

৪৪তম বিসিএস লিখিত প্রস্তুতি

লেকচার # ০৫

CLASS WORK

WORK Reading Comprehension

Full Marks: 200 Subject Code (003) Time: 4.00 hours

Covid-19

Part-A

Read the following passage and answer question no. (1-7)

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an infectious disease caused by severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2). It was first identified in December 2019 in Wuhan, Hubei, China, and has resulted in an ongoing pandemic. As of April 3, 2021, 131 million cases have been reported across 219 countries and territories with more than 2.8 million deaths; more than 95.1 million people have recovered. Common symptoms include fever, cough, fatigue, shortness of breath or breathing difficulties, and loss of smell and taste. The disease spreads most often when people are physically close. It spreads very easily and sustainably through the air, primarily via small droplets and sometimes in aerosols, as an infected person breathes, coughs, sneezes, talks, or sings. It may also be transmitted via contaminated surfaces, although this has not been conclusively demonstrated. It can spread for up to two days prior to symptom onset and from people who are asymptomatic. People remain infectious for seven to twelve days in moderate cases and up to two weeks in severe cases. Recommended measures to prevent infection include frequent hand washing, social distancing, quarantine, covering coughs and sneezes, and keeping unwashed hands away from the face. The use of face masks or cloth face coverings such as a scarf or a bandana has been recommended by health officials in public settings to minimize the risk of transmissions, with some authorities requiring their use in certain settings, such as on public transport and in shops. Health officials also stated that medical-grade face masks, such as N95 masks, should be used only by healthcare workers, first responders, and those who directly care for infected individuals.

When not wearing a mask, the CDC, WHO, and NHS recommends covering the mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing and recommends using the inside of the elbow if no tissue is available. Proper hand hygiene after any cough or sneeze is encouraged. The WHO also recommends that individuals wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the toilet or when hands are visibly dirty, before eating and after blowing one's nose. The CDC recommends using an alcohol-based hand sanitiser with at least 60% alcohol, but only when soap and water are not readily available.

There are no proven vaccines or specific treatments for COVID-19 yet, though several are in development. Management involves the treatment of symptoms, supportive care, isolation, and experimental measures. Longer-term damage to organs (in particular lungs and heart) has been observed, and there is concern about a significant number of patients who have recovered from the acute phase of the disease but continue to experience a range of effects including severe fatigue, memory loss and other cognitive issues, low grade fever, muscle weakness, breathlessness and other symptoms for months afterwards. The test is typically done on respiratory samples obtained by a nasopharyngeal swab; however, a nasal swab or sputum sample may also be used. Results are generally available within a few hours to two days. Blood tests can be used, but these require two blood samples taken two weeks apart, and the results have little immediate value. Humans appear to be capable of spreading the virus to some other animals. People are managed with supportive care, which may include fluid therapy, oxygen support, and supporting other affected vital organs.

- 1. Answer the following questions in your own words without copying any sentences from the passage above:
 - a. What is covid-19?
 - b. How does COVID-19 mainly spread?
 - c. Why is the disease being called coronavirus disease 2019, COVID-19?

- d. How long have coronaviruses existed?
- e. Can the coronavirus survive on surfaces?
- f. Can the coronavirus spread via feces?
- q. Can flies transmit the coronavirus disease?
- h. How long does the vaccine protect you?
- i. Has COVID-19 been detected in drinking water supplies?
- j. Is the coronavirus disease transmitted by direct contact?

2. Guess the meaning of the following words/expression using contextual clues: (The words are underlined in the passage)

- a) Infection
- b) Pandemic
- c) Territories
- d) Observation
- e) Vital

3. Fill in the table by putting words in the empty cells according to their parts of speech:

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Noun	Verb	Adjective		
a) Identification				
	b) recover			
c) Wash				
		d) recommended		
e) Disease				

4. Join the sets of sentence into once sentence.

- a) It was first identified in December 2019; it has resulted in an ongoing pandemic.
- b) It can spread for up to two days prior to symptom onset from, the people who are asymptomatic.
- c) The disease spreads most often, people are physically close.
- d) The people remain infectious for seven to twelve days in moderate cases, the up to two weeks in severe cases
- e) The test is typically done on respiratory samples obtained by a nasopharyngeal swab; A nasal swab or sputum sample may also be used.

5. Write a sentence with each of the following words/expressions. Copying of any sentence from the passage must be avoided.

- a) Infectious -
- b) Disease –
- c) Pandemic –
- d) Recovered -
- e) Symptom –
- f) Contaminated -
- g) Individuals –
- h) Infected -
- i) Visibly -
- j) Organs –
- 6. Summarize the passage in your own words in 100 words.
- 7. Write a letter the editor of a daily Newspaper upholding the present situation of covid-19 of your locality.

Part - B

8. Write an essay in about 1000 words on any one of the following topics:

- (a) World wide pandamic Covid-19
- (b) Women Empowerment
- (c) Global Warming
- 9. Translate the following text into Bangla:
- 10. Translate the following text into English:



Reading Comprehension-1

Read the comprehension and answer the following questions

Recently, the well-known Boston Consulting Group wrote a piece entitled 'Bangladesh - the surging consumer market nobody saw coming'. It categorically states that the country is emerging as the 'world's next growth opportunities for consumer product companies'. Incredibly, every year about two million Bangladeshis join the ranks of the middle class and the affluent. This surge is seen as reflecting the quick graduation of Bangladesh to the level of a low middle income country from that of a least developed country. Policymakers in Bangladesh predict that the country would graduate to a middle income country with \$5000 + per capita in another five years. By 2025, about 30 million people will join the middle class here. Bangladesh's heretofore growth story was unfortunately overshadowed by the growth story of neighboring India. But the reasons behind Bangladesh's own success story are fast becoming apparent.

