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**Anti-Corruption Commission
Bangladesh**

Annual Report 2024



Anti-Corruption Commission, Bangladesh

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Anti-Corruption Commission



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Acronyms and Elaborations

ACC	-	Anti-Corruption Commission
ACRC	-	Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights Commission
ADB	-	Asian Development Bank
APG	-	Asia/Pacific Group On Money Laundering
BAC	-	Bureau of Anti- Corruption
BDT	-	Bangladeshi Taka
BFIU	-	Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit
BNCC	-	Bangladesh National Cadet Corps
BTRC	-	Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission
C&AG	-	Comptroller and Auditor General
CBI	-	Central Bureau of Investigation
CDMS	-	Criminal Database Management System
CID	-	Criminal Investigation Department
CPC	-	Corruption Prevention Committee
CTTC	-	Counter Terrosim and Transnational Crime
CTR	-	Cash Transaction Report
DoE	-	Department of Environment
DPP	-	Development Project Proposal
ECNEC	-	Executive Committee of the National Economic Council
EOI	-	Expression of Interest
FR	-	Final Reports
FIMA	-	Financial Management Academy
FATF	-	Financial Action Task Force
GDP	-	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	-	Deutsche Gesellschaft FÜR Internationale Zusammenarbeit (German Development Co-operation)
GlobE Network	-	Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities
HOPE	-	Head of Procuring Entity
IACA	-	International Anti-Corruption Academy
IAACA	-	International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities
ICRF	-	Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation
ICT	-	Information and Communication Technology
ILIS	-	Integrated Lawful Interception System
IPMS	-	Investigation and Prosecution Management System
INTERPOL	-	International Police
IU	-	Integrity Unit
LAN	-	Local Area Network
LT	-	Land Transfer
MLAR	-	Mutual Legal Assistance Request
MLAT	-	Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty
MoU	-	Memorandum of Understanding
NBR	-	National Board of Revenue
NGO	-	Non Government Organization
NTMC	-	National Telecommunication Monitoring Centre
NIS	-	National Integrity Strategy
NRA	-	National Risk Assessment
OSINT	-	Open Source Intelligence
PAC	-	Provisional Acceptance Certificate
PDS	-	Personal Data Sheet
PKSF	-	Palli Karma-Sahayak Foundation
PPR	-	Public Procurement Rules
PWD	-	Public Works Department
ROR	-	Record of Rights
RAC	-	Reporters Against Corruption
RTI	-	Right to Information
TIB	-	Transparency International Bangladesh
UAT	-	User Acceptance Test
UNCAC	-	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
UNODC	-	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNDP	-	United Nations Development Programme



Preface

Combating corruption requires a multifaceted approach that includes enforcing laws, raising social awareness, reforming administrative processes and ensuring robust political will. Since its inception in 2004, the ACC has actively pursued a policy of zero tolerance toward corruption, promoting a culture of justice, integrity, and transparency.

The ACC's core functions include investigating allegations, filing and prosecuting cases, raising public awareness through Public Hearing, increasing international co-operation, enforcement operations and implementing various administrative measures. In 2024, the ACC demonstrated its commitment to combating corruption through a range of impactful initiatives. A total of 1894 complaints were approved for enquiry, leading to the filing of 451 cases and the submission of 403 charge sheets. This year conviction rate 48.17%. Additionally, the enforcement unit undertook 281 operations and issued 528 targeted recommendations to relevant departments, reinforcing the ACC's proactive approach to accountability and systemic reform.

The ACC places equal emphasis on preventive measures alongside punitive actions to address corruption at its roots. These measures aim to foster a societal aversion to corruption while promoting integrity and honesty across all segments of society. Key initiatives undertaken in 2024 include district-level public awareness campaigns, promoting integrity and discouraging corruption through public hearings; the establishment of integrity clubs and honesty stores in schools and colleges to inspire youth; and strengthening community involvement by engaging civil society through anti-corruption committees. In collaboration with civil society and the general public, the ACC organized six public hearings in 2024, marking a significant milestone in strengthening public trust and confidence in the institution. Additionally, the ACC's hotline 106 has been highly effective in engaging the public, providing a swift mechanism for reporting allegations and resolving issues promptly. This initiative has significantly enhanced the accessibility and responsiveness of the ACC, fostering greater public participation in the fight against corruption.

To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), several strategic measures have been adopted, including the use of modern technology and a streamlined complaint management system to ensure timely and transparent investigations and prosecutions. Initiatives are being undertaken to enhance the ACC's autonomy and ensure it remains free from political influence. The Commission is committed to create a corruption-free society by implementing good governance and transparency while keeping public awareness and trust as a top priority.

To achieve sustainable success in the fight against corruption, political goodwill, good governance, and active involvement from the public are essential. The reform steps already taken to keep the Anti-Corruption Commission transparent, independent, and free from political pressure are appropriate and crucial to build a corruption-free progressive Bangladesh. The Anti-Corruption Commission Bangladesh firmly believes that a united and inclusive endeavour can fulfill the people's aspirations to build a corruption-free Bangladesh.

The mass revolution of August 2024, led by students, teachers, workers, and farmers, marked a historic moment of national unity against corruption and discrimination. This revolution serves as a beacon of hope, illustrating the collective power of a nation striving for good governance and justice.

Dr. Mohammad Abdul Momen
Chairman
Anti-Corruption Commission





CHAPTER ONE

Anti-Corruption Commission: Introduction

- 1.1 Introduction
- 1.2 Introducing the Anti-Corruption Commission
- 1.3 Functions of the Commission
- 1.4 Scheduled Offences of the Anti-Corruption Commission



Anti-Corruption Commission: Introduction

1.1. Introduction

Corruption is a social malady which prevails across the world. However, its magnitude varies from country to country. In general, abuse of official power for personal gain is termed as corruption. Penal Code, 1860 provides punishment for corrupt practices such as bribery and embezzlement by public servants. But, as corruption assumed vastness over time, the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947 was enacted making some other illegal activities punishable such as acquisition of assets beyond known sources of income. Although Police Department had been initially given the responsibility for implementation of this Act, the Anti-Corruption Act, 1957 was enacted afterwards in order to form a specialized agency to fight corruption called the Bureau of Anti-Corruption (BAC). For over a period of four decades including more than three decades in independent Bangladesh, the BAC conducted legal proceedings against corruption.

However, as desired outcomes were beyond its reach, a fresh enactment titled "Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004" was passed in the National Parliament on 23 February 2004 being Act No. V of 2004. As mentioned in its preamble, this Act considers the establishment of "an independent Anti-Corruption Commission" as "expedient and necessary" for the purpose of preventing "corruption and other corrupt practices in the country and for conducting enquiry and investigation of corruption and other specified offences". This Act, instead of having immediate effect, came into force on being published in the official Gazette on 9 May 2004; following this, initial steps were taken to appoint the Commissioners to constitute the Commission. Later, Commissioners – appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Selection Committee as provided in this Act – joined the Anti-Corruption Commission on 21 November 2004, and the Chairman was appointed from one of them. So 21 November 2004 is considered the date on which the official functions of the Commission commenced. But due to various legal complexities and delays in making Rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Commission's full-speed activities were hampered till 2007. Later, the Anti-Corruption Commission Rules 2007 were promulgated on 29 March 2007 with prior approval of the President and the Commission started its activities in full swing. Afterwards, the "Anti-Corruption Commission (Employees) Service Rules, 2008" were approved on 15 June 2008; the Commission manages its manpower following these Rules.

1.2 Introducing the Anti-Corruption Commission

1.2.1 Our Responsibilities and Mandates

To conduct enquiry and investigation of corruption and other specified offences functioning as a prosecuting agency under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 (Act V of 2004) for the purpose of prevention of corruption and corrupt practices in the country.



1.2.2 Vision of the Commission

To create a strong anti-corruption culture that permeates throughout the whole society.

1.2.3 Mission of the Commission

Relentlessly combat, control, suppress & prevent corruption.

1.2.4 Commission's Three Strategic Objectives

- ❖ To prevent corruption in revising the existing work procedures;
- ❖ To curb corruption through ways of punitive actions and
- ❖ To suppress malfeasance through spreading education, promoting good practices and enhancing awareness.

The aforesaid strategic goals are backed up by four objectives:

- ❖ Formulating institutional frameworks;
- ❖ Formulating operational procedures;
- ❖ Assistance to human resources and developing robust internal administrative system and
- ❖ Providing sound financial and technical (logistic) support.

1.2.5 Commission's Key Performance Indicators

- ❖ Percentage of cases disposed against the number of cases instituted per year;
- ❖ Amount of time used up in holding enquires and investigations to dispose the complaints;
- ❖ Rate of cases under trial (prosecutions) against number of cases disposed and
- ❖ Rate of convictions against the cases ended in trials annually.

1.2.6 Commission's Executive Structures

The Anti-Corruption Commission is a statutory body made up of three Commissioners. Pursuant to provisions of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004, a five-member search committee is formed which is headed by a judge of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. On this committee's recommendations, three full-time Commissioners are appointed by the Hon'ble President for a five-year tenure. On expiration of their respective tenures, the Commissioners cease to be eligible for re-appointment.

The Hon'ble President, from among the three Commissioners, appoints a Chairman who discharges his responsibilities as the Chief Executive of the Commission. All the meetings of the Commission are held at the place and time as determined by the Chairman. Meetings of the Commission are presided over by the Chairman or, in his absence, by a Commissioner nominated by him. Presence of two Commissioners including the Chairman forms the quorum of its meetings.

On ceasing to hold office, Commissioners are barred from holding any post of profit in the service of the Republic. No Commissioner shall be removed from office except in like manner and on the like grounds as a judge of the Supreme Court.



1.3 Functions of the Commission

1.3.1 Functions

The Commission performs the functions as conferred upon it by the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 (and the Amendments thereof). The Anti-Corruption Commission is an independent and impartial institution for control and prevention of corruption. Some of the key functions of the Commission are-

1. To carry out enquiries and investigations into the scheduled offences as shown under the ACC Act and as found stated in the applications submitted by a person on own initiative, or by an aggrieved person or on behalf of such person;
2. To accord sanctions for instituting cases on the basis of enquires held and sanctions for submission of Charge-Sheets/Final Reports based on investigations, and to prosecute the cases;
3. To conduct enquiries and investigations into the alleged cases of money laundering and deal with the prosecutions, in accordance with the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012 (including the Amendments);
4. To put forth recommendations before the Hon'ble President regarding the following issues:
 - To review and effectively implement the measures conceded to under any laws for prevention of corruption;
 - To formulate research proposals pertaining to prevention of corruption, and decide on measures actionable based on the outcome of researches;
 - To identify the sources of multiple forms of existing corruptions keeping in view the perspectives of the socio-economic situations in Bangladesh;
5. To generate the values of integrity and dedication with objective to prevention of corruption and build up public awareness against corruption, and also to organize seminars, symposiums, workshops, etc. on issues that come under the purview of the Commission's functions and responsibilities;
6. To perform any other responsibilities which have been lawfully vested with the Commission;
7. To undertake any measures for prevention of corruption, as deemed necessary by the Commission.

1.3.2 Laws and Powers

The Commission goes with its functions, powers and organizational structures in line with the provisions of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004. The other relevant laws are-

1. The Penal Code, 1860
2. The Evidence Act, 1872
3. The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898
4. Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947
5. The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 1958
6. The Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012 and the Amendments.



1.3.3 The Commission's Special Powers for Enquiry/Investigation

1. Summoning the witnesses, ensuring their attendance and interrogation;
2. Search out and putting up any records;
3. Recording depositions;
4. Asking for government records or certified copies from any court or office;
5. Issuance of notice for interrogation of the witnesses and review or re-examination of records;
6. Taking any other prescribed actions in fulfillment of the purpose of the law in conformance to Section 19 (3) of the ACC Act, 2004, " Any person obstructing an official legally empowered by the commission or a commissioner in the exercise of his powers under this sub-section (1) or any person deliberately violating any order given under that sub-section commits a punishable offence is liable to a term of imprisonment of not more than three (3) years or a fine or both".

1.3.4 Commission's Fundamental Work

The fundamental goal of the ACC is to operate relentless drives to curb, control and resist corruption. To achieve this goal, the ACC is going ahead in getting with the following responsibilities and working systems:

- ➔ To conduct enquiries, investigations and deal with other legal proceedings assiduously so that the corrupt people can in no way take any indulgence, whatsoever;
- ➔ Identifying the areas more prone to corruption, to enquire effectively into the corruptions in those areas and cause legal remedies in addition carrying out educative and awareness raising programmes as curative and preventive approaches;
- ➔ Raising social movement against corruption by integrating the social power to prevent corruption;
- ➔ Ensuring an environment free from corruption through these effective and coordinated approach to curative and preventive measures;
- ➔ Adopting necessary interventions to engender ethical values and promote good practices by way of executing bilateral MoUs;

The Commission is heading fast with series of parallel actions to curb, control and prevent corruption. The Commission is committed so that the attempts for corruption can be nipped in the bud. Yet in case any corruption takes place, the Commission plunges up to rush to instant legal actions accordingly. Besides, the Commission has started implementing various programs in collaboration with all classes of representatives from the society to impact up a social movement against corruption.

1.4 Scheduled Offences of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004

Anti-Corruption Commission works with the following scheduled offences-

1.4.1 Offences under the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004;

- Section 19 (3): Non-compliance of commission's order or impede the enquiry/investigation is punishable;
- Section 26 (2): Submitting false declaration or non-submission of asset declaration form;
- Section 27 (1): Possession of property disproportionate to known sources of income;
- Section 28 (C): Knowingly giving false complaints of corruption against Public Servant.



1.4.2 Offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947;

1.4.3 Offences under the Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012;

1.4.4 The following offences of Penal Code 1860 (Act XLV of 1860);

- Section 161: Public servant taking gratification other than legal remuneration;
- Section 162: Taking gratification, in order, by corrupt or illegal means, to influence public servant;
- Section 163: Taking gratification, for exercise of personal influence with public servant;
- Section 164: Punishment for abetment by public servant of offences defined in section 162 or 163;
- Section 165: Public servant obtaining valuable thing, without consideration from person concerned in proceeding or business transacted by such public servant;
- Section 165(A): Punishment for abetment of offences defined in sections 161 and 165;
- Section 165(B): Certain abettors excepted;
- Section 166: Public servant disobeying law, with intent to cause injury to any person;
- Section 167: Public servant framing an incorrect document with intent to cause injury;
- Section 168: Public servant unlawfully engaging in trade;
- Section 169: Public servant unlawfully buying or bidding for property;
- Section 217: Public servant disobeying direction of law with intent to save person from punishment or property from forfeiture;
- Section 218: Public servant framing incorrect record or writing with intent to save person from punishment or property from forfeiture;
- Section 409: Criminal breach of trust by public servant, or by banker, merchant or agent.

1.4.5 The following offences if they are related to public property, or if Government employees, bank employees or employees of financial institutions commit the following offences-

- Section 420: Cheating and dishonestly inducing deliver of property;
- Section 467: Forgery of valuable security, will, etc.;
- Section 468: Forgery for purpose of cheating;
- Section 471: Using as genuine a forged document;
- Section 477(A): Falsification of accounts.

1.4.6 Offences under section 109 (abetment), section 120B (conspiracy) and section 511A (attempt) of the Penal Code, 1860 committed in connection with any offence under sub-sections (a), (b) or (c) of this section.

- Section 109: Abetment if the act abetted is committed in consequence and where no express provision is made for its punishment;
- Section 120 (B): Criminal conspiracy;
- Section 511: Attempting to commit offences punishable with imprisonment for life or imprisonment.



CHAPTER TWO

Activities and Institutional Capacity Building of ACC

- 2.1 Introduction
- 2.2 Human Resource Management and Development
- 2.3 Some Notable Activities of the Administration wing
- 2.4 Development Projects of Anti-Corruption Commission
- 2.5 Activities of the Intelligence Unit of the Commission
- 2.6 Distribution of ACC's Workforce at Head Office and Field Offices
- 2.7 Budget Management of the Commission
- 2.8 Steps taken by the ACC to prevent Internal Corruption
- 2.9 Enactment/Amendment of Laws Rules and Policies
- 2.10 Oversight and Evaluation of Commission's Overall Performances
- 2.11 Digital Forensic Lab and Document Forensic System
- 2.12 Providing information under the Right to Information Act, 2009
- 2.13 Archives of the Commission



Activities and Institutional Capacity Building of ACC

2.1 Introduction

Through its Administration wing, the Anti-Corruption Commission manages its human resource, spends budgetary allocations according to existing regulations, maintains accounts, and manages all types of physical assets, including infrastructure. The Commission firmly believes that the country needs efficient, accountable, industrious and thoughtful human resources to develop anti-corruption and integrity practices. That is why the Commission has undertaken multidimensional activities in human resource development to enhance institutional capacity as outlined in its five-year (2017-2021) strategy.

The Administration wing has issued several office orders, circulars and office memorandums to ensure transparency, accountability, effective enquiry, investigation and overall development of training, communication techniques and institutional capacity at all levels of the Commission. Through these, several activities of the Commission have been restructured. An important aspect of modern administrative management is to ensure transparency and accountability in the service delivery process of respective organisations by applying various innovative and creative strategies in addition to using technology. The Administration wing of the ACC is implementing multidimensional activities for this purpose.

