

Part 1: Evaluating Machine Translation

Chosen Language is Bengali

1.1 Well-edited non-fiction (*A portion of an article from a Bengali News site [Link](#)*)

থমথমে বিসিবি কার্যালয়ের আবহ, তার চেয়েও থমথমে আমিনুল ইসলামের চেহারা। সামনেই বসা ছিলেন ক্রিকেট পরিচালনা প্রধান নাজমুল আবেদীন ও বোর্ড পরিচালক আবদুর রাজ্জাক। আরেক পরিচালক ইফতেখার রহমানও তখন বিসিবি সভাপতির কামে। কিন্তু কেউই যেন ঠিক কথা বলার মেজাজে নেই।

তার মধ্যেও এক মিনিট সময় চেয়ে কামে ঢোকার অনুমতি মিলল আমিনুলের কাছ থেকে। উদ্দেশ্য আইসিসির সভায় বাংলাদেশকে বাদ দিয়ে টি-টুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপ আয়োজনের সিদ্ধান্তে বিসিবি সভাপতির প্রতিক্রিয়া জানা। এমন পরিস্থিতিতে সংক্ষিপ্ত আলোচনা থেকে যা বোৰা গেল, আইসিসির সিদ্ধান্তের পরও আমিনুল আছেন 'মিরাকলের' আশায়। আগামী ২৪ ঘণ্টায় যদি অলৌকিক কিছু ঘটে যায়, তাহলেই কেবল বাংলাদেশের পক্ষে সম্ভব এবারের টি-টুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপে থেলা। আইসিসি তার একটু আগেই সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তি দিয়ে যা জানানোর জানিয়ে দিয়েছে। যার সারমর্ম, পূর্বনির্ধারিত সূচি অনুযায়ী বাংলাদেশের ম্যাচ ভারতে রেখেই হবে টি-টুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপ।

1.2 Translation of 1.1 with Google Translate

The atmosphere at the BCB office was tense, and Aminul Islam's expression was even more so. The atmosphere at the BCB office was tense, and Aminul Islam's expression was even more so. Cricket operations chief Nazmul Abedin and board director Abdur Razzak were sitting nearby. Another director, Iftekhar Rahman, was also in the BCB president's room at the time. But it seemed no one was in the mood to talk.

Even amidst all that, Aminul managed to get permission to enter the room, requesting just one minute of time. The purpose was to find out the BCB president's reaction to the ICC's decision to exclude Bangladesh from hosting the T20 World Cup. From the brief discussion in this situation, it was understood that even after the ICC's decision, Aminul is still hoping for a 'miracle'. Only if something miraculous happens in the next 24 hours will it be possible for Bangladesh to play in this year's T20 World Cup. The ICC had already issued a press release stating what it had to say. The gist of it is that the T20 World Cup will be held as per the pre-determined schedule, with Bangladesh's matches remaining in India.

1.3 Reporting for each sentence in 1.1, its corresponding translation from 1.2, describing how we would correct that translation (if needed), and explaining what went wrong with the machine translation, if anything.

Bengali Sentence 1: থমথমে বিসিবি কার্যালয়ের আবহ, তার চেয়েও থমথমে আমিনুল ইসলামের চেহারা।

English Translation 1: The atmosphere at the BCB office was tense, and Aminul Islam's expression was even more so. The atmosphere at the BCB office was tense, and Aminul Islam's expression was even more so.

How would we correct Translation 1: The atmosphere at the BCB office was tense, and Aminul Islam's expression was even more so.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 1: The translator successfully translated the sentence, but erroneously duplicated the output, repeating the same sentence twice.

Bengali Sentence 2: সামনেই বসা ছিলেন ক্রিকেট পরিচালনা প্রধান নাজমুল আবেদীন ও বোর্ড পরিচালক আব্দুর রাজ্জাক।

English Translation 2: Cricket operations chief Nazmul Abedin and board director Abdur Razzak were sitting nearby.

