



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

REFORMS BY

THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH



REFORMS

BY THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT

Brief description of key reform initiatives undertaken by
the Interim Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh



Chief Adviser's Office
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

January 2026

First Published on

17th Magh, 1432

31st January, 2026

Revised E-Book Published on

23rd Magh, 1432

06th February, 2026

Published by

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Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Print

Bangladesh Government Press

Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Avenue, Dhaka 1208

Design & Layout

Nazmul Hasan

Cover Design

Wahida Akter based on *July Graffiti*

CONTENTS

Introduction	5
I. GOOD GOVERNANCE, PUBLIC SECURITY AND PUBLIC SERVICE	9
Cabinet Division	11
Ministry of Public Administration	13
Ministry of Home Affairs	18
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	25
Law and Justice Division	30
Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division	42
Ministry of Land	45
II. PUBLIC FINANCE AND PLANNING	53
Finance Division	55
Internal Resources Division	58
Financial Institution Division	62
Economic Relations Division	75
Planning Division	80
Statistics and Informatics Division	84
Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA)	87
III. HEALTH AND EDUCATION	99
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	101
Ministry of Primary and Mass Education	123
Secondary and Higher Education Division	127
Technical and Madrasah Education Division	129
IV. ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE	133
Power Division	135
Energy and Mineral Resources Division	138
Ministry of Housing and Public Works	140
Local Government Division	142

V.	SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	149
	Ministry of Science and Technology	151
	Information and Communication Technology Division	155
	Posts and Telecommunication Division	157
	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	165
VI.	TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION	175
	Bridges Division	177
	Ministry of Railways	179
	Ministry of Shipping	181
	Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism	189
VII.	ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD SECURITY	201
	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	203
	Ministry of Agriculture	215
	Ministry of Water Resources	216
	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief	222
	Ministry of Food	225
	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock	228
VIII.	TRADE, INDUSTRY AND EMPLOYMENT	239
	Ministry of Commerce	241
	Ministry of Industries	245
	Ministry of Labour and Employment	248
	Ministry of Textiles and Jute	252
	Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment	256
IX.	CULTURE AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT	265
	Ministry of Religious Affairs	267
	Ministry of Cultural Affairs	269
	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs	272
	Ministry of Youth and Sports	277
	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs	281
	Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs	283

INTRODUCTION

In the wake of a popular uprising on August 05, 2024, the autocratic regime, which ruled Bangladesh for more than 16 years, was deposed and the tyrant fled the country. An Interim Government, headed by Nobel Laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus, was formed on August 08, 2024. The unprecedented popular uprising occurred with participation from people of all walks of life, including students, workers, and women. More than 800 people were killed and more than 14,000 people were injured during the 36-day movement. The movement was an expression of the long-held desire of the people of Bangladesh to bring about structural changes in governance to ensure transparency and accountability and begin a new era of an economic system, which addresses the disparity and takes steps towards eliminating discrimination. The yearning for a democratic state since its founding in 1971, with the objective of equality, human dignity and social justice, became the clarion call since the uprising.

Realizing these aspirations requires various reform measures. The Interim Government, upon assuming the office, set reform as one of its key goals and has taken steps such as establishing eleven (11) Reform Commissions. Concurrently, the government has launched various reform measures of governance. Since then, there have been a host of reform measures in nine sectors. This booklet delineates key reform initiatives undertaken by the Interim Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh across various sectors, excluding the constitutional elements, which are documented in the July National Charter 2025, signed by 25 political parties in October 2025 through a nine-month discussion process. The reform measures delineated in this booklet reflect the government's commitment to transparency, accountability, discrimination-free, inclusive development.

The compilation represents a snapshot as of January 31, 2026, and is part of a continuous, evolving process. It is not an exhaustive list, but a living document that will be updated as reforms progress and new initiatives are adopted.



The reform initiatives within this sector are inextricably linked to the seismic shifts of the July Uprising, fueled by the collective will of students and the masses to dismantle decades of institutional decay. Driven by the mandate of a "New Bangladesh," the Interim Government has prioritized deep-rooted systemic overhauls across the Ministries of Public Administration, Home Affairs, and Foreign Affairs to restore accountability and human rights.

The Law and Justice Division is currently pivoting toward fundamental legal frameworks designed to prevent the resurgence of autocracy, while the Ministry of Land focuses on digital transparency to protect the rights of the common citizen. These initiatives represent more than mere administrative adjustments; they are a revolutionary effort to purge partisan influence and institutionalize the bravery witnessed on the streets. By aligning state functions with the spirit of the uprising, this sector aims to build a sovereign future grounded in equity and justice.

SECTOR I

GOOD
GOVERNANCE,
PUBLIC SECURITY
AND PUBLIC
SERVICE

CABINET DIVISION

1

Governance Performance Monitoring System (GPMS)

Type: Reform Initiative

In the aftermath of the July 2024 mass uprising and the ensuing societal awakening, public expectations regarding the performance and accountability of public administration and its affiliated institutions rose significantly. In response to these elevated expectations and in alignment with the government's broader reform agenda, there emerged a compelling need for a more pragmatic, structured, and results-oriented performance management framework.

To address this need, the government introduced the Governance Performance Monitoring System (GPMS), a regularized, institutionalized, and ICT-enabled monitoring mechanism designed to enhance the nexus between organizational planning and implementation. This system places a strong emphasis on achieving measurable, outcome-focused results and improving overall governance effectiveness. The Chief Adviser's Office, in collaboration

with the Cabinet Division, spearheaded the initiative to implement this system for the first time. The respective ministry/division will initiate the implementation process afterwards, followed by the departments/ agencies commencing with the next financial year.

Moreover, to ensure continuity and maintain a rolling planning cycle, each organization must incorporate a one-year plan at the start of each fiscal year. Within the GPMS framework, each ministry and division is required to develop a realistic, target-driven three-year strategic plan that specifies annual performance targets.

2

Renaming of Institutions Linked to Former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina

Type: Government Decision

Date: 26 June 2025

On 26 June 2025, the interim government announced that it has renamed 808 institutions and facilities previously bearing the names of ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her family members. The government also stated that the renaming of an additional 169 institutions and facilities is currently in process. According to the published list, the highest number of name changes occurred under the Ministry of Youth and Sports, with 205 institutions and facilities renamed. The Secondary and Higher Education Division ranks second, with 181 institutions already renamed and 134 more under process. Additionally, 84 institutions under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education have had their names changed.

MINISTRY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Completed Reforms

1

BCS (Age, Qualification, and Examination for Direct Recruitment) Rules, 2014

Type: Rules Amendment

Date: 11 December 2024 and 27 May 2025

The application fee for direct recruitment in the BCS examination has been reduced from Tk. 700 to Tk. 200 for general candidates and from Tk. 100 to Tk. 50 for underprivileged candidates. The marks for the viva voce have been reduced from 200 to 100 to ensure greater transparency in the recruitment process. Additionally, the rules have been amended to allow for special BCS examinations to facilitate the rapid recruitment of candidates in technical and professional cadres.

2

Revision of BPATC Publication Policy 2020

Type: Internal Policy Revision and Update

Date: Approved by the Board of Directors on
23 February 2025

The BPATC Publication Policy, originally formulated in 2002, underwent a comprehensive revision in 2020. The revised policy introduced several key changes, including:

- (a) Classification of publications into academic and non-academic categories;
- (b) Clarification of the roles, responsibilities, and terms of reference for various committees overseeing academic and non-academic publications; and
- (c) Formulation of detailed guidelines for the Bangladesh Journal of Public Administration.

Since its approval by the Board, the revised Publication Policy has been in effect and continues to guide all publication-related activities at BPATC.

3

Revision of Training Evaluation Policy (Amended) 2024

Type: Internal Policy Revision and Update

Date: Approved by the Board of Directors on
23 February 2025

The Training Evaluation Policy (Revised 2024) of BPATC applies to all courses conducted by BPATC and its regional centers, including foundation, short, and special foundation training courses, as well as those organized under BPATC's supervision in other training institutions. The revised policy outlines clear objectives to ensure a fair, transparent, and comprehensive evaluation system across all training programs. The revisions approved by the Board aim to enhance training quality, strengthen facilitation, promote participant welfare, and improve the overall assessment process.

4

Revision of BPATC Research Policy, 2021

Type: Internal Policy Revision and Update

Date: Approved by the Board of Directors on
23 February 2025

The proposed amendments to the existing Research Policy 2021 have been reviewed and approved by the Board. The key changes include the formation of a Research Ethics Committee to oversee the ethical aspects of research projects, refinement of the research proposal selection process through the engagement of two evaluators for each proposal and presentation sessions for feedback, as well as updated budget regulations and strengthened consultancy services of BPATC. The revised policy is expected to enhance institutional capacity for evidence-informed decision-making and contribute to the overall capacity development of the civil service.

5

Approval of BPATC Clinic Management Guideline 2024

Type: Internal Policy Revision and Update

Date: Approved by the Board of Directors on
23 February 2025

The first-ever BPATC Clinic Management Guideline 2024 has been approved by the Board, incorporating key provisions for effective clinic management. These include ensuring efficient utilization of resources, enhancing service quality, and promoting technical and infrastructural development. The guideline also outlines steps to upgrade the clinic into a 10-bed hospital, ensure regular attendance and service delivery by doctors and staff through continuous monitoring, and manage the preparation, storage, and supply of medicines and medical equipment based on demand. Additionally, it authorizes the determination of annual limits for free medicine supply per employee, with special provisions for chronic or critical illnesses such as kidney, heart, liver, diabetes, and hypertension-related diseases.

6

Amendment to BPATC Housing Guidelines 2002 (Revised up to 2020)

Type: Internal Policy Revision and Update

Date: Approved by the Board of Directors on
23 February 2025

BPATC's Housing Guidelines 2002 have been periodically updated, with the last major revisions made in 2020. These updates, pending Board approval, were formally endorsed on 23 February 2025. The key changes include the reclassification of house types to align more closely with national housing standards and reforms in the allotment process to make it more transparent, efficient, and user-friendly.

7

Extension of Age Limit from 30 to 32 Years

Type: Ordinance

Date: 18 November 2024

An ordinance was promulgated to extend the age limit for direct recruitment from 30 to 32 years in all government, autonomous, semi-autonomous, and statutory authorities, as well as public non-financial corporations and self-governed organizations.

8

Training for Public Administration

Type: Decision

Date: 14 December 2025

The National Training Council has expanded training opportunities for government officials by increasing the maximum age limit for in-service officers to enroll in Master's and PhD programs from 45 to 47 years. In addition, the upper age limit for foundational training for non-cadre employees has been raised from 50 to 55 years.

To further strengthen the public administration training system, the Council has undertaken several key initiatives. These include developing a comprehensive training framework, introducing a ranking system for training institutions, formulating strategies to ensure the quality of training programs, and establishing mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating training outcomes.

Other Reforms

1

Preservation of Waiting List in Direct Recruitment

Type: Circular

Date: 25 August 2025

A circular has been issued regarding the preservation of waiting lists for direct recruitment to posts of all grades in ministries/divisions and their subordinate government offices, directorates, departments, autonomous bodies, statutory bodies, and various corporations. To fill vacant positions, a waiting list shall be prepared at a ratio of 1:2 (one to two) against each recommended candidate for the vacant post.

2

Extension of Leave for Religious Festivals

Type: Executive Order

Date: 21 October 2024

The duration of official leave for religious festivals has been extended. Leave for Eid-ul-Fitr and Eid-ul-Azha has been increased from 3 to 5 days, while leave for Durga Puja has been extended from 1 to 2 days.

MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Completed Reforms

1

Inclusion of Section 173A about interim investigation report in the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 10 July 2025

The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 was amended by the Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025. Section 173A was introduced through this amendment. Under Section 173A, the appropriate police authority may direct an Investigating Officer to submit an interim report on any case under investigation. If the interim report finds insufficient evidence against any accused, it may be submitted to the Magistrate or Tribunal for the discharge of such accused. Notwithstanding the discharge, the Investigating Officer may subsequently include the name of the accused in the final police report if sufficient and substantive evidence is later found.

2

Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 10 August 2025

The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 was amended by the Code of Criminal Procedure (Second Amendment) Ordinance, 2025. The

Amendment seeks to modernise the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 by improving procedural safeguards in criminal investigations, arrests, detention, remand and trial. The Amendment aims to enhance transparency, accountability and alignment with human rights.

3

Passport Issue Without Police Verification

Type: Decision

Date: 18 February 2025

Police verification has been relaxed in case of passport issuance as per Home Ministries memo no-58.00.0000.043.99.002.24 (part-2).97; Dated: 18/02/2025. As a result 10,92,410 new passports have been issued timely to applicant in Bangladesh and 10,647 passports have been issued to expatriate Bangladeshis without police verification (upto 10/09/2025).

4

Overstay fine increased for foreigners (in case of Visa)

Type: Decision

Date: 04 December 2024

To discourage illegal stay in Bangladesh, overstay fine has been increased upto 3000 tk per day for illegally staying foreign nationals.

5

Anti-Terrorism Act

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 11 May 2025

The Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has been promulgated by amending sections 18 and 20 of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009.

6

The Bangladesh Correctional Services Act, 2025

Type: Correction and Rehabilitation of Prisoners.

Date: Expected by 2026

This Act establishes a professional Prison Service ensuring secure custody under conditions of human dignity, mandated by the Constitution and international standards. It governs the development, reintegration, and release of prisoners, alongside prison administration and inspections. To provide a modern legal framework for prisoner rehabilitation and rights, this Act hereby repeals and replaces the Prisons Act, 1894 and the Prisoners Act, 1900, aligning domestic penal practices with contemporary constitutional and international obligations.

7

Narcotics Control (Officers-Employees) Weapons Collection and Use Policy, 2024

Type: Policy

Date: December 2024

Considering the security risks to unarmed officers during anti-narcotics operations to reinforce activities against drug abuse, the “Narcotics Control (Officers-Employees) Weapons Collection and Use Policy, 2024” has been formulated and notified on December 9, 2024. A total of 579 officers, from sub-inspectors to deputy directors, have been allowed to carry 9 mm semi-automatic pistols. So far, 160 officers have received training to handle the weapons.

8

Formation of Police Commission

Type: Ordinance

Date: 09 December 2025

The Police Reform Commission, taking a comprehensive view of the matter, has reached a policy consensus on the formation of an independent and impartial “Police Commission” On 09 December 2025, the Police Commission Ordinance, 2025 (Ordinance No. 76 of 2025) was issued to ensure professionalism, accountability, and responsibility among members of the Bangladesh Police Force.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Ansar Battalion Rules

Type: Ordinance Amending Legislation

Date: Ongoing process

To enforce the Ansar Battalion Act-2023, a few issues arise, like 'defining appointing authority,' 'defining inability in case of disciplinary procedure,' 'defining authority in disciplinary procedure,' etc. Without addressing these issues, the proper functioning of the Ansar Battalion faces a lot of disputes. So the proposal for ordinance promulgation had been sent to the home ministry.

2

VDP Regulation

Type: Amending Regulation

Date: Ongoing process

Village Defense Party (VDP) works under VDP Act-1995. This is a huge voluntary force. Though the act was passed in 1995, no regulation has been issued yet. As a result, a lot of confusion arises in the field level to define the job of VDP members. For want of regulation, the benefits for VDP members are not well defined. To overcome these problems, formation of VDP regulation is going on.

3

The Ansar Regulation

Type: Amending Regulation

Date: Ongoing process

The Ansar Act was enacted in 1995, and the Ansar Regulation came into being in 1996. To address various operational and administrative questions raised today, it is necessary to amend the existing Ansar Regulations to redefine age limit of Ansar members, training curriculum, disciplinary issues, educational and physical qualifications, etc. The endeavor of forming the amended regulation is going on.

4

TO&E Reform

Type: TO&E Reform

Date: Ongoing process

Bangladesh Ansar & VDP follows the TO&E made by the Martial Law Committee on organizational setup in 1992 with very little amendment to date. To cope with the needs of necessities of present challenges, it is felt to upgrade the TO&E so that this force may have proper functioning in operational, administrative, and training activities.

5

Fire Prevention and Extinction Act, 2003

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: Ongoing process

The Fire Prevention and Extinction Act, 2003, needs amendment to clarify responsibilities, penalties, and operational scope. Including activities currently carried out but outside the legal definition, and aligning with international standards. The amendments will enhance public safety, transparency, and regulatory control.

6

Fire Prevention and Extinction Rules, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing process

Although the Fire Prevention and Extinction Rules were approved in 2014, but it remained suspended. The earlier regulation no longer meets current technological, urban, and safety needs. Modern buildings, industrial facilities, and chemical plants require more precised provisions, including advanced fire detection, alarm, sprinkler, and hazardous materials safety systems. The proposed new rules 2025 will clarify responsibilities, approval procedures, and penalties including the changes in fees and service charges.

7

Prisons Directorate Recruitment Rules, 2025

Type: Rule Reform

Date: Expected by December, 2025

It is necessary and expedient to remove ambiguity and complexity of the Prisons Directorate Recruitment Rules, 2011 (amended 2017) with regard to recruit, appointment, transfer, promotion and other administrative functions, to keep pace with the service rules, to include new posts, recruit and appointments for the smooth running of the prisons administration. In order to achieve these ends, the outdated Prisons Directorate Recruitment Rules, 2011(amended 2017) to be replaced by the Prisons Directorate Recruitment Rules, 2025.

8

Dope Test Rules

Type: Rules

Date: Ongoing Process

A technical and an expert committee were formed by the Department Of Narcotics Control to take effective measures to identify drug addicts. Based on the series of meetings and recommendations of the aforesaid committees, the draft of the “Dope Test Rules” was formulated and revised gradually. Later, the revised “Dope Test Rules, 2025” were sent to the Ministry of Home Affairs on 16 September 2025, based on the observations of the Ministry of Public Administration and the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs. The draft was reviewed and finalized at a meeting held at the Ministry of Home Affairs on October 7, 2025, chaired by the Senior Secretary, and then sent back to the ministry.

9

Ordinance repealing/ amending legislation

- In the changed context, The Security of family members of the Father of the Nation Act, 2009 was repealed (09/09/2025).
- An initiative has been taken to formulate the Touts Control Ordinance, 2025 and The Gambling Prevention Ordinance, 2025, by repealing The Touts Act, 1879 (Act no. XVIII of 1879) and The Public Gambling Act, 1867 . Currently, the draft has been sent to The Ministry of Public Administration for the standardization of language.

10

Mandatory GD Registration

Registration of a General Diary (GD) at the police station is compulsory, and under no circumstances can a GD be refused.

A phased initiative has been launched to implement online GD (General Diary) registration at all police stations. This allows applicants to file a GD online without physically visiting the station, eliminating the possibility of GD refusal or the misuse of authority for personal gain.

Currently, online GD services have been activated in 75% of police stations/units, and efforts are ongoing to roll out the system at all remaining stations.

11

Enactment of Legislation for NTMC (Personal Privacy Protection and State Surveillance Regulation Ordinance, 2025)

Type: Ordinance

Date: Submitted to the Ministry of Home Affairs on 15
October 2025

The proposed Personal Privacy Protection and State Surveillance Regulation Ordinance, 2025 aims to safeguard citizens' right to privacy and to establish a comprehensive legal framework for regulating state surveillance activities in Bangladesh. The ordinance will clearly define the scope of the right to privacy, digital communications, and surveillance mechanisms, and will set explicit legal boundaries for the collection, storage, use, and interception of information by both public and private entities.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Ongoing Reforms

1

Formulating a comprehensive “Diaspora Engagement Policy”

This policy is being formulated to leverage the contributions of the Bangladeshi diaspora to serve national interest globally and to ensure their contribution in national development.

2

Developing a national roadmap to counter human trafficking and migrant smuggling

Developed through a collaborative process with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in early 2025. This roadmap aims to strengthen legal frameworks, law enforcement capacity, and victim protection mechanisms.

3

Expansion of e-Passport and National ID Card services through Bangladesh Missions abroad

Government is expanding the e-Passport and National ID Card services through Bangladesh diplomatic missions abroad to provide better services to the Bangladeshi migrants.

4

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

Bangladesh acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance within the very first month of the assumption of the office of the current Interim Government. With this accession, Bangladesh became the 76th State Party to the Convention and a party to all nine-core international human rights treaties. Following the accession, the Government has initiated the process for aligning the domestic legislations along the international standards. The Government has already prepared a draft of the Enforced Disappearance (Repression, Prevention and Protection) Ordinance, 2025, and it will be finalized after the completion of due consultation process with all relevant stakeholders.

5

Introduction and Implementation of a Postal Voting System for Non-Resident Bangladeshis through the “Postal Vote BD” App

(Out-of-Country Voting and Postal Ballot System)

Date: Ongoing

For the first time, Bangladesh has introduced a postal voting initiative for expatriate voters, enabling non-resident Bangladeshis to exercise their voting rights from abroad in the upcoming 13th National Parliamentary Election and related referendums. Through digital registration via the “Postal Vote BD” app, eligible expatriate voters can participate in the electoral process while residing overseas.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through Bangladesh missions abroad, is supporting the Election Commission by disseminating election-

related information to expatriate communities and facilitating coordination among relevant stakeholders to ensure the effective and orderly implementation of this initiative.

Other Reforms

1

Landmark 18-point Agreement and Joint Declaration

Facilitated on September 24, 2024, this declaration between labour representatives and employers addressed critical issues including minimum wages, service benefits, unlawful termination, and worker welfare. It included an agreed additional 4% annual increment for the RMG sector, effective from December 2024.

2

Simplifying Trade Union Registration

The existing online registration system, introduced in October 2021, is being further improved under the my Gov Platform to simplify the process. The ongoing Bangladesh Labor amendment is also considering setting up a fixed number of workers rather than fixing up a percentage of the total workforce for finalizing the membership threshold for unionization in a factory.

3

Improving Labour Inspection and Enforcement

Measures include filling vacant labour inspector posts, creating new positions, and conducting regular training. The Labour Inspection Management Application (LIMA) system is fully functional across all Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments (DIFE) Offices. The incorporation of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Labour complaints and investigation into the BLA has also been proposed.

4

Strengthening Labour Courts and Case Management

New Labour Courts have been established and made functional in locations like Narayanganj, Gazipur, and Cumilla, with judges and representatives recruited. An Online Case Management System is being developed with ILO support to monitor cases and eliminate backlogs.

5

Developing Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Mechanisms

A Conciliation and Arbitration Cell was established at the Department of Labour in September 2021. A Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Conciliation has been finalized, and the government is committed to making ADR fully functional, aiming to form an independent mechanism to ensure easily accessible justice to workers.

6

Addressing Anti-union Discrimination (AUD) and Unfair Labour Practices (ULP)

Measures include conducting regular awareness training for factory security staff and police. The ongoing BLA amendment has incorporated three times increased pecuniary penalties for ULP and AUD. The government has also decided to include a provision banning biometric blacklisting of workers in the amendment.

7

Reconstitution of Tripartite Consultative Councils (TCCs)

Councils such as the National Tripartite Consultative Council and RMG-TCC have been reformed, with worker and employer representatives selected through a democratic process utilizing a search committee to ensure true representation.

8

Considering Ratification of ILO Safety Conventions

Bangladesh is considering ratifying fundamental ILO conventions related to Occupational Safety and Health: C155(1981) and C187(2006).

9

Active Implementation of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM)

The GCM is being implemented through the Bangladesh Migration Compact Taskforce (BMCT), co-chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment. To implement the objectives of GCM, formulation of a National Action Plan (NAP) by the Government is underway.

10

Preparation of Bangladesh's Voluntary National Review (VNR)

This review is being prepared for submission to the International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) 2026 and will reflect Bangladesh's progress and best practices in GCM implementation. The draft report is expected by February 2026, with the final version anticipated by June 2026.

11

Expanding bilateral labour mobility partnerships

Initiatives include the EU-Bangladesh Talent Partnership (2024–2027), which is designed to create safe and legal pathways for overseas employment and skills-based migration opportunities.

12

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Bangladesh acceded to the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, becoming the 95th State Party to the instrument. By joining the Protocol, Bangladesh has recognized the competence of independent international and national bodies to visit places of detention. The establishment of a National Preventive Mechanism, in line with the provisions of the Protocol, is currently underway.

LAW AND JUSTICE DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Reform of the International Crimes (Tribunals) Act, 1973

Type: Amendments

Status: Implemented

Amendments to this Act introduced comprehensive reforms to align the law with international justice standards, ensuring transparency, neutrality, and expeditious trial of international crimes. Key features include:

- (a) Recognition of enforced disappearance as a crime against humanity;
- (b) Provision for live broadcast of trials to enhance public confidence;
- (c) Inclusion of foreign lawyers alongside local counsels;
- (d) Introduction of an opportunity for interim appeal;
- (e) Disqualification from election upon submission of a charge sheet for international crimes.

***Two tribunals have been constituted, and prosecutors, including the Chief Prosecutor, have been appointed to implement the reformed framework.*

2

Reform of the Supreme Court Judges Appointment Process

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

The Supreme Court Judges Appointment Ordinance, 2025 ensures transparency, discipline, and merit-based appointments of judges to the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. Previously, appointments were often influenced by political considerations due to the absence of a defined legal framework. Under the new reform, the Supreme Court Judicial Appointment Council has been established to invite applications, conduct interviews, and recommend appointments based on merit. Through this process, 25 judges have recently been appointed to the Supreme Court.

3

Reform of Civil Justice System under the Code of Civil Procedure

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

The Code of Civil Procedure (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has modernized the civil justice system, making it faster, less costly, and more technology-friendly. Major features include:

- (a) Written statements and pleadings are now submitted only in writing—eliminating the earlier requirement of oral presentation before the court; What once took years can now be completed within a single day.
- (b) Execution of decrees can now be carried out within the original suit, removing the need for separate execution cases. Court orders are directly enforced by law enforcement agencies, saving years of delay.
- (c) Frequent adjournments have been restricted, compensation for false cases has been more than doubled, and summons can now be served via mobile and WhatsApp, saving time and cost.

4

Reform of Women and Children Repression Prevention Act

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

This amendment Ordinance introduces significant reforms to ensure swift and fair justice in cases involving women and children. It establishes separate 'Child Rape Tribunals', mandates investigation within 30 days and trial completion within 90 days, and formally recognizes sexual abuse of male children as a distinct and punishable offence.

5

Reformations as to Power of Attorney

Type: Rules

Status: Implemented

Recent amendment simplifies the execution of Power of Attorney (PoA) for expatriate Bangladeshis through online attestation. Previously, a valid Bangladeshi passport was mandatory for executing a PoA from abroad, causing difficulties for persons of Bangladeshi origin. Under the new rules, individuals can now execute a PoA without a Bangladeshi passport if they possess a foreign passport with a "No Visa Required (NVR)" sticker, a Bangladeshi birth certificate, or a National Identity Card (NID), thereby facilitating smoother handling of property transfers and other legal matters for Bangladeshis living abroad.

6

Reformations as to Court Information Centers

Type: Initiative and Executive Action

Status: Implemented

Establishes Information and Service Centers in all Chief Judicial Magistrate Court premises to ensure citizens' right to information. Litigants can now easily access case updates, hearing dates, and procedural information, significantly reducing harassment and improving transparency in judicial services.

7

Reformation as to Marriage Registration Rules

Type: Rules

Status: Implemented

Introduces online registration of marriage and divorce, modernizes the kabinnama form by including photographs of the bride and groom, and removes the gender-discriminatory term “kumari” (unmarried girl) to ensure clarity and equality.

8

Reformation Regarding Testimony of Government Witnesses

Type: Practice Direction/Circular

Status: Implemented

Previously, government witnesses such as judges, doctors, and police officers were required to appear in distant courts in person to provide testimony, resulting in loss of valuable working hours and increased government expenditure. Under the new provision, government witnesses can now testify online, saving both time and public funds while ensuring a faster and more efficient judicial process.

9

Reformations as to Judicial Posts Creation and Recruitment Rules

Type: Rules

Status: Implemented

Strengthens institutional capacity and judicial independence through three new sets of rules. Empowers a Supreme Court-led committee to create judicial posts, eliminating delays caused by inter-ministerial approvals. Introduces clear provisions on judges’ transfer, posting, promotion, and service conditions to ensure independence. Replaces local recruitment of supporting staff with a centralized process under the Judicial Service Commission to ensure transparency and merit-based appointments.

10

Reform of Criminal Justice under the Code of Criminal Procedure

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Amendment) Ordinance strengthens legal safeguards, ensures speedy justice, and enhances protection for victims and witnesses. Key reforms include:

- Police must carry nameplates and identity cards during arrests. The arresting police station is required to inform relatives and provide medical care if the arrestee is injured or ill, under judicial supervision.
- Victims no longer need to file cases against false accusations; judges can directly punish the complainant, with penalties for false cases significantly increased.
- Protection for witnesses and victims has been enhanced, and the summary trial procedure has been made more effective.
- Provisions for pre-investigation scrutiny and restrictions on unnecessary arrests have been introduced.

11

Mandatory Mediation before Litigation

Type: Ordinance/Rules

Status: Implemented

Recent Amendments Introduce mandatory mediation before filing cases relating to family disputes, maintenance of parents, house rent issues, pre-emption, and certain partition matters. This reform aims to ensure faster, cost-free, and harassment-free resolution of disputes without resorting to lengthy court proceedings.

12

Reformations as to Strengthening Legal Aid Services

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

Expands district legal aid offices by appointing three judges instead of one, with retired District Judges serving as mediators. Mediation agreements under legal aid are now final, binding, and enforceable like court decrees. Introduces an easy-to-remember hotline number (16699) for free legal advice to ensure wider public access to justice.

13

Reformations as to Nomenclature of Civil Courts

Type: Ordinance

Status: Implemented

The ordinance renames 'Assistant Judge Court' and 'Senior Assistant Judge Court' as 'Civil Judge Court' and 'Senior Civil Judge Court' respectively. This reform removes linguistic inconsistencies and public confusion regarding the courts' jurisdiction and independence, making the judicial structure clearer and more accessible to litigants.

14

Reformations as to Separation of Civil and Criminal Courts

Type: Administrative and Structural Reform

Status: Implemented

Previously, judges used to adjudicate both civil and criminal cases simultaneously, which slowed down the judicial process and caused suffering for litigants. To reduce case backlog and ensure speedy justice, civil and criminal courts have now been separated nationwide. Additionally, 871 new courts and tribunals, including those dealing with child rape prevention, have been established at various levels, minimizing the dual responsibilities of judges and expediting the delivery of justice.

15

Full Digitization of Document Attestation Services

Type: Digital Reform

Status: Implemented

Previously, the process of document verification and attestation for study or employment abroad was manual, time-consuming, costly, and cumbersome. Applicants had to visit multiple government offices and wait in long queues to receive the service. Now, the entire process has been digitized, allowing applicants to complete all steps—from document submission to fee payment—online from home. This reform has significantly saved time and costs for outbound individuals and eliminated harassment and unnecessary hassle.

16

Amendment of Laws to Prevent Vexatious Litigation

Type: Legislative Reform

Status: Implemented

To curb harassment through false or vexatious cases, the Code of Criminal Procedure has been amended and the Cyber Protection Ordinance has been enacted. The amendment to the code of criminal procedure introduces provisions for submitting an interim investigation report to relieve individuals falsely implicated in cases.

17

Other Key Initiatives of the Ministry of Law

Type: Administrative and Legal Reform

Status: Implemented

Recommendations have been made for the withdrawal of over 19,000 vexatious cases. Under the Digital Security Act, 2018, and the Cyber Security Act, 2023, a total of 408 cases related to speech offences have been withdrawn. Additionally, all sentences and ongoing investigations or trials under these laws for speech offences have been annulled. A high-level committee has been formed to ensure proper and efficient prosecution of cases filed for serious crimes, including killings during the July mass uprising.

18

Institutional Separation and Autonomy of The Judiciary

To reduce executive influence over judicial administration, the Government has promulgated the Supreme Court Secretariat Ordinance, 2025, placing overall control of the Secretariat with the Hon'ble Chief Justice and establishing a framework for enhanced institutional and financial autonomy for the Supreme Court and related judicial administration. No Government did this in the 54 years of independent Bangladesh.

19

Enforced Disappearances: Treaty Commitment and Domestic Legal Framework

Under the Interim Government Bangladesh has acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED) and has, for the first time, promulgated a domestic legal instrument addressing enforced disappearance, reflecting the urgency of reversing a long-standing culture of impunity and ensuring prevention, investigation, and accountability under law. The National Human Rights Commission has been given the power to ensure the protections and measures provided in this law.

20

National Human Rights Commission: Powers, Independence, and Preventive Oversight

The Government has promulgated a new National Human Rights Commission Ordinance to strengthen the NHRC's independence, pluralism, and effectiveness, aligned with the Paris Principles. The Ordinance provides for stronger institutional capacity and structured work through thematic mechanisms, and it also establishes a preventive oversight function consistent with Bangladesh's commitments under the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture (OPCAT), including the ability to conduct preventive visits to places of detention.

21

Human-Rights Safeguards in Criminal Process (Crpc Reforms)

The Government has amended the Code of Criminal Procedure introducing concrete safeguards around arrest and detention—most notably: clear identification obligations for arresting officers, formal arrest documentation, time-bound family notification, access to counsel/relatives, and medical examination obligations where injuries are present. These safeguards are designed to reduce arbitrariness and strengthen transparency at the earliest stages of deprivation of liberty.

Notably, in the aftermath of the July mass-movement, criminal cases implicating a large number of accused-persons (including leaders and members of the previous ruling party) were filed by private complainants, not by the Government. In the conventional criminal justice process, screening such cases through ordinary investigation and court procedures could take a long time. Therefore, the Government has inserted a new provision in the Criminal Procedure Code allowing an interim investigation report to be placed before the Magistrate/Tribunal for possible discharge during investigation—helping deter misuse of criminal cases and reduce unnecessary arrests, while allowing credible cases to proceed. This process has already resulted in the exoneration of a substantial number of accused persons.

