

Social Safety Net Programmes for Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh: An Overview

Jannatul Ferdous

(Faculty, Dept. of Public Administration, Comilla University, Bangladesh)

Abstract

Social Safety Nets (SSNs) are non-contributing programmes that aim the poor and vulnerable segment of people and are intended to lessen poverty and inequality, facilitate better social investments, better community risk administration, and deal social security to those living under the poverty line. Cash and in kind transfer Safety Net Programmes are in procedure in Bangladesh. Bangladesh government through the assurance of lessening poverty within the shortest potential time took the steps together with the weaker segment and poor those under different Safety Net Programmes. The study scrutinizes the programme taken by the Government for poverty alleviation, Catch out the efficiency of the poverty alleviation programmes in Bangladesh Government, Examine the flaws and present a number of corrective procedures which can encounter the changing requirement of a period.

Key words: poverty, poverty alleviation, safety net, Bangladesh

Introduction

Poverty is a certain state of social life. It is connected to the socioeconomic sides and standard of living. However, it appears actually that the conception of poverty is

mostly connected with income of money. Swift and persistent poverty alleviation need a speedy and arrangement of profitable progress that aids poor, male and female to contribute, pro-poor development. Essentially, it has various non-income extents. The matter of poverty is closely linked with whole progress and advancement of a state. Through the intensifications of earnings, poverty shrinks and on the contrary, poverty rises. In poor and developing countries, poverty alleviation has become synonymous with the overall economic development. With around 40 percent of her people living under the poverty line and a growing number of people being added under the poverty line, Safety Net Programme in Bangladesh is more than an essential component to fighting against poverty (Iqbal, 2008).

Objective of the Study

1. To evaluate the Social Safety Net Programmes adopted by the Government for poverty alleviation.
2. To be familiar with the existing position of poverty in Bangladesh.
3. To examine the relation between Social Safety Net Programmes and poverty alleviation.

4. Recommend some corrective actions which can meet the changing requirement of a period.

Scope of the Study

The scope of the study integrates commonly the meaning of poverty and particularly the nature and contemporary situation of poverty in Bangladesh. Besides, it comprises the poverty alleviation programme taken by the Government of Bangladesh, the strengths and weakness of the programmes. A number of recommendations in this paper also develop to make the poverty alleviation programmes more operative and workable.

Research Methodology

This paper is ultimately an assessment of secondary research directed in this extent. Documents were gathered from many available papers like statistics, records, journals, books, research reports, government circulars, internet browsing, and newspapers.

Limitations of the Study

1. The paper would be more improved if primary data could be collected and used.
2. Deficiency of accessibility of papers in this issue was a great difficulty.
3. There was no funding facility for this paper.

Conceptual Framework

Poverty

The situation of 'poverty' covers concepts of confines to, and scarcity of wealth, repeatedly absorbed on the deficiency of earnings or access to diet, then besides with other factual, communal and mental deficiencies that impact on individual welfare.

UNHCR defines- "Poverty" as a human condition characterized by the sustained or chronic deprivation of the resources, capabilities, choices, security and power necessary for the enjoyment of an adequate standard of living and other civil, cultural, economic, political social rights (UNHCR, 2004).

Overall poverty was considered to take various forms, including "lack of income and productive resources to ensure sustainable livelihoods; hunger and malnutrition; ill health; limited or lack of access to education and other basic services; increased morbidity and mortality from illness; homelessness and inadequate housing; unsafe environments and social discrimination and exclusion. It is also characterized by a lack of participation in decision-making and in civil, social and cultural life. It occurs in all countries: as mass poverty in many developing countries, pockets of poverty amid wealth in developing countries, loss of livelihoods as a result of economic recession, sudden poverty as a result of disaster or conflict, the poverty of low-wage workers, and the utter destitution of people who fall outside family support systems, social institutions and safety nets" (UN, 1995).

