

# **Executive Branch of Government**



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# Executive

- In **ancient** times the executive (monarch) used to **formulate and implement laws**.
- In **modern** time, particularly in the **democracy**, the **laws are made** by the **legislature**, the **executive implement them**.

# Two key concepts

- **Head of the state:** formally represents the people of the nation.
- **Head of government:** he is the leader or "in charge" of the system of creating and executing laws

# Types of executive

- **Nominal and Real Executive:** In many countries the head of the state has **nominal** power as in **Great Britain, Sweden**. Power of Monarch are exercised by the ministers. Contrary to this, **US president** has given many powers under constitution (**real executive**).
- **Single and Plural Types of Executive:** Single executive means that all executive powers are vested in one **Head of the State (e.g. the US president exercise all the executive powers)**. In **Switzerland**, the executive power is not in the hands of only one individual, but in the hands of a **Council of seven members (Federal Council)**.
- **Hereditary and Elective Executive:** When a king is the head of state and when after his death, his son or his near occupies the throne – called **Hereditary** executive. Where the Head of State is elected either by the people or by their representative, the system is called **Elected** executive.

# Types of executive

## □ In democracy:

- Within the liberal democracies, governments tend to be either parliamentary or presidential
- **Parliamentary executive** consisting of Prime Minister, Cabinet Ministers and Junior Ministers;
- **Presidential executive** consisting of the President and his Cabinet;
- **Hybrid system** that includes elements of parliamentary and presidential executive and it is found in **France**;

## □ In dictatorship: When the entire powers of a nation are in the hands of a person.

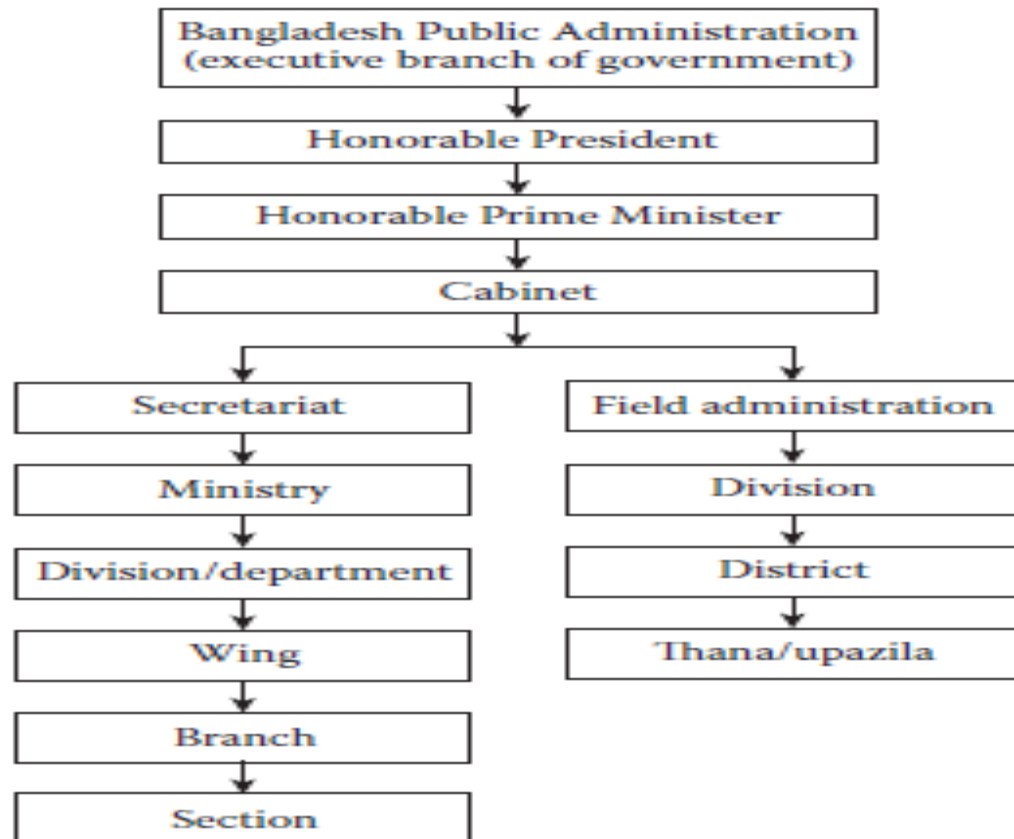
# Function of the executive

- **Leadership:** In the contemporary political world, political leadership is almost always associated with chief executives.
- **Administrative:** maintenance of **law and order** and other administrative tasks.
- **Legislative:** generally law making is the responsibility of the legislature but in every country, the executive also play an important role to formulate laws.
- **Military functions:** in any crisis, the executive branch perform military functions.
- **Financial functions:** maintain national finance- prepare budget and implement that.

