**ছাত্র-জনতার অভ্যুত্থান টি ছিল অরাজনৈতিক। এখানে সাধারণ মানুষ থেকে শুরু করে নানা দল মতের মানুষ অংশ গ্রহণ করেছে। কিন্তু এটি তখনি সফল হয়েছে যখন সাধারণ জনগণ এই আন্দোলনে স্বতঃস্ফূর্ত ভাবে অংশ গ্রহণ করেছে এবং অন্যায় অবিচারের বিরুদ্ধে সোচ্চার হয়েছে। আন্দোলনের মূল বিষয় টি ছিল বৈষম্য বিরোধী বাংলাদেশ যেটি একটি অভূতপূর্ব জাতীয় ঐক্য তৈরী করেছিল। জুলাই এর মাঝামাঝি ও পরবর্তী সময়ে তৎকালীন সরকার নির্বিচারে ছাত্র-জনতাকে হত্যা, নির্যাতন ও সমন্বয়কদের আটকে রেখে যখন আন্দোলনকে একপ্রকার নিভৃত করেছিল তখন এর প্রতিবাদে বিভিন্ন সামাজিক সাংস্কৃতিক ও নাগরিক সমাজ কারফিউর মধ্যে প্রতিবাদ ও সমাবেশ করে আন্দোলনকে একরকম পুনরুজ্জীবিত করে যেটি পরবর্তীতে ৫ ই আগস্ট এর গণ অভ্যুত্থানে রূপান্তরিত হয়। বিশেষ করে ২ ও ৩ আগস্ট এর বাংলাদেশ ছিল এক অসাধারণ প্রতিবাদ মুখর অন্যায়ের বিরুদ্ধে সোচ্চার সাধারণ মানুষের প্রতিচ্ছবি । সর্ববিচারে পুরো আন্দোলনে সমন্বকদের রাজনৈতিক মতাদর্শ ও পরিচয় মুখ্য ব্যাপার ছিলনা, এটি নিয়ে মানুষের মধ্যে কৌতূহল ও আশংকাও ছিলোনা যদিও তৎকালীন সরকার আন্দোলনে কয়েকটি রাজনৈতিক দলের অনুপ্রবেশের কথা প্রথম থেকেই বলে আসছে।**

**তাই আন্দোলনের সময় রাজনৈতিক পরিচয় লুকিয়ে এখন যারা আত্মপ্রকাশ করছেন তাদের জেনে রাখা উচিত তাদের রাজনৈতিক অভিলাষ পূরণে এই অভ্যুত্থান হয়নি। এবং এই ধরণের চেষ্টা করে অভ্যুত্থানের মূল স্প্রিট কে বাধা দেওয়ার চেষ্টা করা হলে বাংলাদেশের সচেতন মানুষ সেটির প্রতিরোধ করবে। অভ্যুত্থান পরবর্তী সময়ে এখন নানা প্রতিকুলতার মধ্যে দিয়ে বাংলাদেশ যাচ্ছে এবং এটি এখনকার বাস্তবতা। তবে এটি মেনে নিতে আমাদের কষ্ট হচ্ছে। রাষ্ট্র পুনর্ঘটন ও সংস্কার এক জটিল বিষয়, এখানে নানা দল ও মত তাদের প্রভাব বিস্তার ও স্বার্থ কে প্রাধান্য দিতে চাইবে এটাই স্বাভাবিক, তবে জনগণ যদি সজাগ থাকে ও তাদের মতামত ব্যাক্ত করতে থাকে তাহলে নীতি-নির্ধারণী প্রক্রিয়াকে প্রভাবিত করে সুন্দর, কল্যানকর ও বৈষ্যম বিরোধী বাংলাদেশ বিনির্মাণ সম্ভৱ। এখনকার যুগে অনেকক্ষেত্রে রাজনৈতিক দলের চাইতেও ব্যাক্তি ও অরাজনৈতিক দল ও প্রতিষ্ঠান বেশি শক্তিশালী ও কার্যকর ভূমিকা পালন করে: ছাত্র-জনতার অভ্যুত্থান ও সম্প্রতি কালে বন্যাকালীন ও পরবর্তী দুর্যোগ মোকাবিলা সেটির জ্বলন্ত উদাহরণ।**

**আমি মোটেই আশাহত হচ্ছিনা। আমাদের সবার জায়গা থেকে ইতিবাচক ভূমিকা রাখতে পারলেই পরিবর্তন আসবে।**

**Let’s relieve post-independence generations from taboos! Let them fly**

Like scores of people in my country, I am deeply moved by the recent student movement that has suffered brutal assaults first from the ruling party’s student wing, followed by state law enforcement agencies resulting in the loss of over 100 lives, mostly students, and fatal injuries for a lot of people. At the onset and for a few weeks, the movement was circumscribed to peaceful processions, rallies and demonstrations, however, with unfortunate attacks on students the whole thing turned into violent clashes. In the lead up to the extreme, civil life has been terribly disrupted as important government and public infrastructures and facilities were burned down taking an intricate shape of the movement possibly with the alleged joining of many political and extreme forces.

