

CHAPTER 12

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

A skilled manpower is very much essential element for the socio-economic development of a country. Currently, 67.6 percent of our total population is active. The government is implementing different types of development programmes to accumulate demographic dividend by utilising the huge number of working age people. The government has allocated around 24 percent of the annual budget to the HRD related sectors. Various programmes including the adoption of the 'National Education Policy, 2010' have been undertaken to create skilled and competent Human Resources for the country by enhancing the quality of education and increasing accessibility to Secondary and Higher Secondary, Technical and all tiers of higher education. As a result of the government's policy for recruiting 60 percent female teachers in the government primary schools, the number of female teachers has increased from 21 percent in 1991 to 63 percent in FY2017-18. Bangladesh has fulfilled health sector's related Millennium Development Goal prior to the stipulated period because of taking many priority based programmes to health, nutrition and population sector. In this regard, Bangladesh has won 'UN South South Award' twice. Both fertility and mortality rates have come down. Remarkable progress has been made in reducing child and maternal mortality and in increasing average life expectancy. Malnutrition has also been reduced significantly. Currently, Bangladesh is working hard for achieving health sector related goal and targets of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In order to ensure the desire development of women and to ensure their participation in the national development activities the government has legislated 'National Women Development Policy, 2011'. Furthermore, 'Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010' has been enacted to prevent violence against women and children. Apart from, the government has formulated 'National Child Policy – 2011' and 'Child Marriage Prevention Act, 2017'. As a result of implementation of various development programmes, Bangladesh is gradually improving in the Human Development Index (HDI). According to the 'Human Development Report, 2017' the position of Bangladesh has been improved to 136 which was 138 in 2016.

A skilled manpower is very much essential element for the socio-economic development of a country. Currently, 67.6 percent of our total population is active. The government is implementing different types of development programmes to accumulate demographic dividend by utilising the huge number of working age people. Under this circumstance, the government has taken relentless efforts and various initiatives for human resource development of the country through improve the standard of living of the under privileged and impoverished segments of the population.

This has resulted in progress in the Human Development Index (HDI). According to the 'Human Development Report, 2017' the position of Bangladesh has improved to 136, which was 138 in 2016. At present, Bangladesh is a middle ranking country in consideration of HDI. Among the SAARC countries, Bangladesh is the fourth position in the HDI list. Allocations of human development related sectors have been boosted up day by day. Position of Bangladesh in the HDI of recent few years have been presented to the Table 12.1.

Table 12.1: HDI Position of Bangladesh

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Index value	0.539	0.549	0.554	0.558	0.570	0.579	0.579	0.608

Source: Human Development Report, 2017. UNDP

Public Expenditure for Human Resource Development

Human Resource Development requires huge investment in the education and health sector along with other social sectors. Considering this beneficial impact on the economy the government has been spending around 24 percent of the total public expenditure in the social sector. The government considers the development of both health and education sectors as foundation for human resource development. Adequate budget allocation is provided in these two sectors for implementing realistic programmes with a view to improving the education, health and family planning indices. These improvements

may be achieved through reducing gender discrimination in primary and secondary education, reducing fertility rate, child and maternal mortality rates; containing the preventing steps of spreading of contagious diseases including Tuberculosis (TB) and Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) and increasing average life expectancy. Sports and cultural development also plays important role in human resources development. For this reason budget allocation also increases in these sectors.

Table 12.2 presents the total allocation in development and non-development budget in the social sector during FY2008-09 to FY2017-18.

Table 12.2: Allocation (Development and Non-Development) of Selected Ministries

(In Crore Taka)

Sector	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Education, Science & ICT	12535	16171	18575	20316	21561	28272	33499	34370	52914	65444
Health and Family Welfare	6196	6833	7617	8869	9130	9955	11537	12695	17486	20652
Youth, Sports and Culture	320	530	911	924	976	1061	1068	1199	1343	1803
Labour and Employment	120	69	67	82	134	192	226	302	308	262
Social Welfare, Women's Affairs and Liberation War Affairs	2396	2812	3499	3967	4091	4730	5962	7613	9433	11394
Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs	553	465	549	560	583	633	684	779	840	1150
Total Allocation (Development and Non-Development)	22120	26880	31218	34718	36475	44843	52946	56958	82324	100705

Sources: Finance Division, Ministry of Finance. Figures are based on budget.

Education and Technology

The government has given highest priority to the education sector in order to build an educated, self-reliant, scientific-minded and dynamic nation. For this reason, the government has approved the ‘National Education Policy, 2010’ as a step towards implementing a time befitting technical education system in the country. The basic objective of the policy is to foster humanity among the future citizens of the country. Apart from the policy will assist to grow the students as creative, rational, tolerant to others opinion and liberal who will be able to lead the country towards inclusive development and progress.

Primary and Mass Education

The government has constitutional obligation to ensure education for all. In line with global initiative the government is committed to achieve inclusive and quality education for all. Therefore, allocation of education sector is increased step by step. In FY2017-18, the government has made an allocation of Tk.20,098 crore for primary education development.

