Journey Towards a Democratic, Humane and Inclusive Economy

National Budget Speech FY2026-27

Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury M.P.
Minister
Finance and Planning Ministry
People's Republic of Bangladesh

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Chapter I: Introduction

In the name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful.

Mr. Speaker,

Assalamu Alaikum.

01. In the aftermath of more than fifteen years of struggle against tyranny and fascism, Bangladesh has once again embarked on a renewed democratic journey, paved by the sacrifices and bloodshed of the historic mass uprising of students and citizens in 2024. On 12 February 2026, following a free, fair, credible and peaceful national election on 12 February 2026, the people of Bangladesh vested a BNP-led government with a two-thirds majority. Today I have the honour of standing before this august Jatiya Sangsad been entrusted with the responsibility of the Ministry of Finance, to present the first national budget of this newly elected government.

02. At the outset, I pay my deepest respects to the heroic martyrs, to the women who suffered unspeakably and to all those who sacrificed for our independence. I also pay tribute to the martyrs who laid down their lives in the long struggle for democracy since our independence, as well as to the victims who suffered enforced disappearances, political violence, targeted attacks, arbitrary persecution, and grievous injuries in the pursuit of democratic rights and justice. Their sacrifices, courage, and resilience have expanded the horizons of democracy, strengthened the cause of fundamental rights, and renewed our collective hope for a just, free, and prosperous Bangladesh.

Mr. Speaker,

03. At every critical juncture in the history of our nation and its people, under the leadership of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman and later Begum Khaleda Zia, BNP has consistently stood by the hopes and aspirations of the people and guided the country forward. Over more than fifteen years, BNP has also led the long democratic struggle of the people against an entrenched fascist regime. The movement that emerged under BNP's leadership, anchored in Vision 2030 of 2016, the 27-Point Programme for State Reform of 2022, and the 31-Point Reform Agenda of the Joint Movement in 2023, laid the foundation for the anti-fascist mass uprising. It was upon this foundation that the historic student–people uprising of 2024 took place. Under the leadership of Mr. Prime Minister Mr. Tarique Rahman, BNP has furthered its reform agenda through its 31-point framework for the reform, repair, and transformation of politics and the state. Building on this framework, an expanded set of proposals reflecting the aspirations of the uprising has been presented in the form of the July National Charter. The Mr. Prime Minister has already pledged before the nation that the July National Charter we have signed, will be implemented in both letter and spirit

04. The BNP has long raised the question of political reform, recognizing that the fascist regime not only caused a deep economic crisis but also severely damaged the socio-cultural fabric of the country. In such a context, recovery and renewal are not possible without meaningful political reform.

At the same time, it must also be recognised that without the democratasition of the economy, i.e., without building an inclusive and accountable economic system that accommodates all citizens, and without fostering humane cultural relations, political reform alone will not be sustainable.

05. During the BNP governments of 1991–1996 and 2001–2006, guided by a farsighted and welfare-oriented economic philosophy, the key macroeconomic indicators remained on a generally positive trajectory. However, the fascist government through the misuse of state power weakened and hollowed out public institutions by widespread corruption and plundering of the economy. Under the guise of so-called development, it weakened the very foundations of our economy through large-scale looting and money laundering. In this context, the people have entrusted BNP with the responsibility not only of recovery, but also of placing the economy on a path of transformation and sustained prosperity. Under the leadership of the Mr. Prime Minister, the present government has accepted this daunting challenge.

06. It is precisely for this reason that we consider the formulation and implementation of the national budget as one of the foremost conditions for political and economic reconstruction. It is not merely an accounting statement of government revenues and expenditures, but a strategic roadmap for steering the country toward economic stability while transforming the country's vast economic potential into reality. The budget must also reflect the government's commitment to ensuring a secure, prosperous, and dignified life for people from all walks of life.

Mr. Speaker,

07. As I mentioned earlier, during fascist rule, economic policy and planning were often shaped by narrow interests rather than national priorities. Consequently, the resources of the country were concentrated in the hands of a limited group of vested interests through corruption and systemic inefficiencies, while macroeconomic weaknesses were obscured through the presentation of misleading statistical narratives.

08. Accordingly, the economic engine, the primary driver of nation-building, was progressively weakened over more than fifteen years, leaving it completely crippled. From the midst of these ruins, we seek

to fulfil our promise of a renewed national journey. In our election manifesto, we outlined a vision of a humane, democratic, and welfare-oriented Bangladesh grounded in democracy, accountability, good governance, equitable development, and expanded economic opportunity. Since assuming office, the Government has begun implementing these priorities with urgency, focus, and determination.

Mr. Speaker,

09. As we embark on this new democratic journey, inspired by the aspirations of the people's historic mass uprising, we find ourselves confronting a complex set of global and regional challenges. Persistent geopolitical tensions and across different regions of the world have heightened uncertainty in the international economy, contributing to fragmentation in trade, finance, and investment flows. These developments pose significant challenges for developing countries, including Bangladesh. Against this backdrop, and mindful of the fragile condition of our domestic economy, we have prepared this budget with a clear determination to safeguard stability and lay the foundations for sustained progress. Our economic strategy places macroeconomic stability, investment promotion, production expansion, employment creation, and, above all, economic justice at its core.

10. Going forward, we aim to transform Bangladesh into a one-trillion-dollar economy by 2034, driven by investment, productivity and job creation. At the same time, we seek to democratise economic opportunities across society, enabling us to harness the Demographic Dividend and the Longevity Dividend and translate them into a Democratic Dividend. In line with this objective, the Government aims to reduce inflation to 7.5 per cent and raise GDP growth to 6.5 per cent in the upcoming fiscal year. These targets are designed to ensure stability, enhance purchasing power, and improve living standards. Accordingly, the Budget is built around ten strategic priorities:

1) **Inclusive Development:** Our development agenda will ensure meaningful equitable participation of all citizens, classes, sectors, and regions so that the benefits of growth are shared equitably.

2) **Quality Education and Healthcare for All:** Transforming the education system into a skills-based, value-oriented framework while ensuring universal access to quality healthcare as a fundamental right.

3) **Universal Social Protection:** Establishing a universal, life-cycle-based social protection system to ensure social security coverage for citizens at all stages of life, thereby reinforcing the foundation of a welfare state.

4) **An Economy driven by Investment, Employment, and Production:** Agriculture will be given a strategic priority, supporting production, livelihoods, and food security. Alongside this, we will promote entrepreneurship, accelerate industrialisation, diversify exports, and leverage technology to create sustainable jobs and income opportunities, particularly for young people.

5) **Deregulation and a Cost-effective, Simplified Business Environment:** Fostering a transparent, streamlined, and cost-efficient business environment by deregulating government procedures and eliminating delays and unnecessary administrative steps.

6) **Financial Sector Stability:** Restoring discipline, transparency, and accountability across the banking and financial sectors to safeguard depositors' interests, rebuild public confidence, and reinforce institutional responsibility, while promoting investment through reforms aimed at developing a vibrant and efficient capital market.

7) **Energy Security:** Ensure a reliable supply of power and energy to support economic activity while pursuing a self-reliant energy strategy that delivers affordable, dependable, and environmentally sustainable energy solutions.

8) **Digital Transformation and ICT Development:** Transforming Bangladesh into one of the world's leading exporters of ICT products and services by building a technologically advanced, innovative, and inclusive digital economy.

9) **Management of Life, Nature, Environment, and Water Resources:** Protecting the nation from the impacts of climate change and preserving biodiversity by transforming community-led afforestation into a green revolution; mainstreaming environmental considerations in development planning; restoring the navigability of rivers; and relaunching canal restoration and excavation programmes to build a sustainable, green, climate-resilient, and livable future for generations to come.

10) **Transparent, Efficient, and Accountable Institutions and Administrative Systems:** Building transparent, efficient, and accountable institutions and administrative systems, while fostering merit-based governance and enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of public investment implementation.

Mr. Speaker

11. We are placing special emphasis on emerging and future-oriented economic sectors that hold significant potential for income generation and the expansion of public welfare, including the Creative Economy, Sports Economy, Green Economy, and Blue Economy. Efforts are underway to develop and mainstream these sectors within the national economy.

12. In determining and implementing investment and budget priorities for the journey ahead, we are guided by a set of fundamental principles designed to ensure efficiency, impact and sustainability in the use of public resources: **1) Value for Money:** ensuring the most effective and efficient utilisation of our limited resources; **2) Return on Investment:** carefully selecting and prioritising projects that generate

strong and measurable economic benefits from public resources invested; **3) Job Creation:** assessing each investment in terms of its potential to employment generation; and **4) Environmental Consideration:** maintaining a consistent focus on safeguarding life, nature, and the environment.

Mr. Speaker

13. We have begun a transformative journey to build a Bangladesh that is competitive, productive, equitable, inclusive, and dignified, by dismantling the entrenched oligarchic control of a privileged few. This budget outlines our foundational steps in that direction. We are confident that this budget will function as a one-year policy framework that renders development non-discriminatory, ensures the state is accountable, promotes safe and decent employment. It will also empower citizens from all walks of life and professions to actively participate in our nation's historic journey of development.

Chapter II: Economic Scenario

14. At this stage, I would like to briefly present before the August Jatiya Sangsad the comparative overview of Bangladesh's macroeconomy, as along with the evolving geopolitical context shaped by the Middle East conflict since the present Government assumed office. The purpose is to present a comprehensive picture of the economic realities currently facing the people of the country.

(A) Comparative Overview of the Macroeconomy

Real Sector: Trends in Growth, Production, Investment and Inflation

Mr. Speaker

15. In recent years, Bangladesh's economy has experienced significant volatility, external pressures, and deep-rooted structural challenges. To appreciate the magnitude of the current situation, it is important to reflect on our past performance. During the final fiscal year of the BNP Government (FY 2005–06), GDP growth stood at a strong 6.78 per cent, supported by a vibrant and productive industrial sector. The economy was stable, with a balanced relationship between national investment and savings. In contrast, the period under the fascist Government has been marked by a steady economic slowdown. GDP growth declined to 5.78 per cent in FY 2022–23, further fell to 4.22 per cent in FY 2023–24, and has now eased to 3.49 per cent in FY 2024–25. This downward trend has been driven by a combination of factors, including sector-wide corruption, external shocks, rising inflation, and severe mismanagement and structural weaknesses in the financial sector. Elevated interest rates, persistent energy constraints, weakening investor confidence, and governance challenges have together dampened private-sector investment. At the same time, rising prices

have significantly eroded the purchasing power of ordinary citizens, making the cost of essential goods and services increasingly burdensome in daily life.

Mr. Speaker

16. It was the BNP governments that historically laid the groundwork for Bangladesh's modern, investment-friendly economy. In 1981, under the BNP administration, the Foreign Private Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act and the Bangladesh Industrial Investment (Promotion and Protection) Act were enacted. Today, these landmark laws remain the bedrock of our legal framework, safeguarding both domestic and foreign investments. Furthermore, the then-BNP Government pioneered revolutionary structural reforms: they abolished investment ceilings, introduced back-to-back Letters of Credit (L/C), and established bonded warehouse facilities. These critical interventions catalyzed the exponential growth of our Ready-Made Garments (RMG) sector and unlocked overseas manpower exports. Subsequently, the introduction of the Value Added Tax (VAT) system in 1991 engineered a fundamental, permanent structural transformation of our national economy.

Mr. Speaker

17. Curbing high inflation remains our most urgent macroeconomic challenge. In July 2024, general inflation surged to 11.66 per cent, while food inflation spiked to a catastrophic 14.10 per cent, the highest levels seen in recent history. The burden of this inflation falls squarely on low- and middle-income households, stripping them of their real income, wiping out their life savings, and plunging families into financial distress. To put this into perspective, under the BNP administration in FY 2005–06, inflation was successfully managed and maintained at a highly stable and moderate rate of 7.17 per cent.

Fiscal Sector: Tax-GDP ratio, Revenue Mobilization, Expenditure and Deficit Trends

Mr. Speaker

18. Persistent structural weaknesses within our revenue sector remain among the most deep-rooted vulnerabilities of our national economy. For years, the tax-to-GDP ratio has stagnated below 8 per cent, a figure significantly lower than that of our regional and economic peers. This critically limits the Government's capacity to mobilize domestic revenue. While the demand for essential development projects and social welfare expenditure has steadily escalated, revenue collection has failed to keep pace, thereby intensifying the pressure on deficit financing. During the July–April period of FY 2025–26, total revenue collection reached Tk. 3 lakh 82 thousand 896 crore, representing a 9.87 per cent growth over the same period of the previous fiscal year. Of this collection, the National Board of Revenue (NBR) accounted for Tk. 3 lakh 29 thousand 772 crore. Yet, despite this nominal progress, performance remains substantially below target, presenting a severe challenge to our fiscal balance and overall macroeconomic stability.

19. The crisis, however, is not confined to revenue mobilization alone; systemic bottlenecks in budget implementation have become equally glaring. Although the total budget size for FY 2024–25 was set at Tk. 7 lakh 97 thousand crore, the Interim Government adjusted the budget to Tk. 7 lakh 90 thousand crore for FY 2025–26 in an effort to balance income and expenditure. Even with this measure, implementation constraints forced revisions to align the budget with ground realities, a process that disrupts our targeted goals for economic growth and employment. It is notable that during the first ten months of the current fiscal year, up to April, total expenditure reached only about 60 per cent of the revised budget allocation. Most critically, the implementation rate of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) stood at a dismal 40.7 per cent. This sobering experience proves that

setting ambitious targets is meaningless without ensuring a realistic, functional balance among revenue generation, expenditure planning, and implementation capacity.

Mr. Speaker

20. Let us look at the historical data. In FY 2005–06, the revenue-to-GDP ratio stood at 8.2 per cent, while total expenditure was contained at 11.1 per cent of GDP, maintaining a manageable budget deficit of just 2.9 percent of GDP. In stark contrast, due to systemic mismanagement, rampant corruption, and misguided economic policies, during the fascist regime, the revenue-to-GDP ratio completely failed to improve. By FY 2023–24, it remained entirely stagnant at that same 8.2 per cent. Conversely, public expenditure bloated to 12.3 per cent of GDP, driving the budget deficit up to an unsustainable 4.05 per cent of GDP. Because government spending expanded aggressively while revenue collection remained paralyzed, the deficit widened. This fiscal recklessness has not only strained public financial management but has also escalated risks in public debt management, steadily undermining the long-term sustainability of our national debt.

21. To finance these widening budget deficits, the previous governments relied heavily on both domestic and external borrowing. The numbers speak for themselves. External debt, which stood at Tk. 1 lakh 30 thousand crore in 2006, skyrocketed to Tk. 8 lakh 12 thousand crore by 2024. Even more alarming is the domestic debt trajectory: the domestic debt load of Tk. 65,000 crore left behind by our government in 2006 has exploded nearly sixteen-fold to an astounding Tk. 10 lakh 77 thousand crore. Consequently, our debt-servicing obligations have grown exponentially. Annual interest payments have surged more than thirteen-fold, escalating from Tk. 85 thousand crore in FY 2005–06 to a staggering Tk. 1 lakh 14 thousand 700 crore in FY 2023–24, trapping public finances under an immense fiscal burden.

Monetary and Financial Sector: Monetary Policy, Financial Stability and Capital Market

Mr. Speaker

22. To address persistent and entrenched inflationary pressures, the Central Bank has been compelled to adopt a tight monetary policy stance. In this context, the policy rate has been progressively raised to 10.0 per cent, with immediate transmission effects on interbank lending rates. While this tightening has helped moderate broad money (M2) growth and contain aggregate demand, the higher cost of borrowing has placed considerable pressure on production activities and industrial investment, thereby constraining overall economic momentum. In comparison, during FY 2005–06, broad money (M2) growth stood at 19.3 per cent, while reserve money growth reached 23.9 per cent, reflecting strong liquidity conditions and robust economic activity. By FY 2023–24, however, the macroeconomic environment had weakened significantly. Broad money (M2) growth declined to 7.7 per cent, and reserve money growth slowed to 7.9 per cent. Similarly, private sector credit growth—a key driver of economic expansion—stood at 18.3 per cent in FY 2005–06, but fell sharply to 6.5 per cent by FY 2024–25, indicating a substantial contraction in credit flow to the private sector.

Mr. Speaker

23. The financial sector we have inherited is a matter of serious national concern. Over the years, systemic irregularities, politically influenced and opaque lending practices, inadequate transparency, misuse of loan rescheduling facilities, and the deliberate masking of non-performing assets have significantly undermined the foundations of the banking system. In December 2005, the non-performing loan (NPL) ratio in the overall banking sector stood at 13.6 per cent. By the first quarter of FY 2025–26, this figure had risen sharply to 35.73 per cent, which is more than Tk 6 lakh 44 thousand crore, reflecting a substantial

deterioration in asset quality. As a result, several banking institutions are now facing acute liquidity pressures, while depositor confidence has been severely affected, necessitating emergency interventions and institutional consolidation in certain cases. Similarly, the Capital Adequacy Ratio (CAR), which stood at a relatively stable 7.3 per cent in 2005, has declined significantly to -2.64 per cent by the end of 2025. This erosion in capital buffers highlights deep structural weaknesses within the sector and has placed considerable strain on financial stability. Overall, these developments have weakened public confidence in the banking system and have created difficulties for ordinary citizens in accessing their own savings in a timely manner.

24. The capital market has been systematically devastated by catastrophic mismanagement, institutional scams, rampant irregularities, and fundamentally flawed policy interventions, culminating in the absolute erasure of investor confidence. History proves that whenever the BNP has steered the Government, the banking, financial, and capital markets have remained entirely stable and free from such manufactured crises. The numbers reflect the scale of recent destruction: in January 2024, total market capitalization stood at Tk. 7,51,734 crore, but by April 2026, it had bled out to Tk. 6,85,119 crore. Over this same period, the DSE General Index collapsed from 6,153 to a low of 5,287. This trend suggests that key elements essential for a well-functioning capital market, such as transparency, accountability, market depth, and a strong institutional framework for long-term financing, have yet to be sufficiently strengthened and consolidated.

External Sector: Export-Import, Remittances, Foreign Exchange Reserves and Balance of Payments

Mr. Speaker

25. In FY 2005–06, export and import growth recorded strong performances of 21.6 per cent and 12.2 per cent, respectively,

contributing to sustained external trade momentum. In contrast, by FY 2023–24, both of these key indicators had recorded, reflecting significant external sector pressures. The currency has experienced substantial depreciation. In FY 2005–06, the exchange rate of the Bangladeshi Taka stood at approximately Tk. 68 per US dollar, which fell to Tk. 122 per US dollar by FY 2023–24. This sharp depreciation has placed considerable strain on the balance of payments and contributed to pressure on foreign exchange reserves.

Mr. Speaker,

26. Our export sector remains highly vulnerable due to an overdependence on a narrow product base and limited market diversification. This structural challenge will be acutely felt once Bangladesh graduates from Least Developed Country (LDC) status. The preferential tariff benefits, duty-free and quota-free market access, and policy flexibilities currently enjoyed as an LDC will gradually be phased out after graduation. In this context, proactive and immediate preparation is essential. Bangladesh has no alternative but to pursue product diversification, enhance quality and compliance standards, expand into non-traditional markets, negotiate bilateral trade agreements, modernise port and customs infrastructure, and strengthen overall export competitiveness. Against this backdrop, the Government has formally requested a deferral of LDC graduation for at least three years. This additional timeframe is necessary to implement key domestic reforms and ensure a smooth and resilient economic transition.

Public Debt Management and Interest Expenditure

Mr. Speaker

27. Long-term macroeconomic stability is closely linked to sustainable public debt management. Over the past fifteen years, however, this key pillar of fiscal stability has come under increasing

pressure due to rising borrowing requirements and expanding public expenditure commitments. During this period, a significant portion of public investment was financed through debt, including a number of large-scale projects. While these investments contributed to infrastructure expansion, they also led to a substantial increase in both external and domestic debt obligations, thereby exerting pressure on fiscal space. The evolution of public debt reflects this trend. External public debt, which stood at approximately Tk. 1 lakh 30 thousand crore in 2006, increased to around Tk. 8 lakh 12 thousand crore by June 2024. Similarly, domestic debt rose from about Tk. 65 thousand crore in 2006 to approximately Tk. 10 lakh 77 thousand crore over the same period. As debt levels increased, interest expenditure also grew significantly. National interest payments, which stood at Tk. 8 thousand 500 crore in FY 2005–06, rose to Tk. 1 lakh 14 thousand 700 crore in FY 2023–24, reflecting the growing burden of debt servicing on the budget and its implications for development spending.

28. Due to this unchecked, politically motivated borrowing in the name of artificial development, Bangladesh's debt-carrying capacity has progressively deteriorated. According to the Joint Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA) conducted by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank, the "low risk" classification that our government maintained and left behind has been revised downward to "moderate risk" category. This downgrade was driven entirely by a total absence of policy discipline and the systematic presentation of inflated, opaque macroeconomic data by the previous administration.

Mr. Speaker

29. Furthermore, the fiscal risks are compounded by massive hidden liabilities. The previous government issued guarantees worth hundreds of crores of Taka on behalf of failing state-owned enterprises, accumulated astronomical liabilities through capacity charges in the power and energy sectors, and created massive contingent liabilities via

toxic non-performing loans in the banking sector. By consistently masking and concealing these massive financial obligations, the ousted regime pushed our entire economy to the brink of vulnerability, vastly complicating the recovery roadmap for this government.

(B) Global Geopolitical Context and Its Impact (Middle East Crisis)

Mr Speaker,

30. The post-COVID global economy has still not fully returned to a stable position. According to projections by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), global growth in 2026 is expected to remain at around 3.3 per cent, while global inflation may hover near 3.8 per cent. This suggests that, although the global economy continues to expand, the pace of recovery remains modest and is accompanied by persistent uncertainties. Against this backdrop, the recent developments in the Middle East have introduced additional risks to the global economic outlook, particularly through upward pressure on energy and petroleum prices. A prolonged continuation of this situation may lead to further increases in international fuel prices, as well as higher transportation and insurance costs. It may also disrupt global shipping routes and create new challenges for the smooth flow of international trade. At the same time, elevated global interest rates continue to constrain international financial flows. This has contributed to higher costs of external borrowing, trade financing, and essential imports. For an import-dependent economy such as Bangladesh, with significant reliance on external trade and remittance inflows, these evolving global conditions constitute direct and material risks to macroeconomic stability.

Energy Security: Uncertainty in Oil, Gas, Fertiliser, Transport Costs, and Supply

Mr. Speaker

31. Just ten days after our government assumed office, the outbreak of the Middle East crisis introduced significant and unexpected risks to our economic landscape. The immediate impact of this regional instability has been most pronounced in the energy sector, where international prices of oil, liquefied natural gas (LNG), and chemical fertilizers increased sharply, in some cases more than doubling. These elevated energy costs have directly translated into higher production expenses across the power, agriculture, transport, and industrial sectors, thereby intensifying domestic inflationary pressures and placing a substantial burden on public finances in the form of increased subsidies. At the same time, higher import costs have exerted additional pressure on already strained foreign exchange reserves. Moreover, given that the Middle East remains a key destination for our migrant workforce, prolonged instability in the region poses risks to overseas employment opportunities and to the steady inflow of remittances, which are vital for external sector stability. Recent market data highlights the scale of the disruption in global commodity markets. In February 2026, the global Free on Board (FOB) price of refined diesel averaged around USD 86 per barrel. Following the escalation of the conflict, prices surged sharply, reaching approximately USD 285 per barrel by April. Similarly, LNG spot prices, which were relatively stable at around USD 10 per MMBtu prior to the crisis, increased to about USD 28.28 per MMBtu in April. Although some moderation has since been observed, procurement of spot LNG continues at significantly elevated levels. The agricultural sector has faced similar pressures. The global FOB price of urea fertilizer nearly doubled in the wake of the conflict, rising from approximately USD 422 per metric tonne to around USD 850 per metric tonne. These sharp increases have placed considerable strain on an

import-dependent economy, compelling us to manage an unprecedented external supply shock with limited fiscal space.

Potential Impact on Food Security, Inflation and Remittance Inflows

Mr. Speaker

32. The rise in energy prices has a cascading impact across the entire food supply chain. It increases costs at every stage, including agricultural production, irrigation, transportation, storage, and marketing. As a result, food prices may come under upward pressure, contributing to an overall increase in inflation. When both food and fertiliser prices rise simultaneously in the international market, the inflationary impact becomes even more pronounced. In such a situation, the effects are reflected not only in market prices but also in the daily cost of living for ordinary citizens.

33. The Middle East remains the most significant destination for Bangladesh's migrant workforce. Prolonged instability in the region may adversely affect employment opportunities abroad, income flows, and the continuity of remittance inflows. Although remittance receipts have not yet shown any negative impact, early signs of pressure are being observed in manpower deployment. For instance, while approximately 95,000 workers departed for overseas employment in January 2026, this number declined to around 44,000 in March. If this trend persists, it may emerge as a matter of serious concern for the external sector and labour market stability.

The Need for Stability, Caution, and Alternative Planning in the Changing Global Environment

Mr. Speaker

34. The reality of today's global economy is that uncertainty is no longer an exception; rather, it has become a permanent feature of economic management, a 'Neo-Normal'. War, volatility in energy markets, fluctuations in global interest rates, changes in trade policies, and disruptions in supply chains — any one of these can quickly place significant pressure on an import-dependent economy such as ours. In this context, our objective is to manage the economy in such a way that minimizes the impact of external shocks on domestic macroeconomic stability, ensuring resilience and continuity in growth and development.

Chapter III: Medium-Term Economic Policy and Strategy

35. A review of the country's current economic realities makes it evident that the economy continues to face a range of challenges arising from the systemic irregularities, weak governance, and widespread corruption of the previous fascist regime. However, we firmly believe that these challenges can be overcome through political commitment, sound policies, effective reforms, and pragmatic, forward-looking planning. The Government remains steadfast in its efforts to restore domestic economic stability, rebuild market confidence, and create new opportunities for growth and prosperity.

(A) Macroeconomic Stability

Mr. Speaker

36. Since assuming office, the Government has undertaken a series strategic reforms aimed at improving the living standards of our people and restoring momentum to the national economy. We firmly believe that sustainable development cannot be achieved through the concentration of opportunities and resources at the hands of a few. Rather, lasting prosperity must be built on the creativity, hard work, skills, and productive potential of every citizen.

Mr. Speaker,

37. Rebuilding the economy in the face of continued global economic uncertainty, domestic structural challenges, and persistent inflationary pressures remain one of the foremost priorities of the present Government. To this end, we have adopted a comprehensive economic strategy focused on restoring macroeconomic stability, advancing structural reforms, and laying the foundation for investment-

led growth. Under this strategy, the Government aims to accelerate real GDP growth to 8.5 per cent, reduce inflation to 5 per cent, increase foreign direct investment (FDI) to 2.7 per cent of GDP, and substantially raise total investment to 40 per cent of GDP by FY2030-31.

Mr. Speaker

38. The Government will implement this plan through a three-phased strategy, which we refer to as the 3R Strategy (Recovery & Stabilization, Restoration, and Reconstruction for Acceleration). The first phase, Recovery and Stabilization, will be implemented over a one-year horizon and focuses on restoring macroeconomic stability and protecting vulnerable groups from the immediate effects of economic shocks. Key priorities include strengthening social protection programmes, improving public service delivery, simplifying business procedures, and enhancing coordination across public institutions.

39. A major challenge during this period has been managing the impact of the Middle East crisis on energy supplies and prices. Through timely policy interventions, diversification of supply sources, and targeted fiscal support, the Government has been able to maintain uninterrupted fuel and energy supplies while limiting the impact on consumers and productive sectors.

40. The second phase of our strategy, Economic Restoration, will be implemented over the medium term, three years, and will focus on strengthening the foundations of sustainable growth. Priority actions include reforming the revenue system, increasing domestic resource mobilization, revitalizing private sector investment, strengthening the banking and financial sectors, promoting export diversification, and enhancing human capital development. Investments in agriculture, energy, and infrastructure will continue to support productivity and competitiveness.

41. The third phase, Reconstruction for Acceleration, will focus on transforming Bangladesh into a modern, innovative, and technology-driven economy and will be completed over five years. During this phase, emphasis will be placed on developing a highly skilled workforce, fostering innovation, accelerating digital transformation, strengthening institutions, deepening global economic integration, ensuring long-term energy security, and promoting climate-resilient and inclusive growth.

Mr. Speaker

42. As part of our broader agenda for economic recovery, restoration, and reconstruction, the Government attaches the highest priority to restoring macroeconomic stability. Persistently high inflation over the past several years has not only eroded the purchasing power of households but has also undermined overall economic foundation. While global factors have contributed significantly to these pressures, domestic challenges, including supply chain inefficiencies, market distortions, inadequate competition, and various structural bottlenecks—have further amplified inflationary trends.

43. The Government remains committed to protecting citizens from the adverse effects of high inflation. Given the import-dependent nature of our economy, substantial depreciation of the Taka against major foreign currencies has had a significant impact on domestic prices. Accordingly, we are placing particular emphasis on strengthening our foreign exchange reserve position, enhancing external sector resilience, and promoting greater stability in the foreign exchange market.

44. At the same time, effective coordination between monetary and fiscal policies will be maintained while ensuring adequate credit flows to productive sectors of the economy. We will strengthen external balances through export expansion, facilitation of remittance inflows, and prudent management of non-essential imports. Combined with

improved expenditure efficiency and sound fiscal management, these measures will help maintain the budget deficit within sustainable limits, restore market confidence, and create a more conducive environment for investment and production.

45. Strengthening domestic resource mobilization is a central pillar of our fiscal strategy. As an important institutional reform, we have initiated the separation of revenue policy formulation from revenue administration. Going forward, tax policy will be developed through a dedicated framework supported by professional expertise, evidence-based analysis, and broad stakeholder consultation. Under our medium-term revenue strategy, we are broadening the tax base, improving compliance, and enhancing transparency and efficiency in revenue administration. Measures are being taken to expand the taxpayer base, digitize tax registration and return filing processes, strengthen monitoring systems, modernize VAT administration, improve withholding tax compliance, and introduce risk-based audit mechanisms. At the same time, taxpayer services are being expanded and procedures simplified to encourage voluntary compliance. The Government is also undertaking a comprehensive review of tax expenditures and exemptions to ensure greater transparency, efficiency, and accountability. Going forward, tax incentives will be subject to stronger oversight and clearer justification. Reforms in both tax and customs administration will strengthen domestic resource mobilization and enhance the State's capacity to finance priority development programmes.

46. At present, the revenue-to-GDP ratio and the tax-to-GDP ratio stand at approximately 8 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively. The Government aims to increase these ratios to 11 percent and 9.6 percent, respectively, by FY2030–31 through comprehensive policy and administrative reforms. I shall present the detailed budget proposals relating to domestic revenue mobilization in Chapter VII. Owing to corruption-riddled and poorly planned vanity projects undertaken

during the fascist regime, and the substantial borrowing incurred to finance them, the country's debt sustainability has come under immense pressure. This Government is committed to restoring Bangladesh's debt risk rating from the current "moderate" risk category to a "low" risk category. Accordingly, we intend to enforce strict fiscal discipline by enhancing revenue mobilization, maintaining the budget deficit at a sustainable level, and modernizing debt management. We firmly believe that the time has come to discard the debt-driven growth model of the past and build a self-sustaining economy driven by production, employment, and private investment. To this end, policies will be pursued to systematically reduce debt dependence and promote investment-led growth as the foundation of sustainable economic progress.

47. The Government is implementing a strategic expenditure framework to ensure that public spending is efficient, effective, and aligned with national development priorities. Given the scarcity of public resources, all major expenditures and investments will be assessed based on their economic and social returns. Priority will be accorded to infrastructure, education, healthcare, energy, agriculture, and employment-generating activities, given their significant contributions to productivity, human development, and long-term growth. In line with our policy commitments, public investment in education and health will be gradually increased over time to 5 per cent. At the same time, future development projects will be subject to rigorous economic appraisal, cost-benefit analysis, and implementation readiness assessments to ensure value for money and maximize development impact.

48. The Government will continue efforts to improve expenditure efficiency by rationalizing non-priority spending and strengthening fiscal discipline across public institutions. Subsidy programmes will be made more targeted and efficient so that support reaches intended beneficiaries while minimizing unnecessary fiscal pressures. Essential

support for agriculture, food security, and energy supply will be maintained, while inefficient subsidy arrangements will be reviewed and reformed.

49. We are also undertaking reforms to make social protection programmes more targeted, inclusive, and effective. Greater use of technology, digital beneficiary databases, and improved monitoring systems will help reduce leakages and enhance service delivery. Similarly, technology-based systems will be strengthened in public procurement, project implementation, and budget management to promote transparency, accountability, and efficiency. In line with our national development priorities, public expenditure on education, healthcare, energy security, agricultural productivity, and employment generation will increasingly be linked to measurable outcomes and performance indicators. Through these reforms, public expenditure will not only address immediate needs but also strengthen the foundations of a productive, resilient, and sustainable economy.

(B) Enhancing the Investment Climate

Mr. Speaker

50. Through its 3R Strategy, the Government is placing the highest priority on improving the investment climate and restoring confidence in the private sector. Our primary objective is to identify and address the key constraints facing businesses through legal, regulatory, and institutional reforms, thereby reducing business uncertainty and the cost of doing business while ensuring investment security through an improved ease-of-doing business environment. We are confident that these initiatives will stimulate investment, revitalize industrial production, and strengthen the structural foundations for sustainable economic growth over the medium term.

51. The Government will put forward an integrated policy framework to promote high value-added industries, technology-driven manufacturing, export-oriented services, and an innovation-friendly entrepreneurial ecosystem. Productivity and global competitiveness of the private sector will be enhanced through greater investment in research and development, technology transfer, and human capital development. In addition, a strong capital market, a vibrant bond market, and alternative financing mechanisms will be developed to support long-term investment financing. By implementing these strategies, the private sector will be established as the primary driver of economic growth and structural transformation in Bangladesh.

52. The Government is prioritizing deregulation as a cornerstone of its efforts to consolidate and streamline all investment-related services under a unified framework. I have discussed this issue in greater detail in Chapter VIII. Our objective is clear: the State should serve not as a barrier, but as an enabler of production, investment, and employment generation. We firmly believe that these ongoing reforms will go far beyond the simplification of administrative procedures. They will foster a more efficient and cost-effective business environment, encourage greater domestic and foreign investment, generate new momentum for enterprises of all sizes—from small businesses to large industries—reinforce the foundations of production and exports, and expand employment opportunities throughout the economy.

(C) Financial Sector Reform

Banking System and Financial Institutions

53. Restoring discipline in the banking and financial sectors and rebuilding public confidence in these sectors constitute one of the Government's key medium-term priorities for supporting economic recovery and sustaining investment flows. To this end, measures are being undertaken to reduce non-performing loans, enhance transparency in loan approval and rescheduling processes, and strengthen accountability in bank management and governance. A risk-based supervisory framework will be introduced to restore the financial soundness of weak banks, while recapitalization and management reform measures will be undertaken where necessary. It is worth noting that the government is having to spend more than Tk 40,000 crore in the current fiscal year for the recapitalization of banks. To improve the effectiveness of policy implementation in the financial sector, the Government will strengthen the supervisory authority of the central bank, introduce the necessary legal reforms to eliminate political interference in banking operations, and ensure that bank governance is free from undue family influence. International standards relating to risk management, capital adequacy, and corporate governance will be adopted to enable financial institutions to become more stable, resilient, and competitive over the long term. At the same time, greater use of technology will be encouraged to promote digital finance, fintech solutions, and innovative financial services across the economy.

54. Financial inclusion will be further expanded to improve access to finance for women, young entrepreneurs, and marginalized communities. At the same time, targeted refinancing programmes will be strengthened to increase the flow of credit to small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), agriculture, and other productive sectors of the economy. To broaden financial access and support inclusive growth, digital banking, mobile financial services, and financing for rural

economic activities will be expanded and made more accessible throughout the country.

Capital Market

Mr. Speaker

55. As part of the broader effort to restructure the economy, the Government will implement structural reforms in both the banking and capital market sectors with a view to building a modern, strong, and sustainable financial system. To reduce excessive reliance on bank-based financing, the bond market and other alternative financing mechanisms will be further developed to support long-term investment financing. The regulatory framework governing the capital market will be strengthened and investor protection enhanced in order to transform the capital market into an effective platform for long-term investment. In addition to the equity market, priority will be given to the development of corporate bonds, mutual funds, green bonds, Sukuk, and other long-term investment instruments. To encourage qualified companies to enter the capital market, listing procedures will be reviewed and simplified, while reporting and disclosure requirements will be revised to make them more transparent, practical, and business-friendly. Furthermore, the corporate bond market will be expanded and a framework for issuing municipal bonds will be developed to support local government financing and urban infrastructure development, thereby creating alternative sources of long-term financing.

Mr. Speaker

56. While capital markets serve as the principal platform for capital formation in economies around the world, this role has remained largely underdeveloped in Bangladesh, leading entrepreneurs to depend predominantly on bank financing. A capital market that should have played a central role in mobilizing long-term capital for industrialization

and economic advancement has instead suffered from a lack of investor confidence. The Government is determined to reverse this trend by promoting a gradual shift from debt-based investment financing towards greater reliance on equity financing. To this end, effective measures will be undertaken to strengthen the capital market, improve market integrity and governance, and restore public confidence.

