

# ৪৫তম বিমিএম নির্ধিত ফুল কোর্স

## ENGLISH

Lecture: 15

Topic:

Essay Writing-02: Essay Writing-02: The Expository, The Argumentative, The Persuasive.



1. How to prepare for the Essay

1	1
2	1
3	1
4	1
1a	1

- 2. Intro
- 3. Body
- 4. Conclusion
- 5. Flow and coherence
- 6. Vocabulary, Language & Grammar
- 7. choosing a topic
- 8. Writing a philosophical Essay
- 9. Useful Quotes
- 10. components
- 11. why you should write

44h Written

8 page

66

page

58

page

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153

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20-22

କ୍ରମ ସଂଗ୍ରହ

Sequential

Grammar

ଅଧ୍ୟାୟ କ୍ରମ

Quote



# TYPES OF ESSAY

⇒ There are four main types of essays--

1. Narrative — গল্প — My first day at <sup>my</sup> workplace
2. Descriptive — padma Bridge & its economic benefits
3. Expository — বস্তুনিষ্ঠতা — The dengue pandemic
4. Argumentative — GRE — Argument.

Each has a unique purpose. Some tell a story, some are descriptive, and others attempt to alter opinions. One of the best ways to understand each type is to review a batch of essay examples.



# TYPES OF ESSAY

Subjective or objective

- **Narrative Essays:** Narration means you're telling a story from a certain viewpoint, and there is usually a reason for the telling. All narrative essays have characters, setting, a climax, and most importantly, a plot.
- The plot is the focus of the story and is usually revealed chronologically, but there are sometimes flash-forwards and flashbacks. If you're looking to write a personal narrative essay, here are some tips to get you started.

Movie as story

Your first day at your workplace

❑ When writing a narrative essay, remember to--

- Include sensory and emotional details, so the reader will experience the story, not just read about it.

flow and

- Allow the story to support the point you're making, and make reference to that point in the first sentence.

- Write in the first or third person.

Relation { Mr. chamak — appearance — 56yrs  
 — Aged  
 — pompous  
 — disrespectful

✓ Gf — Catherine — 24  
Model



# TYPES OF ESSAY

➤ **Descriptive Essays:** describe the traits and characteristics of people, objects, events, and feelings in intricate detail. What's being described will be thoroughly examined. For example, if you were describing roses, you might want to detail:

*Detailing*

➤ Their origin

*padma* *আরেকো নদী আরেকো ফেরা*

➤ Their appearance

*Bridge*

➤ Their color

*A vision  
EEN  
project proposal  
structural details*

*5-6 page  
নোটস  
Detailing*

➤ Their fragrance

*Economic Benefits*

*কীভাবে  
হওয়া  
করার লক্ষ্য*

*কল্পনা করা  
চিন্তা*

When you write a descriptive essay, you want to involve the reader's senses and emotions.





# TYPES OF ESSAY

13-14  
3P

Most Important  
for BCS

**Expository Essays:** These types of essays will be helpful in BCS Written examination.

Expository essays compare, explore, and discuss problems. While there's a bit of a storytelling element to them, their purpose is greater than that. It's always to explain some integral concept to the reader. As such, they inform, describe, and explain.

\* ➤ When writing an expository essay, the text needs to:

➤ Be concise and easy to understand.

The Dengue  
pandemic  
সম্পর্কিত লেখালেখি:

\* ➤ Offer different views on a subject.

\* ➤ Report on a situation or event.

The Capitalism  
A tale of two cities

\* ➤ Explain something that may be difficult to understand.

It was the best of  
times, it was the worst  
of times. It was the age of  
wisdom, it was the age of  
foolishness...

Dickens.

Capitalism

Industrial revolution.



# TYPES OF ESSAY

## ❑ Expository (Essentials)-

**Identify a topic/thesis**

(choose an angle that is interesting to you)

**List facts & details**

(Include the Important & the interesting)

**Pump up ideas**

(Include reasons, examples, facts, & quotes)

**Group & organize ideas**

(Sort details into beginning, middle & end)

**Use topic-related words**

(Sound like an expert with vocabulary terms)

**Describe examples**

(Use precise nouns & verbs to explain ideas)

# TYPES OF ESSAY

221 BIBM

parents should not be in the charge of children's future.

GPRC  
Maguosh

**Argumentative Essays:** In exams, often we are asked whether we agree to a certain statement. In these cases, an argumentative essay may come handy.

F | A  
Everyone has diff potentials | In puberty, children can get derailed

➤ In an argumentative essay, the writer is trying to convince the reader of something. He or she will demonstrate the validity or falsity of a topic. The writer's position will be backed up with evidence, including statistics or the opinion of experts. In these essays, the writer isn't merely offering an opinion, but making an argument for or against something, and supporting that argument with data.

1st para (2) side  
imposing anything can harm burgeoning  
Guidance is necessary

➤ To write an argumentative essay, it's important to research and back up what you say in the text.

1  
2  
3 4  
must  
peer pressure can result negatively in outcome



# TYPES OF ESSAY

## ➔ Argumentative Essay VS Expository Essay--

Argumentative Essay ✓	Expository Essay ✓
Chooses a position for or against something	Explores many angles of a topic in a neutral way
Written in the first person	Written in the third person
The thesis statement presents the writer's argument	The thesis statement presents the writer's topic
Subjective	Objective



# ESSAY WRITING

*Question - 1 hour*  
*5 min*

## ➔ The Essay Writing Process--

❑ If you're writing an essay, research paper, term paper, novel, short story, poem, screenplay, blog article about essay writing—when writing just about anything, really—it's crucial to follow an efficient writing process. Even if you prefer the stream of consciousness style for writing your rough draft, you still need to have an orderly system that allows you to revise and hone.

❑ For essay writing, we recommend the standard five-step writing process:

1. **Brainstorming**: It always helps to collect your thoughts before you begin writing. Based on your prompt or thesis, try to generate as many ideas as possible to include in your essay. Think of as many as time allows, knowing that you'll be able to set aside the ideas that don't work later.



# ESSAY WRITING

*to be written*

2. **Preparing:** The preparation phase consists of both outlining your essay and collecting resources for evidence. Take a look at the results of your brainstorming session. First, isolate the ideas that are essential to support your thesis and then organize them in a logical and progressive order. In this stage you'll incorporate your essay structure, which we explain below. If you want empirical evidence or complementary citations, track them down now.

3. **Drafting:** This is the main stage of essay writing where you roll up your sleeves and actually write the first draft. Remember that everything doesn't have to be perfect; this is your first draft, not your final draft, so give yourself the freedom to make errors. If you're focusing on getting every single word right, you'll miss the big picture.



# ESSAY WRITING

**4. Revising:** The revisions stage involves your second draft, your third draft, or even your twelfth draft if necessary. Address all the nuances and subtleties you glossed over in the first draft.

**5. Proofreading:** When all the heavy-duty revisions are finished, it's time for the final polish. Go through your essay and correct misspellings, formatting issues, or grammatical errors.



# USING LINKERS IN ESSAY WRITING

➔ Listed below are some of the important linkers. Let us now learn them.

Type Of Linker	Examples	Broad Meaning	Example
Cause And Effect	because, so, accordingly, thus, consequently, hence, therefore, as	introduces a reason and shows result	We had to wait <b>because</b> , it was raining.
Comparison	similarly, likewise, whereas, but, on the other hand, except, by comparison, when compared to, equally, in the same way	identifies similarities between two ideas	Life is difficult in extreme polls; <b>similarly</b> , it is horrible near the Equatorial regions.
Contrast	but, however, yet, still, even though, nevertheless, on the other hand, otherwise, after all, for all of that, on the contrary, notwithstanding, in contrast, unlike, whereas, instead of, alternatively, although	identifies differences between two ideas	Raj did not perform well in the exam; <b>nevertheless</b> , he got a distinction in English.
Time	at once, immediately, meanwhile, at length, in the meantime, at the same time, in the end, when, then, as, before that, after that	indicates time and frequency of events	The bell rang and the students left <b>immediately</b> .



# USING LINKERS IN ESSAY WRITING

<b>Addition</b>	and, also, even, again, moreover, further, furthermore, similarly, in addition, as well as	adds ideas in support of the main idea	It is very hot today; <b>moreover</b> , there is a power outage.
<b>Example</b>	for example, such as, for instance, in this case, in another case, on this occasion, in this situation, in this manner, to illustrate	introduces illustrations in support of the main idea	I think he is very rich; <b>for example</b> , he gave a hundred rupee note to a beggar.
<b>Sequence</b>	first, second, third, next, then, following, now, at this point, after, after this, subsequently, eventually, finally, previously	shows the importance of the ideas by listing according to the priority	There is a students' procession today; <b>therefore</b> , they diverted the traffic.
<b>Summary</b>	in brief, on the whole, in sum, to sum up, thus	draws conclusion by summarizing the ideas	It is a love story, the actors performed well, the direction is excellent, the settings are beautiful; <b>in brief</b> , it is a good film.



# USING LINKERS IN ESSAY WRITING

➔ Let us look at the linkers used in our model paragraph--

মানস ~~লিঙ্ক~~ subjective | objective

❖ **The Human Body:** The human body is a wonderful piece of work that nature has created. It is not beautiful like the body of a butterfly or a peacock **but** it is shaped practically. It can do many types of work which other animals cannot. It is not strong like the body of a tiger. **But** in place of physical strength it has a big and sharp brain. By using this brain the human physique has been able to overcome many of its limitations. By sitting in an aero plane it flies faster than a kite, by riding a motorcycle it travels faster than a leopard, and by firing a machine gun it fights much better than a tiger. **In spite of all** this, the human body suffers from many diseases because it has a weakness for habits **such as** smoking, drinking and overeating. When it is healthy the body can give great pleasure **but** when it is sick it can cause great pain. The wise man would always keep his body fit **because** a healthy mind can work only in a healthy body.

Cox's Bazar — ocean paradise  
sea view — Bathing  
Jacuzzi  
obj — ৷৷৷৷  
feel  
sub ↓

➔ Some of the linkers in the paragraph are **but, in spite of, such as, when, because.**

- **But** is a linker that speaks of the contrast of beauty and strength between animals and the human body.
- **In spite of** is also a linker that contrasts the strength of the human body with its weaknesses.
- **Such as** is a linker that illustrates the weaknesses of human body by naming them.
- **When** is a time linker that tells us what happens at the time the body is healthy or sick.
- **Because** is a linker that states the reason for keeping the body fit and healthy.





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## E-governance in Bangladesh

**Introduction:** E-governance is easy governance, effective governance, and also economic governance. E-governance paves the way for good governance. From the dawn of micro-electronics revaluation, E-governance has become a favorable issue almost all over the world. E-governance increases the transparency of the government and strengthens the relationship between the mass people and the government. Electronic governance gives access to government activities to the people for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week without waiting in queues at government offices.

**Good Governance:** In a general sense, good governance means an ideal governing system that is inevitable for political, economic, social and cultural development of a country. An ideal governing system means the ideal orientation of a state that works best to achieve self-reliance, sustainable development and social justice and the ideal functioning of government that operates most efficiently. The true test of “good” governance is the degree to which it delivers on the promise of human rights: civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

**E-governance:** E-governance means electronic governance which is the integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in all the processes, with the aim of enhancing government’s ability to address the needs of the general public. The basic purpose of E-governance is to simplify processes for all, i.e., government, citizens and so on at national, state and local levels. In short, it is the use of electronic means to promote good governance.



## Types of Interactions in E-governance

- a) **G2C (Government to Citizen):** This is the communication process of individual citizens with the government. Payment of utility bills such as electric bill payment system using mobile phone is a common example of G2C.
- b) **G2B (Government to Business):** This is the interaction between central government and the commercial business sector to get the businesses information. The Most common example of G2B is the corporate tax paying system to the government using National Board of Revenue website or applying for a trade license from the government to run the business.
- c) **G2G (Government to Government):** This is the non-commercial interaction between government organizations, departments and authorities and other government organizations, departments and authorities. The example of G2G may be a request of allocation of budget by any department of the government. For example, city corporation yearly budget depends on central government.
- d) **G2E (Government to Employee):** The Government to Employee is the internal part of G2G sector. G2E provides online facilities to employees. Likewise, applying for leave, reviewing salary payment records. The G2E sector provides human resource training and development. So, G2E is also the relationship between employees, government institutions and their management.

