

1

Annex

Fact Sheet on Bangladesh

Bangladesh is situated in the north-eastern part of South Asia. It lies between 20° 34' and 26° 36' N and 88° 1' and 92° 41' E. The country is bordered by India in the west, north and north-east. The Bay of Bengal lies to the south, the expansive Gangetic Plains of India to the west (West Bengal), and the dense forests of Myanmar and India to the east (Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996).

Population

In 1995, Bangladesh had a population of about 120 million—20 per cent urban, 80 per cent rural—with 19.4 million households living in 59,990 villages, and a sex ratio of 106 males to 100 females. The population growth rate, estimated using the adjusted population census

of 1991, was 2.17 per cent per annum. The country is expected to reach a population of 129.6 million by 2000 A.D. The population density increased from approximately 647 persons per sq.km. in 1981 to 755 persons per sq.km. in 1991. According to the 1991 census, the literacy rate of the population (age 7 years and above) was 32.4 per cent. The percentage of Muslims was 88 per cent, and that of Hindus, Buddhists, and Christians 10.5, 0.6, and 0.3 per cent respectively. There are about one million tribal people living in the hill regions of Sylhet, Mymensingh, Chittagong, Bandarabans, Khagrachari, and Rangamati.

Table 1 shows the total population in Bangladesh between 1951 and 1995, Table 2 the population in the hill areas between 1951

Table 1: Population in Bangladesh (in thousands)

| Year | Men | Women | Total | % | Increase/Decrease |
|------|-------|-------|--------|----|-------------------|
| 1951 | 21937 | 19995 | 41932 | 5 | Increase |
| 1961 | 26349 | 24491 | 50840 | 25 | Increase |
| 1974 | 37071 | 34407 | 71478 | 38 | Increase |
| 1981 | 44919 | 42201 | 87120 | 18 | Increase |
| 1991 | 57314 | 54141 | 111455 | 20 | Increase |
| 1995 | 61643 | 58314 | 119957 | 8 | Increase |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996.

Table 2: Population in the Hill Areas of Bangladesh up to 1995 (in thousands)

| Year | Men | Women | Total | % | Increase/Decrease |
|------|-----|-------|-------|----|-------------------|
| 1951 | - | - | 288 | | |
| 1961 | - | - | 383 | 33 | Increase |
| 1974 | - | - | 508 | 33 | Increase |
| 1981 | - | - | 731 | 44 | Increase |
| 1991 | - | - | 968 | 32 | Increase |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996.

and 1995, Table 3 the population in hill areas by district and sex, and Table 4 the overall rate of population growth from 1901 to 1991.

Administration

Bangladesh is divided into six administrative divisions, which are further divided into districts. At present there are sixty-four districts in the country—three hill districts and sixty-one plains' districts.

- Percentage of population in the hills 1.1
- Percentage of population in the plains 98.9

The population of the hill areas of the country has increased enormously in the last 30 years (Table 2). It was only 0.385 million in 1961, was 0.974 million at the time of the 1991 census, and is now estimated to be 1.28 million. Thus the population has approximately doubled in the last 20 years and tripled in 30 years (Khisra 1997).

Natural Resources

Land Use

Bangladesh, with a total land area of about 144,000 sq.km., is one of the world's biggest deltaic plains. About nine per cent of the land area of the country is comprised of tertiary hills. The hill areas are situated in the eastern and south-eastern part of the country. The high hill ranges are aligned approximately north-south with altitudes ranging from 300 to 1,100 masl. The low hills (with elevations of less than 100 masl) are strongly dissected with moderate to steep slopes.