22

International Partnership and The Un

The Interim Government has enabled an enhanced UN human rights presence by signing a three-year MoU with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) to open a mission in Dhaka, to support technical cooperation on institutional strengthening, human rights oversight, and implementation of reforms. The Interim Government also facilitated OHCHR's independent fact-finding into serious violations related to the July–August 2024 protests; OHCHR concluded that the documented abuses warrant further criminal investigation and may amount to crimes against humanity.

23

Enforced Disappearance Prevention and Redress (Amendment) Ordinance 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: 1 December, 2025

The government has promulgated the Enforced Disappearance Prevention and Redress (Amendment) Ordinance 2025, introducing a significant provision that enables the tribunal to formally recognize an individual as ‘disappeared’ if they have been unaccounted for a minimum period of five years.

The amendment authorizes the government to appoint an adequate number of public prosecutors to the Enforced Disappearance Prevention and Redress Tribunal, acting on recommendations made by the National Human Rights Commission.

It also enhances victims’ access to justice by allowing victims or complainants to engage legal counsel of their own choosing to represent them in proceedings before the tribunal.

24

Commercial Court Ordinance 2026

Type: Policy Initiative

In a significant step aimed at enhancing trade fairness and driving economic growth, the government has promulgated the Commercial Court Ordinance, 2026. The ordinance sets out an expansive definition of commercial disputes, encompassing day-to-day business dealings involving traders, banks, merchants, and financial institutions. It also applies to disagreements linked to the application, interpretation, and enforcement of commercial instruments, as well as disputes connected to export and import activities.

The scope of the ordinance extends to a wide array of commercial arrangements, including franchising, distribution, licensing, management, consultancy, joint ventures, shareholder and partnership agreements, and contracts related to technological development. Transactions within the service sector—such as outsourcing and financial services—are expressly brought under its jurisdiction.

Through the Commercial Court Ordinance, 2025, specialised commercial courts have been established, featuring document-based trials, disposal of cases within 90 days, mediation, virtual hearings, and online case management facilities.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Permanent Attorney Service

Type: Ordinance

Status: In progress

Aims to establish a permanent and skilled attorney service to strengthen state litigation management.

Other Reforms

1

Introduction of Bail Bond Management Software

Type: Digital Reform

Status: Implemented

Previously, after a bail order was granted, the bail bond had to pass through 12 procedural steps—from the lawyer to the court and finally to the prison—which caused delays and complexities. As a result, even after being granted bail, a person often had to remain in custody for several days. Now, with the newly developed bail bond software, the bail bond is transmitted to the prison with a single click, allowing the immediate and hassle-free release of the accused.

2

Online Summons, Cause List and E-Family Court

Type: Digital and Procedural Reform

Status: Implemented

To simplify and modernize judicial and legal services, new provisions have been introduced for online mediation through Legal Aid Offices, online marriage registration, and online issuance of summons in both civil and criminal cases. The establishment of the e-Family Court is also in its final stage, representing a significant advancement toward a fully digital and accessible judicial system.

LEGISLATIVE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Election Observation and Media Policy (Local and International) & Journalist Policy (Amendment), 2025

The Election Observation and Media Policy (Local and International) and the Journalist Policy have been finalized by the Commission. A notification has also been issued for the registration of local election observer organizations.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Specialized Wings

Type: Organisational set up for Legislative Research, Legislative Editing and Treaty Management.

Date: A proposal has been sent to the Ministry of Public Administration on 10 July, 2025 for the establishment of three Wings namely Legislative Research Wing, Legislative Editing Wing and Treaty Wing

The Legislative Research Wing will help the government to determine the necessity of enacting a law, to assess the possible impact of the proposed law, etc. The Legislative Editing Wing will ensure the preparation of a flawless and correct draft of the legislation. The Treaty Wing will ensure the involvement of the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division in all stages of execution of a Treaty/Agreement those are concluded by the government with other governments or organisations.

2

Codification of Subordinate Legislations

Type: Compilation and Codification of subordinate legislations

Date: Codification will be completed by June 2026 and online publication will be completed by December 2026.

All the existing subordinate laws (rules, regulations, bye-laws, orders, etc.) from the year of 1799 to 2025 will be compiled and published. The whole task of compilation is planned to be completed by June, 2026. Later, it will be published online by December 2026. The compilation activities will be completed in five packages. Consultants have been appointed for three Packages. After having the job done, all the subordinate legislations will be in a place both in hard copy and soft version and it will be a great help for the users.

3

Updating Laws of Bangladesh website

Type: Access to Law

Date: The website will be updated by June 2026

Hiring a consultation firm, for procuring intellectual and professional services, and to establish and maintain the Laws of Bangladesh website, is almost done. Technical committee is assessing the proposals submitted by the interested firms.

Other Reforms

1

Legislative Training and Research Institute

Type: Establishing Training and Research Institute

Date: A Resolution has been issued by the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division on 17 June, 2025 establishing the Institute

It is a capacity building initiative. Officials of the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division and other Ministries/Divisions will be skilled in law making activities.

2

Translation of Selected Laws

Type: Access to Law

Date: Translation will be completed by June 2026

Consulting firm has submitted translated copies of 120 laws. After scrutinizing by a panel, the copies have been sent to the press for printing. Hiring of consultants for the translation of another 130 laws is under process.

MINISTRY OF LAND

Completed Reforms

1

Land Crime Prevention and Control

Type: Rules (Land Crime Prevention and Remedies Rules, 2024)

Date: 24 October 2024

The purpose of the rules is to establish the right of the land owners, having legal documents and to protect the land from illegal occupants through a rapid procedure.

2

Establishment of Land Services Facilitating Centres

Type: Guidelines (Land Services Facilitation Guidelines, 2025)

Date: February 2025

Land Services Facilitating Guidelines are formulated to provide land services to the citizens through private entrepreneurs in exchange of a fixed service charge. The objective is to ease the process of submitting the applications. So far, 820 Land Services Facilitating Centres (LSFC) have been launched in 61 Districts.

3

The Land Appeal Board

Type: Amendments of previous rules (Land Appeal Board Rules, 2025)

Date: 17 April 2025

As per the Rules of Land Appeal Board, the Chairman and the Members shall jointly give orders on the appeal or revision after hearing the parties, and such orders shall be deemed to be orders of the Board. There will be no decision by the members or the chairman individually.

4

Establishment and Construction of Hat and Bazar

Type: Rules {Hat and Bazar (Establishment and Construction) Rules, 2025}

Date: 06 October 2025

These rules are formulated with a view to strengthening the management of Hat and Bazar, including the construction of multi-storied buildings, and to increase the collection of government revenue.

5

Fixation of the Lease Value Rate of Vested Property

Type: Circular

Date: 16 October 2025

Fixation of the lease value rate of the leased vested property in favour of educational institutions, religious institutions, charitable institutions, government institutions, and social organizations operated for non-commercial and non-profit purposes.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Land Use and Protection

Type: Ordinance (Land Use and Agricultural Land Protection Ordinance, 2025)

Date: Draft is being finalized

The draft of the ordinance is formulated to establish zone-based use of land for the purpose of conserving agricultural land and proper use of other lands according to geomorphology, character and topography of the land to ensure food security, protect biodiversity and the environment for present and future generations.

2

Management of Sand and Soil

Type: Rules (Sand and Soil Management Rules, 2025)

Date: Now at the draft stage

The draft of the Rules is prepared for the purpose of detailing the provisions of the Act for proper implementation, especially by the management committees of the district and ministerial level.

3

Management of Government Jolmohal

Type: Ordinance (The Government Jolmohal Ordinance, 2025)

Date: Process ongoing / Draft Legislation

The draft ordinance is formulated in order to maintain possession of government-owned water bodies, preserve records, lease out, provide security, secure the surrounding environment and aquatic diversity, and consider them as one of the sources of government revenue.

4

Preservation and Management of Miscellaneous Sayrat Mohal

Type: Policy Guidelines for Preservation and Management of Miscellaneous Sayrat Mohal 2025.

Date: Process ongoing

Among the Sayrat Mohals, at present, there are specific rules, regulations and policies only for the management of Jal Mohal and Balu Mohal. Since there is no management and revenue collection policy for other Sayrat Mohals, such as Bhashan Mohal, Kath Mohal, Khas Mohal, Pan Mohal, Fal Mohal etc. an initiative has been taken by the Ministry of Land to formulate a policy called Miscellaneous Sayrat Mohal Conservation and Management Policy 2025. Currently, the work of finalizing the draft is underway.

5

Immovable Property Requisition and Acquisition

Type: Rules (The Immovable Property Acquisition and Requisition Rules, 2025)

Date: Process ongoing

Under section 49 of the Immovable Property Acquisition and Requisition Act, 2017, the Ministry of Land has taken initiative to formulate the Immovable Property Acquisition and Requisition Rules, 2025, for easing and detailing the operational process. At present, the draft of the rules has been sent to the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department for vetting/opinion.

6

Land Administration Manual

Type: Manual (Land Administration Manual- 4th Volume)

Date: Process ongoing

An initiative has been taken by the Ministry of Land to publish the 4th volume of Land Administration Manual by compiling the circulars, instructions, orders, policies, rules and regulations issued by the Ministry of Land, Land Appeal Board, Land Reforms Board, Department of Land Records and Survey and the office of the Comptroller of Accounts (Revenue) at different times. It is currently in the publication stage.

7

Strengthening of the ICT Cell of the Ministry of Land

Type: Organogram and Table of Organization & Equipment (TO&E)

Date: Process Ongoing

To meet the growing demand for digitalized land services, the ICT Cell of the Ministry of Land is being upgraded to a specialized category. In addition to the existing 11 positions, 27 new positions are being created, resulting in a total manpower structure of 38 posts. The Honorable Chief Adviser has already approved and signed the summary.

This initiative will support the monitoring, development, and sustainability of digitalized land services and will reduce dependency on external vendors.

Other Reforms

1

Land Service Automation System

Type: Launching of five software

Date: 1st December 2024 to 2nd March 2025

Ministry of Land launches new versions of software regarding Land Service Gateway (LSG), Digital Land Record and Map System (DLRMS), Land Administration Management System (LAMS), Land Development Tax System and Mutation System to develop a comprehensive and integrated Land Service Automation System.

2

Conduct a digitized survey in the whole area of Bangladesh to prepare an updated, error-free dynamic land record.

Type: A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Bangladesh and South Korea to conduct a digitised survey across the entire area of Bangladesh.

Date: 24 September 2025

Bangladesh signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with South Korea to carry out a digitized land survey in Bangladesh. The MoU will facilitate Korean technical and financial support to Bangladesh for completing the digitised cadastral survey and developing a comprehensive land management system in Bangladesh.

3

Digitized Survey and Updating Record of Rights in the Housing Project areas of RAJUK and National Housing Authority (NHA) by easing the process of mutation.

Type: Digitized Survey and easing and correcting the process of mutation.

Date: Process ongoing

To eliminate the long-standing public sufferings regarding mutation and payment of land development tax, the Ministry of Land has taken initiative to update the land records by collecting pentagraphs from RAJUK and National Housing Authority and to update land records of the plot holders of housing projects of RAJUK and National Housing Authority. At the same time, a digitized survey has been started in the Purbachal housing project of RAJUK.



The reform trajectory for the Public Finance and Planning sector is fundamentally shaped by the aftermath of the July Uprising, viewed as a mandate to end years of “crony capitalism” and financial opacity. The Interim Government’s approach across the Finance and Internal Resources Divisions focuses on stabilizing the macroeconomy and dismantling the structures that allowed massive capital flight under the previous regime. These initiatives are not merely fiscal adjustments; they are seen as a restoration of the public’s “economic sovereignty” born from the blood and sacrifice of the student-led uprising.

The Financial Institutions Division and Economic Relations Division are prioritizing the recovery of laundered assets and restructuring the banking sector to regain the trust of the masses. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Planning, Statistics and Informatics is being overhauled to ensure that national data is no longer a tool for political deception, but a transparent reflection of the people’s reality. Every reform in this sector serves as a tribute to the uprising’s demand for a “Fair Economy,” ensuring that state resources are never again weaponized against the citizens.

SECTOR II

PUBLIC
FINANCE
AND
PLANNING

FINANCE DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Public Accounts Audit Ordinance, 2025

Type : Public Accounts Audit Ordinance: Ordinance
amending legislation

Date : 17 April 2025 (Gazetted in May 2025)

The purpose of this ordinance is to improve efficiency and governance of the public accounts audit. In order to properly implement the provisions of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh regarding public accounts audit, to ensure greater transparency and accountability in the receipt and expenditure of public funds, and to enact provisions concerning audit activities at both national and international levels, the "Public Accounts Audit Ordinance, 2025" was published in the form of a gazette on May 4, 2025.

The Government Accounts Audit Ordinance, 2025, intends to modernize Bangladesh's public audit system by redefining the authority, scope, and accountability of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG). It introduces digital audit processes, performance audits, and provisions for transparency and real-time monitoring of public expenditure. The ordinance aims to ensure fiscal discipline,

enhance efficiency in resource utilization, and strengthen institutional integrity in financial governance. In the future, it will contribute to building a more accountable, data-driven, and transparent public financial management framework—aligning national audit standards with international best practices to foster good governance and sustainable economic management.

2

Amendment to the Outsourcing Policy to Ensure Recruitment and Work Environment for Women Employees

Type: Policy

The Outsourcing Service Receipt Policy, 2025 was issued by the Finance Division on 15 April 2025.

According to Clause 5(b)(3) of this policy:

“In tasks where the inclusion of women service workers enhances service delivery, priority must be given to the engagement of women service workers.”

This provision ensures that women are given preferential recruitment in roles where their participation improves the quality and efficiency of outsourced services.

Other Reforms

1

Social Protection Budget for FY 2025-26

Type: Budget

Date: June 2025

Almost 40% of the social protection budget for FY 2024/25 is allocated to programmes that do not directly target the poor - namely the Civil Service Pension, Savings Certificate Interest Assistance, and Agricultural Subsidy. If these programmes are excluded, the share of the social protection budget relative to GDP drops from 2.43%

to 1.78%. The programme Savings Certificate Interest Assistance' has been removed from the social protection budget. In the social protection budget document for FY 2025/26, the Finance Division will publish a list of pro-poor social protection programmes, providing a transparent overview of the schemes that specifically target the poor.

Bangladesh considers social security as an important development agenda from human rights aspects and as a tool for poverty reduction. In line with this, government has allocated Tk. 1,26,731Crore for its social security budget which is 16.04 percent of total national budget. Upholding the spirit of July Uprising, the government has undertaken measures to rationalize the number of programmes and the allocation of resources in the current fiscal year. More importantly, the government has consolidated certain programmes and increased benefit levels to enhance their overall effectiveness.

In FY 2025-26, for the welfare of the poverty-stricken and marginalized population, the government has allocated Tk. 3,106 crore more than the previous year in the eight main pro-poor programmes- representing a 17 percent increase. By comparison, the growth in budget allocation for these programmes in FY 2024-25 was only 8.5 percent. With the development of current Single Registry System, the government is now prioritizing the implementation of a Dynamic Social Registry(DSR) to enhance targeting through integration with other administrative systems of the government. Based on socioeconomic ranking and other defined criteria, eligible beneficiaries will be selected without bias that will substantially minimize targeting errors.

INTERNAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Revenue Policy and Revenue Management Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: 12 May 2025

An ordinance to facilitate the restructuring and splitting of the Revenue authority into two separate entities: the Revenue Policy Division and the Revenue Administration Division. The purpose of this ordinance is to improve efficiency and governance of the tax system while broadening the tax base and revenue collection. However, this decision has since been put on hold. The Ministry of Finance (MoF) announced in a press release on 22 May 2025, that all necessary amendments to the ordinance will be made by 31 July 2025, to ensure proper separation of revenue policy formulation and revenue administration.

2

Preparation and Publication of Authentic English Texts of VAT Act 2012, Income Tax Act 2023 and Customs Act 2023

Type: Ordinance

Date: 16 October 2025

For the benefit of foreign investors, authentic English versions of the above three laws have been prepared. The Income Tax Act 2023 has officially been published through a gazette notification issued on October 16, 2025. The Value Added Tax and Supplementary Duty Act, 2012 and Customs Act, 2023 are awaiting for publication.

3

Formulation of Tax Expenditure Policy and Management Framework (TEPMF)

Type: Policy

Date: 1 July 2025

To increase revenue and the tax-GDP ratio, a Formulation of Tax Expenditure Policy and Management Framework (TEPMF) was formulated, ending NBR's and government's discretionary powers to grant exemptions without legislation. It ensures transparency, accountability, fairness, and prevents misuse. It became effective from 1 July 2025.

4

Formulation and Implementation of Customs Strategic Action Plan 2024–2028

Type: Plan

NBR has launched the Customs Strategic Action Plan (2024–2028) to promote trade facilitation, revenue growth, transparency, modernization, and institutional development focusing on revenue, trade partnerships, safety, and HR (Human Resources).

Other Reforms

1

Formulation of Medium & Long-Term Revenue Strategy (MLTRS)

Type: Plan

To raise the tax-to-GDP ratio and ensure sustainable revenue growth, NBR has developed Formulation of Medium & Long-Term Revenue Strategy (MLTRS) covering FY2025–26 to FY2034–35 with six goals: automation, raising the tax-GDP ratio to 10.5%, improving compliance, narrowing the tax gap, uniform enforcement, and enhancing integrity. Its implementation will strengthen governance and revenue.

2

Mandatory Online Issuance of All Certificates, Licenses and Permits Through Bangladesh Single Window (BSW)

Type: Services

Date: 01 January 2025

Bangladesh Single Window (BSW) officially launched on 1 January 2025. It links 19 agencies with Customs ASYCUDA World, expediting import-export clearance. So far, more than 6 lakh certificates, licenses and permits have been issued automatically through the Bangladesh Single Window (BSW) system, 95% of which have been issued withing 1 day of submitting the online application.

3

Launch of Automated Customs Bond Management System (CBMS)

Type: System

Date: 01 January 2025

Launch of Automated Customs Bond Management System (CBMS) is an automated platform for bond licensing, auditing, and warehouse management. Fully operational since 1 January 2025, it digitizes all activities and will soon become mandatory like Bangladesh Single Window (BSW).

4

Formulation of Audit Guidelines to Ensure Transparency and Accountability in Audit Operations

Type: Guideline

Audit selection for individual taxpayers fully automated; comprehensive guidelines prepared for corporate audits to ensure lawful, transparent, and fair assessments.

FINANCIAL INSTITUTION DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Bangladesh Bank (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024

Type: Ordinance

Date: 13 August 2024

Further amendment of the Bangladesh Bank Order, 1972 (President's Order No. 127 of 1972). The proviso: "The Governor shall not hold office if he attains the age of sixty seven years." is omitted.

2

Bank Resolution Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance Formulation

Date: 09 May 2025 (Gazette Notification)

The Bank Resolution Ordinance, 2025, has been enacted to provide a legal framework for resolving banks in order to address capital shortfalls, liquidity crises, insolvency, or any other risks that threaten the existence of scheduled banks, to ensure financial stability, and to deal with related or incidental matters.

3

Grameen Bank (Amendment) Ordinance 2025

Type: Amendment of Ordinance

Date: 12 May 2025 (Published in the Gazette on 12 May, 2025)

The Grameen Bank (Amendment) Ordinance 2025 has been issued to increase the ownership share of borrowers/members of Grameen Bank and increase the participation of borrowers/members in the board of directors of Grameen Bank.

4

Non-Life Insurers Solvency Margin Regulations, 2024

Type: Formulation of Regulation

Date: Published in the Gazette on 15 October 2024

The Non-Life Insurers Solvency Margin Regulations, 2024 has been formulated to facilitate the maintenance of solvency margin for the non-life insurance business.

5

Life Insurers Solvency Margin Regulations, 2024

Type: Formulation of Regulation

Date: Published in the Gazette on 23 October 2024

The Life Insurer's Solvency Margin Regulations, 2024 has been formulated to facilitate the maintenance of solvency margin for the life insurance business.

6

Insurance Agents (Appointment, Registration and License) Regulations, 2021 (Amendment)

Type: Amendment of Regulation

Date: Published in the Gazette on 22 July 2025

The Insurance Agents (Appointment, Registration and License) Regulations, 2021 have been amended with a view to expediting the registration and license renewal activities of insurance agents by Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority (IDRA).

7

The Insurer's Revenue Account, Profit and Loss Account, and Balance Sheet Regulations, 2025

Type: Formulation of Regulations

Date: Published in the Gazette on 28th August 2025

The Insurer's Revenue Account, Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet Regulations, 2025 has been formulated to facilitate the preparation of separate accounts of insurance business, preparation of revenue account, profit and loss account and balance sheet.

8

Formulation of Uniform Policies for the Appointment and Promotion of Employees (up to DGM) of State-Owned Commercial and Specialized Banks

Type: Policy

Date: 04 August 2025 (Notification issued)

Two separate uniform policies have been formulated—one for state-owned commercial banks and another for specialized banks—with the objective of eliminating discrimination in the appointment and promotion of employees (up to DGMs), ensuring discipline in promotion and posting, and providing skilled manpower to the country's banking sector.

9

Amendment to the "Guidelines for Incentive Bonus" formulated for State-owned Commercial Banks, State-owned Specialized Banks and Financial Institutions

Type: Revision of Guidelines

Date: 25 September 2025 (Notification Issued)

The existing guidelines on the payment of incentive bonus to employees working in State-owned commercial banks, scheduled specialized banks, non-scheduled specialized banks and financial institutions are amended to make them up-to-date.

10

Formation of Capital Market Reform Task Force

Type: Task Force Formation

Date: 07 October 2024

A special Capital Market Reform Task Force was formed by the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission in order to ensure the overall development of the capital market, increase investors' confidence and ensure good governance of the capital market in Bangladesh in line with international standards.

11

Formation of Inter-Agency Task Force

Type: Task Force Formation

Date: 15 January 2025

A 12-member Inter-Agency Task Force has been formed to bring back and manage assets laundered abroad to Bangladesh and the amendment of money laundering law and rules is under process to strengthen this activity.

12

Chairman/Director Appointment Guideline 2025 for State-owned Commercial Banks, Specialized Banks, Financial Institutions along with Private Banks and Financial Institutions with Government Shares

Type: Amendment of Guideline

Date: 27 October, 2025

Guideline is issued for appointing Chairman/Directors of the Board of Directors of State-owned Commercial Banks, Specialized Banks, Financial Institutions along with Private Banks and Financial Institutions with Government Shares in order to establish discipline and good governance in this sector.

13

Reorganization of the Board of Directors of State-Owned Commercial Banks, Specialized Banks and Financial Institutions

Type: Reorganization of Board of Directors

Date: During August 2024 to July 2025

The Board of Directors of 31 institutions under the Financial Institutions Division has been restructured and 84 new directors have been appointed. New chairmen and MDs have been appointed to the Board of Directors of a total of 17 institutions, including 6 state-owned commercial banks, 6 specialized banks and financial institutions.

14

Bank Capital Increase

Type: Capital Increase

The authorized capital of Bangladesh Krishi Bank has been increased from Tk. 1,500 crore to Tk. 5,000 crore, the authorized capital of Karmasangsthan Bank from Tk. 1,000 crore to Tk. 2,000 crore and the paid-up capital has been increased from Tk. 559 crore to Tk. 1,559 crore, the authorized capital of Prabashi Kalyan Bank from Tk. 500 crore to Tk. 2,000 crore and the paid-up capital has been increased from Tk. 500 crore to Tk. 1,300 crore and the authorized capital of Palli Sanchay Bank from Tk. 1,000 crore to Tk. 6,000 crore.

15

Microfinance Bank Ordinance, 2026

Type: Ordinance

Date: 28 January, 2026

The Microfinance Bank Ordinance, 2026 has been enacted to address the absence of a legal framework for establishing and regulating microfinance banks. The Ordinance enables the formation of a new category of banks as social businesses aimed at poverty eradication, employment creation, and inclusive socio-economic development.

It allows microfinance banks to operate at district, divisional, or national levels and supports the expansion of existing microcredit activities within a regulated banking structure. The Ordinance is expected to strengthen governance and financial inclusion, benefiting millions of people across Bangladesh.

Ongoing Reforms

1

The Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation Order 1972 Amendment

Type: Amendment of the Order

Date: Activities ongoing

The process of amending the Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation Order, 1972 is underway to update the order and to increase the loan payment capacity of the corporation by maintaining retained earnings from its profit.

2

Deposit Protection Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Activities ongoing

As finance companies are not included in the existing Bank Deposit Insurance Act, 2000 and there are no adequate provisions regarding deposit protection, this Ordinance has been enacted to repeal the said Act and formulate a new provision to provide protection to deposits accepted by banking companies and finance companies operating in Bangladesh in order to contribute to maintain the stability of the financial sector of Bangladesh by increasing public confidence.

3

Distressed Asset Management Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: Activities ongoing

The Government has planned to enact the Distressed Asset Management Ordinance to strengthen the legal framework for the effective management, resolution, and recovery of non-performing and distressed assets in the financial sector.

4

Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Act Amendment

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: Activities ongoing

The process of amending the Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC) Act is underway to ensure the development, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the capital market.

5

Formulation of the Insurance Resolution Ordinance, 2025

Type: Formulation of Ordinance

Date: Activities ongoing

The Insurance Resolution Ordinance, 2025 will be enacted to facilitate the merger, acquisition, winding up and recapitalization of insurance companies in crisis in the insurance sector.

6

Bangladesh Insurance Academy Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: December, 2026 (Draft already formulated)

Activities have been taken to formulate the Bangladesh Insurance Academy Ordinance, 2025 with a view to strengthening the legal and institutional capacity of the academy.

7

Insurance Act, 2010 Amendment

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: Activities ongoing

Speedy settlement of insurance claims through amendments to the Insurance Act 2010; prevention of misuse of insurance customers' money and prevention of corruption; ensuring transparency, accountability and good governance in the insurance sector.

8

Amendment of the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority Act, 2010

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: Activities ongoing

The Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority Act, 2010 are being amended to provide the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority an extended capacity to develop and regulate the insurance sector.

9

Amendment to the Insurance Corporation Act, 2019

Type: Amendment to Act

Date: December, 2026 (Draft formulated)

An amendment to the Insurance Corporation Act, 2019 has been proposed to increase the paid-up capital of two state owned insurance corporations such as Shadharan Bima Corporation and Jiban Bima Corporation and to accommodate some new aspects in the act.

10

Micro Credit Regulatory Authority Act, 2006 Amendment

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: Activities ongoing

By amending the said act, customer protection/rights will be ensured. Fund supply will increase by increasing the rural savings of the customers in microfinance institutions. Thus good governance of microfinance institutions, reduced risks and efficient management will be ensured.

11

Amendment to Insurance Business Registration Fee Rules-2012

Type: Amendment of Rules

Date: Activities ongoing

Amendment to Insurance Business Registration Fee Rules, 2012 will simplify the insurance company registration process and increase revenue income.

12

Formulation of the 'Insurer's Advisor Appointment (Qualification and Experience) Regulations, 2025'

Type: Regulations

Date: December 2025 (Vetting completed by the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department)

Necessary steps have been undertaken to formulate the Insurance Advisor Appointment Regulations-2025 for the purpose of appointment on the basis of qualification and experience.

13

Formulation of 'Insurance Surveyor and Loss Adjuster Duties, Responsibilities and Code of Conduct Regulations-2025'

Type: Regulations

Date: December, 2025 (Vetting completed by the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department)

Necessary activities have been undertaken to formulate the Insurance Surveyor and Loss Adjuster Duties, Responsibilities and Code of Conduct Regulations-2025 for the purpose of determining the responsibilities and duties of insurance surveyors.

14

Amendment to 'Insurance Companies (Appointment and Removal of Chief Executive Officer) Regulations-2012'

Type: Amendment to Regulations

Date: December, 2025 (Activities are ongoing to send it to the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Department for vetting)

Amendment activities have been taken to 'Insurance Companies (Appointment and Removal of Chief Executive Officer) Regulations-

2012' with the aim of appointing skilled Chief Executive Officers for insurance companies.

15

Life Insurance Business Management Expenses Limitation Rules, 2020 Amendment

Type: Amendment of Rules

Date: June 2026 (Draft formulated)

The Life Insurance Business Management Expenses Limitation Rules, 2020 are being amended to minimize the management expenditures of life insurance companies and to protect the interest of the policy holders.

16

Non-Life Insurance Business Management Expenses Limitation Rules, 2018 Amendment

Type: Amendment of Rules

Date: June, 2026 (Draft formulated)

The Non-Life Insurance Business Management Expenses Limitation Rules, 2018 are being amended to minimize the management expenditures of non-life insurance companies and to improve the capacity of settlement of claims by the insurers.

17

Microcredit Regulatory Authority Rules, 2010 Amendment

Type: Amendment to Rules

Date: Activities ongoing

By amending the said rules, customer protection/rights will be ensured. The supply of funds will increase by increasing the rural savings of the customers in microfinance institutions. Thus good governance of microfinance institutions, reduced risks and efficient management will be ensured.

18

Amendment of the policy on appointment, promotion and posting of managing directors, deputy managing directors and general managers of state-owned commercial banks, specialized banks and financial institutions

Type: Amendment of Policy

Date: Activities ongoing

The policy on the appointment, promotion, and posting of Managing Directors, Deputy Managing Directors, and General Managers of state-owned commercial banks, specialized banks, and financial institutions is being amended to eliminate discrimination in appointments and promotions, ensure discipline in promotion and posting, and provide skilled manpower to the country's banking sector.

19

Formulation of uniform car loan policies for specialized banks and Financial Institutions

Type: Formulation of Policy

Date: Activities ongoing

Formulation of uniform car loan policy for senior officials of specialized banks and financial institutions are under process to bring uniformity of the policy among the said organizations and ensure discipline in this regard.

Other Reforms

1

Digitization of Micro Finance Services

Type: Digitization of Micro Finance Institutions Services

Date: 31 December 2024

Digitization of Micro Finance Services will save time, travel and cost (TVC) by reducing the need for physical documentation and manual

approvals. It is now possible to render services to the customers faster. The administrative operations of Microcredit Regulatory Authority have been made more efficient, transparent and modern through the online platform-based reform process. Approvals are being processed transparently and expeditiously.

2

Establishment of new single (1) bank through the resolution of five (5) distressed Islamic Shariah-based banks.

Type: Establishment of new Islamic Shariah-based bank

Date: Ongoing

With the aim of establishing overall financial discipline in the banking sector, restoring good governance and ensuring accountability the asset quality review (AQR) of five crisis-ridden scheduled banks—First Security Islami Bank PLC, Global Islami Bank PLC, Union Bank PLC, EXIM Bank PLC, and Social Islami Bank PLC—was conducted. These distressed banks have been unable to repay depositors' funds and the proceeds received against exporters' export bills. In this context, a proposal to establish a new Shariah-based bank named "Sammilito Islami Bank" through the resolution of these five (05) distressed Islamic Shariah-based banks has been approved in the Advisory Council.

3

Capital Market Surveillance System Upgradation

Type: System upgradation

Date: Activities ongoing

The capital market surveillance system upgrade program has been initiated to eliminate capital market manipulation and gain investors' confidence by ensuring transparency and accountability. The program will be completed by December 2025.

4

Digitization of Financial Services

Type: Digitization

Date: Activities ongoing

Financial Services are being digitized in state-owned commercial banks, specialized banks and financial institutions. Sonali Bank's Remittance Processing System (RPS) software has been integrated with the exchange house Instant Cash and Sonali Payment Gateway has been used to make payments of educational institution fees, government service payments, utility fees, VAT, tax, invoices, etc. through checks at the branch counter. The 'Premium Collection of Jiban Bima Corporation' module developed by Sonali Bank PLC has been launched in live operation to collect all insurance premiums and other fees/charges from the customers of Jiban Bima Corporation and Bangladesh Krishi Bank has launched Real Time Remittance Credit service.

ECONOMIC RELATIONS DIVISION

Ongoing Reform

1

Financing for reforms in Human Rights, Democracy and Good Governance in Bangladesh

Type: Good Governance

Date: January 2025 to December 2028

Following the mass student uprising in July 2024 and the subsequent swearing in of an Interim government, the political scenario of the country changed significantly, and Bangladesh entered a period of transition. In this context, the government of the Kingdom of Denmark financed reforms in Human Rights, Democracy, and Good Governance to achieve the objectives of the Bangladesh Development Programme (BDP) and meet the aspirations of citizens, particularly following the mass student uprising.

Other Reforms

1

Project Readiness criteria for external resources mobilization

Type: Institutional Capacity Development

Date: 27 July 2025

Economic Relations Division has issued a gazette notification on Project Readiness to ensure timely implementation of externally financed projects, safeguard the time value of money, and prevent cost overruns on 27 July 2025. This project readiness criteria will significantly contribute for the preparation, implementation and approval process of the development projects. This includes the following conditions that must be fulfilled before signing any loan agreement:

- (a) Approval of the project's DPP/TAPP by the competent authority, in accordance with the Planning Commission's relevant sectoral and institutional procedures.
- (b) Appointment of the Project Director and other essential personnel
- (c) Completion of necessary land acquisition by the sponsoring Ministry/ Division or its subordinate agency.
- (d) Submission of a Resettlement Action Plan to the Ministry concerned for persons affected by the project's land acquisition.
- (e) Preparation of cost estimates and draft bidding documents for goods/ works/ services, and completion of the entire procurement process up to contract award, where applicable.
- (f) Obtaining concurrence on the conditions of the Subsidiary Loan Agreement (SLA) from Finance Division where applicable, in line with the negotiated loan agreement between Development Partner and Economic Relations Division, and
- (g) Finalization of a clear, time-bound arrangement between concerned utility service provider and implementing agency

regarding the realignment of facilities associated with the project's physical construction works.