The fact that -micro credit has spawned all over the country but has not affected inflation is another great substory. Besides garment manufacturing, footwear, pharmaceuticals and IT services have led the country to reap immense benefits. A consumer society whose median age will just be 24 in the near future will do wonders far manufacturers, whose consumer base will expand significantly. Add to this, the burgeoning foreign remittance of Bangladeshi workers and professionals now working abroad. Not only the spending, but the cash backup works as a mix for consumer expenditure in quality goods. Yet the Bangladesh story does not end there. From 2000, the country pulled its shoestring and began to rise, making significant improvements in the basic condition of people's lives. Life expectancy began to improve, and now stands at 70 years. The country can pride itself on having overtaken the life expectancy of neighboring India by five years.

This is in spite of India's citizens having more per capita income. Bangladesh has also taken giant steps in improving health and education. Today girls' education has crossed 95 percent, surpassing the education level of boys. Another great progress is in infant mortality. Child mortality has also more than halved and is now falling more rapidly. Maternal mortality has fallen by two-thirds. Today females live two years more than males. A unique phenomenon in Bangladesh today is that the rate of poverty reduction is more than the rate of growth per year. All this is the secret behind Bangladesh's growth story. Several factors seem to have contributed to this success. Birth control in Bangladesh has never been coercive; it has always been voluntary. This has encouraged couples and especially mothers to understand the path they need to take to build a happy family. Today, the fertility rate is 2.3, which is slightly above the replacement level. Add to this the widespread growth of female education. Two other phenomena have buttressed this achievement. The boom in the garment industry - Bangladesh is now the second largest garment exporter in the world just behind China, a behemoth in this field. The other is the introduction of microcredit that fuelled the income of women in the entire country.

These two growth elements have pumped money into the pockets of women who have spent mainly on health, education and nutritious food. This combination is so potent that it can be dubbed as the 'Bangladesh magic' behind growth. Meanwhile, food production in this tiny country has grown three times since 1971. What was the international basket case of Henry Kissinger of yore is turning into an almost food exporting nation. The Bangladeshi farmer is also diversifying crop production into vegetables and fruits as well as exotic food items. An extraordinary strategy used by Bangladeshi farmers was the use of high yielding seeds and irrigation to grow crops, turning the winter crop (Boro) into the largest yielding crop season.

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The phenomenal growth of Bangladesh can also be attributed to the huge amount of foreign remittances sent by 10 million expatriate Bangladeshis. These remittances are serious money in the pockets of families and are spurring trade as well as small scale industries. A fascinating phenomenon of Bangladesh is that the diaspora does not belong to the poor families only. The middle income professionals are also a part of it. The social safety programs have leapfrogged and are now 12 percent of the GDP in the country. The Bangladesh society is now going through a rebalancing exercise. In spite of the country's cantankerous politics, there is a consensus in favor of social programs. The other extraordinary phenomenon of Bangladesh is the expansion in the growth of non-governmental organizations (NGOs). From the global giants, the Grameen Bank and BRAC, there seems to be an NGO for all worthy causes in Bangladesh. Yet two aspects of Bangladesh are disappointing.

The first is corruption. Like measles, it has pockmarked the society. It is not only a rent seeker but a policy drifter too. It contorts and deflects priorities. It becomes virulent at times. The other is dysfunctional politics. People are politically conscious but there are politicians and professionals who serve their own interests more than that of society. The government is trying to contain corruption by introducing digital technology in delivering goods and services. One of the remarkable things in this sphere is the use of the internet for government procurement and collection of revenue rather than for tendering and solicitation. About 20 percent of government purchases take place through the internet. But the use of digital technology needs to be sped up. Bangladesh needs course correction fast to achieve Bangabandhu's (*Sonar Bangla*.)

01. Answer the questions below. Do not copy any sentence from the passage above. Write the answers in your own sentences having your own wording and phrasing.

- a. Why do people out there think that Bangladesh is emerging the next big consumer opportunity?
- b. What does this flow of development suggest?
- c. What do the policy makers predict?
- d. How is the progress in Bangladesh deprived of highlight?
- e. What is another side story about the prosperity of Bangladesh?
- f. How many people of Bangladesh join the middle class every year?
- g. What is the 'Bangladesh magic' behind growth?
- h. What is the appearance of food production in this country now?
- i. What are the social safety programs?
- j. What are the disappointing aspects in Bangladesh?

02. Write the meanings of the following five words used in the passage. The meanings are provided in the box below. There are more than five words in the box. Choose the appropriate meanings:

Overshadow, spawn, burgeon, buttress, behemoth

Ludicrous, shroud, strut, leviathan, mother, proliferate, navigate

03. Correct the following run-ons by using appropriate subordinates (Such as, though, although, since, till, until, unless, lest, while, in case, if, in order that, given, as if, as though)

- a. He appears to earn quite a meager amount. He leads a very extravagant life.
- b. The girl walks. She were the president of USA.
- c. Give the customer the mobile number of the chairman. He wants to make a deal.
- d. He passed the whole year without having a single look at the syllabus He could get hold of no question in the test.
- e. People from all walks of life come forward to remove gender discrimination. Girls will be getting less advantages.

04. Fill in the table by putting words in the empty cells according to their parts of speech:

Noun	Verb	Adjective
Word	X	(a)
Gold	(b)	X
Sun	(c)	X
(d)	Provide	X
Food	(e)	X

05. Use appropriate capitalization, punctuation, and quotation marks where required :

- a. Kamal my student at Asia Pacific University in the department of english has helped the Ph.D thesis of the department chairman Mr. Chowdhury.
- b. Seeing the rising sun the girl said how amazingly golden the sun is.