Most of the valleys in the hill region are broad and flat with small streams, forests, and swamps. The low hills are suitable for farming. People living in these areas cultivate the marginal lands and harvest fuelwood for their existence. Shifting cultivation, conversion of marginal lands and forest lands to agricultural use, over-harvesting of fuelwood and timber, overgrazing, improper collection, transportation and use of water, and

Table 3: The Population in the Mountain Areas of Bangladesh in 1991 by District and Sex (in thousands)

| District | Men | Women | Total |
|-------------|-----|-------|-------|
| Khagrachari | 180 | 160 | 340 |
| Rangamati | 217 | 180 | 398 |
| Bandarban | 125 | 105 | 230 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996

Table 4: Rate of Population Growth in Bangladesh in the Period 1901-1991

| Year of census | Date of census | Population | Increase | | Growth Rate (exponential) |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|------------|----------|---------------------------|
| | | | Number | Per cent | |
| 1901 | March 1 | 28,927,786 | | | |
| 1911 | March 10 | 31,555,056 | 2,627,270 | 9.08 | 0.94 |
| 1921 | March 18 | 33,254,096 | 1,699,040 | 5.38 | 0.60 |
| 1931 | March 26 | 35,604,170 | 2,350,074 | 7.07 | 0.74 |
| 1941 | March 1 | 41,997,207 | 6,393,127 | 17.96 | 1.70 |
| 1951 | March 1 | 44,165,740 | 2,168,443 | 5.16 | 0.50 |
| 1961 | Feb. 1 | 55,222,663 | 11,056,923 | 25.04 | 2.26 |
| 1974 | March 1 | 76,398,000 | 21,175,337 | 38.35 | 2.48 |
| 1981 | March 5 | 89,912,000 | 13,514,000 | 17.69 | 2.35 |
| 1991 | March 11 | 111,455,185 | 21,543,185 | 23.96 | 2.17 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996

Table 5: Land Utilisation in Bangladesh (in thousand acres)

| Year | Forest | Unavail-able for Cultiva-tion | Cultivat-able Wasteland (a) | Current Fallow (b) | Net Cropped Area | Area Sown More than Once | Total Cropped Area (c) |
|---------|--------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1971-72 | 5507 | 6566 | 734 | 2101 | 20371 | 7798 | 28169 |
| 1972-73 | 5507 | 6572 | 681 | 1679 | 20840 | 8199 | 29039 |
| 1973-74 | 5507 | 6575 | 672 | 1550 | 20977 | 8447 | 29424 |
| 1974-75 | 5466 | 6576 | 670 | 2009 | 20559 | 8078 | 28637 |
| 1975-76 | 5438 | 6622 | 662 | 1591 | 20968 | 8718 | 29686 |
| 1976-77 | 5449 | 6626 | 661 | 2100 | 20445 | 8534 | 28979 |
| 1977-78 | 5425 | 6669 | 665 | 2838 | 20693 | 9009 | 29702 |
| 1978-79 | 5423 | 6674 | 623 | 1760 | 20801 | 11045 | 31846 |
| 1979-80 | 5427 | 6686 | 615 | 1706 | 20873 | 11100 | 31973 |
| 1980-81 | 5416 | 6712 | 619 | 1404 | 21158 | 11363 | 32521 |
| 1981-82 | 5298 | 6837 | 611 | 1350 | 21212 | 11426 | 32638 |
| 1982-83 | 5296 | 6876 | 572 | 1196 | 21369 | 11761 | 33130 |
| 1983-84 | 5205 | 7156 | 810 | 1124 | 21442 | 11571 | 33013 |
| 1984-85 | 5297 | 7193 | 721 | 1221 | 21353 | 11143 | 32496 |
| 1985-86 | 5237 | 7220 | 670 | 997 | 21667 | 11798 | 33459 |
| 1986-87 | 4910 | 8141 | 660 | 973 | 21878 | 11097 | 34883 |
| 1987-88 | 4703 | 7685 | 890 | 2913 | 20478 | 13670 | 34148 |
| 1988-89 | 4703 | 7645 | 888 | 3285 | 20148 | 13739 | 33887 |
| 1989-90 | 4703 | 7783 | 863 | 2686 | 20633 | 14117 | 34750 |
| 1990-91 | 4693 | 7958 | 1442 | 2379 | 20198 | 14482 | 34680 |
| 1991-92 | 4674 | 9885 | 1532 | 862 | 19716 | 14405 | 34121 |
| 1992-93 | 4674 | 10137 | 1512 | 928 | 19418 | 14438 | 33856 |
| 1993-94 | 4674 | 10355 | 1566 | 984 | 19090 | 14225 | 33310 |
| 1994-95 | 4861 | 10118 | 1547 | 1000 | 19133 | 14280 | 33413 |

Source: Agriculture Statistics, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, 1997

Notes: (a) Cultivable wasteland is the area suitable for cultivation but lying fallow for more than one year; (b) Current fallow is the area already brought under cultivation, but not cultivated during the year; (c) Total cropped area is the sum of the net cropped area and the area sown more than once.

construction of roads are all putting pressure on the natural resource base in the hill areas.