The Goal 4 of the ‘Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)’ declares to ensure ‘inclusive and equitable quality education and promote life-long learning opportunities for all’. The government has targeted to achieve SDG 4 by ensuring quality education for all children by

2030. To achieve the targets as set in SDG 4, the government of Bangladesh has been implementing different projects and programmes such as ‘Third Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-III)’, ‘Stipend Programme’, ‘Reaching-Out-of-School Children (ROSC) Project’, ‘School Feeding Programme’ in the poverty-prone areas, ‘Second Chance Education Programme’ and ‘Basic Literacy Programme’ in 64 districts.

In 1991, the total number of primary schools in Bangladesh was 49,539. Presently, the number raises at 1,33,901 (including ROSC centres, *Shishu Kalyan* primary school and *madrasas/* mosque based centres/ *Kowmi madrasas*). The enrolment rate of primary school is also increased day by day. In 2017, the enrolment rate was 97.97 percent whereas it was only 60.5 percent in 1991-92. Conversely, dropout rate has been decreased gradually. In 2008, almost half of the students dropped out (49.3%) before completing the primary level. The number reduced to 18.8 percent in 2017. Furthermore, there is an increasing trend in the enrolment of girls in primary schools. In 1991, the boys-girls ratio among students was 55:45. Currently, the ratio is about 49.32 : 50.68. Table 12.3 shows students’ enrolment rate and percentage of male-female students at primary levels from 2005 to 2016.

Table 12.3: Boys- Girls Enrolment at Primary Level

Year	Total	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	(In lakh)
				Net Enrollment rate (%)
2005	162.25	80.91 (49.87)	81.34 (50.13)	87.2
2006	163.86	81.29	82.56	90.9

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Year	Total	Boys (%)	Girls (%)	Net Enrollment rate (%)
		(49.62)	(50.38)	
2007	163.13	80.35 (49.26)	82.78 (50.74)	91.1
2008	167.49	83.25 (49.70)	84.24 (50.30)	90.8
2009	165.39	82.41 (49.83)	82.98 (50.17)	93.9
2010	169.58	83.95 (49.50)	85.63 (50.50)	94.8
2011	184.32	91.39 (49.60)	92.93 (50.40)	94.9
2012	190.03	94.63 (49.80)	95.40 (50.20)	96.7
2013	195.85	97.81 (49.94)	98.04 (50.06)	97.3
2014	195.53	96.39 (49.30)	99.14 (50.70)	97.7
2015	190.68	93.69 (49.14)	96.99 (50.86)	97.9
2016	186.03	92.28 (49.60)	93.75 (50.40)	97.9
2017	172.55	85.08 (49.32)	87.47 (50.68)	97.97

Source: Ministry of Primary and Mass Education

Table 12.4 shows remarkable changes of drop-out scenario of students at primary level during the period.

Table 12.4: Year wise Drop-out Rate at Primary Level

Year	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Dropout rate (%)	50.5	49.3	45.1	39.8	29.7	26.2	21.4	20.9	20.4	19.2	18.8

Source: Annual Primary School Census, 2017, Directorate of Primary Education.

Important Activities in Primary Education

- ‘The Third Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP-III)’ has implemented to develop the quality of primary education. Through various activities under this programme, priorities have been given to increase enrolment and attendance of school-going children, reduce drop-out and enhance school contact hour. Now, the government has taken the Fourth Primary Education Development Programme
- Under the present policy of recruitment of teachers, 60:40 ratio of female to male has been followed. The current ratio of female and male teachers is 63.82: 36.18 in government primary schools.
- Decentralisation of administrative and financial power in primary education has been implemented. As a step towards decentralisation, ‘School Level Improvement Plan (SLIP)’ and ‘Upazila Primary Education Plan (UPEP)’ have been implemented phase wise.

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- Non-formal Education Bureau has been established to carry out non-formal education along with the formal education. ‘Non-formal Education Act’ has been formed in order to make non-formal education more dynamic, effective and job oriented. The government has also established ‘Non-formal Education Bureau’ to run non-formal education programme.
- To increase enrolment rate and to retain student at school, school feeding programme has been introduced. 75gram fortified biscuits are being distributed to all students on every school day among 31.62 lakh students in 104 *upazilas*. The government is considering for further expansion of the programme.
- Under *PEDP-III*, ‘Second Chance Education Programme’ is being implemented to offer the primary education to out-of-school and dropped out 7-14 year aged 4.5 lakhs deprived children.
- To bring the illiterate population under basic literacy ‘The Basic Literacy Project’ is being implemented in all districts.
- Under *PEDP-111*, ‘Implementation of Secondary Education Chance’ programme is under process to offer the primary education to 4.5 lakh out of school and drop out children.
- The government has decided to provide one year free Pre-Primary Education (PPE) to all five years children at government primary schools. Presently,

almost all primary schools have the PPE learning facilities.

Physical Infrastructure Facilities at Primary School Level

In continuation of a qualitative development of primary education, in FY2017-18 following activities have been done:

- Under *PEDP-III*, constructions of 39,003 additional class rooms and major repairs of 6,260 government primary schools were completed. In addition, installation of 39,300 deep/shallow tube-wells and 28,500 wash blocks were completed in June 2018.
- A total of 7,377 schools have been selected for ‘Need based infrastructure development of government Primary schools (1st Phase) project. Up to June 2018, work orders for 915 schools have been issued.
- In total 6,640 schools have been selected for ‘Need based infrastructure development of Newly nationalised government Primary schools (1st Phase) project. Up to June 2018, work orders for 792 schools have been issued.