(D) Ensuring Energy Security

Mr. Speaker

57. To support economic recovery and ensure the continuity of productive activities, the Government considers energy security and infrastructure development to be among the key priorities of its medium-term strategy. At present, Bangladesh imports approximately 95 percent of its petroleum requirements, around 34 percent of its natural gas demand in the form of LNG, and virtually all of its LPG requirements. A significant share of these imports originates from the Middle East. In view of this dependence, and in light of recent geopolitical developments in the region, the Government has undertaken initiatives to diversify energy sources and is placing the highest priority on intensifying domestic gas exploration to enhance energy security and reduce external vulnerabilities.

58. To ensure an uninterrupted supply of electricity and energy, measures are being taken to improve the efficiency of existing generation, transmission, and distribution systems, while strengthening the LNG supply chain and related infrastructure. In addition, incentives are being provided to encourage the adoption of renewable energy sources. Modern technologies will be promoted to ensure efficient and cost-effective energy use across the industrial, agricultural, and residential sectors. Investment in energy and infrastructure will be further expanded through public-private partnerships in order to accelerate economic activity and support long-term growth. Through

these initiatives, the Government aims to ensure a stable energy supply and strengthen national energy security over the medium term, thereby creating a more conducive environment for investment and production.

59. During the tenure of the present Government, an integrated strategy will be implemented to develop a secure, efficient, environmentally sustainable energy system and modern infrastructure capable of supporting long-term economic growth. Through the gradual expansion of solar, wind, and other clean energy sources, the foundations of a low-carbon economy will be established. At the same time, the national power grid will be modernized through the adoption of smart technologies and advanced energy management systems, while the resilience of energy infrastructure will be strengthened to meet future demand and withstand potential external shocks.

(E) Employment Generation

Mr. Speaker

60. Guided by the principle of "We Will Work, and Will Build the Country Together," employment generation across various sectors constitutes one of the central pillars of the Government's economic recovery and inclusive growth strategy. When an economy loses momentum in its industrial and productive sectors, employment opportunities contract and overall productivity decline. This trend has been evident in Bangladesh's labour market in recent years. Although the contributions of the industrial and services sectors to national value added have increased over the past decade, their capacity to generate employment has not expanded at the desired pace. At the same time, it is a matter of concern that employment in agriculture has continued to grow despite the sector's declining share in overall economic output.

Mr. Speaker

61. The Government is therefore placing the highest priority on expanding employment opportunities in industry, services, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), information technology, and modern agro-based industries. Demand-driven technical and vocational education and training programmes will be expanded, greater access to finance will be provided for young entrepreneurs, and employment opportunities for women and marginalized groups will be enhanced. At the same time, increased productive investment, the expansion of export-oriented industries, and the development of a skilled workforce will help restore structural balance in the labour market over the medium term. In addition, greater investment in the creative economy will create new avenues for employment and entrepreneurship. Through these coordinated initiatives, the Government aims to build a productive, skilled, and sustainable employment-based economy over the long term—one that raises incomes, reduces poverty, and supports a more dynamic and inclusive pattern of economic growth.

62. The Government attaches special importance to the creative economy and seeks to develop it as an important source of employment, entrepreneurship, and economic growth. Specialized zones will be established to promote the development of arts, music, theatre, film, and other cultural activities, thereby improving the livelihoods of artists and cultural practitioners while expanding opportunities for recreation, cultural enrichment, and social engagement for the wider public. At the same time, sports will be developed as an important economic sector so that it can be embraced as a respectable profession, enable Bangladesh to enhance its presence and reputation on the global stage, and contribute meaningfully to GDP. I shall present the specific budget proposals relating to the creative economy in Chapter VI: Sectoral Priorities of this Budget Speech.

(F) Good Governance

Mr. Speaker

63. In our pursuit of building a 'Meritocratic Bangladesh', merit, integrity, competence, experience, and professional qualifications will serve as the principal criteria for all appointments, transfers, and promotions across the public service. I would like to point out that government employees have been receiving salaries and allowances under the same pay structure for nearly eleven years. During this period, the cost of living has increased significantly due to inflationary pressures. In recognition of this reality, the Government is announcing the phased implementation of a new pay structure for public employees beginning on 1 July 2026.

64. We firmly believe that these ongoing reforms will extend far beyond the simplification of administrative procedures. They will contribute to improving the overall business environment, attracting greater domestic and foreign investment, creating new momentum for enterprises of all sizes, strengthening the foundations of production and exports, and expanding employment opportunities across the economy. In line with the electoral commitments of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), the path we have chosen—centered on economic democratization, good governance, private sector-led investment, and employment-oriented growth—will be reinforced by the measures outlined in this chapter.

65. One of the Government's key strategic objectives is to elevate Bangladesh from its current position as the world's 26th largest economy in terms of Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) to among the top 20 economies within the next five years. To achieve this goal, the Government will strengthen the foundations of the economy by ensuring universal digital connectivity, investing in human capital development,

enhancing energy security, and improving infrastructure and port management. These efforts will be complemented by policies aimed at increasing private sector investment, accelerating industrialization, and raising productivity across all sectors of the economy. As part of this strategy, a comprehensive action plan is being undertaken to increase foreign direct investment (FDI) from the current level of 0.45 percent of GDP to 2.7 percent of GDP.

(G) Balanced Regional Development

Mr. Speaker

66. The Government remains firmly committed to ensuring balanced and equitable development by reducing economic, social, and infrastructural disparities across different regions of the country. Recognizing that different regions possess distinct comparative advantages, the Government will prioritize economic activities and industrial development that are best suited to the unique strengths and resource endowments of each region. As part of this strategy, the development of Chattogram as the country's commercial capital constitutes a key strategic initiative. To establish Chattogram as a regional trade and logistics hub, the capacity, efficiency, and connectivity of its ports will be further modernized and expanded. In the northern region, priority will be given to agro-based industrialization through the development of specialized agro-processing industries, cold-chain facilities, storage infrastructure, food processing industries, and logistics networks in agriculturally intensive districts. Furthermore, a comprehensive development programme will be implemented for the haor and wetland regions, focusing on agriculture, fisheries, duck farming, tourism, and biodiversity conservation to ensure sustainable livelihoods.

Mr. Speaker

67. In formulating this Budget and designing the Government's medium-term policy strategy, careful consideration has been given to the recommendations received through a series of pre-budget consultations with stakeholders from various sectors. Despite the existing constraints and challenges, we are confident that this Budget will mark the beginning of a positive transformation in the economy. Through the creation of a more investment-friendly environment, the expansion of employment opportunities, the promotion of entrepreneurship, and the growth of productive sectors, we seek to build a more dynamic, resilient, and competitive economy. Our vision is to establish an economic framework in which the private sector serves as the principal engine of growth, while creating new opportunities for young people and women to contribute to and benefit from the country's economic progress.

Chapter IV: Supplementary Budget for FY 2025–26

Mr. Speaker

68. Considering the overall progress in revenue collection and expenditure, some revisions and adjustments have had to be made to the budget for the current FY 2025–26. A brief summary of the revised budget has been appended as Table 1 of Appendix ‘A’.

69. Proposed Revised Revenue Receipts: Up to March 2026 of the current fiscal year, 58.7 percent of the total revenue collection target set in the original budget has been achieved, representing a 6.9 percent growth in revenue collection compared to the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year. However, following the assumption of office by the democratic government, and as a result of the Government’s development-oriented, taxpayer-friendly policies and reform initiatives, economic activities have gained momentum, which will further bolster the revenue growth. Considering this trend in revenue mobilization, along with overall situations, I propose to increase the revenue collection target in the revised budget for FY 2025–26 by BDT 24 thousand crore from the original budget, setting it at BDT 5 lakh 88 thousand crore.

70. Proposed Revised Expenditure: In the budget for the current FY 2025-26, the total public expenditure was estimated at BDT 7 lakh 90 thousand crore. However, up to March 2026, BDT 4 lakh 5 thousand 305 crore has been spent. Government expenditure, particularly the implementation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP), experienced a somewhat slower pace during the pre-election period. Considering this, I propose to decrease public expenditure by BDT 2 thousand crore in the revised budget and set it at BDT 7 lakh 88 thousand crore.

71. **Deficit and Financing in the Revised Budget:** The budget deficit for the current fiscal year was estimated at BDT 2 lakh 26 thousand crore. Considering the overall situation of revenue receipts and expenditure, I propose a deficit of BDT 2 lakh crore in the revised budget, which is equivalent to 3.3 percent of GDP. Notable that the deficit in the original budget was estimated at 3.6 percent of GDP. Out of the total deficit in the revised budget, I propose to finance BDT 1 lakh 37 thousand crore from the domestic sources and BDT 63 thousand crore from the external sources.

Chapter V: Proposed Budget for FY 2026–27

Mr. Speaker

72. With a commitment to steering the economy towards development and prosperity, we have formulated this budget framework by focusing on 10 key priorities. Now I would like to present the Budget for upcoming FY 2026–27. A detailed overview of the proposed revenue and expenditure for the coming fiscal year has been provided in Table 2 of Appendix A.

73. There is no alternative to increasing revenue collection to successfully implement the country's development plans. For this reason, various reform measures have been introduced within the National Board of Revenue to make the tax system more taxpayer friendly. To simplify revenue collection and ensure the prompt and direct deposit of revenues in the Government Treasury, the A-Challan system has been made mandatory from coming 1 July. In addition, steps have been taken to formulate and implement specific short-term action plans to reduce tax exemptions, identify areas of revenue leakage, and rationalize the existing VAT collection and structure. It is expected that the successful implementation of these measures will increase tax revenues and improve the tax-to-GDP ratio.

74. There is immense potential to increase our non-tax revenue (NTR). To boost such revenue collection, initiatives have been taken to formulate the "Non-Tax Revenue (NTR) and Non-NBR Tax Revenue Collection and Management Policy 2026". Under this policy, all ministries and divisions will identify potential NTR sources, set reasonable fees, rationalise or update rates every three years, and explore new sources of revenue. In addition, transparency and accountability in revenue management will be ensured through digitalisation, the use of the A-Challan system, and real-time reporting.

As part of setting rational fees, nearly 493 rates relating to various services under 17 ministries/divisions have already been updated.

75. The government has investments in various state-owned enterprises, corporations, companies, banks, insurance, and financial institutions. These investments represent government capital or equity, against which the government is entitled to receive profits or dividends. But there is no comprehensive database of the government's equity investments in these institutions. For this, an initiative has been taken to develop a complete database of all government investments and equity. This will help ensure the proper collection of profits and dividends due against government investments. These measures are expected to increase non-tax revenue earnings and support the achievement of our short and medium-term overall revenue targets.

76. Proposed Revenue Income: Considering these reforms and initiatives in the revenue sector, total revenue earnings for the FY 2026–27 have been estimated at BDT 6 lakh 95 thousand crore, which is equivalent to 10.2 percent of GDP. Of this amount, I propose to collect BDT 6 lakh 4 thousand crore through the National Board of Revenue (NBR) and BDT 91 thousand crore from other sources.

77. Proposed Expenditure: Total expenditure for the upcoming FY 2026-27 is estimated at BDT 9 lakh 38 thousand crore, which represents 13.7 percent of GDP and is BDT 1 lakh 48 thousand crore higher than the budget of the previous financial year. Of this amount, I propose an allocation of BDT 3 lakh 16 thousand 75 crore for development expenditure, including BDT 3 lakh crore for the Annual Development Programme (ADP), and BDT 6 lakh 21 thousand 925 crore for operating and other expenditures. We have adopted a plan to gradually increase the share of development expenditure in the budget. In line with that objective, it has been proposed to raise the share of total development expenditure in the fiscal year 2026–27 from 27.27 percent in the current fiscal year (revised) to 33.70 percent, and to reduce operating expenditure from 72.73 percent in the current fiscal year to 66.30 percent in the upcoming fiscal year. This total expenditure includes BDT 1 lakh 5 thousand crore for interest payments on domestic debt and BDT 22 thousand 5 hundred crore for interest payments on foreign debt.

78. In the proposed budget, utmost importance has been given to ensuring social protection for marginalised and low-income groups to achieve our development goals. At the same time, in allocating resources for the Annual Development Programme (ADP), priority has been given to human resource development and education, health, science, research, and technology which are vital for building a knowledge-based society. In addition, special emphasis has been placed on the development of physical infrastructure necessary for investment and sustainable development. A sector-wise breakdown of the ADP allocations has been provided in Table 3 of Appendix A.

79. Overall Expenditure Structure: The overall expenditure framework, divided into three broad sectors — social infrastructure, physical infrastructure, and general services — has been presented in Table 4 of Appendix A. In the proposed budget, a total allocation of BDT 2 lakh 79 thousand 1 crore has been proposed for the social infrastructure sector, which accounts for 29.74 percent of the total allocation. An allocation of BDT 1 lakh 74 thousand 988 crore has been proposed for the physical infrastructure sector, representing 18.66 percent of the total budget. For the general services sector, BDT 2 lakh 45 thousand 117 crore has been proposed, which is 26.13 percent of the total allocation. The increased and highest allocation for the social sector reflects the government's electoral commitment to giving priority to education, healthcare, and social safety net programmes.

80. Proposed Budget Deficit and Financing: Over the past few years, the significant depreciation of the BDT against foreign currencies has increased expenditure on the repayment of both principal and interest on foreign loans. As a result, the proposed Budget for FY 2026–

27 will have a deficit of BDT 2 lakh 43 thousand crore, which is equivalent to 3.6 percent of GDP. Although a significant increase in investment has been proposed in both the social and infrastructure sectors, the budget deficit ratio has been maintained at the same level as in the previous fiscal year. The funds for these increased allocations will be mobilised by achieving revenue targets through necessary reforms in the revenue sector. Out of the total deficit in the proposed budget, I propose to finance BDT 1 lakh 27 thousand crore from domestic sources and BDT 1 lakh 16 thousand crore from external sources. Of the domestic borrowing, Tk 112,000 crore will be sourced from the banking system. In the current fiscal year 2025–26, it was Tk 118,000 crore. That is, we have proposed to reduce borrowing from the banking system by Tk 6,000 crore in the upcoming fiscal year.

81. Due to excessive borrowing during the fascist regime, the country's debt servicing and interest payment costs have risen substantially. As a result, the budget deficit in the proposed Budget has also increased. In FY 2005-06, the budget deficit was 2.9 percent of GDP. By contrast, in FY 2023-24, this deficit climbed to 4.05 percent of GDP.

82. Alongside addressing these inherited fiscal pressures, we are working to restore discipline and stability in the economy. We are adopting effective measures to boost domestic revenue collection, reforming debt management, channelling public investment into high-return sectors, and modernising the project implementation framework. As a result of these measures, government revenue collection will be enhanced, the quality of investment will be ensured, and the flow of money in the economy will be increased, through the multiplier effect, economic activities will become more dynamic and revenue income will be increased more in future, which will gradually contribute to reducing the budget deficit.

Chapter VI: Sectoral Priority

Mr. Speaker

83. I now present a brief overview of sector-wise action plans and the proposed budget framework in accordance with the Government's priorities. Detailed sector-wise budget allocations are presented in Annex 'Ka': Table-4.

Mr. Speaker,

84. In formulating next year's budget, certain key contextual factors have been taken into account. Implementing our electoral commitments with the Government's limited resources represents a formidable challenge. Accordingly, this budget sets out a priority-driven action plan. In addition, the global and domestic economic context has been given particular consideration. Domestic economic conditions — notably high inflation, slow in economic growth, and a downward trend in exports — have been weighed alongside the ambition to establish good governance and to improve the business environment through deregulation.

85. Energy security concerns arising from instability in the Middle East have also been factored in. Overall, in allocating resources, special priority has been accorded to education and human resource development, healthcare, skills-based employment, the creative economy, social protection, agriculture and food security, women's empowerment, energy security, infrastructure development, local government and rural development, information and communication technology, and climate change.

Education and Human Resource Development

Mr. Speaker

86. In this budget, we regard education and human resource development as the cornerstone of the nation's progress. The future of a nation is determined by the knowledge, skills, values, creativity, and productive capacity of its people. The present Government therefore regards education not merely as a means of obtaining certificates, but as the most reliable foundation for national reconstruction, higher productivity, social equity, and an employment-oriented economy. In fulfilment of our electoral commitment, we have set the goal of raising education sector allocations to 5 percent of GDP over the next five years. Since assuming office, work has begun to lay the practical foundations for our pledges to develop infrastructure, enhance the quality of education, expand the use of technology in classrooms, and develop human resources equipped for both domestic and international labour markets.

Mr. Speaker

86. Education was among the most critically damaged sectors of the state structure during the long years of fascist rule. Through the July Mass Uprising — which carried the aspirations of the youth and has brought us back to a democratic Bangladesh — we must now build a Bangladesh for our future generations where students grow into honest, competent, skilled, and responsible citizens. In meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century, education is no longer merely a means of acquiring knowledge. It is, rather, the primary foundation of human resource development, economic growth, social justice, and national advancement. Bangladesh's greatest strength is its young population. To convert this vast demographic dividend into national wealth, our education system must be restructured so that every student, enriched

with knowledge, skills, ethical values, and innovative capacity, can contribute to the country's development.

88. Our twin objectives are, on the one hand, to restore discipline, transparency, and accountability to the education sector, and on the other, to ensure an environment for students and teachers in which they can realise their fullest potential through modern education, training, and opportunity. The Mr. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, elected by the mandate of the people, is transforming the education curriculum so as to cultivate among students ethical values, a sense of social responsibility, qualities of leadership, and humane character — for he believes that education is not merely a matter of acquiring knowledge; it is the most powerful instrument for shaping people and society.

Mr. Speaker

89. To this end, special emphasis will be placed within the education curriculum on technical and vocational education, third-language instruction, sports and cultural development, technology-enabled learning, and 'Learning with Happiness' joyful education. We want to build an education system in which students acquire not only academic knowledge but also real-life competencies such as creativity, problem-solving, leadership, innovation, and teamwork. We believe that the path to success is not the same for everyone. We do not subscribe to the notion that everyone must become a doctor or an engineer. Rather, it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that every student has the opportunity to develop in accordance with their own talent, interest, and aptitude. We wish to build a framework in which a student can, consistent with their own abilities, preferences, or inclinations, establish themselves with equal dignity and success as a skilled craftsperson, technologist, agricultural entrepreneur, researcher, artist, teacher, businessperson, or in any other profession of their choosing.

90. In the future, instead of infrastructure-centred investment, the education sector will prioritise: developing trained and skilled teachers; ensuring skills development and workplace readiness; generating knowledge through research and innovation; expanding and improving the quality of technical education; building a technology-driven education system; developing labour-market-relevant curricula; and supporting the leadership and character development of students.

91. The joyful education curriculum will be contemporary, competency-based, and oriented towards real life, with emphasis on ethics, values, and character formation. Rather than rote learning, comprehension, analytical thinking, and application-based education will be encouraged. Club-based co-curricular activities in institutions — such as debates, science fairs, cultural events, and literary pursuits — will be encouraged to nurture the latent talents of students. At the same time, sports competitions and tournaments from the institutional and grassroots level up to the national level will be regularly organised to ensure that every student has the opportunity to participate in at least one sport. Special priority will be given to expanding the activities of Scouts, BNCC, and Girls Guides in schools and colleges.

Mr. Speaker

92. To transform Bangladesh into a skills-based economy, technical education will be progressively introduced for all students from Class VI onwards, so that every student has the opportunity to be trained in at least one market-relevant skill across various fields — including agriculture, ICT, electrical works, electronics, graphic design, tourism, healthcare, construction, and the creative industries. Plans are in place to incorporate a mandatory third language — such as Japanese, Korean, Mandarin, Arabic, French, or German — into the curriculum alongside Bangla and English. The Government has already introduced a loan facility of Tk. 10 lakh for students wishing to pursue higher education abroad to support third-language learning.

93. Every citizen has the right to education. As part of this, free education for girls has been extended up to the graduate level. Alongside this, merit-based scholarship programmes will be strengthened; school uniforms, shoes, and school bags will be provided for students from poor families; inclusive education for children with disabilities and special needs will be ensured, along with the provision of specialised assistive technology and educational materials. A Mid-Day Meal Programme will be introduced and progressively expanded across the country to meet the nutritional needs of students and ensure their good health. In addition, healthcare services, with particular attention to sanitation and hygiene for female students and women teachers, will be ensured. To establish a technology-driven education system, the 'One Teacher, One Tab' programme will be implemented; multimedia classrooms will be established; free Wi-Fi access will be expanded; a unique Edu-ID will be introduced for every student; digital library facilities will be provided; and students will be familiarised with artificial intelligence, robotics, coding, and digital literacy.

Mr. Speaker

94. As part of environmental and civic responsibility, the following will be ensured: implementation of the 'One Child, One Tree' programme; inclusion of environmental conservation and climate awareness in education; engagement of students in canal excavation, cleanliness drives, and social development activities; participation in awareness-raising activities on disaster management and disaster preparedness; and encouragement of students to keep pets. Education will be directly linked to employment, productivity, and economic growth. Strong industry-academia connections will be built, through which students will benefit from apprenticeship and internship opportunities and will be able to launch start-ups and establish themselves as entrepreneurs. In addition, industry-recognised short courses will be introduced and skills development centres established through joint initiatives between universities and the industrial sector.

95. We are working to transform 'brain drain' into 'brain circulation'. Initiatives will be taken to engage highly educated Bangladeshis living abroad — who possess global knowledge, skills, and experience — with the country's education and research ecosystem. To this end, internationally recognised credit transfer systems, student exchange programmes, summer schools, visiting scholar initiatives, and joint research programmes will be introduced, so that students in the country have the opportunity to connect directly with world-class education, research, and professional experience. The Government will give priority to domestic research and innovation and ensure effective patronage. Our goal will be to arrive at practical and sustainable solutions to the country's socioeconomic challenges.

Mr. Speaker

96. The Government will take the necessary steps to bring about coordination among the various streams of education that exist in the country and to effectively implement the equivalence of qualifications. Improving the quality of education and enhancing the standard of instruction at every level — primary and mass education, madrasa and technical education, and secondary and higher education — is our priority. Our students will be the pride of Bangladesh and responsible citizens of the world. Through this education system, they will learn human rights and democratic values, religious and cultural tolerance, environmental conservation and sustainable development, and the culture of international cooperation and peace.

97. We wish to improve standards in science, mathematics, English, and information technology for madrasa students alongside their religious education; introduce employment-oriented training programmes; enhance their competitive capacity for higher education and employment; and ensure access to digital education and modern learning materials. At the centre of quality improvement in education will be the teacher. Regular training and retraining of teachers will be

ensured; teachers' dignity, welfare, and professional development will be promoted; and special benefits will be provided for teachers working in rural and remote areas.

98. The story of tomorrow's Bangladesh will be written by today's children, adolescents, and young men and women. Their talent, hard work, creativity, and boundless potential will be the primary driving force of the nation's forward march. It is the responsibility of the state to ensure an environment in which their dreams are not halted for want of inspiration, and their talents are not lost before they have had the chance to flourish. Under the leadership of Mr. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman, we wish to build a generation that will not only shape its own future, but will open new doors of possibility for society and the country — a generation that will not wait for opportunity, but will create new employment; that will not merely follow the times, but will lead change.

Mr. Speaker

99. We propose to increase the allocation for the education sector to 2 percent of GDP in the upcoming fiscal year, with a total allocation of Tk 1 lakh 36 thousand and 606 crore. In the fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation for the education sector was Tk 87 thousand and 206 crore, equivalent to 1.39 percent of GDP.

Health and Family Welfare

Mr. Speaker

100. Building a healthy nation is the prerequisite for sustainable development and a prosperous Bangladesh. However, years of neglect, corruption, political interference, and a lack of accountability have left the country's health sector weak and dysfunctional — as was starkly evident during the COVID-19 pandemic and in the recent tragic deaths

of children from measles infections. During the fascist era, a large portion of the expenditure on unplanned infrastructure construction and procurement of equipment in the health sector was plundered through corruption — which is why the quality of healthcare never improved. That is why, today, the country's hospitals are struggling under the crushing burden of excess patients, ordinary people are denied quality medical care, and a large number of patients are seeking treatment abroad, causing a drain of valuable foreign exchange. At the same time, citizens must bear a significant share of their healthcare costs out of pocket, pushing countless families into financial hardship and poverty.

101. To change this reality, the BNP Government's objective is not merely to build more hospitals, but to transform Bangladesh's healthcare system from a treatment-centred model to a prevention-centred one. Our commitment is therefore to place the highest priority on strengthening primary healthcare across both rural and urban areas, promoting disease prevention, improving nutrition, enhancing maternal and child health services, expanding immunisation coverage, ensuring the early detection of non-communicable diseases such as cancer and diabetes, and raising public awareness. This will reduce unnecessary pressure on healthcare facilities, lower the high cost of healthcare for ordinary citizens, and make it possible to build a humane, modern, and affordable health system while reducing pressure on the nation's limited resources.

102. Placing public health at the highest priority, one of the BNP Government's landmark electoral pledges is to progressively raise total health sector allocations to 5.0 percent of GDP within the next five years. Ensuring that no poor family is ruined by the cost of medical treatment is a responsibility of the state. Our government views investment in the health sector not as expenditure but as one of the most important investments in human resource development and national economic progress. As an initial step towards this goal, health sector budget allocations for FY2026-27 are being raised to 1.01 percent of

GDP — a beginning that will give shape to a people-centred, accountable, and future-oriented healthcare system.

Mr. Speaker

103. Consistent with the commitments made in the electoral manifesto, we have formulated plans to establish one modern primary healthcare unit in each union and one or more in each ward of urban areas throughout Bangladesh, and implementation is already underway. These units will serve as accessible, affordable, and prevention-focused centres of healthcare for the public. Under each primary healthcare unit, there will be three community-level health service centres (Community Clinics), from which trained community health workers will regularly deliver preventive health counselling, maternal and child health services, nutrition support, and essential primary healthcare at people's doorsteps. As a result, ordinary citizens will no longer be dependent on large hospitals, diseases will be detected at an early stage, medical costs will fall, and out-of-pocket expenditures will be substantially reduced.

104. Under universal health coverage, every citizen will be issued a modern "Health Card", linked to an Integrated Patient Management System and an Integrated Patient Referral System. Through this, a patient's prior treatment history, investigations, medications, and medical information will be instantly accessible at any primary, secondary, or specialised healthcare facility anywhere in the country. This will significantly improve the quality of care, reduce medical errors and unnecessary duplication of prescriptions, and enable patients to receive faster, more orderly, and more effective services. At the same time, this digital health system will play a pivotal role in establishing discipline, accountability, and efficiency across the country's entire health sector.

Mr. Speaker,

105. To make specialised treatment for complex conditions more accessible and structured, each district hospital and all associated upazila health complexes will be developed together as a comprehensive 'Secondary Healthcare Unit'. Under this framework, upazila health complexes will be strengthened as the primary centres for maternal, neonatal, child, and reproductive health services, so that the majority of urgent and necessary maternal and child services can be ensured at the upazila level itself.

106. Complex and specialised medical care, including surgery, will be concentrated at district headquarters hospitals. This will reduce the need for patients to travel unnecessarily to Dhaka, reducing both the cost and burden of treatment and making the country's overall health system more effective, coordinated, and people-friendly. To ease the hardship of patient transport, the Government will shortly establish a 'National Ambulance Pool and Emergency Services Network'. The Government will expand treatment for life-threatening and costly illnesses through a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. Under this arrangement, the Government will procure specific healthcare services from accredited private hospitals through Strategic Purchasing, enabling poor and low-income people waiting in long queues at public hospitals to receive timely and quality medical care. This will simultaneously reduce the excessive burden on public hospitals and ensure better health services for ordinary citizens at affordable cost.

107. To develop healthy, talented, and productive human resources, the Government is working towards formulating a coordinated, science-based, and modern national nutrition programme. To address the high prevalence of stunting among children under five in Bangladesh, the Government will implement a comprehensive, multi-sectoral national programme. Malnutrition is not merely a health-sector issue; it is closely linked to food security, education, agriculture, social protection, safe

water and sanitation, women's empowerment, and public awareness. Under this programme, efforts will be made to improve maternal nutrition during pregnancy, prevent malnutrition and anaemia among adolescent girls, ensure safe motherhood, treat severe acute malnutrition in children, promote breastfeeding, raise awareness about complementary feeding, and strengthen food and nutrition education.

108. Ensuring that quality medicines are accessible to the general public and that drug prices remain affordable is a matter to which the present Government gives the highest priority. Accordingly, the work of updating the National Essential Medicines List is at an advanced stage. Formulation of a modern and up-to-date drug policy is also in progress, to ensure that people have access to safe, effective, and affordable medicines. Bangladesh's pharmaceutical industry is making a significant contribution to economic prosperity and foreign exchange earnings by meeting domestic demand while exporting pharmaceutical products and related goods to markets around the world. The present Government will continue to provide the necessary infrastructure, research, investment, and policy support — including for an Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient (API) industrial park — to further strengthen this industry. The Government is also working steadfastly to build a sustainable and modern nationwide medicines and vaccine supply network, to ensure the timely delivery of essential medicines and vaccines even to the most remote corners of the country.

109. It is with a deeply pained heart that I must say that, owing to the negligence and lack of proper planning in vaccine procurement and immunisation programme implementation by previous governments, a measles outbreak has spread across the country, giving rise to the heartbreaking situation of child deaths. In response to this crisis, the Government acted swiftly and, within its first 100 days, administered the measles-rubella vaccine to nearly 100 percent of children. This achievement is a reflection of the Government's commitment to

rebuilding the capacity of our immunisation system and to protecting child health.

Mr. Speaker

110. To produce skilled, humane, and modern physicians, necessary reforms will be introduced in the existing MBBS curriculum. To this end, steps have been taken to incorporate an integrated modular approach, modern clinical education systems, and the use of artificial intelligence (AI)-based medical knowledge and technology. Under the supervision of the Bangladesh Medical and Dental Council (BMDC), an expert panel has been constituted to modernise and bring the MBBS curriculum up to international standards. The Government aims to introduce a new, modern, competency-based, and future-oriented MBBS curriculum by 2030. The BDS and allied health education curricula will also be progressively updated.

111. To make medical and dental education more inclusive and accessible, student loan and bank loan facilities will be introduced. Plans are also being drawn up to launch a special bank loan programme for talented students travelling abroad for higher studies, so that financial constraints do not stand in the way of any bright student's advancement.

112. A comprehensive reform and infrastructure development programme will be undertaken to transform all government medical colleges into modern, quality-assured, and education-friendly institutions. In particular, through the modernisation of academic buildings, dormitories, laboratories, libraries, hospital facilities, and training infrastructure at older medical colleges, a safe, improved, and quality educational environment will be ensured for students and trainee physicians.

Mr. Speaker

113. Steps have been taken to establish five modern training centres utilising existing but underused infrastructure under the Directorate of Medical Education at various locations across the country. These facilities will be used to conduct mandatory Residential Field Site Training (RFST) as an important component of community medicine education, directly engaging medical and dental students and intern physicians with rural realities and community health systems. This will strengthen future physicians' practical understanding of the health needs of rural populations and deepen their humane values and spirit of service.

114. A total of 192 unused properties under the Local Government Division have already been transferred to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Government has taken the initiative to progressively establish these properties as modern primary healthcare units in order to bring healthcare to people's doorsteps. These centres will be operated under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model to ensure efficient management, quality service, and swift programme implementation.

115. To ensure quality and people-centred healthcare across the country, the Government is giving top priority to recruiting the necessary healthcare workforce. Steps have been taken to immediately recruit 5,000 MBBS physicians to fill the longstanding vacancies in various government hospitals and health institutions. This will significantly reduce the physician shortage, particularly at the upazila and district levels, and enable ordinary citizens to receive faster and better quality medical care.

116. In accordance with the electoral pledge, the process of recruiting an additional 100,000 health workers has commenced. With a view to strengthening women's and child healthcare, community-level services,

and preventive healthcare systems, a plan has been drawn up for approximately 80 percent of total recruits to be female health workers. New positions for 941 Senior Staff Nurses and 947 Midwives have already been created to expand healthcare coverage and strengthen maternal health protection nationwide.

Mr. Speaker,

117. Our government believes that high-quality nursing education and training are among the cornerstones of a strong healthcare system. The Government therefore places special emphasis on improving the quality of nursing education, modernising it, and aligning it with international standards. To this end, a specialised Nurse Teacher Training Centre is being established in collaboration with the Government of Canada to provide nursing educators with modern, internationally standardised training. To expand opportunities for higher education and professional development in nursing and midwifery, a 2-year MSc in Nursing programme has been launched in 25 government nursing colleges, and the process of introducing the same in a further 8 government nursing colleges is underway. In addition, a 4-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing programme has been launched in 4 nursing colleges. The Government is committed to progressively elevating Bangladesh's nursing education to new heights through infrastructure development, the enhancement of modern lab and simulation facilities, the introduction of digital learning systems, and the implementation of internationally standardised curricula in nursing education institutions.

118. The demand for caregivers is steadily rising in many developed countries. If we can develop skilled human resources to meet this demand, it will broaden overseas employment opportunities and open new avenues for remittance earnings. Demand for caregivers within the country is also growing. A 4-month 'General Caregiver' training programme has been introduced to create employment for educated

unemployed young men and women, with the aim of meeting both domestic and international demand. In addition, a target has been set to train 60,000 service providers working at the primary level in the health, population, and nutrition sector.

Mr. Speaker

119. The Bangladesh Population Policy, 2012 has been updated and the Bangladesh Population Policy, 2025 has been published. The Bangladesh National Family Planning Strategy 2025-2030 is at an advanced stage of formulation to ensure equitable and inclusive access to rights-based family planning services, with the goal of achieving zero unmet need, zero preventable maternal mortality, and zero gender-based violence and harmful practices by 2030. Family planning activities will be overhauled in line with this Strategy. The National Institute of Population Research and Training (NIPORT) will conduct research and surveys including the Bangladesh Maternal Mortality and Healthcare Survey (BMMS), the Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey (BDHS) 2026-27, and the Bangladesh Health Facility Survey (BHFS) 2026-27.

Mr. Speaker

120. To ensure health security and reduce import dependence, the Government has taken the initiative to develop the medical equipment and medical device industry as a priority industrial sector. At present, the vast majority of medical equipment is imported, resulting in a substantial outlay of foreign exchange. Yet there is significant domestic potential to manufacture syringes, blood pressure machines, pulse oximeters, medical laboratory electrical equipment, ventilators, X-ray machines, ECG machines, hospital beds, diagnostic kits, and other medical devices.

121. To boost pharmaceutical industry exports, special fiscal and tax incentives will be provided to export-oriented firms alongside various existing customs and duty benefits. In addition, internationally accredited testing and certification laboratories will be established, an online licensing system will be introduced, a specialised medical technology park will be established, and access to low-interest financing will be ensured. The Government will also accord special importance to biomedical engineering education, research, and technological innovation. The Government is confident that, building on the success of the pharmaceutical industry, the medical equipment sector will emerge as Bangladesh's new export-oriented growth industry and will play an important role in healthcare, employment generation, and foreign exchange earnings.

Mr. Speaker

122. I propose an allocation of Tk 69 thousand and 409 crore for the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in the fiscal year 2026–27, which is equivalent to 1.02% of GDP. In the revised budget for fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation for this sector was Tk 35 thousand and 477 crore, representing 0.58% of GDP.

Agriculture and Food Security

Agriculture Sector

Mr. Speaker

123. One of the principal commitments of our government is to transform agriculture into a key driver of national prosperity. We are committed to developing the agricultural sector, which is the foundation of the country's economy and food security, into a self-reliant, climate-resilient and technology-driven modern system. Under this vision,

special priority has been given to ensuring affordable prices of agricultural inputs, including fertilizers, seeds, and irrigation, in order to reduce farmers’ production costs, as well as to promoting agricultural mechanization. To ensure fair prices for agricultural produce, we are placing emphasis on eliminating the dominance of intermediaries and developing modern marketing and cold storage infrastructure. We have adopted effective policies to establish farmers not merely as producers, but as empowered entrepreneurs. Above all, our objective is to ensure safe food and nutritional security through good agricultural practices and to achieve the sustainable transformation of the rural economy.

124. To bring about a fundamental transformation in the agricultural sector and deliver services to the doorsteps of marginalized communities, the government has formally launched the Farmer Card Program from Pohela Boishakh 1433 (14 April 2026). As a pre-pilot for the 2025–26 fiscal year, 22,065 farmers have been provided with cards across 11 blocks in 11 upazilas of 10 districts under 8 divisions of the country. Fish farmers, livestock farmers, and salt cultivators have also been brought under the coverage of this special card. In the 2026–27 fiscal year, 42.5 lakh cards will be distributed across 100 upazilas, with plans to gradually provide 'Farmer Cards' to all farmers in the country. Through this card, landless, marginal, and small farmers will receive an annual one-time cash assistance of Tk 2,500, along with an additional 10 types of multifaceted benefits as per our electoral commitments. For the FY 2026–27, I propose an initial allocation of Tk 1 thousand 62.5 crore under the Krishak Card program.