The land in the plains is cultivated in both the dry and rainy seasons depending on the

condition (Khan 1997). The hill areas of Bangladesh account for 10 per cent of the total land area. (Khisa 1997). Hilly areas of Bangladesh are shown in Table 6.

Table 6: Hill Areas of Bangladesh

| Hilly Regions | Area (ha) | Per Cent |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Chittagong Hill Tracts | 12,40,889 | 75.6 |
| Chittagong | 235,216 | 14.2 |
| Sylhet | 152,922 | 9.2 |
| Jamalpur | 6316 | 0.38 |
| Mymensingh | 1431 | 0.09 |
| Comilla | 1226 | 0.10 |
| Feni | 1226 | 0.07 |

Source: Khisa 1997

Agriculture

Agriculture is the main occupation in Bangladesh. It employs 86.5 per cent of the labour force and directly contributes about 35 per cent of the gross domestic product.

Bangladesh is one of the most fertile land areas in South Asia but, as a result of paucity of capital and other inputs, the yields per acre are among the lowest in the world. Rice, wheat, jute, sugarcane, tobacco, oil seeds, pulses, and potatoes are the principal crops. Various kinds of vegetables and spices are also produced. The country produces about 49 million kilos of tea per year, a sizeable portion of which is exported to foreign markets. Bangladesh produces about 808 thousand tonnes of superior quality jute

annually; sixteen per cent of export earnings are derived from raw jute and jute products. Bananas, papayas, pineapples, mangoes, jackfruit, guavas, plums, and coconuts are the most important of the fruit and nuts grown in Bangladesh. Only coconuts, bananas, and papayas grow and are available throughout the year.

Bangladesh is marginally deficit in food grains (Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996). Efforts are being made by the government and the people to increase the production of food grain and diversity of agricultural outputs. The index of agricultural production for various products over a period of 10 years is shown in Table 7, and the acreage production and yield rate of agricultural crops in Table 8.

Table 7: Index of Agricultural Production in Bangladesh (Base: 1972-73 = 100)

| Items | 81-82 | 82-83 | 83-84 | 84-85 | 85-86 | 86-87 | 87-88 | 88-89 | 89-90 | 90-91 |
|-------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Total agricultural crops | 129 | 136 | 139 | 142 | 149 | 148 | 147 | 146 | 163 | 116 |
| Livestock & poultry | 160 | 174 | 112 | 116 | 119 | 123 | 127 | 131 | 135 | 138 |
| Forestry | 147 | 147 | 178 | 157 | 172 | 134 | 137 | 172 | 175 | 167 |
| Fishery | 79 | 83 | 85 | 85 | 86 | 88 | 90 | 89 | 91 | 96 |
| Agricultural crops per capita | 105 | 108 | 108 | 108 | 111 | 109 | 106 | 103 | 113 | 114 |
| Paddy | 110 | 113 | 110 | 110 | 111 | 111 | 109 | 108 | 120 | 118 |
| Livestock & poultry | 130 | 138 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 93 | 93 |
| Forestry | 119 | 117 | 138 | 120 | 129 | 98 | 99 | 121 | 121 | 113 |
| Fishery | 64 | 66 | 66 | 65 | 64 | 64 | 65 | 62 | 63 | 65 |
| All groups | 103 | 116 | 103 | 102 | 105 | 102 | 100 | 98 | 106 | 107 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996