Notable among these activities are the promotion of officers and employees through examination in the light of specific syllabus, formulation of effective and accountable policies for immediate action against corruption, introduction of grading system in complaint management, application of various legal strategies in all types of enquiry and investigation including property-related complaints.

The ACC Secretary directly supervises all the activities of this wing which is headed by a Director General. All kinds of internal regulatory activities including internal transparency, accountability, discipline and incentives of the employees of the Commission are carried out through this wing.

2.2 Some Notable Activities of the Administration Wing

2.2.1 Information related to infrastructure development of the Commission

Apart from the head office of the Anti-Corruption Commission, there are eight divisional offices and 36 district offices. In the past, the Commission set up its own office buildings in Rangamati, Noakhali, Jashore, Mymensingh, Kushtia and Habiganj. Besides, the Commission has taken a project for setting up its own buildings at divisional and district levels in Khulna, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Barishal and Sylhet and for vertical extension of Mymensingh Divisional office. Moreover, the Commission has a plan to construct a state-of-the-art building for its head office.

2.2.2 Information regarding logistic support

Logistic support is a very important factor for successful implementation of any work within a short time. In order to successfully implement its anti-corruption, prevention and immediate action activities, ACC provides logistic support continuously to its head office, divisional office and integrated district/district



offices. As a result, it becomes possible to curb and prevent corruption and take prompt actions smoothly.

2.2.3 Information technology development of the Anti-Corruption Commission

The use of information technology has been increased in the activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission to meet the challenges of fourth industrial revolution. Regular direct connection has been established through video conferencing with administrative officials at the district and upazila levels of the country, including the district and divisional offices of the Commission. The system established by the National Telecommunication Monitoring Cell is used by the Commission to receive information about various complaints. With the inauguration of ACC's toll-free hotline (106), the public can now easily report daily complaints of corruption directly to the ACC. Now international incoming calls can be received on this hotline; in addition, expatriates can easily register complaints by calling directly on +8809612106106. Besides, social media is used for receiving complaints and informing the general public about the activities of the Commission. Complaints are also received through the Commission's verified Facebook page (www.facebook.com/acc.org.bd), e-mail (chairman@acc.org.bd) and other social media platforms. ACC has its own interactive website, which is updated regularly. As a result, people are able to report the instances of corruption immediately.

The Commission has introduced software called 'Investigation and Prosecution Management System (IPMS)' which has automated the activities of enquiry, investigation and prosecution of corruption from the point of receiving complaints by the ACC. A well-equipped digital forensic lab has been set up at the Commission's head office to retrieve information from digital devices for the sake of Commission's enquiry and investigation. In order to recruit manpower for the Commission, acceptance, verifications and issuance of admit cards are completed through Teletalk's e-Recruitment service. Many documents are disposed of through electronic platform (e-nothi) at ACC. Tender-related activities are conducted in the Commission through e-GP system. Interrogation rooms have been brought under CCTV cameras for full time monitoring of interrogation activities. Face Recognition Machine has been installed in Digital Attendance System. For the security of computer network equipment of all offices of ACC, IP network has been installed and the process of installation of IP cameras is in progress.

2.3 Anti-Corruption Commission Development Project

2.3.1 Summary of projects completed by the Anti-Corruption Commission

- ➔ 03 (three) projects by Anti-Corruption Commission (1) Construction of new office building for Jessore integrated district office (2) Construction of office building for Noakhali and Habiganj integrated district office (1st revised) and (3) Construction of office building for Rangamati, Kushtia and Mymensingh integrated district office (1st revised) have been implemented between January, 2013 to June, 2019.
- ✓ Through project 03 (three), Jessore district office has constructed 32 (two) storied buildings on 04 (four) storied foundations on 1.16 acres of land. Noakhali and Habiganj district offices have been constructed on 0.24 acre and 0.35 acre land respectively with 03 (three) storey and 02



(two) storey buildings with 06 (six) storey foundation. Rangamati District Office 02 (two) storied building with 04 (four) storied foundation has been constructed on 0.4446 acres of land. Kushtia and Mymensingh district office 02 (two) storied buildings of 04 (four) storied foundation have been constructed on two 0.50 acres of land.

- ✓ As a result of the implementation of project three, ACC has its own office buildings in 06 districts, in which along with infrastructural development, it has been possible to ensure better working environment for employees and security of documents.
- ➔ Anti-Corruption Commission Institutional Capacity Building (2nd Revised) Shishak Technical Assistance Project was implemented from April, 2017 for the period of June, 2022. Investigation Prosecution Management System (IPMS) software has been prepared by the Anti-Corruption Commission to reduce the time of dealing with cases by increasing the efficiency of the staff including monitoring the progress of investigation, investigation and prosecution work. Two studies have been carried out under the project “Evaluation of the Effectiveness of Current Anti-Corruption Activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission” and “Evaluation of Gaps in Effectively Investigating and Investigating Corruption”.
- ➔ The Anti-Corruption Commission Pakistanization Scheme has been implemented from July 2018 to December 2020. The main objective of the project is to (a) increase the capacity of the Anti-Corruption Commission by improving the professional skills of ACC officers/employees (b) reduce corruption in the public and private sectors by improving the skills of anti-corruption committees and integrity associations and (c) automate all offices aimed at making ACC operations easier and more efficient The activities implemented under the project are as follows:
 - ✓ 02 minibuses, 25 JChap computers, 66 laptops, 200 scanners and 50 priors have been purchased under the project.
 - ✓ ACC has set up its own Digital Forensic Lab. 13 (ten) employees of the Commission have been trained in the country and 06 (six) employees abroad (in Dubai, EC-SA, India, Italy) for running the lab.
 - ✓ Purchase of Document Forensic System under the project has been completed,
 - ✓ 40 (forty) employees abroad (including CBI, India), 960 employees at home and 1100 members of Anti-Corruption Committee have been trained under the project.
 - ✓ As part of anti-corruption programme, educational materials (jute school bag, Caesar scale, school book, geometry box, water fairy, tiffin box, pen holder, umbrella, dustbin and pass) have been procured and supplied to all district offices for distribution among students.
 - ✓ In order to promote the honesty of meritorious students of Satta Sangh, one student and one girl from all the upazilas of the country have been given an award of Tk 1000.00 per person from January, 2020 to June, 2020, from January, 2022 to June, 2022 and from July, 2022 to December, 2020.



- ✓ Local Area Network (PAN) has been set up at Kadigal Prathan Office, 28 Divisional Offices and 22 Integrated District Offices.
- ✓ Department wise automation software is prepared.

2.3.2 Summary of ongoing projects under the Anti-Corruption Commission

Construction of new buildings for Munak's Khulna, Rangpur, Rajshahi, Barisal and Sylhet Divisional Offices and Mymensingh Divisional Offices

Upward expansion project of the office.

The project was approved in the ECNEC meeting dated 10/02/2024,

The estimated cost of the project is Rs.10048.80 lakh and the implementation period is from April, 2024 to June, 2028.

The objective of the project is to expand upwards in 01 divisional office with new office buildings in 35 divisional offices.

2.4 Activities of the Intelligence Unit of the Commission

One of the tasks of this unit is to collect intelligence information by conducting intelligence activities while maintaining the highest confidentiality, and analyzing and presenting the information obtained in order to fulfill the objectives of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004. The officers of this unit collect intelligence information by appointing themselves or sous with the approval of the commission chairman. Apart from this, intelligence activities are conducted by analyzing information received from ACC complaint center hotline number 106, news published in various print and electronic media, social media or any other organization. The Intelligence Unit of the Commission maintains contact with other intelligence agencies of the country and updates its database through intelligence sharing.

2.4.1 Information of Anti-corruption Commission's custody arrangement

The Commission has a custody room at its head office. Arrested accused are temporarily kept in ACC's own custody room prior to being sent to courts. This room is maintained in accordance with well-defined policies. Besides its cleanliness, congenial environment has been ensured with other facilities.

2.4.2 Information regarding Armed Police Units of the Commission

A 20-member armed police unit has been deployed since 07 September 2017 for the operational work of Anti-Corruption Commission. Members of the armed units assigned to the Commission actively participate under the command of ACC officers in arresting accused and conducting anti-corruption operations. Armed Unit Management Procedures have been formulated and issued in the form of notification. Following this notification, members of this unit are included in ACC functions.



2.5 Distribution of ACC's workforce at Head Office and Field Offices

An organogram approved by the Government provides for 2,098 officers and employees at the Head Office, 8 Divisional Offices, and 36 Integrated District Offices as per existing staffing structure of the Commission. Distribution of human resources across the Head Office, Divisional Offices and Integrated District Offices of the ACC is shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Human Resource Distribution

Sr. No.	Designation	Head Office			Divisional Office			Integrated District Office			Total			Remarks
		Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1	Chairman	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
2	Commissioner	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	
3	Secretary	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
4	Director General	8	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	7	1	
5	Director	29	29	0	8	7	1	0	0	0	37	36	1	
6	System Analyst	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
7	Private Secretary (Chairman and Commissioner)	3	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	2	
8	Private Secretary (to the Secretary of the Commission)	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
9	Deputy Director	147	88	59	8	1	7	36	35	1	191	124	67	
10	Prosecutor	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	10	
11	Maintenance Engineer	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
12	Assistant Maintenance Engineer	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	
13	Programmer/S.C. Analyst	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
14	Assistant Programmer	4	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	3	
15	Assistant Director	215	75	140	8	5	3	108	72	36	331	152	179	
16	Medical Officer	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
17	Assistant Director (Information and Communication)/ Public Relations Officer	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
18	Protocol Officer	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
19	Assistant Director (Electrical)	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	
Grade 9 and Above		434	210	224	24	13	11	144	107	37	602	330	272	
20	Deputy Assistant Director	205	68	137	8	5	3	144	104	40	357	177	180	
21	Court Inspector	10	4	6	0	0	0	36	13	23	46	17	29	
22	Administrative Officer	2		2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	
23	Transport Officer	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
24	Accounting Officer	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
Grade 10		219	74	145	8	5	3	180	117	63	407	196	211	
25	Computer Operator	8		8			0			0	8	0	8	
26	Nurse	1	1	0			0			0	1	1	0	
27	Pharmacist	1		1			0			0	1	0	1	
28	Chief Assistant	25	20	5	8	5	3	0	0	0	33	25	8	
29	Assistant Inspector	5	5	0	0	0	0	72	60	12	77	65	12	
30	Accountant	2	2	0	8	5	3	0	0	0	10	7	3	



Sr. No.	Designation	Head Office			Divisional Office			Integrated District Office			Total			Remarks
		Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	Approved	Working	Void	
31	Stenographer-cum-Copyist	12	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	9	3	
32	Librarian/Cataloguer	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
33	Seven-Time Printer-cum-Computer Operator	28	15	13	8	2	6	0	0	0	36	17	19	
34	Higher Assistant/Assistant	49	20	29	8	3	5	36	16	20	93	39	54	
35	Court Assistant (ASI)	20	20	0	0	0	0	72	62	10	92	82	10	
36	Cashier	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	
37	Data Entry/Control Operator	133	54	79	8	5	3	36	33	3	177	92	85	
38	Receptionist-cum-Telephone Operator	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	
39	Driver	77	36	41	8	8	0	72	37	35	157	81	76	
40	Health Assistant	1		1			0			0	1	0	1	
Grade 11 to Grade 16		368	186	182	48	28	20	288	208	80	704	422	282	
41	Despatch Rider	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	1	
42	Constable	74	65	9	16	6	10	144	72	72	234	143	91	
43	Security Guard	16	9	7	8	3	5	0	0	0	24	12	12	
44	Office Assistant	52	28	24	8	8	0	0	0	0	60	36	24	
45	Vehicle Cleaner	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	
46	Cleaner	11		11	8	0	8	36	0	36	55	0	55	
47	Guard	4	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	4	
Grade 17 to Grade 20		165	105	60	40	17	23	180	72	108	385	194	191	
Total		1186	575	611	120	63	57	792	504	288	2098	1142	956	

To effectively enquire, investigate and counter corruption, 2 employees were directly recruited in 2024 as per new organizational structure of the Anti-Corruption Commission. A total of 163 employees were promoted in the same year. These employees have been promoted on the recommendations of the departmental promotion committee based on their Annual Confidential Report (ACR), satisfactory performance in service, disciplinary record and written examination.



Promotion and Recruitment Information:
Table 2: Employees promoted in 2024

Name of the Post to which promoted	Number of promoted employees
Director General	01
Director	09
Deputy Director	24
Assistant Director	06
Deputy Assistant Director	41
Head Assistant	17
Assistant Inspector	38
Upper Division Assistant	02
Court Assistant (ASI)	19
Office Assistant cum Typist	06
Total =	163

Table 3: Employees directly recruited in 2024

Name of the recruiting post	Number of directly recruited employees
Court Inspector	02
Total	02

2.5.1 Steps taken to enhance the capacity of Anti-Corruption Commission officers/employees

Corruption is the main obstacle to all types of development, including socio-economic development. Therefore, combating corruption can be considered as a part of development rather than just a legal process. The activities of the Commission are being made more dynamic, effective and visible with the aim of freeing the country from the clutches of corruption. To this end, the Commission is striving to increase the capacity of its own manpower and ensure transparency and accountability. In 2024, in addition to modernizing the working environment of the Commission, the Commission has taken several steps to organize necessary training, seminars, symposiums, etc. to enhance the skills of officers/employees.

In 2024, under the Commission's own management and with the financial and technical assistance of various domestic and foreign organizations, 1,090 officers and employees of the Commission have been trained in various courses such as orientation course for newly appointed officers/employees of the Commission, money laundering investigation procedures, performance of duties at Complaint Center-106, integrity and good governance, official procedures and discipline, use of electronic devices, electronic money, banking activities, and other related courses.



2.6 Budget management of the commission

The Commission has attained institutional capacity to ensure transparency and accountability in its financial management. Assessing its own annual demand, the Commission seeks financial allocation from the Government. Budgetary allocations are provided by the Government based on demand. Once the budget is approved, no prior approval is required from the Government except for the pre-audit of the ACC Accounts by the Comptroller and Auditor General for the expenditure of the allocated funds. The Finance and Accounts Branch of the Administration Division supervises the activities related to finance and internal audit and conducts regular audits. Allocation (Operation and Development) for the financial year 2023-24 is shown in the table below.

Table 4: Budget Management

Budget allocated for ACC in FY 2023-24 (in thousand Taka)						
Financial Year	Management (Revised)	Development (Revised)	Total (Revised)	Revenue	Capital	Comments
2023-2024	147,54,80	6,19,00	153,73,80	149,34,83	4,38,97	
Economic classification of revenue and capital (including development) expenditure in the financial year 2023-24 (Figures in thousand taka)						
Management	Description		2023-24			
Recurring	Economic Code and Head		Allocation	Expenditure		
	3111101- Basic salary (officers)		253389	218432		
	3111201- Basic salary (employees)		174363	144258		
	3111103, 3111110, 3111209, 3111301- 3111352 Salary allowances (excluding basic salary)		457092	365436		
	Total salaries		884844	728126		
	3211-3257 Administrative expenses		400614	338435		
	3258- Repairs		46625	42518		
	Total recurrent		1332083	1109079		
Capital	4112-Capital expenditure		43897	35237		
	(a) Subtotal		1375980	1144316		
	Special activities					
	32 Supply of goods and services		99500	89215		
	4112-Capital Expenditure		0	0		
	(b) Subtotal (Special Activities)		99500	89215		
	(c) Total Operating Activities (A+B)		1475480	1233531		
	Development Activities		61900	59965		
	Capital Expenditure		0	0		
	(d) Total Development		61900	59965		
	Grand Total (A+D)		1537380	1293496		



2.7 Steps taken by ACC to prevent internal corruption

The employees of the Commission are kept under monitoring round the clock through intelligence and modern information technology. According to the Anti-Corruption Commission (Employees) Service Rules, 2008, its employees will "serve the Commission with integrity, honesty and perseverance and will not abuse their power in any way whatsoever". The rules also stipulate, "an employee's failure or reluctance to comply with the lawful orders and conduct of moral turpitude (taking bribes, getting involved in immoral or anti-social activities, and so on) shall be unacceptable; in such cases, imposition of the strictest punishment shall be ensured in the quickest possible time."

The Commission firmly believes that its staff shall be honest and loyal with a high sense of moral integrity. Therefore, the Commission adopts various administrative and technical strategies and above all, carries out intelligence activities to ensure transparency and accountability in the work process of the employees. In this connection, both punishment and incentive are introduced to monitor the activities of the employees.

According to the Anti-Corruption Commission Rules, 2007, the Commission has specific procedures for enquiry and investigation of internal corruption. Rule 19(1) of these Rules provides for an Internal Corruption Prevention Committee to watch and monitor at all times whether any officer or employee of the Commission resorts to unfair means or abuses authority or harasses any person unlawfully or commits any offence while exercising powers under the ACC Act or Rules; in such cases, the Committee shall record complaints, hold enquiry and investigation, file cases, take departmental action or make recommendations, whichever is applicable.