125. In accordance with the commitments declared in our electoral manifesto, the program for waiving agricultural loans up to BDT 10 thousand including interest in the crop, fisheries, and livestock sectors has already been implemented, and an allocation of Tk 1,567 crore 96 lakh has been provided in the current fiscal year for this purpose. As a result, in addition to a positive impact on agricultural production, new momentum has been injected into the rural economy. Furthermore, there

are plans to introduce agricultural insurance to address risks arising from natural disasters and to ensure stability in agricultural production.

126. To strengthen the agricultural sector, agricultural and rural credit programs will be expanded through scheduled banks. Loans at a 4 percent concessional interest rate for the cultivation of pulses, oilseeds, spices, and maize will continue in order to reduce import dependency. At the same time, loan programs at 4 percent interest for salt cultivation in coastal areas and at 5 percent interest for farmers in hill districts through Bangladesh Krishi Bank will be continued and expanded. Under the Agricultural Rehabilitation and Incentive Program, free seeds, fertilizers, and other input support are being provided. To reduce dependence on subsidies and ensure cost-effective production, we have strengthened the agricultural mechanization program. In addition, efforts to diversify agricultural products have been intensified. At the same time, cold storage and cold chain facilities for perishable goods are being expanded. An initiative has been taken to develop a farmer database to ensure smooth distribution of fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural inputs, as well as proper implementation of agricultural rehabilitation and incentive activities. To maintain the flow of agricultural credit, interest subsidies will be provided through a refinancing program.

Mr. Speaker

127. The 'Voluntary Canal Excavation Program,' originally introduced by the BNP government, has become a successful social movement in Bangladesh, which has been relaunched by Mr. Prime Minister Tarique Rahman. Under this program, the Ministry of Agriculture, along with other relevant ministries, has undertaken extensive initiatives. Through this program, pressure on groundwater will be reduced, natural water flow will be restored, waterlogging will be eliminated, and the efficiency of the irrigation system will be enhanced, resulting in increased agricultural production. Furthermore,

to encourage eco-friendly irrigation systems, 98 solar-powered irrigation pumps and 27 solar-powered dug-wells will be installed. The use of environmentally friendly technologies such as drip irrigation and aquifer recharge will be promoted to ensure the sustainable use of groundwater.

128. To ensure food security, the supply of fertiliser to farmers at subsidised prices will be continued. Notably, with the assistance of the World Food Program (WFP), 30 thousand metric tonnes of fertiliser have been received free of cost from Russia, which will be distributed for free among farmers as an incentive in FY2026–27. To protect soil health and the environment, farmers will be encouraged to use organic fertilisers, green manure, and biofertilisers.

129. Post-harvest losses are being reduced through agricultural mechanization and improved packaging systems. The development of modern storage facilities, packaging houses, cold chains, and other related support facilities is being actively encouraged in both the public and private sectors. Furthermore, a specialized cold storage facility will be established in the Barendra region specifically for mango farmers. To boost the export of agricultural products, the plant quarantine laboratory established at the Central Packing House is also being upgraded to meet international standards.

130. Agricultural research is being given priority, and new high-yielding and stress-tolerant crop varieties are being developed every year. In order to address the impacts of climate change, initiatives have been taken to strengthen agricultural research for the development of salt-tolerant and drought-resistant crop varieties. In addition, to create employment opportunities for youth, initiatives have been taken to formulate an “Agropreneurship Start-up Policy” and an “Agricultural Cooperative Policy” to ensure the balanced distribution of modern agricultural technology and agricultural credit on a large scale.

Food Security

Mr. Speaker,

131. Bangladesh is one of the most densely populated countries in the world. Although ensuring food security for such a large population is a highly challenging task, our government remains deeply committed to this goal. To this end, initiatives have been taken to increase the storage capacity of food grains at the government level. The revised target for food grain procurement in FY2025–26 is 38.19 lakh metric tonnes, which is planned to be increased to 41.29 lakh metric tonnes in FY2026–27. For digital food management, initiatives are being taken to procure paddy directly from farmers across all upazilas through the "Krishaker App" and to provide training aimed at raising awareness of safe food practices. The total storage capacity of food warehouses in FY2024–25 was 23.16 lakh metric tonnes, which is planned to be increased to 24.50 Lakh metric tonnes in FY2026–27.

Mr. Speaker

132. To reduce poverty and protect low-income people from the pressures of inflation, 55 lakh beneficiaries are already being provided with 30 kilograms of rice per month at a price of Tk. 15 per kilogram for six months during the lean season under the Food-Friendly Program. To keep the rice market under control, additional OMS (Open Market Sale) activities have been launched in 419 upazilas. Under this program, rice is being sold daily at a subsidised price of Tk. 30 per kilogram. Furthermore, to facilitate food access for low-income people, the supply of rice and flour at subsidised prices has been continued through more than 1,000 sales centres across the country. To ensure transparency, the development of a digital database for preparing a verified list of consumers under the Food-Friendly Program is ongoing. Alongside this, pilot activities have been initiated for the distribution of food grains

through the “Food-Friendly Distribution” app. An online monitoring system has been introduced to monitor food grain market prices.

Fisheries and Livestock

Mr. Speaker

133. To implement our election manifesto, we have identified the fisheries and livestock sectors as national priorities. The role of these sectors is immense in ensuring a full supply of animal protein for the country's population, meeting nutritional needs, and promoting socio-economic development. Various development initiatives have been undertaken to boost the production and export of fish and livestock products. Our target for FY2026–27 is to produce 56 lakh 35 thousand metric tonnes of fish.

134. Emphasizing the blue economy, the government has adopted a plan to operate commercial vessels for harvesting tuna and pelagic fish in the deep sea, expand seaweed cultivation, and raise fisheries export earnings to 1 billion dollars by 2030. Kuakata and Salimpur will be declared new Marine Protected Areas, and the sustainable use of marine resources will be ensured through the establishment of a modern fishing port at Matarbari. To ensure the optimal utilization of marine resources, the project titled "Improvement of Fish Landing Centre of Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation in Cox’s Bazar District" is currently being implemented.

Mr. Speaker

135. To preserve the country's fish biodiversity, the Government is placing special emphasis on the artificial breeding of endangered indigenous fish species and the conservation of their gene pools. To ensure the reproduction of fish in inland open water bodies, the establishment of beel nurseries and the maintenance of fish sanctuaries

have already been initiated across all eight divisions of the country. The Government will strengthen nursery management and develop science-based aquaculture techniques for indigenous fish species, which will help revive the production and availability of our disappearing native fish species.

136. To protect genuine fishers and farmers, the Government has undertaken initiatives to open up water bodies, coastal canals, and haor areas to local fishers and low-income communities under the principle of “Jal Jar, Jola Tar” (“Those who fish shall own the water”). To promote sustainable growth in this sector and improve the living standards of fishers, social protection coverage is being expanded to bring a total of 15 lakh fisher households under the VGF program, including newly incorporated households from the haor and Sundarbans areas. To help fish farmers manage risks, plans have been adopted to introduce the country's first fisheries insurance scheme and to promote the mechanisation of commercial fish farms.

Livestock Sector

Mr. Speaker

137. To meet the country’s growing demand for safe animal protein and ensure food and nutritional security, the Government has adopted specific plans for the development of the livestock sector. The field trial of the Avian Influenza and Goat Pox vaccines developed by Bangladesh Livestock Research Institute (BLRI) has been completed, and these vaccines will soon be supplied at the field level. At the same time, the Government is taking measures to ensure an adequate supply of animal disease preventive medicines in every upazila. We are undertaking necessary steps to ensure the production and supply of safe and quality feed for poultry and fish farms.

Mr. Speaker

138. For the fiscal year 2026–27, I propose a total allocation of Tk 43 thousand 335 crore for the Ministries of Agriculture, Food, Fisheries and Livestock, which is equivalent to 0.63 percent of GDP. In the revised budget for fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation was Tk 37 thousand 126 crore, representing 0.61 percent of GDP.

Social Security and Inclusive Development

Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection

Mr. Speaker,

139. Our development vision places great emphasis on ensuring that the general population becomes an integral part of the economic mainstream through sustained socio-economic progress. A significant portion of the total population of Bangladesh still lives below the poverty line. The absence of an equitable distribution of resources is primarily responsible for creating this kind of inequality. Our goal is to ensure food, clothing, shelter, and employment for every citizen in accordance with the directives of the Constitution. To rapidly reduce the rate of extreme poverty, the present government has accorded the highest priority to the social security sector, in accordance with Article 15(d) of the Constitution.

140. The existing social protection system in the country is neither sufficiently responsive to contemporary needs nor sustainable in the long term. Accordingly, our government is committed to establishing a humane, equitable, and a social protection framework founded on dignity under which the state will play a responsible role in safeguarding the lives and livelihoods of all citizens. In this regard, programs will be implemented following a life-cycle approach, ensuring that every stage

of a citizen’s life from birth onwards is brought within the ambit of the social protection system. Guided by the core philosophy of our government's social protection framework ‘Economic empowerment and self-reliance’, we are committed to ensuring the economic freedom and empowerment of every citizen.

Mr. Speaker,

141. The signature programme of our government for ensuring social protection is the 'Family Card Programme', which was inaugurated by the Mr. Prime Minister within less than one month of the formation of the government. Its core philosophy is rooted in the principle that "The family, not the individual, is the fundamental unit of development." Through the Family Card Programme, genuinely poor households across the country will be identified and provided with enhanced access to food security, education, healthcare, and opportunities for self-reliance. The programme aims to establish an equitable and humane welfare state by addressing the shortcomings of the existing social protection system, which currently comprises more than 90 separate programmes. These shortcomings include a lack of coordination among programmes, the receipt of multiple benefits by the same individuals (double-dipping), and the exclusion of a significant proportion of genuinely poor households from social assistance. By 2030, the Family Card Programme will be gradually expanded nationwide. To promote women's empowerment, the Family Card is being issued directly in the name of the mother or the female head of the household, thereby strengthening the economic and social standing of women within the family and society.

142. As you are already aware, through this card, a monthly allowance of TK.2,500 is being disbursed directly to the beneficiary's mobile or bank account via the Government-to-Person (G2P) mechanism. This rate is approximately three times higher than the allowance rates under the existing social safety net programmes. In

addition, information relating to each household's Family Tree is being incorporated into the Family Card database. Through the Family Card Programme, we intend to progressively replace the allowance-based components of other social protection programmes, and by 2030, we aim to transform this card into a "Universal Social ID Card" for every citizen of Bangladesh. During the first phase of the pilot, a total of 60,044 female heads of households are currently receiving their allowances. In the forthcoming fiscal year, I propose to distribute Family Cards to 4.1 million women and, for this purpose, to allocate Tk. 14,500 crore in the national budget.

143. In the upcoming fiscal year, I propose to increase the number of beneficiaries under the Old Age Allowance program by 100,000, raising the total to 6.2 million, while enhancing the monthly allowance by 50 taka to 700 taka. Similarly, the number of beneficiaries under the Widow and Destitute Women allowance program will be increased by 100,000 to reach 3 million, with the monthly allowance raised from 650 taka to 700 taka. I also propose to increase the number of beneficiaries under the Disability Allowance Programme from 3.45 million to 3.8 million and to raise the monthly allowance from Tk. 900 to Tk. 1,000. Furthermore, the number of students receiving educational stipends under the Disability Education Stipend Programme will be increased from 81,000 to 100,000. The monthly stipend rates will also be enhanced by Tk. 100–150, bringing them to Tk. 1,000 at the primary level, Tk. 1,100 at the secondary level, Tk. 1,200 at the higher secondary level, and Tk. 1,400 at the tertiary level.

144. To protect pregnant mothers and newborn children, allowances are being provided at a monthly rate of TK.850 through the mother and Child Assistance Programme. In the next fiscal year, I propose to increase the number of beneficiaries by 1,24,000, bringing the total number of beneficiaries to 18,95,200. I propose an allocation of Tk. 1,944.70 crore in the next fiscal year for this purpose. In addition, we have expanded the assistance programme for patients suffering from

cancer and five other chronic and life-threatening diseases, increasing the number of beneficiaries to 65,000. I also propose to raise the amount of one-time financial assistance from Tk. 50,000 to Tk. 100,000. Our government remains committed to bringing every citizen within a comprehensive financial protection framework and ensuring that no one is deprived of the benefits of development.

Mr. Speaker

145. The role of senior citizens in nation-building is invaluable. Our government remains steadfast in its commitment to their welfare. Therefore, I propose a 25 percent reduction in fares for senior citizens aged 65 and above for travel on government-owned public transport, specifically in trains and metro rail.

146. To modernize and sustain the social protection system, our government will expand coverage across various social security programs, increase allowance rates in line with inflation, and establish good governance from beneficiary selection to allowance distribution. Furthermore, marginalized groups and communities will be prioritized within the social safety net. In addition, our government will take initiatives to make the universal pension scheme more attractive by improving the management of the Pension Fund and allowing 30 percent of the total amount to be provided as a one-time gratuity. Furthermore, the Government will establish a state-funded welfare program for destitute orphan children and address the weaknesses of the Parents' Maintenance Act, 2013 to ensure its effective implementation.

Mr. Speaker

147. The Government remains steadfast in its commitment to preserving the history and legacy of the Great Liberation War and ensuring the welfare of our valiant freedom fighters. I propose to maintain the monthly honorarium for general freedom fighters at Tk.

20,000. Concurrently, I propose to increase the monthly allowances for the families of titled Freedom Fighters, specifically *Bir Shreshtha*, *Bir Uttam*, *Bir Bikram*, and *Bir Protik* by Tk. 5,000 across all categories, restructuring them to Tk. 40,000, Tk. 30,000, Tk. 25,000, and Tk. 25,000 respectively. In addition, festival allowances, Bangla New Year allowances, medical services, and funeral grants will continue to be provided. A consolidated list of freedom fighters has been prepared through the MIS system, and allowances are being disbursed directly to their bank accounts via the G2P payment system. The state honoraria for war-wounded, titled, and martyred Freedom Fighters' families are being seamlessly disbursed through the Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) mechanism. Furthermore, the Bangladesh Rural Development Board is extending loan facilities to support the socio-economic advancement of freedom fighters. To ensure housing for freedom fighters, the government has undertaken an initiative to construct 4,730 *Bir Nibas* residences in the fiscal year 2026–27.

148. Families of martyrs of the July Uprising are currently receiving a monthly allowance of 20,000 taka, while injured individuals in categories A, B, and C are receiving monthly allowances of 20,000, 15,000, and 10,000 taka respectively. I propose to continue these allocations in the forthcoming budget, while increasing the number of beneficiaries by 1,857 to a total of 16,513. Additionally, as part of the ongoing project, housing support programme for the families of those who lost their lives during the July Mass Uprising and for the families of July fighters who have suffered permanent loss of earning capacity, I propose an allocation of Tk. 300 crore in the next fiscal year.

Mr. Speaker

149. To enhance transparency and accountability within social protection programs, Finance Division has introduced the Single Registry System. Through this mechanism, funds are transferred directly to beneficiaries’ mobile or bank accounts. The system currently

stores information on approximately 40 million beneficiaries, with the capacity to verify an additional 20 million citizens. This has significantly enhanced transparency in beneficiary selection, ensured verification of accounts, and eliminated duplication in the provision of benefits. In parallel, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Social Welfare are implementing the Dynamic Social Registry (DSR), which will allow citizens to apply directly for social protection benefits from any location. It will also facilitate scientific assessment of poverty levels, thereby ensuring accurate identification and selection of eligible beneficiaries through a data-driven approach.

150. I propose an allocation of Tk 1 lakh 44 thousand 338 crore for the social safety net sector in the fiscal year 2026–27. In the revised budget for fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation was Tk 1 lakh 26 thousand 731 crore.

Power and Energy Sector

Electricity

Mr Speaker

151. Continuous and affordable electricity is the principal driving force behind industrial production as well as almost all economic activities. The cost of electricity generation has increased substantially owing to the fascist government's unplanned power and energy policies, alongside widespread corruption, rent-seeking, mismanagement, and irregularities in the sector. Under the guise of capacity charges, extensive misappropriation and capital flight occurred within the power sector. A number of mega projects undertaken during the previous Government's tenure incorporated unilateral and controversial contractual provisions, resulting in an excessive financial burden on the country through power imports and purchases. Excessive dependence on fossil fuels has also been a major contributor to rising costs in the

sector. Due to the gap between generation costs and retail tariffs, subsidies in the sector are projected to exceed BDT 40,000 crore in the current fiscal year. Although the country's installed electricity generation capacity currently stands at 28,919 MW (including imports and on-grid renewable energy), uninterrupted and quality electricity supply has yet to be fully ensured.

Mr Speaker

152. Following our assumption of office, we have accorded the highest priority to the development of the power sector and have undertaken initiatives to formulate and implement short, medium, and long-term plans for electricity generation, transmission and distribution. Measures have already been initiated to ensure transparency and accountability in the sector through the prevention of corruption and irregularities. Those involved in corruption within the power sector are being identified and appropriate action is being taken, alongside rigorous monitoring. We have undertaken initiatives to retire inefficient power plants, modernise them where necessary, and adopt a least-cost generation strategy. Steps have also been taken to ensure financial transparency and accountability through a review of capacity charges and power purchase agreements. Furthermore, the reliability of supply will be enhanced through comprehensive modernisation of the transmission and distribution networks and the development of smart grids to reduce system losses. Special initiatives have been undertaken to expand electrification in remote and island areas.

153. To maintain electricity tariffs at a reasonable level, measures have been adopted to establish power plants through competitive bidding processes. As part of modernisation efforts, work is underway to place distribution lines and substations underground in metropolitan areas. A draft ‘Power Sector Strategy Paper (2026–2050)’ has been prepared with a view to formulating and implementing a least-cost power generation plan, integrating SCADA, GIS and AMI systems, and

ensuring an optimal energy mix. To facilitate customer services, the entire process of new connections and bill payment has been brought under automation.

Mr Speaker,

154. More than 40 per cent of the country's electricity generation capacity is gas-based. As domestic gas reserves decline, electricity generation has become increasingly expensive due to the import of LNG. In this context, we shall reduce dependence on imported fuels by increasing the share of renewable energy and making effective use of indigenous energy resources. Investors will be provided with support and incentives for the domestic manufacture of renewable energy equipment, including solar panels, wind power components and battery systems. The Government has set a target of generating 20 per cent of total electricity demand from renewable energy sources by 2030. Furthermore, there are plans to generate between 30 and 50 per cent of electricity from renewable sources by 2050. To achieve these targets, initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen rooftop solar programmes, conduct wind power assessments in coastal and adjacent areas, implement large-scale utility solar projects, undertake surveys and pilot projects for waste-to-energy generation, formulate and implement a ‘National Energy Storage Roadmap’, and improve grid flexibility. Energy audit activities will also be strengthened to ensure the use of energy-efficient equipment and promote efficient energy consumption among designated consumer industries.

Mr Speaker,

155. To meet the growing demand for electricity and ensure quality supply, the Government is working to increase generation capacity to 35,000 MW by 2030 and expand transmission lines to 25,000 circuit kilometres. In addition, construction of the 2,400 MW Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant is progressing rapidly. Fuel rods have already been loaded

into one reactor, and approximately 300 MW is expected to be connected to the national grid by August 2026, followed by 1,200 MW by January 2027. Overall, our government is committed to establishing a self-reliant, affordable, uninterrupted, environmentally sustainable and modern electricity system.

Energy and Mineral Resources

Mr Speaker

156. The prolonged policy failures, institutional irregularities, mismanagement and import dependency in the energy sector under the fascist government have plunged the sector into a deep crisis. During that period, excessive emphasis was placed solely on the import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and petroleum products. No meaningful initiatives were undertaken to explore gas resources onshore or in the Bay of Bengal, nor to expand refining and storage capacities for petroleum products. Owing to recent geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, international spot prices of petroleum products (particularly diesel) and LNG have risen abnormally. Considering the hardships faced by the general public, we have provided substantial subsidies to the energy sector and made only limited adjustments to fuel prices. At the same time, gas supply has been maintained and gas prices have remained unchanged.

Mr Speaker

157. The Government has undertaken a range of initiatives to strengthen energy security by intensifying oil and gas exploration activities, increasing domestic production, expanding petroleum refining capacity and diversifying import sources. We will establish a strategic fuel reserve system. We are prioritising the exploration and production of natural gas both onshore and offshore. We are also giving priority to strengthening domestic capacity.

158. Through the Bangladesh Petroleum Exploration and Production Company Limited (BAPEX), plans have been adopted to undertake 270 km of geological surveys, 700 line-km of two-dimensional (2D) seismic surveys and 700 square kilometres of three-dimensional (3D) seismic surveys during the period from FY2025-26 to FY2027-28. BAPEX also plans to drill 69 wells and carry out workover operations on 31 wells using its own drilling rigs. A new Bangladesh Offshore Bidding Round has been announced to facilitate oil and gas exploration in offshore areas. In order to attract offshore exploration and production activities and ensure participation by international oil companies, the Model Production Sharing Contract (PSC) has been revised while safeguarding national interests. Nine shallow-water blocks and fifteen deep-water blocks have been opened for international oil companies, where exploration activities will be undertaken under production-sharing agreements. Furthermore, initiatives have been taken to procure two new exploration rigs for BAPEX to enhance national exploration capacity. Through the critical mineral exploration initiative, the Government is also placing special emphasis on offshore gas and unconventional hydrocarbon exploration beyond conventional energy resources.

Mr Speaker

159. Measures are being taken to establish cost-effective and sustainable infrastructure to maintain energy prices at affordable levels. To address volatility in global markets and ensure uninterrupted supply during emergencies, initiatives have been undertaken to develop ‘Strategic Energy Reserves’ and related storage infrastructure, which will play an important role in strengthening national energy security and maintaining regional balance. To further enhance energy security, the establishment of an additional LNG terminal at Moheshkhali is under review alongside the two existing floating LNG terminals. Simultaneously, the process of land acquisition and consultant appointment for a land-based LNG terminal at Matarbari, Moheshkhali

is at its final stage. An action plan is being formulated to supply gas from the Bhola region to the national gas grid. Installation of prepaid gas meters is being accelerated to reduce wastage, eliminate illegal connections and minimise system losses.

160. To reduce risks associated with imported energy and ensure continuity of supply, the Government is pursuing a policy of energy source diversification. This strategy seeks to reduce excessive dependence on the Middle East by expanding energy import cooperation with other potential regions, including Asia, Africa and Europe. At the same time, initiatives are being undertaken to attract new investment through increased private sector participation, investment-friendly policies and the expansion of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in the energy sector.

Mr Speaker

161. Initiatives have been undertaken to ensure maximum utilisation of the existing 601.50 kilometres of fuel transportation pipelines. To increase petroleum refining and storage capacity, we have adopted a phased plan to establish a new crude oil refinery with an annual refining capacity of 50 lac metric tonnes in Chattogram or another coastal industrial zone. As part of this initiative, steps have been taken to establish the Second Eastern Refinery Limited (ERL-2) with a capacity of approximately 30 lac metric tonnes. In addition, a Smart Fuel Distribution Monitoring System has been introduced in 2,722 fuel tank lorries to strengthen monitoring of fuel transportation. Measures have also been undertaken to operationalise the Single Point Mooring (SPM) facility for petroleum unloading. To ensure the optimal utilisation of the country's mineral resources, production targets of 6 lac metric tonnes of coal and 14 lac metric tonnes of stone have been set for FY2026-27. New projects have been undertaken for the development of the Barapukuria Second Phase and the Dighipara Coal Field to enhance coal extraction. We are also working towards the economic evaluation of

valuable minerals such as zircon and monazite contained in the sands of the Jamuna and Meghna rivers, as well as the digital transformation of services provided by the Department of Explosives.

Mr Speaker

162. Considering the importance of the power and energy sector, I propose a total allocation of Tk 17 thousand 345 crore for the Ministry in the fiscal year 2026–27. In the fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation for this sector was Tk 16 thousand 952 crore.

ICT, Telecommunications and Scientific Research

Science and Research for Developing a Skilled Workforce

Mr. Speaker

163. In the current era, the technologies of the Fourth Industrial Revolution have emerged as key drivers of the global economy. In this budget, priority has been given to developing a skilled workforce by addressing the challenges of automation and the Fourth Industrial Revolution and by harnessing emerging opportunities. In line with the Government's Election Manifesto 2026, one of our key priorities is to foster a science-oriented nation by developing a technology-driven skilled workforce and promoting interest in modern and employment-oriented education. To this end, plans have been undertaken to extend STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education to the grassroots level and to align research directly with the demands of the global market. We have moved beyond conventional research frameworks and adopted the Research to Market (R2M) and Innovate to Market (I2M) approaches. Through these approaches, the

commercialisation of innovations, technologies and products will be directly supported. Furthermore, new initiatives have been undertaken to establish national capabilities in space research, semiconductor technology, earthquake and seismographic research.

Mr. Speaker

164. A comprehensive programme has been undertaken to ensure affordable, advanced technology-based nuclear medicine and healthcare services at the doorstep of the general people. An initiative has been taken to establish an online networking-based Integrated Nuclear Medicine Information System to ensure the delivery of both general and nuclear medical services through 22 Nuclear Medicine Institutes, including one National Institute in the country.

165. Plans have been undertaken to enhance geological research capacity for the exploration of Rare Earth Elements (REEs) in coastal and riverine island areas. Sustainable development initiatives have been adopted, including coral restoration in Saint Martin’s Island and the mapping of offshore wind energy potential through wind flow analysis in shallow coastal waters.

Mr. Speaker

166. The Oceanographic Research Institute is conducting research activities to harness the potential of the Blue Economy. In order to foster a scientific mindset among the next generation and inspire youth in space science, in addition to Dhaka and Rajshahi modern Novotheatres are being established in Khulna, Chattogram, Sylhet, Barishal, Rangpur and Mymensingh. Plans have been undertaken to further modernise the Novotheatre located in Dhaka. In addition, science centres will be established in every district in phases. To foster an innovation-driven

and technology-oriented younger generation, the Ministry of Science and Technology organised the ‘Bangladesh Innovation Fair’. A number of research projects in the fields of textiles, pharmaceuticals, agriculture and innovative technologies received government grants and financial support. For the first time, Bangladeshi scientists have successfully decoded the full genome sequences of indigenous Mirakadim cattle, sheep and ducks using national capability. Through the Biotechnology Institute, climate-resilient and high-yielding crop varieties are being developed using genome editing technology. To address the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and prepare the youth for the future, initiatives have been undertaken to establish specialised laboratories for Artificial Intelligence (AI), semiconductors, robotics, machine learning and big data analysis. There is no alternative to research in the development of new technologies. Therefore, the Government will continue to provide financial support to researchers through the Science and Technology Fellowship Trust, with a view to creating world-class research opportunities both at home and abroad.

167. In order to harness the potential of the Blue Economy through fundamental scientific research and the extraction and management of marine resources, it is hereby proposed to allocate Tk. 100 crore for research and innovation activities and an additional Tk. 100 crore for the development of the Blue Economy in the FY 2026–27, amounting to a total allocation of Tk. 200 crore.

ICT and Telecommunications Sector

Mr. Speaker

168. In the prevailing global context, the ICT and Telecommunications sector is a sector of immense potential. This sector has the potential to emerge as one of the key driving forces of Bangladesh's economy in the coming years. However, at present, the contribution of this sector to the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is only 1-2 percent. Through the adoption of appropriate planning and its effective implementation, this contribution can be increased to 10 percent within the next five years. In this regard, the Government is committed to developing this sector as a thrust (priority) sector through the development of necessary infrastructure, expansion of wireless and wireline connectivity, development of skilled human resources, introduction of a One Citizen-One ID-One Digital Wallet system, formulation of investment-friendly policies and provision of all necessary support for the development of the digital economy.

169. here is no alternative to affordable and reliable internet for the development of the ICT sector. To develop it as a thrust sector, adequate spectrum allocation and fibre-based connectivity are of critical importance. In order to improve the quality of internet services and bring them up to global standards, the Government has undertaken comprehensive Telecommunications reform plans, including the formulation of necessary policies. To this end, a target has been set to ensure the rollout of 5G coverage to 90 percent of the population and to guarantee broadband speeds of 100 Mbps, involving all stakeholders including mobile operators and fixed broadband service providers. In particular, in order to deliver affordable high-speed internet to the

general population in remote and rural areas of the country, the Government has undertaken initiatives for network expansion, including the establishment of a National Fibre Bank. High-speed free internet services have already been introduced at railway stations and airports across the country, benefits of which are already being enjoyed by the people. Over the past four months, the government has provided 4.1 million new 4G mobile connections and 400,000 high-speed broadband connections.

170. According to Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Bangladesh is projected to become the world’s ninth largest consumer economy by 2030. In order to build an integrated digital state system and a digital economy, the Government has undertaken initiatives to implement the concept of ‘One Citizen, One ID, One Digital Wallet’. Through this initiative, each citizen will be able to access various public and private services under a single digital identity. The digital wallet system will enable secure and convenient financial transactions, including the payment of allowances, fees and other charges. This initiative will help eliminate existing complexities in data verification and interoperability arising from multiple identity systems. At the same time, this Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) will further strengthen data exchange and system interoperability. As a result, transparency, accountability and efficiency in public service delivery will be enhanced. Citizens’ access to services will become simpler and faster.

AI, Electronics Industry and Youth Entrepreneurship Development

171. In the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and digital transformation, the Government has recognised Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a major opportunity for the country’s development and

modernisation. Initiatives are being undertaken to deploy AI-based technologies to address existing inefficiencies and complexities in public service delivery. This will facilitate faster decision-making, improved data analysis and enhanced service quality. The use of AI across various government departments will make administrative processes more efficient, transparent and timely. Initiatives have been undertaken to develop smart cities and make citizen services more people-friendly through the application of AI. In particular, AI is being integrated into the education system to equip the younger generation with the skills required for future workplaces. The Government also has plans to utilise AI in the health, agriculture and public service sectors. These technology-driven initiatives will open new avenues for building a technology-driven and service-oriented Bangladesh.

172. Following the ready-made garments sector, Bangladesh's electronics sector is currently one of the fastest-growing and most promising sectors. In developing the country's highly potential ICT sector, the availability of digital devices is of critical importance. By encouraging domestic production, it will be possible to provide digital devices to citizens at affordable prices, while also enabling their export to foreign markets. Through appropriate policy formulation in this sector, Bangladesh will be transformed into one of the leading global electronics manufacturing hubs within the next five years.

173. The present Government considers the highly talented and promising youth population of Bangladesh as the country's greatest asset and a key driver of development. Special emphasis is being placed on leveraging their skills and innovative capacities to promote startups, freelancing and digital entrepreneurship. Through technology-based training and skills development programmes, young people are being

prepared for the global labour market. The Government envisions that the youth will take the lead in creating new employment opportunities. New employment opportunities will be created in the country through the expansion of the ICT and automation-based economy. To this end, initiatives have been undertaken to formulate a timely and modern startup policy. Initiatives have been taken to consolidate various startup funds into a unified startup financing mechanism. One of the key objectives of the Government is to build an innovative and self-reliant Bangladesh by harnessing the strength of its youth. The Government believes that, with adequate support, the talented and creative youth of Bangladesh will be capable of establishing world-class technology hubs in the country, comparable to Silicon Valley in the United States, Shenzhen in China, Singapore or Dubai in the future.

174. Considering the potential of the information technology sector, I propose an allocation of Tk 500 crore in the FY 2026–27 to encourage new entrepreneurs in this sector. This fund will be used as a "Startup Fund" to support the development of women entrepreneurs, women's advancement, and young entrepreneurs.

Employment and Skill Development

Nationwide Employment

Mr. Speaker

175. Based on the principle of “We Will Work, We Will Build the Nation”, the implementation of sector-based employment generation plans is one of the topmost priorities of the government. Through comprehensive economic reforms, the government aims to revitalize sectoral and regional economies and increase both domestic and foreign

investment in industry and trade, thereby creating suitable employment opportunities to secure the future of the country's youth. Our government's commitment is to create extensive new employment opportunities across the country, thereby ensuring prosperity and self-reliance for every family. Through the coordinated efforts of both the public and private sectors, we will succeed in achieving this target. To establish a fair and merit-based employment system, the government has undertaken an initiative to establish ‘Employment Exchange’ program at the district and upazila levels across the country. Registered candidates here will be provided with the necessary support for appointment to vacant positions in various organizations, based on their merit and skills. Those who lack the required skills will be arranged to be sent to appropriate training centres to acquire suitable competencies. To this end, the formulation of necessary action plans and policy framework has already commenced.

176. To address the challenges of automation and the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the government is undertaking initiatives to formulate and implement a time-bound action plan aimed at developing a skilled and capable workforce. We have set a target of creating 2 lakh new jobs annually in the technology sector. In addition, through extensive training in freelancing and creative industries at the college and university levels, we aim to generate a further 8 lakh indirect employment opportunities. To achieve these objectives, the Ministry of Youth and Sports has undertaken projects to create employment for the youth through training in freelancing, mobile servicing, caregiving, and language skills.

Mr. Speaker

177. Our government's development journey is not merely urban-centric. Targeted employment programs will be introduced for marginalized groups, including illiterate individuals in rural communities, homemakers, senior citizens, and the long-term

unemployed. These initiatives will provide training in poultry and livestock farming, handicrafts, cottage industries, small business development, and digital skills, along with access to affordable microcredit and essential equipment support. Considering the significant contribution of the informal sector to Bangladesh's economy, the government will ensure safe working conditions, social protection, healthcare services, and fair wages for workers engaged in informal occupations, including rickshaw pullers, day labourers, street vendors, transport workers, and others. Appropriate training opportunities will also be provided to enhance their skills and productivity. Bangladesh is expected to continue benefiting from its demographic dividend until 2040. To fully leverage this opportunity, the government will undertake initiatives focused on providing quality education, market-oriented skills development, and employment-focused programs for the country's working-age youth population. At the same time, the number of older persons in the country is projected to increase significantly after 2040. Keeping in view the opportunities and challenges associated with this future longevity dividend, the government is giving serious consideration to formulating a comprehensive action plan for the future welfare and development of the elderly population.

Worker Welfare and Working Environment Development

Mr. Speaker

178. Our government has adopted a comprehensive plan to implement a range of effective initiatives aimed at improving the living standards of workers. In line with rising commodity prices and inflation in both global and domestic markets, fair wages for workers will be ensured through periodic reviews of the minimum wage. To this end, ten priority informal-sector occupations have been identified for the determination of minimum wages, of which five sectors have been selected in the initial phase. To ensure workplace safety, an integrated inspection system will be established through coordinated efforts among

all relevant government agencies and departments. At the same time, by ensuring proper compensation for those killed and injured in accidents in accordance with ILO conventions, we are committed to establishing workers' rights and human dignity. The information of all these workers is being integrated into the Labour Information Management System (LIMS) database, and this system will be utilized for all benefits provided to them. To strengthen the legal protection of workers, the Bangladesh Labour (Amendment) Act, 2026 has been enacted.

Women and Child-Friendly Workplace

Mr. Speaker

179. Ensuring women and child-friendly workplaces in building an inclusive and discrimination-free labour market is one of our government's top priorities. To that end, a "zero tolerance" policy will be enforced against any form of violence or sexual harassment toward women workers. Safe accommodation and transportation facilities for women are being further expanded. In addition, a fully women-operated and women-managed “Pink Bus Service” is being introduced. Time-bound national action plans are being adopted and implemented to strengthen legal measures against child labour, particularly forced child labour and to ensure an environment conducive to children's development. To this end, the draft National Action Plan 2026–2030 has already been formulated. Our government's efforts to ensure a safe and discrimination-free working environment for women and children will continue.

Overseas Employment and Expatriate Welfare

Mr. Speaker

180. Our government is placing special priority on expanding overseas employment and ensuring the protection and welfare of

expatriate Bangladeshi workers. I wish to pay respectful tribute to the late martyred President Ziaur Rahman, as it was under his leadership that Bangladesh's very first manpower export program was initiated, a foundation upon which today's overseas employment sector continues to stand. We have undertaken various initiatives to expand overseas employment opportunities and diversify labour markets. To achieve this goal, planned measures will be taken to expand overseas employment, provide loans on easy terms, ensure risk-free migration, and establish good governance in migration management. To ensure the overall welfare of expatriate workers, the government is introducing a dedicated 'Probashi Card', which will store the worker's personal information, skills, and terms of employment. The card will be linked to a bank payment gateway to make remittance transfers easier, faster, and more secure. In addition, the card will be connected to expatriate welfare services, insurance, banking facilities, and emergency assistance. The distribution of the 'Probashi Card' among expatriates will begin on a phased basis from the fiscal year 2026–27.

181. The government is placing special emphasis on expanding existing labour markets while simultaneously creating new ones. As alternative labour markets, we have already taken initiatives to sign bilateral agreements with Russia, Portugal, Romania, Brazil, Greece, Serbia, and North Macedonia. Additionally, after remaining closed for a long time, we have begun the process of reopening labour markets in Malaysia, Oman, the United Arab Emirates, and Kuwait.