Table 8: Acreage Production and Yield Rate of Major Agricultural Crops

| Year | Rice | | Jute | | Sugarcane | | Tea | |
|---------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| | Acreage '000' acres | Production '000' metric tons | Acreage '000' acres | Production '000' tons | Acreage '000' acres | Production '000' metric tons | Acreage '000' acres | Production '000' lbs. |
| 1979-80 | 25105 | 12539 | 1874 | 1065 | 359 | 6340 | 107 | 80710 |
| 1980-81 | 25474 | 13882 | 1569 | 897 | 368 | 6600 | 109 | 87541 |
| 1981-82 | 25847 | 12630 | 1412 | 842 | 398 | 7136 | 112 | 85476 |
| 1982-83 | 26158 | 14216 | 1425 | 886 | 410 | 7257 | 110 | 90247 |
| 1983-84 | 26064 | 14509 | 1701 | 946 | 412 | 6960 | 140 | 93031 |
| 1984-85 | 25263 | 14623 | 1671 | 928 | 404 | 3878 | 110 | 83550 |
| 1985-86 | 25696 | 15037 | 2614 | 1571 | 396 | 6640 | 110 | 96947 |
| 1986-87 | 26216 | 15405 | 1908 | 1225 | 407 | 6896 | 113 | 84217 |
| 1987-88 | 25507 | 15413 | 1266 | 853 | 428 | 7207 | 115 | 90969 |
| 1988-89 | 25265 | 15544 | 1343 | 805 | 425 | 6707 | 115 | 97621 |
| 1989-90 | 25893 | 17857 | 1339 | 812 | 461 | 7423 | 117 | 87527 |
| 1990-91 | 25786 | 17852 | 1442 | 962 | 472 | 7682 | 118 | 102771 |
| 1991-92 | 25315 | 18252 | 1453 | 957 | 463 | 7446 | 118 | 145230 |
| 1992-93 | 25151 | 18340 | 1236 | 808 | 456 | 7507 | 118 | 107825 |
| 1993-94 | 24664 | 18042 | 1182 | 806 | 447 | 7111 | 118 | 112444 |
| 1994-95 | 24517 | 16833 | 1383 | 961 | 445 | 7446 | 118 | 113877 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996

Forestry

Forest areas cover about 14 per cent of the total land area of Bangladesh. The country produces timber, bamboo, and cane. Bamboo grows in almost all areas, but quality timber-producing trees are mostly confined to the valleys. The important species of timber trees include *sal*, *gamari*, *chopalish*, *telsur*, *jarul*, *teak*, *garjon*, *chondul*, and *sundari*. *Sundari* trees grow in Sundarbans located in the south-western part of the country bordering the Bay of Bengal. Plantation of rubber in the hill regions of the country was recently introduced and extraction of rubber has already started.

Many species of wild animals are found in the forest areas. The Sundarban is the home of the world famous Royal Bengal Tigers, elephants, bears, deer, monkeys, bears, and leopards to mention a few. A few hundred species and sub-species of birds are found in the country, some of them seasonal and migratory.

Barren and Degraded Land

Table 5 shows that the area of barren or degraded land increased from 6,566,000 acres in 1971-72 to 10,120,000 acres in 1994-95.

Deforestation of Forest Resources

(In the whole country and in the mountain areas.)

Area Decrease

The forest cover in Bangladesh decreased from 17.32 per cent (25,026 sq. km.) in 1981-1982 to 13.60 per cent (21,990 sq. km.) in 1995-1996.

National Forest

All government owned and controlled forests are considered to be national forests. They include Reserved, Protected, Acquired, Vested, and Unclassed State Forests. There are no forests specifically designated as National Forest.

Reserved

The Reserved Forests are controlled and managed by the Bangladesh Forest Department. The area of reserved forest increased from 4,430 square miles in 1975-76 to 5,643 square miles in 1995-1996 (Table 4). A large part of the so-called 'forest' area has no tree cover. Over the 20-year period from 1960 to 1980, the forest cover declined annually by 2.1 per cent.

Village Forest

Village forests provide a significant portion of the wood supply of the country. Village forests produce fruit for human consumption, fodder for livestock, raw materials for cottage industries, and wood for furniture, construction, carts, boats, and agricultural tools. It is an essential support to village life. The combination of different cultivated plants allows permanent production throughout the year. The flow of small quantities of various products helps farmers maintain economic and nutritional stability. But the production of the village forests is decreasing, mainly as a result of the shortage of land for wood. The village forests supply large quantities of bamboo. According to the village forest inventory conducted in 1981, the village forests supplied 528 million bamboo culms in one year (Hammermaster 1981).