Poverty Alleviation

Poverty alleviation wishes to decrease the undesirable influence of poverty on the lives of poor individuals, however, in a more continual and stable system than poverty assistance programmes. It comprises the government's collective allowance programmes which lessen the influence of poverty for numerous entities. Poverty alleviation programmes, incline to have a longer duration, objectives and are in overall more progressive than Poverty Assistance programmes. Consequently the government's collective allowance strategies both offer instant relief for poor individuals, then have also been initiate to offer a progressive inducement by allowing individuals to search for jobs who live in families in which associates (children, disabled persons or old age persons) collect communal allowances, or start their personal small trades and obviously struggle to confirm that children are capable of get adequate diet to facilitate them to grow healthier (Kraai,2007).

Safety Net Programmes

Safety nets are programs that protect a person or household against two adverse outcomes: chronic incapacity to work and earn (chronic poverty) and a decline in this capacity from a marginal situation that provides minimal means for survival with few reserves (transient poverty). A chronic incapacity to work or earn will usually result from physical or mental disability, long-term illness, or old age (Smith & Subbarao, 2003).

Safety nets as those public interventions which are designed to serve two key

functions: (i) to play a redistributive role transferring resources toward the poorer members of society to bring them out of poverty, and (ii) to provide greater opportunities for individuals to mitigate risks from unforeseen contingencies. Such risks can operate at the level of the household, say through an unexpected death or unemployment of the household head, but also at the community or national level due to natural disasters, financial crisis, and terms-of-trade deteriorations. The correct balance between the redistributive and risk reduction roles of safety nets will ultimately depend upon country-specific factors (Besley, Burgess & Rasul; 2003).

Poverty and Social Safety Net

Poverty alleviation has been a popular motto of consecutive political directions in Bangladesh subsequently the nation's liberation in 1973. Yet, high intensities of poverty have continued despite of huge assistance (Sobhan,1998). There are also strong criticisms of not conserving a complete method to address the matters of poverty and development. From the 1990s Bangladesh has remarkably developed both its financial presentation and human development signs. Bangladesh has shown inspiring record in social development, poverty reduction and fast-tracked economic growth for over three decades. Even with a meaningfully concentrated and lessening dependency on foreign aid, the economy seemed to initiate a conversion from maintenance to development (Aminuzzaman, 2007).

The Social Safety Net is a weapon of reducing poverty. Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs) are a set of public events, which a society deals for its associates to safeguard them from different kinds of financial and communal adversities, resulting from a significant failure in earnings owing to several kinds of possibilities for instance loss of cultivable land, produce failure, land and farm loss caused by river erosion, job loss, illness, maternity, invalidity, old age or death of earning members of the household. SSNPs are, thus, required to focus: (a) risks, i.e., uncertain events which may undesirably affect people’s safety; (b) poverty, i.e., not having enough of something valuable to develop income and livelihood; and (c) vulnerability, i.e., the prospect at present of not having enough of somewhat valuable in the future(Khuda, 2011).

Social Safety Net in Fighting against Poverty and Vulnerability in Bangladesh

Social Safety Net Programmes SSNPs are inspired by both fairness and efficacy respects. They are envisioned to support the less comfortable sections of the people and attempt to compensation credit and insurance market failures. As well as generating a rational society, SSNP can perform a vital role in supporting profitable development by: (i) assisting form resources

at personal, domestic and communal levels; (ii) assisting persons and families shield their resources when different types of shock waves happen; (iii) assisting persons and families to utilize their prevailing means more efficiently, and thus assisting them to survive with different types of threats; and (iv) rightly levitation profitable progression rates by decreasing inequality (Khuda, 2011)

The fundamental reason of Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs) in Bangladesh is to reduce poverty and vulnerability. The main focus of Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs) in Bangladesh is on the basic need of the people, which are food, health, education and shelter. The Programmes of Social Safety Net mainly concerned with social protection and social empowerment. Social protection Programmes cover cash transfer allowances, special cash transfer, food security, etc. Social empowerment encompasses micro-credit, housing, stipends and different development Programmes. All these are implemented through development and non-development budget of Bangladesh government.

Bangladesh Government conserves a variety of social safety net programmes intended to address largely transitory food uncertainty reducing from blows. Below table represents the names and examples of the main types of SSNPs in Bangladesh.

