



TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
BANGLADESH

Social movement against corruption

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-20



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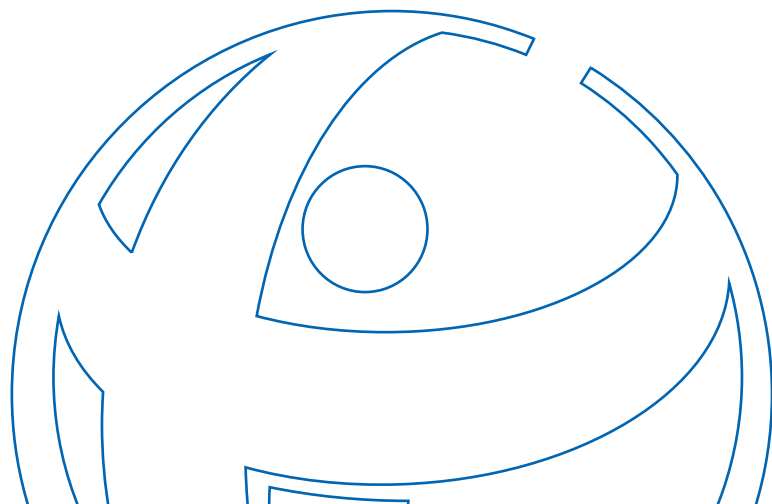


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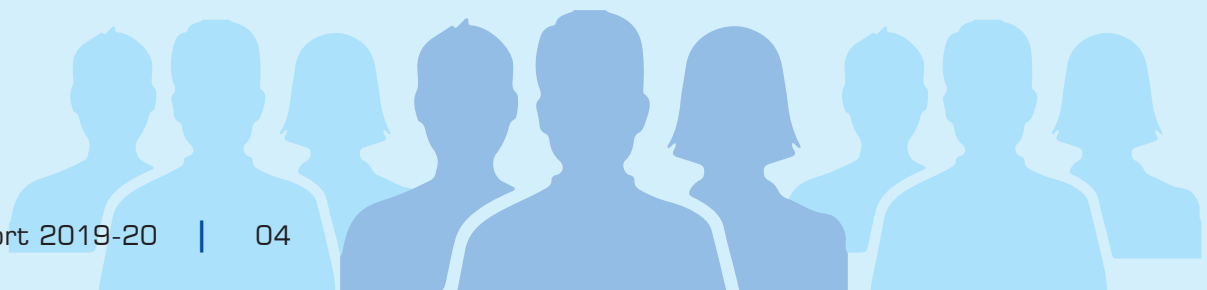
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WHO WE ARE ?

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan and non-government organisation that envisions a corruption-free Bangladesh with a vision of Bangladesh in which government, politics, business, civil society, and daily lives of people shall be free from corruption.

In the context of the international movement against corruption, TIB partners and cooperates with the Berlin-based Transparency International (TI) as the fully accredited national chapter in Bangladesh.





VALUES

TIB is committed to values of democracy, justice, rule of law, transparency, accountability, integrity, and impartiality.

MISSION

TIB's mission is to catalyze and strengthen a participatory social movement to promote and develop institutions, laws, and practices for combating corruption in Bangladesh, and to establish an efficient and transparent system of governance, politics and business.

GOAL

The goal of BIBEC II, the ongoing extended project of TIB, is to promote a more enabling environment for reducing corruption. Its objectives are:

- To advocate for reforms in laws, policies, processes, practices and oversight for improving governance in targeted institutions and sectors.
- To generate peoples' demand for good governance and strengthen citizens' capacity to challenge corruption.

APPROACH

TIB uses a three-pronged approach in its work, which essentially involves--

- Research for knowledge-based advocacy aimed at law/policy reform;
- Engagement with local level stakeholders for generating demand for transparent, effective, and accountable governance; and
- Outreach and communication for fostering citizen's support and building networks, alliances, and partnerships for driving the anti-corruption movement.





2020 HIGHLIGHTS

EVIDENCE BASED RESEARCH

During the reporting period, TIB continued to draw attention to irregularities and corruption across public institutions and selected public services through its research. The research outputs along with recommendations to address the governance gaps in relevant sectors and institutions supported its engagement, advocacy, and outreach programmes, which significantly contributed to increasing citizen's knowledge and amplifying demands to address governance challenges. Hence, the research studies contributed to empowering action against corruption and governance challenges, from both the demand and supply ends. The mainstreaming of anti-corruption policy reforms and implementation efforts during the reporting period continued with substantial public support for policy reform on the demand side and by activating concerned policymakers and concerned authorities at the supply side. contributed to the

A total of 10 studies were released (July 2019-June 2020) during the reporting period.

10 Research Studies

Title of Research, Date of Release



Assessing Synergy between Climate and Development Projects: which one is more effective, efficient, and transparent?

10 July 2019

Parliament Watch (10th Parliament)

28 August 2019



Governance Challenges in Land Deed Registration Service and Way Forward-

9 September 2019

Aedes Mosquito Control in Dhaka City: Governance Challenges and Way Forward

25 September 2019



Governance Challenges in Readiness of Flood 2019 and Relief Works

29 September 2019

Forcibly Displaced Citizen of Myanmar (Rohingya): Management and Governance Challenges and Way Forward

5 December 2019



Rajdhani Unnayan Kartripakkha (RAJUK): Governance Challenges and Way forward

29 January 2020

Employment of Expatriates in Bangladesh: Governance Challenges and Way-out

5 February 2020



Assessment of Bangladesh Anti-Corruption Commission 2018

25 February 2020

Governance Challenges in Tackling Corona Virus (first round)

15 June 2020



Governance Challenges in Tackling Corona Virus

KEY FINDINGS

of some of the studies



Forcibly Displaced Citizen of Myanmar (Rohingya): Management and Governance Challenges and Way Forward

- ⌚ Risks of Institutionalisation of Corruption in Rohingya Assistance
- ⌚ Lack of coordination among implementing agencies, inter-communication, financial inconsistencies
- ⌚ NGOs have been forced to make unauthorised payments of BDT 20,000 to 50,000 and BDT 50,000 to 70,000 respectively for the completion certificate of each project
- ⌚ A section of the camps in-charge are allegedly extorting BDT 2,000 to 5,000 for supervising each programme implemented by the NGOs



RAJUK: Governance Challenges and Way forward

- ⌚ Bribery takes place in RAJUK based on contracts during and after the construction of buildings, and during inspection despite specific fees for services.
- ⌚ Bribe money ranges between Tk 200,000 and Tk 20 million for approval of building construction plans approval.
- ⌚ The amount of unauthorized payment made to inspectors of buildings ranges from Tk 5,000 to Tk 100,000 for the service.
- ⌚ The amount of unauthorized payment required for land clearance ranges from Tk 15,000 to Tk 80,000 for individuals and Tk 1.0 million to Tk 10 million for real estate companies.
- ⌚ Inability of RAJUK to properly implement the budget, lack of transparency, accountability, participation, continued abuse of entrusted power, etc affect the overall governance of RAJUK severely, hampering the development of Dhaka.