Table 5: Departmental actions taken against ACC employees in 2024

Description	Number
Brought forward from previous year	21
Number of complaints received in 2024	01
Total number of departmental cases in 2024	22
Number of cases disposed of in 2024	09
Major Penalties	03
Minor Penalties	04
Settled by other means	02



2.8 Enactment/Amendment of Laws Rules and Policies

In order to update the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004, Anti-Corruption Commission Rules, 2007 and Anti-Corruption Commission (Employees) Service Rules, 2008, a revision process is undergoing. The Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 and the Anti-Corruption Commission Rules, 2007 have already been amended several times. Since the main Acts and Rules and the subsequent amendments are separate and distinct, problems arise at different times. In the smooth running of the proceedings, the process of publishing the first edition of the Acts and Rules and the subsequent amendments in the form of a compilation is in progress to solve the problems that have arisen and to take into account the performance of the employees. Moreover, ACC Manual (Part-4) has also been published for compilation and preservation of office orders, notifications, circulars and so on issued by the Anti-Corruption Commission from time to time.

2.9 Oversight and Evaluation of Commission's Overall Performances

The other tools for intensive supervision of all the activities of the ACC involve conducting short inspections, full inspections or holding internal audits. Currently, the Commission carries out these activities through its Human Resources section. Through this section, inspections of every Wing of the Head Office, the offices of the Divisional Directors and the offices of the Integrated District Offices are carried out. In the inspections, various guidelines and instructions are provided to cover wide-ranging activities, including financial expenditures, administrative affairs and enquiries into complaints and investigations.

The Directors General and the Directors of the Head Office conduct these inspections. In special cases, the two Commissioners hold inspections of the wings at ACC's Head Office and other regional offices. The Inspection Section regularly evaluates the inspection reports and submits the findings to the Chairman of the ACC.

Table 6: Inspection Information:
Number of inspections conducted by divisional and integrated district offices in 2024:

Inspection Type	Head Office	Divisional Office
Short inspection	04	16
Detailed inspection	24	12
Total=	28	28

2.10 Digital Forensic Lab and Document Forensic System

To assist the activities of enquiry and investigating officers and in order to present the evidence in the court by analyzing and providing opinions on digital evidence, such as mobile and computer data, audio-video records, disputed documents etc., seized/collected during enquiry of complaints and investigation of cases conducted by the Commission, its own digital forensic lab has been set up at the head office of the commission. With the approval of the commission, Digital Forensic Lab's Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was issued on January 09th, 2023 and the Forensic Lab started functioning accordingly. As a result of setting up its own forensic lab, forensic reports are being provided on the documents and digital evidence seized during the enquiry and investigation activities of the commission. At present, apart from the head office, officers from divisional offices and district offices are regularly seeking expert opinion.



2.11 Providing information under the Right to Information Act, 2009:

Statistics of information provided from ACC in 2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2009

Table 7: Statistics of information provided from ACC (Except Head Office) in 2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2009:

Year	Number of Applications	Instances of providing info.
2024	26	25

Table 8: Statistics of information provided from Head Office in 2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2009:

Year	Number of Applications	Instances of providing info.
2024	165	135

2.12 Archives of the Commission

An archive has been established at the head office of the Commission. Important documents of the Commission, laws, annual reports, Dudok Barta, crests, posters, festoons, ACC monograms and so on are preserved and regularly exhibited in the ACC archive.



CHAPTER THREE

Regulatory Measures to Curb Corruption

- 3.1 Introduction
- 3.2 Enquiry Functions
- 3.3 Investigation Functions
- 3.4 Prosecution



Regulatory Measures to Curb Corruption

3.1 Introduction

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) as an independent, self-regulatory and impartial body was established on 21 November 2004. Since its inception, the ACC has been engaged in regulatory functions of investigation, enquiry and prosecution with the goal of persistently curbing, controlling and preventing corruption and promoting best practices at all levels of society.

The Anti-Corruption Commission, as a part of its assigned duties, receives complaints, conducts enquiries and holds investigations relating to offences scheduled to the ACC Act and submits reports to competent courts. Additionally, the Commission appoints prosecutors to conduct ACC related cases in different courts. There are also some other prosecutors who represent the ACC in writ petitions, appeals, reviews or miscellaneous cases in the apex court. While performing these functions, the Commission's officers and staff invariably adhere to the provisions of the Anti-Corruption Commission Rules, 2007 (amended up to 2019) complying with all other pertinent legal conditions.

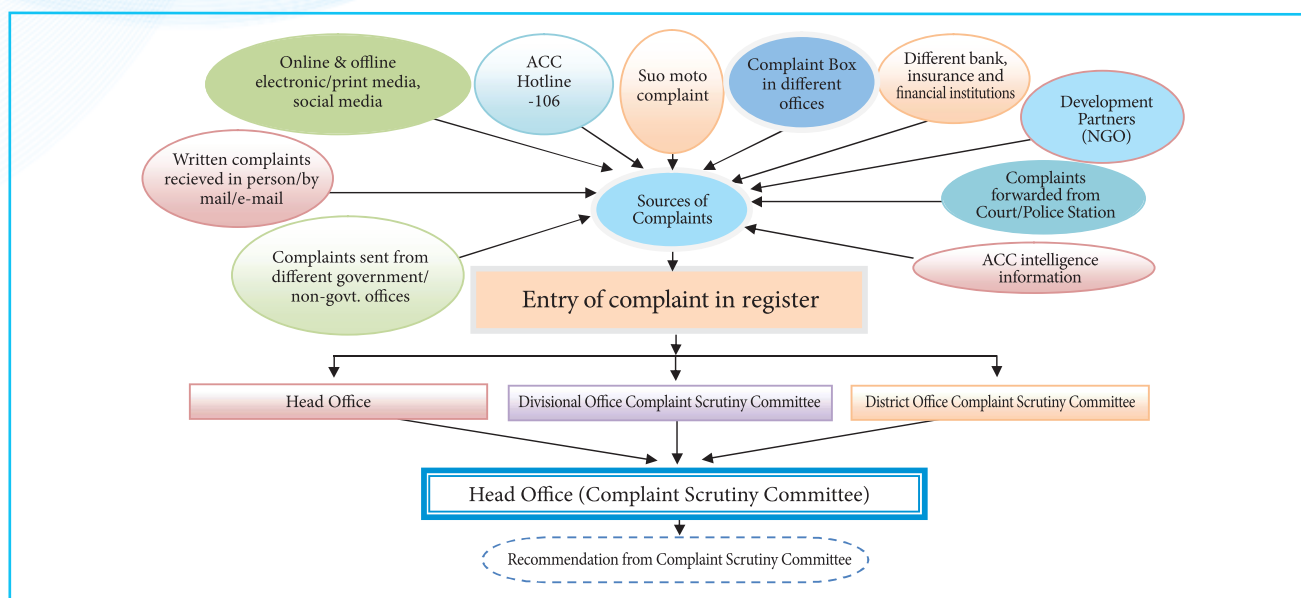
Any person, whether being affected or acting on their own initiative, may lodge a complaint of corruption at the Commission's Head Office at Segunbagicha in Dhaka or at any of its Divisional or Integrated District Offices. The ACC conducts enquiries or investigations in to complaints received if they are specific, objective and pertain to an offence scheduled to the ACC Act such as bribery, acquisition of illegal wealth, money laundering, abuse of power or embezzlement of public resources and money. In doing so, enquiry or investigation officers are guided by the provisions of the ACC Handbook or ACC Manual prepared in accordance with the ACC Act of 2004 and ACC Rules of 2007. Subsequently, investigation reports are submitted to appropriate courts for prosecution of the accused in accordance with the law; this is carried out with the overall assistance of the Commission's prosecution unit.

3.1.1 Procedure of lodging Complaints with ACC

Anti-Corruption Commission receives complaints through a number of channels. Either the victim or anybody else may apply directly to the Commission's Head Office, any Divisional Office or any of its 36 Integrated District Offices located across the country. If a prima facie case is indicated, the concerned office provides documentation in the form of a receipt that numbers the complaint consecutively by date. In addition, anyone can submit a letter, send an email (chairman@acc.org.bd) or call the ACC hotline 106 to convey a complaint. Apart from these, government or non-government offices, banks, insurance companies or financial institutions or development partners can send complaints directly to the Commission regarding offences specified in the Schedule to ACC Act. Accordingly, the Commission has introduced an IPMS (Investigation and Prosecution Management System) software. Anyone can submit complaint by logging into the IPMS software which is available on ACC's website.



Flowchart of Complaint Management System



3.1.2 Statistics of complaints received and post-scrutiny activities

Complaints received from different sources are scrutinized according to the Anti-Corruption Commission Rules, 2007. The Commission has a cell to support the 'Scrutiny Committee' in analyzing the merits of complaints for further enquiry. The Scrutiny Committee objectively classifies the complaints received from different sources.

In the year 2024 a total of 15,842 complaints were received from various sections of society, governmental and non-governmental organizations, including mainstream media. Among the allegations, 1,894 obtained the specified marks to be selected for enquiry, while 1,012 complaints were forwarded to the relevant ministries or departments for necessary action. The remaining 12,936 complaints were dismissed according to the set standard.

Table 9 contains the statistics regarding the complaints received in 2024, while Table 10 gives the comparative statistics of the complaints received in the successive years from 2020 to 2024.

Table 9: Statistics of complaints received in 2024

Sources of the complaint	Number of complaints	Total Number of complaints	Complaints accepted for enquiry	Unacceptable complaints	Sent to Ministries for necessary action
Public (written directly to the head office)	9,505	15,842	1894	12,936	1,012
Government Offices/Agencies	792				
Private Departments/Agencies	392				
Newspaper/TV report	1,108				
Divisional/District Offices of the Commission	1,584				
Hotline/Enforcement Unit	393				
Others (including Court, Facebook, Email)	2,061				

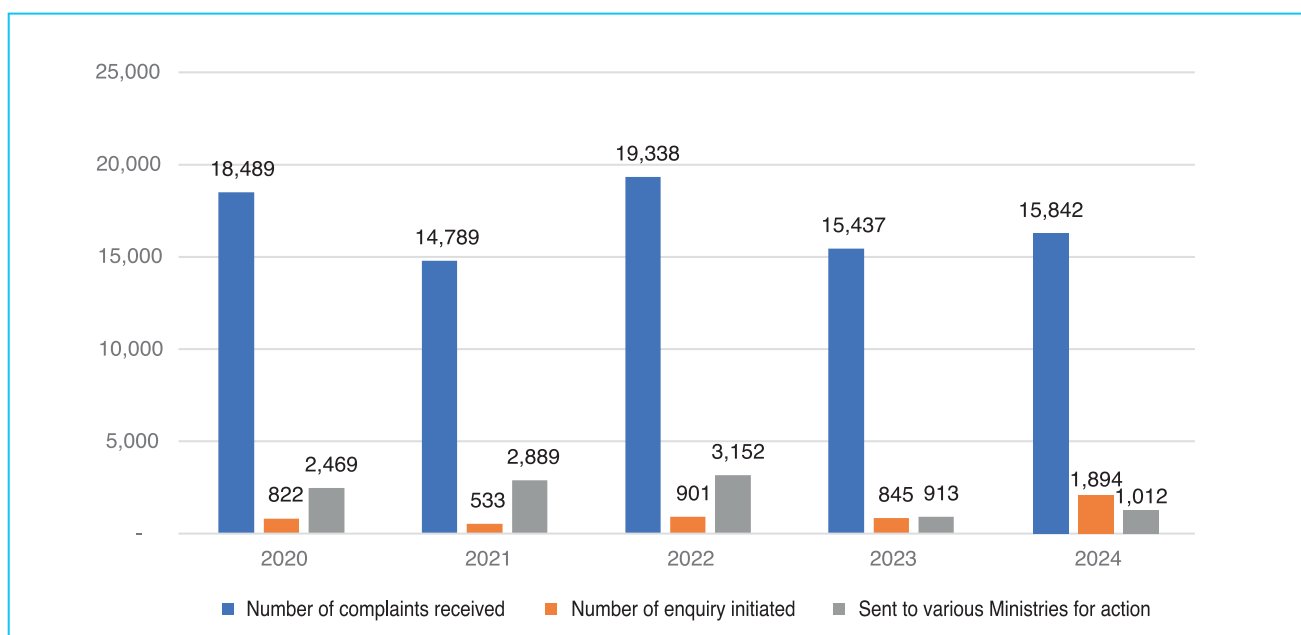


Table 10: Comparative picture of complaints received by the Commission in the last five years

Year	Number of complaints received	Number of enquiry initiated	Sent to various Ministries for action
2020	18,489	822	2,469
2021	14,789	533	2,889
2022	19,338	901	3,152
2023	15,437	845	913
2024	15,842	1,894	1,012

The statistics of complaints received and actions taken in the period over the last five years reveal that in 2024, about sixteen thousand complaints were submitted to the Commission. At the same time, one thousand complaints were forwarded to relevant ministries or departments for necessary action or for sending reports to the ACC after departmental enquiry. Moreover, the present Commission has taken special initiatives to monitor responses from the relevant ministries or departments in taking administrative actions against the alleged offence. Regular follow-up meetings with the relevant departments are organized to get feedback about the actions taken on the complaints sent to them.

Graph 1: Statistics of complaints and action taken in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024





3.2 Enquiry Functions

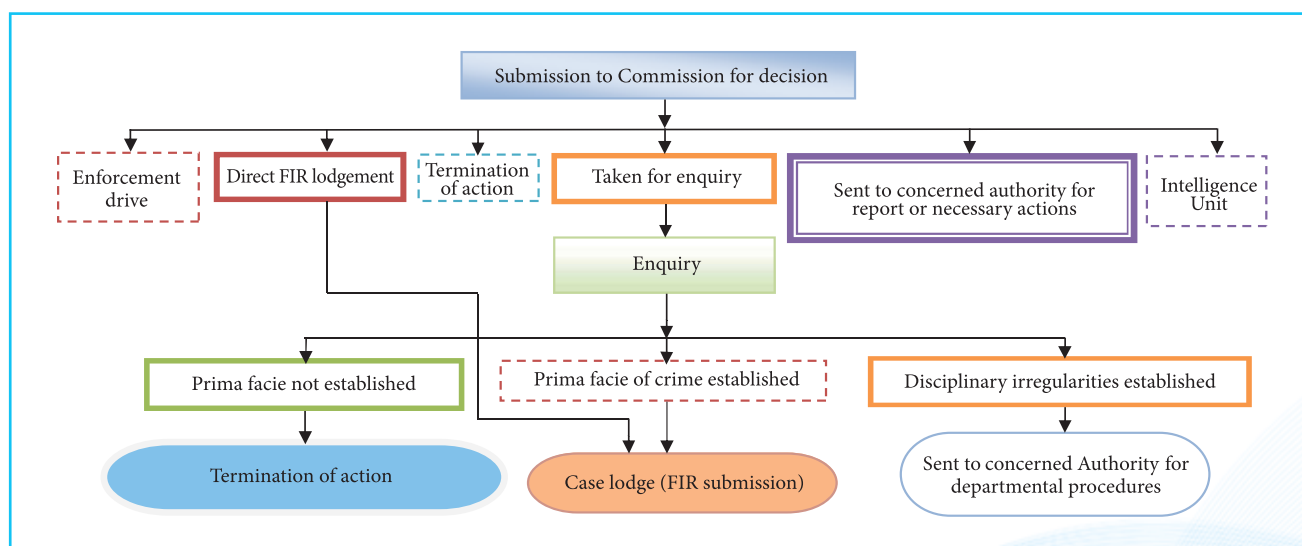
Enquiry is the initial step in the prosecution of corruption offences. The Anti-Corruption Commission conducts enquiry activities about any offence included in the schedule of laws to ascertain the prima facie of the allegations. Under Section No. 20 of the ACC Act, 2004, the Commission appoints an Enquiry Officer (EO) for this purpose. Following the enquiry, the officer, in accordance with regulations, submits a report to the Commission within the specified time period as mentioned in the rules. In this instance, if the prima facie of the crime is established, a recommendation for filing a case is made by the Enquiry Officer. Otherwise, a recommendation to terminate the action is made to the Commission. Subsequently, the investigating officer files the case with the relevant Integrated District Office, depending upon Commission approval. It is to be noted that if any disciplinary offence is established, it is sent to the concerned department for departmental action.

In addition, if relevant, the Commission is required by law to perform a confidential enquiry as soon as it receives a complaint. However, a formal inquiry is mainly used to initiate official action in response to any allegation.

The ACC Act's Sections 19 and 20 grant the Commission special authority to conduct enquiries and investigations. Its four wings- Money Laundering, Special Investigation, Investigation-1 and Investigation-2 are responsible for carrying out the aforementioned duties. The branches and sub-branches of the Investigation department are also in charge of overseeing the field-level investigative tasks carried out by the 8 divisional offices and the 36 district offices. The Special Investigation wing of the Commission has jurisdiction to investigate specialized areas such as institutional corruption, large scale financial corruption and other specialized activities.

The Money Laundering wing of the Commission carries out enquiries and investigations of money laundering offences concerning bribery and corruption according to the existing Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2012. It is to be noted that the Money Laundering Act covers 27 predicate offences, of which only one is addressed by the ACC relating to laundering money acquired through bribery and corruption. The National Board of Revenue, CID and other agencies are authorized to investigate the remaining 26 predicate offences for potential money laundering activities.