The destruction and havoc caused were unprecedented in Bangladesh’s history. Commentators argue that such atrocities and their gruesome outcomes could easily be avoided if the movement could receive policy makers’ considerate attention earlier before things became complicated and unmanageable. It appeared the government initially did not pay heed to students’ demands having a complicit attitude as the movement was mobilized and led by non-politically organized students, who seemed to pose little to no threats to the government in power. But, the whole scenario began intensifying when the head of the state questioned the basis of the movement and scorned it using a derogatory comment, ‘Shall I not keep quota for freedom fighters and their children and grandchildren rather give them to Rajakars, a term widely hated and ascribed to collaborators with the Pakistan military in their genocide in the then East Pakistan and now Bangladesh, and their offsprings and so on and so forth?’ This comment shattered students’ heart at the core; they felt emotionally broke: unattended, uncared and betrayed precipitating them to label themselves as Rajakars in their own motherland out of deep frustrations. Students’ resentment was further exasperated when some eminent intellectuals irresponsibly equivocated agitating students as Rajakars.

It is utterly unacceptable that after 53 years of Independence, politicians and so-called intellectuals continue to use the term, Rajakars, Albadars, to pursue their self-interest and cement their ill-intentioned objectives. They must remember that tagging and bullying particularly post-independence generations, irrespective of their ideologies, with those snide terms are truly unconstitutional. Article XXX of our constitution clearly spell out that anyone born XXX,…are citizens of Bangladesh and thus can not be deprived from their citizen rights on the basis of sex, race, color, XXXX. A citizen among other benefits can by no means be subject to bullying, harsh treatment, harassments etc. Bangladesh is also a signatory of the universal human rights that calls for human dignity. Under any circumstances, any citizen cannot suffer verbal abuse and disdainful remarks. Therefore, addressing anyone as Rajakars/Albadar must be considered as unlawful and unconstitutional necessitating legal actions for breaching laws associated with personal integrity and dignity. It is high time that a writ petition is submitted in the highest court why calling out Rajakars, Albadars in our public and private life will not be a crime? Law alone cannot be sufficient to relieve post independence generations from being bullied as Rajakars/Albadr. We need greater social dialogues and political consensus that we are not putting down our post war generations just for the sake of taking political advantage over each other! Let’s settle unresolved issues now and revisit our political culture and rectify them. I’m afraid that if political parties do not understand today’s youth, their desires and aspirations, it is very likely that youth are going to ditch their narrow political mindsets and advance on their own. Remember, post independence generations are now global citizens, and they want their strong foothold in the global arena. They want to take Bangladesh as a brand beyond borders and address global issues. Our politics and political culture must facilitate the empowerment of our post-independence generation so that they stand tall and is morally spirited.

Another day has passed with sheer uncertainty and anxiousness! The little to no access to communications feels undoubtedly weird. Probably we never imagined in our wildest dream of the overwhelming dependence of internet connectivity and its multifaceted impacts in our day to day lives. I am trying to relate this time to my childhood when my family had no access to communications other than newspapers. Life seems simple then, no rush to scroll down unnecessary newsfeed just for the sake of seeing what’s happening in people’s lives, who otherwise do not matter in my life. I’m trying to enjoy the time that can be termed as digital detox. It’s time to value things in life that matter the most, family!

We had been through dark times in the last week or so. I’ve never seen such a Bangladesh in my lifetime: an unprecedented amount of violence, anarchy and destruction. It is heart-wrenching and unacceptable that our iconic infrastructures, made from our taxpayer’s money, were damaged, public facilities were burned down. I condemn these in the hardest possible way and as a citizen I demand that perpetrators are identified as soon as possible and brought to trial and punished in a way so that going forward miscreants think twice before vandalizing public property and interrupting public life.

