. To recognize the contributions of middle and lower-middle class expatriates-wage-earners a new policy for giving the remitters special citizens' privileges has been formulated in 2008. 'Expatriates Welfare Desk' has been set up in some District Headquarters. Similar desks will be established in the remaining District Headquarters. Awareness creation programmes have been strengthened among potential workers willing to have overseas employment.

Skill Development Programmes: One critical effect of the shift between sectors is the unemployment that is generated by the skill mismatch for workers seeking to move from the non-tradable to the tradable sector. This dilemma is documented in the case of Bangladesh where there is a growing wage gap for both skilled and unskilled labour between the two sectors, and an increase in return to general human capital in the expanding sectors. The emerging export industries in apparel, textiles and leather goods seem to have increased the demand for low-skilled female workers with higher than average wages, while the declining industries like jute released higher skilled workers.

Given the current structure of the educational system, the distribution of new entrants in the labour market is skewed, which is manifested in an excess in the supply of labour with qualifications that do not match the requirement of the productive sectors of the economy. There is a need for reallocation of educational resources to generate a more appropriate skill mix in the labour force.

Skill training is being imparted through 37 public sector polytechnic institutes (one is for girls) with 23 more polytechnics yet to start operation and 97 private sector polytechnics. In the public sector, apart from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) and four Bangladesh Institutes of Technology (now converted into universities) with an annual intake of 900 and 3832 students respectively, there is only one institute each for glass and ceramics, graphic arts, textile technology and leather technology, with an annual intake of 1720 trainees. There are 12 agricultural training institutes in the public sector and 47 in the private sector.

There are 64 public sector technical schools and colleges (TSCs) under the Ministry of Education with a total number of 33480 seats. The course contents of the TSCs meet the requirements of the National Skill Standard Grade III (semi-skilled level), Grade II (skilled level) and Grade I (professional or highly skilled level). The teacher-student ratio in the TSCs is 1:39 compared to the

required 1:12. Besides, there are only 6 textile institutes, 28 specialised textile vocational centres, and 13 technical training centres. There are 38 nurses training institutes. A number of private textile institutes are in place, but very few of the RMG workers are trained there.

There is only one technical teachers' training college with only 15 trainers, and also a single vocational teachers' training institute with only 6 trainers. Such training centres for trainers may be located in the divisional headquarters. Vocational training facilities for women have been expanded and diversified over the years. Part-time, short-term and a*d hoc* courses are also organised by these institutes to meet the needs of local industries. Some courses are also organised for the housewives and others in trades like the repair of common domestic appliances, hair and skin care, dressmaking etc.

There are 38 Technical Training Centres (TTCs) (six are for women) under BMET with a total intake of 22000 trainees annually. BMET offers training in 29 areas including different trades of industrial technology. TTCs offer regular 2-year vocational training courses and 6-month special courses. Besides, TTCs offer many other special short-term skill upgrading courses at the request of the employers. Attachment of the trainees with the industry is mandatory and is considered as an integral part of exposing them to the industrial environment and improving their practical skill level. The Department of Youth Development (DYD) has imparted skill development training to 2.7 million youths in different trades up to December 2006.

While expansion and diversification of vocational training facilities in relation to needs is necessary, the continuous upgrade of training, curricula and equipments, tools and other infrastructure is equally important. The programmes in the second NSAPR will supplement the efforts made in the first NSAPR to expand and diversify training facilities, especially for women and upgrade and reorient the quality and content of vocational training in general to cater to the emerging needs of the economy. Every Upazila could have at least one such TSC (increase from 64 to over 400) that can train the school dropouts. These institutes can have a variety of vocational courses, mostly of 1 to 2 years' duration. A vocational school at the union level may be established with some courses of six months' duration.

To the extent that a sizeable proportion of employment would have to be self-employment in tiny and small units in various sectors, the training system should also gear up for providing not only hard skills for suitable trades, but also the soft skills of entrepreneurship, management and marketing, as a part of training courses. Steps towards this end may include:

- Setting up an expert group to look into the issues relating to the vocational training programmes to improve employability of unemployed and underemployed persons.
- Introducing four new trades, viz., computer hardware, medical electronics, consumer electronics and industrial electronics.
- Revising space norms for workshops.
- Introducing modular training for advanced skill courses.
- Activating the National Council for Skill Development and Training (NCSDT).

Employment Policies and Strategies

Mainstreaming Employment into Development Policies: For mainstreaming employment into development policy making, it is necessary to create an environment conducive to the generation of full and productive employment, and decent work. Employment generation needs to be taken into account while formulating macroeconomic policies and in making budgetary allocations. Employment considerations can be factored into the works of different ministries in two ways: (i) all ministries should routinely undertake e*x ante* employment impact analysis for all policies and

programmes; and (ii) regularly undertake e*x post* employment impact analysis of policies and programmes.

Four possible pro-poor strategies for productive employment generation and poverty reduction are suggested: (i) increasing the access to productive assets (land and credit reform); (ii) removing the market distortions; (iii) improving employment opportunities by facilitating occupational and spatial mobility; and (iv) ensuring access to education and health services. In the rural areas more job creation programmes outside agriculture (e.g. by establishing or relocating RMG, textiles and other footloose as well as agro-based industrial units in industrial clusters) are necessary to reverse or at least to reduce rural-urban migration.

The challenge of creating the conditions for full and productive employment and decent work rests first and foremost with the government. This entails mustering the political will to make employment generation a key priority – not only of social development strategies, but also, and perhaps mainly, of economic strategies and policies, at both the macroeconomic and sectoral levels. Two essential elements of such strategies are sound macroeconomic policies and an overall national development strategy conducive to dynamic employment generation. Economic growth is important, but even more so is its quality, measured particularly in terms of its capacity to generate quality jobs. This means that employment targeted economic programmes should be a key objective of macroeconomic policies.

For Bangladesh, the agricultural sector is still the main employer (48.1% in 2005-06). Accordingly, a more intense focus is needed on rural development, with a view to expanding market access, employment and productivity. Employment generation and productivity growth must be pursued jointly. A comprehensive strategy for achieving them together over the second NSAPR period involves investing in dynamically growing sectors of the economy; promoting micro and small enterprises, where most employment is generated today; and building strong linkages between dynamic sectors and small firms. It is in this context that promoting entrepreneurship plays an essential role, by making it easier to start and nurture small enterprises that provide more and better jobs.

Sector Level Policies for Higher Employment, Productivity, and Real Wages: The Government will develop and adopt sectoral growth-promoting policies that generate a large number of productive jobs. A number of key actions can be identified including increasing investments in labour-intensive and growth-promoting manufacturing and services, rural infrastructure, establishing property rights for entrepreneurs in informal enterprises, and providing these entrepreneurs with better access to credit and services.

Most of Bangladesh's poor and underemployed live in the rural areas or work in urban informal sectors. The most urgent labour challenge facing the government is to increase opportunities for these people to engage in productive labour and enable them to earn a decent wage. At the same time, employment in the formal sector must expand in manufacturing with high value added. To make this happen, existing investment incentives are not sufficient. Regulatory bottlenecks (e.g. dilatory registration and approval processes, high bank lending rates 16 percent as against 14.8 percent and high charges on 30 different services offered to 11 sectors, discriminatory import duty for the import of machinery and raw materials, discriminatory laws against the informal sector etc.) to the entry and expansion of firms in the formal sector must be removed by implementing "one-stop service" and providing concessionary financial and fiscal incentives to promising entrepreneurs. To this end, the public and the private sectors must work together more closely to identify and develop non-traditional, but relatively labour-intensive and productive activities in the entire economy. For the purpose of increasing productivity, the dormant National Productivity Organization (NPO) under the Ministry of Industries and the Tripartite Productivity Committee (TPC) under the MoLE need to be activated with might and main.

Productive employment and decent work are key to poverty reduction and harnessing the potential of globalization. The Government will continue to pursue the creation of a conducive environment for enterprise development in both the rural and the urban areas. Particular attention will be given to policies that promote SMEs and women's participation and entrepreneurship in formal and informal sectors through i*nter alia* simplified and improved administrative regimes for the registration of small businesses, access to micro credit, social security systems and information on markets and new technology, as well as better regulations. Such policies should contribute to the integration of informal economic activity into the mainstream economy.

Pursuing such a strategy will require improved collaboration between international development actors in support of national development strategies. The ILO has adopted a Decent Work Agenda in Bangladesh. Some of the main features of a Decent Work Agenda for Bangladesh calling for improved policy coherence across the multilateral system would include the following:

- Mainstreaming assessments of the impact on the generation of decent work opportunities into poverty-reducing strategies, and adopting targets for creating sufficient decent jobs to absorb all new labour market entrants and reduce by half the number of the working poor.
- Integrating strategies for sustainable enterprise development and generating decent work opportunities, with special focus on assisting women entrepreneurs.
- Incorporating local economic development and labour-intensive investment in reconstruction and recovery programmes.
- Introducing coherent national social security strategies including a basic social security package that includes essential health care, maternity protection, and child support for school age children, disability protection and a minimum pension.
- Undertaking National action plans for eliminating the WFCL.
- Introducing legislation and policies to promote equality of opportunity and treatment in respect of employment and occupation.
- Developing strategies to formalize the informal economy and extending social protection to informal economy workers.
- Modernizing labour legislation in accordance with relevant ILO standards and promoting social dialogue among government, employers' organizations and trade unions.

The characteristics of rural employment - high levels of underemployment, low productivity, low wages, increasing levels of casual labour, employment insecurity, poor working conditions, predominance of self-employment in smallholder agriculture, high seasonal fluctuations and seasonal migration, and a large proportion of 'working poor' with incomes below one dollar a day. The key elements of the employment policy will include the following:

- Secure access to resources that contribute to increased productivity, earnings, and environmental sustainability.
- Agriculture and rural development policies to reduce the vulnerability of agricultural labourers, including both landless and wage dependent small farmers, and to enhance their capacity to gain productive employment.
- Investments that increase land and labour productivity to promote agricultural growth for employment generation and poverty reduction.
- Creating access to markets and business development services for rural enterprises to mobilize entrepreneurship and enhance employment prospects.
- Creating institutions of the rural poor to play a vital role both in securing greater access to productive employment and ensuring decent working conditions.

Mainstreaming employment generation across all sectors can include: (i) laying the foundation for sector-based analytical work for employment generation, (ii) selectively moving ahead with operational details, and (iii) building the analytical capacity of the MoLE, Ministry of Industries, Ministry of Agriculture and all other ministries for addressing issues on employment generation.

Labour Market Policies and Programmes: Labour policies need to focus on improving conditions for rural and informal workers. New job creation programmes may include:

- Emergency Social Fund for income generating employment including job creation through public works programmes and through infrastructure and employment guarantee.
- Emergency Employment Programmes to absorb short-run shocks due to natural disasters and manmade distortions.
- Programmes to mitigate the social costs can be (a) undertaking priority project in which temporary employment is created in order to target the ultra-poor especially during the lean period, and (b) creating a revolving fund to provide credit for undertaking small business activities by the unemployed.
- Integrating the Unemployed Persons Retrenched and Laid-off from the Public Sector into the Mainstream Employment Generation Programmes to reemploy them in alternative jobs through re-skilling for wage employment or providing small business loans and training for self-employment.
- Encouraging mobility of workers to expanding sectors by training them through apprenticeships or providing them technical training.

Policies Relating to Labour Welfare: The programmes for labour welfare will lay emphasis on the promotion of harmonious industrial relations, social protection, improvement of OSH, elimination of CL, enforcement of labour laws especially those relating to unorganised labour and women and child labour and promotion of the welfare of migrant workers and returned migrant workers.

4.2.3 Improving the Environment for Private Sector Development (PSD)

The private sector is that part of the economy which is run for private profit and is not controlled by the state. The vision of private sector development is to enable it to grow fast to make higher contribution to growth, poverty reduction and social development and thus play the role of an engine of growth in the economy.

Recent Progress in Private Sector Development: Deregulation and liberalization of the economy and globalization have opened up significant opportunities for the private sector to invest in all sectors of the economy except a few restricted ones. The private sector has been able to take advantage of the emerging opportunities and a vibrant private sector is visible in livestock, fisheries, the rural non-farm sector, manufacturing, especially export-oriented textiles and ready made garments, frozen fish and shrimp, leather, tea, plastic products, agro-based products and recently pharmaceuticals, telecommunication, ICT, banking and insurance, ship building, transportation, tourism, and electricity. The private sector at present accounts for more than 80 percent of GDP, 90 percent of employment, 75 percent of investment, 93 percent of domestic saving, 93 percent of consumption expenditure, and 72 percent of domestic credit in the country.

Problems of Private Sector Development: The Government strategy for private sector development has been to create a business friendly environment in which the private sector can operate and flourish. Investment in the social and physical infrastructure which increases the productivity of inputs, providing good governance, and reforming institutions- rules and

regulations to eliminate or reduce the hindrances to private sector development have received emphasis in the strategy. At the same time the Government has tried to protect the rights of the citizens, support initiatives for corporate social responsibility and maintain environmental standards. Notwithstanding the continued efforts of the Government to facilitate private sector development some critical problems have persisted, constraining its robust growth.

Infrastructure: The most serious infrastructure constraint having a damaging impact on productivity and investment in the private sector is the widespread and growing shortage of electricity. This has inhibited investment, caused output loss, and increased cost of production, created governance problems and exerted an adverse impact on exports. Many firms have been forced to use captive power generation, adding to costs.

Chittagong Port, which handles 85 percent of the country's seaborne traffic, has been a chronic problem due to poor infrastructure, low labour productivity, inferior management, corruption, numerous trade unions, and restrictive labour practices. Performance of the port has improved since January 2007 in large part because of the crackdown on union activity among dockworkers and making the Dock Workers' Management Board (DWMB) defunct. Average turnaround time of ships has been reduced from 9 days to 2.9 days and the average clearing time of a container has come down to14.8 days. The construction of the New Mooring Container Terminal has been completed and it will be managed by the private sector. The improvements have to be sustained for facilitating domestic investment and production and external trade.

While the road transport network has expanded considerably, further improvement is necessary especially in the Dhaka-Chittagong highway. It also suffers from a lack of proper repair and maintenance. The railway system is increasingly underutilized due mainly to poor management and administration, and worn out infrastructure and rolling stock. Inland water transport remains largely unregulated and underutilized. While air transport infrastructure in Dhaka, Chittagong and Sylhet has improved substantially, cargo services are a major bottleneck.

Private sector access to telecommunications and information and communication technology (ICT) infrastructure has improved in recent years. The availability of mobile phones, provided by a number of private sector operators and one public sector (Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board), has eased telecommunications access. However, tele density and access to internet and computers are still very low. Further, costs of mobile communications still remain high compared with our neighbouring countries. A lack of high-speed Internet access is one of the main constraints in using information technology. Another problem is the absence of suitable ICT laws relating to electronic commerce, acceptance of electronic documents, digital signatures, consumer protection, and intellectual property rights.

Skills Shortage: The acute skills shortage afflicting the labour market reduces the profitability of the business. A shortage of skilled labour, particularly middle management, and a lack of access to modern technology constrain the productivity of firms. Most enterprises do not have sufficient capital to invest in on-the-job training, or to invest in improved product quality and technology. Not only are the education levels among the workforce low but also the education and vocational training system are not geared toward the market needs.

Financial and Capital Market: The financial sector has made visible progress in terms of the number of banks, non-bank financial institutions, insurance companies and NGO-MFIs offering a range of financial services. However, high interest spread, and the problem of the missing middle exert negative impact on private investment. The banking sector's capacity to finance large-scale projects is limited, while private commercial banks are not active in rural areas. The private and foreign commercial banks have high service charges which increase the cost of goods and services.

The capital market is still in its infancy. The ratio of the stock market capitalization to GDP is only around 15 percent, much lower than in other developing Asian countries. The depth of the equity market remains shallow- vulnerable to overheating and price shocks; while the debt market remains at an incipient stage, characterized by limited listings and trading. So far the capital market has played a minor role in investment financing in Bangladesh.

Governance Issue: The governance issues involving a deteriorating law and order situation, corruption, bureaucratic hassles, and low competence among central and local government officials increase transaction costs for the private sector. Other major governance issues that affect the private sector include lack of transparency in the formulation and implementation of policies and regulations; lack of, or delay in, contract enforcement and dispute resolution; inadequate bankruptcy laws; legal impediments to corporate operations; cumbersome and corruption-prone land titling and transfer procedures; and inadequate labour laws.

Trade Facilitation Shortfalls: The trade facilitation shortfalls are assessed to be a major bottleneck to Bangladesh's export competitiveness. The inefficiency and the recent improvement in Chittagong port has been mentioned earlier. However, the improvement has to be sustained to meet the requirements of the growing volume of trade. The problems related to customs clearance at the port and logistical problems at the West Bengal-Dhaka corridor have persisted.

Laws and Regulations: There are numerous Acts and several special courts. For private enterprises the two most important are the Companies Act of 1994 and the Foreign Private Investment Act (promotion and Protection) of 1980. The legal procedures are cumbersome, time consuming and costly. Modifications are needed in commercial laws, fiscal and industrial sectors, land ownership issues, bankruptcy law, and arbitration laws. The major problem, however, is enforcement. The legal system is biased against the poor.

Registration and Licenses: Bangladeshi companies need registration and licenses for incorporating in Bangladesh. A foreign company incorporated abroad, can register in Bangladesh by establishing a place of business. To register a company, 8 to 9 different licenses are required. A survey of SME (IFC) found that the average time to get all licenses was around six months. The issuance of licenses most often requires a facilitation payment (even to get the right forms). However, the inspection and control regime associated with the licenses is claimed to be a much larger burden in terms of time consumption and costs. The registration and licensing systems as presently practiced are causing substantial harassment, work burden and cost for the companies. Purchase/sale of real estate is most complicated and time consuming.

Law and Order: The incidence and severity of crime, including organized crime, and hartals (general strikes) became a chronic disease for Bangladesh and the frequency of hartals increased during implementation of the first PRSP. The Government has undertaken several measures to improve law and order, including strengthening law enforcement agencies. Satisfactory progress in this area is yet to be achieved.

Policies and Strategies for Private Sector Development

Continuing Sound Macro-economic Management: The Government will continue to maintain macroeconomic stability in the face of domestic and external shocks to provide a conducive environment for private sector investment. Both supply side and demand side policies will be used along with effective SSNPs to reduce the rate of inflation.

Overcoming Infrastructure Constraints: The specific measures to be undertaken for infrastructure development are to (a) ensure reliable supply of electricity, (b) reduce further bottlenecks of congestion, inefficient management and cumbersome procedures in sea ports, (c) reform the Telecommunications sector to improve its performance with a thrust on ICTs, (d)

implement priority investment programmes for Roads & Highways development, (e) declare the Dhaka-Chittagong highway as an Export Highway and set up industrial parks along the highway, (f) modernize the railway transport system for industrial transportation through integrating it with other surface modes, and (g) expedite reform of the parastatal bodies of the infrastructure sector.

To promote the private sector, the Government has prepared the 'Bangladesh Private Sector Infrastructure Guidelines'. The handbook provides necessary steps to be taken for infrastructural facilities for different sub-sectors in the economy.

Creating a More Efficient Banking Sector: The strategies for creating a deeper and more efficient financial sector to make financial services accessible are: (a) changing the role of the Government from an operator and arbiter to a facilitator by moving away from implicit guarantees against failure, limited but explicit deposit insurance, while simultaneously relying more on market participants to monitor and discipline banks; (b) creating a new agency for loan recovery for reducing cost of borrowing; (c) stimulating the success of the leasing companies through special incentives; and (d) strengthening the role of private sector insurance.

Developing Best Practices for Microfinance: The Government will lend support to micro financing organizations operating in Bangladesh to provide sufficient credit to the poor and to their research and practice in microfinance. The Government will also lend its full support to the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) and Micro Save and other private development agencies working to expand access to financial services for the poor in Bangladesh.

Developing Capital Market: Restoring investor confidence through greater transparency and accountability in the working of the Exchanges and other supportive measures will be placed high on the agenda. Full-scale operationalization of the Central Depository System will be an important element of these measures. To carry out pending institutional reforms of DSE, CSE and the SEC the rules and regulations guiding the activities of the Exchanges will be further streamlined. The capacity and power of the SEC will be further enhanced to monitor and enforce compliance of the rules. Measures will be taken for enhancing the supply of good shares in the market. Fiscal incentives will be provided for companies to go public. MNCs will be encouraged to be listed in Bangladesh. The Government will examine the possibilities of state owned good companies to go public. Directly government controlled ventures, like the Jamuna Bridge or Padma Bridge project will be incorporated and listed on the Exchange. Part of the fund for such projects will thus be raised from the members of the public through the stock market mechanism. Other measures will include encouraging institutional buyers to buy more shares from the market, introduction of derivative market, encouraging foreign investors to buy shares, proper and quick action against companies not complying rules and regulations of SEC.

Addressing Skills Shortages in the Labour Market: More effective enforcement of the existing labour market policies is needed. Government attention will be directed at enhancing worker skills, particularly by strengthening the higher education and VET systems and making them more responsive to market needs. Improved urban management to facilitate rural–urban migration and emphasis on gender empowerment to allow greater mobility of female workers to more productive employment opportunities will be continued. A focus on market-oriented vocational skills and good quality secondary and tertiary education will be ensured not just to consolidate earlier gains in primary education but to boost productivity and, with it, global competitiveness.

Regulatory Transparency and Streamlining

The Government needs to establish the "rules of the game," a characteristic of the good and effective governance that ensures competitive markets and provides an appropriate legal and regulatory framework, ensures close public and private sector cooperation, encourages corporate social responsibility and maintains improved environmental standards. Regulatory reforms are

urgently required in Bangladesh to reduce the cost of doing business while ensuring that societal expectations from business are met.

The Government of Bangladesh has made regulatory reforms a top priority and established a high-level body, the Regulatory Reform Commission (RRC) on October 30, 2007 to oversee a regulatory reform programme in Bangladesh. The purpose of the Government's regulatory reform programme is to support investment, innovation and growth through the reduction of regulatory costs and risks of doing business in Bangladesh. The programme will need to focus on the following components:

- radical streamlining and simplification of business regulations;
- establishment of effective screening mechanisms for new regulations;
- a comprehensive e-registry of business related laws, regulations and rules in Bangladesh; and
- strengthening and development of institutional capacities to implement and sustain pro-competitive and investor friendly regulatory reform in Bangladesh.

Improving Access to Land for Private Enterprise

Access to industrial land is emerging as a major constraint for the private sector in Bangladesh. At the same time, recent food security concerns have highlighted the fact that arable land is also in short supply in the country. A balance thus needs to be struck between the competing demands for land for agricultural and industrial purposes. This calls for a strategic emphasis on better land use planning and improvements in the land administration system in order to facilitate efficient land markets and development of a modern economic zones regime.

Development and management of industrial land in Bangladesh has primarily been carried out by the public sector. Traditionally industrial land has been poorly managed, inappropriately utilized, and prices distorted (e.g. heavily subsidized land sale/lease rates in BSCIC estates and EPZs). Poor management practices have led to inadequately maintained infrastructure facilities and while regulatory procedures, and environmental and social practices are better in some zones compared to the rest of the country, there is much scope for improvement. The GoB has committed itself to improve the economic zones regime in the country with an emphasis on the introduction of special economic zones, private sector participation in zone development and management, and application of commercial principles in the planning, development and management of public sector zones.

To develop a modern economic zones regime in the country the Government will focus on the following:

- An economic zones policy and regulatory framework, which addresses subjects such as a national zoning policy, a national data base on industrial land, the introduction of special economic zones, creation of an enabling environment for private sector participation in the development and operation of economic zones and specific services within zones, separation of the regulatory and developmental/operational role of the public sector in economic zones, rationalization of the existing portfolio of public sector zones and adoption of commercial principles and rigorous analysis in public sector zone projects.

- Development and application of public-private partnership (PPP) models in economic zones. The GoB will explore avenues for catalyzing private sector participation in the ownership, development and management of economic zones, and introducing private sector provision of services, such as power generation and effluent treatment plants, within publicly managed economic zones.

- Restructuring of existing public sector industrial estates portfolio. This will include the restructuring the industrial estates portfolio through liquidation of non-viable estates, and privatization or private management of viable estates.

- Rigorous analysis of new investments in economic zones. It is important to ensure that investments in the development of new zones or additional facilities in existing zones should be based on rigorous economic, financial, environmental and social assessments. This is particularly true for public sector investments since these are normally not subject to the same market discipline that private investment is.

- Institutional development and capacity building within the government. The development of a modern economic zones regime, including a greater role for the private sector and a separation of the regulatory and operational functions of the government, will require the establishment of an appropriate regulatory body for economic zones and a modernized BEPZA. An appropriate institutional structure will also be required to effectively manage the publicly owned industrial estates since BSCIC in its present state is not capable of performing this role effectively.

- Special focus on EPZs in western region. Constraints on investment in EPZs in western region of the country will be removed to attract private investment.

Development of Technology: Enhancing technological capability in the public sector and removing barriers in the private sector remain the strategic challenge. There is need for constantly monitoring technological developments that are taking place around the world, acquire the best practice technologies and adapt them to local needs. There is also the need for resolving technological difficulties faced by local enterprises through appropriate research and process development. Main public institutions in Bangladesh dealing with technology-related matters such as the Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR), Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC), Bangladesh Industrial and Technical Assistance Centre (BITAC), and public universities including the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and various research institutes will be supported for innovative research.

Women's Entrepreneurship Development: Women's entrepreneurship development programmes will include dedicated funds for women in the funding agency, affirmative treatment in the allotment of plot and other infrastructural facilities, preferential access to support services and targeted marketing support. The Industrial policy of 2005 and SME Policy strategies 2005 emphasized women's participation in the country's industrialization process. The SME Foundation has prepared a Gender Action Plan for Women Entrepreneurs' Development. (More strategies and policies are included in sections on SME and Women's Advancement and Rights)

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR): Supporting initiatives for promoting CSR is the best practice and provides opportunities to companies to use their business knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the wider society. In Bangladesh the private sector seems to focus on earning profits in the short term, ignoring the issue of responsible behaviour and the desirability of earning the trust of consumers. Strategies to be followed for promotion of CSR during 2nd PRSP, among others, are (i) creating a common platform for understanding and practicing CSR in Bangladesh, (ii) strengthening the CSR dimension for economic empowerment of the poor, (iii) engaging the socially responsible private investors in development initiatives, (iv) establish networking with and participate in major local and international forums, (v) dialogue and cooperation with multilateral organizations and NGOs working with codes of conduct and ethical issues related to business activities, (vi) establishing partnerships with leading organizations in the field of CSR at all levels, and (vii) continue to develop sustainable partnerships with value driven private sector organizations under their CSR schemes to organize pilot projects addressing development issues.

Promotion of Public-Private Partnership: Public–Private partnership has not yet developed well in Bangladesh. It will be of great value to the private sector, as it will help increase the potential for public-private partnership in many areas, including infrastructure, economic zone management and pro-poor development activities. Providing the private sector with the opportunity to participate in the development of the infrastructure sector including ports, roads, rails, telecommunication, power, energy, etc. will benefit the country and will relieve strains on the government budget. The government will allow the private sector in the development and management of special economic zones. It will also help in developing further opportunities for private sector investment in Bangladesh.

Government civil servants can be exposed to the private sector as part of their training and capacity building by posting them at business houses on secondment. The government will provide support for such partnership with the private sector by building (a) private sector capacity to understand, prioritize and articulate its needs to the government rather than seeking patronage and favours and (b) the government capacity to appreciate business issues and having technical and management capacity to respond through creating awareness in government agencies of the importance of reforms and as well as boosting their capacity to bring changes.

Competition Policy: To provide a level playing field for all entrepreneurs it is essential to enforce competition among all enterprises in the market. Monopolistic firms tend to restrict market supply in order to raise prices that bring in abnormal profits. Smaller rival producers may also lose out in an unfair competition. The poor will be hurt if the unfair business practices occur in the market for products that are ordinarily consumed by the poor since their modest purchasing power will be whittled away.

In view of the harmful effects of non-competitive behaviour on welfare in the economy the Government has decided to ensure competitive behaviour in the market. Accordingly, the Government will consider approving a competition law which stipulates the establishment of a Commission to prevent practices having adverse effect on competition, to control or eliminate restrictive agreements or arrangements among enterprises, or combinations or abuse of dominant positions of market power, which limit access to markets or otherwise unduly restrain competition and for matters connected therewith.

The Act will prohibit any agreement between/among any enterprise or association of enterprises or person or association of persons in respect of production, supply, distribution, storage, acquisition or control of goods or provision of services, which causes or is likely to cause an appreciable adverse effect on competition within Bangladesh. The Act will also prohibit an enterprise from abusing its dominant position. If an enterprise directly or indirectly, imposes unfair or discriminatory condition in purchase or sale of goods or service; or price in purchase or sale (including predatory price) of goods or service, this will be construed as abuse of dominant position.

Systematic Dialogue between the Public and Private Sectors: The Government of Bangladesh has established a formal mechanism for systematic, results-oriented dialogue between the public and private sectors called the Bangladesh Better Business Forum (BBBF). It is supposed to meet six times a year with the Head of Government chairing every alternative meeting. This is the first attempt in Bangladesh to have systematic, regular and results-oriented dialogue between the private sector and government functionaries at the highest level. The BBBF will deal with non-regulatory issues and forward any regulatory issues that come to it to the Regulatory Reform Commission (RRC). The expected impacts of the BBBF are measurable improvements in the business environment, higher levels of foreign and local investment activity, an increase in employment opportunities through private sector development, leading to improvement in peoples' lives. In practical terms, these goals will be achieved through the establishment of Government and Private

Sector Secretariats, as well as through thematic working groups. A Government Secretariat for BBBF has already been established and operates under the Board of Investment. Five working groups have been formed initially to cover the following areas: a) Business entry and operation; b) Business finance; c) Infrastructure; d) Macro-economic policy; e) Skill development. The working groups prioritize the issues, perform necessary background research and analysis, and bring the issues to the Forum with concrete recommendations for actions. The BBBF may constitute a working group on Regional Policies to promote private sector development in lagging regions focusing on western region of the country.

This new dialogue platform promises to be much more effective in identifying issues faced by the private sector and through a collaborative process identify solutions and monitor implementation. The effective functioning of this dialogue platform, including ensuring a voice for disadvantaged groups, will ensure that the various interventions included in NSAPR II will be appropriately conceived and implemented.

4.2.4 Agriculture and Forestry

Vision of this sector is to enhance growth through development and dissemination of sustainable technologies which are ecologically adaptable, economically profitable and capable of generating productive employment, diversification of both crop and non-crop, development of agri-business services and human resource development and ensure food security for all, especially, the poor, extreme poor, poor women and vulnerable.

Past Achievements

Crop sub-sector: Production of all major crops with the exception of wheat increased steadily during the first PRS period. The vertical expansion of high value crops like vegetables, fruits, spices and potatoes also increased through crop diversification, relay, mixed, intercropping. Bangladesh has begun to enter the European market with exports of vegetables and other high value crops. A significant increase in maize production has been achieved from 4.66 lakh metric tons in 2003-04 to 12.69 lakh metric tons in 2006-07. The production of fruits has increased significantly during 2005-07. Policy support in the form of liberalisation of equipment imports, deregulation, rationalisation of subsidy and restructuring of agricultural research-extension-farmers' linkages and a public-private partnership approach buttressed by private sector investment in production, seed production, especially hybrid seeds, chemical and blended fertilizers, and agro-processing enterprises has facilitated progress in the crop sector.

The introduction of ecologically fit crops, like lemon, pineapple, and orange in the hilly areas, that of BR 47, a salinity resistant rice variety in traditional shrimp cultivation areas by readjusting the production cycle in Satkhira, and BR 33 in Monga prone districts marks some major innovations in the sub-sector.

Crop improvement through biotechnology has been undertaken by the National Agricultural Research System (NARS) institutes. The research institutions have initiated the development of Genetically Modified (GM) crops through their research programmes. The NARS institutions have already established biotechnological laboratories/units for conducting demand led research employing biotechnological tools. Awareness building and bio-safety measures are also taken up for biotechnology research and development activities.

Agri-business development through the group marketing approach has significantly been improved in rural areas, thus fostering the improvement of livelihoods of the rural households, especially the poor and extreme poor. The development of markets directly connecting growers is also promoting agribusiness opportunities in rural areas by involving the rural poor women.

Minor irrigation continued to increase its coverage which reached 4.73 million hectares in the rabi season of 2007. It may be noted that out of 8.64 million hectares net cultivable area, 4.88 million hectares were irrigated during the Rabi season in 2007, which was 2.35 percent higher than in 2006.

BWDB's effort at flood control increased the area covered from 37.91 lakh hectares in 2004-05 to 45.21 lakh hectares in 2007-08. Through the FCD and FCDI projects BWDB has created a favourable environment for HYV rice production, generating more demand for labour, more wage-income for labourers, more production for small and marginal farmers. Employment of rural skilled and unskilled labour in BWDB construction works and in annual operation and maintenance works offer opportunities for the poor to earn a wage income, which is roughly equivalent to one-third of the total annual agricultural wage income.

Fisheries sub-sector: Total fish production grew at the rate of 5.1 percent during FY05-FY07. Fish production from rivers and estuaries has declined, but production from aquaculture, pond fisheries and shrimp culture has increased. More recently, floodplain fisheries emerged as a high potential area. The decline in capture fisheries has on the one hand led to a decline in livelihood opportunities for traditional fishermen and in availability of fish for the poor but on the other hand an increase in culture fisheries has created employment and livelihood opportunities in backward and forward linkage activities, fingerling production, fish catching, processing, and marketing, all of which has particular significance for poverty reduction. Another aspect of the expansion of fish production is that it focuses on large-size fish production and tends not to produce small indigenous fish which have more nutritional value. The recent innovation of poly-culture in rice fields has opened up further opportunities for small and marginal farmers to exploit whatever little land they have in growing fish in rice fields concurrently and alternately. The sub-sector contributes about 5 percent of GDP, 4.2 percent of exports and employs about 10 percent of the total labour force.

Fish production in marine and brackish water supports 0.5 million fishermen. At present the marine fishing sector contributes about 21 percent of the country's total fish production and 93 percent of this production comes from artisanal fishery. The major portion of the country's fisheries export earning comes from marine and brackish water sources.

The Bangladesh Fisheries Research Institute (BFRI) has developed and disseminated 42 new technologies and 4 low-cost aquaculture and management techniques till 2007. In addition, breeding and restoration of 13 endangered fish species has been done successfully. Recently, BFRI has developed the breeding and seed production technology of 'Red Tilapia'. A campaign to stop the culture of carnivorous fish species like "Piranha" has been undertaken by the government. Further, the prohibition of catching 'Jatka' by implementing the "Fish Act 1950" has enhanced fish production.

Livestock sub-sector: Livestock contributes around 2.9 percent to GDP as a whole, 17.7 percent to the agricultural GDP and provides significant employment. It is an important source of income for poorer households and employs about 20 percent of the rural labour force. The livestock sub-sector includes poultry and offers employment and livelihood opportunities particularly for the rural poor, including the functionally landless, many of whom regard livestock as a main livelihood option. The livestock population increased from 40.7 to 47.5 million and that of poultry from 176.51 to 245.97 million during FY01-07. Production of milk increased from 1.78 to 2.28 million MT, meat from 0.75 to 1.04 million MT and eggs from 409.4 crore to 537 crore during the same period.

The growth of business services in poultry and dairy is remarkable, and is contributing to employment generation and poverty reduction. Many disadvantaged women are engaged in the vaccination programme. The beef fattening programme has been popularised and is contributing to

improved livelihoods for the rural people. Adaptive researches on breeding, feeding, disease control, etc. have been undertaken by BLRI and appropriate technologies have been transferred to end users. The vaccines developed by BLRI (Goat pox, Gumboro) have already been tested and certified, and will be released shortly. The outbreak of Avian Influenza (bird flu) in Bangladesh in 2007 and 2008 caused business losses to numerous small-scale poultry enterprises and backyard raising undertakings. The government of Bangladesh has undertaken various initiatives for controlling the disease.

Forestry sub-sector: Poverty reduction through social forestry is now a success story within the forestry sub-sector of Bangladesh. About 335 thousand rural poor are now participants in the social forestry programme. The sub-sector is also a major source of energy, wood and other forest products and contributed 1.76 percent of the nation's GDP in FY07. The Forest Department through its conservation and afforestation programme has created many employment opportunities in the country. About 0.153 million hectare (ha) of coastal afforestation has been completed and offers protection to lives and properties from tidal surge and tropical cyclones. Besides, a coastal green belt was established through participatory plantation in the coastal districts of Bangladesh. Plantation in the denuded forestland and in marginal land is also contributing to soil and water and biodiversity conservation. With the introduction of co-management in Protected Areas (PAs), the non-consumptive benefits are explored for poverty reduction along with biodiversity conservation.

Current Challenges

Some of the important challenges are: (i) In the face of decreasing farm size, degradation of soil quality and limited water resources, the main challenge is to maximize production; (ii) With the present production technology approaching a limit, the challenge is to harness productivity gains by making a breakthrough in yield technology, i.e., hybrids/crossbreds, biotechnology, genetic engineering, livestock, fisheries and forestry; (iii) Because of decreasing water resources and increasing irrigation cost an emerging challenge is to efficiently use water in rice production and shift to water efficient food crops; (iv) The growing competition in the global market due to trade liberalization has created opportunities as well as constraints for the Bangladeshi small holders in horticulture, dairy, poultry, shrimp, fish and wood products. They have to be given support to maintain a level playing field for them to compete with others and reap the benefits of a globalized world; (v) Bangladesh faces a formidable challenge to strike a balance between ensuring adequate incentives for the numerous small producers (rice, poultry, dairy, fish, nursery etc.) on the one hand and keeping food prices low for the poor consumers on the other; (vi) With economic growth, income inequality in rural areas is also on the rise, which brings forth a challenge to escalate income generating programmes in rural areas; (vii) While there has been an overall improvement in food availability at the household level, intra-household food entitlement between men and women (especially lactating women) and between adults and children remains an issue to be addressed; (viii) The ready vulnerable food security situation worsens when food production (crops, livestock and fisheries) drops due to natural disasters, which means that the country needs to bolster its capacity in agricultural production; (ix) With the increase in population, increase in production of fish, milk, meat and eggs and self-employment of fishermen and livestock rearing farmers are important to supply a balanced diet for the growing population through encouragement to smallholders and private sector promotion; (x) Coping with the climate changes, maintaining ecological balance and conserving biodiversity for the growing population are among the most growing challenges facing Bangladesh.

Future Agricultural Policies and Strategies

To address the challenges faced by the agriculture sector will require well-thought-out policies and strategies in the second PRSP period.

Crop Sub-sector

Productivity gains: It is estimated that agriculture will have to grow at an annual rate of 4.0-4.5 percent. The Government will facilitate productivity gains by addressing the issues relating to increasing fertilizer/rice price ratio and declining public sector investment in agricultural research and marketing services. Productivity gains can only be obtained by putting more resources into research, technological up-scaling and reducing cost of production.

Increasing yield: To increase the yield, increased investment will be made for the development of crop varieties, seed quality, soil health, pest management, agronomic practices, development of Local Service Providers (LSP), strengthening of the value chain, market development, improving agricultural research and mechanization, capacity of scientists and extension workers, and flood control, irrigation and water management.

Biotechnology research and development: Biotechnology research and development on rice and other crops, started in BARI, BRRI, BSRI and other NARS Institutes on a limited scale, will be strengthened in future. Besides, a National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) has been established for conducting biotechnology research to increase yields. This will benefit the poor farmers located in deeply flooded areas, char land, flash flood-prone areas, coastal tidal surge and salinity prone areas, and hilly areas which together constitute about 41 percent area of the country.

Agricultural Subsidy: Bangladesh has recently increased the subsidy on agricultural inputs. Indeed, the main challenge for the Government will be to identify the right type and mix of support programme and prioritize the implementation strategy, so that the support package may contribute to productivity gains and also benefit the poor farmers most.

Broad-based support to agriculture: Other broad-based support includes access to quality seeds (HYV, hybrid), fertilizers, electricity, diesel and other inputs at the right price and time, expanding output price support, making rational choices about input subsidies on critical examination of their effects on smallholders' production, providing credit for small farmers, subsidizing the installation and maintenance of electricity connections to irrigation pumps, maintenance of rural roads, enabling storage, processing and marketing of perishable high-value farm products in the private sector, and enhanced support extension, and agricultural education with particular focus on quality improvement in all production environments. The best way of broad-based support to agriculture is through public-private partnership. The approach includes the promotion of private service providers, public-private coordinated research and development, seed production, and business development.

Diversification of high value crops**:** Emphasis is given on increasing production of other non-rice cereal crops, especially maize and oilseeds, and also of fruits, vegetables, and flowers, ornamental and medicinal plants. Infrastructure and marketing supports will be provided to develop integrated supply chains including processing, storage and transportation capacities at the local and national levels. Several issues such as product standardisation, food safety, sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures will be taken up. Various methods like relay cropping, mixed cropping, zero tillage etc. will be considered in different agro-ecological zones.

Pro-market input distribution: Distribution of irrigation and farm equipment will remain mostly in the private sector but the public sector will also be involved in irrigation activities like deep tube well and surface water irrigation. The private sector will be encouraged to participate in quality seed development and its marketing. For quality control and reliable supply, a regulatory framework will be needed. Fertilizers and pesticides are distributed by the private sector but any market distortion with regard to dealership, quota and restricted movement of fertilizers will be addressed to ensure timely availability at fair prices.

Agricultural research, technology generation and dissemination**:** Agricultural research will remain largely in the public domain, but efforts are being made to develop programmes involving NGOs and the private sector. The capacity of the ten NARS institutions will be further strengthened through supporting quality research, human resource development, prioritizing farmers' demand-led research and adequate incentive structures for the scientists. The budget for agricultural research will be increased. Increased attention will be given to R&D in the non-crop sector including livestock, poultry, fisheries and forestry. Preparation of a demand driven micro plan by Common Interest Group at the producer/local level through Decentralized Extension Approach (DEA), integrated knowledge dissemination process (research-extension-farmer linkage) at Upazila (UECC), district (DECC), regional (RECC) and national levels (NECC) will foster the production and marketing of the local produce. The process will also be enhanced through value/supply chain development interventions by the producer group. Three critical issues facing NARS will be resolved:

(i) Increasing autonomy of the NARS institute by introducing reforms in public agricultural research system;
(ii) Uniform service and business rules; and
(iii) Increasing financial resources especially through the revenue budget.

Under NATP, the NARS institutions will be strengthened with MIS/ICT facilities for strengthening sponsored public-research for small and marginal farmers. Under the demand driven 'Competitive Grant Programme'–short-term research will be conducted by Krishi Gabeshana Foundation (KGF).

Demand driven agricultural extension**:** The National Agricultural Policy, its Plan of Action, the New Agricultural Extension Policy and the Strategic Plan have a pro-poor focus and stress on participatory extension services involving wider rural communities i.e. farmers, landless households, different occupation groups and women. These will be implemented as per Plan of Action with necessary amendments and clarifications in response to changing demands of commercialization. Emphasis will be given to facilitate partnership of DAE, DLS, DoF and BRDB cooperatives with the private sector and NGOs, which have evolved many successful approaches to disseminating promising technologies. The DAE, DLS and DoF have been mandated and inspired to improve the service delivery system and integrated agricultural extension system in cooperation with NGOs and private sector actors. Under NATP, FIAC (Farmers' Information and Advisory Centre) will play an important role at union level.

Revamping agricultural marketing system: The ongoing programme will continue to develop marketplaces and market outlets. Credit facilities will be provided to the private initiatives for small and medium-scale agri-businesses in processing and packaging. Formation of farmers' groups will be encouraged to ensure their direct participation in the marketing of agricultural produce. The Department of Agricultural Marketing (DAM) will be strengthened to enable it to take modern marketing services for crops and high value agro-products. For this, the DAM staff network will be adequately equipped and upgraded to support the private sector and NGOs with advice and information flow on prices, processing, handling, and storage and transportation services. DAM will promote an innovative marketing system such as contract growing integrated with a supply chain of high value agro-products.

Agro-processing activities: Agri-business and agro-processing are given top priority as a thrust sector to promote value addition to crops, livestock, fish and horticultural products. Increased budgetary allocations will be made for supporting agro-processing activities, which remain predominantly in the private sector. The Government will continue to support the agro-entrepreneurs through infrastructure development, lower import duties, export incentives and income tax exemption. The private sector will also get support for technical training, technology

development, and improvement of standards of hygiene, handling and packaging of processed products. Food safety should be strengthened for the domestic market as a way of strengthening export readiness of agricultural products.

Creating employment opportunity especially for women: Homestead gardening, integrated farming and non-farm activities will be encouraged actively to help create employment for women.

Increasing diversification of high value crops: Only rice is occupying almost 79 percent of the cropped area followed by wheat (5 percent) and only 14 percent is accounted for by other crops. Therefore, crop diversification with wheat, potato, maize, oilseeds, pulses, fruits, spices, jute, cotton, etc will be included in the cropping system.

Promoting small and medium enterprises: Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the agriculture sector hold good prospects. Ventures like small poultry farms, seed production, processing and marketing, fruit orchard development, marketing of quality fruits, vegetable production and group marketing, shrimp hatcheries, fish farming, shrimp processing and marketing and processing of fruits at farm level (such as preparation of jam, jelly, chatny, dry vegetables etc.) will be supported through ensuring credit in the agriculture sector for the reduction of poverty.

Export promotion and development of AEZ based technology: At present, export markets are largely limited to tea and jute. This will be enhanced by establishing agro-export processing zones with required support services, quality control laboratories and by developing communication and transportation facilities.

Climate change adaptive technology: Climate change is a major threat and challenge to agricultural development as a whole. In the meantime, some efforts have been made to cope with climate change. Development of salinity resistance, drought resistance, short duration, cold tolerant rice varieties are examples of the achievements so far. In future, more emphasis will be given to develop technologies which are environment friendly in coping with climatic change.

Irrigation: Policies towards deregulation and market liberalization have encouraged private sector participation in minor irrigation. Expansion of irrigation facilities to 5.35 million hectares of land has been undertaken by the Government. Emphasis has been given to minor irrigation for efficient use of surface water. The suggested interventions include facilitating tube wells and surface water irrigation, micro-irrigation, revival of rivers and the Ganges Barrage. The Government has already adopted the National Water Policy that would guide governance of water in the country. BWDB has set a target to increase irrigation coverage from 14.30 lakh hectares in 2007-08 to 14.80 lakh hectares within 2010-11 to ensure an additional food grain production of 3.5 lakh metric tons.

Flood protection and drainage coverage: Flood protection and drainage has been planned to cover an area of 46.21 lakh hectares by 2010-11 with an incremental area of 1 lakh hectares, which will ensure an additional food grain production of 4 lakh metric tons.

Fisheries Sub-sector

Increasing productivity: The overall strategy of Fisheries sub-sector development envisages intensification of aquaculture by species and ecosystems, addition of export-oriented species, ensuring biodiversity and preserving natural breeding grounds, product diversification, value addition, and development of appropriate marketing infrastructure. The capacity of the Department of Fisheries (DoF) will be redefined and strengthened so that it can support inland aquaculture. The underlying strategy will be to promote a dynamic aquaculture, involving the key actors among NGOs, private sector entrepreneurs and community based fishing groups. DoF will preserve, patronize and make more productive use of inland capture fisheries through community

based participation of fishermen and fisheries related stakeholders including women. The following key approaches and technologies will be encouraged and promoted:

Small-scale pond carp polyculture: The increased production of mixed Indian and Chinese carps along with small indigenous species will continue to be emphasized and will be capitalized in the present area, together with growing contributions from small ponds and irrigable land.

Small-scale cage culture: The technology will allow the entry of the landless poor and women into aquaculture. The technique will be an important tool for poverty alleviation of poor communities if access rights to water bodies can be ensured.

Stocked Beels and oxbow lakes: Beel floodplain stocking and management through private entrepreneurs, NGOs and CBOs with technical support from DoF can generate increased production and positive financial returns.

Pen culture: The technology has been rapidly growing and further expansion will be encouraged. However, special attention would be needed to minimize high risks from loss of stock as a result of net damage, poaching or predation. The higher the investment in pen materials and construction labour, the lower the risk of normal escapes.

Shrimp (Bagda) production: This has significant growth potential and enjoys continued international market access. Much of this could be accommodated through an improved culture system without major growth in area, though spatial expansion is also a possibility. The system would generate improved returns to labour and result in greater value addition to the chain.

Prawn (Golda) production: It is likely to follow the trends of strong growth experience over the decade and has to be encouraged to ensure sustainable growth. Golda culture could be expanded in fresh water ponds along with the carp polyculture system.

Restoration of endangered fish species: Some indigenous fish species are being extinct from natural water bodies due to habitat degradation, destruction of breeding and nursery grounds, migratory routes, and over fishing. This issue will be addressed immediately through developing fish sanctuaries in the rivers and other water bodies.

Fisheries research and development: Fisheries research will be upgraded to continue the flow of technology generation. Various policies of other ministries impinge upon fisheries sub-sector development because these policies regulate the availability of, access to and use pattern of the open water bodies. These will be coordinated and a necessary legal framework will be formulated. Specific programmes will be undertaken to maintain water bodies and make them available for improved aquaculture. Development of water bodies will be planned by BWDB and LGED in coordination with DoF and MoL. The strategic plan for the implementation of the National Fisheries Policy has been finalised so as to increase productivity of scarce fisheries resources and also to ensure access of the poor and community groups to water bodies. The Plan of Action will address development of inland and coastal fisheries management, education, research and extension services, organisational as well as commercial policies (i.e., marketing, processing, quality control, export and transportation). Quality assurance in fish harvesting and processing will be especially emphasised.

Management of Jalmahals: The leasing policy of Jalmahals will lead to optimize equity and productivity concerns. Three points merit priority consideration: (i) the importance of appropriate long-term leases, (ii) the importance of a viable production plan against which Jalmahal lease rights are to be granted, and (iii) ensuring adequate opportunities for poor fishermen and community groups to be participants in the process. For all of the above to work effectively, it is important to consider the vesting of Jalmahal ownership in the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MoFL) rather than the Ministry of Land (MoL).

Increasing productivity in marine and brackish water fisheries: The Government has recently taken an initiative for proper exploitation of the stock and management of marine resources. For conducting a full-scale survey and introducing the MCS system, the Bangladesh Marine Fisheries Capacity Building Project has been undertaken.

Quality control: To ensure quality products, HACCP for traceability from production to consumption stages has to be strengthened. To comply with the buyers' demand as well as for human health security, some steps will be taken to ensure quality fish and fisheries products. For this purpose, the Fish Quality Control (FIQC) Unit under the institutional capacity of DoF will be strengthened.

Human resource development: Human resource development will be given priority by the DoF, while skill development with respect to fish production, processing and marketing at the local level will be accomplished through public sector agencies, NGOs and the private sector. Revamping the research infrastructure to support the needs of a dynamic and expanding sector will be given priority.

Aquaculture and fisheries management information: The demand for aquaculture and fisheries related information has been rapidly increasing with the growth of the sector. The DoF will be provided with sufficient qualified manpower at the field level to address the farmers' demand.

Coping with climate change: Water bodies have been gradually becoming unsuitable for feeding and breeding grounds of fishes due to climate change. Mitigation and coping strategies will be undertaken to deal with climate change effect on fisheries.

Pollution Control: Indiscriminate use of agro-chemicals and industrial effluent pollute the water bodies and fish habitat resulting in decrease in fish production and endangering some fish species. Inter-ministerial collaborative actions will be undertaken for judicial use of agro-chemicals and control of industrial effluent.

Livestock Sub-sector

Livestock and poultry Development: The strategy is to harness the full potentials of the sub-sector through creating an enabling environment, opening up opportunities, and reducing risk and vulnerability. The private sector will remain the main actor, while the Department of Livestock Services (DLS) and Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) will play a supportive role. The Government budgetary provision for the livestock sub-sector will be increased to ensure significant development in this sub-sector, and increased provision of trained manpower will be linked to the expanded nationwide outfit of DLS. The Government has approved the National Livestock Policy which identifies ten critical policy areas: dairy development and meat production, poultry development, veterinary services and animal health, feeds and animal management, breed development, hides and skins, marketing of livestock products, international trade management, access to credit and insurance and institutional development for research and extension.

Husbandry of poultry and dairy: The private sector operated poultry and dairy farming are generally capital intensive, knowledge-based and risky, and therefore farmers need technological, financial and marketing support. A few private sector entrepreneurs have ventured into the contract growing of poultry and milk products, supporting small farms with improved poultry and dairy breeds, quality input supplies, demand-led extension services and assured marketing facilities for poultry and milk products. Cattle development for meat production is also a priority agenda.

Cost-effective quality feed supply: Different branded poultry feeds are available in the market with differing qualities and prices. High quality, balanced and cost-effective feeds will be channelized for future expansion of livestock and poultry.

Extension and supervision support: Human resource development initiatives will be taken through strengthening of research, extension, and training services to ensure exclusive monitoring and supervision and continuous technical support at village level.

Women's employment in livestock: Creation of women's employment opportunities through income generation activities like homestead livestock farming will reduce poverty and accelerate women's empowerment. Research and development activities aiming at women in development (WID) will be encouraged.

Disease incidence: Bird flu and some other diseases may bring extra pressure on the stability of the livestock industry and burden it with severe consequences in future. Any incidence of these diseases will be given utmost priority so that proper protective and precautionary measures can be taken. Cost effective vaccine production will be continued.

Export of livestock products: Increasing skin and meat export will be promoted. On the other hand, import of powdered milk will be discouraged for the development of local dairy industry.

Bio-Security: Recent outbreak of Avian Influenza affected the poultry industry and the economy. Bio-security measures will be introduced against highly pathogenic diseases such as Avian Influenza and FMD.

Forestry Sub-sector

Biodiversity conservation and wildlife protection: There are 19 Protected Areas (PAs) in the country. Besides, efforts have been made to establish Eco-parks, Botanical Gardens and Safari Parks. All these will be brought under a legal framework by amending existing wildlife laws. Necessary measures will be undertaken to ensure both in-situ and ex-situ conservation in the country. Policy intervention is already in place to adopt co-management in 5 PAs in Bangladesh. More areas of natural forest and PAs will be brought under co-management.

Wild life protection: To maintain the ecosystem process and to gain from the eco-system services protection of wildlife is essential. Due to limited scope for conserving the habitat for mega wildlife and the comparatively small areas left as shelter for small cats and other herbivores total wildlife protection is under threat. Therefore, wildlife protection should be a priority concern for nature conservation.

Public commons: Public commons includes natural resources such as land, wetlands, forests, grasslands, grazing land, reed land, Khas land, peat land, rivers, estuaries and the open seas with the characteristic that people in general have customary' rights and access to them. Thus public commons may be one of the most important safety nets available to the poor particularly in the rural areas, provided these are managed in a sustainable manner. In order to increase access to natural resources for the rural poor, participatory social forestry for degraded and encroached forestland and co-management for PAs have been introduced by the Forest Department. It will continue to allow better access of the poor to the public commons.

Afforestation and tree plantation: Building forest resources through afforestation will be emphasised. Production of timber, fuel wood, fodder, construction materials and pulpwood, watershed conservation, habitat improvement, soil and water conservation, building shelters for wildlife, adaptation to climate change, protection against soil erosion, carbon sink, combating desertification, biomass production, beautification etc. are the major purposes of afforestation. In some cases non-timber forest produce also serve the purpose of afforestation. Of these purposes fuel wood production is very important for the rural poor who are completely dependent on this for cooking.

National forest assessment: National forest assessment and periodical forest inventory are important to generate quality and reliable data for future planning. The Management Information

System (MIS) and Geographical Information System (GIS) are of immense support for better management decision. Technical support for developing GIS and training Remote Sensing Specialists in the Forest Department will be considered in future interventions. The opportunities for research in the fields of tree improvement, quality seed production, wildlife, biodiversity, ecosystems, sedimentation, inundation rate in the Sundarbans mangrove forest/coastal forests, social forestry, poverty reduction, climate change impact assessment will be exploited.

Capacity building: Necessary steps will be taken to develop the skills of forestry personnel in plantation improvement, quality seed production, protected area management, wildlife conservation, habitat management, biodiversity conservation, watershed management, application of Management Information System (MIS) and Geographic Information System (GIS) to enhance their capacity to formulate and implement policies, programmes and projects related to the PRSP and the Forestry Sector Master Plan.

Awareness creation: Public awareness creation about conservation and protection of forest land has been done through the mass media-TV, Radio, newspapers, posters, pamphlets, etc.

Shifting cultivation: It is one of the most important issues deserving immediate attention. Efforts made by the FD in the control of shifting cultivation through rehabilitation of Jhumias in settled villages by awarding land for permanent cultivation, horticulture, planting of trees as cash crops and by providing community services have yielded mixed results. The Jhumia Rehabilitation Programme of CHTs Development Board can collaborate with FD to find a desirable solution.

Deforestation: Experts suggested that some 1.51 million ha of marginal and fallow lands are potentially available and can be brought under forest and environmental improvement projects through social forestry programmes facilitated by the Government and NGOs. Such programmes may make judicious use of the disadvantaged sections to tap human resources, including women and educated unemployed youth. A sustainable development strategy for the forestry sector must incorporate institutional reforms, management strategies, and policies to ensure that this sector remains productive.

Climate change: Efforts will be made to establish climate change resilient afforestation in the denuded hill forests and coastal land by accretion.

4.2.5 Water Resources Development and Management

The vision for the water resources sector as indicated in the National Water Policy (1999) is to ensure continued progress towards achieving the national goals of development and MDGs through acquisition of water resources, optimizing its various uses, managing resources for poverty reduction and sustainable development for securing their lives and properties from water related disasters.

Assessment of Progress: Forty projects have been completed by BWDB during the period of the 1st PRSP. There were 42 ongoing projects that spilled over from the past into this period. All the past activities contributed to provide physical infrastructures: construction of 548 km of embankments; repair of 4,448 km of embankments; excavation of 34 km and re-excavation of 1087 km of irrigation canals; excavation and re-excavation of 1393 km of drainage canals; construction of 165 irrigation structures; repair of 788 irrigation structures; construction and repair of 1631 flood control structures; dredging of 16 km of rivers and construction of one rubber dam. Due to all these infrastructures, irrigation services could be extended to a net area of 21,000 ha., the flood control and drainage services area could be maintained throughout the PRSP-I period by protecting a cumulative area of 44.77 lakh ha in the country. Besides these, protection of riverbanks by constructing137 km of new revetment works and repairing 68 km of old ones and

construction of 14 spurs along the two major rivers (The Padma and Jamuna) have had poverty reduction impacts by saving important establishments, lives and properties, homesteads and crop lands from erosion . Reducing poverty in coastal areas by providing FCD/I facilities, constructing cyclone shelters and providing settlement to homeless families in accreted chars has been a noteworthy achievement.

NWMP has been approved in 2004 as the national plan by the National Water Council. The management plan for coastal areas has been prepared in 2006 according to the National Water Policy by WARPO. It prepared a coastal zone development strategy in 2006.A National Water Code Act has been drafted. It has developed a National Water Database which is being used by different agencies. WARPO has also developed a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and investment programmes are being coordinated and monitored by it.

The Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Development Board has been engaged in the work relating to the project named, "Flood proofing and shelters in haors and wetlands of Bangladesh: protection against wave action for the ABASON/ASRAYAN projects (Phase-1)". The preparation of a Master plan for Haor areas was also taken up along with the creation of GIS database for maintaining data of existing wetlands including natural canals.

A number of meetings were held between the riparian countries during last few years. The objectives have been to negotiate the urgent need for sharing water of the Teesta and other international rivers. Besides these, meetings negotiated the urgency of collecting of water related data from upstream stations regarding floods and flows. Three meetings were held at the ministerial level, one meeting was held at the Secretarial level and eight meetings were held at other levels. Besides these, joint observations of river flow at Hardinge Bridge point and sharing of waters have been continuing as usual. Data and information regarding floods in common rivers have been received by Bangladesh for 9 (nine) upstream stations.

During the 1st PRSP period, the River Research Institute (RRI) executed the hydraulic research activities such as physical model study of structural measures against possible unification of the Jamuna and Bangali rivers at Debdanga, Sariakandi, and Bogra; a physical model study of the effectiveness of submerged spurs in addressing bank erosion problems; a model study of the 3rd Karnaphuli bridge; research on the effect of bundling on river flow and morphology; physical model study on river erosion protection of Shibganj Upazila; and physical model study on river erosion protection of Louhajang and Harirampur Upazilas. RRI also executed the geotechnical research activities and completed sample studies of over 22,000 samples of soil, concrete, silt, water etc for different organizations. Besides, the Institute conducted research at different reaches of rivers for water development, investigation of causes of navigation problems on the Natakhola-Aricha-Paturia-Daulatdia route; protection of Rajbari sadar from erosion; and characteristics of localized sand and its suitability for construction works.

The Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) has developed models for 250 projects and is at present working on models of about 30 ongoing projects. Its involvement in larger national level projects include a morphological study of the Jamuna bridge, a water supply project for Dhaka, development and maintenance of basic models for flood forecasting and warning of BWDB etc.

The Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services has been contributing to the development and management of water resources. During the 1st PRSP period, the Centre has worked on different projects under the Ministry of Water Resources in the fields of environmental impacts assessment and management, GIS/RS and database and IT development. Twelve major projects have been completed. Major involvements in national level projects are in: The National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA), Development of Integrated Coastal Research Database,

Morphological Predictions, Preparation of GIS-based Arsenic Database, EIA and SIA of water and energy sector projects etc.

The Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) completed 80 small-scale water resources development sub-projects till December 2007. It has completed irrigation extension work for 22,000 ha. and provided flood control benefits to 13,000 ha. and drainage benefits to 9,000 ha. of land. Besides, 11 rubber dam projects have been implemented, resulting in benefits to an additional cropped area of 4888 ha. with irrigation facilities, employment generation for the poor of 95,000 person days and additional food production of 34,700 metric ton. In addition to these, the Community-based Resources Management Project of LGED (2003 -2014) has been contributing to poverty reduction in Haor areas covering 5 Upazilas.

The Barind Multipurpose Development Authority **(**BMDA) implemented a number of projects such as the Barind Rain Water Conservation and Irrigation Project (2004-2009); Barind DTW Installation Project; Unit-2 Area (2005-2010); Barind Command Area Development and Training Project, BMDA, Unit-2 (2003-2008); Barind Rural Road Development Project Phase-III (2003-2008); Afforestation Programme for Ecological Balance in Unit-2 Area of the Barind Project (2005-2008); Drinking Water Supply from Irrigation Deep Tube Well Project (2002-2007) and Barind Environmental Balance Restoration Through Afforestation Project (2006-2010).

Major Challenges

Managing Demand and Supply in the Dry Season: The over-dominance of ground water use in agriculture is pre-empting the possibility of environmental replenishment and balance. It causes droughts and expedites desertification. The strategy for the water sector, therefore, is to discourage strongly the use of groundwater and to increase surface water use until a threshold of groundwater storage is achieved for all hydrological regions.

Global climatic change associated with upstream abstraction or diversion of water from common rivers by India is apprehended to cast further adverse impact on the supply of surface water in Bangladesh. The proposed Indian River Link Project, which has a plan to transfer and redistribute water from the Ganges and Brahmaputra basins through 30 link canals, will cause serious bottlenecks in the development and management of water in Bangladesh.

In the post-monsoon period, the soil-moisture content declines rapidly and the water deficit needs to be compensated by irrigation. Agriculture gets the largest share of the available water and this in turn affects navigation, drinking water supply, environment, rural health and sanitation. Salinity intrusion, water-logging and the contamination of the groundwater aquifer by arsenic are some of the more recent additions to the century-old problems caused by the water regime in Bangladesh.

The job of managing water resources is problematic because of controversy over allocation rights and the difficulty of enforcing rules and regulations on conservation. If water were treated purely as an economic commodity, consumption would be controlled through pricing. But water has been considered as a public good and as such its allocation is dependant on non-economic criteria. For managing water resources more effectively in the dry season, a balanced set of policies and institutional reforms are required that will harness market forces and at the same time strengthen the capacity of the government to carry out its essential roles. It is imperative for Bangladesh that it relies on the alternative system of administered control that allocates and charges according to set social, environmental, and economic criteria. Water resource development during the lean season has been geared toward the expansion of irrigation to promote food-grain production. It gives rise to conflicts in the presence of its increasing competing uses due to population growth, urbanization, and industrialization. The government needs to shift the focus from water resource development to water resources management.

Reducing Disasters in the Wet Season: Ravaged by floods in 1998, 2004 and 2007 and by Sidr in 2007, Bangladesh desperately needs measures against these disasters in terms of developing resilience and adaptation. Bangladesh is the terminal floodplain delta of three large rivers (the Ganges, Brahmaputra and the Meghna) with over 90 percent of their catchment areas situated in the upper riparian countries - India, Nepal and China. Fifty-four other rivers also flow into Bangladesh from upper riparian countries. The combination of high rainfall during the monsoon and full-flowing rivers results in extensive inundation of floodplains. About 20-30 percent of the country is inundated each year. The flooding occurs over 6 million hectares to depths ranging from 30cm to 2m. This situation creates opportunity for highly productive farming and fishing systems and risks from deep flooding, riverbank erosion and drainage problems which destroy houses, food stocks and the scarce resources of poor households. Among poor households, women, children, the elderly and the disabled are more vulnerable than others.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M) of Completed Projects: Lack of adequate, regular and timely placement of funds has been a perennial problem in BWDB's conducting of annual O&M activities for sustaining the benefits of its created facilities. High priority has to be given to O&M of the water sector infrastructures. Needs, priorities and implementability have to be judged for estimating O&M needs for projects with long-term benefits of water sector projects. This will bring about a better production regime and directly contribute to poverty reduction.

Service Charge Collection: Presently, BWDB is collecting service charge from 12 irrigation projects out of 22 completed projects as per the Water Rate Irrigation Ordinance of 1963. During 2001-2002, the target for the collection of service charge was estimated at Tk. 4.4 million against which the amount realized was Tk. 2.52 million. The reasons for low collection were evasion of payment, power failure for which timely irrigation was not possible and lack of proper legislation and punitive measures against defaulters. The market price of agricultural products, particularly paddy, is low which constrains the farmers' ability to pay charges.

Establishing Water Pricing Principles: The water rate/charge should be adequate to cover the recurrent O&M cost and part of the capital cost. The objective of pricing policies should be to improve efficiency in water use and prevent wastage. The present system of collecting the water rate from the irrigation projects is not satisfactory due to procedural reasons. The water pricing for surface and ground water irrigation should be rationalized and the collection mechanism should be improved.

Incorporating Adequate Environmental Considerations in Project Planning, Preparation and Implementation: Adequate environmental considerations in project preparation have been a consistent lag in water sector projects. BWDB has also been facing age-old problems of inadequate financial provisions for carrying out the functions in the full project planning cycle. Selection of projects on a priority basis requires studies of alternative solutions and an environmental screening procedure. Appropriate environmental cells should be instituted in agencies dealing with water development and management.

Water Issues per NWMP Regions: NWMP has divided the country into 8 regions for which principal water-related issues have been identified. These issues actually constitute problems under short, medium and long term regarding hydrological resources as per natural endowments in respective regions. Distribution of poverty by hydrological region could display a striking feature that needs attention. Water projects need to take account of the poverty situation to prioritize projects in locations where poverty can be best reduced.

Strategies and Institutional Development

Strategies: The strategies of water resources development and management are to (i) develop the main rivers of Bangladesh for the multipurpose use of water resources, managed for navigation and

erosion control and developing hydropower; (ii) undertake flood protection and storm water drainage measures with the rehabilitation and maintenance of existing FCD and FCD/I systems in a participatory manner; (iii) include provisions of cyclone protection, an early warning and forecasting system, flood shelters, control of riverbank erosion, drought management and rationalization of groundwater in disaster management programmes; (iv) make adequate provision for water management for agriculture through public sector irrigation development, flood management and drainage; (v) ensure protection of the natural environment and aquatic resources with monitoring and controlling water pollution, water management for fisheries and ecologically sensitive areas, and (iv) raise awareness among all stakeholders about scarcity of water and the economic uses of the resource.

Institutional Development: The highest body for the formulation of a water policy is the National Water Resources Council. The government has set-up WARPO as a secretariat of the Executive Committee of the National Water Resources Council (ECNWRC). WARPO is responsible for three main assignments. First, it will prepare and update the National Water Management Plan. Second, it will update and maintain a National Water Resources Database. Third, WARPO will act as a clearing house for all water sector projects undertaken by any agency. The ECNWRC needs to be effective and regular monitoring of the three activities has to be ensured. The Joint Rivers Commission has to continue its efforts to effectively establish the country's water shares and negotiate accordingly. Specialized Institutions: RRI, CEGIS and IWM and other relevant research institutions need to pursue professional and technological breakthroughs in view of the challenges in the water sector in future. The Bangladesh Water Development Board (BWDB), the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) and the Bangladesh Agricultural Development Corporation (BADC) have continued to carry out major responsibilities of conducting activities concerning investment and operation & maintenance (O&M).

Water sector planning in Bangladesh is now changing from a top-down technocratic approach to a bottom-up participatory approach. It is essential to institutionalize participatory planning and implementation as a continuing process. The Water Management Organization has been formed with Water Management Groups (WMGs), Water Management Associations (WMAs) and Water Management Federations (WMFs). The total number of members in WMG was 2, 77,605 (16 percent women), in WMA 16,777 (16 percent women) and in WMF 529 (8 percent women) in 2007. The process of participatory planning and management of water sector projects has to be increasingly adopted with greater participation of women at all stages. Governance and coordination problems among the agencies dealing with water resources have to be improved. Private sector participation in drinking water and sanitation services has to be promoted. Media and awareness raising programmes about water as an economic resource have to be initiated. Greater accessibility to development funds has to be ensured to make the water sector financially robust, viable and sustainable.

An efficient water-sector institution is to have three key components, a legal and regulatory framework, administrative rules for implementation and organization that carry out the work. Institutional frameworks are established by legislation that provides basic operative norms, and its various elements (such as customs, laws, regulations, organizations) are closely interdependent and deficiencies frequently arise from inconsistencies among them. Institutional changes may be made incrementally, but they must be made in the context of the entire water sector. Another area of institutional change is the establishment of a sound legal and regulatory framework. Water codes generally specify the rights, powers, and duties of individual users and the government with respect to water. Land use rights need to be examined along with water use rights. Moreover, environmental regulations should receive high priority.

4.2.6 Land Use Policy and Management

The main goal of land use policy and management is sustainable economic development through poverty reduction by ensuring best possible use of land resources and delivery of land related services to the people through modernized and efficient land administration.

Assessment of Progress: Some progress was made in poverty reduction through land management and administration during the period of implementation of NSAPR (2004-07). Model villages with community centres numbering 427 have been built in 42 districts for housing 25,385 families. So far Tk. 9 crore has been distributed. During this period 26,903 acres of Khas land have been allotted to 20,798 families in the coastal areas of Chittagong, Noakhali, Lakshmipur, and Feni districts. Computerization of the Land Management system has been done successfully in Demra circle of Dhaka city on a pilot basis and data of land records have been stored electronically at four other circles (Mirpur, Dhanmondi, Kotwali & Tejgaon) of the city and in the district of Manikganj. A project to rehabilitate the low income families of slum areas is going on at Bhasantec in Dhaka city.

Problems Relating to Land Use Management

Competing Demand and Declining Availability of Agricultural Land: Besides agriculture, land is occupied by forest, fisheries, industries, roads, houses etc. Forest occupies 17 percent of the geographical surface. Railway, roads and waterways cover 37,638 km. Rivers, canals, tanks etc. cover 48,583 sq. km. The present per capita availability of land for agricultural production is 0.173 acres (2001 estimate). River erosion is also a major cause of loss of land. River erosion makes people both homeless and landless. The per capita availability of land is diminishing and the loss of agricultural land is going on at the rate of about 1 percent per year.

Access of the Poor to Land: The poor have very little access to government land like Char land, Khas land, water bodies etc. There are land laws and policies to allot such land to the poor and the landless, but the people responsible for their implementation do not preserve the interest of the poor. The vested interest groups in both rural and urban areas are in de facto and de jure possession with the help of money and muscle. The Adivashi (the indigenous people) of the CHT and other areas are losing their common property rights in their land. They are becoming landless and poor. In the cities, the slum dwellers pay high rent for staying in the slums with very poor facilities. They lose even this inadequate shelter due to frequent slum eviction.

Land Degradation: Land is being degraded by soil salinity, soil contamination, deforestation, water pollution, falling water table and drainage congestion. Financial constraints, lack of awareness, reluctance to obey rules and enforce laws, piece-meal efforts to deal with these issues, implementation of contradictory and ineffective policies are the main reasons for such degradation. Government agencies responsible for preventing land degradation do not get enough funds to tackle these problems.

Climate change and sea-level rise are also potential threats to land resources. Land degradation in coastal areas is characterized by water-logging (2.96 million acres) which leads to decline in productivity. Salinisation due to shrimp culture and sea-level rise is affecting more than 3 million hectares of land. About 24,000 acres of mangrove forest disappeared in coastal areas in Cox's Bazar district. Some areas like Bhabadaha in the district of Jessore are perennially under water and people in this area are leading a sub-human life. Effluent treatment plants are not being built in industries. This leads to degradation of neighbouring plots and water bodies. In many cases, during construction of rural roads and district highways necessary provision for free flow of water especially floodwater is not ensured. It creates water-logging and inundation of huge areas of rural land that remains out of cultivation.

Land Management: The lack of coordination between different departments responsible for preparation and maintenance of Record of Rights (ROR) causes suffering of the people especially the small and marginal farmers. Three documents required for establishing land title are: (i) ROR (Khatian including Mouza-map), (ii) Mutated (updated) ROR, and (iii) Deed of registration. Preparation of latest ROR (Khatian including Mouza-Map) is the responsibility of DLRS, the registration of land transfer deed is the responsibility of the department of registration and A.C. land is responsible for Mutated (updated) ROR. Lack of coordination among these three offices often leads to confusion, conflicts and many instances of litigation.

The Ministry of Land formulated a National Land Use Policy in 2001 to protect land degradation and to ensure its best utilization for all purposes. The policy also highlights the need, and the importance of carrying out National Land Zoning for integrated planning and management of the country's land resources. There are 28 directives for land management and administration under the National Land Use Policy but the institutional structure for their implementation is lacking.

Destruction of Wetland Eco-System: Agricultural expansion is threatening wetlands, haors etc. When these areas dry up in the winter the farmers use them for cropping. They gradually increase these areas, leading to net loss of wetland and the water bodies and loss of biodiversity. Illegal encroachment on rivers, canals and water bodies for housing, industries etc. is common in both rural and urban areas. This leads to obstruction of the flow of water, reduction in flood plain areas and increased flooding.

Strategies to Overcome Land Related Policy and Management Problems

Around 60 percent of total households have little or no land. They are either poor or ultra poor. One way of reducing their poverty is to provide them with land. Because of this, land reform has always been a policy option for the planners and the politicians. The Land Reform Ordinance of 1984 covered both aspects of land redistribution and land tenure. However, the classical land reform measures, i.e. redistribution of land, did not bring any significant change in the fate of the landless people. That is why this type of land reform is no longer considered as a pragmatic policy option. Instead, it is more fruitful to put emphasis on the modernization of the land management system including land titling and land administration and on a sustainable land use policy and planning. Currently more emphasis is being given on land administrative reform.

Land Administration: After any land transfer the Registration department supplies the title deeds. The new owner then goes to the office of the A.C. land for mutation. The third department that prepares and maintains ROR is DLRS. To introduce good governance in land administration as a whole, necessary measures are to be initiated to ensure sound coordination of these activities. A.C. (land) is in charge of mutation, correction and updating of records as well as management of land. A.C land has to be given the supervisory responsibility of settlement activities at the Upazila level. This will lead to the coordination of the two offices dealing with the preparation and maintenance of land records in an Upazila. The Directorate of Registration is to be brought under the administrative control of the Land Ministry to remove inconsistency in land records management and also for immediate updating of land titles.

To eliminate fraudulent documents and conflict in land ownership, CLO (certificate of land ownership) is to be introduced through a valid registration system. Khatians are to be prepared on a plot basis. Land records are to be prepared in the shortest possible time using modern instruments based on ICT. The prepared new RoR (Khatian including Mouza-Map) will be preserved electronically in digitized form in the databases established at different tiers. Besides, hard copies of all the records are to be preserved at all levels of land management offices. Satellite images are to be used besides field survey if necessary for the preparation of land records throughout the country, particularly in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Any change in the land use pattern is to be recorded in

the data base on a regular basis. The offices responsible for registration of land transfer deeds and agreements will be reorganized and attached with the land management system under the umbrella of the Ministry of Land.

A project will be undertaken to prepare a database of all land resources and other resources in the project areas. The project is to cover Char land and other ecologically endangered areas. A land zoning information system is to be included in the data base. A separate service under the Ministry of Land is to be considered for land administration management up to the Upazila level. There will be provision for a participatory and joint monitoring system with Government employees and the local people for overseeing the activities of land classification, and land record modernization for effective land management. The participation of the poor in the whole process, from formulation to implementation of laws and policies will be ensured.

Allotment/distribution of Khas land is an effective tool for poverty reduction. Provision of land and housing for both the rural and the urban poor empowers them to start a new life. If the land owner becomes a marginal or landless farmer then he or she will get priority in getting allotment of khas land. Lists of people becoming landless due to river erosion are to be prepared by the district administration in collaboration with the Union Parishads and NGOs. Settlement of Khas land will be made according to such lists. According to official records the total amount of available Khas land ready for redistribution is 1, 24,880 acres. Steps will be taken to recover Khas land in the haors and other water bodies and to allot them to genuinely eligible persons and stakeholders. The current system of sharing these wet lands by turn -the fishermen in the wet season and the farmers in the dry season will be formalized with the help of local Union Parishads and NGOs. Non-agricultural Khas land will be made available for industrialization. Labour intensive industries will be given priority in the allotment of land. In coastal as well as in other areas landless and asset less families will be provided with land. They will be given training and finance for starting income generating activities. In all cases, women headed households will get priority. The Ministry of Land will continue with the programmes of housing for the rural poor under Adarsha Gram, Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP) etc. Steps will be taken to retain the poor in these houses by providing capacity building training and credit facilities.

The land in CHT is administrated under the relevant Acts, Rules and Regulations of 1900. These are will be reviewed to bring them in line with the laws of the plain land. However, the customary common property rights of the ethnic people are to be protected. Laws and policies would be framed for the proper management of the land in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. Laws and policies will be introduced to stop hill cutting and felling of trees in hilly areas, and tea and rubber gardens elsewhere in the country.

At present almost 80 percent of court cases arise out of land disputes. The modification and simplification of all land-related laws are expected to remove many of these disputes. All land laws will be reviewed, updated and reformed if necessary with a view to making them proper and to ensuring good governance in land administration. A special committee will be set up to come up with recommendations in this regard. In addition, the feasibility of (a) establishment of a 'Speedy Land Tribunal' to dispose of land-related litigation, and (b) empowering the local government representatives and community leaders to resolve land-related litigation in the first place will be studied.

Land Use Management: Planned use of land according to Land Zoning Maps prepared on the basis of present and potential land uses is to be ensured through enforcement of the provisions of the existing laws and promulgation of new laws. The provisions of the Town Improvement Act of 1953 are to be enforced for planned use of land in the big cities. A new law named Village Improvement Act is to be promulgated to stop filling up of agricultural land. Specific areas are to be earmarked for housing, marketplaces, industries and infrastructure. The draft law is to be

publicized to obtain the opinion of all the stakeholders including the Local Government bodies and NGOs. At the national level land zoning laws are to be enacted to ensure appropriate use of each plot of land.

Land acquisition act and policy are to be rationalized. Minimum quantity of comparatively less fertile land is to be acquired if non-agricultural Khas land is not available. Unused acquired land or acquired land not used for the declared purposes is to be resumed by the Deputy Commissioner. Bangladesh Railway is occupying large areas of unused land. These lands are to be acquired by Roads and Highways and Local Government Engineering Department for construction of roads if needed. In case of big public sector projects like Jamuna Bridge, affected persons are to be motivated to make their resettlement voluntary. They are to be compensated for their land at the price suggested in the National Involuntary Resettlement Policy. Their cultural heritage and professional opportunities are to be taken into consideration while planning their resettlement.

The existing land surface covered by forest (17 percent) is less than is necessary (25 percent) for maintaining ecological balance. This process can be reversed if Char land and coastal land can be brought under afforestation. Measures need to be undertaken to protect existing natural forests as well as to create new forests. Afforestation is to be started in the deforested areas first. Cross dams are to be built to expedite the process of accretion of land in the coastal areas. The consolidation of this land is to be ensured by involving the DOF and local NGOs. In the coastal areas this will help prepare the land for habitation and cultivation. NGOs are to be involved to organize the settlers.

While building rural roads, district highways, bridges and culverts, the government departments do not keep enough space for the natural flow of water. In the big cities the land grabbers are filling up the water bodies, thus creating drainage problems. Provisions are to be made for free flow of water. The natural flow of rivers and canals is to be restored by removing the land grabbers. The water bodies and the flood plain areas in Dhaka and other big cities are to be freed from illegal occupants.

The rivers, canals, haors, etc. are to be leased out to poor and genuine fishermen. This will be ensured with the involvement of the MOFL and DOF and NGOs. The Jalmahal Policy is to be modified, if necessary, for this purpose. Similarly, Balumahals and other Sairat Mahals are to be managed in a way which will benefit the poor. The policy of leasing out water bodies below 20 acres to unemployed youth is to be reviewed. If it is established that some of these are being used by the middlemen, then those are to be brought back to the Ministry of Land for leasing out to genuine fishermen.

Inspections of industries are to be done frequently to strictly enforce the construction of ETPs and their due continuous operation. DOE is to be provided with additional resources. The relevant provisions of EBSATA are to be strictly enforced to stop degradation of crop land by neighbouring industries. The A.C. land is to be provided with extra resources for this purpose. Projects are to be taken to develop perennially inundated areas like Bhabadaha. The conflict between the growers of shrimp and crops is to be resolved by involving the Union Parishads and local NGOs, DOE, DOF and DAE.

To mitigate the problems of the urban poor without adequate shelter non-agricultural Khas land is to be provided to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief and Ministry of Social Welfare for constructing (i) houses for women, marginalized people and endangered communities, and (ii) vagrant homes and night shelters in the cities for the uprooted population. The slums are to be developed to accommodate the shelter less urban poor. The Ministry of Land is to continue with its programme of housing for the urban poor. In the urban areas non-agricultural Khas land is to be utilized for housing the slum dwellers.

4.2.7 Urban Development

Bangladesh is experiencing rapid urbanization. In 2006, estimated total population was 140.6 million of which 24.6 percent (34.6 million) was urban. A significant proportion of urban people live in slum areas. Urban population is expected to grow to nearly one-third of the total population by 2010. Urbanization has incidental growth promotion and poverty reduction potential but puts heavy pressure on the development of utilities to meet demand for a rapidly growing urban population. The problems arise from sheer size, like supplying basic services, travelling from home to work and disposing of waste. The problems are already daunting but they are certain to multiply in the coming decades.

Another dimension of urbanization is the growing disparities in living standards within cities. This calls for an effective urbanization policy to address development of urban utilities for poor, low and middle income population. These relate to the development of public health including sanitation, health care and prevention of communicable diseases, access to basic services like water, power and transport for poor women, slum dwellers and poor neighbourhoods, minimum housing stocks affordable by various classes of urban poor and strong and effective policy support to informal sector economic activities.

Urbanization in Bangladesh is characterized by over centralization in few cities like Dhaka and Chittagong. Consequently, over crowding and a conspicuous lack of basic facilities in almost all spheres of life has become the norm. Such a process is adversely affecting growth of urbanization in other areas of the country. This is creating spatial disparity, further aggravating the existing strong centrifugal tendency towards the capital and the port city.

A sustainable urbanization process calls for strengthening its beneficial aspects and effectively dealing with its negative consequences. A broad based urbanization policy would encompass spatial, economic, social, cultural, aesthetic and environmental aspects of urban life directed towards achieving an urban society free from hunger and poverty with ample access to education, health, shelter, and basic services and a secure and liveable environment at home and workplace. It will be a society sensitive to women, children and the aged.

Goals: The overall goal of urbanization is to ensure planned urbanization for growth and equity. The specific goals are to: i) promote urban development for balanced growth across the country; and ii) promote sustainable urbanization for poverty reduction and development.

Challenges: The major challenges of urbanization in Bangladesh are-

- Unplanned and unguided spontaneous urbanization with continuously mounting problems;
- Absence of strong planning outfit centrally and in urban centres. Urban metropolises like Dhaka, Chittagong and other City Corporations do not have any planning wing;
- No advance planning for utility services, shelter and infrastructure;
- No advance planning for road infrastructure and public transportation;
- Absence of an integrated approach for urbanization embracing cluster development of adjacent towns or provision for satellite towns;
- Lack of comprehensive urbanization comprising all civic amenities like parks, lakes and other recreation facilities;
- Absence of a conscious policy for utilization of urban public land and waterways which could be used as resources for building civic amenities;
- Absence of a regulatory framework for utilization of urban public land and waterways to prevent their misuse;

- Inadequate environmental concern for protection of urban waterways, disposal of solid wastes and industrial sludge;
- Lack of concern for urban poor and slum dwellers;
- Absence of regulatory support for citizens' protection against exploitation by home developers and other private utility providers;
- Absence of a strong mechanism for coordination of infrastructure development and provision of utilities in all urban centres;
- Absence of statistical database for urban planning.

Strategies: The following strategies will be followed for urban development:

- Planning, guiding and promoting urban development with adequate services for all;
- Creating strong planning outfit in relevant ministries and all city corporations;
- Making advance planning for utility services, shelter and infrastructure in all urban centres;
- Planning road infrastructure development and public transportation for a number of cities and towns in a cluster;
- Adopting an integrated approach for urbanization embracing cluster development of adjacent towns or provision for satellite towns;
- Developing comprehensive urbanization comprising all civic amenities like parks, lakes and other recreation facilities;
- Developing policy framework and creating a regulatory framework for utilization of urban public land and rivers for building parks, lakes and civic amenities;
- Improving urban environment by protecting urban rivers, regulating disposal of solid wastes and industrial sludge;
- Creating an enabling environment for urban poor and slum dwellers by building appropriate institutions like cooperatives, micro credit organizations etc;
- Building regulatory authority for citizens' protection against exploitation by home developers and other private utility providers;
- Creating strong mechanism for coordination of infrastructure development and provision of utilities in all urban centres;
- Creating a framework for operation of private sector, NGOs, CBOs, PVOs etc. for building infrastructure, recreation facilities and utility services for urban inhabitants;
- Building institutions in collaboration with the BBS for creating statistical database for urban planning; and
- Build democratic institutions for effective urban governance with the participation of the civil society, NGOs, CBOs etc.

4.3 Strategic Block III: Essential Infrastructure for Pro-poor Economic Growth

Infrastructure development contributes to growth in general and pro-poor growth in particular. There are various channels in which infrastructure affects growth, e.g., it increases the productivity of inputs like capital and labour, increases the durability of capital, exerts a positive impact on health and education and generates employment. In the rural areas it leads to diffusion of new agricultural technology, higher output, employment and wages, improved marketing, improved health and education, and growth of industries, services and trade. Improved and appropriate infrastructure is also important for effective disaster management. It may be noted that certain types of infrastructure like rural roads have more pro-poor effects in the economy. Infrastructure includes electricity, gas, renewable energy, roads, railway, inland waterways, sea ports, land ports, airports, and post and telecommunication links.

4.3.1 Power and Energy

The government will develop the Power and Energy sector, striking a composite balance of power, gas, coal, renewable energies, and energy efficiency and conservation. Sustainable energy will be promoted as a strategic priority for poverty reduction.

Power

Power is critical for higher economic growth, poverty reduction and social development. The Power Division under the Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources is the apex institution of the Government dealing with power.

Vision: The vision of the power sector is to provide access to affordable and reliable electricity to all citizens of Bangladesh by 2020. The main goal of the power sector is to provide quality and reliable power to the people of Bangladesh at an affordable price for the desired economic, social and human development of the country through system expansion with a prudent least cost plan, efficiency improvement through institutional and structural reform and establishment of commercial arrangement among the sector entities.

Progress: It is expected that by the end of FY 2008, total installed generation capacity will be 5409 MW with 3906 MW in the public sector and 1503 MW in the private sector against a demand for 5500 MW. It is also expected that, by the end of FY 2008, the number of villages with access to electricity will be 51,000 out of 87,000 and total consumer number will reach 11 million. Nearly 60 percent of the villages are under the electrical network; only 45 percent people have direct access to electricity and per capita per annum electricity generation is only 170 kWh.

Commercial performance of the sector entities has improved to some extent during recent years except for customer dissatisfaction due to increased load shedding and low voltage problem. The Power sector has achieved improvements in distribution losses and revenue collection. Transmission and distribution losses in FY 2008 will be around 18 percent compared with more than 30 percent in the past. Financial performances of the utilities are improving slowly. Restructured utilities like PGCB, DESCO and WZPDC are making profits. The government has prepared a financial restructuring plan to make the utilities financially viable.

Challenges: The performance of the power sector in Bangladesh in the last two decades fell short of expectations. High system losses, a large amount of accounts receivable and inadequate tariff have been affecting the financial viability of the utilities and the attractiveness for investment. Acute scarcity of resources hinders financing the huge cost required for the development of the sector. Absence of clear organizational goals, adequate financial and commercial autonomy and lack of adequate incentives resulted in inefficiency in the utility management.

Load shedding has been a routine phenomenon due to load growth outstripping the capability of the generation and transmission system. The failure of the grid system and severe load shedding was due to delays in bringing committed generation and transmission projects into service, mostly due to lack of funding.

High maintenance and overhauling time for the existing power plants in the public sector is a serious concern in the struggle to maintain a satisfactory generation level against the power demand. Also, the overall cost of per unit electricity generation increases due to high maintenance and overhauling time. Limited autonomy and financial power to the concerned authority, long approval procedures, and bureaucratic interference cause delay in the maintenance of power plants.

About 87% of the power generation capacity in the country is gas based, 5.5% is imported oil based, 5.0% is coal based and 2.5% is hydro-based. Power generation is heavily dependent on natural gas. Present gas production is not adequate to serve the existing power generation requirement. Besides, due to gas transmission and distribution bottlenecks gas cannot be transported to some locations, resulting in inadequate power generation. Fuel diversity is essential to meet power generation needs in the face of gas shortage and high oil prices in the international market.

In the distribution system, poor quality of power supply causes serious problem to the customers due to a low voltage profile and presence of harmonics as the system is overloaded, inadequate network capacity, lack of reactive power compensation, poor maintenance and absence of proper response from the operators.

The present generation capacity is not adequate to meet the peak power demand. The power demand sharply increases during evening hours. This calls for keeping a reserve of peaking plants, which are highly uneconomic. This necessitates load shedding, resulting in adverse effects on industrial products as well as the socio-economic condition of the people. The customer service in electricity utilities is not satisfactory. The management system of the electricity utilities needs to be upgraded to improve customer service.

There is no corporate culture in most of the electric entities. This is a barrier for improvement of overall performance of the entities particularly for improvement of customer service. The culture needs to be changed with the corporatization of the entities.

Policies and Strategies: As power projects are highly capital intensive, developing adequate generation, transmission and distribution facilities to provide reliable and quality power supply to the population poses a formidable challenge for the government. Therefore, concerted efforts with innovative ideas are essential to materialize GoB's vision.

In order to meet the projected demand for electricity, necessary investments will be made in a timely manner. This will require careful planning and timely resource mobilization involving both public and private sectors. Balanced development of generation, transmission and distribution of electricity will be ensured.

There is significant difference between per unit generation cost (BPDB's own generation cost and purchase cost of power from IPPs) and bulk supply cost. BPDB's bulk supply tariff for urban utilities and rich PBSs is Taka 0.30 less per unit than its supply cost. For poor PBSs, this difference is as high as Taka 0.64 per unit. As a result BPDB is incurring a loss of more than Taka1000 crore annually. This indicates the need for rationalization of tariff for the sustainability of the sector.

The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) is responsible for regulation of the sector. The government, however, issues policy directives on matters concerning the electricity sector including measures necessary for its overall planning and coordination. The process of unbundling and corporatization of sector entities is going on. Private participation in generation is being encouraged. IPPs are generating about 1500 MW and its share in total energy generation is 37.5 percent. With the creation of the South Zone Power Distribution Company (SZPDC) and the Central Zone Power Distribution Company (CZPDC), the unbundling and corporatization of the distribution sub-sector will be completed and it is expected that these emerging entities will function with higher efficiency.

Poor governance has been engulfing the sector entities. Efficiency improvement and quality customer service are the final goals. The Board of Directors of the existing companies has been reconstituted. The Board of Directors will be selected from the experts and professionals from various disciplines. There will be several Committees (Audit, Recruitment and Promotion, and

Procurement). The audit committee will be headed by an independent director for transparency and accountability. The 3-year Road Map (2007-2009) including the time-bound action plan was envisaged in May 2007 in line with PRSP for realization of the vision of reaching electricity to all by 2020. Institutional reform and a prudent investment programme ensuring a least cost solution can provide adequate quantity and quality of power to the consumers at an affordable price for sustainable economic and social development of the country.

Under the short-term programme of the government, the installed generation capacity will be raised from 5409 MW to at least 7000 MW by FY 2011. Though we need 8000 MW to meet the 7200 MW demand with an adequate reserve in FY 2011, it is not possible to install base load plants within the short time of three years. Commensurate expansion and upgrading of transmission and distribution infrastructure would also be needed focusing on special need of the western region of the country. About 2200 km transmission and 50,000 km distribution lines will have to be constructed for evacuation and distribution of power by FY 2011.

It is evident that adoption of pragmatic policies and structural reforms could yield positive results both in infrastructure development and performance improvement. Continuation of reform activities is essential to realize the vision of the power sector. Preparation of a Power System Master Plan - 2005 (PSMP-2005), Generation Support Framework and Financing Strategy, Financial Restructuring Plan, Captive Power Policy, etc. by the Government in recent years will ease the present financing problem of investments in the power sector. On the other hand, introducing good governance and corporate culture in the emerging sector entities will improve overall performance and customer service.

Reform Agenda & Prospects: Power Sector Vision and Policy Statement 2000 has set forth the overall objectives of the power sector (Box 4.1).

Box 4.1: Power Sector Vision and Policy Statement 2000

- Bring the entire country under electrification by year 2020
- Make the power sector financially viable & able to facilitate growth
- Increase the sectors' efficiency
- Make the sector commercially oriented
- Improve the quality & reliability of electricity supply
- Use natural gas as the primary fuel for electricity generation & explore options for exporting electricity
- Increase private sector participation to mobilise finance
- Ensure reasonable & affordable price for electricity by pursuing least cost options
- Promote competition among various entities

Against this vision, progress so far has been slow because of institutional, managerial and technical limitations. To get the sector back on track GOB has adopted the three-year road map. However, progress thus far has been undermined by a lack of prioritisation and strong political commitment, and few of the important milestones have been achieved. These include cost effective pricing, hard wiring budget support & strengthening governance. The Government may consider developing an integrated regional power plant with Bhutan and Nepal which have advantages in hydro-electric power.

Rural Electricity Supply: The overall goal of the REB programme is improvement of socio-economic conditions of the rural populace by providing reliable and affordable electricity. Rural

electricity has immense potential in accelerating the process of economic growth, poverty reduction and human development. Rural electricity reduces both human and knowledge poverty, and education, health, and gender divides. The PRSP consultation process underscored the need for expanding the growth impact of electricity through its cost reducing effects on irrigation, impact on industrial development, contribution towards the development of commercial sectors, and favourable influence on human development. Therefore, poor people's access to electricity needs be increased. Household access to electricity decreases with declining income. To ensure access to power both the Government (including local government) and NGOs should devote part of their resources for those who cannot afford to pay for power. This can be done by organizing income generation activities for the poor based on skill development and backed by a micro-credit mechanism.

The rural electric network is the fastest growing and most efficiently operated entity within the Bangladesh electric industry. But it is experiencing serious operational problems due to power shortage and loss of revenue due to non- availability of power and an increase in system losses due to customer backlash from frequent and prolonged load shedding. REB is facing financial problems in its expansion programme. Close co-operation between the Government of Bangladesh and donor agencies is needed to gear up rural electrification. Currently there are many BPDB pockets within the PBS service area that have already been designated to be transferred to the PBSs. With the transfer to PBSs, REB will be better able to co-ordinate and plan for expansion, upgrading and operation of the system, and thus provide more efficient and reliable service to the customer. REB strategies for future development are: (a) augmentation of power generation, (b) upgrade and rehabilitation of old system for capacity building and reliable supply, (c) implementation of division-wise programmes and Chittagong Hill Tracts Rural Electrification Project to ensure regional balance, (d) dissemination of Renewable Energy Technologies (Solar, Wind, Small Hydro, Bio-mass etc.), (e) ensuring additional assistance for expansion of network, (f) handing over BPDB rural distribution systems to REB, (g) reducing system loss, (h) enhancing performance, and (i) rationalizing tariffs.

Nuclear Power: In view of the need for diversifying its energy sources for long-run energy security, installation of a nuclear power plant by 2015, with generation capacity between 700 MW and 1,000 MW will be considered. The supply chain for a nuclear power plant is shorter than gas, coal or liquid fuel based power plants. Nuclear power plants require multi-billion dollar investments for construction and maintenance though the fuel required for such plants is very cheap compared to costly fossil fuel or gas required by conventional power plants. Bangladesh would explore the possibility of building and commissioning a nuclear power plant on BOO-BOT basis.

Energy

Natural Gas: Bangladesh presently consumes about 18.10 MTOE of the commercial energy. Indigenous natural gas is the predominant source of energy which currently contributes about 75% of the total commercial energy of the country. The present gas production per day is around 1800 MMCFD. In view of the attainment of MDGs and the envisaged growth rates in the NSAPR II the Gas Sector Master Plan and Strategy (GSMP) has projected the gas requirement as 2022 MMCFD by FY 20011, 2669 MMCFD by FY 2015 and 3818 MMCFD by FY2020. The country, so far, has discovered 23 gas fields including 02 offshore gas fields, out of which 17 fields have been producing gas. The present (estimated in June 2008) remaining proven gas reserve of the country is 7.41 TCF and probable gas reserve is 5.50 TCF. Based on the present estimated proven gas reserve, there will be a gap between the demand and supply by 2011 and if probable reserve could be converted into proven reserve, the demand-supply gap would start from 2015.

Significant gas discoveries have to be made, if widening of the gap is to be arrested. Lack of availability of funds for the public sector along with the legal embargo to carry out exploration by the IOCs in Bangladesh since 1998 has constrained the exploration activities during the last 10 years. However, the embargo on the offshore petroleum exploration has been recently lifted. BAPEX is expected to drill 3/4 exploratory wells during next three year period as against 12 wells stipulated in the National Energy Policy (NEP) 1995 mainly because of fund constraint. Government has decided to support BAPEX with additional fund to strengthen its capacity and to make it self-reliant within next 7 years. In the public sector BAPEX, Bangladesh Gas Fields Company Ltd. (BGFCL) and Sylhet Gas Fields Ltd. (SGFL) have taken up some appraisal and development programmes of the gas fields. In the private sector IOCs are active both in the offshore and onshore areas of the country. It is expected that during the next three year period they would drill a number of exploratory wells in the country. However, in comparison with the need for additional i.e. incremental reserves the present exploration efforts are moving at a slow pace.

Gas transmission pipeline network of about 1997 km has so far been constructed throughout the country (mostly eastern part of the country). Gas Transmission Company Limited (GTCL) has taken up a massive programme of constructing gas transmission pipeline in the west and southern part of the country. At present four public gas distribution companies have been distributing gas in their respective franchise areas which are: (i) Titas Gas Transmission and Distribution Companies Ltd. (TGTDCL), (ii) Bakhrabad Gas System Limited (BGSL), (iii) Jalalabad Gas Transmission and Distribution System Ltd. (JGTDSL) and (iv) Paschimanchal Gas Company Ltd. (PGCL). Every year they are expanding their respective network connections as per demand and availability of gas in their franchise areas. With a view to supplying gas to greater Kushtia, Jessore, Khulna, and Barisal areas, the formation of Sundarbans Gas Distribution Company Ltd. has been initiated. The company will take appropriate measures to ensure gas distribution in these areas.

Vehicle conversion to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) is being carried on and promotion of this mode of fuel is being encouraged to contain air pollution in urban areas as well as to save foreign exchange.

Present annual consumption of LPG in Bangladesh is about 40,000 tons which is mostly met from import. The LPG Plant at Kailashtilla gas field has been producing LPG with production capacity of 5000 tons per annum from the NGL being extracted by the existing MSTE plant there. Another NGL fractionation plant at Kailashtila with the capacity of 110 MT/day is being implemented to meet the demand for LPG.

The country is now producing about 25,55,000 bbls of condensate from the gas fields of the country, out of which 8,62,300 bbls are being fractionated by the production companies under Petrobangla as Kerosene Oil, Diesel and Petrol etc. and the 16,92,700 bbls of condensate are being sold to the Eastern Refinery and to the private sector companies.

Coal: Bangladesh has about 3300 million tonnes of coal resources, out of which proved in-situ-reserve of coal is about 884 million tonnes in the 5 coal fields, namely, Barapukuria, Khalashpir, Phulbari, Jamalgonj and Dighipara. Only Barapukuria coal field has been developed with production capacity of one million tonnes per year. However, the targeted capacity could not be achieved yet. In the face of widening demand supply gap of indigenous gas, coal could be the alternative energy resource to supplement gas.

Coal Bed Methane (CBM): Coal Bed Methane (CBM) is extracted normally prior to coal extraction from a mine where CBM content is 10 cubic meter per ton. In Jamalgonj Coal deposit more than 500 BCF of CBM is expected to exist. Exploration and development of this valuable resource will be addressed in the national coal policy.

Goals/Sub-Goals: Securing energy need of the country is the vision of energy sector. The main goals of the non-renewable energy sector are: (a) assessment of non-renewable indigenous energy sources; (b) exploration and development of new oil/gas and coal fields; (c) appraisal and conversion of probable and possible reserve to proven reserve; (d) development of the fields considering their capacity and market demand; (e) strengthening institutional capacity of Petrobangla and its companies to make them more effective and financially viable; (f) installation of adequate transmission and distribution network to cater for the customers' need; (g) transfer of government shares to Petrobangla, thereby owning and holding of 100% shares (except offloaded shares) of the companies; (h) dealing of concession of PSC blocks with effective delegations; (i) delegation for distributing the respective margins of the companies and itself by Petrobangla; and (j) ensuring efficient use of energy.

Progress: In spite of policy and resource constraints the gas sector has achieved some progress during the last PRSP period. Offshore PSC Bidding 2008 has been initiated to attract private sector investment. BAPEX has been allocated blocks for undertaking extensive exploration work along with programmes for its strengthening. The offloading of shares of the companies under Petrobangla has been started and meanwhile 25 percent of the TGTDCL has been offloaded recently. A total of 356 km gas transmission pipelines is being constructed to transport gas to the western and south-western regions by 2010 under the ADB funded Gas Transmission and Development Project (GTDP). Private entrepreneurs are being encouraged by the government to install CNG filling stations.

The Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) has been formed to look into the pricing of gas as a commercial venture and formulate an appropriate gas-pricing framework for the downstream sector.

Challenges: The major challenges of the Natural Gas Sector are to: (a) minimise gas demand and supply gap; (b) increase gas reserves through extended exploration and development programmes; (c) optimize production from the existing gas fields and explore and develop new coal fields; (d) conserve and make efficient use of gas and coal; (e) make Petrobangla and its companies operationally and financially sound; and (f) reduce disparity of supply of gas to the different areas of the country.

Policies and Strategies: The existing National Energy Policy (NEP) is being updated to provide guidelines for achieving energy security for the country. An action plan will be worked out to improve the operational and financial performance of Petrobangla umbrella. Also Gas Act will be enacted providing action-plans for proper accountability targeting to reduce Un-accounted for Gas (UFG) and outstanding gas bill. Strengthening the Hydrocarbon Unit, a technical and policy arm of the Energy and Mineral Resources Division, has already been undertaken to provide adequate and appropriate staff and expertise to assist in policy formulation. The policy for public-private partnership for operating companies of Petrobangla will be formulated so that both domestic and foreign entrepreneurs may participate. In order to raise financial viability of the sector, the system of dealing with the problem of poor collection of utility charges from public sector users of electricity and gas has to be improved. Gas marketing companies are going to introduce meters for domestic gas supply and will take measures for zonal isolation. Procurement and supply of domestic meters will also be opened to the private sector.

Efforts have already been taken to convert possible and probable reserve into proven reserve. Steps have been taken for involving more IOCs especially in offshore exploration through offshore bidding round-2008. In addition to this a huge amount of investment in both public and private sectors is also needed. Government is committed to supporting BAPEX with additional fund to strengthen its capacity and to make it self-reliant within next seven years.

The National Coal Policy is being formulated for concomitant development of coal to meet the growing energy demand. Bangladesh will have to focus on the exploitation of huge coal reserve immediately, especially for power generation, leaving gas for fertilizer, CNG, commercial and industrial usage. Power Sector Master Plan (PSMP) which is fully based on gas-fired power plants must be revised and made realistic.

With a view to strengthening the human resources development activities of the oil, gas and mineral resources sector the Bangladesh Petroleum Institute (BPI) Act 2004 has been passed by the Parliament. The reorganization of BPI as the Energy Research Institute will ensure continuous training and skill development of professionals working in the oil, gas and mineral sector.

The Government has taken a pragmatic approach to strengthen the capability of the existing training institute of the Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC) to provide training to the downstream segments of oil refining and marketing.

With a view to meeting the demand of petroleum products, the specific strategies/policies to be pursued during the NSAPR-II are: (a) expansion of the storage capacity of petroleum products, (b) improvement of the distribution system by putting in place a second oil installation, (c) enhancement of capability of handling large vessels to reduce losses in import operations, (d) increase of the LPG bottling capacity and (e) increase of the refining capacity from the existing 14,00,000 MT to about 45,00,000 MT.

Renewable Energy

Most of Bangladesh's rural people depend on biomass, crop residues, plant debris, animal dung and wood for fuel, creating deforestation, flood, and soil erosion. Women and children, on whom the burden of collecting fuel falls, suffer the most. They are the worst victims of indoor air pollution such as smoke in the kitchens.

Hydro power: Micro hydro and mini hydro have limited application in Bangladesh with the exception of Chittagong and Chittagong Hill tracts. There is one large hydro plant at Kaptai, producing 230 MW of power. The scope for another plant at Kaptai producing 100 M.W. is being assessed.

Biogas: Biogas technology is one of the best means to provide gas to the large number of rural people. Presently there are tens of thousands of households and village level biogas plants throughout the country. Biogas technology can be used to implement a sustainable waste management programme suitable for rural areas, as waste of all sorts is transformed into biogas or slurry.

Solar Photovoltaic: Rural electrification through solar PV technology is becoming more popular in Bangladesh. Solar Home Systems (SHSs) are highly decentralized and particularly suitable for remote, inaccessible areas. SHSs have become increasingly popular among users because they present an attractive alternative to conventional electricity with no monthly bills, no fuel cost, very little repair and maintenance costs, and are easy to install anywhere. Government agencies like REB, BPDB and LGED, Government financial institution like IDCOL and NGOs like Grameen Shakti are trying to popularize and promote renewable energy projects/ programmes in the rural areas of Bangladesh.

Other Renewable Energy: Other potential energy sources include wind energy, bio-diesel from Jatropha plantations, gasohol from molasses, wave and tide power and geothermal power. However, the most promising source may be nuclear energy. Steps are being taken to set up nuclear plants of medium range, i.e., 500-600 MW as a pilot scheme as mentioned earlier. On the basis of the experience with the first plant, more plants can be established.

Main Goal/Sub-Goals: The main goal of the Renewable Energy Sector is to develop, disseminate, promote and extend the Renewable Energy Technology to the rural people to meet their energy needs for lighting and cooking purpose by using sustainable inexhaustible environment friendly renewable energy sources. The specific goals of the sector are (a) to increase access to electricity among the people living in off-grid, isolated and inaccessible remote areas of Bangladesh by Solar Home Systems (SHSs), (b) to supply clean bio-gas to meet the energy needs for cooking purpose in rural areas by constructing bio-gas Plants, (c) to improve the standard of living and increase income by introducing solar power and bio-gas in rural areas, (d) to use slurry of the bio-gas plant as bio-fertilizer to minimize use of chemical fertilizer and boost agricultural products as well as increase fish production, (e) to explore the potential of other forms of renewable energy, such as wind energy, micro hydro, tidal energy, bio-mass and bio-diesel to meet the power and energy demand of the rural people and (f) to explore the potential of municipal wastes to generate electricity as well as for safe disposal of the wastes.

Progress: Notable progress has been achieved by the sector during the period of the first PRSP. The REB has installed a total of 6121 Solar Home Systems (SHSs) by May, 2007 in different rural areas of Bangladesh. The BPDB has installed more than 1000 SHSs in households in Chittagong Hill Tracts. It also installed a 160 feet tower at the Muhuri Dam site in Feni district in May, 2003. The project site area emerges as one of the most suitable areas for a grid connected wind farm in Bangladesh. The LGED has been playing a vital role in the sector by demonstrating renewable energy technologies in Bangladesh. The goal of the Sustainable Rural Energy project of LGED was to develop community based models of renewable energy as an alternative source of rural energy in the off-grid areas of Bangladesh. Its main objectives were demonstration of renewable energy technologies, capacity building for technology transfer and wide dissemination of those technologies in the off-grid areas. Overall achievements of the Sustainable Rural Energy (SRE) project are significant. The pilot demonstrations of renewable energy technologies such as Solar, Wind, Biomass and Micro-Hydro interventions have been successfully completed on the basis of available renewable resources in the off-grid areas. The project has substantial replication potentials.