Terminal Examination and Scholarship

Since 2009, terminal examination in Grade-5 and *Ebtedayee madrasas* is being held based on unique questionnaires throughout the country. Total candidates in Grade-5 examination in 2017 were about 26.53 lakh, among them 95.18 percent examines were passed. On the contrary, 2.57 lakh *Ebtedayeee madrasa* students took part in terminal examination and 95.85 percent students passed the examination. In 2017

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academic year, number of scholarships has been increased and about 33 thousand talent pool and 49.5 thousand general scholarships have been awarded to the students on the basis of their results at the terminal examination. On the other hand, learning opportunities have been created for the working children of the urban and rural areas of the country. Special scholarships are given to the meritorious working children studying at the *Shishu Kalyan* Trust (SKT) schools to continue their education.

Stipend Project for Primary School Students

Poor parents many times employ their children to work instead of sending them to the school because of their poverty. For this reason, lots of children have to leave school without completing primary level. To overcome this problem, the 'Primary Education Stipend Project (2nd phase)' has been implemented at an estimated cost of Tk.6,923.05 crore, totally funded by the government of Bangladesh. It is targeted that almost 1.4 crore students will be benefited through this programme. According to the guidelines of the project, a poor family gets a stipend of Tk.50 for a pre-primary class student. For class One to Five, a poor family receives a stipend of Tk.100 for one child, Tk.200 for two children, Tk.250 for three children and Tk.300 for sending four children to the school. In addition, for class Six to Eight, government provides Tk.125 to a family for a child and Tk.250 for more than one child.

Distribution of Books at Government Cost

The government has been distributing all the new books freely among the primary students since 2010. In 2018, as many as 10.36 crore new books have been distributed to the whole country. Moreover, 33.11 lakh books and 34.11 lakh copies of reading materials have been provided to the pre-primary students in 2018. As many as, 34 thousands of books and the same number of reading materials have also been allocated among five minority groups (Chakma, Marma, Tripura, Garo, and Sadri) in pre-primary class in 2018. Furthermore, 80 thousand books have been distributed for class One students among the same minority groups.

Increase of Contact Hours

In the past, the annual contact time for class One and Two students was 595 hours. For the students of class Three –Five, the time was 833 hours at double shift schools. In order to increase contact time at primary level, about four thousand schools have been transformed into single shift school. As a result, the contact time has been increased to 882 hours for class One and Two and 1,231 hours for class Three - Five at newly transformed single shift school. In double shift, for class One and Two the contacting time is 714 hours and 783 hours for class Three – Five.

Recruitment of Teachers

The government regularly recruits teachers to ensure quality primary education. 60 percent posts of teachers have been reserved for female which help to increase the participation of women in primary education.

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Currently, the male, female teachers' ratio at government primary school is 63.82: 36.18.

The government has appointed 42,595 assistant teachers in Newly Nationalised Government Primary School (NNGPS) from the panel of 42,611 candidates. Apart from, 898 Head Teachers have been recruited from the BCS non-cadre candidates in 2017-18.

Programme for Out-of-School and Working Children

The government has taken various projects with a view to providing primary education to the out-of-school children, drop-outs and the working children of the city areas. The most famous such kind of programmes are: 'Reaching Out-of-School Children (ROSC) 2nd phase', 'Second Chance Education' 'Basic Literacy Projects' and so on.

Secondary Education

The government has been carrying out lot of development activities in order to create enlightened citizens. Among these activities stipend programme and one time grant, free book distribution in the first day of new year, free female education up to degree level are most remarkable. In addition, the government is conducting infrastructure development throughout the country, establishing new public universities and getting approval for establishment of private universities. Development of new curriculum, performance based continuous evaluation, introduction of online activities and digitalisation of education system are to be considered as the reformative activities to the secondary level education.

Free Book Distribution

In 2018 about 35.43 crore text books were distributed among 4.37 crore students includes (pre-primary, primary, secondary, *Ebtedai*, *Dakhil*, *Dakhil-Vocational*, SSC-Vocational level). Furthermore, 1.49 lakh books have been distributed among 58.25 thousand students of five ethnic groups (Chakma, Marma, Tripura, Garo and Sadri). The government has also distributed 8.40 copies of Brail Books among 963 visually impaired students.

Teacher Training

With a view to enhancing teaching quality and administrative capacity of the teachers 'National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) arranges training courses for teachers, head of institutions and education officers for secondary and tertiary level. In FY2017-18, NAEM imparted training to 15,178 participants. Apart from, 'Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education (DHSE)' provides trainings to 2.11 lakh participants through different projects. Furthermore, 'Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics (BANBEIS) conducts training on ICT. In FY2017-18, in total 23,012 participants took trainings from BANBEIS. 'National Curriculum and Text Book Board (NCTB) also carries out training on curriculum development. NCTB trained up 1,481 participants in FY2017-18.

Srijonshil Medha Onneshon

The government has been carrying out 'Srijonshil Medha Onneshon' (Creative Talent Hunt) programme since 2013. The main motto of this programme is to recognise

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and encourage extra ordinary meritorious students from grass root level. In 2018, 12 best participants have been awarded with Tk. One lakh , a crest, certificate and study tour to Turkey.