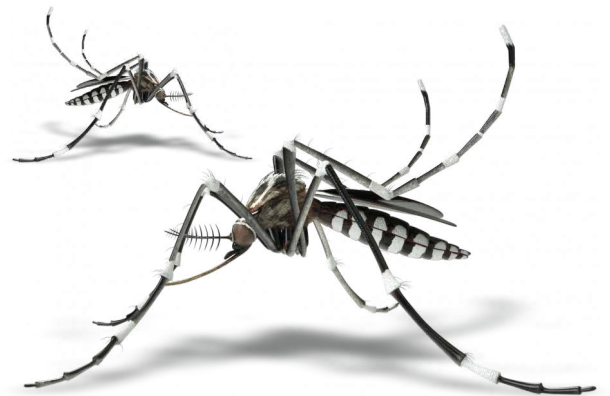
KEY FINDINGS

of some of the studies



Aedes Mosquito Control in Dhaka City: Governance Challenges and Way Forward

- ✎ Corruption took place at every step of the pesticide purchase.
- ✎ Irregularities, mismanagement fueled the Dengue outbreak in 2019.
- ✎ Unplanned and uncoordinated efforts by both DNCC and DSCC to fight the outbreak paved the way for irregularities at every step.
- ✎ No coordinated plan or actions to control Aedes mosquito spread found
- ✎ DNCC and DSCC paid no heed to the early warnings given by the ICDDR,B and the Disease Control Wing of the Health Services with regard to the dengue outbreak.



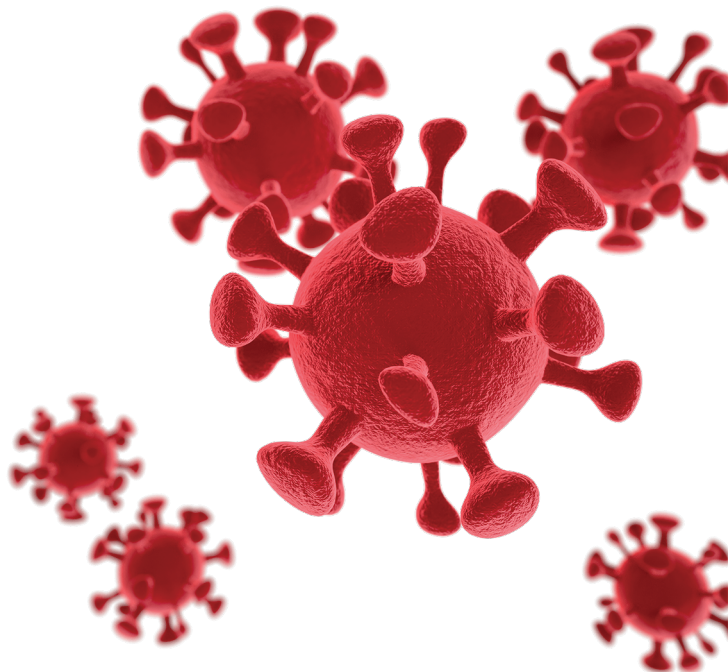
Employment of Expatriates in Bangladesh: Governance Challenges and Way-out

- ✎ An estimated \$3.15 billion (Tk. 26,400 crores) illicitly transferred annually out of the country while the state is losing at least \$1.35 billion (Tk. 12,000 crore) of revenue annually due to tax evasion on this account.
- ✎ Around 250,000 foreign nationals from 44 countries are employed without mandatory appropriate visas and work permits.
- ✎ Corruption and illegality have become institutionalised in the expatriate employment process mainly due to collusive and coercive corrupt practices of relevant parties.
- ✎ Expatriates are mostly engaged in ordinary administrative works, creating unfair competition for the local candidates, in addition to substantial draining of foreign currency in paying remunerations.



Responding CORONA VIRUS Pandemic

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, TIB has played an active and vigilant role through constant advocacy, engagement, and research initiatives. In this process, TIB frequently issued press statements and conducted research on prevalent governance challenges. Its steadfast role contributed to unearthing widespread corruption and irregularities especially in the government adopted initiatives.

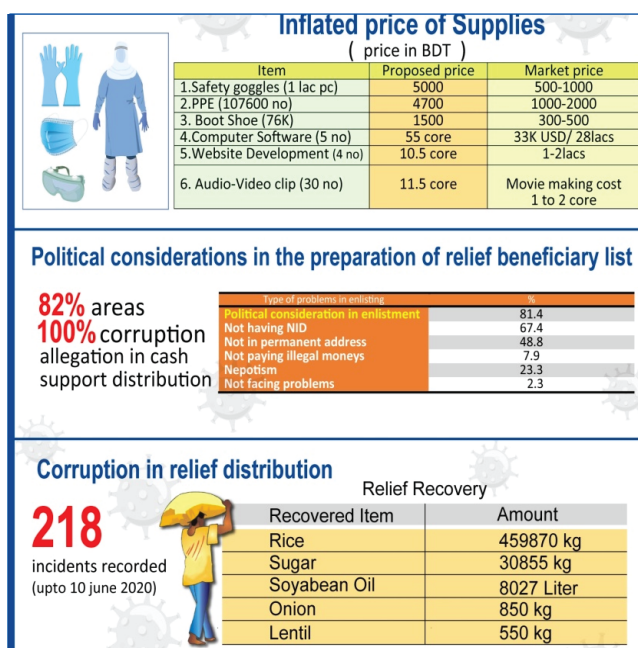
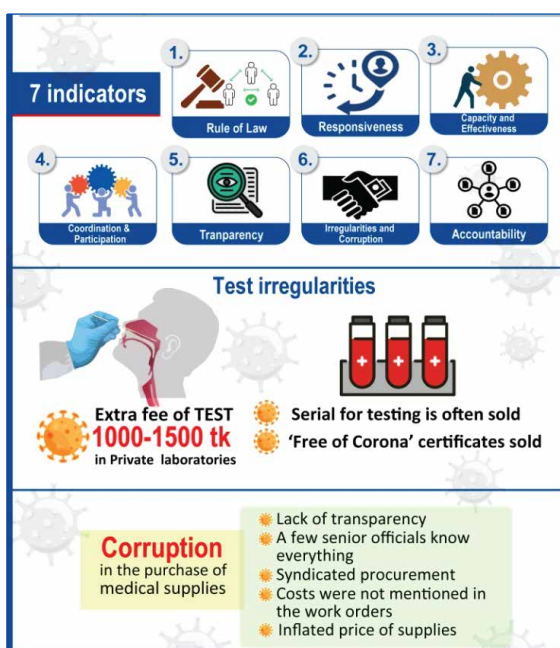