Flowchart regarding investigation of scrutinized complaints





3.2.1 Legal basis of enquiry

The Anti-Corruption Commission has the authority to conduct enquiries and investigations under sections 19 and 20 of the ACC Act. With this mandate, the ACC conducts enquiry and investigation through its four wings (Investigation-1, Investigation-2, Special Investigation and Money Laundering).

The two Investigation wings are responsible for supervising the field level enquiries and investigations conducted by eight divisional offices and 36 district offices. The Special Enquiry and Investigation wing has the jurisdiction to enquire and investigate into specialized areas. The areas include institutional corruption, arrests of corrupt individuals through trap operation, large-scale financial corruption and other allegations.

Under the existing Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012, it is the job of the Money Laundering wing to enquire and investigate money laundering offences and prosecute money launderers linked with one predicate offence, 'bribery and corruption'. It is important to note that the investigations of the remaining 26 predicate offences related to money laundering are conducted by the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) and some other responsible agencies.

3.2.2 Statistics of new enquiries undertaken by the Commission

The Commission has taken special initiatives to complete all enquiries, including the accumulated cases from previous years on time. Such initiatives have increased the speed of enquiry activities. The data presented below shows that the total number of enquiries in the year 2024 stood at 4,285 including pending enquiries from the previous years. The Commission completed 861 enquiries in 2024. Based on the completed enquiries, the Commission has filed 451 cases. The remaining enquiries have been disposed of by other means prescribed in the ACC Rules.

Table 11: Statistics of the enquiry activities of the complaints in 2024

Unfinished enquiry of previous years	New enquiry	Total enquiries	Completed enquiry	Filed Case	Disposal through termination	Disposal in other means
3,083	1,202	4,285	861*	451	318	156

*Multiple cases have been arisen from the same document

Graph 2: A picture of the overall enquiry activities in 2024

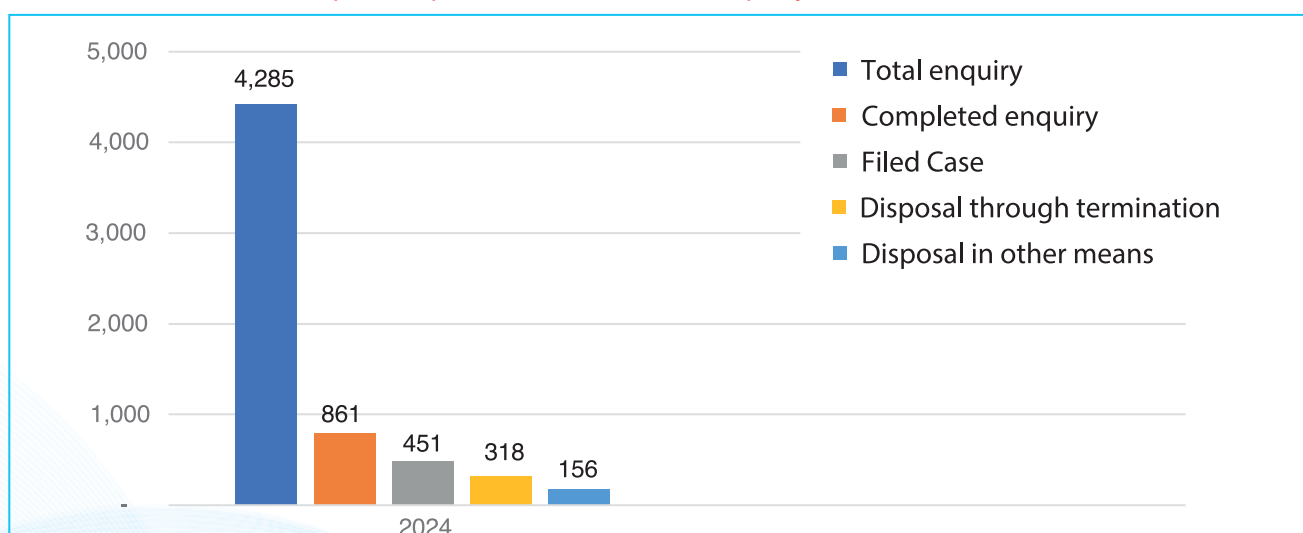


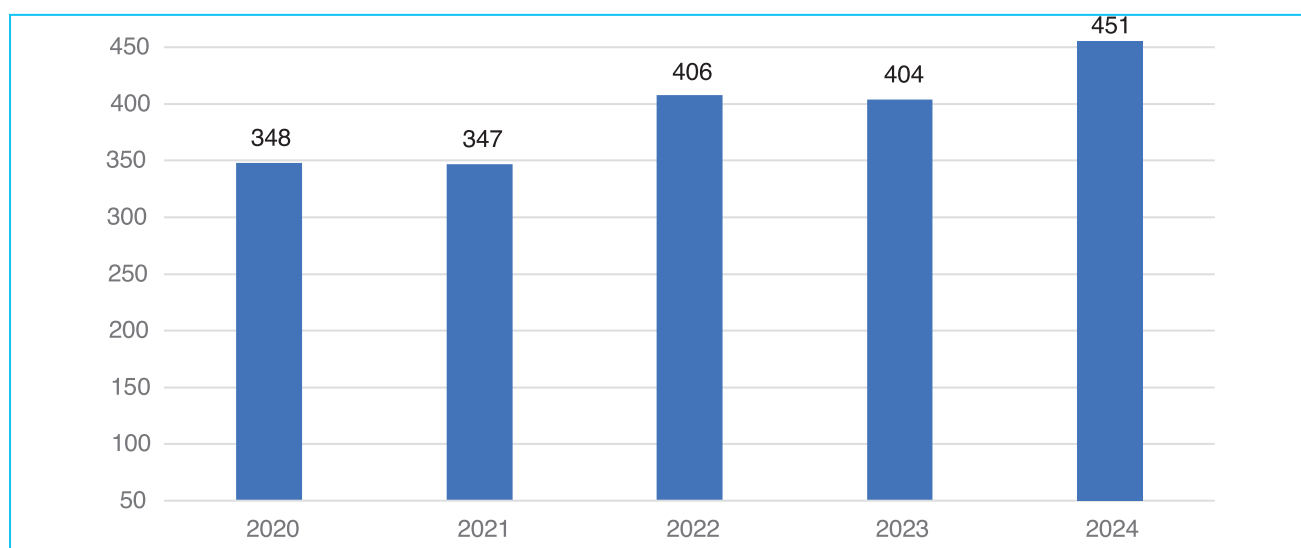


Table 12: Statistics of cases filed by the Commission in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	Number of cases filed
2020	348
2021	347
2022	406
2023	404
2024	451

Reviewing the statistics of cases filed by the Commission in the last five years, it is observed that both in 2024, the Commission filed more than 450 cases.

Graph 3: Comparative picture of cases filed by the Commission in 2020 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024



3.2.3 Asset enquiry information

As per the legal mandate, the Anti-Corruption Commission takes measures against those who possess assets from undisclosed sources. Statistics show that out of total 1,862 running enquiries in 2024, 502 enquiries were initiated in 2024 and the remaining 1,360 were from previous years. The Commission could complete 352 enquiries and could file 236 cases based on those enquiries.



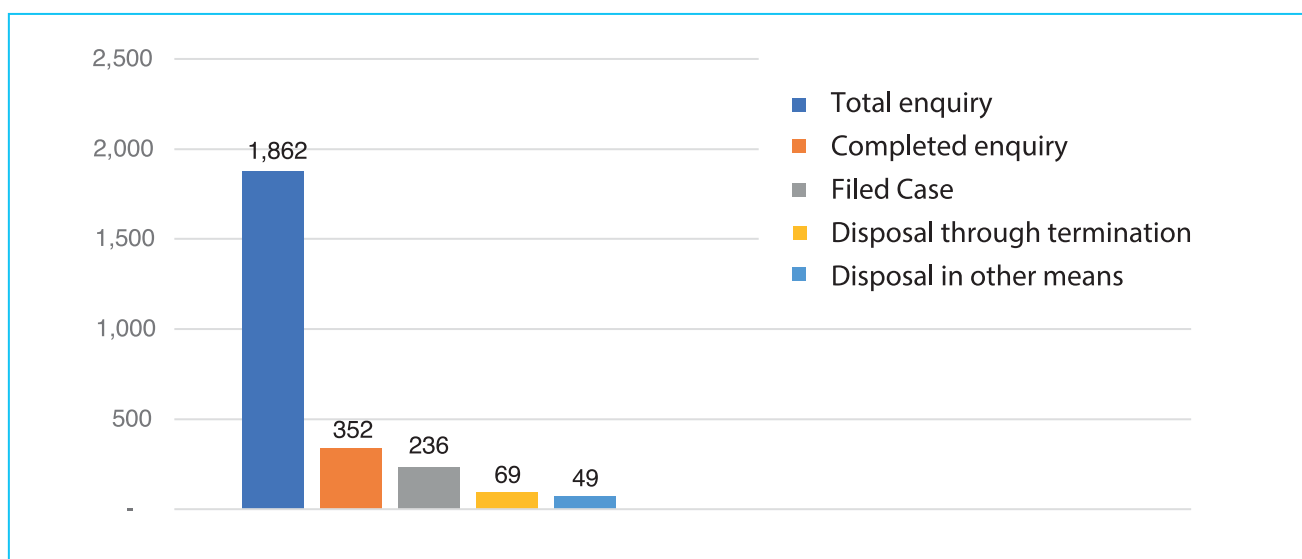
Statistics on asset enquiry and results are presented in Table 13 and Graph 4.

Table 13: Statistics of Asset enquiry activities in 2024

Unfinished enquiry of previous years	New enquiry	Total enquiries	Completed enquiry	Filed Case	Disposal through termination	Disposal in other means
1,360	502	1,862	352*	236	69	49

*Multiple cases have been arisen from the same document

Graph 4: Asset enquiry and results in 2024



3.2.4 Money Laundering related enquiries

In 2024, out of 195 ongoing enquiries, the Commission could finish 16 enquiries. Of them 13 complaints turned into litigation, 4 were disposed of as there were no substantive findings and 5 disposal of through other lawful processes.

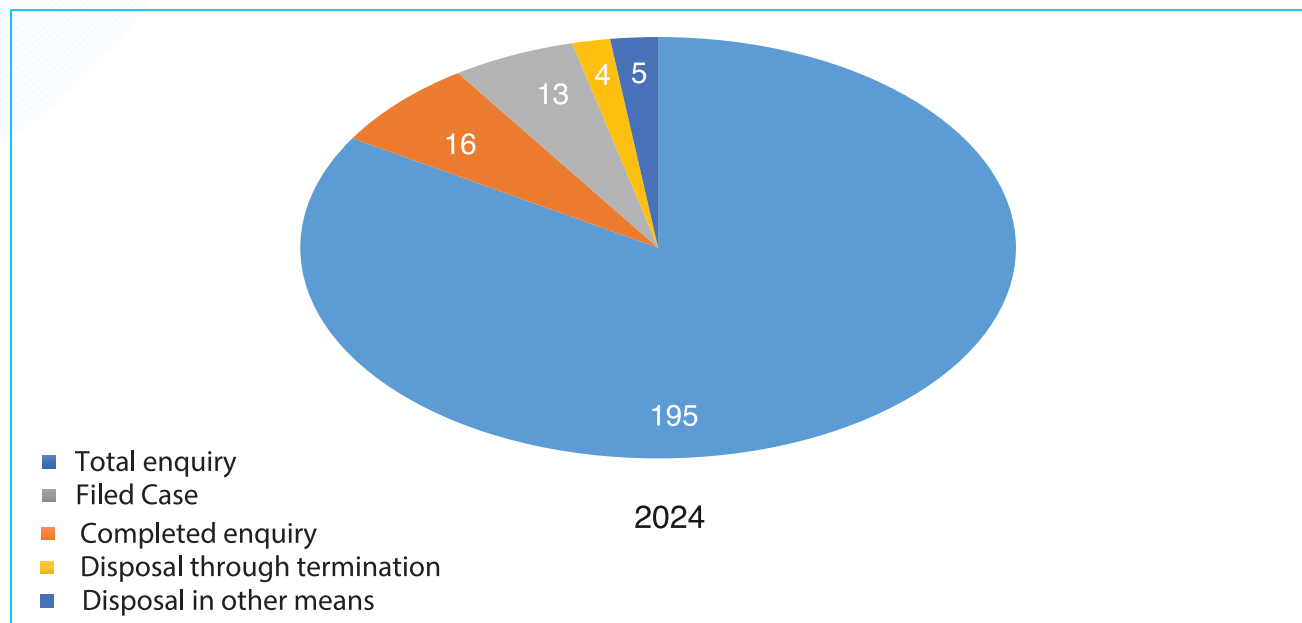
Table 14: Statistics of ACC's Money Laundering related enquiries in 2024

Unfinished enquiry of previous years	New enquiry	Total enquiries	Completed enquiry	Filed Case	Disposal through termination	Disposal in other means
131	64	195	16*	13	4	5

*Multiple cases have been arisen from the same document



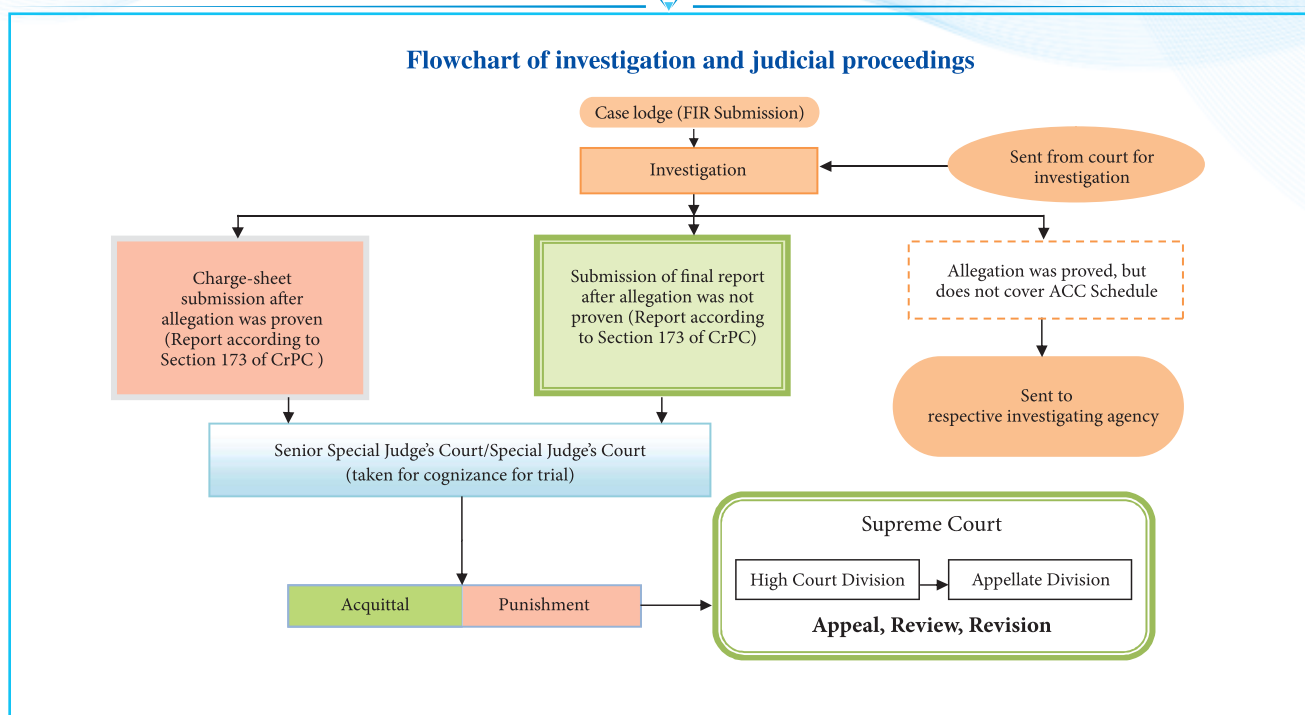
Graph 5: A picture of the ACC's Money Laundering related enquiries in 2024



3.3 Investigation Functions

The second and final part of the prosecution process for corruption offences is the Investigation phase. The core duties of the ACC encompass both enquiry and investigation, which are distinct processes. An investigation can only be commenced and carried out after conclusion of enquiry and lodgement of an FIR against a person. According to Section 17(a) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004, investigations are carried out in order to collect documentary evidence for filing a lawsuit in the relevant court. The Commission designates an Investigation Officer (I.O.), if the primary allegations are validated during the enquiry phase. Afterwards, in order to support the case of corruption at the learned court, the Investigating Officer starts collecting documentary evidence. Section 19 of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 confers on him the authority to exercise special powers. These include the ability to notify the witness, verify the witness's attendance, examine the witness, detect and produce any document, take evidence, call for public records or a copy from any court or office, issue notice for the examination of witnesses and documentation etc.

In accordance with Section 173 of the Criminal Procedure Code, the investigating officer delivers the investigation report to the Commission within the allotted time after finishing the task of the investigation. The Commission reviews the report thoroughly and, if satisfied, approves the filing of a charge sheet or final report. Additionally, the Anti-Corruption Commission holds the authority to investigate any complaint as directed by the court, further enhancing its ability to combat corruption through legal procedural mechanisms.