2

Establishment of Research Cell

Type: Institutional Capacity Development

Date: January 2025 - January 2026

The Economic Relations Division (ERD), Ministry of Finance, mobilizes loans, grants, and technical cooperation aligned with national plans and SDGs. Efficient mobilization requires debt service planning and analysis of interest rates, grace periods, and maturity. Establishing an ERD research wing is mandatory to optimize loan instruments and ensure sustainable debt management. This reform shall enhance official capacity, ensure transparency, and facilitate realistic development planning, thereby fostering inclusive socio-economic growth through research-based resource utilization.

To conduct research activities, a sub-branch named RM&PR has been established and is currently operational. In addition, a proposal for the creation of necessary positions to establish a full-fledged RM&PR Wing was submitted to the Ministry of Public Administration on 17 July 2025.

3

Development of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software for ERD

Type: Institutional Capacity Development

Date: Implementation Period July 2025 to June 2028

The Economic Relations Division (ERD) manages and coordinates development assistance via multilateral and bilateral partnerships. To ensure transparency and accountability in external resource mobilization, ERD shall implement Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software for monitoring loans and grants. The ERP system encompasses Inventory, Supply Chain, Training, Meeting, Agreement, Debt, Project, and Knowledge Management. Furthermore, this software shall integrate with existing systems utilized by the Planning Commission and Ministries to facilitate inclusive monitoring and evaluation of utilized resources.

4

Proper Implementation of the Smooth Transition Strategy

Type: Graduation from Least Developed Country Status

Date: February 2025- till graduation

The Economic Relations Division has prepared Smooth Transition Strategy (STS) in consultation with all relevant stake holders for graduation of Bangladesh from the Least Developed Country Status. To ensure the implementation of the STS, Monitoring and Evaluation Framework has already been prepared. ERD is providing support to high-level Expert Committee chaired by Dr. Muhammad Yunus, Hon'ble Chief Adviser of the Government of Bangladesh.

5

Digitalization and Institutionalization of External Resource Management

Type: Financial capacity management

Date: July 2025 - April 2028

To strengthen development strategy and foreign assistance management, the Economic Relations Division has already initiated the project "Capacity Enhancement of Foreign Assistance and Debt Management." This project aims to digitalize and institutionalize external resource management (loans, grants, and technical assistance) to ensure sustainable debt management and effective resource utilization. Specific objectives include enhancing institutional capacity for Foreign Aid Budget and Accounts (FABA) and the Foreign Assistance Management System via advanced debt management and financial analysis systems.

6

Establishment of Law Cell

Type: Institutional Capacity Development

Date: January 2025 - January 2026

During loan negotiation with various development partners, the officials of ERD have to examine and analyze the loan instruments for taking decision on the different issues of Loan Agreement. Sometimes, it is difficult to properly analyze the legal issues on

aspects of financing instruments. The position of legal officer can help to resolve legal issues underlying in financing agreement which can help to acquire greater public interest. Hence, the legal aspects of the draft loan agreement will be analyzed with due diligence and be effective.

7

Open New Economic Missions

Type: Institutional Capacity Development

Date: January 2025- March 2027

The opening of a new mission in Seoul, South Korea; Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Sao Paulo, Brazil; London, United Kingdom; Moscow Russia will increase connectivity and facilitate the management of loans and assistance through communication, thereby contributing to the overall economic development of the country. This opening of new missions will provide opportunity for exploring financing to mitigate financing deficit of development projects.

PLANNING DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Re-Strategising the Economy and Mobilizing Resources for Equitable and Sustainable Development

Type: Taskforce Report

Date: January 2025

The General Economics Division (GED) published a welfare-oriented short to medium-term development strategy formulated by a taskforce to address macroeconomic stability, public service delivery, food and energy security, and sustainable growth. This homegrown agenda facilitates national ownership and alignment with development partners. Per GED Letter No. 20.01.0000.060.99.503.2023-150 dated 19 October 2025, a 9-Member Taskforce was established to integrate spatial planning. Additionally, the strategy “Re-Strategising the Economy and Mobilizing Resources for Equitable and Sustainable Development” will be devised, incorporating reform initiatives including the White Paper, Taskforce findings, Bangladesh Voluntary National Review 2025, and the National Multidimensional Poverty Index.

2

Formulation of Sector Boundary Guideline

Type: Policy and Planning

Date: October 2024

Since 2021, sector classification for the Annual Development Programme (ADP) has been realigned from 17 to 15 sectors (similar to the Finance Division's classification) to align with the Five-Year Plan and MTBF processes. The new classification, based on COFOG (Classification of the Functions of Government). Therefore, a Sector Boundary Guideline is being formulated to have clear guidance for the ministries/divisions/agencies on sector/sub-sector definitions under the new 15 sectors.

3

BIDS Service Rules 2024

Type: Revision/Amendment of BIDS Service Rules 2024 and Organogram

Date: November 2024

The current regulations and organogram of BIDS were formulated in 1987. To keep up with evolving research areas and development needs, initiatives have been taken to revise and update both. Key features of the proposed updates include:

- i) The scope and scale of research are expected to expand significantly in the coming decades due to emerging socio-economic challenges. Therefore, the proposed organogram includes increasing research positions and upgrading posts.
- ii) Two new research divisions are proposed, along with an expansion of supporting units in alignment with the future challenges of development.
- iii) A "Communication and Knowledge Management" unit is proposed to enhance the dissemination and outreach of research findings.

4

Formulation of Multi-Year Public Investment Programme (MYPIP)

Type: Public Investment Management

Date: October 2024

To enhance public investment efficiency, effectiveness and to achieve the goals and objectives of the National Plan and SDGs MYPIP is being formulated in alignment with the Medium-Term Budget Framework (MTBF). Under this reform, MYPIPS will be developed for the following sectors:

1. Transport & Communication,
2. Agriculture
3. Environment, Climate Change & Water Resources
4. Housing & Community Facilities and
5. Industry & Economic Services.

5

Digital Survey for Data Collection

Type: Digitized Data Collection through Surveys

Date: November 2024

The Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) has five research divisions, whose researchers conduct extensive studies and surveys on Bangladesh's development challenges, broader economic contexts, and social issues. The resulting survey reports support government policy decisions across a wide range of economic and development matters.

Previously, data collection for these surveys was conducted manually. Survey instruments were designed as paper-based forms, printed, completed in the field, and later entered into computers for storage and analysis. Currently, for selected research studies, digitized methods are being adopted for field-level data collection, with tablets being used to capture survey data electronically.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Formulation and Implementation of Sectoral Plan (e.g., Transport Sector Plan)

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

To ensure balanced sectoral development, sector plans are being aligned with long and medium-term development strategies. Consequently, ministries and agencies shall prepare annual investment plans detailing projects, investments, and outcomes. Sectoral need assessments and stakeholder consultations will determine resource allocations and final project lists for National Economic Council (NEC) approval, guiding future Annual Development Programmes (ADPs). On 7 January 2025, the Physical Infrastructure Division formed three committees to develop concept notes for Public Order and Security, Transport and Communication, and Housing and Community Facilities sectors. Consultations are currently progressing to finalize these draft documents.

STATISTICS AND INFORMATICS DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

To elevate BBS a universally accepted institution as the National Statistical Organization (NSO)

Type: Formulation of Advisory Committee

Status: On going

The purpose of transforming Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) into a universally recognized and trusted National Statistical Organization (NSO), and to enhance the transparency and accessibility of its data and information. It has been proposed to establish six wing-based Technical Advisory Committees (TACs). These committees will consist of key stakeholders, domain experts, and relevant professionals, ensuring high-level guidance, technical oversight, and stakeholder engagement across all core statistical domains of BBS.

The proposed Technical Advisory Committees are as follows:

- i. National Accounting Wing Advisory Committee

Focus: National accounts, macroeconomic indicators, GDP estimation, and related economic statistics.

- ii. Demography and Health Wing Advisory Committee
Focus: Population statistics, demographic trends, public health indicators, and social statistics.
- iii. Agriculture Wing Advisory Committee
Focus: Agricultural production, crop statistics, land use, and food security data.
- iv. Computer Wing Advisory Committee
Focus: Data processing, ICT infrastructure, data management systems, and digital transformation of BBS.
- v. Census Wing Advisory Committee
Focus: Census operations, methodology, enumeration, and dissemination of census data.
- vi. Industry and Labor Wing Advisory Committee
Focus: Industrial statistics, labor force surveys, employment data, and workplace- related metrics.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Strengthening BBS by forming expert task force

Status: Draft report submitted

On 28 April 2025, an 8 (eight) member expert task force was formed under the chairmanship of Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Executive Chairman, Power and Participation Research Center (PPRC) to review the quality, transparency and availability of statistics produced by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics under the Statistics and Informatics Division and formulate specific and implementable recommendations in consultation with the relevant stakeholders to strengthen the institution.

The terms of reference of the task force are as follows:

- A. Formulate recommendations on the quality, accounting methods and transparency of all statistical activities of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics;
- B. To review the following issues in order to establish the survey management of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics on specific working rules:
 - i. Establish a core survey list, the cost of which will be borne by the revenue sector;
 - ii. Formulation of Mandatory Periodicity and Pre-determined Release Calendar for these surveys;
 - iii. Determining the process for forming an advisory committee with national level experts on relevant subjects for conducting various surveys, preparing national income and inflation calculations, etc.;
 - iv. To entrust the head of the institution with the power to publish regular reports on the results of various surveys, especially inflation and national income growth;
- C. Formulate recommendations for coordinating and harmonizing BBS surveys and publications with surveys and statistical publications conducted by various organizations under other ministries;
- D. Formulate recommendations to systematically facilitate citizens' access to the data repository produced by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics in order to transform statistics into a public good;
- E. Review the draft prepared for the amendment of the Statistics Act, 2013, review the existing organizational structure and human resources of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and formulate recommendations to upgrade the institution into a strong and effective national statistical agency.

The draft report of the task force has been submitted to the Honorable Advisor, Ministry of Planning. The draft report is being reviewed.

BANGLADESH INVESTMENT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (BIDA)

Completed Reforms

1

Reorganization of BIDA's Institutional Structure

Type: Institutional Overhaul & Coordination

Status: Implemented

Despite serving as Bangladesh's principal investment promotion agency, BIDA operated through a largely administrative structure, with an overemphasis on senior positions that constrained frontline execution and limited investor service capacity. To strengthen delivery, BIDA's institutional framework has been restructured around the full investor life cycle, with a renewed focus on performance management through KPIs, clear role allocation, and the creation of specialized functional units. The BIDA Act, 2018 was amended to enable the required structural reforms, including opening Executive Member positions to qualified BIDA officers and private-sector professionals—expanding eligibility beyond the administrative cadre. Dedicated wings have also been established for Research and Investment Promotion to sharpen strategic outreach and evidence-based policymaking. The reorganization also includes the establishment of a Diaspora Investor Desk and the introduction of Relationship Managers to ensure more consistent investor engagement, facilitation, and aftercare.

2

Co-location of Key Agencies at BIDA HQ

Type: Institutional Overhaul & Coordination

Status: Implemented

To ensure investors can access core government services from a single, coordinated location, officials from key agencies are now co-located at the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA) headquarters in Biniyog Bhaban. Building on the placement of Bangladesh Bank officials dedicated to foreign loan management at BIDA, this initiative has been expanded to include representatives from the National Board of Revenue (NBR), the Department of Environment (DoE), and the Directorate of Registration. To further strengthen responsiveness and transparency, focal persons from relevant ministries and agencies, along with their official contact details have been published on the BIDA website. In the next phase (H1 2026), additional agency representatives will be co-located at BIDA based on evolving investor needs and service demand.

3

Inter-Ministerial and Agency Coordination

Type: Institutional Overhaul & Coordination

Status: Implemented

Weak coordination across government agencies has, in the past, slowed decision-making and produced inconsistent policy outcomes, creating uncertainty for both domestic and international investors. To strengthen alignment and accelerate delivery, high-level inter-ministerial coordination meetings are convened under the leadership of the Chief Adviser's Special Envoy for International Affairs. This effort has already enabled concrete progress, including the launch of the Bangladesh Single Window for import and export-related services, the extension of bonded warehouse licenses to partial exporters in emerging export sectors, the formation of a committee to implement the Central One Stop Service (BanglaBiz) under the One Stop Service Act, 2018, and expanded access to global markets through internationally recognized online marketplaces. Looking ahead to Q1 2026, priorities include reforming capital repatriation procedures, introducing a "Business Starter Package," digitalizing bonded licence services, and clearing an estimated 6,000 pending port backlog cases

to improve trade efficiency and investor confidence. Under BIDA's leadership, regular and structured policy coordination has been established with the National Board of Revenue (NBR), Bangladesh Bank, Ministry of Home Affairs and other investment-related agencies such as the at the implementation stage to ensure timely execution and alignment.

4

Bonded Facility Extended to Partial Exporters

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Bonded facilities were largely limited to 100 percent export-oriented industries, and complex procedures effectively restricted access to larger firms. To broaden participation and support export diversification, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) has now extended bonded facilities against bank guarantees to partial exporters, including high-potential sectors beyond textiles. This reform is expected to strengthen export performance, expand SME participation, and enhance the global competitiveness of partial exporters across furniture, electronics, food processing, light engineering, steel, plastic, and leather. Additional sectors will be brought under the facility on a phased basis.

5

Import–Export Clearance through Green Channel

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Despite long records of regulatory compliance, trusted businesses were still subject to physical inspections for customs clearance, raising costs and causing port congestion. The government has now granted Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status to 10 leading companies, allowing 20% of their consignments to be cleared through the Green Channel without physical inspection. Around 110 additional firms are currently under review for AEO accreditation.

6

Faster Clearance of Bonded Goods

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Completed

Minor HS code errors previously caused prolonged clearance delays for bonded goods, increasing costs and disrupting production and exports. Now the National Board of Revenue, as advocated by BIDA, BEZA, and other IPAs, allows bonded consignments to be cleared if the first four digits of the HS code match, even if minor discrepancies remain.

7

Digitalization of Security Clearance

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Foreign professionals are required to obtain security clearance after receiving work permits from BIDA. Previously, this process was handled manually, contributing to delays and uncertainty for applicants and employers. Following strengthened coordination between BIDA and the relevant security agencies, the security clearance process has been fully digitized, effective October 1, 2025. The reform enables end-to-end online submission and processing through the BIDA online One Stop Service (OSS) portal, provides real-time application tracking, and introduces a deemed approval mechanism where clearance is granted automatically if no objections are raised within 21 working days.

8

Simplification of Capital Repatriation

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Foreign investors have frequently faced delays and uncertainty when repatriating capital following share sales, M&A transactions, or business exits driven largely by complex valuation procedures and extensive documentation requirements. To address these constraints, a high-level Capital Repatriation Committee, jointly formed by BIDA and Bangladesh Bank, finalized a comprehensive set

of reform proposals on November 19, 2025, to streamline valuation and approval processes and improve predictability for investors. Key measures include updating Bangladesh Bank's repatriation guidelines (December 2025), increasing repatriation approval thresholds, introducing Service Level Agreements (SLAs), reducing documentation requirements for long-established companies, and resolving complex or disputed cases within 30 working days. Further reforms planned for Q1 2026 include separate policy and valuation frameworks for fast-growing firms and startups, alongside the establishment of an authority to license and certify valuation firms in H1 2026. These changes will be supported by specialized training and expanded manpower to strengthen institutional capacity within the banking system.

9

Streamlining Foreign Loan Approvals

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Foreign loans and supplier credits for the private sector are reviewed by the Scrutiny Committee chaired by the Governor of Bangladesh Bank, which has traditionally convened every 30 days. To accelerate approvals and reduce administrative friction, the Scrutiny Committee and BIDA have introduced targeted process reforms, including fast-track approval by BIDA for foreign loans up to USD 10 million for export-oriented firms and up to USD 5 million for other industries. In addition, amendments to previously approved foreign and supplier loans are now processed within 3–7 working days, the usance period for capital machinery imports has been extended from one year to three years, and the debt-equity ratio for foreign-controlled companies has been relaxed from 50:50 to 60:40 to ease access to local borrowing.

10

Unified Platform for Service Applications 'BanglaBiz'

Type: Investment Policy & Service Modernization

Status: Implemented

Investors in Bangladesh have often faced uncertainty over which agency to approach, where to apply, and how to access services

efficiently. To address this, BIDA, in partnership with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), launched BanglaBiz (Release 1) on September 28, 2025, establishing a single, streamlined platform for investor service applications. The platform currently features a “How to Apply” tool to simplify navigation, provides access to over 100 services across multiple government agencies, and enables users to explore requirements by key business lifecycle stages, including business registration and financial setup, alongside a nationwide mapping of economic zones and applicable incentives. The next phase will introduce a Business Starter Pack delivering name clearance, registration, trade license, TIN, and a temporary bank account through a single application within three working days, alongside direct integration of 25+ additional services, a “Know Your Approvals” guide for priority sectors, and the rollout of Relationship Manager service requests to strengthen investor facilitation.

11

National Strategy for Attracting Foreign Investment

Type: Investment Promotion

Status: Implemented

Bangladesh previously lacked a clear, research-based approach to prioritizing sectors for foreign direct investment, leaving investors and Investment Promotion Agencies without a unified framework and resulting in fragmented promotion, limited assessment of investment readiness, insufficient sector-specific information, and unstructured selection of source markets. To address this, BIDA developed the FDI Heatmap, drawing on input from financial institutions, management consultants, business organizations, and development partners which now serves as Bangladesh's national FDI strategy by defining priority sectors, readiness levels, and matched source markets. Under this framework, Category A sectors are immediate targets with high readiness and rapid growth (Core Apparel, Pharmaceuticals without API, Agro Processing, IT-Enabled Services, Advanced Textiles, Renewable Energy); Category B sectors enable quick entry with strong advantages requiring streamlined processes (Automotive Parts, Footwear, Light Engineering, Leather); Category C sectors require customized deals to overcome input constraints (Logistics, Electronics & Assembly); and Category D sectors will be advanced

through long-term policy and ecosystem development (EV Battery, Medical Devices, Technical Textiles, Toys, Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, Semiconductor, Plastic). As a result, a single sector-priority framework is now adopted across agencies, promotion is anchored in structured research and clear investor messaging, priority sectors are systematically linked to target source countries with curated investor pipelines, and BIDA now leads full investment missions—convening BEZA, the National Board of Revenue, private banks, and relationship managers—to deliver seminars, G2B meetings, and one-on-one engagements with major investors.

12

Modernizing Digital Presence for Investment Communications

Type: Investment Promotion

Status: Implemented

BIDA has undertaken a comprehensive rebuild of its official website and a strategic upgrade of its communications to better serve investors with clear, reliable, and up-to-date information. The redesigned platform now provides structured content on 10 priority sectors, including updated incentives, alongside step-by-step guidance on investment services and application processes. It also publishes verified contact details of investment focal points across relevant ministries and agencies, and provides centralized access to sector-specific research, reports, and presentations to support investor decision-making. To improve responsiveness, the website now enables online appointment booking through digital forms, strengthening BIDA's ability to engage investors efficiently and transparently. In parallel, BIDA's official social media channels are now being used as proactive investor-facing platforms—focused on investment opportunities, reforms, and facilitation updates—rather than routine bureaucratic messaging.

13

Laldia Container Terminal Agreement

Type: Sectors & Infrastructure Strategies

Status: Implemented

As part of Bangladesh's port modernization and logistics reform agenda, the Government has advanced the Laldia Container Terminal (LCT) Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Project at Chittagong Port, to be implemented by the Chittagong Port Authority (CPA) in partnership with APM Terminals BV which is a subsidiary of Denmark-based A.P. Moller-Maersk Group and one of the world's leading port operators. The project represents the single largest European equity investment in Bangladesh to date, with projected FDI exceeding USD 550 million, and will be delivered through a 30-year concession under which APM Terminals will design, finance, build, and operate the terminal, targeted for commissioning by 2030. Once operational, LCT is expected to increase container handling capacity by 44 percent to over 800,000 TEUs annually, enable 24/7 operations and larger vessel accommodation, generate higher USD-denominated revenues for CPA and the Government, and create 500-700 direct jobs alongside thousands of indirect jobs for local communities. The project will also introduce modern port technology, workforce training, and a green, energy-efficient design aligned with national climate priorities, and was successfully advised by the International Finance Corporation (IFC), World Bank Group.

14

Establishment of MIDA for Maheshkhali Development

Type: Sectors & Infrastructure Strategies

Status: Implemented

The Government established the Maheshkhali Integrated Development Authority (MIDA) on 10 August 2025, creating a dedicated statutory authority to drive the coordinated development of Maheshkhali Island. Given the island's strategic geographic location and significant economic potential, effective implementation requires sustained alignment across more than ten ministries and agencies—an intensity of coordination that could not be ensured through ad hoc mechanisms alone. Accordingly, the former Maheshkhali-Matarbari Integrated

Infrastructure Development Initiative (MIDI) Cell was elevated into MIDA through the Maheshkhali Integrated Development Authority Ordinance, 2025 to enable structured, continuous, and strategic coordination among all stakeholders and accelerate delivery across four national priority pillars: Ports and Logistics, Manufacturing and Industry, Electricity and Energy, and Fisheries and Marine Resources.

15

Revitalizing Idle State-Owned Mills through Private Investment

Type: Sectors & Infrastructure Strategies

Status: Implemented

Twenty non-operational mills under the Bangladesh Jute Corporation are being transferred to the private sector through long-term lease arrangements to convert idle public assets into productive, job-creating industries. To date, 13 lease agreements have been completed, 11 facilities have been formally handed over to private operators, and 7 mills are already operational—demonstrating early momentum in turning legacy public assets into commercially viable ventures. These revitalized sites have attracted new investment across high-potential sectors, including agro-processing, apparels, poultry, footwear, pharmaceuticals, jute processing, accessories, and logistics, supporting industrial diversification and stronger utilization of existing national infrastructure.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Unification of Investment Promotion Agencies

Type: Institutional Overhaul & Coordination

Status: In Progress

Bangladesh currently has multiple investment promotion agencies (IPAs)—the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA), Bangladesh Export

Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA), Public Private Partnership Authority (PPPA), and Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA) with overlapping mandates and functions. In their current configuration, these agencies operate with limited individual scale, constraining their ability to consistently meet investors' core facilitation requirements. To address this, a National Committee led by the Hon'ble Adviser to the Ministry of Industries has finalized an IPA unification roadmap, which is scheduled for approval by February 2026, with implementation commencing from April 2026. The roadmap envisages an integrated national strategy for investment management, a stronger role in policy formulation, consolidation of investment-related data, greater pooling of resources and institutional capabilities, and enhanced technical expertise among officials across specialized domains.



The reform initiatives within Sector 3: Health and Education are framed as a direct response to the human cost of the July Uprising, transforming these essential services from tools of political patronage into pillars of social justice. The Health Services and Medical Education Divisions are undergoing radical restructuring to ensure that the healthcare system, which bore the weight of treating the uprising's casualties, becomes a resilient, transparent, and patient-centric institution. These reforms aim to honor the martyrs and the injured by dismantling the "medical syndicates" that long deprived the masses of their fundamental right to care.

In the realm of education, the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education are being purged of partisan curriculum and administrative rot. The mandate of the "New Bangladesh" demands an education system that fosters critical thinking and moral integrity, rather than blind allegiance. By integrating the spirit of the student-led uprising into the very fabric of learning, these divisions are working to bridge the gap between different educational streams, ensuring that every child, regardless of background, is equipped to safeguard the democratic values won on the streets.

SECTOR III

HEALTH
AND
EDUCATION

MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

Completed Reforms

1

Reorganisation of The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Type: Administrative

Date: 20 January 2026

The National Implementation Committee on Administrative Reorganisation (NICAR), chaired by the Chief Adviser, has officially approved the merger of the Health Services Division and the Medical Education and Family Welfare Division. This strategic consolidation aims to rectify coordination deficiencies arising from the 2017 bifurcation and enhance the delivery of public health services. Following the administrative merger at the ministry level, a phased reorganisation of directorates and field-level operations will commence. The unified health system will be structured into three functional pillars: clinical and hospital services, medical education and research, and primary and public healthcare. This integration is designed to streamline budgetary allocations, eliminate service duplication, and synchronise field-level personnel to ensure a comprehensive and efficient healthcare delivery framework nationwide.

2

Medicine Price Fixation Guideline: A Landmark Reform for Health Equity

Type: Policy Reform

Date: January 2026

The Medicine Price Fixation System 2026 has been enacted to tackle the foremost obstacle to healthcare: medicine affordability. Formulated under the Drug and Cosmetics Act 2023 and approved by the Advisory Council, it authorizes the government to regulate drug prices through transparent, evidence-based criteria, focusing on essential and commonly used medicines that dominate out-of-pocket spending. By ensuring affordability, the policy delivers immediate financial relief to households, prevents catastrophic health costs, and guarantees access to life-saving treatments for all, particularly the vulnerable. It reinforces health equity and social protection, improves treatment sustainability and adherence, and synergizes with reforms like the Essential Medicines List and digital health integration. As a cornerstone policy, it transforms commitment into measurable well-being, affirming health as a fundamental public good.

3

Expansion of the Primary Healthcare Workforce

Type: Policy Decision

Date: November 2024

Approximately 14,000 community healthcare providers have been integrated into the government revenue system, securing their professional and financial stability. They will serve as frontline primary healthcare workers with duties similar to Health Assistants and Family Welfare Assistants. This integration marks a historic expansion of the grassroots health workforce, greatly extending the reach and density of community-based services. The reform is set to enhance preventive care, health promotion, and basic treatment access, directly supporting universal health coverage and alleviating pressure on higher-level health facilities.

4

Achieving Independence in Health Planning and Financing

Type: Strategic Reform

Date: March 2025

In a decisive shift, the government has reclaimed national sovereignty in health sector planning and financing, ending nearly three decades of donor-driven agendas under the Sector Wide Approach. This move frees Bangladesh from externally imposed priorities, enabling strategic resource allocation and service design aligned with the genuine needs of its people. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare now independently sets priorities, develops projects based on actual public health requirements, and takes full charge of financial decisions. While open to technical collaboration, all major policies and programs are now guided solely by national interests. This restoration of autonomy strengthens Bangladesh's capacity to identify challenges, design tailored solutions, and invest according to its own strategic vision, laying the foundation for a self-reliant, equitable, and people-centered health system.

5

Joint Declaration on Strengthening Inter-ministerial Collaboration for Multisectoral Action on NCD Prevention and Control

Type: Policy Decision

Date: August 2025

The interim government achieved a groundbreaking reform. It secured the first Whole-of-Government Declaration on NCDs. Thirty-five ministries have committed to sector-specific actions. This recognizes that NCDs are driven by factors beyond health. These include food, education, urban design, and marketing. Each ministry will integrate NCD prevention into its policies. This covers agriculture, education, commerce, information, and sports. The declaration creates a coordinated, accountable national strategy. It shifts from fragmented efforts to unified prevention. This embeds health in every ministry's agenda. It reduces the societal and economic burden of NCDs in Bangladesh.

6

Bangladesh Population Policy 2025

Type: Policy

Date: August 2025

This policy updates the 2012 framework with short, medium, and long-term plans, shifting focus from population control to population development in line with Bangladesh's demographic transition. It aims to achieve a demographic dividend by creating skilled human resources through planned population management, fostering a healthy, happy, and economically prosperous nation. Key priorities include ensuring sexual and reproductive health rights, contraceptive security, elderly welfare, and reducing unmet need, child marriage, and maternal, infant, and child mortality as part of a forward-looking, holistic national strategy.

7

National Family Planning Strategy (2025–2030)

Type: Strategy

Date: June 2025

This is a first-time national strategy and action plan. It creates a unified framework for family planning services. The goal is to improve access and coverage nationwide. Services will be comprehensive, qualitative, and integrated. The strategy considers all geographic and economic variations. A special focus is on hard-to-reach and low-performing areas. Different methods and approaches will be utilized. The objective is to achieve replacement-level fertility. This ensures sustainable population growth and development.

8

Decentralized and Integrated Health Management

Type: Administrative Directive

Date: February 2025

Centralized management causes delays and inefficiencies. Local needs often go unmet. This ongoing reform empowers district authorities. They now control recruitment, transfers, and postings. Decisions are faster and more context-specific. It improves local

accountability and service responsiveness. Benefits include better resource allocation and staff morale. Health services become more agile and community-focused. This decentralization builds a stronger, more resilient health system.

9

Post Creation, Fair Recruitment in Shortest Time and Merit-Based Posting of the BCS (Health) Cadre

Type: Administrative

Date: January 2026

In a landmark reform, 3,500 entry-level medical officer posts have been created for upazila and district hospitals—one of the largest cadre expansions in history. Recruitment was completed in just seven months, a record for public sector efficiency. For the first time, all postings will be strictly merit-based, ensuring transparency and competence. This end-to-end reform, from creation to deployment, was achieved in an unprecedented seven-month period. It is set to greatly enhance grassroots healthcare delivery by increasing doctor availability and setting a new standard in public administration.

10

Merit-Based Recruitment and Automated Posting of 3,500 Nurses

Type: Administrative Policy

Date: August 2025

In a transformative reform of the nursing sector, the interim government has successfully recruited 3,500 nurses through a fully transparent and equitable selection process. For the first time, their postings have been determined via an automated, merit-based system that prioritizes fairness, competence, and individual preference. This revolutionary change eliminates discretionary and opaque posting practices, ensuring that placements are made objectively based on exam performance, qualifications, and stated choices. By institutionalizing transparency and meritocracy in nursing deployment, this reform not only enhances workforce morale and professionalism but also strengthens the equity and effectiveness of nursing care delivery across the health system.

11

Strategic Merit-based Recruitment and Fair-Automated Deployment of Midwives

Type: Administrative Policy

Date: January 2026 (ongoing)

The Ministry has completed nationwide midwife recruitment. Midwives are key to reducing maternal deaths and unnecessary C-sections. Their deployment will be automated and finalized under the interim government. This ensures skilled care reaches underserved regions. It is a lasting investment in safe motherhood. This strengthens equitable maternal and neonatal health. It is a pivotal step toward Universal Health Coverage.

12

Matrix based Automation for Posting and Transfer of Physicians

Type: Administrative Policy

Date: January 2026

The government has introduced a landmark reform. It replaces favoritism with a transparent, merit-based posting system. An automated, matrix-driven process now allocates postings. This uses criteria like seniority, merit, skills, work place, and personal preference. It ensures fair and efficient deployment of doctors. The system is also being extended to nurses and other health workers. This strengthens frontline services and enhances equity. It builds a rules-based, performance-driven human resource framework. This reform institutionalizes fairness across the entire health sector.

13

Encouraging Policy for Basic Science Teachers

Type: Policy Decision

Date: 2025

A landmark incentive policy has been introduced. Basic science teachers in medical colleges will receive a 70% addition to their basic salary. This measure directly targets the severe scarcity of qualified medical graduates in teaching roles. It aims to attract and retain high-caliber professionals in academia. By making teaching

more financially competitive, it revolutionizes the appeal of academic careers. This will significantly improve the quality of medical education and foundational research. The reform secures a stronger, more knowledgeable future generation of doctors.

14

Strengthening Ethical Boundaries and Eliminating Industry Influence

Type: Policy Position and Directive

Date: November 2024

The MoHFW has implemented a stringent ethical criteria, strongly discouraging government doctors from attending any events sponsored by pharmaceutical, medical device, or diagnostic companies. Under a clear directive enforced since the interim government took charge, no government doctor may travel abroad without certifying that their expenses are not industry-funded. Senior leadership has communicated this policy directly across the medical community, affirming an uncompromising stance against conflicts of interest, unethical promotion, and commercial sponsorship. This decisive action is expected to enhance transparency, restore professional integrity, and ensure medical practice is guided solely by patient welfare and scientific evidence.

15

Amendment of Grant Policy

Type: Policy

Date: October 2025

The grant policy of MoHFW has been amended to ensure funds directly benefit impoverished patients. Administrative costs are now strictly capped, with a mandated 80:20 spending ratio; 80% for direct patient services and 20% for administration. Recipient organizations must maintain verifiable data on poor patients, and grants are prioritized for not-for-profit entities demonstrating direct service delivery. This reform is designed to broaden healthcare access for the vulnerable, embedding transparency, accountability, and measurable impact at the core of all ministry grants.

16

**Ban on Use of Pharmaceutical Company
Provided Prescription Pads in Government
Hospitals**

Type: Directive

Date: September 2025

This directive is now in effect. All government hospitals are prohibited from using drug company prescription pads. This eliminates a major source of commercial influence. It protects clinical decisions from external bias. The move reinforces institutional integrity. It visibly demonstrates the government's commitment to ethics. Public trust in public health facilities is strengthened. It ensures prescriptions are based solely on patient need. This action upholds the credibility and neutrality of government healthcare.

17

Digitalization of Health Sector

Type: Strategic Policy Reform

Date: November 2025

The interim government has launched a Digital Health Sector Blueprint. This plan modernizes and digitizes the national health system. It aligns with global standards. The framework sets protocols for AI, Machine Learning, and Big Data. It ensures secure, interoperable, and ethical digital services. These technologies will be integrated at all levels of care. This includes community clinics and specialized hospitals. Digitalization will improve diagnostic accuracy and operational efficiency. It will enable data-driven decisions. It will expand access through telemedicine and electronic records. This reform builds a resilient, equitable, and future-ready health system. It enhances service delivery and health outcomes nationwide.

18

**Enhancing Accessibility of Healthcare through
Digitization and Establishing an Effective
Referral System**

Type: Policy Initiative

Date: May 2025

To modernize healthcare delivery and ensure efficient referral mechanisms, initiatives have been undertaken to implement the Unique Health ID (UHID) system. As of 20 October 2025, a total of 12,547,598 citizens have been issued UHIDs across 62 public and private healthcare institutions. Efforts are ongoing to integrate all private facilities into the system, ensuring that citizens' health records and medical histories are securely preserved. With support from the World Health Organization (WHO), the Bangladesh Digital Health Blueprint has been developed, setting the roadmap for the nationwide adoption of the UHID in all healthcare facilities.