182. To build the confidence of foreign employers and ensure quality standards, a robust Skill Verification Program will be introduced. Under this initiative, each worker’s skills, experience, and certifications will be verified, and a Smart Skill Bank (database) will be developed. Verified workers will be issued internationally recognized digital certificates, enabling foreign employers to directly recruit quality-assured skilled workers. To strengthen technical and vocational training capacity, practical projects for upgrading equipment and constructing new

facilities will be implemented from FY2026–27. In government technical institutions, including polytechnic institutes, TTCs, and BTEB, 7,500 domestic trainers will be engaged alongside 1,000 foreign expert trainers. In addition, 1,000 language instructors and native speakers will be recruited to promote foreign language education. Furthermore, a 'Foreign Language E-Learning Centre' and a 'Migration Market Research Institute' under the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment will be established.

183. 'Bangladesh Support Centres' will be established at embassies in major Bangladeshi worker-destination countries to protect workers in distress abroad. These centres will provide rescue operations for imprisoned, abused, or deceived workers, assist in finding new employment, offer legal aid in disputes with employers, and undertake various social protection and rehabilitation projects for returning migrants. The process of repatriating the mortal remains of Bangladeshi migrant workers who die abroad will be simplified to ensure their dignified return to the country. The migration process has been fully digitized through the Overseas Employment Platform (OEP). To develop a skilled workforce, initiatives have been undertaken to strengthen the activities of the existing 110 Technical Training Centres (TTCs) at the district and upazila levels, as well as to construct 50 new TTCs in an additional 50 upazilas. Under the project titled "Providing Driving Training for Employment at Home and Abroad (1st Revised)", training is currently being provided to 1 lakh 2 thousand and 400 individuals to develop them as skilled drivers, thereby creating employment opportunities in various countries in Europe, Japan, and the Middle East. Through the Probashi Kallyan Bank, the provision of loans of up to Tk. 1 million to overseas-bound workers on easy terms will continue, and the scope of this program will be expanded.

Increasing Remittance Inflows

Mr. Speaker

184. In March 2026, just one month after our government assumed office, monthly remittance inflows from expatriate Bangladeshis reached USD 3.75 billion, the highest ever recorded in a single month in the nation's history. This strong remittance performance reflects the confidence and trust that expatriate Bangladeshis have placed in our democratic government. We expect this positive trend to continue in the coming years. To sustain the growth of remittance inflows, the government is encouraging the use of formal channels for remittance transfers and will continue the existing 2.5 per cent cash incentive for remittances sent through legal channels.

Skill Development

Mr. Speaker

185. The government is undertaking comprehensive plans to enhance occupation-based skills in line with the demands of both domestic and foreign labour markets. We have begun introducing sector-specific courses and curricula for areas that are in high demand abroad. We are strengthening market-based training, curriculum development, certification, accreditation, and quality control.

186. The National Skills Development Authority (NSDA) is currently responsible for formulating policy strategies for skills development, designing training curricula, and overall coordination of human resource skills development across the country. Furthermore, to transform the country's large population into a productive workforce, funding for training program implementation is being allocated from the National Human Resource Development Fund (NHRDF), established under the Finance Division, and this support will continue. In addition, to enhance

the productivity and global competitiveness of priority and emerging industries, the government is implementing the 'Skills for Industry Competitiveness and Innovation Program' (SICIP) under the Finance Division. Under this program, approximately 2,20,000 individuals are being provided with market driven intermediate to advanced level skills training, and employment is being ensured for at least 65 percent of the trained individuals

Development of a Creative Economy

Mr. Speaker

187. Although the creative industry is a promising sector of our economy, it has never been given due importance. In fulfillment of our government's electoral commitments, we are giving special priority to the development of the creative economy. Our goal is to unlock the vast economic potential of the country's creative industries and integrate them into the mainstream economy. We believe that this promising sector can make a significant contribution as an investment in human resource development, national branding, and future welfare. To ensure its sustainable development, we have undertaken initiatives to foster coordinated action between the public and private sectors. In this regard, and in line with the Government's electoral commitments, the relevant ministries, divisions, and agencies are formulating time-bound short-, medium-, and long-term action plans.

Mr. Speaker

188. Establishment of Creative Hubs at the national and regional levels is essential for the development of the creative economy. These hubs will feature cultural venues, bookstores (with reading facilities), cineplexes, small-scale cafeterias, and dedicated spaces for showcasing and marketing of specialty products unique to the respective regions. A

10-year investment strategy and time-bound action plan are being formulated to develop regional creative hubs across the country. A feasibility assessment is being undertaken on an urgent basis with a view to expediting the establishment of a world-class Central Creative Hub on 160 acres of land in Purbachal under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model. Efforts are also underway to assess the feasibility of establishing Creative Hubs on unused land at Karwan Bazar, adjacent to the Office of the Survey General in Tejgaon, and on vacant industrial plots under BSCIC, following a review of their current status. In addition, initiatives are being taken to establish Creative Hubs at the divisional, district, and upazila levels, as well as within the premises of the Bangladesh Shishu Academy and Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. Innovation Hubs have already been established in engineering and technology universities. Furthermore, steps have been taken to formulate a roadmap for gradually establishing Innovation Hubs in universities and undergraduate colleges across the country.

Mr. Speaker

189. The Government is placing special emphasis on the identification and design development of creative economy-based products. As part of the Government's 'One-Village, One-Product' initiative, a range of creative economy products will be identified, including handloom products, pottery, weaving products, shital pati (traditional reed mats), shataranji, wooden toys, handmade jewellery, terracotta products, and many others. To support the development of creative products and enhance design standards, a 'National Pool of Designers' comprising leading local designers is being established. Furthermore, initiatives are being undertaken to modernize and upgrade the BSCIC Design Centre to international standards and global benchmarks through the implementation of a project in collaboration with universities and renowned fashion designers.

190. The Government has undertaken initiatives to implement special programs for the development of cultural tourism through the restoration of cultural heritage, regionally rich traditions, and heritage buildings. In the initial phase, two pilot projects based on 2–3 themes will be implemented for the restoration of heritage structures and for the organization of international festivals. Efforts are also underway to identify the required technical expertise for heritage restoration and the hosting of international events. To nurture the talents of the younger generation, necessary initiatives have been taken to modernize and expand national-level traditional competitions such as “Notun Kuri” and “Notun Kuri Sports.” Furthermore, initiatives have been undertaken to develop a monthly and thematic national and regional festival calendar, incorporating diverse and heritage-rich events such as national festivals (e.g., winter pitha festivals), cultural festivals (e.g., Baul festivals), regional festivals (e.g., Jamaai Mela in northern Bangladesh), and other thematic events including river- and civilization-based heritage celebrations.

Mr. Speaker

191. The Government is placing special emphasis on the development of eco-tourism through the advancement of the tourism sector. We have undertaken extensive initiatives to this end. A specialized international-standard training institute will be established to enhance the global competitiveness and skills of professionals in the tourism sector. To ensure the international recognized training standards across tourism-related trades, including culinary arts, an International Hospitality Benchmark will be introduced. Arrangements are also being made to ensure internationally recognized certification for trainees in the tourism sector based on global standards set by reputed international organizations. Furthermore, a timely and integrated ‘Tourism Master Plan’ will be finalized soon, incorporating the overall potential, diversity, and modern creative themes of the tourism sector.

192. The Government is providing necessary support to strengthen the global marketing of creative products. Active support will be provided to Bangladeshi content creators and companies in this sector to help them enter international markets. Initiatives have been undertaken to launch a national brand and establish an appropriate institutional framework. A national brand titled "Created in Bangladesh" will be launched to showcase the country's creative potential in international festivals and markets. We have also plan to provide extensive support to theatre and cultural heritage. For the development of the film industry and active participation in OTT platforms, internationally standardized, technologically advanced studios will be established. Furthermore, a performance-based grant scheme will be introduced to provide financial support to new entrepreneurs and promote export-ready commercial projects active in this sector.

Mr. Speaker

193. The Government is undertaking multifaceted strategies to enhance the contribution of various sectors of the creative economy, with the aim of increasing its share to 1.5 percent of GDP and generating 500,000 new jobs in this sector. Furthermore, initiatives are being undertaken to integrate rural artisans into the global value chain, support improvements in product quality and design diversification, and bring them into the mainstream of financing and development processes.

194. I propose an initial allocation of Tk 300 crore in the fiscal year 2026–27 for the development of the creative economy sector. In addition, a further Tk 500 crore will be mobilized from the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) sector of the Bangladesh Bank.

Development of Sports

Mr. Speaker,

195. The sports sector will be developed not merely as a source of entertainment, but as a full-fledged economic sector where sports, events, media, merchandise, tourism, and services together generate income, employment, and investment opportunities. In line with the declaration of the Mr. Prime Minister, the “Notun Kuri Sports” program has already been launched, through which scholarships will be provided to talented sports students aged 12–14 years. The program includes eight sports: football, cricket, kabaddi, athletics, badminton, chess, swimming, and martial arts. Under “Notun Kuri Sports,” a total of 168,622 players have registered from across the country, including 121,492 boys and 47,130 girls. For this purpose, I propose an allocation of Tk 200 crore in the FY 2026–27 budget.

196. Planned and effective measures are being undertaken with the goal of enabling Bangladesh to secure a recognized position on the global sports map in several disciplines by 2030. To establish sports as a profession, sports allowances have already been provided to 300 athletes. We have undertaken an initiative to construct Sports Villages in all 64 districts, and as part of this initiative, preliminary designs for Sports Villages have already been prepared in 10 districts. In addition, initiatives have been taken to strengthen “sports diplomacy” in order to enhance international cooperation. Regular sports competitions and tournaments will be organized at various levels to ensure that every student has the opportunity to participate in at least one sport.

Investment, Industry and Trade

Mr. Speaker,

197. Over the past years, although we have heard ambitious promises of high growth, mega projects and digitalization, in reality we have witnessed stagnation in investment, sluggish industrialization and the absence of the expected level of employment generation. At the same time, investors have suffered from a lack of confidence, while the absence of policy predictability and complex approval procedures have discouraged investment. This year's budget is the budget that breaks that deadlock.

198. Visible measures have been undertaken to improve the Cost of Doing Business and Ease of Doing Business in order to achieve the country's economic prosperity. Giving priority to deregulation policies, the present government has adopted several initiatives to create an effective business environment, promote investment, accelerate economic growth and enhance competitiveness. To ensure seamless coordination among various investment promotion agencies, an initiative has been taken to develop an interactive website. Preliminary initiatives have been undertaken to map all investment-related services on a sector-wise basis, streamline and fully digitalise them and integrate them with the BIDA One-Stop Service (BIDA-OSS) platform. To ensure Ease of Doing Business, BanglaBiz has been launched as a single digital platform for uninterrupted business approval services, aimed at providing investors with faster, predictable, coordinated and transparent government services. Further details in this regard have been presented in Chapter Eight. To attract Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), the government has published an investment heat map highlighting 19 promising sectors.

Mr. Speaker,

199. The Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority (BEPZA) is currently operating industrial activities in 8 Export Processing Zones (EPZs) and 2 Economic Zones (EZs). Through improved infrastructure, investment-friendly policies and efficient management, these zones have achieved notable success in industrialisation, employment generation and foreign exchange earnings. To ensure balanced regional development across the country, work is underway to establish new EPZs in Patuakhali and Jashore districts. Once operational, the Patuakhali EPZ is expected to create employment opportunities for nearly one lakh people, while the Jashore EPZ is expected to generate employment for around one lakh and fifty thousand people. In addition, the establishment of Rangpur EPZ in Gaibandha district and Sirajganj EPZ in Sirajganj district is currently in the pipeline.

200. The One-Stop Service Centre of the Bangladesh Economic Zones Authority (BEZA) currently provides 125 services under 28 categories, of which 60 services have already been brought under online platforms. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been prepared for 88 services. Initiatives have been undertaken to ensure environmentally sustainable industrialisation in the zones in line with the Green and Resilient Economic Zone (GREZ) guidelines. Regular monitoring and evaluation (M&E) activities have been strengthened to ensure the maximum possible social return on public investment. To address the challenges of climate change, environmentally friendly renewable energy facilities, including solar power systems and Central Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) are being established in the economic zones. In order to reduce the pressure of Dhaka-Chattogram-centric industrialisation and promote balanced regional development alongside local poverty reduction, work has commenced on establishing economic zones in districts such as Kurigram, Nilphamari, Chandpur and Kushtia.

Mr. Speaker,

201. Considering the changing global trade environment and the possible reduction of duty-free and quota-free facilities following Bangladesh's graduation from the Least Developed Country (LDC) category, the government is undertaking necessary initiatives to preserve Bangladesh's competitiveness in global trade. In this context, efforts are underway to conclude trade and investment partnership and cooperation agreements with potential partner countries—such as Free Trade Agreements (FTA), Preferential Trade Agreements (PTA) and Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA)- in line with regional trade arrangements.

Mr. Speaker,

202. The ready-made garments (RMG) sector is recognised as one of the key pillars of Bangladesh's exports and overall economy. Nearly 82 percent of the country's export earnings are generated from this sector. To reduce excessive dependence on a single sector, the government has undertaken initiatives to diversify export products. Alongside ready-made garments, initiatives are being taken to promote Bangladeshi handicrafts, home decor items, jute products, natural cosmetics, toys and baby products in international markets. To expand exports beyond the ready-made garments sector and support export-oriented industries, we have provided facilities for the import of raw materials and intermediate goods against bank guarantees and under duty-free customs bonded arrangements for sectors such as food processing, light engineering, furniture, electronics, steel products, plastic goods and leather products. In addition, opportunities will be provided for all promising export-oriented sectors—including agricultural products, light engineering, pharmaceuticals, electronics, gold and diamonds- to import goods under customs bonded facilities or against bank guarantees on a duty-free basis.

203. These policy supports are expected to accelerate efforts toward product diversification by reducing dependence on a single export product. At the same time, initiatives are being undertaken to diversify export markets by reducing reliance on traditional export destinations. Priority is being given to Latin America, Africa, Central Asia, the Middle East and various European countries as emerging export destinations. To facilitate trade, services such as the issuance of Electronic Certificates of Origin (CoO) through the Business Single Window (BSW) platform and participation in international trade fairs are being provided online for exporters. In addition, an Interactive Exporters Database has been developed to assist sector-based exporters in identifying and connecting with foreign buyers.

Mr. Speaker,

204. Initiatives have been undertaken to modernise existing laws and policies to support the development of safe shipbreaking and shipbuilding industries through modern and environmentally sustainable management practices and to ensure safe and eco-friendly ship recycling by implementing green ship recycling practices. Policy support is being provided for the production and marketing of energy-efficient and environmentally friendly electric bikes and scooters (EVs) in the country. The SME Foundation has undertaken initiatives including the development of service platforms, updating SME cluster mapping, launching the “Youth Entrepreneurship for Students and Startup” programme and expanding financial inclusion for entrepreneurs in marginalised areas. Under targeted support programmes for cottage, micro, small and medium enterprises (CMSMEs), initiatives are being taken to create new entrepreneurs through mentorship, provide technical and skill-based training to existing entrepreneurs, establish a central entrepreneurs’ database and extend demand-based loan support. Support is also being provided for exports, designing, branding and access to domestic and international marketplaces through dedicated sales platforms. Initiatives have been

undertaken to ensure rapid industrialisation in unused BSCIC plots across the country. In addition, initiatives are being undertaken for the infrastructural development of existing industrial areas and enhancement of industrial park capacity, adoption of investment-friendly policies, diversification of exports, reduction of trade deficits and provision of financing and incentives to the industrial sector. Through the National Green Industrial Policy, incentives are being introduced to promote energy-efficient technologies, waste-to-resource production and low-carbon industrialisation in order to develop green industries.

205. In order to provide loans on easy terms and through a reimbursement mechanism to the domestic agriculture sector, cottage and small industries, SMEs and sick and closed industrial enterprises, Bangladesh Bank has announced a Tk. 60,000 crore Stimulus Package-2026. Of this amount, Tk. 41,000 crore will be provided through a refinancing fund, while Tk. 19,000 crore will come from Bangladesh Bank's own resources. The package consists of the following five components:

I. Tk. 20,000 crore for reopening closed industries and supporting the service sector;
II. Tk. 10,000 crore for agriculture and rural economic activities;
III. Tk. 5,000 crore for the CMSME sector;
IV. Tk. 3,000 crore for export diversification; and
V. Tk. 3,000 crore to develop North Bengal as an agricultural hub.

206. Through these initiatives, more than 2.5 million new jobs will be created directly and indirectly. In addition to providing working capital support, the government will also offer a 6 percent interest subsidy to facilitate the expansion of production activities. As a result, the effective borrowing cost for entrepreneurs under this package will be less than

half of the prevailing market-based interest rate. This is expected to strengthen the competitiveness of the industrial sector, encourage investment and play an important role in increasing credit flow to the private sector. This initiative represents a significant step towards fulfilling the government's electoral commitment to expanding private sector credit.

Mr. Speaker,

207. At the same time, to support the development of the SME sector, I propose an allocation of Tk. 2,000 crore in FY2026-27 for disbursing loans on easy terms through IDCOL, BIFFL and the SME Foundation under the refinancing scheme for this sector.

Local Government and Rural Development

Local Government

Mr. Speaker,

208. The construction and maintenance of rural roads, bridges and culverts are playing a vital role in strengthening the rural economy and market systems. Therefore, in the upcoming fiscal year, we have undertaken programmes to improve connectivity and strengthen disaster resilience through the development of roads, bridges, growth centres and cyclone shelters. Activities are being strengthened through local government institutions to ensure safe drinking water supply, universal sanitation coverage, reduction of waterlogging and environmentally sustainable water management. Ahead of the monsoon season, canal re-excavation, drain rehabilitation and drainage system improvements have been strengthened to mitigate waterlogging in city corporations and municipalities. Initiatives are also being taken to improve urban roads and drainage systems, restore canals and introduce modern waste

management systems, which will contribute to improving the quality of urban life.

209. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the relevant government agencies are implementing coordinated programmes in infrastructure, water supply and sanitation. Through the development of rural roads and market infrastructure, along with the construction of climate-resilient infrastructure, nearly 93 percent of the rural population currently has access to all-weather roads throughout the year, which will gradually be expanded to 100 percent. Meanwhile, measures are being undertaken to reduce dependence on groundwater by increasing the use of surface water and establishing water treatment plants to ensure universal access to safe water supply.

210. In line with the government's electoral commitments, plans have been undertaken to implement various programmes through the local government system to generate employment, alleviate poverty and ensure good governance. Digitalisation initiatives for services provided by Union Parishads, Upazila Parishads and local administration have been expanded. Efforts are also being strengthened to support social protection and prevent child marriage through improved birth and death registration services, while initiatives have been taken to address the existing challenges in this area.

Rural Development

Mr. Speaker,

211. Most of the current government's development plans for the next five years are centred on rural Bangladesh. As the majority of the country's people live in villages, our primary objective is to make rural communities self-reliant. For FY2026–27 and the medium term, we have adopted an integrated action plan to implement poverty alleviation and employment-generation programmes, promote women

entrepreneurship and strengthen financial inclusion, as well as enhance the skills of small and marginal farmers, women and youth. To this end, training, research and advisory services are being expanded through the Rural Development Academy, while programmes are being implemented to develop women's skills and create women entrepreneurs in 200 upazilas, alongside ensuring sustainable financial inclusion for marginalised communities through cooperatives. At the same time, easier access to credit, reforms in microcredit and women entrepreneur loan schemes and the provision of collateral-free loans are expanding self-employment opportunities, income generation and agro-processing activities for marginal farmers and women.

212. In order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and implement the Electoral Manifesto 2026, priority has been given to good governance, entrepreneurship development, agriculture and food security, climate-resilient development and inclusive growth in the rural development and cooperative sector. At the same time, steps are being taken to accelerate inclusive and sustainable growth through the expansion of digital services, greater financial inclusion for small and marginal farmers, tree plantation programmes, environmental conservation and skill development initiatives for women and youth. Cooperative-based activities are also being further strengthened to promote rural employment and self-employment opportunities.

Mr. Speaker,

213. I propose an allocation of Tk. 41 thousand 352 crore for Local Government and Rural Development in FY2026-27.

Communication Infrastructure

Mr. Speaker,

214. The government is working to develop a safe, modern, technology-driven and environmentally sustainable road network. During the current fiscal year, activities are ongoing under 106 development projects to develop national and regional highways, upgrade key economic corridors to four lanes, enhance the efficiency of the freight transportation system and strengthen axle load control and road safety. Activities under the Bangladesh Road Safety Project, based on the "Safe System Approach" to accident prevention, have been resumed. For FY2026–27 and the medium term, we have adopted various action plans to establish an integrated, modern and sustainable road and public transport system. Initiatives have been undertaken to enact the Metropolitan Transport Authority Act, introduce metro rail-based feeder services and adopt transit-oriented development plans. In addition, initiatives have been taken to prepare technical manuals, promote the use of electric vehicles, introduce an automated fitness certification system and provide training for nearly 5,50,000 professional drivers.

Mr. Speaker,

215. The government remains firmly committed to ensuring a smooth and uninterrupted road communication system across the country. In particular, roads that have long remained neglected and deteriorated are being brought under rapid repair and renovation programmes. To establish a nationwide network of nearly 3,000 kilometres of national expressways, identification and feasibility studies of potential corridors are currently underway. Moreover, initiatives have been undertaken to develop a multimodal transport system integrating road, rail, water and air transport, alongside the use of smart technologies for axle load control and the establishment of new control

stations. Efforts are also ongoing to strengthen road safety, reduce traffic congestion in Dhaka through the construction of ring roads and radial roads, promote environmentally sustainable infrastructure development and expand digital toll collection systems. In addition, initiatives have been taken to rationalise bus routes, introduce electric buses and develop skilled drivers, which will contribute to building a more modern, safe and efficient transport system.

216. To achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the government has adopted short, medium and long-term plans for the development of the transport sector. Transparency and efficiency in public transportation are being enhanced through the expansion of integrated ticketing systems, Rapid Pass services and online platforms. To reduce traffic congestion and improve the urban environment in Dhaka and its surrounding areas, a strong metro rail network comprising six MRT lines is being developed. Following the launch of MRT Line-6, the government is advancing the construction of MRT Line-1 and MRT Line-5 (Northern Route). At the same time, planning activities for MRT Line-5 (Southern Route), MRT Line-2 and MRT Line-4 are progressing. In addition, a monorail-based feeder network will be developed to ensure fast and seamless connectivity from metro rail terminal points to various destinations, which will further improve the efficiency of the urban transport system and passenger services. Initiatives will also be undertaken to gradually replace ageing buses in Dhaka with electric buses. Furthermore, the development of women-friendly and safe transportation systems will help enhance women's participation in economic activities. Moreover, fully electric metro rail and bus systems will contribute to reducing air and noise pollution, thereby playing a positive role in environmental protection. Once implemented, these initiatives will establish an integrated, safe and future-oriented urban transport network and further strengthen connectivity between Dhaka and its surrounding regions.

Mr. Speaker,

217. Integrated development activities under the Bridges Division are being further strengthened to enhance the country's integrated communication system. To this end, the construction of major bridges and elevated expressways is being accelerated, which will reduce travel time and transportation costs while expanding trade, commerce and overall economic activities. Furthermore, the introduction and expansion of electronic toll collection systems, smart traffic management and the use of environmentally sustainable technologies will enhance modernisation and efficiency in infrastructure management. Looking ahead, initiatives have been undertaken to increase investment in the bridge and expressway sector, construct the Second Jamuna Bridge, implement the Dhaka-Chattogram Elevated Expressway and undertake projects under Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements.

Railway Development

Mr. Speaker,

218. Our government is undertaking multifaceted initiatives to enhance the capacity of Bangladesh Railway as a safe, affordable and environmentally sustainable mode of public transport. These initiatives include the development of railway infrastructure, the introduction of modern technologies and the establishment of an integrated transportation system. Efforts are underway to strengthen the country's communication network by bringing all districts and major cities under railway connectivity, expanding rail links with seaports and land ports, improving regional and cross-border railway communication and increasing commuter train services. At the same time, work is progressing on the construction of dual-gauge double lines, gauge unification, modern signalling systems and the introduction of electric traction.

219. A chord line will be constructed on the Dhaka–Cumilla section of the Dhaka–Chattogram railway corridor. Once completed, the proposed new chord line will reduce the distance between Dhaka and Chattogram by approximately 80 kilometres, bringing the total route length down from 320 kilometres to 240 kilometres. As a result, a transformative improvement will take place in the communication system of this region, with train travel time between Dhaka and Chattogram expected to decrease from the current five hours to only three hours. In addition, freight trains carrying goods from Chattogram Port, the Bay Terminal and the Matarbari Deep Sea Port will be able to connect directly to the proposed Dhirashram Inland Container Depot (ICD) through the existing Chattogram–Feni–Cumilla–Brahmanbaria–Bhairab–Narsingdi railway line. This will further strengthen the country's economy and logistics sector.

220. During the tenure of the present government, integrated development activities in the railway sector will be further strengthened with greater priority. To this end, initiatives are being undertaken for the construction of new railway lines and rail bridges, procurement of modern locomotives, coaches and wagons, and strengthening the maintenance of existing railway tracks and bridges. Measures are also being taken to enhance the capacity of the railway workshops at Saidpur and Pahartali to facilitate the local assembly of coaches and locomotives. Furthermore, the quality of passenger and freight transport services will be improved through the introduction of new train services, modernisation of signalling systems and expansion of optical fibre-based communication networks. In order to transform Bangladesh Railway into a commercially viable institution, greater emphasis is being placed on freight transport services alongside passenger services, while private investment is also being encouraged. Plans have also been undertaken to introduce electric trains, establish high-speed rail connectivity and procure new rolling stock as part of the sector's modernisation. Railway infrastructure development will be carried out through Public-Private Partnership (PPP) arrangements.

Water Transport

Mr. Speaker,

221. Water transport is widely recognised as a cost-effective mode of transportation. Therefore, the government has adopted multifaceted plans for the development of the water transport sector. Measures are being undertaken to ensure a safe, affordable and uninterrupted water transport system through the development of sea and land port infrastructure, enhancement of container and cargo handling capacity and improvement and maintenance of inland waterways. As nearly 95 percent of the country's total import and export activities are conducted through Chattogram and Mongla ports, the modernisation and efficiency enhancement of these ports are making a significant contribution to the national economy. To ease container congestion at Chattogram Port, integrated measures have been strengthened for faster cargo clearance, improved yard management and more efficient vessel operations. At the same time, new equipment has been added, jetty management improved and cargo-handling operations strengthened to enhance the capacity of Mongla Port. During the current tenure of the government, integrated development activities in the water transport sector will be further strengthened. To achieve this, initiatives have been undertaken to increase cargo and container handling capacity, improve vessel handling efficiency, expand dredging activities to maintain navigability of channels and enhance port yard capacity. Ahead of the monsoon season, the Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Authority (BIWTA) is carrying out emergency dredging operations to keep inland water routes navigable. In addition, efforts will be accelerated to develop Payra and Mongla ports, expand land ports, modernise river ports and launch terminals and strengthen safety in waterways in order to improve the overall transportation system. Simultaneously, the institutional capacity of the sector is being further strengthened through the modernisation of vessel registration systems, skill development and employment generation for seafarers and the expansion of digital services.

Mr. Speaker,

222. In the coming years, the government will further modernise the water transport sector and develop it into a sustainable and internationally competitive system through the implementation of major projects such as the Matarbari Deep Sea Port and the Chattogram Bay Terminal, enhancement of port capacity, expansion of dredging activities and wider adoption of digital and automation systems. Simultaneously, international trade and the integrated maritime transport system are being further strengthened through the implementation of the Matarbari Deep Sea Port, Chattogram Bay Terminal, Patenga Container Terminal and Laldiya Container Terminal, as well as the construction of modern port infrastructure.

Civil Aviation

Mr. Speaker,

223. Integrated development activities are being implemented in the civil aviation sector with the aim of transforming Bangladesh into a modern and regional aviation hub. The expansion of terminal facilities at Jashore and Saidpur airports, the full-scale operation of the Third Terminal of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, the enhancement of runway capacity at Sylhet and Chattogram airports and the completion of development works at Cox's Bazar Airport will further improve the capacity and quality of services at the country's airports. Wi-Fi network coverage has been expanded across approximately 94,000 square metres of Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. These initiatives will further improve the capacity of the country's airports and enhance the quality of passenger services.

224. Biman Bangladesh Airlines has signed a final agreement with the US aircraft manufacturer Boeing for the procurement of 14 modern aircraft at an estimated cost of approximately USD 3.7 billion,

equivalent to Tk. 45,408 crore. This initiative will expand Biman's fleet, strengthen international connectivity, enhance passenger and cargo transportation capacity and further reinforce Bangladesh's competitive position in the global aviation sector. Simultaneously, a more efficient, safe and competitive aviation sector will be developed through the modernisation of passenger services at airports, strengthening of cargo management systems, improvement of aviation safety standards and expansion of digital services. The implementation of these initiatives will accelerate the development of the tourism industry and support the achievement of the target of increasing the tourism sector's contribution to GDP to 6–7 percent.

225. Looking ahead, plans have been undertaken to establish a national air connectivity grid, develop new international gateways and transform Dhaka, Chattogram and Sylhet into fully integrated logistics and passenger hubs. Moreover, Rajshahi, Cox's Bazar, Jashore and Saidpur will be developed as international gateways, alongside the introduction of an integrated digital logistics platform. In addition, a sustainable and inclusive aviation system will be developed through ensuring hassle-free passenger services at airports, enhancing facilities for expatriate workers, promoting the use of renewable energy and developing skilled human resources. As part of the broader tourism development plan, an investment roadmap is being formulated to attract tourists and generate substantial employment in this sector. These initiatives are expected to generate employment, increase private investment and accelerate economic growth.

Mr. Speaker,

226. Considering the importance of trade, commerce, supply chains, and related economic activities in the country, I propose an allocation of Tk 60 thousand 730 crore for the development of transport and communication infrastructure in the fiscal year 2026–27. In the revised

budget for fiscal year 2025–26, the allocation for this purpose was Tk 48 thousand 292 crore.

Environment and Climate Change

Environmental Conservation and Addressing the Impacts of Climate Change

Mr. Speaker

227. One of the key objectives of the Government is to address the challenges of climate change and to build a green and sustainable Bangladesh for future generations. Special emphasis has been placed in the budget for FY 2026–27 on maintaining ecological balance through environmental conservation and afforestation. The Government will implement a nationwide programme to plant 25 crore trees over the next five years. Afforestation activities will be strengthened across marginal lands, including roads, highways, embankments, riverbanks and canal banks. Government forest areas will be restored and mangrove afforestation will be undertaken in coastal char areas. In addition, afforestation in institutions and homesteads, agroforestry and urban forestry programmes will be further intensified. Degraded sal forests in the hilly regions (Chattogram, the Chittagong Hill Tracts and Sylhet) as well as in the central region will be restored. To encourage public participation, tree fairs will continue to be organised at national, divisional, district and upazila levels, alongside the continuation of National Tree Plantation Awards. Dividends will also be distributed among the best beneficiaries of social forestry programmes. Through these initiatives, approximately 3,50,000 green jobs will be created, both directly and indirectly. Under the ‘One Child, One Tree Programme’, the Government has finalised an action plan to facilitate the planting of

1 crore trees at the homes and homesteads of students enrolled in government primary schools.

Mr. Speaker

228. Digital technologies are being deployed to make afforestation activities more modern and accountable. GPS and GIS-based data on afforested areas under the Department of Forests will be collected and maintained. A 'Tree Monitoring App' is also being developed for the maintenance and digital surveillance of trees. In addition, in order to address the impacts of climate change, 50 percent of coastal mangrove forests will be brought under carbon trading mechanisms. Special measures have been taken to conserve biodiversity through the updating of the existing 'Red List' of wildlife for the protection of fauna. Under this initiative, assessments will be conducted for a total of 2,200 species of wildlife, including marine species, to safeguard the country's rich biodiversity.

Mr. Speaker

229. Under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, initiatives have been undertaken to implement 11 new carbon trading projects. The present Government is advancing towards the implementation of a 'Circular Future Model' in waste management. In the long term, in order to mitigate the impacts of climate change, initiatives will be taken for energy generation from waste, production of organic fertiliser from waste, and the recycling of plastic waste. Air pollution is posing serious health risks to the population, particularly to children and the elderly. The Government remains firmly committed to reducing the level of pollution. Air quality is being regularly monitored through 15

Continuous Air Monitoring Stations (CAMS) and 16 Compact Continuous Air Monitoring Stations (C-CAMS). To control vehicular emissions, 10 modern Vehicle Inspection Centres will be established under the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), alongside plans to introduce electric bus services. Furthermore, initiatives will be undertaken to introduce continuous online stack emission monitoring for major polluting industries, including power generation plants. In addition, regulations will be updated and new guidelines will be formulated for the environmentally sound management of e-waste.

230. The Government is committed to ensuring a clean and healthy environment for future generations. Seventeen single-use items that pose a serious threat to the environment have been identified as “Single-use Plastic” and have been banned through official notification. In line with the Government’s Election Manifesto, plastic waste will be reduced by 30 percent over the next five years through the implementation of the 3R policy—Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. To make industrialisation more environmentally friendly, the online monitoring and clearance issuance process has been strengthened. Out of 3,260 establishments across the country required to install Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs), 2,700 have already installed them. To ensure transparency, IP cameras have been installed in the ETPs of 820 establishments, enabling centralised monitoring of wastewater treatment processes.

231. Priority is being accorded to research, innovation and training activities to address the risks associated with climate change. In FY 2026–27, initiatives will be undertaken for sustainable forest management, conservation of endangered forest species, expand afforestation activities and research activities to ensure the innovative

technologies reach to the doorstep of the people. In addition, canals adjacent to rivers in the southern region of the country will be excavated to reduce soil salinity in agricultural land. As part of a long-term strategy, financing will be provided for projects focused on the development of new crop varieties through organic agriculture, safe fertilisers and environmentally sustainable production practices. A balanced development approach has been adopted to improve the quality of life of people living in coastal areas. In the medium and long term, plans have been undertaken to ensure the supply of safe water in coastal regions vulnerable to climate change and to construct sustainable embankments, riverbank protection works and cyclone shelters to mitigate the impacts of cyclones and storm surges. Furthermore, initiatives will be undertaken to promote the development of salinity-tolerant agriculture in coastal areas.

232. In implementing the Government's nationwide tree plantation programme, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, alongside other ministries, will play a pivotal role. Under the Ministry, targets have been set for FY 2026–27 to plant 4 crore 28 lac and 97 thousand saplings in 25,960 hectares of block plantations, 37 lac 27 thousand saplings along 3,727 kilometres of strip plantations, 1 crore 77 lac and 76 thousand saplings in 4,000 hectares of mangrove plantations and 56 lac saplings under homestead afforestation programmes. In addition, the expansion of 300 hectares of protected areas and the restoration of 4,500 hectares of encroached forest land have been accorded priority in order to strengthen biodiversity conservation.

Mr. Speaker

233. Considering the depth and extent of the impacts of climate change, I propose an allocation of Tk 100 crore for the fiscal year 2026–27 under the Climate Change Trust Fund to implement necessary activities.

Management of Water Resources

Mr. Speaker

234. The Government is formulating and implementing projects on irrigation, flood management, riverbank protection, land reclamation, waterlogging mitigation, improvement of drainage systems, salinity control and other aspects of sustainable water resources management. Special initiatives have been undertaken to restore and free at least one river in each division from encroachment in order to maintain ecological balance. Under a total of seven projects, measures are being implemented to remove illegal encroachments and restore the natural flow of the Dhaleshwari, Louhajang, Alaikuri, Mogra, Salta, Sutang, Bakkhali and Barnai rivers. A Water Quality Index (WQI) has been developed for the rivers surrounding Dhaka. In addition, a real-time dashboard for monitoring groundwater levels has been developed using Artificial Intelligence (AI) and deep learning technologies, opening up new opportunities for sustainable water resources management.

235. The Ministry of Water Resources is implementing a nationwide program titled “Excavation and Re-excavation of Rivers, Canals, and Water Reservoirs.” As part of the initiative to excavate 20,000 kilometers of canals, rivers, and drainage channels over the next five years by the all relevant ministries, this Ministry is planning to excavate

and re-excavate 680 kilometers of canals, irrigation canals, and drainage canals in FY 2026–27. Furthermore, under the project titled 'Identification and Classification of Canals in Bangladesh and Development of a Geo-Informatics Database', canals across the country will be identified and a GIS-based canal network will be developed. To enhance flood protection, targets have been set for FY 2026–27 to construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate embankments and flood walls, and to improve the navigability of rivers and remove submerged shoals over a total length of 309 kilometres and 484 kilometres, respectively. In addition, under the 180-Day Programme for Flood Protection, construction, reconstruction and rehabilitation works covering 292 kilometres of embankments and flood walls are currently underway.