3.3.1 Legal basis of investigation

Investigating corruption-related offences is one of the primary legal functions of the Anti-Corruption Commission [Section 17 (a) of the ACC Act 2004]. The outcome of the investigation is the basis for prosecuting the people against whom FIRs were lodged. Sections 19 and 20 of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act have conferred special powers on the ACC in this regard. With this mandate, the ACC conducts investigations through its four wings (Investigation-1, Investigation-2, Special Investigation and Money Laundering wing).

The Enquiry and Investigation wings investigate cases filed by the field-level officers. Several sections of Enquiry and Investigation wings supervise the field-level investigation activities conducted by eight Divisional Offices and 36 District Offices. The Commission's Special Investigation wing and Money Laundering wing deal with specialised cases requiring a comprehensive investigative mechanism.

3.3.2 Investigation activities of 2024 including pending investigations from the previous Years

The Anti-Corruption Commission has taken the necessary steps to complete each investigation within the stipulated time. The progress of investigations into the cases is closely monitored to achieve the Commission's target of the annual work plan. These steps have given impetus to the overall investigation activities.

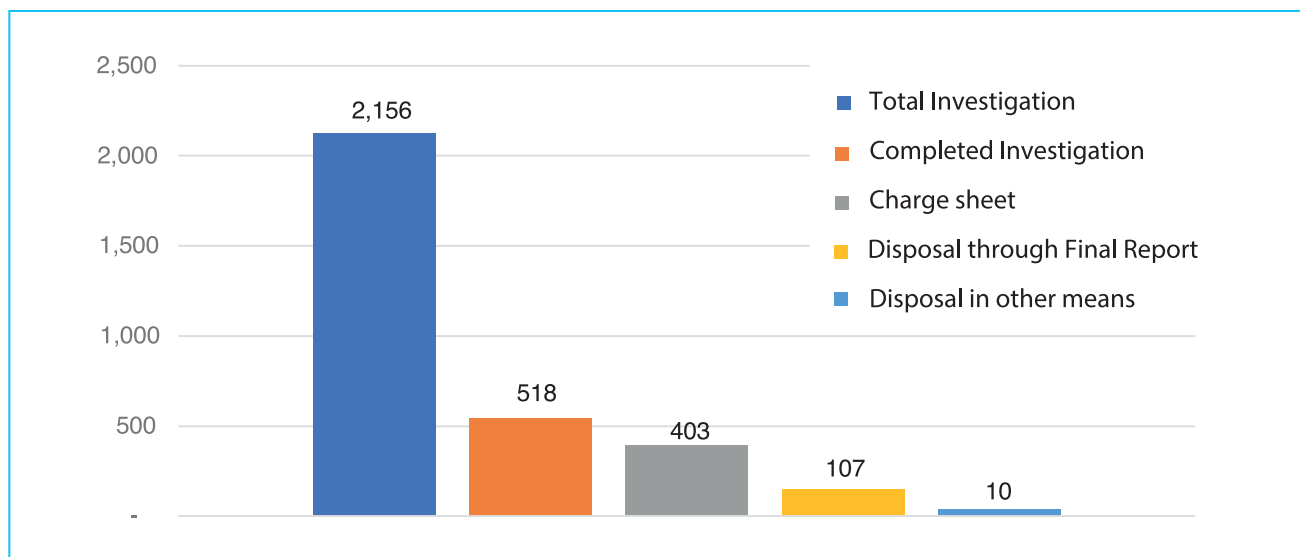
Statistics reveal that the total number of investigations in 2024 was 2,156, including pending investigations from the previous years. Among these, the Commission completed 518 investigations in 2024. Based on these investigations, the Commission approved filing of charge-sheets in 363 cases. Of the remaining investigations, 107 Final Reports (FR) were approved by the Commission. 10 investigations have been disposed in other means.



Table 15: Statistics of the investigation activities of the cases in 2024

Pending Investigation of previous years	New Investigation	Total Investigation	Completed Investigation	Charge sheet	Disposal through Final Report	Disposal in other means
1,627	529	2,156	518	403	107	10

Graph 6: Statistics of the overall investigation activities in 2024



A comparative picture of charge sheet approval has been provided below based on the investigation activities presented in Table 16 and data of 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

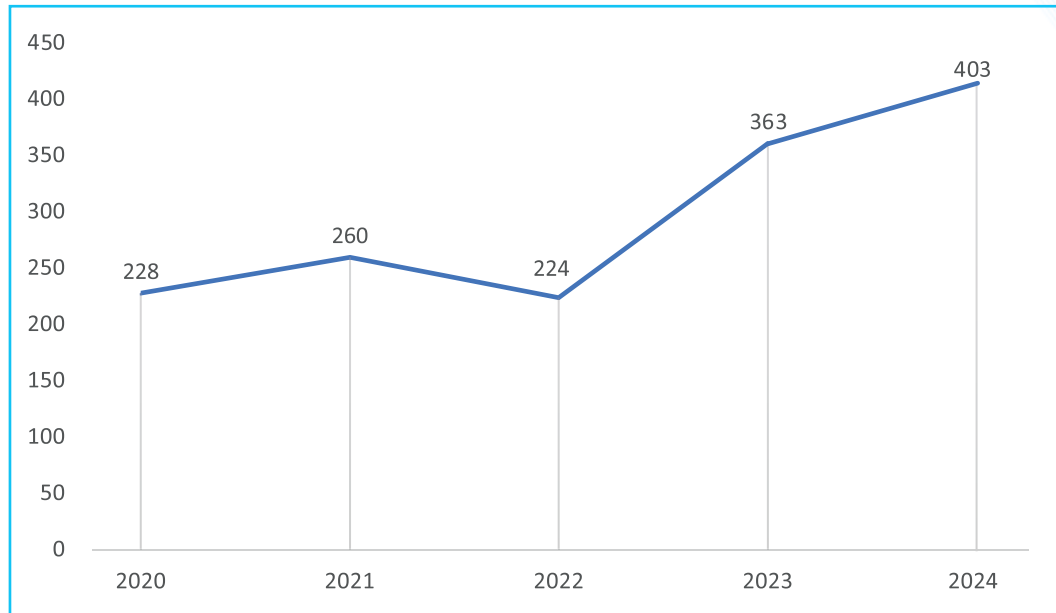
Table 16: Comparative statistics of Charge Sheet approval of cases in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	Charge sheet Approval
2020	228
2021	260
2022	224
2023	363
2024	403

The table clearly indicates that approval of charge sheet has increased considerably in 2024 compared to previous four years. This happened because the Commission conducted multidimensional activities, including training sessions for officers to enhance the quality of investigations.



Graph 7: Comparative picture of charge sheet approval in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024



3.3.3 Investigation of illegal assets

Anti-Corruption Commission takes action against those who acquire assets disproportionate to their known sources of income. Action is taken against those who acquire wealth through bribery, corruption or any other illegal means in accordance with Sections 26 and 27 of the ACC Act.

Out of the total 940 asset-related investigations, 302 were initiated in 2024 and the remaining 638 were carried over from the previous years. In 2024, 133 investigations were completed and 99 charge-sheets were approved by the commission. This year 11 final reports were also submitted and 1 was disposed through other means by sending other organization.

Table 17 provides a comprehensive overview of the ACC's activities in conducting asset investigations and their outcomes.

Table 17: Statistics of asset investigations in 2024

Pending Investigation of previous years	New Investigation	Total Investigation	Completed Investigation	Submission of Charge Sheet	Submission of Final Report	Disposal in other means
638	302	940	133	99	11	1



3.3.4 Investigation of money laundering

Under the existing money laundering law, the Anti-Corruption Commission can only investigate money laundering cases related to bribery and corruption. The investigation of money laundering cases related to the other 26 predicate offences is being conducted by different agencies, including NBR and CID. The Anti-Corruption Commission investigates money laundering cases meticulously.

Table 18: Statistics of investigations on money laundering cases in 2024

Pending Investigation of previous years	New Investigation	Total Investigation	Completed Investigation	Submission of Charge Sheet	Submission of Final Report	Disposal in other means
109	32	141	18	16	-	-

3.3.5 Trap cases

The Commission conducts Trap Cases to eliminate the culture of bribery and corruption. The Commission approves trap operation to catch those public service official red-handed who solicit bribes or gifts during the delivery of public services, if the information of demanding bribes by government employees comes to ACC, the Commission takes necessary steps to catch them red-handed.

Table 19 shows the activities of the ACC in investigating the trap cases in 2024.

Table 19: Investigation activities of trap cases in 2024

Pending Investigation of previous years	New Investigation	Total Investigation	Completed Investigation	Submission of Charge Sheet	Submission of Final Report
-	-	-	-	-	-

Table 20 shows a comparative picture of the investigation activities of trap cases in 2020 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Table 20: Number of trap cases in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	Number of trap cases
2020	18
2021	06
2022	04
2023	03
2024	00



3.4 Prosecution

Under Section 33 of the ACC Act, the Commission has its own Prosecution Unit to handle cases that it has investigated and can be prosecuted by a Special Judge. This unit is successfully functioning through the contractual recruitment of an adequate number of experienced lawyers. Currently, the prosecutors of the Commission are handling the proceedings in the trial court under the Legal and Prosecution Division. Similarly, writs, revisions and criminal appeals are simultaneously conducted in the High Court.

Following the enquiry and investigation of corruption accusations, the Anti-Corruption Commission is mandated to bring the investigative report before the court for prosecution. According to section 17(b) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2004, the Anti-Corruption Commission complies with the following laws and regulations for the purpose of filing and conducting the cases in the trial court.

- The Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004;
- Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012;
- Penal Code, 1860;
- The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898;
- Prevention of Corruption Act, 1947;
- The Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1958;
- The Evidence Act, 1872 and other relevant laws and regulations.

3.4.1 The Offences that the Commission is empowered to prosecute

The Commission is mandated to prosecute the offences described in the Schedule of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004; The Prevention of Corruption Act of 1947; Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012: Offences under Penal Code (section 161-169, 217, 218, 409) and any offence under section 420, 467, 468, 471, 477(1) if they are related to public property. Moreover, offences committed by a government employees, bank officials or employees of financial institution in the course of official duties under sections 109, 120b and 511 of the Penal Code are also within the legal scope of the ACC.

Under Section 32(1) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004, the Commission has full authority to file cases against these offences. Pursuant to Section 28(1) of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004, offences under this Act and its Schedule are tried only by a Special Judge. However, in the event of any conflict between the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1958 and the ACC Act, the provisions of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act will be applicable [Section 28 (3) of the ACC Act]; the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 1958 will be applicable to appeals.

The Legal wing of the Commission oversees legal matters and maintains up-to-date information on the Commission's cases. The lawyers appointed by the Commission under the direct supervision of this wing deal with the cases of the Commission in the relevant courts. At present, the Commission appoints lawyers on contract through a separate panel to handle corruption cases on behalf of the Commission in both the Special Judge's Court and the Supreme Court. 120 member panel of lawyers is called the 'public prosecutor panel' and serves in 13 Special Judge's Courts in Dhaka and other region. 29 lawyers are working in Dhaka Division, 20 in Chattogram Division, 16 in Rajshahi Division, 13 in Rangpur Division, 19 in Khulna Division, 8 in Barishal Division, 7 in Sylhet Division and 7 in Mymensingh Division. Among them, there are three female public prosecutors as well. Besides, 26 learned lawyers, including four female lawyers, handle cases on behalf of the ACC in the High Court.



3.4.2 Conducting cases in the trial court

The ACC acts as a prosecuting agency to bring corrupt people to justice and ensure punishment through trial. Under the Commission's directions, officers of the Legal wing regularly communicate with the lawyers handling each case and ensure the presence of both lawyers and witnesses in court on the scheduled date.

In 2024, total 295 cases were disposed of in the Special Judge's Court, of which 274 (approximately 92.88%) were filed by the Anti-Corruption Commission while the remaining 21 originated from the defunct Anti-Corruption Bureau. The cases disposed of 138 resulted in convictions. The conviction rate in the cases of the Commission is 48.17% and that of the defunct Anti-Corruption Bureau is 28.57%.

Table 21: Data of corruption cases in Special Judge's Courts in 2023 and 2024

Description	2023			2024		
	ACC case	Defunct Bureau's case	Total	ACC case	Defunct Bureau's case	Total
Total number of cases	2,994	359	3,353	3,066	344	3,410
Number of under trial cases	2,745	182	2,927	2,829	181	2,988
Number of pending cases	249	177	426	237	163	400
Number of disposed cases	283	30	313	274	21	295
Number of convicted cases	190	5	195	132	6	138
Number of acquitted cases	93	25	118	105	11	116
Disposal by other means	-	-	-	37	4	41

Table 22: Comparative statistics of convictions in cases filed in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	The rate of punishment in the case of the ACC	The rate of punishment in the case of the Defunct Bureau
2020	72%	48%
2021	60%	30%
2022	64.17%	35.90%
2023	67.13%	16.67%
2023	48.17%	28.57%

Reviewing the judgments of the Courts (Table 22), it is observed that the conviction rate of ACC cases in 2024 is 48.17%.



Table 23: Corruption cases in Special Judge's Courts within and outside Dhaka in 2023 and 2024

Description		2023			2024		
		ACC case	Defunct Bureau's case	Total	ACC case	Defunct Bureau's case	Total
Dhaka	Disposed cases	111	4	115	92	7	99
	Number of convicted cases	80	1	81	48	2	50
Outside Dhaka	Disposed cases	192	34	226	182	14	196
	Number of convicted cases	110	4	114	84	4	88

In 2024, 99 corruption cases were settled in Dhaka. At the same time, the Special Judge's Courts outside Dhaka disposed of 196 cases. On the other hand, the number of defunct Anti-Corruption Bureau's cases disposed of in and outside Dhaka was 21.

3.4.3 Statistics of cases involving illegal assets

Table 24: Statistics of asset cases in Special Judge's Court in 2023 and 2024

Description	2023	2024
Number of disposed cases	30	46
Number of convicted cases	19	24
Number of acquitted cases	11	16
Disposal by other means	-	06

A review of these statistics shows that the conviction rate in cases related to illegal assets is about 52.17%.

Table 25: Statistics of money laundering cases in Special Judge's Court in 2023 and 2024

Description	2023	2024
Number of disposed cases	10	15
Number of convicted cases	08	09
Number of acquitted cases	02	06

Reviewing the statistics of Table 23, it is evident that in 2024, 60% of the money laundering cases ended in conviction. The ACC firmly believes that this success has been achieved after completing a thorough investigation into the money laundering cases and presenting the evidence properly to the courts.



Table 26: Statistics of trap cases in Special Judge's Court in 2023 and 2024

Description	2023	2024
Number of disposed cases	25	14
Number of convicted cases	13	5
Number of acquitted cases	12	7
Disposal by other means	-	2

From the above Table, it is found that in 2024 the accused were convicted in 35.71% of the cases.

Table 27: Information on convictions, fines and confiscations in 2024

*	Conviction	(ACC 132+Defunct Bureau 06)=138	Total 295
*	Acquittal	(ACC 105+Defunct Bureau 11)=116	
*	Disposal in other means	(ACC 32+Defunct Bureau 04)=36	
*	Prosecution withdrawn	(ACC 05+Defunct Bureau 00)=05	
*	ACC	48.17% (rate of conviction)	
*	Defunct Bureau	28.57% (rate of conviction)	
*	Fines	1147,33,727,44 Tk.	
*	Confiscations	11,75,01,137 Tk.	
*	Total Pending Cases	(ACC 3,066+Defunct Bureau 344)=3,410	
*	Total disposed case	(ACC 303+Defunct Bureau 38)= 341	

Table-28: Comparative data of fines and confiscations in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	Fine (Tk.)	Confiscation
2020	72,48,83,130	3,03,69,000
2021	75,18,35,317	10,20,86,928
2022	2632,41,43,783	13,96,19,167
2023	1683,67,37,546	17,97,63,075
2024	1147,33,72,744	11,75,01,137



Asset Management

The Asset Management Unit of the Commission has started its activities in 2019 to manage these assets in the light of specific polities. The Unit does not manage the confiscated assets or frozen assets; instead it preserves information on those assets. However, if the court appoints the Commission as the receiver of the attached or forfeited asset, the Asset Management Unit supervises and manages the asset on behalf of the Commission in compliance with the Court order. 'Criminal Asset Management Guidelines, 2020' of ACC is followed regarding such cases.

Table 29: ACC's achievement in asset management in 2024

Number of Order	Information on Attached Assets		Value of Frozen Assets
91	Home	281.17 acres of land, value- 63,29,27,092/- 84 houses/buildings, value- 65,80,33,847/- 80 flats, value- 22,35,38,270/- 16 plots and establishments value- 2,27,67,837/- 01 agro farm- 1,40,54,491/- 08 cars- 81,40,000/- 01 resort value- 78,50,000/- 11 shops and commercial spaces- 3,97,24,292/- 01 office space value- 37,29,000/- 06 commercial spaces- 6,86,75,000/- 01 commercial company- 2,52,81,204/-	Balance in 550 bank accounts 141,41,85,745.50/- Balance in 19 BO accounts 44,65,25,394/- Total balance in 30 savings certificates 4,83,00,000/- Total shares in 42 companies 3,78,66517 Balance not mentioned.
	Abroad	244 flats price not mentioned. 20 plots price not mentioned. 79 apartments price not mentioned. 04 bank account balance- 200206.72 U.S. dollars.	
	Total	170,55,32,033/- (One Hundred Seventy Crore Fifty Five Lakh Thirty Two Thousand Thirty Three) Taka.	190,90,11,140/- (One Hundred Ninety Crore Ninety Lakh Eleven Thousand One Hundred Forty Taka) Only.