# Bangladesh

- In Bangladesh, the work of the executive branch of the government is performed by **two** distinct sets of people:
  - Politicians; and
  - Permanent officials
- Bangladesh has **parliamentary system (Westminster style)**, the party/party **alliance which gets the majority of the vote form the government.**
- Political heads i.e. **Ministers lead different ministries.**
- **Permanent officials** are known as **bureaucracy** and they are under the political controls and provide support to the ministers to run the ministry.
- Currently Prime Minister and her 25 Cabinet Ministers, 7 Advisers, 18 State Ministers and 3 Deputy Ministers are leading different ministries.
- Under Prime Minister, there are multiple ministries, for more:  
<https://cabinet.gov.bd>

# Structure of Bangladesh Public Administration





# Current central and field administration

- 58 Ministries & Divisions
- 353 Directorates & Others
- 8 Divisions
- 64 Districts
- 492 Upazila
- 4,554 Unions

## □ Central Administration

- **Cabinet Secretary** of Bangladesh (**Head of the Cabinet Division, and Head of the Bangladesh Civil Service**)
- **Principal Secretary** (this grade is for the **Head of the Prime Minister's Office**, and **equivalent in stature** to the **Cabinet Secretary**)
- **Senior Secretary** (awarded to secretaries in the most important ministries and departments, as well as for long and distinguished service to the government)
- Secretary (**usually the head of a ministry**, or in some cases Divisions within important ministries)
- Additional Secretary
- Joint Secretary
- Deputy Secretary (also the usual rank of a Private Secretary (PS) to a Minister; or Secretary in a Ministry and/or Division or Deputy Director of departments under the ministry)
- Senior Assistant Secretary
- Assistant Secretary

## □ **Field Administration**

- Divisional Commissioner- **Division level**
- Additional Divisional Commissioner-**Division level**
- Deputy Commissioner- **District level**
- Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) (Senior Assistant Secretary, senior scale)-  
**District level**
- Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) (Senior Assistant Secretary)- **Upazila level**
- Senior Assistant Commissioner (NDC/RDC)
- Assistant Commissioner (Land)
- Assistant Commissioner (Probation)

# Cadre and Non-Cadre

- **Cadre services** were those which were constituted under law with a number of positions, a distinct hierarchy, and well-defined functions for each steps in the hierarchy. Recruitment to the cadre services is normally made through the public service commission on the basis of open competitive examinations and /or interviews.
- On the other hand **Non-cadre** services were mostly based on positions with no definite/limited structure of mobility either horizontally or vertically.
- Members of the **cadre** service could move from one department to another, whereas the **non-cadre** personnel had to serve in the particular department to which they were originally recruited.
- Currently there are **28 cadre services** in Bangladesh; BCS (Economic) cadre recently merged with BCS (Administration).
- There **20 different grades** and BCS cadres start their job **from 9<sup>th</sup> grade** and gradually move up.

# Gazetted officer and non-gazetted

- **Gazette** is the **official paper or journal issued** by the state or government.
- An employee is treated as gazetted when his/her appointment and promotions are **notified in the official gazettes**.
- There is recruitment on many posts by **attached department/semi-government organizations/autonomous bodies** which are done by those organizations themselves and those are also **termed as government officers** but their entry into government service is **not notified in the gazette**.

# Suggested readings

- Danziger, J. N., & Smith, C. A. (2016). *Understanding the political world: A comparative introduction to political science*. Boston :Pearson, pp. 137-144.
- Agarwal, R. C. (2014). *Political Theory: Principles of Political Science* (New Delhi: S. Chand and Company Limited). (Chapter 24).

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