The Infrastructure Development Company Ltd. (IDCOL) has brought more than 170,000 rural households under the solar power system since January 2003. A total of 15 partner Organizations are disseminating solar systems in the remote rural areas of Bangladesh under IDCOL's renewable energy programme, IDCOL has also constructed more than 3,000 Biogas plants in rural areas through its Partner Organizations (POs) under the National Domestic Biogas and Manure Programme (NDBMP) since June 2006. Grameen Shakti (GS) has developed one of the most successful market-based programmes with the social objective of popularizing the Solar Home System (SHSs) and other renewable energy technologies among millions of villagers. Currently GS is one of the largest and fastest growing rural based renewable energy companies in the world. GS has installed 1,35,000 SHSs in rural areas with more than 4,000 SHSs installation capacity per month. GS also started a biogas programme in 2005 and an Improved Cook Stoves Programme in 2006. GS has so far constructed 2500 Biogas plants. GS's biogas programme is the first market-based programme in Bangladesh. Both biogas and Improved Cook Stoves programmes have become popular with the rural people.

Major Challenges: The major problems of the renewable energy sector are: (a) absence of a government institutional set-up to co-ordinate the renewable energy activities under Government and Non-Government Organizations, (b) absence of proper management in the Government Agencies to deal with the renewable energy projects/programmes, (c) financial and economic constraints to promote the Renewable Energy (RE) programmes, (d) lack of proper technical knowledge of the employees dealing with the RE programme, and (e) social barrier and information gap in promoting the RE programmes.

Policies and Strategies: Government agencies involved in RE programmes will provide institutional support including procurement and training to the employees participating in the Renewable Energy (RE) programmes. The Renewable Energy Policy will be finalized by the Government. All duties and taxes (VAT, Custom duties etc.) could be exempted for imported solar panels to encourage NGOs in their renewable energy programmes. The Government will consider giving grants to NGOs for enhancing their programmes, particularly solar power and bio-gas plant programmes. The Government will encourage local entrepreneurs to set up assembling plants to make solar panels locally with imported solar cells. The Government will take the initiative and explore possibilities of cultivating the atrophy tree for producing bio-diesel in the barren lands to substitute for imported diesel. The Government would consider establishing a Renewable Energy Wing under the Power Division to co-ordinate the activities of the renewable energy sector under Government Agencies and Non-Government organizations and help facilitate growth of the emerging renewable energy sector for poverty reduction.

4.3.2 Transport

Road Transport

The Roads and Highways Department (RHD) is responsible for planning, design, construction, improvement and maintenance of the primary and secondary road network in the country, which includes national and regional highways as well as zila roads. Besides, Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) under Bridges Division is responsible for implementation and maintenance of bridges of 1500m or over, toll roads, flyovers, expressways, causeways, ring roads, etc.

Vision: The vision of road transport is to achieve a well-maintained, cost effective and safe road network. Road development is critical to socio-economic development and poverty reduction. An improved road communication system reduces road user costs and costs of production and thus facilitates socio-economic development of the country. It contributes to the reduction of poverty by creating employment opportunities for all, including women, increasing the mobility of working people and facilitating the distribution of capital and consumption goods. Moreover, it contributes to the expansion of markets, augmentation of regional balance and creation of investment opportunities, all of which are conducive to economic growth and poverty reduction. Furthermore, it supports human resource development through improved access to health and education services.

Progress: Currently, the total length of roads under RHD is about 21,571 km of which 16,500 km are paved and 5,071 km are in a state of brick-pavement. Of the total network, 3570 km are national highways, 4323 km regional highways and 13678 km are zila roads. Besides, RHD has about 3790 bridges and 10981 culverts of different structures and lengths under its management. The physical achievements under RHD during FY 2004-05 to FY 2007-08 (up to December, 2007) are: (i) construction and improvement of 3786 km of roads, (ii) rehabilitation of 2406 km of roads, and (iii) construction of 13476 meters of bridges.

Challenges: The development of road and road transport suffers from a number of challenges:

- Bangladesh has a low-lying topography requiring a raised earth embankment. It has a large number of rivers and canals calling for construction of bridges and culverts at frequent intervals. Moreover, there is scarcity of a number of construction materials like stone, cement, and lime which have to be imported in large quantities. All these factors make building of a road network in Bangladesh very expensive.
- Bangladesh is located in the monsoon region. Due to the influence of monsoon weather, there are torrential rains in Bangladesh for about half of the year washing away road surfaces, particularly the shoulders and earth embankments of the road network.

- Road network is still broken at many places by a number of river gaps. At these river gaps, ferry services are being provided for the movement of vehicular traffic. It kills a lot of road users' time and also creates other related problems for them.

- Although a substantial portion of the national highway is currently being improved through foreign assistance, with better geometric design and higher construction specifications, there is still a large segment of the whole road network which has narrow pavement width, lower axle-load design, detour alignment, horizontal curvature and unstable shoulders requiring correction and improvement.

- In the past the primary need was to construct the road network required to connect all the important urban and commercial centres. With this end in view, the primary road network was built. But construction specifications and standards used at the time of building the road network was not up to the international standard.

- An important aspect of road transport in Bangladesh is the presence of mixed traffic on the road network. Mechanised and non-mechanised vehicles ply together on the road network in this country. This scenario creates a problem for economic and efficient operation of mechanised vehicles and is to a large extent responsible for traffic accidents on roads. This particular aspect needs special attention while planning and designing the construction of a road.

- The principal inadequacies in the system of building a suitable road network in Bangladesh relate largely to the poor quality of available construction materials and poor construction practices.

Policies and Strategies: The road sector policies and strategies aim at sustainable development, thereby achieving the objectives of accelerated growth, poverty reduction and social development. An Integrated Multi-Modal Transport Plan (IMTP) is being formulated emphasising the maintenance of existing assets and infrastructure and encouraging more investment in Rail and Inland Water transport. The main objectives are reducing transport cost and improving efficiency of expenditure in the transport sector. A Road Master Plan will be adopted for the development of a road network in the country. A National Highway Authority to facilitate public and private participation in road sector development and a Road Fund Authority to enhance implementation of the maintenance programme could be established. Projects would be chosen for implementation with a strong focus on pro-poor growth and gender equity.

A legal and financial framework will be created to encourage private investment in road sector development. Social impact studies particularly for District/Zila Road schemes/projects will be conducted. Asian Highway Routes will be completed according to international standards. The resourceful coastal areas will be brought under the road network system. Regional balance will be established in the road sector development programme. Construction of missing links particularly on the national and regional highway network will be expedited. The Strategic Transport Plan (STP) for Dhaka is being prepared consisting of three major areas of intervention. These are STP for Dhaka, Urban-Transport Policy, and institutional strengthening and capacity building.

All out efforts will be made by the Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA) to construct the 5.58 km long Padma Multipurpose Bridge, the largest infrastructure project in Bangladesh. The proposed bridge when implemented will provide rapid transportation facilities between the east zone and the country's second sea port, Mongla and the largest land port Benapole. The proposed Padma Multipurpose Bridge when implemented will connect 19 Districts of the South-Western part with the Eastern part including the capital city.

The feasibility of construction of another bridge over the Jamuna in the north of the present Jamuna Bridge will be examined. The second Jamuna Bridge will lead to better integration of the farthest North Western part and the Eastern part of the country including the capital city and the port.

Rural Road Connectivity

The main goal of LGED is development of road communication to link growth centres, union parishad headquarters, upazila parishad headquarters, social service institutions like schools, and hospitals with the national road network on a priority basis.

Progress: The progress achieved up to June 2008 in different areas of infrastructure development under the LGED against the benchmark of June 2005 is significant. Construction of Upazila, Union and Village roads is expected to increase from 35550 km in June 2005 to 47354 km in June 2008. Construction of bridges and culverts of Upazila, Union and Village roads is expected to increase from 838487 meters in June 2005 to 918283 meters in June 2008. The coverage under tree plantation is expected to increase from 26143 km in June 2005 to 29342 km in June 2008. Besides, development of growth centres, markets, union parishad complexes, cyclone shelters and Ghats is expected to be quite significant.

Challenges: The problems in the development of roads by the LGED are: (a) lack of availability of land, (b) local conflict in prioritizing roads for development, (c) conflict of interest of various groups, (d) shortage of skilled manpower at union level, (e) inadequate flow of funds, (f) overloaded trucks causing early damage to the pavement, (g) number of gaps in road network increasing road development costs, (h) non-availability of good quality construction materials, and (i) frequent inundation by annual floods.

Policies and Strategies: The strategies and policies for the development of the road system of LGED include finalization and adoption of a Road Master Plan, adoption of a maintenance plan and according higher priority to maintenance over new construction, exploring technological options to construct quality roads with available construction materials, introduction of measures to stop overloading, adoption of procedures to maximize generation of employment for the poor, ensuring quality of construction, more involvement of Local Government Institutions (LGI) and ensuring utilisation and maintenance of constructed facilities.

Railway Transport

Bangladesh Railway (BR), the only railway transportation agency of the country, is a government owned and government managed organization. Railway is a relatively safe and environment friendly transport system. It contributes to poverty reduction by facilitating safe and less expensive movement of a large number of working people, transportation of essential commodities and mass consumption goods as well as other freights. Moreover, BR provides critical transport services to the victims of natural calamities such as flood, cyclone, tornado on an emergency basis.

Main Goal: The main goal of Bangladesh Railway is to sustain its growth momentum to contribute to the development efforts of the country along with its continued help to poor and distressed people through providing wider connectivity and mass transportation facilities at a comparatively cheap price.

Progress: The physical achievements from investment projects during the PRSP Period (up to January, 2008) are construction of 438.43 km of new track, rehabilitation of 1095.04 km of main line, rehabilitation of 193 km of branch lines, remodelling of 29 stations, modernization of 37 Signalling Systems, procurement of 44 Locomotives, 84 Carriages, 100 wagons & brake vans, and rehabilitation of 24 Locomotives, 380 Carriages and 180 wagons & brake vans.

Challenges: The current problems of the Bangladesh Railway include lack of capacity building, lack of proper servicing facilities and delay in finalization of tenders. The current performance of BR is unsatisfactory owing to a number of reasons. Passengers and freight fares were last updated in 1992 and in the mean time fuel & other operation costs have increased by about 400 percent. The railway network of Bangladesh which was inherited from undivided India is totally unsuitable for the present changed traffic flow requirements. No investment has been made to re-orient the railway network towards the capital city, shorten the distance between Chittagong port and other cities and connect Mongla Port or other areas where rail network does not exist. While the competitive road network has increased significantly, no matching expansion of the rail network has been made. Due to lack of an adequate maintenance budget rail tracks & other infrastructures and rolling stocks are in a deplorable condition resulting in poor performance of BR.

Strategies: To overcome the problems a master plan for the development of BR is under preparation by the Planning Commission. Several projects for double tracking to enhance the line capacity of the Dhaka-Chittagong Corridor have been undertaken. The maintenance budget of the Railway has been increased by about 40 percent and a three-year maintenance rolling plan has been prepared against WB's Development Policy Credit. Several rehabilitation type projects have been undertaken and some are in the pipeline. A separate Railway Division needs to be formed under the Ministry of Communication to solve the existing problems and allow the poor and common people more access to the rail transport services as a cheaper mode of transportation.

Water Transport

The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) is mainly responsible for the development and maintenance of inland waterways including the development and operation of inland river ports and performing the required regulatory functions.

Main Goal: The main goal of BIWTA is to ensure smooth and safe navigation for the movement of cargo and passenger vessels. The poorer section of the society use inland water transport (IWT) for travelling as well as for marketing and distributing inputs and outputs. The improvement of inland waterways will reduce time and transport cost which will help expand trade and commerce and related activities with favourable impacts on the overall economy of the country including the poor. It will particularly benefit the people in the coastal areas (12.5 percent of rural population) where no alternative mode of transport is available. .

Progress: During the period of the 1st PRSP (2005-08) BIWTA completed a number of activities which include (i) construction of bus and truck terminal including infrastructure at Paturia ferry ghat, (ii) construction of watercrafts stations including landing facilities at 3 upazilas, i.e. Cox's Bazar Sadar, Sandwip and Monpura in the coastal area, (iii) installation, reinstallation, modernization and expansion of navigational equipment for smooth and safe day and night navigation for IWT vessels, and (iv) increasing navigability by dredging of Gabkhan canal connecting Dhaka – Mongla and Chittagong – Mongla river routes. Besides, development of navigability of 4 important river routes by dredging is targeted for completion by June 2008.

Challenges: Due to reduction in stream flows and cross- boundary flows, siltation of rivers, and reduction of tidal volume, the navigability of inland waterways has been gradually deteriorating. As a result, the length of navigable inland waterways declined from 8400 km during the monsoon and 5200 km during the dry season in 1984 to 6000 km and 3800 km respectively in recent years, hindering the smooth plying of IWT vessels and creating obstructions to the drainage of flood water. Gradual deterioration of navigability in inland waterways is the main problem obstructing development of inland water transport. The other problem is the lack of integration with other modes of transport.

Strategies: In order to overcome current and emerging problems prevailing in inland water transport, an IWT sector strategy will be developed including a Master Plan and dredging strategy. A massive programme for procurement of new dredgers and dredging along the important waterways and river routes needs to be undertaken. IWT infrastructure will be constructed to handle the growing volume of traffic. The construction of an inland river container terminal at Pangaon on the river Buriganga near Dhaka is underway. With completion of this terminal the initial annual handling capacity of 1,16,000 TEUs will be in place and this will increase over time. This will reduce the congestion of container traffic of maritime ports. The feasibility of constructing more river-based container terminals needs to be studied. Besides, the IWTA has to make provision for providing port facilities at different landing ports, landing facilities at coastal areas, and pontoons at way-side landings and introducing circular waterways in and around Dhaka city. Measures will be undertaken to ensure safety and security of IWT.

Sea Ports

Chittagong Port: Before the state of emergency was declared in January 2007, the inefficiency, costliness, insecurity and related issues made Chittagong Port one of the insecure, inefficient and costly ports of the world. The productivity and performance indicators were low. Recent reforms initiatives and elimination of irregularities have substantially enhanced the productivity and efficiency of the Port. Major problems and issues impeding port efficiency are: (a) inadequate inland distribution system by road, rail & inland waterways, (b) lack of trade facilitation measures, (c) lack of a nationwide multimodal transport network for efficient connectivity, (d) lack of appropriate rules and regulations for ensuring a business friendly environment, and (e) lack of effective coordination among stakeholders. The main strategy to overcome the problems and achieve the goals is to increase port capacity and port efficiency through construction of a Container Terminal at the New Mooring area, construction of back-up facilities, implementation of the Chittagong Port Trade Facilitation Project, capital dredging of Karnaphuli river, construction of an Inland Container terminal at Pangoan, construction of Karnaphuli Container Terminal, construction of Patenga Container Terminal and implementation of the Port Efficiency Improvement Plan. The Ministry of shipping is conducting a Deep Sea Port feasibility study.

Mongla Port: Mongla Port has enough potential to turn it into a fully utilized port but still lags behind due to infrastructural constraints of transportation by road and inadequate railway links with its hinterland, lack of silos and absence of oil bunkering facilities. Moreover, the shutting down of the jute industries of the south-western region of the country has caused a tremendous decline in the export of jute and jute-goods through this port. The main development goals of Mongla Port are optimum utilization of existing infrastructure facilities, overcoming the bottlenecks of port operation, provision of quality and efficient services to the port users and the business community and developing the necessary back-up facilities.

Land Ports: The Government of Bangladesh formed the Bangladesh Sthala Bandar Kartripaksha (BSBK) or Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA) under Act 10 of 2001 and has given the responsibility for 13 Land Ports including the Benapole Land Port to the Authority. Later, the government decided to hand over the 12 land ports except the Benapole Land Port to private entrepreneurs to carry out the day to day operations of the ports under the Private Sector Investment Guidelines. Accordingly, contractual agreements have been signed with private parties for the operation of 6 Land Ports, namely Sonamasjid, Hili, Banglabandha, Birol, Teknaf and Bibirbazar. So far, the Sonamasjid and Hili land ports have gone into operation and necessary constructions are going on in the other 4 ports. The rest of the ports are in the process of being handed over to the private parties. Meanwhile, a Master Plan has been prepared for the development of the Benapole Land Port in June 2006 and it is being implemented to develop the Port's facilities and operation. The effectiveness and efficiency of land ports will be enhanced after

these measures are fully implemented. They will also create an environment of competition between public and private operated land ports.

Air Transport: During the period July 2003-December 2008, the physical work to upgrade Osmani International Airport for the operation of wide bodied aircraft has been completed. The physical work of extension, modernization and construction of passenger terminal buildings at Osmani International Airport is in progress. Besides, the Authority has taken up a plan for upgrading of Zia International Airport.

4.3.3 Post and Telecommunication

Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board (BTTB) has turned into two separate public limited companies namely Bangladesh Telecommunications Company Limited (BTCL) and Bangladesh Submarine Cable Company Limited (BSCCL). The Government is committed to ensure a fair business environment in telecommunication sector for all public and private limited companies to develop telecommunication infrastructure and to provide quality voice and data services with a competitive price. During the last 5 years government implemented a number of projects to install digital exchanges, introduce Pre-Paid service, distribute one million T&T Mobile Telephones, install Digital Telephone Lines, and establish an International Telecommunication System through Submarine Cables. Providing telecommunication services and developing telecom and internet infrastructure will be the prime objectives of all the service providers in this sector. The Government will collect revenue from the service providers serving in the high profit areas and give subsidy to the telecommunication and internet service providers who have been serving the people in the low/non profit areas.

The main goal of Bangladesh Post Office (BPO) is to improve the quality of services by making it efficient and effective. Sporadic efforts made during the last 5 years resulted in little progress. The BPO has been facing problems for lack of an ICT-based postal network and competition in the postal business. The strategies for the development of BPO will focus on the introduction of an ICT-based postal network to keep it connected with customers, bringing qualitative changes in postal services, establishing e-centers in the post offices, continuous improvement of products, work process reengineering, creating a business development cell and providing quality services to the people.

4.3.4 Housing and Shelter

"Housing for all by 2025" has been adopted as the slogan for developing housing and shelter for urban and rural areas of Bangladesh. In essence, housing provides shelter, security, social inclusion and citizen's rights. Housing is thus indispensable for the development of the individual(s) within cohesive family units. The emphasis on housing development is in agreement with the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh which guarantees its citizens provision of the basic necessities of life, including food, clothing, shelter, education and medical care. Government of Bangladesh is keen to solve the housing problem and to create an enabling and conducive environment to accommodate the weaker sections of the population. The other strategic goals of housing development are to:

- Create an enabling environment for adequate and affordable housing for different income groups, especially low-income and extreme poor and vulnerable groups;
- Provide housing for rural and urban homeless, landless and vulnerable groups;
- Ensure maximum utilization of land in urban and rural areas; and
- Facilitate private sector house building and house building by NGOs and CBOs.

Structural Changes in Housing: House structures have been predominantly of tin/wood (53.3 %) in Bangladesh, 59.1 % in rural areas and 33.9 % in urban areas. The percentage of semi-pucca and tin/wood has increased during the period from 2002 to 2006 (Table 4.2).

Table 4.2: Structural Change in Housing, 2000 to 2006

Year	% of Rural Houses			% of Urban Houses		
	Pucca (Concrete)	Semi-Pucca	Others	Pucca (Concrete)	Semi-Pucca	Others
2000	1. 76	8. 04	9. 20	43. 57	20. 46	35. 97
2001	1. 77	9. 19	89. 04	44. 51	20. 27	35. 22
2002	3. 84	5. 44	90. 69	29. 81	19. 49	50. 68
2003	3. 35	6. 95	89.70	31. 40	19. 99	48. 61
2004	2. 62	6. 32	91.06	34. 58	21. 28	44. 14
2005	2. 83	8. 00	89. 17	34. 73	20. 19	45. 08
2006	2. 83	8. 06	89. 11	35. 06	20. 19	44. 75

Source: BBS, SVRS, 2007: p. 19

In the rural areas, semi-pucca construction has increased and in case of urban areas, pucca house construction has increased. The "others" category of house construction has also increased. During 1982-2006, per capita availability of floor space has decreased to 47 sq. ft. in rural areas, and to 69 sq. ft. in urban areas. However, data reveal that within the period 2002-2006 average availability of floor space has remained almost the same. On the whole, there is a felt need to address the quantity and quality of housing in Bangladesh. In the urban areas, standards are not adhered to, with little or no provision for earthquake protection in buildings, especially high-rise structures.

Future Challenges: Assuming that the population will grow to 25 crore in 2025 from its base in 2001 and corresponding housing stock, the vision for 2025 will have to set up a system whereby housing for 25 lakh families is made available annually. Further, the quality of housing and enhancement of affordability and accessibility will have to be considered since the 2001 data reveal that only one-third of dwellings are built of concrete and semi-concrete material. The main problem lies in land prices, which becomes incrementally prohibitive in both rural and urban areas, especially for housing. Thus there arises a need to resort to strategies like 'Compact Townships' for the rural areas. It is projected that, in case of population growth at 1% juxtaposed with unplanned housing, the year 2050 will witness a situation when all the land will be required solely for housing, not to mention infrastructure, transportation, industries etc. competing for valuable land producing food crops.

Policies and Strategies: The Land Policy of 2001 will be updated to take into cognizance the particular constraints within which the extreme poor operate. A comprehensive data base that relates to an updated list of authentic landless, marginal, ethnic, vulnerable, disaster prone, food insecure communities, especially distressed women with children, a Land Management Policy, in conjunction with the data base and relations with the Land Use Policy of 2006 will form the basis for delineating the land that could be allocated for housing and particularly for the poor. The Land Acquisition Act will be modified and rationalized to formulate a rational strategy under the auspices of a land acquisition policy. This policy will attempt to make available a minimum quantity of relatively less fertile and unusable land if non-agricultural Khas land is not available. In the urban sphere, the provisions of the Town Improvement Act of 1953 and the Land Zoning Laws will be enforced while in the rural areas, the Village Improvement Act will be enforced.

Land is scarce. The proliferation of land-users has resulted in two distinct urban problems. The first is that of encroachment of urban land use into peripheral agricultural lands and common resources like fallow land and water bodies. The second is the proliferation of slums and squatter settlements

within the urban areas. As the need for urban services multiplies with the rapid influx of migrating people, the authorities fail to provide the necessary services to the people. Land speculation has become disproportionately intense and is manipulated by a select few. Finance for housing has also become exorbitant, scarce, and beyond the reach of the majority.

The price of land is higher in urban areas but there is no ceiling on private ownership of urban land. There should be a ceiling on private ownership of urban land and in cases land has been acquired by the government, compensation could be increased. The urban housing management team's ability to supervise Cooperative Housing Societies' capacity to plan, budget, supervise, and allocate housing within prescribed norms will be improved.

Other options might include cooperatives with resale restrictions that may be formed to develop community-based housing as it ensures many of the guarantees that are coincident with home-ownership. Ideally, each new owner purchases a share for a minimal down payment. Each owner's portion of the common mortgage, plus a fee for maintenance and operating expenses will be deposited in monthly instalments. In case an owner wishes to move, the cooperative will buy back the share, which then is resold to a new owner. New financing or real estate fees are not involved because the whole process takes place within the cooperative corporation.

Compulsory legislation, tax penalties, benefits and other incentives may be adopted requiring private and public enterprises to allocate a portion of their annual investment or profits to housing and related programmes, either directly or through the purchase of housing bonds. As land represents the major cost in the provision of housing and urban facilities, the administrative machinery of the government and other public authorities can take action to acquire land in advance and develop it for lease or sale for designated purposes. Alternatively, they could employ a wide range of techniques to ensure that the incremental value of land, particularly that which results from government investment, accrues to the benefit of the community.

The emerging concerns to prioritize are housing and infrastructure standards, housing finance, drainage, maintenance of conservancy services and alleviation of substandard urban living bereft of green belts and water bodies. The Government will also integrate planning of linked activities; strengthen institutions concerned with urban management and development through local resource mobilization, delegation of authority and community involvement.

Cooperatives with resale restrictions could be viable options for multifamily community-based housing, since they provide many of the guarantees ordinarily associated with home ownership. Such cooperatives are customarily operated through a democratically run, non-profit corporation which holds a single mortgage on the property. Recently night shelters for homeless people in urban areas have been built under the auspices of MoPHW and more are planned in all district towns. NGOs have also been active in this regard. Night shelters may be constructed in all district cities to provide a night's rest to the poor, floating population, vagabonds, the vulnerable and the needy.

For long-term planning purpose, policies could be formulated for future land acquisition and for ensuring equitable compensation in cash or kind to the original owners. The process of implementation would need to be synchronized simultaneously with acquisition. The Bangladesh strategy for collateral-free loans to the poor could be extended to the housing sector finance where groups or cooperatives could be recognized as viable units for land ownership and acquisition powers.

Lack of an appropriate policy, dearth of planned initiatives, high cost of serviced land, inadequate public and private financing, deterioration of quality pose constraints on a basic need like housing. With regard to the quality of the housing environment in Dhaka, about 70% of total housing stock was rented. Many buildings have not followed the Building Code Standards, either in layout, usage, or in design and provision of earthquake proofing.

The delayed land transfer and title registration results in retarding urban development. High land price in urban areas, especially in big cities, is acting as a prohibitive factor to the supply of housing to all but high-income groups. Basically, Dhaka's housing problem stems from its exorbitant land price. In Dhaka, there are three types of housing provision- the public sector, the private sector and individual effort. Population pressure in the Dhaka Metropolitan Area causes urban services to be strained. In addition to land scarcity, land speculation, and endemic corruption result in high land price. High land price is also due to the system of land registration. The dearth of valuable urban land, and the lag in urban planning and implementation, have made it prohibitive for the middle and low-income households. Consequently, the quality of the housing environment is deteriorating.

R&D Policies: There are lacunae in research, innovation, training and dissemination in housing sector that need to be overcome. With a view to optimizing the use of resources, emphasis will be given on evolving and promoting low cost housing technology suited for middle and lower income groups of people. The Housing Policy 2004 emphasized that house constructions will be utilitarian and housing costs will be economized, wider application of low cost technology and optimum use of resources at all levels will be encouraged and extravagance in construction will be discouraged in public and private buildings. It makes provision for increasing production of cement, steel, bricks, recycled industrial wastes and agricultural wastes for building purposes, promoting small-scale industries that produce construction materials and incorporating low cost technologies and building materials into the national standards. Besides providing technology, skill upgrading training will be given through government agencies, universities, research bodies, NGOs etc. Existing R&D institutions and facilities will be further improved.

4.4 Strategic Block IV: Social Protection for the Vulnerable

In achieving faster poverty reduction, attention must be given to activities that are directly targeted to benefit the extreme poor, women in poverty, landless poor and other vulnerable groups. To protect the poor from falling into further poverty attention has to be given to at least five areas. These are: Social Safety Net Programmes; Food Security; Disaster Management; Micro-credit and Rural Non-farm Activities (RNFA)/Rural Development.

4.4.1 Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs)

Taking into account various global and local views, the concept of safety net may be defined operationally to include all kinds of cash and kind transfers to the poor, all welfare activities, unemployment benefits for retrenched workers, subsidized health care, shelters for the homeless, subsidized services like diesel, pension benefits, which prevent individuals from falling into poverty beyond a certain level. The safety net is widely regarded as a means to achieve some goals like poverty alleviation, reduction of vulnerability, decrease of disparity, crime reduction, recovery from illness, home for the shelter-less, human development, opportunities to earn a livelihood etc. Supporting income generating activities in the informal private sector for the poor can also be included.

During the last two decades, the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has been pursuing a number of safety net programmes. Almost all ministries or agencies are pursuing some works directly or indirectly which are contributing to poverty alleviation or adding to the well-being and empowerment of the poor. Available information shows that there are 5 types of social safety net programmes: (a) cash support programme; (b) food aid programme; (c) special programme for poverty reduction; (d) self-employment through micro credit; and (e) some specific programmes for poverty alleviation. Over time the social safety net programmes have been getting increasing attention from the government as well as from non-governmental organizations. The proposed Social Safety Net budget is about 2.8 percent of the GDP for the FY 2008-09 (Annex-4) In case of the social safety net there has been a shift in approach. Earlier the basis for the social safety net was mainly a *charity approach*, which has increasingly become a right-based *development approach*. At present,

the social safety net activities are based on five criteria. These are i. income criteria; ii. occupational criteria; iii. physical ability criteria; iv. ethnic criteria; iv. gender and children criteria; and v. regional disparity criteria.

Under **income** criteria, the policies cover both the poor and the hardcore poor but do not cover all of them. Therefore it is not comprehensive. In **occupational** criteria some socially excluded groups like sex-workers are covered but scheduled castes, Harijans, sweepers, fishermen of the Bay of Bengal etc. are not covered. Child labour has been covered again in a limited manner. In that sense it is also not comprehensive. Under different types of **disability criteria** persons with disability have been partly covered. Still millions of persons with disabilities remain unattended. Under **ethnicity criteria** most programmes are mainly covering the Bengali people with some sporadic coverage of the ethnic minorities. Different documents show that there are more than 70 groups of ethnic minorities in Bangladesh who are to be addressed by the social safety net. For the Chittagong area there are few safety net projects. Under the **regional dimension** there is little coverage of some backward areas or less accessible areas like Monga prone areas, haor areas or other hard to reach group areas. In case of hard to reach areas like Dublar Char and other Char lands there is hardly any effective social safety net.

Progress during NSAPR: During the last two decades, the Government of Bangladesh (GOB) has been pursuing a number of safety net programmes. There are at least 47 well recognized SSNPs which have been implemented by different ministries or agencies. Some of the main projects/programmes are:

(i) *Old-Age allowance scheme*: Presently about 7 percent of the population i.e. 10 million people are elderly. Out of 10 million, only 2 million (20.0 percent) are covered under the old age allowance programme in FY2009 which shows the enormity of the task remaining unaccomplished. At present only 47.0% are covered from the most vulnerable sections.

(ii) *Allowance scheme for widowed and distressed women*: In 2007-08 Taka 184.8 crore has been allocated as Allowances for the Widowed, Deserted and Destitute Women. The total member of beneficiaries has been 7.0 lakhs. By 2010-11 the total budgetary allocation is projected to increase to Taka 200 crore. Gradually, all eligible widow and distressed women will be covered and their allowances would also be increased.

(iii) *Allowance for distressed persons with disabilities*: At present 200 thousand persons with disability have been covered under this programme where each person is given Tk.220 per month.

(iv) *Maternity allowance for poor mothers*: Cash allowance is being made available to poor pregnant mothers after three months of pregnancy for the duration of two years in order to improve their nutrition levels. This programme, introduced in 2007/08, plans to cover 45 thousand women from 3 thousand unions, or 15 mothers from each Union Parishad.

(v) *State honorarium for the freedom fighters:* Under the state honorarium 1.0 lakh insolvent freedom fighters are given Tk. 600 per month and under the crippled freedom fighters allowance programme 9793 persons are given an allowance.

(vi) *Programmes for the orphans*: For the state orphanages (*Sarkari Shishu Paribar*) the grant/capitation grant is Tk.1500 per person/month covering 10375 children and for the non-government orphanages Tk. 700 is given per orphan/month covering 45000 in FY 2008.

(vii) *Subsidy on fuel*: Due to increased prices of petroleum, a fuel subsidy is given to the marginal farmers. The budget for FY 2008 was Tk. 750 crore.

(viii) *Stipend for primary students*: The programme is for covering around 55 lakh students of the primary level across the country with an allocation of Tk. 500 crore in FY 2008. About 40 percent of the students from poor families are covered under this programme.

(ix) *Stipend for dropout students*: The programme covers around 5 lakh students at the primary level across the country for which Tk. 589 million was provided in FY 2008.

(x) *Stipend for girl students*: The programme is covering around 30 lakh girl students across the country with an allocation of Tk. 2324.8 crore in FY 2008.

(xi) *Educational stipend for students with disabilities:* A Stipend programme for the poor students with disabilities at all levels of education has been introduced. Under the programme the stipend for the primary level is Tk. 300; for the secondary level Tk. 450, for the higher secondary level Tk. 600, and for the university level Tk. 1000 only. The budget for the programme for 2007/8 is Tk. 5 crore.

(xii) *Fund for garments workers training and support*: A new programme was introduced for retrenched workers of the garments sector in 2007/8. The total budget for the programme from the government side is Tk.20 crore.

(xiii) *Temporary unemployment removal*: Poor people facing temporary unemployment, for example, workers in Monga areas are assisted from this fund. In FY 2008 the budget for the programme was Tk. 50 crore.

(xiv) *Employment programme for the hardcore poor*: To create employment for the hardcore poor in FY 2008 Tk. 100 crore has been allocated.

(xv) *Disaster affected farmers' fund*: Immediately after a natural disaster loss of jobs and decline in the wage rate affect the entitlement of the poor. In order to combat such a situation, GoB kept a provision of Tk.100 crore in FY 2008.

(xvi) *Rural mother centre (RMC):* RMC provides the distressed rural mother with interest- free micro credit, training in primary health care, family planning and informal education. About 12,965 mother centres have been established in 318 Upazilas of the country.

(xvii) *Maternal health voucher scheme:* This programme is implemented by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare with a total budget of Tk. 126 crore in FY 2008.

(xviii) *Community nutrition programme*: The community nutrition programme is planned for increasing the nutritional status of the poor with an allocation of Tk. 158 crore in FY2008. As the nutritional status of the poor (19 percent are hardcore poor) is very low, more allocation is needed to increase coverage. The programme covers 105 upazilas in 34 districts and about 2.86 crore people through 23,244 Community Nutrition Centres (CNC). The core services of NNP include training, BCC activities, birth weight recording, growth monitoring and promotion (GMP) activities, food supplementation for the malnourished children and pregnant and lactating women, micro nutrient supplementation (Vita-A and Iron-folate) and an adolescent forum and services.

Limitations of SSNPs: Despite all the positive implications of safety net programmes that have been piloted in the country, they suffer from the following weaknesses: *Minimum coverage:* Not a single safety net programme has got nationwide coverage although the problem prevails across the country. *Inappropriate targeting*: Inclusion of the ineligible or exclusion of eligible persons in the programme is a common phenomenon. In order to identify the most deserving persons for old age allowance or allowances for widows and deserted women, the PRA method could be used in each village/Ward or UP. This may help identify the most deserving person in a community. *Leakage*: Leakage has been reported in some studies on some of the programmes. It is more prevalent in in-kind programmes than in cash programmes. Accordingly, implementation of more cash programmes instead of in-kind programmes has been suggested.

Main Goals: (i) Safety net interventions will achieve the protection of all types of poor people and the prevention of chronic poverty, transient poverty and fall into poverty. It will target the extreme poor first. (ii) The government will encourage NGOs, CBOs and the private sector to augment their role and contributions to increase the social safety net. (iii) Attempts will be made to increase coverage through increased budget allocation each year.

Future Actions

National Social Protection policy: A national social protection policy will be formulated which will give guidelines for resource allocation each year in terms of percentage of GDP and public and private expenditure.

Present programmes: All the programmes undertaken under the social safety net will continue. During the next 3 years (2009 to 2011) Old Age Allowances, Allowance for Insolvent Persons with Disabilities, Stipend Programme for the Student with Disabilities, Allowance for Widows and Distressed Women, Maternity Allowance for Poor Mothers, and small ethnic groups will be expanded in terms of coverage.

Special Programmes for Monga: Monga affected people will get top priority under the social safety net programme.

Hard to reach areas: A separate programme will be undertaken to identify the hard to reach areas and groups and to bring them under SSNP.

Under One umbrella: All small programmes will be brought under one umbrella for smooth implementation.

Targeting: Programming targets will be made consistent with the objectives of the programmes. It is important to set rules for avoiding duplication of programmes with one group of households. Targets could be identified on the basis of the income of the households and assessing the condition of the individuals.

Minimum allowance: Under any safety net programme the minimum allowance may be raised to Tk. 400 with the provision of annual revision to keep pace with inflation.

Widowed women without children: There are a good number of widowed women in Bangladesh without children to support them. A programme may be undertaken under SSNP to protect them.

Recognition of domestic workers: A registration system may be introduced for the domestic workers. There may be a training course for them on using electronic equipment, food preparation and household management which would increase their wages.

Bond for social safety net: Bonds may be floated for mobilizing funds locally and internationally to finance SSNPs.

Allowance programme for Freedom Fighters: An allowance programme cannot be a permanent or effective solution for Freedom Fighters. Vocational training programmes for the Freedom Fighters and their family members may be included in the SSNPs. For self-employment support to Freedom Fighters and their dependants there may be separate allocation under the micro-credit programmes to ensure access to credit.

Free medical services: There may be free medical services for the Freedom Fighters in the CMHs and/or other medical hospitals.

Periodic review: Periodic review of the SSNPs may be institutionalised to assess the effectiveness of major programmes and to reset the priority of the SSNPs.

Regional Focus of SSNPs: The western region of the country, which has relatively higher incidence of poverty, will receive higher priority in all SSNPs.

4.4.2 Food Security

The food security issue is a core issue in the struggle against poverty. Given that a large population is under the lower poverty line one can't address poverty reduction without addressing food security, particularly for the hardcore poor. *"Food security exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life"*. This definition gives emphasis on physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs. Food security or insecurity has several dimensions, such as, level of aggregation (national, regional, rural/urban differential, household, individuals), seasonal production of staples, nutritional balance in diet, people's (both male and female) access to and utilization of food, and temporal uncertainty of supplies often caused by natural disasters and price hikes. It is very important to take into consideration women's role in ensuring food security at the household level.

The Government has formulated several national policies integrating various issues of food security. The National Food and Nutrition Policy, 1997 and the National Plan of Action for Nutrition are more comprehensive and these have served as starting points for the implementation of the policies. In 2006, the Government formulated a National Food Policy, the goal of which is to ensure a dependable food security system for all people of the country at all times. The objectives of the National Food Policy (2006) are to (i) ensure adequate and stable supply of safe and nutritious food; (ii) enhance the purchasing power of the people for increased access to food; and (iii) ensure adequate nutrition for all, especially women, children and persons with disabilities.

Current Food Security Status: Despite significant progress in domestic food grains production, Bangladesh is still facing food insecurity. Forty percent of the population lacks the resources to acquire enough food. The share of cereals to total dietary energy has decreased from 75.4 percent in 2000 to 73.1 percent in 2005. The per capita consumption of edible oil, the high energy food component, has increased from 12.8 gm to 16.5 gm. The consumption of protein has also increased slightly. Intra-household food distribution is often unequal where women and girl children have less food than men and boys. The per capita consumption of meat and eggs by the urban consumers is almost the same as for the rural consumers. However, consumption of those items falls far short of the requirement. The high consumption of cereals but low intake of pulses and animal based proteins results in a high level of anaemia and other micro-nutrient deficiencies.

The Government operates a member of programmes to ensure food security in the country. They include: (i) Open Market Sales (OMS); (ii) FFW Programme; (iii) VGD Programme; (iv) VGF Programme; (v) Tests Relief (TR); (vi) Gratuitous Relief; (vii) Food Aid to CHT Area People; (viii) Food Subsidy; and (ix) Employment in Char Areas**.** Of these FFW, VGD, VGF, TR and GR are the major programmes under which 1672 thousand MT of food worth Tk. 4553 crore was distributed in 2007-08.

Domestic Production and Stock: The Ministry of Food conducts an annual assessment of the food situation in the country based on the food production forecast, food requirement, food stock and food import. Data generated are not always dependable as production is sometimes overestimated. As a result, while food production data implies little requirement of food imports, the reality may be quite different. Currently, the Government has a stock of over 0.6 million MT of food grains, including 0.21 million MT of wheat. The Government procured 0.8 million MT of food grains in FY 2007-08.

Food Import: Import of food either by the private or the public sector does not follow any pattern. It depends on the gap between food grains production and demand accentuated by damage to production caused by floods and other natural disasters. The usual food imports of the country have been around 2.0 - 2.5 million MT. Import of rice has been around 800-1295 thousand MT and

import of wheat has been around 2.0 million MT. India has been the major source of rice imports while wheat has been imported mainly from the US and Australia. In 2007-08 3.9 million MT of food grains were imported. The recent price hike of rice in the international market has created a challenge to food security in Bangladesh. It may be noted that the price of 5% broken Vietnamese rice escalated from US$313 per MT in September 2007 to US$ 750 in March 2008 and that of 25% broken Indian rice shot up from US$ 302 to US$ 1000 during the same period.

Food quality and safety: The Government is committed to ensure quality and safe food to its people. To this end the Government has enacted a law entitled 'Bangladesh Pure Food (amendment) Act, 2005'. The Government has taken an initiative to strengthen the Bangladesh Standard and Testing Institution (BSTI). Other Acts related to food safety include 'Radiation Protection Act, 1987', 'Essential Commodity Act, 1990', and 'Fish and Fish Product Rules, 1997'. As food safety has been a clear and important dimension of food security, GoB will strengthen its effort to ensure food safety and security during the NSAPR II period.

Food budget: There is a separate budget for food procurement and distribution. It was Tk. 4,553 crore in the 2007-08 budget.

Domestic Production Management: Management of food grains production is a difficult task as it depends both on nature and production management. State support in agriculture plays a vital role in increasing productivity as well as total production. The strategies and policies of the government in raising productivity and production are discussed in the Section on Agriculture.

Access to food: Main problems of access relate to lack of purchasing power, seasonality, spatial dimension and market access and market functionality including the gender dimension. Considerable intra-household disparity and discrimination persist in food consumption. Girls and women are more malnourished than boys and men.

Vision: The vision in this area is to ensure food security at national, regional and household levels particularly to the poor. The goals are to

(a) Increase food production, particularly cereal production;

(b) Remove all kinds of hunger and starvation; eliminate cryogenic, seasonal and transitory food insecurity;

(c) Reduce all kinds of intra-household food insecurity;

(d) Introduce approaches which include stocking of enough food, distributing food among the most vulnerable households, and providing food subsidy for disadvantaged groups;

(e) Tag food distribution with development work wherever possible;

(f) Strengthen the food distribution system by keeping prices competitive and expand public food grain distribution systems like OMS.

Future Actions: To ensure food security for the nation and particularly for the extreme poor and the poor the Government will (i) maintain an optimum level of food stock; (ii) ensure access to food at an affordable price for the hardcore poor, the disadvantaged groups and persons with disabilities; (iii) operate special food programme in the poverty/disaster prone areas; (iv) increase awareness about safe and nutritious food through the mass media and school education; (v) ensure food security by strengthening the public procurement system; (vi) distribute food under VGD cards area-wise in proportion to the population living below poverty line; (vii) ensure adequate coverage under VGD; (viii) strengthen OMS for increasing access to food for the urban poor; (ix) encourage domestic cereal production; (x) encourage building of cold storage plants, giving guidance to banks for assessing the scope of financing these; (xi) encourage supply of nutritious food including pulses and oil seeds through high quality seeds, technology and credit support to the

farmers; (xii) cooperative agricultural marketing to maintain stable prices of food; (xiii) introduce crop insurance; and (xiv) improve food management and monitoring in the domestic and world markets to avert future crises.

4.4.3 Disaster Management (DM)

A disaster is the impact of a natural or man-made hazard that negatively affects society or the environment. Because of its large population and unique geo-climatic conditions, Bangladesh has become the worst victim of natural calamities causing large loss of lives and properties almost every year. Disasters affect the poor people disproportionately and often make the non-poor poor or transient-poor.

The vision for disaster management is prevention and protection of lives and properties from any kind of hazards with priority given to disaster risk management along with mitigation.

Nature and magnitude of disaster: The most common type of disaster in Bangladesh is flood, which affects lives, properties and the environment. One noteworthy phenomenon is the reduced incidence of death which is a result of the improved disaster management capacity of the country (Table 4.3). However, in terms of damage caused to the economy cyclones in the coastal areas are the worst disasters.

Table 4.3: Comparison of Flood Situation

	1988	1998	2004	2007
Inundated Area	61 percent	68 percent	38 percent	46 districts; 32000 Sq Km
Duration of Flood	23 days	72 days	21 days	24th July 2007 5th - 15th September 2007
Persons Affected	45 million	31 million	36 million	16 million
Total Deaths	2335 persons	918 persons	800 persons	649 persons
Loss of Income/ Assets	US$ 330 million	US$ 2 billion	US$ 2.2 billion	US$ 1.06 billion

Policy and Strategic Support to DM: The Government of Bangladesh emphasises on disaster risk management in a cost effective manner. The draft Disaster Management Act has identified a group of broad-based strategies, which include: *First*, disaster management will involve management of both risk and consequences. *Secondly*, the community will be involved in protecting lives and properties with greater involvement of local government bodies. *Thirdly*, non-structural mitigation measures like community disaster preparedness, training and advocacy need to be emphasized. The Government policy for proper handling of disasters is to co-ordinate the efforts taken at different stages in the disaster management cycle, like disaster management practice, disaster mitigation, emergency preparedness, emergency response, disaster management mechanism, early recovery and immediate rehabilitation, space technology and disaster management, space technology in disaster prediction, warning, flood monitoring mapping and use of internet facilities for disaster monitoring, prediction and information dissemination.

Institutional Arrangement: The government has taken a number of significant steps during the last few years for building up institutional capacity from national to union levels for effective and systematic disaster management. The Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) was created after the devastating cyclone of 1991. The Bureau is performing specialist functions and ensuring coordination with line departments, agencies and NGOs by convening meetings of the Disaster Management Training and Public Awareness Building Task Force (DMTATF), Focal Point Operational Co-ordination Group on Disaster Management (FPOCG), NGO Co-ordination Committee on Disaster Management (NGOCC) and Committee for Speedy Dissemination of Disaster Related Warning Signals (CSDDWS) and through other enhanced activities. Through direct

involvement of DMB the Standing Orders on Disaster (SOD) have been prepared to act as a guidebook for all disaster management programmes in the country. Recently, the Government has given permission for setting up the community radio. Fish trawlers are not well equipped to get the disaster signal well ahead although the equipment does not cost much.

The Disaster Management Bureau (DMB) is trying to ensure mainstreaming disaster management and risk reduction into national policies, institutions and development processes. The Disaster Management Information Centre (DMIC) has been established under DMB. DMIC has started to forecast floods and disseminate information from the beginning of floods. A DMB Website has been launched. DMB has taken an initiative to develop a Disaster Management Dictionary for those involved in dealing with disasters.

Coordination and Management: The Government has adopted a multilevel decentralized mechanism of Councils and Committees from the national level to the grassroots levels. The high-powered National Disaster Management Council (NDMC) and Inter-Ministerial Disaster Management Co-ordination Committee (IMDMCC) have developed as effective bodies to promote and coordinate risk-reduction, preparedness activities and mitigation measures. While NDMC formulates and reviews disaster management policies and issues directives to all concerned, the IMDMCC plays a key role in implementing the directives, maintaining inter-Ministerial coordination, supervising the services of the Armed Forces as well as NGOs working in the field of disaster management in the country.

Prevention Mechanism

Cyclone Preparedness Programme: In close association with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, the MOFDM is implementing a Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP) in the 12 coastal districts of the country to minimize loss of lives and properties in cyclones by strengthening the disaster management capacity of coastal people. A revised Cyclone Warning Signal has been sent to concerned agencies. The Government's CDMP is a strategic institutional and programming approach that is designed to optimize the reduction of long-term risk and to strengthen the operational capacities for responding to emergencies and disaster situations.

Protection Mechanism: In order to protect the people from disasters LGIs, NGOs and sometimes the armed forces of the country work together. In all the districts the local NGOs have already done some awareness building work. The Government in collaboration with the Bangladesh Red Crescent Society has also conducted many awareness creation and training programmes.

Mitigation Mechanism: The Government has been pursuing two major types of mitigation programmes, namely, structural and non-structural disaster mitigation.

Structural Mitigation: The Government has so far constructed 1841 cyclone shelters and 200 flood shelters. Over the last 4 decades about 8200 km of flood protection embankments, 3400 km drainage canals and 900 sluice gates and regulators on different rivers and canals have been constructed.

Non-structural Mitigation: Non-structural mitigation comprises: (i) preparedness and possibility of action to reduce losses, and (ii) better coordination mechanism among all actors involved. Practical measures pursued under non-structural mitigation include legislation, policy and planning, training and public awareness, institutional arrangements, warning systems-flood warning system and cyclone warning system and a local disaster action plan.

Risk Reduction: The Microfinance Institutions are encouraged to use micro finance as a tool for disaster risk reduction. A Disaster Risk Reduction Fund has been introduced by the Ministry of

Food and Disaster Management for helping the poor people who earn below Tk. 3500 per month, have been severely affected by the disasters and have lost income generating assets to enable them to continue with income generating activities.

Fund for Disaster Management: The programme aims to mitigate the impact of disasters. It is used just after the disaster in any area.

People's Participation in DM: Over the last couple of years people's response or participation in disaster management has increased both in mitigating the adverse effects and early recovery. People have developed their own transportation system and have learned how to survive in post-disaster conditions. People have also learned how to reduce adverse effects of disasters like floods and cyclones. For example, in many flood prone areas people have been raising the land level of their homestead, constructing protection walls and helping in maintaining embankments. They are also voluntarily attending orientation meetings organised by different agencies. People have also learned the mechanism of early recovery by undertaking quick actions for agricultural rehabilitation, going for resumption of NFA, and taking loans from the formal and informal sectors.

A significant dimension of government efforts to create a 'disaster resilient nation' is to create a mechanism to clarify and strengthen the roles of stakeholders like NGOs, the civil society and academia. Disaster risk reduction has been incorporated into the intervention of many NGOs and civil society institutions. A disaster management awareness programme has been incorporated into the curricula of primary and secondary schools. The media is also playing a proactive role in this regard. The Bangladesh Red Crescent Society is also particularly active in mobilizing efforts for risk reduction.

Social afforestation may reduce risk by providing better protection against disaster, and can also make good use of people's involvement in the project. Likewise, people's participatory maintenance of embankments should be pursued as it was once tested and found suitable by the BWDB.

Challenges

Signalling: The cyclone signal system needs to be improved further as it is not at all clear to common people. An early signal will definitely help people to take more preparation. Sometimes people do not get enough time to take necessary preparation. The present tidal bore or storm surge signal is not always reliable. Flood forecasting is more realistic except for flash floods but preparation for mitigating the adverse effects need to be improved further. At present flood forecast is possible only for 3-4 days. Efforts are underway to make flood forecasts before 6-7 days.

Weak Coordination: Disaster management involves a huge number of stakeholders but often there is inadequate coordination. Coordination among the government agencies, NGOs and civil society institutions needs to be strengthened further. There is still lack of coordination and management at grassroots level. For example, at the Union and Upazila level the disaster management committee is not always active.

Lack of Insurance Coverage: Property loss is hardly covered by insurance. The insurance system needs to be developed so that it can cover disaster-related losses of property.

Overlap in Relief Distribution and Rehabilitation Initiatives: Relief distribution is uneven among affected people. Immediate support goes only to the accessible areas.

Lack of Adequate Health Facilities: Health care services are considered inadequate to meet the health care demand of the disaster victims. Sometimes quick transportation of the affected people is not possible. Injured people sometimes do not get treatment instantly, and this causes more loss of lives.

Slow Preparation for Emerging and Potential Disaster: Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to sea-level rise. One estimate shows that a one-meter rise in sea level will affect 16% of rice production and 13 million people. Rice varieties for the saline areas are in the process of development but other preparations including structural and non-structural ones are yet to be designed and implemented. Also in case of the occurrence of bird flu or "Sars" the nation's preparedness for mitigating the adverse effects is inadequate.

Strategies

Risk Reduction First: The public sector along with NGOs and community organisations are collectively working to reduce the risk of disasters in the country. The greater the understanding of the risk, the better would be the people's ability to cope.

Mitigation: The public sector has a strategy to increase the mitigation capacity of the community and NGOs. Volunteer brigades are being trained on risk mitigation. As mentioned before, the Government is also pursuing two broad types of disaster mitigation, namely structural and non-structural mitigation.

Increased Coordination: Efforts have been continuing for optimum coordination and best utilization of resources along with ensuring community participation so that they are aware of what they can do for protecting their lives and property. In 1999, the Government together with UNDP and other development partners adopted a comprehensive disaster management programme (CDMP).

Tsunami/Earthquake: Two new issues should be given priority in case of Tsunami or earthquake. Bangladesh is not very far from the tsunami zone of the Indian Ocean. A huge population living in a low coastal belt makes it particularly vulnerable to tsunami and the accompanying storm surge. Bangladesh is also likely to face a severe earthquake in future. This calls for critical evaluation of seismic hazards involving major cities in Bangladesh so that proper mitigation measures may be taken in the event of a disaster.

Future Actions: DM needs to be continuously upgraded and strengthened. Various actions to be taken in this area are: (i) Mainstreaming disaster management into national policies, planning, and institutional development; (ii) Strengthening disaster management capacity at the national and local level to minimise the adverse affects; (iii) Increasing community involvement in disaster management; (iv) Ensuring protection of women, children, the aged, and people with disabilities giving due attention to their social status and special needs; (v) Developing a capacity to encourage at the local level the reduction of activities that contribute to the occurrence of disasters and to promote environment friendly activities that contribute to less severe and infrequent occurrences of disasters; (vi) Creating a coping capacity at global, regional, national, local, community, household and individual levels; (vii) Continuing risk assessment to address the new risks arising from the changing national, regional and global situations; (viii) Strengthening attention to environmental management, land-use and urban planning, protection of critical facilities, application of science and technology, and partnership and networking in disaster risk reduction and mitigation; (ix) Strengthening of disaster-related research at the divisional levels especially on flood, cyclone, drought, arsenic contamination, soil degradation, water pollution and bird flu; (x) Increasing capacity of disaster forecasting by introducing community radio throughout the coastal belt and adjoining districts; (xi) Undertaking construction of multipurpose shelters in the cyclone prone coastal areas sad flood prone areas; (xii) Undertaking structural interventions such as construction of embankment, regulator, and flood control mechanism; (xiii) Implementing a coastal disaster management policy; (xiv) Ensuring quick transportation of the victims from the affected areas; and (xv) Introduction of property insurance to cover disaster- related damages.

4.4.4 Micro-credit (MC)

The concept of 'micro-credit' is intended to create employment, support small entrepreneurs and support those living in poverty. The micro-credit movement can be described as the privatization of public safety-net programmes. Implementation of the micro-credit programme reduces the cost of the government's anti-poverty programme, e.g. expenditure on health, welfare and education. The number of active borrowers has crossed 16 million, with a staggering 70 percent of poor households having access to such credit. Micro-credit results in an increase in income/consumption and also has positive social impacts in terms of living conditions, access to basic services, health, education of children, and assets. Women participating in micro-credit programmes are significantly empowered in terms of mobility, awareness, household decision- making and decision to spend money.

Achievement in Micro-credit: Bangladesh is a global centre of excellence in micro-finance and has one of the largest groups of borrowers of micro-credit in the world. Bangladeshi MFIs are known for their pioneering, large-scale provision of collateral-free microfinance loans and services, mainly to poor women. Although 3000 MFIs are in operation, the big four, namely Grameen Bank, BRAC, ASA and Proshika account for 86% of the active borrowers. Table 4.4 summarises the micro-credit operations of the nine major NGOs.

Table 4.4: Cumulative Status of Micro-Credit Programmes of Nine Major NGOs

	Cumulative up to 2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	Cumulative up to June' 07
Disbursement (in billion Tk.)	1372.9	405.7	492.2	586.7	781.5	988.0	893.8	5520.7
Beneficiaries (in thousand)	6616.4	6206.1	9109.3	8507.8	14536.1	12716.2	16062.2	17502.7

Alongside NGOs different ministries/divisions/agencies of the Government as well as cooperative societies have also undertaken a sizable number of micro-credit programmes. The cooperative credit is generated by the cooperative members throughout the country by thousand of cooperative societies and has been contributing towards poverty reduction through employment generation. Up to December 2006 the cumulative loan fund of the government agencies was Tk. 8,669 crore and total recovery was Tk. 7333.4 crore. In order to make the micro-credit programme effective for poverty reduction, the Government has attached importance to promoting small entrepreneurs.

Challenges: Over the years various challenges with regard to micro-credit have emerged. These are mainly: (i) prevalence of high interest rates which are being reduced, but further reduction of interest rate is necessary; (ii) vicious cycle of micro-credit following, where the poor are borrowing from one micro-credit organization to repay another; (iii) micro-credit programmes have not been very successful in including the hardcore poor; (iv) rate of graduation to above the poverty line among the micro-credit borrowers is low, indicating persistent dependency on micro-credit; (v) most of the micro-credit recipients being women, they bear the increased burden of repayment; (vi) micro-credit organizations compete with each other and often put pressure on the potential clients to borrow; (vii) the profitability of micro enterprises is small and often is not sustainable on a long-term basis because of enterprise decapitalization, saturation of markets for products that are traditionally produced by micro-credit borrowers, weak coordination among NGOs and MFIs and a weak financial system.

Future Actions: Currently the emphasis is to increase the coverage of the programme to a larger number of deserving households; introduce a uniform approach of operation both by NGOs and the public sector; and introduce a regulatory framework for streamlining the activities of the micro-

credit programme in the country. The government would channel more resources for micro-credit operations, increase effectiveness of micro-credit for poverty alleviation, avoid overlapping and reduce seasonal vulnerability through micro-credit. Local governments will be involved in micro-credit delivery.

A national micro-credit policy will be framed to provide guidelines about the operation of micro-credit. It is also necessary to rationalize interest rates and introduce one rate for the service charge for all GoB agencies, NGOs and banks. Idle funds of the banks may be diverted to the MFIs and NGOs. Necessary mechanism will be devised to ensure that micro credit reaches the ultra poor and the hard to reach areas especially those located in regions with higher incidence of poverty.

Up-scaling Micro-credit

Up-scaling micro credit and enhancing its poverty reducing impact will be important in realizing the goals of accelerated poverty reduction. Up-scaling is generally understood as one broad micro-enterprise segment distinctly contrasted to micro-credit. The ground reality, however, indicates that up-scaling involves two distinct segments with two different types of challenges. The first segment involves a deepening of existing micro-credit i.e. a rise from the current typical level of Tk.5000 to Tk.20,000-25,000. The crucial point about this client segment is that demand for credit already exists but it is being insufficiently serviced because of two factors: conservatism of the current MFI management and a lack of micro-credit product diversification. Demand may relate to small-scale agro-technology, processing/storage, business in construction materials, maintenance of agro-machinery, machinery rental and service, small transports, financing skill education as well as a variety of non-farm activities.

The second type of up-scaling concerns a qualitatively different segment, that of micro-enterprises whose credit needs are perhaps more in the region of Tk.50,000 to 500,000. From a lending organization's point of view, the critical point here is that demand cannot be readily assumed in this segment: demand promotion through appropriate business development services may be as important a requirement as the credit itself. An important consideration here is whether the existing MFIs with their risk-averse lending culture can undertake such a task or whether a new category of MFIs with a new institutional culture may be required to service this segment. To achieve the goals of up-scaling and of sectoral consolidation, it is also necessary to emphasize the importance of an enabling regulatory framework. A Microfinance Regulatory Authority has been established to provide an appropriate regulatory framework.

4.4.5 Rural Non-farm Activities (RNFA)

The vision for RNFA is to foster it as an important and effective poverty reduction strategy and as strategy for women's advancement by ensuring participation of more women in RNFA. Therefore it is important to identify sectors for RNFA, the roles of both public and private sectors and to encourage local and foreign entrepreneurs to promote RNFA.

Rural non-farm activities (RFNA) can be broadly classified into two: activities emanating from farm activities and those from other activities. Activities emanating from farm activities include manufacturing, trading, installation, operation, repair and maintenance of various types of farm machinery, poultry and fish feed manufacturing and marketing, fish farm equipment and veterinary services. The other type of RNFAs include construction, rural transportation, trading, grain storing, shop keeping, hotels and restaurants, saw milling, carpentry, manufacturing, house building materials, masonry, metal works, equipment repairing and similar other activities. BBS data show that between 1986 and 2003 the number of establishments grew at the rate of 3.2 percent per annum and employment grew at the rate of 2.4 percent per annum. The average size of establishments declined from 2.9 to 2.5 persons during the same period.

Support to RNFA: Strong local and global supports are there to RNFAs. All the funding agencies are supporting GoB and NGOs to augment RNFAs for poverty alleviation. The Government has set up the SME Foundation for promoting RNFAs. Other government organizations like BSCIC, BRDB, Handloom Board, Sericulture Board, EPZs, all scheduled banks, Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank, BKB, PKSF, industrial estates, etc. are rendering backstopping or promotional support to RNFAs.

Achievements in RNFA: RNFA has the potential of becoming a leading sector of growth in the rural economy of Bangladesh. According to HIES 2005, 42.5 percent of household income in rural areas is generated from the non-farm sector compared to 41.3 percent observed in HIES 2000. About 62.6 percent of non-farm establishments are in the rural areas while 37.4 percent are in the urban areas. BBS data shows that of the total people engaged in RNFA, about 52 percent are in the rural areas and 48 percent are in the urban areas. An important feature of RNFA is that 53.0 percent of the total people involved in the rural areas are male while about 47.0 percent are female.

Problems and Limitations of RNFA: The following problems are identified by different stakeholders. (i) Given the fact that RNFA includes a diverse group of activities, it is difficult to define it as a sector and hence it lacks any baseline assessment; (ii) Activities in RNFA are often financed by micro-credit, which can only support very small-size activities. There is a limitation in accessing finances for larger size activities; (iii) People who are engaged in RNAF activities, particularly women, lack the capacity and skill for producing quality products; they face problems in terms of access to information in determining what to produce and often are not able to market their products; (iv) Funding is mainly urban biased; however, recently, NGOs have started funding this sector. Problems arise from the fact that the NGOs are not very effective in providing business advice because they themselves are not well-equipped to provide such support. Often they also make an inappropriate selection of entrepreneurs; (v) The management capacity of the small enterprises operating in RNFA is rather poor; (vi) Inadequate infrastructural facilities particularly energy and communication; and (vii) Frequent natural disasters, mainly floods and cyclones, damage the establishments and cause failure in their activities etc.

Future Strategy: Under the future strategy two broad areas are to be covered which include: (i) improving the rural investment climate; and (ii) a supporting institutional framework. This two-part strategy needs to cover the following:

Investment Climate: First, efficient energy supply is essential for making rural resources more productive. To ensure more energy supply in the rural areas emphasis should be given on bio-fuel and solar energy use. Secondly, more emphasis should be given on routine maintenance of the existing roads. Waterways development and railway communication should get due attention. Up-scaling and technology upgrade of small enterprises includes product development and quality improvement; provision of training for workers based on market demand and also for entrepreneurs in improved business method; promoting linkage with agriculture and greater value addition of farm products through a boost in agro-processing, arranging local-level fairs on routine basis to promote RNF products, skill development training and internship facilities, in-country and international tours through public-private financial participation will be undertaken.

Institutional Framework: In order to mainstream RNF issues in rural development, an institutional set-up comprising different stakeholders, e.g. national and local government, development partners, private sector and academics will be formed. These stakeholders shall identify the strategic policy and investment priorities. A monitoring unit may be established to monitor the following developments: (i) Effective and efficient delivery of services to numerous entrepreneurs needs to be ensured through decentralization and strengthening the capacity of the LGIs. (ii) To give a formal framework for operation of the Multipurpose Credit Societies of the country which have developed based on the needs of RNFAs. (iii) To allow high performing NGOs

to open their banks to mobilize their own resources to finance the RNFAs more extensively. (iv) An effective public-private partnership can work where idle funds from the Scheduled Banks may be invested through the satisfactorily performing NGOs or other bodies. (v) Rural-urban linkages are to be strengthened though creating increased scope of exchanges such as creating more markets in urban areas, creating a scope for strategic linkages between large urban enterprises and small firms in rural areas through a buy-back system, outsourcing of labour intensive works, etc. (vi) Creating more scope for providing institutional services like financial services, business advisory services, construction supervision services, real estate development services, preparing more RNFAs' sectoral reports, opening websites on the scope of investment in RNFAs, and (vii) Conduct research and surveys on the RNFAs to enable the investors to know more about the potentials of investment.

Future Actions: The activities in this sector are undertaken mainly within the informal sector and it is also desirable to keep them informal. However, creation of an enabling environment for them and provision of some support services would make this sector more vibrant and will contribute substantially to poverty reduction. Some interventions suggested are:

(i) Improving marketing capacity by providing sales centres in the GCM and other peri-urban markets where the government can provide supports and entrepreneurs can undertake a buy-back system. The government can provide some shops to the guild or entrepreneurs to carry out the buy-back system.

(ii) Training and awareness building about hygienic processing can be provided to undertake home-based agro-processing and food processing activities.

(iii) Strengthening SME foundation in terms of staff and resources so that it can operate in the entire country more effectively. Women should be encouraged and given support to participate more in RNFA. They should be provided with basic skills about business management and steps should be taken to link them to the markets.

(iv) Setting up of more vocational institutes in the rural and peri-urban areas.

(v) Allocating more funds under micro-credit and microfinance so that all deserving persons may go for pursuing the RNFAs.

(vi) Improving the management of this sector through organising training, orientation, workshop, etc. on a regular basis. Local and international market access has to be strengthened by disseminating market information and providing institutional and logistic support to the entrepreneurs.

(vii) Making EPZs located in distant areas and district industrial estates fully functional. These can create opportunities for expansion through backward and forward linkages of RNFA.

(viii) Taking initiatives by the government to create ICT villages in the rural areas.

(ix) Taking initiatives by government and NGOs to bring diversification in products and upgrading product designs.

4.5 Strategic Block V: Human Development

Two most important aspects of human development are having knowledge and good health. Both are equally important for personal development and for the progress of the society. Deprivation of either of them is a form of poverty - knowledge poverty and health poverty. These are also the most effective tools for overcoming income poverty.

4.5.1 Improving Knowledge Base: Education, Training and Research

To effectively reduce poverty and achieve sustained long-term growth there is no alternative to invest in improving the knowledge base. Creating a knowledge based society implies equipping and empowering people with an asset that cannot be lost, stolen or destroyed and can be used to reduce various dimensions of poverty in a sustained manner. This knowledge base can be improved by providing education and training, undertaking research in various fields ensuring easy and inexpensive access to information, and by building awareness among all sections of people. Empowering people with knowledge and skills is the most vital component of human development.

Education

It is well recognized that education is one of the key elements for building the knowledge base of the people. It is expected that the whole gamut of primary, secondary, tertiary, and non-formal education activities will establish a truly empowered knowledge-based society to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Deprivation from access to education itself is a key element of poverty. The number of poor people deprived from accessing educational facilities is disproportionately high. Lack of education in turn limits their capacity to overcome poverty, thus creating a vicious-intergenerational cycle. The education system in Bangladesh is not yet pro-poor and the quality and content of education do not effectively serve the goals of human development and poverty reduction. There is general agreement that the number of institutions and enrolments have grown at all levels, but the quality of education has deteriorated, especially in institutions where the children of the poor family goes.

Discussion of education is presented in seven sections consisting of five educational sub-sectors and two crosscutting issues. These sub-sectors are early childhood and pre-school education, primary education, secondary education, technical and vocational education, tertiary education, literacy and non-formal education. The crosscutting issues are education governance and finance.

Early childhood and pre-school education: The learning outcomes– knowledge, skills and values of primary education are stronger when appropriate learning and development occur in the years preceding regular schooling. Global experiences indicate that pre-primary education has a significant contribution to reducing dropouts and grade repetitions, and higher achievement of learning competencies. There is also evidence that early learning improves the child's chances of enjoying good health, finding work later in life, being socially skilled, and not committing crimes.

There is a need for early childhood development and pre-school (ECDP) education. However, it has not been a part of the publicly provided education and the government is not in a position to universalise it. The government recognizes the value of and demand for pre-schools and has been encouraging NGOs and communities to set up pre-schools within the premises of or near public primary schools. Children from poor families, especially the first generation learners, can benefit greatly from ECDP programmes.

The government would like to ensure that ECDP education is available in rural areas and is particularly targeted at children from poor families and first-time school goers. Progress has already been made in this area. A large number of government and non-government agencies such as, MOPME, MOWCA/ MOCHTA, MoRA, City Corporations, NGOs including BRAC/Plan Bangladesh/SC-USA/ DAM/Members of CAMPE/Members of the ECD network, the private sector such as proprietary kindergarten owners, are running pre-primary schools. A mapping exercise was undertaken which provides basic information that would help further work to develop ECD provisions. The population of 5-6 year old children is about 22,20,000. If these children are brought into the pre-primary programme, 88,800 centres at 25 children per centre would be required.

The Government will provide all encouragement and support for expansion of programmes in cooperation with NGOs and Community Based Organizations (CBOs). While government funding may not be available for large-scale provision of these services, government support can take the form of facilitation and encouragement of donor assistance. All pre-schools may be registered with the government. A national curriculum and syllabus may be formulated for pre-school education. Teachers' Training Colleges may offer a certificate course for pre-school teachers. A section for pre-schools may be established in the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE), which will set standards for pre-schools, including standards for teachers and their salary.

Primary education: The Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh directs the State "to adopt effective measures for establishing universal system of education and extending free and compulsory education to all children and removing illiteracy." Accordingly, the Government of Bangladesh took multi-faceted actions in accelerating the pace of providing primary and mass education. The Compulsory Primary Education Programme now covers the whole country. The Ministry of Primary and Mass Education is responsible for delivering quality education for all.

The total number of primary-level educational institutions in the country is about eighty-one thousand. In addition there are 71 schools run by the Shishu Kallayan Trust (Child Welfare Trust) to provide formal primary education as well as some technical training to the under-privileged working children in such a manner that they can join in the mainstream education system later. The number of working children attending these schools is 14,885.

Net enrolment rate at the primary level is 87.2 percent; with 84.4 percent for male and 90.1 percent for female. Programmes undertaken pursuant to the enactment of the Primary Education (Compulsory) Act, such as the food for education programme, stipend programme, social mobilization programme, increase of physical facilities, enhancement of school attractiveness programmes and improvement of the quality of primary education programmes have contributed towards the achievement of the present rate of enrolment.

Special emphasis has been given on the construction, reconstruction and refurbishment of schools and education offices. For ensuring safe drinking water, arsenic free tube-wells are being sunk. Separate toilets for boys and girls are also being constructed. Necessary furniture was also supplied to the schools. Textbooks are distributed among the primary school students free of cost. About 54.48 million textbooks have been printed in the academic year 2008. Tuition of the students of the primary schools is also free.

From financial year 2002/03, a special Stipend Programme has been introduced. Under this programme, students from poor families in the rural areas are given a monthly stipend at the rate of Tk. 100 per month for sending one child to school and Tk. 125 for sending more than one child. This helped to increase enrolment and attendance in schools and prevent child labour. The number of beneficiaries of the stipend programme is about 5.5 million. The programme is continuing with an allocation of Tk. 4,680 million for the financial year 2007-2008. In the FY 2007/08, the government has allocated 13.7 percent of its development budget for the education sector, of which the share of primary and mass education is 66.20 percent.

The Government has undertaken the Second Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-II) for the period 2003-2009 at a total cost of US $ 1.8 billion. The main objectives of the PEDP-II are to improve the quality of education through the introduction of Primary School Quality Level Standards, increased access, participation and completion of the primary education cycle and adoption of a child-centred approach in the classroom.

A project titled "Reaching Out of School Children" (ROSC) was launched in 2004 for a period of 6 years for the children who are outside the formal stream. The project has provisions for education allowances for out-of-school children. The annual allowance ranges from Tk. 800 for children in

Grades 1 to 3 to Tk. 970 for those in Grades 4 to 5. The project covers 60 upazilas and 11,000 learning centres have been established on a need basis in collaboration with NGOs, while the number of students is 351,874. About 500,000 children will receive education during the project period.

The Government started a school Feeding Programme under which a child is provided with 75 grams of fortified biscuits in eight poverty-stricken Upazilas of three selected districts. The number of beneficiaries is 0.52 million. The first round of the National Assessment Programme has been completed. Supplementary reading materials and teaching-learning materials are being provided. Training is being imparted to the teachers and the members of SMCs. Training on School Level Improvement Plan (SLIP) is being imparted to the SMCs and PTA members. Terminal examination at grade 5 has been introduced.

Sixty percent posts of teachers are reserved for female teachers. The percentage of female teachers in Government Primary Schools has reached 49.76 percent. To encourage more women to join primary schools as teachers, steps have been taken to raise the residential capacity of the women's hostels at the Primary Training Institutes (PTIs). While students are enrolled, the names of both mother and father are registered. For payment of stipend money to the students, provisions have been made to open a bank account in the mother's name. Massive social mobilization programmes have been undertaken to encourage guardians to send every girl child to school. Subject-based training in Upazila Resource Centres, Multiple Ways of Teaching and Learning, sub-cluster training and C-in-Ed training were also imparted under different projects. The in-service training duration varies from one day to 30 days and the initial training of teachers (C-in-Ed) takes one academic year. Overseas training was also imparted to the officials and the teachers under different programmes.

Future Actions: Future actions will focus on: (i) ensuring one primary school for every 1500 population, (ii) developing and funding programmes to extend the coverage, in cooperation with NGOs, (iii) supporting modernization and quality improvement of ibtidayee madrashas, (iv) applying quality standards like physical facilities, learning aids, formation of the managing committee, student-teacher ratio, and involvement of the community in all primary institutions, (v) reviewing the teaching-learning model so that the foundation of literacy and numeracy skills and basic knowledge can be built at the primary level, (vi) continuing English language teaching from class one, (vii) maximum harmonisation of regular and madrasha education curricula, and (viii) effective implementation of PEDP II to ensure quality improvement in primary education.

An independent commission may have the responsibility of selecting a panel of teachers for each district, from which teachers will be appointed as vacancies arise. Professional training may become a prerequisite for teaching and academic supervisory positions in primary education. The National Academy for Primary Education (NAPE) may be developed into the highest apex professional centre for primary education with academic and administrative autonomy. The DPE may become responsible for academic supervision of all institutions teaching at the primary school level. District and Upazila should become the pivotal tiers for planning and managing access, equity and quality improvement support to schools.

Secondary Education: Secondary education (grade VI to XII) is provided in collaboration between the government and non-government providers within a regulatory framework. Poverty is a deterrent to secondary school access because, in addition to the tuition fees, there are high additional costs for transportation, uniforms, books and materials and private tutoring. Retention of the students in secondary education is one of the major challenges. In 2005 the drop out rates were 11.7 percent in grade 6, 12.3 percent in grade 7, 13.9 percent in grade 8, 36.5 percent in grade 9 and 41.8 percent in grade 10.

A positive development has been the closing of the gender gap in secondary school enrolment. The total number of students in secondary level is 73,98,552 where the number of girl students is 38,68,014 (52.3 percent). Stipends and exemption of tuition fees for girls in rural areas have made a difference. Girl students benefited more from stipend programme in continuing their secondary education. From 2000 to 2008, about 26.3 million girl students of secondary level received 17367.1 million taka as stipend.

The quality of secondary education still remains a major challenge. The quality issues in secondary education have a number of elements. The curriculum does not relate to prospects of employment, entrepreneurship and practical skills. Examinations, including public examinations, mostly test ability to recall information and do not test the ability to reason, or apply, analyse and synthesise information. Expansion in enrolment has not been matched by increase in physical capacity and human resources. Students both per class and per teacher are around 60. About 53.6 percent of the teachers are trained teachers. Thus, almost half of the teachers do not have any professional training. Academic supervision of secondary schools is weak and almost non-functional.

The number of examinees in SSC examination and their results give some indication of positive trend of access and quality in secondary education. The number of examinees of SSC examination was 7,56,387 and the pass rate was 45.98 percent in 2004. In 2006, the number of examinees increased to 7,84,815 and the pass rate increased to 57.3 percent and further increased to 58.4 percent in 2007.

Various projects to enhance quality and increase participation in secondary education have been undertaken, and they include the 'Secondary Education Sector Improvement Project (SESIP)', and the 'Female Secondary School Assistance Project Phase II (FSSAP II). All stipend projects have entered into the third phase and the coverage of students has expanded. A project called PROMOTES encourages female teachers to receive B.Ed. training and facilitates construction of resource centres for teachers and hostels for female teachers in Upazila towns. A system of school-based assessment has been introduced. A Non-government Teachers' Registration and Certification Agency (NTRCA) has been established and has started its activities. The aim is to have all teachers certified and registered as qualified for teaching by this authority. A similar authority will have the task of coordinating in-service development of teacher's skills. School-based assessment (SBA) and Schools' Performance Based Management System (SPBMS) have been introduced. The government has taken a decision to introduce a new system of examination for SSC and HSC geared towards better assessment of learning and analytical ability.

Future Actions: Future actions will include: (i) making secondary education up to class X into one unified stream within 5 years with adequate focus on communication skills, science and mathematics for all students; (ii) undertaking a sub-sector development programme for the under-served groups; (iii) building new schools based on school mapping and a model high school in 306 Upazilas by 2011 where there is no government high school; (iv) ensuring that NCTB is restricted with only curriculum development and has permanent professional staff; (v) common minimum standards of inputs and performance in all types of schools; (vi) ensuring that the student-teacher ratio does not exceed 50, competent teachers are appointed, schools have libraries, laboratories, toilets, drinking water and other facilities, all teachers have periodic in-service professional upgrading; (vii) restricting /eliminating private tutoring by teachers and at the same time enhancing their salaries; (viii) making public examinations and internal assessment mutually complementary and more oriented towards the diagnosis of weaknesses of individual learners, institutions and the system for taking remedial measures rather than branding a large number of students as failures;(ix) providing stipend for both girls and boys from poor families; (x) increasing the stipend rate for both poor boys and girls; and (xi) putting emphasis on science education.

It is necessary to shift operational decisions regarding education to Zila and Upazila levels. Education Committees will be established at the national and sub-national levels down to the

Upazila to provide general oversight and guidance. The teacher selection may be made by an independent commission. A career path could be established for teachers. In 2003, the NEC has identified the need to decentralise DSHE operations and increase authority and capacity at the Zila and Upazila levels for effective planning, monitoring, inspection, audit, and academic supervision to improve the quality of secondary education. The Ministry of Education and the Directorate will undertake more of the tasks of planning, initiating policy reforms and overseeing policy implementation.

The potential for mobilizing community participation will be fully utilised in a largely non-government system through strengthening School Managing Committees (SMCs). To empower SMCs, their role and responsibilities will be clearly defined. They will be given necessary orientation and training. Particular attention is needed in the context of decentralization to protect managing committees from undue political and bureaucratic pressures. Members and chairs of SMCs should be from parents and community representatives who are known for their interest in education.

It is necessary to develop the professional capacities of personnel for key system management and pedagogic improvement as well as permanent institutional arrangements for continued professional development and upgrade. Advance planning and a rationalised system are needed in respect of personnel recruitment and posting, e.g., in Teachers' Training Colleges. The provision of subventions to non-government schools may be used to encourage access and participation by the disadvantaged groups, and promote minimum quality and performance standards for all schools.

The Government will take the initiative to introduce computer and ICT facilities in the secondary schools and incorporate it as a part of the curriculum starting from class VIII. In this context, several initiatives have already been taken and some are underway, such as:

- Assistance to secondary schools for introducing computer courses;
- Introduction of computer training and internet facilities for rural secondary and higher secondary institutions;
- Development of SSC (ICT) and HSC (ICT) curriculum in schools and colleges;
- Introduction of Olympiads for primary, secondary and university levels in science and ICT;
- Establishment of six IT training institutions, one in each divisional headquarters; and
- Training of the teachers of schools and colleges in using computers and ICT.

Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET): The Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes offer courses of one to four years duration after the junior secondary level (class VIII). Vocational training institutes, polytechnics, commercial institutes, technical training centres and specialised institutes offer such courses. Certificate level courses (post-class VIII) are offered in about 180 public institutions and some 2,450 non-government institutions including secondary schools. In 2005, about 241,336 students (25.9 percent female) were enrolled in these courses.

Very limited opportunities for organised vocational and technical skill development are the defining characteristic of this sub-sector. TVET mainly serves young males who have completed at least the eighth grade. This excludes those who do not survive in the education system up to grade IX. Poverty reduction is achieved when training results in employment, particularly for the poor. However, the public sector TVET is mainly disconnected from the job market. The placement rate for VTIs is 40 percent, for TTCs 60-65 percent, and unemployment is also common among graduates of polytechnics. Failure to diversify its clientele and to make the programme more flexible, adaptable and responsive to market needs and geared to the informal economy means that TVET is failing to help the poor in improving their employment and income levels.

Stated government policies and goals are to substantially increase the proportion of post-primary students enrolling in TVET. The objective is to increase the proportion of participants in TVET to 20 percent of the students enrolled in the secondary stage by 2020—from the present proportion of around 3 percent. To expand the TVET programme it has already been proposed to introduce double shifts in the technical institutions and a special stipend programme for women's education in science and TVET. A programme has already been completed to set up three polytechnic institutions for girls. A study has been undertaken for assessing the market demand for jobs. The equity effect of this expansion depends on the proportion of the clientele of the programmes from disadvantaged and poor sections of the population; how effective the programmes are in imparting marketable skills, and whether there is an expansion in employment opportunities.

The objectives of TVET are to expand it for the poor, particularly for adolescents, young adults, adults, males and females and make provision for TVET after class VI, VII and equivalent grades; improve the percentage of vocational and technical graduates obtaining employment both in the domestic and international markets and to increase the pass rate in the terminal certificate exams. By 2011, enrolment in TVET should increase by 50 percent where women's enrolment will have increased by 60 percent.

It is essential that TVET courses are flexible in terms of duration, time-table and curriculum and should be flexible in terms of age structure and academic qualification of the students. TVET institutions should develop cooperation with micro-credit providers to support self-employment of trainees. Particular attention should be given to introducing computer (software and hardware) and ICT related courses. Standard computer training courses at the Divisional Headquarters have been introduced, and learning packages for students of different levels have been developed. It is important to give emphasis on medical technical training.

Tertiary Education: The major components of the tertiary-education network are the 29 public general and specialised universities, 51 private universities, 223 institutes for professional training and 1500 colleges of different kinds affiliated with the National University as well as the Bangladesh Open University (BOU). The University Grants Commission (UGC) is the regulatory body for university level institutions. BOU, established in 1992, offers a variety of courses in the distance education mode. In 2003, registered participants in various BOU courses were about 400,000. In terms of the number of institutions and enrolment, tertiary education has recorded more than five-fold growth since 1971. Yet, participation of only 7 out of every 1000 persons in higher education in today's "knowledge economy" and "information society" has to be considered meagre.

The main issues regarding access to tertiary education, therefore, are two-fold: (a) equity of access to universities and prestigious institutions leading to potentially high private return from higher education, and (b) the balance of enrolment in different fields.

Gender disparity in higher education persists, despite progress at the primary and the secondary levels. About a third of the students in degree colleges are women and under a quarter are women in universities. The ratio of girls is lower in most specialised professional institutions. In tertiary education, increase of enrolment of male and female students in professional degree education must be improved in accordance with the domestic needs and also according to the needs of the countries importing human resources. For professional degrees, student enrolment should increase by 40 percent. This sub-sector needs to achieve better balance in enrolment among humanities, applied and pure sciences, technology and commerce. In this respect, a 50 percent increase in the enrolment of both boys and girls in non-humanities subjects and professional areas should be achieved. In terms of performance, it is imperative to improve the examination performance of the general undergraduate and graduate students. Internal efficiency of public sector higher education must be improved and the knowledge generation role of the universities must be strengthened.

Actions to be taken for tertiary education are: (i) government and non-government colleges will have effective governing boards in accordance with the rules of the National University; (ii) an independent commission will select the teachers for all colleges; (iii) sufficient numbers of teachers will be appointed for all subjects to maintain a reasonable teacher-student ratio; (iv) the National University will assess the physical facilities and human resources of colleges and apply its rules before authorizing opening of honours and masters courses in colleges; (v) the National University will be made effective in supervising the network of degree colleges, enforcing accreditation standards, assisting colleges to improve quality of education, and maintaining the integrity of public examinations; (vi) regional disparity will be taken into consideration and universities will be established in the underserved areas and they will be provided with adequate resources to ensure quality higher education and research; (vii) new practice of assessment will be introduced where teachers and students will evaluate each other; (viii) professional upgrade and pedagogic training programmes will be arranged; (ix) job placement centres will be created on every campus; and (x) access to computer facilities with internet connections, library etc will be ensured for the teachers and the students.

Governance and administration in higher education need a fundamental overhaul. The elements of overall governance reform would include: (i) reviewing and modifying the legal basis for university governance to restore and enhance the performance and accountability of universities in terms of their academic and intellectual objectives; (ii) strengthening the UGC's role as an independent agency for assessing and setting priorities, establishing and enforcing quality standards, and allocating resources, and giving priority and resources for taking advantage of new information and communication technologies for making learning resources available, improving quality of instruction, and increasing flexibility of academic offerings in higher education. The Open University and other institutions will use on-line course materials from international sources.

The Government in cooperation with public leaders and respected citizens will take initiative to build a consensus among political parties backed by a strong civil society mobilization on issues identified as important in public discussion, such as: (i) disbanding of student organizations of political parties, (ii) disavowing use of political loyalty as a criterion for academic and administrative appointments, (iii) forming a public and community service corps of students, and (iv) introducing a code of conduct for teachers regarding professional responsibility and political involvement.

Adequate resources for assuring quality must be a central concern in the future development of higher education. Expansion of capacity will be contingent upon availability of necessary resources for ensuring acceptable quality, rather than more of the same "low cost low outcome" provisions. Public-private collaboration, cost-sharing and cost recovery will be considered as strategies for dealing with resource constraints, enhancing resources for quality improvement, and contributing to equality of opportunity in the education system and the higher education sub-system. Recent initiatives like Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) with World Bank assistance aiming at increasing quality and relevance of higher education through improvement of research environment, teaching-learning improvement, and capacity strengthening of public and private universities as well as the UGC. Some components like Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) and Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN) will connect the universities and research institutes to the national and global systems.

Non-formal Education: The adult literacy rate in 2006 was 53.7 percent with 58.5 percent for males and 48.8 percent for females—a significant improvement over a rate of around 54 percent for males and 41 percent for females in 2001. The Government launched a major non-formal education programme in the 1990s, focusing on basic literacy in achieving universal coverage of youth and young adults aged 11 to 45 years. The NFE programme of the public sector concentrating on literacy activities has been generally regarded as ineffective and led to discontinuation followed by a closure of the Directorate of Non-Formal Education in 2003.

Presently, the Bureau of Non Formal Education (BNFE) under MoPME is responsible for non-formal education programmes which are implemented through NGOs.

Under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, the Post- Literacy and Continuing Education for Human Development Project-1 was implemented during 2001-2007, covering 1.3 million people in 32 districts of the country. The goal is to provide post-literacy and continuing education through skill training. A total of 0.827 million learners have completed post-literacy and continuing education. Based on the market survey, skill training was imparted in 15 trade areas such as, tailoring, poultry, fishery, cow and goat rearing, bee-keeping, block batik, repairing of cycles and rickshaws etc. Post-Literacy and Continuing Education for Human Development Project-2 is being implemented with the objective to help reduce rural poverty and empower the rural poor by providing them with literacy, life skills, and income-generating skills. The aim is to establish a community-based and needs-oriented post- literacy and continuing education programme for 1.6 million neo-literates in 210 selected Upazilas of 29 districts under 6 divisions.

NFE has a critical role in offering learning opportunities, building skills and capacities and broadening life options for the poor. NFE must have an important place in a pro-poor education and human development strategy. It is necessary that an initiative be launched, involving the stakeholders in NFE, to develop a vision and policy framework. Sufficient resources should be made available for this purpose.

The aim of NFE will be to build a nationwide network of community-based, community-managed and multi-purpose non-formal and adult learning centres, to meet the diverse learning demands. NFE needs to prevent a regress into illiteracy and create opportunities for further learning and use of the skills on a regular basis. The role of NFE in offering a "second chance" primary education for adolescents who missed or dropped out from primary class and establishing link of the second chance programmes with skill development and formal education will be emphasized. Parental continuing education opportunities will be developed and made accessible through the network of community learning centres. It will be necessary to target marginal sections of the population to address their specific needs. Education and training need to be linked with credit and business advice.

Continuing Training

Provision of continuing education is an essential part of improving human development. Skills and the knowledge base of people that are created through formal education can be maintained, reinforced, upgraded and strengthened through continuous training. Provisions will be made so that people can get opportunities to refresh their knowledge and skills to keep themselves up to date with new ways of doing their jobs. This will enable them to carry out their jobs with greater efficiency. For this public and private collaboration can play an important role. In the already existing educational institutes evening and night courses can be introduced for need-based skilled retraining programmes. The duration of these courses can vary to meet the varied situations and needs of the clients. These institutes will be linked to human resource placement services to cater to the needs of the domestic and international markets.

Building Research Capacity

Research creates new knowledge and information, discovers hidden or forgotten knowledge, creates scope for better understanding of various issues, and helps in dispelling myths and prejudices. Supporting research activities, particularly of action and applied types, which will help the poor, women and disadvantaged groups need to be encouraged. At the higher education institutes, the teachers will be encouraged to undertake research on subjects that will lead to better understanding of issues at the national and local levels and provide solutions to problems.

Research activities have to be financed properly and need to be made an integral part of the development of the professional career path. There can be provision for national awards given to the best-applied research. Involvement of the large local NGOs in financing such research activities will be encouraged. The government will constitute a knowledge council with adequate support.

The University Grants Commission with the support of World Bank is going to create an endowment fund for academic innovation. Both eligible public and private universities would be able to compete for the fund for high quality fundamental and applied research that will contribute to social and economic growth and national innovation, competitiveness and development. Moreover, under the revenue budget a total of Tk 150.00 million has been earmarked for research grant.

4.5.2 Improving Health, Nutrition and Population Planning: Taking a Holistic Approach

Health, nutrition and population (HNP) are intimately related and complementary to other sectors of the economy. Set in a perspective of human development, HNP issues are, however, not just of concern from an individual welfare perspective. For decades, it has been assumed that good health and nutrition is direct outcome of economic development. However, it is now realized that the reverse is also true: economic development is an important outcome of improved health and nutrition ensuring sound and healthy workforce. Improvements in health and nutrition would translate into higher incomes, higher economic growth and gradual declines of poverty. Population is also the most basic parameter of health. Increase or decrease of population size and change in the age composition has direct bearing on socio-economic development.

Progress: Bangladesh has made significant progress in health outcomes. Infant and Child mortality rates have been markedly reduced. Life expectancy has risen steadily. Reversing past trends, women now live longer than men. The total fertility rate has been more than halved. Maternal mortality and under-nutrition rates, though still very high, are registering decline. Leprosy has been eliminated nationally. Case detection and treatment cure rate for tuberculosis has progressed significantly. HIV prevalence is still very low. Development of countrywide network of healthcare infrastructure in public sector is remarkable.

Table: 4.5: Performance of Health, Nutrition and Population Sector

Indicators	1992-1996	1995-1999	1999-2003	2002-2006
Neonatal mortality rate/ 1000 LB	48	42	41	37
Infant mortality rate/1000 LB	82	66	65	52
Under-5 mortality rate/1000 LB	116	94	88	65
Children's vaccination (%)	54	60	73	82
ANC by trained provider (%)	28	33	48	52
Delivery by trained person (%)	9	12	13	18
Children short for age (%)			43	43
Children underweight for height (%)			17	13
Children underweight for age (%)			48	41
Total fertility rate (TFR)	3.3	3.3	3.0	2.7

Source: MoHFW, Successive BDHSs

Challenges:

- There are major differences in health conditions and health care consumption between different groups. Some of these inequalities are stark and persistent and are holding the country back from making further gains at the aggregate level. Improvements in some areas are relatively more difficult to sustain while there are indications of stagnation in others.
- Though *maternal mortality* is declining, it is still one of the highest in the world. So also the *neonatal mortality*. Bangladesh's current challenge is to improve effective service delivery, health-sector governance (especially in primary and maternal health services), and increase the number of trained birth attendants.
- Further sharp reduction in *fertility rate* might demand new ways of interventions and for which concerted inter and multi-sectoral efforts would be required.
- The challenge of reducing *child mortality* is to address the district and regional variations. Urban slums, the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), coastal belt regions and other ecologically vulnerable areas are falling behind. Though diarrhoea has been managed quite successfully, still it is a great killer.
- Threats of *HIV/AIDS*, particularly from *Injectable Drug Users*, pockets of *malaria, kal-azar* and *filaria* and multi-drug resistant *TB* are also emerging as challenges.
- Emerging and changing pattern of threats such as arsenic related diseases, avian flu, childhood disabilities, mental health problems, road-railway-river accidents and violence (particularly against women) need to be tackled with concerted efforts.
- The challenge of reducing *malnutrition* essentially that of women needs coordinated multi-sectoral interventions on sustained basis. The recent trend of rise in food price adds further to this challenge.
- With fast growing *urbanization*, health remains beyond the reach of many of the urban poor, particularly of slum dwellers. Mortality and morbidity is the highest among the slum children. Meeting the health needs of the fast growing urban poor will continue to pose major challenge.
- *Demographic and life-style* changes give rise to emerging health threats: more youths, more females, more ageing population, rise of non-communicable diseases. Urbanization leading to change of family structure and living arrangements, eroding traditional values and social support to children and elderly creates new challenges.
- The inevitable effect of *climate change* over health poses additional challenges.
- With increasing dominance of technologies in health care, the requirement of *human resources in health* with appropriate number and skill-mix will continue to remain another challenge.
- Development of appropriate strategies to handle the large number of *informal semi or un-qualified health care providers* (village doctors, drug sellers, kobiraj, totka, herbalist, faith healers, untrained traditional birth attendants etc.) catering to the needs of majority of the population particularly of poor and women poses some challenge.
- *Centralized management* system of the government health services and prevalent practices at the facility levels result in absenteeism of service providers. These are emerging as major obstacles for effective and efficient utilization of the countrywide health care infrastructure network.

Vision: The HNP sector seeks to support creation of an enabling environment whereby the people of Bangladesh have the opportunity to reach and maintain the highest attainable level of health. With a vision that recognizes health as a fundamental human right the need to promote health is imperative for social justice. This vision derives from a value framework that is based on the core values of access, equity, gender equality and ethical conduct.

Goals: The goal is sustainable improvement in health, nutrition and family welfare status of the people, particularly of the poor and vulnerable groups, including women, children and elderly with ultimate aim of their economic and social emancipation and physical and mental well being.

Strategies: The government is committed to ensure quality health, nutrition and family welfare services, which are affordable, attainable and acceptable to its citizens. The government focuses on increasing health status, reducing health inequalities, expanding access to social safety network and encouraging affordable service delivery systems for everybody. For the poor and vulnerable, existing safety nets will be further expanded and consolidated not only to ensure access of the poor to public health care services but also to raise their voices and establish ownership through community participation.

Child Health: Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) will be further strengthened and special activities will be undertaken for maintenance of zero polio status, measles catch-up and neonatal tetanus campaigns, introduction of hepatitis B vaccine throughout the country, strengthened disease surveillance, etc. The Control of Acute Respiratory Infection and Diarrhoeal Diseases and school health programmes will continue to be further strengthened. The Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) programme will be further expanded. The new initiatives in child health area include:

- Introduction of hepatitis B vaccine throughout the country; and
- Expansion of community and facility based IMCI.

Maternal and Reproductive Health: The life-cycle approach will be undertaken to address the need of women for general and reproductive health. The vast network of state facilities ranging from field-workers, community clinics, union facilities, upazila health complexes, maternal and child welfare centres, district hospitals, medical college hospitals and other tertiary level facilities will be further strengthened for appropriate women, adolescents and reproductive health. The on-going national nutrition programme will continue to cater the need of adolescents as its special target groups. Comprehensive Emergency Obstetrical Care (EmOC) facilities will continue to be expanded by establishing such in more upazila health complexes. More Community Skilled Birth Attendants (SBA) will continue to be trained for availability of trained personnel during delivery. Demand of ante-natal care (ANC), intuitional delivery or delivery by trained personnel, post-natal care (PNC) will continue to be created through strengthened health promotion involving community and different stakeholders. On- going demand–side financing through providing maternal vouchers will be reviewed and expanded based on lessons learnt. New Initiatives in maternal and reproductive health include:

- Expansion of comprehensive EmOC services to more Upazila health complexes;
- Training of community skill birth attendants; and
- Demand-side financing by providing maternal vouchers in 33 Upazilas.

Control of Communicable Diseases: The existing programmes will further be expanded and strengthened to intensify prevention and control of communicable diseases (CDs), such as, acute respiratory tract infection, diarrhoea, dengue, etc. Special measures will be initiated for combating

tuberculosis, leprosy, malaria, filariasis and kal-azar, which are concentrated in specific pockets of the country. New initiatives include

- Elimination of Kal-azar and Filariasis; and
- Combating malaria, dengue and other tropical diseases

Control of Non-communicable Diseases: Reduction of morbidity and premature mortality due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) will require appropriate actions at all levels from primary prevention to treatment and rehabilitation in an integrated manner. The government will, in partnership with local government administration and private sector create greater awareness of, and provide services for the control of unhealthy diet and lifestyle related major NCDs like - cardio-vascular diseases, cancer, diabetes, mental illness, etc. It will also take steps to combat common NCDs, such as, hypertension, asthma, blindness, etc., which particularly afflict the poor. Existing preventive and curative measures with respect to all NCDs will further be expanded and strengthened to increase access of all to health care services.

Nutrition: National Food and Nutrition Policy guides the action. The National Nutrition Programme (NNP) will be adjusted on the basis of experiences gathered and will be expanded to another 123 upazilas totalling 232 upazilas under the programme. As of December 2007, 12,00,541 children <2 years, 3,10,150 pregnant women, 2,41,741 lactating mothers, 14,87,005 adolescents and 1,78,209 newly wed women in 109 upazilas were brought under services. Total population coverage is 2.9 million and it is expected to cover 7.5 million after expansion. The on-going micro-nutrient programmes will be continuously reviewed for their refinement and expansion with particular emphasis on access of poor and vulnerable women and children. Nutrition activities will be reinforced by forging links with other activities in the health sector like community-centred immunization, community-based integrated management of childhood illness and hospital services for referral of severely malnourished etc. Due emphasis of nutrition in Urban Primary Health Care and Smiling Sun Franchise Projects will be explored to cater for the need of urban malnutrition. The multi-sectoral links of the MOHFW's nutrition initiatives with programmes by other ministries for food fortification, income and food security would be further strengthened to achieve accelerated decline in malnutrition. Home-stead gardening will be further promoted for combating malnutrition. Value of women status in reducing malnutrition and dissemination of knowledge about nutrition amongst the citizens will be promoted. Monitoring and surveillance systems will be strengthened to improve nutrition of the poorer and vulnerable sections of the society.

Food Safety and Quality: The problem of major health hazards stem from unsafe drinking water and consuming unhygienic and low quality food. Definitive food standards would be established to serve as benchmark for evaluating and maintaining standards. Presently, the MOHFW covers issues related to drugs, while the Pure Food Ordinance, which is administered by the Local Government (LG) Municipal Authorities, covers issues related to food standards. An institutional partnership will be developed with the LG Division (of Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives) in collaboration with Ministries of Commerce, Home Affairs, Agriculture, Food and other relevant ministries for ensuring safety and quality of food and water. A technical assistance project has already been initiated for reviewing all existing food safety laws and upgrading laboratories with clear assignment of responsibilities for different entities within public and private sectors. The government will examine the need for an authority for food (independently or integrate with existing drug administration) to take necessary follow-up action with the aim of removing threat to health of the citizens from substandard and/or adulterated food.

Population Planning: The problem of population growth which was once considered to be number one had gone into oblivion. It now needs to be brought back to its original emphasis once again. All issues related to population control and family planning (FP) will be guided by the national population policy. Contraceptives along with FP services will continue to be made widely

available and further expanded to the poor and the marginalized of both rural and urban population. Extra efforts to remove geographical variation in family planning performance and to meet the un-met need will be undertaken. Efforts are underway to popularize the slogan of having one child per couple. The existing FP programme will be expanded and strengthened involving both men and women, and will be popularized through an intensive motivational campaign under the Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) programme. Clinical, long acting and permanent methods will be emphasized wherever possible in order to increase contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) and ensure further decline in total fertility rate (TFR). New Initiatives in population planning include:

- Re-emphasizing population as number one problem and holding of meeting of national population council after one decade; and
- Emphasizing long acting and permanent methods of contraception.

Health Education and Promotion: A major strategy to ensure better health would be to promote public health through health education within MOHFW and channels outside it. The existing institutions of MOHFW will be strengthened for providing effective health messages. Coalition will be built with mass media for providing health education to the population on a continuing basis regarding methods of preventing communicable and non-communicable diseases, caring practices for children, adolescents and the old aged, and creating awareness on nutrition and proper sanitation. Steps will also be taken to reach basic health and reproductive health information through school curricula and utilize NGOs and different religious centers to influence health behaviour of the people.

Control of Emerging Threats: Existing counselling and treatment services for mental health, drug abuse, avian flu, STD and HIV/AIDS, arsenic diseases, injuries, trauma sufferers, women and child victims of violence, road-railway-river accidents, etc., would be improved and these facilities will be introduced where not available. Attention will also be paid to provide health services for other emerging and changing patterns of threats such as, childhood disabilities and geriatric care. On-going emergency preparedness and response programme will be further strengthened to manage the disasters like flood, cyclone, tornado, Sidor etc.

Urban Health Services: The existing practice of providing urban primary health care (UPHC) services through contracted NGOs for the city corporations and selected municipalities under the LG Division will continue to be pursued. In addition, MOHFW will continue to provide Primary Health Care (PHC) services in urban areas not covered by the UPHC project. Similarly, it will also continue to provide secondary and tertiary level health care in urban areas and try to improve both coverage and quality in response to demand. A priority objective for improving urban health services will be to facilitate access and effective use of available essential services packages (ESP) delivery by urban poor and slum dwellers. To this end, an urban health strategy in collaboration with LG Division will be developed with a view to streamlining urban primary health care services and establishing strong institutional linkage and ensuring primary health care, reproductive health including FP and nutrition services for the urban poor. Existing linkage with LG Division will also be strengthened for urban disease surveillance and monitoring including management information system (MIS), capacity development and quality assurance, etc. Moreover, MOHFW will strengthen its policy directive and stewardship roles in providing effective urban health care services.

Climate Change and Health Protection: A concerted effort will have to be made to protect health from adverse effects of climate change. To this end, a national programme outline will be developed in order to reduce the burden of diseases due to climate change. Strengthening of public health services needs to be a central component of adaptation to climate change. The existing health research agenda will include the adverse effect of climate change on health, and field surveys

and studies will be conducted to identify the short, medium, and long term effects of climate change on health. Various steps will be taken to raise public awareness through coordinated efforts and sharing of research findings with all concerned actors. An advanced preparedness plan will be developed to face the consequences of climate change. Moreover, climate change being a global challenge, calls for an unprecedented degree of partnership. An effective response will require actions across the society and from global community, in order to safeguard and enhance national as well as global public health security.

Primary Health Care: The current commitment of spending at least 60 per cent of the total budgetary allocation of the HNP sector at upazila level and below will continue to be pursued to improve the quality of PHC and make it accessible and acceptable to the people, especially the poor and vulnerable. The provision of ESP delivery will be strengthened and popularized. Functioning of the Upazila Health Complexes (UHCs), Union Health & Family Welfare Centers (UHFWCs) and the Community Clinics (CCs) will be strengthened and further consolidated through providing adequate manpower, drugs and other medical aids. There will be involvement of local government bodies and NGOs for greater participation of the community with a view to ensuring community driven PHC services.

Secondary and Tertiary Health Care: Types of services to be offered by secondary and tertiary hospitals depending on bed capacity will be standardized along with human resource needs and table of equipments (TOE) linked to the services. Appropriate manpower development and management structure will be developed for running day to day functioning of the existing hospitals. New branches of sub-specialization will be created in all medical college hospitals, so that patients do not need to rush to the capital city. Hospital autonomy will be introduced initially for the tertiary level specialized hospitals and gradually extended to medical college and district hospitals. Management Committees at hospitals will be strengthened for better monitoring. Just introduced monitoring and vigilance team for hospitals will be further strengthened and its jurisdiction will be expanded. Government will examine the feasibility of establishing new specialized hospitals as autonomous units and management to be handed over to board of trustees within a guideline to be set by the government. The principle to be adopted will focus on maximum delegation of financial power and administrative authority without compromising accountability. Death audit will be introduced for establishing accountability and quality of care.

Alternate Medical Care: Homeopathy, Ayurvedic and Unani are included in alternate medical care (AMC). Further expansion of the scope of health service provision provided by the proven AMC system is planned. Necessary actions will be undertaken for the improvement of the standard of alternate medicine, increase the demand for quality care and thereby reduce unsound practices. Capacity building of the AMC providers and proper monitoring and evaluation of the AMC provided will be undertaken.

Strengthening Referral System: As far as possible outdoor treatment will be encouraged. All medical college hospitals will accept referred patients. A network of well-worked out referral system will be developed so that patients are assured of receiving treatment from health facilities and that patient load at the higher levels is not needlessly burdened by those who can be treated at the local level.

Affordable Health Care Services: Existing system of affordable health care services will be further expanded and consolidated ensuring proper safety net for the poor. Facilities providing health care outside the public sector (but receiving government fund) will ensure that at least 30 per cent of their all types of services are kept for free treatment in their hospitals for those who cannot pay. Necessary fund will be mobilized through user fees, government allotment, social organizations, private contributions, corporate social responsibility, community financing schemes, social insurance, etc. Fees for providing medical advice or diagnostic service will be reviewed and

regulated as necessary. Government will also encourage establishment of network of evenly spread specialist and super-specialist services through private investment for patients who can pay, so that the pressure on government facilities remains limited to those entitled to free services.

Surveillance of Diseases: The existing disease surveillance system will be reviewed for its updating to incorporate NCDs along with CDs and keeping in view the international health regulation system. Disease information monitoring and management system will be strengthened not only to issue public alert and increase availability of adequate information concerning the incidence and prevalence of diseases at regional and national levels, but also to establish a network with the global disease information system. The incidence and prevalence of diseases vary widely across different regions of Bangladesh. Therefore, maps of all major diseases, on the basis of their incidence and prevalence, will be constructed for each district.

Medical Waste Management: The government has recently introduced medical waste management initiative for hospitals to ensure safe, environment friendly and cost-effective management of sharps and other hospital wastes derived from curative, diagnostic, immunization and other services both in public and private sector. The on-going efforts of hospital waste management at all levels will be strengthened further and expanded all over the country. A coordinated mechanism along with different level committees will be established involving hospital authorities, city corporations, municipalities and NGOs for management of both in and out house hospital wastes. Steps will also be taken to improve the capacity of Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) for inspection and monitoring of medical waste management. This will require direct involvement of and increased investment by both the public and private sectors. New initiatives in medical waste management include:

- Introduction of medical waste management at different public and non-public health facilities; and
- Finalizing regulatory framework for proper medical waste management in public and non-public health facilities.

Supply Management: The MOHFW has continuously been monitoring and reviewing the process of procurement for developing a need based, efficient and cost-effective system. The Procurement and Logistics Management Cell (PLMC), being processed for recruitment, is expected to take care of the weaknesses in procurement and supply of goods in the health sector. The new contracting-out system is already in place keeping provision for repair and maintenance for ten years by the supplier for certain electro-medical equipment. This system along with functioning of the national electro-medical equipment workshop (NEMEW) will be further reviewed for decentralized authority for strengthening the repair and maintenance of electro-medical equipment for their proper functioning. Emphasis will be given on improvement in central medical store depot (CMSD)'s capacity, staff training, storage and distribution, computerized inventory control system (CICS) and logistics management information system (LMIS). The scope for further expansion of decentralized procurement will be explored to achieve greater flexibility and timeliness in procurement of supplies. New initiatives in supply management include:

- Establishment of PLMC;
- In-built repair and maintenance for ten years while purchasing new medical equipments ensuring continuity of services; and
- Decentralized procurement and NEMEW activities.

Health Governance: Good governance in the health sector will be strengthened through skilled staff deployment, preventing all sorts of malpractices and creating a more customer friendly

health service delivery system in the public facilities in partnership with all stakeholders. The stewardship capacity of public sector will be improved for monitoring quality of care and safety of patients in both public and private sectors. The on-going collaborations between the state and the non-state actors in strengthening FP, nutrition, EPI, TB, leprosy, malaria, and HIV/AIDS etc. activities have been found encouraging through active involvement of the communities. Therefore, these initiatives will be scaled up as necessary and lessons from these experiences will be replicated in other areas of concern. Initiative has already been taken to engage NGOs purely on pilot basis for providing services exploring possibility of increased local government bodies' involvement for management of services at union and below including CCs in 138 poor/hard-to-reach unions at 15 upazilas of 6 districts in 6 divisions. Community-based organizations will be involved in monitoring the quality and coverage of services. Expansion of private sector's health service provision will continue to be encouraged, so that private sector can support and complement the government activities. But the private sector will also be kept under constant review to ensure proper treatment of patients and make them more transparent and accountable to the citizens. The existing regulations relating to the operation of the private clinics and diagnostic centres would be strictly enforced. The Citizen's Charter for health service delivery has been put in practice in the public hospitals. Practicing of the said charter will be monitored and strict adherence to its implementation will be ensured. With the recent renewed commitment of strengthening the local government administration and institutions at different levels, opportunities have cropped up for exploring devolution of health programmes and utilization of fund through different levels of local government institutions. Adaptation of such approach will enable need based allocation of resources and close supervision through the locally elected representatives. Efforts will equally focus on improvement of public health services through better planning, reallocation of existing resources as well as increasing resources, establishing transparency and accountability, reducing wastage and improving efficiency by better management practices. The government will review the Indian Coronation Court Act 1871 in light with the present situation and aims to set up Coronation Court on the model of UK. New initiatives in health governance include:

- Consolidation of public-private partnership in management of health services;
- Outsourcing non-state entities purely on pilot basis for managing services at union and below exploring possibilities of increased local government bodies involvement for managing services in 138 poor/hard-to-reach unions;
- Citizens Charter for health service delivery;
- Better regulation of the non-public health care providers;
- Monitoring and vigilance team for medical colleges and specialized hospitals at Dhaka for ensuring management efficiency and thus establishing increased attention to the patients;
- Decentralized administrative and financial authority to the hospitals;
- Revitalizing Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council by amending its act;
- Updating national health policy; and
- Setting up Coronation Court.