Private Forest

There is no information available about the private forests in the country in any report.

Protected Areas, National Parks, Rangelands, and Other Grasslands

Wildlife conservation, including the management of National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries, is at present the responsibility of the Forest Department. The Bangladesh Wildlife Preservation Amendment Act, 1974, made provision for a wildlife advisory board, which was created in 1976 under the Chairmanship of the Honourable Minister for

| Table 9: Area under Forest by Type of Forest in Square Miles (1 sq. mile = 2,599 sq. km.) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------|-----------------|
| Year | WAPDA & Khashland | Garden Areas | Reserve Forest | Acquired Forest | Vested Forest | Protected Forest | Unclassified State Forest | Total | % of total area |
| 1975-76 | 47.75 | 0.33 | 4430 | 365 | 41 | 222 | 3502 | 8608 | 15.48 |
| 1976-77 | 47.75 | 0.33 | 5104 | 365 | 41 | 222 | 3502 | 9282 | 16.70 |
| 1977-78 | 48.00 | NA | 5101 | 367 | 41 | 222 | 3513 | 9292 | 16.71 |
| 1978-79 | 47.80 | NA | 5129 | 341 | 43 | 222 | 3517 | 9299 | 16.73 |
| 1979-80 | 47.80 | NA | 5427 | 346 | 42 | 222 | 3521 | 9606 | 17.28 |
| 1980-81 | 47.80 | NA | 5422 | 399 | 41 | 222 | 3440 | 9572 | 17.22 |
| 1981-82 | 48.00 | NA | 5422 | 397 | 42 | 222 | 3498 | 9629 | 17.32 |
| 1982-83 | 48.00 | NA | 5425 | 311 | 42 | 222 | 1553 | 7601 | 13.67 |
| 1983-84 | 87.29 | NA | 4893 | 306 | 41 | 222 | 1440 | 7689 | 13.83 |
| 1984-85 | 47.80 | 0.34 | 5644 | 268 | 35 | 231 | 1768 | 7994 | 14.38 |
| 1985-86 | 54.71 | 0.34 | 5718 | 262 | 35 | 207 | 2443 | 8720 | 15.68 |
| 1986-87 | 46.15 | 0.34 | 4882 | 361 | 35 | 206 | 1578 | 7108 | 13.40 |
| 1987-88 | 54.70 | 0.34 | 5097 | 447 | 35 | 206 | 6823 | 7420 | 13.45 |
| 1988-89 | 50.00 | NA | 4353 | 492 | 97 | 193 | 1390 | 7181 | 12.53 |
| 1989-90 | 400.60 | NA | 5063 | 156 | 87 | 143 | 1313 | 7162 | 12.60 |
| 1990-91 | 369.00 | NA | 5028 | 157 | 87 | 202 | 1335 | 7178 | 12.81 |
| 1991-92 | 51.00 | NA | 5092 | 496 | 54 | 197 | 1433 | 7323 | 13.08 |
| 1992-93 | 481.72 | NA | 4689 | 603 | 31 | 145 | 1417 | 7367 | 13.16 |
| 1993-94 | 151.68 | NA | 5109 | 515 | 31.82 | 193 | 1371 | 7371 | 13.16 |
| 1994-95 | 272.55 | NA | 5643 | 372 | 32.95 | 149 | 1840 | 8461 | 13.60 |
| 1995-96 | 272.55 | NA | 5643 | 372 | 32.95 | 149 | 1840 | 8461 | 13.60 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh, 1996

Table 10: Area of New Plantation in Bangladesh Per Year (ha)