Infrastructure Development

In FY2017-18, a total of 1,669 school and college buildings and 714 extended buildings have been built. Moreover, the construction work of new buildings of 11,495 educational institutions has been started in FY2017-18 at the cost of Tk.42,000 crore. It is estimated that the project will be accomplished within 2020.

Furthermore, The government is going to establish a full-fledged academy for autistic children at *Purbachal*, Dhaka under the project ‘National Academy for Autism and Neuro Development Disabilities (NAAND).

Nationalisation of Non-government Schools:

The government has taken a policy decision that to nationalise a non-government school and college in every *upazila* where there is no government school or college. Up to June 2018, total 144 non-government schools have been nationalised.

Stipend Programme

The government has conducted different types of stipend programmes for ensuring gender equality and decreasing dropout percentage in the secondary levels. In some cases, the government also provides stipend facilities even in graduate level.

30 percent girls and 10 percent boys get stipend through ‘Secondary Education

Stipend Project, Phase -11(‘SESP-11’) and ‘Secondary Education Sector Investment Programme (SESIP)’. In addition, 40 percent girls and 10 percent boys get stipend through Proxy Means Testing (PMT) by the ‘Secondary Education Quality and Access Enhancement Project (SEQAEP)’.

In FY2017-18, a sum of Tk.589.46 crore has been distributed among 35,37,803 students as stipend. Moreover, a total of Tk.219.40 crore has been distributed as scholarship among 2,21,359 students.

Higher Education

The government has decided to expand and enhance the scope and quality of higher education in the country. For this purpose, the government has established a public university almost in each old district of the country. At present, 41 public universities are continuing their academic activities.

The expansion of higher education is being done by establishing different infrastructures including academic buildings of the old and new universities.

In the meantime, the government has passed ‘Cross Border Higher Education (CBHE) Ac, 2014’ and it has facilitated the permanent campus establishment of the world standard private universities in Bangladesh. To encourage the research based educational environment in higher educational institutions the Academic Innovation Fund is being disbursed with the World Bank’s support under ‘Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP)’.

The government has taken initiative to increase the technological skill of the

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universities and to set up a connection of the domestic universities with foreign universities. For this reason, ‘Bangladesh Research and Education Network (BdREN)’ has been established.

With a view to ensuring the quality of higher education, ‘National Accreditation Council Act, 2016’ has been enacted.

‘Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS)’ has been established to enhance the mobility and transparency of the universities’ education, administration, finance, development, research and so on. Data are being served from the universities through the HEMIS portal. Likewise, the activities of UGC Digital Library (UDL), HEQEP have been launched. The total number of UDL member universities is now 90. The students, teachers and researchers of UDL member universities are getting access to 31,000 e-books and 3,100 e-journals through UDL. The users of the universities will directly get access to the portal of e-resource providers through the web portal of UDL (udl-ugc.gov.bd).

Technical Education

The expansion of country’s technical and vocational education is able to transform our young population into productive and skilled manpower. It is targeted that 20 percent of schools and colleges will be enrolled to ‘Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET)’ by 2020 and 30 percent by 2030 for better utilisation of our human resources. ‘National Technical and Vocational Qualifications Framework (NTVQF)’ is being implemented to wide TVET.

Currently, in total 8,852 TVET institutions are in operational mode. Out of these, 600 institutions operate through government. The rest of 8,252 institutions are running privately.

Along with different short-term courses, BSc Engineering courses are being conducted in Engineering colleges in Mymensingh, Faridpur, Sylhet and Barishal districts. To expand technical and vocational education, many projects such as: ‘Establishment of 8 Women Technical School and Colleges at 8 Divisional headquarters’, ‘Establishment of 23 Polytechnic Institutes’ and ‘Establishment of 4 female polytechnic institute at Barishal, Sylhet, Rangpur and Mymensingh Divisions’ are being implemented.

The government has taken initiatives for capacity development of 64 existing technical schools and colleges and to establish 23 new polytechnic institutes in 23 districts.

Madrasah Education

Directorate of *Madrasah* Education is a newly created organisation as an apex body for ensuring proper management and administration in the field of *Madrasah* education. Presently there are about 10,000 *madrasahs* (MPO enlisted) in the country. In addition, more than five thousand non MPO *madrasahs* are also in running their academic activities. In order to make *madrasah* education time-befitting, the curriculum has been improved alongside the teaching of religious subjects such as Quran, *Aqaid* and *Fiqh*, Arabic and *Hadith* from Class One to Twelve.

Similar to general education system, *madrasah* education system is also following

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the NCTB developed syllabus and curriculum for general core subjects and elective subjects except for the Arabic subjects for *madrasah* education. Text books for all subjects except Arabic and Islamic subjects have been printed and distributed from NCTB. Initiatives have been taken to conduct all *madrasah* examinations except the Arabic and Islamic subjects with the same syllabus up to the secondary level since 2014. Competitive, modern and life skill oriented subjects like Agriculture, ICT and career related education have been included in the syllabus of *Madrasah* education. In ensuring more transparency and accountability of the activities under *Madrasah* Education Board, filling up of forms and students' registration are being done online using ICT. To improve the education management system, necessary steps have been undertaken to establish '*Madrasah* Education Management Information System (MEMIS') cell.

ICT in Education

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) has been included as a compulsory subject in all levels of educations. The government has created 255 posts of ICT teachers in government colleges. A full-fledged ICT based university '*Bangabandu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Digital University*' has established at Gazipur. In addition, 26,655 multimedia classrooms and 3,550 ICT laboratory have been established at secondary and higher secondary level.