The Main Type of Safety Net Programs in Bangladesh

Program	Examples
Cash transfers	Old Age Allowance Widowed and Distressed Women Allowance Disabled Allowance
Conditional cash transfers	Primary Education Stipend Program

	(formerly Food-for-Education) Stipends for Female Secondary Students
Public works or training based cash or in kind transfer	Rural Maintenance Program Food-for-Work Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) Employment Generation Programme (EGP)
Emergency or Seasonal Relief	Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF) Gratuitous Relief (GR) Test Relief (TR) Open Market Sale (OMS)

Source: Raihan, 2013

However, the trend of budgetary allocation of the SSNPs has shown in several national budget of Bangladesh in below table.

Social Safety Net Programmes :
Last Five Years Budgetary Allocation (Taka in crore)of Bangladesh Government
(A.1) Cash Transfer (Allowances) programmes
(A.1.1) Social Protection (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Old Age Allowance	810.00	891.00	892.04	891.00	980.10
2	Allowances for the Widow, Deserted and Destitute Women	331.20	331.20	331.20	331.20	364.32
3	Allowances for the Financially Insolvent Disabled	93.60	102.96	102.96	102.96	132.13
4	Maternity Allowance Programme for the Poor Lactating Mothers	33.60	36.96	42.50	42.50	48.88
5	Honorarium for Insolvent Freedom Fighters	225.00	360.00	360.00	360.00	360.00
6	Honorarium & Medical Allowances for Injured Freedom Fighters	61.16	83.07	85.73	75.65	75.64
7	Grants for Residents in Government Orphanages and Other Institutions	21.70	22.90	27.54	27.10	30.88
8	Capitation Grants for Orphan Students in Non-gov. Orphanages	40.32	42.00	63.00	66.00	71.40

9	General Relief Activities	36.20	326.97	53.32	61.72	89.36
10	Block Allocation for Disaster Management	85.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00
11	Non-Bengali Rehabilitation	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.80
12	Allowances for Distressed Cultural Personalities/ Activitists	0.80	1.50	2.00	2.50	2.50
13	Pension for Retired Government Employees and their Families	3760.70	4003.13	5041.45	5532.78	6691.51
14	Ration for Shaheed Family and Injured Freedom Fighters	13.40	27.00	21.00	20.00	22.50
	Subtotal:	5527.68	6344.69	7139.74	7631.41	8989.02

Source: Ministry of Finance

(A.1.2) Social Empowerment (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Stipend for Disabled Students	8.00	8.80	8.80	8.80	9.70
2	Grants for the Schools for the Disabled	3.60	5.81	5.81	5.81	5.81
	Subtotal:	11.60	14.61	14.61	14.61	15.51

Source: Ministry of Finance

(A.2) Cash Transfer (Special) Programmes (in crore taka)

(A.2.1) Social Empowerment

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Housing Support	111.00	5.52	6.10	7.02	14.00
2	Agriculture Rehabilitation	50.00	50.00	52.07	52.10	62.15
	Subtotal:	161.00	55.52	58.17	59.12	76.15

Source: Ministry of Finance

(B) Food Security Programmes: Social Protection (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Open Market Sales (OMS)	1071.96	2207.50	1758.00	1758.00	1565.00

2	Vulnerable Group Development (VGD)	595.17	729.92	781.02	858.86	851.06
3	Vulnerable Group Feeding (VGF)	1097.17	1473.64	1355.50	1200.78	1326.91
4	Test Relief (TR) Food	897.85	1039.67	1074.44	1260.25	1291.94
5	Gratuitious Relief (GR)- Food	165.22	263.76	271.10	259.63	265.38
6	Food Assistance in CTG-Hill Tracts Area	177.45	223.63	234.33	242.32	240.81
7	Food For Work (FFW)	927.66	1294.00	1283.70	1492.71	1456.98
	Subtotal:	4932.48	7232.12	6758.09	7072.55	6998.08

Source: Ministry of Finance

(C.1) Micro-Credit Programmes: Social Empowerment (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Micro-credit for Women Self-employment	0.00	3.00	5.00	4.00	1.00
2	Fund for Micro-Credit through PKSF	195.00	116.52	188.57	50.00	50.00
3	Social Development Foundation	200.00	214.00	150.00	288.70	298.50
4	NGO Foundation	0.00	6.50	0.00	0.00	0.00
	Subtotal:	395.00	340.02	343.57	342.70	349.50