How would we correct Translation 2: Seated right in front were Cricket Operations Chief Nazmul Abedin and Board Director Abdur Razzak.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 2: The translation "sitting nearby" is slightly vague for the Bengali word "Samnei" (সামনেই), which in this context implies they were sitting "right in front" or "directly across" from the subject.

Bengali Sentence 3: আরেক পরিচালক ইফতেখার রহমানও তখন বিসিবি সভাপতির কাছে। **English Translation 3:** Another director, Iftekhar Rahman, was also in the BCB president's room at the time.

How would we correct Translation 3: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 3: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 4: কিন্তু কেউই যেন ঠিক কথা বলার মেজাজে নেই।

English Translation 4: But it seemed no one was in the mood to talk.

How would we correct Translation 4: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 4: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 5: তার মধ্যেও এক মিনিট সময় চেয়ে কাছে ঢোকার অনুমতি মিলল আমিনুলের কাছে।

English Translation 5: Even amidst all that, Aminul managed to get permission to enter the room, requesting just one minute of time.

How would we correct Translation 5: Even amidst all that, permission was obtained from Aminul to enter the room, asking for just a minute of his time.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 5: This contains a critical subject-object

error. The Bengali phrase "অনুমতি মিলল আমিনুলের কাছ থেকে" means permission was received from Aminul (implying the narrator/reporter asked him). The Google translation incorrectly makes Aminul the one asking for permission to enter.

Bengali Sentence 6: উদ্দেশ্য আইসিসির সভায় বাংলাদেশকে বাদ দিয়ে টি-টুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপ আয়োজনের সিদ্ধান্তে বিসিবি সভাপতির প্রতিক্রিয়া জানা।

English Translation 6: The purpose was to find out the BCB president's reaction to the ICC's decision to exclude Bangladesh from hosting the T20 World Cup.

How would you correct Translation 6: The purpose was to get the BCB President's reaction to the ICC's decision to organize the T20 World Cup excluding Bangladesh.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 6: The translator hallucinated the word "hosting." The Bengali text says "exclude Bangladesh from organizing/arranging the World Cup" (implying the event is being organized without them), which, contextually (see Sentence 8), refers to their participation/playing, not their hosting rights.

Bengali Sentence 7: এমন পরিস্থিতিতে সংক্ষিপ্ত আলোচনা থেকে যা বোঝা গেল, আইসিসির সিদ্ধান্তের পরও আমিনুল আছেন 'মিরাকলের' আশায়।

English Translation 7: From the brief discussion in this situation, it was understood that even after the ICC's decision, Aminul is still hoping for a 'miracle'.

How would we correct Translation 7: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 7: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 8: আগামী ২৪ ঘণ্টায় যদি অলৌকিক কিছু ঘটে যায়, তাহলেই কেবল বাংলাদেশের পক্ষে সম্ভব এবারের টি-টুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপে খেলা।

English Translation 8: Only if something miraculous happens in the next 24 hours will it be possible for Bangladesh to play in this year's T20 World Cup.

How would we correct Translation 8: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 8: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 9: আইসিসি তার একটু আগেই সংবাদ বিজ্ঞপ্তি দিয়ে যা জানানোর জানিয়ে দিয়েছে।

English Translation 9: The ICC had already issued a press release stating what it had to say.

How would we correct Translation 9: Just a short while earlier, the ICC had issued a press release stating their decision.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 9: The translation is passable but slightly colloquial. "Stating what it had to say" is a very literal translation of "ja jananor janie diyeche."

A more formal rendering like "stating their decision" or "conveying their message" fits the journalistic tone better.

Bengali Sentence 10: যার সারমর্ম, পূর্বনির্ধারিত সূচি অনুযায়ী বাংলাদেশের ম্যাচ ভারতে রেখেই হবে টি-ট্রুয়েন্টি বিশ্বকাপ।

English Translation 10: The gist of it is that the T20 World Cup will be held as per the pre-determined schedule, with Bangladesh's matches remaining in India.

How would we correct Translation 10: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 10: Nothing went wrong.