Study on Governance Challenges in Tackling Corona Virus

The study on Governance Challenges in Tackling Corona Virus was launched through a virtual press conference on 15 June 2020.

Main findings

- ✎ Lack of planning, coordination, and mismanagement in identifying and controlling the COVID19 outbreak.
- ✎ Lack of transparency and chronic governance deficiencies in the government adopted initiatives aggravated the crisis.
- ✎ Deficiencies on every indicator of good governance in dealing with the pandemic.
- ✎ Wide prevalence of corruption in procurement and distribution as well as relief operations for the poor and needy.
- ✎ Tendency to cover up irregularities, corruption, and mismanagement through restrictions on disclosure of information and harassment of the whistleblowers.



Advocacy Initiatives and Achievements (National)

Advocacy Engagement

7

Consultation meetings

55

Policy stances on 32 governance issues

8

Policy materials

Over hundreds of online-based advocacy initiatives (March-June 2020)*

TIB's research studies have contributed to many reform initiatives in relevant institutions during the reporting period. Some of the key achievements are given below:

Land Management and Services

- The Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (MoLJPA) formed a four-member sub-committee to review the existing Land Deed Registration system;
- Land service hotline '16122' was launched to address public grievances over services.
- The MoLJPA issued a circular, reducing registration fees of land and flats, where buyers have to pay only 1% of the document price of their lands or flats as registration fees, instead of 2% which had to be paid earlier.
- The Executive Committee of the National Economic Council (ECNEC) approved two projects to automate land-related services for the whole country, except the three hill districts.
- Land offices introduced 24/7 services for providing better services to the private sector. For the individuals, the digital mutation process would take 12 working days in Dhaka and 09 working days in other districts.
- The online database of land records will be available to all districts within six months.

RAJUK

- Based on TIB's recommendation, the Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of Housing and Public works (MoHPW) issued a letter to RAJUK about improving institutional capacity, transparency, accountability and integrity on 23 March 2020.

Aedes Mosquito Control in Dhaka City

- DNCC and DSCC submitted two plans (a year-round and a long term plan) to MoLGRD for review.
- DNCC visited 1.34 lac households in June and 1.3 lac households in July to eliminate/clean the sources of Aedes mosquito larva.
- An Aedes mosquito survey (Pre-monsoon) was conducted by DGHS (19 July).
- To enhance citizen participation, an NGO (Social and economic enhancement programme-SEEP) has initiated a project to work with representatives of DNCC and local citizens in 4 Wards of DNCC.

Private Healthcare

- The government formed a task force to monitor the Coronavirus prevention initiatives as well as other regular medical activities of private healthcare entities.
- The Department of Health circulated a letter on 27 January 2020 informing that an initiative had been taken to conduct surprise visits to public hospitals by higher officials of the Ministry to ensure quality, accessible and improved health services for the people

Employment of Expatriates in Bangladesh

- The Commerce Minister urged the National Board of Revenue (NBR) to bring all foreign workers under the tax net.
- The ACC Chairman called upon relevant institutions to take necessary steps in stopping tax-dodging, whereas the Home Minister stressed better coordination among different branches and directorates to fill the loopholes.

Disaster Management

Recognizing TIB's study findings, the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF) took initiatives to strengthen transparency and accountability in the Department of Disaster Management, i.e. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change issued a circular for conducting shelter-based trials on disaster preparedness.

- The Prime Minister's Office (PMO) formulated One Stop Service Rules, 2020, under the one-stop service Act passed in 2018 for BIDA to facilitate the ease of doing business and speedy services for investors in an online platform. The investors will get at least 90 services from the one stop service (OSS) centre, rendered by 26 government agencies within specific days from the date of application.

The newly appointed Registrar General of the Supreme Court agreed to permit to engage district judges through workshops on improving governance in the **subordinate courts of Bangladesh.**



- The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) withdrew an earlier circular that prohibited the publication of information or news on any public hospital.
- **City Corporation Election schedule of NEC:**
Following a press statement by TIB, the Election Commission rescheduled the Dhaka North and South city corporations to 1st February 2020 instead of 30th January 2020 as it had coincided with the Saraswati Puja of the Hindu community.
- **RMG Sector:**
The Government instructed an obligatory registration of all buying houses under the Department of Textile in July 2019. The Ministry of Commerce issued a subcontract factory guideline during the reporting period.
- **Human Rights Commission:**
The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) accepted a referral system to receive human rights related complaints from 27 October 2019
- **Quality Primary Education:**
The Directorate General (DG) of the Department of Primary Education (DPE) of the Ministry of the Primary and Mass Education (MoPME) agreed to initiate necessary measures to improve the quality of primary education.
- **Power Ministry:**
The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR) initiated to scrap quick rental power plants, discourage costly oil based plants, decided to halt all Coal power plants except the big three and revise the Power Sector Master Plan.
- **Dhaka WASA:**
 - ACC advised LGD on 18 July 2019 to identify and address the irregularities in Dhaka WASA.
 - DNCC and DSCC mayors demanded sole authority over the city drainage and canal management system, for which TIB has been advocating for last few years. The Local Government ministry recently initiated the reforms.
 - Dhaka WASA Managing Director apologized before the High Court Bench for making a false statement that sewerage lines were not connected to the Buriganga River as revealed by a study conducted by TIB.
- **NGO Governance:**
The NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) extended its support to TIB in organizing a divisional workshop jointly on NGO Governance in Khulna. After the workshop, TIB listed down some essential policies for NGOs, which the Bureau sent out to the participating NGOs with the instruction to develop all policies within a proposed timeline
- **Strengthening Governance in Gold trade**
Bangladesh Bank issued the 'Gold Dealership License' to 18 companies for importing gold on 1 December 2019 in line with TIB's recommendation.
- **Public Administration:** After the release of the research report on 'Integrity in Public Administration: Policies and Practices' on 23 June 2019, the government adopted and introduced a rule titled 'Government Employment Rules (Regular Attendance) 2019' to enhance the accountability of public officials in respect of office attendance.