Sector Reforms: The sector-wide approach (SWAp) has been initiated in the HNP sector since 1998 and now the second SWAp (HNPSP) is under implementation and will continue till the second PRSP period (2011). A health sector reform body will be set up under the chairpersonship of the Minister for Health and Family Welfare for overseeing the progress of on-going reforms. The on-going reform measures need to be closely monitored and reviewed for their successful implementation. Efforts are on to re-establish functioning of the Bangladesh Medical and Dental

Council (BMDC) through an amendment of the concerned law. Gradually other laws relating to the regulatory bodies will be reviewed and strengthened to make them functional and effective. Both administrative and financial authority, as far as possible, will be decentralized with a view to increasing accountability and establishing quality health care services at all levels. A system of collection, retention and utilization of user fees and local resources at all public health facilities (ensuring adequate safety net for the poor) will be established and for this a set of guidelines will be developed.

Gender Equality in Health: Efforts will focus on (i) ensuring rights of women for a better physical and mental health at all stages of their life cycle, (ii) strengthening PHC for women with emphasis on reducing maternal and infant mortality, (iii) strengthening reproductive rights and reproductive health of women at all stages of population planning and implementation, (iv) preventing women from HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STD) through awareness raising, and (v) creating women-friendly facilities at all pubic health complexes. Moreover, efforts will continue to (i) communicate the importance of ANC, delivery care and PNC to all household heads at the grassroots level, (ii) communicate importance of women status in family for her own and children's nutrition, (iii) give special training to service providers at the community and higher levels on gender equity, and (iv) include topics on the health needs of both males and females and their impact on gender disparities in school curricula.

Transparency, Accountability and Stakeholder Participation: Management committees at facilities level along with different service associations, professional organizations like Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and regulatory bodies like BMDC can play a more effective role in achieving good governance and ensuring transparency and accountability in health sector. The stakeholders, including non-state actors, media and civil societies will be involved in formulating policies and included in managing committees of hospitals. They will also be consulted on major issues of health sector's development in order to increase participation, transparency and accountability.

Stewardship Role of the Public Sector: The government has been emphasizing on wider involvement of the private sector including non-state institutions for enhancing effective health service delivery. To this end, the stewardship role of the MOHFW has to be strengthened. The following are some of the important areas where effective regulatory mechanism of the government will be established.

I. MOHFW will gradually assume strategic stewardship and governance roles for policy management in the following and related areas:

- Setting up a coordinating system for synergistic, effective and efficient contribution from state and non-state including private sector and health related NGOs for extending and improving health services.

- Necessary steps will be taken for formulation, implementation, review and periodic updating of a comprehensive (i) Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health Strategy, (ii) Population Strategy by updating the existing National Population Policy, (iii) Infant and Young Child Feeding Strategy, (iv) Strategy for Combating HIV/AIDS, (v) Strategy to reduce the burden of TB, Malaria, Kal-azar and Filaria, (vi) Urban Health Strategy, (vii) Non-Communicable Diseases Strategy,(viii) Emergency Preparedness and Response Strategy, (ix) Accident and Violence Management Strategy, (x) Occupational Health Strategy, (xi) Mental Health and Drug Addiction Strategy, (xii) Tribal Health Strategy, and (xiii) Food Safety Strategy.

II. MOHFW will strengthen its regulatory and supervisory roles:

- Regulatory bodies (BMDC, State Medical Faculty (SMF), Bangladesh Nursing Council (BNC), Bangladesh Pharmacy Council (BPC), and Ayurvedic, Homeopathy and Unani Board) will be made more effective and functional through revising their mandate, structure and capacity building for enforcement of standards.
- The existing structure and capacity of DGHS, Directorate of Family Planning (DFP) and Department of Drug Administration (DDA) will be reviewed and strengthened for increasing supervisory performance and enhancing institutional capacity.
- Professional medical ethics and code of conduct will be established among the service providers through enforcement of regulatory framework in consultation with the professional associations.
- The need for separate regulatory body for effective service delivery system for both the public and private sectors will be reviewed.

III. Public sector will increasingly focus on ensuring proper safety net for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized:

- Existing health delivery system in both public and private sectors will be further expanded and strengthened, ensuring proper safety net for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized.
- Alternative health delivery systems will be explored leading to an eventually self managed system with community participation in managing the facilities on pilot basis and then scaled-up, based on lessons learnt.
- Public-private partnership in health delivery system will be further expanded and strengthened with an effective monitoring and regulatory mechanism.

IV. Proper information generation, collection and effective management feeding into policy formulation and planning:

- Develop comprehensive plan including performance indicators for monitoring and evaluation of health interventions with sound demographic and socio-economic data including those on burden of disease, inequality and gender disparity.
- Improve existing communicable disease surveillance system to support a more rapid response to tackle disease outbreaks. Surveillance of major NCDs will also be integrated with communicable disease surveillance.
- Formulation, implementation and periodic review of comprehensive BCC strategy for stimulating informed demand for health services.
- Formulation of an improved planning and budget through pilot introduction of local level planning (decentralized at district and upazila level) supported with resource allocation.

Human Resources for Health: Human resource (HR) is a critical element in the effective delivery of health services. The comprehensive long-term HR strategy under preparation by MOHFW would address the issues of shortages, maldistribution of personnel, skill-mix imbalance, negative work environment and weak knowledge base. Steps would be devised for improving the quality of existing workforce in both the formal and the informal sectors. Measures would also be taken for production of additional workforce (doctors, nurses, paramedics, technologists, etc.) in the public

sector and the private sector, based on need assessment. Moreover, the following are some of the important areas of focus for health sector's human resources development (HRD):

- The public sector HRD strategy will, among other things, involves establishing career plans for specific lines of specialization, based on competence and experience, and clear principles for promotions, posting and transfers.
- Private sector participation in medical education has expanded over the past few years. Maintaining the quality of medical education has since become crucial. The MOHFW would re-examine the current accreditation arrangements for pre-service educational institutions of both public and non-public health professionals and consider the need for a uniform accreditation body to coordinate and regulate all types of medical education.
- Client's satisfaction is an important outcome of quality of care combined with the perception of provider's behaviour. Awareness of the importance of this issue needs to be inculcated during pre-service education. To this end, steps would be taken to provide community exposure and patient-friendly orientation in medical education and training.
- The marked imbalance in the skill-mix of service providers need to be addressed on an urgent basis. Priority would be given to the recruitment and training of additional nurses, technicians and SBAs to meet existing shortage and improving service delivery.
- Personnel management procedures will be reviewed and updated as required. The updates will include introduction of incentives for service providers working in remote and hard-to-reach areas and modifications of the transfer-posting practices for field level managers.
- The large and critical role of the informal health care providers will have to be recognized and appropriate strategies developed with a view to managing and improving their practices to minimum levels of acceptable care. They will be given need based short training of different durations at both public and non-state facilities, particularly on appropriate drug use and prevention of drug resistance, routine curative care management and referral of complex cases to the appropriate facility.
- Problems in FP department regarding vacancy, service structure (cadre, non-cadre, doctor, non-doctor etc.) will be resolved on priority basis to bring back momentum in the programme. Job descriptions of FWA and HA will be reviewed to reflect functional integration of cross-cutting responsibilities. Capacity building initiatives will be further strengthened.
- Efforts will be undertaken for the training of qualified electro-medical engineers/ technicians in collaboration with the existing engineering/poly-technical/vocational training institutions of public and private sectors to cater the need of uninterrupted support of the medical equipments.

New initiatives include:

- Achieving skill balance in health work forces centring on more production of nurses, medical technologists etc. both in public and private sectors; and
- Establishing five new medical colleges in public sector.

Drug Issues: All drug related issues will be guided by the actions incorporated into the National Drug Policy (NDP). The NDP will be reviewed with the objective of ensuring easy access to essential drugs at fair price, promoting competition among the local pharmaceutical industries and supporting and strengthening the existing regulatory measures to ensure quality drugs. Moreover, increased attention will be given to "rational use of drugs" by educating both prescribers and users. For all these to be materialized, the Department of Drug Administration (DDA) will be strengthened and expanded. New initiative on drug issues is:

- Updating list of essential drugs.

Water and Sanitation: Access to safe and adequate water and hygienic sanitation with its proper use is fundamental for health. Bangladesh government is committed for universal access to water and sanitation by 2010. Though much improvement has taken place due to government's priority and active involvement of state and non-sate actors along with the community. Yet much needs to be done. Proper promotion and practice of water safety plan can only ensure effective result. Access of water needs to ensure in urban areas particularly to slums and water scarce areas like arsenic affected areas, saline areas, char-haor-coastal belt, CHT, barind tract areas etc. Emphasis needs to provide for stopping open defecation along with installation of sanitary toilets. Adequate functioning of sanitary toilets, separate for male and female, needs to be ensured in all academic institutions (schools – primary and secondary, colleges, universities, madrashas etc.), religious institutions (mosques, mandirs, pagodas, churches etc.) and public places like transport stations (bus stands, steamer/launch ghats, ferry ghats, railway stations, sea and airports etc.), market places (bazar, hat, shopping malls etc.), gatherings for festivals, religious purposes or in parks, zoos etc. and in major cities (to cater the need of homeless, street population). Existing open defecation in railway and river transports should be stopped. Proper management of waste water and solid waste calls for priority attention.

Financing of HNP Sector: The share of budgetary allocation to the HNP sector needs an upward rise year by year. It is, therefore, imperative to adequately raise the share of HNP allocation to national budget in phases, and gradually raise it to 12 per cent by 2011 from the present level of around seven per cent. Public funding increases are dependent upon economic growth per se. However, irrespective of progress in per capita GDP, the health sector is a case for demanding higher allocations in every fiscal year. A significant part of the increased budget will be devoted to improving supply of drugs in public hospitals, especially for providing PHC services, with provision for strict monitoring of its utilization. Emphasis will be given on the optimum and rational use of allocated resources. Health Sector's financing by the government alone is insufficient to ensure improved health care for all in Bangladesh. Expansion of private sector investment would help to bridge the gap in needed resources for extending and improving the services. The government will continue to provide incentives (e.g., land at a lower price, bank loan, tax exemption for import of electro-medical equipment, training to health professionals and workers, lump sum grant, etc.) to the private sector engaged in health care service provision. Health sector's financing will be raised through the cost-sharing by well-to-do patients' when they are treated in public hospitals. Moreover, the government (through a set of guidelines) will encourage gradual promotion of health insurance at different levels. There is substantial involvement of external funding in the health sector, e.g., project aid funds, global funds, social business funds, etc. The government would welcome increase in such funding in a harmonized way and well aligned with the national system. Efforts will be taken to resolve the currently experienced problems in accessing donors, particularly World Bank administered fund by easing the process and requirements.

Chapter 5

Roadmap for Accelerated Poverty Reduction: Supporting Strategies

The strategies relating to the building blocks form the core of NSAPR II and are basically concerned with the real sectors of the economy. Acceleration of the growth rate as well as the long-term sustainability and inclusiveness of the growth process require addressing some other critical issues. These issues are more of a crosscutting nature and concerned more with the provision of services. There are five supporting strategies to complement the strategic blocks:

Supporting Strategy I: Ensuring Participation, Social Inclusion and Empowerment
Supporting Strategy II: Promoting Good Governance
Supporting Strategy III: Ensuring Efficient Delivery of Utility Services
Supporting Strategy VI: Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change
Supporting Strategy V: Enhancing Productivity and Efficiency through Science and Technology

5. 1 Supporting Strategy I: Ensuring Participation, Social Inclusion and Empowerment

A comprehensive sustainable social and economic development framework is centred on people. Since the people comprise heterogeneous groups which face different realities, obstacles, and opportunities, some of these groups show a greater lack of economic and social advancement. Poverty reduction strategies will need to take such differences into consideration to remove obstacles, address needs and expand opportunities for these groups. In this connection, it is essential to identify the excluded, dis-empowered and vulnerable members of the society. Some of them are women, children, indigenous people, persons with disabilities and other disadvantaged groups.

The Constitution ensures equal rights to all citizens, prohibits discrimination and inequality on the basis of sex and strives to promote social and economic equality. According to Article 27 of the Constitution of Bangladesh, all citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law. Article 28 states that the State shall not discriminate against any citizen on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or region. With respect to women, Article 28 also states 'Women shall have equal rights with men in all spheres of state and public life'. Article 28 further states, 'nothing shall prevent the State from making special provision in favour of women or for the advancement of any backward section of the population.'

5.1.1 Women's Advancement and Rights

Although women and men share many of the burdens of poverty, women frequently experience poverty differently, have different poverty reduction priorities and are affected differently by development interventions. These gender differences need to be adequately captured in poverty analyses, designing strategies and monitoring systems. Addressing the gender dimensions of poverty and creating gender responsive interventions enhance the likelihood of success of poverty reduction efforts.

In addressing gender based discrimination, NSAPR II follows a two-pronged approach. Firstly, gender is integrated into 18 thematic policy matrices that cover all sectors. Secondly, there is a specific matrix dealing with gender equality commitments entitled "Women's Advancement and Rights".

Vision

The vision for Women's Advancement and Rights is to create a society where men and women will have equal opportunities and will enjoy all the fundamental rights on an equal basis. To achieve this vision, the mission is to ensure women's advancement and rights in the activities of all sectors of the economy. The goals for addressing poverty are to establish overall rights of women, achieve gender equality, empower women and include women in the mainstream of development activities.

Goals

The Bangladesh Government adopted the 'National Policy for Women's Advancement' (NPWA), 2008 that aims at eliminating all forms of discrimination against women by empowering them to become equal partners of development. The overall development goal for women's empowerment stands at: (i) Promoting and protecting women's human rights; (ii) Eradicating the persistent burden of poverty on women; (iii) Eliminating discrimination against women; (iv) Enhancing women's participation in mainstream economic activities; (v) Creating opportunities for education and marketable skills training to enable them to participate and be competitive in all economic activities; (vi) Incorporating women's needs and concerns in all sectoral plans and programmes; (vii) Promoting an enabling environment at the work-place: setting up day care centres for the children of working mothers, career women hostels, safe accommodation for working women; (viii) Providing safe custody for women and children victims of trafficking and desertion, and creating an enabling environment for their integration in the mainstream of society; (ix) Ensuring women's empowerment in the field of politics and decision making; (x) Taking action to acknowledge women's contribution in social and economic spheres; (xi) Ensuring women's social security against all vulnerability and risks in the state, society and family; (xii) Eliminating all forms of violation and exploitation against women; (xiii) Developing women's capacity through health and nutrition care; (xiv) Facilitating women's participation in all the national and international bodies; (xv) Strengthening the existing institutional capacity for coordination and monitoring of women's advancement; and (xvi) Taking action through advocacy and campaigns to depict positive images of women. (xvii) Protect women from the adverse effects of environmental degradation and climate change; (xviii) Take special measures for skills development of women workers engaged in the export-oriented sectors; (xix) Incorporate gender equality concerns in all trade-related negotiations and activities; and (xx) Ensure gender sensitive growth with regional balance.

Progress in the Area of Women's Advancement and Rights

Bangladesh has made measurable progress in women's advancement and rights in a number of areas.

Poverty Reduction: The pro-women policies, strategies and measures undertaken in the past have positively influenced women's poverty. About 35.4 percent of women-headed households were living in poverty compared with 34.2 percent of male-headed households in 2000. Female- headed households living in poverty have declined to 21.9 percent in 2005.

Women's Participation in Labour Force: Women's participation in the labour force increased to 29.2 percent in 2005-06, from 26.1 in 2002-03, and 23.9 in 1999-2000. However, a majority of them work as unpaid family workers. About 60 percent of female workers are unpaid family workers compared with about 10 percent of male workers. About 68 percent of the females are employed in agriculture without being paid. Women's labour in agriculture has increased from 25 percent in 2002-03 to 34 percent in 2005-2006.

Education: The Government undertook various measures to improve education for girls/women. The female students' stipend programmes at primary, secondary and higher secondary levels have increased participation of girls. Gender parity in enrolment in primary and secondary education has been recorded. Passing rates in various public examinations show that there is no significant difference between girl and boy students. Three women's Polytechnic Institutes were set up for attracting girls in technical education. The establishment of an International University for Women is underway to facilitate higher education. Initiatives were taken to promote sports activities among young women and provide computer-training programmes to women.

Health and Nutrition: The implementation of the Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPSP) has contributed to improved health of women. The proportion of non-pregnant mothers in the chronic energy deficiency situation declined from 44.2 percent in 2000 to 32.2 percent in 2005. Life expectancy of women at birth increased to 65.9 years in 2006 from 65.7 years in 2004. Maternal mortality decreased to 3.37 per 1000 life births in 2006 from 3.65 in 2004.

Participation in Public Service: In 2006, about 15 percent officers in the Bangladesh Civil Service Administration cadre were women but only about 2 percent were at the Secretary and about 7 percent at the Joint Secretary levels. The participation of women in public service is about 15 percent and that at class 1 level is about 11 percent.

Support Services: The Government increased maternity leave for government employees from three months to four months in 2005. The labour law of 2006 also included this provision for employees covered by the law. The National Policy for Women's Advancement 2008 declared that law would be enacted to increase the maternity leave for women employees to five months. The DWA is running seven women's hostels in the divisional/district towns capable of providing accommodation to 1,348 women. Thirty-two day care centres have been established throughout the country and about 4011 children of working mothers are getting day care services. Private sector business like the garments enterprises have set up day care centres for the children of working mothers. In addition, several NGOs are also running day care centres. As a result a "Mother Friendly Environment" exists in many work places/offices.

Women's Entrepreneurship: The Ministry of Industries is providing regular entrepreneurship training to women through the BSCIC Training Institute. The SME Foundation of the Ministry of Industries has a separate wing for assisting women. Bangladesh Bank has created a Small Enterprise Fund of which 10 percent has been reserved for women. Commercial banks are encouraged to give preferential treatment to women entrepreneurs. Ten percent of industrial plots are reserved for women entrepreneurs. Concessions are provided to women entrepreneurs who participate in trade fairs. Programmes such as micro-credit, collateral free loans and special saving schemes have been introduced in the nationalized banks. The Jatiya Mohila Shangstha has initiated a project in 64 districts towards developing women's entrepreneurship. The VGD programme targeting the most disadvantaged group of women has succeeded in making women self-reliant.

Foreign Employment: The Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment has formulated some strategies to ensure foreign employment opportunities for women. Women below 25 years of age seeking foreign employment as housemaids have to take approval of the ministry through a recruiting agency to ensure her protection. The ministry has taken steps to bring housemaids under the definition of labour for foreign employment.

Social Protection for Women: The social safety net programmes include an Old Age Allowance, Widow Allowance, Maternity Allowances for Pregnant Women and Lactating Mothers and a VGD Programme. Other development projects being implemented include: Promotion of Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment; Safe Custody for Women, Children and Adolescents; Community-Based Services for poor women and children through CBOs; Development of asset less women under the VGD Programme (FSVGD); and Safe Accommodation and Vocational Training Centre for rootless girl children. The Department of Social Service is running programmes for vagrant and elderly women. Six Sharkari Ashroy Kendra (Vagrants' Homes), 6 Training and Rehabilitation Centres for disadvantaged girls, and 6 Safe Homes for women and adolescent girls are now functioning under the DSS. MOSW is also providing training and micro-credit in the Abashan project in 180 Upazilas. The government has established six "Shanti Nibash", i.e. free shelters for destitute men and women, one in each of the six divisions.

Elimination of All Forms of Violence and Exploitation against Women: The Government created a "Law Commission" to review laws related to the protection of women's rights and to recommend necessary changes. The MoWCA has undertaken multi-sectoral projects to eliminate violence against women including setting up of One-Stop Crisis Centres in medical hospitals in six divisions for acid-throwing and rape victims to ensure quick delivery of necessary services. Facilities for DNA testing have been created in Dhaka Medical College for identifying rape criminals. At the national, district and Upazila levels, Committees for the Prevention of Violence against Women have been formed. Violence prevention cells also exist in the Department of Women's Affairs and the Jatiya Mahila Sangastha. Homes for abused women and women in safe custody have been established both by the Government and NGOs.

Political Empowerment and Participation in the Decision-Making Process: The most important progress in politics is in the area of local government. In the 2002 election a large number of women became elected not only in reserved seats but also in regular seats. All city corporations have kept one-third of the seats of Commissioners for directly elected women commissioners. In 2006, the parliament passed a bill, which increased reserved seats for women to 45 from 30. The National Women Development Policy 2008 has suggested that one-third of the seats in the Parliament be reserved for women to be elected through direct elections.

Productive Employment: Women's handicraft and agriculture training centre in Rajshahi is providing training with residential accommodation to 300 women. Youth Development Training Centres in different districts provide residential three-month courses on livestock, poultry, and pisciculture to the youth, where 30 percent students are female. The Computer Training Centres of DWA and JMS are imparting ICT training to about 4,500 women annually. Computer training on ICT, run by the private sector, has about 40 percent women trainees. The Village phone programme under Grameen telecom provides telephones to village women, which creates an opportunity to earn an income. Around 95,400 rural women are getting training and micro-credit facilities through DWA and JMS. MOI has taken up a project to develop facilities for increasing women's participation in economic activities. About 15,163 Mahila Samities (Women's Associations) registered with DWA are helping raise awareness about women's rights, skill training and micro-credit for income generating activities.

Ensuring Women's Participation in International Forums: A fair amount of progress has been made in the trade and commerce sector. Some policies and strategies have been identified for women's full participation in mainstream economic activities. Policymakers from MoWCA have participated in several international conferences where they shared information on the progress and difficulties in the area of good governance and women's empowerment and gender

responsive budgeting. The issue of Aid Harmonization for Gender responsive budgeting was also discussed in the international conference where both government and NGO representatives attended.

Institutional Mechanism for Addressing Women's Advancement and Rights Issues: The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is acting as the focal point and catalyst for actions regarding women's issues and responding to the needs and priorities of women in activities of all government agencies. MoWCA and its implementing agencies have been undertaking different projects for women. The Allocation of Business of MoWCA has incorporated coordinating and monitoring of WID activities of different ministries through designated WID focal points. The National Council for Women's Development (NCWD) was established in 1995 with the Honourable Prime Minister as the chair. The Government has adopted a National Policy for Women's Advancement (NPWA). As a follow-up on the Beijing PFA, the Government has formulated a National Action Plan (NAP) which aims at translating the NPWA into measurable time-bound achievements. To fulfil the commitments of NAP, the Parliamentary Standing Committee for MoWCA has been established. Consultation and active collaboration between the Government and non-government organizations on women's issues is now more visible.

Current Challenges

In the area of women's advancement and rights the Government made strong commitments and has undertaken various initiatives to reduce the gap between men and women. However, on the path towards achieving the desired goals of gender equality and gender mainstreaming, some challenges remained and others, mentioned below, appeared as emerging challenges:

Female Faces of Poverty: The female-headed households (10.3 percent) are often destitute and economically marginalized. These households usually earn less income since the poor women have low earning capacity and their wages are lower than those of male. Women are more susceptible to becoming poor when they lose the male earning member of the family because of abandonment, divorce, or death. The HIES 2005 reveals that about 29.6 percent of divorced/widowed are living in poverty against the national average of 25.1 percent.

Women's Participation in Mainstream Economic Activities: Women's economic participation is low but increasing. However, there is still a large difference between female and male participation. Labour force participation of males is 86.8 percent against 29.2 percent for females. Many constraints are militating against the participation of women.

Violence Against Women (VAW) and Exploitation: Violence against women is all pervasive. Physical and sexual assaults and acid throwing are common. In addition, trafficking is also reported. Poverty, dowry, early marriage, superstition, social attitude etc. are the major causes of violence against women. There is a critical need for systematic collection of data on VAW and their dissemination.

Early Marriage and Dowry: The negative consequences of early marriage are multiple, including loss of education, employment opportunities and decision-making power and early childbirth. The rates of maternal and infant mortality are comparatively high among adolescent mothers. The demand for dowry is a widespread occurrence.

Gender Dimension of Vulnerabilities and Risks*:* Due to gender discrimination in the long historical process, women face constraints that result in vulnerability and risks in all spheres and stages of women's lives (Table 5.1).

Table 5.1: Women's Risks and Vulnerabilities

Life cycle stage	Associated risks and vulnerabilities
Children under 12	Girl children face the specific hazard of not attending school owing to income-earning or domestic responsibilities Indivisibility of work, which is done as part of normal household or agricultural responsibilities. Double burden of education and work (or care-giving in family) and therefore increased vulnerabilities of low productivity and fewer opportunities
Adolescents	Girl children are particularly vulnerable to withdrawal from school Double burden of education and work Entry into high-risk employment categories, hazardous industries, prostitution
Adults	Lack of access to financial institutions and asset building opportunities
Unmarried	Restricted access to the labour market owing to societal norms Societal/family pressure for getting married
Marriage	Bearing the cost of the dowry Tortured by in-laws and husband
Parenthood and career	Bearing cost of childbearing and rearing Loss of employment or job insecurity owing to pregnancy, child and elderly care Social expenses of marriage, rituals
Divorce	Stigmatisation Double burden of family and income generation
Widowhood	Loss of assets to late husband's family claims Sexual harassment by in-laws, family members and others
Old people	Lack of income source and people who can look after them No shelter, become a burden to the family Abandoned by family members

Coping Mechanism for Disaster and Climate Change: Bangladesh is facing droughts, floods and cyclones very often because of the looming threat of climate change. Women are likely to be affected differently than men. Some coping mechanisms and strategies for droughts, floods and cyclones need to be reviewed to introduce gender sensitivity.

Budget, Programme and Project Formulation: The Medium -Term Budgetary Framework is now explicitly integrated with policies and strategies of the National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction (NSAPR). Currently 16 ministries spending 60 percent of the total national budget are under MTBF which requires them to answer questions on how their spending would affect women and poverty in the budget call circular (BC1) of the Ministry of Finance. If the programmes and projects are not formulated in a gender responsive manner, answering BC1 of MTBF would be difficult. The capacity strengthening issues of engendering programmes and project formulation and answering BC1 have now come to the forefront.

Sex Disaggregated Data: The national statistical system and the ministries' administrative data could be made more sex disaggregated. Strengthening the capacity of the ministries in generating and reporting data, especially sex disaggregated data, in understandable forms still remains a challenge.

Governance: The main problem with gender governance is the implementation of the existing laws, rules and regulations and stated policies. The reform of some of the laws, rules and regulations, policies and the institutional mechanism is needed to make governance gender sensitive. This is because women are subject to discrimination in the applications of laws and within the institutional framework. Various institutions such as the court and the police are inaccessible and unfriendly to women. In case of violence against women, dowry and early marriage, the implementation of current laws has been less than satisfactory. The quota for

women's employment in the public sector has not yet been effectively implemented. Women's representation in various committees is not maintained in spite of the government's standing directives. Women have insufficient voice and representation in political decision-making processes.

Strategic Objectives

In order to overcome the challenges, eleven strategic objectives have been identified relating to the various dimensions of gender and poverty. They are: (i) putting a policy and legal framework in place to facilitate achieving equal rights for women ,(ii) ensuring Women's full participation in mainstream economic activities, (iii) ensuring social protection for women against vulnerability and risk, (iv) enhancing women's political empowerment and participation in decision making, (v) eliminating all forms of violence and exploitation against women, (vi) strengthening institutions for ensuring gender mainstreaming, (vii) capacity building in making available sex desegregated data, (viii) integrating gender concern in all national policies/programmes/projects, (ix) building women's capacity through health and nutrition services, (x) building women's capacity through education and knowledge dissemination and (xi) ensuring women's participation in international forums.

Policy and Legal Framework for Achieving Equal Rights for Women: The constitution of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh is the basis for ensuring women's rights and advancement. The Government's commitment to various international forums (CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action etc.) will also be taken into consideration in addressing women's advancement and rights issues. On the basis of this policy formation, the legal framework will be drawn up and institutional arrangements made to ensure women's advancement and rights.

Productive Employment: Women's participation in income generating activities is vital not only for gender equality but also for reducing poverty. To create more jobs, action will be taken to improve women's employment opportunities and wages outside the household and also ensure equal pay for equal work. In order to facilitate women's participation in employment, an enabling environment will be created in the workplace by establishing day care centres. Provision will be made for life and disability insurance for the workers, especially women worker. Steps will be taken to ensure secure jobs and decent working conditions for women in the formal and informal sectors.

Employment opportunities for women will be created in the agriculture sector for which all kinds of extension services will be provided. Increased participation of women in training in the non-crop agricultural sector will be ensured. Women's participation in the marketplace and women's access to local water resources for fish production will be ensured.

Micro-credit facilities and institutional facilities for marketing products produced by women will be arranged. BSCIC will ensure more women's participation in different kinds of small and micro enterprises. Industrial plots will be reserved for women entrepreneurs in various industrial parks. BITAC of MoI will be providing skill training for mainstreaming women entrepreneurs in the industrial sector. Bangladesh Bank has created a Small Enterprise Fund that will be allocated for the women entrepreneurs. The preferential treatment in terms of collateral requirements and interest rate on credit will continue. An information collection and dissemination unit will be established to provide the women entrepreneurs with business information and technological support. EPB will continue to provide 50 percent concessions for women entrepreneurs who participate in trade fairs. EPB will create a trade portal that will help women entrepreneurs.

Macroeconomic Management: Allocation of funds to subsidize innovations in domestic appliances will be made in the budget. Further, the provisions of affordable utility, infrastructure and social services will be made to save time, so that women can participate in the labour market.

Enabling Environment for Women's Participation in Employments: Measures will be taken to develop advocacy for treating girl child and boy child equally, promote equal sharing of household work and productive work. Necessary legal and administrative measures will be taken for ensuring a safe workplace, transportation facilities, and infrastructure like separate toilets, lunch rooms and lunchtime.

Social Protection: Social protection for disadvantaged women (VGF, FSVGD, Widow and Old age allowance, WTC) will continue. Gender sensitive measures will be undertaken to protect women from economic vulnerability and risk due to natural disasters. The effect of the emerging problem of climate change on women will be assessed for designing coping strategies and mitigation measures. Legislation for implementation of social security measures through community approaches will be examined for enactment. The contributory insurance coverage for garment workers will be introduced. Banks and the micro-credit providers will be encouraged to extend small and micro-credit to the poor and the vulnerable. Construction of working women's hostels in every district town and shelters for elderly women, particularly the poor, will be undertaken. Building working women's hostels is an ongoing activity that will continue. Programmes will continue for providing safe shelter and housing for the urban and rural poor, particularly for poor single women and women-headed households.

Political Empowerment & Participation in Decision-making: Political empowerment needs to be ensured through effective participation of women in every stratum of decision making from grassroots to national level. In this respect the main targets are to ensure participation of women in the National Parliament and the local political institutions, influence political decisions in favour of women, ensure direct election in the reserve seats in the National Parliament and ensure women's representation in the local bodies with authority and responsibility. The roles, responsibilities and duties of the local government women representatives elected to reserved seats will be made focused and unambiguous for their effective participation. Parliamentary standing committees will hold public hearings on women's issues. Local women leaders will be allowed to occupy responsible positions. Initiatives will be taken to make women politically more conscious, encourage women to participate in politics and to build leadership among women at all levels, starting from the grassroots level. Sensitization programmes will be undertaken for Members of Parliament and members of local government on their roles in removing discriminations against women. Steps will be taken to appoint women as board members active in the management of public financial institutions and public sector institutions. Women's equal participation in national and local-level decision-making activities will be encouraged.

Violence Against Women: The major targets for elimination of VAW are to make an attempt to ensure 100 percent reporting of VAW incidence, to reduce reported VAW at least by 50 percent, consolidate the "One-Stop Crisis Centre" in medical college hospitals at 6 divisional levels to provide medical treatment, legal and psycho-social counselling to women and children victims of violence and providing shelter facilities and making efforts for their reintegration and rehabilitation in the society. The National Forensic DNA laboratory at Dhaka Medical College and the Divisional DNA laboratories at Medical College Hospitals have been established to support the investigation process in case of sexual assault and other crimes. MoWCA will strengthen the Central Cell to combat VAW, implement existing laws, provide psychosocial counselling, arrange life skill training and shelter to the victims. Ministry of Information will raise awareness against VAW, the Ministry of Education will include anti-violence issues in the secondary school curricula and the Ministry of Religious Affairs will train religious leaders, and Imams of mosques on anti-violence issues. An integrated strategy for combating VAW will be developed and increased coordination between government and non-government organizations will be achieved. The police, administration and

judiciary will be sensitized to apply CEDAW with provisions in cases of VAW and women's rights. Adequate funds will be allocated for preventing violence against women and supporting the victims.

Strengthen Institutions for Ensuring Gender Mainstreaming: Some of the laws, rules and regulations, institutional mechanisms, policies, projects and programmes which are not gender sensitive will be reformed. The intuitional mechanism for coordination and monitoring of gender equality issues will be strengthened.

Institutional Strengthening: The National Council for Women's Development (NCWD) chaired by the Prime Minister/Chief Adviser will oversee the women's advancement-related activities in NSAPR II more effectively through providing guidance and policy support. The Women's Development Implementation and Evaluation Committee under the chairmanship of the Minister/Adviser, MoWCA, will regularly review, evaluate and co-ordinate women's development activities and assist NCWD by reporting on the progress of implementations. The WID Focal Point Mechanism will be strengthened to play an effective role in leading the coordination and monitoring of the implementation of women's advancement and rights in policies, projects and programmes.

Making the Department of Women's Affairs Effective: The DWA faces many constraints including lack of logistics in carrying out inter-departmental coordination and in the monitoring and supervision of projects, programmes and activities at the Upazila level.

Ensure Availability of Sex Disaggregated Data: There is a need to strengthen the collection, production and dissemination of sex disaggregated data by national statistical system, and the generation of such data through the ministries' administrative system. The capacity of ministries will be developed in generating and reporting data, especially sex disaggregated data. There will be dialogues among stakeholders for identifying when and what types of sex disaggregated data should be collected by the statistical system.

Integrate Women's Advancement and Rights in All National Policies, Programmes and Projects: In response to felt needs to integrate planning and budgeting to implement gender equality and the gender mainstreaming policies of NSAPR II, capacity building of relevant government officials on gender responsive budgeting and planning will be undertaken. The poverty and gender impact assessment criteria and yardsticks in line with the NSAPR II policy agenda will be revised. The planning tools for designing and reviewing the TPP/DPP in a gender responsive way is being developed for integration in the planning procedure.

Women's Advancements and Health: Improvement in women's health and nutrition will imply human resource development, reduction of maternal and child health services, reproductive health care services, men's responsibility in reproductive health, adolescent girl's reproductive health, breast feeding, safe drinking water and ageing women's health care. To improve women's general health the targets are to: improve women's life expectancy from 66 in 2006 to 70 years by 2011, reduce women's morbidity rate by 27 percent by 2011, reduce women's mortality rate from 5.2 per thousand in 2006 to 4.5 per thousand in 2011, and reduce maternal mortality ratio from 3.37 per thousand live births in 2006 to 2.4 per thousand live births in 2011.

In reaching these targets, all public health facilities will be made available to women and women friendly. Doctors, nurses and other paramedics will be trained to be women friendly. Women's knowledge of hospital services and facilities will be enhanced. Confidentiality and security will be ensured along with safe and effective delivery services. Logistics and supply of essential drugs and equipment for women at health facilities will be enhanced. There will also be improvements in gender equity in access to services in hard-to-reach areas (like coastal, hilly, haor or char areas) through satellite clinics and outreach centres. Youth-friendly reproductive health services providing

doorstep family planning services, training to Imams, religious leaders and local elites on reproductive health and family planning, special attention to women as they fall victim to natural disasters, medical care of women victims of arsenic poisoning, prenatal services, increased use of professional trained birth attendants will be undertaken. Appropriate BCC and awareness activities will be undertaken to address gender issues in HIV/AIDS.

Women's Advancement and Education: In the education sector the targets are to have all girls complete a full course of primary schooling, and achieve gender balance in higher secondary and tertiary education. Steps will be taken to introduce special stipend programmes for women's education at the higher secondary and university levels in science and technical and vocational education. An awareness programme will be introduced in the education system, about women's rights and men's family responsibilities.

Ensure Women's Concern in International Forum: Measures in this area would include ensuring participation of women producers, women trade unions and women entrepreneurs in trade negotiations and in various committees of the Ministry of Commerce, ensuring inclusion of gender concerns in the Trade Policy Review Mechanisms, ensuring coherence between the dominant international economic agenda and the international legal obligations, making arrangements for market access to goods where women are "behind the label", planning for market access to women in the secret services under Mode 4, encouraging FDI in women labour intensive industries, ensuring women's voice in international forums to assure that international priorities, agreements and standards reflect their needs and interest. Ministry of Women and Children Affairs will continue to coordinate GoB's periodical UN CEDAW reporting to the General Assembly.

Media and Women's Advancement and Rights Issues: Media will be sensitized to promote positive images of women. Existing broadcasting programmes will be reviewed for incorporating issues those enhance women's participation in decision making, promote gender equality, empower women and eliminate gender disparity in higher education. In order to make the media more gender friendly effort will be taken to establish increased linkages between women's groups and the broadcasting agencies. The media will also be sensitized to broadcast provisions of CEDAW, PFA and CRC and create awareness about violence against women.

Ethnicity and Women's Advancement and Rights Issues: The ethnic women live in scattered and diverse areas with diverse opportunities and challenges. Steps will be taken for addressing the need of ethnic people, especially women. Special programme for ethnic women including poor, destitute and elderly will be undertaken to address their needs. The ethnic women are engaged in a number of activities including agriculture and non-agriculture depending on localized opportunities. In order to increase productivity and diversification of activities, the ethnic women's capacity would be enhanced through health, education and services. The support services such as credit, market information for ethnic products would be enhanced. There will be programmes for creating opportunities for the access of ethnic female students to higher education.

Disability and Gender Issues: The issues of disability will be addressed during the NSAPR II not only as a humanitarian issue but also as a development issue. With that end in view the programmes for women with disability will be undertaken. Measures will be taken for ensuring proper housing facilities and accessibility to all physical facilities for them. In order to provide special support for women with severe disabilities shelter homes will be built. The women with disabilities will be given preference under the safety net measure. Programmes will be undertaken to develop marketable skills for them. Additional training centres will be established at district level for skill training in computer and software development. Interest free credit facilities for disabled women will be designed for making them self-reliant.

5.1.2 Children's Advancement and Rights

Development of children is one of the overarching strategies to address poverty. Bangladesh has made significant progress in the area of child rights' promotion, survival, and development. Nevertheless, the general situation of the children in Bangladesh needs to improve further since the survival and development of many Bangladeshi children is still threatened by malnutrition, disease, poverty, illiteracy, abuse, exploitation and natural disaster.

The Government is committed to children's advancement and rights by virtue of its constitution, ratification of the UNCRC in 1990 and other international and regional conventions and commitment to various international child related initiatives.

Vision

Vision regarding children's advancement and rights is creating "A World Fit for Children" that conforms to the Millennium Development Goals. The goals to be achieved are: (i) Children's rights and advancement will be ensured through the implementation of government policies and legislations; (ii) Children will have the health services they need; (iii) Children will have the food and nutrition they need; (iv) Girls will have access to education, training and development opportunities; (v) Children will have access to early childhood development, education, sports and cultural activities, which will provide them with knowledge and life skill; (vi) Children will be protected from all forms of abuse, exploitation and violence; (vii) Children particularly in urban and remote settings will have access to clean water and sanitation, and a healthy environment; (viii) Children will actively participate in defining their needs, developing programmes, implementing interventions, and evaluate their success; (ix) Ensuring support of duty bearer, parents and other care givers -teachers, health care providers, and other service providers -on whom children have to depend; and (x) Ensuring widespread public support for the survival and development of children.

Progress in the Area of Children's Advancement and Rights

Progress made in children's advancement and rights includes access to basic health, education, food, nutritional service, safe water and healthy sanitation. There has been a steady decline in the infant mortality rate from 66 per thousand live births in 1996-99 to 52 per thousand in 2004-07. The under-five mortality rate has decreased from 94 in 1996-99 to 65 per thousand in 2004-07. The neonatal death rate fell to 37 per thousand live births from 42 during the same period. A cadre of Skilled Birth Attendants (SBAs) is being developed to ensure safe delivery at home. The percentage of children aged 6-59 months with stunting remained stagnant at 43 percent during the 2004-07 period; underweight decreased from 48 percent in 2000-03 to 41 percent in 2004-07; and wasting decreased from 17 percent in 2000-03 to 13 percent in 2004-07. The valid coverage of fully immunized children (all doses given at right intervals) increased from 52 percent in 2001 to 71 percent in 2006. Almost all children (98 percent) are breastfed at some time in their lives. The government's commitment to responding to HIV & AIDS is demonstrated through the formation of the National AIDS committee. Various channels are also used to provide health-related information to children and families. The existing school health clinics are being used as the forum for the school health information services policy.

About 98 percent of households in Bangladesh, 99 percent in urban and 97 percent in rural areas, have access to drinking water from an improved source. However, because of arsenic contamination in many parts of the country (48 of the 64 districts), the coverage of safe drinking water is reduced to around 75 percent. Although sanitation coverage has increased significantly, only

39 percent of the children have access to sanitary latrines. There has been significant progress in the education and training of children as discussed in the section on education.

The children who are in distress due to famine, drought, cyclone, tornado and river erosion are provided with food, shelter, health and sanitation facilities, informal education at primary level and primary health care. The vulnerable unaccompanied children and women refugees are given safety and security in the camps. The Government is undertaking different programmes to reduce child-labour and several projects to address the issues of hazardous child labour and street children.

Monitoring the system of activities related to women and child protection issues has been strengthened through developing new mechanisms. The system covers issues concerning sexual exploitation, sale, trafficking and abduction of children and children in conflict with the law. Follow-up actions are taken based on the monitoring reports. Meetings on law and order, particularly with reference to abuse and violence against children, are held regularly and situation is assessed for identifying future actions.

Challenges in Achieving Children's Advancement and Rights

Challenges that the children face in society are multi-sectoral and multidimensional. Children in Bangladesh continue to lack basic amenities and opportunities of life. Despite notable progress in health and nutrition indicators as mentioned earlier, infant mortality rate and under -5 morality rate are still very high compared to other South Asian countries. The proportion of children aged 6-59 months with stunting underweight and wasting are also high. Besides, children continue to remain susceptible to new and old infectious diseases, such as, newer drug resistant tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS. The prevalence and consequences of anaemia are most severe among children aged 6-23 months.

Childhood education is aimed at attaining better quality of education and learning outcomes for all, as well as access and participation by children from poor and disadvantaged households. A large number of students cannot complete primary education. Similarly, a considerable number of students cannot also complete secondary level education. In the public sector the vocational and technical education system is yet to be strengthened.

There are still obstacles in protecting children's rights. These obstacles are: lack of adequate awareness about the rights of children, poverty and decay of traditional values and attitudes towards children. Besides, absence of a separate Department of Children's Affairs to exclusively deal with child-related issues is a weakness in this area.

Although sanitation coverage has increased significantly, 61 percent of the children do not have access to sanitary latrines. Awareness levels in rural areas are low on the links between the release of excreta in open field and water bodies, and bacterial pollution and disease. Poor knowledge of personal hygiene practices, such as, hand washing after defecation, use of slippers for protection against worms, protection against food and drinking water contamination and household cleanliness, remain at a low level. Poverty and cultural conditions have also been identified as obstacles in improving children's conditions.

Child labour has been a major concern. Laws regulating child labour exist but implementation is not adequate. About 12.8 percent of the total civilian labour force consists of child labour. Although the mean age at marriage is rising, child marriage is still a major issue. A large proportion of the children of the hard core poor group in the urban areas is hard–to–reach and grows up uncared for, deprived of the basic needs and opportunities. Urban poor children are victims of neglect and exploitation and girl street children are particularly vulnerable to exploitation.

Actions to be taken

To achieve the strategic objectives, area of intervention and recommended actions are to be identified in different areas:

Child Health and Nutrition: Important programmes relating to child health that will be implemented on a priority basis include eradication of polio, elimination of measles and neonatal tetanus, improvement of nutrition and strengthening the school health programme. The objectives are to further reduce infant mortality, the under-five mortality rate, Hep-A, Hep-B in children and maintain immunization coverage at 90 percent. To achieve the objectives, the actions will include maximizing the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of health expenditure, and improve governance. Main activities will include routine immunization against seven communicable diseases and providing Essential Service Packages. IMCI will be transformed into a programme to control childhood diseases like ARI and CDD and strengthen the neonatal health care programme. The existing school health clinics will be used as the focal points for health services. The specific activities will include sensitizing primary and secondary students about critical child health and reproductive health issues, healthy practices and worm infestation, and supplying iron and folic acid tablets for schoolgirls. Activities will be undertaken to develop an Adolescent Health Strategy including counselling, building awareness for adolescents on hygienic practices, nutrition, puberty, RTI/STD and HIV/AIDS. Urban health services, especially for children, including working, street children and disadvantaged children will be given emphasis. Accident-related interventions will include family and community awareness building to identify risk situations and prevent accidents and injuries caused to children and reduce mortality and morbidity from injuries.

Food and Nutrition: To promote long-term and sustainable reduction in micronutrient deficiencies, investment in food fortification is needed. Appropriate food vehicles, fortifications and technologies need to be identified, and legislation and quality control procedures need to be introduced. To control vitamin A deficiency and contain the prevalence of night blindness to less than 1 percent, vitamin A supplements will be distributed to children with vitamin A deficiency, measles, persistent diarrhoea or severe malnutrition and to postpartum women within 6 weeks of delivery. Ongoing efforts to control iodine deficiency disorders through universal salt iodization will continue. To address the causes of anaemia, strategies will be used to control anaemia, including iron-foliate supplementation, anathematic treatment, fortification, and BCC to increase the consumption of iron-rich foods and promoters of iron absorption. Priority will be given to children aged 6-23 months, and pregnant and lactating women. A strategy will be developed to address the health care needs of the children with physical and mental disabilities. The activities will include awareness-raising on the causes and prevention of various forms of mental and physical disabilities through mass media campaigns.

Child Education: The intervention for early childhood development (for all children under 5 years) will include an awareness raising programme for parents to make them aware of ECD's benefits, promote community-based childcare centres for clusters of families where literate mothers are trained to become caregivers and design facilities for early learners, which are attractive and properly equipped. Efforts will be made to increase enrolment rate and decrease dropout rate, train all primary teachers, increase the attendance rate, increase contact hours, limit maximum class size to 46 and maintain gender parity in access and achievement.

Non-formal education (NFE) will be provided to diverse types of children deprived of education, like un-enrolled or drop-out children and hard to reach children to enhance their employability and productivity through skill training. Steps will be taken to expand NFE, increase enrolment and

retention of these children. Community ownership and involvement in programming as pre-requisites for NFE success and sustainability will be ensured.

Effectiveness of Primary Schools will be ensured by increasing the community involvement; creation of a child-friendly teaching/learning environment; by promoting access, competence, relevance, efficiency and equity in education and also by developing a strong life skills component including mental, cultural and physical development. Quality of primary education will be achieved by improving the quality of learning materials and instructions, strengthening capacity of teachers; developing infrastructure facilities and including sports and cultural activities in the curriculum. Opportunities for vocational training will be created in secondary schools for 60 percent of children for improving their income-generating capacity.

A renewed effort will be undertaken to ensure quality as well as life-skills, an inclusive education for girls, which will empower them to overcome barriers. There is a need to enhance the capacities and opportunities of girl children, make education more effective and meaningful for them, provide opportunities for girl children in vocational and technical education, and increase opportunities for girl children outside school.

The curricula of Madrasha education will be reviewed to improve quality of learning and increase market relevance of Madrasha education. Appropriate learning materials and skill development subjects will be introduced to achieve performances parity for Madrasha graduates with students from the general education system, and thereby increasing acceptance of Madrasha graduate in the job market.

Water and Sanitation: Bangladesh is committed to achieving universal access to 100 percent safe drinking water and 100 percent sanitation coverage by 2011. The specific objectives are to: mitigate arsenic problem in drinking water by providing alternative systems, increase rural and urban slum access to sanitary latrines, expand water and sanitation services to cover currently underserved pourashava areas, provide improved water supply to 50 percent of the underserved, un-served and difficult to reach areas by 2011. The activities would include awareness raising, testing of all wells, screening for arsenicosis and provision of alternatives. Steps will be taken to include installation of household sanitary in villages, covering households with no latrine, installation of household and communal sanitary latrines in urban slums, increasing coverage of the school sanitation programme, involving teachers and students and giving orientation sessions on personal hygiene, sanitation and water supply. About 100 percent primary schools will be ensured access to sanitation and safe drinking water. Eradication of open defecation and the proper separation of human excreta from the open environment will continue. The Community will be given knowledge on safe water, sanitation and personal hygiene, to bring about behavioural change on the proper use and management of sanitary latrines, safe water for drinking and other domestic purposes, and proper personal hygiene practices. Environmental hazards for children (sound, air, water pollution etc) will be reduced and standards for sound, air and water pollution will be implemented.

Child Empowerment: Children should be empowered and have a voice in the socio- economic decision-making process in the family, society and national levels. In this respect it is necessary to create a national platform for allowing children to express opinions on their needs, expectations, and means of addressing those needs and expectations. Children should be provided, through schools and other institutions, with information on various issues so that they can form their opinion.

Child Protection: All children, particularly those who are vulnerable, will have the right to protection from abuse, exploitation and violence. NPA covers the main aspects of child protection

and it will also utilise the policies of the existing NPA against the sexual abuse and exploitation of children, and trafficking. An enabling environment will be created and preventive steps undertaken to protect children from abuse and violence. To protect the best interest of the children, laws affecting children will be harmonized and enforced. Awareness amongst law enforcing officials and judicial officers and the development of a diversion scheme involving the courts, social workers and probation officers as an alternative to custodial sentences will be undertaken. The arbitrary arrest and detention of children will be prevented accordingly. The major goals for protection of children are to increase coverage of programme for vulnerable children, increase under-5 birth registration to 100 percent by 2011 and reduce early marriage by 60 percent by 2011.

The Municipal Corporation and Pourashava will be mobilized to register all births including those in brothels. Awareness raising programmes through union parishad members and Imams will be conducted to eliminate the practice of early marriage. A widespread social awareness campaign and community mobilization on protection issues will be undertaken to foster positive attitudes towards children, particularly girls, and bolster the positive attitude of parents and decision-makers on the need to protect children regardless of the socio- economic environment.

A public education campaign about the consequences of the ill treatment of children will be conducted. Vulnerable children will be provided with information on the potential risks and benefits of illegal migration which leads to child trafficking. Action will be taken to stop the selling of children, child trafficking and child hiring for begging on pavements in urban areas. In this context the community will be mobilized to protect children from violence, and from being sold for trafficking, economic gain and sexual exploitation. Social awareness of and campaign against all forms of corporal punishment at home and educational institutions will be undertaken.

Child Labour is both an issue of economic compulsion and focused effort to tackle as a social issue. Effective measures will be taken to protect child labourers, and eliminate the worst forms of child labour with a particular focus on child domestic workers, migrants, refugees and other vulnerable groups. For this purpose steps will be taken to increase the knowledge base about child labour and children's rights. A child friendly code of conduct for employers will be prepared. The code of conduct will be mandatory for the employees of all children's rights organizations. In this context a policy for children in the formal sector, focusing on those caught up in the worst forms of child labour, will be formulated. A regulation regarding minimum wage and protective standards for health, leisure and education for working children will be introduced.

Street Children will be assisted in accessing their rights and protecting them from all forms of abuse and exploitation. Appropriate vocational education and life skill training programmes and an increase in drop-in centres in the community for shelter and provision of sufficient facilities in the drop-in centres for street children will be arranged. Thus steps will be undertaken to integrate them in the normal life of the community.

Working Children such as waste collectors, leather workers, brick breakers, auto-workshop workers and tempo helpers will have access to learning opportunities in formal and non-formal facilities. Employers and guardians of working children will be made aware of the need to give them time off to attend school. Child domestics will be assisted so that they can attend school up to grade V. An effective mechanism for enforcing the law in favour of working children including child domestic workers will be developed. This will ensure that working children have excess to education including livelihood skills and income generation.

The under privileged children who are refugees and internally displaced, children in conflict with the law, children in orphanages and other institutions, prostitution, a disaster situation, broken families, urban slums will be given social protection from abuse and exploitation and will be

provided with education, training and rehabilitation. To protect the children against abuse and exploitation, these issues have been incorporated in the textbook of both formal and non-formal education.

Children, who are abused physically, sexually and through trafficking and are born to sex workers, remain socially stigmatized and outcast. To recover and reintegrate these children and remove them from abusive and exploitative circumstances, the interventions will include developing community support for these children; providing livelihood alternatives, basic services and adoption, and implementing policies and legislation necessary for the prevention of abuse, discrimination, exploitation and violence. The protection, recovery and reintegration of child victims will be ensured through access to health, education, and legal and timely and effective humanitarian assistance and protection, provision of assistance to resume a normal life etc. MoSW, in cooperation with other ministries and organizations, will continue to work to assist in the recovery and reintegration of children who come into contact with the law - detained or imprisoned.

Vulnerable children such as sexually exploited and abused children will be provided with information on HIV/AIDS and ensured facilities for voluntary testing and treatment. Steps will be taken to increase efficiency to combat sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children through enhanced coordination and cooperation. The non-formal basic education scheme will be introduced in all jails for eligible children. During detention probation officers will maintain contact with the child through regular visits, advising, assisting and making friendship and, where necessary, making efforts to find him/her suitable employment. Children will be prepared so that they can return to their families and reintegrate with society after detention ends. Prosecution of perpetrators is essential to protect the child victims of abuse, and violence. All perpetrators inflicting torture and other cruel, inhuman, degrading, damaging acts and all perpetrators of sexual abuse and exploitation for sex work, trafficking, and forced labour will be prosecuted and penalized.

Management and Coordination: the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, being the lead Ministry, will conduct public advocacy and coordinate interventions for children's well-being and rights, and chair the National Children's Council. An inter-ministerial coordination committee consisting of Government ministries with children's portfolios and organizations representing children's mandate will be chaired by the Secretary of the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs and will coordinate the implementation of CRC, CEDAW, and the World Fit for Children Plan of Action.

A Children's Directorate under the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs will be established to help the ministry coordinate all activities related to children and implementation of the existing laws, policies, programmes and projects relevant for children; provide financial and human resources for all children's activities. The Children's Directorate will conduct the annual assessments and will engage external and independent evaluators to conduct the evaluations. Bangladesh Shishu Academy will collect and store information, disseminate data among other stakeholders. Besides Bangladesh Shishu Academy will implement projects in the field of culture and mental development of children and implement ECD projects.

5.1.3 Indigenous Communities

Bangladesh has about forty-five different indigenous communities, most of them living in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, greater Mymensingh, greater Rajshahi, greater Sylhet, Patuakhali and Barguna. The Chakma, Garo, Manipuri, Marma, Munda, Oraon, Santal, Koch, Khasi, Tipra, Mro, Hajang and Rakhain are the well-known indigenous communities of Bangladesh. There are about 2.00 million indigenous people in Bangladesh including plain land indigenous people numbering 1.6

millions. Some of the 'hardcore poor' of Bangladesh are found among the indigenous communities. Indigenous communities face discrimination and are subject to extortion by land grabbers. The level of social self-awareness among them is in many cases very low. Many suffer from ill-health, bad nutritional conditions and lack of safe drinking water and sanitary toilets.

Vision

The Vision for indigenous communities is to ensure their social, political and economic rights; ensure security and fundamental human rights; and preserve their social and cultural identity. It is envisioned that indigenous communities will not be subject to any discrimination in social, political and economic activities. They will be ensured access to education, health care, food and nutrition, employment and protection of rights to land and other resources.

Progress

Most of the crucial provisions of the CHT accord of 1997 were implemented. A separate Ministry of CHT Affairs was created. Most of the refugees returned and were rehabilitated with financial and other benefits under a 20-Point Package Programme. A task force was formed to identify the ways to rehabilitate internally displaced persons and refugees returned from India. General amnesty was declared for the members of PCJSS (former guerrillas). They surrendered their arms and ammunitions and were given financial assistance and jobs in the Government. Seats are kept reserved under a tribal quota in various educational institutions. A Land Commission Act has been passed by the parliament and the Land Commission was constituted with a Judge of the Supreme Court as its Chairman to resolve the land disputes in the three hill districts. However, the Land Commission could not start functioning and the land survey could not be started. In an effort to ensure access to justice for indigenous people, district and sessions courts have started functioning in three districts of CHT. Hitherto administration of civil and criminal justice in the CHT was vested upon the District and Divisional administration. Now, in accordance with the separation of judiciary principle, judges under the MoLJ&PA have been appointed.

The Government programmes have incorporated the needs and concerns of the indigenous people, for example, the Rural Maintenance Programme and Water and Sanitation programme of MoLGRD, Early childhood Programme of MoPME, Secondary and General Education Programme of MoE and Environment and Sustainable Development Programme of MoEF. Efforts are being made to provide employment, water, sanitation, and education in CHT. An "Integrated Community Development Project for CHT" has been undertaken. National programmes like the Health, Nutrition and Population Sector Programme (HNPSP) of MoHFW, the Rural Social Service Programme of MoSW, and the "Youth Development Training Centre" of MoYS are being implemented in CHT Districts. MoWCA has undertaken initiatives for development and empowerment of women in CHT. Development activities have been accelerated by providing more budget allocation and undertaking new projects to build the infrastructure in CHT.

The Government with the support of UNDP has undertaken a project entitled- "Promotion of Development and Confidence Building in the CHT Districts", with the aim of reducing poverty, especially among the most vulnerable and strengthening the local institutions and communities. ILO in collaboration with MoLE and NGOs, through the "Women's Empowerment through Employment and Health (WEEH)" project, has implemented a decent employment component with special focus on women's entrepreneurship development in 3 hill districts.

The Integrated Community Development Project in the CHT provides basic services in 2,220 *Para* (community) Centres, serving 25-30 families. The PCs were managed by a *Para* worker, a locally recruited person (95% women). Activities related to health and nutrition, early learning for children,

water and sanitation, and hygiene promotion were supported by P*ara* workers. In the PCs immunization coverage is about 95 percent, use of iodized salt is about 100 percent. Vitamin A supplementation was provided to 17,500 post partum women. Early learning education is provided to about 40,000 children every year. A 'Hygiene Promotion, Sanitation and Water Supply Project' is under implementation in CHT districts.

Implementation of the ADB assisted 'Rural Development Project in CHT' has created opportunity for poverty reduction, employment and income generation for the poor and marginalized farmers by building the physical infrastructure, especially roads in remote areas. Indigenous people of Mymensingh have gained skill in techniques of integrated farming and are benefiting from increased production. The Power Development Board implemented the 'Chittagong Hill Tracts Electrification Project'- Third Phase and the "Chittagong Hill Tracts Electrification Project"- Kaptai and Belaichari. These are expected to provide electricity for tribal communities.

The Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council is mandated to preserve the social heritage, language, culture, customs, and music of the ethnic people. A cultural institute for the Rakhain community has been established in Cox's Bazar. With the technical assistance of some NGOs, a curriculum has been developed and children are allowed to learn in the language of the Chakma, Marma and Tipra at the primary level. Some Christian missionaries have opened a few schools to teach Santali in Roman script.

NGOs are involved in the development of indigenous people. The Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB) introduced the traditional water harvesting system in CHT. The Society for Environment and Human Development (SHED) is raising awareness about the environment and human rights with special attention to forests and ethnicity. World Vision in Bandarban is building up the capacity of indigenous people in agricultural activities. CARITAS has taken initiative to improve the quality of lives of indigenous people through integrated social, economic, educational and cultural activities. BRAC, ASA and other NGOs provide credit for income generating activities. The Centre for Indigenous Peoples Research and Development (CIPRAD) is working on Indigenous people's rights and economic, social and cultural emancipation in the plain land.

The Prime Minister's/Chief Advisor's office is implementing a project entitled "Block Allocation for Development of Special Area Except CHT" since 1996-97 to develop the condition of indigenous people in Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Dinajpur, Sylhet, Patuakhali and Barguna. During 2004-07, Tk 22.5 million was spent for giving stipends, purchasing learning materials for the students, rearing poultry and livestock and constructing community centres.

Challenges

The challenges with respect to addressing social and economic conditions of indigenous communities are mainly: (i) living in remote areas and far away from each other makes it difficult to reach, mobilize and organize them, (ii) lack of full operationalization of the 'Land Disputes Resolution Commission' to prevent land grabbing and displacement of indigenous people, (iii) lack of specific objectives concerning needs and concerns of indigenous people in the National Policy of respective ministries/divisions, (iv) lack of an alphabet and dearth of students hindering development of the curriculum in indigenous languages at schools, (v) low food production resulting in food insecurity, (vi) lack of an institutional mechanism to establish linkage and coordination with NGOs and the private sector to address issues related to indigenous people in a more comprehensive way, (vii) lack of comprehensive understanding of the problems of the indigenous communities, and (viii) lack of census and statistical data on indigenous population with ethnic disaggregation.

Areas of Future Actions:

Major areas of interventions will be:

(i) **UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples:** The government will consider implementing the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 2007 and ratify the ILO convention 169.

(ii) **Implementation of the CHT Peace Accord:** The Government will consider implementation of the unimplemented provisions of the peace accord. The Land Commission will be reconstituted and the land survey carried out.

(iii) **Rights on Land:** A holistic land policy will be formulated to deal with the land disputes of indigenous peoples. A secure land tenure system will be introduced in CHT. Representatives of the indigenous people will be included in undertaking development projects in areas inhabited by indigenous communities.

(iv) **Empower Indigenous Community:** The government will ensure participation of local governments in the management of natural resources and will recognize the traditional knowledge of indigenous peoples. The government will ensure community involvement in the adoption of technologies without competing with their traditional food production system. An authentic sense of ownership/tenure of resources will also be developed.

(v) **Awareness Programme:** A programme to promote awareness of the situation of indigenous people will be undertaken.

(vi) **Integration of Indigenous People's Concern in National Policies:** Ministries of Land, Education, Primary and Mass Education, Health, LGRD, Social Welfare and Agriculture will be mobilised for the development of indigenous peoples. The Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs (MoCHT) will be the lead ministry to mobilize other ministries/divisions to ensure indigenous people's access to education, health, sanitation and water, skill training facilities and employment. In the case of the indigenous people outside the CHT, the Special Affairs Division will be the lead agency.

(vii) **Human Development Programmes:** Existing human development programmes under MoLE, MoPME, MoHFW, MoLGRDC, MoSW and MoYS will address the special needs of indigenous people. Monitoring and supervision will be strengthened so that education, health and maternal child health services, and nutrition and housing facilities reach the indigenous people.

(viii) **Indigenous People's Language and Children's Access to Education:** A national language policy will be formulated to safeguard the languages of indigenous peoples. An action plan on mainstreaming the education of indigenous children under PEDP-II will be implemented. The fund for stipends and purchasing learning materials under the block allocation of PM/CA office will be increased for indigenous students.

(ix) **Electrification and Telecommunication:** The national power grid and distribution system for electricity supply in different Upazilas of hill districts will be expanded. The electricity generation capacity of the Kaptai Hydroelectric Power Station will be increased and a grid substation will be installed in the hill districts to meet the demand for electricity. Appropriate steps will be taken for expansion of solar electricity supply in the CHT region. The mobile phone network has already been established in hill tracts districts and the network area coverage will be expanded.

(x) **Safety Net and Food Assistance Programme:** Assistance will be provided in hill districts to strengthen their capacities and increase employment opportunities to cope with any sudden decrease of their income due to damage to Jhum crops caused by flood and drought.

(xi) **Rural Development and Non-farm Economic Activities:** In the hill districts income generating activities through small and cottage industries, small trading and poultry and livestock rearing will be expanded. The income of poor people will be enhanced through social forestry in hilly areas and cultivation of fruits and medicinal plants. Studies will be carried out to assess the feasibility of pisciculture in hill districts by creating small lakes.

(xii) **Expansion of Area-appropriate Micro-Credit:** Area-appropriate Micro–credit activities for the poor people will be expanded and vocational training will be provided to the poor. Development of rural roads and hat-bazars for marketing of agricultural products will continue. Action will be taken to eliminate barriers so that agriculture and local products have easy access to national and international markets. Action will be taken to ensure electricity supply for small and medium enterprises and sanitation and safe water supply.

(xiii) **One District One Product Initiative:** Measures will be taken to support EPB's one district one product initiative under which 'Textile for Rangamati', 'Pineapples for Khagrachari' and 'Rubber for Bandarban' has been decided on.

(xiv) **Development of Tourism:** Private investment will be encouraged to develop sustainable tourist facilities in Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachari.

5.1.4 Persons with Disabilities

Disability is an evolving concept that results from the interaction between persons with impairment and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others (UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities). PRSP envision promoting and protecting human rights of persons with disabilities and facilitate their full participation and inclusion in mainstream social, political and cultural lives. Persons with disabilities will have the same rights and social status as others. They will be enabled to lead productive and meaningful lives through access to education, health care, food and nutrition; employment and protection and security in the society.

Persons with different kinds of disability such as physically handicapped, visually impaired, hearing impaired and mentally retarded are found in the society. A baseline survey indicates disability prevalence rates to be between 13.4 to14.4 percent of the total population of the country.

Government's Commitment: The Government of Bangladesh is strongly committed to the advancement and rights of persons with disabilities by virtue of its constitution which enshrines equal rights and status for every citizen and by signing the UN Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Beijing Proclamation on the Full Participation and Equality with Disability in Asia and the Pacific Region. Bangladesh is also committed to full implementation of the Action plan of the Asian and Pacific Decade of Disabled Person (1993-2002). The government has a "National Policy on Disability Affairs"1995 and an Action plan for persons with disabilities. On the legal front, the Bangladesh Disability Welfare Act in 2001 is the principal legislative instrument to provide protection to persons with disabilities in Bangladesh.

Progress: A National Disability Action Plan as envisaged in the first PRSP has been formulated involving the ministries of education, primary and mass education, health, LGRD, environment,

labour and employment, law and justice, establishment and social welfare. The Ministry of Social Welfare has taken up programmes for enabling and integrating persons with disabilities with mainstream of the society. The government runs 78 institutions in different districts. About 69 institutions for visually impaired children are providing education to 640 students with free hostel facilities. Seven schools at Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, Rajshahi, Chandpur, Faridpur, and Sylhet are providing free hostel facilities, special education, training, employment and rehabilitation services to 360 hearing impaired students.

The Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW) has been implementing stipend programme for students with disabilities. Under the programme the stipend is Tk. 300 at the primary level, Tk. 450 at the secondary level, Tk. 600 at the higher secondary level and Tk. 1000 at the university level per month. MoSW is also providing subsistence allowances of Tk. 200 per month per person to 200,000 persons with disabilities. The Ministry is also providing acid burnt women and physically handicapped people with interest free micro-credit of Tk. 10,000 to 15,000 and skill training for income generating activities.

An allocation of 11.68 percent of the development budget in ADP 2002-2003 increased to 12.74 percent in ADP 2007-2008 for persons with disabilities under the Social Welfare sub-sector. The Government has established 46 focal points in different ministries/divisions to oversee the interest of persons with disabilities. Other ministries have also allocated money for disabilities welfare.

The Government provides funds to NGOs to provide education facilities to around 7500 persons with mental disability in 46 educational institutions. Some NGOs work on the rehabilitations of the paralyzed, Braille Press Production and Leprosy control. Some are concerned with artificial limb production. The activities of these NGOs are financed by institutional donations from home and abroad.

The Jatiya Pratibandhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF) has been recognized as a self-governing organisation under Registration Act 1980 for planning and developing persons with disabilities and mainstreaming their issues in the development process. The government is adopting development approaches for persons with disabilities rather than welfare approaches. There is a 10 percent quota for the employment of persons with disabilities (and orphans) in third and fourth class jobs in the public sector and one percent quota in first class jobs.

Challenges

In Bangladesh persons with disabilities are mostly poor and are subject to gross deprivation and extreme vulnerability. Persons with disabilities, especially girls/women, encounter ill-treatment, abuse, neglect, hostility at the family, community/society levels. Persons with disabilities are denied not only social and political rights but also basic human rights. They are often denied education and employment opportunities and health care. Their mobility is also seriously limited by the traditional patterns of building, road construction, transports and other infrastructures.

Access to special education, training and rehabilitation, equal opportunities, creation of employment and income generating opportunities, social security, accessibility to physical facilities, fixation of quota, and prevention of disabilities could not be fully ensured because multi-sectoral ministries have yet to be made legally responsible for addressing disability issues in their action plans. Proper supervision and monitoring of NGO activities is essential. A National Coordination Committee was set up but the Government is yet to have a system to monitor the activities of NGOs. The Bangladesh Disability Welfare Act was passed in 2001 and was implemented in the last six years. It does not have clear definitions of disability and does not specify the diverse needs and rights of people with disabilities. The act is not based on a right based approach. The disability act does not provide the actions to be taken against those violating or abusing the rights of persons with disabilities.

About 1335 to 1500 children with disabilities out of 2.6 million have access to primary schools in 78 government institutions. About 10,000 to 15,000 such children are admitted to primary schools run by 400 NGOs. No provision is available for them to have entry into secondary, tertiary or vocational institutions. A large number of children with disabilities may not have access to primary education. Those who get access to primary education may not have access to secondary and tertiary education. The allocation to the social welfare sub-sector is not adequate for education, training and rehabilitation of persons with disability. The Government did not undertake any survey to identify the size of the population with disabilities. Fulfilment of quota for persons with disabilities is not satisfactory in the public sector because of lack of qualified candidates and lack of a positive attitude among employers towards persons with disabilities.

Actions to be taken: The magnitude of the problem of disability should be identified through a comprehensive survey or census. Without this survey it is not possible to understand the magnitude and diversity of disability issues and therefore is not possible to identify effective interventions.

The project 'Integrated Education Programme and Special Education for the Blind" will be expanded in more schools to enrol more visually impaired children. Existing institutions for hearing impaired and mentally retarded children will be extended and expanded. New institutions will be established to provide access to more children with disabilities at primary as well as secondary and tertiary levels. A quota will be kept in higher secondary and university education for students with disabilities.

The National Education Policy and Curriculum must address disability issues and the curriculum of all educational and training institutes of disabled students needs to be reviewed. NCSE will be upgraded to impart training to secondary level school teachers and offer higher degrees like MEd, MS and PhD. For this purpose the curriculum needs to be developed and existing ones should be reviewed to meet the existing needs. Basic research on special education and action -oriented research on teacher's training can be undertaken for further development of special education.

A collaborative effort among the Government, NGOs and the private sector will be encouraged to expedite the of expansion and extension of existing institutions, establish new institutions, undertake teachers' training and action researches on disability. The existing allocation of around 12 percent for disabled under the social welfare sub-sector in ADP should also be enhanced.

Action will be taken in the health sector to (i) strengthen early detection of symptoms of disability and providing primary medical rehabilitation; (ii) make it mandatory to undergo blood tests for intending couples before marriage to avoid the birth of children with disabilities; (iii) undertake a nutrition programme for pregnant women; (iv) appoint trainee doctors, nurses and other caregivers to deal with disability issues; and (v) introduce support services of assistive devices and equipment at the health centres.

ERCPH at Tongi and RPH at Bagherhat will be provided with necessary financial and technical assistance for smooth functioning. Additional Employment Rural Rehabilitation Centres will be established on a regional basis to cater for skill training, and the employment and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities in different districts. All vocational training institutes of the Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Youth and Sports and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs will need to include persons with disabilities. They will be provided with credit support to undertake income generating activities after they have taken skill training.

Persons with disabilities will have access to all physical facilities and information and communication. For example, the provision of building ramps in all public buildings, large housing facilities, cinema halls and other entertainment facilities should be implemented. The provisions for ticket counters and special seats and special toilet facilities should be built in buses, waterways, rail stations and public buildings. Visually impaired people should be provided with software in their

own language and sign language should be made mandatory on television for hearing impaired persons. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities will be translated into local languages with disability friendly versions such as Braille, audio and large print etc.

Inclusion of persons with disabilities in various national and community level decision making processes that affect their lives should be ensured as envisaged in the NSAPR. The National Sports Council should undertake talent hunts campaign for children with disabilities to identify prospective athletes. They should be provided with adequate and appropriate facilities i.e. play grounds, sports materials and incentives to develop their capability through participation in future Special Olympics Summer Games or any other competitive games.

It is not often possible for institutions or centre-based programmes to provide services to persons with disabilities according to their needs. It is necessary to integrate them into the society. Services like early detection and timely medical intervention, fitment of artificial aids and appliances, educational services in special and integrated schools, vocational rehabilitation and micro-credit will be provided to persons with disabilities at their doorstep through a "Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) Programme" in the rural areas. The acid burnt victims should be rehabilitated under the CBR through medical care and financial assistance. The CBR programme under the Rural Social Service of the Department of Social Service will cover rural areas as part of national strategies to alleviate the suffering of persons with disabilities in rural areas .This can be done in coordination with field functionaries of other ministries/divisions, the local elites, Union Parishad members and Chairman, NGOs and the civil society.

The Bangladesh Disability Welfare Act passed in 2001 should be amended to clarify definitions of disability. This should also specify the diverse needs and rights of people with different kinds of disabilities. The act should be consistent with standards set out internationally on disability rights. When the rights of persons with disabilities are specified in the law and actions against the violator is clear, the issue will become legally binding. Social awareness is critically needed to ensure proper implementation of the disability welfare act.

Effective implementation of the action plan on disability is based on a multi-sectoral approach. In this respect Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW) will be declared as the lead ministry to mobilize other ministries/divisions to ensure that a person with disability has access to education, skill training, employment, special treatment, rehabilitation and integration of disability issues in other ministries' activities. The National Coordination Committee for persons with disabilities should be strengthened to monitor and coordinate activities of different ministries/divisions.

A system for coaching and orientation for such candidates should be introduced so that they are able to qualify in tests or interviews and achieve 10 percent quota in third and fourth class jobs and 1 percent quota in first class jobs in the public sector. The Private sector and NGOs should be made legally obliged to ensure all sorts of employment for persons with disabilities.

5.1.5 Disadvantaged and Extreme Poor Groups

There are some disadvantaged and stigmatized groups who are subject to social injustice and are marginalized, and have little opportunities for overcoming their harsh realities. These groups have been living a segregated life and social services do not reach them. Among them are Dhopa, (washes and irons clothes, belongs to a lower caste of Hindu community). Muchis, (traditional shoe makers, shiners and skin tanners, belong to the lowest Hindu caste), Napit (engaged in hair cutting, dressing and massaging, belonging to a low Hindu caste). Some other low caste Hindu groups are Milo, Jalopy, Kaibarta, Namasudra who carry out fishing operations in the coastal and shallow sea waters. There are also sweepers, tea garden workers, sex-workers, refugees and displaced people.

Vision

The vision for these disadvantaged and extreme poor groups is to include them into the mainstream of the society by ensuring their participation in socioeconomic activities. It is important to promote and protect their human rights; reduce the persistent burden of poverty; ensure education and skill training for income generating activities on a priority basis and develop institutional capacity for coordination and monitoring.

Assessment of Progress

NSAPR (2005-2008) suggested some actions to reduce the poverty of disadvantaged and extreme poor groups. Review of actions taken so far for the development of people of disadvantaged groups follows:

Fishing Communities in Coastal Areas: Among the coastal fishing communities various activities such as savings/credit schemes, promotion of alternative income generating schemes for men and women, improving access to social services and building their capacity to face and survive natural disasters have been introduced. Social mobilization and support to livelihood improvement measures including alternative income generating activities in the coastal area have been undertaken. Mechanized boats were given to selected fishermen groups as part of a post-cyclone rehabilitation programme. After the recent cyclone Sidr in coastal areas, fishermen were given interest free credit to repair nets, boats and build makeshift houses.

Sweeper Community: Development activities for the sweeper community have been undertaken by NGOs. They have been made aware of the importance of education, hygienic practices, child development, health, education and the harmful effects of alcohol. Their children are being immunized, going to school and some are studying up to higher secondary level. The people of the community have access to sanitary latrines and safe drinking water and other recreational opportunities. Nowadays some members of the community are working in government and non-government offices, undertaking small businesses, working as rickshaw pullers and motor vehicle drivers.

River Gypsies (Bede Community): Bedes live on boats that ply the country's rivers. Gradually most Bedes have given up their nomadic way of life and live in government-built houses.

Tea Garden Workers: The owners of the gardens entered into an agreement with the trade union of tea garden workers in 2005. According to this agreement it has been decided that a worker will have Taka 30 per day, which is equivalent to US$ 0.45. Employers arrange subsidized food for them through rations from the food department of the government. Recently the government formed a committee to revise the wages of tea garden employees.

Different Occupational Groups: Communities like Kaibarta/Namasudra, Jalo (fisherman) have changed gradually due to shrinking fishing grounds. Members of this community are leaving their traditional occupation. However, most fishermen are primarily dependent on fishing and live in extreme poverty. The **Dhopas** (traditional washermen) continue to work independently with their indigenous mode of washing and ironing in rural and semi-urban areas. Some work as sub-contractors. Many have upgraded themselves and operate laundry shops. Most **Napits** (barber) now run saloons in the urban areas and use modern equipment for hair cutting. The urban barbers have no other role other than hair cutting and have a higher income than their rural counterparts. Hair dressing and massaging are not in vogue in the rural areas. Traditional muchis, (shoe mender) under the changed circumstances, are taking up new occupations such as bamboo and cane furniture manufacturing, cleaning streets and driving rickshaws.

Sex Workers: The Ministry of Social Welfare has implemented a project entitled 'Capacity Development, Poverty Alleviation and Sustainable Livelihood of Socially Disadvantaged Women' with a view to creating employment/self-employment of sex-workers and their children in Dhaka city, Mymensingh, Daulatdia and Tangail brothels. Under the project, children of sex workers are provided counselling, shelter and pre-school training. Sex workers have been given non-formal education, vocational and skill training, counselling on reproductive health and HIV/AIDS.

Refugees and Displaced People: Since 1991 *Rohinga* refugees from Myanmar are staying in Bangladesh. In association with UNHCR, under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the government is providing support to the refugees living in camps in terms of shelter, health care services and education. MOU with UNHCR coordinates the process of repatriation, and ensures that refugees are repatriated strictly on a voluntary basis. There are also many immigrants from Myanmar who live in makeshift camps near the river *Teknaf*.

Challenges

Comprehensive policy agenda are yet to be developed for such disadvantaged and extreme poor groups. The government does not have any information about different disadvantaged poor occupational groups. No public survey or census on their needs and problems has ever been done. Lack of adequate statistics, disaggregated data on population (gender and caste), their education, employment, housing, health, income, etc. are key barriers to formulating appropriate programmes for these groups. Lack of coordination among the concerned ministries/divisions/agencies is also a major obstacle in addressing their problems.

Actions to be Taken

Suitable policies will be developed with emphasis on providing social and economic security to disadvantaged groups for their participation in socio-economic activities. The local administration will assess their needs and create opportunities for these groups. As the lead agency the Ministry of Social Welfare will coordinate with other ministries/divisions at national and grassroots levels and ensure participation of disadvantaged groups so that they benefit from development activities. Municipality/ Municipal Corporation will take initiatives to integrate the sweeper community in the social mainstream and provide them access to basic services.

Coordination and Monitoring: The cooperation and involvement of local bodies i.e. Upazila and Union Parishad and NGOs will help to locate/ identify the disadvantaged people to enable them to participate in development activities. Government functionaries at upazila, district, divisional/ national level will coordinate their activities so that the benefits of different development activities like education, health, sanitation and safe water supply reach these disadvantaged groups scattered all over the country. In implementing all development projects, local bodies like Upazila Parishad and Union Parishad will be involved.

Housing Facilities for Tea Garden Workers and Sweepers: The tea garden workers, generation after generation, have lived in bondage in the tea gardens or tea estates without having a piece of land of their own. The Ministry of land could allot the tea workers a plot of land within the estates so that they can build their own permanent dwellings. Similarly, the Ministry of Land could give priority to allotting khas land to the people of the Bede community for permanent settlement under the Asrayan project.

Micro-credit and Skill Training for Improvement of Occupational Activity: Action will be taken to introduce vocational/skill training in cattle fattening, social forestry, fishing, poultry, goat rearing, cottage industries, and export-oriented work like frozen food, footwear, and electronics. Skill training will also be made available for them in computer operations and software

development. Micro-credit institutions will be asked to provide them credit at a low rate of interest to undertake income-generating activities. Mass awareness about their rights and opportunities will be created to change the mindset of other people in favour of their socio- economic improvement. NGOs and the private sector will be encouraged to undertake development activities for the improvement of the living conditions of disadvantaged and extreme poor groups.

Undertake National Survey: A survey will be carried out to create a database on different disadvantaged and extreme poor groups and their needs, priorities and problems by the MoSW.

5.2 Supporting Strategy II: Promoting Good Governance

Good governance is one of the essential preconditions of socio-economic development and poverty reduction. Unless governance improves, poor people will continue to suffer from inadequate security, poor public services and lack of economic opportunities. A range of factors, including transparency, accountability, responsiveness, efficiency, organizational performance and technical capacity, can impact good governance. Corruption is often both a cause and an effect of weak governance. Improving governance and reducing corruption are crucial to helping poor people escape poverty and achieving the MDGs.

Vision of Good Governance

The vision of the Government of Bangladesh in terms of good governance is to ensure an effective parliamentary process, sound law and order, pro-people public services, an improved legal and judicial system, to strengthen local government and establish a corruption-free society with social justice.

Review of Progress

During the implementation period of NSAPR (2005-2008), a number of important reforms have taken place in Bangladesh (Box 5.1). Initiatives were taken to free politics from corruption, black money and the clutches of musclemen. Efforts have been made to ensure transparency and accountability in all financial transactions. The government is trying to ensure transparency in the service delivery system of the state institutions to reduce public suffering. The Bangladesh government has taken crosscutting initiatives in many areas to include:

(i) Streamlining and simplifying institutions (establishments, conventions and rules), eliminate administrative barriers, deregulate bureaucratic procedures, develop one-stop services, modernize administration through administrative and regulatory reform;

(ii) Providing support for legal drafting and advocacy for justice sector reforms, improvement in court administration, investigation and prosecution, judicial ethics and legal clinics for victims of corruption;

(iii) Increasing transparency and accountability in the budget and procurement processes, government auditing and customs and tax administration, i.e. Public Finance Reform initiatives are on board;

(iv) Improving the quality and predictability of public service delivery, expand citizens' participation in local government, promote open hearings, restructure permit and licensing procedures and ensure that local government is responsive to citizens' needs;

(v) Working with the business community to implement codes of conduct and undertake deregulation and legal/procedural reforms;

(vi) Reducing corruption in health, education, environment and energy sectors;

(vii) Building a coalition with the media and the civil society and the private sector to strengthen their role as watchdog and also undertake public awareness campaigns and advocacy programmes;

(viii) Retrieval of stolen funds, prevention of money laundering, global judicial action against international corruption, promoting anti-corruption legislation, and enhancing accounting and auditing standards for ensuring private sector accountability through signing the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC);

(ix) Introducing the 'Citizen Charter' by the Ministries and Agencies to ensure that their services reach the people;

(x) Opening BG Press website for uploading gazettes and laws for public use; and

(xi) Amending the rules of business of the secretariat to encourage the use of IT in administration through e-governance.

Box 5.1: Highlights of the Recent Government Interventions

(1) Undertaken Operation cleanup throughout the country to nab corrupt suspects and criminals

(2) Reconstitution and strengthening of Anti-Corruption Commission

(3) Setting up of special tribunals to try cases of corruption, money laundering and terrorism

(4) Recasting of important institutions like the Election Commission (EC) and Public Service Commission. The government is trying to create not only a level playing field for a credible election but also a fair field in public distribution system.

(5) Promoting reformation of politics as a social movement, freeing it from criminalization.

(6) Reforming police to free it from political influence.

(7) Initiative on effective independence of the Judiciary and Election Commission. The government approved an independent EC Secretariat on principle.

(8) Acceleration of voter registration process across the country with the help of the army, to prepare voter list with photograph and national ID card

(9) Formation of Financial Intelligence Unit by Bangladesh Bank, with sophisticated software and techniques to identify financial crime.

(10) Decision taken on the formation of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC).

(11) Government formed a 17-member Regulatory Reforms Commission (RRC) to make laws and regulations modern & to remove bottlenecks to economic investment, commerce and trade

The committee on "Accelerating and Strengthening Local Government" recommended raising the number of wards in an union to 15 from 9, fixing the number of directly elected members of district councils between 20 and 35 depending on the number of upazilas in a particular district, raising the proportion of reserved seats for women members from 30 percent to 40 percent for the next three elections on rotation basis, recognising the elected chairman of a municipality-level body as 'mayor' and the elected commissioners of municipalities and city corporations as councillors. It also recommends that all local government institutions will bring out a 'Citizen Charter' and update it every year.

Promotion of good governance in Bangladesh requires attention to different issues connected to each other. The issues cover: (i) Making parliamentary process effective; (ii) Reforming and strengthening the public service system; (iii) Reforming the legal and judicial system to ensure judicial help for the poor and women; (iv) Changing roles of law enforcing agencies; (v) Strengthening of local government; (vi) Promoting e-governance; (vii) Combating corruption; (viii) Ensuring human rights; (ix) Accessing information; (x) Improving project implementation capacity; and (xi) Improving sectoral governance.

5.2.1 Making Parliamentary Process Effective

Parliament is the supreme policy-making body of the nation and represents the sovereign desire of the people. Therefore the parliament has to play a key role in promoting 'good governance'. The role of the parliament is very crucial in the effective functioning of the National Integrity System (NIS). The parliament along with its standing committees can entail the rules and procedures of efficient governance and invoke transparency and accountability in the functioning of the government. The parliament can hold the government accountable through legislative debates, articulating citizens' feedback and strengthening democratic institutions including the media. Effective and independent Parliamentary Committees can do the job efficiently, if they work without fear or favour and any political bias.

However, the "Winner takes all" attitude has led to a dysfunctional parliament in Bangladesh. Certain provisions of the constitution make it impossible for an MP to play a decisive role in law making. Article 70(1) prevents a member of parliament (MP) from voting against the position of the party from which he/she has been elected or abstain from voting against the party decision. There exists no scope to pass a motion of no confidence in Parliament as the ruling party MPs are constitutionally bound to vote in favour of the government.

Chairmen of the Standing committees in almost all cases are appointed from government party MPs. The ruling party takes all the decisions since they are the majority in the Standing Committees. MPs cannot do their job of law making freely or making the government accountable for their activities. All these mean that the parliament cannot function effectively and efficiently without bringing in some changes in article 70(1) of the constitution.

Actions to be Taken: Ninth Parliament may consider the following reform measures to make parliamentary process effective- (i) Overhauling the Rules and Procedures to allow MPs to act independently of party dictates and use their own conscience and judgment in order to make the parliament effective and efficient; (ii) Creating a position of Ombudsman related to Parliamentary Affairs as provided in the constitution; (iii) Enforcing Code of conduct and code of ethics for the parliamentarians; (iv) Article 70 of the Constitution which prevents floor crossing should be reviewed and changed for upholding the integrity of parliamentary practice; (v) Fifty percent of all Standing Committees of the ministries and Public Accounts Committees may be chaired by the opposition bench members; (vi) Observing Rule 188(2) strictly so that no member shall be appointed who has a conflict of interest in matters to be addressed by the Committee; (vii) MPs will not take an interest or intervene in the administration of their constituencies; (viii) shunning the culture of boycotts, absenteeism and delayed attendance in sessions of the parliament; (ix) Standing Committees will have an enforcing mechanism/authority for the decisions taken by them. (x) Conducting training workshop on a regular basis to keep MPs updated on the current policy discourse at the national and international levels; and (xii) Initiatives for the MPs to sensitize them on issues like environment and climate change, poverty, corruption etc. and participation must be made compulsory.

5.2.2 Reforming and Strengthening Public Service

Public service is the instrument through which the State provides the essential goods and services to people. The problems with public service are mainly the inefficiency and inability to plan and manage the development activities and service delivery process. Many competent public servants cannot render their best because of the dysfunctional practices in public service management persisting for a long time. Nepotism and political interference in civil service management have seriously undermined its efficacy. Deep politicization of the public service system over the years has added to the problem as incompetent officials got promotions and positions and this practice has demoralized many efficient government officials. Many government officials get subject- oriented and general skill development training both at home and abroad. But because of frequent transfers and lack of a performance-based promotion system they do not fully apply their enhanced skills and knowledge.

The goal is to raise the quality of public service delivered to the citizens and to enhance the capacity to carry out core government functions, which is essential for sustained development. The civil service must be able to attract high calibre entrants with high standard of integrity. The Public Service reform will be a defining priority, as governance cannot improve without a high-performing civil service. Several areas of intervention have been identified to bring efficiency, transparency and accountability in public service management:

(i) Improving the recruitment procedure to identify talent.

(ii) Undertaking a human resource development approach through providing training at the entry level and continuous on- the- job training and postings to ensure a match between competence and job.

(iii) Defining Civil service code of conduct to address issues of corruption and harassment. A cell will be created in the Ministry of Establishment to address grievances of the officials.

(iv) Strengthen training of the government officials to improve public service delivery to meet the demands of the citizens.

(v) Developing institutional mechanisms whereby patronage, political pressure and nepotism can be reduced to a minimum level.

(vi) Bringing procedural change so that civil servants will work with clear terms of reference, job description, delegated authority, simplified procedures and a clear line of accountability. In order to assert accountability, proper audit and public reporting on the public service will be undertaken, which could be done making high level public servants accountable to Parliament and the public for performing their responsibilities.

(vii) Creating a healthy and enabling work environment which needs to take into consideration increases in pay-scale, relating them to skill and responsibilities; streamlining non-financial benefits, introducing performance-based promotion, and punishment.

(viii) Reformulating the ministerial responsibilities to make politicians responsible for making 'policy' decisions and civil servants responsible for "result-oriented implementation". Both ministers and civil servants stand to gain from a clear demarcation of responsibilities.

(ix) Strengthening and reforming the role of the Public Service Commission (PSC), which is vital for promoting excellence in public administration and governance. The Quota system will be streamlined to create a level playing field. Provisions for lateral entry should be in place on the basis of skill.

(x) Strengthening parliamentary and public oversight needs, with public dissemination of audit findings and scrutiny by a Parliamentary Audit Committee. An independent civil service oversight body will be established.

5.2.3 Reforming the Legal and Judicial System to Ensure Justice for the Poor

The fundamental rights of the citizens and the application of the laws cannot be guaranteed without an effective, independent and competent judicial system. Currently the judicial system is functioning poorly particularly with respect to the poor, women and other vulnerable groups. This is mainly because of: (i) shortage of resources and the inefficient management of existing resources; (ii) absence of incentives for judges and administrative personnel to perform well; (iii) inefficient or antiquated procedures; (iv) lack of information required to monitor the performance of the system; and (v) absence of appropriate remedial procedures for the prosecution and disposition of corruption cases.

In the Civil Justice System, the case management processes have been excruciatingly slow, costly and time consuming, which restricts access to justice for the poor and the disadvantaged groups of the society. In the existing practice the cases are filed in a scattered way in different courts, each having individual territorial and pecuniary jurisdictions. This created serious problems in monitoring the status of court dockets, maintaining distribution of workload for all judges and implementing the case management plans.

Judges are expected to be led by a combination of normative considerations (a desire to be good judges) and strategic considerations (furthering their own career opportunities). But often judges are politically biased, which is detrimental to the emergence of an assertive judiciary. There are sometimes allegations about the integrity of judges, particularly in the lower courts.

Ongoing Judicial Reforms: The government has taken up a project known as the' Legal and Judicial Capacity Building Project' to improve the quality and pace of the civil justice delivery system; reduce backlog; make the system more accessible to the users, particularly to the disadvantaged, women and children; and institutionalize the resolution of disputes out of court. Reform initiatives have been confined to the Supreme Court and five pilot district courts. The pilot districts have developed a Case Management and Court Administration (CMCA) model. They have assumed the responsibility for operating the Computer Case Management System. All complaints and applications are now filed in a single location of the court house and recorded in the computerized Modern Case Management System. The Pilot District Courts have made some progress in creating a legal climate where people get speedy justice at minimum cost. The reform programmes are expected to be implemented in other districts soon.

Other key reform programmes are the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism, legal aid services and training programmes for the judges and court support staffs. The legislature lately has enacted two new sections to enable judges to apply methods of Mediation and Arbitration as supplements to the existing formal litigation system. There has been an attempt to bring the legal community including the judges and the people of the legal profession under the canopy of the National Legal Aid Organization having the responsibility of offering pro-poor services to the impoverished and vulnerable people of the country.

The judiciary has been completely separated from the executive with effect from November 1, 2007. All courts have been placed under the Supreme Court. However, effective functioning of the lower judiciary will depend upon the authority and integrity of the higher judiciary because the higher judiciary will play the supervisory role on the lower judiciary. Thus it is essential that judges of the higher judiciary be appointed only by objective criteria.

The judicial system in Bangladesh will be reviewed thoroughly to undertake necessary changes so that it can effectively perform its role as an independent body to safeguard the constitution and protect the individual's rights and liberties. Suggested reforms for improving the judicial system are:

(i) Appointing a court Ombudsman, according to Article 77 of the constitution of Bangladesh, to ensure transparency and accountability in the process of justice.

(ii) Introducing a recruitment and selection system that ensures that the best judges are chosen in a transparent, independent, fair and inclusive manner. The Judicial Service Commission and its Secretariat will be equipped to monitor the performance of all judges and undertake evaluation on the basis of objectively determined criteria to be applicable for their posting, promotion and transfer.

(iii) Improving the work environment in the courts with proper office equipment and the required support staff.

(iv) Establishing a separate pay commission as mandated by the judicial pay commission rule to formulate a separate salary structure for officials of judicial services reflecting the nature of their job.

(v) Introducing a system where judges have to reveal assets and properties belonging to them and their family members at the time of entry, during the tenure intermittently and after leaving the office. It is also important that such disclosures of assets are verified and monitored on a regular basis by some independent and authorized functionary.

(vi) Streamlining administrative procedure of the court so that they are easily understood, and arbitrary decision making by court staff is minimised.

(vii) Introducing a computerized court case recording and tracking system and make the information accessible to people through the website.

(viii) NGOs will play an effective role in facilitating access to the judicial system by the poor, women and vulnerable people and in building awareness among them.

(ix) Freedom of access to information will be ensured and the Official Secrecy Act of 1923 will be rationalized.

(x) Alternative dispute settlement mechanisms will be strengthened by regulating them by formal and traditional laws. Formal alternative dispute resolution mechanisms can be attached to the courts or to government agencies, such as land and labour boards, although they should function independently.

5.2.4 Changing Roles of Law Enforcing Agencies

Security and safety for the citizenry is crucial for maintaining peace and sustaining economic advancement in the society. An accountable, transparent and efficient police is not only essential for safety and security but also for economic growth. A bad law and order situation dampens the economic environment and may seriously harm business.

Bangladesh police, which originated from the colonial past, has been historically used as an oppressive state organ by the successive governments. The unequal treatment of people by the police on the one hand denies the poor access to criminal justice and, on the other hand, encourages the powerful to perpetuate injustice and defer the process of law.

The police have a strong negative image as a custodian of people's safety. Allegations against the police are multifarious. The first one is that they refuse to record cases and the second is that they undertake improper investigations. In the police culture there is a tendency to cover up wrong-doing of other police personnel. This undermines both public trust in the law and the ability of the police to do their job. There are allegations of the involvement of the police in corruption and arbitrary exercise of power. Using the police for political purposes is common. As 'Political contact is being preferred to professional competence', the police also take advantage of the situation. As a

result they do not serve the people; rather they serve the party in power. Corruption exists because of systemic flaws in hiring, training, paying and disciplining the police. It is fostered by vague and idiosyncratic laws that give the police too much discretion.

The court inspectors are not always adequately qualified in terms of knowledge of law and skill for conducting prosecutions. Frequently, the Public Prosecutors do not take serious interest in pursuing their cases, resulting in frequent adjournments, long delays and acquittals of criminals and charge-related officials. Weaknesses in detective investigations are responsible for this. There have been efforts to improve the situation and enable the public prosecutors to seriously pursue criminal cases.

The police service needs overhauling. A commission for police reform will be formed to make recommendations. Consideration will be given to:

(i) review the existing regulations and the management structure of the police service, its relations with other departments like the administration, magistracy and judiciary, the direction and control of the police, their privileges and entitlements;

(ii) introduce statutory institutions like the independent Police Complaints Authority in the U.K. or the Public Safety Commission System in Japan where the public can complain against the police and has the mandate to inquire into complaints against the police;

(iii) undertake comprehensive police reform to put in place effective structures, both to oversee police performance and to ensure realization of the organizational mission;

(iv) create a system so that the police cannot be used to serve a political purpose;

(v) increase systematic exposure of the police personnel in gender sensitization, 2-way exchanges with legal aid services/NGOs, women's organizations, revamping the training module in the police training institutes, and establishing a system of sanctions against unlawful police conduct to ensure cordial police-people interactions;

(vi) introduce a Citizens Charter as a form of pledge of services to citizens by the police, a Code of Conduct that sets out how that pledge is to be carried out and a Gender Policy for the Bangladesh Police;

(vii) strengthen the police recruitment system and provide continuing training including basic lessons in integrity, such as respect for citizens' rights, sense of civic duty and self-control, limits of their authority and basic laws;

(viii) introduce a human resource management approach in police service;

(ix) provide the modern equipment and efficient logistic support required to carry out their responsibilities and training in modern techniques and skills for investigation including use of scientific investigation methods, forensic techniques, crime prevention strategies, use of information technology and management;

(x) amend the regulations of the 'The Police Regulations of Bengal 1861' which was amended several times but contains many regulations incongruent with the Bangladesh Constitution;

(xi) improve the population/police ratio;

(xii) ensure that the recruitment, training, transfer and promotion take place on the basis of a well-defined set of principles and competence.

5.2.5 Strengthening Local Government

The Bangladesh constitution has clearly spelled out the provision of autonomous local governments, run by the elected representatives of the people. Local government can implement the macro agenda of the national government through local micro-level planning. The government's aims to expedite development and the democratic system to intensify the nation's

struggle against poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition and corruption will be better served by local government.

Local governance initiatives currently underway in the country hold much promise for developing effective systems of public accountability that will ensure that government servants are responsible to elected officials, and elected officials are in turn responsible to their constituency.

The government is taking steps to strengthen local government so that it can respond to the needs of the people and bring services to the doorsteps of the people. Strengthening of local government and decentralisation of power imply delegating powers of the central government with the aim to address major issues like poverty reduction, good governance, infrastructure development and disaster management. Efficient and dedicated local government bodies can deliver services and generate social and economic awareness to achieve the national goals.

Actions to be taken

(i) introducing a clear mandate of authority and responsibility including the job description of the women members of the local government institutions;

(ii) building up capacity of the local government bodies and provide incentives for mobilization of resources at the local level;

(iii) sensitizing the members of the local government institutes about poverty, gender balance and citizens' rights issues through leadership training;

(iv) introducing a system of reward and recognition for the members of the local government institutions for undertaking commendable work;

(v) creating a culture of developing partnership with local-level NGOs/CBOs;

(vi) ensuring uniform application of rules and procedures;

(vii) gradually introducing ICT and e-governance at the local government level;

(viii) allowing flexibility and operational independence to local governments to suit the local needs;

(ix) ensuring full access to information on service delivery to the users;

(x) introducing a system of monitoring the performance of local government bodies and subject them to performance and financial auditing;

(xi) evaluating overall performance of the Local Government Commission;

(xii) provide technical and consultancy support by nation building departments; and

(xiii) Introducing local-level planning and budgeting and ensure budget implementation.

5.2.6 Promoting E-governance

E-governance is the use of information and communication technology (ICT) to transform government by making it more accessible, effective and accountable to the people. E-governance is an enabler toward delivering a higher level of service to citizens, business, increasing transparency and accountability while lowering costs. E-governance can be thought of as 'electronic management of the state', that is using ICT at all levels of government to be closer to the citizens, build a partnership with all stakeholders and make government more accessible, effective and accountable to people.

Despite some successes during the last few years in the ICT sector, including the adoption of the ICT Policy (2002), adoption of ICT in all sectors has so far been minimal. The main reasons are: lack of awareness of the benefit of ICT use, insufficient telecommunications infrastructure and low density of Internet connectivity, expensive Internet access, absence of adequate legal and regulatory frameworks and lack of know-how about ICT among the public officials.

Recently a National Broadband Policy has been framed, bandwidth price has been reduced and arrangements for an alternative fibre optic connection between Dhaka and Cox's Bazaar have been made. Efforts are on to have a second submarine cable. The second submarine cable will act as an additional physical backup for its connectivity with the Information Superhighway. These will create an opportunity to extensively use E-governance.

ICT can expand access to information generated by government. The initiative can start with putting rules and regulations, documents and form online, enabling citizens to readily access government information without having to travel to government offices, stand in long lines or pay bribes. E-governance has the potential to involve citizens in the governance process by engaging them in interaction with policy makers throughout the policy cycle and at all levels of government. A transact website can offer a direct link to government services such as land registration, issuance of passports, renewal of ID cards, tax returns, customs duties, and many other uses.

Actions to be taken: (i) undertake a strategy to get information online; (ii) publicise policy issues online; (iii) create a user-friendly portal for allowing interactive transacts services; (iv) regularly update web pages for incorporating most recent information; (iv) compose a legal framework for e-governance requiring public notice and comment in legislative and regulatory processes; (v) set up office to monitor e-governance implementation in the government and update the e-governance policy; (vi) gradually introduce e-governance in local government bodies; and (vii) establish a nationwide third generation wireless broadband network to ensure high-speed down link packet access (HSDPA).

5.2.7 Combating Corruption

The Government is committed to combat corruption, but it faces the difficult task of moving from commitment to results, and making a real difference in the lives of millions of people. People need a government that can deliver its promises and a government that listens and treats its citizens fairly. Corruption is one of the biggest threats of Bangladesh. It weakens the basic systems, distorts markets, and encourages people to apply their skills and energies in non-productive ways. Where corruption is rampant, contracts are unenforceable, competition skewed, and the costs of doing business become prohibitive.

Corruption involves the abuse of public office for personal gain. Public office is abused when an official accepts, solicits, or extorts a bribe when the bribe giver strives to circumvent public policies and processes for competitive advantage and profit. It is also abused through patronage and nepotism, the theft of state assets, or the diversion of state revenues. The government has heightened its focus on anti-corruption following its mandate to reduce poverty because a capable and accountable state creates opportunities for poor people, provides better services, and improves development outcomes. Poor people are unable to access health clinics, schools, and other essential services because they cannot afford to pay bribes.

In the short run, the Government is focusing on enforcement and sanctions against corruption to directly address the culture of impunity and to build public trust in the ability of government institutions in reducing corruption. In the medium-term, the aim is to strengthen the core institutions of governance, including the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Judiciary, Election Commission, and Public Service Commission. In the long-term, the focus will turn to public awareness and education in preventive measures, creating the right conditions for the public sector to enhance public service delivery. Eventually the policy will be managing development in a qualitatively better way and make governance compliant with the UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC), which has been ratified by the Bangladesh Government.

The Government will carry out activities to enhance monitoring mechanisms to prevent wrongdoing and actively follow up to sanction the same. The enforcement and regulatory framework of the National Intelligence Services (NIS) of the country will be strengthened. Anti-corruption institutions will be empowered with more investigative powers to detect and act on corrupt practices within the system as a whole.

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has been made operational, independent and effective. The commission monitors reports on corruption and takes appropriate legal actions against the accused. The ACC will develop a strategic plan through a consultation process on how to address the challenges of combating corruption in the short, medium and longer terms.

The Government will put in place some key reforms, such as introducing legislation/ordinance that will enhance the transparency of government spending and give all citizens the right to demand and receive information about the activities of government officials at all levels.

5.2.8 Ensuring Human Rights

All human beings have inalienable and indivisible rights. But institutional responses create many obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights. Denial of human rights on the basis of gender, economic and social class, disability, caste, ethnicity, race, ignorance and incompetence will lead to inefficient resource allocation, corruption, patronage and nepotism and criminality. A human rights approach to development is perceived as essential for poverty reduction because it addresses the multiple rights denials that increase poverty of various kinds. It is also necessary to reduce inequalities, which are caused by exclusion, discrimination and unequal power relations.

Many people do not know their rights and entitlements in terms of services from the government. Others may be aware of their rights and entitlements, but are unwilling to exercise those by using formal structures because many perceive that the system is complicated, intimidating, corrupt and costly. A large number of people, who are not able to enjoy human rights are mainly poor, uneducated people, indigenous people and women.

Section 54 of the criminal Procedure Code and Section 86 of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Ordinance has provision for detention of persons on suspicion of criminal activity without an order from a magistrate or a warrant, and successive governments abused these provisions. Lengthy pre-trial detention remains a problem. The backlog of criminal cases is always huge. Many prisoners make no court appearance for a long time. Many serve longer in pre-trial detention than they would have had they been convicted for their alleged crimes. The occurrence of cross-fire killings has been a fundamental violation of human rights.

There are many laws and regulations, which specifically prohibit discrimination in any form. But due to lack of enforcement and oversight, the weaker sections of the society bear the brunt of the injustice.

The state and its institutions are the guarantors of human rights for citizens and non-citizens. The role of the state remains central, both in undertaking reforms and ensuring compliance with protective legislation. Rights can be best protected through adequate legislation, independent judiciary, enactment and enforcement of individual safeguards and remedies, and the establishment of democratic institutions. The government recently approved the National Human Rights Commission Ordinance 2007 and set up the long awaited National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). NHRC will work like a national human rights watchdog and ensure that violators of human rights are brought to justice.

Actions to be taken:

(i) making National Human Rights Commission an effective institution;

(ii) establishing the office of ombudsman;

(iii) establishing a Child Rights Commission;

(iv) undertaking anti-human trafficking initiatives;

(v) taking campaign initiatives to build public awareness of women's legal rights; and

(vi) ensuring access to alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and/or legal aid for domestic violence and other forms of human rights violations.

5.2.9 Accessing to Information

Various forms of evidence indicate that there is information poverty among the poor, which makes it difficult for them to overcome various other dimensions of poverty. It is found that there is a definite positive link between communications and access to information and development of communities. Access to information leads to opportunities that generate resources and hence information is linked to resource building. In this context, making information available to the poor people and people in remote areas and dissemination of information is essential. For disseminating information various tools can be used. These may include building of information centres, libraries, local clubs etc. at the union parishad and upazila levels. For bringing information to people's homes, mobile libraries can play an important role. NGOs and CBOs can also play an important role in providing information on health, family planning, violence against women, child abuse, civic rights and responsibilities, various legal issues, market information, environment etc. to the poor and women. Electronic media can deliver information in an effective manner. The government will consider a TV channel to disseminate information in an effective manner to a wide range of people on various issues which are particularly relevant for the poor and women. In this respect, ICT will serve as a powerful tool to give equal access to information to the poorest of the poor and women and thereby help to create sustainable human development.

Access to correct information in a timely manner is crucial in taking decisions and undertaking various activities that have important implications for individuals and the nation. Thus information is considered as an economic commodity. The secretive nature of the government function is alleged to be one of the main causes of corruption. Lack of information deprives people from accessing government services. Right to information improves transparency, accountability, and efficiency and equity in allocation of public resources. Right to information is a cardinal human right. Corruption, irregularities, misuse of power, nepotism and other kinds of vices will be curbed if the right to information is established. It can be one of the most effective tools for preventing market imperfections. Article 39 (2) of the Bangladesh constitution affirms that "(a) the right of every citizen to freedom of speech and expression and (b) freedom of the press are guaranteed." However, the Official Secrets Act, 1923 stands in the way.

The Government of Bangladesh has already approved the 'Right to Information Ordinance 2008'. To monitor the implementation of the 'Right to Information Ordinance 2008', the Government will establish a Right to Information Commission soon. The Government will take measures to adequately equip Mass Media and provide training facilities to disseminate information at the grass roots level.

Providing information in itself is not sufficient for poverty reduction. It is also important to continuously work with them at the personal, family and community levels to help them internalize new ideas and abandon old ways of thinking and acting. Awareness building can play an important role in helping the poor, women and other vulnerable groups to overcome various prejudicial believes, fear and myths. In building awareness at the grassroots level the roles of two stakeholders

are important: one is the local level NGOs and CBOs and the other is the media, particularly the audio and visual electronic media. Holding *Uthan Boithak* and addressing relevant issues with the participation of women, men and children is already being undertaken by the local-level NGOs and CBOs. Introduction of community radio can also play an important role. Organizing of cultural events and showing documentary films and entertainment-oriented films of good quality can also be used in raising people's understanding and awareness in a positive manner.

5.2.10 Improving Project Implementation Capacity

Underutilisation of funds allocated to different ministries has been a regular feature. In the early part of the financial year, tendering and procurement processes take a long time. This lengthy tendering and procurement process is followed by inefficient implementation.

The development process is subject to increased politicisation, often leading to overriding of rational economic considerations. Planning Commission identified 26 reasons for the slower pace of ADP implementation, including (a) delay in appointing project directors and frequent transfer of project directors, (b) sluggishness in issuing work orders and reaching construction materials to the project sites, (c) insufficient fund allocation for projects, (d) delays in fund disbursement by donors, (e) natural disasters etc. In addition to these specific reasons, other reasons like strikes also make ADP implementation slower.