Reviewing Table 29, it can be said that the Commission is chasing the money launderers home and abroad. The ACC is trying to fulfill its legal obligation to ensure that no one can enjoy unearned income.

3.4.4 Conducting cases in the High Court

The Commission has appointed 26 lawyers to conduct cases on behalf of the ACC in the Appellate Division and the High Court Division of the Bangladesh Supreme Court. A lawyer works in the Supreme Court cell to coordinate activities between the Commission and the Supreme Court.

Table 28 and 29 provide data on different activities of the ACC cases with the Supreme Court.



Table 30: Statistics of Criminal/Writ/Appeal cases in the High Court Division of the Supreme Court

Description	2024			Cases settled	Stay from previous period	Case Stay in 2024	Total stay	Withdrawal of stay	Currently stayed cases
	Cases from Previous Period	Number of cases filed	Total						
Number of Criminal Miscellaneous Cases	900	523	1,423	563	110	50	160	73	87
Number of writ petitions	711	86	797	27	226	7	233	6	227
Number of Criminal Appeal Cases	1,171	159	1,330	20	13	3	16	2	14
Number of Criminal Review Cases	640	141	781	20	77	13	90	3	77
Total =	3,422	909	4,331	630	426	73	499	84	415

Table 31: Statistics of cases arising out of Criminal Appeals/Miscellaneous/Revision/Writ in the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court

Description	2024			Currently stayed	Stay from previous period	Stay in 2024	Total stay	Withdrawal of stay	Currently stayed cases
	Cases from Previous Period	Number of cases filed	Total						
Number of Criminal Miscellaneous Cases	179	130	309	199	22	47	59	28	41
Number of writ petitions	144	10	154	154	45	9	54	0	54
Number of Criminal Appeal Cases	81	22	103	100	17	5	22	0	22
Number of Criminal Review Cases	99	26	125	125	15	18	33	0	33
Total	503	188	691	578	99	79	178	28	150



Table 32: Comparative statistics of cases stayed in courts in 2024

Name of the Court	Number of cases stayed
Judge Court (Lower Court)	400
High Court Division	415
Appellate Division	150

Table 33: A comparative picture of the activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission in the last five years

Activities		2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Number of complaints accepted for enquiry		822	533	901	845	1,894
Number of cases filed by the Commission		348	347	406	404	451
Number of charge sheet approvals		228	260	224	363	403
Number of trap cases		18	06	04	02	0
Conviction rate(%)	ACC case	72%	60%	64.17%	67.13%	48.17%
	Bureau	48%	30%	35.90%	16.67%	28.57%
Fine (Taka)		72,48,83,130	75,18,35,317	2632,41,43,783	1683,67,37,546	1147,33,72,744
Confiscation (Taka)		3,03,69,000	10,20,86,928	13,96,19,167	17,97,63,075	11,75,01,137
Seized assets (Taka)		180,11,91,746	326,71,46,628	585,92,58,156	283,42,36,845	170,55,32,033
Frozen assets		152,92,86,496 Tk.	1161,58,14,480 Tk., 586.75 (Pound), 72,41,057,05 (CAD), 61,49,718.22 (AUD), 23,74,920.22 (USD), 1,01,729.36 (EUR) and 24,000 (Pound)	224,79,75,166 Tk. 27,954.21 (USD)	132,01,93,100 Tk.	190,90,11,140 Tk.



CHAPTER FOUR

Combating Corruption through Enforcement Operations

4.1 Introduction

4.2 At a Glance: Enforcement Unit



Combating Corruption through Enforcement Operations

4.1 Introduction

The primary objective of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) is to establish a corruption-free society by combating and preventing corruption. The legal responsibility for combating corruption, prevention, and promoting best practices lies with the ACC. The commission is committed to eliminating corruption efforts at the root through preventive measures. To achieve this goal, the activities of the ACC are described under Section 17 of the ACC Act. Alongside the activities mentioned in the section, such as investigation and inquiry, the ACC conducts enforcement operations under Section 17(t) of the act to take immediate action against ongoing corruption.

4.2 At a Glance: Enforcement Unit

The Enforcement Unit operates as a unit under the Administration Wing of the ACC headquarters. Following the ACC's objectives, the Enforcement Unit was formally established on January 23, 2019, with an approved workforce structure of 26 personnel, including one Deputy Director, two Assistant Directors, and four Deputy Assistant Directors. Currently, the unit has a workforce of 13 members, comprising one Deputy Director, four Assistant Directors, and three Deputy Assistant Directors.

4.2.1 Activities of the Enforcement Unit

The primary activity of the Enforcement Unit is to conduct uncompromising operations to combat and prevent corruption. In cases of allegations listed in the ACC Act, the unit takes immediate and effective measures using five distinct categories. Citizens often file complaints about non-scheduled offenses under the ACC Act, such as personal disputes, dowry demands, charging extra fees in educational institutions, social disputes, land-related family conflicts, women oppression, and other social issues. In line with clear directives from the commission, allegations related to offenses under the ACC schedule are recorded, while non-scheduled but public-interest complaints are addressed by advising relevant authorities to take prompt action over the phone.

Effective enforcement operations rely heavily on accurate and comprehensive information regarding corruption. The ACC's hotline 106 serves as a vital platform for receiving complaints for enforcement operations. The ACC Complaint Center (hotline 106) is a reliable medium for the general public to report corruption-related news. Information gathered through hotline 106, the ACC's Intelligence Unit, national or local newspapers, emails (chairman@acc.org.bd), verified Facebook page (www.facebook.com/acc.org.bd), or direct submissions at the office is considered for operations.

Complaints received through various channels are forwarded to a review committee led by the Director-General (Administration) and coordinated by the Director/Deputy Director (Intelligence Unit) and Deputy Director (Enforcement Unit). The committee classifies the complaints into the following six categories:

1. Conducting operations.
2. Filing trap cases.
3. Sending letters to relevant offices for necessary action.
4. Providing telephonic instructions to concerned offices.
5. Referring complaints to the Daily and Recent Complaint Cell.
6. Declaring complaints as non-enforceable/terminated.



For selected complaints requiring operations, the Director General (Administration) promptly seeks approval from the ACC Chairman on behalf of the commission. Within 48 hours of conducting an operation, the team submits a report to the Deputy Director (Enforcement). Based on this report, the Enforcement Unit, upon commission approval, takes necessary actions such as filing immediate cases (FIR) under the ACC Rules, 2007, initiating enquiries, sending letters for departmental action, concluding cases, or making other recommendations.

4.2.2 Notable Enforcement Operations of 2024

Table 34: Notable Enforcement Operations of 2024

Serial No.	Subject	Relevant Department	Number
01	Bribery demands and harassment in passport services	Passport Office	32
02	Bribery demands in property deed registration	Sub-Registry Office	3
03	Use of substandard materials in road repair works	LGED, Roads and Highways Department	23
04	Harassment in providing medical services	District and Upazila Health Complex/Hospital	25
05	Irregularities in issuing driving licenses	BRTA	15
06	Illegal use of multiple gas connections	Titas Gas	4
07	Irregularities in land service delivery	Land Office/Union Land Office	10
08	Various irregularities in education offices	District/Upazila Education Office	9
09	Irregularities in railway services	Bangladesh Railway	9
10	Agricultural-related irregularities	Department of Agriculture	4
11	Irregularities in irrigation projects	Water Development Board	6
12	Housing-related irregularities	Public Works Department	6

Enforcement operations are being conducted in various sectors, including local government and citizen services, land, health, education, transportation, forestry and environment, public services, engineering, and agriculture. These operations aim to bring transparency to the departments while playing an effective role in preventing corruption.

During enforcement operations, the ACC employs its Armed Police Unit centrally to handle situations that may arise. At the district and upazila levels, assistance from local administrations is sought. The ACC Enforcement Unit's daily activities—such as operations, information verification, sending letters, and trap operations—are shared with the public through the commission's verified Facebook page (www.facebook.com/acc.org.bd). This enhances public awareness and keeps citizens informed about the commission's initiatives.

The dissemination of information via social media and other platforms helps raise awareness among the general public about their rights. Citizens are becoming more vocal about their entitlements, and government officials are increasingly mindful of their responsibilities. Moreover, the ACC accepts constructive criticism and continuously works to improve the quality of the Enforcement Unit's activities based on public feedback.



Table 35: Enforcement Activities in 2024

	Complaints Received				Enforcement Operations							Enforcement Next Operation					
	Total phone Call Received	Complaints registered	Complaints Received from Daily and Recent Complaints Cell	Complaints From E-mail, print and Electronic Media, Social Media & Other Source	Total Complaints	Enforcement Operation Conducted by ACC	Letters Sent to Various Department	Feedback	Telephonic Instruction	Info. Enquiry	Trap Case	Total Activities	Direct FIR Lodge	Investigation aroused from Enforcement	Letter Sent For Taking Administration Measures	Disposal	Decision of Commission on Report
	1	2	3	4	5 (2+3+4)	6	7	8	9	10	11	12 (6+7+8+9+10+11)	13	14	15	16	17 (13+14+15+16)
Total	15,501	626	19	785	1430	281	528	114	50	-	-	973	2	58	271	342	673



CHAPTER FIVE

Prevention of Corruption and inculcation of good practices

- 5.1 Introduction
- 5.2 Inclusive Anti-Corruption Program
- 5.3 Promotional Activities
- 5.4 Partnerships & Frameworks Against Corruption



Prevention of corruption and inculcation of good practices

5.1 Introduction

The Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004 attaches the highest priority to taking measures to prevent corruption. Out of the 11 functions of the Commission mentioned in section 17 of the ACC Act, 2004, six are related to prevention of corruption. Eradicating corruption where it evolves is the foremost among the policies taken up by the Commission. Aiming at that end, the Commission makes realistic and multi-dimensional interventions. Accordingly, civil society has been integrated with efforts to prevent corruption. If citizens are sensitized about their rights, prevention of corruption is likely to be easier. Looking forward to that, the Commission has formed Corruption Prevention Committees (CPC) being comprised of accomplished personalities of the society in metropolitan cities and at district, upazila and even at union levels. Members of these committees launch diverse programmes within their respective peripheries intending to awaken the society. Endeavouring to organise a corruption-preventing social movement at assigned levels, they remain vigilant against irregularities, harassments and purposive delays prevalent in various service-delivering sectors like education, health, land or power. The Anti-Corruption Commission in association with the CPCs and under supervision of local administration has formed Integrity Units (IU) drawing students from schools, colleges, madrasas and residential halls of various academic institutions and universities with the objective of instilling the values of integrity and dedication in the young generation. Respectable teachers concerned have been engaged in these IUs as advisors. The Commission is running programmes of this type targeting to launch concrete efforts against corruption and all forms of corrupt practices with a view to shaping an integrity-upholding future for the succeeding generations.

Article 7(1) of the Constitution of Bangladesh, achieved through a historic struggle for national liberation, states, "All powers in the Republic belong to the people..." The Commission's firm conviction is that if people at all strata of the society, becoming conscious about their rights deriving from the State, can collectively raise resistance against corruption, those making unlawful gains illicit means will be doomed to despair. Appreciating a common platform of men of integrity coming from all walks of life, the Commission welcomes the participation of common masses in its effort made towards prevention of corruption. Without the direct assistance of the common people, it hardly possible to combat, control and prevent corruption.

5.1.1 Legal basis for Research, Experimentation, Prevention and Public Awareness Activities

Article 20(2) of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh provides, "The State shall endeavour to create conditions in which, as a general principle, persons shall not be able to enjoy unearned incomes." Receiving cooperation from all concerned, the Commission aims to seal off the ways of enjoying such unearned incomes by preventing corruption. The Commission may, as stipulated in section 17(f) of the ACC Act, 2004, "make research scheme for prevention of corruption and submit recommendations to the President for taking action on the basis of such research findings". A further function of the Commission as stated in section 17(g) of the same Act is "to create feeling of honesty and integrity in order to prevent corruption" while section 17(k) allows the Commission "to perform such other functions as may be necessary for prevention of corruption.

The overall task of obviating corruption is performed through the Prevention wing of the Commission International anti-corruption day and ACC's founding anniversary are observed by this wing which also carries out functions relating to Honesty Stores, Integrity Units and CPCs that look forward to preventing corruption involving common people. In addition, this wing has formulated a constitution of and guidelines for CPCs and associate organizations based at metropolitan, district, upazila and union levels. These instruments are followed strictly while forming committees at various levels. While opening Honesty Stores at different academic institutions for the inculcation of good practiced, guidelines formed by the Commission for this purpose has been followed properly.



5.2 Inclusive Anti-Corruption Programme

5.2.1 Social Movement against Corruption

Prevention of corruption without social mobilization is next to impossible. The Commission intends to act as an 'influencer' in the battle against corruption. That is why the Commission has continued its efforts to bring all stakeholders like civil society organizations, media, NGOs, government officials, political leaders, teachers, students, professionals and others on the same platform in its anti-corruption activities. The Commission is hopeful of achieving success in its mission to prevent corruption as it obtains unreserved cooperation from mass people. The Commission firmly believes that citizens have become more aware of corruption. It is observed that general people hate corruption and corrupt people from the core of their hearts.

5.2.2 Corruption Prevention Committee in Preventing Corruption

In order to conduct its preventive functions fully and effectively, the Commission has formed Corruption Prevention Committees (CPC) in all upazilas, districts and metropolitan cities. Being comprised of enlightened persons of the society, these committees implement various programmes for raising mass-awareness intending to support behavioral improvement and promote good practices. Pursuant to the revised charter and working guidelines of CPCs and their affiliated organizations of 2016, district and metropolitan CPCs have been formed consisting of not more than 13 members. At upazila and union levels, CPCs have been formed consisting of not more than nine and seven members respectively; in all cases, one-third of the members are women. A chairman, two vice-chairmen, and a general secretary are nominated from among the committee members. Only adult citizens of Bangladesh living in the locality concerned are eligible to be committee members-who are all selected by ACC to which they remain accountable through its divisional or integrated district offices. Foreign nationals, elected public officials, public servants, active members of political parties, people declared to be of unsound mind by any competent court, loan defaulters or people convicted of criminal offences are considered ineligible for membership. CPCs consist of volunteers, teachers, valiant freedom fighters, religious leaders, retired government employees and people active in their respective fields enjoying a reputation for integrity. Incomes and expenditures of all activities of the CPCs are regulated in accordance with the directives issued by the Finance and Accounts section of the Commission. Accounts are maintained in the manner and pro-forma prescribed by this section. An Audit sub-committee is formed consisting of any three members of the committee. The sub-committee submits audited reports to the committee on income and expenditure accounts in due course. Deputy Directors and officers above can inspect the accounts of the CPCs. All activities of the CPCs are conducted in line with the guidelines approved by the Commission.

Table-36: Number of Corruption Prevention Committees (CPCs) at upazila, district and metropolitan levels in 2024

Sl. No	Name of Division	Metropolitan CPCs	District CPCs	Upazila CPCs	Total CPCs
1	Dhaka	77	12	08	97
2	Chattogram	93	10	01	104
3	Rajshahi	60	08	-	68
4	Khulna	50	10	-	60
5	Barishal	36	06	-	42
6	Sylhet	36	04	-	40
7	Rangpur	50	08	-	58
8	Mymensingh	31	04	-	35
	Total	433	62	09	504



Table-37: Division-wise performance of Corruption Prevention Committees (CPCs) in 2024

SI No.	Name of Division	Discussion meetings	Debate Competitions	Essay Competitions	Human chains	Rallies	Seminars	Dramas	Speech by respected persons	Others
1	Dhaka	279	465	65	83	72	25	02	268	06
2	Chattogram	141	128	74	02	28	51	03	134	-
3	Rajshahi	138	68	18	68	52	-	-	274	02
4	Khulna	377	89	89	107	107	78	78	89	02
5	Barishal	85	41	18	21	17	04	04	36	-
6	Sylhet	80	23	13	44	32	14	14	100	02
7	Rangpur	240	59	67	62	89	47	47	345	06
8	Mymensingh	302	175	38	145	32	-	-	316	-
	Total	1642	1048	382	532	429	219	219	1562	18

5.2.3 Integrity Units: Platform for Youths against Corruption

The new generation will lead the country in the days to come. It will be easier to curb corruption and corrupt practices if a generation is developed which is endowed with integrity and ethical values. With that end in view, the Commission forms Integrity Units (IU) being comprised of secondary-level students. These organizations consist of students from various educational institutions and are meant to infuse into them a sense of honesty, morality and value-judgment. Future leadership of the country will emerge from today's young generation, as such, they are expected to unreservedly uphold integrity and honesty at all times being strictly adherent to values and tenets of the society. Understanding that corruption lays a negative impact on our perception and conduct undermining our past heritage of integrity and ethical values, the Commission intends to inspire the young generation with the precept that honesty is the best policy. With the purpose of generating the values of integrity, dedication and firmness of character among the young generation, arousing abhorrence against corrupt practices among them and, above all, integrating the students with mass-awareness raising activities, the Commission, with the initiatives of the CPCs, has formed Integrity Units in educational institutions like schools, colleges, madrasas, university halls and training institutions under overall supervision of local administrations within their respective work areas. According to the guidelines of 2015, members of the Integrity Units shall be volunteers, free from the influence of political creeds and not get involved with any activities in breach of law or against discipline. The executive committee of each Integrity Unit comprises 11 (eleven) students from the same educational institution and an advisory council consisting of 3 (three) to 5 (five) teachers. All the students of the same institution are the general members. The CPCs of metropolitan cities/districts/upazilas/unions, in consultation with the advisory council, nominate a president, a secretary and members of the Executive Committee from among the interested students. The Commission also implements many other varied programmes together with the members of the Integrity Units under supervision of the CPCs including human-chains, road marches, seminars, cultural functions, discussions, dramas, debates, cartoons, essay writing competitions and so on. Learning materials such as exercise books, rulers, geometry boxes and so on inscribed with quotable quotes promoting ethical values have been handed out to the members of the Integrity Units by the Commission.