'Electronic Students Information Form(e-SIF) has introduced to secondary and higher secondary level. Apart from, results of different public examinations and teachers'

recruitment and registration have also been published through on line.

Online Monthly Pay Order for non-government school and college teachers and staffs has also been started. It reduces the prevalent obligations and provides speedy services.

Already, 125 *upazila* ICT training and resource centers have been established under '*Upazila* ICT Training and Resource Centre for Education (UITRCE)' project implemented by BANBEIS. More, 160 centres are going to be established under the second phase of UITRCE project.

Development of Female Education

It has been possible to achieve gender equality at the primary and secondary level education because of starting stipend programme for female student. In order to ensure women empowerment and increase their participation in socio-economic activities, government has been providing stipend, granting free studentship and financial assistance for purchasing books to the female students. The government also offers fees to the female students for appearing to the public examinations.

The amount of general scholarships and technical and vocational education scholarships for female students has been enhanced. Moreover, the coverage extends for the meritorious female students. Reserve seat of women at the technical and vocational institute under Directorate of Technical Education has been increased from 10 percent to 20 percent.

Development of Health and Family Welfare Sector

After independence, Bangladesh has achieved enormous improvement in health sector for the last 47 years. The implementation of Community Clinic based services, provisions of separate toilets, breast feeding and nutrition corners, other facilities in the women friendly hospitals have contributed to increasing access of poor women to Health, Nutrition and Population (HNP) services. Moreover, the government has created an opportunity for the poor and marginal people

to reach the government health services by ensuring the primary health care through sector-wide actions. As a result, notable improvements have been achieved through the reduction of fertility rate, death rate, child and maternal mortality rate and increase the average life expectancy. In addition, improvement in food securities including food safety, expansion of women education rate creates positive impacts on the improvement of life style of common people. Table 12.5 shows the trend of health indicators from 2012 to 2017.

Table 12.5: Recent Trends in Health Indicators

Indicator	Level	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Crude Birth Rate (per 1000 population)	National	18.9	19.0	18.9	18.8	18.7	18.5
	Urban	17.1	18.2	17.2	16.5	16.1	16.1
	Rural	20.0	19.3	19.4	20.3	20.9	20.4
Crude Death Rate (per 1000 population)	National	5.3	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1
	Urban	4.6	4.6	4.1	4.6	4.2	4.2
	Rural	5.7	5.6	5.6	5.5	5.7	5.7
Average Age at Marriage	Male	24.7	24.3	24.9	25.3	25.2	25.1
	Female	19.3	18.4	18.3	18.4	18.4	18.4
Life Expectancy at Birth (year)	Both	69.4	70.4	70.7	70.9	71.6	72
	Male	68.2	68.8	69.1	69.4	70.3	70.6
	Female	70.7	71.2	71.6	72.0	72.9	73.3
Infant Mortality Rate (<1 year) (per 1000 live births)	National	33	31	30	29	28	24
	Urban	31	26	26	28	28	22
	Rural	34	34	31	29	28	25
Under 5 Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)	National	42	41	38	36	35	31
	Urban	37	35	30	32	32	27
	Rural	44	43	40	39	36	33
Maternal mortality Ratio (per 1000 live births)	National	2.03	1.97	1.93	1.81	1.78	1.72
	Urban	1.90	1.46	1.82	1.62	1.60	1.57
	Rural	2.10	2.11	1.96	1.91	1.90	1.82
Contraceptive users rate (%)		62.2	62.4	62.2	62.1	62.3	62.5
Total Fertility Rate (per women, 15-49 years of age)		2.12	2.11	2.11	2.10	2.10	2.05

Source: Report on Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics, 2017.

Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is currently implementing Health, Population and Nutrition Sector Programme (HPNSP). The current 4th sector programme of HPNSP will be carried out through 29 Operational Plans (OPs).

The key objective of this programme is to increase the demand of health; family planning and nutrition service delivery for people especially for women, children and deprived persons. It also works for providing health related service easily and reducing birth rate, mortality rate and outbreak of diseases through ensuring utmost utilisation of health, family welfare and nutrition services. Many activities are being undertaken under this programme regarding to management and operational enhancement.

Community Clinic (CC)

Community Clinic (CC) is the first tier public health facility to provide primary health care services to the rural community of the whole country especially remote and very hard to reach areas. The initiative for establishment of CC is taken in 1998 to extend coordinated health and family planning services to the door steps of rural population. For this purpose, 10,723 CCs are constructed during 1999-2001 and around 8,000 are made functional. At present, 13,539 CCs are on operational mode. 27 items of medicine and two items of contraceptives are being supplied from CC. With other services, normal delivery service is also available in many CCs. Presently, normal delivery is being conducted at 3,058 CCs. From 2009 to

June 2018, a total of 65,919 normal deliveries have been conducted through CCs.