06. Summarize the passage in your own words in 100 words.

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1. Answer:

- a. People out there have logical reasons to think that Bangladesh is going to emerge as a big consumer opportunity as she is earning good days of economic flourishment.
- b. This flow of development suggests that Bangladesh is earning the status of a middle income country gradually.
- c. The policy makers predict that a large number of people are going to join the affluent class due to their healthy economic status.
- d. The progress of Bangladesh is deprived of highlight because of the bigger achievement of the bigger neighboring country like India.
- e. Another side story about the prosperity of Bangladesh is about the innumerable development contribution of the micro credit activities prevailing in Bangladesh.
- f. About two million people of Bangladesh join the middle class every year.
- g. The 'Bangladesh magic' behind the growth is the combination of garments industry and the micro credit that prevail in the country giving the appropriate impetus to prosperity.
- h. Food production in Bangladesh has multiplied three times now than it was in 1971.
- i. The social safety programs are the welfare activities prevalent in the society. They include the saving of money, association, cooperative forums, poverty reduction committees and so on.
- j. The disappointing aspects in Bangladesh are the monstrous corruption and the malfunctioned politics.

2. Answer:

Overshadow = Shroud
Buttress = strut
Spawn = mother
Behemoth = leviathan
Burgeon = proliferate

3. Answer

- a. He appears to earn quite a meager amount though he leads a very extravagant life.
- b. The girl walks as if she were the president of USA.
- c. Give the customer the mobile number of the chairman in case he wants to make a deal.
- d. As he passed the whole year without having a single look at the syllabus, he could get hold of no question in the test.
- e. Unless people from all walks of life come forward to remove gender discrimination, girls will be getting fewer advantages.

5. Answer:

- a. Kamal, my student at Asia Pacific University in the department of English has helped the PhD thesis of the department chairman, Mr. Chowdhury.
- b. Seeing the rising sun, the girl said, "How amazingly golden the sun is!"

Reading Comprehension-2

Read the comprehension and answer the following questions

The benefits of quitting smoking are very clear. Most importantly, you will lower your risk for serious illness and diseases like heart attack, stroke and cancer. It may cause serious and destructive effects to a pregnant woman and the kid in the womb will be seriously crippled for its heinous impacts. If you smoke, it is told that you are making a troublesome journey to hell. Most people suffer much in their lives because of smoking. And, the people you live with, will be healthier because they won't be around your smoke.

When you quit, you will again have to deal with the hassle of leaving you in workplace, someone's home, your own home, a restaurant, or other places to smoke. And over time, you will notice that your teeth and breath are cleaner, stain marks on your fingers and fingernails are fading, and that you are able to smell and taste things better. Your skin will also wrinkle less and you will feel stronger and be able to do more activities.

Nearly 80 percent of those who quit smoking gain weight. The average weight gain after quitting smoking is just five pounds. But, keep in mind that 56 percent of people who continue to smoke will gain weight too. Research has shown that following these five key steps will help you to quit smoking for good.

Get ready to quit by picking a date to stop smoking. Before that day, get rid of all cigarettes, ashtrays, and lighters in your home, car and workplace. And make it a rule never t let anyone smoke in your home. Write down why you want to quit and keep this list as a handy reminder.

Get support and encouragement from your family, friends, and co-workers. Studies have shown you will be more successful when you have help. Let the people important to you in your life know the date you will be quitting and ask them for their support. Ask them not to smoke around you or leave cigarettes our around you.

Learn new skills and do things differently. When you get the urge to smoke, try to do something that is different-talk to a friend, go for a walk, or do something you enjoy like gardening or going to the movies. Try to reduce your stress with exercise, meditation, hot baths, or reading. It is helpful to plan ahead for how you will deal with situations or triggers that will make you want to smoke. Have sugar free gum or candy around to help handle your cravings. Drinking lots of water or other fluids also helps. You might want to change your daily routine as well-try drinking tea instead of coffee, eating your breakfast in a different place, or taking a different route to work.

Though quitting smoking is a troublesome and painful task to a smoker, it has lots of benefits in our practical lives and it can extend our life span of a considerable limit. People are trying to create consciousness about the bad effect of smoking throughout the world and many organizations are also taking different effective programmers to reduce smoking in a considerable level.

01. Answer the following questions:

- a) What are the benefits of quitting smoking?
- b) What is the bad effect of smoking to a pregnant woman?
- c) What do you find in studies?
- d) To whom do you have to get support for quitting it?
- e) What are the risks of diseases if you continue 7to smoke?
- f) What is the central idea of the passage?
- g) What is the message of the passage?
- h) What are the supporting ideas of a passage?
- i) What is the key word in the last sentence? How does it help you understand the meaning of these sentence?
- j) What lesson do you get from the passage?

- 02. Write meanings of the following words used in the passage. The meaning are provided in the box below. There are more than words in the box. Choose the appropriate meanings:
 - a) Quit
- b) Stain
- c) Risk
- d) Encourage
- e) Frustrated

- f) Craving
- g) Situation
- h) Hassle
- i) Crippled
- i) Wrinkle

- k) Troublesome
- 03. Fill in the table by putting words in the empty cells according to their parts of speech:-

Noun	Verb	Adjective
(a)	Reduce	Reduced
Effect	(b)	Effective
×	(c)	Considerable
Meditation	Meditate	(d)
(e)	Trouble	Troublesome
(f)	Frustrate	Frustrated
Difference	(g)	Different
(h)	Continue	Continuous

- 04. Correct the following run-ons by using appropriate subordinates (such as, although, because, as, while, etc.)
 - a) You get the urge to smoke, you try to do something that is different talk to a friend.
 - b) You continue to smoke, it will cause a lot of harm to you.
 - c) Some people think, smoking cannot do much harm to their body.
 - d) It has lots of benefit in our practical lives and it can extend our life span to considerable limit.
 - e) Many organizations are also taking different effective programmes, they can reduce smoking in a considerable level.
- 05. Use appropriate capitalization, punctuation and quotation marks where required:
 - a) when you get the urge to smoke try to do something it is a different issue to a friend your friend will not stop to do it at the same time you have to quit it.
 - b) there is a chance of risk for serious disease like heart attack stroke and cancer if you do not quit smoking to quit smoking is beneficial to you it will help you in all the way to become fit.
- 06. Write a sentence with each of the following words/expressions. Coping of any sentence from the passage above must be avoided.
 - a) Deal with
- b) Get rid of
- c) Different talk
- d) Lower your risk