Action to be taken: (i) improving quality of public expenditure and giving priority to activities that reduce poverty; (ii) shifting from the existing project approach to a programme approach linked with national and/or sectoral development policies and strategies. This will reduce ad hoc undertaking of projects and politicisation of the project selection process; (iii) delegating authority to project directors for accelerating ADP implementation; (iv) simplifying and further streamlining the procedure of aid disbursement; (v) timely procurement of goods and services; (vi) strengthening the capacity of the officials from a ministry/division on procurement and implementation of projects; and (vii) introducing a management information system (MIS) for monitoring the implementation status every three months so that authorities can hold implementing agencies accountable.

5.2.11 Improving Sectoral Governance

At the sectoral level, poor governance is typically manifested in different forms of corruption. Misgovernance and corruption are major deterrents to investment and economic growth. These affect the poor and vulnerable groups negatively and disproportionately. At the sectoral level, users of public services come in contact with the service providers. This creates an opportunity for misgovernance and corruption. Progress in good governance at the sectoral level can be made when appropriate reforms can be introduced and sustained.

The design of sectoral level anti-corruption strategies needs to consider where risks are highest along the goods and service flow and how they might be minimized. The nature, degree, causes and implications of misgovernance and corruption for people need to be analysed in each sector's perspective. For example, the nature, degree, causes and implications of misgovernance and corruption in the energy sector will be different from health, or customs & excise. Thus it is necessary to undertake sector specific studies analysing governance and corruption issues and identify reform measures designed to deal with sector specific issues.

5.3 Supporting Strategy III: Ensuring Efficient Delivery of Public Services

Public utilities comprise all sorts of transports, power and gas, water and sanitation and all means of communications like telephone and postal services. They also cover provisions for ensuring the safety, security and protection of life, liberty and wealth of people at large. These utilities in some

way or other furnish the everyday necessities of public life. These are also essential elements for modern day living and basic inputs for growth and economic development.

Bangladesh has a long way to go in delivering utilities to people and in meeting their demand efficiently. She has to create adequate facilities for safe water supply and sanitation, an effective mass transportation system, ensure a reasonable energy supply and widely diffused telecom facilities for the people. Poor infrastructure, including inadequate power, telecommunications and transport and malfunctioning ports, is generally perceived as the principal constraint on the development of enterprises. The costs of infrastructure bottlenecks are indeed very high. The erratic supply of power forces many entrepreneurs to rely on power from captive generators at 2.5 times the cost per kwh of electricity from the grid. Some infrastructure bottlenecks are particularly harmful to the performance and growth prospect of certain sectors. For example, port congestion results in the second highest of all costs of T-shirt makers. Similarly, limited and unpredictable air cargo service blocks the expansion of exports of fresh French green beans and other produce to Europe's supermarket chains costing up to 86% of the delivered price. Poor roads, on the other hand, are affecting the shrimp industry. Poor infrastructural facilities are causing market rigidities, increasing cost, affecting labour mobility and hurting the poor most.

The Government has initiated reforms in key areas like transport, energy and telecommunications, paving the way for private sector operations to make the delivery system more effective and efficient. In transport, the government has endorsed the National Land Transport Policy, Integrated Multimodal Transport Policy and National Shipping Policy. It has liberalized the domestic civil aviation market to allow private competition. In telecommunications, improved sector outcomes resulted from important initiatives by the BTRC and other sectoral reforms.

Strengthening the planning outfits of the Local Government Division and city corporations is needed to move ahead with reform initiatives for creating urban facilities to cater to the needs of a rapidly growing urban population. Some key principles have to be followed to ensure the welfare of the service recipients such as (i) quality or standard of the services must be maintained; (ii) delivery of services have to be designed to reduce inequality; (iii) public-private collaboration must include informal or less formal service providers who are most important for the poor, so that the benefits of such interactions reach the poor; and (iv) The private sector may be encouraged to increase their involvement in the service delivery, which will help to create a "fiscal space" by relieving pressure on the government budget and subsequent redirecting of government resources to social spending.

Scope of Public-Private Partnership: Government involvement in the provision of economic infrastructure and utility services crowd out private investment in the utility services in Bangladesh. The services were under-priced and of poor quality. In this context the government has opted for public-private partnership to ensure expeditious development of utility services by attracting local and foreign investment, and improve the expertise and technology needed for its growth. Through a well-laid out policy mechanism and regulatory framework, private initiative could be encouraged to promote quality service delivery in the area of essential economic infrastructure. The government is keen to encourage private investments in the operation of sub-sectors like energy and power, roads, water-ways, railways, ports, water and sanitation, telecommunications/ICT, housing and tourism. The government will make regulatory provisions and create enabling conditions to promote market competitiveness and attract private sector participation in these areas.

Bangladesh has already played a pioneering role in augmenting private investment and fostering public-private partnership to render efficient delivery of utility services. The private sector has its presence in road and water-ways since long to cater to the need of transportation of passengers and cargo. Power generation & petroleum exploration have been opened to private operation since the 1990s. Almost one-third of power generation comes from the IPPs. The PSC companies together also supply one-third of gas to the national gas grid. The energy sector will be further liberalized

for improving its service delivery to consumers. In the telecommunications sector, 12 PSTN and 6 Mobile phone companies were given licenses for extending telephone connections. Private operators are at present encouraged to gradually extend fibre optic lines across the country for the development of speedy internet facilities nationwide on BOO-BOT basis. VOIP licensing is also under process for development of cheap internet telephony across the country. Certain functions of rail transportation are already privatized. Closed branch lines will be offered to the private sector for resumption of services in those sections. The government is considering allowing profit-operations of water providers to provide water and sanitation in pourashavas & urban slums.

There is further scope in developing public-private partnership in providing utility services. The private sector can work closely with state enterprises to improve the management of government assets such as idle land and other assets of railway stations, bus terminals and postal centres close to market places. Selective public-private joint ventures in these fields to utilize idle assets can be beneficial to people through ensuring efficiency in service delivery. The expansion of provisions of public-private partnership in augmenting the services of the essential economic infrastructure will be of great benefit to the country as it will enhance the quality of services to the people and at the same time relieve some of the strain on the government budget.

Government - NGO Cooperation: Government – NGO cooperation is most fruitful in areas where expectation of profit is not high enough to attract profit-making private operators. The deficiency of the public delivery system in the provision of unprofitable utility services has made space for NGOs as an alternative institution for the delivery of some services. NGO-government cooperation can improve efficiency in the management of service delivery in the case of some essential utilities. NGOs in Bangladesh have been involved in the delivery of most of the basic services such as education, health, water supply and sanitation. NGOs have been providing education including non-formal and adult education for the poor and disadvantaged people with the aim to increase literacy rates and enhance participation of children of poor rural households. These experiences in the social sectors can be utilized to forge wider cooperation of NGOs and the government in rendering services in the field of economic infrastructure. NGO-government cooperation can be developed for providing water in pourashavas & slums, (b) cleaning and waste disposal in cities, (c) rural energy supply programmes, (e) creation of service facilities in the urban cities, (f) creation of recreational facilities around urban river banks, (g) quality telecommunication services to the clients, (h) building shelters to live and so on.

NGO-PVO cooperation has been made successful in activities like cleaning city roads and disposal of waste under the Clean Dhaka initiative. Some NGOs are processing city wastes for making valuable composts for farming. Government organizations (REB, BPDB, LGED and IDCOL) and NGOs (Grameen Shakti) have been engaged in popularizing and prorating renewable energy projects/programmes in the rural areas of Bangladesh. These are good initiatives worthy of replication. All ward offices in cities and pourashavas can provide land for joint venture development of urban service facilities like sanitary toilets, auditoriums, libraries and good quality restaurants with surrounding greenery. River banks adjacent to cities and towns may be leased out through open solicitation to NGOs and private operators for plantation, development of park and recreational facilities. The process may save urban river banks from land grabbers. The NGOs and CBOs can be encouraged to provide land and finance for low cost housing for the poor and middle income people.

5.3.1 Priorities in Urban/Rural Service Delivery

In spite of the improvement in utility services delivered by public and private sectors and NGOs, there appears to be a high degree of social inequality, which cuts across all key social targets. The rich-poor divide is striking, but more worrying is the gap between the poorest and the rest of the society in terms of receiving utility services. This is more pronounced in the discrepancy between

utility services in rural and urban areas. The high level of inequality in spatial dimensions enjoyed and socio-economic categories needs to be seen as a factor likely to cause divergence in the progress of social development in the coming decade. A common lament is the utter neglect and deterioration of service facilities in rural areas. The continuously growing disparity in receiving necessary services between rural and urban localities is resulting in the backwardness of the rural population in almost all walks of life. The deprivation of services like water supply, sanitation, transport, telephone, power and basic energy is glaring. These are largely due to the unprecedented development of a centrifugal tendency towards cities. This obviously calls for grater priority to the development of utility services in rural areas through effective policy intervention, regulation and direction. With a view to reducing inequalities of access and opportunity, a balanced development strategy has to be undertaken to improve utility services in rural and urban areas. The urban localities have some advantages because of their high population density for the development of infrastructure and ensuring improved utility services at lower costs. But most of the people live in rural areas where the provision of utility services is inadequate, inefficient and costly. Government intervention is needed to shrike a balance between rural and urban areas in the provision of utility services.

5.3.2 Safety, Security and Protection of Life, Liberty and Wealth

The main goal of providing services for the safety, security and protection of life, liberty and wealth is to create a safe habitable human environment ensuring peace and security for all. It will uphold the rule of law, provide security for all citizens, and ensure peace and discipline for all. Besides, it will ensure fire prevention and fire safety facilities including emergency rescue and ambulance services throughout the country. Safety, security and protection of life, liberty and wealth lie at the very foundation of statehood. These are the basic requirements of the social contract which culminated in the formation of the state. Poor law and order, crime and corruption are serious problems which impact on economic growth and promote insecurity. The criminal justice system in Bangladesh is essentially impoverished; crimes are underreported and poorly investigated by the police, the court system is slow and inadequate and the prisons are dilapidated and overcrowded. Important areas related to safety, security and liberty are (a) law and order, (b) criminal justice and (c) safety and rescue in case of disaster, fire and accidents.

There remains widespread concern about law and order, access to justice and public safety at all levels of society. Recognizing this, the government undertook a Police Reform Programme (PRP) in late 2005. It aims at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the Bangladesh Police by supporting key areas such as (a) access to justice including crime prevention, (b) investigation, police operation and prosecution, (c) human resource management and training, (d) strategic capacity and oversight, and (e) communication and action against trafficking of human beings. The programme complements other initiatives for reform in the broader justice sector and is designed to assist the Bangladesh Police to improve performance and professionalism consistent with broader government objectives.

Major achievements of PRP till 2007 include policy reforms on (a) a new Bangladesh Police Ordinance to replace the Police Act of 1861 to modernize and transform the Bangladesh Police into a pro-people police service, (b) Revision of the Police Regulations Bengal 1944 by a new Evidence Act to replace the legislation dating back to 1872 to change the current testimony-based system towards modern hard evidence-based investigation and court procedures, (c) introduce Gender Guidelines for the Bangladesh Police, (d) PRP in collaboration with the 'Citizen's Initiatives is working for preparing a bill for the enactment of a new law relating to domestic violence, (e) a new Crime Prevention and Community Safety system has been developed, (f) a manual on Community Policing has been drafted for the Bangladesh Police, (g) drafting of a Code of Ethics and a Code of Conduct for the Bangladesh Police has been initiated to promote the rule of law as well as to set out the standards of conduct expected of Bangladesh Police personnel, (h) PRP has

initiated a process to draft a new THB Act to tackle Trafficking of Human Beings (THB), and (i) development of national protocols for victim referrals (underway).

Institutional development under PRP includes (a) construction of six (6) new model thanas, (b) a Model Victim Support Centre is being established at the Tejgaon Women Police Barracks, Dhaka with a provision to support victims including short-term accommodation, (c) an IT (Cyber) Crime Investigation Facility will be established at CID HQ for identifying, preventing, and mitigating cyber-attacks and terrorist misuse of cyber-space, (d) establish a THB investigation unit at CID HQ to investigate human trafficking offences, (e) Dhaka – Chittagong Forensic Laboratories strengthened to carry out the examination of secured evidence and to support the district level police in crime scene investigations, (f) to act as a central research, policy and strategic formulation body for the Bangladesh Police and to support prevention of local crime, establishment of a Crime Prevention Centre at PHQ is underway, (g) for the safety and security of the tourists, establishment of beach outposts at Cox's Bazar is being considered, and (h) ICT initiatives for Capacity building of BP are under way along with HRD.

Reforming the police and the judiciary presents formidable challenges. There was, until recently, no special police force to deal with special crimes, such as heinous crimes, economic crimes, cyber crimes, etc. Coordination of the police force with other law-enforcing agencies, such as BDR, Ansar and VDP, Coastguard, etc. is rather tenuous. The police do not possess a research cell to investigate the changing nature of crimes and the appropriate methods for handling them. Community policing is weak, although this could compensate for not having a large formal police force. Chowkidars and dafadars are not adequately linked to the thana. Investigation, law and order and prosecution duties are combined in the same official, and this tends to make officials unaccountable and inefficient. A colonial mind-set towards the public continues to prevail, often resulting in mistreatment of even women and children. Routine inspection and supervision has declined. Jails are horribly over-crowded, under-trial prisoners are not treated separately from convicts, women face great insecurity even in 'safe custody', and a large number of children are in jail. Problems also pervade the judiciary, particularly the lower judiciary. A critical problem is the delay in disposal of cases which is highly detrimental to the common man. Weaknesses in procedural law, prevalence of vested interest groups, poor training and physical facilities, lack of inspection and supervision, intrusion of political considerations, all contribute to such undesirable outcomes.

Some reforms have been undertaken. The Speedy Trial Tribunal Act was passed in 2002 to deal with some heinous crimes and nine tribunals have been established under the Act. Other steps taken include the Acid Offences Act, 2002, Civil Procedure Code (Amendment) Act, 2002 for introducing alternative dispute resolution, establishment of a monitoring cell to monitor violent crimes, establishment of a National Human Rights Commission, and the judiciary is separated from the executive. The establishment of an independent public prosecution service is under process. Several grass-root initiatives focused on improving the traditional *shalish* (dispute resolution) process is generating valuable lessons for the ADR route to justice and giving this route a new currency. Some noteworthy changes have also occurred in the area of jail reform. More jail visits, release of a considerable number of children from jails, better diet, provisions of television and electric fans, construction of new jails, finalization of the service rules for jail personnel, creation of day care centres for young children, transfer women and girls in safe custody from jails to safe homes equipped with greater facilities etc. are some of the measures undertaken. However, there is still a long way to go.

The Fire Service and Civil Defence Directorate is the major first responder in disasters like fire hazards, road accidents, shipwreck, drowning, collapsed structure, landslide etc. It minimizes loss of life and property in case of fire and other disasters and provides first aid to victims and ambulance services to convey patients to better health facilities. By providing fire safety and fire prevention along with assistance in disasters, The Fire Service and Civil Defence creates an enabling

environment for industry, commerce and the service sector at large. At present there are 183 fire service stations throughout the country in cities, at district, pourasava and upazila levels and in important industrial and commercial centres. The most constraining factors in this sector are (a) inadequate coverage, (b) old worn out and insufficient numbers of vehicles and equipment, (c) inadequate communication facilities, and (d) an old inadequate ambulance fleet. Attempts are being made to remedy the situation through implementation of fire projects and procurement under the revenue budget. Two hundred and fifty-three (253) fire service stations are being set up through these projects.

The Fire Prevention and Extinction Act 2003 has been drawn up, and rules are under preparation to implement the Act. In order to increase fire safety, rescue and ambulance facilities across the country, fire stations will be set up in all pourasavas, upazilas and important industrial and commercial centres during the NSAPR II period along with the procurement of necessary equipment, vehicles and ambulances. Moreover, partnership with local civil societies, NGOs, student groups and educational institutions will be developed to raise a strong volunteer cadre for fire safety, prevention and rescue operations. With improved regulations and their implementation, fire safety and rescue will greatly improve.

The problems in safety, security and rule of law are (a) lack of infrastructure and other facilities, (b) age-old rules and laws, (c) absence of a code of conduct and a code of ethics, (d) lack of community involvement in law enforcement, (e) lack of integration among different law enforcing agencies, (f) lack of gender sensitization, (g) inadequate coverage and equipment for fire safety and rescue, and (h) unplanned urbanization without provision for fire safety and rescue. While some of the reforms already undertaken have clearly gained public support, concerns for criminal justice and affordability and efficacy of justice remain very widespread.

Key policy priorities include (i) expediting implementation of a comprehensive police reform, (ii) establishment of an independent government attorney service, (iii) implementing and consolidating jail reform, (iv) setting of standards for the lower judiciary, (v) promoting alternative dispute resolution (ADR), (vi) strengthening community policing, (vii) establishing the office of a Child Commissioner, (viii) integrating operations of law enforcing agencies, and (ix) building partnership with NGOs, CBOs, PVOs.

5.3.3 Safe Water and Sanitation

The main goal of utility services is to ensure safe water and sanitation facilities for all. It will reduce waterborne morbidity and mortality, reduce the proportion of the population under threat of arsenic poisoning, promote productivity by improving the health and hygiene of workers and increase real income and reduce poverty. Provision of safe water and sanitation significantly curtails waterborne diseases and improves public health, promoting productivity and increasing the income of the poor. The government expects to achieve the targets of safe water and sanitation for all by 2011 and 2010 respectively. Bangladesh has nearly achieved the safe water goal, with 97% percent of the population having access to pathogen free water. But arsenic contamination presents a second generation challenge which has drastically reduced safe water availability to 80 % in urban and 70% in rural areas. On the other hand, sanitation coverage was 84-97% and 86% in urban and rural areas respectively. But in the area of water supply and sanitation coverage in urban slums and providing water in arsenic contaminated areas, progress has been slow. In the latter case, evolving an appropriate cost effective and sustainable arsenic mitigation technology poses a big challenge for the sector. Simultaneously, finding and popularizing alternative water sources like rain water harvesting and using sustainable surface water (ponds, deep aquifer water etc.) are progressing at a much slower pace because of organizational shortcomings, inadequacies and lack of public awareness.

Rural Water Supply: Bangladesh achieved the basic level of safe water supply services through hand pump tube wells. However, the arsenic contamination of 22% of the tube wells in the country proportionately lowered the service coverage. It is estimated that the total number of different types of tube wells in the country installed by the government (DPHE), NGOs and private individuals is about 7.0 million. The majority of the tube wells (78%) were installed by the citizens themselves while DPHE installed 18% and NGOs 4% only. However, considering only the effective tube wells (disregarding arsenic contaminated and other non- functional ones), the number of usable tube wells is 5.7 million. The national average coverage by the effective number of tube wells is calculated to be one tube well for 20 people. This average figure is far better than the national policy standard of one tube well for 50 people. The presence of favourable high groundwater levels made possible the use of the inexpensive and robust hand pump shallow tube wells in most parts of the country. This enabled the market forces to reach millions of users without government interference and contributed to the high level of coverage.

However, there has not been much progress in mitigating the arsenic problem. Some hydro-geological factors (e.g. arsenic, salinity and low groundwater levels), and deep-rooted poverty prevent market forces from reaching all users. The progress in reaching the poor has been less encouraging. About 29% of shallow tube wells and 4% of deep tube wells are found to be contaminated with bacteria. The level of contamination increases drastically during the monsoon; about half the deep tube wells are found to be contaminated and the case of shallow tube wells is apprehended to be similar. The main reasons are improper sanitary protection of tube well surroundings and poor operations and maintenance. Preventative measures like Water Safety Plans may be taken up in rural (and urban) areas to deliver good quality water. Studies on the feasibility of a deeper aquifer are needed to assess its suitability in many arsenic affected and other areas.

Rural Sanitation: The progress in rural sanitation was rather slow during the 1980s and 1990s. The sanitation coverage growth rate was merely 1% per annum. In 2003 the rural sanitation coverage was only 29%. The Bangladesh Government is committed to achieving 100% sanitation coverage by 2010. In 2003, the government initiated a National Sanitation Campaign in a coordinated way together with DPHE, LGED, the local governments, the government's administrative units in upazilas and districts and the NGOs. Since the initiation of the coordinated sanitation campaign, also called the "Community-Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) Approach" in 2003 and the government declaration of the target of 100% sanitation coverage by 2010, there has been unprecedented progress in sanitation coverage. The rural sanitation coverage in June 2007 has increased to 84.47%. During the last twenty months following2005, nearly five million latrines have been installed. The growth rate is very encouraging, about 17% per annum. If the current growth rate is maintained, the country is expected to reach its desired 100% coverage by the year 2010.

Urban Water Supply: Urban sanitation needs urgent attention in Bangladesh. The present urban water supply coverage is estimated to be 71% of which the coverage by piped water supply is only about 39% and the remaining 32% is by hand pump tube wells. Out of the total of 298 Pourashavas (in 2005), there is a piped water supply (PWS) system in 102 Pourashavas. The coverage in Pourashavas where there is a piped water supply system is around 36 % of the population through house connections and public taps. In these Pourashavas coverage by hand tube wells is around 55%, making the total coverage 91%. In Pourashavas without a piped supply, the coverage by hand pump tube wells is around 76%.

The urban areas face the biggest challenge in the near future. It is projected by the National Water Management Plan that in the next 30 years the urban population will outnumber the rural population and tremendously increase the density of the already overly dense urban population. The future urban water supply has to rely on the piped system because the presently used hand pump tube wells are apprehended to be chemically contaminated from the leaching from pit latrines and septic tanks. Moreover they will no longer be appropriate for the densely populated areas.

Urban Sanitation: Urban sanitation is the responsibility of the municipalities, who do not have the necessary organization to take up their role. Low national sanitation coverage poses a serious public health concern. It is estimated that 86% of urban households in municipal areas and 84.38% of urban households under City Corporations had sanitary latrines. In 2003 the Government of Bangladesh set the national goal of 100 % sanitation coverage by the year 2010 and launched a campaign with awareness, promotion and construction components. The National Sanitation Strategy, 2005 suggests low cost sewerage systems in urban areas. The present National Sanitation Campaign in rural and urban areas focuses on the promotion of pit latrines, which is not the appropriate solution in high-density, high-rise urban areas.

Conventional sewerage systems are absent in all urban areas except Dhaka. Only 20% of the population of Dhaka is served by a highly expensive sewerage network, the rest use septic tanks, pit latrines, unhygienic latrines or none at all. The sanitary conditions of urban slums are deplorable. Only a few households have pit or surface latrines but most slum dwellers have no other option than drains, open fields, roadsides or riverbanks. The amount of sewage that is collected in Dhaka is three times higher than the capacity of the only existing wastewater treatment plant (Pagla) and therefore the plant is bypassed and most of the sewage discharges untreated directly into the river. Many buildings including high-rise ones are not connected to any kind of sanitation system and discharge their effluent straight into lakes, canals and rivers causing pollution and hygienic hazards in the densely populated areas.

Providing the urban households with sanitation by the conventional sewerage system is very expensive as compared to other off-site sanitation options such as e.g. modified sewerage and settled sewerage, which are particularly suitable for small to medium townships. Another important aspect to consider is that cistern-flush toilets in high income urban areas need more water and increase the water demand when supplying an adequate quantity of water is already a problem. As also suggested in the National Sanitation Strategy 2005, multiple choices of technologies necessary depend on local conditions and people's willingness to pay. Analysis of the growth trends in sanitation coverage of city corporations (within high density areas), particularly that of Dhaka show that they will not be able to achieve 100 % coverage by the year 2010 if they continue making progress at this low rate. Different approaches are needed in high-density urban areas to reach the target. De-sludging and safe disposal of the pit latrines and septic tanks is another worrying environmental problem. Thus, even with the higher percentage of coverage in the urban areas than in the rural ones the actual sanitation situation is worse mainly because of the high population density. With more people living in urban areas in future, thus increasing the population density, the environmental situation will further degrade, especially in the urban slums.

Solid Waste Management: There is no comprehensive study on solid waste in urban areas of the country. A study by JICA estimates the per capita waste generation in Dhaka city to be 0.56 kg per capita. At present daily waste generation in the city amounts to around 3200MT/day. This trend may give an idea on the generation of the amount of solid waste in other cities. In Dhaka alone the amount of solid waste is expected to increase to 4624MT/day by 2015. The present solid waste collection rate is only 44%. Until recently, solid waste collection & disposal was unhygienic, unplanned & rudimentary. Under a JICA initiative, a system has been developed for the collection & disposal of solid waste scientifically in a hygienic way in selected areas. A modern land fill site has been developed at Matuail. CBOs, NGOs & other private sector organizations have been involved in waste collection, significantly improving collection time .Hospital waste generation in Bangladesh is about 1.17kg/bed. Some initiatives are on board for its disposal. The most alarming situation prevails in the disposal of industrial sludge and solid waste which, currently, are directly dumped into the river causing immense environmental degradation and rendering the waters unusable.

Challenges: Water and sanitation for the people face formidable challenges. They are (a) addressing arsenic contamination, (b) providing safe water in disaster-affected areas, (c) provision of water for

un-served and under-served areas, (d) making water available in urban slums, (d) evolving a water supply system for pourasavas, (e) improving urban sanitation and waste disposal, (f) water pollution by industrial sludge, waste disposal etc., and (g) related environmental issues.

Strategies: Water and sanitation have provoked a lot of public awareness and concern. The goal is to achieve water and sanitation for all. This will be possible only through well-designed strategies and concerted action on all fronts. Suggested strategies and actions are (a) application of GO-NGO partnership, (b) multi-agency involvement, (c) comprehensive monitoring and quality control of water sources throughout the country, (d) development of new water sources including use of surface water, (e) GO-NGO partnership for waste disposal and water for slum dwellers, (f) development and replication of hygienic waste disposal, (g) promoting waste composting by NGOs/PVOs, and (h) protecting rivers.

5.3.4 Power and Energy

The main goal is to ensure adequate and reliable power and energy supply at an affordable cost for development and livelihood. Power and Energy are two basic inputs for development and modern living. They promote agriculture and industry, improve the worker's productivity and augment growth and reduce poverty. Despite their importance only 43% of the population has access to electricity in the country while the coverage in the rural areas is much less. Per capita consumption of energy is only 165 kwh which is the lowest in the region. Gas is the prime supplier of energy in the country. But its coverage in the western zone is limited and presently the country is facing serious supply constraints in providing gas to power plants, fertilizer and other industries. The Gas sector has made commendable achievements in CNG conversion and CNG supply to transport vehicles. There are some programmes in rural areas to utilize renewable energy sources like social forestry, solar energy, biogas etc. A modest initiative has been taken by REB, BCSIR and some NGOs to provide solar energy and biogas plants in rural areas. LPG marketing in rural areas and the entry of the private sector in LPG is expected to have a positive impact on rural energy supply. Moreover, energy efficient stoves are being popularized to benefit the rural poor. These activities need further intensification. Priority concerning energy and power has been given to (a) augmenting electricity generation, (b) providing un-interrupted power, (c) improving coverage, (d) addressing urban concerns, (e) ensuring power for agriculture, (f) improving customer service, and (f) augmenting the gas supply.

Challenges of Power and Energy Supply: The major challenges facing the provision of energy and power are (a) endemic supply shortages in power and gas, (b) frequent and long power outages, (c) low voltage problem in transmission and distribution, (d) dilapidated distribution network, (e) insufficient network capacity, (f) poor collection and high systems loss, (g) lack of adequate gas network in the west zone, (h) absence of corporate culture in energy and power, (i) lack of service consciousness in power and gas utilities, (j) lack of development of sustainable alternative energy resources, and (j) absence of a functional Energy Regulatory Authority to protect interests of different competing consumer categories (domestic, commercial, industrial etc.).

Policies and Strategies: A number of policies and strategies are going to be undertaken by the government to improve energy and power supply and ensure their service quality. However it will take some time and need robust programmes to overcome past neglect and make up for the slow pace of reform till now. Strategies for developing the services in the fields of power and energy are (a) to implement the three-year road map (2007-09) with a time-bound action plan to achieve electricity for all by 2020, (b) gradually develop and improve the transmission and distribution network, (c) strictly enforce a well-designed load management plan to maximize customer satisfaction by the optimal use of the existing supply, (d) consider developing service standards for power and gas and introducing service contract, (e) promote use of energy efficient appliances (viz. energy efficient lamps etc.) which could save 300-350 MW daily, (f) consider introducing

cooperative management of power supply in slums, (g) introduce a functional one-stop service in power and gas utilities, (h) expand the gas network to the western, north-western and south western zones, (i) development of renewable energy for un-served and remote areas through partnership with NGOs and PVOs, (j) improve billing and, collection and minimise systems loss; (k) further popularize and expand CNG use by promoting establishment of CNG pumps on highways adjacent to district towns depending on the gas grid, (l) promote R & D in power and gas by strengthening the power cell, the Hydro-carbon unit and the Bangladesh Petroleum Institute, and (m) making the Energy Regulatory Commission fully functional.

5.3.5 Transportation

The main goal of providing public support in the transport sector is to ensure a cost effective, affordable and efficient transportation system for all. It has to reduce travel time and improve the quality of transportation services. An efficient transportation network with adequate coverage synchronized with sustained service delivery is an essential input for the development of the economy. Investment in its development and efforts to improve its services are the key to increasing the production and marketing of goods and services to foster economic growth. The development of the transport network and the provision of better services facilitate movement of raw materials and goods from the place of origin to the place of destination at cheaper costs. It serves remote places and rural growth centres to cater to the transportation needs of the poor and deprived living in remote and isolated areas.

Bangladesh witnessed rapid growth in the transport net resulting in the growth of transportation services since independence. The commendable achievement in building an extensive rural network of roads had a significant impact on ensuring affordable transport services in the rural sector and improving the living conditions of the rural poor. Bangladesh is yet to realise the full potential of waterways due to siltation of rivers and improper maintenance of navigable river routes. The operation of road and water transports is mostly in the hands of the private sector. Side by side, the public sector operations of the BRTC fleet in the road sector and BIWTA services in the water sector are continuing on selective routes to protect these routes from the unfair competition of private operators. Railways, civil aviation and water-ways lagged behind other modes of transport in growth and movement of traffic and freight. One important development in the railway is the opening up of the Dhaka-Calcutta railway route in 2008 with the promise of great benefits to the people and the Railway. There is scope for developing this mode as a means of mass transit around big cities and connecting big cities with nearby towns within the country. Waterways could be developed to improve urban transportation services in Dhaka by operating a circular water route around Dhaka. An important feature of civil aviation is its private sector growth. The number of destinations and operators in the private sector are increasing steadily. Maritime shipping and ports were beset with inefficiency and other problems. Congestions, inefficient management practices, cumbersome procedures, labour union pressure and undue political influence retarded development of these vital utilities. Recent initiatives in the privatization of certain services and streamlining of procedures yielded significant improvement in port operations.

Challenges: In spite of unprecedented growth of movement of traffic in all modes of transportation, the provision of efficient, adequate and effective transportation services through these modes of transport suffer from serious bottlenecks. The important bottlenecks are: (a) narrow roads and un-bridged road gaps slow down traffic movement and increase road users' costs; (b) lack of development in railways hinder fast movement rail traffic; (c) siltation of river routes restricts water transportation in the dry season; and (d) over and above, lack of adequate provision of timely maintenance of all these route networks makes transportation of passengers and goods risky and costly. Besides, there are some specific challenges in the provision of transport services in different modes of transport that need attention. They are: (a) absence of efficient urban-rural public transportation services by road and rail results in undue competition among the private

transport operators in the road sector particularly during the period of natural calamities when demand for transportation of passengers and goods rises sharply; (b) lack of a viable public transportation system in districts and small towns, unsystematic development of urban transportation in Dhaka and other cities create problems in the efficient movement of traffic within and between urban areas; (c) inadequate regulation of handling traffic in different modes and lack of regulation in ensuring quality of service create inconveniences in the movement of traffic and increase cost of transportation; and (d) absence of a thriving competitive environment for operating transport services results in unreliable services, and (e) lack of sufficient trained manpower at the operational level and lack of training facilities to train them constrain reliable movement of traffic and cause frequent accidents.

Policies and Strategies: The government has to follow strategies and policies to promote an efficient, adequate, effective and reliable transportation system to facilitate movement of passengers and goods through all modes of transport without neglecting any to promote others. Free and fair competition should be ensured among competing modes for their healthy development. The role of the government will be to promote, regulate and provide facilities, particularly to those areas where the required services are not forthcoming. Strategies for the improvement of service delivery in the transport sector include (a) develop a comprehensive master plan for the transportation of passengers and goods by different modes of transports; (b) develop an efficient road network connecting major cities with secondary towns by the upgrade of roads; (c) develop viable public transportation in districts and cities connecting surrounding growth centres; (d) expand and intensify railway operations connecting ports and towns; (e) develop railway time-tables taking into account public requirement; (f) develop and maintain roads, railways and waterways on a routine basis; (g) promote commercialization of all public transportation; (h) build and strengthen public-private partnership in rail transportation; (i) expand affordable air links with other towns; (j) take regulatory and monitoring measures to reduce road accidents; (k) make roads, railways and water transportation accessible and safe for women and persons with disabilities.

5.3.6 ICT, Post and Telecommunication

The main goal of the sector is to improve access to ICT, Telecom and Postal services. The development of a service delivery system in the sector will facilitate industry, trade and commerce. It will improve telecom service facilities for rural areas and enable the poor to communicate with expatriates and develop rural post offices as rural communication centres. The sector has tremendous potential and prospects to improve people's access to communication, facilitate development of ICT and reorient the postal services for trade and commerce. ICT, telecom and postal services facilitate exchange of information and bring actors of all sectors closer. The more developed it is, the faster and cheaper is the information flow between parties. They promote the market, production, health, education and so on.

Bangladesh has a tele-density of 31.58 percent. Till July 2008, there were about 1.3 million telephone connections and 44.8 million mobile phones under 12 PSTN and 6 mobile phone operators in the country. Fixed internet connectivity started in 1996 but its growth was halted because of high cost. With subsequent reduction of costs by 50 percent, the use of internet services grew faster. There are 72 ISPs and internet connections rose to around 450 thousand users by 2007 from a mere 1000 thousand in 2000. With the operation of BTRC and the liberalization of the sector tele-density including mobile telephones increased two-fold each year. With the fall in call rates and the mandated 5 percent provision of PSTN phones for rural areas, use of telephone services in rural areas is increasing encouragingly. Recent VOIP licensing will have further impetus for augmenting services in the sector. The postal department is a big organization running on age old practices of service delivery. It will be reorganized and reoriented to support the rural economy and act as a centre of information in rural Bangladesh to benefit farmers and small vendors.

5.3.7 Development of Tourism

The main goal of the tourism sector is to develop tourism for providing accessible, comfortable and safe tourism services to people, both local and foreign. It will provide people an avenue to pass their leisure time once in a while. But it will also promote employment and businesses to increase the income of the poor and reduce poverty. Tourism is an important industry in the present day world. It has immense potential for growth and poverty reduction through employment generation. The sector is expected to grow by over 6% annually. It necessitates development of a variety of products and services for attracting foreign as well as local tourists. Modern ICT technology has to be introduced for the world wide marketing of tourism. All tour operators including the National Tourism Organization must have interactive web sites to facilitate marketing and the sale of their products. Simultaneously, programmes have to be undertaken to improve the recreational spots, eco-tourist areas and archaeological sites. A nascent private sector is working side by side with the National Tourism Organization.

Current Challenges: The tourism sector is encountering many challenges in Bangladesh. Development of tourism depends on the existence of attractive natural locations, places of historical interest, well-laid out gardens and eco-parks, zoos and other man-made attractions. Bangladesh is blessed with natural bounties and historical sites for attracting tourism growth. But she has yet to reap the benefit out of the potential. Since the initiation of NSAPR, a good many steps have been initiated for the development of tourism viz. (a) institutional development, (b) infrastructural improvement, (c) development of new sites, (d) up-scaling marketing, (e) policy reform, and (f) private sector involvement. Many initiatives are still ongoing. There are many lacunas on the way to development of the sector, such as (i) lack of a large number of natural spots for tourism, (ii) undeveloped facilities around historical and archaeological sites, (iii) absence of satisfactory transport infrastructure (road and rail) and transportation facilities, (iv) lack of coordinated development of tourist sites involving many agencies (forest, archaeology, city corporations, infrastructure agencies etc.), (v) lack of application of ICT in tourism, (vi) inadequate promotional campaign, and (vii) lack of low-cost tourism options.

Policies and Strategies: A well-conceived strategy for the development of tourism includes an integrated approach for the creation and development of tourist sites, a tourist attraction-centred infrastructure (transportation and accommodation) and a robust promotional campaign. Specific strategies are (i) upgrading the tourism policy, (ii) preparing a tourism master plan to identify focused areas, (iii) creating tourism facilities at important natural and historical sites including hill tracts districts, (iv) promoting private sector involvement in tourism in a coordinated way, (v) designing an incentive mechanism to promote and direct investment into desired tourism areas, specially those in the western region of the country, (vi) developing low-cost, affordable tourism in collaboration with local and foreign airlines and (vii) developing a regulatory framework to protect tourist interests and to provide an enabling environment for the tourism industry.

5.4 Supporting Strategy IV: Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change

In the midst of widespread poverty and natural resource depletion in the country, the government strives to produce a proper mix of pro-environment and pro-development policies. It is important to note that the challenges to attaining environmental sustainability (MDG Goal 7) are difficult to overcome. These challenges are in the forms of water and air pollution, land degradation, extreme degradation of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, unsustainable agricultural practices and unplanned urban growth. There is the further challenge of overcoming weak environmental governance. Climate change has compounded problems of environmental degradation and has led to serious deterioration of ecosystems, adding yet another dimension to poverty.

In this area the vision is to achieve poverty-free environmental sustainability in Bangladesh, that is, to meet the needs of current and future generations by ensuring environmental friendly development to enable common peoples' access to public lands and resources and tackling pollution of various kinds that harms mainly the poor, particularly poor women and children.

5.4.1 Progress in the Area of Caring for the Environment

The targets and achievements in the area of environment during NSAPR period is summarized in Table 5.2.

Table 5.2: Targets and Achievements of NSAPR Policy agenda during FY 2005-07

Strategic Goal	Target	Achievement
Conservation of bio-diversity of the country	Community empowerment through formation of groups, capacity building, trainings, and, inter alia, creation of alternative income generation activities to reduce pressure on biodiversity resources.	Formation of ECA Coordination Committees through Ministerial Gazette notification
		Management plan developed for biodiversity resource management and ensured access right of the poor to the CPRs.
Control of air pollution in major metropolitan cities and rural settings	Reduce air pollution impacted burden of human diseases.	Achievement made in 2003 after the withdrawal of two-stroke baby taxi.
	Daily air pollution level to be informed to the public.	A data bank of air pollution has been created.
Increase access of the poor to CPRs.	CPRs are to be managed and conserved.	Process has been initiated.
Improve solid waste management system	Manage the medical and hazardous waste.	Process initiated.
	Manage solid wastes properly.	Involvement of NGOs and private sectors in SWM.
	Impose effective regulatory measures.	Regulatory measures are in place (reduce, reuse and recovery).
Control of industrial pollution	Bring all the amber-b and red categories industries under ECA 1997 rules	Initiative has been taken.
	Move tanneries and other polluting industries to environmental management sites immediately.	Process going on.
	Strengthen regulatory measures.	Process has been initiated.

The following initiatives have either been implemented or are being implemented:

(i) **National Environmental Management Action Plan (NEMAP):** The National Environment Management Action Plan (NEMAP) was developed in 1996. The Plan has prioritized 57 actions on the environmental front and the Government is in the process of creating a second-order priority list for immediate implementation.

(ii) **Sustainable Environment Management Programme (SEMP):** The Sustainable Environment Management Programme (SEMP) was a national umbrella programme for the implementation of environment projects. This environmental programme consisted of 26 projects (components) executed by the Ministry of Environment and Forest (MoEF) and was implemented by 22 government/ non-government agencies. The 26 components fall into five categories: (a) Policy and Institutions; (b) Participatory Eco-System Management; (c) Community-based Environmental Sanitation; (d) Advocacy and Awareness; and (e) Training and Education. SEMP was successful in mainstreaming environmental issues in the national policy discourse, and ensuring grassroots participation in policy making. SEMP was able to connect global environmental issues to everyday realities. It also served as a link between local initiatives with national and global priorities.

(iii) **Bangladesh National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA):** The purpose of NAPA was to identify the urgent and immediate needs of a country to adapt to the present threats from climate change. Addressing these needs would expand the current coping range and enhance resilience in a way that would promote the capacity to adapt to current climate variability and extremes, and consequently to future climate change as well. NAPA recognized the necessity of addressing environmental issues and natural resource management.

(iv) **Bangladesh National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management**: The overall goal of NCSA is to provide Bangladesh with the opportunity to identify priority capacity needs in order to effectively address crosscutting global environmental issues and the development of the corresponding strategy and action plan for capacity building in the environmental sector in the context of the three Conventions relevant for NCSA: the Convention on Biological Diversity; the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change and United Nations Conventions for Combating Desertification.

5.4.2 Current Challenges in Caring for Environment and Combating Pollution

With expanding population, the food problem will worsen and this will further worsen due to natural calamities. Enhanced efforts at food production will worsen environmental problems.

Conservation of Nature: The linkage between poverty and conservation of natural resources is a mutually reinforcing process. Communities living in urban slums, in areas prone to floods, drought, salinity and river bank erosion; and river/estuarine islands, tribal communities living in hills and forests, landless and migrant workers, depend on natural resources for livelihood. Poverty perpetuates environmental degradation because the poor are forced to "mine" natural capital and this leads to depletion and degradation of the resource base. In discussing conservation of natural resources attention is given to the following issues:

Common Property Rights: Public commons include natural resources such as land, open water resources in wetlands, forests, grasslands, grazing land, reed land, khas land, peat land, rivers, estuaries and the open seas. About 80 percent of the population depends directly or indirectly on the utilization of these resources. Increasing access to natural resources for the rural poor is essential for reducing poverty. However, the resource base for poverty reduction are shrinking and degrading due to:

River and other water body encroachment: Around 80 percent people of rural areas are dependent on the river and surface water sources, but due to severe encroachment and pollution of these water bodies, they cannot fulfil their daily demand. Several fish species and their breeding grounds are already lost and many others are shrinking drastically. As the destruction process increases the concerned stakeholders such as fishermen, potters, boatmen and boat makers are shrinking in numbers and becoming jobless and poor.

Park management: A Park is a common property and should be managed in an environmental friendly manner. But in reality, most of the country's parks are threatened because of encroachment, destruction and mismanagement.

Wetlands: Wetlands in Bangladesh include ox-bow lakes, haor, beel and jheel, which are rich in vegetation, aquatic plants, reeds, algae and other aquatic fauna including a diversity of fisheries. The rural poor mostly depend on these habitats for their livelihood through fisheries, tourism activities, extraction of reeds, harvesting of edible aquatic vegetation and their products, medicinal herbs and shells. Over the past 30 years, fishermen's yields have decreased by 40 percent due to disappearing water sources.

Agricultural Sustainability: Modern agricultural development depends on HYV seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides which lead to build-up of toxicity. Clearing of vegetation, earth removal, road construction, shifting cultivation *(Jhum)* in the Chittagong hill regions, and cultivation practices in the Barind and Madhupur tracts cause most of the land degradation. Increase in the salinity of topsoil in the coastal districts has negatively affected agricultural production. Since the Commissioning of the Farakka barrage in 1970s, the environment in the southwest region of Bangladesh has been adversely affected by an increase in salinity.

Fisheries Sustainability: Fisheries in Bangladesh are classified into capture fishers and culture fisheries. There are also culture-based inland fisheries, in which the natural productivity of the aquatic ecosystem is utilized, though fishermen need to acquire access rights. An estimated 1.3 million people depend on fisheries for livelihood. Poor fishermen in Bangladesh are disadvantaged by policies that favour powerful people leasing fishing rights.

Coastal shrimp aquaculture of Bangladesh inside the embankments has been boosting the national economy, in particular raising the income of the poverty-prone coastal people. Development of shrimp aquaculture has had various kinds of negative environmental impact, such as habitat destruction, pressure on fisheries resources, salinization of agricultural land, pathogen intensity due to introduction of exotic species and nutrient pollution. Presently shrimp farming is the best option for providing relatively well-paid employment to the poor. However, unplanned shrimp culture expansion has led to social conflicts over land tenure and user rights, leading to marginalization of small rice farmers who have been forced to lease out their lands to large shrimp farmers.

Livestock Sustainability: Livestock rearing is one of the major means of earning for the poor. As the population of the country is increasing, grazing land is becoming scarce. The nutrient cycling, soil organic contents and fertility for the production of the natural resources are also hampered. Thus dependency of the poor drastically decreases in this sector (i.e. rearing of goat, buffalo, cow, etc) particularly in the salinized coastal areas. The poultry sector has recently suffered from bird flu causing a loss of more than Tk. 4,100 crore. A large number of people lost their livelihood due to the outbreak of birds' flu.

Forest Sustainability: Poverty reduction through social forestry is now a success story within the Forestry sub-sector of Bangladesh. About 0.33 million of the rural poor are now engaged directly in the participatory co-management approach in the social forestry programme. The total forestland of Bangladesh is about 2.53 million hectares, covering about 17.14 percent of the country. However rapid deforestation is also taking place because of increasing population, increased demand for forest products, conversion of forestland into agricultural and industrial land, urbanization and development of infrastructures. Bangladesh has less than 0.02 hectares of forest land per person, one of the lowest in the world.

Protected Area (PA): There are 16 Protected Areas in Bangladesh, of which 7 are National Parks, 8 Wildlife Sanctuaries and 1 Game Reserve. The total area of PA is 244,182 hectares which is 9.7 percent of the country's total forest area. Out of 16 Protected Areas, 15 are notified under the Bangladesh Wildlife Order 1973. The biggest protected area in Bangladesh is the Sundarbans (a World Heritage Site) West Wildlife Sanctuary with an area of 71502.13 hectares and the smallest Protected Area is the Ramsagar National Park with an area of 27.76 hectares. There are 4 Marine protected areas, of which 3 are wildlife sanctuaries situated in the Sundarbans and one is the Nizhum Dweep National Park situated in the mangrove forests in Noakhali. The biological zoning approach has been adopted in PA to ensure the protection of wildlife species and floral habitats.

Ecologically Critical Areas: The Government of Bangladesh has recently declared 6 areas as Ecologically Critical Areas (ECA) under the environmental conservation act, 1995 (Table 5.3).

Table 5.3: Ecologically Critical Areas (ECAs) in Bangladesh

ECAs	Districts	Total area in Hectares
The Sundarbans	Bagerhat, Khulna, Satkhira	762,034
Cox's Bazar (Teknaf, Sea beach)	Cox's Bazar	10,465
St. Martin Island	Cox's Bazar	590
Sonadia Island	Cox's Bazar	4,916
Hakaluki Haor	Maulavi Bazar	18,383
Tanguar Haor	Sunamganj	9,727
Marjat Baor	Jhinaidah	200
Gulshan-Banani-Baridhara Lake	Dhaka	-

Ecosystem and Biodiversity Loss: Population pressure, conversion of forestland and wetland into agricultural land, overexploitation of forest products and excessive withdrawal of water, relentless wetland depletion due to overexploitation of both flora and fauna are causing great harm to biodiversity. Agro-diversity has gone down and this limits potential of further growth in this sector. The terrestrial diversity of plants and animals is being threatened due to deforestation. Similarly, aquatic diversity is also under pressure due to the drying up of rivers, reduction of flow of water, and accumulation of pesticide residues.

Land Degradation and River Erosion: Land degradation is a serious problem for Bangladesh due to natural and human activities. Natural degradation is caused by floods, steep slopes, high rainfall, strong leaching in both humid and dry situations. Human activities causing degradation are mainly inappropriate land management practices. Rivers in Bangladesh are morphologically highly dynamic and form islands in between the braiding channels. These islands, many of which are inhabited, are extremely sensitive to changes in the river conditions. Erosion is highly unpredictable. Out of the 462 administrative units, more than 100 are subject to riverbank erosion affecting more than 2 million people annually.

Coastal Zone Management: The coastal zone of Bangladesh is highly fertile and characterized by rich biodiversity and natural resources. Recently, coastal Bangladesh has also attracted attention for its high potential of inshore and offshore natural gas reserves, minerals, aquaculture, food availability, tourism and tidal power. However, this zone is extremely susceptible to the impact of natural disasters such as cyclones, sea level rise, storm surge and loss of habitable land mass. Coastal Bangladesh consists of 19 districts that comprise 2.85 million hectares in area, 200 km in length.

Drought and floods: Drought causes water shortage that leads to stream flow reduction, depletion of ground water and soil moisture, and hence crop damage almost every year in different parts of Bangladesh, mostly during the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon periods. In agriculture drought affects rice production most. Bangladesh is also a land of many rivers and as a result the country is subject to inundation. Some 30 to 35 percent of the total land surface is flooded every year during the monsoon. Although normal floods are considered a blessing for Bangladesh, providing vital moisture and fertility to the soil, abnormal floods are disastrous, causing widespread damage to crops and properties.

Ground water depletion: Installation of shallow and deep tube wells for agricultural irrigation is not done in an environmental friendly manner and as a result the ground water table has fallen. The groundwater situation is also experiencing difficulties because the shallow aquifer level is disappearing due to fast depletion of the groundwater table. Experts say regulation of the water

flow in the Ganges at Farakka by India has caused a reduction of the dry season flow. Decreased flow in the Padma and its tributaries has affected pump irrigation.

Trans boundary River Linking Plan: The proposed river linking project of India will involve many rivers, some of which are also shared by Bangladesh. It is widely predicted that the proposed Indian River-linking project, if implemented, will cause a major ecological disaster and desertification of vast areas, and consequently will lead to the displacement of a huge number of people from Bangladesh.

Artificial/Man-made Disaster – Hill Cutting: The illegal and unauthorized hill cutting in greater Chittagong, especially in Rangamati, Bandarban and Khagrachhari, has continued unabated despite the occurrence of mudslides during the monsoon with the run-off. The poor inhabitants at the ground level and on the hills are thus facing disastrous soil erosion and landslides resulting in the loss of their houses and other belongings.

5.4.3 Types of Pollution-Institutional Arrangements

Pollution has a strong negative impact on health, is a major cause of erosion of human productivity and even death, particularly among the poor and marginalized communities. Presently Bangladesh is facing environmental pollution such as water, air, soil, and noise, along with the contamination of food. Some of the major forms of pollution are:

Air pollution: In dealing with air pollution one needs to address both the *outdoor and indoor sources of pollution*. Outdoor pollution has been a major problem in the cities of Bangladesh, especially in Dhaka. The air pollution level has reduced significantly because of the introduction of lead-free gasoline in Bangladesh. However, in recent times the emission of lead has increased due to suspended particulate matters (SPM) and is 4 to 8 times higher than the standard. Estimates show that the country loses about 50 million US dollars due to air pollution, to which; 15,000 deaths every year can also be attributed. Causes of air pollution are rise in vehicular traffic and increase in population density in the cities. The most vulnerable groups subjected to air pollution are the children and women of urban and rural areas, especially from indoor air pollution. Recently the Air Quality Management Project (AQMP) of the Department of Environment (DoE) found that roadside SPM_{10} is higher than vehicular emission. With tons of loose soil at construction sites and dug-up city roads, most of the cities in Bangladesh are subject to high levels of SPM_{10} especially in winter. Heavy metals released into the air from emissions by metal smelters and other industrial activities, unsafe disposal of industrial wastes, lead in water pipes, paint, and gasoline are also causing pollution. Mercury can cause mutation and genetic damage, while copper and lead can cause brain and bone damage. Most children of the urban poor have blood containing more lead than the WHO recommended limit. Indoor air pollution is mainly caused by cooking fuels. Most of the poor women and children are the main victims of indoor air pollution. Brickfields and recently developed shallow engine-based vehicles are important sources of air pollution in the rural areas. The process/development of rural transportation systems also creates a significant level of air pollution.

Water pollution: Water pollution can be in terms of surface water and groundwater pollution. Surface water pollution refers to pollution of flowing waters (river, canal etc), and open water (non-flowing) reservoirs (ponds, haors, baors etc.). Flowing water is mainly polluted because of the disposal of untreated wastes into the river system from industries and also from cities, whereas the non-flowing water pollution is caused by excessive use of pesticides and soil erosion. However, these two kinds of water bodies are related to each other. Water pollution of surface water affects the health of poor people who cannot afford to choose between contaminated and non-

contaminated sources. Waterborne diseases are the major cause of suffering for the poor people living in rural and urban areas. Disposal of untreated wastes into the river system from industries is polluting the flowing waters and the excessive use of pesticides and soil erosion are polluting the non-flowing waters. Most of the liquid wastes created by the industries in Dhaka are dumped into nearby rivers. In Khulna, some 300 mills and factories are discharging liquid waste into the river. In Chittagong, pulp and paper, fertilizer and petroleum refineries/industries are dumping waste in the Karnafuli River and the Kaptai Lake. The ship building industry contributes significantly to marine oil pollution. The other sources of oil pollution are the ships and mechanized boats all over the country. In Chittagong ships directly discharge their waste oil-water mixtures into the Bay of Bengal. Chittagong ship-breaking yard is polluting the coastal belt of 20 km because the scrap and untreated ballast water are dumped in the Bay of Bengal. The workers dismantle the ships with their bare hands. Many are injured or killed by suffocation or explosions. Many are expected to contract cancer due to asbestos dust.

Noise pollution: Noise pollution gets less attention in pollution discussion although the noise pollution level in the major urban centres of Bangladesh exceeds the legal standards. Noise pollution is not only disturbing but also has health implications. This is mainly an urban phenomenon caused by vehicular congestion and affects the poor who work outdoors, for example, the rickshaw-pullers, street vendors, small shopkeepers etc. Another aspect of noise pollution is occupational exposure to industrial noise, which affects poor workers.

Soil pollution: Polluted soil builds up persistent toxic compounds, chemicals, salts, radioactive materials, or disease-causing agents in soils that have adverse effects on plant growth and animal health. Use of chemical fertilizers, herbicides and pesticides in agriculture and industrial effluents from tannery, textile, fertilizer, sugar, paper and pulp and other relevant industries are causing the problem. Also litter/leachate from solid wastes/landfill and salinity intrusion in coastal belts are the causes of soil pollution.

Radioactive pollution: Radioactive substances can cause numerous diseases like cancer and mutations. They may also cause abnormal birth, skin diseases, etc. Chronic exposure to radiation leads to leukaemia and even affects an unborn child. The radiation from medical X-rays, colour TV, luminous dials of clocks and watches, X-ray fluoroscopes are contributing to the risks. Industrial wastes, both solid and liquid, having radioactive elements and other toxic materials are dumped into the water bodies in and around the big cities.

Solid Waste/Sludge Management: The Government has strictly implemented the provisions for proper and adequate incentives to entrepreneurs to ensure that all industrial wastes are properly treated before disposal. There is lack of sufficient sanitary landfills for the disposal of all solid waste and the waste products from energy and bio-fertilizer plants. The disposal of hazardous and medical wastes in urban areas is a major cause of concern for urban life, particularly for the poor who are engaged in scavenging activities.

Urbanization: Urban degradation, including urban water and sanitation, solid waste disposal and worsening vehicular air pollution, make the cities of the country a place for dangerous health hazards. Dhaka, the home of more than 10 million people, has been converted into a gas chamber due to the emission of huge quantities of untreated and poisonous oil gases and has been identified as one of the least healthy cities in the world, where most of the victims are the urban poor. Unplanned high-rise buildings, inadequate drainage and sewage infrastructure, growth of slums, poor transport network, improperly planned land development, (whereby low-lying lands, canals, and ponds are filled up for constructing residential and commercial buildings), lack of urban land use control and unplanned industrial activities in residential areas, construction of roads without

appropriate environmental mitigation measures and poor solid-waste management are the main factors responsible for unsustainable urban growth. The transportation system in urban areas is unsustainable. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, presently more than 1 lac two-stroke auto-rickshaws are running in the urban cities of Bangladesh- most of them emit air pollutants.

Contamination

Contamination causes both degradation of environment-based resources and adds to pollution**.** Some of the contamination issues are:

Sustainable Waste Management: The well-being of people depends on effective management of the collection, transfer, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste. The amount of waste is increasing with the rapid increase of population, especially in urban areas. Waste management is a major problem because these wastes are dumped in open sites. From the solid waste 'leachate' is produced and mixes with surface and ground water and poses a threat to the environment. In waste management, there are various stakeholders who are involved in waste-to-resource recovery systems without any health safety. For example, a tokai collects resources like polythene, glass, iron etc. from the primary or secondary dumping points without any protection measures and these resources are sold to vendors, again through handling without protective measures. In addition, hospital/medical waste is a serious threat to public health.

Bio-safety and Quarantine Management: Recently the Bangladesh government introduced the Bio-safety protocol to maintain the environmentally friendly genetically modified organisms (GMOs)/living modified organisms (LMOs) and safe application of modern biotechnology in medicine, agriculture, fisheries and livestock.

Invasion

Invasion is a process of introduction of "Invasive Alien Species" whose introduction and/or proliferation threatens indigenous biological diversity. Presently, Bangladesh is facing invasions that threaten biological diversity.

Exotic Aquatic Organisms: There are at least 32 fish species that have been introduced in the country. The impact of alien species on indigenous species has not been studied. Among the exotics, tilapia of two species, *Oreochromis mosambicus* and *niloticus* have caused concerns because these species have invaded all available habitats. Besides *Eihhornia crassipes* (Kachuri pana) is a notorious weed of the freshwater ecosystem and so is the zebra mussel of the port areas which invaded Bangladesh a hundred years before.

Exotic Plants and Trees: Many tree and plant species have invaded Bangladesh, and some are a threat to native varieties. *Eupatorium odoratum* (Ayapan) and *Mikania cordata* (Assam lata) are two invaders that overtop the canopy of shrubs and young tree saplings. *Croton bonplandianum* (Bon khira) and *Lantana camara* (Nak phul) grow along the edges of forest and wastelands and invade local vegetation.

Vector Epidemic (viruses such as birds' flu, bacteria etc.): Various flue viruses have attacked Bangladesh at intervals of centuries. The recent attack of bird flu is not new but of a different dimension. There is a strong possibility of the virus mutating so that it can be transferred from bird to human and then human to human.

Invasion through the Maritime Zone: The Bangladesh boundary in the Bay of Bengal is not settled yet, even after 37 years of independence. This boundary dispute intensified due to the legal

questions of sharing natural resources like fisheries, oil and gas, the management of the Sundarbans, the illegal dumping of hazardous wastes, etc. Through delay in claiming its maritime territories, Bangladesh has allowed both India and Myanmar to creep into Bangladeshi territory in the Bay of Bengal.

Women and Sustainable Environmental Management: Women undertake crucial roles in environmental management, such as water supply and sanitation, agricultural development, and hygiene education at the household level. Poor women regard safe and physically close access to potable water, sanitation facilities, and abundant energy supplies as crucial aspects of well-being, reflecting women's role in managing the household. Thus women need to actively participate in decision-making during planning, operations and maintenance, behavioural development and changes in user communities through social mobilization and hygiene education in coordination with all relevant organizations and ministries, NGOs, CBOs, local government bodies and other related agencies. However, in reality, most women are not included in policy decisions about environment even though such decisions often affect them in disproportionate and negative ways. In urban slums and rural areas women are responsible for collecting water and fuel, fishing, home gardening, planting and feeding. Their participation is crucial, especially in the field of environmental policy changes, deforestation, water scarcity, soil degradation, exposure to agricultural and industrial chemicals, organic pollutants and others which impact on women's workloads, nutrition and health.

Environmental Governance: Bangladesh is committed to the cause of global environmental sustainability and has signed and ratified various international conventions, treaties and protocols (ICTPs). As a member of the United Nations (UN), GOB has been party to several such resolutions. Such ICTPs include: United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and Kyoto Protocol, United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD and Cartagena Protocol on Bio Safety, Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, Basel Convention on the Control of Trans boundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal, The Stockholm Convention on POPs, United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (CCD), etc. The Rules were updated and, accordingly, responsibilities were assigned to the appropriate agencies and departments. The Policy, Plan, Acts and Rules supporting environmental activities are: The Environment Policy, 1992 and Implementation Programme; The National Environment Management Action Plan (NEMAP), 1995; The Environment Conservation Act, 1995 and its subsequent amendments; The Environment Conservation Rules, 1997 and its subsequent amendments; The Environment Court Act, 2000 and its subsequent amendments; Sustainable Environment Management Programme (SEMP); Bangladesh National Adaptation Programmes of Action (NAPA); Bangladesh National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) for Global Environmental Management.

Institutional Arrangements: The MOEF is a focal point for several environment-related ICTPs. As the technical arm of the ministry on environment-related affairs, the Department of Environment (DOE) has been taking necessary steps toward ensuring compliance to these ICTPs. The Department was created to ensure sustainable development, and conserve and manage the overall environment of Bangladesh. The activities of the DoE transcend and cut across every sector of the national socio-economic system and have direct or indirect influence on all activities. It also undertakes activities to create public awareness about environmental conservation, and prevent activities that pollute the environment. Some of the important tools used for environmental protection with emphasis on poverty reduction are the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)/Environmental Management Plan (EMP)/ Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) to be applied stet all policies, programmes and projects. The Bangladesh government has started these activities, but faces problems in implementing, monitoring compliance and taking

deterrent measures for the violators of environmental rules and regulations. The major constraint of Environment Governance is lack of capacity in terms of physical facilities, technical expertise, financial resources etc.

Policies and Strategies

Suggested policies and strategies under four broad headings are:

(i) Policy: *Integrate principles of sustainable development in national and sectoral plans, policies and programmes and the regulatory framework.*

- Ensure sustainable livelihood of the poor, especially women and disadvantaged groups. Develop the regulatory frameworks that recognize the user rights of people on CPRs.
- Establish user rights through licensing / leasing/participatory systems to CPRs in NRM of water bodies and forests.
- Finalize the Wetlands Policy, upgrade Forestry Sector Master Plan and Bangladesh Wild Life Amendment Act 1974 with provision for access of the local poor and women
- Undertake new projects & programmes to preserve rights of the poor and women on CPRs
- Organize meetings with relevant ministries to resolve conflicts among those involved in shrimp, salt, paddy production, afforestation etc. in the coastal districts.
- Develop demonstration projects for sustainable resources management.

Integration of environmental issues into policies and plans

- Continue dialogue among and between the sectoral ministries/agencies on integration of environmental issues.
- Arrange coordination meetings among and between the sectoral ministries/agencies/ departments/organizations.
- Undertake 30 local, 5 regional and 2 national training workshops.
- Establish a policy support unit within MoEF

Improve living environment in the slums

- Set up a strategy for a participatory slum improvement centre in all municipality and urban areas.
- Extend the solid waste collection service, water points and sanitary latrines in slums.
- Continue the awareness programmes in slum areas for water supply and sanitation facilities.
- Recover the slum areas that are illegal encroachment on wetlands, riverbank/river, canals, etc by land-grabber/encroacher and establish the natural flow of water/drainage system.

(ii) Planning: *Ensure good governance in environment and natural resources management Ensure good governance in managing environmental issues and natural resources.*

- Improve technical and managerial compliance by recruiting relevant environmental management experts.
- Develop the organizational capacity with a well-defined organogram.
- Develop accountability and transparency in all sectoral issues.
- Develop a mandatory participatory and co-management approach in all CPRs.
- Develop Networking with different stakeholders.

Strengthen the process of environmental analysis such as EIA in project design and implementation.

- Recruit more professional staff in DoE.
- Continue awareness programmes among scientific, technical and managerial personnel
- Expand the DoE activities up to the district levels.
- Develop a website for environmental clearance certificate (ECC) and EMP procedures.
- Establish mandatory public consultation process in all EIA, EMP, ETP and other relevant activities.

Sustainable land management

- Continue the community-based earth excavation work under the food-for-work programme for more integration of poor people.
- Increase the extension activities to produce improved seeds of local plant species.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation systems with the help of concerned authorities.

(iii) Regulations: Enforcement and regulation of pollution, contamination and invasion of harmful organisms.

Control of Industrial pollution

- Continue to enforce all environmental policies, rules and regulations with the polluting industries.
- Introduce mandatory environmentally friendly solid and other waste management systems.
- Develop sector specific EIA guidelines.
- Amend Environment Conservation Rules, 1997 keeping the provision of public participation in EIA approval.
- Enforce Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in all private sector-run industrial parks.
- Develop the Environmental Management Programme in consultation with relevant environmental management experts (EMP and ETP experts).
- Set up a strong networking system among all relevant industries to establish a database with relevant information.

Control of air pollution in major metropolitan cities and rural settings

- Strictly implement the procedures of the State Air Quality Standard (AQS) in the vehicles of urban centres and all polluting industries.
- Ensure the mandatory use of four-stroke engines in all the cities of the country.
- Arrange campaigns for owners, drivers of vehicles and managers of polluting industries for utilizing clean and renewable energy.
- Establish vehicle inspection and maintenance programmes in all metropolitan cities.
- Identify industries including brick kilns which are responsible for air pollution and set a permissible limit for polluted air emissions.
- Continue tree plantation and development of green belt around each industry.
- Develop an appropriate dust control system in each major city.
- Ensure that CNG stations number 70% of total vehicular fuel stations, and also have conversion facilities.
- Establish 5 refinery stations for lead and sulphur free vehicular fuel oil.
- Establish the compulsory annual tests of vehicle emission levels.
- Set up pollution emission tax.
- Introduce energy efficient cooking stoves in rural areas.

Control of Radioactive Pollution

- Develop and implement a search committee for the assessment of existing radioactive pollution. Develop a monitoring and evaluation system in the major metropolitan cities.
- Develop guidelines of the training programmes for the safe use of radioactive matters at least once a year in major metropolitan cities.

Control of Noise pollution

- Ban the use of hydraulic horns in all types of vehicles and apply full restrictions on the use of horns in some selected areas like those around academic and religious institutions and completely ban the use of horns residential areas.
- Complete all procedures to implement the Noise Level Standard (NLS) in metropolitan cities, vehicles and industries.
- Continue awareness and motivational activities through campaign and training programmes for maintaining a NLS for vehicles and industries.
- Develop a nationalized noise inventory and database along with a strong networking system.
- Set up noise taxes and registration fees for machines that have a potential health risk.

Improvement of solid waste management system

- Develop and implement awareness and motivational programmes in each urban and semi-urban area for efficient and effective solid waste collection, resource recovery and recycling along with safe disposal of solid waste through CBO-based participatory co-management system approach.
- Develop the pilot project of integrated waste-to-energy, biogas and bio-fertilizer production system in major metropolitan cities.
- Develop regulations and guidelines for mandatory segregation at source and safe disposal of hazardous wastes.
- Develop the public-private partnership for environmentally friendly SWM system in all metropolitan cities.
- Complete the formulation of SWM master plan for all metropolitan and urban cities.
- Introduce a framework for building up capacity for handling trans boundary hazardous waste management under the Basel Convention.
- Develop a national database of SWM system along with a strong networking set-up among all relevant organizations with coordination of relevant information.

Control of water pollution and contamination

- Reduce the use of chemical fertilizer and pesticide along with the phase-out of persistent organic pollutants (POPs).
- Introduce less water polluting substances and improvement technologies in industrial processes.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation activities by concerned authorities and organizations to reduce effluent discharges (e.g. discharges from mechanized vessels) and strict implementation of ECA, 1997 along with other regulations in all water pollution and land degradation activities.
- Promote the use of organic compost.
- Set up polluter-to-pay approach to reclaim, clean up and rehabilitate the damaged ecosystem.
- Enforce the mandatory installation of effluent treatment plants for industries.

Control of river erosion and hill cutting

- Continue the community-based earth excavation work under the food-for-work programme for more integration of poor people in river-bed excavation programmes.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation systems with the help of concerned authorities

(iv) Capacity Building: Enhance environmental education, awareness and motivational programmes

Enhance education and awareness activities for sustainable development

- Complete process for all regulatory procedures for recruiting environmental professionals in all relevant govt. agencies.
- Arrange at least 1 (one) environmental management training, seminar and symposium in each district.
- Advertise the environmental awareness and motivational activities through roadside posters and the electronic and print media.
- Develop a national network of environmental management curriculum, modules and books.

Improve Research and Development activities

- Develop collaborative research programmes involving academic and research organizations and MoEF.
- Publish and distribute the research-based periodicals and journals on a regular basis.
- Organize training on research methodology on innovative poverty reduction tools on SWM and air quality development.

5.4.4 Tackling Climate Change for Poverty Reduction

Climate change poses a significant threat to the goals of the fight against poverty in Bangladesh. Climate change and variability have already impacted on the life and livelihoods of the people in the coastal areas and in the arid and semi-arid region of Bangladesh. Over 70 million people will be displaced in Bangladesh through climate-induced flooding, tropical cyclones and storm surges (UNDP Human Development Report 2007). Although climate risk affects every development sector, adaptation to climate change has not been a national priority yet. The integration of the national adaptation programme of action (NAPA) in response to climate change into NSAPR II will be a step forward in the establishment of an institutional process to incorporate climate change into national policies. Bangladesh needs also to negotiate, in different forums, with the countries that are responsible for climate change to reduce global environmental pollution and compensate Bangladesh to mitigate the impact of climate change. The Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Environment and Forest should coordinate efforts to support all other sectoral ministries in their efforts to incorporate adaptation to climate change in NSAPR II. Each ministry needs to strength the coordination, networks and information flows between ministries, different levels of government and civil society to have a more efficient integration of climate change variables into poverty reduction and development strategies. This section outlines the impact of climate change on development in Bangladesh and recommends some actions to address this.

Climate Change Impact on Bangladesh

Bangladesh is the most densely populated deltaic country in the world with low-lying coastal zones. The coastline of Bangladesh is about 710 km long and the coastal zone covers about 23% of the country and is home for 30 million people. Such a low-lying country with a funnel-shaped coast exposing the land to cyclones, storm surges, seasonal flooding and drought, salinity intrusion,

widespread poverty, a large population base and poor governance have made Bangladesh most vulnerable to climate change.

In developing National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) in 2005, the following climate change scenario has been estimated (Table 5.4).

Table 5.4: Climate Change Scenario for Bangladesh

Year	Temperature Change (^{0}C) Mean			Precipitation Change (%) Mean			Sea Level Rise (cm)
	Annual	Dec-Feb	June-Aug	Annual	Dec-Feb	June-Aug	Prediction
2030	1.0	1.1	0.8	5	-2	6	14
2050	1.4	1.6	1.1	6	-5	8	32
2100	2.4	2.7	1.9	10	-10	12	88

The NAPA and the Initial National Communication established that a weak economy and widespread poverty in Bangladesh have contributed to a low adaptive capacity to withstand the adverse impact of climate change. This scenario is further aggravated due to the high dependence of a majority of the population on climate-sensitive sectors, such as agriculture, forestry and fisheries, coupled with poor infrastructure facilities, weak institutional mechanisms and lack of financial resources. The anticipated climate change impact in Bangladesh will be manifested in two ways in two contrasting regions, such as, (i) in the Southern part towards the sea there will be drainage congestion due to higher water and river-bed levels, salinization of the soil and water resources due to lower river flows, sea-level rise and more intense disasters including cyclones and storm surges with higher risks because of the higher water level and (ii) the other part of the country in the North-western region will be subject to scarcity of water leading to drought condition and aridity with less rainfall and higher temperature. Tropical cyclones, tornados and Nor'westers which strike the country periodically and create untold misery and loss of life, property and ecosystem loss, are likely to increase in frequency and intensity under climate change.

In September 2008 Bangladesh Government has adopted the 'Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan' (BCCSAP) which will be the main basis to combat climate change over the next ten years. The Climate Change Action Plan is built on six pillars: i) food security, social protection and health; ii) comprehensive disaster management; iii) infrastructure; iv) research and knowledge management; v) migration and low carbon development; and vi) capacity building and institutional strengthening.

Adapting to Climate Change to Reduce Poverty

Bangladesh's Progress with Climate Adaptation: Climate Change is a development issue which needs to be brought into the mainstream of the development planning process. In response to the global concerns, Bangladesh became a signatory to the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in June 1992. Bangladesh has participated in both the Asia Least Cost Gas Abatement Strategy (ALGAS) and the US Country Study on Climate Change. These studies are being carried out by the Government of Bangladesh in partnership with NGOs and academia as part of its obligations as a signatory to the UNFCCC. The Bangladesh government embarked on a series of national activities to confront climate change. These have included greenhouse gas inventories, vulnerability and adaptation analyses, and more recently, participating in the Clean Development Mechanism of the Kyoto Protocol. A Climate Change Cell has been established within the Department of Environment linked to the Disaster Management Ministry under the Comprehensive Disaster Management Programme. Bangladesh has further fulfilled its commitment under UNFCCC by submitting its Initial National Communication (INC) in October 2002. Currently, the Second National Communication on reporting climate information to the UNFCCC and Community based adaptation to climate change are under preparation.

As mentioned before, Bangladesh prepared NAPA in 2005, which was the beginning of a long journey to address adverse impacts of climate change including variability and extreme events and to promote sustainable development of the country. NAPA follow-up action such as adaptation to climate change through coastal afforestation has been initiated. The INC and NAPA highlighted climate change impact studies which focused on the following sectors: water resources, agriculture sector, forest and biodiversity, coastal zone and coastal resources, human health, infrastructure and socio-economic impact.

In addition, the Government has shown its commitment to adaptation to climate change by implementing a number of policies and programmes that address key aspects of vulnerability. For example, following the cyclone and storm surges of 1991, the Government of Bangladesh created a "Green Belt" in the 12 coastal districts in 2001.

Agro-ecological zones have been delineated for select agro-climatic appropriate crops and soil conservation has been promoted for the enhancement of agricultural productivity. A GIS based national data bank has been created to assist in planning appropriate cropping patterns. Moreover, programmes of the Barind Multipurpose Development Authority (BMDA) on risk reduction in drought prone areas have commenced implementation, the National Watershed Development under the MACH programme and the Flood Action Plan has commenced, the gazetting of the forest Conservation Act (1995), Wild Life Act, Protected Areas and other policies which lead to forest and biodiversity conservation and reduction of forest fragmentation have been implemented. Bangladesh has extensive experience in involving local communities in forest protection and regeneration as well as the creation of long-term interests in maintaining forestry resources through, for example, a Social Forestry Programme that promotes a unique benefit-sharing arrangement. Finally, the Coastal Islands (char) Development and Settlement Programme (CDSP) is being implemented with collaboration from the Water Development Board, Forest Department, Local Government Engineering Department and Department of Agricultural Extension.

Strengthening Climate Adaptation

Adaptation measures can be identified according to whether they are sectoral (e.g., improved agricultural varieties), multi-sectoral (e.g., improved watershed and coastal zone management), or cross-sectoral (e.g., public awareness, climate research, and data collection).

Sectoral Measures relate to specific adaptation options, mainly technical in nature, existing for each of the sectors that could be affected by climate change.

- Mainstreaming adaptation to climate change into policies and programmes in different sectors (focusing on disaster management, water, agriculture, health and industry).
- Enhancing resilience of urban infrastructure and industries to impacts of climate change.
- Development of eco-specific adaptive knowledge (including indigenous knowledge) on adaptation to climate variability to enhance adaptive capacity for future climate change.
- Promoting adaptation to coastal crop agriculture to combat increased salinity.
- Adaptation to agriculture systems in areas prone to enhanced flash flooding in the North-eastern and Central regions.
- Adaptation to fisheries in areas prone to enhanced flooding in the North-eastern and Central regions through adaptive and diversified fish culture practices.
- Promoting adaptation to coastal fisheries through the culture of salt tolerant fish especially in the coastal areas of Bangladesh.

Multi-sectoral Measures relate in particular to the management of natural resources that span several sectors:

- Reduction of climate change hazards through coastal afforestation with community participation.
- Providing drinking water to coastal communities to combat enhanced salinity due to sea-level rise.
- Capacity building for integrating climate change in planning, designing of infrastructure, conflict management and land-water zoning for water management institutions.
- Construction of flood shelter, and information and assistance centres to cope with enhanced recurrent floods in major floodplains.

Coastal zone management is also considered as the appropriate framework to consider technical adaptation measures like dike building, beach nourishment, etc. The ecosystem approach to adaptation to climate change is a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promote their conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way.

Cross-sectoral Measures apply to different sectors, such as:

- Education and training: introduction of climate change issues at different levels of the educational system is an ongoing process that will ensure a continuity of the process, the development of research activities, and greater awareness of the citizens. Training will address different stakeholders involved in the management of resources sensitive to climate change (soils, water, etc.) who will need to understand the nature of climate change as well as potential adaptation options.
- Public awareness campaigns: With the growing realisation and evidence that climate change is already occurring, there is a need to raise awareness and disseminate information in order to have the stakeholders involved and concerned. These campaigns must also give the opportunity to understand what the perception and views of the public on climate change and adaptation are. Finally, user's networks could be established to ensure the follow-up and exchange of experiences between different stakeholders.
- Insurance development: An insurance system for coastal flooding and other natural disasters consequent on climate change could contribute to the involvement of the private sector in adaptation strategies.
- Changes in institutional, administrative and organizational arrangements could be necessary to enhance the effectiveness of political decisions. They must be preceded by an examination of the existing bodies in charge of climate change issues: national climate change committees, their degree of representative ness and their power and functions. Links between these committees and those, for example, in charge of sustainable development must be considered; and better coordination/integration of the different sectoral departments must be encouraged.
- Strengthening the legal system: It has been demonstrated that many environmental problems are partly due to non-enforcement of existing laws.
- Strengthening fiscal measures: The introduction of public policies to encourage and support adaptation of individuals and the private sector, particularly through the establishment of fiscal incentives or subsidies, can be a further option.

- Risk/disaster management measures include the development of early warning systems, in particular for extreme events like cyclones (that can be predicted only a few hours before), and for climate variability like droughts and floods. Emergency plans, extreme events relief and recovery measures also belong to this type of measures. Generally, the success of these measures depends upon good communication systems and a certain level of trust from users.

- Science, research and development (R&D) and technological innovations are particularly needed for climate change processes in general, for economic valuation of adaptation options, for technological adaptation options (development of drought or salt-resistant crop varieties), or for investigations of new sources of groundwater resources and better resource management. Adaptation may require drastic technological changes, which may have important consequences for the society and individuals. It may also be necessary to adapt existing technologies to fit the adaptation demands. This can include e.g. the development of more energy efficient air-conditioning systems, low-cost desalination plants and new technologies to combat saltwater intrusion.

- Monitoring, observation and communication systems may have to be strengthened, created or improved, not only for climate-related parameters but also for other indicators of climate change and impacts (sea level rise, changes in species composition of ecosystems, modification of piezometric levels, etc.). This monitoring will allow policymakers to adjust the adaptation strategy based on confirmed changes in the climate.

The last two kinds of adaptation measures could benefit from regional and international cooperation through the Climate Change Cell at the Department of Environment.

5. 5 Supporting Strategy V: Enhancing Productivity and Efficiency through Science and Technology

The role of science and technology in determining the progress of human civilization can hardly be over emphasized. Of all the technological revolutions that human civilization has witnessed Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and biotechnology are the most versatile and most revolutionary. Bangladesh with insignificant natural resources, small land area and unmanageably large population, cannot accelerate its growth rate unless the benefits of technology in every conceivable area are harvested and productivity and efficiency are increased by using technology. Application of technology can be an effective tool for reducing poverty.

5.5.1 Vision and Strategic Goals

Vision: Bangladesh will be made a poverty-free prosperous country through the application of science and technology. The quality of life of people of the disadvantaged strata will be improved through enhancing the quality of education and health care by the innovative application of ICT, enhancing productivity in the agricultural sector through the application of biotechnology and inspiring the creation of jobs through technological growth supported by more reliable availability of power through promotion and application of atomic energy.

Strategic Goals: To achieve the vision of a poverty-free prosperous Bangladesh, below are the different strategic goals that will be achieved:

a. Make quality education accessible to disadvantaged sections of the population by innovative application of ICT;

b. Create a stimulating environment for educational excellence by introducing Olympiads at all levels of education;

c. Use advanced data mining techniques to extract useful information from past public examination data and use this feedback to improve upon our educational policies and create a healthy environment of competition conducive to achieving excellence;

d. Create opportunities in disadvantaged areas of the country for acquiring technical skill;

e. Create scope of employment through making ICT literacy available particularly for the young men and women of disadvantaged areas of the country;

f. Enhance quality of healthcare of the rural poor through the development of computer-based medical consultation systems;

g. Introduce and strengthen biotechnological research for increasing crop and drug production;

h. Increase electricity generation substantially by use of nuclear energy and thus inspire industrial growth;

i. Inspire increased transparency, reduced scope for corruption, more efficient governance and thus save illiterate and disadvantaged sections of the population from harassment by the application of e-Governance;

j. Establish a centre of excellence in science and technological research that will formulate solutions to our technological problems and reduce dependence on foreign experts;

k. Improve tele-density to bring a greater proportion of the population into the streams of ICT activities;

l. Introduce community e-centres and other e-facilities;

m. Start vigorous research on devising structures that will be least affected by Sidr-like cyclones and tidal waves;

n. Reformulate import and export policies that encourage technological development in the country and generate jobs;

o. Keeping poverty reduction as the goal reformulate science and technology policy in the light of the revolutionary developments in ICT and bio-technology; and

p. Establish Bangladesh as a BPO outsourcing destination.

5.5.2 Assessment of Recent Progress

Some progress has been achieved in science and technology for sustainable development in respect of some of the policies as presented below:

a. National Policy on Science and Technology (S&T) has been formulated.

b. National Policy on ICT has been formulated.

c. National Task Force on ICT has been formed.

d. Formation of a Coordinating Committee for the implementation of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action.

e. Copyright Act has been amended.

f. Several measures, like exemption of VAT and taxes on ICT related equipment, tax holidays, creation of equity funds, ICT incubator centre, opening of shared office in the Silicon Valley, were taken to inspire growth of the sector.

g. E-Government strategy is being formulated through "Support for Development of Public Sector Use of ICT under EMTAP Project".

h. The Government has already taken measures to establish a High-Tech Park.

i. Actions have been taken to connect Bangladesh with the Information Superhighway through submarine fibre-optic cable.

j. ICT Business Promotion Council has been established to oversee the development of IT industries in Bangladesh.

k. The Government has opened up Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to the private sector.

l. National Infra–network Project for Bangladesh Government is being initiated to connect the ministries/divisions, departments, districts and Upazilas for an effective implementation of e-Governance.

m. Six IT training institutions have been set up at divisional headquarters to disseminate knowledge of ICT and create awareness throughout the country.

n. ICT education has been introduced in schools and colleges.

o. Training for ICT for teachers of Schools and Colleges has been introduced.

p. PGD courses on ICT have been introduced in selected universities.

q. National Science and Technology Fellowships are being given to students for carrying out higher studies and research in different foreign universities.

r. Bangladesh-Korea Institute of Information and Communication Technology has been established.

s. Internship programme has been launched for ICT graduates.

t. Ranking of ICT training institutes has been initiated although progress does not appear to be satisfactory.

u. Study on the Job/International Market for Bangladeshi ICT Professionals is being prepared.

v. E-governance initiatives have been undertaken by SICT, Planning Commission.

w. The Government has recommended gradual introduction of ICT in all public agencies.

x. Measures have been taken to gradually make all types of government forms available on the net.

y. In some government departments like BOI, online file tracking system has been established.

z. Dynamic and interactive websites have been prepared for some ministries.

aa. Some key ministries have been connected with the Prime Minister's Office and Planning Commission through Local Area Network (LAN).

bb. BCC is providing broadband internet services to ICT Incubator and a number of Ministries/Divisions/Departments.

cc. E-Commerce initiatives have been taken.

dd. A programme has been undertaken for upgrading, modernizing and expanding information services for promoting awareness of the common mass of the scientific information available with it.

ee. Olympiads could not be initiated through Government agencies. A Mathematics Olympiad has been able to attract people of the remote areas as well. The Informatics Olympiad has also been running well. Olympiads in other branches of science should be initiated.

ff. "Nuclear Energy for power sector" has been incorporated in the National Energy policy.

gg. Institute and 13 Nuclear Medicine Centres are providing different types of diagnostic & therapeutic services for about 1.00 lac 60 thousand patients per year.

hh. At BAEC (Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission), isotopes are being produced by the research reactor to meet the needs of the NMC's.

ii. Tissue Banking services are being provided in different hospitals.

jj. Analytical services are being provided in different organizations.

kk. Nuclear Safety and Radiation Control Rules are being implemented around the radiation sources/materials inside the country.

ll. Non-destructive testing services are being provided in different organizations.

mm. Isotope hydrology technical services are also being provided in different organizations of the country.

nn. Arsenic contamination of water, lead contamination in air and other environmental pollutants had been detected and advice is being provided to mitigate the effects.

oo. At BCSIR (Bangladesh Council for Scientific and Industrial Research), kit for detecting the presence of formalin in fish and milk has been developed. An iodine detecting kit has also been developed.

pp. At BCSIR, technology for detecting colours and chemicals in different raw and processed foods and fruits has been developed.

qq. At BCSIR, propagation and plantation of different medicinal plants, extraction and laboratory level study have been undertaken. Traditional drugs are also being studied in the laboratory.

rr. The spirullina production project of BCSIR has reached commercialization stage. Already six entrepreneurs are producing Spirullina in form of tablet, capsule and energy drinks. Two of them have started their activities for exporting Spirullina products.

ss. Tissue culture is a modern branch of biotechnology using which an increased number of plants with identical genetic constitution as the parent can be produced all year round within a shorter time period. Scientists in BCSIR have been successful in developing the commercial production of important plants like Neem, Banana, Sazina, Potato, Year-round jackfruit, Apple, Orchid, and Rose etc. Many poor people can improve their economic conditions by cultivating these cultured plants.

tt. Research is being conducted on Baker's yeast production at BCSIR. R&D is starting the production of citric acid, gluconic acid, clinical dextran, CHP rice flour and soy sauce etc.

uu. At BCSIR, about 35 sorts of improved stoves have been developed which can be set-up in any type of rural kitchen. They can save fuel, cooking time and combat indoor air pollution. Biogas Plant is another technology which serves the same purpose mentioned above and produces fertilizer for the rural farmer.

vv. At BCSIR CNG run shallow water pump was developed for irrigation.

5.5.3 Current Challenges

High Rate of Illiteracy: One of the most important factors of poverty is lack of education that results in non-access of a big fraction of the population to resources. A large proportion of the population is not able to harvest any benefits from the current ongoing technological revolution. Only literacy of the common masses can ensure exercise of their right to available resources and technologies. The problem is not only in the low rate of literacy, it is also in the quality of education that is needed to create our own technology and use foreign technology successfully.

Inadequate Rural Health Facility: Bangladesh is yet to be able to create a health care system in which people in rural areas in particular can get the benefit of an acceptable health care system. The rural poor suffer from different simple diseases and lose their productivity and employability. This forces them to work for unacceptably low wages. The number of doctors working in rural areas is so low compared to the demand that rural people have to suffer without treatment by qualified doctors.

Inadequate Educational Facilities in Rural Areas: In spite of highest budgetary allocation to the education sector for quite some time Bangladesh is yet to develop an education system that inspires creativity among young people. Lack of quality teachers and laboratory facilities hampers science education in rural schools. Whereas science education was supposed to be exciting it appears as boring, difficult and unwanted.

Shortage of Manpower in Science and Technology: With stagnancy in technological development even school science students are opting for education in other areas. As a result very soon the country might face acute shortage of manpower required to propel the country through the 21st century through harvesting the benefits of science and technology.

Insufficient ICT Infrastructure in Rural Areas: Rural poor people are yet to get access to the ICT technologies. Only recently BCC has initiated a project to establish 128 centres in 64 districts to open up these opportunities to people living far from the capital city. Communication infrastructure in the country is poor compared to those of neighbouring countries. Figures supplied in the homepage of ITU shows that teledensity of Bangladesh, Myanmar, Pakistan, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, India and Maldives are respectively 0.55, 0.72, 2.66, 3.56, 4.427, 4.63 and 9.935 in the year 2003, clearly showing that we are far behind our neighbours.

Lack of Job Opportunities in Scientific and Technical Areas: The Bangladesh economy has not been creating enough job opportunities in science and technical areas. Unless considerable numbers of industrial enterprises are established throughout the country, education in science and technology will not appear lucrative to the population, and development potential in the 21st century will remain unrealized.

Insufficient Power Generation: The installed capacity for electricity generation falls well short of the demand. As load shedding is a common affair, industry, agriculture and commerce all suffer from interruptions of electricity supply. The gas reserves will not last long unless new gas wells are discovered. Under the circumstances, the country needs to explore the opportunity of generating electricity through nuclear power for which plans were made about 50 years back.

The proposal for building a Nuclear Power Plant in the western zone of the country was first conceived in 1961. The Rooppur site in Ishwardi of Pabna was selected by considering internationally applicable criteria and 292 acres of land was acquired. Since then a number of feasibility studies were conducted, each of which established that the project was technically and economically feasible. The Pakistan Government gave formal approval for construction of 70MW, 140MW and 200 MW plants in 1963, 1966 and 1969 respectively. However, the project could not be implemented due to problems with financing and an unstable political situation

Inadequate Research Initiatives/Financial Support in Science: Bangladesh is yet to make appropriate budgetary allocation for research both at the universities and other research institutions. In recognition of the fact that science and technology are essential tools for the socio-economic development of a nation, the industrially advanced countries spend between 2 and 3 percent of their GNP on Research and Development (R&D). In contrast, the expenditure on R&D in Bangladesh does not constitute more than 0.3% of its GNP. The National Science and Technology Policy recommends that special efforts be given to ensure 1 percent of GNP for R&D activities. In spite of some progress Bangladesh is yet to build an institution for ICT education and research. While the National Institute of Biotechnology has been established it needs to be adequately funded and staffed to obtain any benefit.

Lack of Competition in Different Levels of Education: The Bangladesh education system has not been able to provide quality education due to non-availability of adequate physical resources, infrastructure as well as absence of adequate number of qualified teachers. While a much larger budgetary allocation for improving the situation may be difficult, applying ICT may be used innovatively in the most cost effective way for achieving excellence and a healthy environment of competition.

5.5.4 Future Policies and Strategies

In order to overcome the challenges some immediate steps will be taken to build a strong base for education, health and technology including ICT and biotechnology. But merely building the infrastructure will not serve our purpose. Sufficient trained manpower has to be produced to maintain the scientific infrastructure and use it effectively so that people from all sectors of the country can benefit from the application of Science and Technology. Expatriate scientists with proven track record and visionary approaches will be put at the helm to run science and technology institutes.

Strengthening Education through ICT in Rural Areas: As the establishment of an adequate number of schools staffed with qualified teachers will take time, ICT may be used to provide quality education in the rural areas. The introduction of computer aided learning packages can not only reduce the gap between demand and supply of teachers but also allow rural young people acquire scientific knowledge and technical skill more efficiently, and contribute to nation building.

Setting up Computer Rooms in Every Educational Institution: BCC has already taken up plans to supply computers especially to schools/colleges in remote areas. At the moment a project has been taken up to establish ICT training centres in 128 schools/colleges of 64 districts. This process will continue to establish computer laboratories in other educational institutes as well with a focus on regional balance. With gradual introduction of computer laboratories in all schools and colleges students will have alternative options for learning through computers using computer aided learning packages. With further penetration of the communications network and Internet technology deep into rural areas the huge repository of knowledge on the Internet will be a blessing for our poverty-stricken country that cannot afford to make educational resources like books, journals available for educational institutions.

Setting up Computer Assisted Health Care Systems at Upazila Hospitals: With the current high population-physician ratio it is not possible to maintain the standard of health care unless we are able to establish more medical colleges or exploit the potential of ICT. Even in urban areas health care is becoming a formidable problem not to speak of the pecuniary condition of those living far away from the capital. Poor health care facilities accessible to the rural poor are forcing rural people out of jobs. An effective health care system satisfying the needs of the rural poor must

be very productive and hence can only be ICT driven. It is possible to develop a medical expert system that should be able to produce prescriptions for simple diseases from which the rural poor suffer enormously. In case of complicated illnesses the system should be able to produce a possible list of physicians with relevant information so that rural patients do not have to go searching for doctors for their treatment. Such medical expert systems can be complemented and strengthened with Internet connectivity. Development of a nuclear service related infrastructure for health care services will contribute to the improvement of medical services.

Expanding Internet Facilities to Connect Rural People: Effective application of ICT technologies will be possible only when sufficient connectivity can be ensured for smooth and effective sharing of ICT resources. Availability of internet connectivity to the disadvantaged areas with higher incidence of poverty is a prerequisite to effective e-learning, e-health and e-Governance, each of which has the potential to contribute to the reduction of poverty.

Biotechnology for National Development

In recent years, the image of biotechnology has been transformed from one of danger and uncertainty to one of opportunity and familiarity. Therefore in order to give new impetus to the development of modern biology and biotechnology in the country the setting up of a separate Biotechnology Cell**,** under the Ministry of Science Communication and Information Technology has become a necessity. Setting up of such a Cell was included in the policy agenda of the NSAPR. This Cell will be responsible for up-scaling proven technologies and demonstrating the same at the field level. It will be instrumental in technology transfer to industries and to maintain a close interaction with them.

To achieve a higher rate of sustainable development, energy use must become more and more efficient, production processes must be improved and the full potential of new technologies must be realized. Industrial biotechnology with its competitive, clean and clever use of bio-based technologies can play a key role in making bio fuels more sustainable. While first generation bio fuel processes have been a useful tool to mitigate green house gas emissions in the transport sector, it has led to considerable shortage of food grains worldwide. However, second generation bio fuel production which depends on lignocellulolosic material makes production more sustainable, affordable, and with greater environmental benefits. It is currently estimated that lignocellulosic bio fuel has the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by around 90% when compared with fossil petroleum.

Bioinformatics is an emerging and enabling technology for several fields of biomedical and agricultural research. It is believed that the scientists of Bangladesh will be able to significantly contribute to the progress of this field since the capital investment needed for bioinformatics research is much smaller than for experimental biological sciences. Though bioinformatics methods are freely accessible, there is clearly a gap even between many developing countries and Bangladesh, which must be consciously narrowed. This will require competent human resources.

The recently established National Institute of Biotechnology requires a world class renowned and visionary scientist to lead it. Arrangements may be made to hire scientists with experience in converting laboratory research into practical use. After a prioritization exercise, a few projects should be undertaken, along with existing scientific institutions and if necessary public private partnership. The cutting edge technologies such as bioinformatics, proteomics, computational chemistry and synthetic chemistry (for design and synthesis of new drugs) will be promoted. Efforts will be given to create crops of high yield and capable of withstanding drought, salinity and floods.

Promoting Science Education to Face New Challenges of Future: Science enrolment is going down at an alarming speed throughout the country. During the period 2001 to 2005 total science/engineering enrolment were 26135, 29892, 25983, 15232 and 11995, thus showing a significant decline. Necessary measures need to be taken to reverse this situation. Without having expertise in science and engineering it will be impossible to face the challenges the nation will be facing. Therefore, science and technical education should be popularized throughout the country by introducing stimulating events like science clubs, and creating science and technology based jobs and introducing science competitions.

Promoting SME and Indigenous Technology for Generating Jobs: SME being a significant employment creation sector will be expanded. Necessary policies will be adopted to encourage indigenous technology. Material research, testing and quality control for SME products will be institutionalized along with creating opportunities for experienced workers, formalize their knowledge to be able to produce products of international standards and enable them to obtain certification for their products. Technology Transfer Centres for SMEs and SME incubation centres may be introduced. The SME sector will also be enriched with ICT technologies to improve both upon their quality and productivity.

Introducing Olympiads at All Levels of Education: Education is the key to human resources development. For quality education schools/colleges with laboratory facilities and qualified teachers are needed. Under the existing resource constraints, the energy and spirit of the youth Olympiads can be initiated throughout the country to challenge the merit and creativity of our students at all levels. In fact such competitions are now being held for mathematics and computer programming throughout the country with spirited and inspiring participation of all stakeholders. This can be organized at different geographical levels with sufficient publicity for attracting students, teachers, guardians and citizens. Experience shows that the creativity and problem-solving capability of young people reaches commendable heights with the introduction of healthy competition, even without the availability of required resources. However, organizing such competitions throughout the country on a regular basis will necessitate establishment of adequate infrastructure to ensure desired targets. The Bangladesh Computer Council can be given the responsibility of administering Olympiads for different classes and subjects, in particular science subjects, in close coordination with the Ministry of Education.

Developing Appropriate Technology for Community Housing in Coastal Areas: Natural calamities have become a perennial problem for the country. Every occurrence of natural calamities results in the affected population being poorer. Experience in the fatally affected Sidr areas suggests that the fight against poverty must include development of appropriate technologies for community housing in coastal areas. It is possible to construct structures that could be used for community purposes, like schooling in normal times, and can be utilized for victims at the time of tornadoes or upsurge of water. This will help save human lives and other belongings of victims in the affected areas, and save valuable resources.

Effectiveness of ICT Usage: Awareness is one of the major catalysts in the effectiveness of ICT usage. The power of 'word of mouth' is indomitable among the simple people settled in the unruffled countryside across Bangladesh. To harness such power and to bring everyone under the radar of awareness, a massive campaign in clearly comprehensible term is crucial. Collaboration is essential with the radio, newspapers, and television services, both locally and nationally in order to build momentum and support for rural telecommunication initiatives and develop the rural stakeholder awareness and engagement.

Chapter 6

Indicative Costs of Achieving Goals and Targets

NSAPR II (2009 – 2011) is the overarching operational medium-term strategy to achieve the MDGs by 2015, as well as the other strategic goals to fulfil the vision of reducing poverty through accelerated growth focusing on development of human resources and the infrastructure. It incorporates the experiences in the implementation of the first NSAPR and emphasizes the need to create an enabling environment for private sector growth and enhance productive employment opportunities for the unemployed and the underemployed. The goals and targets in the thematic policy matrices are set out in a way that is consistent with the priorities of the thematic areas. The prioritization reflects the collective and participatory work carried out by 18 Thematic Committees and the NPFP through consultation with stakeholders and officials of various ministries and agencies.

6.1 Methodology for Calculating Resource Needs for NSAPR-II

The cost of implementation was not calculated for the first NSAPR 'Unlocking the Potential: National Strategy for Accelerated Poverty Reduction'. In formulating NSAPR II it was decided to include estimates of the resources that would be required to implement it. In undertaking the resource requirement assessment, both macro and micro approaches were undertaken. At the macro-level, expenditure projection in the medium-term budgetary framework (MTBF) was taken into consideration. At the micro-level, the cost of completing all the activities to achieve desired goals and targets in each thematic area was taken into consideration. These costs are indicative and were identified in consultation with the relevant stakeholders in the ministries and agencies. Due to the crosscutting nature of some thematic areas there were overlaps of goals and activities. For example, ICT is a stand alone issue in itself but at the same time various sectors or activities such as education, health, and governance also include ICT components. Thus the cost of enhancing efficiency through ICT does not give the full picture of the resource need in the ICT thematic area. Similarly, water resource management was addressed as a separate sector and was also included under "Environment". Efforts were made to avoid these overlaps and double /multiple counting. Efforts were also made not to overestimate implementation needs.

The costing activities relating to the achievement of MDGs and other strategic goals have not yet been done with necessary rigor. Detailed Needs Assessment (NA) exercises have to be undertaken to meet the resource requirements to complete the activities to achieve the goals and targets of NSAPR II. A database will be created and updated continuously for the unit costs of various inputs required for estimating the costs of activities to achieve the goals and targets of NSAPR II. It could be used for implementation monitoring and evaluation purposes in the future. Pending the rigorous exercise of estimating costs of MDGs and other strategic goals, a broad estimation of costs for the implementation of goals and targets has been undertaken, mainly on the basis of data on existing projects and programmes to throw light on the extent of inadequacy of resources that have to be faced in implementing NSAPR II.

The estimated cost of achieving the strategic goals and targets set out in NSAPR II is Tk. 2567.99 billion (Table 6.1).

Table 6.1: Indicative Cost of Achieving Goals and Targets

Sl. No.	Thematic Areas (Strategic Blocks, and Supporting Strategies)	Cost (in billion taka at FY08 prices)	Percent of total cost
1	Macroeconomic Management for Pro-poor Economic Growth	31.43	1.22
2	Resource Mobilisation	29.75	1.16
3	Agricultural Growth Towards Poverty Reduction	149.28	5.81
4	Water Resources Development and Management	42.49	1.65
5	Small and Medium Size Enterprises (SMEs) Development	14.04	0.55
6	Employment Generation and Labour Welfare	37.78	1.47
7	Private Sector Development (PSD)	30.12	1.17
8	Land Use Policy and Management	2.60	0.10
9	Housing Development	80.81	3.15
10	Infrastructure for Pro-poor Economic Growth	529.94	20.64
11	Social Protection		
	Safety Net for Poverty Reduction	34.03	1.33
	Food Security	85.33	3.32
	Disaster Management	9.19	0.36
	Scaling up Micro-Credit for Poverty Reduction	5.39	0.21
	Rural Non-farm Activities	10.20	0.40
12	Education, Training and Research	579.34	22.56
13	Health, Nutrition, and Population Planning	203.93	7.94
14	Social inclusion and Empowerment		
	Women's Advancement and Rights	35.55	1.38
	Children's Advancements and Rights	0.46	0.02
	Indigenous people, People with Disability, and Other Disadvantaged and Extreme Poor Group	12.65	0.49
15	Promoting Good Governance and Public Services	300.95	11.72
16	Utility Services Delivery including Water, Sanitation and Urban services	167.81	6.53
17	Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change	124.92	4.86
18	Technology Policy including ICT and Biotechnology	50.00	1.95
	Grand Total	**2567.99**	**100.00**

The costs of activities to achieve the strategic goals and targets according to various themes of NSAPR II basically represent four components:

(i) costs of activities of ongoing projects and programmes that have spilled over from NSAPR (2005-08) and have to be implemented to achieve the goals and targets of NSAPR II (2009-11);

(ii) costs of activities of new projects and programmes that have to be undertaken during the period of implementation of NSAPR II to achieve the goals and targets of thematic areas;

(iii) additional recurring costs over and above the normal increase of existing items that have to be incurred for running the activities to achieve the goals and targets of NSAPR II; and

(iv) maintenance costs necessary for newly completed projects and programmes during the period of NSAPR-II.

The estimated costs cover capital costs plus recurring/maintenance costs of activities to be financed within the Annual Development Programme (ADP) and Revenue Budget. The costing has been done for public sector activities for implementing the strategies to invigorate the private sector as the engine of growth. It also includes costs of the regulatory bodies set up by the government to create an enabling environment to foster growth in the private sector. The government acts as a facilitator while financing requirements for the activities of the private sector itself will be met by the market and has been left open. The costs relating to the tasks of communities and NGOs are included in the calculation as long as they participate in the efforts of the public sector to implement the strategies.

NSAPR II, like its predecessor, will be implemented through normal government planning and budgetary procedures. The ongoing projects and programmes will be continued as they are necessary and financial resources are already committed to them. The new project proposals have to pass through regular appraisal and screening before they are finally approved for implementation.

The cost estimates of activities and strategies of NSAPR II are basically the incremental costs of projects and programmes over and above the existing budget allocations of the government, i.e. allocation to existing projects and programmes in the ADP and Revenue Budget. The activities to be undertaken to achieve the goals and targets of NSAPR II through ongoing and new projects and programmes are being identified. The information relating to unit costs of these activities is available to the concerned ministries and agencies. Cost estimates of activities to be implemented through new projects and programmes are based on average unit costs of similar activities available in the ministries and agencies. All activities covered by themes and strategic goals have been brought under the umbrella of costing. By and large, the costs represent estimates of total input costs required for completing the activities within the strategic goals of a theme.

6.2 Estimated Resource Gap

The estimated total resources gap is at Tk. 630.94 billion (Table 6.2). The total resource gap is calculated by taking the following approach:

First, resource requirements for achieving different thematic goals through providing inputs and outputs and undertaking reforms envisaged in 18 thematic areas has been estimated. This amount comes out to be Tk. 2567.99 billion expressed in terms of FY 08 constant prices.

Secondly, non-discretionary expenditure is calculated by adding interest payment obligations (both domestic and foreign interest payments) of the public sector and national defence expenditure needs which amounted to Tk. 622.45 billion in terms of FY08 prices. The total public expenditure in the NSAPR period thus comes to Tk. 3190.44 billion.

Thirdly, the maximum domestic resource that can be mobilised during the NSAPR II implementation period was identified. The total domestic resource comes both from revenue

collection and domestic borrowing (sustainable level of borrowing is considered as 2 to 2.1 percent of GDP) possibilities as indicated in the Medium-Term Macroeconomic Framework (MTMF). For FY09, FY10 and FY11 projected revenue and domestic borrowing were deflated to measure them in terms of FY08 prices. The total domestic resource that can be mobilised is in the amount of Tk. 2559.50 billion in FY08 prices.

Table 6.2: Estimate of Resource Gap
(in billion Taka at FY08 constant prices)

A. Resource needs for NSAPR implementation	**2567.99**
B. Non-discretionary expenditure	**622.45**
Interest payment	405.45
Defence expenditure	217.00
C. Total expenditure (A+B)	**3190.44**
D. Total domestic resources	**2559.50**
Total revenue	2138.45
Domestic borrowing	421.05
E. Domestic resource gap (C-D)	**- 630.94**
F. Resource gap (billion US$)	**- 9.01**

Finally, the resource gap is identified as a difference between domestic resources available and the total expenditure during the period. This gap is estimated to be Tk. 630.94 billion or around US$ 9.01 billion.

Chapter 7

Strengthening Implementation, and Monitoring and Evaluation

Implementation arrangements of NSAPR II and its monitoring and evaluation system need to be clearly articulated to ensure effective implementation. This chapter provides an outline of the implementation arrangements, and the roles and responsibilities of different actors. It also provides an outline of the monitoring and evaluation mechanism and the roles and responsibilities of different actors.

7.1 Implementation Arrangements

The major implementation responsibility of NSAPR II lies with the concerned lead ministries and their agencies as well as other associate ministries and their agencies. Ministries / Divisions will be responsible for preparing their respective detailed prioritized action plans / road maps based on NSAPR II Policy Agenda for the implementation of the strategies to achieve sectoral and crosscutting targets for the FY 2009 - 11 period. The lead ministries will be responsible for supervision, coordination, implementation and monitoring activities envisaged in NSAPR II in their sectors and crosscutting issues. Other actors that will play an active role in the implementation include the private sector, civil society organizations (CSOs), NGOs, and different regulatory commissions. The development partners will play a supportive role in the implementation of NSAPR II.

The National Steering Committee will provide general guidance and coordinate the implementation of NSAPR II. The Programming Committee of the Planning Commission with recommendation of the concerned Sector Division of the Planning Commission will ensure selection of programmes/projects by the ministries, which are consistent with NSAPR II. The GED/NPFP will check the consistency of the programmes/projects with NSAPR II in terms of criteria developed by GED/NPFP in consultation with concerned Sector Division of the Planning Commission and Ministries. The Ministry of Finance will ensure that MTBF reflects the priorities in NSAPR II and the overall expenditure framework contributes to the achievement of the goals of NSAPR II.

The private sector has an important role in achieving the poverty reduction outcomes by virtue of its central role as an engine of growth in the economy. While the private sector will be driven by the profit motive it will create employment opportunities and an avenue for using the savings of people. The Government will undertake measures to remove the factors hindering active private sector participation in the economy and facilitate socially responsible behaviour by the private sector.

CSOs and NGOs will continue to play an important role independently as well as in partnership with the Government in the implementation of NSAPR II through various programmes related to micro-credit, literacy, health and sanitation, and empowerment. The development partners will use the agreed national systems and processes to provide adequate funding and other support in the implementation of NSAPR II. They will also facilitate capacity building initiatives within the framework of NSAPR II. In view of the slow progress in the implementation of the ADP in recent years, an important area will be capacity building in different phases of the project cycle.

For successful implementation of NSAPR II the government will take the following measures: (i) awareness building and PRS orientation for the members of Parliament, the Government officials of the line ministries/ divisions, and departments/ directorates; (ii) communication

between the National Poverty Focal Point and all the line ministries/ divisions emphasising that activities undertaken by the ministries/ divisions have to be consistent with NSAPR II; (iii) wide dissemination of the NSAPR II document to the officials of all ministries/ divisions, and departments/ directorates. The awareness building and skill acquisition will be provided through appropriate mechanisms like workshops and training programmes.

7.2 Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation is an important component of NSAPR II because it helps the government to measure the quantity, quality and targeting of the outputs (goods and services) that it aims to provide and to measure the outcomes and impacts resulting from these outputs. The mechanism allows the government to measure its performance and understand the causes of good or poor performance. Performance will be measured through a set of monitoring and evaluation indicators such as inputs, outputs, outcomes and impact indicators. Performance indicators serve multiple purposes:

- They are used for informed decision making, for re-setting priorities and revision of the targets, if necessary.
- Public knowledge of performance indicators helps improve transparency and accountability of the government.
- They provide a better understanding of the linkages between the processes of implementation of NSAPR II and the outcomes in terms of achievements of the poverty reduction target.
- They facilitate checking the consistency of programme/project choices with NSAPR II.
- Choice of a set of M & E indicators for poverty reduction leads to conceptual clarity and puts in place a data generation system which can help other related research and policy adoption.
- They provide a vehicle for monitoring the performance of the government by other stakeholders including the civil society who can put pressure to improve performance.

7.2.1 Monitoring and Evaluation of the NSAPR-I

The National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP) of GED took an initiative to monitor the first NSAPR implementation at two levels. First, the National Steering Committee constituted *the* Independent Monitoring Committee comprising civil society representatives to provide a balanced and impartial assessment of the progress towards targets and causes of lack of progress with appropriate guidance for performance improvement. Secondly, GED/NPFP initiated the institutionalization of the government monitoring system focusing on the formation of working groups at the ministry/division level for all the thematic areas and their common terms of reference. The Independent Monitoring Committee interacted with GED/NPFP whenever it was felt necessary.