| Year | Hill Forest | Sal Forest | Coastal Forest | USF | Total |
|------------------------------|-------------|------------|----------------|-------|---------------|
| First Five-Year Plan | | | | | |
| 1974-75 | 2644 | 81 | 1969 | 287 | 4981 |
| 1975-76 | 3092 | 522 | 4864 | 1214 | 9692 |
| 1976-77 | 3361 | 1140 | 6727 | 1781 | 13009 |
| 1977-78 | 4339 | 1023 | 4943 | 1651 | 11956 |
| 1978-79 | 4619 | 957 | 6607 | 1123 | 13306 |
| 1979-80 | 5986 | 809 | 6518 | 2225 | 15538 |
| Sub-total | 24041 | 4532 | 31628 | 8281 | 68482 |
| Second Five-Year Plan | | | | | |
| 1980-81 | 7367 | 688 | 6242 | 1983 | 16280 |
| 1981-82 | 8207 | 1194 | 6323 | 6151 | 21875 |
| 1982-83 | 7223 | 1059 | 8094 | 3845 | 20221 |
| 1983-84 | 7437 | 1038 | 10118 | 3743 | 22336 |
| 1984-85 | 5233 | 615 | 9996 | 6961 | 22805 |
| Sub-total | 35467 | 4594 | 40772 | 22683 | 103517 |
| Third Five-Year Plan | | | | | |
| 1985-86 | 4106 | NA | 8114 | 6253 | 18473 |
| 1986-87 | 3477 | NA | 8094 | 4644 | 16215 |
| 1987-88 | 3368 | NA | 8195 | 4553 | 16116 |
| 1988-89 | 3699 | NA | 3806 | 3669 | 11174 |
| 1989-90 | 6249 | NA | 4330 | 3274 | 13953 |
| Sub-total | 20899 | NA | 32539 | 22393 | 75831 |
| Fourth Five-Year Plan | | | | | |
| 1990-1991 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 24887 |
| 1991-1992 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 26190 |
| 1992-1993 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 36961 |
| 1993-1994 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 47582 |
| 1994-1995 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 45862 |
| 1995-1996 | NA | NA | NA | NA | 21185 |
| Sub -total | - | - | - | - | 202667 |
| G.Total | | | | | 450497 |

Source: Reza et al. 1992

Notes: Hill Forest: Reserve Forests of Chittagong Hill Tracts, Cox's Bazar, Sylhet, Chittagong; Sal Forest: Greater Dhaka, Mymensing, Tangail, Rangpur, Dinajpur and Rajshahi; Coastal Forest Noakhali and new chart of Chittagong; USF: Unclassed State Forest of Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Agriculture. At present there are 11 wildlife sanctuaries, four National Parks and one game reserve (Wildlife Task Force 1986).

Socioeconomic Information

In 1997, about 48 per cent of people in rural areas and 44 per cent in urban areas were living below the poverty line. This was a small increase from 47 and 43 per cent, respectively, in 1995; but much reduced from the values twenty years and more previously (Table 11). The average per capita income calculated at market and at factory prices is shown in Table 12.

Status of Forest-based Industries

The numbers of factories in selected forest resource-based industries are shown in Table 13.

Education

Bangladesh occupies an important position among the South Asian countries in the field of education. There are 11 government universities for general education located in Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet, Jahangirnaga, and Kushtia. There are five institutions for technical education (the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology and four other engineering colleges) with a total enrollment of 7,439 students. There are 14 government medical colleges, a Medical University for Postgraduate Medicine and Research, a dental college, a diabetic institution, and an International Centre for Diarrhoeal Diseases' Research. There are a number of other specialised medical institutions offering postgraduate courses. There is an agricultural

| Year | Population below poverty line (%) | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| | Rural areas | Urban areas |
| 1963-64 | 88 | 82 |
| 1965(Jan-June) | 56 | 70 |
| 1966(June-April) | NA | 82 |
| 1966-67 | 62 | 72 |
| 1968-69 | 79 | 62 |
| 1973-74 | 94 | NA |
| 1994-95 | 46.8 | 43.3 |
| 1996-1997 | 47.9 | 44.4 |