Climate Finance Governance

TIB's evidence-based research recommendations and advocacy initiatives are acknowledged and endorsed by GoB and climate finance actors from the local to the global level. TIB's inputs have helped to reshape climate policies to ensure integrity and strengthen institutions for better climate finance delivery and implementation. By sharing and disseminating evidence from the local level at different high-level climate fora, TIB managed to convey its message to a wide range of stakeholders both at the supply and demand sides. TIB's sustained advocacy with the relevant stakeholders during the Coronavirus pandemic contributed to continued government allocation for the BCCTF from the fiscal year of 2020-21 budget.



Targeting COP 25, TIB shared a position paper and a policy brief on transparency in the implementation of the Paris Agreement and Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage (WIM). TIB's long-standing position 'Climate finance must be new and additional and separate from other development assistance' was included among calls made by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) in COP25, thanks to TIB's persistent engagement with the government delegates to COP 25 and the relevant government offices.

The Green Climate Fund (GCF) board acknowledged TIB's sustained advocacy initiatives supported by evidence-based research in ensuring user-friendly climate finance access mechanisms for developing countries. In addition, TIB's engagement with GCF has contributed to the reshaping of GCF's policy and plan (draft 2020–2023 Strategic Plan) for transparent implementation of GCF projects. GCF also agreed to ease the funding criteria for Direct Access Entities (DAEs) for enhanced access to GCF funding.

The Study on 'Assessing Synergy between Climate and Development Projects: which one is more effective, efficient and transparent?' by TIB recommended that the ongoing projects under Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund (BCCTF) should follow the project implementation and monitoring process of the Annual Development Plan (ADP) projects, as ADP financed projects are perceived to be better than the BCCTF financed projects in terms of effectiveness.

Moreover, TIB's partnership with TI-Nepal strengthened during the period through a scale-up programme composed of various activities, such as, field visits and GCF project tracking; stakeholder meetings with GCF stakeholders; AI-Desks etc., The scale-up programme provided necessary orientation to TI Nepal colleagues for replicating TIB's climate finance governance activities in Nepal.

Pursuant to TIB's intervention, the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MoEMR) has initiated the process to stop funding expensive quick rental power plants and considering the limiting of coal-fired power development to 5GW, instead of focusing more on gas-fired power. TIB reviewed the Power Sector Master Plan 2016 and shared a position paper on the illegal probation of funding for quick rental power plants suggesting amendments. Moreover, TIB reviewed and disseminated a policy brief on the new draft Forest Bill - the 'Khosra Bon Ain, 2019' among the stakeholders.

At the local level, TIB's advocacy efforts in climate vulnerable areas, like Barisal and Jhalakati districts, successfully convinced relevant authorities to agree to form a committee engaging both Govt. district officials and Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to monitor the implementation of climate funded projects for ensuring transparency and accountability. The World Environment Day 2020 was observed by TIB at the national level and CCCs at all the 45 areas across the country with several awareness raising events.

PARTNERSHIP

34 Joint initiatives
with **13** alliances and partnerships



The teaming up with other stakeholders has long been an essential element of TIB's strategic approach to engaging with the government and authorities at the local level. TIB continued joint initiatives through partnerships and alliances with other NGOs at both national and sub-national levels. These included campaigns on the Right to Information Act, day observance-specific activities and campaigns with Cabinet Division, Anti-Corruption Commission, Information Commission, and others.



In a joint effort to strengthen internal governance in the local Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), TIB and NGO Affairs Bureau (NGOAB) under the PMO jointly organized a divisional workshop in Khulna, the first of the planned eight divisional workshops across the country.



With the assistance of the Cabinet Division under the PMO, TIB organized a daylong workshop on 'SDGs, Good Governance and Women' to mark the International Women's Day 2020 where 24 female UNOs from 08 divisions participated.

Two workshops on 'Lower Judiciary: Governance Challenges and Way forward' were held in Khulna and Chattogram, where Judges including District and Session Judges, District Legal Aid Officers, representatives from District Bar Associations, NGOs and CCC members took part. Besides, the lower Judiciary authority of Mymensingh and Sylhet set up three separate Advice and Complaint boxes in the court premises following the action plan that they had developed in the workshop organized by TIB and respective CCCs.



A report prepared and published by Market Forces and 350.org in collaboration with Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB), Waterkeepers Bangladesh and Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon reveals that a 63-fold coal power expansion, designed to increase the coal power capacity of Bangladesh from the current level of one coal plant generating 525 MW to 29 coal plants generating 33,250 MW, is going to take place in Bangladesh, which will emit 115 million tonnes of carbon dioxide annually, dramatically



TIB, in collaboration with Dhaka University Moot Court Society (DUMCS), the Faculty of Law, University of Dhaka organized a 3-day long DUMCS-TIB Anti-Corruption Moot Court Competition 2019, the second of its kind, from 28-30 November 2019 to enhance anti-corruption awareness among the students of law schools across Bangladesh. A total of 104 participants including 78 law students and 26 coaches from participated in the competition.

TIB continued to engage with NGO/INGOs to provide a comparative analysis of the Draft Foreign Donation (FD) Rules prepared by the Ministry of Law and Parliamentary Affairs proposed by NGOAB as part of a series of collaborative efforts between a group of leading NGOs and their networks with the NGO Affairs Bureau.



TIB organized training on 'Effective Investigation of Corruption' to capacitate 30 mid-level and higher mid-level ACC investigators of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Bangladesh.



TIB inaugurated a Sotota Store (seller-free shop) at Gaibandha Collegiate Model Government Primary School in Gaibandha, in Partnership with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), Gaibandha CCC.

In partnership with the Information Commission (IC), TIB organized a training workshop titled 'Role of Designated Officers in Implementing RTI Act 2009' where a total of 31 Designated Officers (DO) from different Govt. offices participated.

TIB inked an MOU with the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) for the third term agreeing to continue joint efforts to fight corruption. TIB also signed an MoU with the Information Commission (IC) for the second time on 11 December 2019 to initiate youth engagement programmes for the promotion of the effective use of the RTI Act, providing orientation on RTI Act for marginalized communities and capacity building training for designated information officers (DIOs).