At the same time, it's utterly frustrating and disgruntling to see the issue of killing around 200 people is totally obscured by the never-ever seen amount of violence and anarchies! Most of the mainstream media began surfacing the news of murder and highlighted rather vandalism and destruction of public property only. While both phenomena well qualify as acts of terrorism, however, the latter is getting promotional public attention through maneuvering often the unfree press making it a top agenda for public discussion. The closer of internet, which mostly allows people to express their views freely, is significantly helping the process of indoctrination of partial truth linked to the whole movement that later turned into an atrocity! Overall, I see several outcomes are derived from this whole unexpected process:

* First and foremost, general students were trapped and betrayed! They suffered a dirty and gruesome power politics between the ruling and opposition parties. Their movement was snatched, they suffered the most! Out of 200 killings, most of them were students. Their lives were taken away, their dreams were shattered. Families that lost loved ones are the worst sufferer; will they ever get justice? Will any form of reparations help them to get through the losses and shocks? Going forward, I am afraid, students would be in perpetual despair, prompting them to flee oppression, persecution and their dear motherland and may decide to settle in a place that is free and offer opportunities to realize their potential and dreams. In the end, over the years, our politics failed to deliver the four promised principles of our great liberation war: democracy, socialism, XXX, XXX, XXX, XXX

* Vandalism, destruction of public property, oppression, persecution, arbitrary murder, extrajudicial killing and overall, the erosion of human rights protection will further be cemented in our political and civil culture. Whatever parties come into the power and be in the oppositions even 20/30 years later, they would even be more ferocious by consolidating more power and acts of terrorism and violence. People in general would start accepting them as normal or less destructive compared to previous incidents, highly divided by political parties’ agenda, thereby, ultimately losing their conscience, voice and freedom.

In short term:

* For now, the ruling party gained politically and solidified its power and position by articulating a narrative and highlighting the acts of terrorism e.g. violence and vandalism. They were seemingly able to establish that opposition parties/forces did the savage and rampage.
* The opposition parties/forces failed to prove their associations with the act of terrorism and violence. They could not come up with a counter narrative and therefore, suffered a political defeat, which badly impacted their popularity and acceptance among countrymen.

**Student movement to mass uprising: how Bangladeshi youth uprooted a tyrant dictator**

Overview of the movement

Movement characteristics:

* Student led
* Collective, adaptive and fearless leadership
* Quick and effective transition to different phases through clear articulation of their different points
* Tireless protest: confronting law enforcement agencies, ruling party’s different wings and suffered lethal assaults/attacks
* Use of social media to connect with mass people
* Use of innovative tools to communicate their grievances: wall painting/murals, slogans, wrap songs, reproducing some of the posters, slogans of earlier movements.
* Earn solidarity of different groups: cultural activists, civil society, engagement of parents’ associations, teachers network, some political parties, professional groups.

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Dear All,

I am home and so happy to reunite with my family after a fabulous 65 days. And guess what, I am already missing you and my time in the Pearl of Africa. In my first few weeks, I was captivated by the cool Kampala weather and the pristine countryside nature. Soon after, another force took over my heart and it's no other than your warmth, kindness and love. Thank you so much for your incredible support that made my stay fruitful and enjoyable. I am glad that I was able to contribute to the Mission’s workstreams particularly PPR and accomplish my professional and personal goals. I thoroughly enjoyed working with such a winning team with versatile talents, which were reflected in the Team’s collective achievements. You are the best of best in every aspect and you displayed it on the holiday event as you stole the show! I am sure as a Team you are going to further thrive and achieve extraordinary feats in the coming days. My best wishes to everyone!

Let us keep in touch and share our exciting stories going forward. Hope our paths cross again.

Kind regards,

Motasim

It’s almost time to go home; leaving Kampala in less than 20 hours. I can’t wait to reunite with my family back home after a fabulous 65 days in Uganda/Africa. Work brought me to this part of the world and in the first few weeks, I was captivated by the pristine nature and amazing weather. Soon after, another force took over my heart and it's none other than Ugandan/African kind hearted people and their rich cultural attributes. They made my stay so comfortable and enjoyable that it felt like I found a little home here away from home. I met so many beautiful souls, many of them are my colleagues, made friends, reconnected with a seemingly lost friend almost after a decade and was able to interact with the diverse ethnic culture. Life is simple here and the simplicity stands out everywhere.

As I am packing everything, it feels a bit weird; a sort of melancholic feeling. It seems I am not only leaving the pearl of Africa but also leaving a piece of my heart here. I hope life brings me back here someday in Africa: the last good place to live as they say.

Finally, a long-awaited trip to a beautiful Savanna! East African Savannas are unique of a combination of woodland and grassland where trees are widely scattered. The landscape itself blew my mind. On top of that seeing a wide range of animals, birds and many other species in their natural habitat were truly amazing. I stayed several nights at a secluded lodge right in the middle of the Savanna. Staying in the nature was so soothing; heard sweet chirping of many unknown birds and noises of insects. The lodge I stayed was located just by the bank of the river Nile where animals often come for water. It was so wonderful to see antelopes, baboons, warthogs, buffalos, Giraffes, and elephants grazing and drinking water right before the lodge. A leopard often visits the lodge and stay at the top of a tree but does not harm humans; the staffs of the lodge admirably call it ‘the residence Leopard! A lioness came to the backyard of the lodge just a week ago but gunmen patrolling the lodge were able to safely push her back to her territory. Due to safety issues, I did not step out of hut at night though the nature was so appealing!