Mr. Speaker

236. The obstruction of water flows through upstream dams on the Teesta and the Padma rivers has adversely affected agriculture, irrigation, fisheries and biodiversity within the river basins of these two rivers in Bangladesh. In this context, the 'Padma Barrage (Phase-I)' project, aimed at bringing about a transformation in the agriculture and fisheries sectors of the south-western region of the country, was approved at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC). The project will be implemented between July 2026 and June 2033. Under the project, a 2.1-kilometre-long main barrage and a hydropower plant will be constructed on the Padma River at Pangsha in Rajbari. The project will play a significant role in restoring freshwater flows during the dry season through the conservation and regulation of the Padma River water, enhancing agricultural production, maintaining navigability and preserving ecological balance. Upon implementation, the project will enable the annual storage of 2,900 million cubic metres of water; prevent salinity intrusion in the Padma

basin, including the Sundarbans, through the restoration of navigability in five distributaries and tributaries; ensure uninterrupted agricultural production through irrigation of 2.88 million hectares of land; and increase annual production by 20.39 million tonnes of rice and 2.34 million tonnes of fish. The project is expected to directly and indirectly benefit people in 120 upazilas across 19 districts in four divisions, representing approximately 37 percent of the country's population. In addition, the Government is undertaking initiatives to implement the ‘Comprehensive Management and Restoration of the Teesta River Project’, commonly known as the Teesta Master Plan, with a view to improving the livelihoods and quality of life of the people of the northern region of the country.

Mr. Speaker

237. I propose an allocation of Tk 10 thousand and 533 crore for the Ministry of Water Resources in the fiscal year 2026–27.

Disaster Management

Mr. Speaker

238. Natural disasters such as floods, cyclones and tidal surges are a regular phenomenon in our country, causing substantial damage to lives and property every year. The Government has therefore placed greater emphasis on sustainable disaster management and disaster risk reduction. Support under the Employment Generation Programme for the Poorest (EGPP), employment has been ensured for approximately 20 lakh rural workers, one-third of whom are women. In the current fiscal year, an allocation of over Tk. 1,510 crore has been made under

the Cash for Work (Kabita) programme and more than Tk. 1,454 crore under the Rural Infrastructure Maintenance (TR) programme to keep rural infrastructure operational. In addition, more than 5 lakh metric tons of food grains have been distributed through the Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) and Kabikha programmes. Humanitarian assistance to over 11 lakh forcibly displaced Myanmar nationals is also being continued.

239. At present, construction, renovation and development works of 450 cyclone and disaster shelters are ongoing at a cost of Tk. 150 crore. In addition, construction of 448 shelters in river erosion-prone and flood-prone areas is progressing at a fast pace. The Government is implementing an extensive programme of canal excavation and re-excavation, alongside afforestation initiatives, across the country with a view to alleviating waterlogging, expanding irrigation facilities and maintaining ecological balance. The Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief has also undertaken activities during the current fiscal year to mitigate waterlogging through canal excavation and to enhance environmental sustainability and prevent soil erosion through tree plantation programmes. Under the Government's 180-Day programme for the first six months of its tenure, the ministry has set targets for the excavation of 1,500 kilometres of canals, rivers and drainage channels as well as the planting of 1,00,000 saplings. Activities are being carried out accordingly.

240. For effective central coordination during major disasters, land has been acquired for the establishment of a National Emergency Operation Centre (NEOC), and the process for initiating its construction project is underway. Modern rescue equipment and 11 aerial platform ladders have been procured at a cost of approximately Tk. 521 crore for

earthquake response and other emergency operations. For the Cyclone Preparedness Programme (CPP), 100 percent wireless communication coverage has been ensured. A comprehensive online database of 78,100 volunteers has also been developed to strengthen emergency response capacity. At present, weather forecasts can be accessed instantly from any part of the country by dialling the toll-free number 1090. Disaster forecasting activities are being strengthened through the use of satellite technology. Plans have been undertaken to utilise modern satellite-based systems for monitoring river erosion. Early warning messages are also being disseminated down to the grassroots level through SMS alerts. Under awareness-raising initiatives, regular preparedness drills on earthquakes, cyclones and fire incidents are being conducted to enhance community readiness and resilience.

Mr. Speaker

241. To strengthen activities aimed at tackling natural disasters and mitigating their impacts, as well as to reduce losses of life and property from potential major earthquakes, modern rescue equipment will be procured and institutional capacity will be enhanced. With this objective, I propose an allocation of Tk 10 thousand and 350 crore for the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief in the FY 2026–27. In the revised budget for the current FY 2025–26, the allocation was Tk 9 thousand and 69 crore.

Women and Child Development

Women Empowerment and Child Protection

Mr. Speaker,

242. The government is working with utmost priority to enhance legal and scientific capacity for safeguarding women and children. Under the Multisectoral Program to prevent violence against women, a National Forensic DNA Profiling Laboratory and seven divisional DNA screening laboratories have been established. To bring the country's emerging and aspiring women entrepreneurs under a formal state framework, a comprehensive database is being compiled, which will play a pivotal role in ensuring necessary training, credit facilities, and market linkages for them. Furthermore, specialized adaptation projects have been undertaken to build the resilience and capacity of women in coastal regions to mitigate the challenges of climate change. To foster economic self-reliance among women, the second phase of the "Income-Generating Activities (IGA) Training Project for Women" is being successfully implemented at the upazila level.

Mr. Speaker,

243. As part of this commitment, under the Vulnerable Women Benefit (VWB) program, 1,040,000 women across 4,586 unions in 493 upazilas are being provided with 30 kg of rice and fortified rice monthly. To ensure the proper development, protection, and social security of children from conception up to the age of eight, extensive social awareness and "Parenting" programs are being implemented.

244. A "Quick Response Team" has been formed to take immediate action against the repression of women and children, thereby reinforcing our integrated support services. To enable working women to participate in the workforce with confidence, our government has undertaken a

major initiative to establish 20 modern daycare centers in the first phase, followed by an additional 60 centers in the next phase. At the same time, specific projects have been adopted to ensure social security and proper rehabilitation of returnee female migrant workers, which will play a supportive role in reducing the risks associated with labor migration.

Mr. Speaker,

245. The current government has undertaken special initiatives aimed at the long-term rehabilitation of street children and children at risk. As part of this commitment, measures are being implemented to reintegrate educated and trained children back into their families, alongside providing financial assistance to the respective households. To ensure correction and safe accommodation for girl children in conflict with the law, Child Development Centers are providing housing for an average of 350 girls annually, while also guaranteeing legal aid, social protection, and access to justice for affected women and children. At present, 33 Integrated Child Rehabilitation Centers are operating across 17 districts, offering separate accommodation and livelihood facilities for 3,300 boys and 3,300 girls, supported by government grants. In addition, special action plans are being implemented for the welfare of children with speech, hearing, and visual impairments, as well as those with autism.

Incentives and Rehabilitation for the Families of Martyred and Injured Children of the July Mass Uprising

Mr. Speaker,

246. In recognition of the sacrifice of children who lost their lives during the July Mass Uprising, and to support their families, financial assistance has been provided to 84 families on the occasion of World Children’s Day and Children’s Rights Week, including a one-time award of Tk. 50,000 in prize bonds along with a crest of honour.

Concurrently, comprehensive initiatives are underway to ensure the physical and psychological recovery of the children injured during the uprising, facilitating their seamless reintegration into mainstream society.

Mr. Speaker,

247. I propose an allocation of Tk 5 thousand 196 crore for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs in the fiscal year 2026–27 for the development of women and children.

Religious freedom and harmony

Mr. Speaker

248. We believe in unity and equality, rather religious division. To fulfill the Government's electoral commitments, various programs and initiatives are being implemented to ensure religious freedom and harmony, promote moral values and ethics, improve the social status and living standards of religious leaders, strengthen the Religious Welfare Trust, ensure the smooth performing of Hajj, expand Islamic research activities and mass education programs, and promote morality and religious values in society.

249. Immediately after assuming office, the Government took necessary measures to enhance the social status and living standards of religious leaders. In the case of mosques, a total monthly allowance of Tk. 10,000 is being provided to Imams, Muezzins, and Khatibs, while a total monthly allowance of Tk. 8,000 is being provided to priests and caretakers of other religious institutions. To date, monthly honorarium and festival allowances have been provided to 9,520 religious leaders serving in 6,438 religious institutions. Our government has a plan to gradually extend this benefit to all places of worship across the country.

For this purpose, I propose an allocation of Tk. 1 thousand 81 crore in the upcoming budget.

250. As part of the ongoing efforts to evict illegal occupants and recover Waqf properties, 28.20 acres of land belonging to 11 Waqf estates have been so far recovered. Initiatives have been taken to reduce the cost of the performing Hajj for 2026. Necessary measures are being undertaken to make Hajj management more affordable, accessible, and efficient in the future. In addition, initiatives have been taken to increase the training targets for Imams and Muezzins in the coming years.

Chapter VII: Revenue Management and Revenue Collection

Mr. Speaker

251. At this difficult time with problems around the world, rising prices, energy concerns, and food shortages, we are presenting the National Budget for the year 2026–27. Normally, our tax revenue target is based on the size of the budget and GDP growth. About 86 percent of this tax is collected by the National Board of Revenue (NBR). Even though there are many problems around the world, we have continued to maintain the growth in tax collection despite lower tax GDP ratio. While collecting tax revenue is the main objective of the NBR, it also plays vital role in industrialization, increase employment, help businesses grow, protect local businesses, and attract foreign investment into the country.

Mr. Speaker,

252. The main goal of our government is to:

- Make Bangladesh a trillion dollars economy by 2034
- Increase the tax-to-GDP ratio to 10 percent in the medium term
- Further increase the tax-to-GDP ratio to 15 percent by 2035

To achieve this goal, we need a fair tax system that uses modern technology. This revenue system should be business friendly, clear and predictable which will speed up the cycle of Investment–Production–Employment–Consumption–Tax.

Our government believes in building a modern and clear tax system through computerization and bringing back trust in the tax system. This budget gives special importance to removing unnecessary rules to make it easier to do business and stop burdening taxpayers.

Mr. Speaker,

253. In formulating budget, we have consulted various stakeholders before making this budget. We have received 4,494 proposals from 613 organizations. These suggestions came from Different government departments, The Tariff Commission, BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA, FBCCI and business groups, Research institutions, Representatives from industry and services. We carefully thought about and considered all these valuable suggestions and proposals in making this budget.

We know that our tax system is facing a number of challenges such as; lower Tax GDP ratio, wider exemption culture, evasion of tax, inadequate digitalization. This budget has a plan to widening the tax base, preventing tax evasion, reducing tax exemption gradually.

We are also taking steps to simplifying tax compliance through end-to - end digitalization and implementing policy reforms for ease of doing business.

Income Tax Proposals

Direct Tax: Income Tax

Mr. Speaker,

254. Now, I want to place before this august Parliament the income tax proposals for FY 2026–27.

The principal objectives of this year's budget are:

- Accelerating investment
- Reviving the economy and creating jobs
- Establishing a progressive, modern, transparent, and automated tax system based on fairness and taxpayers' ability to pay

Proposed Progressive Tax Structure for Individual Taxpayers for the Next Five Years

To enable taxpayers to know what taxes they will pay in future years, I propose a five-year income tax plan for individual taxpayers.

Tax-Free Income Threshold

As prices of essentials are going up and cost of living are getting higher, we are proposing to increase the amount of income that is free from income tax.

Assessment Year	Tax-Free Income Limit
2026–27 and 2027–28	BDT 375,000
2028–29 and 2029–30	BDT 400,000
2030–31	BDT 450,000

The existing tax-free income threshold (Annexture A, Table 1) of BDT 350,000 is proposed to be increased to BDT 375,000 and gradually increased in subsequent years.

Special Categories of Taxpayers

Category	2026–27 & 2027–28	2028–29 & 2029–30	2030–31
Women taxpayers and senior citizens aged 65+	BDT 425,000	450,000	500,000
Third-gender taxpayers and physically challenged persons	BDT 500,000	525,000	575,000
Gazetted war-wounded freedom fighters and gazetted July fighters	BDT 525,000	550,000	6,00,000
Parents/legal guardians of persons with disabilities	Additional BDT 50,000 for each disabled child/dependent		

Individual Income Tax Rates (Annexture A, Table 2)

(A) Assessment Years 2026–27 and 2027–28

Total Income	**Rate**
First BDT 375,000	Nil
Next BDT 300,000	10%
Next BDT 400,000	15%
Next BDT 500,000	20%
Next BDT 2,000,000	25%
Remaining income above BDT 3,575,000	30%

(B) **Assessment Years 2028–29 and 2029–30**

Total Income	Rate
First BDT 400,000	Nil
Next BDT 300,000	10%
Next BDT 400,000	15%
Next BDT 500,000	20%
Next BDT 2,000,000	25%
Next BDT 26,400,000	30%
Remaining income above BDT 30,000,000	35%

(C) **Assessment Year 2030–31**

Total Income	Rate
First BDT 450,000	Nil
Next BDT 300,000	10%
Next BDT 400,000	15%
Next BDT 500,000	20%
Next BDT 2,000,000	25%
Next BDT 26,350,000	30%
Remaining income above BDT 30,000,000	35%

Corporate Tax

Mr. Speaker,

255. You know, without investment there can be no jobs. Without investment, production will not be increased and the economy will not be stronger.

Therefore, this budget proposes measures to:

- Simplify corporate tax rules easier to follow
- Enable online tax return filing and tax payment
- Remove unnecessary regulatory burdens
- Increase the limit of allowable business expenses
- remove the existing provision of disallowing the whole expenses solely due to failure to deduct withholding tax
- Reduce taxable income and tax burdens
- ensure use of automated methods in selection of audit cases and verification of withholding tax in a fair and transparent way.

Corporate Tax Rates

256. To maintain policy continuity and provide certainty to investors, existing corporate tax rates (Annexture A, Table 3) are proposed to remain unchanged for the next assessment year.

In the future, we will gradually reduce rates through expansion of the tax base while ensuring adequate revenue collection.

Income Tax Relief Measures

Relief on Essential Goods and Agricultural Products

Mr. Speaker,

257. Our pro-people elected government has taken a major step to help ordinary people by reducing withholding tax on 60 essential commodities.

These items include: paddy, rice, wheat, potatoes, livestock, poultry, fish, onion, garlic, ginger, salt, sugar, edible oil and seeds. The withholding tax rates of 5%, 2%, and 1% will be reduced to only 0.5%.

258. **Additional Tax Relief Measures:**

- As part of tax relief measures in the health sector, the existing 5% Advance Income Tax (AIT) on the import of kidney dialysis filters will be fully exempted.
- The Advance Income Tax (AIT) rate on 15 imported products for persons with disabilities will be reduced from 2% to 1%.
- Due to the high rate of withholding tax, the supply of gold and gold jewellery has largely remained outside the formal economy, resulting in a loss of government revenue. To bring this business into the formal sector and increase government revenue collection, the withholding tax rate on the supply of gold and gold jewellery will be reduced from 5% to only 0.5%.
- To promote environmentally friendly transportation, the withholding tax rate on the import of electric buses, electric trucks, and electric charging stations will be reduced from 5% to zero percent.

- The existing 5% Advance Income Tax on the import of computer printers, portable automatic data processing machines, flash memory devices, and computer monitors will be reduced to 2%.
- The Advance Income Tax rate on the import of 22 raw materials used in local mobile phone manufacturing will be reduced from 5% and 2% to 1%.
- The withholding tax rate on payments for electricity purchased from power generation companies will be reduced from 4% to 3%.
- The withholding tax rate on the supply of fuel oil by refineries will be reduced from 1.5% to 1%.
- The withholding tax rate on cash incentives received against export earnings will be reduced from 10% to 5%.
- The rate on recycled products and recycling raw materials will be reduced from 3% to 1%.
- The existing 20% withholding tax on revenue sharing, license fees, or charges received by the Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) will be completely removed.
- The withholding tax rate in the mobile network services sector will be reduced from 12% to 10%.
- The withholding tax rate on the supply of packaging materials will be reduced from 5% to 3%.
- The tax rate in the transportation, carrying, and vehicle rental services sector will be reduced from 5% to 2%.
- The general rate of advance tax at import stage on industrial raw materials will be reduced from 5% to 4%.
- To encourage foreign investment, the withholding tax rate on payments to non-resident taxpayers for machinery rental will be reduced from 15% to 7.5%.

- To reduce reinsurance costs in the insurance sector, the withholding tax rate on insurance premiums paid to non-resident taxpayers will be reduced from 10% to 5%.
- To lower the cost of funds in industrial investment, the withholding tax rate on foreign loan interest proposed to be reduced from 20% to 10%.

These measures will improve business cash flow, reduce inflationary pressure at the consumer level, lower production costs, and consequently encourage more investment in industry and business.

Withholding Tax to be Treated as Advance Tax

259. Until now, withholding tax deducted at source was treated as a mandatory minimum tax, even when a taxpayer had little or no taxable income. This often-created liquidity constraints for businesses. The Government proposes to abolish this provision and adopt the internationally accepted practice of treating withholding tax as an advance tax. Any excess withholding tax paid will be refunded. This measure will help create a more business-friendly environment in the country.

Mr. Speaker,

260. As a responsible government, our tax policy should not be focused solely on revenue collection; it should also serve as a tool to help ensure food security, energy security, and environmental protection.

Food Security

To increase the supply of edible oil, I propose 10 years tax benefit to the local producer of edible oil by using home grown oil seed, by providing

100% tax exemption for first 05 years, 50% tax exemption for next 03 years, and 25% tax exemption for last two years. This measure will encourage investment in agricultural and increase domestic edible oil production in the country.

Renewable Energy

- To encourage solar power generation that is environmentally friendly, affordable, and sustainable, I propose a zero percent tax rate on the solar power sector until 2035. At the same time, I propose granting consumers a 5 percent tax rebate on payments made against their solar electricity bills.
- For the registration and renewal of all types of electric vehicles (EVs) with the Bangladesh Road Transport Authority (BRTA), I propose reducing the existing Advance Income Tax of Tk. 200,000 and replacing it with the following lower rates based on vehicle capacity:

Electric Vehicle Capacity	Present Rate	Proposed Rate
Up to 200 KW	200,000	Tk. 25,000
Above 200 KW up to 300 KW	200,000	Tk. 50,000
Above 300 KW up to 400 KW	200,000	Tk. 75,000
Above 400 KW	200,000	Tk. 100,000

A substantial increase in the use of solar power and electric vehicles will reduce the country's dependence on imported fuel oil. We want Bangladesh's industrialization to be productive, sustainable, and environmentally friendly.

Mr. Speaker,

261. At the heart of this budget lies employment generation. We want to design our tax policy in a manner that enables new businesses, new ideas, and a new generation of entrepreneurs can move forward and thrive.

Support for Youth, Women, Persons with Disabilities, and Innovative Entrepreneurs

- At present, tax exemption is available only for IT freelancing income. I propose extending this tax exemption to all categories of freelancing income. This will encourage freelancers to send their earnings through formal banking channels and bring such income into the country through legitimate means.
- I also propose making all income from content creation completely free from income tax.
- To promote youth entrepreneurship, startups, innovative ventures, and technology-based businesses, I propose zero percent turnover tax rate for such enterprises.
- I propose exempting from income tax the income from business turnover up to Tk. 5 million by SME entrepreneurs, and 7 million by women entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs with disabilities.
- I propose granting an accelerated depreciation allowance for investments in industrial, tourism, or sports-related establishments and machinery located outside the Dhaka and Chattogram City Corporation areas, at the rate of 60 percent in the first year and 40 percent in the second year.

Charitable Donations

Mr. Speaker,

262. In addition to the role of the State, it is equally important to strengthen the charitable institutions of society.

To this end, and as part of the tax rebate framework designed to encourage taxpayers to contribute to charitable and public welfare activities, I propose the approval of a list of 11 public welfare organizations engaged in healthcare, disability services, cancer care, autism support, diabetes treatment, thalassemia services, and social welfare activities. Donations made to these approved organizations will qualify for tax rebate benefits.

Mr. Speaker,

263. We are introducing a number of fundamental reforms to make doing business easier and more efficient. Our objective is not only to increase tax rates, rather to broaden the tax base. To achieve this goal we are undertaking several practical and evidence-based measures. .

- To broaden the tax base, I propose collecting of Advance Income Tax (AIT) at the rate of 0.20 percent on the supply of goods to retailers.

  The amount of such advance tax collected from retailers will be very small. It will be only Tk. 2 for every Tk. 1,000 worth of goods supplied. Furthermore, this advance tax will be adjustable against the taxpayer's tax liability. We expect this initiative will contribute significantly to the expansion of the tax base.
- I propose requiring that, except for holders of student accounts, No-Frills Accounts, and individuals exempted by Gazette notification of the Board from obtaining a Taxpayer Identification Number

(TIN), all persons must submit a TIN certificate when opening a bank account.

- Through Central Data Integration, the National Board of Revenue's (NBR) database will be connected with the National Identity Card database, banks, utility service providers, sub-registry offices, and other relevant institutions to facilitate the exchange and sharing of information.
- The introduction of a Withholders Identification Number (WIN) will make the withholding tax system more efficient and effective.
- I propose making a TIN mandatory for the registration of motorcycles with engine capacities of 150 cc and above. However, motorcycle owners will not be required to pay any tax for registration or renewal of registration.

Best Taxpayer Award 2026

Mr. Speaker,

264. In order to accord taxpayers, the recognition and respect they deserve, elevate their social status, and encourage voluntary tax compliance among all citizens, an initiative has been undertaken to formulate "Best Taxpayer Award Policy, 2026." Under this policy, a total of 67 taxpayers, including up to 22 sector-specific award recipients, will be honored with the Best Taxpayer Award.

Recipients of the Best Taxpayer Award will be entitled to the following privileges:

- Invitation to national ceremonies and state events;
- Participation in cultural programmes at both district and national levels;

- Priority access to accommodation at Circuit Houses;
- Access to cabin facilities in government hospitals;
- Priority in obtaining transport tickets;
- Access to VIP lounges at airports; and
- Priority access to tickets for sporting events and exhibitions.

Import–Export Duties and Taxes

Mr. Speaker,

265. With a view to ensuring sustainable economic growth, create an investment-friendly environment, generate new employment opportunities, and improve the living standards of our people, I now present before this august National Parliament the proposals relating to import–export duties and taxes for the fiscal year 2026–27.

Restructuring Import Tariff

Mr. Speaker,

266. In order to promote the development of domestic industries, safeguard revenue, and maintain alignment with international trade policies, I would like to propose the following restructuring and rationalization of import duty, supplementary duty, and regulatory duty for the fiscal year 2026–27:

1) Import Duty

I propose keeping unchanged the existing eight-tier import duty structure (0%, 1%, 3%, 5%, 6%, 10%, 15%, and 25%) for the upcoming fiscal year 2026–27.

To fulfil commitments made to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and to rationalize tariffs on items, I propose reducing import duty on 69 products (Annex-B, Table-1(a)).

2) Supplementary Duty

Mr. Speaker,

To ensure revenue generation, protect domestic industries, and maintain investment flows, I propose continuing the existing thirteen-tier supplementary duty structure (10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 45%, 60%, 100%, 150%, 200%, 250%, 300%, 350%, and 500%) in the next fiscal year.

Additionally, as part of tariff rationalization at the import stage, I propose reducing or withdrawing supplementary duty on 9 products (Annex-B, Table-1(b)).

3) Regulatory Duty

Mr. Speaker,

I propose revising the existing nine-tier regulatory duty structure (0%, 3%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, 25%, 30%, and 35%) into a six-tier structure (0%, 5%, 10%, 15%, 20%, and 25%).

Under this proposal:

- Products currently subject to 3% regulatory duty will be adjusted to 5%.
- Products currently subject to 30% and 35% regulatory duty will be reduced to 25%.

However, products enjoying special concessionary benefits will remain outside the scope of this restructuring.

Furthermore, to rationalize tariffs, I propose fully withdrawing the existing regulatory duty on 113 products (Annex-B, Table-1(c)).

4) Value Added Tax (VAT)

Mr. Speaker,

To rationalize the existing tariff structure, I propose imposing 15% VAT at the import stage on 20 products that currently do not bear VAT (Annex-B, Table-1(d)).

Rationalization of Minimum Import Values

Mr. Speaker,

267. I propose further rationalizing of minimum import values for certain products. The proposals are as follows (Annex-B, Table-2):

- Withdrawal of minimum import value for some products under 14 HS headings
- Reduction of minimum import value for some products under 3 HS headings
- Rationalization of minimum import value for some products under 27 HS headings
- Imposition of new minimum import value for some products under 4 HS headings
- Change in classification code for products under 1 HS heading
- Change in product description under 1 HS heading

Sector-Wise Proposals

(A) Investment, Employment and Export Sector

1) Establishment of Free Trade Zones to Promote Trade and Investment

- To expand trade and investment, I propose introducing a new chapter along with several provisions in the Customs Act to facilitate the establishment of Free Trade Zones, similar to those in many countries around the world.
- Within these Free Trade Zones, goods can be imported duty-free for storage, grading, packing, manufacturing, and processing for export.
- Additionally, goods may also be supplied to the domestic market from within the Free Trade Zone upon payment of applicable duties and taxes.
- This will significantly reduce supply-chain lead time for domestic enterprises, including SMEs and MSMEs, while also easing pressure on their working capital.

2) Amendment of Policies to Attract Investment in Off-Dock and ICD Operations

- To facilitate trade and attract investment, I propose abolishing the existing provision that limits foreign shareholding to a maximum of 49 percent in private off-dock and ICD operations, thereby opening this sector equally to both domestic and foreign investors.

3) Formulation of Regulations for Establishing Air Cargo Operator Stations

- To simplify trade and reduce supply-chain lead time, I propose issuing a new regulation for establishing Air Cargo Operator Stations, enabling globally renowned logistics companies and domestic private operators to invest in air-cargo clearance activities.
- Once implemented, the international airports in Dhaka, Chattogram, and Sylhet will gradually be transformed into full-fledged logistics hubs, accelerating the growth of the e-commerce sector.

4) Formulation of Regulations for Private Port and Terminal Operators

- To improve the quality of port services to international standards and to attract greenfield investment, I propose issuing a regulation concerning private port and terminal operators.

5) Providing Duty-Tax Concession to Promote Domestic Solar Power Manufacturing Industry

- To expand the renewable and sustainable energy sector, particularly solar power, the most important and safest source of clean energy, I propose issuing a new notification reducing import duty, regulatory duty, supplementary duty, and advance tax on essential solar-power components to zero percent (Annex-B, Table-3(a)).
- For long-term and sustainable development of this sector, I propose keeping this notification effective up to 30 June 2031.

- However, to encourage domestic production of related items such as mounting structures, lithium cells, battery packs, and battery energy storage systems, I propose withdrawing these concessions on these items after 30 June 2028, with the expectation that domestic production will meet demand by then.

6) Duty–Tax Exemptions to Promote Electric Vehicle (EV) Manufacturing

- To promote environmentally friendly electric vehicles as an alternative to fossil-fuel-based transport, and to encourage local manufacturing of EV components, I propose issuing a new notification granting duty concessions.
- For enterprises achieving high value addition through body building, welding, painting, and assembling of four-wheelers and three-wheelers, I propose exempting all duties and taxes except a 3 percent import duty on raw materials and components.
- For enterprises achieving comparatively lower value addition through assembly and painting, I propose exempting all duties and taxes except a 15 percent import duty.
- Additionally, for local manufacturers of electric buses and trucks, I propose full exemption from all duties and taxes except 5 percent VAT on the import of raw materials and components.
- All these concessions will remain in force until 30 June 2031.

7) Concession for E-Bike Manufacturing

- To further expand existing duty exemptions for the domestic e-bike manufacturing industry, I propose extending these concessions to local vendor industries engaged in producing parts and components, in addition to e-bike manufacturers and assemblers.

8) Long-Term Concessions for Consumer Electronics Manufacturing Industry

- To ensure that mostly import dependent electronic products such as mobile phones, refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, washing machines, ATMs, and CCTV cameras, can be produced locally at affordable prices, and to encourage export as well, I propose extending existing duty exemptions on raw materials for manufacturing these products until 30 June 2030.

9) Concessions for Computer and Digital Device Manufacturing

- To accelerate the growth of the domestic computer and digital device sector, I propose extending duty exemptions on raw materials and components for manufacturing computers, computer parts, and digital devices until 30 June 2030.

10) Long-Term Concessions for Developing the Semiconductor Industry

- Every year, our universities produce many qualified engineers, and many more are contributing globally as part of the Bangladeshi diaspora.
- To harness their talent, create high-skilled employment, and promote export-oriented growth, I propose issuing a new notification exempting all regulatory duty, supplementary duty, VAT, and advance tax except 1 percent import duty on raw

materials used in semiconductor or chip design, testing, and packaging up to 30 June 2031 (Annex-B, Table-3(b)).

11) Concessions on Raw Materials for Smart Card and Bank Card Manufacturing

- To support the growing demand for digital services such as family cards, farmer cards, and e-health cards, I propose exempting the additional 5 percent import duty on ten essential raw materials required for manufacturing smart cards and banking debit/credit cards (Annex-B, Table-3(c)).

12) Continuation of Concessions for Shipbuilding and Dredger Manufacturing

- To sustain the growth of the shipbuilding and dredger industry and maintain global competitiveness, I propose extending existing duty concessions on raw materials and components until 30 June 2030.

13) Concessions for Bio-Hygiene Machinery Manufacturing

- To support the emerging domestic bio-hygiene machinery industry, I propose exempting 10 percent import duty and all regulatory duty, VAT, and supplementary duty on raw materials and including these items in the relevant concessionary notification (Annex-B, Table-3(d)).

14) Concessions for Environment-Friendly Battery Manufacturing

- To encourage domestic production of lithium-ion batteries, sodium-ion batteries, and lithium-ion battery packs, I propose issuing a new notification granting duty exemptions on raw materials required for manufacturing these products untill 30 June 2030

(B) Consumer Goods

1) Reduction of Import Duty on Raw Materials for Infant Food Preparation Industry

- To make infant and young-children's food more affordable, I propose reducing the import duty on raw materials used for producing imported infant food preparations from 15 percent to 10 percent. This will help lower market prices and make such essential food items more accessible to the public.

2) Withdrawal of Regulatory Duty on All Spices

- Spices being an essential part of people's everyday diet, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 5 percent regulatory duty on all types of spices (Annex-B, Table-4).

3) Withdrawal of Regulatory Duty on Dates

- I propose fully withdrawing the existing 5 percent regulatory duty on the import of dates.

(C) Agriculture Sector

1) VAT Exemption on 36 Raw Materials Used in Pesticide and Insecticide Production

- To encourage domestic production of pesticides and insecticides, I propose reducing VAT to zero percent on 36 raw materials listed in the relevant concessionary notification (Annex-B, Table-5(a)).

2) Concessions on Raw Materials for Fertilizer Production

- To achieve self-sufficiency in the production of zinc sulfate fertilizer and to support domestic industry, I propose fully exempting import duty on zinc ash, the primary raw material for zinc sulfate.

3) Expanded Concessions for Veterinary Medicine Imports

- I propose granting zero-duty concessions on generic categories of veterinary medicines, instead of limiting the benefit to specific branded products.

4) Reduction of Duty on Raw Materials for Fruit-Bag Production

- To support safe and export-quality fruit production by marginal women entrepreneurs and cottage and small industries as well, I propose reducing import duty on biodegradable composite paper, the main raw material for fruit bags, from 10 percent to 5 percent.

5) Increased Duty on Cashew Nuts to Encourage Domestic Cultivation

- To encourage meeting domestic demand through local production, I propose increasing import duty on raw cashew nuts (in shell) from 1 percent to 25 percent, and on processed cashew nuts (shelled) from 5 percent to 25 percent.
- However, since domestic production cannot yet fully meet the needs of local processing industries, I propose setting import duty at 15 percent on raw cashew nuts imported as industrial raw material.

6) Supplementary Duty on Imported Pangas Fish Fillet

- To protect the domestic fish processing industry, I propose imposing a 20 percent supplementary duty on imported pangas fish fillets.

7) Concessions on Raw Materials for Poultry, Dairy, and Fish Feed

- To ensure sustained growth and protection of the poultry, dairy, and fish feed industries, I propose adding three new raw materials to the zero-duty list in the relevant concessionary notification.

8) Concessions on Poultry Machinery and Spare Parts

- To support domestic manufacturers of poultry and dairy machinery, I propose adding five essential items, belt-type manure removal machine, hatcher machine, setter machine, humidity sensor, and temperature sensor, to the concessionary notification and reducing their import duty to zero percent (Annex-B, Table-5(b)).

(D) Health Sector

1) Concessions on Raw Materials for Medical Equipment Manufacturing

- To support the growth of the domestic medical equipment and components manufacturing industry, I propose setting import duty at 15 percent on essential raw materials such as medical-grade adhesive and medical-grade PVC sheets used for blood bags.
- I also propose setting import duty at 5 percent on medical-grade natural rubber latex and medical-grade blood collection needles.
- I further propose extending the validity of the relevant concessionary notification untill 30 June 2030.

2) Duty Exemption on Dialysis Filters for Kidney Patients

- Dialysis filters are highly sensitive and essential medical items required to sustain the lives of thousands of kidney patients across the country.
- At present, high tax burdens on these items significantly increase treatment costs for critically ill patients. Therefore, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 15 percent VAT and 5 percent advance income tax on the import of dialysis filters.

- As a result of these exemptions, the cost of each dialysis session for kidney patients is expected to decrease by approximately BDT 800.

3) Reduction of Import Duty on Mortuary

- To ensure proper preservation of deceased bodies, I propose reducing the existing 25 percent import duty on mortuary to 1 percent.

(E) Pharmaceutical Sector

1) Concessions on Nine New Raw Materials for Cancer Medicine Production

- To strengthen the domestic pharmaceutical industry and enable local production of high-quality, affordable cancer medicines, I propose adding nine new raw materials to the existing concessionary notification and reducing import duty and VAT on these items to zero percent (Annex-B, Table-6(a)).

2) Full Duty Exemption on 51 New Raw Materials for API Production

- To expand the pharmaceutical sector and promote local production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API), I propose fully exempting import duty on 51 new raw materials required for API manufacturing (Annex-B, Table-6(b)).

3) Concessions on 17 New Raw Materials for Pharmaceutical Exports

- To sustain the strong export growth of Bangladeshi pharmaceuticals in the global market, I propose adding 17 additional essential raw materials to the existing concessionary notification and reducing import duty on these items to zero percent (Annex-B, Table-6(c)).

4) Concessions on Biological Safety Cabinets

- To ensure safe and compliant pharmaceutical production environments, I propose reducing the existing 25 percent import duty on Biological Safety Cabinets to 1 percent and including them in the concessionary notification for capital machinery.

5) Concessions on Sandwich Panel Rooms for Pharmaceutical Manufacturing

- To support pharmaceutical manufacturers in maintaining controlled production environments, I propose reducing import duty on Sandwich Panel Rooms from the existing 5 percent to 1 percent and including them in the relevant concessionary notification.

(F) Public Health Sector

1) Concessions on Sewage Treatment Plants

- To modernize waste management systems in Dhaka, divisional cities, and industrial zones, and to advance the “Circular Future

Model," I propose reducing import duty on sewage treatment plants from 5 percent to 1 percent.

2) Supplementary Duty on Raw Materials Used in Tobacco Products

- Considering the severe public health risks associated with tobacco consumption, I propose imposing a 300 percent supplementary duty on acetate tow and filter rods two essential raw materials used in cigarette filter production where no supplementary duty currently exists.
- Furthermore, to discourage the import of highly harmful nicotine granules and nicotine pouches, I propose creating new tariff codes and imposing a 350 percent supplementary duty on these items.

(G) Concessions on Assistive Devices for Persons with Disabilities

Mr. Speaker,

- To enhance mobility, independence, and quality of life for persons with disabilities, I propose fully exempting all import duty, regulatory duty, supplementary duty, and advance tax on 21 types of Special Assistive Devices. This measure will reduce financial burdens on families and society, while ensuring greater accessibility for those with special needs (Annex-B, Table-7).

(H) Transport Sector

1) Duty Concessions to Promote Electric Vehicles (EVs)

- To reduce environmental pollution and strengthen energy security, the National Board of Revenue has already issued a notification granting full duty-tax exemption on electric buses used for transporting students at schools, colleges, and universities, and full exemption (except VAT) on other electric buses and trucks. I propose extending this facility until 30 June 2030.
- At present, high tax burdens make electric vehicles unaffordable for most citizens. To address this, I propose reducing the total tax incidence on imported EVs as follows:
  - For EVs priced up to USD 25,000: from 93 percent to 64 percent
  - For EVs priced from more than USD 25000 up to USD 50,000: from 93 percent to 80 percent (Annex-B, Table-8(a))

2) Reduced Duties on Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs)

- To promote energy efficiency and environmental protection, I propose revising the duty-tax structure for plug-in hybrid electric vehicles with engine capacity up to 2000 cc.

- I propose reducing supplementary duty depending on vehicle type, and fully withdrawing regulatory duty on brand-new plug-in hybrid vehicles up to 1800 cc.

- As a result:

- Total tax incidence on brand-new PHEVs up to 1800 cc will decrease from 93.16 percent to 73.437 percent
- Total tax incidence on brand-new PHEVs up to 2000 cc will decrease from 132.36 percent to 96.10 percent (Annex-B, Table-8(b))

3) Full Duty Exemption on EV Chargers and Charging Stations

- A nationwide charging network is essential for the smooth operation of electric vehicles. To support this, I propose reducing the total tax incidence on EV chargers and charging stations from 39.75 percent to zero percent.