The ministries/divisions formed working groups and initiated the monitoring process but the work did not proceed very far. Two obvious reasons for such an outcome have been identified: (i) lack of persuasion for information on the performance indicators by GED/NPFP, the working groups did not feel the urge to pursue the monitoring task. Lack of interest of the working groups in carrying out the task is derived to some extent from the lack of capacity of the planning wing/units in the Thematic Ministries in the form of lack of adequate institutional strength and skilled manpower. (ii) Up-to-date data, which is at the heart of monitoring, was not available. NSAPR contained a host of indicators with the expectation that the demand for data would lead to an appropriate response from the BBS in generating outcome and impact indicators. It was also expected that the research

organisations including the private research bodies and NGOs would seize this opportunity of data generation with support from the donors. Institutional weakness and lack of funding inhibited the demand led process. Future attempts at monitoring will have to address these issues.

During the preparation of NSAPR II, the GED/NPFP collected information on the indicators from different ministries and the BBS to evaluate the progress of the first NSAPR. Data gaps in terms of lack of data and up-to-date data were identified, which constrained thorough assessment of the implementation progress.

7.2.2 Monitoring and Evaluation of NSAPR-II

The process of monitoring and evaluation of NSAPR II will be a continuous one, involving a number of overlapping sets of activities. As mentioned in Section 7.1 the working groups at the ministry/division level will be activated/ formed shortly and they will prepare their action plans/road maps to implement the policy matrix relevant to them. Side by side with the action plan for implementation, they will also formulate an action plan for monitoring and evaluation based on the terms of reference provided by the GED/NPFP. Major steps of the monitoring and evaluation process will include the following:

- Development of conceptually sound and empirically feasible performance indicators;
- Establishing benchmarks on indicators to facilitate evaluation of progress toward target achievement;
- Institutionalize a flexible and effective monitoring strategy based on the clarity of the monitoring tasks;
- Progress monitoring on the action agenda spelled out in the policy matrices;
- Data generation for target achievements: census, surveys, qualitative studies and participatory poverty assessments. BBS, relevant agencies, academic and research institutions will have the responsibility and opportunity to generate the relevant data;
- Evaluation of the achievement of targets of poverty reduction and MDGs; and
- Dissemination of results and interaction with the civil society, business community, media and other groups.

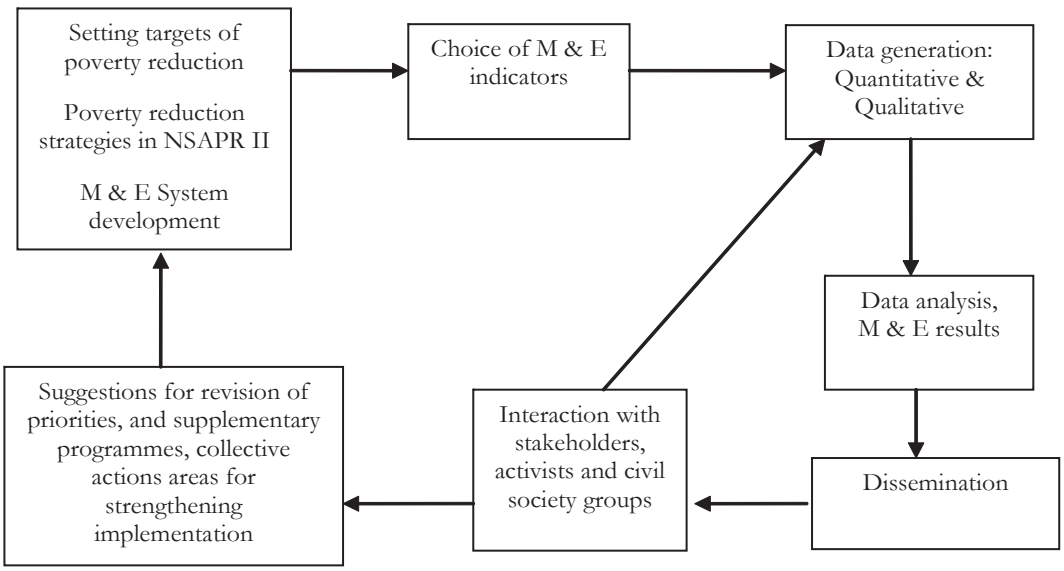
The M & E system for NSAPR II is shown in the Flow Chart 7.1.

7.2.3 Data Generation for M & E

Data on M&E indicators of NSAPR II (Annex-5) and attainment of MDGs will come from both government and non-government sources. Data on inputs and outputs will come primarily from concerned ministries/divisions. While some data on outcome/impact indicators may come from different ministries/divisions, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) will be mainly responsible for generating data on these indicators.

BBS is the major source of national sample surveys; it conducts HES/HIES, which is the major source of poverty statistics. There are also some MDG-related surveys, namely, DHS, VRS, and CLS. Data quality and the details of the definitions and methodology used in the major surveys conducted by the BBS should receive appropriate attention. There is a need for a review of all data sources that can be used for monitoring NSAPR II and MDGs. Need for special surveys and studies will have to be identified by the GED/NPFP, and BBS will need to align its data generation schedules with the requirements of GED/NPFP.

Flowchart 7.1: Monitoring and Evaluation System of NSAPR II



New rounds of surveys cannot be conducted simultaneously with HIES, because it will overburden BBS with consequent decline of quality. However, separate modules for NSAPR II and MDGs may be included in future HIES. In addition to the usual surveys, an effective monitoring system will require data from other appropriately designed special surveys. Some new surveys and specially designed evaluation studies may be conducted by research organizations like BIDS and other public and private research organizations.

Clear identification of indicators followed by streamlining of the mechanisms for generating reliable data is necessary, but not sufficient for poverty assessment and the monitoring of NSAPR II programme implementation. Proper utilization of such data and analysis of the linkages between policies, programmes and resulting outcome and impact are essential for understanding the poverty reduction process. To achieve this, capacity building within the appropriate government institutions is an urgent need.

7.2.4 Institutional Strategy of M & E System

Monitoring implementation of NSAPR II and evaluation of actual poverty reduction will require a well-designed institutional mechanism. Such a mechanism has been outlined in Table 7.1. This includes, on the one hand, the primary role of the government, with the GED/NPFP having a central role, and, on the other hand, an independent and supplementary role for academic/research organizations and civil society groups. The GED/NPFP will have the primary responsibility for developing the detailed strategies for NSAPR II monitoring. Responsibilities will include

a) collating official data on PRS monitoring,
b) coordinating monitoring efforts within and outside the Government,
c) facilitating effective resolution of debates on indicators and methodologies and developing new indicators where necessary,
d) undertaking relevant research and studies in collaboration with independent academic/ research institutions and civil society groups, and
e) facilitating feedback of outcome monitoring into policy-making.

Working groups at the ministry/division level will undertake measures for generating performance indicators relevant to the group. Progress towards attainment of targets will be assessed and the report will be sent to the GED/NPFP for coordination at the national level.

Table 7.1: Institutional Process of NSAPR II Monitoring and Evaluation

Task/Function	Responsible entity
1. Review of progress of NSAPR II implementation and attainment of MDGs.	The National Steering Committee (NSC) on Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS)
2. Preparation of document on NSAPR II implementation and attainment of MDGs.	The National Poverty Focal Point (NPFP), General Economics Division (GED), Planning Commission
3. Monitoring consistency of programmes and projects with NSAPR II.	A Technical Committee headed by the Member, Programming Division, Planning Commission and comprising all other Members of the Planning Commission, Secretaries of Finance Division, ERD, Planning Division, IMED and technical experts as selected by the Government
4. Annual evaluation of poverty reduction and causal factors, special studies on poverty and MDGs and public dialogue	GED/NPFP, Independent academic/ research institutions/ civil society/ private sector organizations

7.2.5 M & E Indicators

A list of indicators for M&E of NSAPR II and attainment of MDGs has been appended at annex 3. The list is a suggestive one and will be refined by the working groups in consultation with NPFP/GED in the actual process of monitoring. Information on all indicators may not be available at the desired level of disaggregation. On certain dimensions of poverty reduction policies, indicators may be drawn from a number of sources. Therefore, some degree of overlap in the characteristics of indicators may be inevitable. This is especially true for 'pro-poor growth' strategies, 'women's advancement and rights' and 'children's advancement and rights'.

7.2.6 Capacity Building for M & E

Capacity building is necessary at all levels and in all institutions involved in the monitoring and evaluation task. The highlights of capacity building are:

- Capacity of BBS will be strengthened to enable it to conduct surveys, census and special surveys to produce quality data. The timing of these activities will match that of monitoring and evaluation of NSAPR II as well as preparation of future NSAPR;
- Suitable capacity-building of GED/NPFP will be achieved to enable it to guide the working groups and coordinate their activities and carry out the analytical work;
- The planning wings/units in the ministries/divisions will be strengthened with adequate manpower having appropriate skills; and
- A general awareness of preparation and monitoring and evaluation of NSAPR II will be created among the public officials through workshops and training programmes.

Annexes

Annex 1

Thematic Committees and Their Composition

Sl. No.	Names of the Thematic Committees	Composition of Committees
1.	Macroeconomic Management for Pro-poor growth including Financial Sector and Trade Development	**Chair: Member, General Economics Division, Planning Commission** **Committee Members** i) Chief, GED, Planning Commission ii) Chief, Programming Division, Planning Commission iii) DG, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics iv) Representative, Finance Division v) Representative, NBR vi) Representative, Ministry of Commerce vii) Representative, Bangladesh Bank viii) Representative, Export Promotion Bureau ix) Representative, BEPZA x) Representative, Securities Exchange Commission xi) Representative, ERD xii) Representative, BSTI
2.	Resources Mobilization (Domestic and Foreign)	**Chair: Secretary, Internal Resources Division Commission** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Programming Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Finance Division iii) Representative, ERD, Ministry of Finance iv) Director General, National Savings Directorate v) Director General, Department of Postal Service vi) Representatives, Other concerned Ministries/Agencies
3.	Improvement of Governance including Civil Service Reforms, Judicial Reforms and Law and Order Improvement	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Establishment** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Chief Advisor's Office iii) Representative, Local Government Division iv) Representative, Ministry of Home Affairs v) Representative, Finance Division vi) Representative, GED, Planning Commission
4.	Health including Nutrition, Sanitation and Population Planning	**Chairperson: Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Agriculture iii) Representative, Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock iv) Representative, Ministry of Food & Disaster Management v) Representative, Local Government Division vi) Representative, National Nutrition Institute vii) Representative, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare viii) Director Generals, Relevant Directorates under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
5.	Education including Primary and Mass Education, Female Education, Vocational and Technical Education	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Education** **Committee Members:** i) Chief. SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education iii) Representative, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs iv) Representative, Ministry of Youth and Sports v) Representative, Ministry of Labour and Employment vi) Representative, Ministry of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment vii) Representative, Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology viii) Representative, Ministry of Religion Affairs ix) Director General of Technical Education

Sl. No.	Names of the Thematic Committees	Composition of Committees
6.	Employment Generation and Labour Welfare	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Programming Division iii) Representative, Ministry of Overseas Employment and Welfare iv) Representative, Finance Division v) Representative, Ministry of Social Welfare vi) Representative, Ministry of Woman and Children Affairs
7.	Women's and Children's Advancement and Rights Including Social Inclusion and Empowerment.	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs iii) Representative, Ministry of Social Welfare iv) Representative, Ministry of Home Affairs v) Representative, Ministry of Labour and Employment vi) Representative, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment vii) Representative, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education
8.	Social Safety Net including Food Security, Disaster Management, Micro credit and Rural Development / Non-farm Activities	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Food and Disaster Management** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Resources Division ii) Representative, Rural Development and Cooperatives Division iii) Representative, Local Government Division iv) Representative, Ministry of Social Welfare v) Representative, Labour and Employment vi) Representative, Ministry of Youth & Sports vii) Representative, Ministry of Industries viii) Representative, Finance Division ix) Chairman, BRDB x) MD, PKSF
9.	Agriculture (Crops, Fisheries and Livestock) including Forestry	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Resources Division ii) Representative, Ministry of Land iii) Representative, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock iv) Representative, Ministry of Water Resources v) Representative, Local Government Division vi) Representative, Ministry of Industries
10	Land Use Management including Land Reform	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Land** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Agriculture, Rural Development and Water Resources Division ii) Representative, Ministry of Land iii) Representative, Ministry of Agriculture iv) Representative, Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock v) Representative, Ministry of Water Resources vi) Representative, Local Government Division vii) Representative, Ministry of Industries

Sl. No.	Names of the Thematic Committees	Composition of Committees
11.	Water Resources Development and Management	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Agriculture, Water Resource and Rural Institution Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Agriculture iii) Representative, Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock iv) Representative, Ministry of Land v) Representative, Ministry of Finance vi) Representative, Local Governments Division vii) Representative, Rural Development & Cooperatives viii) Representative, Ministry of Environment and Forest ix) Representative, Programming Division, Planning Commission
12.	Private Sector Development	**Chair: Secretary, Chief Advisor's Office** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Industries Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Industries iii) Chairman, BOI iv) Executive Chairman, BEPZA v) Chairman, BTRC vi) Representative, Energy Regulatory Commission vii) Executive Director, Privatization Commission viii) Chairman, BSCIC ix) Executive Director, Bangladesh Shilpa Bank x) Chief, Controller of Insurance xi) Managing Director, BASIC
13.	Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Industries** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Industries Division ii) Representation, Ministry of Commerce iii) Representative, Ministry of Woman and Children Affairs iv) Representative, Board of Investment v) Representative, Bangladesh Bank
14.	Infrastructural Development including Power, Energy and Communications (Roads, Railways, Ports, Shipping, Inland Water Transport and Telecommunicatio n)	**Chair: Secretary, Power Division** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Physical Infrastructure Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Communication iii) Representative, Energy Division iv) Representative, Ministry of Commerce v) Representative, Ministry of Shipping vi) Representative, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism vii) Representative, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications i) Representatives from concerned agencies
15.	Technology Policy including Information and Communication Technology	**Chair: Ministry of Science and Information & Communication Technology** **Co-Chair: Member, SEI Division, Planning Commission** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Education iii) Representative, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications iv) Representative, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare v) Chairman, BTRC vi) Chairman, BCSIR vii) Representative, Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, and viii) Chairman, Bangladesh Computer Council

Sl. No.	Names of the Thematic Committees	Composition of Committees
16	Housing Development (both urban and rural)	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Public works** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, SEI Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Social Welfare iii) Representative, Ministry of Women and children Affairs iv) Representative, Ministry of Land v) Representative, Local Government Division, vi) Representative, Rural development and Co-operatives Division vii) Representative, Ministry of Water Resources
17	Utility Services Development including Safe Water Supply	**Chair: Secretary, Local Government Division** **Committee Members:** i) Chief (Agriculture, Water Resource and Rural Institution Division) Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Primary and Mass Education iii) Representative, Ministry of Education iv) Representative, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare v) Representative, Power Division vi) Representative, Ministry of Land vii) Representative, Roads and Railway Division viii) Representative, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications ix) Representative, Energy and Mineral Resources Division x) Representative, Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism xi) Representatives , All concerned Agencies
18	Environment for Sustainable Development	**Chair: Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forest** **Committee Members:** i) Chief, Agriculture, Water Resource and Rural Institution Division, Planning Commission ii) Representative, Ministry of Agriculture iii) Representative, Ministry of Fisheries & Livestock iv) Representative, Ministry of Land v) Representative, Ministry of Water Resources Management vi) Representative, Ministry of Home Affairs vii) Representative, Ministry of Defence

Annex 2

Summary Proceedings of NSAPR II Consultation Meetings

The NPFP (National Poverty Focal Point) of the GED (General Economics Division) organized several consultations with a cross-section of stakeholders to make the NSAPR II a truly country owned document. The first consultation was held with academics, researchers, CBOs and NGOs on the structure of the document. The National Steering Committee for the preparation of PRSP then finalized the structure of NSAPR on 17 September 2007. After the draft thematic reports were prepared, a three-day national-level consultation attended by academics, researchers, CBOs, NGOs, and trade bodies, was held in Dhaka on 18 -20 March 2008. This was followed by a two-day regional consultation at Barisal on 29 – 30 March 2008 which was participated by concerned local government officials, representatives from chambers of commerce and industry, professional organizations, NGOs, media, different occupational groups, and thematic experts. The recommendations of these consultations were reflected in the final thematic reports.

The draft NSAPR was prepared drawing on the 18 thematic reports produced by the thematic groups. The endeavour was supported by thematic experts. A two-day long consultation was held in Dhaka on 1 – 2 June 2008 which was participated in by academics, researchers, and representatives from the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, professional organizations, CBOs, NGOs and concerned ministries. A consultation on the draft was also held with the development partners in Dhaka on 10 June 2008. Two more consultations on the draft were held– one at Rangamati on 21 June 2008 and the other at Rajshahi on 28 June 2008. The participants in these consultations included local people representing various stakeholders and local government functionaries. The consultations outside Dhaka were facilitated by the district administration while that with the development partners was facilitated by the Economic Relations Division of the Finance Ministry. Valuable comments were received in the consultations and these were supplemented by written comments sent afterwards.

The participants discussed both general and sectoral issues. The rationale of preparing the NSAPR II by the caretaker government instead of extending it for another year was questioned and it was suggested that the strategy must be owned by the future elected government through appropriate process. The logic of abandoning five-year plans and shifting to the three-year PRS was also questioned. A more broad based consultation was recommended to reflect the aspirations and opinions of people from all walks of life. Some participants questioned the relevance of the strategies followed by successive governments for the poor and opined that they were not pro-poor and inclusive as claimed.

Some participants opined that the current development paradigm in Bangladesh is termed as market friendly but it is actually corporate friendly. The economy is gradually shifting to a corporate economy culture. The focus on growth rather than distribution was also questioned. While growth may be good for some people it may exclude the poor. When bottled water is sold it enhances growth but the poor do not have access to this water.

The sectoral recommendations obtained from the consultations are briefly presented below:

1. Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-Poor Economic Growth

- Suitable policies are needed for promoting development in different regions of the country, especially the regions having high incidence of poverty or chronic poverty. The policies should include special incentives like tax holidays and low interest loans for industries, promoting development of exports following the "one district one product policy", and promoting export of manpower from the regions lagging behind by providing appropriate skill training.

- Establishment and operation of training institutes by the manpower recruiting agencies should be made mandatory. For migrant workers passports should be issued for 10 years.
- For private sector development some thrust sectors should be identified.
- The government should avoid adopting anti-poor policies like banning rickshaws on major city roads.
- Automation of income tax administration is needed.
- Bangladesh should reap the benefits of regional trade. It should establish industrial clusters of SMEs near the land ports to serve the regional markets.

2. Critical Areas of Focus for Pro-Poor Economic Growth

2.1 Agriculture

- Development of agriculture should be promoted through supply of modern seeds, introduction of crops suitable for particular regions, like drought resistant and less water intensive rice in the northwestern region and salinity resistant rice in coastal areas, fruits, spices and medicinal plants in CHT districts, promotion of livestock and fisheries sub-sectors through provision of research and extension services, and promotion of the cultivation of local fruits and spices.
- Awareness about bird flu and similar devastating diseases should be created in order to have a sustainable poultry industry.
- Increased agricultural production should be based on the use of more organic fertilizers and compost and less chemical fertilizers.
- In order to stop the distress sale of rice by small farmers and ensure fair price for them, cooperative marketing along the lines of Thailand can be introduced.
- In coastal districts cultivation of three crops in a year instead of the current single crop should be promoted through the development of agriculture.

2.2 Water resources Development and Management

- Over exploitation of underground water for irrigation and other uses which has a severe adverse impact on environment should be discouraged. Rather, use of surface water for irrigation and other purposes should be encouraged.
- Existing heights of embankments have to be raised as per engineering studies in view of the apprehended sea-level rise. Compaction of sea-facing embankments has to be ensured. Plantation of trees with long roots well outside the toe line of embankments has to be ensured.
- Awareness of water use and its economic importance needs to be created.

2.3 Small and Medium Enterprises

- Development of SMEs should be promoted, especially in the regions lagging behind and regions outside Dhaka through the provision of tax incentives, low-interest credit and adequate and uninterrupted supply of electricity and tax-free import of raw materials.
- In order to sustain the silk industry in Rajshahi, the establishment of reeling factories should be encouraged and the reeling sections in the Resham Board should be re-started.

- ICT should come under the purview of SME.
- Women entrepreneurs should be given training on marketing, accounting and pricing.
- Rescheduling of loans is needed in enterprises affected by natural disasters.
- Women entrepreneurs should have easy access to credit and mortgage-free loan. They should be exempted from requirements like trade license or tax certificate and should given loans on individual security.
- There should not be any restrictions on the movement of goods produced in the hill districts and forest products to facilitate growth of SMEs and agriculture in the region.

2.4 Land Use Policy and Administrative Issues

- Implementation of the Land Use Policy 2002 will be able to put a stop to the nonagricultural use of agricultural land.
- Implementation of the land policy is needed to promote development in hill districts.
- Land administration and related issues should be adequately dealt with as land disputes are an important problem for the poor.

3. Essential Infrastructure for Pro-Poor Economic Growth

3.1 Power and Energy

- Measures should be taken to construct a nuclear power plant at Rooppur for generating electricity. Another plant can be constructed in a less populated area of Rangpur district.
- The capacity of the hydroelectric power plant at Kaptai should be increased and the provision of 15 MW electricity sub-stations for hill districts should be assured, especially in view of the sacrifice of the people in this region for electricity.
- Gas should be supplied to yet un-served areas, especially in the western region. In case of gas connections priority should be given to industries over households.
- Low cost and environment friendly energy supply for the poor should be assured.
- Use of solar energy, wind energy and bio-gas to reduce the magnitude of the energy problem should be emphasized.

3.2 Transport

- Road transport network should continue to develop connecting Upazilas with district towns. Quality of construction and maintenance of roads should be ensured.
- Two bridges, one at Maoa over the Padma and another near Bahadurabad over the Jamuna, should be constructed to integrate the eastern region with the western region of the country.
- The toll for crossing the Jamuna Bridge should be drastically reduced to facilitate the flow of goods between the two regions.

- Measures should be taken to prevent road accidents which impose heavy costs on people.
- Road communication should be expanded in coastal districts to connect important places which are not yet connected. Construction and maintenance work should be completed before the advent of the rainy season.
- The railway should be developed as a relatively cheap and comfortable means of transport for people and goods. Double tracks should be provided on major routes like the Dhaka-Chittagong route.
- In coastal areas the dredging of rivers should be undertaken to facilitate year-round navigation and pontoons should constructed at all launch/steamer ghats. Security of river routes should be ensured.

3.3 Post and telecommunication

Telecommunication facilities should be expanded to link Upazilas with district towns in Rangamati, Banderban, and Khagrachari hill districts.

3.4 Housing and Shelter

- Loss of agricultural land through various non-agricultural uses should be minimized; loss owing to housing can be reduced by encouraging building clusters of houses in villages and providing them with infrastructural facilities.
- In coastal areas the poor should be provided with houses built on RCC pillars, more cyclone shelters at cyclone prone coastal districts should be constructed and old shelters should be properly maintained.
- The middle-class people in coastal areas should be provided with housing loans on easy terms to construct houses that can tolerate cyclone and tidal surges.
- The extreme poor and distressed people should be accommodated in clustered homes.

4. Effective Social Protection for Vulnerable People

4.1 Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs)

People living in remote char areas should be brought under SSNPs. The coverage of the Char Livelihood Project should be expanded to all char areas.

4.2 Micro Credit

Zakat fund should be mobilized for poverty alleviation.

4.3 Rural development

Mosque-based employment generation activities can contribute to poverty reduction and they should be supported.

4.4 Disaster Management

- Community radio should be established to provide early warning of cyclones and other natural disasters.

5. Human Development

5.1 Education

- General education should be discouraged while technical and vocational education should be encouraged so that young people can find jobs both within and outside the country; they can also start their own business. However, the current state of technical and vocational education should be assessed in terms of their success in generating self or wage employment.
- Students outside major metropolitan cities are in general weak in English; special programmes should be undertaken to promote effective English teaching in the country.
- Administration of primary education should be handed over to the local governments. There is no example of running primary education by the central bureaucracy in the world.
- Arrangements should be made to impart primary education to indigenous people in their own languages beside Bengali and English.
- Researches in science laboratories should be evaluated in terms of their contribution to the country's industrial development and future research programmes should be linked to the solution of the country's specific problems.
- A Knowledge Council should be established along the lines of India to facilitate creation of a knowledge-based society.
- More attention should be given to promoting quality education at all levels especially for the poor.
- Demand-based training should be given to cater to the domestic as well as international markets.

5.2 Health

- Administration of primary healthcare should be handed over to the local governments. Community clinics and other health facilities at union level should be made fully operational.
- Quality of healthcare services should be improved in the rural areas. The private sector should be encouraged alongside with the public sector to offer healthcare in rural areas.
- Government should regulate public health services so that private practice by public hospitals doctors must not affect the public hospital services.

6. Ensuring Participation, Social Inclusion and Empowerment

- The term 'indigenous people' should be used to mean people of different ethnic communities living in CHTs as well as on the plains. Similarly, 'people with disabilities' should be used instead of 'disabled people'.
- Education of domestic servants and street children should be ensured; domestic servants should be given some training in household work.
- Inclusive education should be provided to people with disabilities.
- The post of Vice President of Upazila Parishad should be reserved for women.
- The implementation strategy of the Women Policy 2008 should be articulated.

7. Promoting Good Governance

- Access of people to government offices should be made easier and the citizens' charter should be displayed in all offices.
- Promotion of government officials should be based on efficiency, honesty, seniority, merit and commitment.
- The media should play an impartial, constructive and objective role to ensure good governance.
- In post-disaster management, activities of the government and NGOs should be coordinated so that some families do not receive more than the usual share of relief goods while many other families do not receive any relief at all.
- Peace in CHTs is the basic requirement for development in this region. Peace has to be maintained and promoted through creating a relationship of trust between the Paharies and Bengalee and by looking after the interests of all people living in the hill districts. Local government offices should be placed under the hill councils in line with the Peace accord.
- Local government elections in hill districts, which are long overdue, should be held to institutionalize democratic local government.
- Local government institutions should be strengthened.

8. Ensuring Effective Service delivery

8.1 Water and Sanitation

People in CHT suffer from lack of safe drinking water and access to sanitation. Adequate measures need to be taken to ensure access of all people in this region to water and sanitation.

8.2 Development of Tourism

The government should support the development of tourism by the private sector in Rangamati, Banderban and Khagrachari hill districts and other potential tourist areas.

9. Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change for Sustainable Development

- Environmental sustainability should be ensured through social forestry and by maintaining reserve forests.
- Globally the climate change issue puts emphasis on adaptation mechanisms. As a potential worst sufferer from climate change Bangladesh should ask for global prohibition on pollutions causing climate change and for adequate compensation.
- Climate change issues should be mainstreamed in the development discourse.

10. Increasing Productivity through technology including ICT and Bio-technology

- All government offices from the ministry to the field level should be brought under the Wide Area Network.

11. NSAPR II Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation

- PRS implementation monitoring and evaluation is weak and should be strengthened. Monitoring indicators should be small in number so that relevant data can be generated.
- Independent research organizations should be encouraged to undertake monitoring of NSAPR II.
- Social Auditing can be introduced to monitor the access of the poor to resources.

Annex 3

Policy Matrices

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Policy Matrix 1: Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-poor Growth

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
I. Enhance growth, particularly pro-poor growth			
	: MoP and MoF **Associate Responsibility:** All other line ministries		
1. Accelerating Growth	• Increase GDP growth rate to 6.5% in FY09, 7.0% in FY10 and 7.2% in FY11	• Increased flow of concessionary and quality funds • Measures/actions to improve governance	• Increase investment in both private and public sectors • Increase productivity through use of appropriate technology • Human resources development • Improve quality of public sector investment
Lead Responsibility: MoP, MoF **Associate Responsibility:** MoA, MoFL, MoI, MoLE			
2. Ensuring pro-poor growth	• Increase agriculture growth rate to 4% • Ensure rural non-farm sector to expand by 10% • Ensure SME to grow by 15%	• Providing subsidy to agriculture (Diesel, fertilizer, seeds and power) • Extended agricultural credit • Introduced expenditure tracking for pro-poor and gender sensitive budgeting • Prepared guidelines on how to make pro-poor and gender responsive budget	• Increase poverty reducing expenditure to 8.5% of GDP. • Commission further similar expenditure such as physical infrastructure in rural areas • Continue subsidy to Agriculture
3. Ensuring pro-women growth	• Ensure women's employment to grow by 7% per annum		• Give incentives to private sector to employ more women • Ensure women's quota in public sector jobs
Lead Responsibility: MoF, BB **Associate Responsibility:** MoC			
4. Reducing inflation	• Reduce inflation rate to 7%	• Market monitoring • Dialogues with business community • Open market sale of essential goods for poor people	• Central Bank to maintain non-inflationary monetary policy • Ensure smooth functioning of supply chain of commodities • Ensure competitiveness in the market • Undertake regular market monitoring and action against various cartels and hoarding practices
Lead Responsibility: MoF, BB **Associate Responsibility:** All Ministries			
5. Maintaining fiscal discipline	• Keep budget deficit within 5% of GDP.	• Budget deficit kept within a reasonable level.	• Implement Public Resources and Budget Management Ordinance, 2008 • Include quasi-fiscal expenditure in calculating budget deficit
		• Prepared Internal Control Manual (ICM) to ensure greater financial discipline in all line Ministries/ Divisions.	• Strengthening of Internal Control Mechanism of the line ministries
Lead Responsibility: FD, ERD, BB			
6. Managing public debt efficiently	• Keep domestic borrowing within 3% of GDP • Limit non-concessionary loan and contingent liability to 1% GDP • Maintain debt liability of government below 60% of GDP and outstanding external debt below 40% of GDP	• Increased domestic borrowing to cope with decline in flow of foreign official assistance • Seeking more grants and untied concessional foreign financing • Setting up Resource and Debt Management Wing to enhance resource management and public debt management capacity of the FD • Developed a database and a debt strategy	• Ensure that government would not borrow from Central Bank except for cope with daily cash requirements or cope with problems of natural disaster or national security or other exceptional circumstances on temporary basis • Establish debt network among the relevant agencies for debt management • Strengthen Resource and Debt Management Wing of Finance Division to coordinate domestic and external debt related activities

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: FD, PC **Associate Responsibility:** All Ministries			
7. Enhancing efficient use of resources	• Ensure 90% implementation of ADP • Bring 75% of the ministries/divisions under MTBF • Ensure that for all activities of the government at least 50% of the beneficiaries are poor and 33% of the beneficiaries are women • Promote regional balance in resource allocation	• Increased number of MTBF ministries from 14 in FY 08 to 16 in FY09 • Constituted Budget Management Committees (BMCs) for efficient budget preparation, implementation and monitoring in MTBF ministries • Public Expenditure Management Manual Published • Promulgated regulation for audit survey • Following guidance of the PAC to enhance effectiveness of foreign aid utilization • Harmonizing development partners' policies and procedures • Arranged bi-partite and tripartite meetings to settle audit observations	• Strengthen and deepen MTBF process to bring qualitative changes in public financial management and link public resources with government policies, strategies and priorities giving attention to poverty reduction • Ensure public allocation gives priority to poverty reduction and women and child advancement • Take into account the recommendations of the Public Expenditure Review Commission in preparing budget. • Roll out budgeting system linking to policy to all Ministries and Divisions • Put in place systems for effective follow-up of audit recommendations • Maintain regional and gender equity in budgetary resource allocation • Show revenue and capital expenditure separately in the budget
Lead Responsibility: FD, all ministries			
8. Promoting transparency in resource use		• Established Performance Audit Directorate in 2007 and audit activities have been undertaken following INTOSAI Guidelines. • Implemented separation of accounts from audit • Introduced Public Financial Management Strategy (PFMS) • Developed improved and transparent budget presentation	• Prepare performance audit strategy • Establish a framework for fiscal management reporting and control through operationalisation of the ICM in all ministries • Develop a standard consultation mechanism to get feedback for quality and transparency in decision making for resource use
Lead Responsibility: FD, C&AG			
9. Improving accountability in resource use		• Adopted Entity Wide Audit Strategy and Entity Wide activities are going on in four MTBF Ministries. • Arranged exchange of views meetings for the MPs • Undertook PAC strengthening project. Manual preparation for strengthening PAC is going on	• Strengthen Entity wide Audit • Provide adequate support to the Public Accounts Committee
Lead Responsibility: PC, all ministries			
10. Strengthening programme/project formulation and approval procedure	• Ensure that all projects and programmes specify how poor and women are going to benefit and rank them accordingly	• Simplified project preparation formats	• Take necessary steps to improve programme/project formulation and approval procedure • Integrate poverty reduction and women and child advancement issues in the project preparation stage • Ensure that every project/programme is designed to directly benefit poor

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: IMED, all ministries			
11. Strengthening public procurement procedure		• Formulated and put in place public procurement regulation	• Identify loopholes and weaknesses in PPR to improve upon them • Provide training to the officials on PPR
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, PC, FD, ERD, all ministries			
12. Promoting programme based approach		• Undertook PBA/SWAP undertaken through HNPSP (health) and PEDP-2 (Primary education) • Undertook annual reviews of HNPSP and PEDP II that show increased performances of programmes.	• Share PBA/SWAP experiences/lessons learnt through workshops and seminars • Expand health and primary education PBA/SWAP experiences to other sectors where appropriate • Strengthen institutional capacity to implement PBA/SWAP in other sectors
Lead Responsibility: FD, GED, IMED, Line Ministries			
13. Strengthening overall and sector level monitoring and evaluation		• GoB is committed to design, initiate and implement appropriate steps to achieve the MDGs by 2015, and to strengthen its monitoring through MDG Progress Report • 1st MDG Progress Report was released in 2005 and the second MDG Progress Report in 2007	• Formulate mechanism to provide regular feedback to poverty reduction projects/programmes formulation • Conduct PRS monitoring and evaluation in a systematic manner
Lead Responsibility: GED, FD, ERD and Parliament Secretariat.			
14. Strengthening public sector accountability			• Report NSAPR implementation to Parliament and media annually in a transparent manner
Lead Responsibility: GED, FD **Associate Responsibility:** BBS			
15. Enhancing analytical capability in formulating national policies		• Disaggregated data on recurrent, capital, gender and poverty (RCGP) expenditure model developed • Developed format to get more gender disaggregated data on public expenditure • Installation of Transaction Accounting System in accounts offices and Wide Area Network in District Accounts Offices, ministries/divisions and FD • FD officers are being trained for improving the modelling capability • A web based integrated Budget and Accounting System being introduced	• Strengthen information system, analytical ability and modelling capability of the Finance Division and GED, Planning Commission • Provide professional training to top officials engaged in fiscal management • A Macro Fiscal Unit in the Finance Division Establish • Impart training to the staff of Finance Division and GED, Planning Commission • Strengthen technical capacity and inter-ministerial linkages of the NPFP/GED
16. Improving macroeconomic and sectoral data	• Undertake a smaller scale poverty survey between two HIES • Undertake labour force survey every three years		• Strengthen the capacity of BBS and establish it as an autonomous organization with sufficient human and financial resources

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
II. Make Monetary Policy Effective			
Lead Responsibility: *BB, NSD*			
17. Improving monetary management	• Control inflation • Support higher growth • Maintain competitive real exchange rates	• Recently revised the statutory liquidity ratio for scheduled banks from 16% to 18% and cash reserve requirement from 4.5% to 5% • Reduced interest rate on National Savings Certificates and the rate structure gradually linked to Treasury Bill rates • Liberalised Treasury Bill rates and introduced Repo and Reverse Repo facilities • Introduced Auctions of 5-year and 10-year term Government Treasury Bonds bearing half-yearly interest coupons • Introduced long-term treasury bonds (2, 3 and 5 years) • Promoted secondary market for government bonds • Developed savings instruments for fixed income earners • Undertook programmes to strengthen capacity of BB	• Develop alternative savings instruments for the poor (Coupon bond of lower denomination, long term bond of small amount) • Ensure easier access of poor and women to bank • Develop/deepen Inter-bank money market • Modernize all aspects of BB's operations • Strengthen BB's capability for effective supervision • Increase quality of CAMEL rating • Strengthen autonomy of Bangladesh Bank
III. Make Capital Market Active			
Lead Responsibility: MoF, SEC, BB			
18. Developing domestic bond market		• Promoted issuance of corporate bonds and securitization by addressing regulatory and tax issues • Achieved significant cost reduction in respect of issuance of securities that includes all forms of debentures/bonds • Reduced withholding tax on interest income of Government Bond to 10% • Popularized government and corporate bonds through investor education programme and interaction with stakeholders	• Develop domestic bond market by encouraging securitization, and corporate bond issuance through further legal/regulatory changes
19. Developing stock market	• Increase capitalization/GDP rate to 25 percent	• Formulated different rules and regulations and developed warning system to control irregularities of companies • Undertook measures to increase transparency of companies by enforcing requirements of publishing financial statements in every six months • Increase of facilities for investors in storing their share scripts under a depository account and monitoring the balance in BO Account	• Strengthen the surveillance system of SEC to protect the interest of the investors in share market • Extend share market and Brokerage facilities in important cities and towns • Strengthen capability of SEC in controlling and developing capital market • Provide facilities for investors for online transaction and verification of the balance of their personal accounts • Provide regular training and create awareness to increase knowledge of the investors • Bring foreign companies into the purview of stock market by providing incentives and changing laws

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
IV. Reform Financial Sector			
Lead Responsibility: BB,MOF			
20. Restructuring NCBs		• Three NCBs (Sonali, Janata and Agrani) converted into public limited companies • Adopted a strategy to ensure financial stability and efficiency of banking sector • Developing a strategy for restructuring the financial sector • MoU signed with NCBs to restrict new lending, minimize operating expenses, reduce non-performing loan (NPL), and rationalize branch network • Established Artha Rin Adalat to facilitate collection of overdue loans • Undertook special audits of four NCBs • Appointed financial Adviser to Rupali Bank and published international tender for its sale • Appointed a management team for NCBs to improve efficiency	• Finalize Memorandum and Articles of Association of Sonali, Janata and Agrani Banks • Implement the banking sector reform strategy • Take measures to protect public interests in general and interests of small clients in particular after corporatization of NCBs • Sale Rupali Bank
21. Improving bank regulation/ supervision		• Strengthened prudential regulations and banking regulations • Setting up of effective internal control • Increased capital adequacy requirements from 8% to 9% on risk-weighted basis • Increased minimum capital requirement for banks from Tk. 200 million to Tk.1,000 million • Dividend declaration by bank in excess of 20 percent is allowed only if equivalent amount is set aside for reserve • Reduced single borrower limit by half • Bangladesh Bank issued regulations to control loan default • Approval of amendments to enhance autonomy and regulatory power of BB • Introduced new risk analysis, lending policies, loan follow-up and loan recovery process	• Continue enhance skills of supervisors of BB will • Build professional leadership in Bangladesh Bank • Strengthen Bangladesh Bank with less government intervention • Continue placement of right people in right job
22. Improving corporate governance of Banks and NBFIs		• Reconstituted Boards of NCBs and SDBs with inclusion of women • Delegated some powers of the FD to the NCB Boards, and decentralization has been implemented amongst different layers of management • New incentive scheme has been introduced for improving performance, including collection of NPLs • Loan recovery department has been strengthened • Powers and responsibilities of banks and management have been made transparent • Introduced appropriate qualifications for chief executives of PCBs • Implemented most of the recommendations made by the Committee on Default Loans • Qualifications of bank directors have been determined and their number has been reduced	• Enhance and pursue more demanding accounting and disclosure requirements for banks

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: PMO, FD, MoI, Privatization Commission			
23. Reforming SOEs	• Ensure that 50% of the current SOEs in the privatisation list will be privatized and the rest will be commercialised	• Budgetary transfer to SOEs has been controlled and NCBs are more cautious in providing loans to defaulting SOEs. • Four enterprises were privatised through off-loading of shares • Downsizing of BSFIC has been completed. Such process is going on for BADC and BCIC. • Currently 25 manufacturing enterprises are on the privatization list • Privatization of Padma Oil Company Ltd and Jamuna Oil Company Ltd. through stock market is underway	• Continue reducing SOE losses. • Continue the process of disinvestment. • Bring down budgetary transfer to SOEs significantly • Continue reforms regarding personnel and financial management of SOEs • Develop an accounting system on Debt Service Liabilities (DSL) of SOEs to government and link it with budgetary process. • Continue offloading of shares of SOEs through stock market
V. Promote Exports			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, FD, BB			
24. Increasing exports	• Increase export growth rate to 16.5 % in FY09, 17.0% in FY10 and 17.5% in FY11	• Formulated a three-year Export Policy (2006-2009) to make the export sector more competitive • Registrar of Joint Stock Companies has been reorganised and is in the process of automation. Reorganisation of EPB, Bangladesh Tariff Commission, CCI&E is in process • Skill-based training for entrepreneurship development is being imparted to promote small and medium enterprises • An action plan has been adopted to remove anti-export bias	• Undertake further measures to reduce trade transaction costs • Effective implementation of Export policy 2006-09 • Formulate broad based export policy after 2009 • Undertake actions on the basis of research and consultation with the stakeholders for enhancing external competitiveness • Strengthen one-stop-service for exports at EPB • Improve productivity in export sector
25. Strengthening Compliance in exports	• Ensure that all enterprises adhere to compliance standards	• Compliance Measures in respect of social and environmental standards are under implementation	• Increase awareness of managerial people and entrepreneurs on social and environmental compliance.
Lead Responsibility: MoTJ, MoC, BTMA, Business Chambers, BGMEA **Associate Responsibility:** FD, MoLE, MoWCA, MoSW, EPB, NBR, BB, Tariff Commission			
26. Promoting backward linkage in export activities		• Measures have been taken to encourage expansion of PTS • Measures have been taken for improvement of ports and customs procedures • Shipping Ministry has undertaken a project on improving the port's efficiency	• Provide facilities to backward linking sectors • Take steps for port development and simplification and reduction of customs clearance and regulatory procedures • Develop branding for Bangladesh Garments • Analyse and address export barriers issues and coordinate efforts with other LDCs • Undertake initiatives for duty free and quota free access for RMG to US market • Undertake efforts for diversification of RMG exports • Ensure preferential treatment in different country markets including CIS, China and India • Provide budgetary support for Skill Development Training of workers, people at managerial level and entrepreneurs • Provide support to strengthen the capability of BGMEA Institute of Fashion and Technology (BIFT) • Provide support in the context of withdrawal of safeguards from China in EU and USA

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoC, EPB **Associate Responsibility:** MoI, Missions Abroad, BGMEA, BSTI			
27. Diversifying export destination	• Increase export share to non-US and non-Euro market to 35.0 percent from current 28.5 percent	• Measures have been taken to explore markets in the East-European countries • Support to market exploring activities is being undertaken • Quota/duty free access has been obtained to EU, Canada, Australia, Norway, and New Zealand • Joined three regional free trade blocks- SAFTA, BIMSTEC and TPS-OIC • Sending missions to Africa, South and South-East Asia • BGMEA has employed lobbyist for obtaining duty free access to USA for textile and RMG	• Continue initiatives for diversification of exports including diversification of garments and textiles • Increase participation in international fairs and exhibitions in a professional way • Strengthen Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institute (BSTI) and Bangladesh Accreditation Board (BAB) to control quality for exports and for certification and accreditation
28. Diversifying export items	• Increase non-garment export share to 35%	• More products like handicrafts, agro-processing, vegetables and vegetable-processing, and light engineering products are under scrutiny for cash incentives • To promote export of SMEs products and non-traditional items, the Government is providing incentives including credit and cash incentives	• Enhance fiscal, monetary and other incentives to continue to broaden the export base • Undertake market studies in several buyers' countries to identify the demand and the problems of existing products in marketing • Establish Small Special Economic Zones in different parts of the country for cluster development of products and facilities
VI. Liberalize Imports			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, Tariff Commission **Associate Responsibility:** MoI, FD, NBR, Business Chambers			
29. Providing freer trade environment	• Reduce effective import protection further by 25%	• An Import Policy Order (2006-09) has been formulated to ensure greater degree of transparency and continuity • Tariffs on intermediate inputs have been reduced • There has been significant rationalization in the tariff-structure with the number of tariff slabs reduced to 4 • The number of banned and restricted items has been brought down to 24 from 122 • Rationalized supplementary duties from 31 to 5 • Import license fee on all imports has been withdrawn	• Reduce the average protective tariff to 15 percent • Continue to rationalize quantitative restrictions • Apply prudently duty escalation and rationalization • Enhance revenue mobilization efforts to reduce the dependence on import taxes • Further rationalise supplementary duties • Effectively implement Import Policy 2006-2009
VII. Promote Remittances			
Lead Responsibility: MoEWOE **Associate Responsibility:** FD, NBR, BB			
30. Augmenting inflow of remittances	• Increase remittance inflow by 25.0 % annually	• Processing of remittances through official channels has been streamlined by establishing banks/exchange houses in different countries and setting remittance cells in all NCBs • Task forces have been formed at national and regional levels to monitor the implementation of the Money Laundering Prevention Act 2002 • A Monitoring Cell has been opened at FD to redress the grievances of remitters • Actions have been taken for identification, intensification and diversification of external labour market	• Continue follow up measures to encourage flow of remittances through the legal channel • Take further actions to increase remittances through official channel • Continue to strengthen anti-money laundering surveillance • Support Postal Department in transferring remittance in rural areas

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	NSAPR II Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
VIII. Build Capacity for Trade Development			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, EPB **Associate Responsibility:** MoFA, NBR, BB, Tariff Commission, BSTI, FBCCI, CPD			
31. Improving trade negotiation capability		• Actions initiated to enhance trade negotiation capability by strengthening WTO Cell in Ministry of Commerce and Bangladesh Tariff Commission.	• Strengthen WTO Cell and Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI) and Bangladesh Tariff Commission • Undertake measures to build capacity regarding trade negotiations and WTO rules and regulations
Lead Responsibility: EPB, MoS, MoCAT, MoEWOE **Associate Responsibility:** All service oriented ministries			
32. Building capacity in trade facilitation		• Trade Facilitation Project is in operation	• Modernise Chittagong and Mongla ports • Simplify trade related formalities • Ensure effective monitoring of the performance of Trade Facilitation project in different departments and ministries • Strengthen the trade related information system • Undertake needs assessment on trade facilitation for identifying key measures and sequencing
33. Building capacity for services exports	• Increase growth of exports of services by 13.0 percent annually		• Invest for assessment of training needs for export of services • Invest on training for development of tourism
34. Developing trade data base		• A Trade Information Centre has been established at EPB	• Develop human skill on Trade Information • Develop trade related website
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 31.43**

Policy Matrix 2: Resource Mobilisation

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: NBR, MoF	**Associate Responsibility:** FD, MoE, and MoLJPA		
1. Enhancing tax effort	• Increase total revenue to 11.5 % of GDP • Increase the share of direct tax and VAT	• Measures have been taken to implement the suggestions of the Commission on Reforming the Public Revenue System • Based on the recommendations of the Commission, measures have been taken to further modernise and rationalise the taxation system • Revision of the related laws of Customs, VAT & Income Tax are under process	• Continue reforms and revenue enhancing measures • Shorten VAT exemption list on production and imports • Expand VAT net • Expand Income tax net • Introduce unified TIN for Income Tax and VAT • Further modernise and rationalise the taxation system • Separate Tax policy unit from Tax administration • Decentralise tax collection efforts • Undertake zero tolerance policy for the tax evaders
2. Improving tax administration		• A Tax Ombudsman has been appointed. • The Government has appointed a number of independent audit firms to check tax evasion and widen the tax base • Steps have been taken to modernise customs, VAT and income tax administration to control revenue leakage, augment revenues, develop professional skills of NBR and improve service delivery • VAT at trade level has been strictly enforced at import stage • NBR has introduced VAT stamp/band roll at production level on mineral water, soft drinks and toilet soap industry • An Automated System for Customs Data (ASYCUDA++) has been implemented to bring transparency in customs administration • Customs clearance system has been simplified with the application of ASYCUDA System and customs clearance time has been reduced • A modernised and expanded Large Taxpayers' Unit (LTU) has been established and one LTU office for VAT has been made functional • Central Intelligence Cell (CIC) has been made operational for tracking leakages of taxes • ICT training facility has been set up at NBR, Training Academy in addition to training facilities available at Customs Training Academy, Chittagong	• Implement Customs Information Management System • Disseminate more information through website of NBR and in hard copy in the designated points of district towns of the country • Introduce exchange of data and information among customs, VAT and income tax departments to increase revenue collection and minimise evasion • Undertaken programmes to increase efficiency of VAT and income tax officers • Expand scope of VAT stamp/band roll • Enhance publicity and publication of VAT issues/materials • ASYCUDA model will link shipping agents, port authority and customs • Expand scope and coverage of LTUs (both income tax and VAT) • strengthen CIC • Undertake computerization and networking (WAN and LAN) of all VAT and income tax offices with NBR • Increase ICT application in tax collection and risk management system
Lead Responsibility: NBR, MoF	**Associate Responsibility:** FD, MoE, and MoLJPA		
3. Improving tax administration to make the tax system more efficient		• Steps are under way to bring all wholesale and retail trade, especially in urban areas, under VAT as well as to collect Income Tax from them • Automation of Accounts of those establishments are under way to ensure correct record of transaction and therefore VAT & Income Tax • Administration re-organisation has started with a view to reaching all taxable units and individuals in the country • A survey has been undertaken to ascertain the areas/individuals left out of the tax-net	• Reorganize VAT field administration on a functional basis away from present territorial basis • Complete necessary changes in VAT laws and procedures and re-deploy officials • Similar actions will be taken with respect to Customs, Income tax and other taxes • Re-organise NBR on a functional basis down to smallest units at field level • Strengthen tax collection departments by making territorial and functional re-adjustments to ensure effective presence of tax collection departments

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: NBR, MoF **Associate Responsibility:** FD, MoE, and MoLJPA			
4. Generating more revenue from non-tax sources	• Ensure non-tax revenue's share in total revenue to be 18 %	• Non-tax revenue rates on various items have substantially been enhanced to augment revenue mobilization	• Undertake further measures to enhance non-tax revenue
Lead Responsibility: ERD, MoF **Associate Responsibility:** PC, FD, IMED			
5. Ensuring increased donor fund inflow	• Make financing gap to be met	• Efforts are being made to mobilise more official development assistance • Bangladesh Aid Harmonisation Action Plan has been prepared	• Establish harmonisation, alignment and result-framework between the GoB and the DPs • Formulate Joint Cooperation Strategies (JCS) with DPs
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 29.73**

Policy Matrix 3: Agricultural Growth for Poverty Reduction

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Sub-Sector: Crops			
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, NARS, BADC, DAM, BMDA, BCIC, FD and MoFDM			
1. Increasing productivity and profitability in crop sub-sector	• Reduce yield gaps between on-farm and research station • Increase production of cereal crops from 30.5 million tons to 37.6 million tons by 2011 • Increase production of other field crops including horticulture and plantation crops by 10% • Increase production of major crops from 8.55 % to 25 %	• Formulated National Agriculture Policy and Plan of Action • 47 HYVs and 1 hybrid rice variety developed and adopted • Innovative and profitable technologies of fruits, vegetables, oilseeds, pulses, spices etc are being used • Sixty eight HYVs & 70 integrated crop management technologies adopted by farmers • Developed programme on rice and pulses • Strengthened research-extension-farmers-private sector linkages • Ensured phytosanitary and quarantine measures • Implemented integrated agricultural development programme • Recommended soil test based fertilizer application • Recommended use of LCC, USG and drum seeders • Programme undertaken for reducing yield gaps • ADP allocation for agriculture sector has been raised • Agricultural marketing services is strengthened by implementing projects • Expanded agriculture information network up to Upazila • Strengthened production and distribution of all classes of seeds, seedlings and saplings • Training on reduction of yield gap imparted to extension personnel	• Increase budget allocation for agriculture sector • Strengthen agricultural marketing services • Undertake appropriate skill development programme for scientists and extension workers • Reform input (fertilizer, seed) supply policy • Undertake Agricultural Sector Review • Undertake action plan to increase production of major crops • Enhance human resource development in agriculture sector • Strengthen biotechnology research and development • Reduce residual effect of pesticides • Produce and supply of inputs • Strengthen agricultural mechanization • Accelerate development of improved technologies • Provide agricultural credit • Reduce post-harvest loss • Disseminate technology for rural women • Target extension services (training, information and demonstration) to women for promoting organic fertilizer, food processing etc. on a commercial basis
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, NARS, BADC, DAM, BMDA, BCIC, FD and MoFDM			
2. Ensuring food security through increasing production of food crops	• Increase production of rice, wheat, maize, potatoes, pulses, oilseeds, fruits, vegetables, sugarcane, tuber crops and spices • Improve nutrition intake of poor through promotion of crop diversification • Produce nutritious and safe food	• National food and nutrition policy, 2006 and the national plan of action for food and nutrition formulated • 600 demonstrations of cereals, pulses, oilseeds, vegetables, tuber crops and fruits and on-farm trials at 21 technology villages completed • Action Plan for increasing yield of 7 crops undertaken • Prepared crop suitability maps (rice, wheat, potatoes, pulse) at 40 Upazila level	• Reformulate Policy for Safety Net Programmes for poor and extreme poor • Implement National Plan of Action for food and nutrition • Formulate organic food production policy • Strengthen research on salinity, sub-mergence and drought tolerant variety development • Ensure intra-household food security focusing on women through targeted food and nutrition programmes • Undertake awareness campaign on nutritional intake

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, NARS, BADC and BSFIC			
3. Encouraging production of cash crops	• Increase production of jute, cotton and sugarcane by 8.5 percent, 2.6 percent and 16 percent respectively by 2011 • Increase production of plantation crops (tea, rubber)	• 20 new varieties of sugarcane are developed and adopted • One HYV of jute is developed and adopted • Varietal development programme of high value crops undertaken • Two jute mutants developed • Two advanced mutants of tomato developed • BSFIC is providing credit to the sugarcane producers • Varietal development programme of jute, summer and winter tomato taken up	• Continue research and extension development of cash crops based on market demand • Recast policy for encouraging cultivation of cash and plantation crops • Provide support to women to undertake production of cash crops
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, BARI, BADC, Hortex Foundation, NGOs, Universities, Private Sectors and MoCAT			
4. Accelerating production of high value crops for domestic and export market	• Increase production of high value crops (vegetables, fruits, flowers) by 20% per annum • Increase production of medicinal, ornamental and aromatic plants	• Cash incentives for export of vegetables and fruits given • Contract growing of high value crops (vegetables, fruits, flowers etc) encouraged • More than 20 HYVs of high value crops already in the production system • IPM technologies for high value crops adopted by farmers • Group marketing of high value crop fostered • Quality-production- village of fruits and vegetables developed for pre- and post harvest quality assurance • Prepared maps and reports delineating potential areas for high value crops at Upazila level and Mouza level • A proposal for strengthening DAM submitted	• Strengthen Hortex Foundation and DAM • Strengthen coordination of research organizations, extension, private and NGO participation • Enhanced Public-Private partnership • Develop market facilities focusing on poor farmers • Strengthen research and development activities of BARI relating to high value crops • Strengthen Horticulture and ASC's programme of BADC, DAE and other relevant organizations • Explore export markets for high value crops • Encourage and provide support to women to undertake production of high value crops
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** SRDI, DAE, BARI, BARC and MoL			
5. Improving land resource base	• Prevent crop land from non-agricultural uses • Improve/sustain soil fertility through increasing organic contents • Encourage AEZ based cropping patterns	• Use of balanced fertilizers and bio-fertilizers encouraged • Introduced soil health card on pilot basis • Soil test based fertilizer recommendation through soil mini lab at Upazila and union level continued • Special programme for compost and green manure production and use continued • Soil survey completed in 60 Upazila • Established 11 laboratories and modernized 5 existing laboratories and 2 MSTL	• Undertake further efforts to improve soil quality and land administration • Encourage use of balanced fertilizers based on soil test • Encourage balanced use of inorganic and organic fertilizers

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** BARC, NARS, KGF, Universities, Associated Research Institutes and Private Sectors			
6. Strengthening agricultural research	• Develop improved crop technologies for quick dissemination • Promote biotechnology research for crops	• Allocation of research funds gradually increased • Alternative sources of research funds on competitive basis explored • National Institute of Biotechnology (NIB) established • 47 HYVs of rice and 370 HYVs of other crops developed and disseminated • Three jute varieties developed • Developed and disseminated 6 farm machinery (Reaper, HS rotary tiller, thresher, upland weeder, power winnower and BARI plough) • Soil management including soil degradation related research initiated • Research on biotechnology continued • Biotechnology laboratory development undertaken	• Improve scientists' quality and incentive structure • Allocate adequate funds for R&D • Adopt biotechnology policy for implementation • Undertake socio-economic research and programme • Strengthen soil management with emphasis on soil degradation related research • Strengthen human resource development and laboratory facilities for transgenic research • Conduct socio-economic research for problem identification, technology generation and dissemination to women in participating income generating activities • Ensure that research benefits poor and expands opportunities for them
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, BADC, DAM, BMDA, FD and MoFDM			
7. Strengthening agriculture extension service	• Ensure pro-poor and pro-women focus on extension services • Develop Local Service Providers from the poor resource farmers • Develop agri-business services • Execute new extension policy	• New Agricultural Extension Policy, Plan of Action for NAP and the strategic plan implemented • Strengthened modern cultivation practices through different extension approaches • Farmers' Observation Trials (FOTs) /Block Demonstrations have been conducted • Different extension programmes for technology transfer developed by research institutes • Developed market chain through group based farming • Developed market infrastructure • Research-extension linkage through annual review programme implemented • Latest technology on pulses, oilseeds and spices disseminated through BARC coordinated action plan • Three year action plan for increasing rice production undertaken	• Continue the existing extension approaches • Undertake door step extension service to support women's participation in agricultural activities • Update policies and action plans with changing conditions • Strengthen capacity building of researchers, extension workers and farmers • Ensure revitalization of coordinated platforms (UECC, DECC, RECC, NECC) for technology transfer • Continue planning through bottom-up approach with the participation of farmers, especially poor • Implement demand driven decentralized extension approach • Disseminate new technology through mass media • Develop technologies to help women undertake more income generation activities in agriculture • Strengthen extension-research-farmers linkage
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** BADC, BMDA, DAE, BWDB, LGED, MoWR and Private Sectors			
8. Expanding irrigation with emphasis on efficient use of water resources	• Increase irrigation coverage, especially to less developed areas • Improve on-farm water management/water productivity • Emphasize conjunctive use of surface and ground water for irrigation • Re-excavate derelict canals, ponds for rain water harvest	• Policies towards deregulation and market liberalization already encouraged private sector to participate in minor irrigation • Public sector irrigation systems are being rationalized for improvement of performance and cost recovery. • Expansion of irrigation facilities to 5.35 million hectares of land by operating different irrigation modes and equipments • Facilities for conjunctive use of ground and surface water for irrigation developed	• Continue pro-market policies for irrigation development • Improve efficiency of water use and on-farm water management • Emphasise private sector minor irrigation system • Develop irrigation infrastructure through government intervention • Encourage efficient water management for more coverage

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** BADC, DAE, BARI, BJRI, BRRI, BINA, Universities, SCA, NGOs, BARC and Private Sectors			
9. Promoting quality seed development	• Increase availability of quality seeds for cereals and other crops • Expedite private sector participation in seed production and business development • Promote increased use of bio-technologies in variety development and planting material propagation	• Existing seed policy and seed rules updated • BARI, BSRI and BJRI undertaken steps for providing breeder seeds for multiplying into foundation seeds • Private sector supported for seed development and seed business • Farmers' level quality seed production and storage programme undertaken • Quality seeds of cereals (66971 mt) produced and distributed • 1060 kg jute breeder seeds supplied to BADC by BJRI for producing certified and foundation seeds	• Implement fully existing seed policy and seed rules • strengthen use of bio-technologies in seed development • Enhance involvement of private sector in seed production and business • Strengthen capacity building for seed technology research and breeder/foundation, certified seed and TLS production • Strengthen programme for restoration of and patenting local variety seeds • Provide support to women to undertake seed production and conservation activities on a commercial basis
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAM, Hortex Foundation, BADC, DAE, NGOs, BARC and Private Sectors			
10. Improving agricultural marketing services	• Reduce producer-consumer price spread • Reduce marketing costs of crops • Develop marketing facilities • Improve value chain of specific product • Ensure business development services (BDS)	• Location-specific information about crop prices provided by DAM • Local market system strengthened • BMDA constructed 120 km rural road and 65 bridge/culverts • Construction of 45 markets completed • About 100 Farmers Marketing Group (FMG) being formed in Rajshahi Division • A interactive website launched by DAM linking 42 districts for disseminating different market information • One cool chamber in Narshingdi and two processing centres at Savar and in Comilla under construction	• Further strengthen capacity of DAM • Develop further the existing markets and establish new market places • Strengthen market research and development • Improve transport facilities • Strengthen Agri-Business Development Services through developing Local Service Providers (LSP) • Strengthen agricultural marketing services • Ensure women farmer's access to farmers market
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAM, Hortex Foundation, DAE, BADC, NGOs, BARC and Private Sectors			
11. Promoting agro-processing and agri-business development	• Increase opportunities for value addition to crops • Strengthen linkages among farmers, traders, processors and business service providers	• Increased budget allocation and incentive package declared for agro-entrepreneurs • Agri-business development project undertaken • Established cool chambers and processing centres • Farmers training and trainers training undertaken • Provided working capital through credit provision • Agri-business development project implemented	• Continue supports to agro-entrepreneurs • Strengthen government-NGO-Private sector collaboration • Provide Agri-credit at preferential rates to small and women entrepreneurs • Encourage agro-entrepreneurs for agro-processing and agri-business development involving poor and women
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAM, Hortex Foundation, DAE, BADC, NGOs, BARC and Private Sectors			
12. Promoting investment in agriculture	• Make provision for appropriate financial support to research, extension and farmers to ensure level playing field for them • Encourage farmers for developing saving habits	• Support provided to agricultural inputs • Investment in agricultural research increased • Limited subsidy provided • Credit facilities provided for small scale investment in agriculture through DAE • Women trained on post-harvest handling and processing technologies by DAE	• Rationalise level of subsidy for increasing efficiency and competitiveness • Develop savings policy for the rural poor particularly for poor women • Provide agricultural credit at lower interest rate particularly to marginal and women farmers

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoA **Associate Responsibility:** DAE, DAM, Hortex Foundation, BADC, BARC, BINA, BRRI, Universities, Other Research Institutes, NGOs, and Private Sectors			
13. Mainstreaming women in agriculture sector	• Enhance women's participation in crop agriculture, fisheries, livestock and forestry	• National Agriculture Policy emphasized participation of women in agriculture • Women targeted in extension and training programme • Nearly 6000 women trained in income generating activities	• Create further enabling environment for women in agriculture • Encourage and provide assistance to women to undertake farming activities on a commercial basis • Encourage women as extension workers • Providing agricultural credit to women farmers
Sub-Sector: Fisheries			
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, BFRI, BFDC, Fish Farmers, Fish Traders, MiL, MoWR, NGOs and Private Sectors			
14. Increasing productivity in inland aquaculture	• Increase aquaculture production up to 13.7 lakh MT by 2011 • Strengthen human resources development for aquaculture • Disburse micro credit for fish farmers and disseminate improved aquaculture technologies • Maximize pond aquaculture coverage and encourage private sector	• Formulated fisheries sub-sector road map • Formulated inland aquaculture sub-strategy • Imparted training on different aquaculture techniques to fish farmers, hatchery, nursery operators and fishers • Enhanced supply of quality brood and fish seed • Developed water bodies through different projects • Micro credit distributed to poor and marginal farmers • Training and credit programme under Youth Department	• Undertake development programme in accordance with inland aquaculture sub-strategy and fisheries sector road map • Expand fisheries extension service up to union level and ensure quality fish seed for the farmers • Strengthen institutional capacity of DoF • Update fisheries policy and strategies • Strengthen intra and inter sector linkages including government-NGO partnership • Strengthen research-extension-farmers linkage
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, BFRI, BFDC, Fish Farmers, MiL, MoWR, MoYS, MoLJPA, CBOs, NGOs, Fisheries Households and Private Sectors			
15. Increasing productivity in inland capture fisheries	• Increase fish production from semi closed and closed inland water bodies • Reclaim and improve fish habitats and sanctuaries • Restore and conserve indigenous and endangered fish species	• Formulated inland capture fisheries (ICF) sub-strategy • Popularized Community Based Fisheries Management • LEAF (Local Extension Agent for Fisheries) promoted • Restored fish habitat • Established 377 fish sanctuaries • Declared 4 protected areas for Jatka-Hilsa • Hilsa action plan implemented • Jatka protection programme executed.	• Undertake development programme in accordance with inland capture fisheries sub-strategy and fisheries sector road map • Ensure that Jalmahals are handed over to DoF as per requirement • Consolidate regulatory framework • Update Jalmahal management policy and ensure greater involvement of poor and women • Promote and expand CBMF activities • Develop public-private partnership approach
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, BFRI, Fish Farmers, Fish Traders, CBOs, NGOs and Private Sectors			
16. Raising income of poor fishers	• Increase income from fish catch and improved fish marketing • Increase income from Alternate Income Generating Activities (AIGAs) during the lean season • Strengthen value chain in fish/fish bi-product marketing	• Enhanced fish catch from open waters • Micro credit provided for AIGAs • VGD/VGF programme for Jatka fishers introduced as a support for alternate livelihood • Increased Hilsa catch • Imparted training to poor fishers on different trades	• Ensure poor fishermen's ownership of Khas Jalmahals • Encourage women to participate in fishery production activities • Undertake activities for generation of fishermen's own capital • Develop low cost and improved fish processing, packaging and transportation systems • Strengthen fish marketing policy

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, DAE, BRRI, CBOs, NGOs and Private Sectors			
17. Promoting rice cum fish culture	• Introduce fish production in rice field concurrently and alternately	• Imparted training on rice cum fish/shrimp culture • Provided micro credit for rice cum fish/shrimp culture • Rice cum fish culture strategy is emphasized in existing fishery research and extension policy • Demonstrations on rice-fish culture undertaken • Farmers' training, farmers' rally and motivational tour for promoting rice fish culture conducted	• Popularize rice cum fish/shrimp culture • Emphasise rice cum fish culture in fishery curricula and mainstream training programme • Develop and disseminate technology for profitable rice cum fish culture • Encourage NGO and private sector collaboration in rice cum fish/shrimp culture
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** BFRI, DoF, MoI, MoHFW, MoL, MoWCA, MoF, MoEMR, Fish Farmers, and Private Sectors			
18. Strengthening fisheries research and extension	• Accelerate fisheries research for higher productivity • Strengthen extension of new technologies	• Fisheries research arranged in BFRI, BAU and other universities • DoF provides fisheries extension services	• Strengthen fisheries research in collaboration with the Universities and private sector • Expand fisheries extension services up to Union level
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, BFRI, BFDC, CBOs, Fishers, Exporters, Bangladesh Navy, Coast Guard, Commercial Fishing Vessel etc.			
19. Increasing productivity of marine and brackish water fisheries	• Increase sustainable marine and brackish water production	• Formulated marine fisheries sub-strategy • Marine fishing regulations reviewed and amended • Undertook initiatives for development of artisanal fisheries	• Strengthen capacity of DoF marine wing • Establish fishing right for artisanal fishers • Mitigate conflict between artisanal and commercial fishing • Establish monitoring and controlling of marine fisheries
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DoF, BFRI, BFFEA, BSFF, MoC, Fish/Shrimp Farmers, Processing Industries			
20. Assuring quality fish and fishery products for domestic and international markets	• Increase export of quality fish and fishery products • Comply buyers demand for quality fish and fishery products	• Formulated quality control sub-strategy • Introduced HACCP and traceability in fish product handling from production to consumption stages • Imparted training on HACCP and traceability • Established PCR lab and microbial/chemical lab • Strengthened capacity of DoF quality control unit • Undertaken campaign and enforcement of law to ensure formalin free fish and fish products	• Ensure quality and health hazard free fish and fishery products • Emphasise traceability and HACCP regarding export and domestic markets • Review and strengthen export market policy
Sub-Sector: livestock			
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DLS, BLRI, MoC, BAU, Veterinary University and Colleges, Private Sector, NGOs			
21. Increasing productivity in livestock sector	• Increase livestock production • Increase income of livestock and poultry farmers • Develop business services and market growth	• Livestock policy approved • Critical areas identified for livestock development • Tax and duty concessions allowed • Graduates from universities and colleges trained • Women and Youth employment training in livestock	• Implement livestock policy related action plan • Encourage community-based livestock service • Encourage women's participation in market based livestock activities • Increase budgetary allocation for livestock sector • Continue strengthening capacity of DLS • Develop livestock market development services
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DLS, BLRI, BAU, MoC, MoYS, NGOs, Veterinary University and Colleges, Private Sector			
22. Promoting poultry sector development	• Raise poultry production • Raise income of poor and women poultry farmers	• Poultry sector entrepreneurs encouraged through favourable fiscal measures	• Continue fiscal and technical support to private sector and NGOs • Provide support to continue poultry hatching egg export • Strengthen capacities of disease investigation network of DLS • Strengthen bio-security measures to protect poultry on a commercial basis

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DLS, BLRI, BAU, MoC, Veterinary University and Colleges, Private Sector, NGOs			
23. Promoting milk and meat production	• Increase milk, meat and egg production • Develop milk and meat processing facilities	• Breeds of dairy cows improved by breed up gradation programme and AI extension activities • Training and extension services for goat and sheep rearing strengthened	• Encourage private sector and NGOs participation in dairy development through AI, embryo transfer and breed up gradation programme • Encourage women to undertake livestock raising activities on a commercial basis • Continue Buffalo, goat and sheep development activities • Strengthen support to small scale dairy and poultry farmers • Provide support for greater involvement of women in livestock and poultry activities • Strengthen market channels keeping focus on poor women involved in this activities
Lead Responsibility: MoFL **Associate Responsibility:** DLS, BLRI, BAU, MoC, Veterinary University and Colleges, Private Sector, NGOs			
24. Strengthening livestock research and extension	• Increase production of livestock products • Develop new breeds of livestock	• Livestock Research arranged in BLRI and BAU • Private sector, NGOs and CBOs being encouraged to provide livestock extension services	• Strengthen support to livestock research and extension • Strengthen DLS to extend livestock services up to Union level • Emphasise research on emerging diseases of livestock • Develop improved animal husbandry practices and veterinary services and disseminate them to poor and women
Sub-Sector: Forestry			
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, MoE, MoL, MoWR, MoLJPA, MoCHTA, FD, LGD, NGO, REB, LGED, CBOs, DoE, FEJB,			
25. Ensuring sustainable livelihood of poor and women	• Improve access of the poor to natural resources for production, nutrition and health • Increase access of the poor to Common Property Resources (CPR) through policy and project interventions • Ensure access of the poor in NRM especially in forestry • Raise awareness of the role of environment in sustainable livelihood	• Forestry Sector Master Plan is under revision • Draft document prepared for Wildlife (Preservation) Act, 1974 • Social Forestry Rules 2004 approved • Forestry Sector Development Projects including Coastal Char Land Afforestation Project successfully implemented	• Introduce regulatory framework recognizing the rights of local people including women on common property • Establish and protect property rights • Undertake projects/programme on CPR • Continue and strengthen national tree fair programme • Ensure public access to information on CPR • Increase non-consumptive benefit of forest • Increase scope for research and education • Implement CBD, UNCCD, UNFCCC • Strengthen capacity of MoEF and DF
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, BARI, FD, DOE, DAE, BMDA, NGOs			
26. Increasing forest resources and improving land quality	• Bring 20 percent of land under forest by 2015 • Implement National Forest Policy • Improve organic contents and nutrients in soils of affected areas • Increase tree cover in the denuded lands • Conserve and preserve soil	The following projects being implemented: • Reed Land Integrated Social Forest Project • Social Forestry for Development and Management of Forest Resources, Coastal Char Land Afforestation Project • Agar Plantation • Projects on bamboo, cane and mutha plantation • Poverty alleviation through participatory forestry • Programme for use of organic manures through farmer field schools (FFS) popularized • IPM/ICM programme promoted	• Plant more indigenous species of trees • Increase participation of people in social forestry • Increase production of bamboo, cane, mutha and agar • Encourage balanced use of fertilizers • Extend and continue IPM/ICM • Increase funds for saline and drought tolerant crop varieties • Promote Integrated Plant Nutrient System (IPNS) and adjustment of cropping patterns • Increase tree-cover on denuded forest land with suitable native species • Measure and stop illegal tree felling and encroachment

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
		• Research on saline and drought tolerant varieties undertaken • Land quality through biogas technology enriched • Ratification of Stockholm Convention undertaken • National Implementation Plan (NIP) on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) formulated • Sustainable Land Management Project formulated • People started to receive benefits from participatory forestry • Coastal afforestation and homestead forestry replication	• Ensure massive plantation in fallow land and marginal land • Develop market based incentive mechanism to prevent illegal tree-felling • Develop mechanism to involve local communities for afforestaion activities • Ensure women's greater involvement in afforestation activities for income generation
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, MoSICT, MoA, FD, DoE, BFRI, NGOs, National Herbarium			
27. Conserving bio-diversity	• Document and improve state of floral and faunal biodiversity • Implement biodiversity policies • Involve people in co-management of PAs	• 19 protected areas (PAs) established covering 0.245 million ha of land • Madhupur National Park developed • Eco-park at Kuakata of Kalapara Uapazila established • Botanical Garden and Eco-park in Chittagong established • Madhutila Eco-park established • Safari Park in Cox's Bazar developed further • Biodiversity of 2 Wildlife Sanctuary of Chittagong developed • 2 Eco-park in Greater Sylhet District established • Dhanshiri Eco-park established and Ramsagar National Park developed • Nishorgo Support Project is being implemented to establish co-management in 5 PAs • Imposed moratorium on logging in natural forest up to 2010	• Bring more PAs under co-management and include poor and women in co-management • Strengthen and expand eco-parks and eco-tourism • Formulate and implement biodiversity policy keeping the interest of poor and women • Conduct regular survey of flora and fauna
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, ERD, MoP, FD, DoF			
28. Adapting climate change and mitigation	• Plan for climate change adaptation • Introduce CDM activities/ Carbon trading	• "Climate Change Resilient Afforestation in Bangladesh' project proposed	• Undertake studies on climate change impacts on livelihoods of the poor • Undertake action plan to minimise hazardous impact of climate change on lives and properties
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 149.28**

Policy Matrix 4: Water Resources Development and Management

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS **Associate Responsibility:** MoEF			
1. Expanding utilization of surface water, including coastal polders and arsenic prone areas	• Extend surface water Irrigation area by 66,000 ha. • Increase supply of safe water for domestic use • Reduce ground water use by optimizing surface water use (conjunctive use)	• Studies undertaken to determine utilization of the flow of the main rivers • Suitable locations identified for dual purpose pump houses (to be used both for irrigation and flood reduction) • Irrigation components included in large flood control projects • BADC continued minor irrigation programmes as usual • LGED continued SSWRDSP-II for extending small scale irrigation • 3rd Small Scale Water Resources Development Sector Project of LGED underway • 2nd Small Scale Water Resources Sector Development Sector Project of LGED is underway	• Develop supplementary irrigation in coastal areas • Extend Mahamaya Chhara Irrigation Project under Mirsarai upazila in Chittagong district • Undertake Kurigram Irrigation Project (North and South Unit) • Undertake Mathamuhuri Irrigation Project Phase-II • Undertake Muhuri- Kahua FCDI Project • Undertake North Rajshahi Irrigation Project • Protect Chandpur Irrigation Project (CIP) area from erosion of the Meghna River (Phase I) • Undertake South Comilla-North Noakhali Comprehensive FCDI Project • Undertake Teesta Barrage Project Phase II (Unit I) • Urgently rehabilitate G-K Pumping plants for acceleration of rural economic development
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM **Associate Responsibility:** MoEF			
2. Augmenting utilization of surface water for efficient water management to ensure water quality	• Encourage rainwater harvesting • Excavate derelict ponds • Excavate irrigation canal • Re-excavate irrigation canal (1220 km) • Excavate/Re-excavate Drainage Canal (1460 km) • Dredge 53 km. of rivers • Construct 12 rubber dam • Ensure conjunctive use of water	• Undertaken d-siltation and re-excavation of small rivers and canals using human labour • Trans boundary water resources augmentation through stronger regional cooperation • Initiate study of Ganges Barrage, augmentation of flow in the Gorai River. Replicate Tidal River Management (TRM) • Diverted surface water through small barrage and large Water Control Structures (WCS) • Rubber dam projects under the SSWRDSP-II, LGED in underway	• Extend Mahamaya Chhara Irrigation in Mirsarai upazila • Undertake Kurigram Irrigation Project (North and South Unit) • Undertake Mathamuhuri Irrigation Project Phase-II • Undertake Teesta Barrage Project Phase II (Unit I) Undertake Rehabilitation of G-K Pumping plants Kumar River Re-excavation Project • Construct Rubber Dam over Mahananda river in Chapainawabgonj district • Undertake Guptakhali Water Reservoir Irrigation Project • Augment Burigonga flow by restoring links with the Jamuna river • Undertake feasibility study and design of Ganges barrage • Extend Chaddamadar Beel Embankment and Canal Excavation Project • Undertake performance evaluation of rubber dam projects
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM **Associate Responsibility:** MoEF			
3. Rationalizing utilization of groundwater	• Groundwater management and data collection, analysis and distribution to concerned agencies	• National Water Policy for conjunctive use surface and ground water where available & applicable • Monitoring groundwater quality • Maximum sustainable extraction (MSE) is underway • BADC continues minor irrigation programmes • Ground Water data being collected	• Undertake Barind rain water conservation and irrigation project • Undertake Barind DTW installation project • Undertake Barind command area development and training project • Restrict GW abstraction by establishing threshold levels by GW Circles of BWDB

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM **Associate Responsibility:** MoEF			
4. Protecting from flood, improving drainage and reducing vulnerability to water related disasters including sea erosion and cyclonic surges	• Protect lives and properties from flood hazards • Rehabilitate polders for protection of land from tidal flood • Replicate mechanism developed under CAD projects	• Increased allocation of O&M resources • Handing over management of the existing projects to the beneficiaries started • Replicate mechanism developed under Command Area Development (CAD) Projects	• Undertake Bemorta Project under Sadar & Kachua upazila • Undertake Chandpur Comilla Integrated FCDI Project • Construct embankment and other ancillary works in Tannery Industrial area in Savar upazila • Ensure efficient O&M of completed projects • Institute appropriate environmental cell in agencies dealing with water development and management • Rehabilitate and maintain existing FCD/FCDI
5. Protect wetland/Haor/Baor, Sunderban, saline water intrusion and promote accretion of land from the sea.	• Income generation for the poor from water resources	• Community participation in multi-purpose use of water and other facilities like irrigation canal, fish-pass, regulators, irrigation inlets, cross dams, embankment slops etc. • Aquatic /wetland biodiversity preservation.	• Hail Haor Rehabilitation • Char Kukri Mukri FCD salinity control • Char development and settlement • Afforstation programme for ecological balance • Barind environmental balance through afforestation.
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM **Associate Responsibility:** MoEF			
6. Managing erosion of major rivers and protect large and small towns.	• Protect habitation of poor people on raised platforms in char areas • Make accreted land habitable and suitable for crop production • Implement Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan • Protect socio-economic infrastructure at local level against erosion	• Coordinated efforts to make the accreted land habitable and suitable for crop production in ongoing • Implementation of Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plan (ICZM) is ongoing • Protection of vulnerable areas from erosion, especially saving places of economic importance and densely populated areas is ongoing • Activities to protect wet lands are being undertaken	• Undertake river bank protective works along the left bank of Karnafuli River at Charandeep and Kadurkhil • Undertake Bhola District Town Protection Project Phase II • Undertake Border River Protection and Development Project, Phase II • Undertake Charfesson & Monpura Town Protection Project • Undertake Emergency Protection of Charlangta of Charelahi union in Companigonj upazila in Polder-59/3C • Undertake Jamuna Padma Left Bank Project • Undertake Jamuna-Meghna River Erosion Mitigation Project • Undertake Monno River Bank Protection and Rehabilitation Project • Undertake Narasingdi Town Protection Project • Undertake Patuakhali Town Protection Embankment Project • Protect Meghai Bazar, Suvgacha & Simla area, Baguria of Gaibandah Sadar upazila and Sayedpur, Kanchipara and Balashighat of Fulchari upazila, Bandarbari and adjacent area and Handloom enriched Betil & Enyetpur Bazar area from the Jamuna erosion • Protect Bangladesh Navy's BNS Titumir Naval Station area from erosion of Bhairab River • Protect Brahmaputra River Right Bank at Bairagirhat and Chilmari under Kurigram district -Phase I • Protect Chapainawabgonj Sadar and Sibgonj upazila, Hasail-Panchgaon-Garurgaon Bazar area under Tongibari upazila, Faridpur Town and adjacent area, Charbhadrasion upazila, Lalpur upazila, Chandpur town, Lauhojong upazila complex from erosion of the Padma River • Protect Goali Chhara, Kazirbazar chhara, Jangalia-Jugirgaon & Mahtabpur in Sylhet Sadar upazila • Protection of Kadupur-Basantapur, Manik-kona, Velkona-Moinpur area under Golapgonj and Fenchugonj upazila in Sylhet District from erosion of the Kushiyara River

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
			• Protect Goali Chhara, Kazirbazar chhara, Jangalia-Jugirgaon & Mahtabpur in Sylhet Sadar upazila • Protection of Kadupur-Basantapur, Manik-kona, Velkona-Moinpur area under Golapgonj and Fenchugonj upazila in Sylhet District from erosion of the Kushiyara River • • Protect Raipur Coast Guard at Anowara upazila in Chittagong district • Protect Soilbari and adjacent area of Sirajgonj Town from erosion of the Jamuna River in Sirajgonj district • Protect Teesta River Left Bank from Teesta Barrage to Chandimari and upstream of Teesta River including Shoals Removal from the Teesta River Bed near Teesta Barrage. • Protect Jamuna river left bank from Horindhara to Hargila under Islampur upazila in Jamalpur district • Undertake Secondary Town Integrated Flood Protection Project Phase II • Undertake a study on Detailed Coastal Land Zoning with two Pilot District Plain Lands (WARPO) • Repair embankments on both banks of Gumti river • Construct cross dam for land reclamation
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM			
7. Supporting revival, extension and maintenance of safe navigation routes	• Re-excavate rivers, canals and Khals	• Continuous survey of potential navigation routes • BIWTA prioritizes excavation	• Undertake River/Khal Re-excavation project • Undertake Gorai River Restoration Project • Undertake Kumar River Re-excavation Project • Extend Chaddamadar Beel Embankment and Canal Excavation Project
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM			
8. Enhance access of the poor to water and common water resources	• BWDB's management to be pro-IWRM in designing future plans • Bring women in mainstream water management activities • Provide support to common water resources for sustaining livelihood of poor and women	• BWDB Act to authorize it for WMO registration • Need-based research for poverty reduction through specialized institutions of GOB, Universities • People's participation at all stages of project cycle	• Undertake Integrated Planning for Sustainable Water Management Project (IPSWAM) • Undertake Water Management Improvement Project (WMIP) • Undertake Char Development and Settlement Project (CDSP) Phase III • Undertake community based resource management project, LGED
Lead Responsibility: MoWR			
9. Developing human resource for BWDB, WMOs and specialized Trusts	• Better Disaster Management through advanced technology & people's participation	• Trainings at home and abroad to update skill of personnel engaged in water development and management • Community response to new technology	• Remove Drainage congestion in Bhabadaha area • Undertake Karotoya River Environmental Development Project • Establish Environmental Cell in each agency dealing with water development and management

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM			
10. Monitoring of hydrological (surface and ground), climate and maritime data and ensuring environmental management	• Collect data from river stations: • 2008-09 - 225 nos • 2009-10 – 250 nos • 2010-11 – 300 nos.	• Data collection • Discussion for maritime data exchange • Climate Change Cell to monitor and guide adaptation measures	• Undertake Emergency Disaster Damage Rehabilitation (Sector) Project • Undertake emergency rehabilitation works damaged by Cyclone sidr • Undertake Climate/Flood Forecast Application for Water related Disaster Mitigation in Bangladesh • Undertake Climate/Flood Forecast Application for Water related Disaster Mitigation • Monitor and forecast water quality index
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, BWDB, WARPO, JRC, RRI, BHWDB, LGED, BADC, BMDA, CEGIS, IWM			
11. Reviewing existing policy and legislation and finalization of National Water Act	• Strengthen WARPO • Engage experts on policy and legislation • Ensure adequate resources for studies	• Review of policy and laws • Progress monitoring • Water Act	• Update national water management Plan and create provision for women in policy and legislation of water development and management • Conduct Study on Surface water development for alternative source of drinking water supply in Arsenic affected areas • Institutionalise and operationalise coastal zone management • Devise strategies for reducing vulnerabilities of floods • Undertake flood zoning and risk mapping for floods • Develop and updated digital elevation model for Bangladesh • Establish haor/wetland database
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 42.49**

Policy Matrix 5: Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) Development

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: PC, MoF, BB, MoI, MoC, NBR, BOI, BSCIC, SMEF, Privatization Commission			
1. Creating an enabling environment to ensure level playing field for SME development	• Neutral macro policies including monetary, fiscal, trade and industrial policies • Create a more comprehensive and coordinated, harmonized policy intervention for SME development	• Government introduced a market oriented 'SME Policy Strategies ' in 2005 for fostering SME growth • Ministry of Industries formed an Advisory Panel including private sector representation • Created a national council for industrial development chaired by head of the country to review the progress of implementation of the policy • An SME foundation has been created for advocating SME promotion and development, introducing one-stop-service for providing administrative facilities, financial resources, capacity-building in appropriate industry associations • BSCIC prepared VISION 2025 for Development of Small, Medium and Cottage Industries (SMCIs) with an objective to transform SMMIs into an economic power house	• Formulate a set of Macro Policies so that SMEs can develop with its own potentials ensuring greater participation of poor and women • Mainstreaming SME development as a crucial sector in National Development Plans • Inclusion of Cottage industries in the SMEs as Micro Enterprise. Cottage industries (with workers from 1-9) may be treated as Micro industries • Provide tax incentives to SME sector • Prepare Import Policy supportive to SME development • Prepare Export Policies focused on SMEs • Develop a separate credit policy for SMEs • Develop an institutional arrangement among key Government agencies for coordinated policy formulation and implementation • Formulate an Inter Ministerial Committee for harmonizing SME policies • Create incubators for women in SME
Lead Responsibility: MoF, MoI, MoEF, NBR, MoC, Trade bodies, BSTI, SMEF, BOI, Boiler office, DPDT, BSCIC, Fire Service Department, Regulatory Reform Commission			
2. Easing regulatory barriers to SME development	• Simplified and transparent SME regulatory and support service system	• Ministry of Industries has undertaken an initiative to review all existing laws, rules and regulations of its different corporations and departments. • A component has been incorporated in the SMESDP project to conduct studies for improvement of legal and regulatory system for SMEs development. • An Assessment of Regulatory Impact on SMEs is now underway by the SME Foundation. • SMEF has been conducting a series of Consultations with Trade Bodies and Government Bodies involved with SME registration. • SME Foundation preparing a preliminary assessment report on Regulatory Reform.	• Ensure simpler and quicker issuance of trade license and easier procedure for new factory establishment • Ensure simpler and quicker issuance of BSCIC registration, product certification, environment clearance, location clearance and fire clearance certificates • Rationalize tax and VAT structure for SMEs • Advocate and enhance awareness on Patent, Trademarks and Design services by the DPDT • Enhance awareness of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) issues for SMEs to the entrepreneurs
Lead Responsibility: MoI, BBS, BB, SMEF, BSCIC			
3. Creating a database on SME sector	• Create SME data base • Update SME web portal	• Government has started to develop 'an integrated SME database' • A business registry has already been developed that will be used to extend business support services by the SMESDP project • SME Foundation is conducting an SME booster sector study.	• Harmonize different SME and conduct a National Sample Survey • Build SME data base with gender segregated data and ensure availability of data to the SMEs • Establish Help Line in 64 BSCIC industrial centres with accessibility of the poor and women
Lead Responsibility: MoI, MoWCA, SMEF, Government institutions, Trade bodies and Associations			
4. Enhancing access to Information on Small and Medium Entrepreneurs		• The government has developed a web portal to ensure access to information required for improvement of SME business under the SMESDP project. (www.smef.org.bd) • SME foundation updates and maintain the Web portal	• Make the SME Web Portal and Helpline Centres connected and make them more informative • Make BOI's One Stop Service active and effective • Expand Advisory Services by Industrial Estates Service Centres (ISCs) of BSCIC with focus on women • Expand Advisory Services by the SMEF particularly to women

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: BB, Commercial Banks, Leasing companies, SMEF, MoI, MoF, Other private sector banks			
5. Increasing access to finance for Small and Medium Entrepreneurs	• 35% increase in flow of credit to SMEs	• Refinancing scheme, Equity and Entrepreneurship Fund (EEF), and Equity Development Fund (EDF) etc. are introduced for developing SMEs. • Tk. 850 million fund for refinancing SME loan is developed • Many private banks have opened SME window for SME financing • The government is encouraging banks and non-bank financial institutions to disburse more credit by rationalising interest rates • Bangladesh Bank has created Small Enterprise Fund (SEF) for wholesaling credits to commercial banks • BSCIC is providing collateral free loan to the underprivileged women and unemployed youth to create self-employment • MoI is conducting regular meeting with all Financial Institutions (PFIs) to ensure credit to the SME at a discount rate	• Formulate a separate credit policy for SMEs • Advocate for reducing amount of collateral • Introduce Venture Capital Financing for SMEs • Enhance financing through Leasing companies • Introduce Credit Guarantee Scheme • Arrange Supplementation of credit flow to meet demand-supply gap financing of SMEs • Ensure medium and long term financing credits to SMEs by private banks • Diversify Financial Products by formal banking sector
Lead Responsibility: NBR, MoF, MoC, SMEF, EPB			
6. Providing different types of incentives (financial and fiscal) for SMEs focusing on poor and women entrepreneurs		• Government has already provided export subsidy facilities to the vegetables, agro-processing and agro-based products providers • Cash-incentives are being provided to 14 exportable items at different rates including vegetables. More products are under scrutiny for cash incentives.	• Provide fiscal incentives (for example VAT exemption, reducing VAT rate etc.) • Reduce the Import Duties of necessary Raw Materials for SMEs • Set-up Industrial Parks for leading SMEs (Plastics, Electronics, Electrical, Leather, Light Engineering) • Set-up permanent physical facilities for SME trade fairs • Ensure lower interest rates for poor women and disadvantaged groups' entrepreneurs • Introduce easier credit system for poor women
Lead Responsibility: BCSIR, BITAC, Technical Institutes, Universities, Research Institutes, SMEF			
7. Building new technological capacity and ensuring technology up gradation, adaptation and diffusion	• Preserve indigenous technology • Upgrade technology • Adapt new technology • Diffuse new technology	• SME Foundation has started stocktaking of the existing technologies used in SMEs • 100 indigenous technologies have been compiled and have been uploaded in the SME Web Portal in Bangla • National Institute of Bio-Technology has been set up • Officials of BITAC are receiving overseas training regularly to improve their technological knowledge. • Experts from developed countries are regularly providing training to the BITAC officials for development of technology • BCSIR has set-up about 22,000 bio-gas plants in the country • Six enterprises are producing Spirulina and two are exporting	• Enhance R&D for SMEs and increase funds to the research institutes for innovation of new products • Strengthen interaction between BCSIR and SMEF for technology dissemination • Encourage cooperation and partnership between the universities, business and R&D institutes • A series of consultation meeting will be arranged by the SMEF with the sector experts for 6 SME booster sectors
Lead Responsibility: MoI **Associate Responsibility:** BOI, BSCIC, SMEF, Trade Bodies, Associations, WASA, PDB, TNT			
8. Ensuring Infrastructural facilities including basic utility services for the SMEs	• Set-up SME Industrial Parks with all utility connections	• BSCIC has 67 industrial estates to provide infrastructural facilities for establishment of industries throughout the country	• Ensure adequate utility services (Electricity, water, gas etc.) services for SMEs • Strengthen telecommunication and ICT facilities especially for small entrepreneurs • Develop industrial parks for plastics, light engineering, electronics and electrical products • Build a Common Facility Centre including High End Mold Making Factory and Design Centre

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoC, MoI **Associate Responsibility:** MoTJ, EPB, SMEF, BSTI, DPDT, NGOs, Chambers, Trade Bodies, SMED			
9. Enhancing access to market for SMEs particularly for women SME entrepreneurs	• Arrange 10 SME product fairs every year (both at national and international level) • Arrange Product Fair for women entrepreneurs • Establish Display Centre for women SME products	• Started the process to establish International Standard Display Centre • The Export Policy (2003-06) has identified 5 products as sectors with the highest priority • An Advisory Service Centre has been established by the SMEF to provide information on the existing facilities by SEF of Bangladesh Bank, training given by BSCIC Design centre, SCITI, BIM and BITAC and Engineers Institution • Business promotion councils on ICT, light engineering, herbal and medicinal plant, leather sectors have been formed and councils on pharmaceutical products, agro-processing products, poultry are in the formation stage • Hortex Foundation has been established for diversification into High Value Crops • EPB's 'One District One Product' scheme has already identified 16 products from 44 districts for government approval • EPB provides 50% concession for women entrepreneurs for participating in the Trade Fair. • SMEF organized 2 Women SME Product Fair in 2007 and 2008	• Take further initiative to diversify products for SMEs • Make EPB's 'One District One Product' programme effective • Identify new products for SMEs • Improve quality of SME products • Build display centres for SME products • Arrange fair for SME product at national and international levels • Enhance easy access to information on facilities given by the EPB and other institutions • Arrange more Product Fairs both in National and International Level • Improve women entrepreneurs' capacity in proper pricing and marketing skill of products
Lead Responsibility: MoP, MoF **Associate Responsibility:** MoA, MoFL, MoI, MoL&E MoI, MoEF, Ministry of Information, SMEF, DOE, NGOs, Media, Insurance Companies			
10. Ensuring environment friendly SME development	• Make SMEs environmentally compliant	• Restricted the new industry at approval stage which is harmful for environment and introduced pollution control mechanism in the existing industries. • Industries, which are responsible for air pollution, are selected and air pollutant emission permissible limit are established. • Pilot schemes under Development of Reed based Textile Wastewater Treatment are being carried out • BSCIC has taken initiatives to relocate tanneries, garments and pharmaceuticals industries to reduce pollution in Dhaka city • Reduction of chemical fertilizer and pesticide use is encouraged, and Persistent Organic Pollutants is phased out	• Ensure installation of environment management system • Build awareness in waste management system, regulatory reforms on environment issues for small entrepreneurs • Enhance supervision and monitoring by the BOILER office • Ensure provision of CETP in the Savar Tannery Industrial Park • Introduce SME insurance package to mitigate risks • Create a Disaster Management Fund for rehabilitating calamity-stricken SMEs with especial emphasis on SMEs owned by women
Lead Responsibility: MoP, MoF **Associate Responsibility:** MoA, MoFL, MoI, MoLE, SMEF, EPB, MoI, MoC			
11. Assessing SME booster Sectors' performance and expanding the list	• Complete 11 Booster Sector Studies • Successful completion of 'ONE DISTRICT ONE PRODUCT' project	• SME Foundation is conducting an SME booster sector study (6 sectors). The studies will recommend policy strategies for 6 booster sectors identified in the SME Policy Strategies 2005.	• Review the existing 11 booster sectors • Develop comparative advantage-based, area-specific SMEs in selected areas

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoI, BSTI, Trade bodies, Chambers, SMEF			
12. Improving quality and standards of SME products	• Ensure and increase quality certification to SMEs • Ensure and increase product standardization certificates to SMEs	• Consumer Rights Protection Law has been approved in principle • BSTI implemented a project called "Market Access and Trade Facilitation Support for South Asia through strengthening institutional and national capacity related to Standard, Metrology Testing and Quality". • BSTI is implementing project aiming to improve the quality management system to be accepted at international level. • BSTI branch offices in Chittagong, Rajshahi and Khulna are already established and establishment of offices in Sylhet and Barisal are underway	• Popularize product certification system by BSTI and make it easier for small entrepreneurs • Enhance awareness in the field of product labelling services by BSTI • Strengthen product quality monitoring as per BSTI certification
Lead Responsibility: MoE **Associate Responsibility:** BMET, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, VTI, MoLE,, BIM, MoEWOE, MoTJ			
13. Enhancing human resource development for SMEs	• Conduct more entrepreneurship development and workers' skill improvement training • Increase training on designing • 8,320 women will trained in 6 trades each year • EDP training to 1.58 lakh person per year. • Enhance Managerial Capabilities for SME sectors	• MoLE is providing technical training on different trades and creating skilled human resources • A project is being undertaken by BITAC to train poor women especially in technical and vocational training • A TTC of Ministry of Labour and Employment has been established in Dhaka for women only • Undertaken a project for establishment of 5 TTC for women in 5 divisional head quarters • Completed project on reproductive health and right, gender issues and prevention of HIV/AIDS for tea plantation and garment workers by the Ministry of Labour and Manpower • SCITI of BSCIC is imparting training on entrepreneurship development • BSCIC imparted HRD training related to SMEs	• Create a skilled labour force for SME development • Strengthen job oriented and need based vocational training with focus on women • Ensure minimum wage rates for SME workers and make it more rational • Evaluate and follow up training provided by the TTCs • Ensure and enhance market oriented and demand based training • Consult with stakeholders for TTCs and MOLE trainings • Increase training on different trades, basic technology, and work safety issues • Impart EDP training through SCITI, design centre, District Based Industrial Service Centre etc. particularly to women • Arrange for management development of private sector entrepreneurs • Prepare training needs assessments • Organize training course on management development to public and private sector stakeholders involved in providing business services to SMEs
Lead Responsibility: SMEF, MoWCA, MoI, Chambers, Associations, Trade bodies, Commercial banks, Training Institutes			
14. Undertake policy advocacy for women SME entrepreneurs	• Collect data on number of women entrepreneur and monitor their growth • 10% growth in the number of women entrepreneur every year.	• Industrial policy of 2005 emphasized women's participation in the country's industrialization process	• Mainstream gender issues in the Industrial Policy • Implement Gender Action Plan by SMEF and WEEF • Ensure mainstreaming women's advancement in all National Policies • Continue National SME women entrepreneurs conference
Lead Responsibility: SMEF, SCITI, BSCIC, Trade Bodies, Chambers			
15. Executing capacity building and skill training for SME women entrepreneurs	• Training at least 30% of women entrepreneurs	• Ministry of Industries provided training on 'Business management' and 'Entrepreneurship Development' to the rural potential women entrepreneurs in all divisions and selected districts.	• Enhance training on Management, Accounting and ICT • Arrange entrepreneurship development training throughout the country • Introduce training on accounting, office management, computer, spoken English etc.

