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| **Chapter-11**  **Public Security Division** |

**1.0 Introduction**

The Public Security division of the Ministry of Home Affairs has been working relentlessly to establish 'safe life and peaceful Bangladesh'. The government has given maximum importance on public safety system to achieve Sustainable Development Goals. With that end in view this division and its departments/ agencies are working to improve law and order, establish civil rights, prevent crime and smuggling in sea and border areas, provide necessary public services to combat various natural and man-made disasters. It is also successfully implementing various programs to prevent burning incidents, militancy and cybercrime. Considering the importance of the Public Security Division the budgetary allocation has increased substantially in the last 10 years. It is essential to establish the rule of law along with the political and social stability for the country’s economic and social development. This Division has been adopting and implementing different strategies to protect the lives and properties of citizens by improving internal law and order situation with efficient use of its allocated budget.

The natural development of children creates future human resources which will be the main driving force of Vision-2041. This development can be hindered by social degradation and trends of crime. According to the UN convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989 security is important for the natural development of the child. Apart from this, the promise of child safety and protection is spelt out in SDG 16 (2) which reads "End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence and torture against children". This Division is committed to achieve this target of protecting childhood from violence, trafficking and all forms of oppression. In order to fulfill this objective, revising the legal structure and guidance for child safety and protection, strengthening training, preventing child abuse, preventing child trafficking, preventing child marriage, ensuring border security, establishing victim support center, protecting children from drug abuse, preventing child labor, stopping child pornography, preventing cybercrime and increasing public awareness, are must. Overall, the Public Security Division and its agencies across the country are working very consciously for the natural childhood development so that the goals and objectives of Vision-2041 and the United Nations Children's Convention are fulfilled.

**2.0 Action taken by the division for the development of children in the light of national policies and strategies**

Activities taken by the Public Security Division in light of the national policy and strategy for the safety and protection of children are as follows:

