

# Poverty in Bangladesh

## *Introduction*

Shortly after its independence, approximately 90% of the population lived under the poverty line. However, since economic reforms and trade liberalization of early 1990s, along with accelerated economic growth since early-2000s, Bangladesh have experienced a dramatic progress in reducing povePoverty is the pronounced deprivation of well-being. It is not being able to satisfy one's basic needs because one possesses insufficient money to busy services or lacks the access to services.

Poverty is a state or condition in which a person or community lacks the financial resources and essentials for a minimum standard of living. Poverty-stricken people and families might go without proper housing, clean water, healthy food, and medical attention.

The introduction of poverty in Bangladesh is multifaceted and influenced by a combination of historical, economic, social, and environmental factors.

## Definition

Poverty is about not having enough money to meet basic needs including food, clothing and shelter.

- According to Baratz and Grigsby: poverty as a severe lack of physical and mental well-being, closely associated with inadequate economic resources and consumption.
- This approach considers various dimensions of well-being, such as health, education, and living standards, to provide a more comprehensive understanding of poverty.
- Poverty is often associated with vulnerability to economic and environmental shocks. People who are highly vulnerable may fall into poverty due to factors such as natural disasters, economic downturns, or other crises.
- The World Bank Organization describes poverty in the way.

"Poverty is hunger. Poverty is lack of shelter. It's important to note that definitions and measurements of poverty can vary, and different organizations and researchers may use different criteria to assess poverty levels in Bangladesh. Additionally, efforts to address poverty in the country often involve a combination of economic development, social programs, and policies aimed at improving access to basic services and reducing income inequality.

**Poverty is about not having enough money to meet basic needs including food, clothing and shelter.** Poverty in Bangladesh is generally defined by a lack of access to basic human needs, including food, clean water, sanitation, healthcare, education, and shelter.

Bangladesh is a Developing nation. Despite rapid economic growth, poverty remains a major issue. However, poverty has declined sharply in recent history. Shortly after its independence, approximately 90% of the population lived under the poverty line.

## *Poverty Situation Of Bangladesh*

In Bangladesh, 20.5% of the population lived below the national poverty line in 2019. In Bangladesh, the proportion of employed population below \$1.90 purchasing power parity/day in 2022 was 2.7%.

As of my last knowledge update in January 2022, I can provide a general overview of the poverty situation in Bangladesh. However, please note that the situation may have evolved since then, and it's advisable to consult more recent sources for the latest information.

Bangladesh has made significant progress in reducing poverty over the past few decades. The country has implemented various economic and social development initiatives that have contributed to improvements in living standards for many of its citizens. Some key points related to the poverty situation in Bangladesh include:

Bangladesh has experienced a decline in the overall poverty rate. Government efforts, along with support from international organizations, have played a crucial role in this achievement.

The country has achieved steady economic growth, with sectors like textiles, agriculture, and remittances playing vital roles in contributing to the GDP. Economic growth has had a positive impact on poverty reduction.

Bangladesh has implemented various social safety net programs aimed at providing assistance to the vulnerable. While progress has been made, there are still significant disparities between urban and rural areas. Rural areas tend to experience higher levels of poverty, and access to basic services and infrastructure can vary between regions.

Bangladesh is known for its successful microfinance initiatives, with organizations like Grameen Bank gaining international recognition. These programs have helped empower women by providing them with financial resources and promoting entrepreneurship.

Despite progress, Bangladesh faces challenges such as rapid population growth, environmental issues, and vulnerability to natural disasters, which can impact poverty levels and overall development.

It's important to note that the information provided here is based.

## *Causes of rural and urban poverty in bangladesh:*

### Causes of rural and urban poverty

One of the biggest causes of rural poverty is due to the fast-growing population rate. It places huge pressure on the environment, causing problems such as erosion and flooding, which in turn leads to low agricultural productivity.

Strong national poverty reduction, masks differences in welfare trends between rural and urban Bangladesh. The national poverty rate fell in both rural and urban areas, but the speed of reduction was much slower in urban Bangladesh, largely because of slower rates of poverty reduction in Dhaka and increasing poverty in Chittagong. There was no progress in reducing extreme poverty in urban areas: the proportion of the urban population living in extreme poverty was 7.7 percent in 2010 and 7.6 percent in 2016. Given that Bangladesh continued to urbanize during this time, there are now more people living in extreme poverty in urban Bangladesh (3.3 million) than in 2010 (3 million).