Source: Ministry of Finance

(C.2) Miscellaneous Funds: Social Empowerment (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Fund for the Welfare of Acid Burnt and Disabled	2.00	2.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
2	Fund for Assistance to the Small Farmer and Poultry Farms	100.00	100.00	100.00	50.00	100.00
3	Swanirvar Training Programme	1.25	1.35	1.16	1.16	1.50
4	Shamaj Kallyan Parishad	8.94	9.26	11.95	22.08	23.99
	Subtotal:	112.19	112.61	114.11	74.24	126.49

Source: Ministry of Finance

(C.3) Miscellaneous Funds: Social Protection (in crore taka)

Sl.	Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
1	Fund for Climate Change	700.00	700.00	700.00	400.00	200.00
2	Allowances for Urban Low-income Lactating Mothers	25.00	28.50	32.60	32.60	41.19
3	Block Allocation for Various Programme	1009.00	1011.45	1144.57	801.10	1933.71
4	Employment Generation Programme for the Ultra Poor	1076.11	1000.00	1000.00	1200.00	1400.00
5	National Service	36.39	200.00	293.74	310.82	235.00
6	Special Prog. for Irrigation and Water Logging	56.24	165.00	131.52	0.00	0.00
7	Child Development Center	1.00	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.20
8	Service and Assistance Center for Disabled	5.41	5.50	7.00	12.50	12.50
9	Ghare Fera Programme (Returning Home)	5.00	-----	-----	-----	-----
10	Rehabilitation and Creation of Alternative Employment for People Engaged in Begging	-----	6.32	6.71	2.45	1.00
11	Universal Pension Insurance Scheme	-----	-----	11.50	11.50	11.50
12	Programme on the uplift of Harijana, Dalit, Bade, Trrans Gender (Hijra) and the embers of oppressed section of the Socieity	-----	-----	0.00	2.05	12.26
13	Construction of Suiper Colony at District and Metropolitan Cities	-----	-----	10.00	-----	-----
14	Skill Development Fund for Expatriate Returnees and New Entrants to Labor market	70.00	70.00	-----	-----	-----
	Subtotal:	2984.15	3187.77	3339.64	2776.02	3850.36

Source: Ministry of Finance

(D) Development Sector Programmes: Social Empowerment (in crore taka)

Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Programmes include different development work which increase social empowerment like Stipend for Students , Maternal Health Scheme, National Nutrition services, Economic Empowerment of the Poor, Rural Employment and Rural Maintenance Programme, Disaster Risk Mitigation and Reduction, Comprehensive Village Development, Comprehensive Disaster Management Program, Community Based Health Care (CBHC) etc.	2581.71	3415.18	3961.75	4840.27	4344.59

Source: Ministry of Finance

D. 2 New Development Programmes(in crore taka)

Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
New development programmes include different projects which are newly taken in hand to bring development in society	0.00	191.00	245.55	5126.87	4966.24

Source: Ministry of Finance

Grand total Allocation of Bangladesh Government on Social Safety Net Programmes (in crore taka)

Programmes	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Cash Transfer (Allowances) programmes: Social Protection	5527.68	6344.69	7139.74	7631.41	8989.02
Cash Transfer (Allowances) programmes : Social Empowerment	11.60	14.61	14.61	14.61	15.51
Cash Transfer (Special) Programme : Social Empowerment	161.00	55.52	58.17	59.12	76.15
Food Security Programmes: Social Protection	4932.48	7232.12	6758.09	7072.55	6998.08
Micro-Credit Programmes: Social Empowerment	395.00	340.02	343.57	342.70	349.50

Miscellaneous Funds: Social Empowerment	112.19	112.61	114.11	74.24	126.49
Miscellaneous Funds: Social Protection	2984.15	3187.77	3339.64	2776.02	3850.36
Development Sector Programmes: Social Empowerment	2984.15	3187.77	3339.64	2776.02	3850.36
New Development Programmes	0.00	191.00	245.55	5126.87	4966.24
Grand total:	16705.81	20893.52	21975.23	23,097.52	25,371.35