| **National Policy/Strategy Overview** | **Programme** |
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| **Child Marriage Prevention Act:**  Child Marriage Restraint Act, 2017 and Child Marriage Restraint Rules, 2017 have been enacted. The amount/term of penalty of this law has been increased. | * Social pressure has been emphasized to stop child marriage; * Formation of the of Child Marriage Prevention Committee at every level of administration; * Conducting mobile court and stop child marriage whenever is possible; |
| **Stop eve-teasing:**  Section 509 of the Penal Code has been included in the mobile court law. | * Conduct mobile court regularly to take immediate action against eve teasing on the spot; * Conduct regular operations of the law enforcing agencies on the spot; * Maintain a close relationship with the school/college authority to collect the criminal information and take necessary legal action. |
| **Setting up Victim Support Center:**  A total of 8 victim support centers have been established across the country under Bangladesh police. | * Provide legal aid and temporary shelter to the victims and settle legal transfer process of non-identity victims; * Perform child sensitive special investigation; * Provide support for rehabilitation of the child * Ensure all humanitarian assistance for the child |
| **Establishment of call center and monitoring operations:**   * 999 emergency call center has been established at the Metropolitan Police's Crime and Command Center. * The corresponding instructions for 333 services of A2i project of the Prime Minister's Office have been implemented | * Immediate arrangements of action from the call centers are made to prevent child marriage, eve-teasing, child abuse, violent behavior etc. ; * Police conduct operation according to the call center's direction; * Conduct mobile court operations if necessary. |
| **Administrative Regulation and Monitoring Activities:**  Monitoring and taking appropriate actions after getting the news/complaint in the specific cell set up at the police headquarters about child abasement | * Formation of women and child abuse prevention cell; * Formation of acid crimes monitoring cell; * Formation of monitoring human trafficking cell; * Instruct to take necessary actions for monitoring violent incidents against children; * Follow up of all administrative instructions by district and upazila law and order committees. |
| **Legal framework to prevent crime:**  Providing child security and prevent child crimes through Code of Criminal Procedure (149-153), Penal Code and Other Laws | * Takes actions according to Code of Criminal Procedure and PRB to prevent crime; * Operate precautionary patrol, search and take other legal measures to prevent crime. |
| **Ensure proper punishment through the Speedy Judicial Tribunal:**  Transfer of child murder cases to the Speedy Trial Tribunal. | * Transfer brutal murder cases of children to the speedy trial tribunal according to Article 6 of the Speedy Tribunal Act, 2002. |
| **Social Media Surveillance:**  The National Telecommunication Monitoring Center is working for the Social Media Surveillance.  Other organizations for social media surveillance are:   * Anti-Terrorism Unit * Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit * Cyber ​​Police Unit * Dhaka Metropolitan Police * Rapid Action Battalion | * Monitor violent events and provide information related to crime prevention and prosecution of other crimes include child pornography; * Social media is monitoring and taking necessary legal measures |
| **Implementation of 7th Five-Year Plan:**  Women and children are given importance in the 7th Five-Year Plan. | * Help desk for women and children have been set up in the police stations through which women and children’s issues are dealt critically; * Implement child centric training. |
| **Foreign Financing Projects:**  UNICEF funded Child Protection and Monitoring Project (CPMP). | * Train help desk officers in each police station; * Provide training on child affairs desk skills; * Provide legal assistance to children. * Regular monitoring of previous cases. |
| **Border Digital Surveillance System:**  Establishment of barbed wire and digital surveillance system to prevent child and human trafficking. | * Increase number of Border Out Posts (BOP) and Border Sentry Post (BSP). * Regular monitoring and taking quick action in remote areas through digital surveillance systems and barbed wire to prevent child and human trafficking. |
| Children's Happy Hour | * Keep 1/2 road open in the capital for the children for sports in convenient time through traffic control by coordination with government/non-government organizations; * Provide security in the playground. |
| Establishing people friendly law enforcing agencies according to the Government's election manifesto | * Recruitment of new manpower in police and BGB * Insert necessary commitment in APA * Train law enforcing personnel to build a child-friendly force * Take necessary administrative and legal measures. |
| **Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):**  The Public Security Division is the Lead Division for the 16th goal of the UNDP (SDG) target. | * Establish new police stations , Anti-Terrorism Unit, 2 Metropolitan Police Units and 50 thousand new manpower recruitment to strengthen police force; * Restructure 4 sectors of BGB and 15 thousands new manpower recruitment; * Ensure speedy trial of child violence cases; * Increase border surveillance. |

**3.0 Last three years achievement through child budget implementation**

* To establish fair justice for child violence:
* It has been possible to ensure the execution of the death sentence of the prime accused, including other 2 accused, by the Speedy Trial Tribunal, of Rakib murder case in Khulna in the shortest possible time;
* It has been possible to significantly reduce the amount of eve-teasing through mobile courts.
* Many upazilas are declared child marriage free upazilas by dint of social initiative, campaign and regular mobile court.
* Strong measures have been taken to reduce the trend of using child in drug trafficking.
* It has been possible to rehabilitate a significant number of identity less/abused children in last three years. Through the Victim Support Center,

**4.0 Child focused budget of the division**

(Billion Taka)

| **Description** | **Budget**  **2020-21** | **Budget**  **2019-20** | **Actual 2018-19** |
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| Ministry's total budget |  | 219.23 |  |
| Operating budget |  | 197.57 |  |
| Development budget |  | 21.66 |  |
| Budget for child related sections in ministry budget |  | 43.48 |  |
| Operating budget |  | 39.18 |  |
| Development budget |  | 4.30 |  |
| National Budget |  | **5,232** |  |
| GDP |  | **28,859** |  |
| National Budget (percentage of GDP) |  | 18.13 |  |
| Ministry's budget (percentage of GDP) |  | 0.76 |  |
| Budget of the Ministry (per cent of thenational budget) |  | 4.19 |  |
| Child related share of budget of Ministry (percentage of GDP) |  | 0.15 |  |
| Child related portions of the ministry budget (per cent of thenational budget) |  | 0.83 |  |
| **Child related portions of the ministry budget (per cent of the ministry's total budget)** |  | **19.83** |  |