**Importance of E-governance in Good Governance:** Government in a democratic setting is an administration that uses public resources to work for and satisfy the needs of citizens. Governance entails proper management resources and the citizens for common good. To achieve that, many governments have come up with E-governance system. This e- government system has a whole lot of benefits for the municipalities and the citizens.



# ESSAY

Some of the benefits of E-governance are as follows:

- 1. Inclusive Governance:** E-governance helps in building trust between governments and citizens. It is an essential factor in good government by using internet-based strategies to involve citizens in the policy process, illustrating governance transparency and accountability.
- 2. Easy and Quick Implementation:** With e-government, paperwork has been made so simple and intuitive. It facilitates sharing of information and ideas between all government agencies and department to build one mega data base. Getting the government decisions and policies across to the citizens is easy as well, since e-government gives every citizen access to information.
- 3. High Level of Trust on Government:** For any government to survive or maintain or keep control of power, such government must win the trust of the majority of the citizens. E-government can always afford that for any government that embraces it.
- 4. Running a Government:** E-government is very cost effective. Let's take for example that government wants to seek a public opinion on an issue, with e-government system it can take a survey and the opinion very fast at extremely low cost. It is obvious that implementation of e-government not only saves resources, effort and money but also it can extensively increase service quality levels and reduce time spent in government departments.
- 5. Building strong and effective information:** Citizens can take benefit of E-governance project for getting effective information effectively and very easily. Information chain can be very much effective using E-governance projects. Most of the data like statistics, personal records, general information regarding any city we can find easily by filing application on Internet / web site.



# ESSAY

- ✓ **6. Fast and convenient service to citizens:** E-governance is the way to provide information very fast and effectively to the citizens. So, citizens can apply online to get information via e-mail or web portal developed by the government and he/she can get documents easily in electronic form or hard copy as per the request.
- ✓ **7. Effective utilization of resources:** Resource utilization can be higher in E-governance because, we can compute a number of computations using computer or can provide different types of data using online query system.
- ✓ **8. Integration of communities:** Using E-governance we can integrate each department with each other and can get advantage of the integration. This kind of integration is implemented in the ERP system, and we all know that ERP system provides so many analyses and reports.
- ✓ **9. Reduction in delays, red tape and corruption:** E-governance leads to a transformation in work process and service delivery, lower transaction costs with improvement in transparency and accountability. So, E-governance reduces the delay, quickens the procedures and reduces the corruption through transparency.
- ✓ **Bangladesh and E-governance:** The slogan of 'Digital Bangladesh' of the Government of Bangladesh has special significance for E-governance for national development. Digital Bangladesh with 'vision-2041', is a big impetus for the use of digital technology for E-governance in the country. In spite of several obstacles and limitations, works are in progress for realization of E-governance in all areas of administration. Many e-government projects have already been completed and a big number of projects are in progress.

# E-Governance of Bangladesh

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- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

## 1. Intro

## 2. What is E-Gov

## 3. How

4 a)

~~B~~. b)

c)

## 5. Conclusion



# ESSAY

A few examples of available digital services are,

- ✓ Registration for admission to academic institutions, result publication, job application etc.
- ✓ Registration of pilgrimage, filling out official forms.
- ✓ Online submission of tax returns and online tendering.
- ✓ Online banking systems and Financial Technology.
- ✓ SMS services for lodging complaints to police stations.
- ✓ Online bill payments for utility services.
- ✓ Instant communication with persons working abroad and E-passports.
- ✓ Telemedicine services, videoconferencing for the treatment of diseases.
- ✓ Videoconferencing for administrative activities are examples of e-services available to rural Bangladesh.
- ✓ Setting up of nearly five thousand Union Information Service Centers is a great boost for Digital Bangladesh, especially for rural areas.

**Challenges for the implementation of E-governance project:** Implementation of e-government projects can be useful to many people and organizations to get useful government documents. Statistics on the fly can help to improve living standard of the people. However, in Bangladesh most of the government offices still use older method like paper to store documents, so it is a little difficult to implement it and moreover the following factors are challenges for government.

**1. Low literacy:** Literacy is the ability to read and write with understanding in any language. A person who can only read but cannot write is not classified as literate. The literacy level of Bangladesh is 75.2% where woman is 72.9% and male is 77.4%.



# ESSAY

**2. Low per capita income:** Per capita income is the numerical quotient of national production by population, in monetary terms. It is a measure of the monetized production per person. Per capita income of Bangladesh is 2824.

**3. Limited financial Resource:** The gross domestic product is one of the primary indicators to gauge health of a country's economy. It represents the total dollar value of all goods and services produced over a specific time period.

**4. Lack of Human Resource in government department:** In our government offices we have shortage of staff. Lack of skills and capacities of the staff for the implementation of electronic governance which required IT literacy and intermediate knowledge of information and communication technology.

**5. Lack of Awareness/Training:** Knowledge and training are other challenges of E-government implementation. Before implementation of any program, training should be given to each and every staff of the department and also training is required for all citizens of the country for the awareness of the system.

**Conclusion:** E-governance is playing an increasingly important role in modern governance. It is representative of a nation's maturity and effectiveness. It is also the visible effective tool for modernization and transparency of the government. E-governance can be used as a tool for solving age-old problems of poverty, official corruption, poor governance and sluggish economic growth. The developing countries have been able to get benefit greatly from the widespread area of E-governance using ICT. On the other hand, many least developing countries have only begun to implement E-governance. Bangladesh has started to move towards E-governance in a comprehensive way. This transition toward E-governance should be accelerated as it is part of a global movement.



## RMG and Economic Development of Bangladesh

**Prelude:** The Readymade Garments (RMG) sector in Bangladesh is a vital part of the country's economy. Bangladesh is the second-largest exporter of apparel products in the world, with the RMG sector contributing significantly to the country's GDP and employment. The industry started in the 1970s, and since then, it has grown rapidly, primarily due to low labour costs and a large workforce. The RMG sector is dominated by small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), with more than 4,500 factories employing approximately 4 million workers, mostly women.

**RMG:** RMG can be defined as the item or product that is ready to use directly after the factory. Elaborately speaking, if any wearable item is stitched and finished in an industrial environment (rather than typically hand-stitched) is said RMG products. The factories that made these kinds of RMG products are said RMG factories and the workers working on them are RMG workers. Here RMG includes shirt, trousers, t-shirt, woven products, knitwear cloths etc.

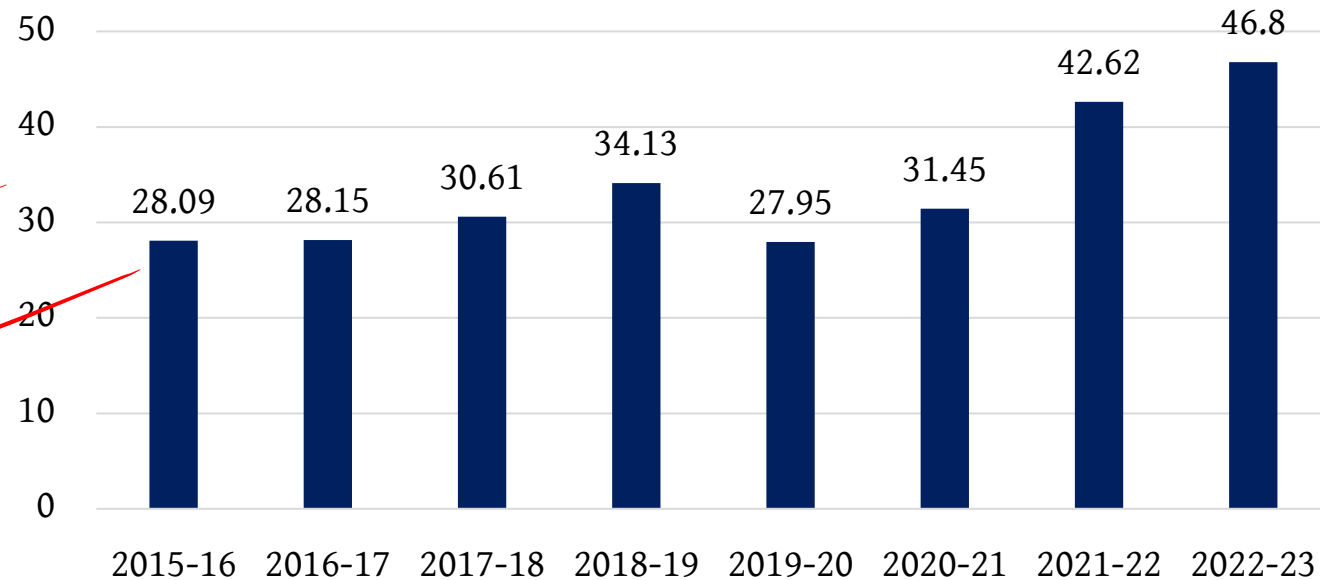
**The Evolution of the RMG Sector in Bangladesh:** After its independence in 1971, Bangladesh was one of the poorest countries in the world. No major industries were developed in Bangladesh when it was known as East Pakistan due to the discriminatory attitude and policies of the government of then-West Pakistan. So, rebuilding the war-ravaged country with limited resources appeared to be the biggest challenge for us. The industry that has been making a crucial contribution to rebuilding the country and its economy is none other than the readymade garments (RMG) industry which is now the single biggest export earner for Bangladesh. The sector accounts for 83% of the total export earnings of the country.



# ESSAY

The apparel industry of Bangladesh started its journey in the 1980s and has come to its present position. The late Nurool Quader Khan was the pioneer of the readymade garment industry in Bangladesh. He had a vision of how to transform the country. In 1978, he sent 130 trainees to South Korea where they learned how to produce readymade garments. Following their footsteps, other prudent and hard-working entrepreneurs started RMG factories in the country. Since the early days, different sources of impetus have contributed to the development and maturity of the industry at various stages. We learned about child labor in 1994 and successfully made the industry free from child labor in 1995.

RMG Exports in \$ Billions



*BRANDS & ITS  
Future*



# ESSAY

**Reasons behind the RMG growth:** In the '80s, developed countries started to outsource RMG products to developing countries due to their cheap price and helping these countries to flourish their economy. As a result, Bangladesh and a few countries from Southeast Asia got a big market in the EU and USA. There are several reasons besides this for the growth of RMG in Bangladesh

- ✓ **Low Labor Cost:** Bangladesh is a developing nation, thus labor expenses in any manufacturing or industrial sector are cheaper. Bangladesh has a sizable workforce, particularly among the unskilled. You may get Bangladeshi clothing at a competitive price because of the cheap cost of manufacture. As a result, despite having a sizable capability for the manufacture of clothing, Bangladesh as established itself in a market that is competitive with countries like China, Vietnam, and India. One of the main causes for why foreign merchants like importing goods from Bangladesh is this.
- ✓ **Low Investment Cost:** Foreign purchasers provided several benefits to the nation's RMG industry, including marketing and technological support. For instance, they assist Bangladeshi exporters with their working capital problems by offering back-to-back LC, or Letter of Credit, services. This allows exporters to set up factories in the nation with little upfront investment. Yet, Bangladeshi business people are also interested since marketing is handled by foreign customers, and the apparel sector is low-tech and requires little capital.
- ✓ **Free Trade Agreement:** From 1974 to 2004, the World Trade Organization's Global Trade Agreement or Multi-Fiber Agreement (MFA) boosted the growth of the RMG industry in Bangladesh. According to the MFA agreement, the number of garments that developing countries can export to western developed countries is determined by quota.



# ESSAY

**Challenges for the RMG Sector in Bangladesh:** The Tazreen fire and the Rana Plaza collapse, two significant events in Bangladesh's RMG industry, have highlighted the importance of worker safety and prompted all relevant parties to take appropriate action. However, the formation of numerous platforms like the Bangladesh Accord on Fire and Building Safety, the Alliance for Bangladesh Worker Safety, and the National Plan of Action in response to the regrettable incidents, which aim to enhance the building and fire safety of Bangladesh's garment industry, is good news for the RMG sector. Moreover, BGMEA and BKMEA are collaborating here to find solutions to these types of issues. They have also invested a significant sum of money and completed the appropriate steps.

The Bangladeshi government has a big obligation to guarantee workplace safety in all the factories that make clothes. Foreign purchasers won't place orders here if we can't, which will be huge damage to Bangladesh's RMG industry. We believe that the Bangladeshi government, BGMEA, and BKMEA will be able to protect the RMG industry and keep the country's socio-economic growth moving forward with the help of major global brands and international development partners.