Sources: Roy (1979) and Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh (1997)

| Period | At market price | | | At factory cost | | |
|---------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Per capita GDP | Per capita GNI | Per capita NNI | Per capita GDP | Per capita GNI | Per capita NNI |
| 1989-90 | 6785 | 6990 | 6515 | 6401 | 6606 | 6131 |
| 1990-91 | 7517 | 7756 | 7226 | 7066 | 7305 | 6775 |
| 1991-92 | 8001 | 8300 | 7736 | 7493 | 7742 | 7228 |
| 1992-93 | 8208 | 8544 | 7953 | 7640 | 7976 | 7386 |
| 1993-94 | 8754 | 4167 | 8531 | 8133 | 8546 | 7909 |
| 1994-95 | 9760 | 10225 | 9528 | 4026 | 9490 | 8794 |
| 1995-96 | 10660 | 11152 | 10386 | 9858 | 10349 | 9583 |
| 1996-97 | 11284 | 11810 | 11010 | 10375 | 10902 | 10101 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996
Note: GDP—Gross domestic product; GNI—gross national income; NNI—net national income

| Table 13: Number of Factories in Various Forest-based Industries | | | | | | |
|--|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| BSIC 1986 Code | Category | 1987-88 | 1988-89 | 1989-90 | 1990-91 | 1991-92 |
| 331 | Wood & cork products | 32 | 1293 | 1320 | 962 | 1138 |
| 332 | Furniture (wooden) | 18 | 243 | 410 | 257 | 226 |
| 341 | Paper & paper products | 28 | 45 | 51 | 58 | 90 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996

university at Mymensingh and three agricultural colleges at Dhaka, Dinajpur, and Patuakhali. There are various other colleges and institutes for art, music and fine arts, textiles, leather, glass and ceramics, as well as 20 polytechnic institutes and 51 government vocational institutes. At present there are 5,977 *Madrashas* (schools) and efforts are underway to modernise the *Madras* education system by introducing science and vocational courses. Emphasis will also be laid on attaining proficiency in Arabic. A project for establishing an Islamic University at Kushtia is being implemented.

There are 12,553 secondary schools with about 4.9 million students; and 66,168 primary schools with 15.9 million students. The literacy rate in Bangladesh overall and in different areas is shown in Table 14 and the percentage of the population attending school in Table 15.

Health

Health is one of the basic requirements for a good quality of life. Since independence, the Government of Bangladesh has consistently pursued a policy for providing essential/minimum health care to all, and particularly to disadvantaged and poor groups. Successive health plans have emphasised primary health care as the key approach to improving the status of health of the people.

Significant progress has been made in the health sector since the inception of Bangladesh, for example in the areas of building up of rural infrastructure; development of medical, dental, nursing, and paramedical manpower; full eradication of smallpox; and control of communicable diseases like tuberculosis, malaria, diarrhoea, and cholera. But the real goal of providing

| Table 14: Literacy Rate of for all Ages by Sex (1991) | | | |
|---|-------|-------|--------|
| District Name | All | Male | Female |
| Bangladesh | 24.92 | 30.03 | 19.49 |
| Bandarbans | 18.50 | 25.36 | 10.28 |
| Khagrachar | 20.29 | 27.00 | 12.84 |
| Rangamati | 28.51 | 36.45 | 10.63 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996

| Table 15: Percentage of Population Aged 5-24 Attending School | | | | | | |
|---|------------|-------|--------|------------|-------|--------|
| Name of District | 1991 | | | 1981 | | |
| | Both Sexes | Male | Female | Both Sexes | Male | Female |
| Bangladesh | 36.52 | 40.66 | 32.21 | 21.90 | 26.80 | 16.80 |
| Bandarbans | 25.83 | 30.04 | 21.17 | 11.08 | 14.63 | 7.19 |
| Khagrachari | 32.80 | 37.98 | 27.55 | 16.65 | 21.19 | 11.84 |
| Rangamati | 38.80 | 42.77 | 34.44 | 18.30 | 22.57 | 13.19 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996

comprehensive health care covering all the people has still to be achieved.

The number of hospital beds has increased significantly from 1978, when there were 16,583 beds in government and 2,685 beds in private hospitals, to 1995, when there were 24,106 beds in government and 8,025 beds in private hospitals. The numbers of registered doctors and nurses increased from 7,035 and 2,012 in 1978, to 26,482 and 13,830 in 1995. There are now 400 Rural Health Complexes with 12,315 beds (1993-94), thirteen medical

colleges, six postgraduate medical institutes, two paramedical institutes of health technology and five medical assistant training schools (1995). The growth in medical facilities between 1978 and 1995 is shown in Table 16.