- e) Pick a date
- f) Keep in mind
- g) Journey to hell
- h) Handle

- i) Handy
- j) Reduce
- k) Hassle
- 1) Stain

- m) Frustrated
- n) Crippled



- **01.** a) If anybody quits smoking he will notice that his teeth and breath are cleaner, stain marks on his fingers and fingernails are fading, and that he is able to smell and taste things better. His skin will also wrinkle less and he will feel stronger and be able to do more activities. Also, nearly 80 percent of those who quit smoking gain weight.
 - b) Smoking may cause serious and destructive effects to a pregnant woman and the kid in the womb will be seriously crippled for its heinous impacts.
 - c) Studies have shown that there are five key steps that help to quit smoking for good.
 - d) We need support and encouragement from our family, friends, and coworkers.
 - e) If we continue to smoke, we run risk for serious illness and diseases like heat attack, stroke and cancer.
 - f) The central idea of the passage to delineate ways of quitting smoking.
 - g) The message of the passage is to motivate to quit smoking.
 - h) The supporting ideas are: Walking, gardening, reading, exercising or meditation and so on.
 - i) The key word of the last sentence is "Create Consciousness about Smoking". By this key word we can easily understand that who are trying to create consciousness among the people.
 - j) Bad effects of smoking is he main lesson of this passage.

02. a) Ouit = Leave

b) Stain = Mark

c) Risk = Danger

d) Encourage = Cheer

e) Frustrated = Disappointed

f) Craving = Avid

g) Situation = Circumstance

h) Hassle = Quarrel

i) Crippled = Disable

j) Wrinkle = Crease

k) Troublesome = Painful

03. (a) Reduction

(b) Effect

(c) Consider

(d) Meditative

(e) Trouble

(f) Frustration

(g) Differ

(h) Continuation

- **04.** (a) When you get the urge to smoke, you try to do something that is different-talk to a friend.
 - (b) If you continue to smoke, it will cause a lot of harm to you.
 - (c) Some people think that smoking cannot do much harm to their body.
 - (d) It has lots of benefit in our practical lives and it can extend our life span to a considerable limit.
 - (e) Many organizations are also taking different effective programmes so that they can reduce smoking in a considerable level.
- **05.** (a) When you get the urge to smoke try to do something. It is a different issue to a friend. Your friend will not stop to do it, At the same time you have to quit it.
 - (b) There is a chance of risk for serious diseases like heart attack, stroke and cancer. If you do not quit smoking, to quit smoking is beneficial to

06.

a) Deal with = One has to know how to deal with them.

b) Get rid of = It's time to get rid of this old sweater.

c) Different talk = Different talk detracts from usual business.

d) Lower your risk = Swimming lowers risk of heart attack.

e) Pick a date = Just pick a date to quit smoking.

f) Keep in mind = We should keep in mind that health is wealth

g) Journey to hell = Smoking leads us to the journey to hell. h) Handle = It seemed ready to fly off the handle.

i) Handy = It did not come in handy.

j) Reduce = We need to reduce global warming.
 k) Hassle = Do not get into hassle with bad people.
 l) Stain = Her clothing was stained with blood.

m) Frustrated = He looked so frustrated. n) Crippled = Please help the crippled man.



Bangladesh as a Middle Income Country

Bangladesh's recent graduation to the World Bank's lower-middle-income category from a low-income category was only a matter of time. The country experienced steady growth in the 2000s and boosted its per capita income. It's from a mere 2.8 per cent in the 1970s to 6 per cent in the 2010s, and per capita income increased from only US\$90 in 1973 to US\$1314 in 2015. Bangladesh has manifested the features of a modern economy. It has changed structurally from traditional agricultural dependency to industry and services sectors. The strength of the economy is also reflected through its integration into the global economy, through higher exports, imports, remittances and foreign direct investment. More than 60 per cent of the economy is globally integrated. Despite several problems, such as lack of power and energy, technological bottlenecks and political instability, Bangladesh's favourable policy environment and continuity of policies contributed to the growth of the country.

After adopting a market-oriented economy in the 1980s under the Structural Adjustment Programmes of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, Bangladesh undertook various reforms. These included withdrawing agricultural subsidies, privatising state-owned enterprises, liberalising the financial sector and withdrawing import quotas. The liberalisation process was consolidated in the 1990s and built further momentum in the 2000s. Bangladesh's currency, the taka, was made convertible on the current account. The country adopted a floating exchange rate, significantly reduced import duties, removed controls on the movement of foreign capital and deregulated interest rates to allow competition among banks.

Global policies and institutions also contributed to higher growth in Bangladesh. For example, income from ready-made-garments (RMG) — the major export item — and remittances from migrant workers have helped sustain high growth. This provided a major boost to RMG exports from Bangladesh's textile industry. As RMG is a major source of income and employment — particularly for women — the sector also contributes towards poverty reduction. Bangladeshi workers participating in global labour markets have earned a significant amount of remittances, which have also contributed to higher national savings. Yet the country's higher income status also implies that it will have more opportunities, including easier access to commercial loans from global credit markets and foreign direct investment.

Going forward, Bangladesh has to strive for further growth and higher income so that it can generate enough resources to continue its development. In particular, it must achieve the capacity to repay foreign loans and fund development with domestic resources. Bangladesh will need higher growth to move forward and escape the middle income trap'. This will depend on how reforms and institutional strengthening take place in the country. Despite impressive recent growth rates above 6 per cent (which is why Bangladesh has been described as a 'development surprise'). The growth rate has become a 'new normal', and rate requires major qualitative changes in the economy. These include reforming public administration and strengthening the Anti-Corruption Commission to improve financial transparency and economic governance. Unfortunately, neither of these institutions is capable of discharging its responsibility without political influence.