The Bangladeshi RMG industry is negatively impacted by political stability. If it persists, it will be a huge blow to eliminate our most important industry. Thus, political leaders should act quickly to address these issues.

**Future of the sector:** During a period of extreme uncertainty brought on by the worldwide pandemic, the future appears bright for Bangladesh's RMG industry. The most recent statistics on garment exports reveal that Bangladesh established a new record for exports of apparel in the year 2022 despite the coronavirus epidemic and worldwide lockdowns in important markets.



# ESSAY

Bangladesh exported clothing worth USD 3.8 billion in December 2022, bringing the total amount shipped annually to USD 42.62 billion. The previous record of USD 31.45 billion, which was achieved in 2021, was surpassed by USD 11.17 billion with this amount. Bangladesh RMG exporters' remarkable ability to recover from the economic tsunami of 2020 is a testament to their persistence, adaptability, and creativity. These qualities will be crucial in the coming years as the RMG industry tries to innovate and adapt to changing consumer needs and a larger social change toward more ethically and sustainably produced goods.

**To achieve more potential:** RMG producers must, first and foremost, have a longer-term perspective plan and spend more on R&D and emerging markets like technical textiles. Garment manufacturers will be able to command a bigger price premium and be in a stronger negotiating position with fashion customers if they invest in higher-value sectors with more specialized products. This is Bangladesh's natural next step after witnessing other nations, most notably China, move into higher-added-value textile manufacture. As a result, the RMG sector will be able to contribute more to the GDP and living standards. The second area to consider is speed and agility. Faster, faster, faster is the mantra in our industry right now. The move to digital purchasing, which is progressing at lightning speed and has increased due to lockdowns means fashion buyers are looking for increased speed and agility from their garment makers.

**Conclusion:** It's a prime duty for us to provide a perfect working place for the readymade garments sector of Bangladesh which has given our economy a strong footing, created jobs for millions of people, especially for women. Lifted them from the abyss of chronic poverty and given them a magnificent life. That's why the government, garments manufactures and other industry participants need to work together to overcome the challenges facing our readymade garments industry.



# ESSAY

## Universal Pension and Bangladesh

**Prelude:** “This freedom will become true freedom for me only when all the miseries of the peasants-laborer’s and poor people of Bengal will end.”

-- Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina wants to make Bangladesh an economically prosperous country in 2041 by adopting the ideals of Bangabandhu. Following China's 'universal pension model', Bangladesh also wants to implement 'universal pension'. Bangladesh government is going to start the 'universal pension' system from the financial year 2022-23 to ensure the financial security of the senior citizens of all categories.

**Pension and Public Pension:** The allowance that a government employee receives on a monthly basis at the end of his service life is known as pension. Some money is set aside in a fund while a person is employed and from that fund the assistance is paid after the person retires. The condition for getting pension is that the person has to complete a certain period of service as per the government rules. On the other hand, the universal pension system is to bring almost all the working citizens of the country into the pension system except the government employees. Here basically the government wants to bring all the citizens of the country under the pension subject to various conditions through the legal framework.



# ESSAY

**Universal Pension Act:** The National Parliament has already passed the “Universal Pension Management Bill 2023” to bring citizens aged 18 to 50 years under pension. Through this, after the age of 60 years, the individual can enjoy pension benefits for life. According to Finance Minister A.H.M. Mustafa Kamal, "All adults in the country will be covered by universal pension within the next one year."

**What is in the Universal Pension Act:** As the population at all levels of the country, especially the growing elderly population due to the increase in average life expectancy, it is necessary to cover a sustainable and well-organized social safety net. And for this purpose, the government has adopted the 'Universal Pension Management Act 2023'. All that is contained in this Act-

- ✓ On completion of 60 years of age by a contributor participating in a public pension scheme at fixed rates, a pension will be paid to his nominee at a fixed monthly rate for a fixed period of time on account of death.
- ✓ Constitution and functions of the Board of Directors.
- ✓ Formation of National Pension Authority Fund.
- ✓ Borrowing power of members.
- ✓ Establishment of National Pension Authority.
- ✓ How public pension management will be monitored and evaluated.
- ✓ Publication of Annual Report of the Authority.
- ✓ Accounting and auditing of funds.

**Establishment of National Pension Authority:** A National Pension Authority shall be established under the 'Universal Pension Management Act 2023', to be called 'National Pension Authority'. This authority shall have a permanent seal.



# ESSAY

**Powers:** Only the National Pension Authority shall have the power to acquire, hold or transfer the immovable or immovable property of the fund and may file suit in its own name and be sued against it.

**Responsibilities of the Pension Authority:** The responsibilities of the Pension Authority are mentioned in the 'Universal Pension Act 2023'-

- ✓ Implementation of universal pension system, ensuring proper management and development.
- ✓ Protection of the interests of its contributors under the universal pension system.
- ✓ Adoption of public pension scheme, eligibility to join the scheme, determination of conditions, approval, administration and regulation of the scheme.
- ✓ Ensuring the protection of the money deposited by the contributors in the pension scheme.
- ✓ To work towards settlement of grievances of contributors and ensuring redressal.

**Constitution of National Pension Authority Fund:** The Authority shall have a fund called 'National Pension Authority Fund' and shall be credited with the following amounts.

- ✓ Grants given by Govt.
- ✓ Fees and charges leviable under this Act.
- ✓ Amount received for services rendered by the authority.
- ✓ Loan taken with prior approval of Govt.
- ✓ Money received from any other source.

These amounts will be deposited in a scheduled bank in the name of the authority. The money will be withdrawn from the fund in the manner prescribed by the authority.



# ESSAY

**Universal Pension Management:** Article 14 of the 'Universal Pension Management Act 2023' deals with the universal pension management. Namely:

1. All citizens aged 18-50 years can participate in the universal pension scheme under the universal pension management based on the national identity card. However, citizens above the age of 50 can also participate in the universal pension scheme under special consideration.
2. A contributor will be eligible for monthly pension subject to continuous contribution of at least 10 years and the pension will be paid against the accumulated profits of the pension fund on completion of 60 years of the contributor's age.
3. Bangladeshi workers working abroad can be included in this program in the prescribed manner.
4. Enrollment in the public pension system will initially be voluntary until the government issues a notification making it mandatory.
5. There shall be a separate and distinct pension account for each contributor, governed by rules.
6. Even if employed contributors change jobs, the previous account will be transferred against the new workplace, there is no need to open a new account.
7. The minimum rate of subscription will be fixed by the authority.
8. Subscriptions can be paid on a monthly or quarterly basis and there is an option to deposit money in advance or in installments.
9. In case of delay in payment of monthly contribution, the pension account can be kept active by paying the arrears along with the late fee and the said late fee will be credited to the contributor.



# ESSAY

10. Pensioners will enjoy pension benefits for life i.e. till death.
11. In case of death while on pension, the pensioner's nominee will receive monthly pension for the remainder of the period (75 years of the original pensioner).
12. If the contributor dies at least 10 years before the contribution is made, the deposited amount will be returned to his nominee along with the profit.
13. If the amount deposited in the pension fund needs to be withdrawn at any stage, maximum 50% of the amount can be withdrawn as a loan based on the application of the contributor. which will be deposited as the subscriber's own.
14. The monthly subscription will be income tax free.
15. Subject to notification issued by the Government from time to time, the Government may grant a portion of the monthly contribution to the Pension Fund in the case of citizens below the lower income limit or insolvent contributors.

**Requirement of Universal Pension:** “Right to social security, that is to say, to public assistance in cases of undeserved want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by widows or orphans or in old age, or in other such cases.” –

[Article 15(d), Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.]

Bangladesh entered the demographic dividend in 2012 which will last till 2041. At present, the average life expectancy of the people of Bangladesh has increased due to these reasons, it is necessary to bring the growing elderly population under a sustainable and well-organized social safety net.



# ESSAY

- **Financial Security:** Every citizen wants security during retirement. And the most important of security is economic security. The government has introduced universal pension system to ensure this security. Every citizen will get financial security from the public pension fund during his retirement life.
- **Improving the standard of living:** Raising the standard of living of people based on economic empowerment. Being a developing country, 80 percent of people are lower and middle income. Government needs more funds to ensure all basic human rights including security of these people. The government will be able to increase the quality of life of this 80 percent population through this universal pension fund.
- **Increase in investment:** The government invests the money collected from the public pension fund in various productive activities to increase production as well as proper utilization of idle money.
- **Proper use of resources:** It is possible to meet our own needs by avoiding foreign loans such as IMF, World Bank, ADB loans given by developed countries. A public pension system can put your money to good use rather than leaving it idle.
- **Improving the quality of marginalized communities:** The government will also use the funds to improve the quality of the poor, disabled, deprived communities of the country. As a result, the poverty rate of the country will decrease and the quality of life of marginalized people will also improve.

**Challenges of Universal Pension Scheme:** Implementation of a universal pension scheme may be quite difficult in the current economic situation prevailing in the country due to COVID-19 and Russia-Ukraine war.



# ESSAY

Challenges to be faced in implementation of Universal Pension System –

- ✓ Ensuring the formation and functioning of the Public Pension Authority.
- ✓ Ensuring proper utilization of public pension funds.
- ✓ This fund should not be used through political interference and corruption.
- ✓ Investing, making sure that the money invested can be withdrawn with profit.
- ✓ Establishing a foundation of trust between members and authorities.
- ✓ Ensuring transparency and accountability.
- ✓ To bring all citizens under the institutional banking system.

**Suggestion:** Recommendations that can be made by observing the views of economic analysts and civil society –

- ✓ Bringing the entire system to a digital platform to ensure transparency and accountability.
- ✓ To oversee that those who will be on the Board of Directors can take sound investment decisions of the fund.
- ✓ Universal pension system should be a citizen's right. The state will be obliged to observe the right.
- ✓ Integrating pension with tax system will increase the number of tax payers in the country and also increase the revenue of the government.
- ✓ Care should be taken to ensure that every citizen i.e. poor, government, private employees get equal status.

**Conclusion:** Above all, there will be challenges in raising funds as well as implementing them. However, I think that the government will be able to implement it properly through proper management and legislation. And for this, the role of citizens, civil society and financial institutions is needed along with the government. Hopefully, if this is confirmed, Bangladesh will be able to deliver the 'universal pension system' like China to all and every citizen of the country will be able to enjoy its benefits.

BCS কঠিন নয়;  
প্রস্তুতি যদি গোছানো হয়

Rohingya  
essay

Paroa  
Geopolitics

# ৪৫তম বিমিএম নির্ধিত ফুন্স কোর্স

## ENGLISH

Lecture: 16

Topic:

Essay Writing-03: Synthesis Essay, Documented Essay, Avoiding Plagiarism, Common Mistakes in Writing, Theoretical & Thematic Issues, Contemporary National & International Issues, Written Hacks, Final Suggestions from Expert.

IPS QUAD GT-20  
France Adrian Context  
1-2  
4th written  
Dengue, SMART BD  
Ukraine  
Russia War!



➔ A synthesis essay is a type of essay that gathers information from a variety of sources to form a new idea, question, or argumentative thesis. Writers composing a synthesis essay will discuss ideas, data, and evidence from a series of sources to either explain or argue something original.

## How To Write A Synthesis Essay

### THESIS

Develop a thesis and support it with an evidence

### SOURCES

You need to have at least three real sources

### BACKGROUND

Don't rely on sources. Use your own observations, experience and knowledge

### ESSENTIALS

By and large, a synthesis essay is a compare/contrast essay, but more critical

### PURPOSE

The ideas have to be pulled together to create a new whole rather than broken down in parts for analysis

*NAM Liberal Democracy*


*BRIEF*

*Quote Question Opinion*

*Diplomatic Shift of BD*



# SYNTHESIS ESSAY



## MEAL APPROACH TO WRITING A SYNTHESIS ESSAY

**Main Idea:** Present an agreement and state what you think about the issue in general.

**Evidence:** Use quotes from the credible sources to support your major claim.

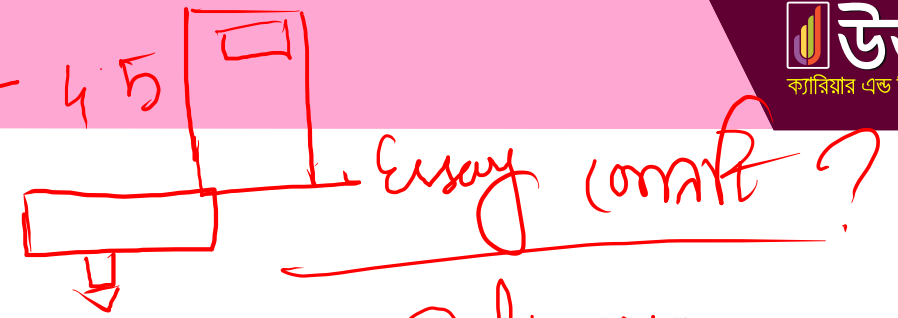
**Analysis:** Explain to the readers how the provided evidence supports the argument.