2.1 Bengali Social Media Post Sourced Sentences (A post from facebook: [Link](#))

৯ ডিসেম্বর 'বেগম রোকেয়া দিবস'। সমাজে নারীর ন্যায্য অধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা, সামাজিক অধিকার, সুবিচার নিশ্চিতকরণ ও মানবিক মর্যাদার সংগ্রামে রোকেয়া সাথ্যওয়াত হোসেন (১৮৮০-১৯৩২) এক বিদ্রোহী সত্ত্বার

প্রতীক। নারীর প্রতি সমকালীন সমাজব্যবস্থা, সামাজিক বৈষম্য, অবরুদ্ধ, প্রথাবন্ধ সামগ্রীয় মূল্যবোধের সংস্কৃতিতে তাঁর ক্ষেত্রে তীব্র বিক্ষেপে পরিণত হয়েছিল।

শত প্রতিকূল বাধা সংগ্রহে তিনি যেমন ভেঙে পড়েননি। তেমনি হতাশও হননি। ছিলেন আশাবাদী। স্বপ্ন দেখেছিলেন নারী একদিন পুরুষের সমকক্ষ হিসেবে সমাজকাঠামোর মূল প্রোত্তে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হবে। সেই দৃষ্টি শক্তিতে বলীয়ান রোকেয়া কলম ধরেছিলেন সাহিত্যের প্রান্তরে। লিখেছেন ‘মতিচূর’, ‘অবরোধবাসিনী’-এর মতো বিখ্যাত সব রচনা। রোকেয়ার দর্শনের মূল ভিত্তি ছিল নারীশিক্ষা ও সমাজে নারীর ক্ষমতায়ন।

2.2 Translation of 1.1 with Google Translate

December 9th is ‘Begum Rokeya Day’. Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain (1880-1932) is a symbol of a rebellious spirit in the struggle for establishing women's rightful place in society, ensuring social rights, justice, and human dignity. Her resentment towards the contemporary social system, social discrimination, and the restrictive, conventional feudal values of the culture had transformed into intense protest.

Despite countless obstacles, she neither broke down nor became disheartened. She remained optimistic and dreamt that one day women would be established as equals to men in the mainstream of the social structure. Empowered by that resolute strength, Rokeya took up her pen in the realm of literature. She wrote famous works such as 'Motichur' and 'Oborodhbashini'. The foundation of Rokeya's philosophy was women's education and the empowerment of women in society.

2.3 Reporting for each sentence in 2.1, its corresponding translation from 2.2, describing how we would correct that translation (if needed), and explaining what went wrong with the machine translation, if anything.

Bengali Sentence 1: ৯ ডিসেম্বর 'বেগম রোকেয়া দিবস'।

English Translation 1: December 9th is 'Begum Rokeya Day'.

How would we correct Translation 1: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 1: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 2: সমাজে নারীর ন্যায্য অধিকার প্রতিষ্ঠা, সামাজিক অধিকার, সুবিচার নিশ্চিতকরণ ও মানবিক মর্যাদার সংগ্রামে রোকেয়া সাথওয়াত হোসেন (১৮৮০-১৯৩২) এক বিদ্রোহী সত্তার প্রতীক।

English Translation 2: Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain (1880-1932) is a symbol of a rebellious spirit in the struggle for establishing women's rightful place in society, ensuring social rights, justice, and human dignity.

How would we correct Translation 2: Rokeya Sakhawat Hossain (1880-1932) is a symbol of a rebellious spirit in the struggle to establish women's just rights, and to ensure social rights, justice, and human dignity.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 2: The translation "rightful place" is an interpretive error. The Bengali phrase "ন্যায্য অধিকার" (Nyajyo Odhikar) literally translates to "just rights" or "fair rights." "Rightful place" implies a social position, whereas "rights" implies legal or moral entitlements.

Bengali Sentence 3: নারীর প্রতি সমকালীন সমাজব্যবস্থা, সামাজিক বৈষম্য, অবরুদ্ধ, প্রথাবদ্ধ সামন্তীয় মূল্যবোধের সংস্কৃতিতে তাঁর ক্ষেত্রে তীব্র বিফ্রেতে পরিণত হয়েছিল।

English Translation 3: Her resentment towards the contemporary social system, social discrimination, and the restrictive, conventional feudal values of the culture had transformed into intense protest.