Source: Finance Department

**5.0 Case Study**

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| **999 Successes of National Emergency Service**  **Event:-1**  Hemayetpur, Savar CFS No: 8569082. On January 10, 2019 Arif Reza, a citizen, called National Emergency Services ‘999’ and told that he had received a lost girl of about ten years in front of Lalon Tower of Hemayetpur, Savar. The girl could not tell her identity correctly and therefore he sought for police's cooperation to return the girl to her family. Call taker Mahfuzur Rahman quickly passes the information to the savar model police station. After getting the information, SI Ekhlas quickly went to the scene and brought the girl to the police station. Later the girl's family was found out and she was handed over to them.  **Event:-2**  Nurdanga, Bagerhat CFS No-8523219. On 06 January, 2019 at 22.52 pm. Someone sought help from Nuradanga village of Bagerhat Sadar calling National Emergency Services ‘999’ telling four children were being beaten up by some miscreants in the area and the condition of two of them was critical. Call taker Nayeem passed the information to the Bagerhat Sadar Police Station immediately. Petrol duty officer ASI Sanjay was near the spot. He quickly rushed to the spot and brought the four children to the police station and arranged their treatment. Later on, they were handed over to their families.  **Event:-3**  Mouzarmil, Ashulia, Dhaka CFS No-9576420. A man named Hafizul Islam, called the National Emergency Services ‘999’ on 14 March 2019 at 9:25 pm and informed that a newborn was lying beside the road in front of their area. They sought help from police immediately. The call was taken by Nupur and she instantly passed the news to the Ashulia Police Station. Ashulia police station sent the nearest police team to the spot to rescue the child. Later on, the child was handed over to a family as they took responsibility in the presence of prominent people in the area.  **Event:-4**  Bandartila, Chattogram CFS No-09023858. A woman named Mahfuza Begum, called the National Emergency Services ‘999’ on 09 February 2015 at 08:34 am and told that a 8 years old boy was tied up with a pillar near the Jahangir Hotel in Bandartila. The boy was beaten up badly and he asked for emergency police intervention. After getting the news, the call taker Dulal quickly informed the duty officer of the EPZ police station. The duty officer ordered SI Jahangir Alam to go to the spot. Sub-inspector Jahangir Alam quickly escorted the boy named ‘Sohel Hossain’ to the police station and took further legal action. |

**6.0 Challenges of implementing child-focused budget**

* Recruitment of additional police personnel;
* Absence of separate budget for the children;
* Expansion of sporting activities during the Child Happy Hour;
* Lack of planning and specialized studies to ensure the safe childhood;
* Lack of manpower at the field level to ensure child safety;
* Lack of improved child-centric training;
* Lack of safe shelter or Victim Support Center in the district or upazila;
* Lack of specialized activities so that children or guardians may think themselves safe.

**7.0 Plans to ensure child welfare**

| **Term of plan** | **Action plans according to the palnning** |
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| **Short-term planning** | * Provide better child-based education to every member of law enforcement; * Organize meetings, seminars and workshops in district and upazila level regarding violence against children, prevention of child marriage, safe living and protection of children; * Organize special public awareness campaigns to protect children from drug abuse; * Take steps to include "Children's Safe Life and Protection" agenda permanently in the monthly meeting of District and Upazila Law and Oder Committee. |
| **Mid-term planning** | * Establish digital surveillance system at the border to prevent child and human trafficking; * Take effective measures to create Standard Operational Procedure (SOP) for the safe childhood and security. |
| **Long-term planning** | * Set up District Victim Support Center in every district; * Construct border roads and set up barbed wire at border area to prevent child and human trafficking. |

**8.0 Conclusion**

The Public Security Division has been working relentlessly to fulfill the vision "Safe and peaceful Bangladesh" and "Ensuring the security of life and property of all the citizens of the country” by guaranteeing security of life through maintaining internal law and order situation. The law enforcement agencies and local administration are working for safe childhood and child protection. This division, through its various agencies, tries to stop violent behavior against children, stop child pornography, child abuse and eve-teasing. It is committed to make visible changes in children’s lives by taking appropriate steps.