Access to clean drinking water is one of the most important factors influencing general health at the household level. The percentage of rural and urban households obtaining drinking water from different types of sources in 1991 and 1994 are shown in Table 17.

Table 16: The Growth in Medical Facilities

| Year | Hospitals | | Govt. Dispensaries | Hospital Beds | | Registered | | | |
|------|-----------|---------|--------------------|---------------|---------|------------|-------|-----------|----------------------|
| | Govt. | Private | | Govt. | Private | Doctor | Nurse | Mid-wives | Ledy Health Visitors |
| 1978 | 388 | 36 | 1752 | 16853 | 2685 | 7035 | 2012 | 1041 | 413 |
| 1979 | 405 | 36 | 1752 | 17494 | 2703 | 7909 | 2461 | 1167 | 432 |
| 1980 | 510 | 39 | 1752 | 18957 | 3030 | 9188 | 3019 | 1353 | 440 |
| 1981 | 512 | 164 | 1468 | 19021 | 4771 | 10065 | 3736 | 2239 | 449 |
| 1982 | 544 | 164 | 1446 | 19136 | 4771 | 10333 | 4500 | 2934 | 473 |
| 1983 | 560 | 164 | 1493 | 20286 | 4771 | 11496 | 5164 | 3424 | 758 |
| 1984 | 568 | 164 | 1559 | 21870 | 4771 | 13500 | 5800 | 3850 | 1176 |
| 1985 | 596 | 164 | 1275 | 22874 | 4771 | 14591 | 6418 | 4399 | 1581 |
| 1986 | 600 | 164 | 1275 | 23306 | 4771 | 16090 | 6912 | 5199 | 1584 |
| 1987 | 608 | 267 | 1310 | 26575 | 6463 | 16929 | 7000 | 5837 | 1795 |
| 1988 | 608 | 267 | 1310 | 26871 | 6463 | 18030 | 7390 | 6556 | NA |
| 1989 | 608 | 267 | 1310 | 26913 | NA | 18917 | 8056 | 7035 | NA |
| 1990 | 608 | 267 | 1310 | NA | NA | 20006 | 9274 | 7485 | NA |
| 1991 | 610 | 280 | 1318 | 27111 | 7242 | 21004 | 9655 | 7713 | 3459 |
| 1992 | 611 | 280 | 1362 | 27111 | 7242 | 21749 | 10607 | 9363 | NA |
| 1993 | 611 | 292 | 1397 | 27637 | 7643 | 22400 | 9455 | 10104 | NA |
| 1994 | 639 | 280 | 1397 | 28553 | 7247 | 24911 | 9630 | 7713 | NA |
| 1995 | 645 | 288 | 1397 | 29106 | 8025 | 26482 | 13830 | 1100 | NA |

Notes: All figures are progressive totals. Registered doctors includes MBBS and BDS.

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996

Table 17: Percentage of Households Obtaining Drinking Water from Different Types of Source

| Year | Locality | Source of Drinking Water | | | | | |
|------|----------|--------------------------|-------|----------|-------|------|-------------|
| | | Total H/H | Tap | Tubewell | Well | Pond | Canal/River |
| 1994 | Rural | 100.00 | .022 | 91.31 | 4.60 | 2.26 | 1.61 |
| | Urban | 100.00 | 44.01 | 54.46 | 0.56 | 0.30 | 0.37 |
| 1991 | Rural | 100.00 | 0.14 | 77.56 | 10.56 | 8.80 | 2.95 |
| | Urban | 100.00 | 22.48 | 67.75 | 4.69 | 3.87 | 1.20 |

Source: Statistical Year Book of Bangladesh 1996

Community Management

There are no forest user groups, *Van Panchayat(s)*, or women's groups working with the Forest Department on the basis of a benefit sharing mechanism. But since 1980 linear and block fuelwood plantations have been established under the social forestry programme, with a benefit-sharing mechanism, by groups organized either by the Forest Department or, occasionally, with the

help of an NGO. Preference is given to the landless for group formation. These groups are normally termed 'beneficiary groups'. They are mostly dominated by male members and are normally formed by the Forest Department. In general, participation by group members is essentially passive; the department does all the work related to plantation establishment and the group members are given the responsibility for guarding the plantations from grazing and theft.