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

TIB's programmatic interventions at the local level spearheaded by the Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCCs) continued the vigilant watchdog role, especially in key public service delivery institutions. With support from Youth Engagement and Support (YES) groups along with auxiliary groups SWAJAN, YES friends and Young Professionals against Corruption (YPAC), CCCs across the country succeeded in mobilizing citizens to ensure access to public services by their right resisting corruption.

Citizens reached in numbers

2,328 activities

2,09,685 engaged

Male 1,23,073

Female 86,612

Marginalised 27,361

Engagement
with different
Authorities

346

Outreach and
Campaigns by
Core Actors

527

Engagement
of
Core Actors

1161

Local need based
Special Initiatives
by Core Actors

294

CCCs' sustained engagement through social accountability tools contributed to informing and empowering citizens to resist corruption and improve public service delivery.

Corruption is
antithetical to
the spirit of
Ekushey

Wake-up People,
Resist
Corruption

Corruption
Increases Poverty
& Injustice. Let's
Fight it Together -
Now

Stand up -
for Women's
Rights

Wake-up
People, Resist
Corruption

Invincible
Youth Shall
Surely Resist
Corruption

Let's fight
corruption in
the spirit of
independence
and invincible
youth

Different government authorities issued 50 written directives/letters to their subordinate offices to adopt TIB's best practices of which--



A total of 7234 institutions were directed to introduce measures to improve institutional integrity with best practices identified by TIB in different sectors. Some concrete examples are given below:

- **6744** Government Primary Schools in 15 CCC areas have introduced the practice of providing money receipts for payments made.
- TIB-produced 'Bornomalay Nitikotha' to promote ethics education etc.
- **79** Upazilla Health Complexes in 8 CCC areas have set up information boards with the names of the DIOs, breastfeeding corners, and complaint boxes; ensured earmarked services for women, lists of services delivered, separate counters for ticket and medicine dispersal, separate toilets for men and women, and maintaining Right to Information register etc.
- **113** The Union Parishads at four CCC areas introduced TIB recommended governance tools e.g., display of cost of listed services, project related information, DIO's names clearly stated on boards, UP budget, VGD selection criteria etc.
- **102** The Union Parishads under Dinajpur district were instructed to implement TIB's recommendations and best practices to improve transparency and accountability in service delivery, while 260 institutions in other districts have taken initiatives to ensure free flow of information.
- **07** Union Land Offices at Chakaria & Sreemangal CCC areas have set up Citizens Charters, information boards with DIO's name, complaint and advice boxes, staff information board and restricted brokers to ensure institutional integrity and enabling environment for services recipients.
- **06** Branch offices of Bangladesh Water Development Board in Sunamganj were instructed to ensure transparency, accountability, citizens' participation including women and marginalized, free flow of information, set up complaint redressal mechanism etc.

Komla Begum secures her right

Komela Begum (40) is the permanent resident of Akpaizujkhola village of 2 no. Kadamtala Union under Pirojpur Sadar Upazilla. Her husband Akbar Ali Sheikh, an aged fisherman, is the sole bread earner of the family.

Under the Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) programme, the Department of Women Affairs, Pirojpur selected a total of 220 beneficiaries from Komla Begum's area for the 2019–2020 VGD cycle. Komela Begum was enlisted on the VGD list for the first time as a beneficiary. She was happy that she could finally support her family financially. Sadly, she became a victim of corruption, when the elected female UP member, instead of handing over the VGD card to Komela Begum, personally enjoyed the benefits using the VGD card under a forged signature.



Komela Begum took the matter to the UP Chairman without any results. Later, she visited CCC Pirojpur along with her husband and shared her concern. The respective Area Manager helped her in applying to the Deputy Director, Department of Women Affairs, Pirojpur with a copy to the Deputy Director - Local Government, Upazilla Nirbahi Officer and the Chairman of 2 No. Kadamtala Union Parishad, Pirojpur.

Following her application, the Department of Women Affairs, Pirojpur issued a letter to the respective UP chairman on 03 November 2019 requesting to take necessary steps after verifying the authenticity of the matter. Finally, the UP Chairman Md. Hanif Khan handed over the VGD Card to Komela Begum on 13 November 2019 in addition to the arrears (90 kilogram rice) for three months, from July to September 2019.

After getting the VGD card, Komela Begum visited the CCC office and expressed her gratitude to CCC for their support. She said, "I had communicated with the female UP member several times for my VGD card but got no result. Now, I have got my card with the help of CCC. CCC has guided me throughout the process. I am really grateful."

During the reporting period, a total of 319 citizens have received services from the Advocacy and Legal Advice Center (ALAC), of which 70.53% were male and 29.46% were female. A total of 363 complaints were received and re-addressed accordingly by providing various services within mentioned time.