How would we correct Translation 3: Her resentment towards the contemporary social system's attitude toward women, social discrimination, and the confined, conventional feudal values of the culture had transformed into intense protest.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 3: Omission: The translator missed the phrase "নারীর প্রতি" (Narir Proti), which means "towards women." The text specifically critiques the social system's treatment of women, not just the system in general. Vocabulary: "অবরুদ্ধ" (Oboruddho) implies "besieged," "confined," or "closed-off" (often referring to the Purdah system). "Restrictive" is too mild; "confined" or "cloistered" captures the historical reality better.

Bengali Sentence 4: শত প্রতিকূল বাধা সম্বেও তিনি যেমন ভেঙে পড়েননি।

English Translation 4: Despite countless obstacles, she neither broke down...

How would we correct Translation 4: Just as she did not break down despite hundreds of adverse obstacles...

A description of what went wrong for Translation 4: The translator merged this with the next sentence (Sentence 5) to create a smoother English sentence. However, strictly speaking, the Bangla uses a correlative structure ("jemon... temni" -> "just as... so too"), which the translator simplified into "neither... nor."

Bengali Sentence 5: তেমনি হতাশও হননি।

English Translation 5: ...nor became disheartened.

How would we correct Translation 5: She did not become disheartened, either.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 5: The translator combined this sentence with the previous one. While the meaning is preserved, the grammatical structure of the separate sentence was lost in the merge.

Bengali Sentence 6: ছিলেন আশাবাদী।

English Translation 6: She remained optimistic

How would we correct Translation 6: She was optimistic.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 6: The translator merged this with the following sentence (Sentence 7). The tense "remained" is acceptable, but "She was optimistic" is the literal translation.

Bengali Sentence 7: স্বপ্ন দেখেছিলেন নারী একদিন পুরুষের সমকক্ষ হিসেবে সমাজকাঠামোর মূল স্বোতে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হবে।

English Translation 7: and dreamt that one day women would be established as equals to men in the mainstream of the social structure.

How would we correct Translation 7: She dreamt that women would one day be established in the mainstream of the social structure as equals to men.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 7: The translator merged this with Sentence 6. The translation itself is accurate, though it functions as a dependent clause in the Google version rather than a standalone sentence as it is in the Bangla text.

Bengali Sentence 8: সেই দৃষ্টি শক্তিতে বলীয়ান রোকেয়া কলম ধরেছিলেন সাহিত্যের প্রাণ্টরে। **English Translation 8:** Empowered by that resolute strength, Rokeya took up her pen in the realm of literature.

How would we correct Translation 8: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 8: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 9: লিখেছেন 'মতিচূর', 'অবরোধবাসিনী'-এর মতো বিখ্যাত সব রচনা।

English Translation 9: She wrote famous works such as 'Motichur' and 'Oborodhbashini'.

How would you correct Translation 9: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 9: Nothing went wrong.

Bengali Sentence 10: রোকেয়ার দর্শনের মূল ভিত্তি ছিল নারীশিক্ষা ও সমাজে নারীর ক্ষমতায়ন। **English Translation 10:** The foundation of Rokeya's philosophy was women's education and the empowerment of women in society.

How would we correct Translation 10: It is already fully accurate.

A description of what went wrong for Translation 10: Nothing went wrong.

3. Wrap-Up

Looking across all the translations, we noticed a few clear patterns in the errors. The most serious problems were when Google Translate completely reversed who was doing what (like mixing up who asked for permission) or added words that weren't there at all (like "hosting"). We also saw it struggle with preserving nuance: words like "right in front" became just "nearby."

Interestingly, genre definitely made a difference. The formal news article had more critical errors that actually changed the facts, while the social media post mostly just had structural issues where the translator merged sentences to make smoother English. Overall, Google Translate did surprisingly well with straightforward sentences but really struggled when context mattered or when it had to choose between multiple possible meanings. It seems like the translator prioritizes making natural-sounding English over staying strictly faithful to the original structure and subtle meanings.