Table 38: Statistics of Division-wise Integrity Units

Sl. No	Name of Division	Number of Integrity Units
1	Dhaka	4006
2	Chattogram	4255
3	Rajshahi	3767
4	Khulna	3134
5	Barishal	2600
6	Sylhet	1181
7	Rangpur	3698
8	Mymensingh	2253
	Total	24894

5.2.4 "Honesty Store" in Promoting Good Practices in Daily Life

With a view to promoting the practice of integrity among students of young generation, particularly among those at secondary level, the Commission took an initiative in 2016 to open integrity stores meaning shops not guarded by shopkeepers, where along with educational materials, biscuits, chips, chocolate and other items of the like are on display for sale. An item-wise pricelist is shown in these shops where a box is placed into which the right amount of money may be inserted. Although sales-people are not present in these outlets, students buy the products they need and pay the price in the cash box by themselves. The Commission has not yet received any complaint of unfair means in the management of these stores. In this case, transparency and honesty emanated by the students appear to be highly significant for the Commission. Apart from these ones, some school authorities and local administration have also set up Honesty stores in respective institutions on own initiative. The Commission believes that honesty is a matter of intensive practice in daily life. There is no substitute for practicing honesty in building an immaculate society. Young people are fond of imitation. Once they have determined what is right or wrong in their minds, they will make no mistake in upholding values as they walk the path of life.

Table 39: Statistics of Division-based Honesty Stores

Sl. No	Name of Division	Number of Honesty Store
1	Dhaka	1067
2	Chattogram	1383
3	Rajshahi	845
4	Khulna	1826
5	Barishal	480
6	Sylhet	242
7	Rangpur	740
8	Mymensingh	197
	Total	6780



5.2.5 Prevention activities implemented by the Commission

The Prevention wing of the Anti-Corruption Commission carries out various activities every year to combat corruption and develop anti-corruption awareness. Corruption Prevention Committees, Integrity Units and local administration are involved in these activities. Social awareness is raised by various anti-corruption programmes such as anti-corruption rallies, human-chains, road-marches, seminars, workshops, documentaries, cartoon exhibitions, debates or essay competitions arranged by CPCs at metropolitan, district and upazila levels along with local civil society, integrity units, professional organizations, NGOs and various socio-cultural organizations. As indicated through these programmes, people of different professions express solidarity with the on-going social movement against corruption. This is why the Commission always welcomes an inclusive approach that involves the general people in the fight against corruption. The activities of Corruption Prevention Committees and Integrity Units are carried out on a voluntary basis.

Members of Corruption Prevention Committees and Integrity Units play vital roles in observing foundation anniversary of the Anti-Corruption Commission (21 November) and International Anti-Corruption Day (9 December) and in celebrating Independence Day and Victory Day. The Chairman, Commissioners and other staff of all levels of the Commission participate in these programmes. In order to encourage the inculcation of good practices among various levels students across the country, materials such as 14238 exercise books, 19612 scales, 2300 posters, 12021 geometry boxes, 360 table clocks, 6397 umbrellas, 16,433 school bags etc. have been distributed among them with texts such as "I will do no bad deeds, I will tolerate no bad deeds", will do good deeds, I will build the country with all," "I will think about the country, I will follow the path of principle," "I will speak the truth, I will stop injustice", "I will abide by rules, I will be safe", "Uphold patriotism, drive off corruption," "None trusts a liar," and "Don't laugh at elders".

Table 40: Statistics of distribution of educational materials and other items among students for inculcation of good practice in 2024.

Sl. No	Material Names	Number of Materials
1	Khata/Exercise Books	14238
2	Scaler /Rulers	19612
3	Geometry Boxes	12021
4	Table Clocks	360
5	Umbrellas	6397
6	Posters	2300
7	Leaflets	3000
8	School bags and others	46215

5.3 Promotional Activities

The Commission persistently discloses and disseminates information against corruption so as to harness the social power to cause moral uplifting and promote good practices.

- Message dissemination: Anti-corruption messages have been disseminated through SMS on mobile phones in collaboration with Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) at the initiative of Prevention Wing.



- Distribution of posters and leaflets: To prevent corruption and promote good practices, various posters have been distributed
- Slogans to promote good practices: To promote good practices, exercise books, scales, geometry boxes, table clocks and umbrellas have been given out to students of secondary level nationwide with following slogans: "I will do no bad deeds, I will tolerate no bad deeds", "I will do good deeds, I will build the country with all," "I will think about the country, I will follow the path of principle," "I will speak the truth, I will stop injustice", "I will abide by rules, I will be safe", "Uphold patriotism, drive off corruption," "None trusts a liar," and "Don't laugh at elders."
- Documentary Broadcasting: In order to create anti-corruption awareness in the country, short documentaries titled "Punishment", "Victory of Truth", "I will be better, I will keep better", "Wrong", and "Victory of honesty" have been aired on YouTube, various private television channels and Bangladesh Television. These documentaries are regularly broadcast through the District Information Office in every district and upazila including Dhaka.
- DUDOK Barta (ACC Magazine): "DUDOK Barta" is a quarterly publication of the Anti-Corruption Commission. Through this publication, all kinds of activities of the Commission, such as recording of cases, filing of charge-sheets, judgments of cases in trial courts, enforcement operations against corruption, ACC-related laws and regulations and public hearings of the previous quarter of the Commission are highlighted. 'DUDOK Barta' is circulated free of cost.

5.3.1 Celebrating International Anti-Corruption Day

With a view to strengthening anti-corruption programmes, the United Nations declared 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day in 2003. Since Bangladesh's signing of UNCAC in 2007, Anti-Corruption Commission has been observing this day officially. Accordingly, the Government has taken proper initiatives to observe the day on a regular basis designating it as a yearly event of 'B' category

Like every year, in 2024, the Commission observed the International Anti-Corruption Day upholding the theme "Uniting with Youth Against Corruption: Shaping Tomorrow's Integrity". On this occasion, discussion meetings, human chains were held along with various events. The day's programme started in the morning with the rendition of the national anthem and hoisting of the national flag. Afterwards, a discussion meeting was held at the Institution of Diploma Engineers which was attended by the Honorable Adviser Dr. Asif Nazrul, of the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs as the Chief Guest. The Executive Director of Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) and the Chair of Anti-Corruption Commission Reform Commission Dr. Iftekharuzzaman was also present there as special guest. Besides, anti-corruption placards, banners and festoons were exhibited in different parts of the capital city. The day was also observed in festive mood all over the country.

5.3.2 ACC Media Award

With a view to encouraging investigative media reporting on corruption and creative reporting on prevention, the Anti-Corruption Commission has introduced "ACC Media Award". Every year six journalists are awarded in two categories. On 10 June 2024, The Commission awarded 12 Journalists from several media "ACC Media Award" 2020 and 2021.



5.4 Partnerships & Frameworks Against Corruption

The Commission believes in a participating and inclusive approach to curb and prevent corruption at national and international levels. Bangladesh is a signatory to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). The Commission has continued its efforts to build partnerships with national and international organizations as part of its inclusive approach in combating corruption following article 48 of the UNCAC.

Organizations such as Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), Oxfam, Bangladesh Scouts, Bangladesh Girl Guides Association, BNCC and Kites Bangladesh have signed MoUs with the Anti-Corruption Commission. Jointly with them, the ACC implements various anti-corruption programmes at the district and upazila levels across the country. Anti-Corruption Commission and Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) are implementing different programmes, including the celebration of International Anti-Corruption Day, information fair, public hearing, seminar, symposium and anti-corruption human chain based on cooperation in prevention of corruption. To continue the mutual cooperation in this field, the MoU signed between Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) and ACC was renewed on 28 September 2022. Apart from these ones, signing of MoUs is in progress with entities like Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), Human Rights Commission, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), Bangladesh Television (BTV), Department of Narcotics Control, Election Commission, Information Commission, Department of Immigration and Passports and so on. Meanwhile, the Commission has started to exchange good practices with other stakeholders. As a part of the UNCAC implementation the ACC is also engaging in signing MoUs with international Anti-Corruption Agencies details information about those MoUs can be found in chapter 8.

The Anti-Corruption Commission undertakes several awareness-building programmes, such as debate competitions, cartoon competitions, essay competitions, seminars, symposiums, workshops, exchange meetings, road-shows, human chains, and cultural programmes. Rover Scouts and Girl Guides Association members also take part in ACC's events. The Commission is encouraged as they actively participate in various programmes organised every year on the occasion of International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December and founding anniversary of the Anti-Corruption Commission on 21 November.

The UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) emphasizes arranging preventive measures to stop the occurrences of corruption, taking action under criminal laws and exploring fields of cooperation in the international arena. Formulation of a National Corruption Prevention Policy for each Member State has been recommended in this Convention. Accordingly, the Government of Bangladesh adopted a National Integrity Strategy (NIS) in 2012 that aims at establishing good practices and preventing corruption in all areas of the state and society.

Among the 10 State institutions mentioned in the NIS, Anti-Corruption Commission is "the most important organization for a relentless fight against corruption and promotion of integrity." The Director General of Prevention wing functions as the NIS Focal Point by default. The Commission's implementation, co-ordination and reporting activities under both NIS and the United Nation Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) are carried out by the NIS and UNCAC Focal Point desk under the prevention wing of the Anti Corruption Commission.



CHAPTER SIX

Public Hearing

- 6.1 Introduction
- 6.2 Public Hearing for Flourishing a Corruption-free and Accountable Administrative Mechanism



Public Hearing

6.1 Introduction

Public Hearing is a unique way to enhance transparency and accountability in delivering services and running welfare programmes of the Government. It is an effective tool that establishes a direct communication between people seeking services from the Government and public servants responsible for delivering them. Public hearing is by nature a platform for holding tripartite meetings where service providing government officials and local public representatives face the aggrieved citizens or service seekers in the presence of officials of the Anti-Corruption Commission. Grievances, bottlenecks or outstanding issues are generally resolved during or immediately after the hearing session. In some cases, if the issues are not resolved at once, they are brought forward to follow-up sessions. Anti-Corruption Commission holds public hearings primarily at the grassroots level; as a result, even common people gain an easy access to a forum where they can voice out their concerns relating to services sought from the Government.

A thorough review of the grievances expressed by the service takers and the explanations provided by the officials concerned indicates that the dissatisfaction in receiving government services basically attributable to lack of awareness of the citizens, inefficiency of the officials, irregularities mismanagement and in some cases, corruption and defiance to follow the given time-limits. Against this backdrop, public hearing programmes organized by ACC have been proved quite effective identify the sources of corruption, hold open discussion on what to do to prevent exploitative manner prevailing at the concerned office, take immediate action leading to the disposal or bring forward the issue to a follow-up hearing. This is how this process, while empowering the mass people to claim their rights due from the Government, expedites ACC's initiative against unscrupulous practices.

The Commission started off public hearings from Muktagachha in Mymensingh district way back 2014, till writing this report, a total of 167 public hearing programmes have been arranged successfully. Nationwide, in various districts a total of Six public hearings were conducted by the Commission in 2024. At present, the costs of public hearings are arranged from ACC's own fund. However, there is scope for receiving assistance from various development partners in this field.

6.2 Public Hearing for Flourishing a Corruption-free and Accountable Administrative Mechanism

6.2.1 Objectives of Public Hearing

- Hearing directly from service-seeking people about their grievances and getting them addressed through the offices concerned;
- Improving the quality of services meant for the citizens in public offices as mentioned in Citizens' Charter;
- Developing a bridge between the local administration and the people whom it serves;
- Ensuring transparency and accountability in the functions of Government offices responsible for delivering services;
- Enhancing awareness among mass people about their rights as citizens and reminding service-providing employees of their responsibilities and duties;
- Increasing empathy between service seeking citizens and service providing officials;



- Identifying the causes of corruption, irregularities and delays at source and taking steps to remove them and
- Adopting administrative and legal measures in appropriate cases.

6.2.2 Theoretical framework of Public Hearing

One of the fundamental responsibilities of the State, as the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh stipulates, is to secure to the citizens "the provision of the basic necessities of life" Second, Article 13 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) underpins the importance of "participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption Third, a pledge to deliver corruption-free public services to the citizens has been spelt out in the National Integrity Strategy as adopted by the Government in 2012. Fourth, one of the strategies of the 8th Five-Year Plan is ensuring improvement in governance of institutions which can be addressed through public hearings and other mechanisms of making an organization accountable to society. Fifth, of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the UN in 2015, the 16th one is to "build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels" Public hearings play a significant role in achieving this goal.

The theoretical underpinning of public hearing as an accountability method has been derived from the framework for service provision' as explained in the World Development Report-2004 of the World Bank. For establishing accountability in the system of delivering public services, this framework suggests (1) enabling the people to monitor and discipline service providers" (2) "amplifying their voice in policymaking and (3) "strengthening the incentives for providers The Importance of accountability to the citizens has always been highlighted through public hearings.

6.2.3 Legal Framework of Public Hearing

- Article 20 (2) of the Constitution which affirms, "The State shall endeavor to create conditions in which, as a general principle, persons shall not be able to enjoy unearned incomes;
- Article 21(2) of the Constitution that stipulates, "Every person in the service of the Republic has a duty to strive at all times to serve the people";
- National Integrity Strategy, 2012;
- Relevant sections of the Anti-Corruption Commission Act, 2004;
- Two Office Memorandums of Cabinet Division issued on 01 June 2014 and 05 June 2014 giving instructions on conducting public hearing sessions at all Government offices for preventing corruption and creating mass awareness;
- The Right to Information Act, 2009 and
- The Whistle Blowers Protection Act, 2011.

6.2.4 Conducting Public Hearing Functions

Article 7(1) of the Constitution articulates that "All powers in the Republic belong to the people..." As power derives from people's mandate, they have an inalienable right to receive public services without any harassment, irregularities, corruption and delays, the eradication of these vices is expedited through public hearings. In each public hearing session, the Chairman of the ACC himself or a



Commissioner observes the proceedings and announces instant decisions to resolve the issues raised there. The Commission formulated a policy for public hearing in 2016. Currently public hearings are held on the basis of this policy.

Public hearing sessions are open to people of all classes including local elites, citizens seeking public services, officers and support staff of the offices concerned, media representatives, members of civil society organizations, legal practitioners, NGOs and other stakeholders. The officers of ACC's integrated district office concerned may, if necessary, invite the appropriate persons by letter or telephone to attend these sessions. In this regard, steps are taken in consultation with the honorable Members of Parliament, Mayor and Councilors of City Corporation or Pourashava, Chairman of Upazila Parishad, and other public representatives. Sometimes consultations are held with the local corruption prevention committee in making decisions or fixing the course of action to be followed to resolve outstanding issues, if any.

6.2.5 Statistics of Public Hearings conducted from 2020 to 2023

Concerning delivery of public services, in 2024, the Commission conducted 06 (Six) public hearing programmes. Through these hearings, the Commission received a total of 351 complaints from the citizens at grassroots level; among them, 280 were resolved, making a disposal rate of 80%. Year-wise statement of public hearings held during the last four years is given below.

Table-41: Number of Public Hearings conducted in 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 and 2024

Year	Number of Public Hearing/Follow-Up Public Hearing
2020	05
2021	01
2022	03
2023	13
2024	06

6.2.6 Outcomes of Public Hearing

As stipulated in the Constitution, "Every person in the service of the Republic has a duty to strive at all times to serve the people Accordingly, the Anti-Corruption Commission conducts public hearings with a two-fold aim; first, to remind public servants of their constitutional obligation to serve the people and second, to transform every service-providing office into an accountable organization. Outstanding issues hampering delivery of services are getting resolved owing to public hearings and follow-up sessions that are held regularly. The Commission also takes legal actions on receiving credible complaints of corruption. If any incident of specific corruption is unearthed during public hearing, arrangement for investigation is done forthwith. In addition, reports are sent to higher authorities about the performances of Government officials with requests, if necessary, for taking administrative action. The sources and nature of irregularities and corruption are identified through public hearings, accordingly, recommendations are made to the authority for remedial actions, Public hearings are expected to play an effective role in removing irregularities, harassments or purposive delay prevalent in the mechanism of delivering public service.