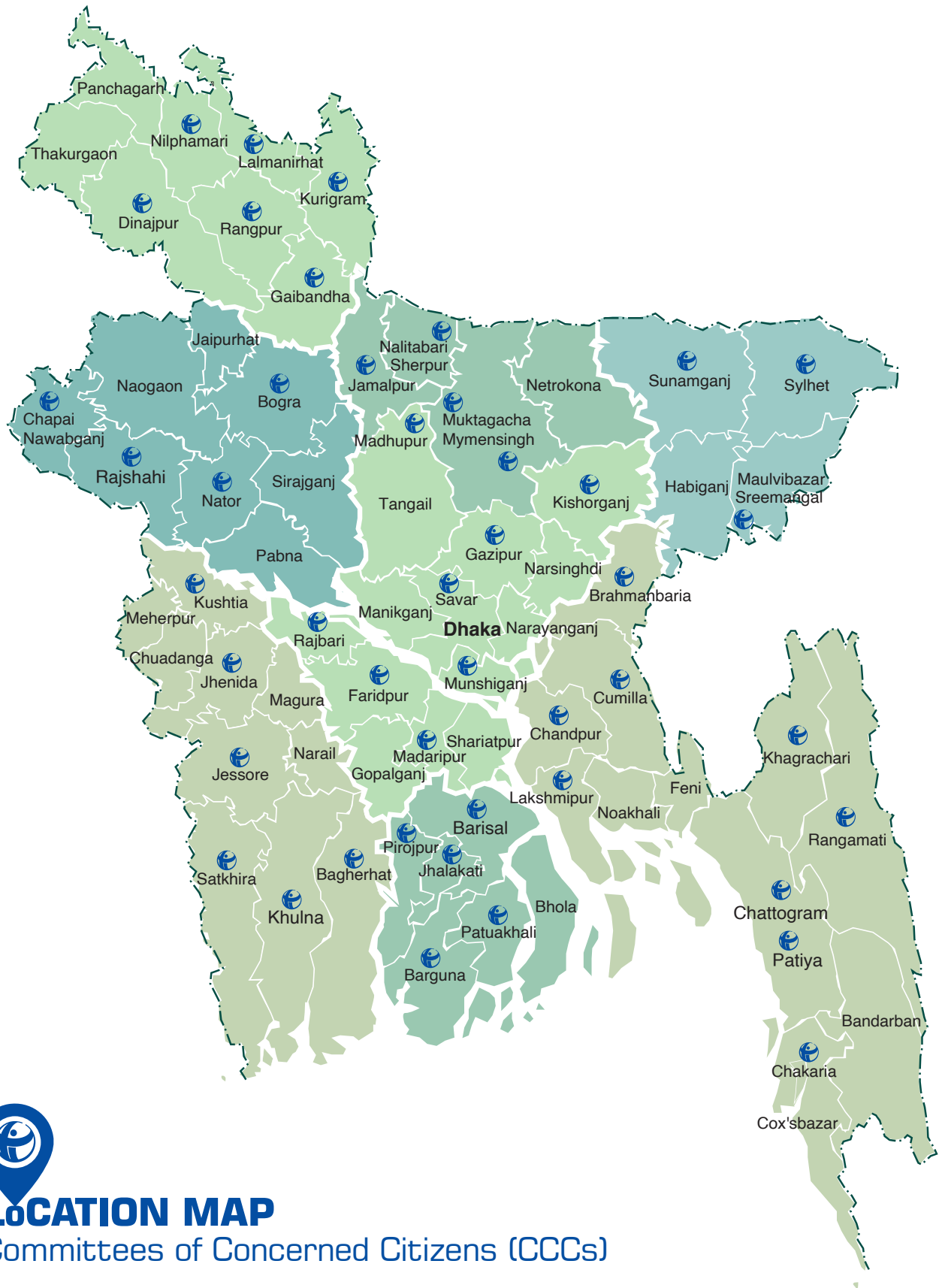
Papel Mia gets a refund of BDT 40,000

Papel Mia (21), a poor farmer at Fulpur, Mymensingh, had an electricity connection in the name of his father Noab Ali for running an irrigation pump. Every year during the irrigation season he used to pay the bill in cash instalments to a staff of PDB for 4800 kWh as per contract. The concerned staff tampered the bill ledgers and pocketed the money paid by Papel Mia and many other farmers.

On 21st January 2019, Papel Mia met the ALAC Facilitator at a Satellite Advice and Information (AI) Desk arranged by CCC, Mymensingh at Mymensingh Medical College and Hospital. On 3 February 2019 he visited CCC-Mymensingh for necessary information and advice. Following the advice of ALAC, Papel Mia filed a written complaint against the staff of PDB-Fulpur in the Power Court, Mymensingh. The honourable Judge accepted the complaint as a case and ordered the Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) to investigate the allegation.

Finally, the accused officials admitted their fault and refunded BDT. 40,000.00 to Papel Mia.

WHERE WE WORK



LOCATION MAP

Committees of Concerned Citizens (CCCs)

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT



During the reporting period, TIB continued to engage and empower young activists against corruption and to support reform/change initiatives on a range of topics aiming at resisting all types of irregularities and corruption. Through its youth engagement programmes, TIB-inspired Youth Engagement and Support (YES) members and YES Friends, both in Dhaka and CCC areas, undertook anti-corruption activities through different public awareness campaigns and programmes throughout the year. Besides, in addition to on-campus and off-campus awareness raising events, YES activists spearheaded diversified anti-corruption activities when observing national and international days including, the International Youth Day, the International Right to Know Day, the International Women's Day, the World Environment Day, and the International Anti-Corruption Day.

The youth engagement programmes of TIB included anti-corruption oath-taking by students, anti-corruption cartoon exhibitions, game shows, street theatre shows, human chains and rallies, debates and extempore speech competitions, orientations and trainings on- RTI, TI and TIB's social movement against corruption, basic photography and video documentary making, seminars, study circles and quiz competitions on different issues i.e. SDGs and good governance, consumers' rights protection, traffic law and road safety, online harassment and cyber security, Corruption Perceptions Index, anti-corruption social movement, etc.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION



Information Fairs at the local level reach in numbers

40 Information fairs

organized jointly with local authorities

1080 Institutions

(government and non-government) set up stalls YES/YES friends' members oriented thousands of visitors on the application procedure

11,579 citizens

submitted RTI applications to different authorities.

Youth Campaigns on RTI

On the eve of 10 years' celebration of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2009, YES and YES Friends groups of Dhaka and 45 Committee of Concerned Citizens (CCCs) chalked out a month-long outreach events to observe the Right to Information (RTI) day. With great enthusiasm, the young people organised various events including rallies, human chains, street theatres, sticker campaigns, advice and information desks, cultural programmes, and anti-corruption cartoons and photo exhibitions. Highlighting the theme 'Tothyer Odhikar, Shushashoner Hatiyar; Toththoi Shakti, Durniti Theke Mukti' (Right to information is a tool of good governance; Information is the power to get rid of corruption), hundreds of Dhaka-based YES members from 16 groups held public campaigns in different places of the capital.



RTI Campaign at local level Reach in Numbers

18,307

People sensitized about RTI act



Male 10,121



Female 8,186

15,153

citizens received RTI orientation on

7,134

applications filed seeking information

authorities addressed

2,900 applications

Youth in Bangladesh in solidarity with Global Climate Strike



To ensure a livable world for the future generation, hundreds of children and youth called upon the world as well as Bangladeshi political and Government leaders, investors, and funders to act responsibly bearing in mind the risks to survival of generations due to climate change and close all coal-based power projects through gradually increasing use of renewable energy by 2030. The demands were unequivocally made on 27 September in human chains organized by TI Bangladesh in Dhaka and in 45 different districts and sub-districts simultaneously in solidarity with the Global Climate Strike.



Four Dhaka YES groups organized an awareness campaign at the Dhaka International Trade Fair 2020 on the Consumers Rights Protection Act, 2009, with the support of the Directorate of National Consumer Rights Protection (DNCRP).