**Link Back:** In the end, point back to the major claim of your piece.



# FEW TIPS

- ➔ Use last 1 hour of examination for essay writing.
- ➔ Do not panic if you find uncommon essay.
- ➔ Start drafting the points of your essay first.
- ➔ Choose essay wisely.
- ➔ Try to choose informative essays.
- ➔ Use graphs, charts, Maps, Quotations for your essay.
- ➔ Try to mention source of your chart's information.
- ➔ Be careful about the timing.



Rohingya

Democracy

সংস্টি যোগ্য হওয়া

সংস্টি  
সংস্টি

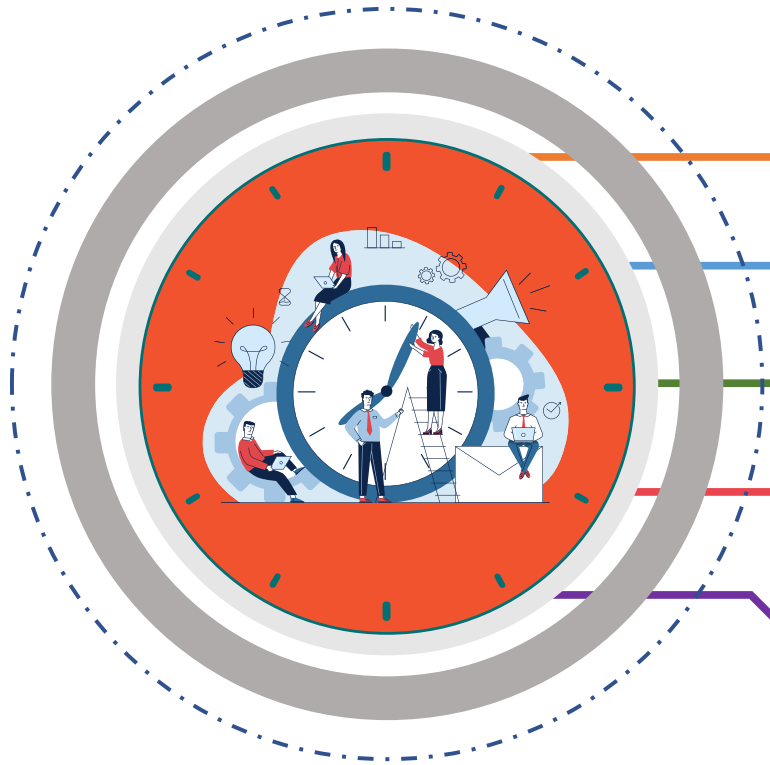
SDG  
17th Goal

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.



# TIME MANAGEMENT

৬  
সময়সূচী



01

Comprehension: 75 min

02

Summary: 15 min

03

Letter: 30 min

04

Both the translations: 60 min

05

Essay: 60 min



# SOME SUGGESTIONS

- Read English newspapers ; especially the editorial part daily.
- Practice a comprehension daily if you are weak in English.
- Enhance your vocabulary. Learn new words and use them in sentences.
- Practice Translations. Translate from articles of newspapers.
- Time management is a must.
- Note down the formats of different kinds of letters.
- Focus on grammar; especially the parts of speech.



## SOME SUGGESTIONS

- ➔ In the case of translation, place more emphasis on abstract translation (transliteration), not on literal translation.
- ➔ Use simple words (for both English and Bengali translations)
- ➔ If you do not understand a sentence at all, try to match the surrounding sentences later.
- ➔ If you still have difficulty understanding, leave the sentence. But refrain from misinterpreting
- ➔ Make it a habit to translate the editorial part of the magazine.
- ➔ Make a note of some new words separately and try to use them in sentences.
- ➔ Practicing Translation regularly is important.



## The Role of Remittance in the Economy of Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, remittance is one of the most important economic variables in recent times as it impacts economic growth, helps the balance of payments, increases foreign exchange reserves, enhances national savings, and increases the velocity of money. For about two decades, Remittance has contributed around 35% of export earnings. Moreover, it is greater than foreign aid and thus helps in lessening dependence on foreign aid remittance gets momentum in recent times in Bangladesh and is the second largest sector of foreign currency earnings after the garments sector.

**Remittance:** It is a non-commercial transfer of money by a foreign worker or a citizen with familial ties abroad, for household income in their home country or homeland. Any payment of an invoice or a bill that is sent from abroad to a country can be called a remittance. However, the term is most often used nowadays to describe a sum of money sent by someone working abroad to their family back home.

According to IMF “When migrants send home part of their earnings in the form of either cash or goods to support their families, these transfers are known as workers or migrants’ remittances”

**How it works:** The most common way of making a remittance is by using an electronic payment system through a bank or an electronic money transfer service. People who use these options are generally charged a fee. Transfers can take as little as ten minutes to reach the recipient. For Bangladesh, foreign workers after collecting their payment send the money via a legit banking system approved by the government of Bangladesh. There are two ways a foreign worker can send their money to Bangladesh; one is the formal way which is through the permitted Bank and money transfer media and the other one is informal; it is said Hundi. In Bangladesh, the informal way Hundi is not legal, yet it gained popularity due to ease of access and the hustle in the legit process.



# ESSAY

**Remittance and economic growth:** In the modern era, remittance has appeared as a significant driving force of development for most of the developing countries creating employment opportunities. It supports a nation prominently to increase its national income and to alleviate poverty. Remittance is both positively and negatively related to the economic growth of developing countries like Bangladesh. At the aggregate level, the inflow of remittance affects the economic growth positively through current account deficit, increasing foreign exchange reserves, stabilizing exchange rate, improving financial market and increasing the production activities. On the other hand, the inflow of remittance has positive impact on economic growth in terms of consumption; savings and investment at disaggregate level. Even it can also reduce domestic macroeconomic volatility thereby encouraging greater domestic investment. Remittance increases educational spending. Remittance has a positive impact on growth due to increasing saving rate. Remittance has a direct impact on the Bangladesh. The increasing flow of remittance to Bangladesh contributes to rapid growth of its economy, creates income opportunities, provides better living condition and facilitates infrastructural development. The last four fiscal year's inflow of remittance of Bangladesh from 63 countries across the world is as follows:

Fiscal Year	In million US Dollar	In crore Taka
2018-19	16419.63	1380.07
2019-20	18205.01	1583.52
2020-21	24777.71	2101.31
2021-22	21031.68	1815.8

[Source: Bangladesh Bank - 2022, (Updated till July, 2022)]



# ESSAY

**Current Situation:** Professor Mustafizur Rahman, a distinguished fellow of the Centre for Policy Dialogue, said remittance has been playing a big role in boosting non-agricultural activities for the past few decades. As per a study by the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS), styled “Cost of Migration Survey: Bangladesh 2020”, about 62 percent of the 2.7 million workers that went abroad between 2015 and 2018 hailed from rural areas. Meanwhile, the national statistical agency’s “Household Income and Expenditure Survey-2016” published in 2019 says about 68.44 percent of the remittance received by rural families is used to meet basic need while 27.98 percent is invested in various ventures.

**The problems in sending remittance:** Only 51% of the remittances that come to Bangladesh comes through formal and legal ways. And the rest, 49% of the remittances, come through hundi according to the finance minister. Regardless, Banks have recently begun offering a 2.5% interest rate on money transfers from abroad. But hundi is more lucrative and convenient than the banking system. Here’s why-

➤ **Convenience of Hundi:** Hundi is more convenient and faster than formal banking. Population and Housing Census 2022 says that 25.34% Bangladeshis are illiterate and the scenario is worst in the rural setting. According to census 28.44% rural people illiterate. They don't even know how to write and sign. Doing transactions through banking is a complicated task for them because there are so many papers and formalities involved which might take days. Bankers ask many questions while withdrawing money. In hundi, on the other hand, there are significantly fewer procedures. The entire process can be completed within a day. And hundi is safe for transferring money for them.



# ESSAY

- **The difference in exchange rates:** The local market and the bank's exchange rates are not the same. For example, in Bangladesh Bank, the current exchange rate is around Tk105 whereas the local banks are exchanging dollars for Tk95, and the korb market sells it above Tk105 per dollar currently. For this, if a particular person sends \$100 from abroad in the banking channel, that \$100 will be exchanged with Tk9,700. With 2.5% interest added, the amount will be Tk9,942. After the fees are charged, the amount will stand at Tk9,900. But if someone sends the money through hundi, the receiver will get Tk10,500 because of the currency exchange rates. The hundi system exchanges currencies according to the korb market. So, people prefer to transfer money through hundi rather than banks to get more money. Even though they know that it is illegal, they are using hundi because there is no proof of transaction.
- **Illegal migrants:** Many Bangladeshis are living abroad illegally. Hundi is the only way for them to transfer money. Because without having a valid visa, no one can do formal banking. Hundi, consequently, turns out to be their last resort. Besides, Bangladesh doesn't have legal banking connections in some countries such as South Africa, Iraq, Libya, etc.

## Steps to disband illegal money transfers from abroad

Remittance is important for our economy as mentioned earlier. It helps to reduce trade deficiency, increase foreign reserves and act as a money reserve for an emergency. Where are illegal ways of transferring money to the country, like hundi a toxin for the economy. Hundi allows uncontrolled wealth to pass in or pass out from the country, flourishes money laundering.



# ESSAY

Here are a few steps that can increase remittance by decreasing hundi-

- ✓ Bangladesh Bank's dollar exchange rate offer is below the market rate. As it is not adjusted based on the market, the incentive interest rate for remittance should be increased enough to balance the dollar exchange rate gap.
- ✓ The formal procedure to send remittances should be easy enough to be used by illiterate rural people and foreign workers. Any complications regarding formal paperwork should be done by an agent appointed by the government. It needed to be handier than hundi.
- ✓ Bangladesh Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) needs to take a long-term plan to disband hundi as well as money laundering because both activities are interconnected.
- ✓ Immigration system here is quite complicated for working-class people. Brokers took advantage of rural people and migrate them illegally. As a result, these illegal immigrant workers have no way to send money legally to the country. This brokery must be ended any time soon, and the remained illegal immigrant workers must be legalized any time soon. The legal framework to migrate people to foreign countries should be broad enough to stop illegal migration.

In conclusion, our covid crashed economy started to see a shine of hope due to remittances sent by our dedicated true patriot people who sacrifice their precious time for us. It is not easy to do day-labours work in the middle east where the heat of the sun is merciless or in cold Europe where the temperature is arctic. If their hardworking money is used to launder money instead of adding value to our reserve then there's no value given to their onerous efforts got no respect. They do their part of duty, sending money to the country, now it the government's turn to collect their money in a legal way.



## Blue Economy and Bangladesh

**Introduction:** The water is turned to be a new center of concentration in the sense of progress and sustainable development both at domestic and global arenas at present. Since adulteration and taint of environment is up, the same is in several ways at the climax in establishing its economic prerogatives in the ocean. The coastal countries with gigantic maritime extent discover myriad prospects not only in impacting regional politics but also in rumbling the wheel of economy. A very few nations around the globe are blessed with ocean based blue economy within their territories. The gateway of blue economy has commenced to open a new horizon for Bangladesh as soon as the verdict over maritime dispute from International Tribunal for Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and United Nation Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) has been announced in favor of Bangladesh. This maritime settlement has provided Bangladesh with the huge expansion of territorial area along the sovereignty over this maritime territory comprising more than 1,18,813 square kilometers of water including 200 nautical miles of exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and national claim in the sea bed extending to 354 nautical miles. Utilizing this vast coast, Bangladesh could be appeared in a significant position in geopolitics and can enhance capacity for extracting oil, gas and fossil fuel, hunting fish and producing renewable energy.

**History of blue economy:** Despite high level adaptation of the blue economy as a concept and as a goal of policy making and investment, there is still no widely accepted definition of the term. For some, blue economy means the use of the sea and its resources for sustainable economic development. For others, it simply refers to any economic activity in the maritime sector, whether sustainable or not.