19

Automated Drug Licensing and Renewal System (ADLRS)

Type: Simplified Digital Platform

Date: October 2024

This digital system is now fully operational. It automates the issuance and renewal of retail drug licenses. The process is now faster, transparent, and fully online. It replaces a chaotic and manual system. That old system had created market indiscipline. The ADLRS establishes clear, enforceable rules. It brings order and accountability to the pharmaceutical retail sector. This reform ensures regulatory control and protects public safety.

20

National Single Window (NSW) Implementation Plan

Type: Simplified Digital Platform

Date: September 2024

This digital platform is now operational. It simplifies import and export for medicines and medical devices. The system brings transparency and speed to all related processes. Key approvals are already integrated online. These include medicine export permits (Form-10A) and import block lists. Indent and No Objection Certificate (NOC) processes are also included. This reduces bureaucratic delays significantly. It enhances trade efficiency and regulatory oversight. The NSW strengthens the integrity of the pharmaceutical supply chain.

21

Formulation of National List of Essential Medicine

Type: Policy Reform

Date: January 2026

The interim government has enacted a major reform. It approved a National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM). Medicines make up most out-of-pocket health spending. This causes severe financial hardship for households. The NLEM is an evidence-based, standardized list. It includes safe, effective, and quality-assured medicines. It guides procurement, prescription, and use at all healthcare levels. A multi-stakeholder Task Force developed the list. It was formally approved in January 2026. The NLEM rationalizes drug availability and improves treatment protocols. It reduces irrational medicine use and fights antimicrobial resistance. It ensures equitable access to affordable medicines, especially at primary facilities. This reform strengthens frontline services and cuts health costs. It advances universal health coverage. The NLEM links pharmaceutical progress directly to public health. It translates sector growth into better health outcomes and financial protection for all citizens.

22

Making Bangladesh Self-Reliant in Vaccines and Biotech Products

Type: Strategic Reform

Date: December 2025

Bangladesh has a strong pharmaceutical industry, but it still depends on other countries for vaccines and advanced biological medicines. This reliance can be risky during global health emergencies. To protect the nation, the government is investing six thousand crore taka to build vaccine and biotechnology facilities in Munshiganj. These centers will focus on research as well as production. By 2030, Bangladesh aims to produce its own vaccines. This reform strengthens national health security and prepares the country for future health challenges.

23

Reduction in Cardiac Stent Pricing

Type: Administrative Order

Date: October 2025

In a historic move to enhance cardiac care affordability, the government has mandated a substantial price reduction for cardiac stents, lowering the cost from approximately Tk 3,000 to Tk 88,000 per stent. This unprecedented intervention—the largest single price reduction for any medical device in the country’s history—is already benefiting hundreds of patients by making life-saving cardiac procedures significantly more accessible. By curbing excessive costs and ensuring transparency, this reform reduces out-of-pocket expenses, promotes health equity, and reinforces the government’s commitment to patient-centered, affordable healthcare.

24

Human Organ Transplantation Ordinance 2025

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: March 2025

The Human Organ Transplantation Ordinance 2025 is the amendment of the Human Organ Transplantation Ordinance 1999 and will replace the previous one. This amended act will have significant impact on overall transplant situation of the country. Expansion of the definition of ‘family’, incorporation of ‘swaping’ and ‘emotional donor’ will have positive impact on availability of the donor and thereby increase the organ transplant.

25

Enforcing Quality Standards in Medical Education Through Rigorous Accreditation and Sanctions

Type: Policy Decision

Date: 2025

In a significant move to uphold medical education standards, the interim government has implemented a rigorous, matrix-based evaluation of all medical colleges, assessing infrastructure, clinical capacity, qualified staff, and essential facilities. This has resulted in a

substantial reduction of student seats across over twenty institutions and a one-year admission suspension at two private colleges. By enforcing these measures, the government establishes an uncompromising benchmark for quality, aligns training with national requirements, and advances the development of competent, ethically grounded physicians. Similar rigorous measures have been applied to nursing colleges, medical assistant training institutes, and medical technology programs, ensuring every health professional meets national and international competency benchmarks, safeguarding patient safety and strengthening the resilience and credibility of Bangladesh's healthcare system.

26

Reorganization and Activation of the Bangladesh Medical Education Accreditation Council (BMEAC)

Type: Administrative Order

Date: March 2025

To ensure excellence and uniformity in medical education, the government has reorganized the independent Bangladesh Medical Education Accreditation Council (BMEAC) with competent experts. This statutory authority will license, regulate, and monitor all medical, dental and nursing colleges and other institutions through a standardized, transparent accreditation framework. By enforcing rigorous quality controls, BMEAC eliminates variability in training, upholds educational benchmarks, and produces competent healthcare professionals. This reform enhances patient safety, aligns qualifications with global standards, strengthens public trust, and fortifies the foundation of a resilient, high-quality healthcare system for Bangladesh.

27

Introduction of the Integrated Modular Curriculum (IMC)

Type: Policy

Date: December 2025

The Integrated Modular Curriculum (IMC) consolidates diverse disciplines into cohesive modules. This framework promotes teacher

collaboration and pedagogical growth. Instruction shifts from lecturing to facilitation. Student engagement is enhanced. It supports competency-based medical education. Knowledge application is prioritized over rote learning. Assessment moves beyond traditional examinations. This reform aims to transform medical education in Bangladesh. It ensures curricula are relevant, engaging, and future-oriented.

28

Enhancing Quality of Postgraduate Medical Training and Increasing Incentives

Type: Policy Decision

Date: 2025

To enhance specialist training and clinical service delivery capacity, two key measures have been introduced. First, financial allowances for private postgraduate trainees have been significantly increased to encourage them to serve the patients admitted in the large government hospitals. Second, trainee intake has been rigorously rationalized to maintain an effective supervisor-to-trainee ratio, as required by the Bangladesh College of Physicians and Surgeons (BCPS) fellowship framework. These steps aim to attract and retain skilled trainees, improve mentorship, and elevate the BCPS fellowship program's standards, producing more competent specialists for the national health system.

29

Modification of Medical and Dental Admission System

Type: Policy Decision

Date: 2025

The admission process for medical and dental colleges is being reformed, including the abolition of the quota system and the administration of a single entrance examination for both fields. This exam now incorporates new evaluation components that assess essential human qualities and communication skills, aiming to select more well-rounded candidates. The goal is to ensure future doctors excel not only in science but also in empathy and patient interaction, producing compassionate and effective healthcare providers and strengthening the human foundation of our health system.

30

Introduction of Postgraduate Degree on Emergency Medicine and Geriatric Medicine

Type: Academic Decision

Date: October 2025

To address critical gaps in specialized care, the interim government is introducing structured postgraduate disciplines in Emergency Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. These fields respond to Bangladesh's evolving health needs, including rising emergencies, trauma, non-communicable diseases, and a rapidly ageing population. Emergency Medicine will enhance acute care, disaster response, and trauma outcomes through standardized training and protocols. Geriatric Medicine will provide comprehensive, person-centred care for the elderly, improving chronic disease management and supporting healthy ageing. Together, these disciplines will strengthen the health system's capacity, quality, and equity, aligning with national priorities and advancing progress toward Universal Health Coverage.

31

National Healthy Ageing Strategy (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: 2025

A National Healthy Ageing Strategy is urgently needed. Bangladesh's elderly population is growing rapidly. Current services are fragmented and inadequate. This strategy will ensure a coordinated national response. It integrates health, social, and community support. The focus is on prevention, dignity, and active living. Benefits include reduced healthcare burdens and costs. It promotes social inclusion and intergenerational solidarity. This proactive plan builds a resilient, caring society for all ages.

32

National Snakebite Strategy & Action Plan (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: 2025

Snakebite is a critical public health threat. It causes death, disability,

and poverty. Current response is fragmented and under-resourced. This strategy delivers a unified national plan. It ensures timely access to antivenom and care. Training for health workers will be scaled up. Community awareness will be strengthened. Benefits include reduced mortality and morbidity. It prevents lifelong disability and economic loss. This action plan saves lives and builds a resilient health system.

33

National Drowning Prevention Strategy & Action Plan (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: 2025

Drowning is a leading cause of child death, with current prevention efforts scattered and insufficient. This strategy creates a unified nationwide approach, promoting community awareness, supervising safe play areas, teaching survival swimming skills, and providing emergency response training. Benefits include a significant reduction in child mortality, prevention of family tragedy, and the safeguarding of children to build a safer nation.

34

Strengthening Post-Crash Response for Road Traffic Injuries (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: 2025

Road crashes cause severe loss of life and disability, often exacerbated by delayed and uncoordinated emergency responses. This strategy establishes a systematic post-crash care system to ensure rapid rescue, quality trauma care, and rehabilitation. It expands training for first responders and improves emergency communication and transport networks. Benefits include faster treatment, higher survival rates, reduced long-term disability, and a more compassionate, efficient emergency health response.

Smoking and Tobacco Products Usage (Control) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025

Type: Amendment of Act

Date: December 2025

The Smoking and Tobacco Control (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has been enacted in December 2025. It strengthens the 2005 Act to combat tobacco use. The law bans smoking in all public spaces and transport. It prohibits tobacco displays at sales points. It bans tobacco industry CSR activities. It also fully bans e-cigarettes, vaping, and heated tobacco. These steps reduce tobacco use, especially among youth. They cut secondhand smoke exposure and close industry loopholes. The ordinance de-normalizes tobacco and restricts its promotion. This will lower tobacco-related diseases and healthcare costs. It saves lives and aligns with global health standards.

Ongoing Reforms

Reorganization of the Office of the Directorate Generals

Type: Strategic Reform

Date: Ongoing

Bangladesh's health sector suffers from fragmented management, causing duplication and inefficiency. To address this, a major reorganization is proposed. The Directorate General structure will be consolidated into three aligned offices: Primary Care and Public Health, Clinical Services & Hospitals, and Medical Education and Research. This will streamline planning, management, and accountability across all levels of care. Additionally, the Directorate General of Drug Administration (DGDA) will be made an autonomous regulatory body, such as an FDA or MHRA, to ensure independent and effective oversight of medicines and health products. Together, these reforms will build a more coordinated, efficient, and resilient health system, capable of delivering integrated, high-quality services from primary to specialized care.

2

Caring for the Heroes of the July Uprising

Type: National Responsibility

Date: Ongoing

The July Uprising stands as a pivotal chapter in the nation's democratic renewal, made possible by the profound courage and sacrifice of its citizens. In response, the interim government launched a sustained, dignified healthcare initiative to honor all those injured. A systematic national list of the affected was compiled, and medical care was prioritized within government hospitals, with advanced or specialized treatment facilitated through private or international referrals when necessary. To ensure lasting support, a dedicated July Directorate was established, and each survivor received a lifelong Health Card. This guarantees continuous, uninterrupted access to government healthcare for all related conditions, wherever public services are available. This reform fulfills the nation's solemn duty to uphold dignity, deliver just care, and protect the well-being of those who paid the price for the country's renewed hope.

3

Establishing Primary Healthcare as a Legal Right and Constitutional Obligation

Type: Draft Ordinance

Date: Ongoing

The enactment of a Primary Healthcare Act is a pivotal reform to realize universal health coverage as a constitutional right. This legislation transforms primary healthcare from a discretionary service into a legally guaranteed entitlement. It mandates the state to ensure equitable access by recruiting specialist doctors, guaranteeing comprehensive specialized services, establishing an efficient referral system, and filling all critical pharmaceutical posts. By creating an enforceable legal framework, the Act institutionalizes accountability, addresses systemic service gaps, and secures the foundation of a resilient, people-centered health system, thereby upholding the state's duty to protect every citizen's right to health.

4

Bangladesh Health Service Standards (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: Ongoing

A draft of new national standards is being prepared to set clear, measurable targets for all health facilities. Aimed at achieving universal health coverage, it strengthens primary care and maternal/child health services, tackles non-communicable diseases, and integrates digital tools for better management. With equity as a core principle, prioritizing rural and underserved communities it ensures consistent, quality care nationwide, making the health system more accountable and effective.

5

Restoration of Fairness and Justice in the Career Growth of Health Workers

Type: Administrative

Date: Ongoing

The interim government has reformed promotions to end career stagnation and inequity in the health sector. Through merit-based and supernumerary promotions for 7,500 specialists, favoritism has been eliminated, ensuring justice for long-overlooked professionals. This has boosted morale and commitment among doctors while expanding access to specialized care across upazila, district, and national institutions, reducing urban-rural gaps. Promoted specialists also enhance medical education through better mentorship and supervision. These measures have corrected systemic imbalances, strengthened service delivery, advanced training, and inspired greater dedication across the health workforce.

6

Ensuring Presence of Doctors and Health Workers for Uninterrupted Care and Restore System Confidence

Type: Administrative

Date: Ongoing

To address systemic gaps and restore public trust, the interim government has mandated strict attendance for all health workers. A unified biometric system now monitors presence across government facilities, prioritizing emergency, maternal, and critical care units. This measure aims to eliminate unauthorized absences, ensure uninterrupted service, and meet public demand for reliable healthcare. By institutionalizing this accountability, the reform builds a foundation of credibility and discipline, supporting lasting improvements in healthcare quality, equity, and access.

7

Upholding Integrity and Managing Conflict of Interest in Healthcare

Type: Order

Date: Ongoing

To uphold integrity and transparency in healthcare, the interim government has drafted the Anti-Corruption in Healthcare Act, which explicitly prohibits bribes, commissions, and unethical inducements to healthcare providers, eliminating conflicts of interest and restoring public trust. In parallel, rigorous governance measures have been instituted: all related committees, trusts, and task forces now require every member to formally declare and sign a conflict of interest disclosure at their inaugural meeting. This ensures accountability and transparency from the outset of all regulatory and oversight processes.

8

Strengthening Pharmaceutical Regulation Through an Independent Authority

Type: Policy Decision

Date: Ongoing

An independent Medicine and Health Products Regulatory Authority (MHRA) separate from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been proposed by the Reform Commission and actively considered by the MoHFW. This reform will ensure impartial, science-based regulation. The MHRA will handle licensing, quality checks, and inspections. It will monitor drug safety and conduct pharmacovigilance.

Once fully set up under its own law, it will boost public trust. It will align with international standards. It will curb substandard and fake medical products. This lays the foundation for a getting recognition of Maturity Level 3 (ML3) by the World Health Organization (WHO), reflecting a robust, stable, and advanced national regulatory system for medicines and vaccines.

9

Establishment of a Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Cell

Type: Administrative Policy

Date: Ongoing

A Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Cell has been created in the Ministry. It supports evidence-based decision-making. The cell provides data-driven advice on key processes. This includes procurement, regulatory approvals, and clinical guidelines. It evaluates clinical and cost-effectiveness of health technologies. It also assesses their impact on the health system. This ensures investments match public health priorities. It guarantees maximum value from spending. This reform will greatly improve health system efficiency. It promotes transparency and fiscal responsibility. It enables equitable adoption of beneficial innovations. This benefits both patient care and population health.

10

Establishment of Health Facility Accreditation Council (HFAC)

Type: Order

Date: Ongoing

Establishing an independent Health Facility Accreditation Council (HFAC) to mandate the licensing, accreditation, and periodic renewal of all private hospitals, clinics, and diagnostic centers based on stringent national standards for infrastructure, safety, and service quality. Together, these reforms will foster a transparent, accountable, and patient-centered healthcare environment, systematically eradicating corrupt practices and institutionalizing a culture of continuous quality improvement across the sector.

11

Bringing Primary Health Care Services Closer to the Urban People

Type: Strategic Reform

Date: Ongoing

While rural areas have government health centers, many people living in cities have little access to primary health care. In some urban areas, hundreds of thousands of residents live without a single permanent government health facility nearby. To address this gap, the government launched the Urban Primary Health Care initiative. This project aims to build permanent health centers in cities and introduce a Digital Health Card for every citizen. Medical records will be shared electronically so patients no longer need to carry paper files. This will make care faster, safer, and easier for urban families.

12

Mandatory Maintenance Contracts During Procurement and IoT-Based Monitoring for Medical Equipment

Type: Administrative Directive

Date: Ongoing

A major reform addresses broken medical equipment. All expensive equipment must now include a maintenance contract. This ensures timely repairs and sustained function. An IoT-based real-time monitoring system is also being introduced. It is in the final stage of a Development Project Proposal. This system lets management track equipment remotely. It sends instant alerts on malfunctions. This allows early intervention to prevent disruptions. Together, these steps maximize equipment uptime. They enhance service reliability and optimize technology use. This reform strengthens the entire national health system.

13

Extension of Medical Internship for Rural and Community Competency

Type: Policy Decision

Date: Ongoing

The medical internship program has been extended from 12 to 18 months, dedicating the additional six months to rural, community-based clinical practice under the Primary Health Care Learning Program. This reform prepares interns specifically for the Bangladeshi health system, focusing on building skills for rural placement and effective work in limited-resource facilities. The goal is to enhance professional mindset and clinical competence, ensuring graduates are ready to serve in underserved communities.

14

National Oral Health Strategy & Action Plan (2025–2030)

Type: Strategic reform

Date: Ongoing

Oral diseases are widespread, preventable, and cause pain, infection, and economic loss, with current services being limited and inequitable. This ongoing strategy ensures a systematic national response by integrating oral health into primary care, prioritizing prevention and early treatment, and raising public awareness on hygiene. Benefits include reduced disease burden and healthcare costs, improved overall health and nutrition, and enhanced quality of life, promoting lifelong well-being and equity.

MINISTRY OF PRIMARY AND MASS EDUCATION

Completed Reforms

1

Academic Recognition and Registration of All Non-Government Primary Level Institutions

It is imperative to bring all non-government primary schools in Bangladesh under full academic recognition and registration. This must be executed in strict accordance with the Non-Government Primary School Registration Rules, 2023 (Amended 2025). This comprehensive measure will guarantee essential government oversight across the sector, thereby substantially promoting inclusive and standardized education nationwide.

2

Creation of the Post of Assistant Head Teacher

To comprehensively enhance the overall quality of primary education, it is essential to create and staff the position of Assistant Head Teacher in all government primary schools nationwide. This measure is crucial as it guarantees closer and more effective supervision of academic activities, which will play a vital, direct role in the sustained improvement of educational quality.

3

Establishment of a Strengthened School Monitoring Unit

Transformation of the Mandatory Primary Education Implementation and Monitoring Unit into an effective Primary Education Evaluation Bureau/Directorate. This will enable the inspection and evaluation of government primary schools nationwide and facilitate the implementation of actions based on inspection reports.

4

Implementation of Pre-assessment Tools for Primary School Students

It is necessary to implement pre-assessment tools for primary school students. The use of these tools will help determine students' learning levels, understand their interests and learning tendencies, and tailor teaching methods accordingly. Additionally, Head Teachers and Assistant Teachers will be able to identify students' weaknesses in the classroom, foster greater interest in learning, group students according to their grades, and implement special educational programs for struggling students.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Feeding Program in Government Primary Schools under the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education

The Ministry of Primary and Mass Education does not directly operate a "Food-for-Education" program. However, to support inclusive, equitable, and quality education (SDG-4) for all students attending government primary schools, improve their nutritional status, and reduce dropout rates, the Feeding Program in Government Primary Schools has been launched.

Project Details:

Project Name: Feeding Program in Government Primary Schools

Project Duration: January 2025 – December 2027

Estimated Cost: BDT 545,241.52 lakh (fully GOB-funded)

Project Area: The project will be implemented in government primary schools across 150 Upazilas in 62 districts of the country.

Beneficiaries: Approximately 3.13 million students from 19,419 government primary schools nationwide will receive nutritious meals five days a week (on school working days). Meals include fortified biscuits, UHT milk, bun bread, boiled eggs, and bananas/local seasonal fruits.

This initiative aims to enhance students' nutrition, support consistent school attendance, and contribute to overall educational outcomes.

Other Reforms

1

Strengthening the Engineering Cell of the Directorate of Primary Education (DPE)

It is imperative that the Directorate of Primary Education's Engineering Cell undergoes substantial strengthening and development. This strategic enhancement is essential to effectively manage and implement all infrastructure development, renovation, and improvement activities across the nation's 64 districts. A reinforced Engineering Cell will directly ensure the timely and quality execution of critical construction and renovation works at both the district and upazila levels, thereby maximizing the impact of national investment in primary education infrastructure.

2

100% online transfer of Head Teachers, Assistant Head Teachers, and Assistant Teachers

It is essential to execute the 100% digital management of transfer, posting, and human resources for all Head Teachers, Assistant Head Teachers, and Assistant Teachers. This must be conducted under the Online Teacher Transfer Policy utilizing the Integrated Primary Education Management Information System (IPEMIS) platform. This strategic digitalization will yield demonstrable efficiencies by significantly reducing teacher time and travel costs, thereby making a direct contribution to the overall improvement of educational quality.

3

Activation of modules under IPEMIS

The full implementation of the 24 proposed modules within the Integrated Primary Education Management Information System (IPEMIS) is crucial. This initiative will enable the complete digitization of the entire primary education management process, which is fundamental to ensuring the timely and efficient delivery of all mandated services.

SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Junior Scholarship Examination Policy 2025

Date: 22 October, 2025

In the above matter, the section requested in the aforementioned 37.00.0000.091.39.001.24.518 No. memorandum issued date: 01/09/2024 will be run according to the National Curriculum-2012 instead of the National Curriculum-2022, and the Junior Scholarship Examination Policy 2025 (Amended) was issued on 5th October, 2025. It has been sent with instructions for taking further necessary action.

2

Formation of College and Secondary School Managing Committees

Type: Policy

Work is underway to amend the existing policy on the formation of college and secondary school managing committees. The policy revision is expected to be completed and recommendations implemented by August 2025.

In the meantime, other legal procedures have been completed. On 17 August 2025, the draft of the Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Boards (All) (Governing Body and Managing Committee of Private Educational Institutions at Junior Secondary, Secondary, and Higher Secondary Levels) Regulations-2024 (Amended-2025) was returned from the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division after vetting. The draft regulations have been individually signed by the chairpersons of all nine education boards.

Subsequently, on 24 August 2025, the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division sent the draft to the BG Press for Gazette publication, pending the issuance of an S.R.O number. The BG Press has informed that payment must be made by all nine boards through challans for the Gazette publication. Once the payment is made, the regulations will be officially published in the Gazette. All boards have been duly informed of this process.

TECHNICAL AND MADRASAH EDUCATION DIVISION

Other Reforms

1

Payment of salaries and allowances to non-government MPO affiliated technical and madrasa teachers and employees through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)

Type: Decision

Date: October 2026

This arrangement will be made to easily pay salaries and allowances to non-government MPO affiliated technical and madrasa teachers and employees in the country through Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT).

2

Implementing Industry-Institute Linkage

Type: Decision

Date: December 2026

Institute-industry linkages are fundamental to developing a skilled workforce that meets the emerging needs of the modern economy. These partnerships enable TVET institutions to foster mutual benefits like student internships, joint research, and knowledge transfer. It also allows students to gain practical skills, helps industries find skilled employees and receive expert advice, and promotes innovation and economic development.

3

Online transfer of non-government MPO-affiliated madrasa teachers

Type: Decision

Date: October 2025

The transfer of non-government MPO-affiliated madrasa teachers will be started through online. This process will be implemented through automated software.

4

Online Certificate Verification

Type: Decision

Date: Ongoing Process

Currently, Bangladesh is a signatory to the Apostille Hague Treaty 1961. According to the treaty, students and overseas workers can authenticate their public documents (Certificates) through online in exchange for a prescribed fee. It replaces the traditional, multi-step legalisation process with a single Apostille certificate, which is issued by a competent authority in the document's country of origin.



Bangladesh currently stands at a historic crossroads, navigating the complex transition from an era of institutionalized looting to a "New Bangladesh" forged in the fires of the July Uprising. Faced with a crippling energy crisis and a legacy of "megaproject" corruption, the Interim Government is using Power and Energy Divisions to dismantle the predatory syndicates that drained the national exchequer. Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources are undergoing a radical purge of the "Quick Enhancement" laws, notorious symbols of fascist cronyism, to ensure energy sovereignty for the masses who bled for change.

Simultaneously, Ministry of Housing and Public Works and the Local Government Division are being reclaimed from partisan capture, shifting focus toward decentralized, transparent development. These reforms are essential to stabilize the economy and restore public trust. By aligning infrastructure with the spirit of the student-led uprising, the state ensures that every road and power line serves the people, rather than a dictator's grip.

SECTOR IV

ENERGY
AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

POWER DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Repealing the “Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act, 2010 (amended 2021)” to Address Systematic Corruption

Type: Ordinance repealing an Act

Date: 28 November 2024

The “Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) Act 2010 (amended 2021)” was criticized for opacity, corruption, and environmental neglect. Consequently, the Interim Government enacted the “Quick Enhancement of Electricity and Energy Supply (Special Provision) (Repeal) Ordinance, 2024”. This measure addresses systemic corruption, power abuse, environmental damage and inefficiency to establish transparency, accountability, and environmental compliance within the power sector.

2

Renewable Energy Policy 2025

Type: Policy

Date: 16 June 2025

The “Renewable Energy Policy 2025” aims to fortify national energy security and mitigate climate change by expanding clean energy technologies while simultaneously ensuring environmental protection, sustainable development, and social equity. It prioritizes institutional capacity, technical expertise, and low carbon investment models to foster a resilient energy transition. Strategic targets include generating 20% of total electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and 30% by 2040. By diversifying the energy mix via solar, wind, and biomass, the policy seeks to reduce electricity subsidies, stimulate green employment, and enhance economic competitiveness. This framework ensures environmental protection and aligns national development with global low carbon and climate resilient commitments.

3

“National Rooftop Solar Program” and “National Rooftop Solar Program Implementation Guideline”

Type: Program and Guideline

Date: 3 July 2025 (Program) and 21 August 2025 (Guideline)

The “National Rooftop Solar Program” has been introduced to strengthen energy security and advance renewable energy uptake in Bangladesh. It aims to generate 2,000 to 3,000 MW of electricity by December 2025 using government rooftop spaces. Aligned with the Renewable Energy Policy 2025 targets of 20% by 2030 and 30% by 2040, To facilitate effective implementation, the “National Rooftop Solar Program Implementation Guideline” has been formulated to delineate institutional roles and responsibilities. Achieving 3,000 MW is projected to save 4,200 crore Taka annually, with electricity valued at 25,200 crore Taka. This initiative will prevent 1.8 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions, reducing fossil fuel reliance and enhancing grid resilience through distributed generation.

4

Policy for Enhancement of Private Participation in the Renewable Energy-Based Power Generation (Merchant Power Policy)

Type: Policy

Date: 6 October 2025

The Merchant Power Policy was formulated to promote the optimal use of natural resources and reduce the country's dependence on fossil fuels by encouraging private sector involvement in clean and renewable energy generation. The policy is designed to increase competition, improve efficiency, ensure affordable and reliable electricity supply, enhance customer service, reduce carbon emissions and promote sustainable energy development. The policy invites both local and international private companies to partner with the government to establish merchant power plants. Participants can generate and/or store electricity to sell it directly to large or wholesale consumers at a mutually agreed-upon price. The policy ensures non-discriminatory access to the transmission and distribution networks of the Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGBPLC) and other distribution licensees for the transfer of electricity.

5

Formulation of the Net Metering Guideline 2025

Type: Guideline

Date: 21 August 2025

The "Net Metering Guideline 2025", formulated by the Power Division, facilitates renewable energy based distributed generation by enabling prosumers to install solar systems up to their sanctioned load. This policy permits consumers to utilize self-generated power and export surplus energy to the national grid. A quarterly billing adjustment mechanism ensures monetary compensation for net exporters. Developed through stakeholder consultation, the guideline simplifies grid integration for rooftop systems to enhance investment confidence and reduce electricity costs. This instrument optimizes existing infrastructure to support national sustainability goals, carbon emission reduction, and energy security, establishing a decentralized and economically viable low carbon energy framework for Bangladesh.

ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES DIVISION

Legal Reforms

1

Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission

Type: Ordinance amending legislation

Date: 27 August 2024

The government revoked amendments to the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission (BERC) Act that had centralized tariff-setting power with the Prime Minister's Office. BERC now independently regulates energy prices through public hearings, restoring transparency.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Provision of Hygienic Toilets at Highway Petrol Pumps

Across Bangladesh, there are 2,329 filling stations (2,198 operational and 131 temporarily closed) and 522 CNG stations. Following the recommendations of the Reform Commission, BPC, Petro Bangla, and the Department of Explosives have formed implementation teams to monitor the installation of hygienic, clean toilets, including separate facilities for women, at these stations.

To oversee the implementation, an additional 4-member committee has been constituted under the convenorship of the Additional Secretary (Administration) of this division.

- Out of 2,198 operational BPC filling stations, 1,931 stations have already ensured hygienic, clean toilets with separate facilities for women. The remaining 267 stations are in the process of implementing these facilities, representing 88% progress.
- All 522 Petro Bangla CNG stations have completed the installation of hygienic, clean toilets with separate facilities for women, achieving 100% implementation.

Overall, 90.18% of filling and CNG stations across the country now have hygienic, clean toilets with separate facilities for women. Implementation is ongoing at the remaining filling stations.

MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND PUBLIC WORKS

Completed Reforms

1

Amendment of the “Capital Development Authority (Land, Plot, Space, and Flat Allocation) Rules, 2024”

To enhance transparency and streamline all allocation-related activities under the Capital Development Authority (CDA) for properties (plots/flats) under its jurisdiction, all forms of quota systems have been abolished under Allocation Guidelines-2008 (Amended-2024). Allocations will now be made on the basis of equal entitlement for all citizens. It was published in the Gazette on 28 November 2024.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Implementation of DAP (2022–2035) and BNBC (2020)

Special initiatives have been undertaken to ensure the effective implementation of the DAP (2022–2035) and the BNBC (2020) for the development of well-organized and planned urban areas.

In order to finalize the Detailed Area Plan (DAP 2022–2035) prepared by the Capital Development Authority (RAJUK), a meeting of the Advisory Committee was held on 19 October 2025. The meeting approved the proposed revisions to the DAP.

2

Formulation of the Dhaka Metropolitan Building Rules, 2025

To establish order in the construction of housing and other structures in the capital city, in coordination with the Bangladesh National Building Code (BNBC) and the Detailed Area Plan (DAP), and to reduce public inconvenience and accidents.

The draft of the Dhaka Metropolitan Building Rules, 2025, has been updated and finalized after consultations with relevant stakeholders, including IAB, IEB, BELA, BAPA, and BIPIC. Subsequently, the draft rules, incorporating the proposed amendments, were finalized at the meeting of the Advisory Council Committee held on 19 October 2025. The finalized rules will be issued subject to vetting by the Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division.

Other Reforms

1

Easy access to get services and facilities

Type: Decision

Date: 10 September 2025

Awareness about the services and Master Plan of the Khulna Development Authority (KDA) has grown notably as people have been able to share their thoughts and ideas directly with the organization. This open exchange has given citizens a voice, making services more responsive and user-friendly. By dividing the responsibilities of the Planning Branch between two officers, KDA has also made service delivery faster and more efficient—especially for tasks like obtaining land use clearance. Moreover, the online availability of the Master Plan Map has made it much easier for people to learn about the Master Plan and the Detailed Area Plan (DAP). Residents can now access information anytime and get a clear picture of how their neighborhoods are being developed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Amendments to Local Government Laws

To ensure better governance and institutional efficiency, Gazettes of the following Ordinances have been made for further amendments in 2025:

- (i) Local Government (City Corporation) Act, 2009 – Gazette published on 18 August 2025
- (ii) Upazila Parishad Act, 1998 – Gazette published on 4 September 2025
- (iii) Local Government (Union Parishad) Act, 2009 – Gazette published on 1 September 2025
- (iv) Local Government (Municipality) Act, 2009 – Gazette published on 18 August 2025

Ongoing Reforms

1

Modernization of Training Evaluation Policy

The latest training evaluation policy of the National Institute of Local Government (NILG) was formulated in 2021. A new committee has been established to update and modernize it to align with current needs.

Other Reforms

1

Electronic Enlistment System (EES) by LGED

To simplify, modernize, and accelerate the enlistment and renewal of contractors under the Limited Tendering Method (LTM), the Local Government Engineering Department (LGED) has introduced an Electronic Enlistment System (EES) using the Government's official portal www.mygov.bd. A circular regarding this system was issued on 13 July 2025 following a formal launch on 16 July 2025. Contractors can now apply for enlistment from anywhere online.

2

Ensuring Social & Environmental Safeguards in GoB Projects

Following the Integrated Environmental and Social Management Framework (IESMF), all concerned have been instructed (Office Order dated 23/09/2024) to ensure proper address of social and environmental safeguard issues during the preparation and implementation of future GoB-funded projects.

3

Service Delivery through Mobile Apps (DPHE)

The development of a mobile application for public service delivery under the Department of Public Health Engineering is currently in progress to enhance easy accessibility and efficiency.

4

Formulation of Training Policy (NILG)

A committee has been formed to formulate the training policy for the National Institute of Local Government (NILG). The policy will be finalized and submitted to the Local Government Division within the stipulated timeframe.

5

Post-Training Performance Evaluation

A committee has been formed to design a framework for evaluating post-training performance. The framework will be prepared and submitted to the Local Government Division.

6

Introduction of Digital Signature in Birth and Death Registration

A letter was sent on 14 March 2024 to Bangladesh Missions abroad to enable the issuance of digitally signed certificates registered at the Embassies from any registration office in Bangladesh. Subsequently, the Bangladesh Embassies in Tripoli (Libya) and Muscat (Oman) successfully completed test operations. Feature development work is underway on BDRIS to collect digitally signed certificates from any registration office in the Country.

7

Development of a New BDRIS System

To address the limitations of the existing BDRIS, a modern, secure, and user-friendly mobile application is being developed. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for this new system is currently being prepared.