Primary Health Care

Bangladesh has achieved significant success in providing free healthcare services at the grassroots level people from various types of field level healthcare facilities. Diarrhoea, Malaria, Filaria, *Kala-zar*, Tuberculosis, Leprosy control, Removal of Vitamin A related Blindness, Deworming medicine distribution and Vaccination programme have been strengthened by rural level field workers and volunteers. As a result of proper implementation of these programmes, maternal and neonatal mortality rate have been reduced as well as average life expectancy has been increased. Now Dengue, Swine Flu and SARS disease have been controlled successfully in Bangladesh. Detection of Smear Positive Pulmonary Tuberculosis rate has increased upto 100 percent by Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course (DOTS) programme. Furthermore, creation of awareness building on the health problems and provide primary healthcare service among the children and adolescent through Child Health Programme, School Health Programme, Adolescent Health Programme, Khude Doctor Programme and so on.

Extended Programme on Immunisation (EPI)

With a view to ensuring Primary healthcare, government is continuing vaccination programme against vaccine preventable disease through Expanded Programme of Immunisation (EPI) under HPNSP. EPI is providing vaccines against 10 vaccine

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preventable diseases named: Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis-B, Haemophyllus influenza-type-B, Pneumococcal Pneumonia and Measles and

Rubella. World Health Organization (WHO) already declared Bangladesh as Polio free country. Table 12.6 shows the yearly EPI coverage.

Table12.6: Vaccination under EPI Programme

Year	BCG (%)	OPV-1 (%)	OPV-2 (%)	OPV-3 (%)	Penta-1 (%)	Penta-2 (%)	Penta-3 (%)	Measles (%)	Total Vaccination (%)
2011	99.0	98.9	97.6	94.5	98.9	97.4	89.6	85.5	80.2
2012	99.0	99.0	97.7	95.1	99.0	97.6	90.0	88.5	80.6
2013	99.3	95.1	94.1	91.6	90.9	92.6	92.1	85.5	80.7
2014	99.2	95.8	95.1	92.7	92.6	93.3	93.0	86.6	81.6
2015	99.2	93.4	94.5	93.9	93.9	94.5	93.6	87.4	82.5
2016	99.5	97.8	97.0	90.1	97.8	97.0	90.1	87.5	82.3

Source: Bangladesh EPI Census, 2016.

Maternal and Neonatal Health Services

As special priority to the improvement of Maternal and Child Health, many activities have been undertaken at the national level. Among these Emergency Obstetric Care (EmOC) training for the doctors', Community based Skilled Birth Attendant (CSBA) training for the field staff are most notable. In addition, scaling up of family planning services, safe MR services, encouraging private sectors expansion, advocacy for increasing facility delivery services have been carried out by the government. Various kinds of training activities are running on for developing skill of the doctors, Family Welfare Visitors (FWV) and all field level workers who are involved in providing for maternal and child health care. The government has been implementing Maternal, Neonatal and Child Health (MNCH) activities in 41 districts of the country with technical and financial support of the Development Partners (DPs). Now, Comprehensive EmOC services are available in all the medical

college hospitals, 59 district hospitals, 159 *Upazila* Health Complexes and 63 maternal and child welfare centres. Rest of the *Upazila* Health Complexes is providing Basic EmOC (BEmOC) services.

The government has provided short-term training for community based skilled birth attendant (CSBA) and midwives and deployed them to the remote and rural areas. As a result, antenatal care, delivery care and postnatal care services are now available in these areas. Up to June 2018, 11,544 CSBA have been trained to provide maternal health care services at the rural level.

Nutrition

The Operational Plan (OP) 'National Nutrition Services (NNS)' has been taken up under 4th HPNSP. The main purpose of this service is to improve the nutritional status of the people specially children, adolescent, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Old age and underserved people both and rural

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and urban areas are also get consideration under this service.

Management facilities for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) have been developed in all *upazila* health complexes, district hospitals and medical college hospitals across the country. A total of 252 SAM units have been established at district and *upazila* level. At the community level, Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) programme has been expanded. It aims to improve childhood nutrition. In total, 395 IMCT have been established at district and *upazila* hospitals.

Table 12.7 shows a whole picture of nutrition status of Bangladesh.

Table 12.7: Nutrition Status of Bangladesh

Index	2007 %	2011 %	2014 %	(Target %) 2022	Remark
Underweight child	41	36.4	32.6	25	On Track
Stunted child	43.2	41.3	36	25	On Track
Wasting	17.4	15.6	14	<10	On Track
Low birth weight	35.6	-	22.6	<18	On Track
Exclusive breast feeding	43	64	55	50	On Track
Night blindness	-	-	0.2	<1	On Track

Source: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Health Information System and E-health

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has successfully utilised Information Technology (IT) in the health sector. Laptops and Android Tablets have been provided at the community clinics and other grass root level workers. A uniform 'Health Identifier Code' is being provided to every citizen which will be used in making the permanent health record software. A draft of national 'E-Health Policy

and Strategy' has been finalised. Health services are being provided through mobile phones from every district and *upazila* level government hospitals of the country. Advanced telemedicine services are being provided from 82 hospitals. A full-fledged call center named *Sasthyo Batayan* has been started. 'Skype Based Tele-consultation' has been introduced alongside the telemedicine service.

Family Planning Services and Reproductive Health

Bangladesh has gained commendable progress in the family planning programmes. So far, the greatest achievement of the government is to ensure availability of modern and active contraceptive methods. Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has been declined sharply from 2.11 in 2014 births to 2.05 in 2016. The government has identified achieving the replacement level population growth from present rate of 2.05 to 2.0 and net reproductive rate 1.0 by 2022.