Future growth potential will also depend on the capacity of the country to attract more investment. Investment growth was modest in the 2000s. Moreover, this investment comprised mainly public sector investment, through upscaling annual development programs.

Investment in infrastructure — such as the transport and energy sectors — is needed to attract investment in other sectors. Investment is also needed for developing human resources, upgrading technology, innovation and research and development. Despite Bangladesh's growth, productivity has not improved due to lack of adequate investment in these areas. For example, productivity in the RMG sector is the lowest among its competing countries such as China and Vietnam. Bangladesh is poised to move forward. It will have to focus not only on growth, but also the quality of growth so that sustainability is ensured. This will hinge on whether Bangladesh can energise its investment regime through regulatory and institutional reforms, diversify its exports and reduce inequality through creating decent jobs for all.

Md. Shahriar Alam MP, State Minister for Foreign Affairs informed the Ministers of the Least Developed Countries that Bangladesh is well on its way to graduate from the LDCs, and is confident to reach its target in time. Shahriar Alam mentioned that under Vision 2021 of the present government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Bangladesh has been formulating and implementing all necessary policies in its national development plans to reach the middle income status by the golden Jubilee of our independence.

Shahriar Alam shared this information with the Ministers from LDCs and other development partners plus UN agency representatives during the LDC Ministerial Meeting on New Partnerships for building productive capacity in the Least Developed Countries that is being held in Cotonou, Benin on 28 - 31 July 2014. The meeting was inaugurated by the President of Benin on 28 July 2014. The State Minister for Foreign Affairs chaired the First Thematic session on the first day of the Ministerial Meeting on policy framework and institutions for productive capacity building, where he explained the vision and the perspectives of the present Government of Bangladesh in the context of importance of policy framework and institutions for productive capacity building.

Senior representatives from Governments, international agencies and intergovernmental organizations made presentations as panelists, while several high level dignitaries from different countries made interventions from the floor. The discussions stressed on the importance of giving high priority to the issue of building productive capacity in the LDCs for addressing the various challenges faced by these vulnerable countries in the issues of social, environments and economic areas.

The State Minister also disclosed that in the recently adopted Open Working Group outcome document, the productive capacity featured prominently which is the first priority area of Istanbul Program of Action for LDCs (IPoA). Shahriar Alam campaigned for the candidatures of Bangladesh for membership of the Human Rights Council, and for the post of Council Member of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) among participating dignitaries. He also attended a dinner hosted by the President of Benin on the first day of the meeting. Ministers and high level dignitaries from around 50 countries including Least Developed Countries and donor countries as well as Heads of different UN Agencies are attending the meeting in Benin. The State Minister for Foreign Affairs is scheduled to return to Bangladesh from Benin on 1 August 2014.

Developed countries refer to those economies which have been able to bring about high standard of living for their citizens by raising the per capita real income at the highest possible level through utilizing human and natural resources by applying most modern production technique and up-to-date scientific knowledge and latest technological know-how. National income and per capita income are very high in developed countries. Equitable distribution of wealth and income here ensures higher standard of living of the people.

Mass production of goods and services through modern scientific technology here provides huge quantities of goods including luxury commodities. In fine, people here get the opportunity of leading a pleasant life with basic necessaries of life along with the comforts and luxuries produced with modern technology and techniques. Fundamentally developed countries are predominantly industrialized. The sphere of education and cultural fronts are uplifted here. Population increase rate is compatible with the economic growth rate of the country. Unemployment here may prevail in a little degree but the social security system is very strong here. Balance of payments is always favorable here. People of developed countries usually enjoy high standard of living. USA, Britain, Canada, France, Australia, Germany, Japan, Russia and few other countries of European countries are developed countries.

This category of countries is one which has been successful in bringing about certain degree of economic development through application of development strategy and plan. Here a stage has been inlaid on and the economic and social infra-structure and overheads built by now, is providing facilities for increasing production. The position of these countries has been termed as 'take off stage' by the economists. The level of development in these countries although lower compared to the developed ones, there are brisk activities for upgrading the country to a high economically and socially developed position. Virtually these countries are gradually moving forward in respect of economic and social indicators like those of the developed countries. Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Myanamar, Srilanka, Nepal, Bhutan among others of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Now-a-days another nomenclature is used in explaining the socio-economic position of certain countries. International authorities and organizations including World Bank, IMF fashionably describe certain countries putting them into a new variety. Practically these are the countries which are in the front line of developing countries. A developing country virtually falls in the group of Less Developed Countries (LDCs). During last four decades few countries have come out of this bracket to the middle income countries.

The World Bank has categorized MICs into lower MICs and upper MICs. The lower MICs include among others: India, Indonesia, Iraq, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Vietnam, Paraguay, Ukraine and Bhutan. The upper MICs among others include: Hungary, Albania, Algeria, Libya, Malaysia, South Africa, China, Thailand, Brazil, Mexico, Lebanon and Venezuela. Per capita income in the lower MICs varies from US \$ 1046-4125 while in upper MICs it varies between US\$ 2126-12745. The indicators of MICs are in brief: Moderately high per capita income, fairly equitable distribution of wealth and income, use of sufficiently modern technological know-how in productive process, provision of a base of socio-economic infrastructure, tolerable volume of unemployment, favorable balance of payments, availability of necessaries of life in reasonable price along with the luxury goods are some to be mentioned.

UNCTAD Report (2014) on LDC says that statistical indicator for entering MIC is minimum per capita income US \$ 1190, Human Resource Index-66 and that of Economic Vulnerability Index 32. Maldives has by now entered the MICs. In recent years it is said as a political utterance in different forums that the economic indicators of the country are advancing forward in such a way that by the year 2021 Bangladesh would reach the middle income group countries. As per report-2014 of the UNCTAD the per capita income as on 2013 of Bangladesh stands at US \$ 900, Human Resource Index is 547 and Economic Vulnerability Index is 32.4. The upward moving trend of the first two indicators and low trend of the third are hopeful for the economy.