8

Ensuring Data Accuracy in BDRIS

To ensure data integrity, duplicate birth registrations are being canceled through an online application process initiated by registrants. As of 31 July 2025, a total of 28,829 duplicate records have been successfully removed, and the verification process continues to progress steadily.

9

Establishment of Call Centers in City Corporations and WASAs to improve customer service and complaint management

Dhaka WASA has introduced a 24-hour hotline service “WASALink-1616” along with call centers in 10 MODS Zones. Chattogram, Khulna, and Rajshahi WASAs have also introduced similar Call centers. City Corporations have launched call centers to ensure quick response to citizen complaints.

10

Grievance Redress System (GRS) in City Corporations

A Grievance Redress System (GRS) has been introduced across all city corporations to handle public complaints efficiently. Regular reports are submitted to the Local Government Division.

11

Introduction of Meter Reading Apps in Chattogram WASA

Meter Reading Apps (MRA) have been introduced to enhance revenue collection and reduce Non-Revenue Water (NRW). As of now, 8,928 bills have been issued using this app and the initiative will be further expanded.



Bangladesh is currently undergoing a “digital purging” process, attempting to decouple its technological infrastructure from the surveillance-heavy, control-oriented legacy of the previous regime. The current situation is defined by a push for “Digital Sovereignty”, a direct response to the weaponized internet blackouts used during the July Uprising to stifle the student-led uprising and hide state atrocities. These reforms aim to transform the state’s digital and information apparatus from a tool of suppression into a transparent public utility.

The Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology are leading this charge by drafting the Cyber Safety Ordinance 2025 to replace the draconian Cyber Security Act 2023, explicitly enshrining the right to uninterrupted internet access as a safeguard against future tyranny. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Science and Technology is pivoting towards ethical AI and inclusive innovation, while the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is being overhauled to end the era of “media capture” and partisan propaganda. By honoring the digital bravery of the “Gen-Z” protesters who used technology to document and broadcast the truth of the uprising, these initiatives aim to rebuild the nation’s virtual space as a decentralized commons where information flows freely to safeguard the people’s collective liberty.

SECTOR V

SCIENCE
AND
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Completed Reforms

1

Reformation of National Executive Committee on Biotechnology (NECB)

Type: Policy

Date: 28 January, 2025

The National Executive Committee on Biotechnology (NECB) will

- implement instructions from the National Biotechnology Task Force (NCTB).
- Formulate biotechnology policies to ensure proper research and development.
- Monitor and evaluate the current status of biotechnology research.
- Develop short and long term action plans for future biotechnology research.
- Provide policy recommendations on key biotechnology issues.

2

Reformation of National Taskforce on Biotechnology of Bangladesh (NTBB)

Type: Policy

Date: 29 February, 2025

The National Taskforce on Biotechnology of Bangladesh (NTBB) will:

- Guide government policies and regulatory actions related to biotechnology.
- Advise on the application of biotechnology across various sectors of the economy.

3

Reformation of National Technical Committee on Biotechnology (NTCB)

Type: Policy

Date: 04 February, 2025

The National Technical Committee on Biotechnology (NTCB) will:

- Identify national biotechnology priorities.
- Issue project proposals, encourage investment in biotechnology research, and seek industry partnerships.
- Explore the flow of resources (expertise, funding, and facilities) in biotechnology.
- Raise public awareness about the benefits of modern biotechnology.

4

Reform the Title of “Novotheatre”

Type: Ordinance

Date: 20 March, 2025

The Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novotheatre (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has revised the title and relevant sections of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novotheatre Act, 2010, removing the reference to “Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.” The institution is now officially known simply as ‘Novotheatre’.

5

Reform the Title of “Science And Technology Fellowship Trust”

Type: Ordinance

Date: 20 March, 2025

The Bangabandhu Science and Technology Fellowship Trust Act (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 amends the Bangabandhu Science and Technology Fellowship Trust Act, 2016. The ordinance removes the word “Bangabandhu” from the title. The current title is Science and Technology Fellowship Trust.

Other Reforms

1

Payment of various grants from the ministry through EFT

Type: Decision

Date: 23 June, 2025

The Ministry of Science and Technology is disbursing various grants through Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) for initiatives like NST Fellowships, R&D projects, grants to science-based organizations, special research grants, and the purchase of scientific equipment for schools and colleges.

The following six Peer Review Committees have been reconstituted to oversee the allocation of special research grants under the Science and Technology Program, effective from 31 October 2024:

1. Peer Review Committee on Biological Sciences (BS)
2. Peer Review Committee on Engineering & Applied Sciences (EAS)
3. Peer Review Committee on Environmental Sciences (ES)
4. Peer Review Committee on Inter-Disciplinary (ID)
5. Peer Review Committee on Medical Sciences (MS)
6. Peer Review Committee on Physical Sciences (PS)

2

Providing support for online thesis supervision to student/ researcher

Type: Decision

Date: 23 June, 2025

The Ministry is enhancing the online thesis supervision process for students and researchers by simplifying approval procedures through an upgraded Online Thesis Management System. This improvement is expected to reduce processing time from 15 working days, minimize travel and associated costs, and ensure faster, more efficient service delivery. The system has already been modernized, and work is underway to integrate it with the Scientist Profile module of the IDSDP software.

3

Online Nuclear medicine services

Type: Action Plan

Date: 23 June, 2025

The Ministry is launching an online registration and appointment system for medical services at the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS) and the National Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (NINMAS) under the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission. The process to streamline and expedite these services through the IDSDP Software is currently underway.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Cyber Safety ordinance

Type: Ordinance repealing and replacing previous legislation

Date: Published 21 May 2025

Repeal of Cybersecurity Act 2023 and major overhaul of cybersecurity legislation through a new ordinance has been completed. The new ordinance covers cyber-crimes and threats detection, prevention and prosecution and related legal issues.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Personal Data Protection Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing process / in final stages of drafting

A new ordinance formulation is underway to establish a legal framework for the lawful processing of personal data with the consent of the individual as its rightful owner. The proposed law aims to ensure privacy, confidentiality, safety, security, fairness, and interoperability, while maintaining transparency and accountability. It also seeks to prevent misuse or breaches of personal information, uphold fundamental rights and freedoms, and provide appropriate remedies and legal safeguards in matters related to data protection.

2

National Data Governance Ordinance

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing process

A new ordinance formulation is ongoing to establish a framework for a national approach to data governance and interoperability to facilitate easy access to citizen services. It will provide voluntary processing and comprehensive management of personal data, ensuring that such data is used lawfully and only for legitimate, need-based purposes, while safeguarding its security and confidentiality. The framework will also set out provisions for the lawful handling, storage, and transfer of personal data, with remedies in place for any violations or deviations from legal obligations. Additionally, it will establish a statutory authority to oversee lawful interoperability and the secure exchange of personal or other data between public and private, domestic and international institutions, addressing related legal considerations.

POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATION DIVISION

Completed Reforms

1

Telecommunications Network and Licensing Policy, 2025

Type: Government Policy on Telecom Net & Licensing

Date: 22 September 2025

There was an urgent need for structural reforms in the telecom network and licensing regime of Bangladesh. The newly issued Policy addresses the fragmentation of the telecom sector, streamline licensing processes, promotes competition and innovation, and creates a regulatory environment that supports the country's digital transformation. It will ensure competitiveness of Bangladesh in the global digital economy, will reduce digital divide, and will draw the socio-economic benefits of a robust and inclusive telecommunications sector. Under the new policy, Bangladesh would unlock a high-growth and investment-driven telecom sector, and position the country as a digital leader in South Asia.

2

International Internet Gateway (IIG) Policy

Type: Amendment to Gateway Licensing Guidelines

Date: 19 February 2025

The government has revised the technical and operational requirements for International Internet Gateway (IIG) licensees to strengthen network resilience and ensure service continuity. Licensees are now required to support interface speeds including STM-1, STM-4, STM-16, STM-64, GE, and FE, with primary connectivity established through ILDC. Up to 10% of connected bandwidth may be routed via satellite earth stations as backup until an alternative ILDC becomes available. Additionally, each IIG operator is mandated not to route more than 50% of total internet traffic through International Terrestrial Cables (ITCs). Provision for additional satellite backup is allowed with prior approval from the Commission, based on service-level agreements.

3

Telecommunications Network and Licensing Policy, 2025

Type: New Policy repealing the International Long Distance Telecommunication Service (ILDTS) Policy, 2010

Date: 22 September 2025

The government has approved the Telecommunications Network and Licensing Policy, 2025, to overhaul the nation's telecom regulatory framework. This new policy repeals the outdated International Long Distance Telecommunication Service (ILDTS) Policy, 2010, which was deemed fragmented and an impediment to market growth. The new policy aims to establish a simplified, technology-neutral, and business-friendly environment to foster investment, innovation, and competition. It introduces a streamlined licensing structure with new categories, including Access Network Service Provider (ANSP), National Infrastructure and Connectivity Service Provider (NICSP), and International Connectivity Service Provider (ICSP). Concurrently, it will phase out legacy licenses such as International Gateway (IGW), Interconnection Exchange (ICX), and International Internet Gateway (IIG) upon the expiration of their current terms. A three-stage

migration roadmap will guide existing licensees to transition to the new framework, with a soft cut-off date of June 30, 2027. The overall goal is to enhance service quality, attract foreign investment, and better align the telecom sector with Bangladesh's national digital transformation agenda.

4

Formulation of NGSO/GSO Guidelines and VSAT Sales

Type: Guideline Formulation

Date: 25 March 2025

BSCL has played a leading role in formulating NGSO (Non-Geostationary Satellite Orbit) and GSO guidelines. It is expected that BSCL will soon obtain a GSO license in accordance with the guidelines. Promotional (marketing) activities are ongoing to sell VSAT services to various corporate houses, NGOs, SMEs, and government organizations. Discussions are underway with a company to design VSAT using new technology in order to reduce the cost of VSAT. Furthermore, in the GSO guidelines, the regulatory fee for VSAT has been aligned with that of NGSO terminals.

5

Renaming Satellite and Associates Ground Stations after Individuals Associated with the Previous Fascist Government

Type: Renaming Bangladesh's first satellite and associated ground stations

Date: 23 February 2025

Bangladesh Satellite Company Limited (BSCL) has undertaken all necessary measures to rename Bangladesh's first satellite as "Bangladesh Satellite-1" (previous "Bangabandhu Satellite-1") in coordination with the relevant international and national stakeholders, including the ITU, HSBC, UNOOSA, Space Track, and the Insurance Company. In alignment with this initiative, the associated ground stations (Sajeeb Wazed Satellite Ground Station, Gazipur and Sajeeb Wazed Satellite Ground Station, Betbunia) have also been renamed through due process as "Primary Satellite Ground Station, Gazipur" and

“Secondary Satellite Ground Station, Betbunia”. Accordingly, BSCL has implemented the renaming of its establishments in compliance with the directives issued by the Government of Bangladesh.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Teletalk Modernization and Governance Initiative

Type: Policy and Institutional Reform

Date: Ongoing Process

Recognizing Teletalk’s strategic importance as the sole state-owned mobile operator, a comprehensive modernization and governance reform initiative has been undertaken. The initiative focuses on implementing the Teletalk Modernization and Governance Framework, which includes the phased replacement of legacy 3G equipment with energy-efficient, 4G/5G-ready systems.

Key components of the reform include:

- Expansion of 4G/5G network coverage across the country, with special emphasis on remote and underserved regions such as coastal belts, char areas, hilly regions, and the Sundarbans—areas often overlooked by private operators due to limited commercial viability.
- Ensuring uninterrupted and high-quality network coverage along national highways.
- Formation of Quick Response Teams in every operational zone to provide immediate support during network outages.
- Establishment of a Network Data Analysis Unit to continuously monitor service quality and optimize revenue generation.

Institutional separation of policy and commercial functions to strengthen accountability, transparency, and operational efficiency.

2

Mailing Operator and Courier Service Development and Regulation Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing Process/Adoption expected by the end of 2025

It is necessary and reasonable to introduce an Ordinance in Bangladesh to develop the Mailing and Courier Service sector, ensuring efficient management, protecting customer interests, and addressing related issues. An Ordinance will be adopted to bring the large and fast-growing sector of mailing and courier business under a regulatory framework by providing licenses, registration and renewal, collection of service charges, and oversight of service providers. This Ordinance will also ensure consumer protection and transparency, improve service quality, and prevent unlawful operations. The adoption of the said Ordinance is intended to modernize the legal framework governing courier and mailing services in Bangladesh.

Other Reforms

1

TSS Renewable Energy Initiative: Rooftop Solar Project

In today's world, the energy crisis has become one of the most significant challenges facing human civilization. The reserves of fossil fuels are depleting rapidly, making the use of alternative and renewable energy sources a pressing necessity. In this context, the rooftop solar system has emerged as a revolutionary technology. As part of the reform-oriented steps taken by the Interim Government, Telephone Shilpa Sangstha Limited (TSS) has initiated an important program to promote the use of renewable energy. The primary goal of this initiative is to meet electricity demand, reduce operating costs, and create a positive environmental impact by installing rooftop solar systems on TSS-owned buildings.

2

Starlink Resellership

Type: Business Action

Date: 04 July 2025

A reseller agreement has been signed between BSCL and Starlink to provide Starlink services in Bangladesh and the sale of Starlink services has begun in various government and private organizations. The process of appointing sales agents to promote Starlink services is ongoing. BSCL is entering into agreements with various government and private organizations to directly sell Starlink devices and services.

A project has been undertaken, in coordination with and funded by the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board, to provide Starlink connectivity to primary and secondary schools in the hill tract regions.

3

Formulation of the Postal Directorate's Housing Allocation Policy-2025

Under this policy, the allocation of official residences within the postal department, transfer-related housing allocations, and other government housing activities are carried out.

4

Assist in reducing cybercrime and managing a safer internet environment

Type: Ongoing system for safer internet environment

To assist in reducing cybercrime and managing a safer internet environment, a Cyber Threat Detection and Response (CTDR) Center has been established under the Department of Telecommunications, which operates under Posts and Telecommunications Division. Using the CTDR system, access to morally degrading websites on the internet is being blocked from Bangladesh. As part of this initiative, and in accordance with government policy and the directives of relevant authorities, a total of 27,000 pornographic and gambling websites have been blocked or restricted to date.

5

ITC and submarine bandwidth monitoring system

Type: Bandwidth management

Date: 10 August 2025

A proposal for Implementation of ITC and submarine bandwidth monitoring systems in coordination with the submarine cable company has been sent to Posts and Telecommunications Division on August 10, 2025, for further necessary action. The proposal, when implemented, will help achieving the objectives as mentioned below:

- Real-time monitoring of upstream and downstream bandwidth through submarine and ITC links.
- Identify traffic patterns, anomalies, and congestion.
- Enable informed regulatory decision-making and forecasting.
- Promote transparency across IIGs, ISPs, and NTTNs.

6

Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the operation of the Cyber Threat Detection and Response (CTDR) Center

Type: CTDR Center management

Date: 21 October 2024

To play a supportive role in ensuring secure internet network management in the country, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) has prepared a draft of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the operation of the CTDR Center. The draft Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) has been sent to Posts and Telecommunications Division on October 21, 2024, for further necessary action.

7

Country's First Green Data Center Initiative

Type: MoU

Date: 26 January 2025

The Posts and Telecommunications Department (PTD), Public Private Partnership Authority (PPPA), BTCL and Asian Development Bank

(ADB) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on 26.01.2025 to develop Bangladesh's first green data center under public-private partnership (PPP) modality to promote digital transformation and sustainable technology by using renewable energy.



First Ever Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO) Service Incorporation in Bangladesh

Type: New Service

Date: October 2025

Country's first ever MVNO based customer friendly bundle telecommunication service is on the way. BTCL's MVNO service, initially utilizing Teletalk Bangladesh's network is set to launch for the first time in Bangladesh. Through this service, BTCL will provide customers with talk-time, internet data packages, OTT content watching, SMS, and IP calling facilities under its own brand.

MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Completed Reforms

1

Modernization of Press Accreditation Policy

Type: Policy

Date: 26 February 2025

The Press Accreditation Policy 2022 was widely regarded as outdated and insufficient in addressing the evolving needs of journalists. In response, the policy underwent extensive revisions to make it more inclusive, transparent, and practical for media professionals. The updated policy streamlines the accreditation process, clarifies eligibility criteria, and incorporates modern media practices, ensuring alignment with contemporary journalistic standards and promoting a more enabling environment for the press.

2

Reconstitution of the Governing Body of Bangladesh Cinema and Television Institute (BCTI)

Type: Reform of Governing Body

Date: December 2025

According to the Bangladesh Cinema and Television Institute Act, 2013 (Amended 2019), the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

has reconstituted the Governing Body of the Bangladesh Cinema and Television Institute (BCTI) on 23 December 2025.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Modernization of National Online Media Policy

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

Amendments have been introduced, and the previous policy has been restructured to make it more accessible, transparent, and user-friendly for both citizens and journalists.

2

Bangladesh Betar Casual Artist Contracting Policy 2024 (Proposed)

Type: Policy Guideline

Date: 27 November 2024

Artists are the driving force behind Bangladesh Betar. The proposed Casual Artist Contracting Policy 2024 outlines the terms and responsibilities of casual artists who contribute to program production, reporting, scriptwriting, audio and video recording/editing/mixing, translation, archiving, social media, and other broadcasting activities. This policy aims to ensure proper recognition, structure, and support for artists' diverse roles within Bangladesh Betar's creative ecosystem.

3

Bangladesh Betar Artist Audition and Gradation Policy 2024 (Proposed)

Type: Audition and Gradation

Date: 5 February 2025

Bangladesh Betar serves as a unique platform for nurturing the creativity and talent of artists and cultural workers. To maintain

artistic excellence, Betar is formulating a comprehensive Artist Audition and Gradation Policy 2024. This policy will modernize and systematize the enlistment and grading process for all categories of artists, ensuring transparency, merit-based selection, and the continued enrichment of the nation's cultural heritage.

4

Bangladesh Film Certification Rules

Type: Rules

Date: Yet to be Passed

Once approved, the Bangladesh Film Certification Rules will replace the traditional grading system with an internationally recognized film rating framework, ensuring alignment with global standards of film classification and content regulation.

5

Social Security for Senior Journalists

Type: Policy for Senior and Underprivileged Journalists

Date: Work in Progress

To ensure dignity and financial security for elderly and underprivileged journalists, the Trust is formulating the Senior Journalists Honorarium Policy 2025. This policy aims to acknowledge their lifelong contributions to journalism and society through structured social and financial support.

Other Reforms

1

Creation of Website “julyuprising.com”

Type: Website

Date: 25 March 2025

To preserve the history of the July Uprising 2024, still photographs, press clippings, and scanned copies of national and regional newspapers related to the event will be systematically archived on an

official website. This digital repository will serve as a comprehensive resource for researchers, journalists, and the public, ensuring permanent access to authentic historical records.

2

Launch of Dedicated News Channel “BTV News”

Type: News Channel

Date: 31 December 2024

Following the July Uprising, Bangladesh Television launched BTV News, a dedicated 24-hour news channel. Inaugurated virtually by Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus in memory of the martyrs of the July Uprising, the channel reflects the aspirations and spirit of the movement. Since its inception, BTV News has been playing a vital role in promoting objective journalism, upholding national unity, and showcasing Bangladesh's positive image internationally.

3

Notun Kuri 2025

Type: Program

Date: 24 September 2025

After a gap of 20 years, Notun Kuri 2025—a national children's talent hunt—was relaunched. Auditions are being held in 12 categories including Acting, Recitation, Storytelling, Comedy, Classical and General Dance, Patriotic, Modern, Nazrul, Rabindra, Folk, and Islamic Songs. Regional and divisional rounds have concluded, and final auditions are underway.

4

Production and Broadcasting of Programs Inspired by the Spirit of the July Mass Uprising

Type: Broadcasting Initiative

Date:

BTV has produced and broadcast a range of programs inspired by the July Mass Uprising, including 36 July, Graffiti on July Mass Uprising, Deyaler Mohakabbo, Shaheed-er Rakto Shakkhar, Rokte Veja Bangladesh, Gonomukti Onirban, July Smriti Jadughar, Contribution

of Women in the July Mass Uprising, Bidroho and Protibad, and Amader Shaheedra. These productions highlight the sacrifices and ideals that shaped the movement.

5

Artist Remuneration 2024 (Proposed)

Type: Fee Structure

Date: 2 March 2025

To ensure fair compensation for artists, the proposed Artist Remuneration 2024 framework introduces approximately threefold increases compared to the Remuneration Structure 2016. It also introduces single-minute and shift-based payment systems, integrates remuneration for new program types, and includes clear operational guidelines to enhance transparency and equity in payment practices.

6

Upgrading the National System for Preserving Audio-Visual Documents

Type: Archiving System Upgrade

Date: December 2025

In line with UNESCO and FIAF guidelines, modern equipment is being incorporated to upgrade Bangladesh's national system for preserving audio-visual documents. This includes advanced color grading, digitization, and cataloguing systems, enhancing the longevity and accessibility of valuable historical materials and publications preserved in national archives.

7

Collection and Preservation of Audio-Visual Documents of the Student-Mass Uprising 2024 (Home and Abroad)

Type: Project

Date: 1 April 2025 – 30 June 2027

The Bangladesh Film Archive has initiated a national project titled Collection and Preservation of Audio-Visual Documents of the

Student–Mass Uprising 2024 from Home and Abroad. The project aims to collect, preserve, and archive authentic visual materials related to the uprising. It includes producing 200 interview-based documentaries, creating an interactive digital archive, establishing a specialized film museum, and upgrading archiving facilities. The estimated cost of BDT 468.2 million will be fully funded by the Government of Bangladesh.

8

Strengthening the PIB Digital Archive

Type: Archival Development

Date:

As part of the effort to strengthen the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) Digital Archive, 18 newspapers and periodicals covering 1947–2024 have been digitized and preserved, ensuring easy access to historical records for researchers and journalists.

9

Establishment of the July Uprising Archive

Type: Archival Project

Date: Work in Progress

A dedicated archive is being developed to collect and preserve news, photographs, martyr profiles, videos, and podcasts related to the July Uprising 2024. The initiative aims to safeguard the collective memory of the uprising through a curated collection of national newspapers, books, publications, and documentaries.

10

Education Scholarships for Meritorious Students

Type: Welfare Program

Date: Work in Progress

For the first time, the Trust has awarded educational scholarships worth BDT 5,526,000 to 305 meritorious children of journalists, reflecting its commitment to supporting education and fostering an enlightened future generation.

11

July Renaissance Program 2025

Type: Welfare Program

Date: 3 August 2025

Under the July Renaissance Program 2025, the Trust honored five families of martyred journalists with BDT 100,000 each and 192 injured journalists with BDT 25,000 each, totaling BDT 6.3 million. Crests and certificates were also presented in recognition of courage and professional excellence.

12

Mandate and Strategic Initiatives under the PIB Act

Type: Institutional Program

Date:

In line with Section 6 of the Press Institute of Bangladesh (PIB) Act, new facilities are being developed, including a digital news museum, digital archive, media reference center, and reading room. A Fact-Check and Media Analysis Center is also being established to combat misinformation and promote credible journalism. Additionally, an E-Learning Platform is being developed to enhance the professional and technological competencies of media workers and institutions, aligning them with global standards.



Bangladesh is currently severing the “extortionist noose” that has long strangled its economy, purging the transport syndicates that acted as the previous regime’s financial foot soldiers. This sector’s overhaul is a direct mandate of the July Uprising, where the youth reclaimed our streets and highways from the very mafias that turned public infrastructure into partisan fiefdoms. The Bridges Division and Ministry of Railways are now dismantling the “looting-focused” megaproject culture, replacing it with a strategic reform plan that prioritizes commuter safety and fiscal sanity over contractor kickbacks.

Simultaneously, the Ministry of Shipping and Civil Aviation Authority are working to end the era of “port-mafias” and aviation decay, implementing the newly approved National Logistics Policy 2025 to slash export delays and restore national dignity. These reforms help by transforming our transport arteries from sites of plunder into efficient economic lifelines. By honoring the martyrs’ sacrifice, the Interim Government is ensuring that movement in the “New Bangladesh” is a fundamental right, not a source of exploitation.

SECTOR VI

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

BRIDGES DIVISION

Ongoing Reforms

1

Formulation/Review of BBA Guidelines

Human Resources Development and Capacity Building of Bangladesh Bridge Authority Project has developed a research guideline for Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA). In addition, Bangladesh Bridge Authority has taken initiative to review the existing guidelines for the management of movable and immovable property of BBA to make it updated, ensure efficiency and optimal use of public resources.

Other Reforms

1

Automation of Toll Collection System in Padma Bridge

Type: Piloting of Modernization of Toll Collection

Date: 15 September 2025

Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA), under the Bridges Division of the Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges, has introduced an Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) system on the Padma Bridge as part of toll automation. A Memorandum of Understanding with Aspire to Innovate (a2i)-Information & Communication Technology Division was signed on July 9, 2025, to enable cashless toll payments. The ETC

system was launched on a pilot basis on September 15, 2025. Vehicle registration is available via the TAP (Trust And Pay) App and Midland Bank's online app, with plans to integrate more MFSs and banks. As of October 12, 2025, a total of 107 vehicles have been registered, 1,575 transactions completed, and BDT 30,27,600 collected through the system. Afterwards, the Electronic Toll Collection (ETC) system will be introduced across all bridges under the Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA).

2

Renewable Energy

Type: Installation of Solar Panel

Date: Ongoing process

Solar power panels with capacity of 20 kilowatts have been installed in the Shetu Bhaban, which is being connected to the national grid. Moreover, 8 kilowatts of solar power is being generated at the Jajira end of the Padma bridge area and work is underway to install another 6.05 megawatts of solar power panels.

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

Other Reforms

1

Commuter Train and special Coach for Female Passengers

New commuter trains have been introduced, and the existing ones have been upgraded with improved facilities, including reserved coaches for female passengers.

2

Participation in National Rooftop Solar Programme

The National Rooftop Solar Programme aims to generate 3,000 MW of electricity from solar panels installed on government buildings, schools, and hospitals. To contribute to this national target, eight specific locations have been selected within Bangladesh Railway for the installation of rooftop solar systems.

3

Open Healthcare for General Public in Railway Hospitals

A total of 10 hospitals under Bangladesh Railway are being opened to the general public through joint management by the Health Services Division and the Ministry of Railways. The Chittagong Railway Hospital has already begun operations, while the remaining hospitals are expected to open soon.

4

Call Center, e-Ticketing and Preventing Black Marketing of Tickets

A call center, "131," was launched on 10 September 2024, enabling passengers to access real-time train information and submit complaints or feedback. Additionally, the e-ticketing system is being upgraded, and continuous measures are underway to prevent black marketing.

5

Reduction in Development Project Cost as a Result of Proper Planning

With proper planning and by discouraging less important works, a total savings of 8,593.8579 Crore Taka has been achieved from six different projects under Bangladesh Railway.

MINISTRY OF SHIPPING

Completed Reforms

1

“TARIFF ON GOODS AND VESSELS ETC. For Chittagong Port Authority 2025” (SRO No. 364-Law/2025)

Type: Legal and financial reform

Date: 14 September 2025

The performance of Chittagong Port Authority plays a pivotal role for the socio-economic development of Bangladesh. For international trade, including import-export has the immense importance of Chittagong port. As the government has been upgrading this port to world-class standards and capabilities. For that purpose, ‘Tariff on Goods and Vessels etc. for Chittagong Port Authority-2025’ has been formulated.

(SRO No.-364-Law/2025, dated 14/09/2025) through Gazette Notification.

2

Land Port Operation and Management Regulations, 2025

Date: 28 January 2025

The number of land port, under the control of the Bangladesh Land Port Authority established under the Bangladesh Land Ports Authority Act, 2001 (Act No. 20 of 2001), is 24. After the establishment of the authority in 2001, only Benapole Land Port was under its management.

In this context, the “Benapole Land Port Operation and Management Regulations, 2007” were formulated and implemented in 2007 under the powers conferred by Section 22 of the said Act to manage the internal activities of Benapole Land Port. In the meantime, as the scope of activities of other land ports has increased, including the establishment of new land ports, and as no regulations have been formulated for the operation and management of these ports, including the safe storage of import and export goods, the supply of stored goods, and the port officials and employees engaged in the performance of related duties, the necessary parts of the Benapole Land Port Operation and Management Regulations-2007 were amended and made applicable to all land ports, and the Land Port Operation and Management Regulations, 2025 were formulated.

3

Formulation of the draft “Bangladesh Land Ports Authority Employee Welfare Fund and Collective Insurance Policy, 2025”

Date: 24 April 2025

Bangladesh Land Port Authority did not have any policy to provide financial assistance for their officers and employees. As a result, the authorities did not provide any other benefits including medical care to the staffs and their family members. Considering the issue of providing financial benefits to them, Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employee Welfare Fund and Joint Insurance Policy was formulated. On 24-04-2025, the Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employee Welfare Fund and Joint Insurance Policy, 2025 was published in the form of a gazette.

4

Formulation of the draft “Bangladesh Land Ports Authority Employee Service Regulations, 2004 (Amendment)”

Date: 16 July 2024 & 05 March 2025

- a) Bangladesh Land Port Authority is a statutory body established in 2001. Later, in 2004, the Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employee Service Regulations were formulated. In order to amend the said Regulations, 2004 and to include the posts

created at different times, on 14 August 2025, the Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employee Service Regulations, 2004 were amended and published in the form of a gazette.

- b) Due to the need to partially amend the Schedule of the Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employee Service Regulations, 2004, the Gazette was published on 15 April 2025.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Bangladesh National Port Strategy

The Ministry of Shipping, with JICA assistance, is formulating the integrated Bangladesh National Port Strategy to enhance economic growth and international trade competitiveness. This long-term framework focuses on the development, modernization, and efficient management of sea, river, and land ports, ensuring cost-effective import and export operations. The strategy integrates existing and prospective ports, including Chattogram, Mongla, Payra, and Matarbari, while prioritizing regional commodities and sustainable, SDG-aligned management. Data from relevant port authorities have been collected, with seaport-related activities scheduled for completion by December 2025. Consultant firm OCDI has submitted the Draft Final Report for the integrated strategy based on seaport assessments. Concurrent preparation of distinct strategies for river and land ports is underway to attract foreign investment.

2

Formulation of the Draft “Inland Infrastructure Construction Regulations, 2025”

Type: Amendment of legislation

To ensure discipline and quality control in infrastructure construction, the final draft of the Inland Infrastructure Construction Regulations, 2025 has been prepared. Through this initiative, sustainable development of riverbank infrastructure will be attained.

3

Formulation of the Draft “The Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority Ordinance, 2025”

Type: New Ordinance

The proposed ‘Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority Ordinance, 2025’ aims to establish a safe, affordable, environmentally friendly, and sustainable inland and coastal water transport system. The proposed act focuses on improving, preserving, and regulating navigability of waterways, marking safe route, and ensuring maritime safety. It also includes the development of new waterways, establishment of river ports, construction of jetties and landing facilities to strengthen the national water transport network.

4

Formulation of the Draft “Inland River Ports and Waterways Ordinance, 2025”

Type: New Ordinance

The proposed “Inland River Ports and Waterways Ordinance, 2025” aims to establish a safe, efficient, and well-regulated inland and coastal water transport system in Bangladesh. Under this Ordinance, the government may frame rules to regulate vessel entry, movement, anchorage, cargo handling, fuel supply and dock operations.

5

Formulation of the Draft “National River Conservation Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025”

Type: Amendment of legislation

To make National River Conservation Commission more effective, of draft National River Conservation Commission (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has been prepared. Once enacted, this law will enable the Commission to perform its duties independently in implementing river protection activities.

6

Initiative for River Restoration and Protection in Bangladesh

Type: River Management Policy

With the cooperation of the District Administration, Divisional Administration, and the Ministry of Water Resources, the National River Conservation Commission has completed the task of updating the list of 1,415 rivers in Bangladesh. Through this initiative, illegal occupants can be evicted and the occupied river lands will be reclaimed. It will also create opportunities to restore dead or non-navigable rivers and help re-establish the natural flow of rivers.

7

Formulation of the draft “Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (Employees) Service Regulations”

The existing regulations, titled Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (Officers and Staff) Service Regulations, 1997, presently govern the operations and administrative functions of the Corporation. All current activities are conducted in accordance with these regulations. In order to ensure alignment with contemporary administrative and operational requirements, the Bangladesh Shipping Corporation (Employees) Service Regulations, 2025 is presently under amendment and formulation to replace and update the existing framework.

8

Regarding approval of retirement allowance and retirement benefits of the employees of Bangladesh Land Ports Authority in light of Bangladesh Land Ports Authority Employee Service Regulations, 2004

Type: Regulations

The Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employees Service Regulations, 2004, made under the powers conferred by Section 22 of the Bangladesh Land Port Authority Act, 2001 (Act No. 20 of 2001), were formulated. As per Rule 54 of the said regulations, a general provident fund is in operation in this authority. But the retirement allowance and retirement benefits scheme for the employees of Bangladesh Land Port Authority has not been introduced. Therefore, a proposal

has been sent to the Finance Division for approval of the Ministry of Finance to introduce the retirement allowance and retirement benefit scheme for the employees of Bangladesh Land Port Authority according to Bangladesh Land Port Authority Employees Service Regulations, 2004.

9

Formulation of the Draft “Chittagong Port Authority Employee Regulations, 2025”

Update and rectification of existing Chittagong Port Authority Employee Regulations, 1991.

10

Formulation of the Draft “Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation Ordinance, 2025”

In order to meet the evolving challenges of the modern era and ensure more efficient water transport services, it has become necessary to amend the existing Order (enacted in 1972 as order). The key features of the proposed amendments include:

1. Expanded operational scope to include passenger ships, oil tankers, and container vessels across:
 - I. Inland waterways
 - II. Coastal routes and
 - III. Inter-country protocol routes.
2. Provisions for emergency dredging/clear sediment on selected routes to ensure smooth operation of BIWTC ferry and passenger services etc.