# ESSAY

The concept of blue economy has nicely been presented by Gunter Pauli, the founder and director of Zero Emissions Research and Initiatives in his world-famous book named “The Blue Economy: 10 years- 100 innovations- 100 million jobs.” In the book, Gunter Pauli cites 200 successful projects all over the world ranging from basic needs such as potable water, food, jobs and habitable shelter to corporate strategies. Apart from this, in the summit Rio+20 held on 20-22 June in 2012 in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), the idea and importance of blue economy were explained and its base was framed strongly by coastal countries and islands. Since then, blue economy has been a revolutionary phenomenon in the economy. Ocean economy, as one of the most significant footholds of Blue Economy encompasses a wide range of activities associated with the oceans, harbors, ports, minerals, coastal zones and sea-based activities. According to United Nations “Blue economy is the ocean economy that will add to the economy of that country and will change the GDP of the state and change the life standard of the population.”

**Law of Seas:** Before 1982, no law was codified to regulate the administration of seas. In 1982, ITLOS is created and proposed some law about sea in its constitution. According to Article No. 56 of constitution of ITLOS, 12 nautical mile will be political self of the state and 200 NM will be the exclusive economic zone and 350 NM will be the continental self of the state.

**Blue economy and potentiality for Bangladesh:** Gaining a vast maritime territory which is equivalent to 80 percent of the country's original size has brought tremendous prospect for Bangladesh. Bangladesh can take full advantages of its sea borne resources like oil and gas exploration, fisheries, ship building and ship breaking, salt collecting, coastal tourism and so on.



# ESSAY

The prospect of blue economy for Bangladesh is as follows –

- **Increase in maritime transport:** Maritime transportation is essential for the world's economy as more than 70% of our planet is covered by sea and over 90% of the world's trade is carried by sea. Ocean is by far the most cost-effective way to transport goods and raw materials around the world. Because of having vast sea area, Bangladesh can earn huge amount of foreign currency by allowing ships of other countries to use its ports for carrying goods from one country to another. Chittagong port, for example handles about 1.5 million shipments annually. A lion share of it is carried by inland waterways with cheaper of cost.
- **Exploration of oil, gas and other fossil fuels:** Sea-bed is one of main sources of oil and gas. A numerous countries including Myanmar extract huge amount of gas from the sea. After the settlement of maritime boundary, Bangladesh has found potential new segment of oil and gas in the sea. Experts predict that Bangladesh has ample opportunity of extracting oil and gas from the sea. Due to close proximity to the discovered gas fields of Myanmar, some Bangladeshi blocks are likely to have comparable geological structures where gas and oil may be found. Of course, timely exploration is required to identify potential oil and gas fields. Delay in the exploration may offset the opportunity of harnessing oil and gas resources especially those located either side of maritime boundary (India and Myanmar) as whoever drills last is likely to have nothing in the basket.
- **Sources of renewable energy:** Ocean is one of the greatest sources of energy especially renewable energy. Marine based renewable energy such as wind, wave, tidal range and current offer a significant potential to environment friendly energy. Offshore wind covers all activities related to the development and construction of wind parks in marine waters. A large wind park may consist of several hundred individual wind turbines and cover an extended area of hundreds of square miles. Following the footprint of Europe, Bangladesh may set up large offshore wind parks and can produce electricity. This electricity can be used in coastal agriculture and other purposes.



# ESSAY

- **Sources of fishery:** Salty and deep water of the Bay of Bengal is the abode of 475 species of fish compared with 250 species sweet water. These fishes are the main sources of protein that provides energy to our body. A large number of wooden boats and industrial steel trawlers are engaged in fishing in the coastal waters. A considerable number of fish is salted and dried, mainly for human consumption. In a survey, it is found that 50 - 60% of global Hilsha is found in Bangladesh. Besides, the Bay of Bengal is the source of shrimp and crab which are exported to other countries, and a large amount of foreign currency is earned. Needless to say, thousands of fishermen are directly involved in catching fishes in the Bay of Bengal.
- **Port based business:** Sea-ports are such massive infrastructures that can bring about radical change in the economy of a country as these ports are used in carrying goods with cheaper of cost. Statistics reveals that economy of Bangladesh is heavily dependent on international trade where sea-ports play the key role of transporting 94% of its foreign trade. By enhancing handling capacities of ports and by constructing deep sea-port with more capabilities and modern handling equipment, Bangladesh can bring mobility in the economy.
- **Exploring minerals:** Sea-bed is the source of some minerals such as copper, magnesium, nickel, cobalt and so on. The countries having vast sea areas can explore minerals and enrich their economy. It is needless to say, after the settlement of maritime boundary, the door of exploring minerals has been open to Bangladesh.
- **Coastal tourism:** Globally, coastal tourism is the largest market segment and represents 5 percent of world GDP and contributes to 6-7 per cent of total employment. Coastal tourism encompasses a wide range of activities including beach-based recreation and tourism, tourist activities in proximity to the sea, and boating. A large number of hotels, motels, rest house and recreation Centre's have been built where thousands of people have found employment.



# ESSAY

- **Salt collection:** Collecting increasing amount of salt is one of the prospects of ocean based blue economy. Bangladesh has long been producing salt in the Cox's Bazar coast for generations. The annual salt collection of Bangladesh is 22 MT which can increase significantly if salt collectors are supported financially and with modern equipment.
- **Ship building and ship breaking:** Uninterrupted coastal stretch is required to establish a profitable ship building and ship breaking industry. As Bangladesh has both the sea coast and big river shore, it can utilize these and can earn huge amount of foreign currency by importing ships built in her dockyards. There are more than 300 shipyards and workshops in Bangladesh and almost 100% requirement of inland vessels, fast petrol boats, dredging barges, passenger vessels, tug, supply barges, deck loading barges, speed boat, troop carrying vessels and water taxi are being built in these yards. Ship building yards are constructing 10,000 DWT sea going ships for export and are expected to upgrade their capacity to 25,000 DWT. Bangladesh has already exported a number of ocean-going ships to European buyers. As Bangladesh can build ships using cheap labor, the cost of ships built in Bangladesh is much lower than those built-in other countries. As a result, European buyers are interested to buy ships from Bangladesh. According to UNTAD, 80% of the ship is breaking in Bangladesh and it enhance 25% of the foreign currency of Bangladesh.
- **Marine biotechnology:** Exploration of the sea provide ships variety of life forms including macro and microorganisms. Living marine resources have huge potential for developing new food, biochemical, pharmaceutical, cosmetics bioenergy and so on. About 18,000 natural products have been developed to date from about 4,800 marine organisms. The global market for marine biotechnology is expected to reach US \$ 6 billion by 2022. Bangladesh has huge potentiality to avail the opportunity of these living marine resources.



# ESSAY

- **Geo-political influence:** The countries surrounded by vast ocean or sea in one or two sides get privileges over those countries which lack sea or ocean. The USA, for example, is well protected because it is blessed with Atlantic Ocean. The importance of Bangladesh to her neighboring countries has risen because of the Bay of Bengal and sea ports. Besides, the superpowers of the world consider Bangladesh with importance because of tactical geographical location with the Bay of Bengal. Bangladesh has got geo-political importance to USA, India, China and Russia.

**Challenges towards Blue Economy for Bangladesh:** Though vast ocean has brought about immense prospects for Bangladesh in various sectors, the country cannot enjoy all the benefits smoothly or without facing some challenges. The challenges that Bangladesh will have to come across are as follows:

- ✓ **Maintaining sustainable ocean economy:** A sustainable ocean economy emerges when economic activity is in balance with the long-term capacity of ocean ecosystems to support this activity and remain resilient and healthy. Bangladesh will have to take some short term and long-term policy to strengthen capacity for sustainable ocean economy.
- ✓ **Ensuring security of the vast sea-area:** For a developing country like Bangladesh, ensuring security of the vast sea area is a great challenge which requires strengthening the capacity of the coast guard.
- ✓ **Ensuring sovereignty over the entire coastal area:** Although Bangladesh has 200 nautical miles exclusive economic zone (EEZ) area, it has failed to ensure sovereignty in true sense of the term for many years. After the settlement of maritime border, it is first challenge for Bangladesh to 50 establish sovereignty in the sea and derive resources without fear.



# ESSAY

- ✓ **Protecting the area from international smugglers and sea robbers:** Sea coast is the safe harbor of international smugglers, terrorist outfits and sea-robbers who pose huge threat for passenger vehicles and goods carrying ships plying in the sea and fish catching trawlers. For example, the sea-robbers of Somalia are a matter of panic for many international ships as they hijack ships and demand ransom. Very often the robbers abduct fishermen and demand ransom to return them safe and sound. To bring law and order situation under control is a challenge for poorer countries having vast coast.
- ✓ **Controlling coastal pollution:** Oil carrying vessels, ship breaking, dumping food waste from passenger carrying launches and steamers are responsible for coastal pollution. If this pollution cannot be controlled, sustainable development cannot be ensured.

**Conclusion:** The proper and actual utilization of ocean and its expensive resources have paved the path of development and prosperity of many countries around the globe. Such a glorious opportunity has been beckoning Bangladesh since the arbitration of maritime disputes against Myanmar and India. There is no doubt that Bangladesh would secure leverage from all the potential of sea-based blue economy by realizing a number of prudent and effective state policies while avoiding unnecessary red tapism and dilly dally of the policy makers.



## Mega Project and The Way of Development

We seem to be entering a new age of megaprojects. Mega projects are temporary endeavors characterized by large investment commitment, vast complexity, and long-lasting impact on the economy, environment and society. Mega projects attract a lot of public attention because of their substantial impacts on communities, the environment and budgets. A mega project must cost more than \$1 US billion. Mega projects can also be defined as "initiatives that are physically very expensive and public. A mega project greatly impacts on the socio-economic development of a country.

**Mega Project:** A mega project is an extremely large-scale investment project, It includes bridges, express-ways, infrastructure for public transport and extraction of natural resources etc.

According to the Oxford Handbook of mega project management “mega project are large-scale, complex ventures that typically cost \$1 billion or more, take many years to develop and build, involve multiple public & private stakeholders and impact millions of people.”

**Reasons of Mega Project:** Policymakers are attracted to mega projects for four reasons.

- (1) **Technological Sublime:** The engineers and technologists build the building or projects for the comfortness of the community.
- (2) **Political Sublime:** The politician is praised due to their successful completion of mega projects within due time.
- (3) **Economic Sublime:** The delight business people, trade unions and other institutions receive benefit from the mega projects.
- (4) **Aesthetic Sublime:** A good design building, structure or road map enhance the beauty of a place. For example, padma multipurpose Bridge enhance the beauty of Bangladesh.



# ESSAY

**Initiatives of Mega Projects:** The Government has given special focus on the ongoing Mega Project as it has provided for yearly required fund allocation to complete the works in due time. To develop the economic sector, the government has taken several mega projects so that it can be possible to be a middle-income country by 2021 and it can be possible to make our country digitalized. According to the Planning Commission Office, the number of the mega projects may increase in the coming years, and the implementation status of the existing project will be presented next fiscal year too. Except for the Padma Multi-purpose bridge project, all other projects are being financed by bilateral and multilateral partners such as China, Japan, the Asian Development Bank, Russia, and India.

**Mega Projects and Bangladesh:** For the completion of vision 2041 and Delta Plan 2100 Bangladesh takes several infrastructural mega projects like-

1. **Metrorail (MRT Line-6):** One of Bangladesh's dependable development partners, Japan, is helping to carry out the project. Government funding is providing the final 25% of the project's budget, with JICA providing a loan for 75% of it. JICA thus provides \$2.13 billion of the project's \$2.82 billion cost at an interest rate of 0.01%. Even if the interest rate is fairly low, loan repayment depends on making a profit.

Instead of being a corporate initiative, metro rail was started as a public project. Like other government initiatives, the infrastructure's goal is to benefit the nation's citizens. But there will be a fee for the ride. The cost of the MRT-6 is between 20 and 100 BDT. Rough calculations show that, excluding the original project expenditures, the daily cost to operate the metro train will be roughly Tk2.33 crore. The 483,000 people on the train must be carried to meet the float costs. So, it could be challenging to reach even the BEP (Break Even Point) unless commuters are drawn to it.



# ESSAY

2. **Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant:** Since November 2017, this project has been carried out by the Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission (BAEC) with assistance from Russia and under the direction of the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Government of Bangladesh. The project's budget is anticipated to be approximately \$13 (12.65) billion, of which \$11.39 billion, or 90%, is being paid for by Russia. This must be repaid with interest at a rate of 4% within 28 years of the project's completion.