From 1975 up to 2012 Bangladesh remains enlisted as a Less Developed Country (LDC) by the United Nations standard. This year (2015) UNO would make an assessment on the matter. But there is no chance for Bangladesh to be included in the MIC group list. The next time assessment in this field by UNO is scheduled to be done in 2018.

If Bangladesh aspires to be included in MIC by 2018-19, massive advancement in various sectors and economic indicators would be necessary. For promotion of Bangladesh from LDC to MIC is not a far away dream. The political philosophy of Rupkalpa (Vision) 2021 envisaged by the present government to become a MIC by the stipulated time is very likely to be materialized. The economic variables of the country are noticed to be advancing and running uninterrupted.

In GDP growth exports, remittances, monetary inclusiveness, food security, foreign exchange reserve, social indicators of MDGs and the like provide hope and potentiality of materialization of the dream of Bangladesh. But occasional political upheavals and turmoils may drive away the dream. Moreover, structural changes of the economy are highly necessary for proper use of natural resources for multi dimentionalization and specialization of the economy that upgrade the country to a MIC by the stipulated time. To come out of the ,LDC group the GDP growth of Bangladesh has to become 8-10 percent. Absence of good governance is another impediment in the way of coming out of the LDC into MIC. The number of LDC countries now is 48 in the world. From 1971 only four countries have come out the LDC bracket. In the interest of prestige, honor and international recognition if Bangladesh desires to enter the MICs, we must have to be successful in pushing back infrastructural weaknesses, political instability and absence of good governance.

Overview of Bangladesh Economy:

With a continued average economic growth of over 6% in the last ten years (2004-2014), Bangladesh now proudly stands as an emerging trade and investment destination in South Asia. The steady growth in export business, hard¬working labour force and committed entrepreneurs supported by the pro-business, pro-investment policies of the Government are leading Bangladesh towards the line of global business competency.

The country's unequivocal position for peace and harmony, regional stability, cooperation, economic development through international and regional trade with its development and trade partners and an increasing flow of remittance by expatriate Bangladeshis living across the world have helped the country achieve and retain the impressive economic status. It is expected that GDP will grow around 7% in the FY 2015-16. A strong domestic demand, high export growth and continued expansion of infrastructural facilities attributed to the accomplishment of accelerated growth amidst the fragile pace of global economic recovery.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) in its World Economic Outlook, 2015 has ranked Bangladesh as the 56th largest economy in the world in terms of nominal GDP in 2014. World Bank's ranking of Bangladesh in the same category is 58th (2013), the United Nations' (2013) - 57th and the World Fact Book of the CIA has placed Bangladesh in 56th position (2014). The country registered a gross domestic product of US\$ 186.6 billion in 2014, US\$116.03 billion in 2013 and US\$111.91 billion in 2012, while GDP in terms of purchasing power parity was US\$ 535.6 billion in 2013. Although more than half of the GDP is generated through the service sector, almost half of the total population are employed in agriculture.

Garment exports, the backbone of Bangladesh industrial sector and 80% of total exports, surpassed US\$18 billion in 2014. Remittances sent by Bangladeshi expatriates totalled US\$15.30 billion in 2014-15 financial year, also forms a very important pillar of the country's economy.

Bangladesh experienced a satisfactory FDI in the last five years. World Investment Report 2014 ranked Bangladesh 16th among 74 FDI-recipient countries with a record US\$ 1.59billion FDI inflow in 2013. This is the third time Bangladesh's FDI has exceeded the billion dollar mark in a single year. Standard & Poors latest credit rating for Bangladesh stands at BB-. Moody's rating for Bangladesh sovereign debt is Ba3. The transfer and convertibility (T&C) assessment remains 'BB-'. The Government of Bangladesh has planned a long-term perspective plan, with a target to make Bangladesh a middle-income country by 2021, by raising the real per capita income to US\$ 2,000 which now stands at US\$ 1,314 (in real terms).

In Bangladesh, a strong middle class is gradually forming which according to some estimates is close to 18 % of the population. Due to emerging middle class and in general better income level of common people, domestic demand is growing and that becomes an important driver of economic activity. As major economies of the world are gradually losing their competitiveness, manufacturing has been gradually starting to take root in the country. Bangladesh has now emerged as an important manufacturing base for textile products, pharmaceuticals, finished leathers, light and medium industries, IT and shipbuilding. While world trade was severely disrupted by the global recession in recent past with exports of most countries declining sharply, the export of Bangladesh shows satisfactory growth.

Bangladesh has emerged as the second largest exporter in the world apparel market and is also doing exceedingly well in the exports of finished leathers and leather goods, frozen foods, jute and jute goods, pharmaceutical products, light engineering products and small ocean going vessels. In 2014-15, Bangladesh posted US\$ 31.2 billion export earnings, while at the corresponding periods the country registered import bills of US\$ 38.5 billion. Most of the items in the import list are petroleum products, capital goods and industrial raw materials. Bangladesh has also attained a satisfactory foreign currency reserves in recent months. Until April 2015, reserves stood at US\$ 23.35 billion. Apart from remittances by expatriate Bangladeshis, the increase in export earnings and decrease in import cost played their role in boost.

Delta Plan 2100

Introduction: Bangladesh is the largest delta of the world. Its rivers and floodplains support life, livelihoods and economy. Over 160 million people live in an area of about 147 570 square kilometers. The country is defined by the delta, with almost a third of the country lying less than five meters above sea level.

Bangladesh Government approved Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 on September 04, 2018 with the aspiration of achieving 'safe, climate resilient and prosperous Delta' by 2100.