11

The Inland Shipping Ordinance 2025 (ISO)

Type: Ordinance

The Inland Shipping Ordinance 1976 (ISO) regulates the registration, safety and operation of inland water vessels in Bangladesh. The ongoing process involves transforming The Inland Shipping Ordinance, 1976 (ISO) into The Inland Shipping Ordinance 2025 (ISO).

12

The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983 (MSO)

Type: Ordinance

The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983 (MSO) governs the registration, regulation, safety and management of seagoing ships and maritime employment in Bangladesh. The ongoing process aims to transform The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983 (MSO) into The Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 2025 (MSO).

Other Reforms

1

Inauguration of the Char Kukrimukri–Kachhpia–Dhalchar–Kalatali Waterway Route

Type: Infrastructure development (Water Transport and Communication)

Date: Ongoing

Previously, unauthorized engine-powered artisan boats and speedboats were operated on these routes, posing a risk of accidents.

2

Route-Based Fixed Fare for Speedboat on Inland Waterways

Type: Transport policy and river safety initiative

Date: 9 April 2025

For the first time, a gazette notification regarding per-kilometer and route-wise fares for carrying passenger by speedboats on various inland waterways was published on 9 April 2025, under Memorandum No. 18.00.0000.019.18.011.17-152. Through this route-based fare determination, transparent transportation costs have been ensured for marginalized communities and discipline have been established in river transport operations. To ensure safety, life jackets and safety equipment have been made mandatory on every speedboat.

3

Declaration of Sandwip and Hatiya as New River Ports

Type: Regional connectivity

Date: 10 December 2024, 2 June 2025

On 10th December 2024, through S.R.O. No. 409-Law/2024, Sandwip was declared a new river port, and on 2 June 2025, through S.R.O. No. 259-Law/2025, Hatiya was declared another new river port. This initiative has ensured a safe and reliable transportation system for the local people. It will strengthen communication and economic connectivity between the south-eastern region specially in remote areas and the rest of the country.

4

Inauguration of Ferry and Sea-Truck in Different Routs

Type: Regional connectivity

Date: 24 March 2025 and 24 April 2025

One more virgin ferry and Sea-Truck services have been launched on various waterways of the country to connect isolated islands with the district, alleviate the hardships of the people, alleviate economic hardship, expand businesses and facilitate the free movement of goods and services also aged persons, women and children. For example:

- Bashbaria(Sitakundu)- Guptachhara(Sandwip)- Ferry service.
- Cox's Bazar- Moheshkhali- Sea-Truck service.
- Noakhali(Chairman ghat)- Hatiya(Nolchira)- Sea-Truck service.
- Cox's Bazar - Kutubdia - Sea-Truck service (Feasibility study ongoing).

MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM

Ongoing Reforms

1

Checking the Manipulation of Air Ticket Pricing through Policy Interventions

Type: Amendment/enactment of legislations and increased surveillance

So far the pricing of air tickets in Bangladesh have been left completely to market forces. Some unscrupulous business people limit the availability of air tickets that are of high demand in the market, the practice which raises the price artificially in the system. As there have been insufficient legislations to stop such malpractices the government has taken steps to amend or enact new legislations that are as follows:

- Amendment of Act and Rules governing registration and control of travel agencies
- Amendment of the Civil Aviation Act, 2017 to ensure passenger service
- Enactment of new set of rules governing rightful distribution of air tickets
- Issuing circulars for ensuring immediate remedy to the air travelers

2

Amendment of Civil Aviation Act, 2017

Type: Regulatory functions and strengthening passenger rights

The Civil Aviation Act, 2017 was enacted to regulate civil aviation activities in Bangladesh in alignment with international standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and to empower the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) to perform its regulatory functions. There is a growing global emphasis on consumer protection and passenger rights in aviation. The 2017 Act does not contain dedicated articles or regulatory mechanisms on strengthening passenger rights. Again, the 2017 Act lacks clear provisions for monitoring CO₂ emissions, implementing offsetting mechanisms, or promoting eco-friendly aviation practices. The proposed amendment will fill the gaps and align national law with international best practices. The proposed amendment would also seek to establish an autonomous and independent Civil Aviation Economic Commission to perform economic regulatory and advisory functions in coordination with the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism. The Commission will ensure balanced and transparent market practices, rational fuel pricing, and alignment with international economic standards in the aviation sector.

3

Amendment of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) Lease Policy, 2019

Type: Passenger Facilitation

The Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB) introduced the Lease Policy, 2019 to guide the allocation and utilization of airport and aviation-related lands and facilities. However, since its adoption, the aviation and investment environment has changed significantly due to the implementation of major airport modernization projects, and evolving international standards.

4

National Tourism Policy Formalization

Type: Policy Intervention

The new National Tourism Policy 2025 is a complete rewrite of the earlier 2010 framework, designed specifically to meet international

standards and align with the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Its vision pivots the sector from conventional to responsible and sustainable tourism. Strategically, it calls for integrating tourism into national development plans and preparing detailed master plans for various regions and zones.

Crucially, the policy enhances governance by streamlining regulatory oversight, notably by bringing Online Travel Agencies (OTAs) under the legal framework. It also works to stimulate both domestic and foreign investment, exploring options like Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs).

5

Community-Led Development for Safe and Sustainable Tourism

Type: Policy Intervention

A cornerstone of the reform is the Community-Based Tourism (CBT) Guideline 2025. This initiative makes local communities central partners in tourism development, ensuring that economic benefits directly reach grassroots residents while protecting cultural and environmental assets. The guideline's core mandate is sustainability: it aims to stop economic leakage, minimize resource depletion, and safeguard traditional practices often undermined by mass tourism. Directives include identifying CBT sites, actively engaging local households, and ensuring mechanisms for safety, quality control, and community participation. The overriding social objective is to empowering marginalized communities to create sustainable livelihoods through tourism.

6

Establishing Standards and Ethics in Tourism

Type: Policy Intervention

To professionalize the sector, a new Code of Conduct for Safe and Sustainable Tourism (2025) has been published, setting clear ethical requirements for all participants. For tourists, the code demands respect for local culture, religion, and the environment, promoting responsible behaviour. For service providers and travel agencies, it mandates strict compliance with laws, especially regarding ticket pricing, and explicitly forbids market manipulation, hidden charges, or involvement in ticket syndicates.

7

Strategic Branding and Promotion

Type: Policy Intervention

The Ministry is currently focused on developing a strategic Branding Policy to boost the nation's international profile. The marketing strategy moves away from generic, seasonal promotions to branding the country as a destination of diverse, year-round niche experiences. This effort is supported by initiatives such as developing Branding Tourist Corners in the embassies at different Countries hotels and using digital marketing and international partnerships to promote specific attractions, ultimately forging a recognizable and positive national identity for tourism.

These interconnected reforms signal a major shift in the tourism sector's governance, creating the foundation for a more resilient, responsible, and economically significant industry anchored in sustainability and community empowerment.

8

Tourism Master Plan

Type: Action Plan

A draft of Bangladesh's Tourism Master Plan has been prepared to set goals for the tourism sector and contribute to the country's economic development. In order to finalize it, an editorial board has been formed comprising officials from Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, Bangladesh Tourism Board and Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation, as well as relevant tourism experts. The board has been working to finalize the draft of the Tourism Master Plan and complete the rectification process.

9

Reforms in Travel Agency Management

Type: Action Plan

Significant reforms have been undertaken to strengthen transparency, accountability, and regulatory compliance in the management and operations of travel agencies in Bangladesh. The Ministry has been actively working on drafting and updating the Travel Agency Act 2013, with policy formulation and revision currently in progress to align the sector with international best practices. A comprehensive

drive has been conducted to identify unscrupulous travel agencies, and after due hearing, their licenses have been cancelled. To further ensure compliance, mobile courts have been deployed to check illegal activities of online travel agencies (OTAs), resulting in six major OTAs being warned and fined.

Moreover, unlicensed agencies have been issued stern warnings and given a final deadline of 6 November to obtain valid licenses. To address irregularities and counter unjustified price hikes, regular monitoring measures have been strengthened, and office orders now require ticket prices to be clearly mentioned on passengers' tickets, ensuring price transparency and consumer protection across the sector.

10

A New Approach to Tourism Development in Bangladesh

Type: Policy Intervention

Tourism in Bangladesh has traditionally been concentrated around major urban centers, limiting the scope of inclusive and regionally balanced growth. In response, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism has undertaken a new initiative to shift from an urban-centric model toward a more equitable, sustainable, and community-based tourism framework. The Ministry aims to promote tourism that reflects the diverse natural, cultural, and rural heritage of the country ensuring that development benefits are distributed across all regions. Efforts are underway to encourage village-based tourism, focusing on the livelihoods of local communities, preservation of rural traditions, and the creation of eco-friendly destinations that contribute to both environmental conservation and economic empowerment. This approach seeks to establish a balanced and inclusive tourism sector that strengthens the national economy while fostering local participation and sustainable rural development.

11

Introduction of the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA)

Type: Policy intervention

As part of the ongoing reforms to modernize and strengthen the tourism sector, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism (MoCAT) has taken a major policy decision to introduce the Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) framework in Bangladesh. The TSA is an internationally recognized statistical system designed to measure the economic impact of tourism and provide accurate data on its contribution to GDP, employment, and related sectors. To implement this initiative effectively, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is being finalized between the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and the Bangladesh Tourism Board (BTB). This collaboration will enable the identification, classification, and systematic tracking of tourism-related economic activities and accounts. The establishment of the TSA will enhance data-driven decision-making, improve policy formulation, and ensure more targeted investments for sustainable tourism development across the country.

12

Ensure Safe Sea Tourism

Type: Policy Intervention and enhanced monitoring

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has taken steps to ensure safe sea tourism in Cox's Bazar through several initiatives. MoCAT directed big hotels in Cox's Bazar to include the supply of life jackets. The Ministry instructed big hotels to take the responsibility of bearing the expenses of life guards as part of CSR responsibilities. Awareness campaigns are launched targeting tourists regarding sea safety. MoCAT has also written to the Ministry of Home Affairs to create 50 posts for Lifeguards, which is currently under process. A monitoring cell, consists of several officers from MoCAT, BTB and BPC is formed to oversee the safety issues of tourists during peak season.

13

Skills Gap Analysis and Ensure Work Employment

Type: Policy Intervention

The rapid expansion of Bangladesh's tourism and hospitality industry has created a substantial skills gap, posing a major obstacle to its sustained growth and increased global competitiveness. According to the Tourism Human Capital Strategy 2021, sector's demand for a skilled workforce is expected to surge by 45% by 2030, requiring up to 72 lakh new workers annually, a figure far exceeding the current supply from educational institutions.

To address this crucial shortfall, the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism (MoCAT) primarily runs the National Hotel and Tourism Training Institute (NHTTI). The institute's key initiative is to develop a competent, job-ready workforce by offering specialized, practical-oriented training programs. These include Certificate and Diploma courses in core areas like Food Production, Housekeeping, Front Office Operation, and Food & Beverage Service. The curriculum emphasizes hands-on experience and is continuously updated to align with both national and international standards, and the specific needs of the industry. To increase the employment, linkage between industry and academia is also established by ensuring internship programme.

14

BPC Motels: Business Expansion Through Quality Service and Promoting Local Cuisine

Type: Policy Intervention

Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) being instructed by the Ministry is actively undertaking a strategy to revitalize and expand its motel business by focusing on upholding international standards, improving service quality, and strategically integrating local cuisine. This expansion is primarily driven by the need to meet growing tourism demand and enhance the competitiveness of BPC's properties. Key initiatives taken by the BPC and renovating work of exists motels, addressing service development, implementing modern payment technologies and ensuring cleanliness in all units.

Other Reforms

1

Strengthening of Administrative Activities of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism

Type: Institutional strengthening and Capacity building

To expedite the work and improve efficiency, Ministry has recently appointed 01 Assistant Maintenance Engineer (Grade-9), 02 Computer Operator (Grade-13), 02 Steno-Typist Cum Computer Operator (Grade-13), 01 Office Assistant Cum Computer Typist (Grade-16) and 08 Office Supporting Staff (Grade-20) following all processes transparently. For quick disposal of legal cases of the ministry, the appointment of two panel lawyers are under process. The draft Organogram of the Ministry has been updated and submitted to Ministry of Public Administration (MoPA) for necessary approval.

2

Operational Hour Increase at Cox's Bazar Airport

Type: Operational

Date: 29 March 2025

Since last winter season, flight operations at Cox's Bazar Airport have been extended until 10 PM, and it is still ongoing. This operational reform initiative has been successfully carried out and passenger/tourist movement facilities as well as revenue generation have been increased.

3

Ensuring Alternative Landing & Takeoff Facilities at Shah Amanat International Airport, Chattogram or Osmani International Airport, Sylhet in case of an aircraft fails to land at HSIA due to adverse weather conditions

Type: Operational

Date: 29 March 2025

During the last winter season, due to dense fog or adverse weather conditions, 16 international flights that could not land at HSIA were

diverted to Chattogram Shah Amanat International Airport, and 9 international flights were diverted to Sylhet Osmani International Airport. If these two airports had not been designated as alternatives, those flights might have landed at Kolkata Airport, India, which could have caused a potential loss of revenue for CAAB as well as for Bangladesh. This operational reform initiative has been successfully carried out.

4

Arrangement of affordable food and lounge facilities for expatriate passengers after immigration at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport

Type: Passenger Facilitation

Date: 11 November 2024

A separate lounge has been opened at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport for expatriate passengers, where they can enjoy affordable meals and use the lounge facilities free of charge.

5

Enhancement of facilities for passengers and their relatives at HSIA

Type: Passenger Facilitation

Date: 14 November 2024

At Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, a waiting facility has been provided in the multi-storied car parking area for passengers and their relatives to take rest before the commencement of their journey.

6

Travel Pass

Type: Information Management System

Date: 01 December 2024

To protect the environment of Saint Martin Island, the number of tourists has been limited to 2000 (two thousand) per day. To ensure this, a web-based application www.travelpass.gov.bd has been prepared and implemented for the issuance of travel passes.

“Discover Old Dhaka and be Nawab”

Type: Introducing new tourism idea

“Discover old Dhaka and Be Nawab” is an innovative program has been taken by the tourism Wing, which refers to various activities, including old Dhaka Heritage trail, culinary adventure and diverse, cultural, testament visiting places like Ahsan Manjil, and Lalbagh Fort, Armenia Church is not only a site seeing trip. It is a journey through centuries of history, culture, and everyday life of an ancient city. This time journey will serve as a bridge between the past and present. The landmark like the Armenian church and Dhakeshwari temple are not only structures, they are the stories set in stone. Walking through the alley of old Dhaka is a magical experience of hearing the history from the shop, wall and the roads. It is not the chaos but listening to the stories. The proposed package will offer the tourists a Nawabibhoj, a Nawabi attire and a horse ride.



Environment and Food Security is a direct manifestation of the July Uprising's call for a nation where nature and sustenance are no longer plundered by fascist syndicates. The Interim Government is dismantling the "climate-corruption" complex through the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, implementing a digital monitoring system for all projects by December 2025 to ensure the blood-bought funds of the people are never again embezzled.

The Ministry of Food and Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock are anchoring the "New Bangladesh" by formulating a 25-year food security roadmap and the National Fisheries Policy 2025, prioritizing chemical-free nutrition over corporate greed. By reclaiming forest land and expanding the Food Friendly Programme for the vulnerable, these reforms honor the student martyrs who fought for a sovereign state where every citizen, not just the elite, has a right to a healthy, dignified life in a resilient landscape.

SECTOR VII

ENVIRONMENT
AND
FOOD
SECURITY

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Completed Reforms

1

Declaration of Savar Degraded Airshed

Type: Gazette Notification

Date: 17 August 2025

The Bangladesh government declared Savar a degraded airshed under the Air Pollution (Control) Rules 2022 because its air pollution levels, particularly particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}), were found to be several times higher than national standards. This severe pollution mainly results from the high concentration of traditional brick kilns, open waste burning, industrial emissions, and unplanned urban growth in the area. Moreover, polluted air from Savar often spreads into Dhaka, worsening the capital's air quality. The declaration aims to restrict polluting activities, regulate industrial operations, and improve overall air quality to protect public health and the environment.

2

Guidelines for eco-tourism in Saint Martin Island

Type: Decision/ Guidelines

Date: 22 October 2025

The current interim government has taken initiatives to protect the ecosystem of Saint Martin's Island. The primary aim of the government circular is environmental protection and sustainable tourism. Accordingly, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued a notification on 22 October 2025 regarding travel to Saint Martin. This reform will help preserve the ecosystem and ensure environmental sustainability.

3

Natural Rubber Sales and Export Policy, 2025

The Natural Rubber Sales and Export Policy, 2023 of the Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation is being repealed and replaced with the Natural Rubber Sales and Export Policy, 2025.

4

Formulation of National Air Quality Management Plan (NAQMP)

Despite the directives from the Hon'ble High Court to formulate a time-bound action plan for air pollution control, it had not been done for a long time. Immediately after assuming responsibility, the interim government finalized and published in the Gazette the National Air Quality Management Plan (NAQMP) for air pollution control. Following this plan, work on air pollution control has commenced.

5

Notification Issued for Identification and Limited Use of Single-Use Plastics

To prevent plastic pollution and phase out single-use plastics, 17 products were declared as 'single-use plastic' products on August 28, 2024, in accordance with the 'Solid Waste Management Rules, 2021', and initiatives have been taken to gradually reduce their use. On April 09, 2025, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, through a notification, completely banned the production, import, marketing, sale or display for sale, storage, commercial

transportation, and use of 03(three) Single-use Plastic(SUP) products – Straw, Stirrer, and Cotton Bud – from June 01, 2025. In continuation of this, instructions have been issued by the Cabinet Division to stop the use of listed single-use plastics in the Bangladesh Secretariat from October 2, 2025.

6

Formulation of Noise Pollution Control Rules 2025

The “Noise Pollution (Control) Rules, 2006” has been repealed and new rules have been formulated in 2025. Under these rules, the police have been empowered to take immediate action to control noise pollution. Previously, due to lack of direct authority, they could not take immediate action in this regard. Law enforcement personnel are always present on the roads; therefore, empowering them will make it possible to reduce noise pollution on the roads. To control noise pollution, picnics in forest areas have been banned. Controls have been imposed on the use of loudspeakers in open spaces, and strict provisions have been incorporated regarding noise pollution in industrial establishments and construction work. The notification of the Noise Pollution (Control) Rules, 2025, was issued on November 24, 2025, including provisions for receiving and resolving complaints at the Department of Environment to obtain remedies against noise pollution.

7

Suspension of Commercial Wildlife Import and Export of All CITES and Non-CITES Birds and Wildlife

To uphold international conservation standards and combat trafficking, the government has indefinitely suspended the commercial import and export of all CITES and non-CITES birds and wildlife. This decisive measure addresses non-compliance with global CITES Secretariat recommendations and directly targets the rising trend of wildlife-related crimes. By halting commercial exploitation, the reform institutionalizes ethical environmental governance and safeguards biodiversity, fulfilling a critical component of the “One Health” approach by mitigating the risks of zoonotic disease transmission associated with the cross-border movement of wildlife.

8

Final Draft of Village Forest Rules, 2026

For the conservation, development, and proper management of forests, and for the purpose of forest re-establishment, there was no opportunity for forest management through coexistence with forest-dwelling communities due to the absence of Village Forest Rules under Section 28 of The Forest Act, 1927. A draft of the Village Forest Rules, 2026, has been prepared with provisions for meaningfully involving forest-dependent communities in forest management and giving them management responsibilities for forest conservation and development, which is currently at the stage of receiving stakeholder opinions.

9

Finalization of Master Plans and Action Plans

The government has finalized master plans and action plans for St. Martin's Island, hill conservation, lead pollution control, and BFIDC within a short time by receiving opinions from all stakeholders.

10

Restructuring the Organizational Structure of the Forest Department, Creating a Wildlife Wing, and Reducing Administrative Complexities

- (a) To prevent cruelty to wildlife and for the welfare and conservation of wildlife, the government has quickly finalized the process of creating a separate wing called Wildlife and completed the wing formation process.
- (b) Foresters who have been working in the same position for more than 30 years in the Forest Department were deprived of promotion for a long time. Due to various cases filed in the Administrative Tribunal, it had not been possible to promote Foresters to the post of Deputy Ranger for a long time, and 454 (all) posts of Deputy Ranger had been vacant for a long time. The Ministry has been able to remove all legal complexities after 20 years and promote 454 Foresters to the post of Deputy Ranger.

- (c) The organizational structure of the Forest Department has been able to create a total of 394 new posts, including 2 Additional Chief Conservators of Forests, 3 Deputy Chief Conservators of Forests, 6 Conservators of Forests, and 26 Divisional Forest Officers and equivalent offices.

11

Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation Ordinance, 2026

The Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation (BFIDC) has been operating under Ordinance No. 67 of 1959. Despite a long period of time, the corporation's activities could not be modernized and diversified due to the ordinance not being updated. Due to the corporation's excessive dependence on rubber, opportunities for forest and biodiversity conservation became limited. The "Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation Ordinance, 2026" has been approved in principle by the Advisory Council with provisions for entering into agreements with domestic and foreign organizations for the development of forest industries, including harvesting forest resources in a sustainable manner, processing, conserving biodiversity, investing in diversified forest industries, and marketing and exporting manufactured products.

12

Amendment of Climate Change Trust Fund Usage Policy

The policy for using Climate Trust Fund money has been amended to include opportunities for joint project implementation by government and non-government organizations. Under the amended policy, government and non-government organizations are jointly implementing projects on climate change.

13

Formulation of Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0)

As part of the effort to limit global temperature increase to 1.5°C in accordance with the targets of Article-2 of the Paris Agreement under UNFCCC, Bangladesh's Third Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC 3.0) has been formulated. This NDC was submitted to the

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Secretariat on September 29, 2025. 'NDC 3.0' has set a target to mitigate 84.97 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent greenhouse gas emissions by 2035. A draft 'NDC 3.0 Implementation Roadmap' has been prepared to ensure proper implementation of the said NDC 3.0.

14

Formulation of Draft Carbon Market Framework

A draft Carbon Market Framework has been prepared to properly implement carbon trading-related activities in Bangladesh under Paris Agreement, Article-6, and the said Framework was pre-launched at COP-30 held in Belem, Brazil. No Objection Letters have been issued by the Article-6 DNA in favor of 9 projects related to carbon trading under Article-6.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Re-organization of the Forest Department to Strengthen the Conservation of Forests, Wildlife and Biodiversity

Type: Re-organization

Date: Ongoing

Since the adoption of the 2001 organogram, the Forest Department's mandate has expanded following the inclusion of Article 18A in the Constitution, committing the State to natural resource and biodiversity conservation. To address threats to wildlife habitats and increasing development pressures, the Department has initiated an organogram update aligned with the National Forest Policy and Forestry Master Plan. This reorganization facilitates enhanced forest management, wildlife crime control, and implementation of international climate conventions. Key activities include expanding awareness, research, and Protected Area management plans. This structural reform is essential to protect limited forest land, increase tree cover, and ensure effective biodiversity conservation against immense

population pressure, thereby fulfilling constitutional mandates for sustainable resource management and wildlife protection.

2

National Forest Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing

Pursuant to Article 18A of the Constitution, the State is committed to the conservation and sustainable development of environment, natural resources, biodiversity, wetlands, forests, and wildlife. Bangladesh is a signatory to international instruments including the CBD, Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, RAMSAR, SDGs, and the Paris Agreement. Implementation is supported by national frameworks such as the Perspective Plan (2021–2041), NBSAP, Forestry Master Plan, REDD+ Strategy (2016–2030), National Adaptation Plan (2023–2050), and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). The Forest Department is transitioning from revenue-oriented management to conservation-focused modernization to mitigate climate change. Consequently, the “National Forest Policy 1994” has been revised into the “National Forest Policy 2025”, integrating disaster management, coastal green belts, and watershed conservation to safeguard natural heritage for present and future generations.

3

Forest and Tree Conservation Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing

The “Forest and Tree Conservation Ordinance, 2025 (Draft)” has been formulated to prevent the conversion of forest land for other purposes, stop illegal encroachment, ensure proper conservation of forests and forest land, prevent the reduction of forest area and provide for the protection of trees, including century-old and culturally or socially important trees, through declaration as protected trees.

4

Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing

The Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012 was enacted to ensure the conservation and protection of biodiversity, forests and wildlife in Bangladesh. However, with emerging challenges in conserving biodiversity, wildlife, forests and their habitats, wildlife crime control, it has become necessary to amend and update the Act. To address these challenges, and to facilitate effective field-level implementation as well as compliance with international conventions, treaties and agreements such as CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) and CBD (Convention on Biological Diversity), the existing Wildlife (Conservation and Security) Act, 2012 has been revised.

5

Social Forestry Rules (Amendment), 2025

Type: Rules

Date: Ongoing

Social forestry plays a crucial role in increasing tree cover, conserving the environment and biodiversity, ensuring sustainable management of forest resources, mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change, empowering women and above all, creating employment and improving the socio-economic conditions of the poor. Therefore, to expand the scope and facilitate the implementation of social forestry activities and to conserve tree resources under social forestry for climate change mitigation and biodiversity conservation, the existing Social Forestry Rules, 2004 (Amended 2011) has been revised.

6

Revision of Bangladesh Environment Conservation Act

Type: Act/Ordinance

Date: Revision is Ongoing

Bangladesh needs to revise its Environmental Conservation Act of 1995 because it no longer reflects the country's current environmental

realities or global commitments. The Act was created before modern challenges such as rapid industrialization, air and plastic pollution, and climate change became critical issues. Its lacks provisions for climate change, public participation, and integration with international treaties. Updating the Act would strengthen environmental governance, align national policy with global standards, and provide stronger tools to address today's complex ecological and climate challenges.

7

Ozone Depleting Substances and Hydrofluorocarbons (Control) Rules 2025

Type: Revision of Rules

Date: Revision is Ongoing

Current interim government takes initiatives to revise Ozone Layer Depleting Substances (Control) Rules, 2004 to align with newer international agreements and technological advances, and national environmental priorities. The 2004 rules were designed mainly to phase out ozone-depleting substances (ODS) like CFCs and halons under the Montreal Protocol, but since then, new global commitments—such as the Kigali Amendment (2016)—have expanded control to include hydro fluorocarbons (HFCs), which, while ozone-friendly, are potent greenhouse gases. Revising the rules would allow Bangladesh to include HFC regulation, promote alternative eco-friendly refrigerants, and strengthen monitoring and enforcement, and enhance capacity for recovery and recycling of cooling agents. Updating the framework would also help Bangladesh meet its international obligations, reduce climate impacts, and ensure a sustainable transition toward green and energy-efficient technologies.

8

EPR- Extended Producer Responsibility Directives on Plastic Waste Management

Type: New directives under the solid waste management rules 2021

Date: Ongoing

Current interim government takes initiatives to limit the use of plastic product and control the plastic waste. Directives approach that makes the producer, importer or brand owner responsible for

the management of entire life cycle of plastic products. Now the draft is under finalizing stage in the ministry of environment, forest and climate change. This reform would strengthen solid waste management rules 2021 and management of plastic waste.

9

Medical Waste (Management) Rules 2008 (amendment)

Type: Rules(amendment)

Date: Revision is Ongoing

Bangladesh needs to revise its Medical Waste (Management) Rules 2008 because it no longer reflects the country's current environmental realities or global commitments. The rules was created for the management of medically produced waste. Now the draft is under finalizing stage in the ministry of environment, forest and climate change. Updating the rules would strengthen environmental management of medical waste of hospitals, diagnostics, clinic, and all over medical sectors.

10

National Bamboo, Cane and Murta Policy

Type: Policy (Review)

Date: July 2024

The National Bamboo, Cane and Murta Policy 2025(draft) recognizes bamboo, cane, and murta as vital non-timber forest resources essential for sustainable development, environmental protection, and poverty reduction in Bangladesh. Around 60% of rural families depend on bamboo, and the sector contributes significantly to the national economy. The policy aims to ensure integrated management for sustainable production, conservation, processing, commercialization, and market development of these resources. Its specific goals include increasing raw material production, enhancing socio-economic development, and improving the livelihoods of dependent communities. Key strategies focus on public awareness, research and development, value chain strengthening, and promoting investment through Public Private Partnerships (PPP).

Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation Act, 2025

The process for repealing the Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation Ordinance, 1959 (Ordinance No. LXVII of 1959) and enacting the Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation Act, 2025 is at its final stage.

Other Reforms

1

Creation of the BCS (Environment & Forest) Cadre by Reforming the BCS (Forest) Cadre

Type: Administrative reform

Date: Ongoing.

The interim government of Bangladesh takes initiatives to strengthen the environmental conservation to protect the human health and ecosystem. Therefore, the creation of the BCS (Environment & Forest) Cadre by reforming the existing BCS (Forest) Cadre is essential to address Bangladesh's evolving environmental and climate challenges. The present Forest Cadre mainly focuses on forestry and wildlife management, which cannot fully covers the country's broader environmental needs. Establishing a combined Environment and Forest Cadre would integrate expertise in forestry, environmental conservation, pollution control, and climate change adaptation under one framework. This reform would strengthen coordination, improve policy implementation, and build a more capable civil service to ensure sustainable environmental management in line with national and global priorities.

2

Implementation of a Digital Monitoring System for All Projects Approved by the Bangladesh Climate Change Trust

Type: Monitoring system simplification

Date: December 2025

If a digital monitoring system is introduced, project activities can be monitored digitally. Project Directors will be able to upload progress reports, activity videos, and still images. Through GIS mapping, the location and activities of the projects can be identified. As a result, the overall monitoring system will become more effective, and duplication can be avoided.

3

Reform of the Existing Organogram of the Bangladesh Forest Research Institute

Type: Framework (Draft)

Date: July 2024

To strengthen the institution's capacity in addressing climate change impacts, initiatives will be taken to establish new research divisions and upgrade them to international standards. Existing divisions and designations will be modernized to ensure relevance and sustainability. New positions will be created and redundant ones abolished to enhance research capabilities and accelerate field activities. Opportunities for promotion within existing block posts will be introduced. Necessary revisions will be made based on feedback from the concerned ministry, stakeholders, and experts.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Other Reforms

1

Reforms in Support Services Related to Agricultural Inputs

- (a) Formulate plans for government support related to fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural inputs based on demand-driven agricultural production planning, and develop action plans to ensure the timely availability of these inputs.
- (b) Create a farmer database to facilitate the smooth implementation of fertilizer/seed and other input distribution, agricultural rehabilitation, and incentive programs.

To ensure the smooth implementation of fertilizer/seed and other input distribution, agricultural rehabilitation, and incentive programs, a farmer database will be created through the PARTNER project. The process of developing the farmer database will commence after the approval of the Farmer Smart Card Policy.

MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES

1

Enactment of the “Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Conservation Ordinance, 2026”

The ordinance was published in the gazette on January 14, 2026. Although the ‘Haor Development Board’ was established in 1977 and the Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Development Directorate was established in 2016, there was no legal framework, so the Board or Directorate could not take any legal action to protect haors. A haor is a vast water body that represents a unique ecosystem of Bangladesh. The enactment of the Bangladesh Haor and Wetland Conservation Ordinance clearly defines the responsibilities, authority, and jurisdiction of the Haor and Wetland Development Directorate. Under this ordinance, the Directorate will prepare ownership documents of haors, demarcate boundaries, declare protected haor and wetland areas, and prohibit activities in haor and wetland areas that harm biodiversity, environment, ecosystems, and ecology. At the same time, it will be able to declare prohibited activities, including excavation, in haor and wetland areas as offenses and impose legal penalties for such offenses.

Alongside the enactment of the ordinance, work on updating the Haor Master Plan has also been initiated.

2

Enactment of 'Dredging and Dredger Management Policy 2024', August 26, 2025

The 'Dredging and Dredger Management Policy 2024' has been formulated for balanced use through proper dredging and dredger management to excavate rivers, create or restore navigability; improve fisheries, agriculture, and irrigation management; ensure biodiversity of wetlands, breeding and habitat of various aquatic species; maintain ecological balance including addressing the impacts of climate change. As a result of this policy, dredger management will have to be upheld in implementing development projects, including excavating drainage channels.

3

Finalization of Industrial Sector Water Use Policy

This policy will enable the imposition of restrictions on unplanned groundwater extraction in the industrial sector. Groundwater levels in various parts of the country are alarmingly declining due to groundwater extraction by the industrial sector. As a result, the water rights of local communities are being violated. The policy has been formulated to regulate water extraction in the industrial sector in industry-dense areas where water levels are declining, encourage water reuse, control the quality of used water, and determine the price to be paid for water in areas where water levels are sustainable.

4

Becoming a Party to the UN Water Convention

As the first South Asian country to ratify the UN Water Convention, 1992, Bangladesh will be able to increase its capacity in the use and management of international water resources. As a lower riparian country, being party to this Convention will be especially important for Bangladesh in raising its legitimate claims on international rivers in a valid arena.

5

Agreement with the United Kingdom Meteorological Office

With special assistance from the British High Commission, as part of climate adaptation, the agreement with the UK MET Office will facilitate the receipt of Real Time Data and increase the capacity to provide early warnings of cyclones, flash floods, and other natural disasters, improving the ability to obtain forecasts on water-related disasters.

6

Formation of Joint Working Group with Chinese Institutions

A Joint Working Group has been formed with Chinese experts to prepare a 50-year master plan for the management of all rivers in the country and to restore the Buriganga River. The terms of reference of this Working Group are in the final stage, which includes the determination of measures to restore the Buriganga River alongside basin-based management of various rivers.