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: BB, Commercial Banks, MoF			
16. Strengthening access to finance for SME women entrepreneurs	• Successful implementation of SEF fund • Expand credit to women entrepreneurs by commercial banks	• Bangladesh Bank created a fund called Small Enterprise Fund (SEF) for providing credits. 10% of SEF fund has been allocated for the women entrepreneurs. • 30% Women entrepreneurs have received credit facilities • Finance Division's 'RAKUB Small Enterprise Credit Programme'	• Ensure implementation and monitoring of BB directives about giving credit to women in SMEs • Ensure more credit to women entrepreneurs • Eliminate family conditions to ensure credit facilities • Make credit available at reduced interest rate
Lead Responsibility: BSCIC, SMEF, MoWCA, MoTJ			
17. Providing Infrastructural and Institutional facilities for women in SMEs	• Ensure Plots in the Industrial Parks among the real/potential women entrepreneurs	• Women entrepreneurs has received 20% industrial plots in the industrial estates	• Allocate industrial plots to all potential women entrepreneurs on a preferential basis • Motivate women of all districts to start business
Lead Responsibility: EPB, SMEF, NASCIB, Trade Bodies, Chambers			
18. Supporting SME women entrepreneurs from indigenous groups	• Introduce specialized women SME product promotion	• A total number of 500 women entrepreneurs of either rigid has been created	• Arrange specialized product/trade fairs of women from indigenous groups • Arrange a special window in the national display centre for the indigenous groups
Lead Responsibility: BITAC, BSTI, SCITI, SMEF, NASCIB, MoTJ			
19. Ensuring technology for SME women entrepreneurs	• Increase Training on designing • Introduce Training on packaging • Introduce Training on non traditional items	• A total number of 100 indigenous technologies have been complied under the SMESDP projects and been uploaded in the SME Web Portal in Bangla	• Enhance access to technology in 11 SME booster sectors • Enhance training on Light Engineering and Electronics Manufacturing for women Organize demand driven training programmes
Lead Responsibility: MoI, MoF, MoP, BSCIC, BSTI, BB, SMEF			
20. Enhancing institutional capacity and efficiency of SME related institutions	• Restructure BSCIC • Evaluate projects implemented by BSCIC • Capacity building of BSCIC • Expand BSTI regional offices • Strengthen SMEF	• A project "Garments Shilpa Park" has been taken by MOI to relocate 1200 garments industries to Gojaria Upazila. • A project named Women Entrepreneurship Development of BSCIC is assisting women in 50 upazilas for self-employment • Established district based 24 industrial estates • BSTI plays vital role in maintaining SMEs products' standard and quality • BSTI is currently implementing two projects to upgrade the technical infrastructure for standards development and harmonization, metrology and testing laboratories for labelling and accreditation and enhance national capacities for setting up of ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 schemes • Established SME Foundation (SMEF) following the recommendations of the National Task Force	• Initiate diagnostic studies for recommendation and suggestions for restructuring BSCIC • Monitor performance of 64 BSCIC Industrial estate • Modernise BSCIC design centres • Make the help line centres established in the BSCIC estates more user friendly • Undertake cottage and rural industries project in CHTs • Undertake skill development project through Skill Development Centre • Install Garments Shilpa Park • Establish new regional BSTI offices and recruit qualified staff in the regional offices • Increase partnership building with private sector stakeholders
Lead Responsibility: MoI, SMEF, Inter Ministerial Committee **Associate Responsibility:** Chambers, Associations, Trade Bodies, Research Institutes, Universities/technical institutes, NGOs, CBOs			
21. Strengthening public-private partnership	• Enhance and harmonize activities by both public and private sectors	• 'Garments Shilpa Park' project is under implementation with public – private partnership • 'API Shilpa Park' project is under implementation with public – private partnership	• Develop a consultation process with business associations and other stakeholders • Assist SMEs to improve their competitiveness and access to local and global markets • Enhance partnership between NGOs and SMEs
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 14.04**

Policy Matrix 6: Promoting Decent Employment

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE, MoEWOE Associate **Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, BMET, BIMT, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, MF, TTCs, TSCs, DTE, BTEB			
1. Enhancing Human Resource Development (HRD)	• Increase training on skill development by 10 percent every year	• TTCs, TSCs and polytechnic institutes are providing technical training on different trades • A project is being undertaken by BITAC to train women especially on technical and vocational skills. • One TTC in Dhaka and 5 TTCs in 5 divisional headquarters for women were established by BMET. Training activities have started in 4 trades in Rajshahi and Chittagong. About 8,320 women will receive training each year • Curricula of some specific courses of TTCs and BIMT have been updated. • Training and employment programme in collaboration with BGMEA organized for down-trodden people from Monga Area by BMET in Bogra and Lalmanirhat TTCs.	• Create a skilled labour force for SME development • Strengthen job oriented and need based vocational training • Advocate for a pollution free and healthy working environment in small enterprises • Assess the usefulness of training provided by TTCs , TSCs and polytechnic institutes • Provide special training to tea plantation workers and workers involved in non-traditional utility services • Impart EDP training to 0.16 million people with at least 33% women • Organise entrepreneurship and skill development training especially designed for women. • Conduct training needs assessment to remove mismatch between skill supply and demand • New course will be introduced in BIMT
	• Create jobs for new entrants in the labour force	• Modernization of TSCs/TTCs/BIMT/Polytechnic Institutes are underway • 26 additional TTCs constructed	• Train people in different vocational trades in 64 TSCs • Motivate the trained persons (NSSG-I, II & III) for self-employment by providing bank loan • All new TTCs operational • Create training opportunities for school dropouts and unemployed youths • Course curricula of all emerging new trades are updated. • Training Programme for down-trodden people of Monga area continued
Lead Responsibility: MoEWOE, MoL, MoFA Associate Responsibility: MoLE, MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoHFW, MoSW, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, TTCs, DTE, BTEB, MoYS			
2. Providing training to the workforce including women for overseas employment	• Create skilled technicians and workers among (a) people from Monga areas, and (b) female population • Promote overseas employment especially safe migration for poor and women	• Training on new courses in employable trades have started • Introduced a course in housekeeping • Training of 22,000 persons in 2007 as against 16000 in 2006 was given • Overseas Employment Act, 2008 has been formulated • Introduction of short courses in trades with potential demand • Arrangement of public-private partnership for training • Continuation of training programme in housekeeping.	• Expand training programme in housekeeping • Provide one-stop service for international migration • Provide skill training as per demands of global market and the labour deficient countries

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
		• Identification of potential new areas of training for overseas employment, and institutional set-up	• Take diplomatic drive for sending human resources abroad • Simplify procedures to avail overseas employment • Provide credit facilities for helping the poor to bear the cost of overseas employment • Give orientation training to the job seekers and finders on jobs and on countries • Provide training on the immigration laws and labour laws of the employing countries • Strengthen the monitoring of recruiting agents • Create language training opportunities • Continue the existing demandable training programme • Enhance the training capacities in existing TTCs • Expand training programme in housekeeping • Establish Catering Training Institute in Sylhet Technical Training Centre.
3. Expanding potential sectors for overseas employment	• Increase export of nurses, carpenters, plumbers, auto-mechanics, air-conditioning technicians, IT engineers, and computer experts by 15%	• Some schedule banks and financial institutions have initiated an expatriate lending project whereby the bank will advance money to the prospective job seekers who will repay the loan from their remittances • Demand in overseas employment has been explored through Bangladesh missions abroad • Bangladesh Bank is implementing a project to streamline and expedite remittance transfer • PKSF financing cost of migrant workers of Moraga areas	• Expand and diversify of existing job markets and explore new avenues for overseas markets • Examine and replicate overseas job loan schemes of Financial Institutions (e.g. Pubali Bank) • Implement the 9-point strategies prepared by the MEWOE • Strengthen activities of the Bangladesh Mission abroad regarding overseas labour welfare and labour disputes • Take adequate measures to ensure the rights and interests of the work force abroad • Address particular concerns of women workers in overseas employment • Innovate schemes for prospective job seekers abroad

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
4. Introducing training, support system, and counselling for retrenched workers	• 100% retrenched workers	• Skill retraining was organised • Counselling for guidance was provided • Loan through banks were distributed	• Introduce skill development training for self-employment and micro-entrepreneur development • Introduce skill training for jobs in alternative sectors • Introduce SSN programme for retrenched workers and their family members
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE Associate Responsibility: MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
5. Enhancing awareness and advocacy on labour welfare issues including labour laws	• Enforce labour laws • Increase familiarity with BLA-2006 & other labour laws	• Workshops, seminars & symposiums were and are being arranged • Leaflets and booklets were and are being prepared & distributed	• Undertake a comprehensive awareness raising and enforcement of BLA-2006 • Enhance Industrial sector-wise labour welfare trainings • Ensure industrial compliance, minimum wage payment, payment in time, minimize labour disputes • Increase labour welfare activities • Arrange workshops, seminars and symposiums • Widen publicity on labour welfare through mass media • Ensure availability of labour related publications to the workers' organization, trade unions and workers
6. Ensuring transparency and monitoring in overseas job-related migration process	• Strong monitoring mechanism in overseas job related migration • Bilateral and Multilateral agreement among the labour sending and receiving countries.	• Monitoring mechanisms have been developed both in MoEWOE and BMET • Existing rules and regulations are being reviewed. • MOU has been signed with labour receiving countries to ensure workers' rights and welfare	• Implement the developed-monitoring-mechanisms both in Ministry and BMET • Review findings of Existing rules and regulations • Continue signing MOUs with the labour receiving countries to ensure workers' rights and welfare •
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE Associate Responsibility: MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
7. Ensuring workers welfare	• Ensure treatment & medication at work place in the formal sector • Provide health, hygiene, safety & OSH training to all workers	• Training on OSH are being provided • Distribution of family planning materials is on going • Time Bound Programme for elimination of WFCL is being implemented	• Create workers welfare facilities in the Labour Welfare Centres (30) • Build alliances and partnerships with local govt. institutions, NGOs and international organizations • Establish workers welfare centres in new industrial areas • Increase recreational facilities and health and family planning services

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
8. Welfare for the migrant workers and their families	• Ensure Welfare for the Overseas workers and their families	• Monitoring Mechanism through and within Labour wings has been enhanced. • Welfare Officer has been recruited in Malaysia • Welfare fund is used for the several important activities like repatriation of mortal remains of workers from host countries, burials, and financial assistance to the sick and distressed and to heirs of the deceased who are not getting any compensation from the employer. • Provision has been made to provide middle and lower-middle class remitters with special benefits. • "Expatriates Welfare Desk" has been set up in 29 Deputy Commissioners' Offices • Provision of special benefit for middle and lower-middle class remitters has been made. • Awareness creation among potential workers willing to have overseas job	• Recruit more Welfare Officers in other labour wings in accordance with need. • Strengthen welfare activities for overseas workers • Establish 'Welfare Desks' at the remaining Deputy Commissioners' Offices. • Implement the provision of special benefit for middle and lower-middle class remitters • Strengthen awareness creation • Involve Civil Societies and NGOs in awareness raising programme. • Make Pre-departure briefing mandatory for all migrant workers.
9. Developing healthy industrial relations	• Build decent work facilities • Improve labour management relations • Increase management capacity • Eliminate gender based discrimination in workplace • Provide medical care to workers & their family members • Create recreational facilities for workers	• Enforcement of BLA-2006 is being rolled out Meeting compliance issues • Massive training on industrial relations are being rolled out • Renovation and modernization of existing factories are on going • Providing medical & recreational equipments in LWCs • Setting up of Crisis Management Unit in RMG belt with one JDL, 10 ADL & LWC offices is taking place	• Mitigate crisis in RMG sector • Execute industrial relations and workers education courses in IRIs and LWCs • Provide training to the workers & mid- level management on labour law, industrial relations, OSH, skill development • Recognize and ensure workers participation and ensure women leaders participation • Upgrade the Tongi Industrial Relations Institute into "National Institute of Labour Administration and Training" • Ensure decent workplace incorporating particular needs of women workers
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
10. Creating housing facilities for working women	• Safe accommodation for women workers • Physical and social security for women workers	• Undertaken construction of 10-storied buildings for creating a. Accommodation b. Treatment and recreational facilities	• Ensure secured accommodation, medical facilities and recreational facilities for female workers • Construct Multi-storied Female Worker's Hostel & Welfare centre at the present LWC of Chasara, Tejgaon and Tongi
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
11. Reconstructing Dhaka divisional labour office for multipurpose usages	• Create congenial and healthy working environment for DL, DIFE & Labour Courts	• Construction of a multi-storied building (20-storied) on going	• Provide better facilities for services by DL & DIEF & Labour Courts • Ensure better facilities for providing services to the factory owners and workers

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE, **Associate Responsibility:** MoHFW, ME, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DoL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
12. Promoting awareness of reproductive health, rights, gender equality & prevention of HIV/AIDS in tea garden & RMG workers, and potential overseas migrant workers.	• Increase knowledge, behaviour change & awareness of STD, HIV/AIDS prevention etc. among the tea garden communities & RMG workers, and potential overseas migrant workers.	• Providing training to trade union leaders on these issues • Orientation on(i) Gender/Reproductive Right (ii) Reproductive health/STD/HIV/AIDS are being provided to various stakeholders • Workshop for garden managers & RMG mid-level management organised • Training for Service Providers organised	• Create gender-friendly environment & ensure change of mindset of the workers & management • Create awareness of gender equity, reproductive health & rights among the management • Undertake programmes to build awareness of HIV/AIDS
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** MoHFW, BEF/Private Sector, NGOs, MoYS, MoSW, MoWCA, DWA			
13. Ensuring and enhancing occupational safety and health	• Improve multi-disciplinary services towards ship-breaking workers • Ensure OSH and eliminate CL in bidi/tobacco industries, printing press and book binding • Task Force on Labour Welfare for RMG • Task Force on Occupational Safety in RMG	• Construction of Welfare Complex is underway • Training programmes are underway • A Social Compliance Forum (SCF) was constituted on 11 June 2005 by the Government to ensure workers' welfare and security • In order to meet various requirements on Social Compliance in the RMG industry the government has constituted a Task Force on Labour Welfare in RMG, and Compliance Monitoring Cell • BGMEA has started crash programme on fire safety. The BGMEA surveillance teams inspected 682 Garments Factories in Dhaka and 587 Garments Factories in Chittagong to monitor safety measures	• Build safety providing capacity of the ship-breaking sector • Ensure OSH and elimination of child labour • Establish Task Forces on Labour Welfare and Occupational Safety & Compliance Monitoring Cells for other industries • Ensure application of OSH within the ambit of the Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 • Engage inspectors in order to ensure complete health and safety inspection in a factory • Introduce a system of sector-wise inspection • Establish an internal monitoring body responsible for monitoring activities of inspectors • Augment technology capabilities to deal with humidity, mine fires, ground control, stability of illumination
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA **Associate Responsibility:** MoLE, MoE MoI, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
14. Quickening elimination of child labour and Worst Form of Child Labour (WFCL)	• Reduce number of child workers • Develop socio-economic indicators of child workers	• MoLE through its partnership with ILO/IPEC and other agencies are engaged in projects and programmes intended to prevent and eliminate the WFCL in the country • BBS planned to conduct an Integrated Baseline Survey for determining Hazardous Child Labour	• Strengthen advocacy for eliminating child labourers • Expand poverty reduction programmes for the families of child labourers • Introduce education programmes for working children • Improve capacity to monitor and implement programmes for child labour

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
15. Ensuring a better working environment	• Raise awareness regarding the provisions of labour laws among workers • Improve professional skills among the management and concerned government officers regarding BLA-2006	• Short-term training courses in different sectors are conducted throughout the country regarding labour welfare and employment provisions as guaranteed in the BLA-2006. • Workshops on OSH, labour welfare and employment conditions are held throughout the country	• Organize 60 courses in a year for 3 years • Ensure 50 participants (workers) in a course totalling 9000 participants in 3 years • Organise one-day course with 4 sessions • Organise 5-days long 24 courses in a year (6 courses quarterly) totalling 72 courses in 3 years • Ensure 30 participants (officers) in each course totalling 2160 participants in 3 years
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA **Associate Responsibility:** MoLE, MoE MoI, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
16. Ensuring women's participation in international forums	• Raise voices on women issues and concerns in international forums • Increase participation of women representatives in international trade forums • Increase in women's access to international market	• Negotiating market access under Mode-4 • Discussions on market access for trade in services under Mode-4 continue.	• Encourage participation of women's groups in WTO negotiations and in various committees of the Ministry of Commerce • Ensure incorporation of women workers' concerns in the Trade Policy Review Mechanisms • Adopt international labour migration as a strategy of employment for retrenched female workers • Ensure coherence between the dominant international economic agenda and the international legal obligations
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA **Associate Responsibility:** MoLE, MoE MoI, MoSW, MoEWOE, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
17. Advancing women workers' rights	• Implement ILO labour standards in both public and private sectors • Make grassroots level institutions more women-friendly • Ensure women workers rights and dignity	• Women-friendly strategies and policies are being adopted and implemented • Ensuring women in ICT facilities and skill-oriented training particularly in assembling and repairing cell phone, and software development are underway • Social protection of woman with disability and socially disadvantaged women workers are being provided • Introducing women-friendly policies and strategies in public & private sectors • Implementing ILO labour standards in all areas of public and private sectors • Making institutions at the grassroots level more women-friendly	• Enforce existing labour laws to support women • Provide ID cards to all RMG workers • Diversify training for nurses, RMG workers, factory workers, cleaners and housemaids • Provide collateral-free loan and support for exploration of opportunities in the domestic and foreign markets • Ensure economic growth, poverty reduction and empowerment through international trade • Build linkages between public and private sectors and NGO/CSOs for mitigating risk and vulnerability of women workers abroad • Revise ICT Policy to incorporate women's concerns • Develop training programme on ICT particularly in assembling and repairing cell phone, and software development insuring women's participation • Ensure transparency & accountability in public and private sectors in all women issues • Make institutions more gender-friendly • Increase health coverage and provide insurance for reducing risks faced by women workers during pregnancy, childbirth and old age

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
			• Introduce social security legislation for women with disability and implement it through community approaches • Design contributory provident fund and insurance coverage for RMG workers
Lead Responsibility: MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** PC, MoEWOE, MoA, MoI, MoE, MoYS, MoWCA, SMEF, MoHFW, BOI			
18. Mainstreaming employment into all policies	• Sector level policies (especially the case for support to specific sectors and SME development): (i) Agriculture policy (ii)Industrial policy (iii)Labour policy/law (iv)SME policy (v)Gender specific employment policy (vi)Education policy (vii)Investment policy • Develop a coordinated and harmonized policy for employment and labour welfare	• Actions undertaken (i) Ex ante as well as ex post employment impact assessment of various policies and programmes; (ii) Programmes for SME development, and (iii)Policies aimed at selected employment-intensive sectors. • Labour Law 2006 passed a) Labour Welfare Foundation 2006 approved b) Private Road Transport Labour Welfare Fund Law-2005 approved c) 'Overseas Employment Policy 2006' in 2007 approved d) Employment generation is treated as one of the important areas of strategic policy intervention for poverty alleviation	• Undertake ex-ante and ex-post employment impact assessment of policies and programmes of all ministries • Undertake programmes for SME development and policies for selected employment-intensive sectors • Ensure that labour policy and law combine flexibility in the labour market and security for workers • Develop appropriate policy to prevent a further fall in labour intensity in various activities • Ensure technological upgrade, adaptation and dissemination that are suitable for local environment • Develop and implement employment policy in order to bring about gender parity in employment • Reformulate development strategies focusing on the fact that service sector is overtaking agriculture as the largest provider of employment • Adopt policies to facilitate development of SMEs • Adopt policies towards diversifying manufacturing sectors • Formulate agriculture and rural development policies to reduce vulnerability of agricultural labourers • Develop an institutional arrangement among key government agencies for labour policy formulation and implementation
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE **Associate Responsibility:** MoE, MoI, MoWCA, MoSW, BMET, DL, DIFE, BITAC, SCITI, BSCIC, SMEF, TSCs, MF, TTCs, DTE, BTEB			
19. Creating jobs for men and women	• Emergency Fund for employment generation •	• Karmasangsthan (Employment) Bank • PKSF • SMEF •	• Emergency Social Fund for income generating employment • Emergency employment programmes to absorbs short-run shocks
20. Creating jobs in poverty-prone Areas	• All areas that are vulnerable to natural calamities	• PKSF • SMEF • Overseas Employment-opportunity for people of Monga-prone areas. •	• Undertake job creation programmes in the poverty-prone areas, especially the Monga-prone districts • Undertake special job creation measures for women in poverty prone areas

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE A**ssociate Responsibility:** MoF, Minimum Wages Board (MWB), Trade Bodies/Associations, BEF, NGOs, Trade Unions			
21. Ensuring increase in real wages	• Increase real wage in agriculture, industrial and service sectors	• Government approved new wages scale in 2006 (National Wages and Productivity Commission, 2005)	• Increase real wages with linkage to labour productivity • Improve labour skills by providing demand driven training • Improve labour productivity by adopting appropriate technology • Ensure that minimum wages is fixed at realistic level • Develop monitoring system for minimum wage implementation
Lead Responsibility: Ministry of Law **Associate Responsibility:** , MoLE, MoEWOE, DL, DIFE, Regulatory Reforms Commission, SMEF, Recruiting Agencies, NGOs, MWB, Police Department			
22. Reforming regulatory framework to promote decent employment	• Introduce minimum wage • Regulate the overseas recruiting agencies • Modernize labour legislation • Modernize factory inspection	• Regulatory Reforms Commission is functioning	• Strengthen supervisions by the GoB of the recruitment agencies for avoiding harassment and fraudulence activities • Modernise labour legislation in accordance with fundamental principles and rights at work and other relevant ILO standards • Promote social dialogue among governments, employers organization and trade unions • Introduce sector wise factory inspection
Lead Responsibility: MoEWOE and MoLE **Associate Responsibility:** BMET, SMEF, Local Governments, Workers' Associations, NGOs, BEF			
23. Developing employment support service	• Establish twenty one (21) District Employment and Manpower Offices (DEMOs)	• There is a network of 21 District Employment and Manpower Offices in the country to provide news to job-seekers.	• Create access to markets and business development services for rural enterprises • Enhance monitoring the activities of DEMOs by the MoLE • Reform DEMOs and prepare list of job seekers and job openings regularly on wage and self-employment • Introduce Self-Employment schemes for the registered unemployed job seekers to provide credit • Collect and disseminate information on employment in the organized sector on a regular basis •
Lead Responsibility: MoF **Associate Responsibility:** MoWCA, MoSW, MoYS, MoLE, SMEF, BEF, Insurance Companies			
24. Ensuring rights-based approach in the labour market programmes and social protection	• Introduce insurance for workers • Introduce social security for the worker • Strengthen SSN for the workers • Introduce rights-based employment programmes	• Five types of benefits are in practice in the public sector. These are: (i)compensation pension; (ii)invalidity pension; (iii)superannuation pension; (iv)retiring pension and (v)optional pension • Government employees are socially protected also by Benevolent Fund Scheme and Group Insurance Scheme • Existing labour market policies and programmes underline the importance of a right based approach to employment especially through micro credit and	• Introduce social protection for informal workers • Strengthening social security in the formal private sector • Undertake initiatives for providing insurance to workers in unorganized sector by forming workers' cooperatives

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE **Associate Responsibility:** MoLJPA, BMET, BIMT, DoL, DIFE, Regulatory Reforms Commission, SMEF, Recruiting Agencies, NGOs, MWB, Police Department			
25. Reforming/ Restructuring/ Strengthening Institutions involved in employment generation, skill development and labour welfare	• Strengthen coordination and effectiveness of training system	• BMET offers training on as many as 29 areas including different trades of industrial technology • TTCs offer regular 2-year long vocational training course and 6 months special course. Course contents of the TTCs & TSCs meet the requirements of National Skill Standard Grade-III, Grade–II & Grade–I	• Strengthen BMET's activities on human resource export • Introduce four new trades viz. computer hardware, medical electronics, consumer electronics and industrial electronics • Make DIFE more efficient, accountable and specialized • Strengthen monitoring of the performance of the existing 60 polytechnic institutes • Ensure quality trainers & teachers in polytechnic institutes • Setup an expert group to look into the issues relating to the vocational training programmes • Introduce variety of vocational courses of different duration • Establish new institutes for training the teachers • Improve the quality of trainers including vocational teachers by providing both overseas and domestic training • Widen the coverage of training courses offered by TTCs • Introduce training and advance courses on glass and ceramics, plastic, light engineering and electronics
Lead Responsibility: MoLE and MoEWOE A**ssociate Responsibility:** MoLJPA, MoF, PC, SMEF, DoL, DIFE			
26. Ensuring public-private partnership	• Enhance and harmonize service delivery activities by both public and private sectors	• Public-private partnership is introduced in several areas for example Training and employment programme in collaboration with BGMEA, BKMEA etc.	• Develop a consultation process to foster public-private partnership in employment generation and labour welfare • Strengthen linkages between the technical training institutes and research institutes • Enhance partnership with NGOs working in labour welfare • Expand and diversify vocational training facilities, upgrade training, curricula equipment and other infrastructure • Involve TTCs and BIMT for Public Private Partnership with relevant employers (BGMEA, BKMEA, Western Marine Ltd and other potential Private Organisations.
27. Integrating cleaner technology with employment	• Promoting cleaner technologies in work places	• Green technologies such as organic tea, municipal solid waste recycling, bio-gas, bio-mass are being promoted	• Strengthen advocacy for cleaner technology • Create incentive for cleaner technology
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 37.78**

Policy Matrix 7: Private Sector Development

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: CA's Office, MoI, MoC, BOI , Privatization Commission			
1.Creating enabling policy environment for PSD	• Prepare strategic vision for private sector development (PSD) • Review experience of other countries to formulate PSD strategy • Set up national commission consisting of policy makers and private sector experts	• A Strategic vision for Private Sector Development is completed and formulation of Private Sector Development strategy is underway • BBBF has been formed and RRC has been set up • A national council for industrial development has been constituted • Industrial policy of 2005 to encourage private sector participation undertaken • Revised Privatization Policy 2007 is in place • Export Policy 2006-09 and Import Policy 2006-have been declared	• Experiences of Malaysia and Singapore would be examined for adapting appropriate strategies for PSD • Undertaking investment climate assessments and other firm-level surveys to provide analytical basis for ongoing business environment reform • Policy, strategies and programmes would be formulated, implemented and monitored • Incorporate feedback from private sector in formulation of policies on various private sector development issues
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA, MoL, Chambers, BOI, MoLE, MoC, BEPZA,BSCIC, RRC			
	• Improve/streamline legal and regulatory framework	• BOI in support with SEDF–IFC conducted Administrative Barrier Review and identified bottlenecks with suggestions • MoI has undertaken an initiative to review all existing laws, rules and regulations of its different corporations and departments • The Privatization Regulations 2007 have been promulgated to identify bottlenecks and ensure transparency • The private sector investment guideline 2004 has been prepared and approved • The Securities and Exchange Commission Rules has been adapted	• Undertake measures to clear backlog of cases • Reform the labour laws to prevent politicization • Simplify land titling and transfer procedure • Establish a policy analysis unit in each PSD organization • Streamline procedures, improve efficiency of bonded warehouses, duty drawback system and IT capacities • Make the approval processes in BOI, BEPZA and Registrar of JSCs transparent • Streamline business regulations and enact an appropriate competition law • Improve enforcement of contracts and property rights and streamline commercial justice system
Lead Responsibility: Privatization Commission, CA Office, MoI, BBF,			
	• Expedite the process of privatization	• Total 34 SOEs were transferred /sold to private sector during the last PRSP period. This process is being continued • Programme for another 26 SOEs has been developed • Revised privatization policy has been published • Privatization Regulation 2007 is promulgated	• Encourage private sector investment including FDI in privatization programme • Introduce transparency in selecting SOEs, financing & valuing of assets & liabilities and bidding for privatization • Minimize delays incurred in hand over of enterprises • Make privatization process less complicated • Provide counselling service to potential investors • Build capacity of Privatization Commission to ensure proper monitoring of post transfer support • Train and rehabilitate retrenched workers

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoF, BOI, NBR, RRC, BBF.			
	• Provide adequate and equitable fiscal incentives	• BOI in each year in interacting with the investors place recommendations to GOB for adequate and equitable fiscal incentives to investors • BSCIC of MOI is providing collateral free loan to the under privileged women and unemployed youth.	• Replace tax holiday by discounted tax rate • Bring company tax in line with other regional countries • Implementing PERC's relevant recommendations • Making PFI effective • Undertake further reforms in tax administration, company tax, PFI and PSI effectiveness
Lead Responsibility: MoF, MoC, Tariff Commission, Trade bodies, Chambers, EPB, CPA, MPA,LPA, DOF, Tariff Commission, BSTI, TB, RRC, BBF,			
	• Trade policy reforms at right pace and sequence.	• SAFTA is being implemented from 1 July 2006. SAFTA has opened negotiations in service sector • A number of rounds of trade negotiation have taken placed under APTA • Trade negotiation under BIMSTEC is underway • Bangladesh signed agreement on TPS-OIC in November, 2006 • Bangladesh signed the Preferential Trade Agreement among D-eight countries in the sixth meeting of OIC held in May, 2006 • Tariff Commission has already conducted studies on the issue of removal of anti export bias accompanied by resolution of supply-side bottlenecks	• Follow up bilateral and regional FTA • Reduce cost of doing business and provide a level playing field to domestic producers • Frame a strategy to get benefit from global service trade • Reduce lead time in export by developing port, transport system, infrastructure and simplifying goods unloading • Lobby in the USA for duty-free entry of RMG exports • Diversify export items and markets • Undertake quality improvement and cost reduction measures to increase competitiveness of the exports • Establish product wise design centres • Increase skills and capacity of EPB, custom authorities, sea and land port authorities, BSTI, Tea Board, different trade bodies • Promote modern technology for promotion and expansion of exports
Lead Responsibility: MOI, MOC, MOL&E, NBR, MOF, BSCIC, DCC			
	• Readymade Garments (RMG) promotion by addressing the challenges in the post MFA era	• An initiative has been taken by the MOI through BSCIC to reallocate all garment industries from Dhaka City to Munshigonj district. The name of the project is "Garment Shilpa Park".	• Conduct study on the possible impact of EU Rules of Origin (RoO) on Bangladesh • Expand IT services to BMET's district level officers • Diversify trainings for all including nurses, garment workers, factory workers, cleaners, housemaid, etc. • Give thrust on export of high quality garments
Lead Responsibility: MoHPW, BOI, MoL, MoF.,BEPZA & BSCIC			
2. Easing supply constraints	• Provide freehold land	• BOI recommends to Land administration for arranging freehold land for investors and is taking an inventory of freehold lands • SEZ policy is being formulated to facilitate land for private investors • BSCIC is providing infrastructure facilities including land to the entrepreneurs in 72 districts • Studies on industrial Estates are underway	• Make unused public lands available to private investors • Provide fiscal incentives to private industrial estates • Acquire land and hand them over to potential investors for setting up of new industries, SEZ, Shilpa Park, etc. • Modernise land registration processes • Increase transparency in location & environmental clearance certifications

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: CA Office., BEPZA, BSCIC ,MoI, MoL,BOI, MoC			
	• Improve Regulatory Framework and Institutional Setup for Development of Economic Zones		• Institute new policy and regulatory frameworks to enable private investment in economic zones • Improve land zoning for industrial purpose, land titling process and land registration • Piloting master land zoning and infrastructure plans for selected large scale zone developments • Finalize licensing for proposed and future private export processing zones • Facilitate public-private partnerships for provision of utilities to economic zone and industrial estates • Assist BEPZA and BSCIC to undertake regulatory role • Support building of privately financed common effluent treatment plants in economic zone and industrial estates • Adapt a comprehensive economic zone strategy • Strengthen environmental compliance standards to meet the standards of foreign buyers and investors • Change BEPZA rules to accommodate importers so that a manufacturer of local consumers goods gets facilities of tax-free import of raw materials and intermediate goods • Implement "One Industry one Village" theme for developing economically backward areas
Lead Responsibility: BB, MOF			
	• Deepen and make more efficient financial market	• NCBs have been made into limited companies • Supervision of banking sector has been strengthened • Enforcement of bankruptcy and default legislation made stricter • Regulation of improved governance of MFIs enacted. • Financial intermediation made more effective, low cost and deeper, with special emphasis on reaching SMEs and rural areas • Functioning of capital and insurance markets and contractual savings, respective regulators improved	• New agency for loan recovery will be established • Scale-up ultra-poor finance through PKSF and donor programmes (CFPR, etc.) • Provide license to start banking on the basis of clearly defined objectives and criteria • Establish Financial Reporting Council • Adopt corporate governance for MFIs • Increase market placement of securitized issues, promote corporate bond markets for government securities and establish reliable yield benchmarks • Complete ongoing restructuring of NCBs • Remove legal impediments for SEC to carry out its oversight role

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: BB, Chambers, SEC, MoF			
	• Strengthen capital market	• Opening of Beneficiary Owner's (BO) Account and Central Depository Systems (CDS) is introduced • Initial Public offering (IPO) floatation cost is reduced • 'N'category is introduced and mutual fund is approved • Investor's Education Programme has been conducted • Government owned shares are being off-loaded • Monetary requirements have been introduced to raise capital by limited companies • Direct listing regulation of Dhaka/Chittagong Stock Exchange is approved • Security Training Institute is established • The project-"Improvement of Capital Market Governance" is under implementation • Securities and Exchange Commission (Public Rules), 2006 • SEC issued 'Corporate Governance Guidelines' on 'comply or explain' basis to elevate corporate governance	• Take measures to increase supply of good shares • Strengthen regulatory & supervisory frameworks for capital & insurance markets • Strengthen the SEC with adequate and appropriate professional human resources • Establish efficient bond to encompass resourceful primary and secondary markets, lucid rules and regulations, well functioning settlement and custody systems, reliable ratings and bench mark yield curve • Deepen the scale and scope of the market, particularly by introducing new concepts and instruments such as risk-hedging and commodity trading etc.
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, BOI, Chambers, Privatization Commission. BEPZA			
	• Attract higher level of FDI	• Bangladesh Better Business Forum has been formed • Regulatory Reform Commission has been formed • A large number of regulatory, legal and policy reforms have been made to create better business environment and better investment climate	• Business support services to be improved for reducing cost of doing business and attracting FDI • Privatization Commission continues to attract FDI through SOE privatization programme • Maintaining political stability • Introduction of Equity Protection Law • Easy the procedure for opening up branch or liaison offices by the foreign investors/companies in Bangladesh. • Implement laws for establishing EPZ/SEZ/Industrial Parks in private sector • Encourage private investment in infrastructure building • Improve the negotiation skill and capacity of Government
Lead Responsibility: MOCM, MoS, MOPT BR, RHW, MoLJPA, ERC, CPA, MOEP, CA Office.			
	• Improve infrastructural facilities	• Construction of Dhaka Metro in private sector on BOT basis has been approved by the Cabinet Committee • Jamuna Bridge Railway Link Construction Project (second revised) is being implemented since July 1997 • Two foreign companies have expressed their interest on the construction of the expressway from Dhaka to Chittagong. PQ will be awarded soon • A MOU is awaiting agreement signature between the GOB and a Chinese Company (CMEG) for the construction of the Dhaka – Laksham Cord line. DPP is being prepared. • Three large IPPs each of having 150 MW capacity are under process of implementation	• Modernise management and operations of ports • Improve railway container and cargo handling • Implement necessary policy and institutional reforms at Chittagong port • Increase generation and distribution of electricity and gas • Address critical issue of pricing of power and gas • Take policies/strategies to facilitate ship building in private sector • Develop coal mines activities • Develop SEZ/industrial parks with public-private partnership • Energy conservation and efficiency programmes • Renewable energy development • BRTC will be strengthened for effective regulation and facilitating telecommunication services

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoE, MoLE, MoT&J, MoSICT.			
	• Address Skills Constraints	• A new labour law 2006 has been formulated and approved by the government • MoLE is providing technical trainings on different trades and creating skilled manpower through technical training centres. • A total no. of 26 technical centres is being established through implementation of 4 different projects. Out of these 6 TTCs are being established solely for women • A data base has been developed by BMET of Mo Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment	• Consolidate gains in primary and secondary education with emphasis on improving the overall quality • Improve the quality and market relevance of the vocational education and training (VET) system • Develop a policy framework, in coordination with the private sector, clarifying roles & responsibilities of various VET agencies • Make available information on training programme and facilitate regularly and independent impact evaluations on training programme • Allow greater autonomy for VET institutions and Set-up an autonomous Board of VET
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoPME, MoLE, MoI, BSCIC, MOEE,			
	• Develop Human resources	• BITAC provides regular training on welding, machinery shopping, foundry, electrical and electronics, plastic technology, heat treatment at a very low cost • A special Institution named SCITI of BSCIC is imparting regular training on entrepreneurship development • Design centres of BSCIC are giving training on different trades for development of human resources • BSCIC imparted HRD training related to SMEs	• Develop curriculum of education and training programmes to reflect need of private sector • Introduce internships and on the job training facilities • Improve entrepreneurial, managerial and labour skills • Strengthen technical and vocational teachers training • Reform the legal base of universities for assessment of performance and re-establishing accountability • Separate integrated programme to be undertaken for women entrepreneurship development • Ensure quality higher education to meet the market needs • Undertake initiative for collaboration of all research organizations and technical and higher educational institutions with the service users
Lead Responsibility: MoI, MoE, MoSICT, BOI, BEPZA, BITAC, BUET, Chambers/Trade Bodies.			
	• Facilitate technology development	• National Science and Technology Policy, 1986 is under review for updating • ICT Act was enacted in October 2006 and preparation of Rules related to e-commerce is underway • National Institute of Bio-Technology has been set up • Bio-Technology Laboratory and Research has been initiated • BOI approved TT agreements by local and foreign investors • A new policy in TT is completed and initiative has been taken for collaboration between public and private sector in setting up of a centre for transfer and diffusion of technologies. • Officials of BITAC are receiving trainings to improve their technological knowledge for developing new technology • Experts from developed countries are regularly coming to provide training to the officials of BITAC • Developed an action plan on technology for selected SMEs	• Prepare a technology development strategy • Carry out, on a continuous basis, strategic reviews of higher education and TEVT system to make it more adaptable to employer and entrepreneurs needs • Trade bodies will seek trade specific technology development in collaboration with relevant public and private institutions supported by appropriate matching grant facility • Provide policy support for technology transfer by foreign investors • Carry out strategic reviews of the incentive regimes for public and private absorption of technology with a focus on commercialization of pro-poor innovations • Identify gender gaps and concerns in policy documents and strategy papers on technology

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: BBS,BOI,EPB, Chambers, MoSICT, BEPZA, BBF, RRC			
3.Improving Business Support Services	• Create information and data base for providing market information	• The government developed a web portal to ensure access of information related for improvement of the business. • BOI has completed a web based MIS for keeping investment related data. • A business registry has already been developed that will extend business support services. • Possibility of bringing BOI and BEPZA under one umbrella is under examination. • Efforts to separate the regulatory and service functions of EPB will be made	• Strengthen industrial statistics wing of BBS • Make registration of private investment mandatory and improve coordination amongst pertinent agencies • Establish modern laboratories for controlling quality of export products • Ensure regular supply of updated information on market and technology to producers • Establish backward and forward industries • Establish effluent treatment plants in industrial zones • Ensure easy access to raw materials for export products • Institute regulatory impact assessment mechanisms and processes within Government • Establish ongoing processes for reduction of regulatory burden within Government • Establish PSD inter –Agency Network • Support development of GoB's capacity to monitor the Bangladesh Investment Climate • Implement e-Government framework, platform and LAN (software only) and implement e-Government pilots • Conduct business process surveys of municipal authorities' service functions
Lead Responsibility: MoI, BSTI, MoLE, MoC, MoSICT			
	• Improve standard and quality control	• BSTI plays vital role in maintaining country's standard and quality control issue of different products • BSTI is implementing two projects to (a) upgrade the required technical infrastructure for standards development and harmonization, metrology and testing laboratories required by the selected sectors, and Standards for labelling and accreditation and/or certification of laboratories and quality system and (b) develop national capacities for setting up Hazardous Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 schemes at enterprise level as well as the capacity of national certification bodies to assess such systems • A consumer rights protection law has been approved on principle • Actions are underway to reorganize and strengthening EPB, Bangladesh Tariff Commission and CCI&E	• Strengthen BSTI to meet the international standards • The trade bodies to initiate setting up of trade specific standards as per international requirements. • Make arrangement for quality development of Chambers and Business Associations. • There should be more cooperation between public and private sector on standard and environmental issues
Lead Responsibility: MoI, DPDT, MoC, EPB, BOI, BEPZA, Cambers			
	• Improve Intellectual Property Rights environment	• Department of Patent, Design and Trademarks (DPDT) is implementing a project to strengthen national capacity to develop & modernize the intellectual property (IP) system	• Strengthen Department of Patent, Design and Trademarks (DPDT) with appropriate human resources • Strengthen national capacity to develop & modernize the intellectual property (IP) system • Strengthen Copyright Office with appropriate technical and professional manpower

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoI, BSCIC, Cambers, MoWCA, WEAB, EPB, BOI, MoLE, MoYS, WEDP			
4. Women entrepreneurship Development	• Develop Women entrepreneurship • Ensure 20% increase of women entrepreneurs	• BSCIC provides training on 'Business Management' and Entrepreneurship Development to the rural potential women entrepreneurs in all divisions and selected districts. • BSCIC's project viz. 'women entrepreneurship development' for self-employment of potential women since 1984 and so far imparted EDP training for 93,621 potential woman entrepreneurs • Recent policy of Government allows women entrepreneurs to receive 10% of credit facilities to improve their business • 5 percent industrial plots are being reserved for women entrepreneurs in various industrial parks to ensure more participation • Representatives of women entrepreneurs association are sent abroad for training, seminars and workshops • Women associations named 'Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh' Women Chamber and Commerce Industries are the regular members of all activities of the MOI. • EPB plans to create a trade portal that will help women entrepreneurs to participate in economic activities. • 10% of Small Enterprise Fund (SEF) created by the BB has been allocated for the women entrepreneurs.	• Provide tariff incentives to import of inputs in case of cottage and handicraft activities • Encourage women entrepreneurs in small & medium-scale production and business activities • Give preferential treatment to women entrepreneurs in trade fairs at home and abroad • Develop linkages between women's associations and credit institutions • Undertake initiative for the development of women's entrepreneurship in an integrated way • Involve business association and chambers of commerce & Industries in women's entrepreneur's development • Encourage the Chambers to provide women entrepreneurs with bankable project and technology • Ensure woman's association to work with apex chamber and associations to promotion of women entrepreneurs • Implement gender Action Plan by the SMEF and WEEF • Established a design institutes for SMEs • Provide special support (information, credit, extension services, technology etc.) for women entrepreneurs • Ensure special allocation for women entrepreneurs • Make the procedure of starting business easy for women
Lead Responsibility: MoF, BB, MoA, MoFL, MOLG&C, MoL, BSCIC, BARD,CA Office, NGO Bureau, MoT&J,			
5. Developing Rural Non-Farm Sector (RNFS)	• Develop RNFS • Make RNFS mainstream • Make market function better	• Public and private sectors are providing training to develop human resources involved in the non-farm sector • Credit facilities are given for product promotion and business expansion to RNFS • Taxes and other financial and policy assistance are provided to RNFS • Supports are being given to rural entrepreneurs to facilitate smooth business	• Ensure physical infrastructure and rural electrification • Rationalize tax & tariff structure to facilitate RNFS • Create extensive data base on RNFE sector • Reform NCBs for enhancing rural banks to support RNFS • Prepare and adopt a national RNFS development policy • Enforce transparent and consistent "rules of the game" for agro enterprise development • Improve marketing infrastructure to promote rural non-farm and non-crop agriculture activities • Address issues relating to quality and productivity of outputs in RNFS • Encourage private entrepreneurs to enter into buy-back arrangement with RNFS
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 30.12**

Policy Matrix 8: Land Use Policy and Management

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoL			
1. Modernizing land records preparation and land management system	• Modernize land records of one city and 60 Upazila	• The pilot project taken up for computerization of land records of Demra circle was completed successfully in 2005/2006 • Programme of computerization of land records is going on in another four circles in Dhaka city	• Prepare and preserve land records using ICT • Establish a database to preserve and manage all records electronically at all tiers of land administration • Preserve hard copies of all records for checking authenticity • Use satellite imageries for preparation of land records • Reorganize the offices of registration of land transfer deed
2. Rehabilitating asset less and homeless people in rural areas and slum dwellers and low income families in Dhaka and other big cities	• Provide 58000 asset less and homeless families with houses • Provide 114 twin houses to homeless families and land to 3000 other families • Provide flats to 7560 slum dwellers • Provide flats to 5040 low-income families	• 25385 asset less and poor families have been provided with houses, training and micro-credit for their rehabilitation • Construction of 12600 flats is going on in Dhaka city. These are being constructed on govt. land on public/private ownership basis. These will be allotted to slum dwellers and low income families at a reduced price	• Identify land filling of suitable Khas land • Select beneficiary families • Construct houses and transfer deed to the beneficiaries • Engage in I.G.As through training and credit • Construct flats by private investors to be given to poor • Start the process for selection of beneficiaries, allotting of flats, sale and transfer of flats and conduct deed of transfer
3. Providing agricultural Khas land	• Settle 33000 acres of Khas land in favour of 33000 families.	• Settlement of around 15000 acres, 19000 acres and 15000 acres of agricultural Khas land has been completed in FY05, FY06 and FY07.	• Identify more Khas land suitable for settlement • Select beneficiary on the basis of transparent criteria • Provide Khas land on the basis of existing policy
4. Ensuring proper and planned use of land	• Complete land zoning in 19 Coastal districts • Complete land zoning in 2 other districts	• Preparation of a database based on land resources and of Maps based on land zoning information is going on • Land zoning maps based on land use in 19 coastal districts and 2 other districts will be prepared	• Prepare upazila land zoning maps • Prepare database based on land resources and of land zoning information system • Enact land zoning law and village improvement Act • Prepare a report on Char and Ecologically Critical Areas
5. Managing Jajmahal, Balumahal and Sairat mahals for poverty reduction	• Modify and update relevant policies	• Jalmahal management policy modified and updated • Land use policy made effective • Land Reforms Board rules introduced • Formulation of Balumahal policy is going on	• Modify /Update Jalmahal management policy • Modify /Update Balumahal management policy • Modify /Update other Sairat mahal management policy

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
6. Ensuring ownership/title through land survey	• Print and publish 1000000 Khatians • Print and publish 300000 Maps	• 1065631 Khatians of 2248 Mouzas and 655202 maps of 1949 Mouzas was printed and published • Printing and publication of 3000000 Khatians of 5400 Mouzas and 1344000 maps of 5600 Mouzas are under way	• Selection of area for survey • Employment of manpower for surveying • Informing land owners through wide publicity • Preparation and supply of Khatians and Maps
7. Ensuring maximum and efficient land related service to people	• Prepare recommendation for modification, updating and simplification of land related acts, ordinances, rules, regulations and policies	• A workshop was held in March 2006 to prepare recommendations • RRC has been working on this issue	• Constitute a committee of specialist including lawyers
Lead Responsibility: MoL, MoF, MoEF, MoWR, DoE, DoF, BWD			
8. Protecting and Conserving wetland, hilly areas, tea and rubber gardens	• Promulgate new laws/policies. • Modification/updating of existing laws/policies	• Department of fisheries, local govt. institutions closely involved in the management of Jalmahals	• Lease out rivers, canals, hoars etc. to poor and fishing community • Introduce special laws/policies for protecting hilly areas, tea gardens, rubber gardens
9. Taking measures for accretion of coastal land	• Accrete land in Chittagong, Feni, Lakshmipur and Noakhali areas	• Settlement of coastal land is underway	• Take measure to consolidate accretion of land in coastal areas and make it suitable for afforestation, habitation and crop production
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 2.60**

Policy Matrix 9: Housing Development

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoHPW, city corporations, municipalities			
1. Ensuring adequate and affordable housing for different income groups, especially low income and extreme poor and vulnerable groups	• Provide housing for families with low-income in rural and urban areas, landless and homeless families • Discourage encroachment on public land and formation of new slums and unauthorized constructions • Subsidize raising of plinth level and construction of houses within the Bheri-Bandh area in disaster prone regions of Bangladesh • Coordinate the National Housing Policy with other development policies	• Rehabilitation scheme undertaken for 60000 evicted slum dwellers • Chittagong, Kushtia, Natore, Cox's Bazar, Noakhali, Sylhet, Maulavi Bazar, Comilla, Narsinghdi, Barisal Housing Estates initiated and completed • RAJUK's 'Purbachal' (26917 plots), 'Jhilmil' (1775), 'Uttara Residential Model Town' (6640) implemented and is in the third phase • Annual REHAB housing Fair for members, clients, financial institutions and providers of building material takes place • Adarsha Gram I benefited 45,647 families and Adarsha Gram II benefited 25,385 families • Programme for the vagrant and elderly women are being administered by MoSW • Appropriate Resources for Improving Street Children's' Environment (ARISE) • Providing shelter with health services, education and jobs for 8,000 vulnerable children • For low-income GoB officials, 5000 flats in Mirpur and 1000 flats in Mohammadpur were built and construction of 420 flats in Motijhil is underway	• Preparing Policy Guidelines for creating conducive environment for private investment in housing • Target the extremely impoverished in rural and urban areas for assisted house building, community housing, mess etc. • Establish housing, preferably multi-unit –high- rise, for the extreme poor with essential facilities • Speed up previous projects facing stagnation and complete on-going development work • Expansion of planned residential areas in Dhaka, Chittagong and other divisional headquarters and in all the district towns for different income groups • In Dhaka, further development of Uttara-Gulshan-Banani and Baridhara • Provide loans to low-income people to own houses on hire-purchase basis • Build GO-NGO partnership and encourage the private sector to provide housing for families with low-income in rural and urban areas, landless and homeless • Develop mechanism for mobilization of resources and new financing mechanism • Encourage research and development for new modes of housing technology using indigenous materials • Strengthen House and Building Research Institute (HBRI) for low cost housing research
Lead Responsibility: MoHPW, city corporations, municipalities, NGOs, private sector			
2. Providing housing for rural and urban homeless, landless and vulnerable groups	• Provide housing for all functionally landless people by 2025 • Ensure shelter for people who qualify for safety net programmes • Provide housing for Female HH where women are widowed, deserted or destitute	• Establish Adarsha Grams, Abashan, Asrayan, Ghare Phera on Govt. khas lands • Fund for housing for the distressed (grihayan tahabil) established • Under Abashan project a total of 32,663 houses were built for 163,315 beneficiaries up to 2005	• Identify financing institutions, agencies, NGOs and other organizations for assisting house building • Set up slum improvement cell in every municipality • Extend solid waste collection service, efficient conservancy services proportionate to population within communities and provide water points and sanitary latrines • Build more hostels, vagrant homes and also replicate projects like Asrayan, Abashan, targeting single women, FHH, disaster affected families, vulnerable groups, street children • Ensure M&O of new and rehabilitated structures
Lead Responsibility: MoHPW, MoL, FD, PC, city corporations, municipalities, NGOs, private sector			
3. Maximising utilization of land in urban and rural areas	• Reallocate the extreme poor living in depressed areas • Target people with threatened livelihoods, hard-core poor people, unemployed people in remote areas, monga areas, hoar and char areas • Rehabilitate Disaster calamity victims	• Provide housing including safe drinking water, sanitation and electricity • MoSW's Abashon project in 180 upazilas is underway. • 6 Sharkari Ashroy Kendra (Vagrant home) is underway • Training and Rehabilitation Centre for disadvantaged girls, 6 Safe Home for the women and adolescent girls are operating	• Introduce land zoning, enforce rules for sites and services, formulate policy for inclusion of hard-core poor and women in income generating activities related to construction materials, formulate new structure of duty (stamp duty) and registration fees on the basis of economic categories • Provide fiscal and other financial and competitive incentives to GO-NGO partnerships that encourage rehabilitation and reallocation schemes

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
	• Mitigate housing problems of homeless poor • Rehabilitate scattered slum dwellers and pavement dwellers	• Formulated the National Plan for Disaster Management 2007-2015 particularly addresses specific housing needs of women and disadvantaged vulnerable groups included within CRA and RRAP • Rehabilitated slum and lower income group in Dhaka city in 47.90 acres of land by constructing 15,024 flats in 438 multi-storied buildings • Preparation of Master Plan/Land use plans for 12 newly declared Paurashava underway • Prepared layout plans of plots of land development projects of National Housing Authority • Bangladesh Country Urban Indicators Study Projects for 14 cities undertaken • Technical Assistance for Strengthening Capability of the Urban Development Directorate for updating upazila and District Town Master Plan • Establishment of Building Technology Dissemination, Testing and Trainings Centres at Rajshai, Sylhet and Dhaka is underway • Preparation of structure, Master and Area Plan for Sylhet and Barisal and Cox's Bazar towns is underway	• Develop Regional Plan for 3 Hill districts of Rangamati, Khagrachari and Bandarban • Develop land use clusters in rural areas (vertical expansion within specified zones) and detailed area plans through land acquisition and zoning • Create processes for land use planning and regulation • Ensure M&O of new and rehabilitated structures • Institutionalize capacity development of local authority • Prepare urban and rural Housing Policy for maximising land utilization of land
Lead Responsibility: MoHPW, MoL, MoEF, MoWR, PC, city corporations, municipalities			
4. Facilitating/ promoting private sector, NGOs and CBOs in house building	• Create processes for private sector assisted building norms and system for monitoring a GoB formulated regulatory framework • Formulate GoB body to evaluate institutional capacity of local authority • Construct new houses, street lights, roads and sidewalks	• Community Risk Assessment (CRA) Guideline and Risk Reduction Action Planning Process (RRAP) are under implementation through sub-contracting arrangements with NGOs	• Improving/expanding basic amenities in urban slums • Strengthen the Environment Cell to monitor conditions of urban slums and related aspects • Promote basic urban norms, neighbourhood and community feeling • Provide housing and rooming houses for poor female working women, single mothers and vulnerable
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 80.81**

Policy Matrix 10: Infrastructure Development including Power, Energy and Communications

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB)			
1. Increasing efficiency accountability and transparency	• Complete unbundling of distribution sub-sector • Create BPDB Holding Company • Corporatise BPDB's remaining power plants • Restore the sector financial viability and credit worthiness • Ensure good governance in the corporatised entities	• North-West Zone Power Distribution Company (NWZPDC) has started functioning. • South Zone Power Distribution Company (SZPDC) incorporated • Unbundling of distribution to be complete with corporatisation of Central Zone of BPDB • Study completed for corporatisation of Central Zone • Study for the creation of BPDB Holding Company is ongoing	• Continue unbundling and corporatisation • Establish commercial arrangement under Single Buyer power market • Rationalize tariff according to Power Pricing Framework and introduce life line tariff for ultra-poor • Strengthening sector regulation under BERC • Establish a power trading subsidiary for bulk power management
2. Ensuring least cost generation and expansion	• Expand installed capacity to 7000 MW • Increase per capita generation from 170 kWh to 200 kWh	• 1000 MW capacity of power plants are under construction • 1700 MW capacity of power project are under procurement process	• Develop a least cost generation expansion Plan • Expand coal based power plants and power generation by using safe and nuclear power technology
3. Expanding distribution and area coverage	• Increase coverage to realize GoB's vision to provide electricity to all b 2020 • Ensure access to electricity from 45% to 60% from conventional and renewable sources • Increase number of consumers by 2.7 million • Increase no. of village electrification by 6,000 • Expand distribution line (33 kV and below) from 275,000 km to 325,000 km		• Ensure expansion of distribution line
4. Expanding distribution by BPDB	• 6000 km distribution line (33 kV and below) expansion • New consumer connection: 400,000		Ensure balance development in transmission and distribution sub-sector Install telemeter for large customer's and expand pre-paid metering system
5. Improve operational Performance	• Reduce BPDB's distribution loss to 12.5 percent • Reduce retail customers accounts receivables to 2.0 equivalent months • Improve CI ratio more than 87 %		• Continue efficiency improvement
Lead Responsibility: Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB)			
6. Improving overall performance	• Implement National Load Dispatch Centre • Improve relay co-ordination and protection system • Reduce transmission loss below *3%* • Reduce interruption on National Grid below 30 per year and interruption time below 30 hours	• NLDC project is in progress • *450* MV AR Capacitor Bank are being installed; installation of a *600* MVAR and a *100* MVAR Capacitor Banks are under consideration • Targeted reduction of transmission loss could be achieved in the coming fiscal year	• Enhanced technical coordination of power system operation • Improve Voltage profile by installing 1150MVAR capacitor bank at 132 of 33 kv level

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
7. Expanding Grid network capacity	• Complete 100 ckt km 400 kV transmission line • Increase 230 kV transmission line by 936 ckt km • Increase 132 kV transmission line by 457 ckt km • Increase sub-station capacity by 4587 MVA	• Consultant has been engaged and bidding documents are under preparation for 400 kV line project • 230 kV transmission line projects are under construction • Bidding for construction of 132 kV transmission line project has been completed	• Ensure balance development in the transmission and distribution sub-sector
Lead Responsibility: Ashugonj Power Station Company Ltd. (APSCL)			
8. Improve corporate governance and operating efficiency	• Improve corporate culture • Reduce outages time • Increase plant availability to 80 %	• Modernization & Rehabilitation of Unit-3,4 & 5 of Ashuganj Power Station is in progress	• Improve plant efficiency by maintenance and rehabilitation work • Reduce auxiliary consumption and station use
Lead Responsibility: Electricity Generation Company of Bangladesh (EGCB)			
9. Increasing generation of additional electricity	• Ensure plant availability more than 85% • Ensure energy conservation from the very beginning of plant design	• Construction of 2 x 120 MW Peaking Power Generation Plant at Siddhirganj is in progress • Owner's Engineer engaged and bid document is under review for 2X 150 MW peaking power project	• Complete 2 x 150 MW peaking plant at Siddhirganj • Complete 360 MW CC power plant at Haripur
Lead Responsibility: Dhaka Electric Supply Authority (DESA)/ Dhaka Power Distribution Company (DPDC)			
10. Improving operational performance	• Reduce transmission loss to 3.5% • Reduce distribution loss to 11.5% • Reduce retail customer accounts receivable to 2.5 equivalent months • Improve CI ratio more than 87 %		• Continue efficiency improvement
11. Expanding facility	• 52 km 132 kV transmission line and cable expansion • Expand pre-paid metering system		• Balance development in transmission and distribution • Expand 1000 km distribution line (33 kV & less) • Connect 100,000 new consumer
Lead Responsibility: Dhaka Electric Supply Company (DESCO)			
12. Improving corporate governance	• Improve corporate culture • Reduce maintenance time and improve quick response time to system interruption		
13. Improving operational performance	• Reduce distribution loss to 11% • Reduce retail customer accounts receivable to 2.0 equivalent months • Improve CI ratio more than 87%		• Continued efficiency improvement • Undertake measure to improve customer satisfaction
14. Expanding facility	• Expand 1000 km distribution line (33 kV & less) • Provide 100,000 new connection • Expand pre-paid metering system		• Balance development in transmission and distribution • Reduce maintenance time and improve quick response time to system interruption

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Lead Responsibility: West Zone Power Distribution Company Ltd. (WZPDC)			
15. Improving corporate governance	• Improve corporate culture • Introduce pre paid meter		
16. Improving operational performance	• Reduce distribution loss to 12.5% • Reduce retail customer accounts receivable to 2.5 equivalent months • Improve CI ratio more than 87%		• Continue efficiency improvement
17. Expanding distribution network	• Expand 2000 km distribution line (33kV & less) • Ensure 100,000 new consumer connection		• Balance development in transmission and distribution • Expand pre-paid metering system
Lead Responsibility: Rural Electrification Board (REB)			
18. Improving overall governance	• Improve management efficiency and innovative arrangements for renewable energy expansion	• Study programme for management improvement and corporate governance improvement has taken by Power Cell	
19. Improving operational performance	• Reduce distribution loss to 11.5% • Reduce retail customer's accounts receivable to 2.0 equivalent months		• Continued efficiency improvement
20. Expanding distribution network	• Expand 40,000 km distribute line (33 kV & less) • Ensure 2,000,000 new consumer connection • Provide electricity to 6,000 new village • Install 20,000 new SHS		• Balance development in the transmission and distribution
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Oil, Gas and Mineral Corporation (BOGMC)			
21. Assessing non-renewable indigenous resources and undertaking measures for economic and efficient use of energy	• Increase oil and gas reserves through extended exploration in both land and sea • Increase coal extraction to substitute increasing gas demand. • Expand national grid to cover western, north-western and south-western zones.	• Offshore PSC Bidding 2008 initiated to entertain private sector investment widely • In view of strengthening BAPEX, funds have been allocated for extensive exploration works • Coal Policy is under formulation • Companies under Petrobangla are enjoying autonomy • Offloading of shares of the companies has been initiated • Expansion of gas network to the western and south-western zone is ongoing • Rajshahi city is being brought under gas network • Private entrepreneurs are being encouraged to install CNG filling stations	• Commercialize gas sector • Attract private sector investment • Increase CNG usage as environment friendly clean fuel
Lead Responsibility: Roads and Highways Department (RHD)			
22. Developing roads infrastructure	• Construct new road : 3160 km • Rehabilitate road: 2090 km • Construct/recon bridge: 21100 meter	• 3786 km of new road is constructed • 2406 km of road improved and rehabilitated • 13476 meter of bridge is constructed and reconstructed	• Increase maintenance expenditures • Construct coastal highway link • Develop border roads • Construct major bridges on national highways • Construct toll roads/ bridges

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
23. Improving institutional and policy formulation capabilities of RHD		• National Land Transport Policy is in place • Creation of an independent road fund is in final stage • Road sector manual under Project Appraisal Framework is introduced • Improved institutional capabilities for planning policy and reform are in place • Road safety division is functioning • RHD Management plan and manuals prepared • A private sector investment policy for involving the private sector in the road sub-sector has been prepared • Revised contracting procedures introduced • E-governance, networking and database like Management Information System, Geographical Information System , Personnel Information Management System and Central Management System, Road Asset Management System, Bridge Maintenance & Management System are in place • Manual of Environment Impact Assessment of RHD Projects is being prepared • Integrated Multi-Modal Transport Policy (IMTP) has been prepared	• Integrate road master plan with RHD, DTCB and LGED • Increase return-on- asset • Establish a National Highway Authority • Establish a Road Fund Authority
24. Developing corridor based roads	• Construct Dhaka-Southeast, Dhaka-Northeast, Dhaka-Southwest, Dhaka-Northwest, Khulna-Northwest corridor	• Implementation work is in progress • Creation of legal and financial environment through adoption of an integrated multi modal transport policy awaiting approval	• Upgrade Dhaka-Chittagong, Dhaka-Khulna, Dhaka-Sylhet, Dhaka-Tangail roads into 4 lanes • Construct Padma Bridge • Construct 2nd Megna and 2nd Meghna-Gumti Bridges
25. Ensuring rural-urban linkages	• Construct road 1100 km and improve 3000 km • Construct bridge 8000 meter	• Being implemented under 8 numbers of feeder/ zila/ public priority road projects	• Implement several feeder/zila/ public priority road projects
26. Attaching higher priority on road maintenance	• Periodic maintenance of 4500 km road	• Routine maintenance and shoulder repair is carried out for RHD road network and periodic maintenance is done • National highway network is being reconstructed, rehabilitated and improved • Regional highway is overlaid and resealed • The draft bill for the creation of Road Maintenance Fund is being approved and brought under legislation	• Upkeep of whole RHD network through regular routine maintenance • Enhance management budget • Enhance budget for natural disaster

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
27. Construct bypass road and flyovers	• Construct bypass road • Construct flyovers	• Bypasses have been constructed in major cities • Construction of Kaliakoir, Khulna, 2nd Bagura Town, Ambarkhana, Akhaura City, Osmani Airport, Jenaidah BISIC Shilpa Nagar bypass roads are underway • Flyover at Tongi rail crossing is in progress	• Construct Satkhira, Faridpur, Mymensingh town bypass roads • Construct flyovers at 10 railway crossing points on important national highways
28. Building the missing links on the national and regional highway network		• Construction of Hatikamrul-Bonpara road is completed • Construction of Bhanga-Bhatiapara-Narail road is completed • Construction of Barisal-Bhola-Laxmipur road is in progress	• Complete construction of Barisal-Bhola-Laxmipur road
29. Construction, Operation and maintenance of long bridges (1500 m or above), toll roads, flyovers, causeways, ring roads etc.	• Preparation of Detailed Design for Padma Bridge. • Land acquisition and appointment of Contractors for Padma Bridge. • To start the construction work of Padma Bridge. • Construction of Bekutia Bridge on Perojpur-Jhalakati road over the river Kocha under Jhalakati District.	• 1521 m long Mukterpur (6th Bangladesh-China Friendship) bridge has been opened for traffic on 18 February, 2008. • Land acquisition and appointment of Consultant for Detailed Design of Padma Bridge are under way.	• Growth of SMEs, new business, agricultural and industrial production, employment and income, and thereby poverty reduction in the south-eastern parts of the country
Lead Responsibility: Dhaka Transport Coordination Board (DTCB)			
30. Developing public transport system for Dhaka city by integrating different modes of transport	• Mass transport system serving Dhaka, Narayangonj, saver, Dhamrai, Gazipur and Kaliganj • Development of bus rapid transit • Development of arterial roads and footpaths • Development of circular railway • Improvement of traffic management	• Construction of Dhaka City bypass road is completed • Construction of flyover at Mohakhali is completed • Construction of Moghbazar flyover • Construction of bypass roads- Panthapath – Rampura, Malibagh – Janapath, Zia colony - Mirpur	• Construct elevated expressway in Dhaka city • Construct ring road on the outskirts of Dhaka city • Construct flyover at Pragati Sarani • Solve the traffic congestion in Dhaka city • Provide better traffic management
Lead Responsibility: Local Government Engineering Department (LGED)			
31. Developing rural road communication	• Construct: Upazila Road: 36166 km • Construct: Union Road: 44418 km • Construct: Village Road: 171335 km	• 21803 km • 13571 km • 11980 km	• Ensure transportation of agricultural products • Ensure participation and involvement of community, local government institutions, NGOs and beneficiary groups
	• Construct: Bridge/Culvert on Upazila Road: 382293 m • Construct: Bridge/Culvert on Union Road: 330409 m • Construct Bridge/Culvert on Village Road: 695688 m • Construct tree plantation: 80584 km	• 355374 m • 228329 m • 334580 m • 29342 km	• Ensure community input in planning and design • Ensure quality control of construction and maintenance • Strengthen sustainable operation and maintenance system

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
32. Prioritising pro-growth infrastructure (submersible road, ghats, growth centres, hats, women's market section and union parishad complex, cyclone shelters)	• Growth centres: 2100 • Other Important rural markets: 6900 • Women's market sections: 2300 • Union parishad complex: 4489 • Cyclone shelter: 500 • Ghats: 300	• 920 growth centres are under construction • 214 rural markets are under construction • 700 women's market sections are under construction • 1494 Union parishad complex are under construction • 380 Cyclone shelter are under construction • 135 Ghats are under construction	• Ensure participation of community, local government institutions, NGOs, beneficiary and user communities • Ensure community input in planning and designing • Ensure quality control of construction and maintenance • Strengthen sustainable operation and maintenance system
33. Ensuring women's participation and emphasising their needs		• Ensure women's increased participation in road construction, maintenance and building embankments	• Incorporate women's participation & needs in building of infrastructure facilities and project selection • Encourage female participation in labour/landless contracting societies grass root committees
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC)			
34. Making BRTC a viable institution and ensuring affordable services to all including the poor and women	• Increase number of vehicles and new depots/units in different districts • Keep up the standard of services • Minimize loss of property and lives because of accidents • Provide training for safe & improved driving, maintenance, repair, and operation • Introduce CNG services and bus services with Euro standard engines	• 200 Single Decker and Double Decker buses repaired. • New 194 Diesel operated and 30 CNG operated Single Decker buses and 10 Diesel Trucks have been procured • Procurement of 100 CNG Single Decker buses and 300 CNG Single Decker buses are under process • Already set up 6 driving Training Institutes and setting up of 6 driving training Institutes are underway • Establishment of 10 new CNG fuelling station cum petrol pumps on going	• Procure 595 Double Decker buses • Procure 100 CNG Single Decker buses. • Procure 500 Trucks • Modernise road transport service network to render satisfactory transport service • Help reduction of poverty, unemployment, pollution, accident, and economic maladies of people • Ensure women development and good governance.
35. Ensuring private sector participation	• Introduce avenues for public private partnership		• Public private partnership is to be ensured.
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Railway (BR)			
36. Extending & improving railway network	• Construct 77.19 Km new track. • Procure/Replace 21 Locomotives • Procure 50 Passenger Coaches • Procure 160 Wagons & brake vans • Construction of new ICD	• Construction of 35.19 Km new track is on-going. • Procurement of 10 Locomotives is under process • Procurement of 50 passenger coaches is under process • Procurement of 55 wagons & brake vans has been taken and procurement of 105 is under process • Construction of new ICD at Dhirasram is ongoing • Feasibility Studies for Padma bridge rail link, underground rail link, 2nd Jamuna Rail Bridge, Dhaka-Laksam Chord line are under preparation • Twenty years Railway Master Plan preparation is in final stage	• Prepare Railway Master Plan for next 20 years • Extend railway network • Increase line capacity by track doubling in Dhaka-Chittagong and Dhaka-Sylhet corridor • Improve the specification of rolling stocks • Construct new ICD at Dhirasam • Preparatory works for introducing advanced & improved technology such as Underground rail, Surface & Elevated rail, circular rail etc.

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
37. Prioritising pro-poor growth	• Rehabilitate 375 Km. railway track along with other infrastructures & signalling system • Remodel 8 Stations. • Modernize 12 station's signalling systems • Rehabilitate 22 locomotives. • Rehabilitate 260 Passenger Coaches • Rehabilitate 277 wagons & brake vans	• Rehabilitation of 345 km railway track along with other infrastructure & signalling system is ongoing • Remodelling of 8 stations has been taken in hand. • Financing for modernization of 14 station's signalling systems in under process • Rehabilitation of locomotives is going on • DPP for rehabilitation of 260 Passenger Coaches has been submitted • Rehabilitation of 277 Wagons & brake vans has taken place	• Rehabilitate & improve all Detroit railway tracks, bridge, stations, yards, & other infrastructures • Modernize signalling systems in the section to ensure safe & speedy running of trains • Increase passenger amenities and ensure safe, speedy & comfortable train journey • Adopt Public Service Obligation (PSO) involving all branch lines to serve the poor people in remote areas • Provide transport facilities to large numbers of poor passengers and for movement of commodities
38. Emphasising routine & periodic maintenance	• Provide routine & periodic maintenance • Introduce mechanical track maintenance system in BR. • Improve Pahartali & Saidpur Work shop.	• Routine & periodic has been enhanced and BR's maintenance budget has been increased. • Emphasis has been given to introduce mechanical track maintenance system in BR • Improvement of Pahartali workshop has started and DPP for Saidpur Workshop improvement has been submitted	• Provide adequate funds for maintenance • Adopt modern track maintenance method • Ensure routine & periodic maintenance of all infrastructures as per their standard specification • Rehabilitate & replace plants and machineries to enhance the maintenance works
39. Opening avenues for private sector participation	• Improve operational efficiency through more participation of private sector. • Make the railway more responsive to market needs and sound business practices. • Explore commercially possibilities of surplus land and other capacities of Railway.	• Provision for private sector participation is in place for infrastructure building and maintenance works • Introduced computerized seat reservation and ticketing system • Introduced on board services in 16 intercity trains, extra capacity BR's Fibre optic Telecom System, commercial activities of Mail/Express/Local train • Repairing passenger coaches, cleaning locomotives and converting non-AC coaches into AC on BOT basis are ongoing	• Association of private sector and outsourcing to be continued and new component would be identified • Explore possibilities of commercial use of surplus land and other capacities of Railway
40. Strengthening organization of BR	• Take various Organizational Strengthening programmes	• Organizational reform of Bangladesh railway has been taken in hand	• Implementation of organizational strengthening programmes to improve performance of BR
Lead Responsibility: Mongla Port Authority (MPA)			
41. Improving navigability in the Pussur Channel	• Dredge 32.00 lakh cum. silt to facilitate movement of 9m draft ship in the Pussur channel	• DPP of the project "Dredging at the Outer Bar in the Pussur Channel" has been approved	• Implement the project "Dredging at the Outer Bar in the Pussur Channel"
42. Ensuring efficient service to shore based cargo and container handling of the port	• Procure 2 Straddle Carrier-40 ton capacity, 4 Low mast forklift truck auto transmission-3 ton capacity, 2 Fork lift truck-5 ton, 1 Fork lift truck -9 ton, 2 Terminal Tractor-50 ton, 2 20'-0", 8 40'-0" trailer	• The project has been approved and the project is at the implementation stage.	• Procure these equipments under the project "Procurement of cargo handling equipment for Mongla Port".

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
43. Ensuring safe 24 hours ship movement in the Pussur channel	• Procure & install 62 channel marking and lighted buoys and other accessories • Remove 15 of sunken wrecks of ships	• A DPP of the project is being finalised by the Ministry of Shipping	• Implement project "Navigational Aids to Mongla Port" • Maintain the Pussur Channel for easy movement of ships • Procure A Cutter Suction Dredger for Mongla Port
44. Maintaining adequate depth in the mooring area of the Pussur Channel	• Carry out 1.328 million cum dredging	• The DPP of the project "Dredging in the Mooring areas of Mongla Port" is under preparation	• Improvement of navigability in the channel will help to increase incoming ships in the port
Lead Responsibility: Chittagong Port Authority (CPA)			
45. Increase port capacity/efficiency	• Construct a Container Terminal at New Mooring area with 1000m berth	• Construction of 5 berths including 180,000 sq.m. back up area completed and operating	• Enhance capacity & service level of the port
	• Appoint Terminal Operator for New Mooring Container Terminal	• MTCC is constituted to determine technical & commercial parameters for Management & Operation by private operator • PQ document prepared	• Promote Port Privatization Policy toward Land Lord Concept • Ensure optimum utilization of facilities created under NCT project
	• Construct back up facilities behind NCT berths No. 4 & 5.	• DPP for construction of back up facilities behind berth No. 4 & 5 is prepared and is in the process of approval	• Construct back up facilities and ensure optimum utilization of NCT
	• Chittagong Port Trade Facilitation Project by introducing CTMS/MIS, Environmental Management • Modernize cargo clearance procedure • Construct internal roads/ bridges	• Tenders invited for Computerization of Container Terminal Management System • Completed Oil Waste Reception and Oil-spill Protection • Civil works for Environmental Management is in progress; Prepared VCA and Anti-corruption policy • Construction of internal roads/ bridges and Port Service road and bridge over Moheskhal is in progress	• Introduce CTMS, MIS, Environmental Management system, modernise cargo clearance procedure, • Introduce anti-corruption policy, enhance degree of transparency/security
	• Carry out Capital Dredging in Karnaphuli river and Channel	• The Consultant has been requested for submission of revised cost estimates to prepare fresh DPP.	• Ensure safe navigational channel in view of the impact of construction of the 3rd Karnaphuli bridge
	• Undertake a feasibility study for construction of a new ICD near Dhirasrami railway station	• Feasibility Study completed and the Final Report has been accepted by the competent authority	• Increased capacity for movement of container through rail in Dhaka-Chittagong Economic corridor
	• Construct Inland Container Depot in Gazipur	• TPP is prepared by Bangladesh Railway for Designing, Tendering and Supervision services.	• Handle increased number of containers and provide adequate inter modal facilities
	• Improve port efficiency	• Consultant submitted draft Strategy Plan for CPA.	• Formulation of Port Efficiency Improvement Plan
	• Improve transportation system of containers through Inland Waterways for Chittagong Port	• TEC's recommendation for package-3 and package-4 have been approved	• Construct Inland Container Terminal at Pangoan
	• Construct Karnaphuli container Terminal	• DPP prepared & sent for approval.	• Facilitate handling of 4 lakh TEUs of containers per year
	• Construct Patenga Container Terminal	• At conceptual stage	• Construct Patenga Container Terminal

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
43. Ensuring safe 24 hours ship movement in the Pussur channel	• Procure & install 62 channel marking and lighted buoys and other accessories • Remove 15 of sunken wrecks of ships	• A DPP of the project is being finalised by the Ministry of Shipping	• Implement project "Navigational Aids to Mongla Port" • Maintain the Pussur Channel for easy movement of ships • Procure A Cutter Suction Dredger for Mongla Port
44. Maintaining adequate depth in the mooring area of the Pussur Channel	• Carry out 1.328 million cum dredging	• The DPP of the project "Dredging in the Mooring areas of Mongla Port" is under preparation	• Improvement of navigability in the channel will help to increase incoming ships in the port
Lead Responsibility: Chittagong Port Authority (CPA)			
45. Increase port capacity/efficiency	• Construct a Container Terminal at New Mooring area with 1000m berth	• Construction of 5 berths including 180,000 sq.m. back up area completed and operating	• Enhance capacity & service level of the port
	• Appoint Terminal Operator for New Mooring Container Terminal	• MTCC is constituted to determine technical & commercial parameters for Management & Operation by private operator • PQ document prepared	• Promote Port Privatization Policy toward Land Lord Concept • Ensure optimum utilization of facilities created under NCT project
	• Construct back up facilities behind NCT berths No. 4 & 5.	• DPP for construction of back up facilities behind berth No. 4 & 5 is prepared and is in the process of approval	• Construct back up facilities and ensure optimum utilization of NCT
	• Chittagong Port Trade Facilitation Project by introducing CTMS/MIS, Environmental Management • Modernize cargo clearance procedure • Construct internal roads/ bridges	• Tenders invited for Computerization of Container Terminal Management System • Completed Oil Waste Reception and Oil-spill Protection • Civil works for Environmental Management is in progress; Prepared VCA and Anti-corruption policy • Construction of internal roads/ bridges and Port Service road and bridge over Moheskhal is in progress	• Introduce CTMS, MIS, Environmental Management system, modernise cargo clearance procedure, • Introduce anti-corruption policy, enhance degree of transparency/security
	• Carry out Capital Dredging in Karnaphuli river and Channel	• The Consultant has been requested for submission of revised cost estimates to prepare fresh DPP.	• Ensure safe navigational channel in view of the impact of construction of the 3rd Karnaphuli bridge
	• Undertake a feasibility study for construction of a new ICD near Dhirasrami railway station	• Feasibility Study completed and the Final Report has been accepted by the competent authority	• Increased capacity for movement of container through rail in Dhaka-Chittagong Economic corridor
	• Construct Inland Container Depot in Gazipur	• TPP is prepared by Bangladesh Railway for Designing, Tendering and Supervision services.	• Handle increased number of containers and provide adequate inter modal facilities
	• Improve port efficiency	• Consultant submitted draft Strategy Plan for CPA.	• Formulation of Port Efficiency Improvement Plan
	• Improve transportation system of containers through Inland Waterways for Chittagong Port	• TEC's recommendation for package-3 and package-4 have been approved	• Construct Inland Container Terminal at Pangoan
	• Construct Karnaphuli container Terminal	• DPP prepared & sent for approval.	• Facilitate handling of 4 lakh TEUs of containers per year
	• Construct Patenga Container Terminal	• At conceptual stage	• Construct Patenga Container Terminal

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Lead Responsibility: Civil Aviation Authority, Bangladesh (CAAB)			
46. Expanding the existing Airports	• Up-grade Osmani Airport for operation of wide body aircraft	• 100.00 % Physical work has been completed by December 2008	
	• Extend and modernize passenger Terminal building at Osmani Airport	• Physical work is in progress	• Complete the rest by December 2008
	• Up-grade Zia International Airport	• DPP of the project is under process for approval in the Planning Commission.	• Re-construct the taxi-way • Replace primary radar and secondary radar • Obtain communication, navigation and E/M equipments
Lead Responsibility: Biman Bangladesh Airlines Limited			
47. Increasing scale of operation to serve more passengers	• Increase capacity through lease of aircraft • Modernize Biman's fleet by acquiring new generation aircraft • Concentrate operation in the Gulf and Middle-East region	• Addition of aircraft on wet and dry lease is under process and process is underway to modernize Biman fleet • More frequencies to Gulf and Middle East being operated	• Complete steps for acquisition of aircraft • Improve passenger services continuously • Increase frequencies to profitable ethnic markets
48. Improve financial performance	• Reduce operation cost in different areas • Enter into high-yield markets • Commercialize the organization • Appoint operator under management contract • Off-loading of Biman's 49 percent share	• Cost cutting measures have been implemented and still being pursued • Biman has been converted into a Public Limited Company (PLC) to run on commercial basis • Off-loading Biman's share is under consideration	• Government to provide equity for acquisition of new aircraft for Biman • Protect Biman's traffic and handling rights as a national carrier
49. Enhancing air cargo capacity	• Establish joint freighter services with foreign airlines • Procure freighter aircraft		• Formulate policy to carry perishable export cargo
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC)			
50. Enhance quality of Water Transport	• Construct/Acquire 2 Container Vessels • Rehabilitate 2 Coastal Passenger Vessels • Rehabilitate 6 Ro-Ro Ferry, 2 K-type Ferry and 6 Pontoons • Construct 4 Sea-Trucks for carrying passengers in coastal belt and risky routes • Modify Passenger Steamer M.V. Sonargaon • Construct/Procure 2 Ro-Ro ferry and 2 Ro-Ro Pontoon for Mawa ferry • Construct/Acquire of 1 passenger vessel of capacity 500 for Kumira-Guptachara route • Construct/Acquire of 4 self -propelled cellular container vessels of 100 TEU's • Construct/Acquire 2 Coastal Ferries and 2 Pontoons with Stable Ramp • Construct/Procure 2 Nos. K-type ferries for ensuring quick and efficient ferry services provided by BIWTC in Mawa ferry sector • Procure and Install Hi-Tech Navigation System at Paturia and Mawa Ferry and 4 Ferry	• The project is under approval stage • Rehabilitation work is being carried out • One project is under implementation • DPP of a project is at the approval stage. • Work is going on in Khulna Shipyard Ltd. and is expected to be completed by June, 2008. • The project is under approval stage. • DPP is under preparation. • Is being processed for foreign financing • Is being processed for foreign financing • Tender Notice has been published • DPP is under preparation • DPP is under preparation • DPP is under preparation • DPP is under preparation • DPP is under preparation	• Ensure efficient ferry services in Aricha and Mawa • Add Water Taxi for operation in the circular water route in Dhaka city • Add container vessel for water born cargo transportation • Promote water transportation in the inland and coastal water ways • Provide better communication facilities through waterways • Provide cheaper transportation for people • Provide safe and easy transportation for woman • Ensure efficient service in Dhaka-Khulna inland water route • Introduce Ro-Ro ferry services in Mawa sector • Provide uninterrupted ferry services during foggy period

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	• Procure/Construct Nos. Shallow Draft Oil Tankers for BIWTC • Procure/install modern equipments for increasing efficiency of BIWTC's dockyards • Rehabilitate 4 Nos. medium type ferries of BIWTC • Construct/Procure a Salvage tug of capacity 2000 H.P.		
51. Expanding services	• Open new ferry services at Laxmipur-Bhola and Bhola-Barisal ferry route • Open Chittagong-Cox's Bazar tourist services • Open Dhaka-Bhola passenger services • Open Sea-truck services where necessary	• Laxmipur-Bhola and Bhola-Barisal ferry services are in operation	• Establish Bhola-Barisal and Laxmipur-Bhola ferry services • Promote water transportation in inland & coastal routes • Promote transportation for poor people living in the backward areas and movement of commodities
52. Opening avenues for private sector participation	• Organize reforms and sound business practice • Meet up the market need • Make the organization more responsive • Charter cargo fleet and coastal passenger routes	• Will be done continuously	• Provide better and efficient services to the people at a competitive price • Provide efficient customer facilities • Contribute to the national economy by providing efficient services
53. Ensuring maintenance of BIWTC's fleet	• Identify the vessel on priority basis • Prepare necessary schedule up to 2008 • Introduce modern technology/machineries in existing dockyards	• Will be done continuously	• Provide efficient and time bound services. • Adequate modern technology for periodic maintenance • Provide modern facilities to the people on board.
54. Formulating pragmatic water transport policies	• Prepare IWT Master Plan	• TSC wing of Planning Commission is working on IWT Master Plan.	• Implement Integrated Transport System • Conduct Baseline survey • Increase fund for IWT sector • Provide better information and quicker services
55. Ensuring disaster risk reduction	• Reconstruct Infrastructures and other facilities damaged by cyclone 'sidr'	• DPP of the project is at the approval stage	• Take preventive measure for future disaster risk reduction
	• Conversion of main engines of some major ferries of BIWTC into CNG driven engines	• Project is included in the Medium Term Budget Framework	• Reduce fuel consumption and fuel costs • Keeping more polluted free water ways
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA)			
56. Ensuring smooth and safe navigation of all vessels	• Keep the inland waterways navigable for smooth movement of all vessels	• Master Plan for inland Water Transport system is under preparation • Several projects have already been undertaken	• Dredge 42.00 lakh m3 and 20.00 lakh m3 under 4 development projects • Build circular waterways • Build Inland Container River Terminal, Pangaon
	• Dredge 50.00 lakh m3 in various routes and digging of 35.00 lakh m3 in different rivers	• Action is underway	• Develop infrastructure facilities for IWT sector to provide cheapest transport cost for carrying goods and services
	• Procure 3 (three) dredgers	• Action is underway	• Contribution to the Poverty Reduction by providing cheapest transportation to the rural people
57. Providing port facilities		• Action is being undertaken following the approval of the project • Approval process of the project is underway	• Construct port facilities in Buriganga river • Modernize Dhaka River Port • Construct inland container river terminal • Establish river ports at Nowapara, Bhairab-Ashuganj and Borguna • Develop and modernize Barisal River Port

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Action Taken/underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-11)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board (BTTB)			
58. Expanding Internet Information Network		• DPP approved for INFO-BAHAN Project • Consultant selection process in going-on	• Extend ICT facility to empowering rural people • Procure necessary hardware and software • Develop ICT supportive infrastructure • Serve the needs of Voice Video and Data Communication
59. Installing digital telephone exchanges at Upazila		• PP (1st revision) approved • Approval of RDPP and underway	• Extend digital telephone at Upazila & growth centre level • Install RSU and MSU in 178 upazillas & 42 growth centres • Install185 radio links and 51 towers
Lead Responsibility: Bangladesh Post Office (BPO)			
60. Automating the Postal Service	• Procure necessary hardware, software and connectivity for 83 offices • Train the staffs for necessary operation • Automate the services delivery process	• A project on this has been prepared	• Counter automation • Automation of Postal Accounting Information System • Automation of Management Information System • Automation of service delivery system
61. Providing training to BPO staff	• Impart training on state of the art technologies	• A project has already been prepared	• Provide training to the officers and staffs of BPO
62. Building infrastructure of BPO	• Facilitate ICT based service	• Two projects on this have been prepared	• Develop Infrastructure development of BPO • Ensure rural women's access to ICT facilities
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 529.94**

Policy Matrix 11: Social Safety Net, Food Security, Disaster Management, Scaling up of Micro-credit and Rural Non-farm Activities

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
I. Social Safety Net			
Lead Responsibility: MoF, GED, MoSW, MoWCA, MoCHTA, MoLA, MoLE,			
1. Forming and fostering an enabling policy framework for social protection	• Prepare and adopt a coherent national social protection policy	• Each and every SSNP has its own operational policy	• Formulate and adopt a coherent, cost effective and women sensitive national social protection policy addressing intra-household food security with focus on women and children • Enact relevant laws and prepare relevant rules of business • Review social protection policies of various countries and their financial implications and modes of financing
Lead Responsibility: MoF, MoSW			
2. Extending coverage of safety net programmes	• Cover 75% of ultra poor of which 2/3 will be women with an emphasis on women with disability and indigenous groups • Achieve 90% accuracy in targeting • Ensure targeting 100% of seasonal unemployed in Monga affected areas	• Introduced an old age insurance to gradually cover all deserving persons • Amount of assistance raised for many programmes • Allowance for lactating mother and stipend for students with disability have been introduced • Additional 9 State Orphanage has been established • Micro credit programme has been introduced for persons with disability • Introduced employment generation for seasonally unemployed	• Extend coverage of old age pension and widow pensions to all eligible persons in phases • Redesign programmes for disadvantaged groups such as persons with disability, mental patients, indigenous groups, and people in remote areas with special focus on women and children • Review the possibility of increasing the amount of assistance • Widen and deepen the existing SSNPs with maintaining gender balance and appropriate targeting • Adopt new programmes to cover ultra poor, pavement dwellers, and adolescent girls of poor families • Facilitate community based social safety net • Assess the impacts of large safety net programmes • Undertake employment generation for seasonally unemployed with a focus on women and equal wage
Lead Responsibility: MoLE			
3. Implementing labour laws	• Put regulatory framework in place • Amend laws as necessary	• Labour Law 2006 has been passed	• Amend labour and implement labour and other laws as necessary by considering gender issues • Put regulatory framework in place • Put fiscal mechanisms and operational procedures in place • Form legal review bodies composed of government, civil society members, women groups, employers and employees
Sub-Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 34.03**
II. Food Security			
Lead Responsibility: MoI, BSTI, MoFDM			
4. Creating an enabling framework for food security	• Implement National Food Policy 2006 and the Plan of Action • Frame policy to ensure entitlement of all excluded groups	• Quality control of food products by BSTI • Mobile court for ensuring food quality by BSTI. • Preparation of National Food Policy Plan of Action 2007-2015 by FPMC • Gender and disadvantaged included in food policy	• Strengthen BSTI's food quality control system • Strengthen the food control system specially conformity assessment infrastructure • Formulate and implement food safety policy • Strengthen co- ordination, monitoring & evaluation while implementing the PoA • Implement National Food Policy Plan of Action 2007-2015 • Enact consumer protection act
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM			
5. Assuring low cost food supply	• Yearly distribution of 1.5 million tons of food grain at reduced price	• Food distribution undertaken by Ministry of Food and Disaster management (MFDM) during emergency	• Purchases food from domestic and international markets • Ensure enough food-stock for stabilizing the market

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM			
6. Smoothening fluctuations in food consumption		• Ministry of Food and Disaster Management is trying to maintain food security by maintaining 1.0 million MT of food stock at the beginning of the FY • Private import of food grain has been liberalized to improve the private stock for market supply • Food grain has been allocated for targeted programmes • Market price of food grain rationalized	• Modernization of food management to continue • Stabilize market price by improving market supply • Modernization of food stock management for speedy distribution/release in times of need • Ensure national and local level stocks of critical food items at public and private levels • Undertake targeted food operations, price stabilization, price support, open market sales and selected rationing
7. Increasing purchasing power of poor and entitlement of disadvantaged women and men	• Increase real wage • Ensure targeted distribution with emphasis on women headed poor households • Maintain low inflation rate	• Pro-poor growth firmly on the agenda • Various food based infrastructure development programmes underway • 100 day employment generation programme worth Tk. 2000 crore starts from FY 2009	• Encourage investment in labour- intensive sectors • Ensure easy access to credit • Pursue canal maintenance programme • Review impact of various macro-economic policies on the poor for policy adjustments • Target sector specific (garment, shrimp, tea plantation etc.) women workers for subsidized food
8. Ensuring better food utilization and more nutritious food to all particularly poor children and women	• Increase awareness of nutrition, food safety and food hygiene • Include food safety, nutrition and hygiene issues in school curricula • Increase nutrition for pre-school children • Improve nutrition for pregnant and lactating women	• School feeding programme on a relatively small scale • Providing technical input for food safety activities/ programmes. • A study on "Determination of food availability and consumption patterns and setting up of nutritional standards in Bangladesh" is underway	• Evaluate the existing programmes and options for new programmes • Ensure an effective capacity for long term planning of balanced food in building a healthy nation • Monitor nutritional status of pregnant and lactating mother (expansion of NNP) in disadvantaged position
Sub-Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 85.33**
III. Disaster Management			
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM			
9. Mainstreaming disaster management and risk reduction into national policies, institutions and development process	• Introduce disaster management and risk reduction in all development activities • Include disaster risk management in the development project validation process through Disaster Impact and Risk Assessment (DIRA)	• Disaster Management Plan finalized • SAARC Regional framework for Disaster Management established and modelled on Bangladesh disaster Management framework • Established Working Committee to identify the sectoral intervention for mainstreaming risk reduction • Climate change research underway to determine impacts • Actions underway to mainstream disaster risk reduction issues in the education curriculum	• Develop tools to facilitate implementation of the ECNEC decisions of 2007 • Include disaster risk reduction including climate change impacts in all the sectoral policies, plans and projects • Implement the national plan for disaster management 2007-15 • Undertake strong advocacy to ensure implementation of local level risk reduction action plan • Establish monitoring and evaluation framework • Introduce property insurance • Project future activities and growth targets incorporating risk scenario • Incorporate climate change into disaster management and risk reduction plans, policies, programmes and projects

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM, DoE			
10. Strengthening disaster management and risk reduction capacity	• Build capacity of national institutions for disaster management	• Disaster Management Plan prepared and endorsed • Draft Disaster Management Act is prepared • Draft National Policy on Disaster Management Act is prepared • MoFDM Allocation of Business has been revised • Standing orders on disaster management is being revised • Strategy for MoFDM and DoE on Climate Change drafted • Training needs assessment undertaken for disaster Management committees and programme implementers • Procurement of equipment for search for and rescue of earthquake and other disaster victims are underway • Flood monitoring and damage assessment using satellite data undertaken • Constructed poverty parameter spatial database in GIS • Crop monitoring using satellite data are received at the ground station of SPARRSO • Installed satellite based cyclone monitoring system • MoFDM undertaken 2005-2009 framework for action • Developed strategic plan of DMB, DRR and DGoF • Developing Annual plans of DMB, DRR and DGoF	• Finalize and obtain approval of all key policy documents • Strengthen the disaster management system including capacity building of disaster management committees at all levels to enhance knowledge and understanding of policy change impacts • Provide adequate and regular budgetary support commensurate with assigned responsibility • Revise plan of action for disaster management • Revise Allocation of Business in relation to MoFDM mandates • Prepare Plan of Action or Manual for disaster management for agriculture sector with a focus on women • Increase capacity of disaster forecasting • Conduct earthquake and tsunami risk assessment for big cities and costal districts • Strengthen search and rescue capabilities of first responding institutions • Establish a local level disaster management contributory fund with contribution from government, private sector and donors
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM			
11. Ensuring knowledge management (acquiring sharing and applying) on disaster risk reduction	• Identify and disseminate indigenous knowledge and best practices • Build network among local, regional and international stakeholders • Strengthen Institute of Disaster Risk Management & Research (IDRMR)	• Disaster Management Information Centre established and being progressively strengthened through databases and other information networks • Partnership being established with information providers • Flood forecasting, warning and cyclone warning system is in place • Agro metrological cell established • NAPA for climate change adaptation is in process • Development of drought prediction model initiated • Initiated activities to establish the disaster management information centre • Started poverty parameter special database in GIS	• Establish standing operating procedure (SOP) of DMIC • Expand information networks and data bases on all hazards • Establish network among local, regional and national stakeholders ensuring involvement of women groups at all levels • Establish a Disaster Management Cell and training provision • Establish an institute of disaster management research • Develop drought prediction model in agromet division in BMD • Build capacity of BMD in warning and forecasting system • Make mandatory disaster management education in all public training programme

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM			
12.Enhancing community level capacity for disaster risk reduction (preparedness, recovery and rehabilitation) with a focus on women	• Strengthen community based programmes for risk reduction • Reduce loss of lives of children, women, elderly people and livestock and damage to crops and household savings in disasters	• Developed community risk assessment (CRA) guideline and risk reduction action plan (RRAP) • CRA and RRAPs are under implementation by NGOs • Achieved high level of community involvement in CRA and risk management • Revised roles and responsibilities of disaster management committees and incorporated in new Standing Orders • ICT training programme implemented for all MoFDM staff • LAN/ WAN network established within the MoFDM and with BMD • Funds made available to document and disseminate indigenous best practice • Disaster management in school curriculum is being revised • Exploring and promoting different livelihood adaptation options • Constructed 25 flood shelter-cum-schools • Construction of 10 flood shelter-cum-schools are ongoing	• Create hazard awareness programmes to increase knowledge of risk and understanding of actions to manage risk • Expand the focus of risk reduction down to the household level through the development of Household Action Plans • Identify most vulnerable groups/assets (children, women, elderly people, livestock, crops, household savings) and include them in risk reduction plan • Establish the CRA guideline to prepare the risk reduction action plans for high and medium risk upazila and districts
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoFDM, MoWCA			
13. Ensuring protection of women, children, elderly, people with disability and other vulnerable groups	• Ensure 20% housing facilities for female headed household in public housing projects • Build working women's hostel in every district town	• The national plan for disaster management 2007-2015 approved • Gender mainstreaming policy for all disaster management and risk reduction initiatives is being drafted • Considerations for vulnerable groups like women and children are included within the CRA process • Ensure shelters have necessary facilities for the person with disability and elderly	• Finalize and implement the gender mainstreaming policy and establish effective monitoring mechanisms to ensure conformity • Develop a national damage and loss estimation system that considers the specific needs of the vulnerable and women's groups • Continue and strengthen the ongoing programmes
14. Strengthening governance in the sector		• Implementation of comprehensive training programme • Establishment of the policy, planning and regulatory framework underway • Establishment of the SAARC framework for comprehensive disaster management • Development of central relief management information system underway	• Establish the disaster management policy and regulatory framework • Establish a Go-NGO coordination mechanism for timely and effective response • Strengthen monitoring and evaluation system focusing on women and children
Sub-Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 9.19**

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
IV. Microcredit			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoF, Micro-credit programme implementing ministry/division/agencies			
15. Reaching micro-credit to the ultra poor with a focus on women, women with disability and indigenous groups	• Provide pre-credit maintenance and training support • Streamline credit delivery and diversify financial and non-financial services • 30% ultra poor women and men are reached through financial and HRD support	• Implementation of extensive micro credit programme of various public organizations and NGOs • Efforts are being made for reaching the ultra poor through GO-NGO collaboration • MOI is providing micro credit to the ultra poor	• Formalize multi-purpose credit society with better functional policy with a focus on women • Extend GO-NGO collaboration • Review delivery systems of major micro credit providers • Channel more resources for micro credit with a focus on women
16. Supporting mature clients, entrepreneurs and tomorrow's poor	• Provide larger amount micro credit in place	• Government policy recommended for providing collateral free larger sized loans to small entrepreneurs • Several NGOs providing larger sized loans to entrepreneurs	• Continue up to 2011 • Extend larger sized credit to small entrepreneurs graduating from micro credit based operations
17. Using credit as a development tool for the poor	• Provide non-financial services such as technology, marketing and risk management • Establish a network of specialized service agencies (public bodies, NGOs and private organizations)	• Micro-credit activities are being undertaken by NGOs • Extensive micro-credit programmes in place through BRDB and PDBF • Volume and ceiling of micro-credit has been expanded • BSCIC is implementing different micro-credit programmes • Self-employment programmes for small and cottage industries are in place • BSCIC is distributing micro-credit to the potential poor entrepreneurs	• Reaching the needy men and women freedom fighters • Make micro credit available to the employment seeker dependents of freedom fighters • Collaborating with the GO & NGO service providers at the local level • Develop innovative idea for covering the non-bankable poor • Introduce special credit-programme for vulnerable women
18. Making micro-credit operationally more effective	• Flexible rules for credit disbursements and repayment • Package offer of the agencies • 50% increase in the supply of funds for expanding micro-credit	• Some NGOs claim sustainability through dependence on own depositors' funds and low operational cost • Repayment rules made somewhat more flexible than before • Offered some package to the clients	• A nationwide micro credit policy must be framed with a focus and analysis of impacts on women • Regulatory framework for streamlining the activities of the micro credit programme • Avoid overlapping and reduce interest rates • Introduce uniform approach of operation both the NGOs and public sector • Regulate savings mobilization and utilization in a flexible manner
19. Developing women's self help groups	• Increase the number of women's self-help groups	• Micro credit operation • Weekly savings • Training and motivation	• Strengthen rural financing for non-farm activities by women • Women's entrepreneurship development • Create increased access to markets for women • Improve delivery of services
20. Transferring technology and develop human resource with emphasis on women	• Increase in production oriented technology and their transfer • Increase capacity of different institutions to develop human resource	• Promotion of promising technologies for increasing production • Human resource development through training and service delivery	• Develop database on emerging sectors • Establish institutional linkage for technological dissemination with a focus on women • Ensure sustainable rural technology transfer in favour of women
21. Developing human resources of CBOs	• Identify CBOs having potential of human resources development	• Formation of CBOs/VBO • Mobilization of capital through cooperatives and groups • Human resource development through training	• Establish Linkage with govt. nation building departments and other local level organizations • Development of CBO and local organizations
Sub-Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 5.39**

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
V. Rural Non-farm Activities			
Lead Responsibility: BSCIC, LGED, BKB, BNFE, MRA, LGD			
22. Targeting RNFE development with a focus on women	• Foster Rural Non Farm (RNF) Sector • Strengthen key drivers of RNFE growth • Make market function better • Increase women participation by 15 %	• BSCIC is providing training to develop human resource in the non-farm sector • Credit facilities are given by BSCIC for product promotion and business expansion of RNF activities • BSCIC is supporting preparation of project proposal for entrepreneurs to facilitate smooth business. • Establishment of growth centres for improvement of rural trade with special focus on women. • Provided training to 214,826 persons and self employment to 168, 891 persons through Community Based Resource Management. • Generated employment through rural road construction and earth work • Work identified through PRA and fund mobilized: 31819 person days. • Need assessed and placed with BKB for non farm loans: Tk. 5 core • Formation of village based organization • Promotion of human resource development through training • Increased participation of women in training on non-crop agriculture	• Strengthen rural communication for fostering RNFA • Give high priority to rural infrastructure and electrification with a focus on women entrepreneurs • Ensure capital formation through share and savings of the cooperatives • Strengthen support to multi-purpose credit society such as MFI and improve rural financing • Form cooperative service delivery organizations at the village level including women • Develop local government institutions to support RNFA • Promote business development service and product diversification for RNF sector focusing on women's needs • Explore domestic and international market for RNF product • Pursue technology upgrade and strengthen vocational training with focus of women • Encourage agro-processing and cottage industries by providing incentives particularly to women • Provide business advisory services to RNFP • Develop quality of products and marketing facilities • Facilitate women's access to new equipments for and knowledge about handicraft production • Review periodically the lending policy of commercial banks and MFIs from a gender perspective • Create credit/special fund particularly for women in RNFA
Sub-Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 10.20**
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 144.14**

Policy Matrix 12: Improving Knowledge Base: Education, Training, and Research

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
I. Early childhood and pre-school education			
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoRA, MoWCA, MoLGRD&C; NGO Affairs Bureau, NGOs			
1. Introducing and strengthening early childhood and pre-school education (ECDP)	• Introduce ECDP for all rural poor children in regular and community schools for at least six months • Introduce ECDP for the children in remote areas • Ensure participation of parents in ECDP	• Early childhood development programme • Study for developing ECDP curriculum • A number of national and international NGOs have been working on community-based early child care and development activities • NPA for children is under preparation (MWCA) aiming at children's right to growth and development • NPA and EFA are awaiting GoB's approval aiming to introduce and promote ECD programmes • 30,000 Imams have been working as teachers in pre primary education and the Holy Quran learning • Provide pre-school education among 9,000 Hill Tracts children	• Develop a core curriculum for ECDP to be used in all ECDP centres • Provide developmental care to children from birth and provide it free to all urban and rural children from poor families including indigenous groups • Adopt a policy of encouraging preschools attached to primary and community level schools to be operated by the Government, NGOs and community organizations • Expand learning centres for children • Introduce certificate course for pre-school teachers • Introduce mid-day meal programme in the ECDP centres • Continue 18,000 mosque-based, 2,687 temple-based pre primary education centres and 12,000 the Holy Quran learning centres • Expand mosque-based pre-primary education by adding 24,000 centres by 2013
II. Primary and Madrasha education			
2. Introducing a unified and common primary education opportunity for all children	• Introduce unified education for all	• Principle recognised and recommendations made in NEC 2003 and other documents • Revised curricula and learning materials focusing on the foundation of functional literacy in Bangla, numeracy skills (learning skills) and basic life skills for all children	• Continuation of ongoing programmes • Revise primary education curriculum on a continuous basis to make it unified and modernised
3. Increasing access to primary education	• Increase net primary school enrolment rate to 100 percent • Increase school attendance and completion rate to 80 percent • Increase completion of 5 yr primary cycle from 68 to 80 percent • Introduce primary education for drop-out and left-out children	• A project offering basic education to 350,000 urban working children is scheduled to be completed this year • A follow-up project has been undertaken • A project to Reach Out of School Children (ROSC) to serve 500,000 children through community-based centres, NGO collaboration, and incentives for children to attend is planned • Implementation of Second Primary Education Development Programme (2003-2009) PEDP-II • An NPA for EFA with targets and strategies to achieve internationally set goals for 2015 is under preparation. • 71 schools run by the Shishu Kallayan Trust (Child Welfare Trust) provide formal primary education and technical training to the under-privileged working children • School feeding programme under which a child is provided with 75 grams of fortified biscuits in eight poverty-stricken upazilas of three selected districts to 0.525 million children.	• Improve infrastructure and other facilities of the primary schools • Make all classrooms inclusive for all children, i.e., girls, children from indigenous groups, children with disabilities • Ensure necessary supports so that children with disabilities (about 10 percent of the primary school goers) can be a part of mainstream education • Introduce programmes for providing education to street and working children • Increase the amount and coverage of stipend programme for the students from poor families • Introduce payment of salaries and capital grants by the government to all non-government registered schools • Expand school feeding programme to Adibashi/remote area schools all over the country • Introduce teaching of mother tongues at the Pre-and primary level for indigenous children

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
4. Improving quality of education at primary level	• Introduce competency test after completion of five years of primary cycle and provide completion certificate. • Reduce teacher student ratio to :35 • Improve competency so that more than 70 percent of students who complete the 5-year cycle of primary education can pass the minimum competency test	• Implementation of PEDP II • Quality of education for three quarters of primary school students being improved	• Strengthen training and retraining programme for the primary teachers on a continuous basis to improve their pedagogical methods • Ensure one primary school for every 1500 persons or in places where students do not have to travel more that 2 kilometres • Apply quality standards like learning aids, and involvement of the community in all primary institutions • Increase recruitment of female qualified teachers and ensure safe housing facilities • Ensure supply of teaching aid in the classroom for making learning attractive to the students • Improve and ensure maximum teacher-student contact hours • Introduce sports, cultural programmes, reading competition etc. as extra curricular activities • Undertake measures to improve the capacity of DPE, BNFE, NAPE and NCTB • Establish Primary Education Cadre
5. Ensuring equality and equity in education at the primary level	• Ensure 100 percent enrolment of all children (boys and girls) • Sustain achieved gender equality	• Cash for education is introduced for the children of poor families • GAD cell established at NCTB	• Undertake community based efforts to encourage families to send their children particularly girls to schools • Ensure incentive system so that children from poor families do not dropout from primary education • Make education life-oriented so that the guardians are motivated to send children to school • Introduce an equity (gender, ethnicity, disability etc. aspects) and productivity oriented curriculum
6. Improving quality of madrasha education at the primary level	• Improve competency by 100 percent from current level	• Madrasha Teachers' training programmes are being implemented	• Provide training to 33 percent of the Madrasha teachers every year for 3 years • Provide retaining on a continuous basis • Harmonise curriculum of regular primary and madrasha education • Support modernization and quality improvement of ibtidayee madrashas
7. Improving primary school inspection	• Every school should be subject to visit by inspection team 6 times a year		• Inspection team needs to meet with the teachers, students and guardians • Inspection needs to be further strengthened involving representative of local government, member of SMCs and member of local level NGOs or CBOs

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
III. Secondary Education: General and Madrasha			
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoWCA			
8. Increasing access to secondary education	• Increase gross enrolment rates by 50 percent for all levels of secondary education. • Gross enrolment for the junior secondary level should increase from 60 percent to 90 percent; for the secondary level it should increase from 44 percent to 66 percent and for the higher secondary level it should increase from 17 percent to 25 percent • Reduce dropouts by half for general and madrasha education at all levels • Provide secondary education through residential schools to 6,600 Hill Tracts students	• SESIP (1999-2006) has been implemented towards strengthening accountability in management, enhancing quality and improving equity of access • Secondary Education Sector Development Project (SESDP) has started in 2007 to enhance quality by implementing the assessment and examination reforms and improving equity of access • An English language teaching improvement project (2nd phase) has been completed, and the third phase has started • Teaching Quality Improvement in Secondary Education Project(TQI-SEP), a new project, is under implementation • A boost to female participation in secondary and higher secondary level has been given by various stipend projects • PROMOTE project has been completed with the aim at raising the ratio of female teachers in secondary schools • A Non-government Teachers' Registration and Certification Agency (NTRCA) has been established and started its activities • School-based assessment (SBA) and Schools' Performance Based Management System (SPBMS) have been introduced to improve learning assessment • Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project (SEQAEP) aims at providing stipend to both girls and boys of poor families is under implementation	• Develop a sub-sector development programme for the under-served groups • Apply common minimum standards of inputs and performance in all types of schools • Increase resources linked to school performance, student attendance; reduction of direct household costs for the poor families • Undertake quality improvement measures including increased teachers' remuneration and incentives based on performance; improved training and supervision of teachers • Introduce a common core curriculum for madrasha and general education • Ensure sufficient and improved supply of teaching-learning materials • Better assessment of student achievement • Greater authority and accountability at the institutional level • Introduce stipends for boy students from poor families to prevent dropouts • Identify ways to discourage the practice of private tutoring • Introduce technology such as computer, internet, TV, and radio to increase the reach of secondary education.
9. Improving quality of education at secondary level	• Improve SSC pass rate from 60 percent to 75 percent and the HSC pass rate from 64 percent to 80 percent both for male and female students • Change and modernize competency test examination structure (SSC, HSC) • Reduce teacher student ratio from 1:60 to 1:40 • Ensure maximum teacher student contact hour per week	• Government has taken the decision to change SSC and HSC examination structure and will start piloting it in class VIII exam this year	• Introduce accreditation system for the MPO schools and create a competitive environment that will lead to improvement of the MPO schools • Provide effective teaching aid including access to computer facilities to the teachers • Improve benefit package for teachers in general with special package for certain subjects (math, English, and science subjects) and rural and remote areas • Improve learning environment by developing infrastructure. • Ensure quality production and timely supply of textbooks • Introduce sports, cultural events, debate competitions, book reading competition etc. for the students • Consider abolishing science, commerce and humanities streams and develop a common curriculum up to class X

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
10. Revising curriculum on a regular basis	• Revise and modernize textbooks and curriculum every three years	• Some attention has been given to make curriculum and textbooks free of gender biases	• Intensify work on gender stereotyping of social and cultural roles
11. Ensuring a gender balance in the formulation of curriculum	• Revise and upgrade curriculum to remove negative images if any and ensure presence of positive images of women and household activities in the curriculum	• Environmental issues are included in secondary curriculum	• Continue curriculum, textbook and learning materials review and development
12. Ensuring gender parity in Secondary Education	• Male female student enrolment ratios become equal at all levels • Ensure gender equality in enrolment and completion rates • Reduce dropout rate by 50 percent among girls at all secondary levels	• Recruitment criteria have been relaxed for women • PROMOTE project encouraged women's recruitment in secondary school teaching (at least 30%) • Nationwide female stipend programme for both secondary and higher secondary levels has been introduced • A stipend programme is being processed to address poor male and female students in metropolitan areas • Higher secondary level girls are being provided stipends in all over the country	• Make classroom environment and schools facilities girl friendly • Continue affirmative action to increase female ratio in teaching and management positions • Introduce stipend programme for female secondary students from poor urban families • Undertake a project to establish toilet and drinking water facilities in all secondary schools • Introduce school transportation facilities/ allowance for girl students • Build hostel facilities for girl students • Reduce leakages in female secondary school scholarship
13. Improving enrolment, attendance and completion rate of students of poor families	• Identify drop-out rate among students from poor families • Ensure drop-out rate to decline by 50 percent for students from poor families	• Pro-poor targeting stipend projects addressing both poor girls and boys are going to be undertaken	• Introduce and expand pro-poor stipend programme for male and female secondary students from poor families.
14. Ensuring 80% common curriculum of Madrasha and general education	• Revise and introduce new Madrasha curriculum within next two years		• Form a committee to revise Madrasha curriculum keeping consistency with theological content.
15. Improving the quality of Madrasha education	• Provide training to 33 percent of the Madrasha teachers every year for 3 years		• Introduce accreditation system for the private schools and create a competitive environment that will lead to improved performance of the MPO schools
16. Making Madrasha education job market oriented	• Introduce technical education in 10 percent schools on a pilot basis.		• Develop vocational education curriculum for Madrasha education
IV. Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET)			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoE, MoLE, MoWCA, MoPME, MOYS, MoTJ			
17. Introducing and expanding TVET for adolescents, young adults and adult males and females and make provision for TVET after class vi, vii and equivalent grades	• Increase enrolment by 50 percent • Ensure three extensive monitoring and supervision of all institutions every year • Build six nursing training institutes in six divisions	• Both men and women are receiving skill training from BITAC on 26 trades. About 10% participants are women in all training courses • BSCIC through Design Centres is offering regular skill training on different trades to develop entrepreneurship and self-employment • Skill training is also being given at district level by undertaking new projects by BITAC	• Establish residential/non-residential TVET institutes in under served districts and areas • Ensure sufficient equipments and facilities for all students to have effective practical experiences • Provide training of the teachers including foreign training to improve their quality • Introduce course for medical technicians • Design and introduce in collaboration with NGOs and entrepreneurs, modular course in income generating and self-employment skills linked to local market prospects for underprivileged groups including girls and women

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
		• 2nd shift programme in the technical and vocational institute are running from academic session 2004-2005	• Provide support to skill development in the informal sector • Improve coordination and develop a common policy and regulatory framework among various public and private sector (including NGOs) providers of TVET • Formalise informal sector by providing GOB support through technical, financial and infrastructure assistance • Introduce and expand ICT Training including hardware and software development • Formalise informal sector's training institutions by providing GOB support through technical, financial and infrastructure assistance
18. Introducing vocational training for boys and girls after completion of primary cycle	• Ensure catching 50% of the primary graduates (boys and girls) not going to secondary level.		• Undertake need assessment and mapping exercise for identifying areas where to establish vocational institutes
19. Increasing female participation in vocational, and technical education	• Increase female enrolment by 60 percent	• Establishment of three new polytechnic institutes for women • Establishment of six more Technical School & College for girls is underway • Programme is being taken to set up more polytechnic institutes for women • 30% seats are reserved for female participants in all training course	• Introduce female stipend programme for TVET education for all students • Introduce measures (tuition fee waiver, placemen facilities etc.) to attract larger female entrance into under-represented fields • Introduce measures such as residential facilities to attract larger female entrance • Adopt measures and targets for teaching and management positions in vocational, technical, tertiary professional education.
20. Providing market-related effective education linked to the industrial sector both in the domestic and international market	• Graduates find jobs within shortest possible time (6 months of graduation)	• Skill development project under the assistance of ADB already taken to make TVET more relevant and responsive to the job market • EU and ILO expressed interest in making TVET more relevant	• Review TVET curriculum and course of all TVET providers • Involve business communities in designing of course offerings and develop and revise curriculum and course offerings based on market demand • Introduce apprenticeship, job placement etc. in collaboration with the private sector • Upgrade curriculum and equipments in the VT institutes
21. Raise the percentage of vocational and technical graduates obtaining employment in the domestic and international markets	• Ensure that 80 percent of the graduates gets jobs within six months of graduation	• Quality Manual has been developed to improve academic and administrative activities of the TVET institutes • Monitoring activities of TVET has been increased • Skill training of TVET teachers is continuing	• Develop job bank and placement service for graduates of the technical and vocational graduates • Develop network with the trade bodies and human resource export agencies • Introduce training provider's agreements with industries, companies and NGOs • Develop competency based training and training standards • Revitalise Technical Teachers Training College in Dhaka and Vocational Teachers Training Institute in Bogra • Introduce short training course for teachers and technical staff in specific skill areas/industries • Strengthen teachers' training for TVET

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
V. Tertiary Education			
Lead Responsibility: MoE, UGC, NAEM, Public and Private Universities, MoTJ			
22. Ensuring regional balance in higher education opportunity	• Establish universities in the lagging regions	• Establishing an university at Barisal is underway	• Build medical and engineering collages / universities in underserved areas • Build nursing institutes in all divisions and old districts • Revise and develop modern nursing training curriculum
23. Increasing enrolment of male and female students in professional degree education	• Increase enrolment of male and female students by 50 percent in professional degree education	• Programme planned for improvement of infrastructure like teaching aid, research facilities for different public universities	• Give preferential consideration for admission of female students • Introduce 5 percent quota provision for female students
24. Ensuring gender equality in higher education	• Ensure that 40 percent of university students are women	• Establishing an international university for women in Chittagong	• Introduce higher number of merit scholarship for female students • Build hostel facilities for female students • Recruit more women faculties and ensure accommodation facilities for them particularly in universities out of metropolitan cities. • Introduce stipend programme for 30 percent female students from poor families
25. Creating greater opportunities for the students from poor families	• Ensure 30 percent of university students are from poor families		• Introduce merit based scholarship for the students from poor families • Introduce stipend programme for 100 percent students from poor families • Make education free for students from poor families • Introduce provision for education loans from public and private sources • Introduce a rule for the private universities to provide free education to 10 percent of the students from poor families
26. Achieving better balance in enrolment among humanities, applied and pure sciences and technology and commerce	• 50 percent increase in enrolment of both boys and girls in non-humanities subjects and professional areas	• Proposal has already been initiated to strengthen commerce and science departments	• Build capacity in providing education in the area of applied and pure sciences and technology and commerce
27. Improving the examination performance of the general undergraduate and graduate students	• Pass rates in degree and master's examinations need to improve by 50 percent		• Ensure teacher's presence in the campus by the management • Introduce and strengthen teachers training programme • Make training compulsory and link it to career development
28. Strengthening the knowledge generation role of the universities	• Link promotion and career development with research and publications	• UGC appoints a small working group with researchers from public and private universities to: - Compile the list of publications of all universities in the past ten years - Develop standards of publications - Recommend policy measures to ensure budgetary allocations to support research - Work out standard number of hours that university teachers ought to teach and to generate research publications	• Create research endowment fund in collaboration with private sector, university alumni and development partners • Create a research fund for undertaking action research by faculties of Universities / colleges • Link promotion to research activities undertaken and publication by the teachers at the tertiary level

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
29. Introducing opportunities for continuing education at higher level	• 5 percent of total students in higher education are returning or restarting students		• Introduce rules for entering or re-entering into higher education for those who dropped out, took a break and want to continue • Introduce provision of distance learning for continuing education. Use of ICT, TV and community radio can be considered.
30. Increasing internal efficiency of public sector higher education	• Achieve parity with regional standards in tertiary education • Make the National University effective	• Apply full quality-criteria to all tertiary educational institutions	• UGC will take an initiative to identify effective mechanism for monitoring of performance in higher education • Introduce a system of review and revision of curriculum every four-five years consistent with regional standard
31.Increasing cost recovery in higher education	• Increase university fees and accommodation cost every year keeping in view the rate of inflation in the country		• Undertake consultation with various stakeholders to build consensus on this issue • Mobilize funds in terms of donations from private sectors, alumni and foreign donations
VI. Literacy and Non-formal Education			
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoWCA, MoLGRD&C, NGO Affairs Bureau, NGOs			
32. Increasing effective literacy rate	• Increase literacy rate from about 53 percent to 80 percent	• A Non-formal Education Policy has been finalised • Bureau of Non-formal Education has been established for management and governance of the NFE sub-sector. • Basic Education for Hard to Reach Urban Working Children" is under implementation. Post-literacy and Continuing Education I Project has been completed.	• Build a nationwide network of community-based, community-managed and multi-purpose non-formal and adult learning centres • Develop parental continuing education opportunities and make it accessible through the network of community learning centres • Involve beneficiaries in planning and managing programmes • Improve women's participation by encouraging them, promoting representation of women in management and engendering the teaching content
33. Expanding the scope of non-formal education beyond the literacy movement on a pilot basis particularly targeted at the extreme poor and remote areas	• Ensure non-formal education with life skill for fifty percent of the illiterate	• Education Project II is under implementation. It will cover 1.6 million neo-literates in 29 districts. Under the project, literacy and income-earning skills will be provided • Two post-literacy and continuing education project targeting three million potential clients are designed to combine training in literacy and income-earning skills	• Assess the size and locational concentration of illiterate population • Ensure equivalency between formal and non-formal education • Link of the second chance programmes with skill development and formal education • Target marginal sections of the population to address their specific needs • Undertake targeted social mobilization in NFE area to support participation of stakeholders