At present, Emergency Obstetric Care (EOC) service is being provided from 70 Mother and Child welfare centre. In addition, Maternal and Child Health Training Institute (MCHTI), *Azimpur* and Fertility Services and Training Centre, *Mohammadpur* provide EOC service. A total of 355 doctors have received one year training in Obs/ Gynae and Anesthesia. Furthermore, 722 FWVs have received 6 months training in OT management and nursing care. 1,874 FWVs have received six months training on Midwifery. 11,208 Family Welfare Assistants and Health Assistants have been trained on Community Based Skilled Birth Attendants (CSBA) training.

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At present, 2,800 Union Health and Family Welfare Centres (UH&FWCs) are made functional to provide 24 hours normal delivery. The government is working for starting the alltime normal deliver services to the remaining UH&FWCs. Apart from, Mother and Child Welfare Centres (MCWCs) are playing a vital role to maternal and child mortality. At this moment, 96 MCWCs provide service in the country. Among these, 60 are located at district level, 12 are *upazila* level and the rest 24 at union level. From these centres people are getting 24 hours free emergency maternal health service, family planning, mother and child health service. Moreover, the government has taken a plan to establish 89 MCWCs at Union level to ensure reproductive health service of the people. Already 63 have been completed and the remaining 26 are in under construction.

Medical Education

The government not only pays attention at health service but also health education. For this reason, the effort for expansion of modern and updated education in medical sciences is continued. In academic year 2018-19, five new government medical colleges launch their academic journeys. Now, total seats in MBBS course in 36 government Medical Colleges are 4,068. Apart form, 6,231 students are getting chance to study MBBS course in 69 Non-government Medical Colleges. There are 250 seats in 6 Army Medical Colleges and 125 seats in 01 Armed Forced Medical College. In total, 532 students can higher study at 01 government Dental College and 8 Dental Units. On the contrary, total seats in BDS course are 940 in 12 Private Dental Colleges and 465 seats in

14 Non-government Dental Units. In addition, 716 students can study in 9 government Assistant Training Institutions. Likewise, 12,824 students can study in 192 Non-government Medical Assistant Training Institutions. In total, 2,585 seats in 11 government Institute of Health Technology. In the private sector, there are 8,940 seats in 97 Institute of Health Technology. Moreover, in 22 government Medical Colleges 1,541 students can study post-graduate level. In addition, there are 580 seat in Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University for post graduate course.

Nursing Services

Altogether, 29,407 registered nurses are working in various hospitals. Former seven nursing institutes have been converted into nursing colleges. Four nursing colleges were established in *Manikganj, Gazipur, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka* and *Dinajpur*. Short-term specialised courses have been launched in Thailand, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Philippines and within the country. Two nursing colleges have been set up in *Mugda* and *Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Dhaka* to provide master's degree. In order to increase the midwifery activities in the prevention of maternal and child deaths, a total of 3,000 posts of Certified Midwives have been created in public sector. 1,143 Midwives are deployed in *Upazila* Health Complexes. A three-years Diploma in Midwifery course has been started in 38 (10 nursing colleges and 28 nursing institutes) nursing educational institutes.

Programmes for Women and Child Development

The Ministry of Women and Children Affairs has taken various programmes for the overall socio-economic development of women. Empowerment of women, stop violence against women, ensures women's safety at work place and confirmation of women's full participation to the economic activities are the notable initiatives taken by the government. In order to establish equal rights of women in all spares of state and public life and to remove violence against the government has formulated 'Family Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010'. Under the Act other rules have also been formulated. In addition, 'National Women Development Policy-2011', 'National Child Policy-2011', 'Comprehensive Policy of Early Care and Development of Child-2011' and 'Deoxyribo Nucleic Acid Act-2014' have been formulated for wide-ranging development of women and children.

The government provides different kinds of allowances along with food assistance to the deserted and helpless women under social safety net programme. Maternity allowance and working lactating mother allowance are also given to the poor mothers. Furthermore, microcredit programmes are being implemented for the self-employment of women. Various types of income generating trainings are also provided to the women at district and *upazila* level. 8 working women hostels have been built in Dhaka, Khulna, Chattogram, Jashore and Rajshahi for providing safe and affordable housing for working women. A 12 storied building is being built at *Ashulia, Savar* for female

garments workers. Apart from, 6 women's Assistance Centres have been established at six divisional cities. Women suffering from torture get shelter and other facilities along with legal assistance in these centres.

Joyeeta Foundation has been formed to achieve self-employment and empowerment of grassroots level women through marketing products and services produced by them.

The government has been implementing various development initiatives in order to develop the latent talent of the children. The purposes of these programmes are to make the children suitable citizens of the country and ensure their mental and cultural development. Under the Child Development Programme, 42 activities are being implemented in each year. Through 'Early Learning Child Development (ELCD)' project, children from 0 to 5 years age are being developed at childfriendly environment with proper care. The project also provides facilities to the children to acquire eligibility for primary education through providing pre-primary education at home, community and education centres. Thus the project helps to increase the children's participation for education, to learn language and to achieve emotional development. A suitable environment for normal development of children will be created through 'Enabling Environment for Child Rights (EECR)' project. The key motto of the project is to ensure child rights by upholding social values through removing child abuse in society, protecting children from violence and exploitation.