Dhaka YES theatre group performed a drama titled "Chicking Fak" with anti-corruption messages in four different places in Dhaka.

Youth-led voluntary initiatives in response to Covid-19

Adapting to the 'new normal' in the wake of Covid19 pandemic, Dhaka YES groups implemented all their activities via online platforms. Since the advent of the pandemic, YES groups have been conducting meetings, making awareness raising videos and poster campaigns, organizing webinars, training and various competitions through different online platforms, such as, Zoom, Google Meet, Skype, Facebook etc. Responding to the pandemic, YES and YES Friends groups at the local level carried out a series of voluntary activities ranging from public awareness campaigns to food distribution and financial support for the vulnerable people.



In the first three and half months of the Coronavirus pandemic, Dhaka YES groups produced three video contents to raise awareness among the people about Covid-19 and its prevention methods. Besides, during the reporting period, YES groups organized several webinars on Covid-19 relevant issues like "Understanding the Covid-19 Pandemic", "Covid-19 Pandemic's Impact on Education", "Environment and Nature during COVID-19" and "Invincible Youth in the Crisis of Covid-19 Pandemic" etc.

A total of

1306

Core Actors of TIB (Female: 364, Male: 942), predominantly led by youth (700), voluntarily engage in COVID-19 response initiatives.

A total of

31,995

health advisories distributed

YES and YES Friends members launched awareness raising campaigns by distributing health advisories, masks, soaps, hand sanitisers, bleaching powder, etc., in their respective communities. They worked as volunteers of the District or Upazila administration, City Corporation, Union Parishad, voluntary organizations etc. and helped to prepare lists of persons who are desperately in need of relief.

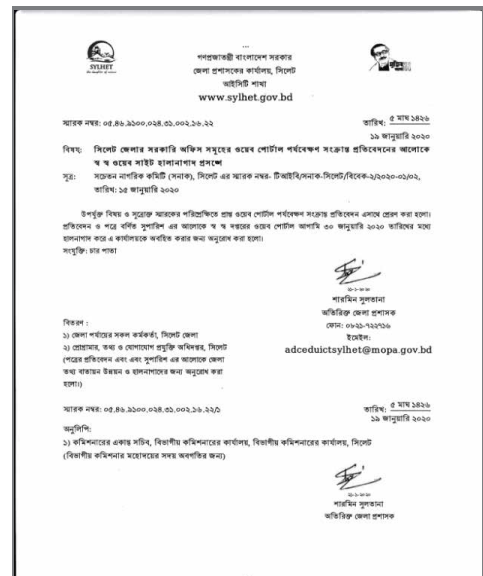


Citizens benefit from updated Web portals of different Government offices in Sylhet

In August 2019, a group of YES Members of CCC, Sylhet identified that the Designated Information Officer (DIO) related information, citizens' charter, organogram, budget etc. were missing from the Webpage of Sylhet Metropolitan Police. Out of curiosity, they visited Web portals of some other government offices in Sylhet division and found that most of them had not updated in a long time. They proposed that the CCC should flag this concern with the district administration. Accordingly, CCC shared this information with the Additional Deputy Commissioner (ADC) of Sylhet by via an email on 29 August 2019. On 23 September 2019, Md. Aslam Uddin, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Education & ICT) issued an official letter to Designated Information Officers at all district level offices to update their respective Web portals.

Subsequently, the YES Members conducted a study on the status of web portals of several other institutions under the supervision of CCC, Sylhet. Finally, on 15 January 2020, the CCC Sylhet met the Deputy Commissioner (DC) of Sylhet with the findings and submitted a written recommendation. Consequently, on 16 January 2020, the Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Sylhet Sadar issued a letter titled 'Observation on Web portal Status' to all government offices of Sylhet Sadar, asking them to update their Web portals. The same instruction was sent to district offices by the ADC (Education & ICT) with a deadline of 30 January 2020.

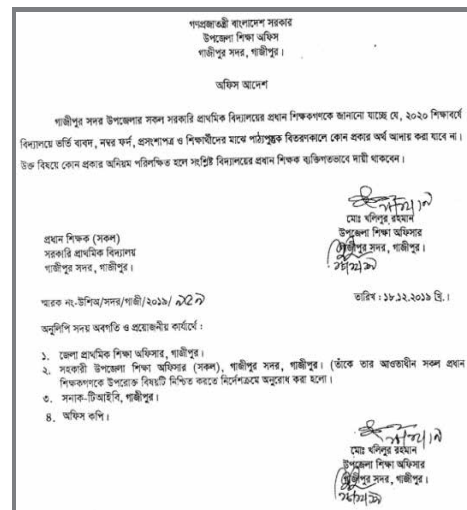
Now citizens are getting the benefit of viewing updated Web portals of different government offices as a result of the effective advocacy initiative by the Youth Engagement and Support (YES) Group of CCC, Sylhet.



Illegal cash collection stopped at 168 Primary School of Gazipur

In December 2019, some YES Members of CCC, Gazipur received complaints from the guardians of a number of Government Primary Schools (GPS) of Gazipu Sadar Upazila alleging that they were being forced to pay extra cash (BDT 100-200 each) when collecting testimonials of Primary School Certificate (PSC) examination. Later, they raised the issue with the CCC requesting for an advocacy initiative.

Accordingly, the concern was communicated to the UNO of Gazipur Sadar, who, in turn, advised the Upazila Education Officer (UEO) to issue an official letter to Headmasters of all 168 GPS under Gazipur Sadar to refrain from collecting money from students and guardians for the testimonial. The advice was duly followed.



Letter issued by Upazila Education Officer

CARTOON[^]

EXHIBITION



MEDIA ENGAGEMENT

Investigative Journalism (IJ) Awards 2019



MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



In the fight against corruption, TIB considers media and journalists as one of the key stakeholders and emphasises the media's crucial role in presenting both sides of corruption related news to the public. TIB believes that an independent media contributes significantly to influencing citizens to create pressure on the government to initiate necessary reforms of policies and procedures.



To mark the International Anti-Corruption Day, TIB organised a media dialogue on Challenges to Investigative Journalism from the perspective of media capture in Bangladesh. This event hosted representatives and journalists from Print, Electronic and Online Media, academicians, NGO officials and experts. The Dialogue was followed by the announcement of the Investigative Journalism Awards 2019, which recognise the contribution of efforts and success of journalist in exposing administrative irregularities and mismanagement and institutional and systematic corruption. Awards were given under four categories – Print Media (Local), Print Media (National), Electronic Media (Report), and Electronic Media (Documentary).