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
VII. Education Governance			
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoPME, MoWCA, NCTB, MoLE			
34. Strengthening education governance	• Undertake monitoring and supervision of all educational institutes by authority every 3 months on a regular basis • All institutions at secondary, vocational and tertiary level should be rated by private agencies • Develop a longer term (2015) perspective for educational development and reform that provide the context and framework for short-term and medium-term actions • Decentralize educational planning and management	• Some monitoring and academic institution inspection mechanism is in place whose effectiveness needs improvement • Performance based incentive like sanction of academic building, scientific equipment, teaching aid, library etc. have been initiated.	• Strengthen monitoring mechanism and develop criteria for monitoring performance of the institutions, management, teachers and students • Develop monitoring and supervision criteria for all levels of education • Effective coordination in education sector for Human Development • Greater decentrali zation of educational planning and management • Increased, targeted and managed allocation of resources for access with equity and quality in education • Rating agency needs to make this information available to the public • Take an initiative to publish a book on rules and regulations applicable to MPO schools and also make this available on the website • Provide management training at different levels of education • Strengthen the SMCs by depoliticizing them. The members need to fulfil well defined criteria such as education, social involvement, standing in the community etc. • Develop policy, delegate authority and accountability at district, upazila, local and institution levels • Develop an action plan for implementing this policy • Establish a permanent National Commission on Education for pre-tertiary education answerable to the Parliamentary standing Committee on Education and also to the parliament
35. Reducing education divides in terms of content and standard between different streams	• Reduce education divides in term of contents between general and madrasha, and between Bengali and English medium schools • Reduce education divides in terms of standard between urban and rural school, and between public and private schools		• Undertake a survey to identify the degree and extent of educational divides between different streams • Prepare an action plan to reduce education divides between different streams
36. Reducing disparity between over-served and underserved areas and between rural and urban areas	• Complete building schools, colleges technical institutes and universities in more than 50 % of the underserved areas • Complete building and repairing of all schools and colleges in the cyclone "Sidr" affected areas	• School mapping is already done • Primary schools have their own guidelines	• Build educational institutes for various levels and kinds of education in the underserved areas • Build residential facilities for students, teachers and staff for educational institutes in the remote areas
37. Reducing corruption and system-loss in education	• Reduce leakages in the school subvention and stipend payments by 75 percent • Inspection must take place every two months for the secondary schools, three times for the degree college and twice a year for universities and professional institutes	• Performance based subvention at the secondary level has already been introduced	• Strengthen monitoring and inspection system for all levels and kinds of educational institutes • Create monitoring and inspection provisions by creating a local level committee involving local stakeholders • Introduce monitoring and inspection by local level stakeholders • Develop a code of conduct for the teachers and include that in their training programme • Develop a guide about the rights and entitlements for the students and their families

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
38. Improving the quality of teachers	• All teachers will be trained and certified	• Teacher training is already in place	• Teacher training must be mandatory every two years and training capacity must be strengthened • Link salary increase, and promotion of teachers to performance at all levels of education • Performance evaluation criteria and system needs to be defined in a transparent manner and needs to include students evaluation of the teachers
39. Strengthening financial management of all educational institutions	• Every institution needs to produce an annual audit report and submit to the management • Every educational institute needs to develop an annual budget and be approved by relevant management authorities		• Annual financial auditing needs to take place for all educational institutes by private auditors • Make mandatory for all schools to have annual budget and it approved by SMC
40. Enhancing resource mobilisation by all educational institutes	• Public universities and higher level professional institutes need to mobilize 20 percent of total funds from private sector and donors		• Make it mandatory for the management to undertake initiatives for raising funds from non-government sources
VIII. Continuing Training			
Lead Responsibility: MoE, UGC, Public and Private Universities			
41. Creating opportunities for continuing education and training	• Introduce provision for knowledge and skills to be updated	• Some private universities introduced limited provisions for continuing education in selected areas	• Introduce courses on need based skill retraining programmes in the already existing educational institutes in the evenings
42. Expanding language courses particularly English/Arabic etc.	• Introduce provision for language courses to be updated	• Various embassies and private organizations offer language courses • Foreign Language Laboratory has been set up in selected 11 colleges/centres. • English Language Teaching Improvement Project (ELTIP) is being implemented	• Provide government financial support to the private language teaching institutions on the basis of their performance • Improve the language programmes in the public universities
IX. Building Research Capacity			
Lead Responsibility: MoE, UGC, Public and Private Universities and Degree Colleges, Government and Private Think-Tanks			
43. Creating of new knowledge and information			• Strengthen writing of term-paper, thesis and dissertation in the curriculum of tertiary education • Create a national endowment of undertaking action-based and result-oriented research • Encourage research among the teachers of tertiary education and link it to promotion • Develop BIDS as the think tank of the government • Develop and strengthen BBS as an independent competent and functional organization
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 579.34**

Policy Matrix 13: Health, Nutrition, Population, and Food Safety

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: DGHS and DGFP **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOLGRD&C, LGIs, UPHCP, SSFP, MOP&ME, MOEducation, MOSW, NGOs, CBOs, CSOs			
1. Improve Child Health	• Reduce Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births from 52 in 2007 to 37 in 2011 • Reduce Under 5 Mortality Rate per 1000 Live Births from 65 in 2007 to 52 in 2011	• Essential Services Delivery • Expanded Programme on Immunization • Control of Acute Respiratory Tract Infection • Control of Diarrhoeal Diseases • Integrated Management of Childhood Illness • School Health services • Limited curative care • Updated National Health Policy • National Population Policy • National Nutrition Program	• Further strengthening of EPI • Full coverage of facility IMCI • Further strengthening of control of ARI and DD • Strengthening ESD • Continuation of HNPSP till 2011
Lead Responsibility: DGHS and DGFP **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOLGRD&C, MOLJ& PA, MOEducation, MOP&ME, MOWCA, MOF, MOLE, UPHCP, SSFP, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs. LGIs			
2. Improve maternal and reproductive health	• Reduce MMR per 100,000 LB from 275 in 2005 to 240 in 2011 • Increase proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel from 18% in 2007 to 43% in 2011 • Utilization of ANC and PNC for pregnant women increased from 41 to 60% and from 18 to 30% respectively • Proportion of institutional deliveries increased from 9 to 30% • Met need for obstetric complications increased from 35 to 50%	• Provision of ANC services for all pregnant women including TT • Training of CSBAs • Expansion of CEmOC in more upazila health complexes • Piloting of demand-side financing through providing maternal vouchers • Demand creation for utilization of ANC, PNC and institutional deliveries •	• Enforce legal age of marriage particularly for girls • Strictly enforce birth registration • Girls' education • Women employment • Expansion of CSBA • Women status in family and society • • •
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, DGFP, MOLGRD&C, MOLJ& PA, MOHA, Prison directorate, MOEducation, MOWCA, UPHCP, SSFP, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs. LGIs, Media			
3. Control of Communicable Diseases	• HIV prevalence continue to be <1% among high risks groups • Sustain TB case detection rate of 70% achieving geographical and socio-economic parity • Sustain TB treatment success rate of 85% achieving geographical and socioeconomic parity • Decrease of leprosy endemic districts (prevalence >1/10,000 population) from 8 to 0. • Reduce malaria specific mortality and morbidity 50% by 2011 • Reduce kal-azar incidence as less than 1 per 10,000 population at upazila level by 2011 • Reduce case fatality rate of dengue below 1% by 2011 • Mass drug administration for filariasis elimination coverage 100% by 2011	• National AIDS/STD Programme • Targeted HIV/AIDS interventions with high risks groups like sex workers, injectable drug users, migrant workers, transport workers, HIV positive etc. and young people • National TB programme • DOTS programme in TB • Leprosy elimination programme • Malaria control programme • Early diagnosis and prompt treatment of malaria • Distribution of insecticide treated mosquito nets in selected areas • Kal-azar elimination programme • Filariasis control programme • Dengue control programme	• Supportive laws and law-enforcing agencies for effective HIV/AIDS prevention programme • Supportive prison authorities for effective TB programme • Supportive local government institutions (union councils, municipalities, city corporations) for environment cleaning for controlling vectors •

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, NBR, MoIn, MOEducation, MOP&ME, Media, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, MOCommerce, BSTI			
4. Control of Non-communicable diseases	• Reduction of prevalence of smoking in adults to 15% by 2011 • Reduction of prevalence of smokeless tobacco use in adults to 15% by 2011 • Increase screening for early detection of cancer (cervix, breast and oral) to 30% of the eligible women by 2011 • Increase detection of hypertension with awareness raising to 20% by 2011	• Strategic plan for surveillance and prevention of non-communicable diseases in Bangladesh • Public information campaign for awareness creation	• High taxation on tobacco • Public information campaign
Lead Responsibility: NNP, IPHN **Associate Responsibility:** UPHCP, SSFP,MOHFW, MOWCA, MOIn, MOCommerce, MOP&ME, MOEducation, Media, NGOs, CBOs, CSOs,			
5. Nutrition	• Reduction of percent of underweight children age 6 to 59 months from 46.3% in 2007 to 36% in 2011 • Reduction of percent of severely underweight children age 6 to 59 months from 10.9 % in 2007 to <2 % in 2011 • Reduce the prevalence of low birth weight (<2500g) from 36% to 20% or less by 2011 • Maintain the prevalence of night blindness among children aged 12-59 months below 0.5% • Reduction of the night blindness among pregnant women to below 5% by 2011 • Reduction of the prevalence of anaemia in <5 years children from 49 to 40%, adolescents from 30 to 20% and in pregnant women from 46 to 30% by 2011. • Reduction of the prevalence of iodine deficiency from 43 to 23% of all school children by 2011	• National Nutrition Programme • Control of Vitamin A deficiency disorders • Control of iron deficiency anaemia • Control of iodine deficiency disorders • Micronutrient fortification • Behaviour change communication • Breast feeding promotion and protection for improved nutrition practices • Growth monitoring and promotion	• Role of women's status in family and society for ensuring her own and child's nutrition • Adapt NNP on the basis of lessons learnt • Urban nutrition • Promotion of breast feeding, supplementary feeding and nutrition
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW, MOLGRD&C, MOCommerce **Associate Responsibility:** MOHA, MOA, MOF&DM, MOF&L, MOIn, LGIs, Media, NGOs, CBOs, CSOs			
6. Food safety and quality	• Setting definite food standard • Review and update of all existing food safety laws • Examine the need of setting authority to deal with food safety and quality	• Standardization of different food items including adoption of Codex standard of 29 food items • Consumers' protection act under finalization • Awareness rising on food safety and quality	• Coordination among the concerned ministries for enforcement of food safety • Examine the need of setting authority to deal with food safety and quality
Lead Responsibility: DGFP **Associate Responsibility:** DGHS, MOHFW, CA/PM's office, MOLGRD&C, UPHCP, SSFP, MOLJ&PA, LGIs, MOF, MOP, MOWCA, MOIn, MOP&ME, MOEducation, Media, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs			
7. Population planning	• Reduction of total fertility rate from 2.7 in 2007 to 2.2 in 2011 • Reduction of population growth rate from 1.61% to 1.20% in 2011 • Increase CPR from 54% to 72% by 2011 • Long acting and permanent methods constitute most in method mix	• FP programme constituting field workers at household level backed by network of facilities at different levels • National population policy • Emphasis on long acting and permanent methods • Focused activities in low performing areas	• Bringing back population issue as number one problem of the country • Effective FP programme in urban areas • Enforce legal age at marriage • Women's employment
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOIn, MOP&ME, MOEducation, Media, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs			
8. Health Education and promotion	• Improve health seeking behaviour of the community with the emphasis of health education for the vulnerable groups • Strengthen community participation in health promotion activities and ensure optimum use of health services • Improve social values that facilitate determinants of health and improve family health development	• Programmes undertaken by Bureau of Health Education under DGHS • Programmes undertaken by IEM unit under DGFP • Outsourced promotion to non-state agencies	• Multi-sectoral collaboration for health promotion • Inclusion in school curricula

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOHA, MOF&L, MOLGRD&C, MOIn, Media, NGOs, CBOs, CSOs			
9. Control of emerging threats	• Improved existing facilities and introduction of new facilities for counselling and treatment of emerging threats	• Some facilities are in place and others are planned for combating emerging threats	• Coordination with other ministries and stakeholders for combating threats like mental health, drug addiction, avian flue, arsenicosis, injuries, trauma, accidents etc.
Lead Responsibility: UPHCP, SSFP, DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOLGRD&C, LGIs, NGOs			
10. Urban health services	• Urban health strategy formulation • Access and effective use of services by the urban poor	• UPHCP • SSFP • Secondary and tertiary care by MOHFW	• Urban health strategy • Coordination with UPHC and SSFP to emphasis FP and nutrition
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOLGRD&C, MOS&ICT, MOEnvironment, NGOs, Media			
11. Climate change and health protection	• Development of a national programme outline to combat climate change effect on health	• Research, studies to understand possible effects of climate change on health	• Coordination among different ministries and stakeholders • Global partnership
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, CA/PM's office, NGOs, Media			
12. Primary health care	• 60% of HNPSP budget spending at upazila and below • Community driven PHC services	• Network of trained field workers and facilities at different levels – CCs, H&FWCs, UHC	• Engagement of non-state actors based on comparative advantage for making PHC accessible in hard-to-reach areas
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOF, CA/PM's office			
13. Secondary and tertiary health care	• Standardization of services, human resources and equipment • Hospital autonomy	• Network of district, medical college and specialized hospitals	• Hospital autonomy
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW			
14. Alternate medical care	• Improvement of the standard of the AMC	• AMC provided in public sector facilities	• Expansion of AMC
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW			
15. Strengthening referral system	• Establishment of a network of well worked referral system	• Limited efforts, not yet effectively • coordinated	• Higher level facilities to only attend referred patients
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, MOF, MOSW, MoCommerce, MOLand			
16. Affordable health care services	• Non-public sector facilities receiving fund from the government to provide 30% of their services free to the poor	• Network of public sector facilities • Government funding non-public sector facilities	• Government to support establishment of evenly spread specialist facilities by non-public sector
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, NBR, NGOAB, NGOs			
17. Surveillance of diseases	• Updating of existing system to include NCDs and keeping in view the international health regulation system	• Different communicable diseases surveillance systems	• Bringing non-public sector facilities and programmes within the surveillance
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, LGIs, MOLGRD&C, MoEnvironment, NGOs			
18. Medical waste management	• To cover all public and non-public sector facilities across the country	• Exists in some of the public and non public sector facilities	• Cooperation among the parties concerned
Lead Responsibility: DGHS **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW			
19. Supply management	• Effective and efficient procurement, supply and utilization of supplied equipments	• Weak and uncoordinated system allowing many equipments unutilized	• Decentralization of procurement • Outsourcing for repair and maintenance
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** CA/PM's office			
20. Health governance	• Practice of transparency and accountability in all acts at all levels	• PPP • Citizens charter	• Stewardship role of the public sector • Regulation of the non-public sector
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOF, MOP, CA/PM's office			
21. Sector reforms	• Continuation and further strengthening of on-going reforms	• Decentralized planning and budgeting • Diversification of service provisions	• Single plan and budget in MOHFW • Decentralized planning and budgeting

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOWCA, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs			
22. Gender equality in health	• Ensuring women's health rights throughout their life cycle	• Women friendly facilities • Network of facilities	• Women's status in family and society
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOLJ&PA, CA/PM's office			
23. Stewardship role of the public sector	• MOHFW gradually assume strategic stewardship and governance roles for policy management • MOHFW strengthens its regulatory and supervisory roles • Public sector to ensure proper safety net for the poor, vulnerable and marginalized • MOHFW assumes responsibilities for proper information generation, collection and effective management feeding into policy formulation and planning	• Updating of the national health policy • Revised BMDC ordinance • PPP	• Role of public sector in direct service delivery
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOEstablishment, BMDC, Universities, BMA			
24. Human resources for health	• Formulation of long-term comprehensive Human Resource strategy	• Private sector participation in medical education	• Career plan • Uniform accreditation of all medical education by public and private sector • Handling the large number of informal service providers
Lead Responsibility: DDA **Associate Responsibility:** MOHFW, BMA			
25. Drug issues	• Ensuring easy access to essential drugs at fair price.	• National Drug Policy	• Rational use of drugs
Lead Responsibility: MOLGRD&C **Associate Responsibility:** WASAs, DPHE, LGIs, MOIn, Media, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs			
26. Water and sanitation	• Universal access of safe water and sanitation by 2010	• DPHE • WASAs • LGIs • National Sanitation Policy	• Sanitized railway and reverie transports
Lead Responsibility: MOHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MOF, MOP, CA/PM's office, MOCommerce			
27. Financing of HNP sector	• Share of HNP allocation to national budget be raise to 12% by 2011	• Participation of non-public sectors • Contribution from donors	• Acquire, retain and use of resources by the health facilities • Health insurance

Policy Matrix 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment- (a) Women's Advancement and Rights

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA **Associate Responsibility:** PMO, MoLJPA			
1. Putting policy and legal framework in place toward achieving equal rights for women	• Make constitution the basis for ensuring women's rights and advancement • Introduce official circular to all ministries to identify ways to enhance women's advancement	• National Women's Policy 2008 formulated • Ratified CEDAW with some reservation	• Withdraw reservation and ensure full ratification of CEDAW • Address explicitly women's advancement and rights issues in all national and sectoral policies • Implement National Women's Policy 2008 • Implement CEDAW • Amend Section 1(2) of the Family Courts Ordinance of 1985 to include the whole of Bangladesh • Amend citizenship act to ensure equality between women and men citizens • Adopt a uniform family code in order to protect the rights of all women
I. Employment			
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoLE, MoEWOE, MoYS **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, MoI, SCITI, BSCIC, BITAC, MoLJPA, MoA, NGOs , Private sector			
2. Ensuring women's full participation in mainstream economic activities 3. Eliminating all social discriminations against women in all economic activities	• Reduce poverty of 50 % of poor women • Increase number of women beneficiaries to credit facilities by 10 % annually • Provide marketable technical and skills training to 2.5 lakh women • Issue Government order for the provision of 5 months' Maternity Leave with full pay for women workers both at public and private level • Raise the number of day care centres to 42 from 32 and provide day care services to 3000 children • Provide training and credit facilities for retrenched women workers • Create opportunities for productive employment of women	• MoWCA distributed widowed, deserted and destitute women allowance in the amount of Tk. 21780 Lakhs to 650,000 beneficiaries during FY08 • 95,400 rural women are getting training and micro-credit and taka 29.35 Core is distributed to the beneficiaries • 5169 sewing machines were distributed among poor women • VGD beneficiaries are getting taka 7.5 Lakhs in one cycle • BSCIC is regularly giving entrepreneurship training to ensure that more women participate in small and cottage industries and micro enterprise • BITAC is providing skills training for mainstreaming women entrepreneurs • SMESDP has taken a project to develop facilities for increasing women participation in the economic activities • A project "Social Protection for the Poor Female Workers of the Garments Sector" was undertaken to reduce employment risks associated with the Multi Fibber Agreement • Provision for 5 months' Maternity Leave with full pay for women has been incorporated in the National Women Development Policy 2008 • The Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) provided skill training to rural poor women in eight upazilas • A project "Community Based Training for Employment and Income Generation for Rural Poor Women" was undertaken	• Enforce equal pay for equal work and ensure inflation adjusted wage • Ensure marketable skills development training for the retrenched garment workers • Ensure safe & secure working environment for women • Ensure 5 months' Maternity Leave with full pay for women worker in both public and private sectors • Ensure women access and entry into foreign employment • Set up migrant resource centre paying attention to women's needs • Encourage the private sector to recruit more women and monitor employers' behaviour towards female employee through developing a code of conduct • Establish more childcare facilities for working mothers • Ensure credit facilities for retrenched workers and provide alternative employment • Develop a national system of Contributory Provident Funds and Pension Funds for working women (garments, other industries) • Provide life and disability insurance for the protection of women workers and female headed households • Provide market-based and diversified skill-training to women • Link credit with entrepreneurship development programme and provide need based training to women

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
II. Technology			
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoSICT **Associate Responsibility:** NGOs, Private sector			
4. Ensuring women's access to technology	• Ensure participation of 50 percent of women in the key sectors in technology adoption for enhancing competitiveness • Ensure that those who receive training in e-commerce, e-business, ICT and skill development 50% are women	• Ministry has keen interest in enlarging the programme in 30 more districts for 24,000 women • Through the Computer Training Centres of DWA and JMS 4518 women are getting ICT training every year	• Provide women training with on e-commerce, e-business, ICT and create job banks for women • Encourage making and disseminating inexpensive domestic appliances to reduce women's household workload • Establish ICT centres for women in all districts • Ensure that women benefit from new technology
III. Social Protection			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoLJPA, MoWCA, MoHA, **Associate Responsibility:** MoF, MoLE, MoSW, MoHFW, MoCHTA and NGO/CSOs			
5. Ensuring social protection for women against vulnerability and risks	• Expand social protection to cover all disadvantaged women and children • Increase health coverage and provide insurance for reducing risks faced in pregnancy, childbirth, and old age for destitute women	• Social protection for disadvantaged and older women (VGF, FSVGD, VGD-UP, Widow & Old age allowance, WTC, NNP) • Social Protection Projects taking relevant initiatives	• Ensure access of women to government Legal Aid Fund • Increase budgetary allocation for economic, external and health risk management for female • Introduce social security legislation for disabled women and implement through community approaches • Undertake programmes for disadvantaged women including poor destitute and elderly • Strengthen GO/NGO/CSOs coordination to provide basic information about the status of ethnic women and men
IV. Finance and Banking			
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoSW, BB **Associate Responsibility:** BOI, MoI, MoI, MoF, MoLGRDC,			
6. Ensuring women's easy access to finance and credit for full participation in mainstream economic activities	• Provide 10 % of total bank credit to women, including indigenous women with disability • Expand coverage of bank credit including micro-credit for women in underdeveloped areas • Enhance effectiveness of village based cooperatives to address the economic vulnerability caused by floods, droughts and cyclones • Provide soft credit including rescheduling facilities and loan waiver/ exemption for victims of conflicts	• Ministry creates opportunities for ensuring social protection against vulnerability through providing micro credit/ bank credit by utilizing government machineries and various nongovernmental organizations covering a large number of poor women.	• Introduce soft loan, collateral free loan, low interest rate and longer repayment scheme from bank and other financial sources • Provide banking facilities to garment workers near their workplace • Allocate budgetary funds for providing small-scale loans to women • Provide policy and financial supports for the sustainability of women's involvement in entrepreneurship • Expand micro-credit for women in small and marginal farm households • Provide one-stop service with credit, market information, legal services, and technology for micro-credit borrowers and women entrepreneurs • Develop savings incentives for working women • Strengthen village based cooperatives to address the economic vulnerability caused by natural calamities

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
V. Housing Facilities and Shelter			
Lead Responsibility: : MoHPW, MoL, MoEF, MoWR **Associate Responsibility:** PC, MoF city corporations, municipalities, City Development Authorities, NGOs, CBOs, private sector			
7. Ensuring safe and affordable shelter and housing for women at risk and vulnerable women	• Ensure 50 % housing facilities for female headed households in public housing projects • Build working women's hostels in every district town	• 7 hostels are in operation to provide safe housing for the working women • Vagrants home and Abasan housing programme are in place • Construction of two hostels at Barisal and Sylhet is underway • Expansion of Housing Facility of Working Women of Jatioyo Mohila Sangstha is on going	• Provide safe affordable housing facilities for single women and female headed households • Build homes for elderly women particularly poor women • Give priority to lower level women government staff while allocating housing • Ensure that buildings have necessary facilities for women with disability and elderly women • Build hostels for working women especially garments workers near their workplace
VI. Political empowerment & decision making			
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA, MoWCA **Associate Responsibility:** PMO, MoLGRDC, MoE, MoPME, NGO/CSOs, EC, political parties, media			
8. Enhancing women's political empowerment 9. Improving women's participation in decision making	• Ensure 1/3rd of the seats of the National Parliament reserved for women for direct election • Increase participation of women in the committees of political parties by at least 1/3rd • Enhance capacity of women members of the local government institutions	• National Women Development Policy 2008 made a provision for reserving 1/3rd in the National Parliament • Women representation in local bodies • Government order issued for clarifying duties & responsibilities of local government representatives in the reserve seats	• Ensure full and effective participation of women in national parliament and local government institutions • Include women MPs in all Standing Committees • Encourage political parties to include women in 1/3rd of their committee membership • Arrange gender sensitization for Parliamentarians • Encourage women leaders to participate in the politics • Take initiatives towards making women politically more conscientious • Ensure political commitment of all political parties to address the issue of direct election of women in parliament with specific constituencies • Integrate positive image of women leaders in the school curriculum from historical evidence • Make the duties and responsibilities of elected women local government representative in the reserve seats clear
VII. Violence Against Women(VAW)			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoWCA, MoLJPA, MoHA, MoHFW **Associate Responsibility:** MoI, NGO,CSOs, media			
10. Eliminating all forms of violence against women 11. Eliminating all forms of exploitation and discriminations legal, socio-cultural against women	• Increase reporting of violence against women cases • Reduce incidence of VAW at least 50 percent • Increase support and rehabilitation measures for VAW victims • Increase allocation for the police service and judiciary system aimed at counteracting VAW	• 6 One-Stop Crisis Centre (OCC)" have been established in Medical College Hospitals at divisional level • The MoWCA has a Central Cell to prevent violence against women and children. The Cell works in close collaboration with other ministries and departments • "Safe Home" for the victims has been established at Gazipur • Ministry will undertake Multi Sectoral Programme on VAW (2nd phase) and this project will strengthen the Central Cell for Violence against Women and Children of MoWCA	• Include domestic violence as a punishable crime in Women and Children Repression Prevention Act 2000 • Ensure protection of women in the custody of law enforcement agencies • Provide VAW training to police and medical personnel • Raise awareness of services, resources with Deputy Commissioner, Judges of the courts and tribunals to get support for women and children victims of violence • Sensitize judiciary to apply CEDAW provisions in cases affecting women's rights • Implement laws in VAW and provide psycho-social supports and facilities for the victims • Enhance congenial male attitude towards females

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
			• Raise gender awareness among male officials of law enforcement agencies through providing trainings • Ensure positive role of media in creation of gender sensitivity among people especially on VAW • Develop integrated strategy for combating VAW and improve coordination between GO and NGOs • Create mass awareness for combating VAW • Allocate adequate funds for preventing VAW and supporting the victims
VIII. Gender Mainstreaming in policy, programmes and project			
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoF, PC, PMO, Cabinet Division, Line Ministries			
12. Strengthening institutions for coordination and monitoring women's advancements and rights	• Maintain regular liaison with Cabinet and PMO office regarding priority policy issues on women's advancements and rights • Hold regular meetings of NCWD • Hold regular meetings of WID FPs • Provide additional human resource to MoWCA to strengthen its role for coordination and monitoring of GE/GM commitments	• All sectors implement the policies stated in the NAP & all project proposals address women's issues • WID focal points are in ministries and departments • Ensure women issue as one of major activities of WID Focal point. Sub/associate focal point will ensure if women advancement activities are being implemented, • Ensure regular meeting of NCWD and parliamentary committee	• Form a high level committee to evaluate the weakness in the existing women's institutional setup in the government and to make recommendation for making it effective • Implement international agreements regarding women issues • Strengthen linkages of MoWCA with all Ministries, CSOs, NGOs, gender PRSP group for monitoring of progress in the area of women's advancements and rights • Include MoWCA in various committees of the Government • Develop and strengthen WID FP as an effective mechanism • Strengthen capacity of WID focal points/Associate WID focal points on monitoring implementation of GE/GM policies, strategies, programmes and projects
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoE, MoF, relevant Line Ministries			
13. Strengthening capacity for Gender Responsive Planning and Gender Responsive Budgeting 14. Institutionalizing Gender Training in the Training Institutions	• Develop/strengthen capacity of relevant ministries for GRP, GRB and GE/GM policies • Institutionalize gender in the training curricula of BPATC, Planning Academy, JATI, NILG, BIM, APD, BCSAA, SCITI, NIPORT, NAEM and other training institutions • Produce tools on GRP and GRB and develop capacity to utilize them	• Strengthen Capacity of relevant Government officials including MoF for gender responsive budgeting(GRB) • Integration of gender training with regular curriculum of training institutes • Analyze training policy from gender perspective • Review and update existing course curriculum of the Training Institutions to incorporate gender equality concerns • Adopt/customize GAD manual in the institution	• Build/strengthen capacity of relevant Government officials for gender responsive planning (GRP) and gender-responsive budgeting (GRB) • Provide more user-friendly support materials/tools on GRP/GRB and GE/GM policies for enhancing understanding and implementation of commitments • Enhance capacity of the Trainers to impart gender training in the training institutions • Effective integration of gender training with regular curriculum of training institutes

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MOWCA, BBS and other relevant ministries			
15. Developing capacity for the production, dissemination and use of sex-disaggregated statistics	• Introduce fundamentals of gender statistics and make them understood by key stakeholders • Develop standard list of sex- disaggregated statistics and indicators • Establish, upload and maintain sex disaggregated data base in MoWCA's website and ensure access	• Materials on gender statistics made available • Develop and adapt a general gender statistics guidebook • Identify a set of indicators to be incorporated in the national statistics system from gender perspective, in relation to national commitment and policy	• Make available sex dis-aggregated data for policy planning and make assessment of progress of PRSP • Develop sex disaggregated data base and upload data in MoWCA's website and ensure access and updating the system • Capacity building of ministries in generating and processing sex disaggregated data • Develop list of sex disaggregated statistics and indicators • Include in the census items/questions to capture sex disaggregated data for gender based analysis
16. Integrating gender concerns into all National Policies/ Programmes/Projects of all Ministries	• Integrate gender concerns into all National Policies/ Programmes/Projects of Ministries/Agencies • Issue circular for integration of gender concerns in all programmes and projects • Integrate gender equality issues into all policies and programmes as stated in NAP	• Institutionalize women's needs i in training programmes of government officials	• Develop guidelines for gender responsive planning and review • Ensure gender responsiveness in programme/project planning and reviewing through integrating guidelines into TPP/DPP process/mechanism
17. Strengthening GRB mechanism in MTBF	• Include new ministries under MTBF • Allocation and expenditure of funds in favour of benefiting women	• Integration of Poverty and Gender impact assessment criteria under section 3 of BC1 of MTBF	• Build capacity of relevant officials on poverty and gender impact assessment criteria of BC1 • Integrate gender and poverty impact assessed in an effective manner • Strengthen understanding of GRB among other stakeholders
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			Tk. **35.55**

Policy Matrix 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment- (b) Children's Advancement and Rights

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
I. Children's Health			
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW, DGH, DGFP, EPI Programme, NGOs			
1. Reducing infectious diseases and improving immunization and vaccination	• Reduce Infant mortality rate to 37 per 1000 LB • Reduce under-five mortality rate to 52 per 1000 LB • Reduce female U5MR to 97 per 1000 LB	• Essential Services Package-Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI) is operating • Initiatives are taken through the implementation of 'Early Learning Child Development Programme' and Sisimpur Project	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW, DGHS's, DDC Programme and NGOs MoHFW, DGHS's ARI Programme, NGOs MoWCA			
2. Improving Acute Respiratory Infection management and ensuring prompt medical care		• Essential Services Package-Acute Respiratory Infection Control	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
3. Reducing morbidity and mortality from the diarrhoeal diseases	• Maintain immunization coverage at 90% • Extend Oral Re-hydration Therapy (ORT) facilities at the union level	• Essential Services Package-Diarrhoeal Disease Control (DDC)	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
4. Improving access, quality and equity of health services for children	• Increase knowledge and skills of public IMCI service providers to 50 percent • Eliminate gender disparity in child mortality rate	• Essential Services Package-Child Health Care	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
5. Increasing use of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness	• Increase use of Integrated Management of Childhood Illness at the union level	• Essential Services Package-Integrated Management of Childhood Illness	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoPME, MoI, MoHFW, IEM of DGF, HEP Programme of DGHS MoHFW, Health education Bureau MoWCA, MoPME			
6. Strengthening child health education and promotional activities	• Increase massive awareness of child health education	• Essential Services Package-Health Education and Promotion (HEP) • Formative research, monitoring and evaluation	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
7. Creating wide awareness of child health education	• Increase awareness of child health education	• Initiatives are taken through the implementation of 'Early Learning Child Development Programme' • Developed child health education curriculum	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoI, MoE, MoPME, MoHFW, DGHS's School Health Programme, MoWCA, DGHS, DGFP, LGD, MoYS			
8. Improving school health services and supplying iron and folic acid for girls	• Increase coverage of school health programme during FY08-FY011	• Essential Services Package-School Health Programme extended up to 2011	• Increase coverage of school health Programme during FY 08-FY 011 • Provide health training on various relevant adolescent issues
9. Ensuring access to reproductive health care services for adolescents	• Ensure access to reproductive health care services for all adolescents,	• Essential Services Package-Reproductive Health Care • Initiatives are taken through the implementation of "Empowerment and Protection of Children" project.	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
10 Reducing mortality of children in urban areas	• Increase coverage of urban health services by 85 percent • Train MO and municipal health staff	• Essential Services Package-Urban Health services	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
II. Food and Nutrition			
Lead Responsibility: MoA, MoF MoWR, NGOs			
I1. Providing energy to children, adolescent girls, pregnant and lactating women	• Reduce prevalence of night blindness in children and postpartum women problem (1% for children and 5% for women during pregnancy) • 90 % coverage of iodized salt • Sustain elimination of iodine deficiency disorders • Reduce iron deficiency/anaemia by 33%	• A Project of BSCIC established 265 salt iodization plants under BITAC and BUET for mixing iodine with edible salt in different areas • Regular motivation and orientation programme is undertaken for taking iodized salt • Increase and maintain cereal production • Increase non-cereal production (Pulses, Oilseeds, Vegetables and Animal Food)	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Use anthropometry to target households at risk of malnutrition with social safety net programme such as VGD • Build awareness of the role of vegetables, fruits, aroids and pulses for improving malnutrition • Diversify food habits by raising awareness at the family level particularly of women
Lead Responsibility: MoA, MoF, MoWR, MoI, MoLGRDC, MoFL, MoWCA, CBO, NGOs			
12. Obtaining plant and animal protein, vitamins, minerals and increasing oil consumption among children	• Provide plant and animal proteins and mineral • Increase consumption of oil among children	• Increase non-cereal production (Pulses, Oilseeds, Vegetables and Animal Food) • To create awareness of nutritious food among poor women MoWCA is implementing a programme using local NGOs and each year 4050 women are getting nutrition training.	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
13. Reducing severe and moderate malnutrition among children under 2 and pregnant and lactating women		• Improvement of nutritional status	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW, MoWCA, MoI, NGOs			
14. Ensuring nutrition in primary health care for all poor children	• Involve relevant sectors for nutrition and primary health care	• Community Nutrition Programme • Initiatives are taken through the implementation of 'Early Learning Child Development Programme and a Programme for pregnant and lactating mothers	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW , MoI, MoWCA, NGOs, MoWCA, BFF			
15. Ensuring supply of iron tablets, iodised salt and vitamin A among children 1-5 years.	o Increase exclusive breastfeeding rate	• National Nutrition Programme • Promotion and Support of Breast Feeding	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW, MoWCA, MoI, NGOs, BSCIC MoRR, MoA, MoF, MoWR, MoFL			
16. Eliminating iodine deficiency		• A special project is being undertaken by MOI targeting to reduce nutritional gap by adding vitamin A in the flour and edible oil	• Awareness programme for taking iodised salt ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoA, MoF, MoI, MoWR, MoFL, MoLGRDC, MoWCA			
17. Creating nutritional awareness of children	• Reduce prevalence of anaemia by 20 % in all children and pregnant women	• Nutrition Education for School Children	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
18. Distributing nutritionally balanced diet for disaster victims especially for children	o Plan of Action for disaster management for agriculture sector to be formulated	• MOWCA implementing a project to create nutrition awareness of mothers of children through local NGOs. About 4050 women are getting nutrition awareness training each year. • Strengthened emergency food distribution during and after disaster • Diversified food habits approach undertaken	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Increase purchasing power of women for changing food habits • Increase non-cereal production (Pulses, Oilseeds, Vegetables and Animal Food)

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
III. Children with disability			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW. MoHFW, MoPME, MoE, MoLE, MoWCA			
19. Developing right based approach for children with disability	• Undergo blood testing of intending couple • Increase nutritional service for pregnant mothers • Increase sensitizations to the rights of persons with disability and reduce the stigma	• National Policy on disability is approved. • National Action Plan on disability is approved • Provide access to all kinds of facilities to children and person with disability in health, education and other areas	• Ensure access of children with disabilities to health, education, social education, sanitation and safe water and appropriate training, employment and rehabilitation • Conduct a survey on people with disability • Improve health and education facilities for children with disability • Develop awareness of decision makers to include children's disability issues in policies and programmes
20. Preventing accidents and injuries caused to children	• Increase awareness of accidents and injuries • Reduce injury related mortality and morbidity by 30 %	• All policies relating to road, building and other physical facilities should take into consideration the needs and concern of child with disability	• Ensure prevention of accidents and injuries caused to children by taking into consideration the needs and concerns of children with disabilities
IV. Education			
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, BBS, MoSW, NGOs, MoWCA, Mica			
21. Developing and implementing early childhood development (ECD) policies and programmes 22. Reducing inequity and disparity in ECD programme	• ECD for all children under 5 years	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Early Childhood Development Programme, Pre-School Programme, Day-Care Centre for Children • Early Childhood Development Programme has been taken for the period 2006/07-2010/11	• Ensure ECD to develop a positive influence on preparedness for school and later performances and achievement of children in school • Ongoing and continue up to 2008
Lead Responsibility: MoPED, MoWCA, IER-DU, MoLGRDC, NGOs, MoWCA , MoPME			
23. Increasing enrolment in primary school and improving quality 24. Improve access, retention and equity at the primary level 25. Increase equity of outcome	• Net enrolment at primary level to increase to 90 % • Primary school drop-out rate to decrease 20 % • Children reaching grade 5 to increase to 75% • Train 100% teacher • Attendance increases by 20-25% • Increase contact hours by 20%.	• Institutionalize community, parent and student consultation and participation in the development and performance measure of local school • Build more school/class with safe and play safe • Introduce core curricula to be delivered by all PE providers • Develop improved learning materials for marginalized and people with disability and indigenous children • .Maintain gender parity in access and achievement • Make maximum class size of 46 students	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
V. Excluded children			
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoWCA, MoSW, MoYS, MoLE, NGOs			
26. Formulating programmes for street, indigenous, working children without parental care and under-privileged children	• Increase coverage of education for the excluded children to 75 percent	• Universal primary education Programme • Education for the Excluded Children • National Policy for NFE	• Strengthen Education Programme for street, indigenous, working and under-privileged children • Programme will be continued up to 2011 • Expand the opportunity for enrolment/retention, educational performances of excluded children

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoPME, MoWCA, MoCA, MoYS, MoSW, NCTB, PTIs, NGOs,			
27. Equipping all children with basic education to develop life skills	• 25 percent children gets education with life skills	• Education for the excluded children • MoSW has taken education Programme for street and underprivileged children through its Programmes and projects • For all children "Formulation of Qualitative Basic Education Programme" a project for enhancing communicative English skill has been included in the ADP 2007-2008.	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Process of promoting basic education Programme for youth will be continued
Lead Responsibility: MoE, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary (DSHS), BANBEIS			
28. Increasing enrolment in secondary education and ensure good quality secondary education	• Enrolment in secondary level to increase to 85 %"	• Formulation of Qualitative Basic Education Programme • This process will be continued.	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
29.Improving access, quality and equity of secondary education for hard-to-reach groups	• Improve access and equity for all students including hard to reach groups • Eliminate gender disparity in secondary education	• Improve the course curricula and learning needs of diversified groups of students • Establish schools in unserved areas	• Ensure equity and access to secondary education through creating opportunities for underserved areas and groups particularly girl students • Building schools in un-served areas
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoI, Mole, MoS DTE, DSHE, BITAC, MoI			
30. Mainstream vocational education as a component of secondary education	• Increase access to vocational education Programme for special groups of children by 60 in percent 2011 • Reduce unemployment of graduates • Increase participation of female in vocational institute	• Schools are being built on the basis of school map	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Increase Vocational Education Programme • Strengthen Quality of Secondary Education • Enhance special teacher training for vocational subjects
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoE, MoSW, MoYS, NGOs			
31. Ensuring qualitative non-formal education for children and expand opportunities for excluded children	• Expand opportunities, increase enrolment, retention and improve non-formal educational performance during FY08-FY11, • Increase transfer of children from NFE	• Vocational Education Programme • BITAC is giving training to adolescent to develop their existing skills on automobile, plastic and welding. • A special initiative has been undertaken by BITAC to train the children of displaced workers of Adamji Jute Mill on different trades and other poor children who have no financial ability	• Increase Non-formal Education Programme • Programme ongoing continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoPME, MoE, MoYS, MoRA			
32. Improving quality of learning outcome and increase market relevance of Madrasha education	• Increase performance parity for Madrasha graduates with students from elsewhere in the education system • Ensure acceptance of Madrasha graduates in the job market	• Running Non-formal Education Programme • MoSW has incorporated non-formal education for children and expand opportunities for excluded children to participate in non-formal education in its related Programme	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011, • Increase performance parity for Madrasha graduates with students from other streams • Promote adoption of primary and secondary core curricula • Facilitate movement of learners to and from Madrasha • Improve quality of teaching and learning materials and make management of Madrasha education transparent
VI. Water and Sanitation			
Lead Responsibility: LGD, DPHE, CBOs, NGOs at local level, local bodies MoWCA			
33. Identifying un-served, under-served, hardship and CHT areas and ensure access to safe water	• Increase access to safe drinking water to 90%	• Screen tube wells for arsenic contamination and patient identification • Install alternative water supply system in affected areas,	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: DPHE, Private sector, Local Bodies, CBOs, NGOs, MoWCA			
34. Increasing access to sanitary latrines in rural areas and urban slums	• Increase coverage of access to sanitary latrines to 90 percent in rural areas and urban slums	• Increase in sanitary latrine coverage in rural areas and urban slums	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Construct sanitary latrine for children with disability, boys and girls
Lead Responsibility: MoLGRDC, DPHE, MoE, MoPME, MoSW, NGOs, MoWCA			
35. Inculcating habit of using sanitary latrines and personal hygiene practices	• Increase coverage of school sanitation Programme	• Increased coverage of school sanitation Programme • School sanitation Programme has been included in the PEDP, • Separate toilet facilities for girls and boys in schools	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: LGD, DPHE, BUET, BAMWASP, BCSIR NIPSOM, ICDDRB, NGO, MoWCA			
36. Developing alternatives to replace arsenic contaminated tube-well	• Increase access to safe drinking water in arsenic affected areas to 100 percent	• Installation of alternative water supply and sanitation systems for un-served/under-served areas	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: Environmental and Occupational Health Cell of DGHS, MoLGRDC, NGOs, MoWCA, LGED			
37. Increasing access to safe drinking water in rural areas and urban slums	• Increase coverage of access to safe drinking water in rural areas and urban slums to 100 percent	• Increased coverage of access to safe drinking water in rural areas and urban slums • Construction of Sanitary Latrines in Rural Areas and Urban Slums	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoEF, MoWCA, MoI, NGOs			
38. Reduce environmental hazards for children	• Implement standards for noise air and water pollution		• Implement Environmental Hazard Management Programme
VII. Protection for Children			
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoLJPA, MoH, MoLE, MoSW, MoI, MoYS, MoLGRDC, BBS, NGOs, children's organizations			
39. Strengthen research and documentation on salient issues of child abuse, exploitation and violence	• Analysis of trends of child abuse, exploitation and violence • Increase coverage of programme for vulnerable children • Under-5 birth registration to increase to 100% • Ensure juvenile justice reforms	• Identification of Indicators of Abuse, Exploitation and Violence against Children • Activities are undertaken to combat eve teasing	• Identify the magnitude of violence, abuse and exploitation against children • Undertake media campaign on birth registration, violence against children and on child rights, parenting and against corporeal punishment • Strengthen the capacity of the community to combat violence against children • Conduct in depth research on child abuse, exploitation, violence and discrimination • Develop indicators and systematic and formal data collection system on child protection by age, sex, rural and urban
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoE, MoYS, MoLE, BRDB, NGOs, Children's Organizations			
40. Increasing livelihood options for children and developing life skills to meet current demands of the local job market	• Appropriate curricula on technical education to be developed	• A project to provide technical education for these children is being implemented	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoWCA, MoE			
41. Ensuring compulsory registration of children at birth	• Increase compulsory birth registration to 100 percent by 2011	• New law has been framed	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Mobilize City Corporation and Pourashava to register all birth including brothel areas

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoE, MoHA, MoLJPA, MoYS, Children's Organizations, NGOs			
42. Eliminating the practice of early marriage	• Reduce the percentage of early marriage by 70 percent	• Awareness raising programme for union parishad members • Awareness Programme in Imam training conducted	• Programmes will be continued
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoI, MoYS, Press Council, Journalists, NGOs			
43. Encouraging responsible journalism and media reporting	• Ensure responsible journalism and media reporting to protect child rights	• Identification of Indicators of Abuse, Exploitation and Violence against Children • A project named 'Empowerment and Protection of Children' with the assistance of UNICEF for the period 2006-2010 is under process	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Conduct awareness raising programme in community school and work place on children rights and protection issues
Lead Responsibility: MoHA, MoSW, MoYS ,MoHFW, MoWCA, MoLJPA, NGOs			
44. Ensuring the best interests of children who come into contact with the law	• Raise awareness of law enforcing officials and judicial officers • Develop scheme involving the courts social workers and probation officers as an alternative to custodial sentences • Prevent arbitrary arrest and detention of children	• Strengthen Livelihood Options to Decrease Children's Vulnerability • MoSW has taken steps to address the problem of children who come in contact with law by improving the juvenile justice system with the help of concerned ministries	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Develop community mechanism to deal with under age petty offenders • "Domestic Violence" must be clearly defined for proper response
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, PMO, MoYS, MoHA, MoLJPA MOI			
45. Establishing mechanisms to prevent and protect children from all forms of abuse, exploitation and violence	• Improve monitoring mechanism of child rights and child welfare • Review existing legislation with the aim of prohibiting all forms of punitive physical and mental violence	• Ministry of information working on awareness raising	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Establish procedure and mechanism to monitor, investigate complaints, and intervene where necessary • Develop a mechanism for monitoring the implementation of laws and regulation in relation to child rights • Harmonize the national legislation according to CRC • Provide working and street children with information on HIV/AIDS
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, PMO, MoSW, MoYS, MoHA			
46. Building awareness of children about trafficking and abduction	• Increase awareness about safe migration, trafficking and abduction • Eliminate sale and hiring of children for begging purposes		• Reduce child sale for trafficking • Develop and enforce strict employment and recruitment procedure
Lead Responsibility: MoI, MoSW, MoHFW, MoYS, MoWCA, MoLJPA, NGOs			
47. Protecting children against torture and other cruel, inhuman punishment.	• Reduce all forms of ill-treatment and violence against children	• Encouragement of Responsible Journalism and Media Reporting to Protect Child Rights • To serve the interest of children MoWCA is implementing a television programme 'Sisimpur'	• Amend laws to prohibit all forms of punitive physical and mental violence • Develop a mechanism for monitoring implementation of laws and regulation relating to child rights • Enact a separate juvenile justice system, and a children code of conduct • Undertake measures to prevent and punish perpetrators • Conduct nationwide awareness campaign about the negative consequences of ill treatment of children

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoE, MoI, MoYS MoSW, MoH, Madrasha Education Boards, NGOs			
48. Protecting children from corporeal punishment in home, schools and other institutions	• Increase awareness and protect children from physical punishment • Incorporate appropriate materials in teacher training and enforce the issue	• Existing Juvenile Justice Reforms in its Treatment of Children • MoSW has taken bold steps to address the problem of the children who come in contact with law through improving the juvenile justice administration system with the help of concerned ministries and development partners	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Undertake campaign against all forms of corporeal punishment at home and educational institutions • Enact law to have a separate juvenile justice system • Enact consolidated children code • Harmonize national legislation according to CRC
Lead Responsibility: MoLE, MoWCA, MoYS, MoSW, BBS, NGOs			
49. Taking measures to eliminate the worst forms of child labour as per International Labour Organization Convention No. 182	• Improve knowledge base about child labour and rights • Formulate child friendly code of conduct for employers	• Strengthening Monitoring of Child Rights and Child Welfare	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Strengthen knowledge base about the worst forms of child labour • Mobilize employer, police, parents and professionals to improve working conditions and reduce exploitation • Introduce minimum wage policy for child labour • Amend country's labour codes in line with CRC • Make code mandatory for all employers of children
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoH, MoSW, MoYS, MoLJPA, MoLE, MoI, MoLGRDC, NGOs			
50. Protecting street children from all forms of abuse and exploitation	• Protect street children from all forms abuse & exploitation • Increase number of drop in centres to provide facilities for street children • Develop a minimum standard for the integration of children	• A project entitled "Prevention and Protection of Victims of Human Trafficking in Bangladesh" is under way • Acquaint children and their families with safe migration • Strengthen the Right of Children against ill treatment and violence • Prevention of all forms of illegal trafficking and abduction	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Ensure protection from. abuse and exploitation • Provide street children with vocational and livelihood training • Mobilise community for protection of street children from exploitation and rehabilitation with livelihood opportunity
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoH, MoHFW, MoYS, MoSW, MoLJPA, NGOs			
51.Improving the plight of children who live under difficult situation	• Increase necessary support to children under difficult circumstances, • Introduce regulation regarding minimum wage and protective standard for health, leisure and education for working children • Ensure child domestic workers to attend school up to grade V	• Motivational work for protect children against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment through one foreign aided project and 130 training centres in ingoing by DYD.. • MoSW has been working to protect children against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment in collaboration with other ministries and organizations	• Improve the plight of children who live under difficult circumstances • Ensure the access of working children to learning opportunity such as formal and non formal facilities • Make guardians and employers aware of the need to give working children time off to attend school • Develop an effective mechanism for enforcing the law in favour of child domestic workers • Ensure working children's rights to be protected from exploitation, cruel treatment, and right to education

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoFDM, MoLGRDC, MoYS, MoHFW, NGOs			
52. Protecting children affected by natural disasters	• Increase coverage of Safety Nets Programme for children displaced by natural disasters	• Certain innovative NGO intervention is ongoing • Identify children affected by disaster including persons with disability and other less visible group • Allocate and distribute relief to children affected by disasters • Ensure children from vulnerable and stigmatized group receive relief and support	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Develop a guideline for protection of mother and children from the effects of natural disaster
Lead Responsibility: MoSW , MoCHTA, MoWCA, MoE, MoHFW, MoYS, NGOs			
53. Safeguarding the interests of indigenous children	• Ensure the basic needs of indigenous children	• MoLE is processing a 'National Policy" on child labour and indigenous children issue has been covered in the policy • Promotion of development and confidence building in CHT • Integrated community development project in CHT	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Develop a guideline to safeguard the needs and interest of Adivasi/indigenous children
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoWCA, MoHA, MoYS, Children Organization, NGOs			
54. Protect children who are orphan, abandoned and are vulnerable to abuse, exploitation and violence	• Increase protection of children deprived of parental care	• Protection of orphaned, abandoned and street children from abuse and exploitation • A new project in collaboration with UNICEF entitled "Protection of Children at Risk" is going to be undertaken	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Adopt a draft social policy for care and protection of children out of parental care
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoWCA, MoHFW, MoLE, MoI, MoLJPA, NGOs			
55. Ensuring child victims' speedy recovery and smooth social reintegration	• Increase 100% support services to child victims for recovery and social reintegration	• Necessary support services to child victims for recovery and social reintegration • Create and strengthen community support services with appropriate and quality family support services • Take children's views into account for their reintegration	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Develop bilateral, regional and multilateral agreement to prevent trafficking and ensure recovery and reintegration • Ensure psycho-social support, health services treatment short stay shelters, legal assistance etc to the victims
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA, MoHA, MoSW, MoWCA, MoI, Private Media, NGOs MoHA, Media, NGOs			
56. Assisting the recovery and reintegration of children who were detained or imprisoned	• Increase assistance in the recovery and reintegration of children who come into contact with the law	• Safety Nets Programme for children displaced by natural disasters • Recovery and reintegration of children who come into contact with the law • MoSW has been working to assist in the recovery and reintegration of children (accused or victim) who are imprisoned and suffer from labelling effects	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Juvenile justice system must be more clearly separated from the rest of the justice system
57. Prosecuting alleged perpetrators of sexual abuse and trafficking of children	• Ensure strict enforcement of law	• Mobilize public support against the perpetrators	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoWCA, MoSW, LEBs, NGOs, MoHFW, MoH, MoI, MoYS, MoSW, MoWCA, NCTF, NGOs, MoE, MoPME, NGOs			
58. Improving local communities awareness of the incidents of abuse and exploitation	• Increase awareness about incidents of abuse, exploitation and existing and potential perpetrators	• Protection of children deprived of parental care • MoSW is running 82 Sarkari Shishu Paribar and 6 Baby Homes for the orphans and abandoned children	• Ongoing and continue up to 2011 • Improve social awareness of the potential perpetrators for protecting children from all abuse and exploitation • Ensure recreational and emotional services for the victims • Train service providers on child protection and build capacity to provide victims with psycho social support • Formulated Social Policy for care and protection of children out of paternal care

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
59. Reducing health consequences of sexual abuse and exploitation	• Reduce 100% negative health impacts of sexual abuse and exploitation through providing appropriate services • Ensure information about voluntary testing and treatment to 100 % children victims of sexual abuse	• strengthen information about sexuality, sexual hygiene • HIV/AIDS policy and strategy developed and approved • Support services to child victims for recovery and reintegration is in place • In 'One Stop Crisis Centre' girl victims' issues are addressed • MoSW is working to increase the support services for the child victims in cooperation with other ministries	• Programme will be continued. • Efforts will be continued .up to 2011 • Support sexually abused children for voluntary testing and treatment of STDs, HIV, AIDS • Ongoing and continue up to 2011
Lead Responsibility: MoYS, MoHFW, NASP of DGHS, NGOs			
60. Ensuring prevention of transmission of STDs, HIV, AIDS in under18 age group	• Prevent the transmission of HIV/AIDS	• The Department of Youth Development has been implementing awareness programme for preventing the transmission of STD including HIV/AIDS among children under 18 years of age • Behaviour Change Communication Service for youth under 18 year age group to prevent HIV/AIDS	• Prevent transmission of HIV/AIDS through safe blood supply • Ensure social mobilization for prevention of HIV/AIDS • Help child victims of exploitation and abuse • Prevention of transmission of HIV/AIDS
Lead Responsibility: MoYS, MoWCA, MoHA, MoSW, MoHFW, MoI, MoLJPA, MoFA, MoEWOE, NGOs			
61. Reducing sexual abuse and trafficking of children	• Measures to combat sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children • Increase coverage and impact of these efforts	• Organizing protest involving Community Groups against abuse • 'Empowerment and Protection of Children' is on underway to increase awareness of incidents of abuse and of existing and potential perpetrators	• Efforts will be continued up to 2011 • Provide appropriate training to all enforcing agencies to combat the sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children
62. Increasing efficiency, coverage and welfare of children	• Better reporting for national, international and UN agencies • Strengthen inter-ministerial coordination	• MoWCA submitted CRC report • Preparing final evaluation report of WFCL in 2010	• Strengthen Coordination and Cooperation among the ministries and NGOs working on children • Organize regular inter-ministerial meeting to review children development issues
Lead Responsibility: MoYS, MoWCA, MoHFW, MoE, MoH, MoLE, MoSW, MoLJPA, NCTF, NGOs, Bangladesh Shishu Academy			
63. Developing indicators to monitor Implementation of NPA for children	• Ensure monitoring of indicators of implementation of NPA	• Ministry of Women and Children Affairs already developed 'National Plan of Action for children for 2005-2010 • Indicators for monitoring implementation of NPA developed	• Establish an independent monitoring system and mechanism to assess the performances of the NPA • Strengthen the coordination wing of the MoWCA • Establish Directorate of Children under the MoWCA
Lead Responsibility: MoYS, MoWCA, MoE, MoHA, MoHFW, MoSW, MoPME, NGOs			
64. Developing database for children development	• Develop mechanism to collect and store information	• MoSW is providing information about STIs, HIV/AIDS • MIS is underway under project Capacity Building for Monitoring Child Rights	• Develop a Management Information System (MIS) • Disseminate data among other stakeholder
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			Tk. **0.46**

Policy Matrix 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment– (c) Indigenous People, People with Disability, and other Disadvantaged and Extreme Poor Groups

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
I. Indigenous people			
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA. MoLJPA, MoL, MPO, Cabinet Division			
1. Developing a national policy on indigenous people	• Adopts National Indigenous People's Policy		• From a committee with balanced representations from both hilly areas and plain land indigenous groups to formulate a "National Indigenous People's Policy" • Consider ratifying and implementing the ILO convention 169 and UN Declaration on Indigenous People's Rights 2007 • Form a committee with representation from hilly areas and plain land indigenous people to disburse the fund allocated for the development of indigenous people
2. Ensuring full implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord	• Implement Peace Accord fully by 2009	• Amended CHT regulation, 1900 and other acts • The Land Commission started functioning	• Improve the socio-economic conditions of indigenous people in CHT districts • Hold election of the Hill District Council
3. Formulating land policy for indigenous people	• Secure rights on land for indigenous people in hilly areas and plain land • Reduce 80% land degradation by 2011	• Undertaking land survey	• Introduce secure land tenure system for indigenous people • Reduce land degradation for sustainable development • Form a Land Commission to settle land disputes of indigenous people in the plain land • Address the land problems of plain land indigenous people • Consider repealing Attia Forest (Protection) Ordinance 1982: Ordinance no. XXXIII of 1982 • Take action to deal with cases filed by Forest Department against indigenous people
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA, MoFE, MoI, CHTB			
4. Ensuring community involvement in conservation of technology	• 100% community involvement in conservation of technologies	• Recognition of traditional knowledge of indigenous communities • Fostering local government in areas inhabited by indigenous people	• Improving functional, managerial and organizational capabilities of indigenous communities • Identify indigenous technologies which can be preserved and adopted for improving the lives of indigenous people • Promote awareness of rights and customary laws
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA Cabinet Division, Line Ministries			
5. Mobilising other ministries to ensure indigenous community's access to basic services	• Declare MoCHTA as lead ministry to coordinate all development activities of indigenous people	• Include need and concern of indigenous people in the routine activities of officials of relevant ministries	• Amend the charter of duties of respective ministries • Incorporate indigenous including plain land indigenous people's needs, interest, and priorities in policies of relevant ministries on human and other resources in an equitable manner.
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA, MoPME, MoE, MoCA			
6. Preserving the languages of indigenous communities	• Take action to preserve the language by 2009 • Ensure 75% of indigenous student in HSC and higher education obtains stipend for certain period	• Increase number of scholarship/ stipend from block allocation of PMO and CHTDC fund • Provide learning materials free of cost to indigenous students	• Formulate national language policy to safeguard the indigenous languages and culture • Form a committee with linguistic expert to safeguard the languages of indigenous communities • Increase number of stipends for male and female students of indigenous communities including the plain land communities

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA. MoF MoFDM			
7. Ensure food assistance to cope with food insecurity	• Provide food assistance to the victims of damage of Jhum crops	• Undertake awareness of mutual cooperation to fight against natural calamities	• Ensure safety net and food security programme for CHTs, and plain land indigenous communities • Increase food support during food deficit • Arrange institutional credit at low rate of interest
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA, MoEMR. MoLGRDC			
8. Ensuring electricity supply and telecommunication network 9. Ensuring sanitation and water supply	• Cover 50% people in upazila in CHTD • Cover all municipalities and upazila towns by telecommunication • Provide safe water to at least 70% people in different CHT districts and plain land indigenous areas	• "Chittagong Hill Tracts Electrification Project"- Third Phase • Chittagong Hill Tracts Electrification Project"- Kaptai and Belaichari	• Expand national power grid and distribution system in different upazilas • Expand solar electric supply • Establish mobile phone network in the municipal areas in hill tracts districts • Set up digital telephone exchange at the upazila towns • Provide safe water and hygienic sanitation facilities
Lead Responsibility: MoCHTA MoFE, MoI, CHTB, MoLF			
10. Ensuring indigenous people's economic activities	• Increase their participation in non-farm activities • Develop small and cottage industries • Develop poultry and livestock rearing and small trade • Facilitate access of agriculture and other ethnic products of indigenous people to national and international market		• Create employment opportunities for hilly and plain land indigenous people • Expand micro–credit activities • Expand appropriate technology for promotion of crop and other agricultural produce • Develop communication facilities • Create favourable environment for private sector to invest in food/fruit processing industry • Involve private sectors in tourism and other income generating activities • Develop rural roads and hat-bazars in indigenous areas • Consider quota system for hilly and plain land indigenous people for government jobs
II. People with Disability			
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoPME, MoE, MOI			
11. Ensuring access to normal education for students with disability 12. Ensuring special education to hearing impaired and mentally retarded students	• Increase enrolment of mentally retarded children in school to 10% in primary level and 6% in secondary level • Ensure 3% participation in HSC and university level education	• Develop right based approach for children with disability • Conduct social mobilization about rights of children with disability to have access to special education/ education, training, • Provision for stipend at primary, secondary, higher secondary and university levels	• Expand existing educational institutes for children with disability (both male and female) to increase coverage • Expand access of learners with disability to mainstream schools • Expand NCSE for training teachers, social workers and health workers • Increase number of stipends and hostel facilities for students with disability (both male and female) in higher education
Lead Responsibility: MoSW. MoHFW, MoL GRDC			
13. Ensuring adequate medical services and counselling for both boys and girls with disabilities	• Reduce prevention of disability • Reduce morbidity among persons • Increase no of beds and equipment in hospitals for persons with disability	• Strengthen early detection of symptoms of disability • Test blood of couple before marriage to avoid the birth of children with disability	• Expand EPI programme and distribution of vitamin A capsule • Strengthen essential service package • Strengthen integrated management of childhood illness • Provide assistive devices and equipment at the health centre

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoLE			
14. Ensuring all vocational training institutes of other ministries to admit male and female with disability 15. Ensuring implementation of employment quota in public sector	• Involve persons with disability in income generating activities • Reduce poverty among persons with disability	• Providing safe & secure working environment • Provide more housing and childcare facilities for working women with disability • Provision for micro credit facility for acid burnt and physically handicapped • ERCPH in Tongi and RPH in Bagerhat for employment and rehabilitation facilities	• Ensure proper housing and credit facilities • Ensure marketable skill and implementation of quota for employment in public sector • Establish additional training centre at regional/district levels for skill training • Provide modern and updated vocational training in ERCPH, RPH, and institutes of other ministries • Introduce job quota for persons with disability in NGOs and private sector
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoC, MoHPW			
16. Ensuring persons with disabilities accessibility to all physical facilities 17. Ensuring persons with disabilities participation in sports and cultural activities	• Access to at least 50% public and housing complex • 100% special ticket counter, seat toilet facilities in water ways, bus stations and cinema hall • Ensure participation of 20% children with disability in sports and cultural functions	• Develop the potentiality and capability of persons with disability through their participation	• Ensure provision of building ramps in public buildings special ticket counters and seats and toilet facilities in buses, waterways, rail stations and cinema halls • Ensure appropriate facilities i.e. play ground, sports materials etc. for recreation • Make sign language mandatory for television programme • Ensure access of persons with disability to information
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoHFW, MoPME			
18. Providing door step service to persons with disabilities according to their needs	• Provide disability related services to all people with disabilities in the community	• Ensure that rural areas alleviate the suffering of rural people with disability through friendly environment in own community	• Detection and timely medical intervention • Fitment of artificial aids and appliances • Educational services in integrated schools • Provide vocational training and micro credit • Create awareness in the community of peoples with disabilities especially women's survival, protection and rights
Lead Responsibility: MoSW. MoIPA, Cabinet Division			
19. Amending the disability Act in accordance with the UN Convention	• Ensure disability Act as a reflection of right based approach • Ensure the Act to incorporate accountability of government employees	• Prepare the draft Act by panel of experts-jurist, educators, sociologists psychologists, psychiatrists, doctor and the like	• Clarify definitions of disability and specify the diverse needs and rights of people with disability • Amend allocation of business of different ministries incorporating the disability issues to address the disability by them
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoC, MoHPW			
20. Strengthening coordination and monitoring mechanism to review the progress	• Develop awareness of the responsibility of integrating disability issues at all levels • Ensure the effectiveness of focal point in different ministries	• Ensure incorporation of needs and priorities of persons with disability in the policy of the respective ministry • Commitment and direct involvement of different ministries	• Strengthen National Coordination Committee • Provide proper logistics and manpower • Amend allocation of business of concerned ministries to include disability issues • Amend the charter of duties of department to address disability issues
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, BBS			
21. Developing a data base for persons with disabilities	• Undertake and complete survey by 2010	• Prepare TPP for the survey	• Constitute a committee with professionals having expertise in socio–economic survey • Undertake survey to have reliable data for planning

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
III. Other Disadvantaged and Extreme Poor Group			
MoSW. MoLGRDC, NGOs			
22. Ensure access to basic services of the disadvantaged group	• Provide 60% disadvantaged and extreme poor group access to basic social services	• Rural social services are being provided • Rural development programmes • Char development project and other national programmes	• Constitute coordination committees at the national and grassroots levels to ensure that disadvantaged groups benefit from development activities • Provide skill development training
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoHPW, MoL			
23. Ensuring housing especially for tea garden workers, sweepers, and homeless people due to river erosion 24. Ensuring proper rehabilitation of sex workers	• Provide Bede khas land • Provide land to sweeper and tea garden workers in their working place i.e. in municipality/ corporation and tea garden respectively, • Rehabilitate and provide alternative job option to 25,000 sex-workers	• Sweepers live in temporary shed • Tea garden workers live nearby tea garden • Some Bede live in their constructed houses • Department of social services is implementing a project on sex-workers	• Make extensive survey and make a need assessment of housing • Ensure housing for all disadvantaged and extreme poor including Bede, sweeper, teagarden worker • Empower and vocationally train sex-workers and their children • Socialize the children who came in contact with crime and facilitate them to reintegrate with family and society • Allocate khas land to victims of river erosion
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, MoF, MoLGRDC, NGOs			
25. Provide occupational group with micro-credit and skill training	• Bring 80% disadvantaged and extreme poor group under the purview of micro credit and skill training programme	• Government and NGOs are implementing micro credit and skill training programmes	• Facilitate occupational mobility • Ensure improvement of their occupational situation with modern equipment • Provide credit at low rate of interest and skill training
Lead Responsibility: MoSW, BBS			
26. Undertaking a national survey on disadvantaged and extreme poor groups	• Complete a survey	• Prepare TPP for the survey for undertaking the survey	• Constitute a committee with professionals having expertise in socio –economic survey • Undertake survey to have reliable data for planning
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 12.65**

Policy Matrix 15: Promoting Good Governance

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: CAO, Election Commission			
1. Reinstating democratic government	• A democratic government with a strong parliament	• Voter list is finalized with photo voter Identification Card • Election reforms are taking place to ensure election free of money and power • Dialogues are being carried out between government and the political parties, civil society, media etc. • Process for local election has already started	• Make financial and other relevant information about the election candidate public • Create an environment where free, fair and acceptable elections take place • Ensure participation of the major political parties • Create confidence in people about the election results by making it transparent and credible
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA			
2. Making parliamentary process effective	• Develop capacity for policy formulation and improved legislation	• "Strengthening Parliamentary Democracy" project ongoing • Bangladesh Institute of Parliamentary Studies established to improve the efficacy of Parliamentary business • Parliament Secretariat Act, 1994 passed • Inter-ministerial committee is working on amendment of Rules of procedure • Local area network (LAN) established	• Make all MPs aware of policies and their responsibilities with respect to their implementation • Make all MPs aware about the constitution of the country and government's commitment to uphold global development agendas • Sensitize the MPs about poverty reduction and women's advancement issues • Ensure freedom of conscience by making Rules of Procedures more effective • Ensure elimination of culture of boycott, absenteeism and delayed attendance in sessions of the parliament • Introduce code of conduct and code of ethics for MPs to ensure respect and tolerance among parliamentarians • Establish a resource centre in the parliament with sufficient human resources so that MPs can obtain national and international information as per need
	• Improve oversight function	• Replacement of ministers as chairman from the Parliamentary Committees by the MPs • Permanent staffs recruited for the committees	• Make parliamentary parties more active and effective in policy formulation • Making parliamentary parties more active and effective in formulation of laws • Popularise effective practicing of shadow government • Ensure that some Standing Committees and Public Accounts Committees may be chaired by MPs from opposition • Strengthen Parliamentary Standing Committees • Implement the recommendations/decisions made by oversight committees • Increasing access to media on standing committee reports/ activities • Ensure that MPs don't get involved or intervene in the administration of their constituencies • Ensure that standing Committees can enforce the decisions taken by them • Ensure participation in Parliamentary Standing Committee • Recruit 50% women in the parliamentary staff
	• Ensure right to information	• A draft of law is being prepared	• Establish legal framework of Right to Information • Ensure dissemination of information on government's policies, rules and regulations, peoples rights and obligations to the grassroots level • Make provision for "town-hall" kind of open forum meeting where public representative will face questions of the public • Introduce the system of public hearing for undertaking major projects and programmes • Develop a constituency-based interface between MPs and citizens in order to develop a mechanism for accountability and give women priority in this body • Make public media more independent and use it to make people aware of government's policy and activities

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoE **Associate Responsibility:** Cabinet Division, PMO, Finance Division, PATC, APD and all other ministries controlling cadres			
3. Improving public service management	• Enhance human resource development	• A new comprehensive career plan is under consideration	• Introduce merit based recruitment process • Introduce quota for women, persons from lagging regions, indigenous people for next ten years • Provide need based on-the-job training and scope for professional development • Ensure development of ethical sense among the public officials • Recruit top talents in the service and fast track them in the service • Include gender dimension in job description • Update and modernize personnel policies and management systems • Ensure effective service delivery by public officials • Strengthen training of the government officials to improve public service delivery to meet the demands of the citizens
	• Institutional development	• Citizen's charter introduced • New system of performance appraisal is under active consideration	• Encourage proactive, responsive and trust worthy role of the officers • Introduce safeguard against political influences on government officials • Undertake target oriented activities and performance based evaluation • Ensure that women sensitive citizen's charters are introduced and effectively implemented • Ensure women representation in high-level government decision making forum • Revamp governance of Public Service Commission • Incorporate ICT/ e-governance at all levels
	• Procedural change	• Clustering of ministries and divisions is underway	• Conventional ministerial responsibility would be reformulated making politicians responsible for 'policy' decisions and civil servants responsible for clearly defined 'operational' ones • Ensure timely and friendly service delivery in fair and transparent manner • Monitor implementation of "Citizen's Charter" • Ensure that time-bound decision making system is introduced and government procedures are streamlined and simplified
	• Create healthy and enabling working environment		• Introduce attractive compensation package • Introduce Performance award, Quality award, Innovation award, etc. • Introduce code of conduct addressing harassments including sexual harassments and include them in service rules
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA **Associate Responsibility:** MoSICT, MoE, FD			
4. Improving legal and judicial system	• Simplify, improve and modernize laws	• Lower criminal judiciary separated from the executive • New appointments of judicial officers is underway • Training for the Judges is in progress • Legal Aid mechanism reviewed and enhanced to increase effectiveness • Alternative Dispute Resolution mechanism is introduced	• Ensure quick and low cost legal access to justice • Incorporate the ICT in legal process and Case Management and Court Administration (CMCA) automation • Appoint a court Ombudsman to ensure transparency and accountability in the process of justice and reduction of time and cost in case disposal • Support Judicial Service Commission and its Secretariat by introducing a research cell for assessing performance, posting, promotion, and transfer of judges • Ensure that all judges reveal their assets and the assets/properties of their family members periodically • Ensure open law-making process including consultation with people • Strengthen the law drafting capacity • Include CSOs and women's groups in implementing open law- making process • Give proper consideration to gender equality issues in law revision

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
	• Reduce backlog of cases by 25 percent to ensure access to justice	• Law revision is under process • Establishment of booths for public information in the Supreme Court premises is in progress	• Simplify procedural laws • Encourage and strengthen alternate dispute resolution (ADR) • Expand access to law through e-publication and real time updating of cases • Improve the physical facilities of the court • Develop website for public information and establish front/help desk to supply desired information to the clients • Take measures in accessing legal aid fund by women and poor • Provide training to judges on CEDAW and NWDP 2008
Lead Responsibility: MoHA **Associate Responsibility:** MoLJPA, MoWCA, NGOs and Civil Society Organisations			
5. Changing role of law enforcing agencies	• Impartial application of law	• New Police Act is underway • Citizen Charter (police) has been launched	• Establish right to information • Establish mechanism for civil society scrutiny • Establish an integrated and dedicated investigation cell under Attorney General • Set up an Independent Police Complaints Authority with a published National Policy Plan • Formulate and implement gender policy for the police • Undertake rigorous human resource management and intensive training of the police force • Ensure transparency in police investigation • Amend old laws and introduce laws to address new situation • Ensure that police are not used to serve partisan purpose • Ensure post mortem report within 24 hours • Introduce nationwide network of criminal case information • Include gender training as part of police training and retraining
	• Proper investigation procedure to be in place		• Upgrade skills and knowledge of investigators • Ensure development of ethical values among the law enforcers • Establish sophisticated laboratory for DNA test in greater districts HQs • Introduce gender dimension in all police investigations • Include women in the team of investigators and provide training to develop gender sensitivity
Lead Responsibility: LGD, RDCD **Associate Responsibility:** Cabinet Division, FD, MoE, NGOs and Civil Society Organisations			
6. Strengthening local governments	• Devolution of power	• Fund transfer and budgeting process reformed • Project planning and implementation in some Union Parishads under a Project • 25% of Union Parishad complex built and another 30% under process • Training for local government representative and staff on capacity development and resource mobilization is ongoing under LGS Project • Training on leadership development and attitudinal change is in progress • Partnership building with NGOs and CBOs	• Introduce clear mandate of job responsibility including job description of the women members • Develop capacity and incentive for local resource mobilization • Ensure recognition for commendable works at the local level • Forge partnership with NGOs/CBOs • Provide poverty sensitization through leadership and gender training to the local government representatives • Delegate more authority to the local government bodies to solve their own problems • Provide more training to the local government bodies in terms of building their capacity in formulating plans and budgeting

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
	• Effective local government	• Establishment of Local Government Commission is underway • Revision and updating of the Laws and Acts are under process • Unified legislation for LGIs • Supply of the ICT material and training in progress • Encouraging local level need based training	• Uniform application of rules and procedures • Introduce gradually e-governance at local government level • Allow flexibility and operational independence to LGIs to address the local needs • Promote local level needs assessments and initiatives • Allow the local government bodies to directly deal with the national investors and donors • Establish separate career development plans for the officials and employees directly employed by the local government • Activate the standing committees and create scope for women members to take part in the decision making process of the local government institutions • Promote local needs and initiatives considering women's advancement and rights perspective • Introduce gender sensitive budgeting and planning at the local level • Include women and different minority groups in developing LG's development programmes
	• Transparency and oversight	• Citizens' charter introduced • Access to information enhanced • Performance and financial auditing introduced • Website for Local Government Division established	• Ensure full access to service delivery information to the users • Introduce performance/financial auditing for all LGIs • Evaluate overall performance by Local Government Commission • Provide technical and consultancy support by nation building departments • Introduce local level planning and budgeting and ensure budget implementation • Introduce a well-defined gender-sensitive code of conducts for the local government officials • Introduce gender and social-audit for local government institutions
Lead Responsibility: Cabinet Division **Associate Responsibility:** MoLJPA, MoSICT and PMO.			
7. Promoting e-Governance in the government	• e- Access to all the services • System integration	• Provision for ICT materials for all local government institutions • ICT policy is in place	• Introduce a legal framework for e- Governance • Introduce and gradually promote e-governance in all walks of life • Ensure public/private partnership and outsourcing • Establish a nation-wide Third Generation wireless broad-band network to ensure a High-Speed Down Link Packet Access (HSDPA) • Simplify policy issues and publicise online for consultations • Initiate a strategy to get information online • Involve women in ICT/e-governance
Lead Responsibility: Anti Corruption Commission **Associate Responsibility:** MoHA and MoLJPA			
8. Combating Corruption effectively	• Establish a corruption free society	• Legal actions ongoing • Anti-corruption committee in all districts formed • Awareness campaign ongoing	• Identify and eliminate legal and procedural loopholes • Suppress corruption through enforcement of the regulatory framework • Promote awareness building and undertake advocacy • Introduce zero tolerance to corruption • Form citizens groups and ensure women's participation in the anti-corruption committees at grassroots level

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoLJPA **Associate Responsibility:** MoHA, MoWCA, NGOs and CSOs			
9. Establishing Human rights	• Ensure protection of human rights	• Universal Declaration of Human Right ratified • Government has promulgated 'National Human Rights Commission' ordinance	• Ensure implementation of law against anti-trafficking of human • Establish Human Rights Commission • Establish the office of Ombudsperson • Establish child right commission • Undertake public awareness campaign on women's legal rights • Ensure access to alternative dispute resolution (ADR) and/or legal aid for domestic violence cases and other forms of human rights violation • Introduce zero tolerance to VAW and violation of human rights • Recognize domestic violence as a punishable crime
Access to information and awareness building at the grassroots level			
Lead Responsibility: Ministry of Information, other relevant ministries, NGOs, Media, Film Makers			
10. Ensuring correct information reaches people	• Disseminate information to people • Dispel mis-information, prejudicial believes particularly in the rural areas and among the poor • Building greater awareness among people of physiological disorders	• Provided funds to make good quality films • Community based radio broadcasting has been approved	• Make documentary films on various social and development issues in cooperation with stakeholders and view them in the villages, schools, colleges, clubs etc. • Ensure that radio and televisions make awareness building programmes which are innovative, creative, attractive, educational and also entertainment oriented • Introduce a new terrestrial information TV channel to improve peoples awareness of their rights and obligations
11. Empowering people by giving them information and encouraging socially responsible behaviour	• Increase awareness among people of their rights, obligations and socially responsible behaviour		• Undertake nation wide road-shows, area-based information fair on various development issues • Introduce citizens' charters in every government office • Encourage NGOs to strengthen their roles in a cohesive manner in disseminating information at the grassroots level
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 300.95**

Policy Matrix 16: Utility Services Development including Water, Sanitation and Urban Services

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
I. Water Supply and Sanitation			
Lead Responsibility: LGD, DoPE, city corporations and municipalities, WASAs **Associate Responsibility:** MoLGRDC, MoFDM, MoPME, MoEF, DPHE, LGIs, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, CAB			
1. Ensuring safe water facilities for all	• Ensure access to safe water for all • Reduce water borne morbidity & mortality • Reduce proportion of population to arsenic contamination • Ensure safe water supply in 80% of the slum areas • Identify un-/under-served and hardship areas to ensure access to safe water • Provide arsenic free water supply in 10,000 villages	• Govt. declared to achieve water for all by 2011 • National Policy for Arsenic Mitigation formulated • Plan for Arsenic Mitigation adopted • Sector Development Framework for Water Supply and Sanitation (WSS) plan adopted • Arsenic-testing kits introduced • Installation of safe water supply systems for un-served/ under-served areas started • Developed partnership with NGOs, PVOs, CSOs etc. • Installation of Deep Tube Wells and Construction of water reservoirs for Rain Water Harvesting • Storage of water in reserved ponds • Creating awareness of people on arsenic issues • Water supply through pipelines is being provided	• Expand and improve safe water supply facilities in urban and rural areas • Establish laboratory network for water quality monitoring & surveillance programme • Intensify awareness programme on hygiene practices at the grassroots level • Strengthen capacities of LGIs and other stakeholders in WSS sector • Develop alternative technological options to replace arsenic contaminated tube wells • Continue ongoing activities
2. Providing hygienic sanitation facilities	• Ensure access to sanitation for all • Identify unserved/under-served and hardship areas to ensure access to hygienic sanitation • Ensure access to sanitary community latrines in village • Ensure sanitation facilities in 80% slum areas bazar, mosques and schools	• Govt. declared to achieve sanitation facilities for all by 2010 • Construction of sanitary latrines in rural areas and urban slums started • Installation of sanitary latrines in 32,400 schools started • Awareness building among the students on hygiene • Promoting habit of using sanitary latrines & personal hygiene • Installation of sanitary latrines in slum areas	• Ongoing and Continue up to 2011 • Ensure women's hygienic sanitation facilities in public spaces • Increase coverage of school sanitation programme • Expand and improve sanitation facilities in urban and rural areas
Lead Responsibility: MoLGRDC, MoFDM, MoPME, MoE, DPHE, LGED, WASAs, LGIs, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, CAB			
3. Strengthening disaster management and risk reduction capacity	• Strengthen national disaster management	• Disaster Management and mitigation system in place • Formed a Committee and redrafted the Allocation of Business in relation to MoFDM Mandates • Formed a Committee for revising the Standing Orders on Disaster Management • Flood forecasting and warning and cyclone warning systems in place • Agro-meteorological cell established • Adoption of NAPA for climate change is in process • Development of drought prediction model initiated • Launched the MoFDM Website	• Ensure knowledge management on disaster risk reduction (acquiring , sharing and applying) • Establish strong local, regional and national networks among stakeholders • Establish a Disaster Management Cell • Initiate activities to establish the Disaster Management Information Centre (DMIC) • Update disaster management booklet of DPHE
II. Environmental improvement for Water & Sanitation			
Lead Responsibility: MoLGRDC, DPHE, City Corporations, LGED, WASAs, LGIs, NGOs, CSOs, CBOs, CAB			
4. Improving solid waste management system	• Introduce efficient collection and transportation of municipal waste to the disposal site • Segregate at source and introduce safe disposal of hazardous waste • Improve solid waste disposal method in all towns	• DCC has prepared a Master Plan for sustainable solid waste management • A modern land fill site developed & another is underway • Community based urban solid waste management by Waste Concern under SEMP is in progress • Promoting alternative environment friendly shopping bags • Pilots are ongoing in secondary towns on solid waste management	• Develop framework and build capacity to handle trans-boundary hazardous waste under Basel Convention • Continue with the initiatives and interventions taken during 2005-2007 • Construct modern land fill sites as per requirement in all cities & towns

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
5.Improving living environment in the slums	• Reduce drainage congestions in cities • Reduce pollution	• Secondary towns improvement project ongoing • Other metropolitan city investments proposed and ongoing	• Continue with the initiatives and interventions taken during 2005-2007 • Ensure a regulatory framework for treating industrial pollution
6. Improving open water quality	• Reduce pollution load in water ecosystem • Enact and enforce laws to control emissions of toxic matter into water	• Installation of Effluent Treatment Plant (ETP) in polluting industry has been made mandatory and many enterprises have installed ETP	• Establish water quality monitoring & surveillance programme and establish laboratory network • Take appropriate measures for people-centred pollution-free rivers through awareness raising and voluntary labour mobilization
III. Road Transportation and Communication			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, BRTC			
7. Improving quality of city transportation	• Activate DTCB for City transportation improvement • Ensure improved road transportation & road safety	• Manpower & organisational set up approved • Improvement of traffic regulation being undertaken • Road sign and signal manual is introduced • Road safety addressed in all projects • Developed computerized accident database • Provide input/support to National Road Safety Council	• Develop DTCB as per approved set up • Undertake action programme as per STP • Further improve road & traffic regulation in the city to reduce travel time • Construct 18 overload control station
IV. Bangladesh Railway (BR)			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, BR, MoC, PSOs			
8. Developing railways as mass transport	• Improve customer service & operational efficiency • Make railway responsive to market needs and sound business practices	• Computerized seat reservation and ticketing system • Commercial activities of mail, express and local train have been privatized • On board services of 16 intercity trains privatized • Extra capacity BR's fibre optic telecom system leased out • Repairing and cleaning of locomotives and passenger carriages and conversion of non-AC into AC coaches on BOT basis are underway	• Continue and identify ways to increase association of private sector and outsourcing • Continue with actions already taken
V. Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC)			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, BRTC			
9. Modernising road transport service & enhance services to people, especially the poor and persons with disability	• Improve passenger services • Promote safe & improved driving, maintenance, repair, operation and management of vehicles	• Repaired & rehabilitated double and single Decker buses • Procured new bus & truck fleet • Procurement of single Decker and double Decker CNG buses is under process • 6 Driving Training Institutes setup and 6 more Driving Training Institutes are underway	• Procure 600 Double Decker buses • Procure 100 CNG Single Decker buses • Procure 500 trucks • Open new bus depots/units in different districts • Increase inspection and monitoring of activities at all levels • Ensure expansion of private sector participation
VII. Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA)			
Lead Responsibility: MoC, BRTA			
10. Ensuring road safety & better service in road transportation	• Ensure discipline in road transportation	• Road permits issued depending on road condition • Fixing uniform rates for different types of transport • Implementing speed and weight limits • Ordinance & rules are under modification	• Set up weigh bridge in all important positions • Ensure that no transport ply with weight and speed beyond legal limit • Fix distance at the time of issuing the route permit • Set up weighing machines at least in 7 important positions
	• Ensure environment friendly transport in Bangladesh	• 2- stroke three wheelers phased out from Dhaka metropolitan area • Increasingly introducing CNG/Euro engine	• Ban 2-stroke three wheelers all over the country • Ban buses older than 20 years and trucks older than 25 years in Dhaka metropolitan area
	• Bring discipline in issuing driving license and registration certificates	• Laminated driving license & registration certificates are introduced	• Introduce retro-reflective registration plate with hologram • Embody security mark in the registration certificates

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
	• Introduce automation and share information with all concerned	• A central server set up &WAN established partially in Dhaka south and Dhaka north • LAN has been completed at HQ	• Bring Zonal offices under WAN • Extend network to related offices - police, banks/post offices etc. • Introduce auto-input output activities of all works in auto backup
	• Preserve all information in computer database	• Old data has already been taken into the database • Developing auto back-up system in circle & zonal offices	• Complete auto back-up system of data in zonal and circle offices • Update entry of all data relating to activities of BRTA
	• Introduce road safety education and training	• Trained drivers and conductors of 4 old districts • Made short films for awareness building on road safety	• Cover all old districts within the period • Continue with awareness building of children & pedestrians
VIII. Biman Bangladesh Airlines Limited			
Lead Responsibility: Moab, Biman Bangladesh			
11. Increasing scale of operation	• Modernize Biman's fleet • Improve financial performance • Enhance air cargo capacity for promoting export	• Addition of aircraft on wet and dry lease is under process • Cost cutting measures have been implemented • Biman converted into a Public Limited Company • More frequent Gulf & Middle-East flights are being operated	• Increase capacity through leasing of aircraft • Improve passenger services • Provide equity for acquisition of new aircraft • Protect Biman's traffic and handling rights as a national carrier • Concentrate operation in the Gulf and Middle-East region • Allow carrying perishable export cargo by foreign carriers
IX. Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation (BIWTC)			
Lead Responsibility: MoS, BIWTC, Private sector MoS, BWTC, PSOs			
12. Enhancing quality of Water Transport	• Promote water transportation in the inland and coastal water ways • Provide safe and cheaper transportation for the mass people including woman • Emphasize efficient passenger service in long distance inland water routes • Provide uninterrupted ferry services	• Rehabilitation of 2 Coastal Passenger Vessels for BIWTC is being carried out • Rehabilitation of 6 Ro-Ro Ferry, 2 K-type Ferry, 6 Pontoons and modification of Passenger Steamer M.V. Sonargaon are on going • Construction/Procurement of 2 K-type ferries for Mawa ferry ghat • Construction/Procurement of 2 Ro-Ro ferries and 2 Ro-Ro Pontoon in Mawa ferry sector • Construction of steel jetty at Sandwip is underway • Construction/Acquisition of 2 Container Vessels is under approval • Ensuring efficient ferry services in Aricha and Mawa	• Procure Water Taxi for operation in the circular water route • Procure container vessel for cargo transportation • Introduce Ro-Ro ferry services in Mawa sector • Construct 4 Sea-Trucks for carrying passengers in the coastal belt and in the risky inland water routes • Construct/Procure 1 passenger vessel of capacity 500 suitable for operation in all seasons • Construct/Procure 4 self propelled cellular container vessels of 100 TEU • Construct/Procure 2 Coastal Ferries and 2 Pontoons with Stable Ramp for operation in Bhola-Laxmipur Ferry route • Install Hi-Tech Navigation System at Paturia and Mawa Ferry Route and 4 Ferry ships for uninterrupted operation • Construct/Procure 2 Shallow Draft Oil Tankers • Procure/install modern equipments/facilities for increasing the efficiency of Dockyards • Rehabilitate 4 medium type ferries • Construct/Procure a Salvage tug of capacity 2000 H.P.
13. Expanding Water Transport services	• Establish Bhola-Barisal and Laxmipur-Bhola ferry services • Promote transportation facilities in the remote areas	• Opening new ferry services at Laxmipur-Bhola and Bhola-Barisal ferry route	• Continue with the ongoing actions • Opening Sea-truck services as and where necessary • Open Chittagong-Cox's Bazar tourist services • Open Dhaka-Bhola passenger services
	• Open avenues for private sector participation	• Organizational reforms and sound business practice in effect • Charter out cargo fleet and coastal passenger routes	• Make the organization more responsive
	• Emphasize routine periodic maintenance of BIWTC's fleet	• Identify the vessel on priority basis & prepare necessary schedule	• Introduce modern technology and machineries in existing dockyards

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
	• Ensure environment protection and disaster risk reduction	• Infrastructures damaged by 'SIDR' are being rehabilitated.	• Continue with the actions • Take preventive measures for future disaster risk reduction
	• Ensure cost reduction	• Make CNG conversion of main engines of major ferries	• Implement a project to ensure cost reduction
	• Introduce waterways in and around Dhaka city	• Construction of cargo and passenger facilities	• Undertake action following the approval of the project
Lead Responsibility: Energy Division, Petroleum & Mineral Resources Division **Associate Responsibility:** DESA, DESCO, West Zone Power Distribution Company (WZPDC), REB			
14. Ensuring reliable power supply	• Define service standard • Improve financial performance • Reduce power interruption • Reduce System Loss to 11% • Maintain bill collection ratio at 98% • Improve C.I. ratio to 87%	• Reduced interruption to 6 hrs/yr/consumer • Reduced frequency of interruption to 10 hrs/ yr/ feeder • Reduced each interruption to not more than 1 hr • Ensuring feeder wise functioning in all companies • Installing one stop service in all divisions • Operation & Maintenance of the feeder applying TQM • Introducing E-governance and MIS in all companies	• All distribution companies to work to achieve these targets • Improve load management to distribute peak demand on 24 hrs. • Monitor power distribution feeder wise • Establish feeders as strategic business units (cost centres) • Establish one stop service centres • Establish feeder wise maintenance and service centres • Operationalise prepaid metering
X. Tourism Development			
Lead Responsibility: MoCAT **Associate Responsibility:** all relevant ministries			
15. Expanding tourism for growth	• Improve institutional arrangement for tourism	• Beach Management Committees formed • Approved Destination Status from China obtained to facilitate arrival of more Chinese tourists • NTO being reformed	• Institutionalize participation in Tourism Satellite Accounts of World Tourism Organization • Establish a regulatory framework to protect tourists interests
	• Develop new tourism sites in collaboration with other agencies/ private sector	• Prepared Integrated Tourism Development Plan for inter ministerial Cooperation for Tourism Development such as – Environment, Forest, LGED, Roads & Highways, Archaeological Department etc.	• Develop Kuakata Buddist Temple • Establish Mirinja Tourism Centre • Establish Safari Park at Gazipur, Eco-park at Madhabkunda, Charkukri-Mukri with Department of Forest • Develop more archaeological sites for cultural tourism
	• Develop infrastructure for tourism	• Special Tourism Zone and Exclusive Tourism Zones taken up	• Develop special and exclusive tourist zones • Establish meeting, conference and exposition facilities • Procure transports and other crafts for reverie and beach tourism
	• Promote private sector for Tourism	• Bank loan and micro-credit facilities extended • Land allotted at Cox's Bazar for hotel, motel	• Diversify tourism products in collaboration with private sector • Continue promotion of private sector through different incentives
	• Develop human resources for tourism services	• National Hotel and Tourism Training Institute is being upgraded and training activities intensified	• Prepare annual work plan of NHTTI based on training needs • Consider establishing training facilities in other areas
	• Ensure safety in important tourist spots	• Established a special police unit in Cox's Bazar sea beach	• Evaluation of beach outposts completed & implementation undertaken by Police Reform Programme
XI. Post, Telecom & ICT			
Lead Responsibility: MoPT&T, PT&T, BPO, PSOs			
16. Improving access to ICT, Telecom & Postal services	• Expand internet network • Facilitate voice video data communications • Minimize digital gap	• Tender invited for installation of fibre optic line under BOO-BOT	• Expand ICT facility • Empower rural people through diffusion of ICT in rural areas • Continue with the action • Develop ICT infrastructure under BOO-BOT

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
	• Set up digital telephone exchanges in Upazilas & growth centres	• Approval of revised DPP is underway • Extension of project up to 2007 is under consideration • Installation of RSU & MSU in 178 Upazila & 42 growth centres is underway • Installation of 37 towers is under process	• Continue expansion of digital telephone facilities in Upazilas & growth centres
17. Modernising postal services for better service to people	• Automate postal services • Capacity building of BPOs through HRD	• Initiative is taken for automation of postal services • HRD initiative is in process	• Service counters and postal accounting to be automated • Automatise service delivery • Create staff capacity for automation & improved service
XII. Safety, Security and Protection of Life, Liberty and Wealth			
Lead Responsibility: MoHA, Bangladesh Police, Criminal Justice & Jail **Associate Responsibility:** Criminal Justice & Jail MoHA, BP, MoLJPA, DoFSCD, Ansar, BDR, NGOs, CSOs			
18. Ensuring safety & security of life, liberty & wealth for all	• Criminal Justice reform	• Speedy Trial Act, 2002 passed • 9 Speedy Trial Tribunals established • Acid Offences Act, 2002 enacted • Monitoring cell established in Home Ministry • Rapid Action Battalion established in 2004 • Independent public prosecution service proposed • Project to enhance criminal justice and access of the poor to justice undertaken	• Complete meaningful separation of judiciary from executive • Promote ADR utilizing community capacities including local governments • Implement independent public prosecution service • Strengthen safeguards in implementation of speedy solutions • Standards setting in lower judiciary • Promote legal literacy and strengthen legal assistance for poor
	• Police reform	• Police Regulations of Bengal is being replaced by new act • Committee to update Jail Code established • Developing national protocols for victim referrals • Drafting Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct for Police • Developed a new Crime Prevention and Community Safety system	• Revision of the Bengal Police Regulation will be completed • Gender Guide Lines will be introduced • New law to curb domestic violence is under process • Make a new THB Act to tackle Trafficking of Human Beings • Develop a programme for integrating the thana and the chowkidari systems and promote community policing
	• Develop and modernize police	• Construction of the 6 new model thanas are underway • A Model Victim Support Centre is being established at the Tejgaon Women Police station • Establishment of a Crime Prevention Centre is underway • ICT initiatives for capacity building of BP are under way	• Establish an IT (Cyber) Crime Investigation Facility at CID HQ • Establish beach outposts at Cox's Bazar
	• Reform Jail	• 2 central jails and 34 district jails are under construction • Established 4 correctional and rehabilitation centres for children and 1 under construction • Established 1 safe-home for women inmates in each division • Computerisation of prison administration is under process	• Provide vocational training for inmates, particularly female inmates • Ensure Safe Homes for women to ensure their safety and well-being
	• Promote ADR for rural population	• Pilot experiences are being accumulated	• Collate pilot experiences for wider replication • Strengthen shalish system retaining its informal character and ensuring women's participation

Strategic goal(s)	Key targets	Action taken/Underway	PRSP policy agenda (FY09-FY11)
1	2	3	4
XIII. Directorate of Fire Service and Civil Defence			
Lead Responsibility: MoHA, DoFSCD, PSOs, NGOs, CSOs			
19. Ensuring fire prevention and fire safety facilities all over the country 20. Providing emergency rescue and ambulance facilities for all	• Establish fire prevention and safety facilities in all Pourasavas, Thanas and industrial/commercial centres • Improve and expand emergency rescue facilities for natural calamities, disasters, accidents, collapse structure, shipwreck etc. • Improve and expand emergency first aid and ambulance service • Increase awareness of fire prevention and fire safety	• 183 fire service stations are in operation in 6 divisions • 71 fire stations have already been set-up • Equipment and vehicles are being replaced • Equipments are being procured for emergency rescue and manpower training • 43 district head quarters have been provided with 58 ambulances • Radio link expanded with stations through base stations and repitors • Awareness of fire prevention and safety is being created • HRD for staff and volunteers continuing	• Complete six ongoing projects to set up 253 fire service stations • Procure modern fire fighting and rescue equipment • Introduce modern ambulance service in all districts • Continue wireless communication with all fire stations • Continue intensification of awareness campaign • Grow partnership with CSOs, youth groups and students • Implement Fire Prevention and Extinction Act 2003 • Strengthen fire safety in industries, commercial centres and high rise buildings • Continue activities on HRD • Establish fire prevention, safety and rescue in coal and rock mines • Introduce accident prevention & mitigation in water transportation
XIV. Urban Development			
Lead Responsibility: City Corporations, LGED, DPHE MoLGRDC, MoL, MoC, MoS, RHD, BR, BWTC, BRTC, City Corps, Pourasavas, NGOs, CSOs, PVOs			
21. Ensuring planned urbanization for providing better urban services	• Establish strong decentralized local self-governance	• Create democratically elected local bodies • Created legal framework for City Corporations & Pourasavas • Introduce regulatory framework to suit the present need	• Institutionalize public participation in municipal business through appropriate changes in legal framework • Identify & develop areas for revenues • Identify sources & uses of fund • Ensure transparent budgeting & control • Practice computerized billing and (tax, utility services) accounting-budgeting systems and modern management
	• Improve planning capability of city corporations		• Establish planning and budgeting unit in all city corporations and improved administrative and management practices and procedures • Impart training to municipal staff; change prevailing culture and perception
	• Ensure urban rural linkage for balanced development	• Take stock of existing infrastructure of road, rail, waterways, markets surrounding urban centres	• Prepare master plan for each urban centre & pourasava
	• Ensure water & sanitation in urban centres	• Identify existing development & deficiencies of urban services (water supply, sanitation, solid waste, drainage, etc)	• Improve water & sanitation condition in urban areas and in pourasavas • Protect urban rivers for safe water supply • Introduce community based solid waste management and establish modern landfill sites for solid waste disposal • Ensure women's hygienic sanitation facilities in public spaces
	• Ensure 20 percent development of housing & shelter	• Assess housing & shelter requirement for different strata of people	• Develop appropriate policy for housing and shelter • Build partnership and institutions for shelter and housing • Establish financial institutions & micro-credit organisations for housing
	• Ensure adequate road & other infrastructure for urbanization	• Identify existing development & deficiencies of urban infrastructures	• Prepare strategy for cluster development comprising adjacent pourasavas • Develop partnership for building infrastructure under BOO-BOT • Establish mechanism for coordination involving all agencies, NGOs, CSOs, PVOs etc.
	• Provide recreational facilities	• Identify existing & future recreational requirements like parks, playground, auditoriums, libraries etc	• Identify land for joint venture development of recreational facilities • Utilize urban river banks for development of linear park & other recreational facilities under BOO-BOT basis
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 167.81**

Policy Matrix 17: Caring for Environment and Tackling Climate Change

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** MoA, MoFL, MoH, MoWR, MoLGRDC, MoLJPA, MoCHTA, MoE, MoI, MoSICT, MoLJPA, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, DAE, LGED, DLS, CBOs, and NGOs			
1. Ensuring sustainable livelihood of the poor, especially for women and disadvantaged groups	• Ensure access of 1 million poor people to Common Property Resources (CPRs) • Create awareness among 50% of the coastal and Hill District's poor and women of environmental management and livelihood • Introduce land zoning for paddy, shrimp, salt, afforestation and other crops cultivation in the coastal districts • Ensure that 50% of the participants in all activities are women • Maintain sustainable management of forest resources inclusive of local people including women of the Hill Tracts regions	• Upgrade of Forestry Sector Master Plan is under way • Presented the draft document of Bangladesh Wildlife Amendment Act 1974 and its up grade • Implementation of Social Forestry Rules 2004 is going on • Participatory co-management is being introduced to allow increased access of the poor to CPRs • Training and public awareness programme under SEMP has been completed • Completed the ICZM project • Distribution of benefits to the participants of social forestry will continue	• Develop the regulatory frameworks that recognize the user rights of people on CPRs • Establish user rights through licensing/participatory systems to CPRs in NRM of water bodies and forests • Finalize the Wetlands Policy, upgrade Forestry Sector Master Plan and Bangladesh Wild Life Amendment Act 1974 with provision to access of the local poor and women • Undertake activities to preserve rights of the poor and women on CPRs • Organize meeting with relevant ministries to resolve conflicts among shrimp, salt, paddy, afforestation etc. in the coastal districts
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** All relevant ministries, CBOs, NGOs,			
2. Integrating environmental issues into all policies, plans and regulatory framework	• Incorporate environmental issues, mitigation and adaptation measures in all sector policies, plans and regulations • Create a network among stakeholders on mitigation and/or adaptation of environmental issues	• Documentation centre established in the Department of Environment • Organized awareness raising workshops • Integrated different environmental issues into concerned Ministries/Agencies through meeting and seminars • Developed a data base network of different stakeholders • Bangladesh National strategy for Agenda 21 has been initiated through adoption of NEMAP	• Harmonize environment policies and all other relevant sectors' policies • Undertake dialogues with the sectoral ministries/ agencies to integrate environmental issues • Develop coordination meeting with the sectoral ministries/agencies/department/organizations • Undertake 30 local, 5 regional and 2 national training workshops • Establish policy support unit within MoEF • Ensure women focused review and follow-ups of NEMAP with reference to NWP 2008
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** Relevant ministries, CBOs, NGOs, DFP, Media, all city and municipality corporations			
3. Improving living environment in the slums	• Supply safe water and reduce drainage congestions in all urban slums • Ensure common public hygienic toilets and sanitation facilities in all urban slums • Ensure solid waste collection and safe disposal in all urban slums • Create awareness about safe and hygienic water supply among slums dwellers	• Initiative has been taken to improve the water supply and sanitation in many of the urban slums • A policy framework is under way to develop environmental friendly slum in major cities • Community based SW collection and its safe disposal has been initiated • Training and awareness programmes have been initiated by the CBOs, NGOs and government	• Establish participatory slum improvement centre in all municipality and urban areas • Extend solid wastes collection service, water points and sanitary latrines in slums • Continue the awareness programmes in slum areas • Recover slum areas that illegally encroached wetlands, riverbank / river, canals, etc to ensure natural flow of water

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility:** All relevant ministries , CBOs, NGOs, DFP, all city and municipality corporations			
4. Ensuring good governance in managing environmental issues and natural resources	• Implement management plan of protected and ECA areas • Access to information systems • Participatory and co-management of NRM • Equity and benefit sharing of natural resources among population	• Initiated participatory and co-management in all sectors especially for the CPRs	• Develop technical and managerial competence of different stakeholders by using environmental governance tools • Develop technical and managerial compliance by recruiting relevant environmental management experts • Develop the organizational capacity for a well defined set up of organogram • Develop environmental accountability in all sectors • Develop mandatory participatory and co-management approach in all CPRs • Include 50% women in all organization, agencies, sectors to ensure compliance and good governance
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: DoE, DoF, FD, PHED, LGED, DMB, CBOs, NGOs, DFP, municipalities and city corporations BCSIR, BAEC, BARI, national and international research organizations			
5. Strengthening the process of environmental analysis in project design and implementation	• All environmental laws, regulations are applied • DoE's activity at the district levels • Public participation in all environment related decisions	• Public participation in environment related project formulation and implementation is being practiced • Internet service has been established in many environmental organizations and is under way in rest of the organizations • An environmental analysis framework for project design and implementation has been developed • State of Environment is publishing Reports on a regular basis	• Recruit professional staff in DoE • Continue awareness programmes among scientific, technical and managerial personnel • Expand the DoE activities up to the district levels • Develop a website for environmental clearance certificate (ECC) and EMP procedures • Establish mandatory public consultation process in all EIA, EMP, ETP and other relevant activities • Create awareness about the importance of EIA among women entrepreneurs
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: All relevant Ministries , CBOs, NGOs, DFP, media			
6. Ensuring sustainable land management	• Reduce the rate of shifting cultivation from 51% to 30%	• Food for work based river excavation and development of embankment have been conducted	• Enforce land zoning and control measures • Restore khas land, polluted water bodies and ecosystem for common usages • Continue the community-based earth excavation work involving poor peoples • Increase the extension activities to produce improved seeds of local plant species • Establish monitoring and evaluation systems with the help of concerned authorities • Conduct 64 workshops and training programmes for 200,000 peoples from different stakeholder groups in each district

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF and MoI **Associate Responsibility**: MoP, MoFL, MoH, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD, MoLJPA, MoE, MoSICT, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, DAE, LGED, DLS, CBOs, NGOs			
7. Controlling Industrial pollution	• 50% of all amber-b and red category industries under Environmental clearance systems and proper maintenance of EMP • Environmental management plan (EMP), effluent treatment plant (ETP) and health management system in all polluting industries • EMP in occupational health risk bearing industries • Initial environmental examination (IEE) and environmental impact assessment (EIA) of 100% industries prior to their establishment • Polluter-to-pay applied to 100 percent industries	• Pilot schemes to carry out the improvement of environmental management in textile sectors • Developed a committee to recommend measures for highly polluted industries • MoI is implementing BOILER ACT, regulation and rules • BSCIC has taken an initiative to relocate tanneries, garments industries and pharmaceuticals industries that exist in the residential area and inside the main cities • For industrial waste water treatment, researches are going on in some universities • Implementations of ECC, IEE, EIA, EMP and ETP has been initiated	• Continue to enforce all environmental policies, rules and regulations to the polluting industries • Introduce mandatory environmental friendly solid and other wastes management system • Develop sector specific EIA guidelines • Amend Environment Conservation Rules, 1997 keeping provision of public participation in EIA approval. • Enforce to develop Common Effluent Treatment Plant (CETP) in all private sector run industrial parks • Develop the Environmental Management Programme • Set up a strong networking system among all relevant industries through establishing a database with relevant information • Create awareness of women and men labour force on health hazard from industrial pollution and take safeguard measures
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoI, MoP, MoL, MoFL, MoWR, LGD, MoLJPA, MoSICT, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, FD, CBOs, NGOs, DFP, media, city and municipality corporations			
8. Controlling air pollution in major metropolitan cities and rural settings	• Reduce current ambient air quality of 138 µm3/year for PM 10 to 100 µm3/year and 77 µm3/year for PM 2.5 to 40 µm3/year in major metropolitan cities including Dhaka • Reduce the emissions at the national standard level of 4,000 motorized vehicles running outside Dhaka and 50% of total vehicles inside Dhaka • Control of GHG emission from 60% of automobiles and 20% of brick kiln sources in all urban areas • Motor Vehicle Ordinance and Environmental Court 2000 in major metropolitan cities enforced • Establish CAMPS	• Banned two-stroke three-wheeler in Dhaka city since September, 2002 and switched to CNG • Installed the Catalytic Converter and Diesel Particulate Filter becomes mandatory • Installed the Continuous Air Monitoring Station in Dhaka and other metropolitan cities • Invented fuel-efficient cooking stoves for the poor • Limited diffusion of efficient stoves • Two-stroke engine vehicles replaced with four-stroke, CNG run ones in Dhaka • Vehicular Emission Standard and Ambient Air Quality Standard updated under AQMP Project • Initiated the improvement of brick kiln • Initiated the EMP in all polluting industries • Developed monitoring and evaluation systems both inside and outside the stakeholders • Implemented CASE project	• Implement the procedures of the State Air Quality Standard (AQS) in the vehicles of urban areas and all polluting industries • Ensure mandatory use of four-stroke engine in all cities • Arrange campaign, workshop and training programmes among owners and drivers of vehicles and relevant managers of polluting industries for utilizing the clean and renewable energies • Establish vehicle inspection and maintenance programmes in all metropolitan cities • Identify industries including brick kiln which are responsible for air pollution and set permissible limit for polluted air emissions • Continue tree plantation and green belt in each industry. • Develop an appropriate dust control system in each major city • Ensure 70% CNG stations of total vehicular fuel stations along with its conversion facilities • Establish 5 refinery stations for lead and sulphur free vehicular fuel oil • Introduce polluted emission tax • Introduce energy efficient cooking stoves in rural areas
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoEF, MoI, MoP, MoFL, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD, MoLJPA, MoSICT, MoT&J, DoE, DoF, DAE, LGED, BWDB, DPH, BSTI, CBOs, NGOs, media			
9. Controlling toxic chemical and radioactive pollution	• Database of existing radioactive pollution with network system in place • Monitor radioactivity in metropolitan cities in place	• Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission has established a framework to determine the radioactivity of different materials	• Develop a committee for the assessment of existing toxic chemical and radioactive pollution • Develop a monitoring and evaluation system in the major metropolitan cities • Develop guideline on the training programmes for the safe use of toxic chemical and radioactive matters • Undertake awareness programmes for safe use of toxic chemical and radioactive matters • Take protective measures against the impact of toxic chemical and radioactive pollution on pregnant women and children