Bangladesh now has an electrical producing capacity of more than 25,000 (25,566) megawatts, claims a source from the Bangladesh Power Division. By 2041, 60,000 MW is the goal outlined in the Power Department's Power System Master Plan. The Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant will be crucial in achieving this goal. Nonetheless, the master plan predicted that coal will produce 35% of the nation's power, followed by natural gas at 35% and liquid fuel, nuclear, renewable, and other sources at 30%. On the other hand, gas presently accounts for more than 44% of Bangladesh's electricity output.

3. **Dhaka Ashulia Expressway:** At a cost of Tk 17 thousand 533 Crore, the government is building a second elevated highway in the nation's capital that would run from the Dhaka airport to Savar EPZ. A Chinese contractor and financing obtained from China under stringent restrictions would be used to carry out the building project. The Dhaka-Ashulia Elevated Expressway infrastructure is expected to be operational in 2026. It is anticipated to make traveling across the capital city simpler. In the vicinity of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport (HSIA), where the new expressway is intended to start, the development of an older project, the Dhaka elevated expressway, is now under place. The previous expressway will connect the airport area to the Dhaka-Chattogram highway, via Tejgaon, Moghbazar, Kamalapur, and Mayor Hanif flyover, while the new one will connect the area to Ashulia of Savar.



# ESSAY

4. **Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport Expansion (Terminal-3):** The third terminal at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka was the subject of a feasibility study in 2014 by the Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh (CAAB). Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport can accommodate 8 million people yearly, but the research predicts that number would rise to 140 million by 2025 and to 250 million by 2035. As a result, the current airport is being enlarged to handle more travelers.

At the Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka, 240 flights are typically operated each day. In Bangladesh, there would be more than 1,65,430 aircraft movements overall by 2025 and more than 2 lakhs 64 thousand by 2035, predicts JICA. To manage this extra aircraft traffic, Shahjalal International Airport's third terminal will be crucial. But, once the third terminal is open, the amount of aircraft movement would multiply several times, according to the relevant authorities. Also, as more planes move through this major airport in Bangladesh, more people will be using it to fly.

5. **Karnaphuli Tunnel:** On February 24, 2019, work on the first-ever tunnel in Bangladesh began at a 150-foot depth in the Karnaphuli river. The Chittagong main city, which is regarded as the nation's commercial hub, will be connected to the Anwara Upazila by this tunnel. In essence, the tunnel will change Chittagong into a "one city, two towns" arrangement similar to Shanghai, China. The anticipated cost of the project's execution is BDT 10,374.82 crore, of which BDT 4,461.23 crore will come from the Bangladeshi government and BDT 5,913.19 crore from the Exim Bank of China.



# ESSAY

The tunnel would directly contribute 0.166 percent of the nation's GDP annually for the following 50 years, according to the feasibility analysis for the project. The Chittagong port, one of the nation's commercial ports, and the Matarbari deep sea port will immediately profit from the tunnel's completion. The Karnaphuli Tunnel Feasibility Study estimates that after the Matarbari Deep Sea Port is completed, the port's cargo handling capacity will rise to 320 million tonnes annually by 2055. Trucks must then utilize the Dhaka-Chittagong route to transfer these items to various locations around the nation.

6. **Matarbari Deep Sea Port:** In Dhalghata in Maheshkhali Upazila of Cox's Bazar, construction of the Matarbari coal-fired power station was started in 2018 with help from JICA. The first idea was to construct a jetty to transport coal to the closest coal-fired power station. When JICA presented the jetty's feasibility test report, they noted that Matarbari's sea depth is 15.5 meters, and it expands to 30 meters in a short distance the ideal depth for a deep-sea port. From there, JICA offered Matarbari as the location for the first deep-sea port to be built in the nation. It was originally intended to create a deep-sea port at Sonadia Island, as recommended by China, but subsequently, it was decided to build one at Payara in Patuakhali. Yet, even there, the project was put on hold since it would be incredibly expensive every year to drag the 70 km of the channel. The container terminal at Matarbari Deep Sea Port would have a capacity of 6 lakh to 11 lakh TEUs per year upon project completion, rising to 14 lakhs to 42 lakh TEUs by 2041. In addition, the Matarbari terminal will save roughly \$200 per 40-foot cargo and \$131 for each 20-foot container, citing the JICA analysis.



# ESSAY

“The infrastructure will boost the economy at 8.5 percent by 2025 and at 9 percent by 2030. Adding that Bangladesh is definitely heading toward an upper middle-income country by 2041”

–Professor Shamsul Alam, State minister for planning.

**The challenge of completion of Mega Projects:** Various studies have shown that mega projects have a poor track record of performance, not only in absolute terms but also with respect to projects of lesser value. The researcher shows that when properly and timely executed, megaprojects can be an outstanding success. However the substantial number of mega projects that have failed on time, cost and quality criteria suggest us the challenges of mega projects.

- **Repaying the debt:** Eminent economist Debapriya Bhattacharya predicts that if the government doesn't boost its income base now, Bangladesh's debt position will get a little complicated in 2024–2025 when the payback schedule for many of the expensive loans would start. Due to Bangladesh's graduation from the low-income group, the composition of its foreign debt has already begun to shift, with multilateral lenders replacing their cheaper, concessional loans with more expensive bilateral loans that have longer grace periods and higher interest rates. To avoid wasting these foreign funds, the government must also find a means to raise the tax-to-GDP ratio, which so far has proven to be a Herculean effort.



# ESSAY

- **Big Budget:** The Planning Commission admits they are unable to provide sufficient funding for many other small, medium, and large projects because the fast-track megaprojects take up a significant portion of the budgetary allocation designated for the Annual Development Programme (ADP). For instance, in FY2021-22, 10 such projects took up nearly one-third of the Tk 225,324 crore ADP. This has a chance cost that is by no means negligible, and it accumulates over time.

Finally, Mega Projects approved by ECNEC needed to be completed to flourish our economy directly and indirectly. Projects to improve transportation like Metrorail, Dhaka Ashuliya Elevated Expressway, and Bangabandhu Tunnel-1 can boost economic activities and help to connect economic zones; with the added benefit that after completion these will reduce lost working hours due to traffic jams. Not only these, but other projects like the nuclear plant will also supply electricity to the economic zones that are yet to be implemented, and Matarbari Deep Seaport will help to improve the export-import. So, economic and infrastructural development is the result of ongoing and finished mega projects.



## Rohingya and Refugee Crisis

**Introduction:** The Rohingyas, the Indo-Aryan speaking people from the Rakhine State of Myanmar, have been the subject of discussion and matter of deep concern recently due to the persecution and genocide operated on them by the ruthless military personnel and religious fundamentalists of Myanmar. For decades, the Rohingyas in Myanmar have been victims of widespread governmental genocide that, when considered holistically and analyzed systematically, unfolds a grim picture: the Rohingyas are gradually being decimated. The predominantly Muslim Rohingyas had been living in Rakhine State for many generations. But in 1982, General Ne Win's regime introduced a new citizenship law that stripped the Rohingyas of their citizenship rights and rendered them stateless. As a result of losing their citizenship rights, they were subjected to severe restrictions to freedom of movement, access to education, marriage and religious freedom. Their sufferings and pains intensified with periodic escalation of violence in June, 2012 and again in October when severe violence broke out between the predominantly Buddhist population of Rakhine and the Rohingyas resulting in the displacement of hundreds of thousands.

**Ethnic Identity of the Rohingyas:** The Rohingyas are a Muslim minority population living mainly in the state of Arakan, Myanmar. The first Muslims settlement in Arakan was seen by the 1400s CE. Many of them served in the Court of the Buddhist King Naramaikhla (Min Saw Mun) who ruled Arakan in the 1430s and who welcomed Muslim advisers and courtiers into his capital. Arakan is on the western border of Myanmar, near what is now Bangladesh, and later Arakanese kings modeled themselves after the Mughal emperors even using Muslim titles for their military and court officials.



# ESSAY

In 1785, Buddhist Burmese from the south of the country conquered Arakan. They drove out or executed all of the Muslim Rohingyas they could find; some 35,000 of Arakan's people likely fled into Bengal, the then part of the British Raj in India.

As of 1826, the British took control of Arakan after the First Anglo-Burmese War (1824-26). They encouraged farmers from Bengal to move to the depopulated area of Arakan, both Rohingyas originally from the area and native Bengalis. The sudden influx of immigrants from British India sparked a strong reaction from the mostly-Buddhist Rakhine people living in Arakan at that time sowing the seeds of ethnic tension that remains till now. When World War (II) broke out, Britain abandoned Arakan in the face of Japanese expansion into Southeast Asia. In the chaos of Britain's withdrawal, both Muslim and Buddhist forces took the opportunity to inflict massacres each other. Many Rohingyas still looked to Britain for protection and served as spies behind Japanese lines for the Allied Powers. When the Japanese discovered this connection, they embarked a hideous program of torture, rape and murder against the Rohingyas in Arakan. Tens of thousands of Arakanese Rohingyas once again fled into Bengal.

Between the end of World War (II) and General Ne Win's coup d'état in 1962, the Rohingyas advocated for a separate Rohingya nation in Arakan. When the Military Junta took power in Yangon, however, it cracked down hard on Rohingyas, separatists and non-political people alike. It also denied Burmese citizenship to the Rohingya people defining them instead as stateless Bengalis.

Since that time, the Rohingyas in Myanmar have been living in limbo. In recent years, they have faced increasing persecution and attacks even in some cases from Buddhist monks. Those who escape out to sea, as thousands have done, face an uncertain fate.



# ESSAY

The governments of Muslim nations around Southeast Asia including Malaysia and Indonesia have refused to accept them as refugees. At last, Bangladesh, a neighboring country of Myanmar, came as a savior to the helpless Rohingyas and till now around 10 lakhs of them took shelter here.

**Recent Crisis of the Rohingyas:** The Rohingya crisis in Myanmar has been ongoing since 1784, with a history of discriminatory and repressive treatment by the Myanmar government towards the Rohingya population. The crisis escalated in June 2012, with a bloody clash between the Buddhist people of Rakhine and the Rohingyas. In October 2016, a small armed Rohingya military group known as the Arakan Rohingya Salvation Army (ARSA) reportedly attacked Burmese police posts, leading to a massive response by the Burmese Army that displaced and killed thousands and was accompanied by gross violations of human rights. Some believe this was a test of potential international response to act against the Rohingyas before attempting anything on a larger scale.

The tensions in Rakhine State reached a boiling point on August 25, 2017, when ARSA initiated a wave of attacks targeting some 30 military and security outposts. While the attack was coordinated, it was not particularly effective in inflicting significant casualties or displacing security forces. The official death toll was fourteen members of the security forces, one government official, and 371 people the government characterized as militants. The response by the Burmese military has been a brutal campaign of violence and horrific human right abuses carried out against the entire Rohingya Muslim community. After the August 25, 2017 attacks, just over 700,000 Rohingyas have fled Burma to Cox's Bazar and other areas in Bangladesh joining over around 300,000 Rohingyas who fled in previous years.



# ESSAY

While the military's "Operation Ethnic Cleansing" in Rakhine State was ostensibly in response to the August 25 ARSA attacks, there is clear evidence of intentional preparation by both military and civilian actors for the attacks that increased the vulnerability of the Rohingya community and deprived them of humanitarian aid, community protection and removed the access of international observers. The atrocities committed by the Burmese military against the Rohingyas have been documented by human rights organizations, particularly in key reports by the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, International Crisis Group, and Fortify Rights, and the United States Holocaust Museum.

United Nations Special Rapporteur for Human Rights on Myanmar Yanghee Lee said the crisis bears "the hallmarks of genocide." The U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson stated, "It is clear that the situation in Northern Rakhine State constitutes ethnic cleansing against the Rohingya" and U.S. Ambassador at Large for International Religious Freedom Sam Brownback described the situation as "ethnic cleansing of a religious minority." Brownback said the atrocities described to him by Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh are "as bad or worse than any other I have personally seen" including his visit to Darfur in the aftermath of the Darfur genocide.

## **Risks and stress associated with about one million Rohingya for Bangladesh**

Bangladesh is at high risks and stress in myriad sectors with about one million Rohingya. These include the followings -

- **Security threat:** Firstly, there is a security threat as the Rohingya refugees may mingle with the local population and become involved in criminal activities, and extremist groups may try to manipulate them. This could lead to a security threat for not only Bangladesh but the entire South Asian region.