To see animals in the savanna, I had two game drives: from late afternoon until 8pm in the evening. Another one was early in the morning before the sun rise starting 4:30am. Enjoying sun rise and sun set in the Savanna was very special. Early in the morning is the best time to see many animals including predators. On my first day, when we just came out of our lodge around 4:45am, a hyena just got in our way, and it was staying standstill right before our Safari van. It seemed the hyena was returning to its dan after hunting all night long. Then we went to the territory of lions and saw lioness and their kids relaxing and playing. It’s hard to see predators as the grasses are tall enough for them to hide and hunt. Giraffes, antelopes, buffaloes and elephants are widely seen; many of them came very close to us feeling like they greeted us.

woodland-grassland ecosystem characterised by the trees being sufficiently widely spaced so that the canopy does not close.

**What is the task?  When is it due?**

* The OU must compare to see if the values pushed from DIS into FACTSInfo match those values in the approved PPR in FACTSInfo for the following two fields.
  + **FY 22 Actuals** - For discrepancies, update Activity-level data in DIS or detail the reason for the variation that will be included in the final step of this process.
  + **FY 23 Targets** - For discrepancies, update FY 2023 Activity-level Targets in DIS; any variations can be explained in the deviation narratives for the FY 2023 PPR.
* Once complete, an OU Manager must navigate to the PPR Reporting Module in DIS and fill out the “Validation Confirmation” for FY 2022 screen.  This screen has a Comments field that can hold any of the discrepancies identified on FY 22 Actuals.

The name of the **OU Manager who submitted the attestation** will stay on record and be **sent to the auditors** as proof the task was complete for the OU.

**For FY 2022**, the attestation is **due in DIS by November 3.**   The PPR data validation task must be completed prior to beginning the FY 2023 PPR process in DIS.

For **FY 2023** **PPR** data and all future PPRs, this process will occur every year in late March/early April.

**Why would there be a mis-match between DIS and FACTSInfo?**

The mismatch might occur because data may have been updated/corrected directly in FACTSInfo after the PPR was submitted.  These updates in FACTSInfo are not automatically “pulled” back into DIS - they must be updated manually.  If those updates were not made for whatever reason, this process will catch that oversight. There may be valid reasons why a mismatch exists; in those cases, the reason for the mis-match needs to be documented.

**Why is this data validation task important?**

* FY 2023 Targets that are different in FACTSInfo and DIS will cause problems in the DIS PPR Reporting Module because deviation narratives may not be triggered that are in fact necessary - or vice versa.
* For both good data management purposes and audit purposes, the systems should agree unless there is a valid reason that they do not.

### 1.3  Manually compare the data between the reports

Open the downloaded [FACTSInfo Report](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Pkv3x1VFs5WHbVwLhAJPtDGBXNNkGcHhCSHJbZTERw/edit#heading=h.k963lgcf07do) and the [DIS Report](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Pkv3x1VFs5WHbVwLhAJPtDGBXNNkGcHhCSHJbZTERw/edit#heading=h.g0mpiktvmi0m).

Focus your review on **FY 22 Actuals** and **FY 23 Targets**.  If there is any discrepancy, this means that the data was updated in FACTSInfo after it was “pushed” from DIS.

### 1.4  Action any discrepancies for FY 2022 in DIS

If possible, update Activity-level DIS to match the data that was submitted into FACTSInfo for FY 2022 Targets and FY 2022 Actuals.  **Remember that FACTSInfo data is at the Indicator-level whereas DIS data is at the Activity-level.**  To update a Collection Period in DIS, first Unapprove that Collection Period, then update the data, then re-Submit and Approve the Collection Period.  This can only be done by someone who is listed as an Owner on the Permissions tab.

If the update cannot be accommodated at the Activity-level in DIS, make a note for yourself and add this to the comments section when you complete the attestation in [Step 2](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Pkv3x1VFs5WHbVwLhAJPtDGBXNNkGcHhCSHJbZTERw/edit#heading=h.un5m403o6t1r).

### 1.5  Update any discrepancies for FY 2023 in DIS

If you find a discrepancy between FACTSInfo and DIS for the FY 23 Targets, make the updates to the Activity-level Target(s) in DIS following the same process as in [1.4.  Update any discrepancies for FY 2022 in DIS](https://docs.google.com/document/d/13Pkv3x1VFs5WHbVwLhAJPtDGBXNNkGcHhCSHJbZTERw/edit#heading=h.30ilmmsxurys).  It is important to update DIS to match FACTSInfo so that the flag for a deviation narrative at the Indicator level works properly in the DIS PPR Reporting module.

Note:  If the FY 23 Targets were incorrectly reported into last year’s PPR, include this in the indicator’s Deviation Narrative for the FY 23 PPR.