Delta Plan 2100 : BDP 2100 is indeed the combination of long-term strategies and subsequent interventions for ensuring long term water and food security, economic growth and environmental sustainability while effectively reducing vulnerability to natural disasters and building resilience to climate change and other delta challenges through robust, adaptive and integrated strategies, and equitable water governance.

The complexity of the Bangladesh delta necessitates a plan that can adapt to change – a Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100. a long term, holistic and integrated plan for the Bangladesh delta. Long-term, considering goals for the next fifty to one-hundred years. Holistic, bringing together strategies for the country as a whole. Integrated, considering the needs of all water-related sectors in a single plan. The formulation of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 draws on experience from the Delta Plan formulation process in the Netherlands, while at the same time adapting to the specific needs of Bangladesh and fining inspiration in Bangladesh's long tradition of resilience and water management.

Delta Plan 2100 is formulated by General Economics Division (GED), Bangladesh Planning Commission, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and funded by Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and Government of Bangladesh. Technical Assistance will be provided by BanDuDeltAS (Bangladesh-Dutch Delta Advisory Services) consisting of Twynstra Gudde (Lead Partner), Deltares, ECORYS, D.EFAC.TO, Euroconsult-Mott MacDonald, Wageningen University and Research Centre,

Witteveen+Bos and UNESCO-IHE. Subcontractors of the Plan are Climate Adaptation Services Foundation, Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), Institute of Water Modelling (IWM) and Policy Research Institute (PRI).

Bangladesh will need around 2.5 percent of its GDP every year to implement the plan. It will need \$29.6 billion annually for implementation until 2031. The government will initially take 80 projects to implement at six 'hotspots' by 2030 at an estimated cost of \$37.5 billion in the first phase of the plan. The initial projects will include 65 for infrastructure development and the rest for developing organizational capabilities, skills and research. The projects are expected to add 1.5 percentage points to the annual growth of Bangladesh's economy by 2030. It is a comprehensive water resources plan in which 13 ministries and more than 30 agencies are involved.

Delta Vision: The Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100 is grounded in a vision of the future for the Bangladesh delta. The formulated Delta Vision has been included in Bangladesh's Seven Five Year Plan (2016-2020) as follows: "Ensure long- term water and food security, economic growth and environmental sustain- ability while effectively coping with natural disasters, climate change, and other delta issues through robust, adaptive and integrated strategies, and equitable water governance."

Hotspots of Delta Plan 2100: The Delta Plan 2100 has indicated six hotspots in Bangladesh. The logic of hotspot grouping has significant analytical merit. The climate risks on coastal districts are broadly similar and should be grouped as such rather than distribute them across three regions that also include non-coastal districts. Similarly, the water and climate change problems of CHT are much different from Chittagong and Cox's Bazar. The latter two face the hazards of being a part of the coastal districts. Furthermore, the urban metropolitan divisional headquarter districts face common water challenges and it makes sense to group them together.

- a) Coastal Areas: The coastal zone has been subdivided into four areas: i) South West (Ganges Tidal Floodplain West); ii) South Central (Ganges Tidal Floodplain East); iii) South East (Young Meghna Estuarine Floodplain); and iv) East and Hill (Chittagong Coastal Plains).
- b) Barind and Drought-prone Areas: Most characteristically, the Barind Tract at the west side of Raj shahi Division makes the area elevated, and the elevated riverbanks of the Jamuna and the Ganges make the region basin- shaped where Chalan Beel is located. Most of the rivers of this area come from the Ganges River and Barind Tract and outfall into the Brahmaputra the Jamuna River.

- c) Haor and Flash Flood Areas: Haors are important bowl or saucer-shaped depressions or natural reservoirs of freshwater wetlands with renewable and non-renewable natural resources in the Sylhet Basin in the north-eastern region of Bangladesh. They are the back swamps or bowl shaped depressions between the natural levees of rivers. They are flooded to a depth of as much as 4-6 m during the rainy season, and in most cases during monsoon two or more Haors become linked and form large water bodies. During the dry season most of the water drains out except some shallow lakes locally called Beels.
- d) Hilly Areas: The Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) area, covering three districts Rangamati, Khagrachhari and Bandarbans, is the only extensive hill area in Bangladesh bordering Myanmar on the southeast, the Indian state of Tripura on the north, Mizoram on the east, and Chittagong district on the west. The hills in the CHT rise steeply, thus looking far more impressive than their height would imply. Most of the ranges have scarps in the west, with cliffs and waterfalls. The CHT contains a man-made lake called Kaptai Lake, which has been created for the Kamafuli Hydro-Electric Project. Loss of forest and vegetation cover and unsustainable farming practices will intensify impacts of increased water runoff, soil erosion, landslides, and drying up of water springs and streams in this hotspot as a result of climate change.
- e) River and Estuaries Region: Major rivers, including the Ganges, the Brahmaputra-Jamuna, the Padma and the Meghna and their numerous tributaries and distributaries make Bangladesh a land of rivers, building the Bengal Delta, one of the largest of its kind. The catchment area of these rivers is about 1.72 million km² of which only 7% lies within the borders of Bangladesh. This catchment generates 120 million ha-m of runoff annually, of which only 10% is generated within Bangladesh. In addition to the vast quantities of water, these rivers carry about 1.1 billion tonnes of sediment every year. These rivers are dynamic in nature, as the land mass is composed of recent deltaic deposits and the major rivers originate in young mountains across the country's borders, such as the Himalayas, the Meghalaya and the Tripura' Hills in India, China, Nepal and Bhutan. These young mountains yield huge quantities of sediment due to their active tectonic movements, wind and rain activities in the regions, and snow melting.
- f) Urban Areas: The urban population base has expanded rapidly from 9% to nearly 28% between 1974 and 2011, which makes Bangladesh a 'rapidly urbanizing country'. With a population of 42 million in 2011 and increasing on a daily basis due to immigration from rural areas, the urban area is the most densely populated area in Bangladesh averaging about 1590 people per km². Population concentration in urban areas together with climate change induced negative impacts such as increasing SLR, salinity, water logging, prolonged dry periods, intensive rainfall, increased river discharges, receding ground water table, and contamination of surface waters will compound matters and increase strains and stress on service providers and disaster risk managers in urban centres.