Another programme 'Education and Health Care for Deprived Children' works for

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providing primary education to 4-12 years old children. It assist to prevent drop-out by providing education support to selected children. This programmes also offers nutritious food and general treatment to school children.

Social Welfare

The overall socio-economic development of a country largely depends on the development of destitute, poor and left-out segment of the society. The government is giving much emphasis on this sector. The Ministry of Social Welfare (MoSW) is working for poverty reduction, human resource development and social safety. The ministry also works for rehabilitation of the neglected segment of population along with the persons with disabilities, orphans, destitute, poor and helpless.

The MoSW conducts Hospital social service, integrated blind education programme, school for vision and hearing impaired children and so on. In addition, destitute children training and rehabilitation centres, stipend programme for the disabled students and vocational training centres and rehabilitations for physically disabled are being implemented by the government.

The government has been continuing the social safety net programmes with a view to alleviating poverty through improvement of socio-economic condition of the ultra-poor. The government has adopted the life cycle approach of social safety net programmes so that effective and proper implementation of these programmes could be ensured. In FY2017-18 an amount of Tk.54, 205.89 crore has been allocated against social safety net

programmes. The allocation is 13.54 percent of the budget and 2.44 percent of GDP of the same fiscal year.

Currently, different types of allowances and food assistance activities are running under social safety net programmes of the MoWS. Old age allowance, destitute women allowance, widow and husband deserted allowance, food allowance for orphans, capitation grants for non-government orphanages, allowance for the financially insolvent disabled citizens are the most notable safety net programmes of MoSW.

103 Integrated Disability Service Centre (*Protibondi Sheba-O-Sahajjo Kendro*) are working in 64 districts and 39 *upazilas* of the country. From these centres various types of treatment are being provided to the physically disabled people without any cost. The government also established Autism Resource Center for providing better service to the autistic people. The government has established 11 special schools for autistic children. Moreover, two hostels have been made for both male and female working people with disabilities.

With a view to preventing juvenile delinquencies different programmes are being conducted for their rectification and rehabilitation in the society. Under this programme, 3 juvenile development centres are functioning. In the 85 government *Shishu Paribars*, orphans are getting livelihood support, education, training and participating in rehabilitation programmes.

Youth and Sports

Youth Development

The Department of Youth Development (DYD) is implementing different programmes to make youth as skilled human resources through training and exploiting their wisdom, creativity, self-confidence and work spirit. The department has imparted skill development training to 55, 01,590 youths in different trades since its inception in 1981 to June 2018. Among them, as many as 21,32,168 young people have already become self-employed as of June 2018.

In compliance with the election pledge for job creation, the government has undertaken the ‘National Service Programme (NSP)’ in order to provide employment to educated unemployed youths. Initially, three poverty stricken districts, namely-*Kurigram, Barguna and Gopalganj* had been chosen for pilot programme. Now, 6th and 7th phase of the programme are running on. Since the inception of NSP and up to June 2018, in total 1,93,985 youths were trained and out of them 1,93,651 were attached with different nation building department. After completion of attachment 32,140 youths were self-employed and 3,726 youths employed in different government and non-government organisations. In the light of its success, NSP will be rolled out gradually in other districts of the country.

DYD is working for the advancement and expansion of Information Technology (IT). Educated youths are being trained at 70 centres in 64 districts on computer basics, graphic design and internet usage. In addition, 3,840 youths were given one-

month training on computer basics through mobile ICT- training vans. ‘*Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Youth Development*’ has been established at *Savar*, Dhaka. Up to June 2018, 6179 youths have been trained from this institute. *Bogura* Regional Youth Centre was established for the same motto. Up to June 2018, the centre provided trainings to 6,549 youths.

Sports Development

The government has undertaken and implemented a number of development projects to promote sports. In FY2017-18, Directorate of Sports has organised 5,774 sports activities across the country. It also organised competition and training on various sports. Around 8,331 boys and girls participated in the competition. Under the direct supervision of Directorate of Sports, six Physical Education Colleges are providing Bachelor of Physical Education degree and Dhaka Physical Education College providing Masters of Physical Education degree to create job opportunities for the young educated people of the country.

Cultural Affairs

History, civilisation and identity of a nation is reflected in its culture. In line with the course of cultural progress in the world context, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs has undertaken various activities to preserve, promote and conserve rich cultural heritage of Bangladesh through its 17 organisations.

Bangladesh *Shilpakala* Academy is the prime organisation in the field of art and culture. In FY2017-18, the academy organised ‘Classical Musical Festival’, ‘SAARC Handicraft Festival’, ‘National Film Festival’, ‘National

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Instrumental –music Festival’, ‘National Children Film Festival’ ‘National Youth Theatre Festival’ and so on. Moreover, many development projects have been implementing by the academy.

Development activities have been taken to preserve and develop archaeological sites and also for the development of tourism. To flourish Bengali literature many research works related to the Bengali language and literature, cultural heritage and publication of books and journals are being done by Bangla Academy.

Development of Chattogram Hill Tracts

The Chattogram Hill Tracts is an integral part of our culture and heritage. The government is working heartily for the development of the marginal people of the hill tracts. In FY2017-18, a total of 2,204 projects/ schemes have been taken in the three hill districts at a cost of Tk.914.48 crore. The government arranges different types of development and technical projects for the betterment of hilly people and their glorious culture.