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**Boosting Social Safety Net Programs**

Social Safety Net Programs (SSNP) for citizens with disability, deprivation, weak, aged, transgender, autistic and special children, orphan, low income groups, minorities and special orientation, is mandated by the Constitutionof Bangladesh, with Article 15 (d) - obligating the State to secure the right to Social Safety. [ref 1] According to Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) article 22, 25 jointly [ref 2] urges the right to Social Safety. However, the unanticipated wound by Covid19 stigmatizing this noble pasture ascertaining the vulnerabilities and improvidence in impersonation of SSNP. Amplification and proliferation of this righteous sector require variants method of forthright response, transparency, and distribution interface for legitimate, orthodox, and need-blind SSNP propagation. And the development budget for **‘Social Safety and Welfare’** might augment from 2.7% (2019-20) to not less than 5.5% by 2020-21 fiscal year as means of Covid19 repercussion and future pandemic confrontation.

**National Social Safety Number (NSSN)**: An App Based Social Safety Program for democratization and digitalization of SSNP by considering amenities of tracking, monitoring and real time envisage of Social Safety benefit would be flourished. For securing extended helping hand, a unique NSSN would be assigned with NID/Birth Certification Number of each citizen for transparency and evaluation on sudden aggression of immeasurable life events. In contrast, Government would collect the citizens activity data to enrich service endorsement.

* Legal citizens of People’s Republic of Bangladesh would require mandatory registration of NSSN using Social Safety App. The Universal Healthcare Insurance Policy (UHIP) would reflect under the Social Safety App. (Kindly refer to my paper on “Strengthening Healthcare System”)
* In addition to the citizens with disabilities (described above) sudden unemployed, pandemic affected individuals would able to file for SSNP benefit with the help of a co-signer as legal guardian/ authorization.
* Co-signer would be accountable for imparted information and the claim while inquired by the local Government’s representative. Upon successful inspection, the allowance would be directly sent to receiver’s account on monthly/project basis. If the claim proved to be vague or fraud, it will be subject to the trail/punishment by law both for applicant, co-signer, and Inspection Officer.
* This automated NSSN for each citizen would allow the government to monitor solvent citizens and the immediate need of enrolled allowance receiver in parallel. The collected data would help government to luster, recast and regulate approaches and donation strategies.
* Blockchain based Social Safety Program would serve in a Holistic and 'First Come First Serve’ basis. Applicant are confined to one application per NSSN for assessment and full list of applications would be published, so everyone could trace their application status in the queue.

**National Old Allowance Policy Reformation:**Reformation in national old allowance policy demand for alteration due to lack of transparency and effectiveness at root level. [ref 3] I’ve seen bribery done by the local chairman in distributing the government allowance. Therefore, following measures need be authorized in this regard.

* Fully app-based allowance payment system for root level needy people on monthly basis without any intervention by political or law enforcement authority. Government paying its citizens directly - this will be the policy to ensure cutting the middlemen and broker class entirely. [ref 4]
* The total list of allowance receiver would be published via app so that every citizen of Bangladesh would be able to see whom around their community getting the allowance and how much. That's how a true transparent system would come into action because **anyone trying to fraud using multiple mobile numbers would not possible in this strategy**. Thus, would enhance the citizen’s trust and fidelity to the government.
* During pandemic/emergency situations, anyone could apply once via his/her NSSN application form. An immediate response from local law enforcement would come into place to inspect and take supportive methods as inevitable.

**Orphan and Needy Child Program (ONCP):** Any deprived, orphan, roadside, children with addicted/separated parents or without guardian, children convicted with criminal offense or drug addiction underage of 18 would be automatically considered as a stake holder under ONCP program. Where –

* ONCP would be a National Rescue and Education System for deprived children where free living and education would be ensured entirely funded by Government and external donation. ONCP is a division wise distributed children camp where anyone could contribute by providing donation, free work, honorary education (by university students) and free healthcare services (Medical doctors/students) on voluntary basis.
* Any legal citizen of Bangladesh could contact national emergency service 999 to state his/ her concern about a known/ unknow children meeting the ONCP criteria. Adjacent response might be taken by the law enforcement authority to rescue that children from the street by tracking the nominees phone number who called for assistance. After proper inspection and audit by the local police super or DC that children would send to the ONCP center for secure living and full free education within 24 hours.
* An intensive facility for children with physical or neurological challenges would be developed inside ONCP camp with 24/7 medical, sanitation and supervised endeavor.

**National Transgender Development Program (NTDP):**Under this program, transgender citizens would be considered as automatic enlisted candidate of NTDP. For empowerment, education, and employment, following steps might be taken considering their equal rights according to the Constitution of Bangladesh. [ref 5]

* Under the NTDP, a fully formed living-education facility and vocational training center capable of holding at least 10k transgenders in a division wise distributed school infrastructure, incorporated with ONCP would be developed.
* From Eliminatory Education to High School level, they would get **100% free of cost** **education-living** regardless of age and circumstances. After accomplishment, every transgender citizen would attain the opportunity to enroll in universities (Public and Private) using their transgender quota minimum of 1.5%.
* Quota for transgender citizens in specific Government Sector such as military, arm forces, fire services should be minimum of 2% to originate an impartial opportunity for transgender community.

**Self-Dependent Women Program (SWP):** According to World Bank, Maternal mortality (173 per 100k live births in 2017) [ref 6] malnutrition and postpartum death rate of mother and newly born baby establishes the concern of healthy and hygienic future generations. Under existing circumstances of Covid19, the significance of conquering vulnerabilities of women and children is momentous and unconditional. Therefore, subsequent comprehensive policies urge utmost consideration.

* Call upon a National Maternity Program for next 2 years dedicated to women having babies or already having conception to ensure healthcare, hygiene, and nutrition security from the aggression of Covid19. At least 20% of proposed 5.5% Social Safety and Welfare budget would be contributed to Self-Dependent Women Program.
* Introduction of a special ‘Maternal Training and Preventive Guidelines’ during Covid19 to save mothers and future generations using the help of root level NGO and International Organizations, emphasizing the slogan **‘From Vulnerable to Self-Dependent Women’**.
* 100% free of cost healthcare scheme for any mother infected with Covid19 and in app impregnate women tracking system to track down the severity for repercussion.

**References:**

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