# ESSAY

- **Population burden:** Accommodating such a large population burden is a challenge for a country like Bangladesh, which already has a high population density and struggles with meeting the basic needs of its people. The government will need to allocate a significant portion of its budget to meet the basic demands of the Rohingya refugees.
- **To arrange food in the long run:** Arranging for food in the long run is also a challenge, given that Bangladesh already faces food shortages due to natural disasters. Importing food grains to meet the demand of the Rohingya refugees will be costly.
- **Environment risks:** The environment risks are significant, as the Rohingya refugees have damaged forest lands and polluted the area with excessive human waste. The hills where the settlement camps have been made are also at risk of massive landslides during the monsoon season.
- **Maintaining law and order:** Maintaining law and order is challenging as the high population density and lack of basic needs may lead to crimes, including killings. The law enforcement agencies are struggling to maintain order, and there have already been incidents of violence.
- **Making employment opportunities limited to local inhabitants:** The crisis of employment opportunities is significant, as the Rohingya refugees are getting involved in various activities for survival, such as day labor and rickshaw pulling, limiting employment opportunities for the local inhabitants.
- **Threat of spreading various contagious diseases:** There is a threat of spreading various contagious diseases, as the refugees lack clean water and sanitation facilities, and diseases such as chickenpox, pneumonia, measles, diarrhea, dysentery, and skin diseases have already spread among them.



# ESSAY

- **Threat to tourist spots:** The Rohingya crisis is affecting the tourist spots, such as Cox's Bazar Sea Beach and Saint Martin Island, as the city resorts are filled with aid workers, government officials, and others, and the islands may lose up to one million tourists due to the crisis.
- **The risk of spreading various narcotics across the country:** There is a risk of spreading various narcotics across the country as the Rohingya refugees have been used to smuggle life-killing drugs such as yaba from Myanmar to Bangladesh, and drug gangsters in Bangladesh may use them in drug dealing.
- **Creating bad will in the international labor market:** The Rohingya crisis may create bad will in the international labor market as many of them may try to cross borders with Bangladeshi passports and engage in criminal activities, which may affect the goodwill of Bangladeshi labor in other countries.

**Recommendations:** The atrocities committed by the Burmese government against the Rohingya people must be unequivocally labeled as genocide, and appropriate actions must be taken against those responsible. A coordinated multilateral effort, led by the United Nations, European Union, and five permanent members of the UN, should address fundamental human rights and religious freedom violations. An independent investigation mechanism should be allowed unfettered access to Burma's Rakhine State, and those responsible for the atrocities should be held accountable through targeted measures that include sanctions and trials in the International Criminal Court.

The international community must ensure that repatriation of Muslim Rohingyas only occurs voluntarily and securely, and that there is an international presence in Rakhine State to monitor their safety and provide humanitarian assistance.



# ESSAY

The Burmese government should allow open humanitarian access to Rakhine State to enable the UN and other relief efforts to reach still affected communities and to stabilize the situation for any refugee who wishes to return home. The Bangladeshi government and the international community, including UN agencies and local and international NGOs, must continue providing critical humanitarian assistance to the Rohingya community and other refugees and IDPs.

The recommendations of the Rakhine Advisory Committee must be implemented, including urgent and sustained action to address what it describes as a development, human rights, and security crisis. The legal sector must develop independence from military and government control to end impunity for abuses. Non-intrusive and appropriate ways to support and strengthen Buddhist groups and leaders in Burma who are promoting religious freedom, tolerance, and justice for the Rohingyas as well as other Buddhist minorities in the country must be identified.

Internally displaced people in all regions and representing all ethnicities must be provided an opportunity for voluntary repatriation, and their property must be returned. Reconciliation must be linked to full citizenship for all individuals born on Burmese territory, regardless of religious identity. The root causes of this crisis, including violations of religious freedom, must be addressed.



# ESSAY

The Burmese government must recognize and protect the fundamental rights of the Rohingyas and minority communities, including equal citizenship, freedom of movement, and the ability to secure meaningful work to support themselves and their families. Minority groups throughout Burma must form a more united coalition to defend and promote their basic human rights. In general, civil society must be strengthened, and public education campaigns should work to normalize pluralism and diversity, with appropriate support from the international community.

**Conclusion:** Analyzing and scrutinizing the information and proofs collected by different human rights groups and researchers, it might be well concluded that the Rohingyas in Rakhine State of Myanmar are facing the final stage of genocide. Decades of persecution have taken on a new and intensified form since the mass killings in 2017. The marked escalation in state-sponsored stigmatization, discrimination, violence and segregation, and the systematic weakening of the community have made precarious the existence of the Rohingyas. For long, they have been being harassed, terrorized and slaughtered. They have been being isolated and segregated into detention camps and securitized villages and ghettos. They have also been being systematically weakened through hunger, illness, denial of civil rights and loss of livelihood. All of these places them at high risk of annihilation. So, the severity and the barbarity of such pre-planned genocidal crimes of the Burmese authority on the helpless Rohingyas invites international resentment and concern.



## Sustainable Development Goals and Bangladesh

**Abstract:** The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a call to action for all countries to work together to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. The 17 SDGs are a blueprint for a more equitable and prosperous world, and are the result of a global collaboration of governments, civil society, and the private sector. Through the SDGs, the UN aims to tackle a range of global challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, and peace and justice. These ambitious goals seek to ensure that all people can enjoy prosperous and fulfilling lives, and that the planet can remain healthy and sustainable.

**Brief History of the SDGs:** The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were adopted by 193 countries in September 2015 at the United Nations General Assembly. The official title of the agenda is “Transforming our world: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. The SDGs build upon the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which were established in 2000 and expired at the end of 2015. The idea was presented at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, Rio+20, in 2012 and it took three years to wait to the end of the MDGs. The SDGs are monitored and tracked by the United Nations, which reports annually on global progress. It features 169 critical targets spread across the goals that quantitatively track the system's development.



# ESSAY

**Goals:** The SDGs are ambitious and seek to ensure that no one is left behind in the pursuit of a more sustainable future. There are 17 goals that cover a wide range of issues, from ending poverty and hunger to promoting gender equality and combating climate change. They also aim to ensure that all people have access to quality education, improved health care, and access to clean water and sanitation. By working together to achieve these goals, we can create a more equitable and sustainable world for everyone.

## Current Situation of Bangladesh in Achieving SDGs:

Bangladesh has been a model participant in the MDGs. The country received several awards in the process. Bangladesh has halved extreme poverty to 22.4 percent from 44.2 percent between 1990 and 2010. It has also achieved gender parity in school enrolment for primary and secondary education, with girls outnumbering boys in secondary education. Maternal mortality has declined from 322 deaths per 100,000 live births in 1990 to 176 in 2010, while under-five mortality has declined from 127 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 48 in 2010.



## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD



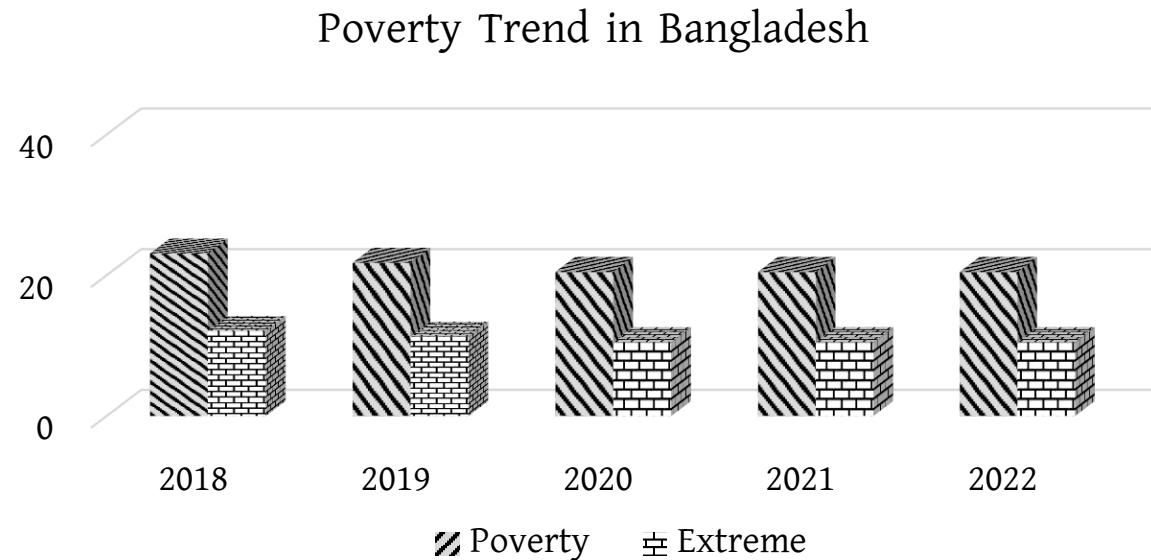


# ESSAY

These key statistics speak for the outstanding growth the country has seen in recent decades. In terms of SDGs, expectation is high. The government of Bangladesh has formed a long term vision matching requirements of the SDGs. The country is hopeful to perform with the same standards. However, the currency situation of Bangladesh in achieving SDGs are given bellow;

- **Goal-1: No poverty:** The main target of this goal is to “End poverty in all its forms everywhere.” Goal 1 calls for an end to poverty in all its manifestations by 2030. The progress on reducing extreme poverty measured by \$1.90 a day or by national poverty line is a track. Bangladesh is progressing steadily in this regard.

Year	Poverty rate	Extreme Poverty Rate
2017	23.1%	12.1%
2018/19	21.8%	11.3%
2019/20	20.5%	10.5%
2020/21	21.6%	11.3%
2021/22	20.5%	10.5%



Source: Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS)



# ESSAY

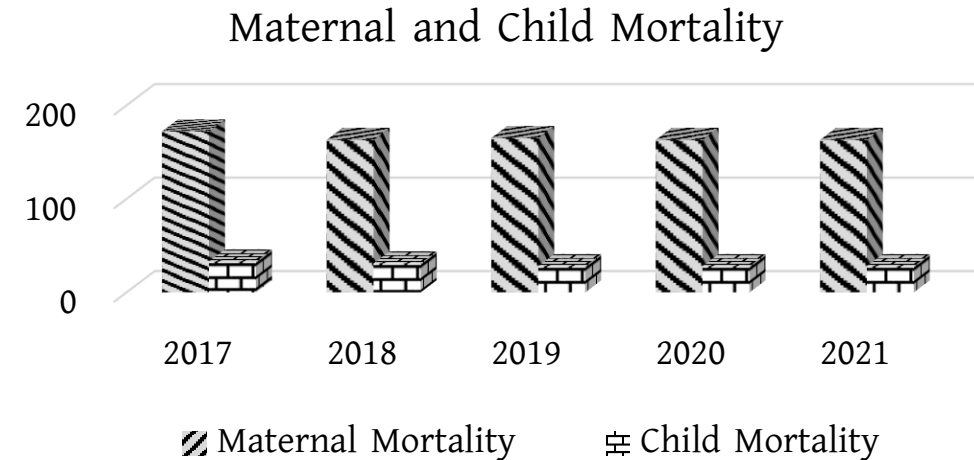
## ➤ Goal-2: End hunger, achieve food security & improved nutrition, & promote sustainable agriculture:

There are 8 targets which are promised to be fulfilled by 2030. Notable: According to this goal, all people, including infants will get safety, nutrition and sufficient food all year round and by 2030 the internationally agreed targets on stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age. The target of vision 2021 was to make Bangladesh self-sufficient in food production by 2013. It was achieved before the deadline. By 2030 malnutrition will be reduced by 10%.

## ➤ Goal-3: Ensure health lives & promote wellbeing for all ages:

There are 13 targets. Among those maternal mortality rate 70/100,000; child mortality rate 12/1,000 and less than 5-year-old child mortality rate 21/1,000 are the key elements. Bangladesh is looking good in these metrics.