4) Increased Duties to Discourage Fossil-Fuel Vehicles

- To discourage the use of environmentally harmful diesel, octane, and petrol-powered vehicles, and to promote the adoption of electric vehicles, I propose increasing the total tax incidence on imported internal combustion engine vehicles of 1200–1600 cc from 132.36 percent to 155.88 percent (Annex-B, Table-8(c)).
- The existing tax structure for other vehicle categories will remain unchanged.

5) Reduced Duty on Tugboats

- To modernize port operations and accelerate foreign trade, I propose reducing import duty on tugboats from 10 percent to 5 percent

(J) Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Sector

1) Significant Reduction of Duties on Computer Equipment to Promote ICT Development

- To build a technologically advanced Bangladesh and expand employment opportunities in the IT sector, I propose fully withdrawing import duty, regulatory duty, supplementary duty, and VAT on laptops, desktop computers, computer printers, and computer monitors.
- For SSDs (Solid State Drives), I propose retaining existing 5 percent import duty while withdrawing all regulatory duty, supplementary duty, and VAT.

2) Point of Sales (POS) Machines

- To support the government's initiative to promote cashless transactions, I propose reducing import duty on Point of Sales (POS) machines from 10 percent to 5 percent and withdrawing the existing 7.5 percent advance tax.

(K) Creative Economy Sector

- To harness the creativity and intellectual potential of our promising young generation and build a globally competitive "Creative Economy," I propose reducing duties on several items essential for high-quality content creation and filmmaking, ensuring that such tools remain within the reach of young creators.

- To enhance the quality of music used in digital media and support creative music production, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 5 percent regulatory duty on musical instruments such as guitars, pianos, violins and their essential parts.

- Additionally, to elevate the technical standards of film and creative media production to international levels, I propose reducing import duty on high-tech cinematographic cameras and spare parts for cinematographic cameras and projectors from 15 percent to 5 percent.

(N) Industrial Sector

To promote and protect domestic industries, I propose the following measures:

- I propose fully withdrawing the existing 45 percent supplementary duty on float glass, a key raw material for manufacturing washing machines, electric ovens, and microwave ovens.

- I propose extending the existing concessionary and duty-exemption facilities on raw materials and components used in the production of LPG cylinders, auto tanks, and valves & bungs until 30 June 2027.

- To prevent misuse of bonded warehouse facilities, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 10 percent supplementary duty on the import of synthetic woven fabrics and reducing it to zero percent.

- To protect the domestic gypsum board and sheet manufacturing industry, I propose imposing a 20 percent regulatory duty on the import of gypsum boards and sheets.
- To protect the domestic gypsum plaster industry, I propose increasing the existing import duty on gypsum plasters from 5 percent to 10 percent.
- To provide adequate protection to domestic PVC resin and PET resin manufacturers, I propose increasing the existing import duty on these items from 5 percent to 10 percent.
- To protect domestic oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon dioxide gas manufacturering industries established through local investment in the post-COVID period, I propose increasing the regulatory duty on oxygen and nitrogen gas imports from 15 percent to 20 percent, and on carbon dioxide gas imports from 5 percent to 20 percent.
- To protect domestic manufacturers of bicycle parts, I propose increasing the import duty on free-wheel bicycle parts from 15 percent to 25 percent, along with imposing a new 5 percent regulatory duty.
- To protect the domestic transformer manufacturing industry (up to 1 kVA capacity), I propose increasing the import duty on transformers of this capacity from 10 percent to 25 percent, along with imposing a new 5 percent regulatory duty.
- To ensure adequate protection for the domestic washing machine manufacturing industry, I propose imposing a new 20 percent

supplementary duty on the import of all types of household washing machines.

- To support domestic manufacturers of Velcro discs, which is widely used in industrial and furniture manufacturing, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 10 percent supplementary duty on polyester loop fabrics, the key raw material for Velcro discs.
- To protect domestic manufacturers of rubber conveyor belts, I propose increasing the existing import duty on rubber conveyor belts from 5 percent to 15 percent.
- To protect domestic producers in the paper industry, I propose increasing the import duty on greaseproof paper and glassine paper from 10 percent to 25 percent, along with imposing a 5 percent regulatory duty.
- To protect the refractory cement industry, I propose reducing import duty to 5 percent on five key raw materials, including ball clay.
- To support domestic carpet manufacturing, I propose fully withdrawing the existing import duty on polypropylene yarn, the primary raw material for carpet industry.
- To ensure appropriate market protection for the domestic maize starch industry, I propose increasing the import duty on maize starch from 15 percent to 25 percent.
- To protect domestic toluene manufacturers, I propose increasing the existing import duty on toluene from 5 percent to 10 percent.

- To support the domestic detergent manufacturing industry, I propose setting import duty at only 1 percent on linear alkyl benzene, one of its key raw materials.
- To protect domestic manufacturers of cold-rolled and coated coils and sheets, I propose imposing an additional 10 percent regulatory duty on the import of cold-rolled coils and sheets.
- To protect domestic manufacturers of copper wire and copper tubes, I propose imposing a 10 percent regulatory duty on imported copper wire and increasing the existing import duty on copper tubes from 15 percent to 25 percent.
- To support domestic float glass manufacturers, I propose reducing import duty on five essential raw materials from 25 percent to 15 percent and including them in the relevant concessionary notification.
- To protect domestic production of import substitute aluminum foil, I propose imposing a 10 percent import duty on finished aluminum foil.
- To protect domestic motor manufacturers, I propose imposing a 10 percent regulatory duty on the import of DC motors with capacity below 1200 watts.
- To protect the domestic lighter manufacturing industry, I propose increasing the existing supplementary duty on all types of lighters and lighter parts to 20 percent.
- To strengthen the domestic tire and tube manufacturing industry, I propose granting concessionary duty benefits on the import of two essential raw materials used in this sector.

- To enhance the competitiveness of domestic skincare and beauty product manufacturers, I propose reducing the existing 30 percent supplementary duty on two key raw materials to 10 percent.
- To support the growth of the domestic coffee processing industry, I propose fully withdrawing the existing 5 percent regulatory duty on bulk imports of coffee extract, essence, and preparations used as raw materials.
- To protect the domestic textile industry, I propose imposing a 5 percent import duty on spandex/elastomeric/elastane and zero percent import duty on synthetic filament yarn of polypropylene and carbonized wool.
- As polyester textured yarn and other polyester-based yarns are now produced domestically, I propose imposing a 5 percent import duty on these items.
- To protect the domestic polyester staple fibre industry, I propose imposing a 5 percent import duty on polyester staple fibre.

Proposals Related to Notifications

1) Issuance of a New Notification on Concessions for Imported Industrial Raw Materials

- To support the broad expansion of the industrial sector and promote employment through the growth of domestic industries, I propose issuing a new notification granting concessionary duty benefits on the imported industrial raw materials.

2) Inclusion of the Service Sector in the Advance Tax Exemption for Capital Machinery

- Considering the public importance of service-oriented sectors such as hospitals, universities, and other social institutions, I propose extending exemption on Advance Tax, currently applicable for manufacturing industries, to service-sector institutions for the import of capital machinery and parts. This will help reduce the cost of healthcare, medical education, and general education.

3) Extension of Concessionary Benefits for Import of ETP Chemicals

- I propose extending the existing duty exemption on the import of chemicals required for operating Effluent Treatment Plants (ETPs) until 30 June 2027.

4) Extension of Concessionary Benefits for Coal Imports by Power Plants

- To ensure long-term energy security in the power sector and to keep electricity prices affordable, I propose extending the concessionary duty benefits on coal imports by power plants until 30 June 2030.

Amendments to the Customs Act, 2023

- To make the country's overall commercial activities more dynamic, improve our ranking in the Ease of Doing Business indicators, and to make revenue administration more modern and business-friendly, I propose amending several sections of the Customs Act, 2023 and introducing new provisions where necessary.

- I also propose amending the First Schedule of the Act to implement changes in tariff rates, HS codes, and product descriptions.

Value Added Tax (VAT) Proposals for FY 2026–27

Mr. Speaker,

268. Value Added Tax (VAT) remains one of the most important sources of government revenue in Bangladesh. With a view to increasing the tax-to-GDP ratio, supporting domestic industries, achieving sustainable revenue growth, creating employment opportunities, attracting foreign investment, reducing the compliance gap, simplifying VAT accounting procedures, and fostering a business-friendly environment through deregulation and ease of doing business, I am pleased to place before this August House the following VAT proposals.

Simplified Turnover Tax Scheme for Small and Retail Businesses

Mr. Speaker,

269. Small and retail businesses constitute a vital part of our economy. Considering the diversity of business activities, locations, market conditions, and financial capacities across the country, I propose introducing a simplified turnover tax regime under which small and

retail businesses will pay a modest fixed amount of turnover tax based on business category and location.

Under this scheme, eligible businesses will not be required to maintain VAT records, preserve invoices, or file VAT returns. Tax payment will be made through banks or mobile financial services, ensuring a transparent, hassle-free, and taxpayer-friendly system.

This initiative will broaden the VAT base, encourage voluntary compliance, and enable small entrepreneurs to participate in the formal economy with dignity and ease.

Reduction of Excise Duty on Bank Deposits

Mr. Speaker,

To provide relief to small depositors and promote financial inclusion, I propose increasing the excise duty exemption threshold on bank deposits from Tk. 300,000 to Tk. 400,000.

Furthermore, in the banking system, multiple accounts are often opened against a single loan facility, resulting in excise duty being deducted multiple times. To eliminate this anomaly, I propose that excise duty be charged only once against a single loan account, irrespective of the number of associated accounts.

VAT Exemption for the Digital Economy

Mr. Speaker,

270. Digital content creation has emerged as a new industry in today's world. Millions of young Bangladeshis are earning income through

digital platforms and contributing significantly to our digital economy. Encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship, and technological advancement is our responsibility.

Startup Enterprises

271. I propose a full exemption from the 15 percent VAT applicable to services supplied by registered startup enterprises.

I also propose a complete exemption from:

- 15 percent VAT on imported services used by startup enterprises; and
- 15 percent VAT on the rental of premises and facilities used by startup enterprises.

These exemptions shall remain in force until 30 June 2035.

Content Creators and Freelancers

272. To encourage innovation and self-employment among our youth, I propose a full exemption from the 15 percent VAT currently applicable to services provided by content creators and freelancers.

Withdrawal of Specific Tax on Mobile SIM Cards

Mr. Speaker,

273. The Government has undertaken comprehensive reforms in the ICT and telecommunications sectors to strengthen digital connectivity and support technological advancement.

To make mobile services more affordable and accessible to the general public, I propose the complete withdrawal of the specific tax of Tk. 300 imposed on each mobile SIM card.

This measure will result in an estimated revenue sacrifice of approximately Tk. 12 billion, but it will significantly contribute to digital inclusion and economic participation.

VAT Relief for the Agricultural Sector

Mr. Speaker,

Agriculture remains the backbone of our economy. To reduce production costs and support our farmers, I propose:

- Full exemption from the existing 7.5 percent VAT applicable at the trading stage on all fertilizers used in agriculture; and
- Full exemption from the 7.5 percent Advance Tax **(AT)** applicable at the import stage on all types of agricultural pesticides.

VAT Relief for the Healthcare Sector

Mr. Speaker,

The out-of-pocket healthcare expenditure borne by Bangladeshi citizens remains among the highest in the world. To reduce healthcare costs and improve access to treatment, I propose:

- Full exemption from the existing 10 percent VAT at the supplier stage on imported cardiac stents and intraocular lenses.

As a result:

- The price of each cardiac stent is expected to decrease by up to Tk. 20,000; and
- The price of each intraocular lens is expected to decrease by up to Tk. 5,000.

I further propose a full exemption from the 7.5 percent Advance Tax applicable at the import stage on Blood Tubing Sets used in hemodialysis treatment, thereby reducing the cost of dialysis for kidney patients.

Specific Tax Regime for the Jewellery Sector

Mr. Speaker,

To simplify taxation in the jewellery sector, I propose replacing the existing 5 percent VAT on jewellery services with a specific tax of Tk. 2,500 per Bhori of jewellery.

Incentives for Domestic Industries

Mr. Speaker,

274. In order to promote local industries, create employment, reduce import dependence, conserve foreign exchange, and support sustainable economic growth, I propose the following measures:

- Extension of conditional VAT exemption facilities for mobile phone manufacturing and assembly until 30 June 2030;

- Extension of conditional VAT exemption facilities for local production of computers, laptops, printers, toner cartridges, and other technology products until 30 June 2030;
- Introduction of conditional VAT exemption facilities until 2030 for domestic production of hybrid vehicles, plug-in hybrid vehicles, electric three-wheelers, electric four-wheelers, electric buses, electric trucks, and conventional internal combustion engine vehicles;
- Extension of VAT exemption on metro rail services until 30 June 2028;
- Reduction of VAT on the local manufacturing of refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners, and compressors from 15 percent to 7.5 percent until 30 June 2030.

Expansion of the VAT Net

Mr. Speaker,

To widen the VAT base and strengthen compliance, I propose the necessary legislative amendments to make VAT registration and possession of a Business Identification Number (BIN) mandatory for opening a business bank account.

Revenue Enhancement Measures

Mr. Speaker,

275. To strengthen revenue mobilization, I propose the following amendments to the VAT and Supplementary Duty Act, 2012:

- Introduction of a specific VAT of Tk. 500 per litre on alcohol produced in Bangladesh;
- Imposition of 15 percent VAT at the import stage on selected high-value frozen fish products;
- Imposition of 15 percent VAT at the import stage on trees, parts of trees, and aromatic tree extracts;
- Revision of specific VAT rates applicable to various steel and MS products to reflect market realities and revenue requirements.

Tobacco Taxation: Balancing Revenue and Public Health

Mr. Speaker,

276. Tobacco taxation remains one of the most effective tools for protecting public health while generating revenue. Accordingly, I propose:

Cigarettes

Minimum retail prices per 10 sticks shall be:

- Low-tier: Tk. 62
- Medium-tier: Tk. 92
- High-tier: Tk. 160
- Premium-tier: Tk. 210

Emerging Tobacco Products

Product	Maximum Retail Price	Supplementary Duty
Nicotine Pouch	Tk. 500 per 10 grams	40%
Heated Tobacco	Tk. 210 per 10 sticks	67%

Combating Illicit Tobacco Trade Through Track and Trace Technology

Mr. Speaker,

To prevent illicit trade in tobacco products and strengthen revenue protection, I propose the introduction of a comprehensive Track and Trace system incorporating the following measures:

- Real-time monitoring of tobacco production and supply chains;
- Installation of AI-enabled cameras and automated counting devices in tobacco manufacturing facilities;
- Incorporation of QR Codes or AR Codes on cigarette tax stamps;
- Development of a dedicated mobile application enabling citizens to report illicit tobacco products directly to the National Board of Revenue;
- Introduction of a whistleblower reward scheme for providing credible information regarding smuggling and illegal tobacco products;
- Restricting the import of cigarette paper and bidi paper exclusively to manufacturers;
- Prohibiting the sale of cigarette paper and bidi paper to entities other than authorized manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker,

These proposals seek to establish a modern, equitable, investment-friendly, and technology-driven VAT system that encourages economic growth, protects consumers, supports domestic industries, and ensures sustainable revenue mobilization.

I commend these proposals to this August House.

Chapter VIII: Improving the Ease of Doing Business through Deregulation

Deregulation for Improving the Business-Enabling Environment

Mr. Speaker,

277. Improving the ease of doing business, increasing domestic and foreign investment, advancing export diversification and, above all, achieving higher growth require a more dynamic private sector and easy access to public services for entrepreneurs. These services must be simple, prompt, transparent and predictable. Accordingly, steps are being taken to build a modern service-delivery system by reducing time, cost, uncertainty and administrative complexity in business- and investment-related services.

278. Our deregulation initiative is not about dismantling any necessary law, rule or oversight arrangement. Public interest, environmental protection, safety, investors' rights and the Government's legitimate revenue collection will remain fully protected while service delivery is made simpler. Procedural requirements that add to the time and cost of doing business, require repeated submission of the same information or create uncertainty in decision-making will be made simpler, more transparent and time-bound. Accountability will also be ensured at every stage of service delivery to close opportunities for corruption. Where verification is necessary, it will continue; but it will be conducted under clear rules, within defined timelines and with the support of technology.

279. The reform programme will cover approvals for starting a business, construction and environmental approvals, post-investment services, tax and customs compliance, external transactions, banking

services, access to long-term finance from the capital market and local licensing arrangements.

Initiatives to Promote Private and Foreign Investment and Facilitate Business Start-up

Mr. Speaker,

280. To encourage private and foreign investment and make it easier to start a business, licensing procedures will be rationalised and a fully digital Single Window approval system will be introduced. Under this system, application submission, verification, approval, licensing, clearance, progress tracking and related services will be completed through a single online platform. Once a complete application is received, the applicable services will be delivered within a maximum of seven days.

281. A specific Service Level Agreement (SLA) will be set for each approval and licensing service. If the relevant agency does not provide its opinion, no-dues confirmation, no-objection or clearance within the stipulated time, the application will, where applicable, be processed on the basis of deemed or automatic approval. Monitoring, accountability and compliance oversight in service delivery will also be strengthened.

282. An online provisional approval system will be considered for small and new businesses, so that entrepreneurs can start operations quickly and complete the required licensing and compliance requirements within six to twelve months. Company name clearance, registration application, fee payment and certificate issuance will be completed online, with company registration to be completed within forty-eight hours.

283. The process will be simplified so that work permits for foreign experts and skilled professionals can be issued within seven days and visas for investors and project-related persons within ten days. Steps will also be taken to introduce a five-year multiple-entry investor visa for eligible investors and key project-related persons.

284. To accelerate the approval and implementation of large and strategic foreign investment projects, dedicated support officers, support teams or project-based case managers will be assigned in BIDA, BEZA, BEPZA and BSCIC. A round-the-clock help desk and a Grievance Redress System will be introduced for the quick resolution of investors' queries, complaints and problems. Updates on applications will be provided through SMS, e-mail, helpline and online tracking facilities.

285. To strengthen investors' legal protection and international confidence, bilateral investment treaties will be expanded, and double taxation avoidance agreements will be updated and implemented effectively. The effectiveness and implementation progress of existing agreements will be reviewed regularly.

286. To simplify local business approvals, trade licence services of city corporations and municipalities will gradually be integrated with the investment service system. Application submission, fee payment, renewal, licence issuance and progress tracking will be available online, reducing repeated visits to local offices and delays in renewal.

287. Plug and Play industrial facility packages will be introduced in selected industrial zones and economic zones. Under this arrangement, land, infrastructure, electricity, gas, water, road connectivity and initial approvals will be prepared in advance in a coordinated manner, enabling entrepreneurs to set up factories and begin production quickly.

288. Investment-related inter-agency approval, verification and consultation steps will be simplified, and their progress will be trackable

online. The security clearance process for foreign employees will also be made online and time-bound. This will reduce unnecessary delays while ensuring that essential security checks are properly completed.

Measures to Modernise Tax, VAT, Customs, Bond and Dispute Settlement System

Mr. Speaker,

289. With a view to creating a business-friendly environment and simplifying relevant rules and procedures, I now present the deregulation measures being undertaken in income tax, customs and VAT administration.

XX. Key Deregulation Measures Relating to Income Tax

Mr. Speaker,

290. From the next fiscal year, corporate taxpayers, alongside individual taxpayers, will be able to submit corporate tax returns online. All categories of taxpayers will be able to file returns throughout the year. Those who submit returns early in the year will receive tax incentives. Even after the end of the tax year, taxpayers will be able to submit delayed returns voluntarily.

291. If the tax deducted at source exceeds the finally assessed tax liability, taxpayers will receive refunds of the excess amount. The refund process will be automated and faceless, and the necessary arrangements are already being put in place. From the next fiscal year, income taxpayers will receive refunds directly in their bank accounts without having to visit tax offices. Timely automated refunds will prevent entrepreneurs' working capital from remaining tied up for long periods and will improve business cash flow.

292. In income tax and VAT audits, the existing manual audit selection process is being replaced by a fully automated, software-based risk selection system without human intervention. This transparent process will strengthen taxpayers' confidence in the tax system and reduce unnecessary hassle for compliant taxpayers.

293. Foreign investors currently have to obtain Tax Residency Certificates manually from the National Board of Revenue to receive tax benefits under Double Taxation Avoidance Agreements (DTAAs). On the basis of the required treaty-related documents, arrangements will be made to issue these certificates online through the National Single Window in an automated manner. This will make service delivery easier, faster and faceless for foreign investors.

294. Interconnection has been established between ASYCUDA World and the eReturn system. As a result, importer-taxpayers will automatically receive credit in eReturn for advance tax paid at the import stage. Under the proposed reform, the existing provision for disallowing expenses due to non-deduction of withholding tax will be abolished, thereby reducing taxpayers' effective tax burden. In line with international practice, interest expenses will also be allowed on an accrual basis in computing business income.

295. The allowable limits for certain essential business expenses, such as perquisites, entertainment expenses, free samples and promotional expenses, are proposed to be increased substantially. This will help reduce the tax liability of business taxpayers.

296. In addition to back-to-back letters of credit, supplies made in foreign currency to export-oriented industries through local letters of credit are proposed to be treated as deemed exports. The scope of alternative dispute resolution for income tax disputes is also proposed to be expanded, so that disputes can be resolved more easily without requiring taxpayers to file formal appeals.

Key Deregulation Measures Relating to Customs

Mr. Speaker

297. The bonded warehouse system has played a transformative role in the growth and expansion of the readymade garments sector. However, many other promising export-oriented sectors have not been able to benefit from this system for various reasons. Therefore, considering the potential of all export-oriented sectors, alongside the readymade garments sector, existing bond-related rules are proposed to be amended so that all sectors can import raw materials under bond facilities and export finished goods.

298. To facilitate business, the requirement of annual bond audit for fully export-oriented compliant readymade garments enterprises is proposed to be withdrawn. In line with the practice in the readymade garments sector, the validity of general bonds for fully export-oriented leather goods and footwear enterprises, and towel, linen and home textile enterprises, is proposed to be extended from one year to three years.

299. Irrespective of commissionerate jurisdiction, units located within 60 kilometres of the principal establishment are proposed to be brought under the Continuous Bond facility. The limit on one-time stock of raw materials in bonded warehouses is proposed to be removed. In cases of change of ownership of a bond licence, the requirement for both the previous and new owners to appear in person before the customs office for interview is proposed to be abolished.

300. For bonded enterprises, the requirement to obtain Utilisation Permission (UP) at least 48 hours before expiry of the shipment period is proposed to be reduced to 24 hours. A notification is also proposed to allow fully export-oriented enterprises without bond licences to procure raw materials duty-free against back-to-back letters of credit.

301. To modernise the jewellery industry and promote export diversification, a new notification is proposed under the bonded warehouse system to allow duty-free import of raw materials and export of jewellery produced from those materials in a transparent, orderly and compliant manner. To expand export-oriented industries and diversify export products, it is proposed to allow ten new sectors to import raw materials without a bond licence, only against bank guarantees. These sectors are motorcycles, speedboats, fish processing, handicrafts, diversified jute products, diapers and sanitary napkins, crockery, tents, recycled cotton bags and terry towels. The legal requirement of minimum 30 per cent value addition for exporting goods produced from duty-free raw materials imported against bank guarantees without a bond licence is also proposed to be abolished.

302. The rate of goods clearance by Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) enterprises under the system-based self-assessment method is proposed to be doubled from the current level. At the same time, the requirement for compliant businesses to submit updated audit reports when applying for AEO benefits is proposed to be withdrawn.

303. At present, reliance on government laboratories for verifying the accuracy and quality of imported goods often creates unintended congestion at ports and prolongs the clearance process. To remove this complexity and facilitate business, a new provision is proposed to allow testing not only in government laboratories but also in private laboratories recognised by the Bangladesh Accreditation Board and ISO.

304. For local pesticide and agrochemical manufacturers, it is proposed that annual entitlement-based certification from the Ministry of Agriculture will replace the existing requirement of invoice-based certification for importing raw materials under concessional facilities. For small and low-value consignments brought through post or courier,

the existing minimum fine of Tk 50,000 for inadvertent general deviations is proposed to be abolished.

Key Deregulation Measures Relating to Value Added Tax (VAT)

Mr. Speaker,

305. The process of receiving, verifying and approving VAT refund applications, and transferring refund amounts directly from the government treasury to taxpayers' bank accounts through iBAS++, will be further strengthened through automation. Taxpayers will be able to receive VAT refunds from home or office through a fully automated system. From the beginning of the next fiscal year, online submission of VAT returns through the eVAT system will be made mandatory, similar to the income tax eReturn system. Taxpayers will be able to submit both income tax and VAT returns online from home or office.

306. A separate VAT return form will be introduced for small VAT payers so that they can submit returns online by providing only a few essential pieces of information. Necessary legal amendments are proposed so that a Business Identification Number (BIN) can be issued instantly once an application is submitted through the eVAT system. The existing requirement of monthly return submission is proposed to be withdrawn and replaced by quarterly return submission. Taxpayers using their own ERP software will be able to submit VAT returns with one click directly from their own systems.

307. To simplify the appeal process, it is proposed to reduce the amount payable for filing appeals in income tax cases: 1 per cent of the disputed tax at the first appeal stage, 3 per cent at the Tax Appeal Tribunal stage instead of 10 per cent, and 10 per cent at the High Court stage instead of 25 per cent. For customs appeals, it is proposed to reduce the required payment from 10 per cent to 1 per cent at the appeal

stage, from 10 per cent to 1 per cent at the tribunal stage, and to 2 per cent at the High Court stage.

308. For VAT appeals, instead of the existing requirement of paying 10 per cent of the disputed tax at all stages, it is proposed to allow appeals on payment of 1 per cent at the Appeal Commissionerate, 1 per cent at the Tribunal and 2 per cent at the High Court. In all cases, the discretionary powers of tax officials are proposed to be abolished.

Initiatives to Facilitate Profit and Capital Repatriation, External Transactions, Banking Services and Digital Financial Transactions

Mr. Speaker

309. 26. A key basis of foreign investors' confidence is clarity in the rules for lawful profit and capital repatriation and prompt decision-making. To this end, a thirty-day timeline will be set for processing applications for repatriation of profits from lawful foreign investment. Coordination among banking verification, tax-related documents and approval processes will be strengthened.

310. Repatriation and reinvestment of proceeds from the sale of shares or securities purchased through a Non-Resident Investors' Taka Account (NITA) have been simplified. The requirement for an auditor's certificate has been withdrawn, and such proceeds may now be credited directly to the relevant NITA. This will make it possible to complete repatriation and reinvestment within one working day and will reduce compliance costs.

311. Share transfer and capital repatriation for unlisted companies have been simplified. No valuation report will be required for deal values of up to Tk 1 crore, and repatriation of deal values of up to Tk 100 crore may be made without prior approval from Bangladesh Bank.

For larger transactions, the use of licensed valuation firms will be introduced to make share valuation more neutral and acceptable.

312. To bring greater transparency to the valuation process, the formation of a Certification Board comprising representatives from Bangladesh Bank, BIDA, BSEC, the National Board of Revenue and the private sector will be considered. If the reports of approved valuation firms are accepted, repeated verification and delays in capital repatriation will be reduced.

313. To reduce time and cost in foreign trade, gradual relaxation of the mandatory use of letters of credit will be considered for reliable importers and low-risk goods. The use of Documents against Payment (D/P) and Telegraphic Transfer (TT) will be expanded where appropriate.

314. Access to domestic financing against foreign bank guarantees or Standby Letters of Credit (SBLC) has been simplified. Companies registered in Bangladesh will be able to obtain Taka loans in accordance with applicable rules, regardless of ownership or control structure. This will facilitate access to domestic credit and increase financing flexibility.

315. The requirement of separate prior approval for each loan from an Offshore Banking Unit (OBU) will be reviewed. However, provisions relating to CIB reporting, single borrower limits, loan classification and provisioning will remain in force. This will make foreign currency financing faster and reduce unnecessary approval-related delays.

316. The approval process for rent, lease, renewal and relocation of bank business centres or branches has been simplified. Within region-wise prescribed rent ceilings, such decisions may be taken with the approval of the bank's board of directors. This will speed up branch expansion and operational decision-making.

317. The process for opening a Sukuk Investor ID (SIID) for investment in government Sukuk has been simplified. Prescribed application forms, required documents and fee structures have been determined. As a result, investment in government Sukuk will be easier, more transparent and more investor-friendly.

318. To strengthen the foundation of the digital economy, Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) will be made more effective. Faster payment and settlement arrangements will be developed among banks, mobile financial service providers, payment service providers and related service platforms. This will reduce dependence on cash and increase cashless transactions.

319. The introduction of e-Loan has been allowed to simplify the receipt and disbursement of small loans. Loans of up to Tk 50,000 may be provided for a period of twelve months through a fully digital process. This will improve access to small loans, expand financial inclusion and reduce customers' time and operational costs.

320. The use of Pre-Suit Mediation before filing cases for recovery of defaulted loans has been encouraged. This will reduce lengthy court-based procedures and costs, resolve loan-related disputes more quickly and improve recovery efficiency.

321. Prudential regulations relating to Auto Loan and Personal Loan have been relaxed to facilitate environment-friendly vehicles and personal financing. For electric and hybrid vehicles, the Auto Loan limit has been increased from Tk 60 lakh to Tk 80 lakh, and the debt-equity ratio from 60:40 to 80:20. The limit for unsecured personal loans has been increased from Tk 5 lakh to Tk 10 lakh, and secured personal loans may be provided up to a maximum of Tk 40 lakh.

322. Guidelines on Credit Card Operations have been updated and credit limits have been increased. The limit for unsecured credit cards has been raised from Tk 10 lakh to Tk 20 lakh, and the limit against securities from Tk 20 lakh to Tk 40 lakh. Banks may introduce new

credit cards with the approval of their boards of directors, without prior approval from Bangladesh Bank.

323. These initiatives will reduce time, cost and administrative complexity in lawful profit and capital repatriation, foreign trade, domestic and foreign financing, banking services, digital lending and cashless transactions. At the same time, they will strengthen investor confidence, financial inclusion and the growth of the digital economy.

Measures to Facilitate Capital Mobilisation through the Capital Market

Mr. Speaker,

324. A strong capital market is an important source of long-term financing. If industry, infrastructure, urban development, technology-driven initiatives and promising businesses rely solely on bank loans, pressure on the financial sector increases. The capital market will therefore be made deeper, more diversified, more transparent and more confidence-inspiring, so that it can serve as an effective platform for raising long-term capital for productive sectors and promising companies.

325. The reasons why sound and promising companies are reluctant to be listed on the capital market are being reviewed. Unnecessary complexity, delays, excessive costs, repeated submission of similar documents, and uncertainty relating to approval and compliance will be reduced in phases. While safeguarding investor protection, listing criteria will be made more transparent, realistic and supportive of growing companies.

326. The Initial Public Offering (IPO) process will be made simple, time-bound and technology-enabled. Application submission,

supporting documents, due diligence, fee payment, correction and approval will be completed online. Information exchange among the issuing company, issue manager, stock exchange, CDBL and the regulator will take place through an integrated digital platform. The possibility of direct listing for eligible and mature companies will also be reviewed.

327. To enhance stability in the capital market, participation by pension funds, insurance companies, Asset Management Companies (AMCs), mutual funds and other long-term investors will be increased. New AMCs will be developed, professional fund management will be strengthened, and the size and number of mutual funds will be increased by creating greater opportunities to channel long-term savings into investment.

328. To increase opportunities for long-term financing, the corporate bond market will be expanded and arrangements will be made for issuing municipal bonds to finance local government and urban infrastructure development. The use of bonds, Sukuk, infrastructure funds and other financing instruments for long-term public and private projects will be increased, reducing dependence on bank loans.

329. To broaden investment opportunities and the range of financial products, steps will be taken to make the country's first commodity exchange operational. Existing licences will be activated, necessary rules will be formulated, technological capacity will be strengthened and international expert support will be ensured. The usability of Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs), Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), index hedging and possible currency hedging instruments will also be reviewed.

330. The scope for dual listing of domestic companies on regional stock exchanges and the feasibility of listing selected state-owned enterprises will be examined. To facilitate participation by non-resident

Bangladeshis and foreign investors, the process for opening and operating NITA accounts will be further simplified.

331. To strengthen investor confidence, the quality of disclosure, financial reporting, audit, share valuation, credit rating, IPO management and research reports of listed companies will be improved. The responsibilities and liabilities of auditors, valuers, issue managers, credit rating agencies, research analysts, merchant bankers, broker-dealers and other market intermediaries will be clarified. Where necessary, professional liability frameworks and professional indemnity or liability insurance will be considered.

332. To make the transfer of shares and funds after transactions faster and safer, the settlement cycle will be shortened gradually. Although the T+2 settlement system is currently in place, steps will be taken to move to T+1, and preparations will be made for T+0 or same-day settlement in the next phase after ensuring the required technology, risk management and market infrastructure. Integration of information systems among BSEC, stock exchanges, CDBL, banks, brokers, issuer companies and related organisations will be strengthened.

333. A specialised dispute resolution mechanism for capital market-related disputes is being reviewed. Where necessary, the possibility of establishing a special tribunal or fast-track court will be considered, with legal authority to enforce its decisions. This will increase investor confidence and strengthen discipline in the market.

334. These initiatives will transform the capital market from merely a place for buying and selling shares into a strong platform for raising long-term capital, financing infrastructure, converting savings into productive investment and attracting domestic and foreign investment.

Initiatives to Simplify Construction, Environmental, Local Approval and Compliance Processes

Mr. Speaker,

335. In setting up industrial establishments, delays in site clearance, environmental clearance, construction approval, fire safety clearance, land approval and building plan approval delay project implementation and increase investment costs. While preserving environmental, public safety, fire safety and urban planning standards, steps are being taken to deliver these services online, in an integrated manner and within defined timelines.

336. Applications for site clearance and environmental clearance for industrial establishments will be received and processed online. Specific timelines will be set for each step, including application verification, necessary inspection, consultation and issuance of clearance. Information exchange among the service platforms of the relevant ministries and agencies will be strengthened so that entrepreneurs do not have to provide the same information repeatedly.

337. An integrated Single Window System will be introduced for construction, fire safety, environmental, land and building plan approvals. Once an online application is received, the relevant agencies will complete necessary inspections and submit reports online within the stipulated time; approvals will then be issued from the same platform on the basis of those reports. This will reduce the need for separate applications, office-to-office communication and repeated inspections.

338. A Risk Assessment System will be introduced in approval and verification processes. Under this system, the level of risk will be assessed so that low-risk cases receive faster service, while necessary verification and supervision continue for high-risk cases. This will

preserve the quality of verification and reduce entrepreneurs' time, cost and uncertainty.

339. A simplified Compliance Framework or compliance policy will be developed for micro, small and new entrepreneurs. Conditions relating to licensing, renewal and regular compliance will be simplified. Through simple guidelines, online support, fixed fees and simplified renewal arrangements, small entrepreneurs in the informal sector will be brought into the formal economy.

Mr. Speaker

340. We will form a high-level task force to ensure the swift and proper implementation of these deregulatory activities. In addition, we are developing a dedicated website to properly monitor these activities, where service recipients will be able to directly submit complaints regarding irregularities or service delivery issues and learn about their resolution.

341. Implementation of these reforms will help build a new administrative culture in business- and investment-related services. It will ensure better coordination among agencies, exchange of information, online progress tracking and service delivery within defined timelines. As a result, starting and running a business will become easier, the cost of doing business will fall and investor confidence will increase. Delays in tax and customs compliance, external transactions, banking services, capital-market financing, construction approvals, environmental clearances and local licensing will be reduced. The private sector will, in turn, be able to play a stronger role in production, exports, infrastructure development, new industrialisation and employment creation.

342. As Bangladesh prepares for post-LDC graduation competition, a stronger business-enabling environment is increasingly important for

export diversification, higher investment flows, productive employment and sustainable growth. This deregulation-related reform programme is a practical step towards that objective. Through it, we seek to build a Bangladesh where entrepreneurs invest with confidence, investors can plan for the long term, and the benefits of economic activity reach more people.

Chapter IX: Conclusion

Mr. Speaker

343. I seek the cooperation of the Mr. Members of this National Parliament, as well as of our farmers, workers, students, women, youth, entrepreneurs, professionals, expatriates, and citizens from all walks of life, regardless of their religion, race, ethnicity, social class, or profession. We firmly believe that through the continued implementation of our electoral commitments, bold reform initiatives, and a united national effort, Bangladesh will advance steadily toward its development aspirations.

344. Our commitment is to build a Bangladesh where equal opportunities are available to all, where enterprise and innovation are encouraged, where the rewards of hard work are ensured, and where the benefits of economic progress rare shared by every citizen. Through economic democratisation, deregulation, and the empowerment of the people, we shall build a prosperous and confident Bangladesh, Insha-Allah.