7

Increase in Institutional Management Strength and Capacity

A list of land acquired by the BWDB in various districts has been prepared and work has begun to recover valuable land that is illegally occupied, such as:

- After completing the legal process of evicting illegal occupation by various influential business groups including boat clubs, 850 acres of land have been recovered in Dhaka alone;
- The process of recovering and handing over 40 acres of land valued at Tk 2,000 crore that has been illegally occupied for a long time for the construction of a stadium and various establishments in the North Kattali area of Chittagong district to establish an LNG Terminal has begun;
- The legal process of registering 58.71 acres of extremely valuable land that was illegally occupied in the South Kattali area of Chittagong district in the name of the BWDB has been finalized.

8

Dedicated Link for Public Complaints & Applications

BWDB has prepared a link (<https://service.bwdb.gov.bd/>) where people can register their demands and grievances. The application will receive a tracking number that he can use to trace the status of BWDB application against his plea. This will ensure timely response by the BWDB and will also help the Board serve the communities better and more effectively.

9

Capacity Building of River Research Institute

Although this important institute has been established on paper, it had not received any funding for research work at all. In addition to involving this institute in river-centric awareness-raising work in various regions, new projects have been given for research work. The River Research Institute has started research work to complete the river gazette in the Sundarbans and hill districts, to conduct surveys of rivers, to prepare and determine boundary-based river gazettes, and to assess the impact of sand and stone extraction from rivers. For the first time, the River Research Institute has started offering internships to those interested in working on rivers and has provided three-month internships to 6 people in the first phase.

10

Addressing the Non-implementation of the Water Act

Although enacted in 2013, no implementation activities had been undertaken under the Water Act. The interim government started the implementation work of the Water Act and completed the following work for the first time:

- Issuance of an eviction order for a cement factory built by encroaching on the Dhaleshwari River at the Meghna River confluence in Munshiganj.
- Issuance of the 'Tanguar and Hakaluki Haor Protection Order 2025' in coordination with various ministries and departments.
- Declaration of water-stressed areas and adoption of management action plans in 4 areas of the country (47 unions)

in Rajshahi, Chapainawabganj and Naogaon and 3 unions in Patenga, Chittagong) based on specific scientific data.

11

Special Action Plan for Lake and Canal Protection

Although there are many lakes in the country, most of them are not mentioned as lakes in land records but are recorded in private ownership. As a result, government regulation to protect lakes is weak. Considering this reality, detailed land surveys of Arial Lake, Dhulibil, and Berai Lake have been completed, and projects have been undertaken to restore Chanmari Lake and Arial Lake, under which a master plan for these lakes will be prepared, obstacles obstructing water flow in the lakes will be identified and removed, and work will be done to improve the lake environment by involving lake-dependent communities.

- A special project has been taken under the Climate Change Trust Fund for restoration of the historic Shyama Shundori canal of Rangpur.
- Responses of DCs have been collected from 63 out of 64 districts of the country for the preparation of a list of canals.

12

Initiatives Taken to Address Noakhali Waterlogging

Immediate and medium-term action plans have been adopted to address the severe waterlogging in Noakhali and the adjoining beel area that has persisted for a long time. As a result, in 2024, severe waterlogging was overcome and [number] hectares of land were brought under cultivation in the same year, which increased to [number] hectares in 2025. Projects and activities are being undertaken quickly on a priority basis for a long-term solution to the waterlogging in this area, including excavation of 81,500 kilometers of the Decca, Shree, Hari, Neliganj, Aparadha and Harihar rivers by the Bangladesh Army, including pump installation. Similarly, a project for purchasing pumps including excavation of the Sholmari River has been completed as a short-term measure to address waterlogging in Beel Dakatia and is at the stage of final approval.

13

Initiatives to Solve Long-standing Transboundary River Issues

- To solve long-standing problems in the management of transboundary river water, the Ministry of Water Resources has finalized the Padma Barrage project for implementation in the 2025-2026 financial year, which the Planning Commission has approved in principle. If this barrage is implemented, water flow in the Padma River will increase during the dry season, the river system in areas dependent on the Padma will be revitalized and salinity intrusion will decrease, the balance of the Sundarbans ecosystem will be restored, the drainage system of 26 districts will improve, waterlogging will decrease, and irrigation facilities will increase.
- A project proposal has been sent to the Chinese government for the implementation of the Teesta Comprehensive Plan, which is currently in the process of final scrutiny by the Chinese government. The main objective of this project is to prevent river erosion, control floods, and increase irrigation facilities.

14

Special Initiatives to Protect Stone-Rich Rivers of Sylhet

River restoration work plans and eco-tourism work plans for Dawki (Goyain), Bolai, Jadulong, Nolargul, Utmanara, Bisnakandi, Lalakhai, Rangapani and Lalakhai rivers have been finalized. The project 'River Restoration and Eco-Tourism in Stone Quarry Areas of Sylhet Region' is the first Twinning Program signed as a party to the 1992 UN Rio Declaration, with financial, technical and consultancy support from the Government of the Netherlands. This is a participatory plan, where local people, public representatives, district administration, government agencies and experts work together in coordination to plan how to restore rivers while creating safe and environment-friendly tourism centers. Water and river experts, biodiversity experts and architects are helping to make the master plan realistic and sustainable through their valuable guidance from their respective fields. If this project is successfully implemented, stone theft from rivers will stop, river water will become clear again, natural tourism will develop and local people will have dignified and sustainable livelihoods.

MINISTRY OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT AND RELIEF

Other Reforms

1

Packaging of VGF/GR food grains

VGF/GR food grains will be provided in packaged form instead of being provided in bulk.

Desired Outcomes: If VGF/GR food grains are provided in packages instead of in bulk, there will be no scope for under-measurement and discipline will be restored in relief distribution.

Date: 31 July 2025

Allocation of VGF and GR food grains is provided by the Department of Disaster Management with the approval of the Ministry. However, the food grains are stored in the Godown of the Food Department. After receiving the GO from the office of the Upazila Project Implementation Officer, the allocation is made in favor of the concerned UP Chairman. Initiatives will be taken in consultation with the Ministry of Food to package and distribute the allocated food grains.

2

Increase in monetization of KABIKHA (Food grains allocation)

In the case of Kabikha allocation, an opportunity will be created for 80% monetization for road construction/renovation instead of 60%.

Desired Outcomes:

- 1) Irregularities will be reduced
- 2) Sustainable projects can be undertaken.

Date: 01 October 2024

As part of the earthworks project, the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief has increased the amount of cash disbursement from 60% to 80% in memorandum No. 51. 00. 0000. 422. 22. 003. 21. 30 dated 02/02/2025 for the construction of HBB (Herring Bone Bond Road Construction), CC (Cement Concrete), WBM (Water Bound Macadam) if necessary. Activities are ongoing at the field level.

3

Monetization of Kabikha's food grains

Cash will be allocated instead of food grains for Kabikha.

Desired Outcomes: The scope of work will be increased and sustainable development activities will be possible.

Date: 15 July 2025

To keep the market price of food grains stable, it would not be appropriate to monetize more than 80% of food grains for the time being. To increase the scope and quality of work, the program of monetizing 80% of food grains is ongoing.

4

Reorganization through the inclusion of youth in CPP volunteer units

The age limit for inclusion of CPP volunteers is 18-35 and the retirement age is 65. In the current context, considering the awakening of youth, the units will be reorganized and more youth will be mobilized.

Desired Outcomes: Youth participation in volunteer activities will increase, and the pace of disaster response and risk reduction activities will increase with youth participation. Overall, it will be easier for the people of Bangladesh to achieve disaster resilience.

Date: November 2024

Under the program, 356 new young volunteers have been included in 78 units of Dashmina Upazila of Patuakhali District, 75 new volunteers in 31 units of Karnaphuli Upazila under Chittagong District, and 105 in 04 units out of 9 unions of Lalmohan Upazila of Bhola District, for a total of 518 young volunteers.

5

Involving the new generation in the United Nations Early Warning for All program, a United Nations initiative

The United Nations Early Warning for All initiative, Pillar 1 is Disaster Risk Awareness and Pillar 4 is Response Capacity. Both pillars aim to create opportunities for broad participation of young people.

Desired Outcomes: This reform initiative will make it possible to easily reach disaster risk knowledge to the work of disaster-prone people in Bangladesh. In addition, it will be possible to create smart responders by increasing the participation of young people in building response capacity.

Date: January 2025

The roadmap for the United Nations Early Warning for All initiative has been finalized. There is a wide opportunity for youth to participate in the program as volunteers. The program is ongoing as per the roadmap.

MINISTRY OF FOOD

Completed Reforms

1

Formulation of Open Market Sales (OMS) Policy 2024

Date: 07 October 2024

The purpose of this policy is to ensure transparency and accountability in the appointment of OMS dealers, determining the number of dealers as needed, and preventing all types of corruption and irregularities in OMS activities.

2

Formulation of Food-Friendly Program Policy 2024

Date: 01 October 2024

The purpose of this policy is to provide low-cost food assistance to the poor and ensure nutrition.

3

Reducing food shortages in government food warehouses (LSD/CSD) and transportation shortages in government food grain transportation

Type: Action Plan

Date: 01 October 2024

The Government of Bangladesh is implementing comprehensive measures to address food shortages and corruption, unhealthy competition for LSD/CSD positions, promote transparency and accountability, and prevent the misuse of public funds.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Necessary amendments to Safe Food Act 2013 and related regulations and promulgation of new regulations to make it up-to-date and modern

Type: Amendment of Legislation

This amendment to the law and promulgation will simplify food trade, expand exports, increase foreign investment, increase transparency and accountability, and establish good governance.

Other Reforms

1

‘Farmers App’ update

Type: Information Management System

Date: 01 October 2024

The Government reducing the role of middlemen in purchasing paddy from farmers at a fair price and reducing the time and cost of farmers.

2

Distribution through the app according to the food-friendly program database

Type: Information Management System

Date: 01 October 2024

Identification of genuine consumers and ensuring transparency in the formulation of consumer databases through app-based distribution verified by National Identity Card (NID).

3

Distribution of packet flour instead of loose flour in OMS program across the country

Type: Social Assistance Program

Date: 01 October 2024

To ensure accurate weight and quality of flour for consumers, prevent wastage, facilitate smooth transportation, and eliminate the risk of distributing expired flour.

4

Food Stock & Market Monitoring System (FS & MMS)

Type: Information Management System

Date: 01 October 2024

As part of institutional capacity building, initiatives have been taken to facilitate service delivery through food management and monitoring activities and the introduction of e-service systems.

MINISTRY OF FISHERIES AND LIVESTOCK

Reforms

(Fisheries and livestock Sector)

1

Introducing specialized bank/agents banking called “Fisheries and Livestock Development Bank” and enact legislation to abolish the Dadan landing system

Type: Legislation

Date: On process

Currently fishermen, fish farmers, animal husbandry and poultry farmers do not have enough capital or financial leverage and they are totally dependent on the Dadan system (30% interest rate). To break this vicious cycle of poverty and exploitation, the government must enact strong laws to abolish the practice of Dadan, ensuring strict and exemplary punishment.

Completed Reforms (Fisheries Sector)

1

Amendment to “The Protection and Conservation of Fish Act, 1950”

Type: Ordinance

Date: 29 June 2025

An ordinance titled The Protection and Conservation of Fish (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025 has been issued amending sections 02, 03 and 05 of “The Protection and Conservation of Fish Ordinance, 2025”.

2

The Fisheries Quarantine Rules, 2024

Type: Ordinance

Date: 22 September 2024

In the context of international transport of fish, fish products and beneficial microorganisms, these rules have been formulated to control the quarantine and import of fish and fish products to prevent entry and spread of pathogens within Bangladesh.

3

The Fish Feed Rules, 2024

Type: Ordinance

Date: 11 December 2024

These rules have been formulated to provide for the production, processing, quality control, import, export, marketing, sale, distribution, transportation and related matters of fish food.

4

Technical Specifications and Sample Guidelines for Import or Local Construction of Fishing Vessels, 2025

Type: Guideline

Date: 20 November, 2025

The guideline is used to standardize the design for import or local construction of fishing vessels in Bangladesh, ensuring safety, seaworthiness, regulatory compliance, and environmental protection. It supports government approval and inspection, guides local builders and importers, improves crew safety and contributes to the modernization and sustainable management of the national fishing fleet.

5

Fisheries Resources and Ecosystem Survey in Bangladesh Maritime Area by the UN Flag Bearer Norwegian Research Vessel Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, 2025

Type: Survey and Research report

Date: 21 August – 21 September, 2025

The valuable survey data provides a scientific basis for sustainable fisheries and ecosystem-based management in the Bay of Bengal, supporting precise stock assessment, biodiversity conservation, habitat mapping, and climate impact analysis. The findings will guide policy decisions, fishing effort regulation, marine spatial planning, and long-term food security in Bangladesh.

6

Ban on Fishing in Bangladesh's Maritime Waters for 58 Days

Type: Decision

Date: 16 March 2025

In marine fisheries management, The Marine Fisheries Rules, 2023 have been further revised to introduce a new fishing ban period of 58 days (April 15 to June 11) instead of 65 days (May 20 to July 23) in Bangladesh maritime territory aligning with the fishing ban period of neighboring countries, India and Myanmar.

7

Prohibition of All Types of Fishing in Haor during Specified Times

Type: Decision

Date: Pre-release 25 March 2025

The Ministry of Law has vetted a gazette notification to ban all types of fishing in the haor areas from May 29 to June 28 (15 Jaistha to 14 Ashar) every year.

8

Increase the Number of Beneficiary Fishermen Under VGF Program

Type: Decision

Date: 25 January 2026

Currently, beneficiary registered fishermen under the VGF (Vulnerable Group Feeding) are 1326486. Advisory Committee on Social SafetyNet has decided to increase the number of beneficiaries (registered fishermen) by 173514. After inclusion, total beneficiaries will be 15,000,00 (Fifteen lakhs). This is the first time, the fishermen of Sundarbans and Haors are going to be included in VGF program during ban period.

Ongoing Reforms (Fisheries Sector)

1

Policy formulation for electricity tariffs for institutions in the fisheries and livestock sectors with lower, preferential rates already established for agriculture sector

Type: Policy

At present fish and livestock businesses (like fish farms, hatcheries, poultry, and cattle farms) face a major disadvantage as they must pay high commercial electricity rates, while pumps used for regular

farming/irrigation benefit from the lowest subsidized rates. This irrational cost drives up the production price of essential items like fish, meat, eggs, and milk.

2

Obtaining certificate from institution for import, production and export of fish and fish products and animals and animal products

Type: Policy

To streamline trade and simplify the process, it is necessary to mandate a single certificate be issued for each product by the Department of Fisheries or Department of Livestock, which will require the Ministry of Industries to amend the relevant S.R.O that currently includes the obligation for BSTI certification.

3

Amendments to relevant sections of the “Wildlife (Preservation and Security) Act, 2012”

Type: Legislation

Necessary amendments are made to the relevant sections of the Wild Animals (Preservation and Security) Act, 2012. According to Allocation of Business, the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock can play an effective role in the activities and development of fisheries resources in the sea and inland water bodies.

4

The National Fisheries Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

The National Fisheries Policy 2025 is being formulated with the aim of updating the National Fisheries Policy 1998 to ensure productivity through sustainable management of fisheries resources.

5

Management and Regulation of Chemicals and Other Waste in Riverbank Industries (Draft)

Type: Draft Ordinance

Industrial facilities located along rivers such as Shitalakshya, Buriganga, Turag, Balu, Meghna, and Sutang in Habiganj district near Dhaka are discharging chemical and other wastes into the rivers, often due to improper use of Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs). This has resulted in the rivers' water becoming toxic, posing severe health risks to humans and other living organisms. Therefore, a long-, medium-, and short-term integrated plan is urgently required to control and manage chemical and other industrial wastes in riverbank industries.

6

Controlling the Use of Pesticides in Agriculture in Haor Region

Type: Decision

The Haor region faces a serious threat as the uncontrolled and excessive use of pesticides during the dry season leaves behind toxic residue that contaminates the water during the rainy season. It is harmful for fish and aquatic life. This problem is worsened by the use of expired, adulterated, or banned pesticides and general lack of farmer awareness regarding responsible chemical use. Therefore, a comprehensive strategy is urgently needed, including long-, medium-, and short-term action plans to effectively control pesticide application in the Haor's agricultural sector.

7

Amendment of Marine Fisheries Rules 2023

Type: Rules

Amendment Proposal for Marine Fisheries Rules 2023 has been sent to Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division for gazette publication. Various definitions on OECA (Aquatic Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures), Support Vessel, Long liner Vessel, Purse seiner Vessel, Natural disaster etc. has been included and proposed for amendment.

Completed Reforms (Livestock Sector)

1

National Poultry Development Policy 2026

Type: Policy

Date: 22 January 2026

National Poultry Development Policy has been approved by the Cabinet, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh for overall poultry sector development in Bangladesh.

2

In-service Makeup Course

Type: Academic reform

Date: 5 November 2025

Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock has issued an order to initiate In-service Makeup course after recruitment of BCS (Livestock) officials both from Bachelor of Science in Animal Husbandry (B.Sc.A.H.) and Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degrees for strengthening livestock extension services at farmers door.

3

Development of Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) Vaccine Seed from Circulating Strain in Bangladesh

Type: Research Innovation

Date: 11 February 2025

Lumpy Skin Disease (LSD) is a significant, highly contagious viral disease affecting cattle in Bangladesh since 2019, causing high morbidity, reduced milk/meat production, and substantial economic loss to farmers. Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) has developed LSD Vaccine Seed from Circulating Strain in Bangladesh and handed over the technology to Department of Livestock Services (DLS) for vaccine production and apply for vaccination of the cattle. DLS already started to implement it successfully in field level.

4

Inclusion of marginal-level fish farms and hatcheries, and livestock and poultry farms under electricity rebate facilities to reduce production costs

Type: Policy

Date: 22 January 2026

The government has allocated BDT 100.00 (one hundred) crore to provide subsidies for the production of fish feed; the poultry industry; livestock and poultry feed manufacturing industries; dairy processing including milk pasteurization; powdered milk; ice cream; condensed milk; sweets; cheese, ghee, butter; chocolate; yogurt; and related sectors. To encourage entrepreneurs and farmers in the fisheries and livestock sector, a 20% rebate will be provided on electricity bills.

Ongoing Reforms (Livestock Sector)

1

National Foot and Mouth Disease Control Strategy in Bangladesh, Duration: 2025–2035 (Draft)

Type: FMD Disease Control Strategy

The objectives of the National FMD Control Strategy (2025–2035) are to create an enabling policy and communication environment, strengthen the capacity of animal health services, and enhance disease surveillance and intelligence. It also aims to develop laboratory networks and research support.

2

Veterinary Drug Ordinance 2025 (Draft)

Type: Draft Ordinance

The purpose of the Veterinary Drug Ordinance, 2025 is to establish a legal framework to ensure the quality, efficacy and safety of veterinary drugs throughout their production, storage,

transportation, distribution, sale, import, and export. The ordinance is also aimed at controlling and preventing zoonotic diseases, promoting the proper use of antimicrobials, and safeguarding public health, animal health and the animal health.

3

A National Strategic Plan for The Eradication of Peste Des Petits Ruminants (PPR) In Bangladesh (2024-2028)

Type: PPR Eradication Strategy

This strategy paper is the step-wise approach of the National PPR Control and Eradication Programmes in Bangladesh following the PPR Global Eradication Programmes.

4

Bangladesh Animal and Animal Products Quarantine (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

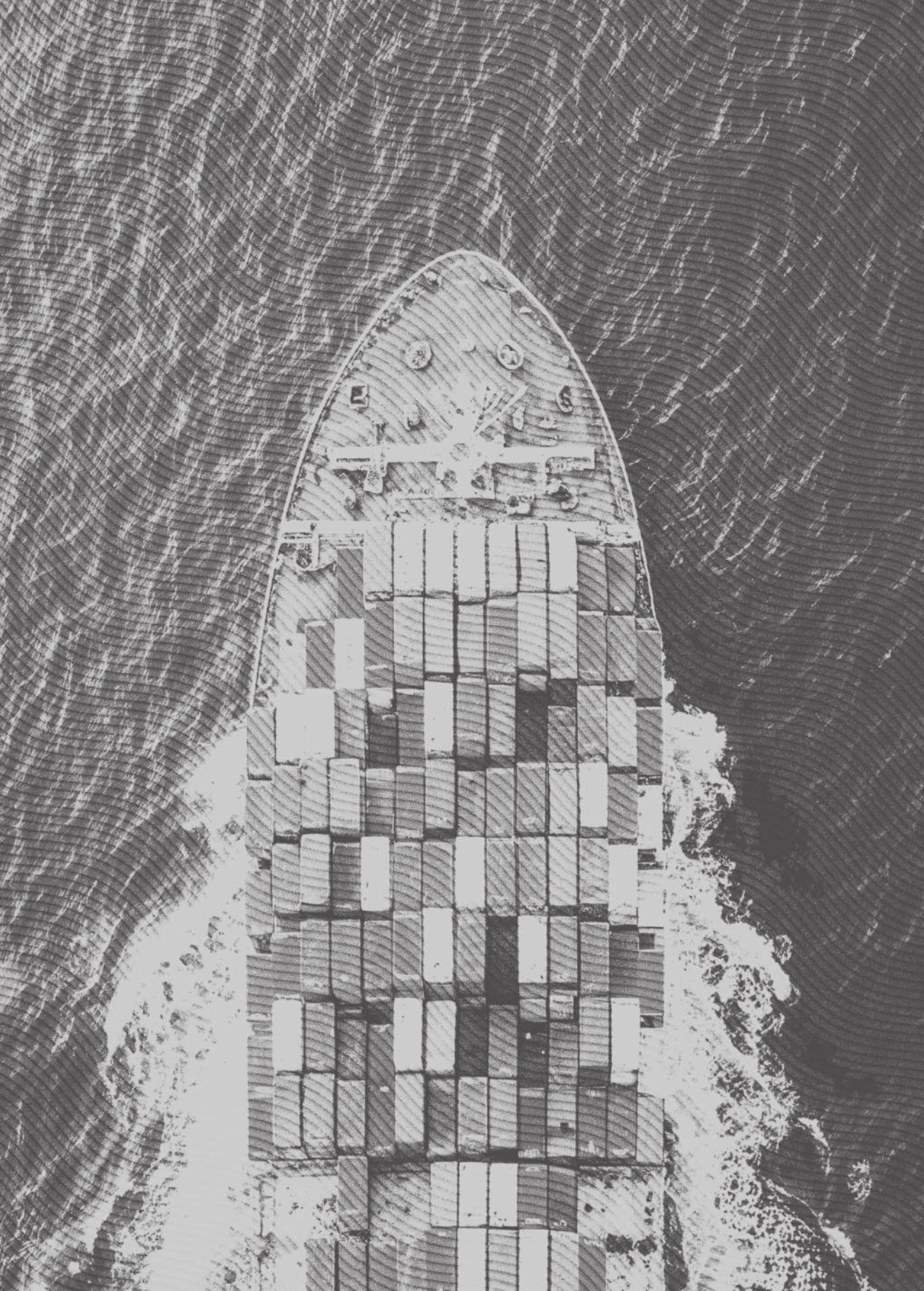
The amendment ordinance has been drafted to modernize the provisions of Bangladesh Animal and Animal Products Quarantine Act, 2005 and to align them with emerging national and international requirements.

5

Livestock Insurance Policy 2026 (Draft)

Type: Policy

National Livestock Insurance Policy 2026 has been finalized by the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock and has sent to Financial Institution Division, Ministry of Finance for the approval.



The Trade, Industry, and Employment sector is currently undergoing a radical cleansing of the “crony capitalism” that poisoned the nation, a process fueled by the unyielding spirit of the July Uprising. Driven by the mandate to dismantle predatory oligarchies, the Ministry of Commerce has implemented the Trade Organization Rules 2025, purging bodies like the FBCCI of partisan loan defaulters to ensure business leadership reflects the people’s will. These reforms are vital as the economy stabilizes, with inflation finally dropping below 9% this December.

Ministry of Labour and Employment has gazetted the landmark Labour (Amendment) Ordinance 2025, enshrining 120 days of maternity leave and collective bargaining as a tribute to the students who fought for social justice. Simultaneously, the Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment is dismantling “migration mafias” to protect our “Remittance Warriors.” By replacing autocratic exploitation with transparent, ILO-aligned governance, these reforms ensure that Bangladesh’s industrial future is reclaimed for the masses.

SECTOR VIII

TRADE,
INDUSTRY
AND
EMPLOYMENT

MINISTRY OF COMMERCE

Completed Reforms

1

Trade Organizations Rules, 2025

Type: Rules

Date: 20 May 2025

The Ministry of Commerce enacted the Trade Organization Rules 2025 to implement the Trade Organization Act 2022, establishing transparency and financial integrity. These rules mandate direct elections for leadership while disqualifying loan defaulters and tax evaders to ensure ethical governance. Key provisions regulate executive tenure, term limits, membership renewal, audited financial reporting, and the dissolution of non-compliant bodies. By institutionalizing democratic leadership and accountability, this framework facilitates inclusive policy decisions. These measures promote business integrity and participatory trade governance, fostering a disciplined, transparent, and sustainable commercial environment in Bangladesh.

2

Encourage export of value-added jute products: Inclusion of “Raw Jute in the list of conditional export products in Appendix-2 of Export Policy 2024-27

Type: Reform to strengthen Local industry

Date: 08 September 2025

By virtue of the powers conferred by Paragraph 5.4 (b) of the Export Policy 2024-27, “Raw Jute has been included in the export list of products at item number 19 in Appendix-2 subject to the conditions mentioned in paragraph 5.1 of the policy with a view to mobilizing and protecting the interests of the local Jute mills.

3

Inclusion of Five new products to TCB’s product list

Type: Public Service

Date: November 2025

TCB usually sells daily essential commodities such as oil, pulses, sugar. In addition, chickpeas and dates are sold during Ramadan. From November 2025, 5 new products; tea, salt, two types of soap, detergent has been added to TCB’s product list.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Bangladesh Competition Commission (Amendment of the Competition Act, 2012)

Type: Amendment of legislation

Date: Ongoing process

To modernize the Bangladesh Competition Act 2012, the Bangladesh Competition Commission conducted a global review of institutional frameworks. Consequently, a draft amendment has been prepared to address evolving economic environments and digital market dynamics

and emerging competition challenges. Following stakeholder consultation, the draft awaits final approval. This initiative aims to enhance transparency and enforceability, fostering fair competition, protecting consumer interests, and aligning national standards with international best practices to promote economic growth.

2

Import Policy Order 2024–2027

Type: Policy order

Date: Ongoing

The Import Policy Order 2024–2027 simplifies import procedures and payment systems to reduce trade barriers. Aligning with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA), this order ensures transparency and international compatibility. By removing non-tariff barriers, the policy fosters an investment-friendly environment, promoting industrial growth and export potential. These reforms aim to accelerate economic expansion and establish Bangladesh as a regional trade and manufacturing hub.

3

Amendment of the Consumer Rights Protection Act, 2009

Type: Amendment of legislation

Date: Ongoing process

The proposed amendment to the Consumer Rights Protection Act, 2009 modernizes the legal framework to address e-commerce, digital payments, and globalized trade. The reform expands jurisdictional scope to include digital platforms and provides specific definitions for fraud, adulteration, and false advertising to facilitate swift prosecution. By simplifying legal procedures and emphasizing consumer empowerment, the amendment ensures easier access to justice. These measures aim to institutionalize transparency and fair competition, promoting a sustainable economy through enhanced accountability and protection against contemporary market offenses.

Other Reforms

1

Implementing the Digital Product Passport (DPP) System

Type: Trade Facilitation

Date: Ongoing

EPB is actively working toward the implementation of the DPP system in the RMG and other export sectors. The initiative aims to enhance traceability, transparency, and sustainability compliance, aligning Bangladesh's export industries with emerging global trade and environmental standards.

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRIES

Completed Reforms

1

Iodized Salt Rules, 2024

Type: Rules

Date: 22 October 2024

By virtue of the powers conferred by section 49 of the iodized salt act, 2021 (Act No. 08 of 2021), the Government hereby makes the rules. These rules are called the iodized Salt Rules, 2024.

2

Boiler Rules, 2025

Type: Rules

Date: 29 June 2025

With a view to reducing the risk of boiler accidents in industrial factories, increasing awareness in the use of boilers, ensuring safety in the manufacture, import and export of quality boilers, use and operation of boilers, and ensuring a safer working environment in industrial factories.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Trademark (Amendment) ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing Process

An Act to further amend the Trademark Act, 2009 (Act no.19 of 2009) and (Amended 2015) with a view to modernizing and expanding the scope of protection of trademark registration for goods and services and to bring it into line with international regulations.

2

Bangladesh Industrial Establishments Nationalization (Amendment) Act, 2025

Type: Act

Date: Ongoing Process

Whereas it is expedient and necessary to amend the “Bangladesh Industrial Establishments Nationalization Act, 2018 (Act no.25 of 2018) for the purpose of further amending the “Bangladesh Industrial Establishments Nationalization Act, 2018”. Therefore, this Act is enacted. This Act may be called the ‘Bangladesh Industrial Establishments Nationalization (Amendment) Act, 2025’.

3

The SME Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

Skill development, creation of business-friendly environment, easy access to finance, market expansion, increasing technology and innovation capacity enhancement. Establish SMEs sector as a strong and sustainable economic foundation and creating sustainable employment.

4

The Electric Vehicle Industry Development Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

Ensuring the use of electric vehicles as an effective environmentally friendly alternative to the high price of fuel oil in the global market and reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Completed Reforms

1

Amendment of Bangladesh Labour Act, 2006 (BLA)

This major legal reform seeks to incorporate ILO recommendations and stakeholder feedback through the Tripartite Law Review Committee (TLRC) and National Tripartite Consultative Council (NTCC). Key amendments include easing of the right to association by requiring 20 workers (instead of 20% of total workers) to form a trade union, reducing the wage increase frequency from every five years to every three years, obligating owners with 100 permanent workers to form a provident fund, increasing penalties for child labor (from Tk 5,000 to Tk 25,000), banning the blacklisting of workers, and ensuring workers cannot be compelled to perform dangerous work if they inform the employer of serious danger.

2

Reform of National Tripartite Consultative Council (TCC)

Type: Reform of a consultative body

Date: December 2024

In December 2024, the government reconstituted the TCC to make it more functional and to allow for better representation of workers

and employers. The reformed TCC has met ten times so far in 2025 and the changes have been welcomed by workers' groups as it follows democratic process and facilitates through a search committee.

3

Ratification of new ILO Conventions

Type: Ratification of international conventions

Date: November 2025

The Interim Government is going to ratify Convention 155 (Occupational Safety and Health), Convention 187 (Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health), and Convention 190 (Violence and Harassment at Work) by November 2025 to ensure occupational safety and health at the world of work and to develop overall safety ambience of the working conditions. The ratification would help aligning domestic regulations with global norms.

Ongoing Reforms

1

National Wage Policy Development

Tripartite consultations are underway to develop an evidence-based National Wage Policy. The ILO has expressed interest in assisting with this.

2

Expansion of Labor Courts and Establishment of Circuit Courts in Appropriate Locations

Measures are being taken to increase the number of labor courts and to establish circuit courts in suitable locations to ensure faster, accessible, and effective adjudication of labor-related disputes. A new labor court has been established in the Mymensingh Division.

Other Reforms

1

High-Powered Labour Rights Reform Commission

This commission was formed by the interim government on November 18, 2024, to propose recommendations to enhance labour rights with a view to reforming the labor sector. The Commission submitted its report on April 21, 2025, and accordingly a subsequent committee was formed on May 4, 2025, to implement the recommendations suggested by the Commission.

2

Employment Injury Scheme (EIS) pilot

Type: Social insurance scheme pilot

Date: October 2025

The Employment Injury Scheme (EIS) Pilot provides long-term periodic compensation and rehabilitation to 4 million workers in the export-oriented ready-made garment (RMG) sector. Financed by 85 international brands, the scheme provides lifetime pensions (payable monthly) for work-related death or disability, and is jointly supported by the Government, employers, workers, development partners (including the EU, Germany, Netherlands and Canada) with technical assistance from the ILO and GIZ. Operational in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and extended to the leather and footwear sector in February 2025, the pilot evaluates social insurance feasibility. Tripartite consultations initiated in May 2025 aim to design a permanent national scheme. A national framework and draft law are projected for late 2025 or early 2026, with a target for full rollout by June 2027.

3

Labour Information Management System (LIMS)

Type: Information Management System

Date: April 2025

The Labour Information Management System (LIMS), implemented by the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments

(DIFE) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) from May 2022 to April 2025, is a digital platform for managing data across formal and informal sectors. Utilizing National Identity (NID) or birth certificate verification, the system facilitates the registration of workers and establishments to monitor legal compliance and social protection eligibility. Key functionalities include the maintenance of digital service books for institutional workers and profile creation for non-institutional or unemployed persons. Upon DIFE approval and verification, workers are issued a unique Labour Identification Number (LIN) through a streamlined online process. LIMS currently hosts data for 709,761 workers and 5,007 establishments. Following a Phase II feasibility study, the Ministry plans to transition to the Integrated Labour Information Management System (ILIMS). This initiative aims to establish a unified National Labour Database, aligning with Labour Reform Commission recommendations to ensure transparency, decent work, and evidence-based policy formulation within a comprehensive digital ecosystem.

4

Unemployed Workers' Protection Programme (UWPP) Bangladesh

Type: Social assistance programme

Date: Expected by 2027

The Unemployed Workers' Protection Programme (UWPP), initiated in October 2020 by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, provides short-term financial aid to displaced workers in export-oriented sectors, including garment, leather, jute, frozen food, and shipbuilding. Initially providing Tk 3,000 monthly, the allowance was increased in June 2025 to Tk 5,000 for a maximum of three months. Financing includes a €113 million commitment from the EU and Germany, with an additional €23.5 million provided by the EU in July 2025, as part of a €285 million EU investment since 2019. Despite June 2025 policy simplifications, challenges in layoff reporting and awareness remain. Currently, the Ministry is collaborating with the Cabinet's Coordination and Reforms Division to formulate a roadmap transitioning the UWPP into a comprehensive National Unemployment Insurance Scheme. Supported by the National Social Security Strategy review, this transition seeks to integrate digital registration and expand coverage to include informal and vulnerable workforces.