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoI, MoP, MoL, MoFL, MoH, MoSICT, MoLJPA, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, DMB, CBOs, NGOs, media, city and municipality corporations			
10. Controlling noise pollution	• Reduce the noise pollution level from 90-110 decibel to 45-55 decibel in metropolitan cities • National noise level database • Noise pollution policy and regulatory framework	• Initiated the banning of the hydraulic horns from motor vehicles • Developed the national noise level standards by DoE • Developed a noise inventory of Khulna district	• Ban the use of hydraulic horns and apply restrictions on the use of horns in areas like academic and religious institutions and residential areas • Complete procedures and implement the Noise Level Standard (NLS) in metropolitan cities, vehicles and industries • Undertake awareness and motivational activities \for maintaining a NLS for vehicles and industries • Develop a national noise inventory, database and networking system • Set up noise taxes and registration fees that have a potential health risk
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoI, MoP, MoL, MoFL, MoH, MoLGRDC, MoLJPA, MoSICT, MoT&J, DoE, DoF, DAE, LGED, CBOs, NGOs, media, city and municipality corporations			
11. Improving solid waste management system	• 3R (recycle, reuse and resource recovery) in all urban centres • Collection and transportation system of solid waste to the designated disposal site in all municipal city corporations • Mandatory segregation at source and safe disposal of hazardous wastes especially the hazardous medical wastes • Improve solid waste disposal method in major metropolitan cities • Database and good networking system for monitoring and evaluation of SWM in all urban and semi-urban areas • Implement organic fertilizer production system in all over Bangladesh	• Polythene Shopping Bags banned • DCC has initiated a Master Plan to demonstrate the sustainable solid waste management, landfill leachate collection and treatment through a semi-engineered sanitary landfill • Community based urban solid waste management has been completed where lesson learnt is now being applied to other areas of the country • Formulation of draft waste management guidelines • Medical waste management has been initiated • A Pilot project of Solid Waste Management in the Secondary Towns is on-going	• Develop and implement awareness and motivational programmes in all urban and semi-urban areas for efficient collection, recovery, and safe disposal of solid waste through CBOs participatory co-management approach • Develop pilot projects of integrated waste-to-energy, biogas and bio-fertilizer production in major cities • Develop laws and guidelines for mandatory segregation at source and safe disposal of hazardous wastes • Develop public-private partnership for environmental friendly SWM system in all metropolitan cities • Complete the formulation of SWM master plan • Introduce a framework for building capacity of handling trans boundary hazardous wastes management under Basel Convention • Develop10 project on waste-to-resource recovery system • Develop a national database of SWM system and set up networking among all relevant organizations • Develop house-to-house SW collection and safe disposal through participatory and co-management system by CBOs SWM at least one in urban and semi-urban areas • Undertake household level sensitization programmes for segregation of different types of wastes and resource recovery
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoI, MoP, MoL, MoA, MoFL, MoH, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD, MoLJPA, MoCHTA, MoE, MoSICT, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, LGED, BWDB, DPH, DLS, CBOs, NGOs, DFP, media, city and municipality corporations			
12. Controlling of water pollution and contamination	• Reduce at least 20% pollution load in aquatic ecosystem • Regulatory measures to combat pollution from non-point sources • Enact and enforce laws to control wastes and their effluents of all kinds into the rivers of Buriganga, Shitalakshma, Balu, Turag, Bramhaputra, Bhairab and Surma • One surface water ponds in each upazila of coastal districts and preserve their quality for safe drinking and other domestic purposes • One rain water harvesting system for safe drinking and other domestic purposes in each upazila	• Installation of Effluent Treatment Plant in polluting industry has been made mandatory in the EGA 1995 • Many industries have already installed ETP • Environmental Pollution due to ship breaking has been contained • Community-based cost effective water treatment plant using reed bed has been constructed • BSTI is regularly monitoring and supervising the bottled mineral water for ensuring its quality • Arsenic removal filtration is being marketed • Pond sand filter has been adapted in the coastal districts as well as arsenic-prone ground water areas	• Reduce the use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides along with phase-out of persistent organic pollutants (POPs). • Introduce less water polluting substances and improvement technologies in industrial processes • Establish monitoring and evaluation activities by concerned authorities and organizations to reduce effluent discharges (e.g. discharges from mechanized vessels) and strict implementation of ECA, 1997 along with other regulations in all water pollution and land degradation activities. • Promote use of organic compost • Setup polluter-to-pay approach by concerned stakeholders for reclaim / clean up and rehabilitation of the damaged ecosystem / natural environment. • Enforce the mandatory installation of effluent treatment plants for industries • Conduct one workshop in each district for 200,000 people from different stakeholder groups • Undertake awareness raising (specially among women and children) activity about water pollution and its health hazard

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoL, MoA, MoFL, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD,, MoCHTA, MoSICT, MoEMR, DoE, LGED, BWDB, DPH, DLS, DMB, CBOs, NGOs, DFP, media, local government bodies			
13. Controlling river erosion and hill cutting	• Stop hill cutting • Develop 100 km erosion prove embankment	• Initiative has been taken for the development of regulatory framework against illegal hill cutting	• Continue community-based earth excavation work for river bed excavation • Establish monitoring and evaluation systems with the help of concerned authorities • Continue community-based earth excavation work under Food For Work Programme for more integration of poor people
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoP, FD, MoL, MoA, MoFL, MoH, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD, MoCHTA, MoE, MoSICT,, MoT&J, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, DAE, LGED, BWDB, DPH, DLS, DMB, CBOs, NGOs, DFP			
14. Mainstreaming the climate change issues into national and sectoral development plans and policies 15. Addressing the climate change adaptation and mitigation measures	• Develop a national guideline on Bali Action Plan • Sector wise survey to identify sector-specific risks to climate change • A national data base of different CC issues, their status and possible mitigation and / or adaptation measures • Climate change training and education in primary, secondary, tertiary levels • Awareness and motivational activities in the high risk areas • A national inventory of ozone depleting substances (ODS) and preparation of a national strategy • Reduce 30% of ODS by 2011 that exist in 2007	• Inventory of GHG emission along with the Country Programme has been initiated • Developed a separate CC Cell in DoE from which different training and awareness programme on CC and their possible adaptation / mitigation measures are being undertaken • Study entitled 'Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change and Probable Mitigation Measures' has been initiated • National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA) to climate change has been completed • CC issues incorporated in the Coastal Zone Policy • CC documentation centre has been established in the Department of Environment • Integration of CC issues into concerned cross-sectoral Ministries /Agencies is being continued • Initiated various CC adaptations and mitigation researches by DoE, DoF, concerned departments/disciplines of the public universities and other research organizations • CDMP is focusing on the CC issues in the concerned coastal and other disaster-prone areas • A national steering and working committee has been formed to develop a National Bali Action Plan for Bangladesh	• Set up high level committee to coordinate and monitor national policies and actions of climate adaptation/ mitigation and coordinate donor assistance • Continue dialogue among the ministries / agencies on integration of CC issues • Coordinate NAPA with all public, private and community level stakeholders • Provide policy and institutional framework for integration of CC issues in all relevant public and private investments • Set up a network and develop a national database on CC issues • Develop community level CC mitigation strategy with involvement of local government authority • Introduce CC issues and its possible mitigation and adaptation measures in the curricula at all levels of education • Develop and implement projects for CC adaptation and mitigation in coastal communities, socio-cultural, political norms and values • Develop and implement projects on technology development to support CC mitigation and adaptation with women perspective • Organize training and awareness programmes on how the inhabitants of CC affected areas can adapt and mitigate • Develop a CC research and information network • Develop at least one permanent CC proved integrated sustainable infrastructure • Develop a model on how the post CC situation can adapt a more sustainable infrastructure in the coastal districts • Complete the National Bali Action Plan and commence its implementation • Introduce insurance system for exposed households with local multi-donor trust funds

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoEF, MoI, MoP, MoL, MoA, MoFL, MoH, MoWR, MoLGRDC, LGD, MoCHTA, MoE, MoSICT, MoLJPA, MoT&J, MoEMR, REB, DoE, DoF, FD, DAE, LGED, BWDB, DPH, BSTI, DLS, DMB, CBOs, NGOs, media			
16. Conserving bio-diversity of the country	• 160 regenerate/propagate native endangered plant species along with gene-bank among ecologically critical areas (ECAs) • 200 regenerate/propagate native endangered animal species along with gene-bank from critical ecosystems • 10,000 acres of forest land to be recovered • 25% of the river embankment to be recovered from illegal encroachment • Stop further destruction of habitat and overexploitation of flora and fauna from all natural forest areas and water bodies • Stop further encroachment of the natural forests and inland waters • Protected areas and wild life management to be established • 30% expansion of social and agro forestry	• Biodiversity conservation through afforestation has been initiated in the areas in coastal and hill districts • Established 16 Protected Areas (PAs) covering 0.244 million hectares throughout Bangladesh and 8 Ecologically Critical Areas (ECAs) • Development of co-management model on afforestation along with ox-bow lake and baor management process • Development of Wildlife Policy and Act are in the process • Finalized the Bio-safety Protocol and Guidelines • Finalized the NBSAP • Formulation of National Biodiversity Framework for the development of the Sundarbans Biodiversity Conservation Act is in process • Coastal and Wetland Biodiversity Management at Cox's Bazar and Hakaluki Haor Project is in progress • Preparation of Encyclopaedia on flora and fauna of Bangladesh	• Develop and implement the guidelines on regeneration and conservation of endangered and rare species in ECAs and PAs • Complete the survey on floral and faunal biodiversity in 20 floral and faunal ecosystems • Develop protected areas and wild life management system • Develop appropriate social and agro forestry • Initiate a national biodiversity data base • Develop and initiate the bio-safety regulatory regime • Develop a framework to mitigate the biodiversity loss • Introduce and implement quarantine law in port areas • Ban cultivation of exotic fish, flora and fauna that have adverse effects on the environment • Stop unethical and immature inbreeding activities in fisheries and livestock sectors • Initiate the reintroduction of 20 aquatic and 20 terrestrial extinct species from ECAs and PAs • Introduce participatory-co-management with local communities including poor and women of all natural forest and inland waters bodies • Initiate the national bio-safety protocol and National Bio-diversity Strategy Policy and Action Plan (NBSAP)
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoI, MoE, MoEMR, DoE, DoF, Universities, CBOs, NGOs, Text Book Board, DFP, media, national & international research organizations			
17. Enhancing education and awareness activities for sustainable development	• Establish environmental education at primary, secondary and tertiary levels • Increase awareness and motivational programmes at the community levels through electronic and print media • Offer special degree on climate change /disaster management issues	• Environmental education has been introduced into the syllabus at primary and secondary levels • Academic programmes on Environmental Science are offered by Public Universities and Government Polytechnic Institutes • Initiated environmental training programmes for the relevant Training Academy	• Arrange at least 1 environmental management training, seminar and symposium in each district • Advertise environmental awareness and motivational activities in road side poster and media • Develop a national network of environmental management curriculum, modules and books
Lead Responsibility: MoEF **Associate Responsibility**: MoP, MoL, MoA, MoFL, MoWR, LGD, MoT&J, DoE, DoF, BWDB, DPH, BSTI, national and international research organizations			
18. Improving research and development activities		• Some demonstration projects are going on • DoE has already been established its one central and several divisional environmental analysis laboratories • Developed air quality monitoring centres in Dhaka and other divisions under AQMP project • Developed 3 trans boundary air quality monitoring stations	• Develop collaborative research programme including academic, research organizations and MoEF • Publish and distribute research-based periodicals and journals on a regular basis • Develop research to innovate tools on SWM, air quality improvement, soil reclamation and noise remediation • Develop a network of environmental organizations
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 124.92**

Policy Matrix 18: Technology Policy including ICT and Biotechnology

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
1. Developing ICT Policy and Infrastructure	• Update national Policy on ICT • ICT Road Map/Policy Implementation Plan and formulation of e-Government strategy • Rules and regulations related to the implementation of ICT Act 2006 • Connect the ministries/divisions, departments, districts and Upazilas to establish the public network • Country web portal and delivery of public service through the web portal • Establish Office of the Controller of Electronic Signature Certifying Authority • Establish Cyber Tribunal as per the ICT Act 2006 • Construct BCC Bhaban as proposed up to 15th floor for expansion of ICT activities • New technology and standard of Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) • Reorganize and strengthen MoSICT and BCC • Establish Bangladesh as a BPO/Call Centres outsourcing destination	• National Policy on Science and Technology (S&T) has been formulated • National Policy on ICT has been formulated and National Task Force on ICT has been formed • ICT Act has been enacted • Formed a Committee for the implementation of World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action • Copyright Act has been amended • Exemption of VAT and taxes for ICT related equipment, tax holidays, creation of equity funds were undertaken • ICT incubator centre has been established • Opened a shared-office in the Silicon Valley (USA) • Taken measures to establish a High-Tech Park • Bangladesh is connected to the Information Superhighway through submarine fibre-optic cable • ICT Business Promotion Council has been established to expand the development of IT industries of Bangladesh in Global Market • International Gateway (IGW) and Interconnection Exchange (ICX) is being established • Decision taken to open up Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP) to the private sector • Established training labs with internet connectivity in 128 Institutions in 64 Districts • BTRC has already formulated guidelines for setting up of Call Centres and has invited application for license	• Update regularly National Policy on ICT • Prepare ICT Road Map/Policy Implementation Plan through "Support for Development of Public Sector use of ICT under EMTAP Project" • Formulate e-Government strategy through "Support for Development of Public Sector use of ICT" under EMTAP Project • Frame rules and regulations related to the implementation of ICT Act 2006 • Extended support for running ICT incubator up to June'09 • Establish new ICT incubator • Introduce national Infra–network project for the government (BanglaGovNet) to connect the ministries, divisions, departments, districts and upazilas • Develop country web portal and deliver public services through the web portal gradually • Establish ICT Centres (Data Resource Centre) in all districts and limited Upazilas • Establish Office of the Controller of Electronic Signature Certifying Authority. • Establish Cyber Tribunal as per the ICT Act 2006 • Construct BCC Bhaban as proposed • Gradually upgrade new technology and standard of Internet Protocol version 6 (IPv6) • Reorganize and strengthen MoSICT and BCC • Initiate necessary policy provision for mass-scale public sector use • Take measures to establish Bangladesh as a BPO/Call Centres
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoE, PMO, PC			
2. Promoting human resource development for ICT	• Provide ICT training to 10% of Secondary & Higher Secondary teachers every year • 50 percent of the government officials will be trained • 50 percent of the students in secondary education level will receive ICT training • Study on the Job/International Market for Bangladeshi ICT Professionals • ICT Professional Skill Assessment and Enhancement (IPSAEP) Programme in place	• IT training institutions have been set up at divisional headquarters to disseminate knowledge of ICT • ICT education has been introduced in schools and colleges • ICT training for teachers of Schools and Colleges has been introduced • PGD courses on ICT have been introduced in selected universities and at BCC • National Science and Technology Fellowships are being given to students for carrying out higher studies • Bangladesh-Korea Institute of Information and Communication Technology has been set up to produce ICT professionals • Study on the Job/International Market for Bangladeshi ICT Professionals is being introduced/explored • Internship programme has been launched for ICT graduates	• Develop curriculum and provide training to Secondary & Higher Secondary Level Teachers on ICT usage • Introduce internship programme for ICT graduates • Furnish 128 Computer Training Labs and train 768 teachers from schools and colleges in ICT • Provide government officials with ICT training • Initiate ICT Professional Skill Assessment and Enhancement (IPSAEP) programme • Expand infrastructure facilities of the ICT sector and explore alternative submarine connectivity

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
3. Promoting use of ICT	• Ensure e-Governance for delivery of public services to the people • Provide broadband internet connectivity to ICT incubator and to important Ministries/Divisions/Departments • Promote and assist computerization in the Government Ministries, Divisions, Departments etc. • Coordinate the public and private sectors to make easy access to information for the citizen • Increase export of Software and ITES • ICT based services available to all citizens	• e-Governance cell has been established in the Chief Advisor's Office and e-Governance initiatives have been taken • Gradual introduction of ICT in all public agencies is being undertaken by the Government • BCC is providing broadband internet services to ICT incubator and a number of Ministries and agencies • Measures have been taken to make all government forms available on the net • In some government departments online file tracking system has been established • Dynamic and interactive websites have been developed for government offices • Some key ministries have been connected with the Prime Minister's Office and Planning Commission • Computerization of a few Government offices is in progress • BCC is fully connected to the Local Area Network (LAN) and Internet	• Promote e-Governance for delivery of ICT to ensure public services to people • Convert BCC website to a Web Portal • Connect the Ministries, Divisions, Departments, Districts, Upazilas under a public network (BanglaGovNet) • Broadband internet connectivity will be provided to ICT incubator and to all Ministries/Divisions/Departments • Promote and assist computerization in the Government Ministries, Divisions and Departments • Coordinate public and private sector activities to make easy access to information for the citizens • Promote ICT industry to increase export of Software and ITES • Facilitate ICT industry and NGOs for delivery of ICT based services to the citizen • Create ICT awareness among all the citizens • Promote good governance through ICT and undertake mass awareness campaign involving telecommunication tools such as SMS and MMS • Ensure proper maintenance of ICT infrastructure for quality service
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, NGOs, district administrations			
4. Increasing access to ICT among disadvantaged groups including women	• Establish tele-centres throughout the country to deliver services in the rural areas including remote areas • Establish several e-Community Centres across the country	• E-Commerce initiatives have been taken • A Programme has been undertaken for upgrading, modernizing and expanding information services for promoting awareness of people • MoSICT has already taken up some development projects for opening e-Community Centres	• Promote ICT industry and NGOs to establish tele-centres throughout the country to deliver services to the rural and remote areas • Promote ICT to provide public services in the remote, e.g., e-Learning, e-Agriculture, e-Health etc. • Establish e-Community Centres with help for women users • Strengthen the capacity of BTRC • Provide mobile in the hands of the poor and women and use it for providing information to them
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoE, MoF, Cabinet Division			
5. Enhancing Research & Development in ICT Applications	• Develop and disseminate Multimedia based courseware for SSC level • Ensure Local Content development for easy access to information in the rural areas • Ensure quality education using ICT (Education Olympiad) • Establish centre of Excellence for ICT	• Multimedia based courseware development and dissemination is being undertaken by "Implementation of Computer Training Programme in 128 Educational Institutions in 64 Districts" Project • Independent groups and private organizations are working on Unicode compliant Bangla solutions using open source	• Develop and disseminate multimedia based courseware for SSC level • Develop local Content for easy access to information for the rural people • Build capacity for quality education through creation of competitive environment using ICT • Establish Centre of Excellence for ICT • Research and training centre will be established in the SASEC countries

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
6. Using Nuclear Technology for Power Generation	• Complete Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant by 2010	• A development project entitled "Accomplishment of Essential Activities to Implement 600 MW(e) Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant" is considered by the Government for the FY 2008 - 2010	• Mobilize resources for establishing 600 MW Nuclear Power Plant
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
7. Developing nuclear service related infrastructure	• Provide services in industrial sectors • Screen Congenital Hypothyroidism in Newborn Babies • Develop Tissue Banking services • Ensure chemical analysis of products of agriculture, industry, medicine etc.	• Atomic Energy Commission has established one Institute and fourteen Nuclear Medicine Centres (NMC) in different Medical College Hospitals • Some of the radio-isotopes are already being produced by the research reactor and a project has been taken • A laboratory has been set up in INMU and samples are being collected • Tissue Banking and Biomaterial Research Unit has been established, services are being provided according to demands and training are being provided to develop skilled human resources • A nuclear laboratory has already been set up and projects are proposed for more laboratories • Temperature controller, Nuclear Pulse Generator, Radiation Survey Meters etc. have been developed	• Expand and modernise NMC's through procurement and installation of modern equipment • Establish PET CT facility in the country which will ensure early detection of cancer • Establish more Nuclear Medicine Centres under BAEC to meet the demand of radioisotopes for the increasing number of general patients • Design and develop special electronic instruments according to the needs of BAEC and also as of other organizations of the country.
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoPT			
8. Improving technology for Telecommunication	• Install additional Submarine Cable for redundancy and capacity building • Expand Data Communication Networks • Infrastructure sharing by the telecom operators • Install IP Telephony and Video Conferencing Services • Establish a National Monitoring Centre (NMC) • Construct a "Telecom Tower" as BTRC Head Quarter in Dhaka by 2010	• Major cities are already covered by telecom services and further work is continuing • All access service networks are advised to share network with other service providers and BTRC is formulating a guideline in this regard • BTRC is finalizing a guideline on issuing license for IP telephony • NMC has been established, BTRC and NMC officials have been trained and monitoring equipment are being imported • Land has been allotted for BTRC and necessary preparation is being taken to construct "Telecom Tower"	• Install additional Submarine Cable for redundancy and capacity building • Expand Data Communication Networks • Promote infrastructure sharing by the telecom operators • Promote latest Technology, Value Added Services Content generation and promote/facilitate content service providers • Facilitate IP Telephony and Video Conferencing Services • Establish Telecom Network for National Monitoring System and National Monitoring Centre (NMC) • Construct a "Telecom Tower" building by 2010 as BTRC Head Quarter building in Dhaka
Lead Responsibility: MoA, MoSICT, BARI, Agriculture University			
9. Developing agriculture and food technology	• Ensure High quality food • Preservation of foodstuff and agriculture produces • Control and manage pesticide residues in plants and crops	• Various R&D works are being carried out	• Expand R & D works to develop high protein content food, food items with extended shelf life, tissue culture techniques for improving economically important and endangered plants, to establish generic transformation techniques for obtaining transgenic plants with improved and desired characteristics • Develop nation-wide bio-fertilizer

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
10. Developing nuclear safety administration	• Ensure Nuclear Safety and Radiation control • Adequate Nuclear Regulatory Infrastructure for the implementation of nuclear power programme	• BAEC is issuing license to handle, use, import, export, transport, store, and trade in radioactive materials and equipments • BAEC is monitoring and providing training and expert services to the clients • All radiation sources/materials have been taken under regulatory control of BAEC • Personnel dosimeters are being supplied to monitor radiation workers • Radiation monitoring instruments are being standardized, and spent sources are being collected, stored and disposed	• Implement Nuclear Safety and Act, 1993 • Expand BAEC's regulatory activities to fulfil the requirements for safety and security of nuclear materials/sources as well as the regulatory requirements for introduction and expansion of nuclear power programme
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, MoSICT			
11. Introducing new technology for water resources development and management	• Identify proper geologic aquifer of clean and safe drinking water sources	• Samples are being collected from different places of the country and are being analyzed.	• Ensure sustainable development of groundwater resources for use in domestic, agriculture and industrial purposes • Identify efficient management of water resources technology
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoI, MoEF			
12. Developing new sustainable and appropriate technologies for production and preservation of food	• Lease-out commercial processes to local entrepreneurs and industrialists • Provide full technical support for establishing cost-effect small and medium industries and producing safe and quality food products	• Activities have been undertaken for processing and preserving of fruits, vegetables, fish and meat products • Developing nutritious foods for undernourished children and women • Developing of solar dying technology for producing dehydrated food products • Developing fermented food, sources and other value added products by utilizing local raw materials • Utilizing food and agricultural wastes/by products for production of feed and other value added products	• Improve food safety, quality and food security status • Create and promote cost-effective food processing technologies • Undertake need based research and development for developing indigenous technologies for various activities • Provide technical support for establishing cost-effective small and medium industries and producing safe and quality food products
Lead Responsibility: MoWR, MoSICT			
13. Introducing cost effective technology for irrigation	• Increase use of CNG	• Developing dual/fuel (CNG/Diesel) kit to use in irrigation system with shallow water pumps	• Develop dual fuel shallow water pump
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT			
14. Improving energy technology	• Reduce energy crisis of rural people • Reduce Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emission.	• Institute of Fuel Research and Development (IFRD) of BCSIR has already set up about 21,858 biogas plants • Different models of fuel efficient mud stoves were developed and about 0.3 million were disseminated • Different models of Solar Oven have been developed and being further modified	• Set up Biogas plants throughout the country utilizing all sources of bio-degradable waste • Develop demand based improved stoves and help people to set up improved mud stoves instead of conventional stoves • Disseminate different types of solar oven throughout the country
Lead Responsibility: MoHFW, MoSICT			
15. Developing and promoting alternative medical care (AMC)	• Reduce dependence on the allopathic system of medicine	• Propagation and plantation of medicinal plants, extraction and laboratory study are being undertaken • Traditional drugs are also being studied in the laboratory	• Develop alternative medicine particularly to address women's health needs

Strategic Goals	Key Targets	Actions Taken/ Underway	PRSP Policy Agenda (2009-2011)
1	2	3	4
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoA, MoEF, Universities, Researchers			
16. Developing biotechnology policy for socioeconomic development	• Apply biotechnology to improve agricultural crops, marine sciences and aquaculture, environment, pharmacy, forensics, and public health	• Researches have been initiated on plant tissue culture, rice bio fertilizer, DNA finger printing, artificial breeding of indigenous fishes, industrial micro organisms, PPR virus of goat etc. • Bangladesh has adopted the National Policy Guidelines on Biotechnology to accelerate multidimensional biotechnological research	• Provide DNA finger printing services for investigation • Develop biotechnology based legal framework for Intellectual Property Rights • Prepare work plan for the implementation of National Biotechnology Policy • Strengthen R&D on biotechnology to identify efficient, eco-friendly and economically viable options
Lead Responsibility: MoSICT, MoA, MoEF			
17. Developing Eco-friendly appropriate biotechnology	• Ensure wide use of tissue culture for regeneration and rapid multiplication of nearly extinct plants, economically important and medicinal plants • Develop and transfer technology to the grassroots level for income generation	• Developed protocol technology for plant regeneration, multiplication and cultivation • Number of processes on Spirulina have been leased out • A new process has been developed for cultivation of Spirulina	• Develop biotechnology based small and medium industry • Generate income through economic and medicinal plant cultivation • Develop nursery for the rural people • Develop genetically modified (GM) pest resistant varieties of fruits and vegetables • Conduct training programme for the production of Spirulina
Total Indicative Cost (in billion taka)			**Tk. 50.00**

Annex 4

Social Safety Net Budget FY 2008 - 09

(A.1) Cash Transfer (Allowances) Program

Sl.	Program (Ministry/Division)	Target Group Coverage (in Lac)			Budget (in Crore)			
		2007-08	2008-09	Increase (%)	Revised (2007-08)	Proposed (2008-09)	Increase (%)	
1	Old Age Allowance (MOSW)	17.00	20.00	17.65%	448.80	600.00	34%	Rate has been increased from Tk.220 to Tk.250 per person per month
2	Allowances for the Widowed, Deserted and Destitute Women (MOWCA)	8.25	9.00	9.09%	184.80	270.00	46%	-Do-
3	Allowances for the Financially Insolvent Disabled (MOWSW)	2.00	2.00	0.00%	52.80	60.00	14%	-Do-
4	Maternity allowance program for the Poor Lactating Mothers (MOWCA)	0.45	0.60	33.33%	17.00	21.60	27%	
5	Honorarium for Insolvent Freedom Fighters (MOFWA)	1.00	1.00	0.00%	72.00	108.00	50%	Rate has been raised from Tk.600 to Tk.900
6	Honorarium for Injured Freedom Fighters (MOFWA)	0.08	0.08	0.00%	27.30	44.00	61%	Different types of allowances may be increased by 50%
7	Grants for Residents in Government Orphanages and other institutions (MOSW)	0.16	0.16	0.00%	19.44	22.14	14%	The rate has been raised from Tk.1200 to Tk.1500
8	Capitation Grants for Orphan Students in non-gov. orphanges (MOSW)	0.42	0.45	7.14%	30.24	37.80	25%	Monthly rate may be increased from Tk.600 to Tk.700
9	Gratuitous Relief (Cash) (MOFDM)	5.30	5.30	0.00%	26.53	10.00		Additional support will be provided from the block allocation for disaster management.
10	General Relief Activities (MOFDM)	5.00	5.00	0.00%	10.00	10.00		Clothes, Blanket, Biscuit, dry food and others in kinds.
11	Block Allocation for Disaster Management				10.00	100.00		
12	Non-Bengali Rehabilitation (MOFDM)	1.10	1.10	0.00%	30.10	35.00	16%	Expenses for payment of Water and Electricity bill for Bihari Camps.

13	Allowances for Distressed Cultural Personalities/ Activitists (MOCA)	0.01	0.01	0.00%	0.75	0.75		
14	Allowances for beneficiaries in Ctg. Hill Tract area.	0.54	0.54	0.00%	1.50	1.50		Non-tribal, Refugees from India and Jonosanghati Members.
15	Pension for Retired Government Employees or their families	3.12	3.25	4.17%	3381.00	3584.00	6%	
	Total (A.1.i) =	**44.43**	**48.49**	**9.09%**	**4312.26**	**4904.79**	**14%**	
ii) Social Empowerment								
1	Stipend for Disabled Students (MOSW)	0.12	0.12	0.00%	5.00	5.00	0%	Rates for primary level Tk.300, Secondary level Tk.450, Higher Secondary Tk.600 & Higher studies Tk.1000
2	Grants for the Schools for the Disabled (MOSW)	0.12	0.12	0.00%	1.80	1.80	0%	Teachers' benefit.
	Total (A.1.ii) =	**0.24**	**0.24**	**0.00%**	**6.80**	**6.80**	**0%**	
	Total (A.1) =	**44.67**	**48.73**		**4319.06**	**4911.59**	**14%**	
(A.2) Cash Transfer (Special) Program								
(A.2.i) Social Protection								
Sl.	**Program (Ministry/Division)**	**Coverage (in Lac)**			**Budget (in Crore)**			
		2007-08	**2008-09**	**Increase (%)**	**Revised (2007-08)**	**Proposed (2008-09)**	**Increase (%)**	
1	Cash For Work (MOFDM)	67.00	0.00		100.00	0.00		New Program, Only for FY 08
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)					
	Total (A.2.i) =	**67.00**	**0.00**		**100.00**	**0.00**		
(A.2.ii) Social Empowerment								
1	Housing Support (MOFDM)	63.00	10.00		63.00	10.00		Additional requirement will be fulfilled from the block allocation
2	Agriculture Rehabilitation (MOA)				180.00	10.00		
	Total (A.2.ii) =	**63.00**	**10.00**		**243.00**	**20.00**		
	Total (A.2) =	**130.00**	**10.00**		**343.00**	**20.00**		

(B) Food Security Programs: Social Protection								
1	Subsidy for Open Market Sales (OMS) (MOFDM)	76.00	94.44	19.53%	1849.00	2674.95	45%	Perhead 90 kg rice is sold, considering daily 5 kg, 3 Days in a month for 6 months.
		(Man Month)	(Man Month)		(6.84)	(8.50)	(24%)	
2	Vulnerable Group Deve-lopment (VGD) (MOWCA)	7.50	7.50	0.00%	721.00	836.64	16%	WFP assisted program. 30/person/ month. Beneficiarie s 7.5 Lacs.
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)		(2.65)	(2.65)		
3	Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) (MOFDM)	104.67	75.00		855.00	708.08		10 kg/person/ month. 3 months program
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)		(3.14)	(2.25)		
4	Test Relief (TR) Food (MOFDM)	12.50	50.00		411.00	631.47	54%	3.5 kg/day. 30 days 105 kg/person.
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)		(1.50)	(2.00)	(33%)	
5	Gratuitious Relief (GR)- Food (MOFDM)	64.00	64.00	0.00%	174.00	201.41	16%	10 kg/person
		(Man in Lac)	(Man in Lac)		(0.64)	(0.64)		
6	Food Assistance in CTG-Hill tracts Area	75.00	75.00	0.00%	204.00	237.88	17%	3.5 kg/day. 30 days 105 kg/person.
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)		(0.75)	(0.75)		
7	Food For Work (FFW)	17.62	47.62	63.00%	503.00	1577.63	214%	
		(Man-Month)	(Man-Month)		(1.85)	(5.00)	(170%)	
	Total (B) =	**357.29**	**413.56**	**15.75%**	**4717.00**	**6868.05**	**46%**	
(C.1) Micro-Credit Programs: Social Empowerment								
1	Fund through PKSF	2.00	2.00	0%	217.61	271.37		World Bank Supported Tk. 382 crore has been allocation till FY08
2	Special fund for Employment Generation for Hard-core Poor in SIDR Area (PKSF)	0.50	1.00	100.00%	130.00	0.00		

3	Social Development Foundation				30.00	40.00	33%	World Bank Supported. 200 projects are under implementation in FY 08. In FY 09 267 projects would be supported.
4	NGO Foundation				0.00	15.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.127 Crore
5	Micro-credit for Women Self-employment (MOWCA)	0.68	0.70	2.94%	20.00	10.00	-50.0%	The Programe coverage is in 333 Upazilas of 64 districts, Tk.42.75 has been disbursed till FY 2007-08
6	Fund for Development of Fisheries and Livestock sector (MOFL)		1.00		0.00	0.00		Accumulated capital Tk.15 crore.
7	Freedom Fighters' Self Employment Support (MOFWA)	0.10	0.10	0.00%	0.00	10.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.42.50 Crore.
8	Mircor Credit for Self Employment of Youth (MOYS)				0.05	0.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.164 Crore.
9	Micro-Credit in Social sector Service (RSS, RMC, UCD) (MOSW)	4.30	4.50		0.00	0.00		Interest free loan. Accumulated Capital Tk.265 Crore
10	Micro-credit by BRDB (RDCD)							Accumulated Capital Tk.611.28 Crore
11	Infrastructure Development Company				115.00	140.00		WB supported
12	Infrastructure Investment Facilitation Centre (IIFC)				1.83	0.00		WB supported
13	Municipal Development Fund				116.75	294.56		WB supported
	Total (C.1) =	**7.58**	**9.30**	**22.69%**	**631.19**	**780.93**	**23.72%**	

(C.2) Miscellaneous Funds: Social Empowerment								
Sl.	Program (Ministry/Division)	Coverage (in Lac)			Budget (in Crore)			
		2007-08	2008-09	Increase (%)	Revised (2007-08)	Proposed (2008-09)	Increase (%)	
1	Fund for the Welfare of Acid Burnt and Disables (MOSW)	0.70	0.75	7%	5.00	10.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.60.50 Crore
2	Fund for Garment workers Training and support (MOC)	0.50	1.00	100%	20.00	0.00		Tk.20 Crore has been allocated in this fund in FY 2007-08.
3	Fund for Assistance to the Small Farmer and Poultry Farms (FD)	1.00	1.00	0%	0.00	100.00		
4	Employment Generation for Hard-core Poor (PKSF)	1.00	1.00	0%	100.00	0.00		
5	Support to Small Entrepreneurship (PKSF)	1.00	2.00	100%	100.00	100.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.275 Crore
6	Mitigation of Risk of Natural Disaster (pre and post) (MOFDM)				20.00	0.00		Total disbursement 147 Crore (40% Grant and 60% Loan)
7	Housing Loan for Homeless (BB)		1.75		0.00	10.00		Accumulated Capital Tk.160 Crore.
8	Swanirvar Training Program				1.25	1.50	20%	
9	Jatio Pratibandhi Unnayan Foundation (JPUF) (MOSW)							Tk.25 Crore disbursed as seed money. WB assistance is in the pipeline
10	Shamaj Kallyan Parishad	0.14	0.14		8.00	8.00		
11	Renewable Fuel Development Assistance		1.00		20.00	50.00	150%	
12	Assistance for Agro-based Industries				95.00	50.00		
13	Equity Development Fund- Agriculture (BB)				100.00	100.00	0%	
14	Equity Development Fund- IT (BB)				100.00	100.00	0%	
15	SME Foundation	0.50	1.00	100%	100.00	100.00	0%	
16	Agriculture Research Assistance				350.00	0.00		
17	Special Fund for Training & re-employment for the retired or dismissed employees/ workers							A fund of Tk.54 crore has been released in last 3 Years.
	Total (C.2) =	**4.84**	**9.64**	**99.17%**	**1019.25**	**629.50**		

(C.3) New Fund: Social Protection								
1	100 days Employment Scheme (MOFDM)	0.00	14.00		0.00	2000.00		This is an employment gurantee scheme would be developed as the largest SSNP. Beneficiaries 20 lacs. Wage rate Tk.100/day
		(Man-Month)	(Man Month)					
2	Fund for Climate Change (MOEF)				0.00	200.00		A new program to support the environmental risks.
3	Fund for Women labourer				0.00	25.00		
	Total (C.3) =	**0.00**	**14.00**		**0.00**	**2225.00**		
	Non-Development Total (A1+A2+B+C1+C2+C3) =				**11029.50**	**15435.07**		
	Total Non-Development Budget =				**63,585**	**72,735**		
	Percentage of Non-Development Budget =				**17.35%**	**21.22%**		

(D) Development Sector Programs: Social Empowerment

(D.1) Running Development Programs

Sl.	**Program (Ministry/Division)**	**Coverage (in Lac)**			**Budget (in Crore)**			
		2007-08	**2008-09**	**Increase (%)**	**Revised (2007-08)**	**Proposed (2008-09)**	**Increase (%)**	
1	Stipend for Primary Students (MOPMED)	55.00	55.00	0.00%	468.00	468.00		The stipend is provided to 58 lacs students.
2	School Feeding Program (MOPMED)	6.00	6.00	0.00%	50.00	0.00		Each student is provided 75 gram nutritant biscuits.
3	Stipend for Dropout Students (MOPMED)	5.00	5.00	0.00%	151.54	151.54		Stipend is issued to about 5 lacs schools
4	Stipend for Secondary and Higher Secondary/Female Student (MOE)	28.00	28.00	0.00%	340.00	340.00		
5	Stipend for Poor Boys in secondary school	0.00	1.39			150.00		

6	Maternal Health Voucher Scheme (MOHFP)	1.00	1.00	0.00%	17.95	17.95		Implementation under HNPSP project.
7	Rural Employment Opportunities for Protection of Public Property (REOPA) (LGD)	0.24	0.24	0.00	26.00	26.00	0%	EC & UNDP supported
10	Community Nutrition Program (MOHFA)	1.20	1.76	46.67%	115.00	200.00	74%	Mixture of rice, pulse, Ghur, Soyaben, nutrient packet and vitamin A Capsul.
11	Shouhardo Program	4.00	4.00		17.03	19.40		18 District. GoB Financed
12	Accomodation (Poverty Allevition & Rehabilitation) Project (Chief Advisors Officce)	0.40			91.39	110.49		Abashan Project.
13	School Children …				84.30	96.86		
	Total (D.1) =	**96.44**	**97.00**		**1142.49**	**1246.69**		
(D.2) New Programs								
1	Rural Employment and Rural Maintenance Program (LGD)	0.00	50.00		0.00	190.00		It's a new Program fully GoB financed Tk 943 Crore has been allocated for 5 years period.
2	VGD -UP (8 District on Monga Area) (MOWCA)		0.40			19.20		A new project, would be implemented under EC assistance.
	Total (D.2) =	**0.00**	**50.40**		**0.00**	**209.20**		
	Development Total (D) =	**96.44**	**147.40**	**52.84%**	**1168.49**	**1462.69**	**25.18%**	
	Grand Total Safety net (A1+A2+B+C1+C2+C3+ D1+D2) =	**640.82**	**652.63**		**12197.99**	**16,897.76**	**38.53%**	
Grand Total Budget =					**86,085**	**97735**	**13.53%**	
Percentage of Total Budget =					**14.17%**	**17.29%**		
GDP =					**535,415**	**611400**	**14.19%**	
Percentage of GDP =					**2.28%**	**2.76%**		

Annex 5

Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators

M&E Indicators 1: Macroeconomic Environment for Pro-poor Growth

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Macroeconomic Stability and Pro-poor Economic Growth			
1. Maintaining stable macroeconomic environment	•maintain budget deficit at not more 5 % of GDP •maintain growth of money supply to support higher growth and stable price level •maintain sustainable current account deficit		•growth rate •rate of inflation •employment for men and women •head count ratio
2. Increasing funding for pro-poor growth	•increase pro-poor public expenditure		•head-count ratio •Gini-coefficient •employment for men and women
3. Ensuring financial sector reform	•restructure NCBs •improve bank regulation/supervision •improve corporate governance of banks and NBFIs •ensure flow of credit to agriculture, SMEs, low cost housing & women entrepreneurs		•interest rate •flow of credit to private sector •proportion of NPLs
4. Reforming SOEs to reduce losses and improve their efficiency	•budget allocation of SOEs as percentage of total budget •privatize more public enterprises •downsize BADC and BCIC		•profit of individual SOEs •number of employees in SOEs
Promoting Trade & Remittances			
5. Promoting ready made garment exports	•implement recommendations of NCC on RMG •examine the contentious issues like ROO •improve ports and customs services further		•share of RMG as % of total export •employment in RMG sector
6. Improving international competitiveness of exports	•implement export policy (2006-09) to promote competitiveness and diversification of exports •provide cash incentives to SMEs •develop entrepreneurship training to promote SMEs		•total exports •composition of exports •exchange rate
7. Providing freer trade environment	•reduce average protective tariff to 20 percent •rationalize number of QRs		•balance of payment •foreign exchange reserve
8. Enhancing inflows of remittances	•strengthen anti money laundering surveillance •increase remittance flows through official channel		•remittance as % of foreign exchange earnings •foreign exchange reserve

M&E Indicators 2: Resource Mobilisation (Domestic and Foreign)

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Enhancing tax effort	•further modernise and rationalise the taxation system •establish separate tax policy unit •decentralise tax collection efforts		•total revenue as a percent of GDP •share of direct tax in total revenue
2. Improving tax administration	•pursue capacity building of revenue administration •reduce discretionary power in tax laws and build trust in tax payers •create tax friendly environment and provide more client oriented services •establish networking of VAT and income tax offices with NBR •reduce number of items under VAT exemption •implement customs MIS •link shipping agents, port authority & customs using ASYCUDA		• total revenue as percentage of GDP
3. Generating more revenue from non-tax sources	• rationalize non-tax revenue rate of fees and charges • rationalize prices of gas, electricity, petroleum and fertilizers		•non-tax revenue/total revenue
4. Ensuring increased donor fund inflow	•ensure better aid harmonisation		•inflow of foreign official resources as a share of GDP
5. Strengthening aid management and implementation capacity	•streamline field administration of implementation •strengthen implementation, monitoring and feedback into policy		•timely disbursement of resources and implementation of activities

M&E Indicators 3: Agricultural Growth towards Poverty Reduction

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Increasing productivity and profitability of agriculture (crops and non-crops)	• expenditure on agriculture by sub-sectors as percentage of total public expenditure • expenditure on agricultural research and extension services • expenditure on irrigation • expenditure on marketing services • expenditure on agro-processing and agro-business development • expenditure for subsidies in agriculture • timely availability of agricultural inputs • expenditure on production of quality seeds • disbursement of agricultural credit by sub-sectors and farm size • protect crop lands from non-agricultural uses • improve land resource base	• new varieties of seeds • supply of inputs in the market • pro-poor extension services focused • irrigation infrastructure • supply of quality seeds	• per capita consumption of food grains, vegetables, protein, milk and milk products • agricultural wage rate by male/female • agricultural growth rate • household food security • employment by sub-sector and by male and female • head-count ratio • regional and temporal price variation • agricultural output by sub-sectors • reduction of yield gap • production of cash crops and high value crops • output of agro-processing industries

M&E Indicators 4: Water Resources Development and Management

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Expanding utilization of surface water including coastal polders and arsenic prone areas	• increase expenditure on surface water as % of water resource sector expenditure • handover of O&M of the existing projects to the beneficiaries • cost sharing/cost recovery from the beneficiaries	• use of surface water for agricultural • development of WMO • handover of O&M to the WMO • cost recovery	• cost of production • impact on environment • reduced O&M burden • employment generation for men and women
2. Augmenting utilization of surface water all over the country for efficient water management	• expenditure on surface water as % of expenditure on water resource sector • negotiations for augmenting trans-boundary water resources with neighbouring countries	• no. of small/large water retention structures • diversion of surface water from main river • rivers and rainwater harvest • barrages/rubber dams constructed • trans-boundary water sources assured	• production of agricultural output • habitat protection • impact on environment • employment generation • trans-boundary river flow during dry period
3. Rationalising utilization of ground water	• monitor quality & quantity of groundwater regularly • execute Control Measures	• implementation of GW management plans • region-wise threshold established	• use of ground water • GW-use optimization
4. Ensuring maximum protection from flood and reducing vulnerability to water related disasters	• increase expenditure on flood protection, drainage system etc. • % of functional/total no of FCD system • drought management plans preparation • riverbank protection and town protection measures • construct more cyclone shelters • plan adaptation needs for climate change • expenditure on maintenance and upgrading of FFWC systems	• FCD projects rehabilitated • river banks protected at critical sites • benefited area enlarged due to forecasts • more cyclone shelters constructed • climate change adaptation needs assessed • no. of projects for drought mitigation • improvement of reliability of forecasts	• flood free area • coastal polders safe from sea-level rise • value of protected assets • lives saved from disaster • safety of coastal population from cyclone • agricultural droughts mitigated
5. Protecting haors/baors/ wetland/ sundarban, saline water intrusion and promote accretion of land	• make accreted land habitable and suitable for crop production • implement Integrated Costal Zone Management Plan • undertake haor/baor development plans	• % of protected wetland to total wet land area • proportion of area accreted • salinity controlled	• crop area • habitat improvement • employment generation for men and women
6. Managing erosion of major rivers and protect towns	• expenditure on control erosion of major rivers and protection of large and small towns as % of water resource sector expenditure	• towns protected • river bank protected	• property saved • employment generation for men and women
7. Ensuring extension and maintenance of navigation routes	• expenditure on survival, extension and maintenance of safe navigation routes	• length of navigational routes • density of boat traffic	• cost of water transportation • time saved in commuting
Non-structural Goals			
8. Enhancing access of the poor to water and common property resources	• undertake programmes to lease out water and common property resources • engage the poor in maintenance of canal and embankment	• area leased out for the poor community for settlement (Ha.) • labour Contracting Societies	• employment generation for men and women • no. projects leased • no. of households settled
9. Strengthening human resources of BWDB	• undertake projects with WMOs • register WMOs • provide training to WMOs personnel • provide WMOs with source to earn revenue for their operational cost	• WMOs taking O&M responsibilities as per GPWM • training events completed	• surface water use without cross-cutting conflicts of users

M&E Indicators 4: Water Resources Development and Management

	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
10 Conducting research and development for improved regional water balance	• expenditure on research and development (% of ADP/year). • contracts with specialized trusts/research institutions • cost incurred for climate change adaptation measures	• research/study reports • no. of EIA/SIA for all water sector projects • ground water quality and status of regional thresholds	• % of additional area free from drought • no. of prioritized river training works
11 Ensuring monitoring of hydrological, climate and maritime data	• install required telemetry stations • procure equipment and vehicles • ensure pro-poor system improvement • undertake community training on these issues	• lead time of forecasting • upgrading of FFWC system • reliability of forecasts • forecast coverage increased • customized warning data and information	• homestead saved from flood loss • savings of agricultural damage • savings of infrastructural damage
12 Reviewing the existing policy and finalising the *National Water Act*	• strengthen and update WARPO for discharging its clearing house functions for all water related agencies	• WARPO updates NWRD database and undertakes macro and micro planning • % of feasibility and project studies have IWRM concepts adequately analyzed	• sustainable, conflict-free and equitable water resources development

M&E Indicators 5: Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development

	Input Indicators	Output Indicators	Outcome /Impact indicators
1. Creating enabling environment to ensure level playing field for enterprises of all sizes	• undertake pro-SME policies and provide incentives to SME sector • undertake pro-SME import and export policies • undertake pro-SME credit policy for both urban and rural areas • ensuring financing from alternative sources	• flow of credit to SMEs by sector, gender and areas • incentives to SMEs • beneficiaries of export and import policies • rate of interest	• growth of SMEs • growth of exports • rate of employment creation for men and women • head count ratio
2. Easing regulatory barriers for SME development	• introduce regulatory reforms in the favour of SMEs • ensure support services to SMEs • Strengthening advocacy for SME development	• no. of trade license issued to men and women entrepreneurs • tax and VAT reduction • no. of boiler certificate issued • no. of product certification issued • no. of trademarks and fire license issued • no. of BSCIC registration of SMEs • no. of enterprise registration by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies and Firms • no. of environment certificate issued	• growth of SMEs • growth of women owned SMEs
3. Creating a database for SMEs for investors and service providers	• SME definition • creation of SME database and SME Web portal • create Help Line Centre in 64 BSCIC industrial service centres	• no. of visitors on SME WEB Portal • no. of users of the help line centre facilities	• availability of data and information to the SMEs related stakeholders

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators	Output Indicators	Outcome /Impact indicators
4. Ensuring and enhancing technology up[grade, adaptation and diffusion	• make funds available for R&D to the research institutes • encourage use of new technology for SMEs	• performance of SME related technical institutes in developing new technology • no. of new technology introduced • no. of technology patented & commercialized	• no. of SMEs introducing new technology and products • export of SME products
5. Ensuring infrastructural facilities including basic utility services for the SMEs	• establish industrial parks, EPZs, special economic zones • ensure utility in the estates • ensure uninterrupted power supply to SMEs on a priority basis	• no. of Industrial Parks, SME parks/estates • quality of utilities in the parks/estates	• decentralization of SMEs • employment generation by men and women
6. Enhancing access of SMEs to market	• introduce new products • establish display centres for SMEs • undertake SME product fairs at district level • undertake fairs at national and international level		• SMEs share in total exports
7. Ensuring sustainable enterprise development	• install environment safety devices • ensure appropriate waste management for SMEs	• safety devices installed in SMEs • waste management system improved	• no. of SMEs with improved environment
8. Improving the quality and standards of products	• increase of quality certification to SMEs • increase of product standardization certificates to SMEs	• no. of exportable SME items • quality of SME products	• quality of SME products • exports of SME products
9. Ensuring human resource development and capacity building	• provide training on different trades • provide training on basic technology • provide training on work safety issues • provide training on designing • provide training on basic accounting, office and file management • provide training on computer and spoken English	• no. of male and female entrepreneurs trained • no. of male and female workers trained • no. of trained male and female technicians • supply of people with managerial skills • managerial capability of the SMEs	• productivity of SMEs • growth of SMEs
10. Supporting women entrepreneurship in SMEs	• ensure credit for women entrepreneurs • provide training to women entrepreneurs • arrange product fairs and other market facilities for women entrepreneurs	• number of trained women entrepreneurs • financing to women entrepreneurs	• women SMEs growth • employment generation for women
11. Restructuring and strengthening BSCIC	• change the composition of Board • change the staffing pattern • change the service on station	• cost effectiveness of service delivered • areas of new sectoral coverage • improved industrial estates management	• no. of new SMEs • no. of new products and design created
12. Strengthening BSTI	• increase the no. of regional BSTI offices • increase testing facilities in BSTI • increase the no. of qualified staffs in the regional offices	• decentralised and efficient services from BSTI	• quality and standard of SMEs

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators	Output Indicators	Outcome /Impact indicators
13. Supporting BCSIR	• increase flow of funds for R&D specially on SMEs • ensure marketing of new technologies, processes and products	• no. of new processes and products developed • technology diffusion and adoption	• product diversification • technological advancement
14. Strengthening DPDT	• establish offices of IPRs • undertake projects to strengthen DPDT	• awareness on IPR issues • coverage and outreach • services from DPDT	• no. of patented products and IPRs
15. Strengthening SMEF	• decentralise service delivery • increase partnership building with private sector	• Expansion of coverage and outreach • Extent of networking	• no. of SME client served
16. Coordinating policy formulation	• formulate National Coordination Committee • develop indicators for measuring policy and programmes	• no. of coordination meetings held • no. of impact output indicators formulated	• harmonized national development policies

M &E Indicators 6: Employment Generation and Labour Welfare

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Generating productive employment	• improve training on existing trades, and introducing training on new trades in growing demand • train basic technology and improve technology • improve working condition for higher productivity • translate higher productivity into higher wages/earnings • reform TVET System to make it more responsive to the needs of women and disadvantaged groups • draft Child Labour Policy to be finalised and adopted	• no. of trained male and female entrepreneurs and graduates • no. of trained male and female workers • no. male and female technicians • policies & guidelines for TVET reform • no. of quality trainers and graduates • public-private sector partnerships • Child Labour Unit at MLE made operational	• availability and absorption of trained human resources • number of child labour in hazardous sectors
2. Undertaking special initiative for the export of workers from *Monga* Area	• create and manage institutional, technical and financial infrastructure for proper training and to meet initial expenses for overseas employment	• National Steering Committee and Implementation Committees at the local level formed to monitor training & loan programmes	• overseas employment for *Monga* affected people
3. Promoting overseas employment	• provide training to the workforce including women for overseas employment • provide one-stop service for international women migration • take diplomatic drive for sending human resources abroad • strengthen the monitoring of recruiting agents	• trained pool of male and female workforce identified for overseas market • one-stop-service for women migrants • no. of labour export agreement signed by the government • recruitment agents are well monitored	• no. of overseas employment generated for men and women • flow of remittance • no. of complaints against recruitment agencies
4. Promoting wage employment	• improve capacity in the TTCs, TSCs and other technical institutes and undertake modernization of training courses	• no. of students receiving improved training	• wage employment
5. Promoting self-employment	• provide bank loans to trained male and female entrepreneurs	• no. of self-employment created in a year	• unemployment rate • share of self-employment in total employment
6. Mainstreaming employment into policy making	• develop sector level employment policies and mainstream employment generation as a cross-cutting issue	• sector level action plans for employment	• employment by sectors • unemployment rate
7. Undertaking job creation programmes through public works	• increase resource allocation for public works programme	• employment in public work programmes in poor especially in M*onga*-prone areas	• severity of seasonal unemployment reduced, especially in the M*onga*-prone districts

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
8. Improving resilience to livelihood shocks due to natural disasters in the coastal areas	• establish Coastal Development Authority (CDA)	• existing programmes are administered by the proposed CDA	• Mitigation of shocks due to natural disasters in the coastal areas
9. Improving labour welfare	• establish Labour Welfare Foundation (LWF) • train OSH, reproductive rights, HIV/AIDS, STD and distributing family planning materials • establish labour recreational facilities • undertake time bound programmes for elimination of WFCL • improve management and workers education courses in IRIs and LWCs	• Labour Welfare Centres established • partnerships with local govt. institutions, and NGOs established • improved capacity to monitor and implement programmes on child labour • adoption of the National Child Labour Policy • BLA-2006 enforced	• labour welfare in terms of health care, recreation, family welfare • labour productivity • industrial relations • no. of disruptions in factories

M&E Indicators 7: Private Sector Development

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Creating an enabling policy environment	•streamline the legal and regulatory framework •clear the backlog of cases in the courts •simplify and make the land titling procedure corruption free •ensure compliance of labour laws with international standards •reduce time for issuing trade licenses & enterprise registrations •enact competition law and declare competition policy •strengthen One-Stop Service of the BOI •formulate wage legislation responsive to productivity growth •replace tax holiday by a system of discount tax rate •increase tax exemption ceiling and lower VAT rates •bring company tax in line with other countries in the region •enhance privatization and public enterprise reform •ensure effective implementation of PSI •create an atmosphere to attract FDIs	•no. of backlog of cases relating to contract enforcement •easy compliance of regulatory requirements •land/asset transfer time and cost •corporate tax system rationalized •privatization & public enterprise reform •time & costs for issuing a trade license and enterprise registration •better business environment created •labour productivity improved	•private investment growth •employment growth both for male and female •no. of new enterprises •no. of new women owned enterprises •growth of industry •increase in FDI inflow •no. of people receiving efficient service from BOI 'one stop services'
2. Increasing and providing policy support for PSD	•ensure public expenditure on research and support services •stimulate private investment with guidance and counselling •stimulate sub-contracting activities •create database for PSD •channel funds to the women and small entrepreneurs without collateral and keep interest rate low at maximum of 10% •form cluster village •establish training and design centres •streamline foreign loan registry system	•credit availability to small/and women entrepreneurs become easy •sub-contracting facilities strengthened •information related to PSD is available •public –private partnership established. •skill development facilities are available. •marketing facilities are created. •foreign loan registry time reduced	•entrepreneurship growth including women entrepreneurs •private investment growth •employment growth for men and women

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
3. Improving access to land for private sector	•formulate an economic zones (EZ) policy and regulatory framework •develop and use PPP models in economic zones •restructure existing public sector industrial estates portfolio •undertake rigorous economic analysis of new investments in EZs •undertake institutional development and capacity building within government	• Special Economic Zones (SEZs) established	• output and export from SEZs • employment for men and women
4. Easing supply constraints	•create new agency for loan recovery •establish new leasing companies •reduce infrastructural constraints	•new industrial estates set up • loan recovery rate improved •no. of firms benefiting from leasing companies	•level of private investment
5. Undertake systematic dialogue between the public and private sectors	•strengthen government secretariat for BBBF •establish private sector secretariat for BBBF •continue identifying issues faced by the private sector and find solution through working groups •monitor implementation of solutions	•no. of meetings of working groups •no. of plenary meetings •no. of recommendations made and implemented	•domestic and foreign private investment •employment for men and women
6.Promoting women entrepreneurship (WE) development	•strengthen women entrepreneurships development of BSCIC •strengthen one stop services of BOI •take steps to ensure higher growth of WE •build capacity of women garment workers for foreign job markets •link women's associations and credit institutions •ensure preferential access to support services for WE •provide industrial plots to WE on a preferential basis	•quality of business support services •BASIC's women entrepreneurships development programmes strengthened •more credit and business services are available for women entrepreneurs •women entrepreneur's forum strengthened	•growth of PSD •growth of women entrepreneurships •growth of women employment and income

M&E Indicators 8: Land Use Management including Land Reform

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1.Modernising land records and land management system	•increase expenditure on procurement of materials •increase expenditure on employment and training of manpower.	•no. of Upazilas with modernised and computerised land records system	•no. of land related disputes and cases
2. Rehabilitating and improving socioeconomic condition of asset less and homeless poor people	•increase expenditure on construction of houses •increase expenditure on training •increase amount of micro credit	•no. of families provided with land & housing •no. of families provided with training •no. of families provided with micro credit	•change of status of these people •employment generation
3. Distributing agricultural Khas land to poor	•take measure for identifying Khas land •take measure for selection of beneficiaries	•no. of families provided with agricultural Khas land	•crop production by concerned families
4. Ensuring proper and planned use of land	•increase expenditure on procurement of materials, employment and training of human resources •take measures for enactment of laws • take measures for preparation of reports, maps •increase expenditure on awareness building of local people and LG bodies	•no. of completed land zoning maps and promulgation	•optimum use of land

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
5. Managing Jajmahal, Balumahal and other Sairat mahals for poverty reduction	•take measure for identification of genuine fishermen •taken measure for involving NGOs and the Union Parishad	•no. of fishermen/ fishermen societies provided with Jalmahals	•socioeconomic conditions of fishermen •growth of inland capture fishery
6. Ensuring ownership/title through land survey	•take measure for selection of area •employ sufficient employees for survey •increase expenditure on procurement of materials	•no. of Khatians and Mauza Maps printed and published •no. of Khatians and Mouza Maps supplied to the owners	•reduction in the land related cases
7. Ensuring maximum land related service to the people	•constitute committee of experts including lawyers •take measure for modification, updating and simplification of land related acts, ordinances, rules, regulations and policies	•no. of land related acts, ordinances, rules, regulations and policies modified, updated, simplified or cancelled	•no of people receiving delivery of services
8. Protecting and conserving wet land, hilly areas, tea gardens, rubber gardens	•take measure to protect wet land from land grabbers •take measure to make the accreted land suitable for afforestation, habitation and crop production	•proportion of wet land area protected •development of accreted land	•crop area •impact on environment
9. Take measures to help accretion of coastal land	•identify potential areas for accretion process		•quantity of land accreted •new habitat

M&E Indicators 9: Housing Development

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Providing adequate and affordable housing for different income groups, especially low income and extreme poor and vulnerable group	•identify rent to income ratio •identify per square feet cost of housing in different cities •ensure access to credit/housing finance •reduce duty and fees for registration of homes/ apartments •encourage building of multi-unit houses •ensure decrease in the no. of squatters and slums •provide tenurial rights	•systems of innovative housing finance, cognizant of middle and low-income households •stamp duty and fees for registration of homes/apartments •housing for elderly, FHH, slum and poor people •facilitators who will empower local communities •eviction frequency	•increase in % of new homes for all especially hard-core poor •new housing communities for hard-core poor and wage workers in rented/leased buildings facilitated by GoB/Cooperative Housing Societies •housing for elderly, FHH, slum dwellers and poor people •% of owned houses in urban areas
2. Provide housing for rural and urban homeless, landless and vulnerable groups	•build hostels and dormitories for working women in all district towns •include women especially in public housing projects •reduce old slums and attrition rate of new slums •undertake group-lending schemes •recapture public land occupied by squatters	•low-cost homes with efficient land utilization •housing for communities in distress •select disaster-prone, food insecure rural areas for targeted home building assistance •develop systems of innovative housing finance •recaptured public land occupied by squatters •new housing policies based on equality and capability criteria	•no. of people with housing in disaster-prone, food insecure rural areas •no. of poor and female headed household with housing •no. of working women with housing facility •no. of high-rise buildings with minimum 450 square feet flats

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
3. Ensuring maximum utilization of land in urban and rural areas and providing finance	•increase in budgetary allocation for the housing sector •acquire land for reorganizing land use •increase in number of industries to produce construction materials •support construction of social housing/mess etc. •setup advisory services on housing •invest in local, regional and national level research organizations for housing standards •introduce national guidelines for effective utilization of land •provide conditional loans to housing association for building housing for poor and destitute women •identify households in rural and urban areas capable of paying 5 % interest rate on housing loans	•increase access to inputs in rural areas •ensure quality testing for locally produced building materials •housing fund management association including BB, NGOs, local govt. and GoB •loans for housing with community homesteads •numbers of permanent structures •no. of updated land use plans •no. of completed regional plans •price of land and housing •amount of urban land provided with services	•micro-finance institutions for housing •financing mechanisms •national guidelines for effective utilization of land •conditional cash transfer •legal aid and counselling on home building •grievance and redressal mechanisms related to land and housing •no. of people able to afford self owned houses
4. Facilitating private sector (formal and informal) house building, NGOs and CBOs	•provide loans for housing with community homesteads •coordinate between local govt. NGOs and CBOs for housing, transportation, employment, industry •support for less literate population, vulnerable, destitute, disaster affected and women	•advisory services on housing information •improved funding opportunities at local level for house building and "Compact townships"	•no. of people able to afford self owned houses •compact township

M&E Indicators 10: Infrastructural Development including Power, Energy and Communications

Strategic Goals	Input Indicators	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Infrastructure Development including Power, Energy & Communications			
Power: 1. Developing capacity for power generation, transmission and distribution	•increase expenditure on power sector •rationalize tariffs •adopt transparent power-pricing framework •encourage private sector power generation	•power generation capability (MW) •transmission line (km) •distribution line (km)	•area coverage •no. of consumer by types •access of poor households •manufacturing and crop outputs •employment generation •head-count ratio
Energy: 2. Assessing non-renewable indigenous resources 3. Ensuring conservation measures for efficient use	•increase expenditure on oil, gas and mineral exploration in land and sea •attract private sector investment in exploration •strengthen the hydrocarbon unit (HCU) •introduce meters for domestic gas supply •ensure marketing of LPG and CNG •formulate coal policy	•discovery of new fields and assessment of potential reserve •no. of households using LPG •no. of CNG using motor vehicles •coal exploration and extraction	•manufacturing sector growth •stable power generation •output of gas based industries •thermal power generation
Roads: 4. Developing roads infrastructure	•increase expenditure on transport sector •prepare an integrated road sector Master Plan •update legislation mainly Highways Act 1925 •adopt integrated multimodal transport policy •prepare and implement private sector investment policy in the road sub-sector development	•construction of roads by categories •constructions of bridges/culverts/flyovers •access to areas by roads •no. of growth centres linked •no. of ferry ghats linked	•private investment •employment generation (by sector-sub-sector, male-female, rural/urban) •production and domestic trade •women's market sections •export
5. Developing road communication to link growth centres, union and upazila headquarters and national roads	•expenditure on link roads and pro-growth infrastructure •involve community, local government institutions (LGI), NGOs and beneficiary groups •provide community input in planning, design and implementation	•construction of rural roads	•rate of growth of rural economy •head count index in rural areas •social indicators in rural areas

Strategic Goals	Input Indicators	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Infrastructure Development including Power, Energy & Communications			
6. Emphasising maintenance of roads and other physical infrastructure	•earmark separate fund for road maintenance •enhance maintenance fund •involve local government & NGOs in operation & maintenance	•maintenance of roads/bridges/culverts	•rate of growth of rural economy
Railways: 7. Increasing access to the railway service	•increase expenditure on railways •rehabilitate and reopen closed branch lines •adopt public service obligation (PSO) involving all branch lines to serve the local poor in backward/remote areas •provide transport facilities to poor passengers	•no. of branch lines •construction of double track lines	•cost effective and efficient railway system •no. of passengers by classes •railway freight by types of goods
Inland water transport: 8. Enhancing quality of water transport	•expenditure on inland water transport as % of transport sector expenditure •formulate pragmatic water transport policies •carry out base line survey covering all water transport areas •develop sustainable water transport system	•no. of container vessels for waterborne cargo transportation and water taxi •ro-ro ferries, 2 K-type ferries, landing stations and coastal passenger vessels •navigation services •launch terminal/ghats facilities	•travel/transport cost and time •system loss at various level • employment generation by male/female, rural/urban •head-count ratio
Airway: 9. Increasing scale of operation to serve more passengers and enhance air cargo capacity	•increase expenditure on airway •acquire aircrafts for long-haul and regional routes •off-load biman's share •implement cost cutting measures •facilitate private sector participation in aviation •undertake policy for foreign carriers for perishable export cargo •expand and modernise ZIA.	•no. of new destinations and frequency •modern Biman's fleet •Modernise airport facilities	•volume of export •employment generation •profit of Biman

M&E Indicators 11: Social Safety Net, Food Security, Disaster Management, Scaling up of Micro-credit and Rural Non-farm Activities

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Social Safety Net			
1. Extending coverage of social safety net	•increase cash and kind transfers as % of GDP •increase SSN expenditure as % of total public expenditure	•increase in income and consumption •increase in employment generation	•head count rate •incidence of extreme poverty by socio-economic groups and region
Food Security			
2. Ensuring entitlement	•keep food price within peoples' purchasing power •increase total food distribution	•increase in food consumption	•no. of people enduring hunger •nutrition of poor people
Disaster Management			
3. Improving risk reduction capacity	•increase public expenditure on disaster management •involve NGOs, LGIs in disaster management	•protection and rehabilitation of all groups of people	•loss of life and property •credit to poor and SMEs
Micro-credit			
4. Reaching the ultra poor and under served areas	•ensure disbursement of micro-credit to ultra poor •expand disbursement to underserved areas •upscale micro-credit to served capable entrepreneurs	•increased coverage of the ultra poor, under served areas and capable entrepreneurs'	•head count index •graduation rate

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
5. Scaling up micro-credit for poverty reduction	•reduce interest rate •ensure disbursement of collateral free larger micro credit •provide non-financial services on need basis •extend and deepen GO-NGO collaboration •make rules for credit disbursement and repayment more flexible •ensure supply of loanabale funds •strengthen Micro-Finance Regulatory Authority	•% of poor and ultra poor with access to micro credit •coverage of non financial services •no. of borrowers and size of credit •lower interest rate and longer grace period •governance of micro-finance institutions	•head-count ratio •employment generation by male/female and rural /urban •household income of micro credit recipients and the other poor •graduation rate
Rural Non Farm Activities			
6. Accelerating growth of Rural Non-Farm Enterprises (RNFEs) sector	•increase expenditure on RNF as % of total public expenditure •increase expenditure on rural electrification •improve delivery of utility services for RNF enterprises •provide credits, incentives and non financial supports for RNFEs •undertake measures to improve rural investment climate	•kilometres of rural roads by quality category •no. of entrepreneurs with access to electricity in rural areas •increased growth of rural enterprises	•rural employment •rural non-farm wage rate •growth of income in rural non-farm activities

M&E Indicators 12: Improving Knowledge Base: Education, Training, Research, Access to Information and Building Awareness at the Grassroots Level

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Strengthening early childhood development (ECD) programmes	• increase expenditure for ECD education • undertake pre-school programmes for children from poor families • establish day-care centres for children	• coverage of pre-school programmes for children • % of children getting day-care facilities	• % of households with access to ECDP • 'quality' of ECDP
2. Ensure all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling 3. Improving access and equity to secondary education	• increase expenditure on primary and secondary education • establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure • provide teaching materials, teacher's training • develop uniform curriculum • equity, quality and access to primary and secondary education • ensure selection of teachers on the basis of merit • make learning enjoyable in the classroom	• no. of schools built/renovated • no. of texts books supplied • no. of teachers trained • pupil-teacher ratio • competency evaluation test • coverage of stipends for female students	• enrolment rates for boys and girls • dropout and repetition rates for boys and girls by age groups • no. of boys and girls reaching grade-5 • passing rate of boys and girls at secondary level • 'quality' of education
4. Strengthening education programmes for excluded children	• increase expenditure on education for the excluded children • establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure • provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends and incentives	• no. of schools built/renovated • no. of teachers trained • no. of text books supplied	• enrolment rate of excluded boy and girl children • dropout and repetition rates for boys and girls by age groups • proportion of excluded children who achieved education
5. Enhancing technical and vocational education for children	•establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure •provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends and incentives •develop uniform curriculum •ensure equity and quality of education	• no. of schools built • no. of teachers trained • development and use of uniform curriculum	• proportion of poor children access to TVET • enrolment rate in TVET for men and women • dropout and repetition rates • % of men and women students completed TVET • 'quality' of education

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
6. Strengthening madrasah education including core curriculum	•provide teaching materials and teacher's training •develop and improve core curriculum •integrate madrasah into a unified primary & secondary education system	• no. of teachers trained • integrated curriculum for madrasha	• enrolment rate in madrasah education • % of students accessing madrasah education • passing rate • 'quality' and market relevance of madrasah education • performance parity for madrasah students with other educational system
7. Empowering children through social integration and inclusion	•expenditure on children empowerment as percentage of child development expenditure •increase access, equity and participation in relevant sectors •enhance opportunity for and capacity of girl child	• % of children with participation and access to relevant sectors and institutions	• empowerment of children
8. Creating opportunities for continuing education and training	•introduce courses on need based skill retraining programmes in the existing educational institutes in the evenings	• no. of retraining and continuing education programme introduced	• no. of men and women enrolled in and completed continuing education and training
9. Creating of new knowledge and information	• create a national endowment to support undertaking action-based and result-oriented research •encourage research among the teachers of tertiary education and link it to promotion •develop and strengthen BBS as an independent organization	• national endowment for research • no. of action and result oriented research • recommendation identified for dealing with national and local level socio-economic and technology related problems	• policy formulated on the basis of research findings
10. Empowering people by giving them information and encouraging socially responsible behaviour	•undertake nation wide road-shows, area-based information fair on various development issues •introduce citizens' charters in every government office •encourage NGOs to strengthen their roles in a cohesive manner in disseminating information at the grassroots level •make documentary films on various social issues	• no. of road-shows, area-based information fairs • citizens' charters in every government office • availability of information at the grassroots level • no. of documentary film produced	• socially responsible behaviour among men and women • % of population viewing documentary films • change in attitude of people

M&E Indicators 13: Health, Population, Nutrition, Water and Sanitation and Food Safety Sector

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Improving child and mother health 2. Improving reproductive health 3. Improving adolescent health 4. Ensuring health facilities for the elderly 5. improve access of poor to heath services and quality of services	• increase expenditure on health as % of total govt expenditure • increase expenditure on ESP as percentage of total health expenditure • increase expenditure on cash/voucher/health card system for poor pregnant women • increase expenditure on prevention of STD including HIV/AIDS • increase expenditure on control of communicable diseases • distribute insecticide treated mosquito nets in malaria prone areas • strengthen and expand BCC • design supervision and monitoring mechanism for the availability, quality and accessibility of health services • introduce citizens charter in hospitals • undertake awareness campaign	•coverage of EPI •percentage of children covered by IMCI •percentage of population covered by ESP •percentage of births attended by skilled personnel/TBA •coverage of EOC services •contraceptive prevalence rate •coverage of preventive services against communicable diseases •coverage of ANC and PNC •number of qualified doctors per 1000 persons •number of hospital beds per 1000 persons •number of trained nurses per 1000 persons • availability of doctors and nurses on duty	•infant mortality rate of boys and girls •child (U-5) mortality rate of boys and girls •maternal mortality rate •population growth rate •no. of death caused by TB, Malaria and other communicable diseases of men and women •total fertility rate •quality' of health services •life expectancy of men and women •proportion of poor patients

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
6. Improving child and mother nutrition	• increase expenditure on child and mother nutrition • strengthen ABCN in rural and urban areas • fortify common food with vitamin A, irons and iodine • strengthen nutrition education and school nutrition programmes • implement national nutrition programmes • undertake awareness campaign	• coverage of vitamin A, iron tablets, iodized salt/testing kits, de-worming and other micro nutrient supplementation • coverage of home gardening • coverage of national nutrition programmes for poor children	• PEM • height-for-age (stunting rate) of boys and girls • weight-for-height (wasting rate) of boys and girls • weight-for-age (underweight BMI) of boys and girls
7. Ensuring food quality and access to safe food for all	• increase number of food items standardized by BSTI • introduce Consumers' Protection Act • introduce policy for quality control of street vended food • develop food borne diseases surveillance system • update Pure Food Act • strengthen BSTI to expand market monitoring systems • undertake awareness campaign	• number of PHLs at divisional and district headquarters • number of adulterated food items • incidence of food related diseases	• life expectancy of men and women by expenditure group
8. Ensuring safe water and sanitation facilities for all	• increase expenditure on supply of safe water and sanitation • install alternative water supply and sanitation systems for un-served/under-served areas • introduce water quality monitoring and surveillance programme	• % of population with access to safe water • % of population with access to sanitary latrines	• incidence of water borne morbidity and mortality • life expectancy of men and women

M&E Indicators 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment-(a) Women's Advancement and Rights

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact Indicators
1. Ensuring women's full participation in mainstream economic activities	• increase expenditure on women development as % of public expenditure • increase women's participation in farm & non-farm agricultural activities and provide 'khas' land & agricultural credit • improve participation in manufacturing, banking, physical infrastructure and service sectors including government jobs • provide training, credit and fiscal incentives for small and medium-scale enterprises • ensure day care facilities for working women • implement full quota for women • make institutions women friendly	• % of women in farm & non-farm agriculture, manufacturing, banking, physical infrastructure and service sectors • % of poor women with access to agricultural inputs and credit • % of women with access to training, credit and fiscal incentives for SMEs • day care facilities for working women • clean toilet facilities for women in public spaces, offices, markets and factories	• % of female-headed households below the poverty line • % of Women /man aged 15+ employed as paid employees • % of Women /man aged 15+ who are self-employed or employers
2. Improving women's efficiency (reducing time use) in performing their household and reproductive roles and responsibilities	• increase expenditure on women to reduce time by providing water, gas, electricity facilities • ensure social and maternal services • provide subsidy to poor households • raise awareness to improve men's contribution to household activities	• proportion of households getting water, gas, electricity facilities • proportion of women getting social and maternal services	• average no. of hours per week spent by women/men on unpaid housework and care of family members

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact Indicators
3. Building women's capacity in health and education to improve entrance into labour market and productivity	• provide necessary health, nutrition, educational services and appropriate training • achieve and sustain gender balance in primary, secondary and tertiary education • improve quality, equity and access to health, nutrition, educational services and training for women	• no. of doctors per 1,000 persons • proportion of women with access to EOC, ANC, PNC services • proportion of births attended by skilled health personnel /TBA • STD & AIDS/HIV prevalence among women • contraceptive prevalence rate • coverage of iodized salt, iron, folic acid tablets and nutritious food supplementation • % of female students coverage by stipends	• maternal mortality ratio • ratio of girls to boys in primary, secondary and tertiary education • malnutrition among girls and women • enrolment rates of girls at primary, secondary and tertiary education • ratio of adult literate females to males • employment generation for women • share of women in wage employment • head-count ratio of female-headed households without remittance
4. Ensuring social protection for women against vulnerability and risk	• strengthen social protection (e.g. VGF, FSVGD, RMP, WTC, NNP, widow &old age allowance etc) for disadvantaged women • ensure access of women victims to govt. legal aid fund • provide VAW training, one-stop services, media coverage, rehabilitation programmes • eliminate leakages of safety net programmes • introduce reform (where necessary) and enforce existing women laws strictly to support women	• no. marriage with dowry • retrenched female workers due to phase-out of MFA • no. of trafficking of women • % of women getting protection against vulnerability and risk • % of women victims reintegrated in the society • % of poor women covered by safety net	• % of female/male headed households under the poverty line • no. of violence recorded against women
5. Enhancing women's political empowerment and participation in decision-making process	• strengthen political empowerment of women at national and local level and ensure participation in decision-making process • include women members of parliament in all standing committees • make women politically and socially more conscientious • develop women empowerment index every three years	• no. of women candidates at national and local level regular election • % of women's representation in parliament, public, private and NGO services • women empowerment index made public	• no. of women elected at national and local level regular election • % of women in decision-making in parliament and public sector • women empowerment index
6. Ensuring women's participation in the international forums	• provide diversified training, one-stop services etc. for international migration of women • increase women's access and participation at international level • ensure safe and secured working environment for women at international level • create opportunities for women's participation in overseas employment	• no. of women's participation in the international forums • proportion of women proficient in language • no. of women getting diversified training to compete at the international level	• overseas employment generation • remittances by women • head-count ratio of female-headed households
7. Strengthen institutions for coordination and monitoring of gender equality issues	• implementation of women's NPA 2008 • review the effectiveness of the current institutional setup to address women advancement issues • establish a coordination wing in MoWCA to act as secretariat of NCWD and WDIEC • develop a database on reported cases of violence against women • introduce PBA system	• Coordination wing in MoWCA established • gender disaggregated statistics generated • indicators for monitoring progress in implementation of (NPA) for women • recommendation for reorganising institutional setup to address women advancement issues	• women empowerment • new institutional setup to address women advancement issues • incidence of violence against women

M&E Indicators 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment- (b) Children's Advancement and Rights

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact Indicators
1. Reduce infant and under-five mortality rates 2. Improve health status of children	• increase expenditure for children on health • maintain expanded programme on immunization (EPI) • ensure prompt care for diarrhoeal disease control (DDC) • improve acute respiratory infection (ARI) • increase use of integrated management of childhood illness (IMCI) at union level • strengthen health education promotion (HEP) and school health programmes • access to reproductive health services • access to health services for disadvantaged children • develop strategies for prevention of accidents and injuries	• no. of doctors per 1,000 children • % of children covered by BCG, DPT, POLIO, MEASLES • % of children covered by ARI • % of children covered by IMCI • coverage of school health programme for poor children • coverage of reproductive health care for adolescent • coverage of urban and rural primary health services for poor children	• male/female infant mortality rate (per 1000 live births) • male/female under-five mortality rate (per 1000 live births) • male/female child mortality rate(per 1000 live births) • 'quality' of health services for children
3. Reduce malnutrition among children	• increase expenditure for children on nutrition • fortify common food with vitamin A, irons and iodine • strengthen nutrition education and school nutrition programmes • implement national nutrition programmes	• coverage of vitamin A, iodized salt, iron, folic acid tablets and nutritious food supplements especially for girl children of poor families • coverage of nutrition programmes for poor children	• malnutrition rate among children • height-for-age (stunting rate) • weight-for-height (wasting rate) • weight-for-age (underweight)
4. Provide safe water, healthy sanitation and environment for children	• increase expenditure for children on safe water and sanitation • install alternative water supply and sanitation systems for un-served/under-served areas	• coverage of alternative water supply and sanitation systems for un-served/under-served areas	• proportion of children with access to safe water, healthy sanitation and environment
5. Strengthening early childhood development (ECD) programmes	• increase expenditure on ECDP	• % of household with access to ECDP	• % of children from poor families in pre-school programmes • % of children from poor families getting day-care facilities
6. Ensuring all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling 7. Improving access and equity to secondary education	•establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure •provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends etc •develop uniform curriculum • ensure equity, quality and access to primary and secondary education	• no. of schools built/renovated • no. of texts books supplied • no. of teachers trained • pupil-teacher ratio • competency evaluation test • coverage of stipends for female students	• enrolment rates at primary & secondary level by boys and girls • dropout and repetition rates at primary and secondary level by boys and girls and age group • % of children reaching grade 5 • passing rate at secondary level
8. Strengthening education programmes for excluded children	• establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure • provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends and incentives	• % of excluded children access to education • no. of schools built/renovated • no. of teachers trained • no. of text books supplied	• enrolment rate of excluded children • dropout and repetition rates • % of excluded children achieved education
9. Enhancing technical and vocational education for children	• establish/renovate school buildings and other infrastructure • provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends etc. • develop need-based curriculum	• % of poor children with access to TVET • no. of schools built • no. of teachers trained	• enrolment rate in TVET • dropout and repetition rates • % of student achieved TVET

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact Indicators
10. Strengthening madrasah education including core curriculum	• provide necessary materials, teacher's training, stipends and incentives • develop and improve core curriculum • integrate madrasah into a unified national primary and secondary education system	• percentage of children with access to madrasah education • no. of teachers trained • performance parity for madrasah students with other educational system	• enrolment rate in madrasah education • passing rate • 'quality' and market relevance of madrasah education
11. Empowering children through social integration and inclusion	• increase expenditure on children empowerment • increase access, equity and participation in relevant sectors and institutions • enhance opportunity and capacity for girl child	• % of children with participation and access to relevant sectors and institutions • % of children's representation in parliament, public & private institutions and NGOs	• empowerment of children
12. Reducing social violence against children 13. Ensuring child victims' access to all necessary support services for speedy recovery and smooth social reintegration 14. Preventing transmission of STD including HIV/AIDS within children	• increase expenditure on violence against children • introduce reform (where necessary) and enforce existing child laws strictly to support children	• proportion of early marriage • no. of trafficking of children • no. of violence recorded against children • proportion of children getting protection against violence, vulnerability and risk • % children victims reintegrated in the society • % of poor children covered under safety net • prevalence of STD & AIDS/HIV among children	•socio-economic climate for children
15. Strengthening institutional capacity for monitoring and evaluation of child's development	• develop indicators for monitoring progress in implementation of national plan of action (NPA) for children • develop a database on reported cases of violence against children • enhance linkages, and cooperation between government and relevant child organizations and NGOs	• child statistics generated for monitoring and evaluation of children's development	• child empowerment and development

M&E Indicators 14: Social Inclusion and Empowerment- (c) Indigenous people, Persons with Disability, and Other Disadvantaged and Extreme Poor Groups

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Indigenous people			
1. Establishing peace in hill districts	•increasing public expenditure for indigenous people	•better development atmosphere in hill districts •secure land tenure system for indigenous people	•living standard in the hill districts
2. Involving community in adoption and conservation of technologies	•increase expenditure for community involvement •preserve traditional knowledge of indigenous communities •ensure participation of local government in indigenous community development •build awareness of rights, legal affairs, customary laws of indigenous community	•no. of indigenous people participated in conservation of technologies in managerial and organizational affairs of indigenous communities •awareness of their right, legal affairs , customary laws	•empowerment of indigenous community

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
3. Mobilising other Ministries to ensure indigenous community's access to basic services such as health, education, sanitation, safe water, electricity etc.	•ensure education for indigenous people •ensure health and reproductive health for indigenous community •ensure sanitation and water supply for indigenous community •ensure electricity supply for indigenous community •incorporate indigenous affairs in respective national policies	•% of indigenous people covered in education •% of indigenous people covered by health services •% of indigenous people covered by water and sanitation •no. of national policies incorporating needs and of indigenous community	• education among indigenous people •mortality and morbidity among indigenous people •literacy rate among indigenous people •indigenous household access to electricity •Indigenous language preserved
4. Ensuring safety net and food security in indigenous areas	•increase expenditure on safety net programme for indigenous people	•no. of beneficiaries form safety net •effectiveness of safety net programme	•head count
6. Creating employment opportunity for indigenous community	•ensure indigenous people's participation in economic activities •support private sectors in developing rural roads and hat-bazars and construction of physical facilities, tourism and food/fruit processing industry •expand micro–credit suited to conditions of indigenous people for income generating activities and employment	•% of indigenous people in farm and non-farm physical activities, tourism and food/ fruit processing industry •indigenous people's access to micro–credit	•employment generation for indigenous people •income of indigenous people
Persons with Disabilities			
7. Providing access to normal education to children with physical disabilities and visually impaired and special education to hearing impaired and mentally retarded students	•increase expenditure for persons with disabilities •increase expenditure on education/special education of children with disability •expand coverage of stipend for students with disability •make special learning materials for students with disability	•% of students with disability covered in education facilities •% of visually impaired children covered in education facilities •% of hearing impaired children covered in education facilities •% of mentally retarded children covered in education facilities	•literacy rate among people with disability •passing rate in national standard examinations
8. Ensuring adequate provision of medical/ health care services and counselling etc	•increase expenditures on education/special education of children with disability • make blood tests of couple compulsory •increase no. of beds in hospital for people with disability •introduce integrated management of childhood illness	•no. of persons with disabilities of different category received health/ medical services	•prevention of disability •life expectancy of people with disability •morbidity of people with disability
9. Ensuring implementation of quota for employment of persons with disability in NGOs and public and private sector	•ensure employment and rehabilitation of people with disability • increase expenditure on development activities undertaken for providing housing facilities provide credit facilities for people with disability •provide skill training in computer and soft ware development	•no. of persons with disabilities of different category employed and •no. of persons with disabilities rehabilitated	•self-employment of people with disability •wage employment of people with disability •income of people with disability
10. Ensuring accessibility to all physical facilities 11. Ensuring participation in social functions, sports and cultural activities	•ensure accessibility to physical facilities of people with disability, by building ramps in public buildings, ticket counter, seat and toilet facilities in buses, waterways, rail stations, cinema halls •provide play ground, sports materials, incentives etc. for persons with disabilities as percentage of total expenditure on their development activities.	•ramps in public buildings, ticket counter, seat and toilet facilities in buses, waterways, rail stations, cinema halls	•no. of persons with disabilities of different category availing their accessibility to all physical facilities •no. of person with disability of different category participated in social, sport and cultural activities

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
12. Providing services to persons with disabilities according to their needs at the door step	•ensure service to persons with disabilities according to their needs at their door step •increase expenditure for artificial aids and appliances •provide micro credit for income generating activities	•no. of person with disability of different category provided community based service according to their needs at their door step	•integration with mainstream society
13. Amending the disability act according to standard set out by the international organization	•undertake measures to amend the disability act •form a expert committee •hold series of meeting	•disability is defined and diverse needs and rights of person with disability are specified •responsibility of government employee for disability issue is defined	•rights of persons with disabilities established
14. Strengthening coordination and monitoring mechanism to review the progress 15. Mobilising other ministries/ divisions toensure access to education of persons with disability	• ensure coordination and monitoring of progress of activities for people with disability • form a National Coordination Committee • hold review meetings to coordinate activities of different ministries • mainstream disability issues in the activities of all ministries	• formation of a National Coordination Committee • no. of coordination and monitoring meting held • government circular with instruction for every ministry to address disability issues	• proper implementation • measures taken by different ministries
16. Ensuring data base on persons with disability	•undertake survey on people with disability	•reliable data on people with disability	•programme and planning for people with disability
Disadvantaged and Extreme poor group			
17. Ensuring access of disadvantaged and extreme poor group to health, sanitation and safe water, education, and know-how that will make them able to change their situations	•provide all basic services for other disadvantaged and extreme poor group •ensure access to health and family welfare related services •ensure access to education and technical training •ensure access to sanitation and water supply	•disadvantaged and extreme poor people covered by health services, •people covered by educational facilities •people covered by water and sanitation •people provided with technical know-how	•life expectancy •morbidity •literacy rate •standard of life
18. Ensuring housing facilities especially for tea garden workers, sweepers, and people who are homeless due to river erosion 19. Ensuring rehabilitation of sex workers and children	•ensure housing and rehabilitation facilities for other disadvantaged and extreme poor group •develop housing for sweeper, Bede, home-less people •rehabilitate sex-workers and their children	•% of sweeper, Bede and other disadvantaged communities receiving housing facilities •% of homeless people received housing •% sex workers and children rehabilitated	•head-count poverty reduction
20. Providing micro credit and skill training to disadvantaged and extreme poor group	•provide micro-credit and skill training for development of other disadvantaged and extreme poor community •ensure skill training on social forestry, poultry etc •provide facilities to develop cottage industry	•% of people receiving micro credit •% of people receiving skill training on different trades	•employment of men and women •income of men and women
21. Improving data base of disadvantaged and extreme poor communities	•undertake survey of various disadvantaged and extreme poor communities •use data and information for developing support facilities	• availability of data	•appropriate policy decision •programme planning and implementation

M&E Indicators 15: Improvement of Governance including Civil Service Reforms, Judicial Reforms and Law and Order

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Ensuring effective parliamentary process	•ensure timely formation of standing committees •ensure that MPs are present in all parliamentary sessions •ensure resources and information are available for MPs on various development issues and Bangladesh's commitment in international forum	•no. of standing committee meetings held in a year •reports of the standing committees made public •no. of legal business accomplished	•parliamentary process as per the recommendations of the standing committees •legal environment
2. Ensuring effective service delivery	•introduce targeted, need based training and appraisal •undertake objective performance based evaluation •customer focused procedural simplification •incorporate ICT for reducing personal interface and efficiency and to overcome space and time factor	•design of need based training module •no. of officials imparted training. •"Performance" and "Value for Money" audit report •citizen's satisfaction index	•knowledge and skills of MPs •business process improvement •productivity indicators
3. Improving Legal and Judicial system	•undertake legal reforms •reform judicial process •develop alternate dispute resolution mechanism	•no. of cases disposed of as % of total number of contested cases •no. and type of allegation brought to court. •civil-criminal case ratio	•appeal preferred as % of total contested cases •average time/cost of justice •no. of cases settled
4. Changing role of law enforcing agencies	•reform various laws •reform and simplify procedure •introduce independent prosecution/attorney service	•ratio of conviction/acquittal under different sections •citizen's satisfaction index	•no. of cases against life and property, organized crime, drug etc.
5. Strengthening local government	•ensure devolution of power to local government •provide sufficient resource for local government •develop performance indicator •Form a Local Government Commission	•new laws, rules and regulation for local government •devolution of budgeting process •no. of local initiatives on poverty reduction •publication of performance report •oversight of Local Government	•service delivery •employment, income, health and education
6. Promoting e-Governance	•form a national policy and strategy with time bound action plan •increase training on e-governance	•one-stop service centres for all trade services •information service at every UP	•citizen's access to public information •reduced physical office-client interface
7. Combating Corruption	•undertake sensitization/advocacy campaign against corruption •ensure legal change to discourage corruption •introduce reward for good and innovative service	•reduction of corruption •public utility services •cost of doing business	•underground economy •Tax-GDP ratio •quality of service delivery
8. Promoting Human rights	•make Human Rights Commission functional •undertake extensive advocacy/media campaign	•laws in line with the UDHR	•better human rights situation •violence against women

M&E Indicators 16: Utility Services Development including Safe Water Supply/Urban Development

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Water & Sanitation			
1. Ensuring safe water supply and sanitation for all	• increase expenditure on supply of safe water and sanitation • increase use of surface water exploring perennial surface water source • implement water safety plan • increase water-testing capacity through networking up to district levels • expand utilization of surface water • rationalise utilization of ground water	• no. of water users per water point • safe water coverage through pipelines • use of ground & surface water • knowledge and capability for design of future water resources management plans • institutional development for WATSAN sector agencies	• safe water coverage • population not having access to sanitation • water borne morbidity & mortality • population exposed to arsenic contamination. • access to sanitary community latrines including women in village, bazar, mosques, health clinics and schools

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Bangladesh Road Transport Authority			
2. Ensuring better control in the road transport sector in issuing route permits and fixing rates/fares of buses and trucks and environment friendly transport	• increase expenditure on BRTA • modify BRTA rules and ordinance to cope with emerging situations • fix uniform rates for different types of transport • ensure plying of vehicles within specified speed and with approved weight • phase out all two-stroke engines from major cities • introduce CNG and euro engine • ensure auto back-up system of all data entry done in the circle and zonal offices	• no. of route permits issued • no. of banned buses older than 20 years and trucks older than 25 years from metropolitan area • no. of major cities with phased out two-stroke engines	• regulated bus and truck fares • traffic management • road accident • air pollution
3. Introducing road safety education & training and bring discipline in issuing driving licenses and registration certificates	• educate drivers and conductors about road safety • educate children and pedestrians on road safety • issue laminated licenses to drivers and registration certificates to vehicle owners	• no. of drivers and conductors trained • no. of laminated driving licenses and registration certificates issued	• no. of road accident • no. of death and injury due to road accident
Infrastructure Development including Power, Energy & Communications			
Power: 4. Improving quality of service	• build sub-stations and corresponding distribution lines • introduce and expand coverage of pre-paid metering system • unbundle the power sector operation • strengthen institutional capacities • execute reward and punishment system	• no. of sub-stations and corresponding lines installed • one stop desk service counter • pre-paid metering system	• power interruption and load shedding • revenues • manufacturing & agriculture output
Energy: 5. Assessing non-renewable indigenous resources 6. Ensuring conservation measures for economic and efficient use of energy	• strengthen the hydrocarbon unit (HCU) of the energy and mineral resources division. • introduce meters for domestic gas consumption • ensure marketing of LPG and CNG.	• discovery of new gas fields • potential reserve • no. of households using LPG • no. of CNG using motor vehicles	• potential reserve • system loss • Revenue earning
Railways: 7. Increasing access of the railway service	• increase expenditure on railway • rehabilitate and reopen closed branch lines • adopt public service obligation (PSO) in backward/remote areas • provide transport facilities to poor passengers and ensure movement of commodities	• branch lines • train frequency	• travel/transport cost and time • production & employment generation • no. of passenger by male/female • volume of cargo transportation
Inland water transport: 8. Enhancing quality of water transport	• increase expenditure on inland water transport • formulate pragmatic water transport policies • carry out base line survey covering all water transport areas	• no. of container vessels for cargo transportation and water taxi • Ro-ro ferries, 2 K-type ferries, landing stations and coastal passenger vessels rehabilitated • navigation services • launch terminal/ghats facilities	• travel/transport cost and time • system loss at various level • production & employment generation by sector/sub-sector, male/female, rural/urban • no. of passenger by male/female • volume of cargo transportation
Airway: 9. Increasing scale of operation to serve more passengers and enhance air cargo capacity	• increase & modernize Biman's fleet • implement cost cutting measures • facilitate private sector participation in aviation	• no. of new destinations and frequency • policies in place for foreign carriers to carry perishable export cargo	• travel/transport cost and time • volume of export by air • no. of passenger by male/female • revenue earning • employment generation by male/female

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
Tourism for Poverty Reduction			
10. Developing infrastructure for tourism industry	• increase expenditure on tourism related infrastructure • provide loans to private sector for investing in tourism industry • include tourism sector under small credit scheme	• no. of Tourist Complexes Constructed • MICE (Meeting, Incentive, Conference And Exposition) Facilities	• no. of tourists disaggregated by country /period of time/gender • employment generation by sector/sub- sector, male/female • head-count ratio
11. Scaling-up marketing of tourism	•increase fund for promotion of Tourism •prepare Inventory Of Tourist Destinations/Attractions •upgrade Strategic Tourism Master Plan •participate in Tourism Satellite Account of World Tourism Organization •provide training facilities on hotel management and tourism •Improve Law and Order situation	• no. of tourist Information centres • leaflets, posters and brochures distributed internationally •no. of tourist spots especially with archaeological and religious attractions developed and conserved • participation in International Tourist Fairs	• no. of foreign and national tourist • contribution to GDP • contribution to foreign exchange earnings
Post, Telecom & ICT			
12. Improving access to ICT, Telecom & Postal services	• expand internet network • facilitate voice video data communications • minimize digital gap • set up digital telephone exchanges in Upazilas & growth centres	• nationwide internet network including rural areas • digital telephone exchanges in Upazilas & growth centres	• domestic and international trade • information dissemination time • market price differential of products at the production point and retail market
13. Modernising postal services for better service to people	• automate postal services • capacity building of BPOs through HRD	• modern and efficient postal system with new functions	• improved postal service delivery
Safety, Security, Protection of Life, Liberty & Wealth			
14. Ensuring safety & security of life & property	• increase expenditure on Bangladesh police to modernize them • police reforms are in place	• institutions for improved policing created • no. of model Thanas • victim support centre with Crime Investigation Facility • beach outposts are functional • citizens' charter in place & operational	• no. of crimes • efficient & speedy criminal investigation • safety of life & property • police image
15. Ensuring fire prevention and fire safety facilities	• ensure fire prevention and fire safety service particularly in industrial areas • ensure emergency rescue and ambulance facilities all over the country • procure vehicles and equipment including rescue equipment • ensure sufficient funds for operation and maintenance	• fire service stations in pourasavas and upazilas • facilities for fire prevention, safety and rescue • fire prevention and safety for mines • communication network between HQ and peripheries	• incidence of fire accidents • loss of life and property due to fire, disasters and accidents • access of people to ambulance facilities
Urban Development			
16. Establishing local self governance	•create legal framework for self governance & urban development	•democratic local bodies functioning with regularity	•improved local urban governance •service delivery •urban issues addressed on a sustainable basis
17. Building capacity for planning in city corporations & ministry	•initiate actions for establishing planning unit in all city corporations •strengthen LGD planning outfit •improve mass public communication system	•plans prepared for all cities & municipalities on a continuous basis	•urban facilities •traffic congestion in the cities •time/cost of public transportations

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
18. Establishing viable urban centres	•undertake studies & identify key focus areas in each centre •generate revenue from designated sources •ensure performance based funds from the central government	•budgeting & control mechanism in place •transparent tax & revenue raising system •government grant support based on performance	•viable urban centres •urban facilities
19. Ensuring urban–rural linkage	•ensure linkage infrastructure •increase expenditure on urban-rural linkage as percentage of urban budget	•urban-rural linkages •time/cost for commuting between various urban and rural areas	•mutually supporting cities & towns developed
20. Ensuing water & sanitation in urban areas	•increase expenditure on WATSAN infrastructure as percentage of urban budget •create partnership-GO-NGO-Private sector for waste disposal	•people with access to water-sanitation •water-sanitation conditions in urban slums •modern land fill sites	•water borne diseases •water and sanitation availability in domestic and public space
21. Ensuring adequate urban infrastructure including housing & shelter	•ensure housing facilities for low income, poor and working women •ensure private-public cooperation in providing urban shelter with special attention to working women's need •ensure strategies for cluster development of adjacent pourasavas •implement BOO-BOT for developing urban housing	•master plan for urban infrastructure •housing-shelter plan •institutions & partnership developed for construction & finance	•urban infrastructure limitations •housing & shelter facilities in the urban areas
22. Ensuring recreational facilities	•introduce a legal framework authorising urban control on all common land & water bodies •develop a Master Plan for recreational needs like parks, playground, libraries, auditoriums, etc. •create partnership for development on BOO-BOT	• urban river & common lands developed for common use • cities & towns created with urban amenities	• city living conditions improved • affordable recreational activities

M&E Indicators 17: Environment and Tackling Climate Change for Sustainable Development

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Increasing access of the poor to common property resources (CPRs)	•increase access of the poor to CPRs •establish property rights of ownership and use of water bodies, natural resources, wetlands, chars and harvesting forests •prepare a new regulatory framework for environmental protection •develop public-private and community-based participatory co-management for NRM	•utilization of CPRs •health of CPRs •participatory co-management of NRM	•status of common property resources •head-count ratio •ecosystem health •safe environment •% of poor people with access to CPRs
2. Conserving bio-diversity of the country	•discourage monoculture and increase practices of multicultural approaches including crop rotation •increase diversified land-use patterns •implement policies, rules and regulations for biodiversity •reduce destruction of habitat and overexploitation of flora and fauna •stop encroachment of natural forests and water bodies •stop invasion of exotic flora and fauna in the CPRs •establish biodiversity conservation areas and sanctuaries	•destruction of habitat and overexploitation of flora and fauna •CPRs health •encroachment of the natural forests and water bodies and its surroundings •invasion of exotic flora and fauna •new biodiversity conservation areas and sanctuaries	•balance in biodiversity •participatory co-management in the area of CPRs •biodiversity conservation and sanctuaries •encroachment of the natural forests and water bodies and its surroundings • invasion of exotic flora and fauna

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
3. Controlling air pollution in major metropolitan cities and rural settings	•increase access of energy efficient cooking stoves in rural and urban areas •increase conversion of natural gas to compressed natural gas in motor vehicles •increase use of sulpher and lead free fuel in motor vehicles •control indoor polluted air emission •implement policies, rules and regulations to reduce air pollution •monitor and disseminate air quality information every day •promote more research and development to change building and construction standards •reduce polluted air emission from brick kiln and other sources •increase access to clean and renewable energy	•% of rural household using fuel efficient cooking stoves •per capita carbon dioxide emissions •vehicle inspection and maintenance programmes •fuel quality with respect to lead and sulpher content • compulsory annual tests of vehicle emission • emission related taxes • clean technologies and renewable energies for power generation •clean air quality of our surroundings	•status of health of people •emission efficiency in both indoor and outdoor environment •respiratory patients in urban and rural areas •ambient air quality at the national standard level •air quality information
4. Improving solid waste management system	•increase segregation at source and safe disposal of hazardous wastes •increase public-private partnership for solid waste management •strengthen the regulatory measures for solid waste management • introduce sanitary landfill in all urban cities • introduce waste to resource recovery system • introduce landfill leachate collection and treatment system • develop tools and techniques that could bring monetary value of the solid waste to the market	• solid wastes collection with efficient resource recovery, recycle, reuse and safe disposal to the sanitary landfill • safe disposal/reuse of hazardous wastes • public-private partnership for environmentally friendly SWM system • environmentally friendly SWM master plan • environmentally friendly solid and other wastes management system in the industry • network system among relevant organizations	•sanitized status of waste management •hygienic situation of the surrounding environment •skin diseased patients in urban and rural areas •income generation activities of poor people
5. Controlling industrial pollution	•develop a data base of all existing and up coming industry •ensure environmental clearance certificate (ECC) of all industries •ensure EMP, ETP and environmental health management system to all polluting industries •ensure IEE/EIA of all industries prior to its establishment •use alternative technologies that use cleaner energy •encourage water recycling •create a separate Environmental Cell for conducting EMP and developing ETP •establish polluter-to-pay approach to the industries those have already damaged ecosystem/environment •relocate tanneries of Hazaribagh and other polluting industries to environmentally managed EPZ sites •strengthen regulatory measures against industrial emissions	• % of industries and other enterprises into ECC procedures •tanneries and other polluting industries in environmentally managed isolated areas •environmental rules and regulations •CETP in the industrial parks •EIA report available to public •mandatory environmentally friendly wastes management in all industry • environmentally friendly management systems •environmental management network among the industries with a database system	•environmentally friendly sustainable industrial development •hygienic environment in and around the industry. •safe occupational health in the industry

Strategic Goal	Input Indicators/Policy Change	Output Indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
6. Improving water supply and sanitation status for healthy environment	•introduce hanging toilet in the wetlands areas and coastal districts •reduce effluent discharges from mechanized vessels and industries into rivers and other inland waters •enforce laws and regulations to control hazardous/toxic wastes •develop a network of monitoring and evaluation systems •develop drainage congestions in all MCC and major cities •Ensure access to safe water supply both for drinking and other domestic activities in urban slums and coastal districts •ensure hygienic public toilet and sanitation facilities in urban areas •dredge and excavate the rivers, haors and baors	•sustainable access of improved water supply and sanitation facilities •conservancy laws and regulatory frameworks •polluter-to-pay principles • capacity for research and development in collaboration with universities, research institutions and other relevant organizations • network among all relevant organizations • ETP for effluent treatment in the industries	•water-borne diseases •life expectancy •safe water supply and hygienic sanitation
7. Improving hazardous waste management	•increase expenditure on hazardous waste management •ensure efficient collection, treatment and safe disposal medical, ship breaking and chemical wastes •ban trans boundary hazardous wastes dumping •strengthen the regulatory measures against hazardous waste management	• efficient segregation and safe disposal of hazardous wastes • entrance of trans boundary hazardous wastes • effective and efficient collection, treatment and safe disposal of medical, ship breaking and chemical wastes • networking system among relevant organizations	•hazardous wastes pollution and contamination •infectious diseases
8. Introducing and enforcing Quarantine Law	•increase expenditure on invasion management •develop cells for monitoring of all sea, land and air ports to protect the entrance of foreign matters or organisms •strengthen regulatory measures against entrance of any foreign matters or organisms	•entrance of foreign matters or organisms in the country •quarantine of all marine ships, land vehicles and airplane •native indigenous species for flora and fauna	•invasion risk •health of flora and fauna
10. Introducing environmental education at all levels	•incorporate EE in the curricula at all education levels •develop environmentally friendly technical know-how among populations •develop safe and hygienic habitation knowledge in all activities of daily life	•expertise of environmentally friendly resource management •environmentally friendly technical know-how on the rights and responsibilities •capacity of research in public universities, research institutions and other organizations	•knowledge of environmentally friendly sustainable development
11. Introducing environmental awareness and motivational programmes up to the grass root levels of all stakeholders	•incorporating environmental awareness and motivational knowledge up to the grass root levels of all stakeholders. •developing environmentally friendly programmes and activities of technical know-how among different societies to make them well informed choices and exercise on the rights and responsibilities.	•expertise of resource management of environmentally friendly for sustainable development. •environmentally friendly technical know-how on the rights and responsibilities.	•knowledge of environmentally friendly sustainable development
12. Ensuring environmental issues in good governance	•ensuring technical and managerial competence, organizational capacity, reliability, predictability and the rule of law •ensuring accountability, transparency and open information systems •ensuring participatory co-management	•technical and managerial competence, organizational capacity, reliability, predictability and the rule of law •open information systems •participatory co-management approach	•reliability, predictability, rule of law, accountability and transparency in environmental friendly development

M&E Indicators 18: Technology Policy including ICT and Bio-technology

Strategic goal	Input indicators	Output indicators	Outcome/Impact indicators
1. Developing power sector through implementation of Nuclear Power Project	• arrange adequate financing for construction and implementation of Nuclear Power Project • improve HRD	• contact signing with potential supplier for Nuclear Power Plant & Technology • construction of Nuclear Power Plant	• generation of electricity from nuclear source
2. Developing nuclear service related infrastructure	• ensure government funding and IAEA technical support • procure necessary equipment and ensure HRD	• establishment of R&D facilities	• health services, analytical services • NDT services and environmental monitoring
3. Developing technologies and industrial processes for production and preservation of food items	• hire competent scientists and technical workers • procure scientific equipments • increase expenditure for research and development (R&D) activities	• no, of commercial process • no. of leased out of process • no of patent • services provided in research • technical assistance	• no. of SMEs • technology for food industries • food safety and food quality status • employment generation for poor • development of R&D skill
4. Reducing irrigation cost through dual fuel shallow water pump	• hire competent engineers & technicians • procure scientific equipment and machine tools	• no. of medium lifting shallow tube-wells run by dual fuel kit	• Using the duel/fuel kit • production cost of crops
5. Introducing new energy technology	• provide training on improved stoves, biogas technologies and solar oven in urban and rural areas • organise seminar and exhibition in rural areas • provide technical support to people to establish new technologies • undertake loop research	• no. of biogas plant established by BCSIR • no. of new model of improved stoves innovated • no. of new model of solar oven innovated	• use of sustainable energy • environment pollution control • green house gas emission • employment generation
6. Developing and promoting of alternative medicine care (AMC)	• develop scientists and technical workers in area of AMC • increase expenditure on R&D	• new medicinal use of plants innovated and cultivated • new industries for AMC products	• no. of people use and benefits form AMC
7. Increased agricultural productivity through the innovative application of genetic engineering and biotechnology	• increase expenditure on R&D, infrastructure, scientists, technical personnel etc. • innovate DNA technology for transgenic plants and environmentally safe rice bio-fertilizer	• technology for crop improvement, plant tissue culture, DNA finger printing, identification of GMOs • DNA technology for transgenic plants and environmentally safe rice bio-fertilizer	• technology transfer to no. of stakeholders and farmers
8. Innovating building materials appropriate for coastal areas	• increase expenditure on R&D, engineers, technical personnel • undertake research activities	• developed technology that withstands strong tidal waves	• new material and technology for construction of infrastructures in coastal areas
9. Developing and disseminating products and processes for SMEs.	• ensure hiring of competent engineers/technologists/scientists • procure technical and scientific equipments. • increase expenditure on R&D	• no. of new products • availability of process for manufacturing of products • operation of process in a cost effective way	• no. of new industries and product lines • generation of new employment • minimum production cost through less resource use
10. Establishing technology transfer centre for SMEs and ensuring SME technology incubation	• establish technology transfer centre for SMEs in all districts • employ sufficient human resources for technology dissemination	• dissemination of technology for SMEs promotion • gap between research and commercial organizations • training for skill development and other necessary facilities • services for technology adaptation	• competitive production costs • production by SMEs including SMEs owned by women • employment generation for men and women
11. Developing ICT for mass use	• develop ICT Policy and Infrastructure • develop human resource development for ICT • enhance Research & Development in ICT applications • promote use of ICT • ensure e-Governance for delivery of public services to the people • provide broadband internet connectivity to ICT Incubator and to important Ministries /Divisions/ Departments • provide ICT based services for available to all citizen • increase access to ICT among disadvantaged groups including women • increase export of Software and ITES	• access to related information for RNFA and SME • development/Improvement of operational system • implementation of e-business for access market • employment data base • use of ICT for education • Centre of excellence for ICT	• access of product to global and local markets • employment generation in ICT (men and women) • e-Community centres in Upazila and growth centres with provision for women • e-Governance to ensure public services to people • no. of rural population (male/female) with access to ICT • multimedia courseware for SSC level • ICT awareness among all the citizens • use of ICT to provide services in remote areas for e-learning, e-agriculture, e-health etc.