345. We recognize that the strength, creativity, and entrepreneurial spirit of our people are our greatest national asset. By nurturing this potential, we seek to overcome challenges, transform opportunities into outcomes, and, build, through collective endeavour, a self-reliant and dignified Bangladesh that reflects the aspirations of the masses.

346. We envision a prosperous future where the pride of a transformed Bangladesh belongs to all.

Mr Speaker
Thank you very much.
Bangladesh Zindabad.

Appendix-A

Table-1: Supplementary Budget for FY 2025-26

(Crore Tk.)

Sector	Budget 2025-26	Revised 2025-26	Actual 2025-26 (Up to March 2026P)
1	*2*	*3*	*4*
Total Revenue Income	**5,64,000**	**5,88,000**	**3,31,137**
	(9.0)	(9.7)	(5.4)
NBR Tax	4,99,000	5,03,000	2,83,924
Non-NBR Tax	19,000	20,000	6,317
Non Tax Receipt	46,000	65,000	40,896
Total Expenditure	**7,90,000**	**7,88,000**	**4,05,305**
	(12.7)	(13.0)	(6.7)
Operating Recurrent Expenditure	4,98,783	5,13,362	3,13,820
	(8.0)	(8.4)	(5.2)
Development Expenditure	2,45,609	2,14,862	57,072
	(3.9)	(3.5)	(0.9)
In which, Annual Development Programme	2,30,000	2,00,000	55,849
	(3.7)	(3.3)	(0.9)
Operating Capital and Other Expenditure	45,608	59,776	34,413
	(0.7)	(1.0)	(0.6)
Budget Deficit	**-2,26,000**	**-2,00,000**	**-74,168**
	(-3.6)	(-3.3)	(-1.0)
Financing			
External Source (Including Grants)	1,01,000	63,000	-7,677
	(1.6)	(1.0)	(-0.1)
Domestic Source	1,25,000	1,37,000	82,243
	(2.0)	(2.3)	(1.4)
In which, Banking Source	1,04,000	1,18,000	1,02,442
	(1.7)	(1.9)	(1.7)
GDP	**62,44,578A**	**60,80,320P**	**60,80,320P**

Source: Finance Division; Figures in parenthesis indicate percent of GDP; A=Projected Nominal GDP at the time of budget preparation; P= Provisional

Table-2: Proposed Budget Structure for FY 2026-27

(Crore Tk.)

Sector	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Actual 2024-25
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*
Total Revenue Income	**6,95,000**	**5,88,000**	**5,64,000**	**4,37,029**
	(10.2)	(9.7)	(9.0)	(7.9)
In which,				
NBR Tax	6,04,000	5,03,000	4,99,000	3,69,528
Non-NBR Tax	25,000	20,000	19,000	8,192
Non-Tax Receipt	66,000	65,000	46,000	59,309
Total Expenditure	**9,38,000**	**7,88,000**	**7,90,000**	**6,31,273**
	(13.7)	(13.0)	(12.7)	(11.4)
(a) Operating Recurrent Expenditure	**5,51,087**	**5,13,362**	**4,98,783**	**4,61,743**
	(8.1)	(8.4)	(8.0)	(8.4)
(b) Development Expenditure	**3,16,075**	**2,14,862**	**2,45,609**	**1,52,449**
	(4.6)	(3.5)	(3.9)	(2.8)
In which,				
Annual Development Programme	3,00,000	2,00,000	2,30,000	1,42,326
	(4.4)	(3.3)	(3.7)	(2.6)
(c) Operating Capital and other Expenditure	**70,838**	**59,776**	45,608	**17,081**
	(1.0)	(1.0)	(0.7)	(0.3)
Budget Deficit	-2,43,000	-2,00,000	**-2,26,000**	-1,94,244
	(-3.6)	(-3.3)	(-3.6)	(-3.5)
Financing				
(a) External source (Including Grants)	1,16,000	63,000	1,01,000	60,430
	(1.7)	(1.0)	(1.6)	(1.1)
(b) Domestic Source	1,27,000	1,37,000	1,25,000	1,25,383
	(1.9)	(2.3)	(2.0)	(2.3)
In which, Banking Source	1,12,000	1,18,000	1,04,000	1,14,161
	(1.6)	(1.9)	(1.7)	(2.1)
GDP	**68,30,024**[A]	**60,80,320**[P]	**62,44,578**[P]	**55,15,026**

Source: Finance Division; Figures in parenthesis indicate percent of GDP; A= Estimated Nominal GDP at the time of budget preparation; P= Provisional estimate of nominal GDP

Table-3: Sectoral Allocation of Annual Development Programme

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Actual 2024-25	Actual 2023-24
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
(a) Human Resource					
1. Ministry of Primary and Mass Education	21,441	8,061	11,398	7,429	7,231
	(7.1)	(4.0)	(5.0)	(5.2)	(3.7)
2. Health Services Division	26,806	3,117	11,617	2,001	7,366
	(8.9)	(1.6)	(5.1)	(1.4)	(3.7)
3. Secondary and Higher Education Division	20,835	6,190	13,625	4,753	4,965
	(6.9)	(3.1)	(5.9)	(3.3)	(2.5)
4. Others	59,344	28,437	32,833	19,281	26,393
	(19.8)	(14.2)	(14.3)	(13.5)	(13.4)
Sub-Total	**1,28,426**	**45,805**	**69,473**	**33,464**	**45,955**
	(42.8)	**(22.9)**	**(30.2)**	**(23.5)**	**(23.4)**
(b) Agriculture and Rural Development					
5. Local Government Division	33,735	38,566	36,099	30,701	36,713
	(11.2)	(19.3)	(15.7)	(21.6)	(18.7)
6. Ministry of Water Resousces	7,833	10,582	8,490	9,895	11,733
	(2.6)	(5.3)	(3.7)	(7.0)	(6.0)
7. Ministry of Agriculture	7,946	4,044	6,333	3,411	4,199
	(2.6)	(2.0)	(2.8)	(2.4)	(2.1)
8. Others	4,275	4,553	4,784	3,395	4,764
	(1.4)	(2.3)	(2.1)	(2.4)	(2.4)
Sub-Total	**53,789**	**57,745**	**55,706**	**47,402**	**57,409**
	(17.9)	**(28.9)**	**(24.2)**	**(33.3)**	**(29.2)**
(c) Energy Infrastructure					
9. Power Division	14,939	15,531	20,284	21,095	27,314
	(5.0)	(7.8)	(8.8)	(14.8)	(13.9)
10. Energy and Mineral Resources Division	2,254	1,279	2,086	919	1,163
	(0.8)	(0.6)	(0.9)	(0.6)	(0.6)
Sub-Total	**17,193**	**16,810**	**22,370**	**22,014**	**28,477**
	(5.7)	**(8.4)**	**(9.7)**	**(15.5)**	**(14.5)**
(d) Communication Infrastructure					
11. Ministry of Railway	5,440	4,924	7,715	2,980	11,177
	(1.8)	(2.5)	(3.4)	(2.1)	(5.7)
12. Road Transport and Highways Division	30,741	19,950	32,330	13,766	19,890
	(10.2)	(10.0)	(14.1)	(9.7)	(10.1)
13. Bridges Division	2,898	5,319	6,012	4,176	7,485
	(1.0)	(2.7)	(2.6)	(2.9)	(3.8)
14. Others	10,032	7,245	11,789	8,868	9,621
	(3.3)	(3.6)	(5.1)	(6.2)	(4.9)
Sub-Total	**49,111**	**37,438**	**57,846**	**29,790**	**48,173**
	(16.4)	**(18.7)**	**(25.2)**	**(20.9)**	**(24.5)**
Total	**2,48,519**	**1,57,798**	**2,05,395**	**1,32,670**	**1,80,014**
	(82.8)	**(78.9)**	**(89.3)**	**(93.2)**	**(91.6)**
15. Others	**51,481**	**42,202**	**24,605**	**9,657**	**16,472**

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Actual 2024-25	Actual 2023-24
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*
	(17.2)	**(21.1)**	**(10.7)**	**(6.8)**	**(8.4)**
Total ADP	**3,00,000**	**2,00,000**	**2,30,000**	**1,42,327**	**1,96,486**

Source: Finance Division; Figures in parenthesis indicate percent of total ADP allocation.

Table-4: Sectoral Allocation in overall Budget

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Actual 2024-25	Actual 2023-24	Actual 2022-23	Actual 2021-22
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
(a) Social Infrastructure	**2,79,001**	**1,83,574**	**2,07,629**	**1,45,899**	**1,51,991**	**1,44,923**	**1,42,568**
	(29.74)	**(23.30)**	**(26.28)**	**(23.11)**	**(24.79)**	**(25.25)**	**(27.41)**
Human Resource							
1. Secondary and Higher Education Division	57,301	41,753	47,563	36,474	32,276	30,496	28,970
	(6.11)	(5.30)	(6.02)	(5.78)	(5.26)	(5.31)	(5.57)
2. Ministry of Primary and Mass Education	46,738	31,719	35,403	25,887	26,231	23,815	23,440
	(4.98)	(4.03)	(4.48)	(4.10)	(4.28)	(4.15)	(4.51)
3. Health Services Division	49,387	21,934	31,022	14,763	18,932	17,664	20,582
	(5.27)	(2.78)	(3.93)	(2.34)	(3.09)	(3.08)	(3.96)
4. Others	1,06,286	69,853	74,957	54,693	58,301	57,745	55,622
	(11.33)	(8.86)	(9.49)	(8.66)	(9.51)	(10.06)	(10.70)
Sub-Total	**2,59,712**	**1,65,259**	**1,88,945**	**1,31,817**	**1,35,740**	**1,29,720**	**1,28,614**
	(27.69)	**(20.97)**	**(23.92)**	**(20.88)**	**(22.14)**	**(22.60)**	**(24.73)**
Food and Social Safety							
5. Ministry of Food	8,939	9,246	8,322	7,332	6,415	5,014	5,310
	(0.95)	(1.17)	(1.05)	(1.16)	(1.05)	(0.87)	(1.02)
6. Ministry of Disaster Management	10,350	9,069	10,362	6,750	9,836	10,189	8,644
	(1.10)	(1.15)	(1.31)	(1.07)	(1.60)	(1.78)	(1.66)
Sub-Total	**19,289**	**18,315**	**18,684**	**14,082**	**16,251**	**15,203**	**13,954**
	(2.06)	**(2.32)**	**(2.37)**	**(2.23)**	**(2.65)**	**(2.65)**	**(2.68)**
(b) Physical Infrastructure	**1,74,988**	**1,64,510**	**1,90,360**	**1,48,047**	**1,93,201**	**1,90,694**	**1,63,964**
	(18.66)	**(20.88)**	**(24.10)**	**(23.45)**	**(31.51)**	**(33.22)**	**(31.53)**
Agriculture and Rural Development							
7. Ministry of Agriculture	28,881	24,825	27,224	23,891	31,971	32,531	21,334
	(3.08)	(3.15)	(3.45)	(3.78)	(5.21)	(5.67)	(4.10)
8. Ministry of Water Resources	10,533	13,382	11,204	12,254	14,113	10,889	9,400
	(1.12)	(1.70)	(1.42)	(1.94)	(2.30)	(1.90)	(1.81)
9. Local Government Division	40,246	44,243	42,433	35,972	42,024	38,664	34,003
	(4.29)	(5.61)	(5.37)	(5.70)	(6.85)	(6.74)	(6.54)
10. Others	9,970	9,933	10,302	8,100	9,360	8,087	8,109
	(1.06)	(1.26)	(1.30)	(1.28)	(1.53)	(1.41)	(1.56)
Sub-Total	**89,630**	**92,383**	**91,163**	**80,217**	**97,468**	**90,171**	**72,846**
	(9.56)	**(11.72)**	**(11.54)**	**(12.71)**	**(15.90)**	**(15.71)**	**(14.01)**
Power and Energy	**17,345**	**16,951**	**22,520**	**22,111**	**28,568**	**27,065**	**22,738**
	(1.85)	(2.15)	(2.85)	(3.50)	(4.66)	(4.72)	(4.37)
Communication Infrastructure							
11. Road Transport and Highways Division	36,918	25,685	38,496	18,030	24,819	31,705	30,158
	(3.94)	(3.26)	(4.87)	(2.86)	(4.05)	(5.52)	(5.80)
12. Ministry of Railway	9,940	9,153	11,944	6,850	14,736	14,693	14,800
	(1.06)	(1.16)	(1.51)	(1.09)	(2.40)	(2.56)	(2.85)
13. Bridges Division	2,908	5,326	6,022	4,179	7,489	6,947	5,571
	(0.31)	(0.68)	(0.76)	(0.66)	(1.22)	(1.21)	(1.07)

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26	Actual 2024-25	Actual 2023-24	Actual 2022-23	Actual 2021-22
1	*2*	*3*	*4*	*5*	*6*	*7*	*8*
14. Others	10,964	8,128	12,734	10,438	10,611	9,841	8,510
	(1.17)	(1.03)	(1.61)	(1.65)	(1.73)	(1.71)	(1.64)
Sub Total	**60,730**	**48,292**	**69,196**	**39,497**	**57,655**	**63,186**	**59,039**
	(6.47)	**(6.13)**	**(8.76)**	**(6.26)**	**(9.40)**	**(11.01)**	**(11.35)**
15. Other Sector	7,283	6,884	7,481	6,222	9,510	10,272	9,341
	(0.78)	(0.87)	(0.95)	(0.99)	(1.55)	(1.79)	(1.80)
(c) General Services	**2,45,117**	**2,10,615**	**1,78,517**	**1,02,297**	**1,07,408**	**92,707**	**1,03,584**
	(26.13)	**(26.73)**	**(22.60)**	**(16.20)**	**(17.52)**	**(16.15)**	**(19.92)**
Public Order and Safety	**33,764**	**33,629**	**33,542**	**29,244**	**28,701**	**25,788**	**26,271**
	(3.60)	(4.27)	(4.25)	(4.63)	(4.68)	(4.49)	(5.05)
16. Others	2,11,353	1,76,986	1,44,975	73,053	78,707	66,919	77,313
	(22.53)	(22.46)	(18.35)	(11.57)	(12.84)	(11.66)	(14.87)
Total	**6,99,106**	**5,58,699**	**5,76,506**	**3,96,243**	**4,52,600**	**4,28,324**	**4,10,116**
	(74.5)	**(70.9)**	**(73.0)**	**(62.8)**	**(73.8)**	**(74.6)**	**(78.9)**
(d) Interest Payments	1,27,500	1,27,000	1,22,000	1,36,123	1,14,662	92,116	77,823
	(13.59)	(16.12)	(15.44)	(21.56)	(18.70)	(16.05)	(14.96)
(e) PPP Subsidy and Liability	95,209	96,701	82,420	98,396	55,552	54,082	34,786
	(10.15)	(12.27)	(10.43)	(15.59)	(9.06)	(9.42)	(6.69)
(f) Net Landing and Other Expenditure	16,185	5,600	9,074	514	-9,732	-562	-2,670
	(1.73)	(0.71)	(1.15)	(0.08)	(-1.59)	(-0.10)	(-0.51)
Total Budget	**9,38,000**	**7,88,000**	**7,90,000**	**6,31,276**	**6,13,082**	**5,73,960**	**5,20,055**

Source: Finance Division; Figures in parenthesis indicate percent of total budget

Table-5: Ministry/Division-wise Budget Allocation

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/ Division Code	Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26
101	President's Office	34	30	34
102	National Parliament	291	249	232
103	Prime Minister's Office	3,846	3,485	3,556
104	Cabinet Division	105	132	116
105	Bangladesh Supreme Court	291	270	250
106	Election Commission Secretariat	4,401	4,346	2,956
107	Ministry of Public Administration	5,067	4,610	5,019
108	Bangladesh Public Service Commission	138	179	149
109	Finance Division	3,19,802	2,89,998	2,61,383
110	Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of Bangladesh	377	237	284
111	Internal Resources Division	4,656	2,965	3,126
112	Financial Institutions Division	3,566	5,212	3,521
113	Economic Relations Division	23,249	22,628	22,584
114	Planning Division	36,251	28,402	10,906
115	Implementation Monitoring & Evaluation Division	231	205	183
116	Statistics and Informatics Division	672	417	467
117	Ministry of Commerce	328	910	608
118	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1,844	1,764	1,704
119	Ministry of Defense	42,497	40,662	40,851
120	Armed Forces Division	44	40	47
121	Law and Justice Division	2,188	2,160	2,075
122	Ministry of Home Affairs	31,099	27,173	27,001
123	Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division	49	48	47
124	Ministry of Primary and Mass Education	46,738	31,719	35,403
125	Secondary and Higher Education Division	57,302	41,754	47,564
126	Ministry of Science and Technology	18,115	12,704	12,869
127	Health Service Division	49,387	21,934	31,022
128	Information and Communication Technology Division	2,049	2,866	2,144
129	Ministry of Social Welfare	30,443	13,453	13,991
130	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs	5,196	5,371	5,078
131	Ministry of Labour and Employment	467	389	438
132	Ministry of Housing and Public Works	5,079	4,822	5,110
133	Ministry of Information and Broadcasting	1,190	1,223	1,110
134	Ministry of Cultural Affairs	826	753	824
135	Ministry of Religious Affairs	2,955	2,403	2,183
136	Ministry of Youth and Sports	2,586	1,804	2,423
137	Local Government Division	40,246	44,243	42,433
138	Rural Government and Co-operatives Division	1,106	990	1,100

(Crore Tk.)

Ministry/ Division Code	Ministry/Division	Budget 2026-27	Revised 2025-26	Budget 2025-26
139	Ministry of Industries	1,692	1,582	1,891
140	Ministry of Expatriates Welfare and Overseas Employment	880	931	855
141	Ministry of Textiles and Jute	512	480	480
142	Energy and Mineral Resources Division	2,349	1,366	2,178
143	Ministry of Agriculture	28,881	24,825	27,224
144	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock	2,728	3,346	3,392
145	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change	2,240	1,837	2,144
146	Ministry of Land	2,439	2,401	2,304
147	Ministry of Water Resources	10,533	13,382	11,204
148	Ministry of Food	11,726	8,955	9,004
149	Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief	10,350	9,069	10,362
150	Road Transport and Highways Division	36,918	25,685	38,496
151	Ministry of Railway	9,940	9,153	11,944
152	Ministry of Shipping	9,080	6,828	10,279
153	Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism	1,884	1,300	2,455
154	Posts and Telecommunications Division	2,141	1,987	2,148
155	Ministry of Chittagong Hill Tracts Affairs	1,457	1,359	1,362
156	Power Division	14,996	15,586	20,342
157	Ministry of Liberation War Affairs	7,515	7,452	7,330
158	Anti Corruption Commission	197	203	191
159	Bridges Division	2,908	5,326	6,022
160	Technical and Madrasha Education Division	18,457	12,396	12,678
161	Security Services Division	0	3,880	4,038
162	Health Education and Family Welfare Division	13,466	6,121	10,886
	Total	**9,38,000**	**7,88,000**	**7,90,000**

Source: Finance Division

Appendix B

Table-1: Tax-Free Income Threshold for Individual Taxpayers and Hindu Undivided Families (HUF)

Category of Taxpayer	Tax Years 2026–27 & 2027–28	Tax Years 2028–29 & 2029–30	Tax Year 2030–31
General taxpayer	Tk. 3,75,000	Tk. 4,00,000	Tk. 4,50,000
Female taxpayers and taxpayers aged 65 years or above	Tk. 4,25,000	Tk. 4,50,000	Tk. 5,00,000
Taxpayer with disability	Tk. 5,00,000	Tk. 5,25,000	Tk. 5,75,000
Gazette-listed war-wounded Freedom Fighter taxpayer	Tk. 5,25,000	Tk. 5,50,000	Tk. 6,00,000
Gazette-listed injured “July Warrior” of the July 2024 Mass Uprising	Tk. 5,25,000	Tk. 5,50,000	Tk. 6,00,000
Third-gender taxpayer	Tk. 5,00,000	Tk. 5,25,000	Tk. 5,75,000

Note: For each child/dependent with disability, the tax-free threshold of a parent or legal guardian shall be increased by Tk. 50,000. Where both parents are taxpayers, either one may claim this benefit.

Table-2: Tax Slabs and Tax Rates for Individual Taxpayers and Hindu Undivided Families (HUF)

Tax Years 2026–27 & 2027–28	Rate	Tax Years 2028–29 & 2029–30	Rate	Tax Year 2030–31	Rate
Up to Tk. 3,75,000	Nil	Up to Tk. 4,00,000	Nil	Up to Tk. 4,50,000	Nil
Next Tk. 3,00,000	10%	Next Tk. 3,00,000	10%	Next Tk. 3,00,000	10%
Next Tk. 4,00,000	15%	Next Tk. 4,00,000	15%	Next Tk. 4,00,000	15%
Next Tk. 5,00,000	20%	Next Tk. 5,00,000	20%	Next Tk. 5,00,000	20%
Next Tk. 20,00,000	25%	Next Tk. 20,00,000	25%	Next Tk. 2,000,000	25%
Remaining amount	30%	Next Tk. 2,64,00,000	30%	Next Tk. 2,63,50,000	30%
—	—	Remaining amount	35%	Remaining amount	35%

Table-3: Tax Rates for Companies, Associations of Persons, Firms, Trusts and Other Taxpayers (Tax Years 2026–27 to 2030–31)

Description	Tax Rate	Rebate / Conditional Rate
Publicly traded company having at least 10% of paid-up capital transferred through IPO (Initial Public Offering) or Direct Listing	22.5%	If all income transactions are conducted through bank transfer during the relevant income year, tax rate will be 20%
Companies as defined in the Section 2, subsection (31) of Income Tax Act, 2023 (Act No. 12 of 2023)	27.5%	If all income transactions are conducted through bank transfer during the relevant income year, tax rate will be 25%
Publicly traded banks, insurance companies and finance companies	37.5%	No rebate applicable
Non-publicly traded banks, insurance companies and finance companies	40%	No rebate applicable
Companies manufacturing cigarettes, bidis, zarda, gul and all other tobacco products	45% + 2.5% surcharge	No rebate applicable
Mobile phone operator companies	45%	If at least 10% of paid-up capital (with Pre-IPO Placement not exceeding 5%) is transferred through a stock exchange and the company becomes publicly traded, the applicable provisions shall apply. If at least 20% of paid-up capital is offered through IPO, the company will enjoy a 10% tax rebate on the applicable income tax for the relevant year.
Non-resident taxpayers in Bangladesh (other than Non-	30%	No rebate applicable

Resident Bangladeshis), excluding companies, firms and associations of persons		
Non-company taxpayers earning income from manufacturing cigarettes, bidis, zarda, gul and all other tobacco products	45% + 2.5% surcharge	No rebate applicable
Trusts, firms and associations of persons	27.5%	No rebate applicable
Cooperative societies	20%	No rebate applicable
Private universities, private medical colleges, private dental colleges, private engineering colleges, or private colleges engaged exclusively in information technology education	10%	No rebate applicable

Table-1(a): Proposal to Reduce Customs Duty (CD) on 69 Products

HS Code	Description of Goods	Existing CD (%)	Proposed CD (%)
0105.11.90	Live Fowls Gallus, Domesticus<=185g, Excl.Parent Stock of One Day Chic	25	15
0105.12.90	Live Turkeys Weighing <=185g, (Excl.Parent Stock Of One Day Chick)	25	15
0105.13.90	Other ducks	25	15
0105.14.90	Other Geese	25	15
0105.94.00	Fowls of the species Gallus domesticus	25	15
0105.99.00	Live Ducks, Geese, Turkeys And Guinea Fowls Weighing >185g	25	15
0106.33.00	Ostriches; emus (Dromaius novaehollandiae)	25	15
0206.10.90	Fresh Or Chilled Edible Offal Of Bovine Animals, Nes	25	15
0206.21.90	Frozen Bovine Tounge, Nes	25	15
0206.22.90	Frozen Bovine Livers, Nes	25	15
0206.29.90	Frozen Edible Bovine Offal (Excl. Tongues And Livers), Nes	25	15
0207.13.90	Fresh Or Chilled Cuts And Offal Of Chickens, Nes	25	15
0207.14.10	Frozen Cuts And Offal Of Chicken, Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5 kg	25	15
0210.99.90	Meat And Edible Meat Offal,Salted,In Brine,Dried Or Smoked,Other, Nes	25	15
0302.11.90	Fresh Or Chill. Trout (Excl. Livers & Roes),Nes	25	15
0302.21.90	Fresh Or Chilled Halibut (Excl. Livers & Roes),NES	25	15
0302.24.90	Other Turbots (Psetta maxima)	25	15
0303.31.90	Frozen Halibut (Excl. Livers & Roes),nes	25	15
0303.65.90	Coalfish (Pollachius virens), EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg	25	15
0303.67.10	Alaska Pollack (Theraga chalcogramma)Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg	25	15

HS Code	Description of Goods	Existing CD (%)	Proposed CD (%)
0303.67.90	Other Alaska Pollack (Theraga chalcogramma)	25	15
0303.89.90	Other fish, excluding livers and roes : Other	25	15
0303.91.90	Livers, roes and milt : Other	25	15
0305.20.90	Livers And Roed, Dried,Smoked,Salted Or In Brine,Nes	25	15
0305.32.90	Fish of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, .., EXCL.Wrappe	25	15
0305.53.90	Fish of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrou	25	15
0305.61.90	Herrings Salted Or In Brine But Not Dried Or Smoked, Nes	25	15
0305.69.90	Other Fish,Nes,Salted Salted Or In Brine But Not Dried Or Smoked, Nes	25	15
0305.71.90	Other Shark fins	25	15
0305.72.10	Fish heads, tails and maws Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg	25	15
0305.72.90	Other Fish heads, tails and maws	25	15
0305.79.90	Other edible fish offal :	25	15
0306.14.00	Frozen Crabs	25	15
0306.19.00	Frozen Crustaceans,Nes (Incl.Flours/Meals/Pellets)Fit For Human Consu	25	15
0306.99.90	Other, including flours, meals and pellets of crustaceans, fit for hu	25	15
0307.11.10	Oysters, Live, fresh or chilled, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg	25	15
0307.11.90	Oysters, Live, fresh or chilled, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg	25	15
0307.12.10	Oysters, Frozen, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg	25	15
0307.12.90	Oysters, Frozen, Excl. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg	25	15
0307.21.10	Scallops, Live, Fresh Or Chilled Wrapped/Canned Upto 2.5kg	25	15
0307.21.90	Scallops, Live, Fresh Or Chilled,Nes	25	15

HS Code	Description of Goods	Existing CD (%)	Proposed CD (%)
0307.22.10	Scallops, including queen scallops, .. frozen Wrapped/canned upto 2.5	25	15
0307.29.90	Other Live, Fresh Or Chilled, Nes	25	15
0307.31.10	Mussels,Live,Fresh Or Chilled Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5kg	25	15
0307.31.90	Mussels, Live, Fresh Or Chilled,Nes	25	15
0307.39.90	Other live,fresh or chilled mussels(excl.mytilus spp.,perna spp.),nes	25	15
0307.49.90	Oth.cuttle fish(excl.sepia officinalis,rossia macrosoma,sepiola ..),n	25	15
0307.60.90	Snails, Other Than Sea Snails,Nes	25	15
0307.71.90	Live, fresh or chilled Clams, cockles and ark shells .., Solecurtid	25	15
0307.72.10	Clams, cockles and ark shells......, Donacidae, Hi, Frozen, Wrapped/c	25	15
0307.79.90	Other Clams, cockles and ark shells (families Arcidae, . and Veneri	25	15
0307.82.10	Live, fresh or chilled stromboid conchs (Strombus spp.)	25	15
0307.84.10	Frozen stromboid conchs (Strombus spp.) Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg	25	15
0307.91.90	Aquantic Invert.(Excl. Crustaceans),Live,Fresh Or Chilled,Nes(Excl.Wr	25	15
0307.99.10	Oth.,incl.flours,meals and pellets of aquatic.,not fresh or chilled,w	25	15
0307.99.90	Oth.,incl. Flours, meals and pellets of aquatic..,not fresh or chille	25	15
3703.10.00	Photographic paper, paperboard and textiles..,in rolls of a width exc	25	5
3703.20.00	Color Photography Paper	10	5
3703.90.00	Other photographic paper..,(excl.in rolls..,for colour photography(po	25	5
3706.10.90	Other Cinematograph Film, Exposed And Developed, Width >=35mm	25	5
3706.90.90	Other Cinematograph Film, Exposed And Developed, Width <35mm	25	5

HS Code	Description of Goods	Existing CD (%)	Proposed CD (%)
3806.20.00	Salts Of Resin/Res.Acids Or Of Deriv'S Rosin/Resin Acids,Excl.Rosin A	25	15
4421.20.00	Statuettes and other ornaments : Coffins	25	10
7011.10.00	Glass envelopes (incl.bulbs and tubes),open and glass parts..,for ele	25	10
8528.42.00	Capable of directly connecting to and designed for use with an automa	25	5
8539.21.90	Other Tungsten Halogen Filament Lamps (Excl.Ultra-Violet Or Infra-Red	25	5
8545.19.90	Carbon electrodes (excl. for furnaces), nes	25	10
8545.20.00	Carbon Brushes	25	10
8545.90.90	Articles Of Graphite Or Other Carbon, Nes, For Electrical Purposes, N	25	10

Table-1(b): Proposal to Withdraw Supplementary Duty on 9 Products

HSCODE	DESCRIPTION	Existing SD Rate	Proposed SD Rate
0206.10.90	Fresh Or Chilled Edible Offal of Bovine Animals, Nes	10	0
0206.21.90	Frozen Bovine Tongue, Nes	10	0
0206.22.90	Frozen Bovine Livers, Nes	10	0
0206.29.90	Frozen Edible Bovine Offal (Excl. Tongues and Livers), Nes	10	0
0207.41.90	Other meat and edible offal of not cut in pieces, fresh or chilled	10	0
0207.42.10	Meat and edible offal of not cut in pieces, frozen of ducks	10	0
8527.21.00	Combined with sound recording or reproducing apparatus	10	0
8527.91.00	Combined with sound recording or reproducing apparatus	10	0
8539.21.90	Other Tungsten Halogen Filament Lamps (Excl.Ultra-Violet or Infra-Red	10	0

Table-1(c): Proposal to Withdraw Regulatory Duty on 113 Products

Sl.No.	HSCODE	DESCRIPTION
1	0105.11.90	Live Fowls Gallus,Domesticus<=185g, Excl.Parent Stock Of One Day Chic
2	0105.12.90	Live Turkeys Weighing <=185g, (Excl.Parent Stock Of One Day Chick)
3	0105.13.90	Other ducks
4	0105.14.90	Other Geese
5	0105.94.00	Fowls of the species Gallus domesticus
6	0105.99.00	Live Ducks, Geese, Turkeys And Guinea Fowls Weighing >185g
7	0106.33.00	Ostriches; emus (Dromaius novaehollandiae)
8	0206.10.90	Fresh Or Chilled Edible Offal Of Bovine Animals, Nes
9	0206.21.90	Frozen Bovine Tounge, Nes
10	0206.22.90	Frozen Bovine Livers, Nes
11	0206.29.90	Frozen Edible Bovine Offal (Excl. Tongues And Livers), Nes
12	0210.99.90	MEAT AND EDIBLE MEAT OFFAL,SALTED,IN BRINE,DRIED OR SMOKED,OTHER, Nes
13	0302.11.90	Fresh Or Chill. Trout (Excl. Livers & Roes),Nes
14	0302.21.90	Fresh Or Chilled Halibut (Excl. Livers & Roes),NES
15	0302.24.90	Other Turbots (Psetta maxima)
16	0303.31.90	Frozen Halibut (Excl. Livers & Roes),nes
17	0303.65.90	Coalfish (Pollachius virens), EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
18	0303.67.10	Alaska Pollack (Theraga chalcogramma)Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
19	0303.67.90	Other Alaska Pollack (Theraga chalcogramma)
20	0303.89.90	Other fish, excluding livers and roes :Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
21	0303.91.90	Livers, roes and milt Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg
22	0305.32.90	Fish of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, .., EXCL.Wrappe
23	0305.53.90	Fish of the families Bregmacerotidae, Euclichthyidae, Gadidae, Macrou
24	0305.71.90	Other Shark fins
25	0305.72.10	Fish heads, tails and maws Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
26	0305.72.90	Other Fish heads, tails and maws
27	0305.79.90	Other edible fish offal :
28	0306.14.00	Frozen Crabs
29	0306.19.00	Frozen Crustaceans,Nes (Incl.Flours/Meals/Pellets)Fit For Human Consu
30	0306.99.90	Other, including flours, meals and pellets of crustaceans, fit for hu
31	0307.11.10	Oysters, Live, fresh or chilled, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
32	0307.11.90	Oysters, Live, fresh or chilled, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
33	0307.12.10	Oysters, Frozen, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg

Sl.No.	HSCODE	DESCRIPTION
34	0307.12.90	Oysters, Frozen, Excl. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg
35	0307.21.10	Scallops, Live, Fresh Or Chilled Wrapped/Canned Upto 2.5kg
36	0307.21.90	Scallops, Live, Fresh Or Chilled,Nes
37	0307.22.10	Scallops, including queen scallops, .. frozen Wrapped/canned upto 2.5
38	0307.29.90	OTHER LIVE, FRESH OR CHILLED, NES
39	0307.31.10	Mussels,Live,Fresh Or Chilled Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5kg
40	0307.31.90	Mussels, Live, Fresh Or Chilled,Nes
41	0307.39.90	OTHER LIVE,FRESH OR CHILLED MUSSELS(EXCL.MYTILUS SPP.,PERNA SPP.),NES
42	0307.49.90	OTH.CUTTLE FISH(EXCL.SEPIA OFFICINALIS,ROSSIA MACROSOMA,SEPIOLA ..),N
43	0307.60.90	SNAILS, OTHER THAN SEA SNAILS,NES
44	0307.71.90	Live, fresh or chilled Clams, cockles and ark shells .., Solecurtid
45	0307.72.10	Clams, cockles and ark shells......, Donacidae, Hi, Frozen, Wrapped/c
46	0307.79.90	Other Clams, cockles and ark shells (families Arcidae, . and Veneri
47	0307.82.10	Live, fresh or chilled stromboid conchs (Strombus spp.)
48	0307.84.10	Frozen stromboid conchs (Strombus spp.) Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 kg
49	0307.91.90	Aquantic Invert.(Excl. Crustaceans),Live,Fresh Or Chilled,Nes(Excl.Wr
50	0307.99.10	OTH.,INCL.FLOURS,MEALS AND PELLETS OF AQUATIC.,NOT FRESH OR CHILLED,W
51	0307.99.90	OTH.,INCL. FLOURS, MEALS AND PELLETS OF AQUATIC..,NOT FRESH OR CHILLE
52	3703.10.00	PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER, PAPERBOARD AND TEXTILES..,IN ROLLS OF A WIDTH EXC
53	3703.90.00	OTHER PHOTOGRAPHIC PAPER..,(EXCL.IN ROLLS..,FOR COLOUR PHOTOGRAPHY(PO
54	3706.10.90	Other Cinematograph Film, Exposed And Developed, Width >=35mm
55	3706.90.90	Other Cinematograph Film, Exposed And Developed, Width <35mm
56	3806.20.00	Salts Of Resin/Res.Acids Or Of Deriv'S Rosin/Resin Acids,Excl.Rosin A
57	4421.20.00	Statuettes and other ornaments : Coffins
58	7011.10.00	GLASS ENVELOPES (INCL.BULBS AND TUBES),OPEN AND GLASS PARTS..,FOR ELE
59	8528.42.00	Capable of directly connecting to and designed for use with an automa
60	8539.21.90	Other Tungsten Halogen Filament Lamps (Excl.Ultra-Violet Or Infra-Red
61	8545.19.90	Carbon electrodes (excl. for furnaces), nes
62	8545.20.00	Carbon Brushes

Sl.No.	HSCODE	DESCRIPTION
63	8545.90.90	Articles Of Graphite Or Other Carbon, Nes, For Electrical Purposes, N
64	8706.00.39	Chassis fitted with engines, ...For vehicle of a cylinder capacity >4000cc
65	8806.10.00	Unmanned aircraft: Designed for the carriage of passengers
66	8806.22.00	Oth,for rmt-ctrl.flight only: With maximum take-off weight>250g but <
67	8806.23.00	Oth,for rmt-ctrl.flight only: With maximum take-off weight >7 kg but
68	8806.24.00	Oth,for rmt-ctrl.flight only: With maximum take-off weight>25 kg but
69	8806.29.00	Other, for remote-controlled flight only : OTHER
70	8806.92.00	OTHER: With maximum take-off weight>250g but <7 kg
71	8806.94.00	OTHER: With maximum take-off weight >7 kg but <150 kg
72	8806.99.00	OTHERS: NES
73	8901.10.10	Vessels capa. <=3000 DWT for regi. Bangladesh oper. in ocean at least
74	8901.20.10	Vessels capa.=<3000 DWT for regi.in BD operating in ocean at least 3
75	8901.90.10	Vessels capa. <=3000 DWT for regi.in BD operating in ocean at least 3
76	8903.11.00	Fitted or dsgn. to be fitted with a motor,unladen (net) weight (ex. t
77	8903.12.00	Not designed for use with a motor and unladen (net) weight not exceed
78	8903.19.00	Inflatable (including rigid hull inflatable) boats : OTHER
79	8903.21.00	Sailboats, oth than inflatable, with or without auxiliary motor, Of a
80	8903.22.00	Sailboats,oth than inflatable,with/without auxiliary motor:Of a lengt
81	8903.31.00	Motorboats, other than inflatable, not including outboard motorboats:
82	8903.32.00	Motorboats,oth than inflatable, not incl. outboard motorboats: Of a l
83	8903.93.00	Yachts and oth vessels for pleasure or sports; rowing boats canoes,O
84	8903.99.00	Other Vessels For Pleasure Or Sports, Nes; Rowing Boats And Canoes
85	9201.10.00	Upright Pianos
86	9201.20.00	Grand Pianos
87	9201.90.00	Other Automatic Pianos, Harpsichords And Other Keyboard Instruments,
88	9202.10.00	String Musical Instruments Played With A Bow
89	9202.90.00	Other String Musical Instruments, Nes
90	9205.10.00	Wind musical instruments, Brass-wind instruments
91	9205.90.00	Wind musical instruments, (EXCL. Brass-wind instruments)
92	9206.00.00	Percussion Musical Instruments (Eg Drums, Xylophones, Cymbals, Etc)