Source: Ministry of Finance

From the above table, it is clear that Bangladesh Government increases its budget allocation every year. Cash Transfer (Allowances) programmes for Social Protection was 7631.41 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 8989.02. Cash Transfer (Allowances) programmes for Social Empowerment was 14.61 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 15.51. Cash Transfer (Special) Programme for Social Empowerment was 59.12 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 76.15. But Food Security Programmes for Social Protection is seen to be reduced. In fiscal year 2012-13, it was 7072.55 crore taka and prevailing fiscal year it becomes 6998.08. Micro-Credit Programmes for Social Empowerment was 342.70 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 349.50. Miscellaneous Funds for Social Empowerment also increases, it was 74.24 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 126.49. Miscellaneous Funds for Social Protection

was 2776.02 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 3850.36. Budget allocation of Development Sector Programmes for Social Empowerment was 2776.02 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 3850.36. But budget allocations for new development Programmes reduced, it was 5126.87 crore taka in fiscal year 2012-13 and in 2013-14 it becomes 4966.24.

Present State of Poverty in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has prepared steps to combat against poverty throughout the previous two decades. Social Safety Nets Programmes (SSNP) is normally directed to the deprived people and poor. The regime drives SSNPs to deliver sustenance to such people in cash or kind to support overcome extreme deprivation and generate prolific resources for producing maintenances. The distribution of households getting assistances from SSNPs is shown in below Table:

Table: Distribution (Percent) of Households Receiving Benefits from SSNPs, 2010

Year	National	Rural	Urban
------	----------	-------	-------

2010	24.57	30.12	9.42
2005	13.06	15.64	5.45

Source: HIES,2010

In 2010, 24.57 percent of the households at the countrywide level acknowledged assistances as a minimum one type of programme. In contrast, 13.06 percent of the households acknowledged advantage from SSNPs in 2005. In the rural area, 30.12 percent of the households received

assistances from SSNPs as against 15.64 percent of the households in 2005. Parallel escalation in urban zone may similarly be eminent. Survey findings specify that the SSNPs have been extended significantly both in attention and amount disseminated during the period 2005 to 2010(HIES,2010).

Table: Distribution of Households Receiving SSNP Benefits by Division, 2010

Division	% of Household Receiving Benefit (Survey Year 2010)		
	National	Rural	Urban
National	24.57	30.12	9.42
Barisal	34.43	37.20	20.66
Chittagong	19.99	24.50	7.44
Dhaka	18.87	27.80	5.99
Khulna	37.30	43.27	16.66
Rajshahi	20.66	22.85	10.17
Rangpur	33.65	35.11	23.68
Sylhet	23.51	26.06	10.50

Source: HIES,2010

The Division wise distribution of households getting assistances from SSNPs displays that the highest percentage of households getting assistances from SSNPs are found in Khulna Division (37.30 percent), followed by Barisal Division (34.43 percent) and Rangpur Division (33.65 percent). The ratio of households getting assistance in Dhaka Division is the lowermost at 18.87 percent headed by Chittagong Division 19.99 percent. The

portion in the rural part is much greater than that in the urban part in all Divisions as most of the SSNP programmes are activated intensively in the rural area (HIES,2010).

In relation to the distribution the rate of poverty has dropped from 56.6 percent in 1991-92 to 31.5 percent in 2010. Conferring to the most recent presented national statistics on poverty, created on head count rate (CBN) and by means of upper poverty

line, the rate of poverty reduced to 31.5 percent in 2010 at the national level with an annual average rate of decrease at 1.32 percent from 1991-92. In rural zones, the rate of poverty has reduced from 58.7 percent in 1991-92 to 35.2 percent in 2010 with an annual average reduction rate of 1.24 percent. However, in urban zones, the rate of poverty has reduced from 42.7 percent in 1991-92 to 21.3 percent in 2010 with an average reduction rate of 1.13 percent per annum. It is obvious that the rate of poverty is greater in rural zones than that of the urban zone and the reduction rate of poverty is correspondingly greater in rural zones than that of the urban zone. One probable cause might be the quicker speed of rural-urban immigration. Rural poverty consequences from deficiency of properties, inadequate commercial prospects and meager education and abilities along with weaknesses embedded in society and political differences. The rate of poverty is lessening, however the rate at which point it is reducing is not enough (Titumir & Rahman, 2011).