Year	Maternal Mortality Ratio (Per 1,00,000)	Under-5 Mortality rate (Per 1,000 live births)
2017	172	31
2018	168	39
2019	165	28
2020	163	28
2021	163	28



[Source: Bangladesh Economic Review-2022 and Latest Report of BBS]

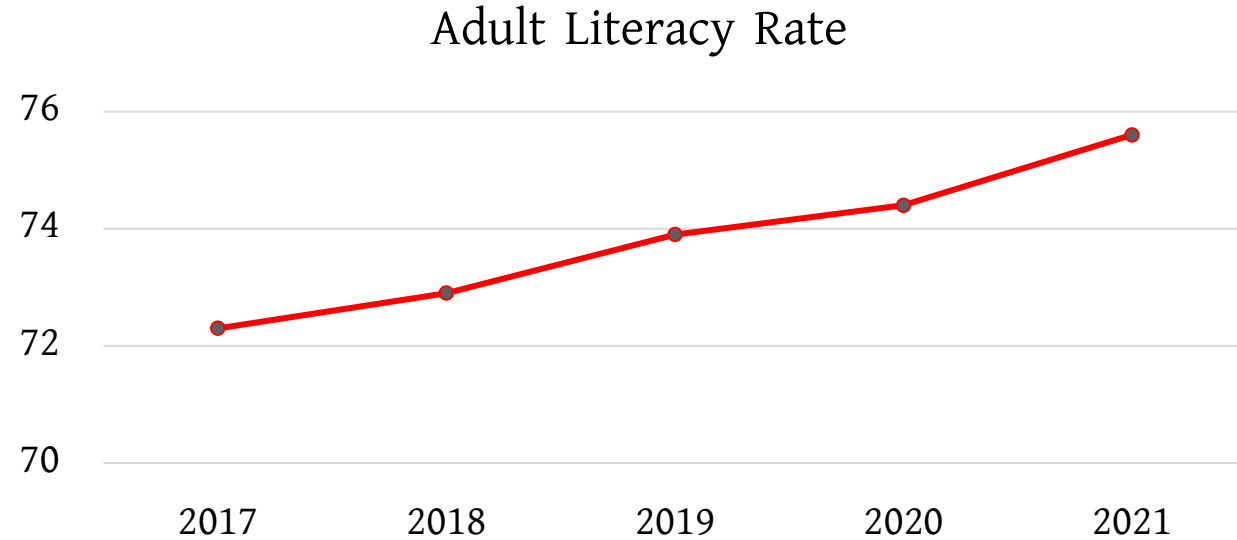


# ESSAY

➤ **Goal-4: Ensure inclusive & equitable education & promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.**

There are 10 targets. It aims to ensure that all individuals, regardless of gender, race, or socio-economic status, have access to quality education and training. This goal includes investing in primary and secondary education, providing access to higher education, and promoting adult learning and skill development. Bangladesh's progress so far-

Year	Adult literacy rate of population aged 15 years and above
2016-17	72.3
2017-18	72.9
2018-19	73.9
2019-20	74.4
2020-21	75.2



[Source: Bangladesh Economic Review 2022, UNESCO]



# ESSAY

➤ **Goal-5: Achieve gender equality & empower all women & girls:**

There are 7 targets aiming to achieve gender equality, empowerment and eradicate sexual violence, trafficking etc. Bangladesh is a role model for women empowerment in South Asia. It is the most gender equal country in its region. Bangladesh held top position among South-Asian Countries in ensuring gender equality.

Rank	country	Score
71	Bangladesh	0.714
96	Nepal	0.692
110	Sri Lanka	0.670
117	Maldives	0.648
126	Bhutan	0.637
135	India	0.629
145	Pakistan	0.564
146	Afghanistan	0.435

[Source: Global Gender Gap Report 2022, World Economic Forum]



# ESSAY

- **Goal-6: Clean water & sanitation:** There are 8 targets. This goal aims to improve water quality and availability, promote sustainable water management, and expand access to basic and safe sanitation and hygiene services. It also focuses on reducing water pollution and water-related disasters. Bangladesh is moving forward in this regard.

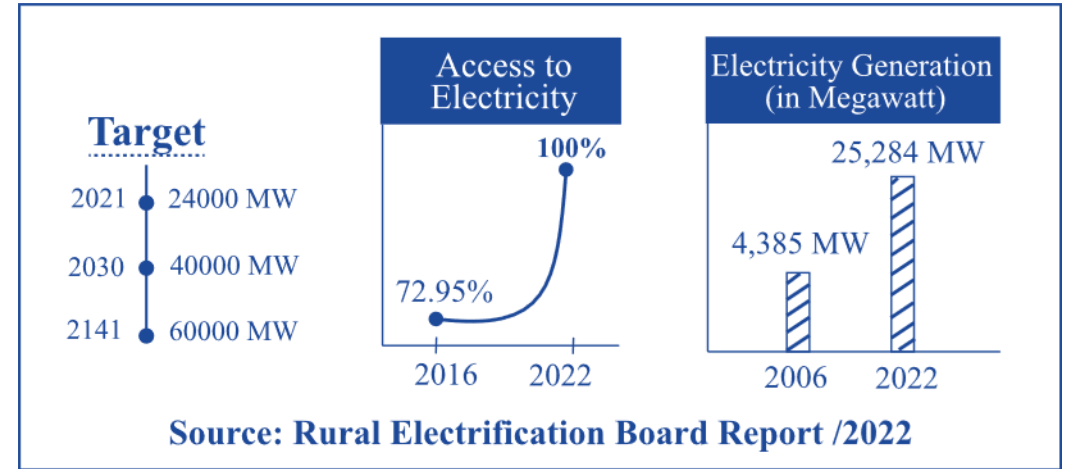
Year	Safe drinking water (%of population)	Safe sanitation (% Population)
2015-16	87%	61%
2016-17	93%	68.9%
2017-18	98%	76.8%
2020-2021	98.3%	81.5%





# ESSAY

➤ **Goal-7: Affordable and clean energy:** There are 5 targets. It aims to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, increase the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix and double the global rate of improvement in energy efficiency. Bangladesh has been lagging behind in this sector for the last 40 years. From 2009 steps have been taken to gain some success in this sector.



➤ **Goal-8: Decent work and economic growth:** There are 12 targets. Such as GDP growth rate 7% for LDC listed countries, achieve level of economic productivity, taking development-oriented policy, job creation, entrepreneurship, protect labor right, increase capacity of domestic financial institutions, increase aid for trade support etc. Bangladesh's economy has been growing steadily for the past decade. In that metric, the country ranks very high. Work environment, safety concerns, wage gap, workers insurance, gratuity and severance pay-and other progressive facilities are lacking.

Fiscal Year	GDP Growth Rate (%)
2006-07	3.54%
2019-20	5.24% (1 <sup>st</sup> in Asia & 3 <sup>rd</sup> in the world)
2020-2021	6.94%
2021-2022	7.10%

[Source: Bangladesh Economic review-2022 and Latest Report of BBS]



# ESSAY

➤ **Goal-9: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive & Sustainable industrialization and foster innovative:**

There are 8 targets in this goal. The government of Bangladesh absorbs this goal into its nation building vision. Bangladesh has seen impressive infrastructural development in the past decade. Government operated megaprojects stand proud to support the claim. For industrializing an agrarian economy 100 Special Economic Zones have been planned.

➤ **Goal-10: Reduce inequality within & among Countries:**

There are 10 targets in this goal. The goal seeks to reduce inequality within and among countries by promoting social, economic, and political inclusion for all. It calls for significant reductions in inequalities of income, gender, age, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion, and economic and social status. Bangladesh holds 0.499 in Gini coefficient which measures the level of income inequality. According to this metric, Bangladesh is the 41st most equal country in the world.

➤ **Goal-11: Make cities & human settlement inclusive, safe, resilient & sustainable:**

There are 10 targets that are set as an effort to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable for all people. It focuses on improving the lives of urban dwellers, encouraging cities to become more efficient and environmentally friendly, and promoting the development of sustainable transportation systems. Bangladesh moves forward to sustainable cities with appreciable plans such as DAP of Dhaka City and metro rail project.



# ESSAY

➤ **Goal-12: Ensure sustainable consumption & production Patterns:**

SDG 12 is focused on ensuring sustainable consumption and production patterns. It calls on countries to reduce resource use, promote efficient use of resources, and work to reduce waste. This goal aims to ensure that global environmental, economic, and social systems are sustainable and resilient in the future. There are 11 targets in the goal. Bangladesh is leapfrogging towards a sustainable future through green financing. In 2021, around 3% of term loans were financed through this scheme which is scheduled to grow by 12% in five years.

➤ **Goal-13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impact:**

There are 15 targets in this Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) which recognizes that climate change is a global challenge and requires a global response. It aims to strengthen the capacity of countries to respond to the challenges of climate change and to build resilience and reduce vulnerability to its impacts. Bangladesh is coordinating this goal with others mentioned above and making decent progress.

➤ **Goal-14: Conserve & sustainable use the ocean, seas & marine resources for sustainable development:**

This goal aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development. It focuses on reducing ocean pollution, increasing marine conservation and protecting the ocean's fragile habitats. It also works towards increasing ocean-based livelihoods, such as sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. There are 10 targets associated with the goal where Bangladesh prioritizes “Expand the coverage of protected areas in relation to marine areas by 5%”. To achieve that, the lonely coral island “Saint Martin” and her adjacent 1,743 square kilometer area is declared as a Marine Protected Area (MPA) in 2022.



# ESSAY

## ➤ Goal-15: Life on Land:

Goal 15 promotes the protection, restoration, and sustainable use of the world's terrestrial, coastal and marine ecosystems. This includes the conservation and restoration of forests, combating desertification and halting and reversing land degradation. The goal also seeks to halt biodiversity loss and to promote the sustainable management of wildlife. There are 12 targets in goal. Bangladesh prioritizes two of them which pledges forestation of 18% of the land and tree coverage of 25% of the land respectively.

## ➤ Goal-16: Peace, justice and strong institutions:

Goal 16 seeks to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The goal also seeks to reduce corruption and bribery, and strengthen the rule of law. There are 12 targets in goal 16. Bangladesh pledges to settle over 60% of human rights cases to prod forward to this goal.

## ➤ Goal-17: Partnership for the goal:

It aims to foster strong and inclusive partnerships among governments, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders in order to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. SDG 17 also promotes collaboration, capacity building, knowledge sharing, and technology transfer at all levels in order to promote sustainable development. There are 19 targets of which Bangladesh prioritizes two. Those are, (a) increasing government revenue to GDP ratio to 20%, (b) Expanding internet access for 100% of the population.

SDG Progress Award 2021: The UN-sponsored Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has conferred Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina with "SDG Progress Award " for Bangladesh's steady course in responding to the universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure peace and prosperity for all.



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## Challenges:

There are significant challenges ahead of Bangladesh in achieving SDGs within the designated timeframe. Some of the key factors-

- ✓ **Limited resources:** Bangladesh is a low-income country with few resources to devote to achieving the SDGs. Some lofty standards aimed by the SDGs are simply unattainable from Bangladesh's point of view.
- ✓ **Infrastructure:** The country's infrastructure must be developed in order to meet the needs of a growing population and to provide basic services to its citizens. Government initiatives are focused to develop that and it will take considerable amount of time and effort to take this to a global standard.
- ✓ **Poverty:** Poverty is a significant issue in Bangladesh. With the double blow from the pandemic and the War in Ukraine; Bangladesh's vulnerability to poverty has increased manifold. Without basic human development; sustainability is a far cry.
- ✓ **Gender Inequality:** Bangladesh is one of the world's most unequal countries in terms of gender. Yes, the country fares better compared to the neighbors, but those failed ones cannot be good standard. Gender inequality has resulted in a lack of access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, all of which are critical to meeting the SDG targets.
- ✓ **Climate change:** Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries in terms of climate change. Geographically, it is located in a corner where natural hazards are significantly more probable than the global average. The country is on the verge of facing a climate refugee disaster predicted in near future.



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- ✓ **Concerns over Corruption and Good Governance:** Corruption is a form of social sabotage. Selfish gains of a few make the many suffer. Developing economies are more vulnerable to corruption as they are relatively young in bureaucracy and mass-scale resource management. Bangladesh isn't ranking very high in transparency and for that, the country is also falling behind in attracting foreign direct investment. This is a bad feedback loop capable of crippling economies over a long period.

**Conclusion:** Bangladesh has achieved significant progress in respect of all three pillars of sustainable development, especially the social front. However, with the climate change intensifying and the country being at the forefront of climate change impacts, there are formidable challenges to contend with in future. Bangladesh is fully committed to pursuing sustainable development, with the goal of establishing and maintaining economic vibrancy, social equity and inclusion, human dignity for all, a healthy environment, and a sound natural resource base. With limited resources, the country requires finance and technology transfer, as well as capacity enhancement assistance, in accordance with the clearly defined tasks that will be required to move steadily toward the goal of sustainable development.

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