Many people live in remote areas that lack services such as education, health clinics, and adequate roads, particularly road links to markets. An estimated 35 percent of the population in rural areas lives below the poverty line. They suffer from persistent food insecurity, own no land and assets, are often uneducated, and may also suffer serious illnesses or disabilities.

An estimated 21 percent of the population in urban areas lives below the poverty lines. People living in urban areas, like Sylhet, Dhaka, Chittagong, Khulna, and Rajshahi enjoy a better standard of living, with electricity, gas, and clean water supplies. Even in the major cities, however, "a significant proportion of Bangladeshis live in squalor in dwellings that fall apart during the monsoon season and have no regular electricity. These Bangladeshis have limited access to health care and to clean drinking water.

Poverty in Bangladesh, both in rural and urban areas, is influenced by a combination of economic, social, and environmental factors. Here are some key factors contributing to rural and urban poverty in Bangladesh:

➤ *Beside, more reasons we can identify are mentioned below:*

Population Density

Agricultural Dependency

Natural Disasters

Limited Access to Education

Gender Inequality

Corruption

Healthcare Challenges

Urban-Rural Disparities

Lack of Infrastructure

Global Economic Factors

Low wage.

Chronic shortage of cash.

## *Effects of Poverty*

### ★ **Health Issues:**

- Malnutrition
- Limited Healthcare
- Higher Disease Risk

### ★ **Education:**

- Limited Access
- Lower Educational Attainment

### ★ **Unemployment and Underemployment:**

- Limited Job Opportunities
- Informal Labor

### ★ **Housing and Living Conditions**

- Substandard Housing
- Homelessness

### ★ **Psychological and Social Effects:**

- Stigma and Discrimination
- Mental Health Issues

### ★ **Generational Impact:**

- Cycle of Poverty

### ★ **Crime and Social Unrest:**

- Higher Crime Rates
- Social Unrest

### ★ **Limited Access to Basic Services:**

- Limited Access to Clean Water and Sanitation

## *Ways Of removing poverty*

### ❖ Education:

- Access to Quality Education
- Vocational Training

### ❖ Employment Opportunities:

- Job Creation
- Fair Wages

### ❖ Social Safety Nets:

- Social Assistance Programs

### ❖ Healthcare Access:

- Universal Healthcare
- Health Education

### ❖ Infrastructure Development

- Access to Basic Services

### ❖ Empowerment of Women:

- Gender Equality
- Family Planning

### ❖ Microfinance:

- Microcredit Programs

### ❖ Good Governance:

- Anti-Corruption Measures
- Political Stability

### ❖ International Cooperation:

- Global Aid and Cooperation:

## *Government Actions to Reduce poverty*

Governments around the world employ various strategies and actions to reduce poverty within their countries. These approaches typically involve a combination of economic, social, and legislative measures. Here are some common government actions to address and reduce poverty.

Direct financial assistance to individuals or families in need, such as unemployment benefits, child allowances, or targeted cash transfers. Providing food subsidies, vouchers, or direct distribution of food to those facing food insecurity. Investments in education, including subsidies for school fees, scholarships, and initiatives to improve access to quality education. Implementing public works projects and infrastructure development to generate employment opportunities.

Effective poverty reduction often requires a comprehensive and coordinated approach that addresses the root causes of poverty and considers the unique challenges of specific populations. Moreover, sustained efforts and periodic evaluations are essential to ensure the effectiveness of these government actions over time.



## *Solution of poverty in Bd*

- ☐ Addressing poverty in Bangladesh requires a comprehensive and multifaceted approach that combines economic, social, and institutional measures. Here are some key strategies that could contribute to the solution of poverty in Bangladesh:
  
- ☐ Encourage policies that foster a stable and sustainable economic environment, attracting investments and creating job opportunities. As a predominantly agrarian economy, investing in modernizing and increasing the productivity of the agricultural sector can significantly impact poverty reduction. Ensure access to quality education for all, especially focusing on primary and secondary education. This helps break the cycle of poverty by empowering individuals with the skills and knowledge needed for better job opportunities.
  
- ☐ It's important to note that these strategies should be tailored to the specific needs and context of Bangladesh. Additionally, sustained commitment from the government, civil society, and the international community is crucial for the long-term success of poverty reduction initiatives.

## *Conclusion*

Poverty is the main problem of our country and influencing all other problems which are stopping the development of our country. So it is imperative to eliminate poverty. We all should take our responsibility and help government to eliminate poverty.

❖ Thank You