Recommendations

1. The provision of Government budget must be better to create programmes operative and wide-ranging.
2. State Owned Banks and commercial institute have to pay more devotion on

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in place of commercial amenities.

3. To make expert manpower the number of rural development training institutions should be amplified, which will definitely backed to achieve development.
4. The government should strengthen the local level functionaries so that appropriate people could get the facilities.
5. Reduce corruption and nepotism in providing the facilities of Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs).
6. Necessary to minimize layers when facilities are delivered to poor people.
7. The Government project is very inadequate for the target group. It should be expended all around the Country. Extreme poor can be able to get the benefit of this.
8. Modern technology can be efficiently used for improved rural production.
9. Modern information and communication tools can be efficiently used in the marketing system.
10. Rural infrastructural Development is very much necessary.
11. Comprehensive finance managing and disbursement arrangement to

confirming suitable transference of funds at the field level.

12. Collaboration among Government and NGO for proper service delivery to poor.

13. Strengthening supervision and monitoring at different stages of implementing programmes.

14. Strong political commitment is the most important requirement to ensure the success of the programs.

Conclusion

The Social Safety Net Programmes (SSNPs) are actually very significant programs in a developing country like Bangladesh. A noteworthy percentage of the people live under poverty line in Bangladesh. They are extremely weak and want provision of the government aimed at their existence. For a lot of poor people these SSNPs are the single basis of their maintenance. Though, from the outcomes of the study it seems that the opportunities of numerous poor stay unsatisfied because of some improper allocation and implementation. The poverty status of Bangladesh shows the partial success of SSNPs. Accordingly, the recommendations may help to bring changes in development and poverty alleviation arena. This will help the government to achieve the target of the poverty alleviation and also support those people who are in a

vulnerable condition facing the terrible poverty and endless depression.

References

1. Aminuzzaman, S. M (2007) Poverty and governance – A quest for alternative focus: Bangladesh test case. *JOAAG, Vol. 2(1) 11-20*
2. Besley, T., Burgess, R. & Rasul I. (2003) Benchmarking Government Provision of Social Safety Nets. Social Protection Discussion Paper Series. Washington DC: *The World Bank*.
3. Iqbal et al. (2008) Macroeconomic Implications of Social Safety Nets in the Context of Bangladesh. Dhaka : *Centre for Policy Dialogue*.
4. Khuda B. (2011) Social Safety Net Programmes in Bangladesh: A Review. *Bangladesh Development Studies Vol. 34(2) 87-108*
5. Kraai N. (2007) What is Poverty Relief, Poverty Alleviation, Poverty Reduction and Poverty Eradication? Parktown: *Natioal Development Agency*.
6. Raihan S. (2013) Social Protection for Inclusive Growth: The Case of Bangladesh.
7. Report of the Household Income and Expenditure Survey (2010) Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics. Dhaka: *Ministry of Planning*.

8. Smith W. J. & Subbarao, K. (2003) What Role for Safety Net Transfers in Very Low Income Countries? SP Discussion Paper No. 030. Washington DC: *World Bank Institute*.
9. . Sobhan R. (1998) How Bad Governance Impedes Poverty Alleviation in Bangladesh. Working Paper No. 143. Paris : *OECD Development Center*.
10. The official website of Ministry of Finance, Bangladesh: <http://mof.gov.bd>
11. Titumir, R. A. M. & Rahman K. M. M. (2011) Poverty and Inequality in Bangladesh. Dhaka: *Unnayan Onneshan - The Innovators*.
12. UN (1995) The Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action: World Summit for Social Development 6-12 March 1995. New York: *United Nations Department of Publications*.
13. UNHCR (2004) Human Rights Dimension of Poverty. New York: *United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights*.

About Author

Jannatul Ferdous was born on March 27, 1987 in Comilla, Bangladesh. She received the B.S.S. (Hon's) degree and M.S.S. Degree in Public Administration from University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2008 and 2009

respectively. Now she is an M. Phil Research Fellow in Public Administration, University of Dhaka. She is serving as a Lecturer in the Department of Public Administration, Comilla University, Bangladesh. Her current interest includes governance, civil service system, public policy, NGO, gender and development.