Sl.No.	HSCODE	DESCRIPTION
93	9207.10.00	Keybrd.Instrmnts.With Elec.Produced Or Amplified Sound Oth.Than Accor
94	9207.90.00	Oth.Musical Instruments,Nes,With Electrically Produced Or Amplified S
95	9208.10.00	Musical Boxes
96	9208.90.00	Fairground Organs, Etc; Decoy Calls Of All Kinds; Whistles, Etc
97	9209.30.00	Musical Instrument Strings
98	9209.91.00	Parts And Accessories For Pianos
99	9209.92.00	Parts And Accessories For The Musical Instruments Of 92.02
100	9209.94.00	Parts And Accessories For The Musical Instruments Of 92.07
101	9209.99.00	Parts And Accessories Of Other Musical Instruments, Nes
102	9701.10.00	Paintings, Drawings And Pastels Executed Enti
103	9701.21.00	Of an age exceeding 100 years : Painting, drawings and pastels
104	9701.29.00	Of an age exceeding 100 years : OTHER
105	9701.90.00	Collages And Similar Decorative Plaques, Exec
106	9701.91.00	Painting, drawings and pastels
107	9701.99.00	Other,nes
108	9702.10.00	Original engravings, prints & lithographs... Of an age exceeding 100
109	9702.90.00	Original engravings, prints and lithographs, NES
110	9703.00.00	Original Sculptures And Statuary, In Any Mate
111	9703.10.00	Original sculptures and statuary, in an material, Of an age exceeding
112	9703.90.00	Original sculptures and statuary, in an material, NES
113	9704.00.00	Postage Or Revenue Stamps..., First-Day Covers, Etc

Table-1(d): Proposal to Impose VAT at the Import Stage

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
07.09	0709.99.90	Other: Sweet corn
07.12	0712.90.10	Other vegetables; mixtures of vegetables: Sweet corn
08.01	0801.31.90	Other Cashew nuts in shell
26.01	2601.11.00	Iron Ore
	2601.12.00	
	2601.20.00	
39.14	3914.00.00	Ion-exchangers based on polymers of 39.01 to 39.13, in primary forms
39.16	3916.90.20	Fibre re-inforced polymer (FRP) sticks and profile shapes
39.17	3917.29.10	Other: hoses for gas cylinder
39.26	3926.90.92	Composite LPG Gas Cylinder
40.11	4011.70.10	Tyre used on agricultural tractors

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
40.13	4013.90.10	Inner tubes or rubber used on tractors
40.16	4016.99.20	Rubber bearing
47.03	4703.29.00	Wood pulp (applicable only to VAT registered manufacturers of thermosetting molding compounds)
70.19	7019.90.20	Composite LPG Gas Cylinder
71.02	7102.21.00	Unworked or simply sawn, cleaved or bruted.
85.17	8517.62.40	Grandmaster clock; modulator; multiplexer; optical fibre platform
85.27	8527.12.00	Two-in-one (in fully assembled condition) [applicable only for imports under the existing Non-Tourist Passenger Baggage Rules, 2024
86.09	8609.00.10	Insulated or refer container
	8609.00.90	Other container

Table-2: Proposed Changes to the Notification on Minimum Value

Withdrawal of Minimum Value :

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
22.02	2202.91.00	Non-alcoholic beer
	2202.99.00	Energy drink Other than energy drink
27.10	2710.19.41	Heavy normal paraffin
	2710.19.49	
	2710.19.51	Liquid paraffin in drum
	2710.19.59	
	2710.19.61	Other paraffin
54.07 59.03	All H.S. Code	Polyester interlining/ interlining
63.04	All H.S. Code	Other furnishing articles, excluding those of heading 94.04.
		Mosquito Net
70.06	7006.00.00	Glass Of 70.03, 70.04 Or 70.05, Bent, Edge-Worked, Engraved, Etc.
72.24	All H.S. Code	Other alloy steel in ingots or other primary forms; semi-finished products of other alloy steel
76.04	All H.S. Code	Aluminum bars, rods & profiles
84.14	8414.30.90	Compressors of a kind used in refrigerator :
		without Inverter
		with Inverter PCB

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
	8414.80.49	Compressors of a kind used in Air Conditioner :
		without Inverter
		with Inverter PCB
85.06	8506.10.00	Dry cell Battery:
		D size (non-alkaline)
		C size (non-alkaline)
		AA size (non-alkaline)
		AAA size (non-alkaline)
		AA size (alkaline)
		AAA size (alkaline)
		Other size (alkaline)
	8506.50.00	Lithium battery
	8506.60.10	Air-Zinc battery
	8506.60.90	
85.16	8516.31.00	Hair dryers
	8516.32.00	Other hair dressing apparels:
	8516.40.90	Electric Smoothing irons (other)
	8516.71.00	Coffee or tea maker
	8516.72.00	Toasters
85.17	8517.13.00	Smart Phones
		1. Display up to 4.5"
		up to [8GB ROM + 1GB RAM]
		above [8GB ROM +1GB RAM]
		2. Display above 4.5"
		up to [8GB ROM + 1GB RAM]
		above [8GB ROM +1GB RAM]
	8517.14.00	Cellular (Mobile/Fixed Wireless) Telephone Set Excl. Smart Phone
87.12	All H.S. Code	Bicycle/bicycle parts:
87.15		Steel
		Alloy

Reduction of Minimum Value:

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Existing Minimum Value USD/Unit	Proposed Minimum Value USD/Unit
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
33.04	3304.10.00	Lipstick	kg	40.00	30.00
	3304.99.10	Face and/or skin cream	kg	20.00	14.00
	3304.99.20	Moisture lotion	kg	10.00	7.00
	3304.99.90	Facewash	kg	10.00	7.00
34.01	3401.19.00 3401.20.00 3401.30.00	Facewash	kg	10.00	7.00
	8301.40.90	Door locks	kg	5.00	4.00

Rationalization of Minimum Value:

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Existing Minimum Value USD/Unit	Proposed Minimum Value USD/Unit
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
04.09	0409.00.10	Natural honey: Wrapped/Canned up to 2.5kg	kg	5.00	7.00
	0409.00.90	Natural honey: Other	kg	3.00	5.00
08.02	0802.80.10 0802.80.90	Areca nuts:			
		Fresh Green:			
		Whole	kg	1.25	1.50
		Split	kg	1.50	1.75
		Areca nuts Dried:			
		Split	kg	2.00	2.25
	0802.99.11 0802.99.19	Betel nuts:			
		Fresh Green:			
		Whole	kg	1.25	1.50
		Split	kg	1.50	1.75
		Betel nuts Dried:			
		Split	kg	2.00	2.25
	0802.99.12	Semi processed betel nuts	kg	2.00	2.25

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Existing Minimum Value USD/Unit	Proposed Minimum Value USD/Unit
17.04	1704.10.10 1704.10.90 1704.90.10 1704.90.90	Sugar confectionery (including white chocolate) not containing cocoa	kg	3.00	4.00
19.04	All H.S. Codes	Prepared foods	kg	2.50	3.00
21.01	All H.S. Codes	Coffee imported in retail pack	kg	7.00	10.00
25.17	2517.10.90	Pakur Stone Chips			
		Imported by Railway	MT	11.50	13.50
		Imported by Road	MT	13.00	15.00
33.04	3304.10.00	Lip liner, Lip gloss, Lip gel and like products	kg	20.00	30.00
33.07	3307.10.00	Foam	kg	3.00	4.00
52.08	All H.S. Code (Excluding 5208.52.00, 5208.59.00)	Cotton/ Shirting fabrics	kg	3.00	4.00
54.07	All H.S. Code	Panting fabrics	kg	4.00	5.00
		Shirting fabrics	kg	3.75	4.50
55.16	All H.S. Code	Rayon fabrics	kg	3.00	4.00
58.01	All H.S. Code	Chenille/curtain fabrics	kg	4.25	5.00
58.04	All H.S. Code	Net fabrics	kg	3.00	4.00
59.03	All H.S. Code	Woven fabrics coated with plastic/PVC coated textile fabrics	kg	2.00	2.25
		PVC canvas fabrics	kg	2.00	2.25
60.01	All H.S. Code	Upholstery velvet fabrics	kg	4.25	5.00
60.05	All H.S. Code	Knit fabrics	kg	3.00	4.00
68.05		Natural or artificial abrasive powder or grain:			
	6805.10.00	On a base of woven textile fabric only	kg	3.00	6.00

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Existing Minimum Value USD/Unit	Proposed Minimum Value USD/Unit
	6805.20.00	On a base of paper or paperboard only	kg	3.00	6.00
	6805.30.00	On a base of other materials	kg	3.00	6.00
69.07	All HS Code	Ceramic Tiles :			
		1000 mm X 1000 mm 1200 mm X 600 mm	m^2	10.00	12.00
		800 mm X 800 mm 900 mm X 150 mm 600 mm X 600 mm	m^2	6.00	8.00
		600 mm X 300 mm 500 mm X 333 mm	m^2	5.75	7.00
		450 mm X 300 mm 330 mm X 330 mm 300 mm X 300 mm 400 mm X 200 mm 200 mm X 200 mm	m^2	4.75	6.0
		1000 mm X 1000 mm এর উর্ধ্বে	m^2	11.00	13.00
69.10	6910.10.00	Sanitary ware:			
	6910.90.00	Wash basin	u	20.00	25.00
		Other sanitary ware (including water closet pans)	u	30.00	35.00
73.18	All H.S. Code	Coach screws, all wood screws, Screws hooks & rings, Tapping screws and other similar products	kg	2.00	2.50
83.01	8301.10.00	Padlocks	kg	3.00	3.25
84.15	8415.90.90	Parts of air-conditioner	kg	3.00	4.00
		However, in determining the value of air-conditioner parts, if the internationally recognized price information sources (such as LME) provide the prices of the primary raw materials or components used in manufacturing those parts, then such price information must be collected and used to determine the assessable customs value			
	8516.50.00	Microwave ovens	u	2.00/L	2.50/L
85.32	All H.S. Code	Electrical capacitors, fixed variable or adjustable (pre-set).	kg	4.00	5.00

Heading	HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Existing Minimum Value USD/Unit	Proposed Minimum Value USD/Unit
87.14	All H.S. Code	Bicycle/bicycle parts	kg	2.00	3.00
94.01	All H.S. Code	Seat (Visitor chair, revolving chair)	kg	3.00	3.50
95.03	9503.00.90	Other (toys):			
		Friction type	kg	6.00	7.50
		Battery operated	kg	6.50	9.50
		Remote control battery operated	kg	7.50	11.00
		Remote control rechargeable battery operated	kg	10.00	13.00

New Imposition of Minimum Value:

HS Code	Description of Goods	Unit	Minimum Value USD /Unit
(2)	**(3)**	**(4)**	**(5)**
0801.32.90	Cashew Nuts	kg	7.00
3403.99.20 3403.99.30	Semi-synthetic Lubricating Oil Synthetic Lubricating Oil	kg kg	30% in addition of ICIS Value
Heading 52.08	Shirting fabrics	kg	4.00
Heading 54.07	Suiting fabrics	kg	5.00

Products for Which HS Codes Have Been Changed:

Heading	Exixting HS Code	Ammended HS Code	Description of Goods
83.02	All H.S. Codes	8302.10.00	Hinges

List of Products for Which Descriptions Have Been Amended:

HS Code	Existing Description of Goods	Proposed Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
1901.90.90	Other, (For example: Ovaltine, Horlicks, Complan & products of similar commercial name) (excluding Malt Extract, Whipping Cream, Tempura Flour & Similar Products)	Other, put up for retail sale (For example: Ovaltine, Horlicks, Complan & products of similar commercial name) (excluding Malt Extract, Whipping Cream, Tempura Flour & Similar Products)

Table-3(a): List of Proposed Concessionary Items for Solar Plant Installation

TABLE-1

Heading	H. S. Code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
85.04	8504.40.90	Solar Inverter
85.07	8507.90.90	Battery Pack Housing
85.07	8507.60.00	Lithium Cell, lithium ion battery
85.41	8541.43.00	Solar Photovoltaic Module/panel

TABLE-2

Heading	H. S. Code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
73.08	7308.90.99	Mounting Structure (Steel)
76.10	7610.90.90	Mounting Structure (Aluminum)
85.07	8507.60.00	Lithium Cell, lithium ion battery, lithium ion battery pack, Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
85.37	8537.10.90 8537.20.00	Battery Management System
85.37	8537.10.90 8537.20.00	SCADA/Plant Monitoring or Control System
85.44	8544.42.00 8544.49.00 8544.60.00	UV Protected Solar DC Cable
90.32	9032.89.00	Battery Thermal Management System

Table-3(b): Proposed Concessionary Items for the Semiconductor Industry

H. S. Code	Description
(1)	(2)
3818.00.00	Wafers
3907.30.00	Epoxy moulding compunds (EMC)
3909.40.00	Phenolic moulding compounds
8419.89.90	Thermal shock chambers
8473.30.00	Hardware emulation platforms / FPGA prototyping chassis for SoC validation
8473.30.00	Data Center Grade FPGA Boards
8479.89.00	Automation units / handlers / robotic accessories used in test setups
8486.40.00	Die bonders / Die attach machines
8486.40.00	Wire bonders (ball/wedge)
8486.40.00	Flip-chip bonders
8486.40.00	Wafer dicing saw
8486.40.00	Wafer probers
8486.40.00	Trim & form machines
8486.40.00	Wave solder machines
8486.40.00	Selective soldering machines
8486.90.00	Parts & accessories for the machines and apprratus of a kind used solely or principally for the manufacture of semiconductor boles or wafers, semiconductor devices, electronic integrated circuits
8514.19.00	Industrial reflow ovens
8514.39.00	Burn-in ovens
8514.90.00	Parts for industrial ovens
8515.11.00	Electric soldering irons/stations
8515.90.00	Parts for soldering equipment
8523.49.90	Other FPGA Development Tools (Software)
8523.80.20	Test executive software (ATE software)
8523.80.90	CAD/CAE Software
8523.80.90	EDA Software (Cadence, Synopsys, Siemens, Ansys, AMC)
8523.80.90	Engineering Simulation Software (TCAD, EM Solver)
8523.80.90	Digital IP cores (DDR, PCIe, USB)
8523.80.90	Analog IP (PLL, ADC, DAC)
8523.80.90	RF IP (LNA, PA, Mixer)
8523.80.90	Power IP (PMIC, LDO, DC-DC)
8534.00.00	Printed Circuit Board (PCB)
8542.39.90	Analog-to-Digital Converter (ADC) ICs

H. S. Code	Description
(1)	(2)
8542.39.90	Digital-to-Analog Converter (DAC) ICs
8542.39.90	Power management ICs (PMIC), voltage regulators and power controllers
8542.39.90	High-speed SerDes PHY / interface ICs and mixed-signal high-speed ICs
8542.39.90	RF and mixed-signal integrated circuits (LNAs, mixers, PLLs, etc.)
8542.39.90	Photonics integrated circuits / optical semiconductor chips (prototype category)
8543.70.90	Development Kits & Evaluation Boards
9027.50.00	High-Resolution Thermal Imaging Camera
9030.20.00	High-Speed Oscilloscope (33+ GHz)
9030.20.00	Oscilloscopes
9030.33.00	Instruments for bench measurements
9030.82.00	Semiconductor wafer/device measurement instruments (IC electrical test/ parameter measurement)
9030.82.00	EM Probing Station
9030.89.00	Signal analyzers, spectrum analyzers, protocol analyzers and other electronic measuring
9030.89.00	Vector Network Analyzer
9031.20.00	Test benches / automated test benches / ATE bench-type systems
9031.41.00	Solder Paste Inspection (SPI) Machine
9031.41.00	Automated Optical Inspection (AOI) Machine
9031.80.00	ATE accessories, measurement fixtures, device handlers and supporting test equipment
9403.20.00	Electrostatic Discharge Workbench

Table-3(c): Proposed Concessionary Raw Materials for Manufacturing Smart Cards and Bank Cards

H.S. Code	Description
3920.49.40	PVC Coated Overlay
3921.90.92	PVC Coated Magstrip
3215.19.90	Printing Ink
3215.90.90	Printing Ink
4911.91.00	Picture Design foil

H.S. Code	Description
3919.90.30	Hologram
3212.10.00	Stamping Foil
3921.19.90	Conductive Tape
3921.90.99	Insulating Plate
4008.21.00	Rubber Blanket

Table-3(d): Inclusion of New Items in the Concessionary Notification for the Production of Bio-Hygiene Machineries

HS Code	Description
3920.99.90	PE Protective Film /Protection Foil/Protective Film
7219.11.00	Hot-Rolled Stainless Steel, In Coils, >=600mm By >10mm
7219.12.00	Hot-Rolled Stainless Steel, In Coils, >=600mm By 4.75-10mm
7219.13.00	Hot-Rolled Stainless Steel, In Coils, >=600mm By 3-4.75mm
3802.10.00	Activated carbon
7222.19.00	Bars and rods, not further worked than hot-rolled, hot-drawn or extruded-Stainless Steel Bar/Rod-Stainless Steel Bar/Rod (Non-Circular)
3917.39.90	Flexible Hose pipe
7304.39.00	Seamless Stainless Steel, Circular cross section; Tubes/Pipes
8536.50.00	Other Switches, Level Switch, Flow Switch, Instrument Air Pressure Switch, Pressure Switch
7304.59.00	Mounting Rail
7326.90.90	Clamp Assembly
8302.20.00	SS Castor Wheel/ Castor Wheel
7219.90.00	Cold-Rolled Stainless Steel Coil, SS Sheet
7020.00.90	Borosilicate Sight Glass (With or Without Bracket)

Table-4: Proposed List for Reduction of Regulatory Duty (RD) on Spices

HS Code	Description
0904.11.90	Pepper, Neither Crushed Nor Ground, Nes
0904.12.00	Pepper, Crushed Or Ground
0904.21.10	Fruits of the genus Capsicum ...,: Dried or neither crushed or ground
0904.22.10	Fruits of the genus Capsicum ...,: crushed or ground, Wrapped/canned

0904.22.90	Fruits of the genus Capsicum...,: crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/ca
0905.10.10	Vanilla, Neither crushed or ground, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0905.10.90	Vanilla, Neither crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0905.20.10	Vanilla, crushed or ground, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0905.20.90	Vanilla, crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0906.11.10	Neither crushed nor ground:Cinnamon (Cinnamomum zeylanicum Blume), W
0906.11.90	Neither crushed nor ground:Cinnamon (Cinnamo. Zeylan. Blume), Excl. W
0906.20.00	Cinnamon And Cinnamon-Tree Flowers, Crushed Or Ground
0907.10.10	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), Neither Crushed or ground, Wr
0907.10.90	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), Neither Crushed or ground, EX
0907.20.10	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), Crushed or ground, Wrapped/ca
0907.20.90	Cloves (whole fruit, cloves and stems), Crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrap
0908.11.10	Nutmeg :Neither Crushed or ground, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.11.90	Nutmeg :Neither Crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.12.90	Nutmeg : Crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.21.10	Mace : Neither Crushed or ground, Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.21.90	Mace : Neither Crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.22.90	Mace : Crushed or ground, EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.31.10	Cardamoms :Neither Crushed or ground. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.31.90	Cardamoms :Neither Crushed or ground. EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 K
0908.32.10	Cardamoms : Crushed or ground. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0908.32.90	Cardamoms : Crushed or ground. EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0909.21.10	Seeds of coriander : Neither crushed or ground Wrapped/canned upto 2.
0909.21.90	Seeds of coriander : Neither crushed or ground EXCL. Wrapped/canned u

0909.22.10	Seeds of coriander : Crushed or ground Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0909.22.90	Seeds of coriander : Crushed or ground EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5
0909.31.10	Seeds of Cumin : Neither crushed or ground Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0909.31.90	Seeds of Cumin : Neither crushed or ground EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto
0909.32.10	Seeds of Cumin : Crushed or ground Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0909.32.90	Seeds of Cumin : Crushed or ground EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0909.61.10	Seeds of anise, badian, caraway or fennel; juniper berries : Neither
0909.61.90	Seeds of anise, badian, caraway...; juniper berries : Neither crushed
0909.62.10	Seeds of anise, badian, caraway or fennel; juniper berries : Crushed
0909.62.90	Seeds of anise, badian, caraway...; juniper berries : Crushed or grou
0910.12.10	Ginger : Crushed or ground Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0910.12.90	Ginger : Crushed or ground EXCL. Wrapped/canned upto 2.5 Kg
0910.20.10	Saffron, Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5 kg
0910.20.90	Saffron, Nes
0910.91.10	MIXTURES REFFERED TO IN NOTE 1(B) TO THIS CHAP WRAP/CAN UPTO 2.5 KG
0910.91.90	Other
0910.99.10	Other Spices, Nes, Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5 kg
0910.99.90	Other Spices, Nes, (Excl. Wrapped/Canned upto 2.5 kg)

Table-5(a): Proposed Concessionary Raw Materials for Pesticide Production

Heading	H.S.code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
15.15	1515.30.00	Castor oil polyglycolether
25.07	2507.00.90	Kaolin
25.18	2518.10.00	Dolomite (granular/powder)
27.10	2710.19.92	White mineral oil
	2710.19.99	Spindel oil
27.15	2715.00.00	Emulsifier SS62
28.11	2811.22.00	Silica
28.36	2836.99.90	Magnesium Carbonate

Heading	H.S.code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
	2836.99.90	Sodium Carbonate
28.43	2843.90.90	Antimousse 454 (Rhodacol-70)
29.02	2902.44.00	Xylene
29.03	2903.99.00	2,6-di-t-butyl-4-methyl-phenol
29.06	2906.29.00	Phenylo sulfonate CLX
29.14	2914.11.00	Acetone
	2914.22.00	Cyclohexanon
29.15	2915.90.00	But-2enedioic acid
29.30	2930.90.99	AASCA-60 (Rhodacol-70)
29.33	2933.99.00	Soprophor S/25
29.34	2934.20.00	1,2-benzisothiazol-3(2H)-one
	2934.20.00	Oleylyethoxy ethanol
34.02	3402.39.90	Calcium dodecylphenyl sulfonate
	3402.39.90	Sodium dodecy benzene sulfonate
	3402.42.90	Berol, 924, 942, 943, 944, 947 & 948
	3402.42.90	Oleyl alcohol ethoxylate
	3402.42.90	Ricinus oil polyglycolether
	3402.42.90	Synperonic OP 10
38.12	3812.20.00	Epoxidized soybean oil
38.24	3824.99.99	Adjuvant
	3824.99.99	Napthalene sulfonic acid
	3824.99.99	Reoplast 39
	3824.99.99	Sodium lignosulphonate
	3824.99.99	Sorpol (Emulsifier)
39.01	3901.10.00	Polyethylene Granules
39.02	3902.90.00	Blockcopolymer PO/PE
39.10	3910.00.00	Polydimethylsiloxane
39.13	3913.90.00	Linear polysaccharid

Table-5(b): Import Concessions for Poultry/Dairy/Fish Feed Manufacturing Enterprises

(a) Change of Descriptions:

H.S.code	Existing Description	Ammended Description
3003.10.00 3003.20.00 3003.39.90	Veterinary and fishery medicament for retail sale	Veterinary and fishery medicament not for retail sale

3003.90.99	Veterinary medicine: FMD Vaccine, Bio-add, Til-gain, Origo-stim	Other Medicaments for poultry/dairy/fisheries, not for retail sale
3004.90.99	Veterinary medicine: FMD Vaccine, Bio-add, Til-gain, Origo-stim / Spermfilter	Other Medicaments for poultry/dairy/fisheries, for retail sale

(b) Newly Included HS Codes:

H.S.code	Description
2833.21.00	Magnesium Sulphate (Feed grade)
2827.39.00	Potassium Chloride (Feed grade)
2519.90.00	Mgnesium Oxide (Feed grade)

Table-6(a): Inclusion of New Raw Materials in the Concessionary Notification for the Production of Anti-Cancer Medicines

SL No.	H.S. Code	Description
1	3002.90.00	Etancercept
2	2937.90.00	Erythropoietin
3	3004.90.91	Darbepoetin
4	3002.90.10	Tenecteplase
5	3002.90.10	Peg-Interferon
6	3004.90.99	Aflibercept
7	3002.90.00	Datopotamab Deruxtecan
8	3004.90.99	Depemokimab
9	3004.90.99	Sotatercept

Table-6(b): Inclusion of New Raw Materials in the Concessionary Notification for the Production of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API)

SL No.	H.S. Code	Description
1.	29335990	3-methyl-7-(2-butyn-l-yl)-8-bromoxanthine;
2.	29335990	8-Bromo-7-(but-2-yn-1-yl)-3-methyl-1H-purine-2,6(3H,7H)-dione;
3.	29335990	8-Bromo-3-Methyl-7-But-2-Ynyl Xanthine;
4.	29339900	tert-butyl (5-tosyl-5H-pyrrolo[2,3-b]pyrazin-2-yl)carbamate
5.	29339900	1-Pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid,3-(2-bromoacetyl)-4 -ethyl-, phenylmethyl ester, (3R,4S)
6.	29339900	(3R,4S)-BENZYL 3-(2-BROMOACETYL)-4-ETHYLPYRROLIDINE-1-CARBOXYLATE;
7.	29339900	5-Difluoromethoxy-2-Mercapto Benzimidazole
8.	29339900	2-(Chloromethyl)-3,4-Dimethoxypyridine Hydrochloride
9.	29339900	2[[[4-MethoxyPropoxy)-3-Methyl-2-Pyridinyl] Methyl]-Thio]-1-H-Benzimidazole
10.	29339900	4,6-dichloro-2-propylthiopyrimidine-5-amine;
11.	29339900	2-((3aR,4S,6R,6aS)-6-amino-2,2-dimethyltetrahydro-3aH-cyclopenta[d]
12.	29339900	4,7 DICHLOROQUINOLINE
13.	29339900	HYDROXYNOVALDIAMINE
14.	29339900	Imatinib Base
15.	29339900	4-((4-Methylpiperazin-1-yl)methyl)benzoic acid dihydrochloride;
16.	29339900	7H-Pyrrolo[2.3-d]pyrimidin-4-amine,N-methyl-N-[(3R,4R)-4-methyl-3-piperidinyl]
17.	29339900	Acetoxy Empagliflozin
18.	29335990	N1-(2-(Dimethylamino) Ethyl)-5-Methoxy-N1-Methyl-N4-(4-(1-Methyl-1H-Indol-3-Yl)Pyrimidin-2-Yl)Benzene-1,2,4-Triamine;
19.	29335990	TERT-BUTYL-2-((4R,6S) -6-(E))-2-(4(-4- FLUOROPHENYL)-6- ISOPROPYL-2-(N-METHYL (METHYL SULFONYL) AMINO) PYRIMIDIN-5-YL) VINYL)-2,2-DIMETHYL- 1,3-DIOXANE-4-YL) ACETATE;
20.	29335990	6-[1E-2}-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-isopropyl-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-pyrimidine]vinyl]-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4-Tert-Butyl acetate;
21.	29335990	tert-Butyl 6-[(1E)-2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(1-methylethyl)-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-pyrimidinyl]ethenyl]-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4-acetate;
22.	29339900	LOSARTAN BASE;
23.	29349990	Sacubitril Calcium;
24.	29241900	(R)-(-)-3-(Carbamoylmethyl)-5-methylhexanoic acid;

SL No.	H.S. Code	Description
25.	29349990	Azithromycin Amine;
26.	29333990	4-Dimethylaminopyridine (DMAP)
27.	29372399	17a-Hydroxyprogesterone
28.	29239000	Montelukast Cyclohexylamine Salt
29.	29334900	Montelukast alcohol
30.	29339900	6-(4-amino-2,6-dichlorophenoxy)-4-isopropylpyridazin-3(2H)-one
31.	29269090	N-Cyanoacetylurethane
32.	29359000	Tert-Butyl6-[(1E)-2-[4-(4-fluorophenyl)-6-(1-methylethyl)-2-[methyl(methylsulfonyl)amino]-5-pyrimidinyl]ethenyl]-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxane-4-acetate
33.	29379000	Canrenone
34.	29339900	(1S,6S)-2,8-Diazabicyclo[4.3.0]nonane
35.	29349990	MXF-1
36.	29415010	Erythromycin thiocyanate
37.	29109000	RLZ-2
38.	29242900	RLZ-3
39.	29335990	Piperazine
40.	29333990	BLT-1
41.	29349990	BLT-2
42.	29349990	BLT-3
43.	29309099	N,N'-Bis (acryloyl) cystamine
44.	29333990	Fexofenadine base
45.	29333200	Rabeprazole Sulphide
46.	29339900	N-[5-[(4-methylphenyl)sulfonyl] PPDE
47.	29339900	1-Pyrrolidinecarboxylic acid BEPE
48.	29269020	ACETONITRILE
49.	29152400	Trifluoroacetic anhydride
50.	29329900	1,4-DIOXANE
51.	29321100	TETRAHYDROFURAN

Table-6(c): Inclusion of New Active Ingredients in the Concessionary Notification for the Pharmaceutical Industry

Table-1

Sl	H.S. Code	Description of Goods
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	2106.90.60	Zeaxanthin 5% Beadlets
2	2835.26.00	Calcium Phosphate BP
3	2905.22.00	Propylene Glycol BP/USP
4	2914.62.00	Coenzyme Q10(Ubidecarenone INN), Ubidecarenone 20% Pellets, Ubidecarenone 46% Pellets
5	2932.99.00	Ferric Maltol INN
6	2933.99.00	Suzetrigine
7	2934.99.00	Dapagliflozin Propanediol
8	2934.99.90	Amenamevir
9	2934.99.90	Itraconazole SUBA
10	2937.23.99	Hydroxyprogesterone caproate
11	2941.00.90	Ivermectin
12	2942.00.90	Docetaxel
13	3004.90.91	Darbepoetin
14	3824.99.99	Eudragit
15	3905.99.00	Crospovidone USP

Table-2

Sl	H.S. Code	Description
1	3205.00.00	Colour Lakes (Opadry, wincoat, readycost, D&C yellow, Nyomix, Instacoat Aqua)
2	1516.20.00	Hard fat suppository base

Table-7: Concessions against Following Assistive Devices

Heading	H. S. Code	Description
(1)	(2)	(3)
48.23	4823.90.99	Braille paper
49.11	4911.99.90	Picture exchange communication system (PECS)
66.02	6602.00.00	Walking sticks / canes
66.02	6602.00.00	Walking equipment for blind people
84.43	8443.32.90	Braille Printers
84.71	8471.30.00	Braille Notetaker
84.71	8471.60.90	Braille keyboards
84.71	8471.60.90	Refreshable braille Display
84.72	8472.90.90	Braille typewriters
85.23	8523.49.29	Screen reader software
85.23	8523.49.29	Braille translation software
85.31	8531.80.00	Personal emergency allert system
85.43	8543.70.90	Electronic Reading Devices Designed for use by the Blind or Persons with Very Poor Eyesight.
90.21	9021.90.90	Assistive Ultrasonic Glasses
90.21	9021.90.90	Ultrasonic Walking Stick / Smart Cane
90.21	9021.90.90	Electrolarynx
90.21	9021.90.90	Ultrasonic Navigation Aid
90.21	9021.90.90	Cochlear implants (implantable)
90.21	9021.90.90	Speech generating device (SGD)
91.01	9101.11.10; 9101.19.10; 9101.21.10; 9101.29.10; 9101.91.10; 9101.99.10	Watches specially designed for the use of the blind
96.10	9610.00.90	Braille slate and stylus

Table-8(a): Duty Structure of Electric Vehicles under HS Heading 87.03

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	- Other vehicles, with only electric motor for propulsion							
	--- Value not exceeding USD 25000							
8703.80.11	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	0	15	7.5	5	64.25
8703.80.12	---- Motor vehicles, CKD	15	5	0	15	7.5	5	52.00
	--- Value exceeding USD 25000 but not exceeding USD 50000							
8703.80.21	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
8703.80.22	---- Motor vehicles, CKD	25	5	0	15	7.5	5	64.25
	--- Value exceeding USD 50000 but not exceeding USD 100000							
8703.80.31	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91
8703.80.32	---- Motor vehicles, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Value exceeding USD 100000 but not exceeding USD 200000							

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
8703.80.41	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
8703.80.42	---- Motor vehicles, CKD	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91
	--- Value exceeding USD 200000		5					
8703.80.51	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	100	15	7.5	5	223.50
8703.80.52	---- Motor vehicles, CKD	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
	--- Other							
8703.80.91	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipments passenger cabin length exceeding 9ft	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.62
8703.80.99	---- Other	25	5	100	15	7.5	5	223.50

Table-8(b): Duty and Tax Rates for Petrol/Octane and Diesel-Driven Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEV) with Engine Capacity up to 2000 cc under Heading 87.03

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	- Other vehicles, with both spark-ignition internal combustion piston engine and electric motor as motors for propulsion, capable of being charged by plugging to external source of electric power :							
	--- Of a cylinder capacity not exceeding 1800 cc :							

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
8703.60.11	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, brand new	25	0	10	15	7.5	5	73.44
8703.60.12	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, reconditioned	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
	--- Of a cylinder capacity exceeding 1800 cc but not exceeding 2000 cc :							
8703.60.21	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, brand new	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.60.22	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, reconditioned	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.60.23	---- Microbus, brand new	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
8703.60.24	---- Microbus, reconditioned	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
	- Other vehicles, with both compression-ignition internal combustion piston engine (diesel or semi-diesel) and electric motor as motors for propulsion, capable of being charged by plugging to external source of electric power :							
	--- Of a cylinder capacity not exceeding 1800 cc :							
8703.70.11	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, brand new	25	0	10	15	7.5	5	73.44

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
8703.70.12	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, reconditioned	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
	--- Of a cylinder capacity exceeding 1800 cc but not exceeding 2000 cc :							
8703.70.21	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, brand new	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.70.22	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU, reconditioned	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.70.23	---- Microbus, brand new	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175
8703.70.24	---- Microbus, reconditioned	25	5	10	15	7.5	5	80.175

Table-8(c): Restructuring Duty for ICE Motor Vehicles

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	--- Reconditioned vehicles exceeding 1000 cc but not exceeding 1200 cc :							
8703.22.11	---- Motor cars and other vehicles,	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	including station wagons, CBU							
8703.22.12	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.22.13	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Other vehicles exceeding 1000 cc but not exceeding 1200 cc :							
8703.22.21	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91
8703.22.22	---- Motor cars, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.22.23	---- Other vehicles, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.22.24	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.22.25	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Reconditioned vehicles exceeding 1200 cc but not exceeding 1500 cc :							
8703.22.31	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
8703.22.32	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.22.33	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
	--- Other vehicles exceeding 1200 cc but not exceeding 1500 cc :							
8703.22.41	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
8703.22.42	---- Motor cars, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.22.43	---- Other vehicles, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.22.44	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.22.45	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Reconditioned vehicles exceeding 1000 cc but not exceeding 1200 cc :							
8703.31.31	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91
8703.31.32	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.31.33	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Other vehicles exceeding 1000 cc but not exceeding 1200 cc :							
8703.31.41	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	45	15	7.5	5	135.91
8703.31.42	---- Motor cars, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10

H.S. Code	Description	CD	RD	SD	VAT	AT	AIT	Total Tax Incidence (TTI)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
8703.31.43	---- Other vehicles, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.31.44	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.31.45	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Reconditioned vehicles exceeding 1200 cc but not exceeding 1500 cc :							
8703.31.51	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
8703.31.52	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.31.53	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
	--- Other vehicles exceeding 1200 cc but not exceeding 1500 cc :							
8703.31.61	---- Motor cars and other vehicles, including station wagons, CBU	25	5	60	15	7.5	5	159.80
8703.31.62	---- Motor cars, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.31.63	---- Other vehicles, CKD	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10
8703.31.64	---- Ambulance fitted with essential equipment having passenger cabin length exceeding 9 feet	5	0	0	15	7.5	5	33.63
8703.31.65	---- Microbus, CBU	25	5	20	15	7.5	5	96.10