MINISTRY OF TEXTILES AND JUTE

Ongoing Reforms

1

Proposal for Appointment of Dealerships to Ensure Fair-Priced Supply of Raw Materials

Type: Policy reform proposal under the Bangladesh
Handloom Board

Date: Initial workshop held on 26 February 2025; draft
proposal submitted to the Ministry of Textiles and
Jute on 2 June 2025

The Bangladesh Handloom Board initiated a policy reform process to improve the distribution of duty-free yarn, dyes and chemicals to primary weavers. The proposal focuses on appointing dealerships to ensure fair-priced supply of essential materials and on establishing a supply chain management network through selected importers to make these inputs easily accessible to weavers. Following the initial workshop and draft preparation, several stakeholder meetings were held in July and September 2025 with the Ministry of Textiles and Jute, BTMA and representatives of the tant sector to evaluate both existing and alternative implementation mechanisms.

Other Reforms

1

Time-bound Reform Plan/Activities of the Department of Textiles

Type: Receiving and processing all applications regarding the sponsoring authority-related services of the Department of Textiles entirely through myGov platform rather than conventional system

Date: 15 September 2024

According to Section 2(6) of the Textile Act, 2018, the Department of Textiles performs the responsibilities of the sponsoring authority for the textile industry. In accordance with the Textile Industry (Registration and One-Stop Service Center) Rules, 2021, the Department of Textiles provides various services to entrepreneurs of the textile sector.

Some services are provided directly through the myGov platform, while other applications for services are received by the One-Stop Service Center of the Department of Textiles, processed through D-nothi and delivered again by the One-Stop Service Center. We are already using the myGov platform for all registration services related to textile industries and buying houses. Additionally, initiatives have been undertaken to provide all sponsoring authority-related services through the myGov platform. All applications regarding this will be received and processed through myGov, and the service outcomes will also be delivered through myGov. It would constitute a significant citizen-friendly reform in the service process.

2

Asset Management System Software for BJMC & Mills

Type: Reform Plan

Date: 11 October 2024

This reform plan is to take effective measures for the proper utilization of all types of resources of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) and its Mills. To ensure proper maintenance and optimal utilization

of assets by preparing and digitizing various data repositories (Land, Facilities, Machinery and Equipment, Furniture. Leases, etc.) and managing activities in a digitalized system This software has been prepared and is currently operational

3

Reducing delays in payment of cocoons produced by silk sericulture farmers

Type: Reducing delays in payment system

Date: 01 October 2024

Cocoons produced quad-annually are purchased by the Bangladesh Sericulture Development Board. Previously, manual field reporting from 12 centers to head office caused payment delays exceeding one month. Under short-term reforms, a software and mobile application were developed on June 30, 2025, to digitize quantity and seller verification. This system streamlines coordination between the Production and Marketing and Finance departments, enabling Director General approval and disbursement via mobile financial services. Consequently, the processing duration for farmer payments has been reduced from one month to within 10 days. Cocoon procurement is currently executed via the mobile application to ensure administrative efficiency.

4

Distribution of disease-free layings (dfls) and providing technical support to sericulture farmers during rearing period

Type: Service simplification & Technical support

Date: 01 October 2024

Under the existing system, disease-free layings (eggs) are distributed quad-annually across 59 extension centers. To mitigate quality degradation from thermal exposure during transit, a cluster-based distribution model via courtyard meetings has been adopted to minimize distances. Furthermore, an expert team was established at the Bangladesh Sericulture Development Board in October 2024 to provide technical consultancy via a dedicated mobile number. This team facilitates immediate advisory services and dispatches

technical officers for critical interventions. These reforms maintain egg viability and ensure continuous technical support, which commenced during the Agrahani Bandh (October 2024) and remains operational year-round to optimize sericulture production.

5

Operational Plan

Type: Online Licensing

Date: 01 July 2025

In order to provide 100% online licenses to jute and jute product traders from the head office and field level of the Department of Jute, licenses of 03 categories (Jute product manufacturers, Jute product exporters and Raw jute exporters) are being granted and renewed online from the head office of the department through the myGov platform of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. In addition, licenses will be granted and renewed online through the myGov platform from 2026-27 fiscal year in the field level offices of the Department of Jute.

MINISTRY OF EXPATRIATES' WELFARE AND OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT

Completed Reforms

1

Welfare, Protection, and Reintegration

The Reintegration Policy 2025, gazetted on 3 September 2025, established a national framework for returnee reintegration. Under RAISE (World Bank), a verified database of 222,114 returnees was developed, linking financial aid, entrepreneurship training, and psychosocial counselling. The Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) expanded support through amendments to Rule 7 (2023), enabling assistance during crises, while also launching new welfare centres in five districts, a renovated Probashi Lounge, ambulance fee waivers, and legal assistance in six destination countries.

2

Legal and Regulatory Reforms

Multiple laws were modernised to strengthen governance:

- Foreign Employment and Migrant Ordinance (2024) – expanded mobile court jurisdiction
- Sub-Agent Regulation (2025) – brought informal agents under licensing

- Recruiting Agent Classification (2020) – simplified grading and performance standards
- Management Rules (2017) – cut lead time for deployment
- WEWB Rules (2023) – expanded emergency support coverage

3

Formulation of the Reintegration of Returnee Migrant Workers Policy 2025

Formulated in September 2025 by the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment, this policy aims to ensure the sustainable reintegration of returnee migrants through institutional frameworks, district-level welfare centers, and inclusive social and economic support mechanisms.

4

Formation of a Taskforce for Implementing Commission Recommendations

To implement the six commission reports on foreign employment and migration reforms, the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment has established a dedicated taskforce. The ILO and IOM have provided technical support to this taskforce.

The taskforce has been divided into five thematic working groups, each led by renowned migration experts. It has analyzed all recommendations of the commissions and, within the current tenure, developed a comprehensive Implementation Roadmap to ensure effective execution.

The five thematic working groups are:

1. Institutional Reform and Governance
2. Migration Processes and Cost Efficiency
3. Global Market Expansion and Opportunities
4. Skills Development and Financing
5. Rights, Protection, and Ethical Migration

This initiative ensures coordinated and expert-led implementation of key policy reforms based on the commission reports. It strengthens

institutional capacity, reduces migration-related costs, promotes global labor market expansion, enhances skills development, and further consolidates the rights and protection of migrant workers.

5

Establishment of Expatriate Support Desks and Helpdesks

To strengthen migration governance at the local level, Expatriate Support Desks have been established at the Upazila level through the District Commissioners and Upazila Executive Officers, following the District Migration Coordination Committee (DMCC) model.

In addition, Helpdesks have been set up at all District Employment and Manpower Offices (DEMOs) under BMET, providing direct guidance on worker registration, enrollment in training programs, and safe migration procedures.

These initiatives have increased access to migration-related services and information at the grassroots level, raised awareness among stakeholders, and significantly reduced reliance on middlemen

6

Appointment of Law Firms Abroad for Worker Protection

To ensure the protection of the legal rights of migrant workers, the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) has appointed reputable law firms in Saudi Arabia (Riyadh and Jeddah), the United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi and Dubai), Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, and Malaysia effective from 1 November 2025.

Migrant workers facing harassment, contract disputes, or unpaid wages abroad can now receive direct legal assistance, which supports the protection and enforcement of their rights.

7

Amendment to the Foreign Employment and Migrant (Recruiting Agent Classification) Rules, 2020

Type: Rules Amendment

Date: 09 October 2025

The amendment made on 09 October 2025 simplifies the grading and evaluation process for recruiting agencies and updates Schedules 1 and 2. This fosters fair and performance-based competition among recruiting agents, ensuring higher-quality services for migrant workers.

8

Introduction of Mandatory Life Insurance for Migrant Workers

Under the management of the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB), life insurance has been made mandatory for legally deployed migrant workers. If a migrant worker passes away within five years of deployment, the worker's family is entitled to BDT 1,000,000. Additionally, provisions exist to provide financial benefits in cases of disability or loss of limbs.

9

24/7 Helpline for Female Migrant Workers

A 24/7 helpline has been established through BMET and the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) to support female migrant workers in both their home country and destination countries. This service provides round-the-clock assistance, guidance, and protection for women throughout the migration process.

- (a) A helpline has been established under the management of the Wage Earners' Welfare Board (WEWB) to assist migrant workers. The helpline numbers are: 16135 (toll-free) and +8809610102030 (from abroad).
- (b) Under this service, a BMET representative has been assigned to oversee the operation of the helpline managed by the WEWB.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Large-Scale Training and Deployment Project under Japan's Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) Scheme

To strengthen the preparation of Bangladeshi workers under Japan's SSW program, a large-scale project worth USD 1.18 billion has been submitted to the Economic Relations Division (ERD). The proposal allocates USD 225 million for Japanese Language Level N4 training for 132,000 prospective migrants with direct support from Japanese trainers, and USD 955 million for enhancing the professional skills of 158,400 prospective migrants in priority sectors.

The project sets a target of sending 100,000 skilled Bangladeshi workers to Japan over the next five years. This initiative will establish a structured training-to-employment pipeline, enhancing worker skills, ensuring training quality aligned with Japanese employer standards, and positioning Bangladesh as a reliable source of skilled labor for the Japanese labor market.

Other Reforms

1

Institutional and Process Reforms

The Overseas Employment Platform (OEP), launched on 1 April 2025, has fully digitised BMET's services, connecting 64 DEMOs, 110 TTCs, 2,200 recruiting agencies, and 185 missions abroad. All worker approvals—from registration to emigration clearance—are now processed online, eliminating Tk 100 crore in informal fees annually and ensuring full transparency. A national Task Force was established to implement the six commission reports on migration reform, supported by ILO and IOM. The Ministry decentralised emigration clearance to district offices, integrated NID verification, simplified airport procedures, and established Complaint Management Cells and Help Desks nationwide—making services faster, corruption-free, and accessible at the local level.

2

Market Development and Global Partnerships

Bangladesh's overseas employment markets expanded significantly. The Japan Cell, established in 2025, unified over 300 training and recruitment institutions under one coordination hub. Deployment to Japan rose from 4,000 in 2024 to over 6,000 workers in just six months, supported by new MoUs with major Japanese employers to send 100,000 workers over five years. In Saudi Arabia, over 100,000 workers have been certified under the expanded Takamol Skill Verification Programme, with 30 accredited centres nationwide. Malaysia accreditation with CIDB began for construction worker certification. The NCLEX training programme prepared 50 nurses for global markets, with one already migrating to the U.S. Language programmes in Japanese, German, and Italian (for 4,000 workers to Italy by 2027) expanded hybrid training access nationwide.

3

Skills Development and Human Capital Investment

Construction of 40 new TTCs and upgrading of existing centers are underway to modernise technical training. New driving and left-hand drive courses, hybrid language programmes, and youth training for 5,000 SSC/HSC students have strengthened the domestic skill base. Under the RAISE project, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) was expanded with ILO and National Skills Development Authority (NSDA) to formalise skills of informal workers. Housekeeping training was restructured with IOM support to be shorter and more practical, improving employability and income potential.

4

Data and Analytics-Driven Governance

The Analytics Module of Overseas Employment Platform (OEP) now provides real-time dashboards on migration trends. The RAISE database integrates socio-economic and skills data for policy planning, while skill verification data from Japan and Saudi Arabia supports forecasting and alignment of training to global labour demand.

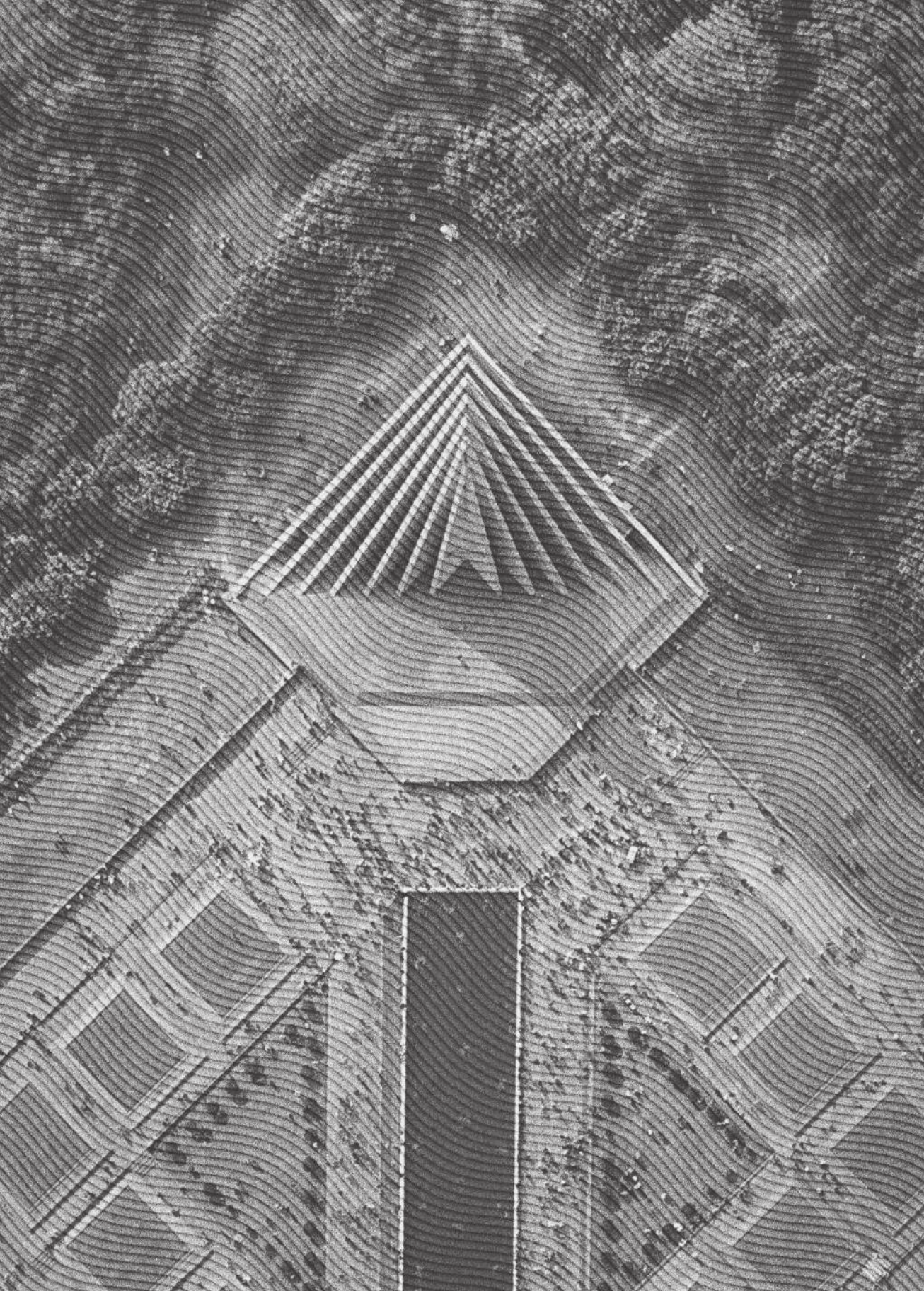
In summary, the Ministry has transitioned from manual administration to a digitally governed, globally connected, and welfare-focused

institution for its key function in Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training, expanding market access, empowering workers, and setting a new standard of accountability and efficiency in labour migration governance.

5

Financial Inclusion and Empowerment

Probashi Kallyan Bank strengthened its capacity by recruiting 72 officers, increasing authorised capital to Tk 2,000 crore, and launching digital banking systems including BACH, foreign currency exchange software, and the e-Loan Application (eLAPS) under MyGov. The investment cap on Wage Earner Development Bonds was removed, enabling higher expat investment and



Bangladesh is currently witnessing a profound cultural and social awakening, a process of national "soul-cleansing" sparked by the July Uprising. The Interim Government has recognized that the previous regime's survival depended on the systemic distortion of our history and the weaponization of social divisions. The Ministry of Liberation War Affairs is now leading a historic effort to "de-partisanize" the legacy of 1971, ensuring that the sacrifice of our original heroes is no longer used as a shield for modern-day autocracy. This reform is a direct tribute to the student martyrs of 2024, who proved that the spirit of freedom is a living flame, not a static political tool.

Across the Ministries of Cultural Affairs and the Ministry of Religious Affairs, the mandate is clear: dismantle the state-sponsored propaganda machines and foster a truly inclusive "New Bangladesh." The Ministry of Youth and Sports is being reclaimed as a hub for the Gen-Z architects of the uprising, while the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is advancing landmark legislations like the Sexual Harassment Prevention Bill and the Domestic Violence Act to ensure that the equity sought on the streets is reflected in every home. Furthermore, the Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs is working to heal long-standing regional wounds by prioritizing the unique cultural rights of indigenous communities. By aligning our social fabric with the revolutionary values of justice and dignity, these reforms are building a nation where every voice, regardless of faith or ethnicity, is heard.

SECTOR IX

CULTURE
AND
SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT

MINISTRY OF RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS

Other Reforms

1

Enhancing Hajj Management

Date: 30 September 2025

Modernized Hajj management facilitates services including pre-registration, call center (16136) support, e-health profiles, Hajj portal (hajj.gov.bd) and the “Labbaik” app. Financial security is enhanced via prepaid cards and Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) for refunds. Under the Route to Mecca Agreement, Saudi immigration is finalized in Dhaka with direct luggage delivery. In Hajj 2025, 86,957 pilgrims (5,091 through government; 81,666 through private) successfully performed the pilgrimage. BDT 8,46,59,558/- from the KSA portion was refunded to 4,978 government-managed pilgrims. Initial registration for Hajj 2026 commenced on 27 July 2025, with three separate Hajj packages declared on 29 September 2025. These measures ensure administrative efficiency and transparency across both national and international management phases.

2

Launching Zakat app

Date: 26 December 2024

Zakat is an obligatory pillar of Islam. In Bangladesh, Islamic Foundation collects and distributes Zakat every year to help alleviate poverty among the underprivileged people. To make this initiative more dynamic, a Zakat app (ezakat.gov.bd) has been launched on for the first time, through which Zakat collection is now being carried out according to the set target Zakat can be given from home through the Zakat app.

3

National Quran Memorization (Hifz) and Seerah Studies Competition

Date: 29 June 2024

With the aim of nurturing morality, human values, and the latent talents of children & adolescents, the Islamic Foundation has organized the National Quran Memorization (Hifz) and Seerah Studies Competition for the first time this year

4

Conserving Biodiversity and Promoting Quality of Life through Imam Training

Date: 30 June 2024

Financial assistance of Tk 54.133 crore has been provided to 12,903 beneficiaries in the fiscal year 2024-2025 through the Imams Motivation Program Project (1st Revised) for improving the quality of life of the people of Haor areas and conserving biodiversity.

MINISTRY OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Completed Reforms

1

Bangla Academy Reform Committee

Type: Committee

Date: 07 July 2025

A Reform Committee was constituted to review the existing laws, regulations, organizational structure, and overall activities of the Bangla Academy and to submit recommendations in alignment with its objectives and future goals.

Ongoing Reforms

1

July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: 23 October 2025

The advisory council has given Policy approval of the draft of the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum Ordinance, 2025 on 23 October, 2025 for its final endorsement. The ordinance will soon be finalized following the due legal procedures

2

Formulation of contemporary Cultural Policy

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing process

The Post-July Uprising context calls for revising the Cultural Policy 2006 to reflect citizens renewed aspirations for democracy, inclusion, and justice. The Policy must be modernized to address digital transformation, cultural diversity, and creative industries. The new Policy should ensure equitable participation, align culture with national development goals, and strengthen Bangladesh's global cultural presence by incorporating global standards.

3

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/Act, 2025

Type: Ordinance /Act

Date: Ongoing process

The Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy is presently governed by the 'Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Act, 1989. As it has become expedient and necessary to amend the said Act to ensure its effective implementation, modernization, and institutional development, the Ministry of Cultural affairs has undertaken the process of enacting the 'Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/Act, 2025. This Act shall be cited as the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/Act, 2025.

4

Bangla Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/ Act, 2025

Type: Ordinance /Act

Date: Ongoing process

The Bangla Academy is presently governed by the Bangla Academy Act, 2013. As it has become expedient and necessary to amend the said Act to ensure its effective implementation, modernization, and institutional development, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs has undertaken the process of enacting the Bangla Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/Act, 2025. This Act shall be cited as the Bangla Academy (Amendment) Ordinance/Act, 2025.

Other Reforms

1

Establishment of the “July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum”

Date: Ongoing process

In accordance with the discussions held at the meeting of the Advisory Council of the Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh on 24 December 2024, the proposal for establishing the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum was approved. Subsequently, the Ministry of Housing and Public Works allocated 17.68 acres of land, including existing structures, located at Plot No. 05, Sector-B (Ganabhaban Complex) within the Sher-e-Bangla Nagar administrative area, in favor of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs. Thereafter, on 8 January 2025, the Ministry of Cultural Affairs handed over the Ganabhaban Complex to the Bangladesh National Museum for the purpose of establishing the July Mass Uprising Memorial Museum. The Bangladesh National Museum has already commenced the establishment activities of the Museum utilizing its own manpower and budgetary resources.

2

‘Formation of Digital Oral History Archives on July mass Uprising’ project

Type: Project

Date: Ongoing process

To establish a centralized digital platform containing 1000 personal interviews and 100 video documentaries related to the July 2024 mass uprising.

3

Identify traditional libraries, Collection and Preservation of Rare Books

Date: Ongoing process

A rare book refers to a book or manuscript that is rarely available, out of print, or was published in limited numbers and is not currently easily available. It has historical value as well as it preserves our culture, heritage and knowledge for future generation. The design, binding, and artwork of some books are also important from an aesthetic perspective, which may be appealing to book lovers.

MINISTRY OF LIBERATION WAR AFFAIRS

Completed Reforms

1

Reformation of the National Freedom Fighters Council

Type: Council reformation

Date: Gazette published on 20 November 2024

The government reconstituted the National Freedom Fighters Council from the Advisory Council to a committee consisting of 11 (eleven) members in accordance with Section 5(1) of the National Freedom Fighters Council Act, 2022 (Act No. 15 of 2022), due to the changed circumstances.

2

Reformation of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust

Type: Committee reformation

Date: Gazette published on 20 November 2024 and 21 November 2024

Earlier, the Honorable Member of Parliament was included in the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust. In the current context, the committee has been reconstituted due to the absence of the members of parliament. The Board of Trustees and Executive Committee of the Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust have been restructured by making the Honorable Chief Advisor, the chairman of the Board of Trustees and the Honorable Advisor, Liberation War Affairs. the president of the Executive Committee.

3

Amendment of the National Freedom Fighters Council Act, 2022

Type: Act

Date: Gazette published on 03 June 2025

The National Freedom Fighters Council Act, 2022 (Act No. 15 of 2022) has been amended with the aim of upholding the ideals of the liberation war in national life, implementing the goals of the liberation war and ensuring the overall welfare of the brave freedom fighters and freedom fighter families.

4

Formation of the July Mass Uprising Directorate

Type: Establishment of the Directorate

Date: Gazette published on 28 April 2025

In view of the decision of the advisory council, a new department named the July Uprising Directorate has been established under the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs with the aim of establishing the essence and ideals of the July Uprising in state and national life and for the welfare and rehabilitation of the families of the martyrs of the July Uprising and the July fighters.

5

Welfare and Rehabilitation of the Families of July Martyrs and the July Fighters Ordinance 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Published in the Gazette on 17 June 2025

This ordinance has been formulated with the aim of establishing the essence and ideals of the July Uprising in state and national life, including the welfare and rehabilitation of the families of the martyrs of the July Uprising and the July fighters.

6

Formation of Ad Hoc Committee of Bangladesh Muktijoddha Sangsad, Central Command Council

Type: Formation of Committee of Freedom Fighters

Date: 30 July 2025

According to the National Freedom Fighters Council Act 2022 (Amended Ordinance/2025), an ad hoc committee has been formed to properly manage the activities of the central, metropolitan, district, and upazila command councils. The ad hoc committee will complete the district/metropolitan and upazila elections of the Freedom Fighters' Council within the next 06 months and hand over the responsibilities to the elected committee.

7

Welfare and Rehabilitation Rules for Families of Martyrs in the July Uprising and July Fighters, 2025

Type: Rules

Date: Gazette published on 20 August 2025

Welfare and Rehabilitation Rules for Families of Martyrs in the July Uprising and July Fighters, 2025' has been formulated to implement the welfare and rehabilitation activities of the families of martyrs in the July Uprising and July Fighters.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Preparation of guidelines for property management and modernization of Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust

Type: Property Management and Modernization

Date: Activities are ongoing

Guidelines are being prepared for increasing the income by maintaining the property of Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust.

2

Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Welfare Trust (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025

Type: Ordinance

Date: Ongoing process

The work of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Welfare Trust (Amended) Ordinance, 2025 is under process.

Other Reforms

1

Verification of Information of Appointments Under the Freedom Fighter Quota in Government Jobs

Type: Verification of information.

Date: Activities ongoing

This ministry does not have complete information or database of those who appointed under the freedom fighter quota. A total of 90,974 officers information have been received from 60 ministries/divisions who got appointment under quota. Out of these, the verification process has been completed for 81,634 officers. A letter has been

sent to the Secretary. Ministry of Public Administration, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka on 23 September 2025 in memorandum number 488 for sending complete information of the remaining 7,778 people. The process of creating a database. of officers/officials appointed under the freedom fighters quota by the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs is ongoing.

2

Taking measures to recover the immovable property seized under the Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust and digitally preserving the list of properties

Type: Property preservation

Date: Activities are ongoing

Activities are ongoing to increase the income of the Bangladesh Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust through recovery and proper maintenance of state property and to recover the immovable property seized under the Freedom Fighters Welfare Trust

3

Preparation and finalization of the list of real freedom fighters

Type: Identification of freedom fighters

Date: Ongoing process

The preparation and finalization of the list of real freedom fighters is carried out in light of the recommendations of the National Freedom Fighters Council according to the Section 6 of the National Freedom Fighters Council Act 2022 (Act No. 15 of 2022). It is done by National Freedom Fighters Council.

MINISTRY OF YOUTH AND SPORTS

Completed Reforms

1

Renaming 205 institutions named after Sheikh Hasina and her family

Type: Ordinance

Date: August 2024 to October 2025

The interim govt. changed a total of 880 institutions named after Sheikh Hasina and her family. According to the list, the largest number of name changes have been made for institutions and establishments under the Ministry of Youth and Sports. A total of 205 institutions and establishments under this ministry have had their names changed.

2

Sports Goods Distribution Policy, 2024

Type: Policy

Date: November 2024

In November 2024, the “Sports Goods Distribution Policy 2016” has been updated with the aim to create speedy, accurate and transparent strategy for distribution of sports goods among clubs and educational institutions at the district and upazila level. Under this policy sports items are being distributed by Director of Sports through District Administration at grassroots level with equitable manner.

3

**National Krirashebi Kalyan Foundation
(Amendment) Ordinance, 2025**

Type: Ordinance

Date: May 2025

The Foundation's Act has been amended to ensure the welfare for the contributors in the field of sports and their dependents with a revision that replaced the 'Secretary' post with 'Executive Director' and substituted the word "National" instead of "Bangabondhu" to enhance its acceptance and status to all stakeholders.

4

**National Youth Entrepreneurship Development
Policy, 2025**

Type: Policy

Date: June, 2025

The National Youth Entrepreneurship development Policy 2025 has been approved by the Advisory Council aiming to identify aspiring youth entrepreneurs and provide them with comprehensive support, including training and financing to start and scale-up their businesses.

5

**National Sports Council (Amendment)
Ordinance, 2025**

Type: Ordinance

Date: August 2025

The "National Sports Council Act, 2018" has been amended by replacing the 'Secretary' post with 'Executive Director' and ensuring significant participation of sports federation and associations in sports development. This amendment has ensured the representation of women in the Board of Council of the National Sports Council as well.

6

Youth Volunteer Award Policy (Revised), 2025

Type: Policy

Date: July 2025

“Sheikh Hasina Youth Volunteer Award Policy 2022” has been amended replacing “Youth Volunteer Policy (Revised) 2025” to make the policy more acceptable. The individual’s name has been eliminated by this amendment from the “Award Title” to increase its status and acceptance to all stakeholders.

7

National Youth Award Policy (Revised) 2025

Type: Policy

Date: June 2025

The Ministry of Youth and Sports has revised “National Youth Award Policy” with the spirit of July Uprising and in profound recognition of the youth’s transformative role in shaping our nation, The aim of this amendment is to develop entrepreneurial mindset and the spirit of competition among the youth of our country.

8

National Sports Allowance Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: October, 2025

The National Sports Allowance Policy, 2025 has been approved aiming to provide financial assistance and support to the sportspersons who are insolvent, sick, injured, or disabled. The guidelines of this policy will ensure the proper allocation of the financial assistance to the real insolvent and sick sports related personnels.

9

Medical and Financial Assistance Policy 2025

Type: Policy

Date: October 2025

The Medical and Financial Assistance Policy, 2025 has been formulated to provide financial and medical support to sick, injured, and disabled

sportspersons for their treatment. This policy will ensure proper selection and distribution of financial assistance to the deserved sports personnels.

10

Sports - Education Scholarship Policy, 2025

Type: Policy

Date: October 2025

The Sports-Education Scholarship Policy, 2025 has been approved to support students from the primary to the postgraduate level, aiming to nurture and develop individuals who has potentials to achieve national fame in the field of sports. This Policy will encourage our prospective athletics and sport persons to prepare themselves with long term vision.

11

Ideal constitution for all sports organization/ associations/ federations under the National Sports Council

Type: Policy

An ideal constitution is being prepared for all sports organization/ associations and federations to bring dynamism in the sports sector and to ensure good governance, eliminate political influence, and to increase the number of women representatives in sports organization/ associations/ federations.

MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN AFFAIRS

Completed Reforms

1

Prevention of Sexual Harassment at Workplaces and Educational Institutions Ordinance 2026

Type: Ordinance

Date: January 2026

The government has enacted this ordinance to ensure safe, dignified environments by criminalizing physical, verbal, and digital harassment. It mandates Internal Complaint Committees (ICCs) to investigate misconduct and enforce sanctions ranging from reprimands to expulsion. Adopting a survivor-centric approach, the law prioritizes privacy and establishes a dedicated fund for counseling, legal aid, and rehabilitation. Oversight is maintained through national and local monitoring committees to ensure accountability and gender justice across all institutions.

2

Prevention of Domestic Violence Ordinance 2026

Type: Ordinance

Date: January 2026

To uphold zero tolerance against abuse, the government has enacted this ordinance to provide a robust legal framework protecting women and children from physical, mental, sexual, and financial domestic violence. The law introduces fast-track judicial remedies, including protection and residency orders, compensation, and mandatory maintenance, with a requirement to resolve applications within 60 working days. It criminalizes the violation of court orders and enforces strict accountability for police and enforcement officers regarding any negligence of duty. By prioritizing survivor-centric remedies and counseling, the ordinance establishes domestic safety and dignity as a non-negotiable legal right.

Ongoing Reforms

1

The Guardians and Wards Ordinance 2025 (Amendment)

Type: Legislation

Date: Ongoing process

To eliminate constitutional discrimination, Articles 26 (1) and (2) of Bangladesh's Constitution state that any law or ordinance that violates fundamental rights is null and void, Article 27 states that all citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal legal protection, and Article 28 states that no citizen shall be discriminated against on the basis of religion, race, caste, gender, or place of birth. An ordinance amended to provide provisions for items ancillary to this.

MINISTRY OF CHITTAGONG HILL TRACTS AFFAIRS

Completed Reforms

1

Empowerment of Hill District Councils and the Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council

Type: Legal/Institutional Reform

Date: Ongoing Process

The Interim Hill District Councils have already been reconstituted in accordance with the Hill District Council Acts, and they are carrying out their responsibilities as per law. The Chittagong Hill Tracts Regional Council, within its legal jurisdiction, continues to coordinate and supervise the functions of the three Hill District Councils, along with performing its other statutory responsibilities.

Ongoing Reforms

1

Bringing transparency in distribution of food grains under Test Relief (TR)

Type: Social Protection

Date: Ongoing Process

Collecting information locally and verifying the actual needs through field visits, and then distributing the food grains directly to the beneficiaries.

2

Bringing transparency in cash distribution under General Relief (GR)

Type: Social Protection

Date: Ongoing Process

- (a) Issue of account payee cheques
- (b) Joint signature on cheques
- (c) Creation of beneficiary master roll and
- (d) Direct transfer of funds to beneficiary's bank account.

3

Bringing transparency in adoption and implementation of Annual Development Projects

Type: Development Activities

Date: Ongoing Process

Project selection and project implementation through appropriate processes involving various stakeholders.

4

Chittagong Hill Tracts Land Dispute Resolution Commission (Land Commission)

Type: Institutional Reform

Date: Ongoing Process

A retired Justice has been appointed as the Chairman of the Land Reform Commission. The newly reconstituted Commission has started functioning in accordance with its law and rules.

5

Reform Plan of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Board (CHTDB)

Type: Administrative Reform

Date: Updated up to October 2025

The Board has been restructured through the appointment of a new Chairman. The CHTDB continues to operate under its own law and rules, undertaking socio-economic development activities across the three hill districts.

6

Amendment of existing regulations

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

Amendment and updating of existing regulations of the departments organizations under this ministry

7

Implementation of the Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord

Type: Policy

Date: Ongoing Process

The Interim Government has reaffirmed its commitment to the implementation of the 1997 Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord. The Peace Accord Implementation Monitoring Committee has already been reconstituted under the leadership of the Adviser for Foreign Affairs, and the Committee has commenced its activities.