CHAPTER SEVEN

Training Programmes

- 7.1 Introduction
- 7.2 Local Training
- 7.3 Foreign Training



Training Programmes

7.1 Introduction

The Anti-Corruption Commission works continuously to achieve the goal of preventing and controlling corruption as well as developing good governance practices. To this end, skilled human resources are necessary. Training is a prerequisite for developing human resources of expected standard; it is an indispensable method to increase the knowledge and skills of staff members, which will result in their attitudinal change too. At the outset of 2019, the ACC started its Training wing with the aim of developing its officials as skilled human resources. This wing organises focused and time-befitting specialised training programmes for employees of different grades and ranks at home and abroad throughout the year. In addition, the Commission makes arrangements for learning, training, promoting good practices and enhancing awareness pertaining to its existing procedures and practices that are under constant review.

Training enables the participating employees to share experiences, exchange knowledge and gain insights through hands-on activities. Augmenting their professionalism and productivity, training transforms them to skilled human resources. The ACC has drawn up a plan to build its own training institute, which will be a modern, self-sufficient establishment being in conformity with well-functioning, reputed similar ones in the country. This institute, when it comes into operation, will reduce the requirement of sending ACC employees to training facilities of other organisations in the country or even overseas, saving both time and money. However, trainees from different countries are expected to come here as learners and researchers.

The nature of corruption constantly assumes different dimensions due to technological advancement. Income earned through corruption can be laundered in different ways anywhere in the world. Digital currencies like Bitcoin have been introduced in different countries. Corruption has now extended far beyond geographical boundaries. Against a backdrop of versatility and wideness of unscrupulous practices, the main target of ACC officials is to conduct enquiry and investigation of corruption of the modern era efficiently following due process so that the offenders, if detected, are compelled to face trial by a competent court. Keeping that in mind, the Anti-Corruption Commission works to categorise the type, means and features of corruption prevalent in specific sectors. For this purpose, specialised trainings, apart from basic ones on enquiry and investigation, are arranged on banking, finance, auditing, stock market, intelligence operation, cybercrime, digital frauds and procurement. These training programmes are expected to enhance the professional knowledge and skills of the officers.

7.2 Local Training

In 2024, employees of Anti-Corruption Commission received a good number of trainings within the country. The officers attended trainings funded by Anti-Corruption Commission as well as other organisations.

Table 42: Local Trainings arranged by ACC in 2024

SI	Name of the Training	Duration	Number of Trainees	Organized by
1	Training on Enquiry and Investigation	21-25 January 2024	30	ACC
2	Training on Enquiry and Investigation	04-08 February 2024	30	ACC



SI	Name of the Training	Duration	Number of Trainees	Organized by
3	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	13-15 February 2024	30	ACC
4	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	18-20 February 2024	30	ACC
5	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	27-29 February 2024	30	ACC
6	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	03-05 March 2024	30	ACC
7	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	12-14 March 2024	30	ACC
8	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	19-21 March 2024	30	ACC
9	Training on NIS and Good Governance	28 March 2024	30	ACC
10	Training on Enforcement Drives, Trap Operations & Forensics	31 March - 02 April 2024	30	ACC
11	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	21-25 April 2024	30	ACC
12	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	05-09 May 2024	30	ACC
13	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	12-16 May 2024	30	ACC
14	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	26-30 May 2024	30	ACC
15	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	2-6 June 2024	30	ACC
16	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	09-13 June 2024	30	ACC
17	Training on NIS and Good Governance	12 June 2024	30	ACC
18	Project Appraisal, Formulation and Approval	21 July- 8 August 24	2	NAPD
19	Special Training on Income Tax Act and Regulations	22-26 September 2024	30	ACC
20	Training on Banking Functions	19-25 September 2024	25	Sonali Bank Staff College
21	Training on Land Management	29 September- 03 October 2024	30 DD	ACC
22	Financial Management Course Conduct	01-12 September 2024	30 AD	Sonali Bank Staff College
23	Office Management and ICT Course	22 September - 03 October 2024	2	BPATC
24	Conduct and Discipline Course	22-26 September 2024	4	RPATC, Chattogram



SI	Name of the Training	Duration	Number of Trainees	Organized by
25	Office Management and ICT Course	22 September - 03 October 2024	4	RPATC, Chattogram
26	Training on Land Management	06-10 October 2024	30	ACC
27	Higher Research Methodology	08-10 October 2024	15	TIB
28	Training on Land Management	20-24 October 24	30	ACC
29	Training on Land Management	27-31 October 24	30	ACC
30	Training on Basic Computer Operation & Using Of D-Nothi System	20-24 October 2024	20	ACC
31	Training on Basic Computer Operation & Using Of D-Nothi System	27-31 October 2024	20	ACC
32	Government Office Solution With Google Tools	20-31 October 2024	3	Ministry of Industries
33	Training on Basic Computer Operation & Using Of D-Nothi System	03-07 November 2024	20	ACC
34	Training on Basic Computer Operation & Using Of D-Nothi System	10-14 November 2024	20	ACC
35	Training on Basic Computer Operation & Using Of D-Nothi System	17-21 November 2024	20	ACC
36	Training on Land Management	03-07 November 2024	30	ACC
37	Training on Land Management	10-14 November 2024	30	ACC
38	Training on Land Management	17-21 November 2024	30	ACC
39	Training on Land Management	24-28 November 2024	30	ACC
40	Forensic Evidence and Open Data	19-21 November 2024	29	TIB
41	Training on Performing duties at Complaint Centre-106	26-27 November 2024	34 Constables	ACC
42	Training on Using Of D-Nothi System	17-19 December 2024	20	ACC
43	Training on Using Of D-Nothi System	22-24 December 2024	20	ACC
44	Training on Using Of D-Nothi System	29-31 December 2024	20	ACC

Table 43: Foreign Training Information in 2024

SI	Name of the Training	Duration	Number of Trainees	Organized by
1	Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme	04-17 September 2024	1 DD	CBI India
2	Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme	18 September- 01 October 2024	1 DD	CBI India



CHAPTER EIGHT

Foreign communication and international cooperation

- 8.1 Introduction
- 8.2 International Partnerships
- 8.3 Joining the GlobE Network
- 8.4 Cooperation with international organizations
- 8.5 Participation in global and regional forums



Foreign Communication and International Cooperation

8.1 Introduction

The Commission believes in a participatory and inclusive approach to curbing and preventing corruption at national and international levels. The Commission recognizes that combating money laundering and repatriating stolen assets requires a concerted effort that extends beyond borders. Given the challenges associated with relying solely on Mutual Legal Assistance Requests (MLAR), the ACC remains resolute in exploring avenues to strengthen its anti-corruption initiatives by enhancing international cooperation and communication.

Bangladesh is a signatory to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). By ratifying the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2007, the country has aligned itself with international standards and frameworks aimed at effectively addressing corruption. It actively participates in UNCAC implementation review mechanisms. In addition to the UNCAC, Bangladesh is also a signatory to the Makka Al Mukarrama Convention, which aims to foster cooperation, provide training, and share best practices in anti-corruption efforts among OIC member states.

The ACC plays a crucial role in facilitating international cooperation, engaging in both multilateral and bilateral initiatives. Notably, in March 2024, Anti corruption Commission joined the UNODC's GloBE Network as its 113th member, facilitating informal cooperation among countries on corruption and money laundering cases.

8.2 International Partnerships

The Commission has continued its efforts to build partnerships with national and international organizations as part of its inclusive approach in combating corruption following article 48 of the UNCAC. Memorandums of understanding (MoU) were signed with the Anti-Corruption Commission of Bhutan and the Investigative Committee of the Russian Federation (ICRF) in 2017 and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) of India in 2019. Recently the MoU signed with the CBI has been renewed for the next 5 years in continuation of the previous one. The MoUs have been identified as markers of co-operation in various areas, including initial investigation detection, authentication and exchange of experience, best practices and anti-corruption education programs. The Commission maintains a close liaison with relevant organizations of Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Malaysia and Maldives to share and learn good practices

8.2.1 Implementation of UNCAC

The ACC is actively involved in the UNCAC implementation review mechanisms. During the First Review Cycle (Chapters III and IV), Bangladesh was reviewed by Iran and Paraguay, with a country visit conducted from April 10-13, 2011. Currently, in the ongoing Second Review Cycle (Chapters II and V), Bangladesh is being reviewed by Tajikistan and Comoros. The ACC has played a significant role in drafting the self-assessment checklist and facilitating the review process. Furthermore, Bangladesh has contributed to the review of other countries under UNCAC. For instance, Bangladesh worked alongside the Netherlands to review the United States of America, and Bangladesh is set to partner with Sweden to review Switzerland. The Bangladesh Government Expert Team for these reviews includes representatives from the Legislative Division, the ACC, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU).



8.3 Joining the GlobE Network

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) advocates for direct communication among law enforcement agencies worldwide, leading to the establishment of the GlobE Network. The GlobE Network was officially launched in June 2021 under the auspices of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Since then, it has grown rapidly with the vision of “Timely and efficient transnational cooperation against corruption, attracting members from various countries. Currently, 113 countries and 203 organizations worldwide have joined this platform to identify, investigate, and prosecute transnational corruption through coordinated efforts. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) joined the GlobE Network in March 2024 as its 113th member. The GlobE Network offers a secure communication platform for confidential and protected exchanges of information.

Joining the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) strengthens Bangladesh's cross-border cooperation efforts related to anti-corruption and anti-money laundering. Specifically, it enhances the effectiveness of MLAR, thereby enhancing Bangladesh's ability to effectively investigate and repatriate laundered assets. As an initial step towards recovering stolen assets, the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) sends MLARs through the Central Authority, the Ministry of Home Affairs, to the relevant countries. These requests aim to identify stolen assets abroad, take action to freeze or attach them, and gather essential evidence from overseas. If sufficient data on assets stolen abroad cannot be obtained, the process of identification and blocking cannot proceed through the Legal Assistance Request (MLAR) mechanism. The Globe Network can assist in formulating effective Mutual Legal Assistance Requests (MLAR) by gathering information informally through the network. By becoming a member, it gains the ability to communicate peer-to-peer with anti-corruption agencies in other countries that enables seamless collaboration with international counterparts.

8.4 Cooperation with international organizations

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Bangladesh has forged strategic partnerships with several international organizations to bolster its efforts in combating corruption, recovering stolen assets, and strengthening institutional capacity. These collaborations enable the ACC to align its national anti-corruption measures with global standards, participate in international forums, and enhance cross-border cooperation.

Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR)

The ACC collaborates with the StAR Initiative, a joint program of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Bank, to detect laundered asset and repatriate those asset to Bangladesh. This partnership also supports the ACC in building its institutional capacity to address complex corruption cases effectively.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

The ACC is collaborating with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) on various anti-corruption initiatives, training workshops, and institutional capacity-building efforts. The Commission is aligned with UNODC's efforts to strengthen its capabilities in combating corruption.



International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre (IACCC)

The ACC has formed a strategic partnership with the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre (IACCC), led by the UK's National Crime Agency (NCA). This partnership facilitates repatriation of stolen assets to Bangladesh and enhances cross-border collaboration in grand corruption cases.

European Union (EU)

The ACC collaborates with the European Union on anti-corruption initiatives. This partnership focuses on capacity building, knowledge sharing, and strengthens Bangladesh's anti-corruption efforts.

United States (US) Legal Attaché Office

The ACC engages with the US Legal Attaché Office to strengthen its anti-corruption measures. This collaboration provides technical expertise, supports intelligence sharing, and facilitates joint initiatives for combating corruption and recovering stolen assets.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA)

The ACC actively participates in international conferences and forums where Bangladesh is represented. It provides institutional opinions on significant agreements, Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), and other documents coordinated through the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This ensures that Bangladesh's anti-corruption priorities are reflected in global platforms.

International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)

The ACC has committed to making annual contributions to the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA). This commitment supports IACA's global efforts in research, education, and capacity building. Additionally, the partnership allows ACC officials to participate in specialized training programs, helping them stay informed about global trends and best practices in combating corruption.

8.5 Participation in global and regional forums

The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) of Bangladesh is actively involved in both international and regional anti-corruption forums, demonstrating the country's strong commitment to global cooperation in the fight against corruption. During the G20 Summit 2022 held in India, Bangladesh participated as a guest member. The country took part in G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) meetings. The focus of the ACWG was vital, as it seeks to enhance international cooperation in combating corruption and economic crimes, recover stolen assets and streamline the roles of specialized authorities in their efforts. Mr. Md. Mahbub Hossain, the Secretary of the ACC, represented Bangladesh at the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministers Meeting in Kolkata, West Bengal, on August 12, 2023.

In November 2024, Bangladesh participated in the Second Ministerial Meeting of Law Enforcement Agencies Responsible for Combating Corruption in Doha, Qatar. This important gathering, organized by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), led to the signing of the Makkah Al Mukharama Convention. Mr. Md. Akhtar Hossain, Director General (Prevention), represented the ACC at the conference and participated in sideline meetings regarding the ACC's position on strengthening cooperation with the Anti-Corruption bodies of OIC member states. Additionally, the ACC actively participates in anti corruption events, such as the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) Annual Conference, the Assembly of Parties (AoPs) and the Conference of Parties of the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).



CHAPTER NINE

Conclusion



Conclusion

The fight against corruption is not merely administrative or legal—it is a moral movement. To achieve sustainable success in this battle, strong institutional frameworks, professional human resources, data-driven decision-making, and above all, the awakening of social values are essential. Analyzing the activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) in 2024 reveals that each wing/unit/division has become more conscious in fulfilling its respective responsibilities. The Commission has adopted multifaceted strategies in preventing corruption, extending beyond administrative and legal measures.

Complaint management has been a key foundation of the Commission's activities. With the availability of online complaint submissions, emails, postal mail, and direct complaints (through hotline 106), the Commission has established close connections with the public. The use of technology in complaint verification has enabled the Commission to conduct scrutiny more efficiently, thus ensuring the implementation of effective and people-friendly measures against corruption.

In 2024, the Commission's progress in enquiry and investigation activities has also been satisfactory. Enquiries were conducted in a structured and thematic manner to reduce time and resource wastage and to ensure effective outcomes. The use of technology in information collection, coordination with relevant agencies, and team-based approaches have made the enquiry process more organized and effective. In ongoing investigations, the Commission enhanced supervision to ensure accuracy of information, resulting in improved quality of cases and strengthening its legal stance.

The Legal and Prosecution Wing has played a significant role in reinforcing the Commission's legal position. Their focus was not limited to filing charge sheets or conducting cases in court, but also emphasized evidence collection, presenting logically sound cases, and considering judicial perspectives. The Commission's success in obtaining favorable verdicts from higher courts is paving the way for a more structured and successful Legal and Prosecution Wing in the future.

The Enforcement Unit has continued to take prompt action against corruption. Upon receiving complaints, immediate enforcement drives and on-field information collection have established an effective preventive mechanism. In these operations, cooperation from local administration, law enforcement and other relevant government agencies has enhanced the Commission's operational efficiency. The active involvement of the public in enforcement drives and effective media coverage has played a pivotal role in creating resistance against corruption at all levels of society. This has not only increased public trust but also strengthened the social structure of resistance against corruption.

Through its Prevention Wing, the Commission has aimed to cultivate a strong anti-corruption culture. Initiatives like Integrity Units, Integrity Stores, debate and essay competitions and educational institution-based programs have sown the seeds of honesty and ethics among the younger generation. Ethics-based educational activities have laid the foundation for good governance not only for the present but also for the future. Apart from routine activities- special days, rallies, competitions, seminars, and discussions have helped build a value-driven preventive framework in society. The Prevention Wing's efforts in spreading the message that "ethics is not just a virtue but an effective weapon against corruption" are commendable.



Through the Public Hearing Program, the Commission has directly engaged citizens in the fight against corruption. This initiative has enabled the identification of irregularities and the adoption of immediate remedial measures. Alongside raising public awareness, it has also ensured accountability in public service, which is essential for democratic governance. During public hearings, the presence of local officials and the adoption of remedial decisions based on citizens' opinions have transformed the Commission into a more people-centric institution.

The Training Division has taken long-term plans to build professional human resources. Through domestic and international training programs, workshops, and experience-sharing initiatives, officials' competencies have increased. The diversification of training content and integration of modern technologies have made it easier to align with future demands.

The Research and Development Division has worked on transforming new ideas into policy recommendations. By analyzing the sources of corruption, institutional weaknesses, policy inconsistencies, and legal complexities, the Commission has formulated recommendations that will serve as strategic guidance for the future. Sector-based analysis of corruption and exploration of potential solutions have enriched the Commission's work with knowledge and strategy, making both prevention and enforcement more pragmatic based on root causes.

The Commission has also made significant progress in international cooperation and networking in 2024. Through the implementation of UNCAC, experience-sharing with international organizations and active participation in the exchange of cross-border corruption information, Bangladesh's position has been strengthened globally. In this regard, the Commission became a member of the GlobE Network under UNODC in March 2024.

Overall, the analysis of the 2024 report reveals that the Commission's activities were not confined within institutional frameworks but extended into the realms of public awareness, social values, and global solidarity. The activities of the Anti-Corruption Commission in 2024 were expansive, well-coordinated, and forward-looking. With the Commission's unwavering commitment to building a corruption-free Bangladesh, if this momentum continues, it will take us one step closer to realizing that vision.