Goals of Delta Plan 2100

Goal 1: Ensure safety from floods and climate change related disasters: This goal focuses on managing the risks of floods in the wet season and other climate change related disasters in the Delta including the coastal zone at a well-defined and acceptable level. This level is set to facilitate i) a safe living environment for all, in urban and rural environments; ii) reliable water system conditions for long term economic development; and m) the performance of key societal and economic functions. The risks of floods and climate change induced disasters are managed according to knowledge base and spatially differentiated safety levels and include the combined approach of climate proofing, early warming and prediction, prevention, evacuation and disaster relief. The goal considers ensuring safety of lives and livelihood against flood, flash flood, drought, salinity intrusion, 186 river bank erosion, cyclones, storm surge etc. through introducing improved adaptation and mitigation options.

- Goal 2: Ensure water security and efficiency of water usages: This goal relates to water resources management especially during the dry season as well as water shortage during dry spells. Maintaining a balance between the economic developments, expanding population and the need to secure water for multifaceted uses is a core challenge of the BDP 2100. The goal aims to ensure reliable and adequate provision of freshwater to support equitable and sustainable economic development, environmental sustainability and livelihood security. This includes: i) sufficient and timely provision of safe surface and ground water for drinking, agriculture, fisheries, environment, navigation, industry etc.; and ii) controlling pollution, ensuring water quality and providing sanitation at acceptable levels in relation to defined standards as well as environmental, health, agricultural and industrial needs.
- Goal 3: Ensure sustainable and integrated river systems and estuaries management: This goal considers sustainable management of river systems and estuaries, considered as one of the cornerstones of the Bangladesh Delta. The river systems of the country offer key development ingredients for the economy, society and the environment. Sustainable river and estuaries management as a whole, contributes to i) long term solutions for navigation; ii) sufficient sediment supply to flood plains; m) land reclamation in support of community development and economic growth; and iv) an inter-connected major and minor river system for environmental and economic development. This goal seeks to foster sustainable river system management by coping with its morphological dynamics and results in cost-effective, environment friendly and socially viable options for reclamation and developments of lands.
- Goal 4: Conserve and preserve wetlands and ecosystems and promote their wise use: The goal uses the term 'conservation' as a more generic target to safeguard and maintain the wetlands, whereas 'preservation' is a more converging approach, to protect some sensitive ecosystem areas. Some of the components to be safeguarded under the goal are mangrove forest, water and riverine ecosystem, coastal greenbelt, seasonal and perennial wetlands, tidal freshwater frontier etc.
- Goal 5: Develop effective institutions and equitable governance for in country and trans-boundary water resources management: The goal aims to improve the existing water governance for tackling both the 'endogenous and exogenous challenges of water resources management. At the same time, the community level functioning of local institutions would also be rejuvenated. Key elements include: i) ensuring adequate financing for investment, operation and maintenance; ii) capacity building and institutional strengthening; iii) stakeholder and private sector participation at appropriate levels; iv) minimizing the gaps between planning and implementation; v) supporting integrated water. resource management at regional and local levels, taking into account the interests of all prominent water users; vi) knowledge development for integrated decision-making though modelling, data and information sharing and management; and vii) trans- boundary negotiations on water resource management and building joint basin-wide cross-border platforms for cooperation initiatives.
- Goal 6: Achieve optimal use of land and water resources: The primary quest of this goal is to ensure efficient integration and proper interaction between land and water use aspects. The goal would mainstream the inter- connected resources functions (drainage, navigation etc.) as well. The key topics covered by the goal are land use, water use, and river transport network. Establishment of connectivity of water courses and inducing integration between different modes of resources interactions are emphasized under this goal.

Delta Plan 2100 Implementation Time Frame

To reach the Delta Vision and realize the Delta Goals throughout. Bangladesh, requires both national planning and regional tailoring, because different parts of the country (the hotspots) have their own characteristics'. To warrant flexibility and adaptivity of the strategies, the time frame of the BDP 2100 is divided into three periods: short, medium and long term:

- 1. Short term (up to 2030): The projects for the time period of up to 2030 are called "short term" as these projects are based on the assessment of the pre- sent and near future needs and development targets. The aim of these projects is to ensure food and water security and fortify the foundation of becoming a middle income country by 2021.
- 2. Medium term (2030-2050): The sub-strategies for this timeframe are "indicative strategies" based on the country's growth target and plausible scenarios. The sub-strategies with an in-built milestone of 2041 will be implemented through four consecutive Five Year Plans starting from 2031 and would be adaptive and more flexible in the sense that they will be reviewed and updated in every Five Year Plan based on the situation and development need. Connections need to be made with the SDGs and the upcoming Perspective Plan 2041. It is expected that the implementation of these strategies will help the country in achieving the target of becoming a developed country by 2041.
- **3. Long term** (2050-2100): For the timeframe 2050 to 2100 long-term projections of what is already ongoing and foreseen as well as "visionary" ideas are proposed which give direction to future strategy making. Given the uncertainty in environment and development, implementation will depend on the unfolding future scenario(s).

Due to the large uncertainties with respect to climate change and socio-economic development, planning is being enriched with adaptive strategy making in several deltas in the world. Rather than providing linear recipes, robust and flexible strategies and measures have been taken, with strong institutions and a good knowledge base that allows policy makers and stakeholders to anticipate and decide on the most appropriate investments. Learning from these international experiences, BDP 2100 has been similarly developed in light of the many possible future paths that are possible, and is designed to be changed over time as new information becomes available or policy priorities change. So instead of only focusing on short-term 'trial and error' actions and projects, the idea is to keep the long-term vision in mind while prioritizing short-term 'no regret' actions.