Towards SDGs

Along with the programmatic and thematic approach of its core project – BIBEC, which includes education, health, local government, land and climate finance governance, and beyond, TIB has been consistent with its mandate and scope of work mainly towards Goal 16, e.g., promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, especially for its cross-cutting implications for all other goals.



Of particular relevance to the anti-corruption agenda is SDG 16 on sustainable governance, most notably targets 16.4 on illicit financial flows, 16.5 on bribery and corruption, 16.6 on effective, accountable and transparent institutions, and 16.10 on access to information.

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages

CCC's sustained engagement through social accountability tools contributed to informing and empowering citizens to resist corruption and improved public service delivery. A total of 2328 activities engaged 2,09,685 of which male 1,23,073, Female 86,612.

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all

6744 Government Primary Schools in 15 CCC areas have introduced money receipt barring collecting money without a receipt, TIB-produced 'Bornomalay Nitikotha' to promote ethics education etc.

5 GENDER EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

With the assistance of the Cabinet Division under the PMO, TIB organized a day-long workshop on 'SDGs, Good Governance and Women' to mark the International Women's Day 2020 where 24 female UNOs from 08 divisions participated.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all

ACC advised LGD to identify and address the irregularities in Dhaka WASA. Following TIB research and repeated policy statements indicating the failure of WASA, City corporations and relevant authorities in resolving Dhaka city's water logging problem, mayors of two city corporations demanded that they have absolute control over the drainage and canal management system. Local Government ministry recently initiated the reform.

7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

The Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources (MPEMR) initiated to shut down quick rental power plants, discourage costly oil based plants, and halt all Coal power plant except the big three and revise Power Sector Master Plan

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

Study on Employment of Expatriates in Bangladesh: Governance Challenges and Way-out released.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable

A study on RAJUK: Governance Challenges and Way forward released.

13 CLIMATE ACTION



Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

Two studies on 'Assessing Synergy between Climate and Development Projects: which one is more effective, efficient and transparent?', and "Choked by Coal: The Carbon Catastrophe in Bangladesh" were released. Networking meetings with local level CFG stakeholders in Pirajpur, Satkhira, Barguna, and Patuakhali were held.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

6 research studies on challenges of different bodies and institutions were released. 7 consultations meetings with 6 policy briefs, 1 Position paper, 1 Policy feedback took place.

TIB'S

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

as of 30 December 2020

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AUDITED
FINANCIAL
STATEMENT



Independent Auditors' Report To the Board of Trustees

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of **Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)**, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2020, and the Statement of Income and Expenditure, Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the Financial Position of the organization as at 30 June 2020, and its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs), the Foreign Donation (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act 2016 and other applicable laws and regulations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the organization in accordance with the ethical requirement that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Bangladesh, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRSs, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the organization's financial reporting process.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that gives a true and fair view.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Report on other legal and Regulatory Requirement

We also report the followings:

- a) we have obtained all the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit and made due verification thereof;
- b) in our opinion, proper books of account as required by law have been kept by the Organization so far as it appeared from our examination of these books; and
- c) the statement of financial position, statement of income and expenditure, and statement of receipts and payments dealt with by the report are in agreement with the books of account.

Dated: Dhaka
10 September 2020


MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2020

Particulars	Notes	Amount in BDT	
		30-Jun-2020	30-Jun-2019
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipments	5.1	1,826,231	6,139,461
Intangible assets	5.2	231	41,500
Investment in FDR		-	2,000,000
		1,826,462	8,180,961
Current assets			
Advances, deposits & prepayments	6	5,221,859	5,500,538
Receivables	7	178,009	1,114,420
Cash & cash equivalents	8	95,626,619	72,271,587
		101,026,487	78,886,545
TOTAL ASSETS		102,852,949	87,067,506
LIABILITIES AND FUNDS			
Liabilities	9	4,342,922	9,343,693
Represented by:			
Due to donor	10	89,556,496	64,876,174
TIB general fund	11	7,127,069	6,666,677
Fixed asset fund- unfunded	12	1,826,462	6,180,962
Total funds		98,510,027	77,723,813
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUNDS		102,852,949	87,067,506

The accompanying notes from 1 to 26 and annexure 1 to 7 from an integral part of these Financial Statements.


Treasurer


Executive Director


Chairperson

Auditors report
See annexed report of date

Dated: Dhaka
10 September 2020


MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)
Statement of Income and Expenditure
For the year ended on 30 June 2020

Particulars	Notes	Amount in BDT	
		1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019
INCOME			
Grants income	13	374,653,341	428,872,135
Income for general fund (Annexure # 5)		338,543	714,498
Total income		374,991,884	429,586,633
EXPENDITURE			
Salary and allowance	19	286,223,965	291,194,773
Travel cost	20	3,643,133	6,467,988
Staff training and capacity building cost	21	12,624	417,847
Operating cost	22	60,938,209	75,783,929
Activity cost	23	23,874,637	54,058,684
Capacity building of CCC, YES, YES Friends and Partners	24	28,572	1,160,816
Property, plant and equipment (Non capitalized expenditure)	25	133,893	278,697
Technical support and consultancy cost		136,850	223,900
Total expenditures		374,991,884	429,586,633

The accompanying notes from 1 to 26 and annexure 1 to 7 from an integral part of these Financial Statements.


Treasurer


Executive Director


Chairperson

Auditors report
See annexed report of date

Dated: Dhaka
10 September 2020


MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountant

Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB)
Statement of Receipts and Payments
For the year ended on 30 June 2020

Particulars	Notes	Amount in BDT	
		1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020	1 July 2018 to 30 June 2019
Opening balance			
Cash in hand	8	295,074	278,718
Cash at bank		71,976,513	59,930,353
		72,271,587	60,209,071
Receipts			
Foreign grants	10.1	394,606,377	425,137,736
Other foreign grants (Travel reimbursements)		35,132	619,172
Membership fee	14	45,600	27,200
Others- EOSB, Staff welfare and Loan refund	15	6,542,124	1,109,775
Bank interest	16	941,415	230,829
Other income	17	149,572	145,414
Received against capital expenditure	18	-	459,932
Total receipts		402,320,220	427,730,058
Total		474,591,809	487,939,129
Payments			
Salary and allowance	19	288,728,957	288,533,801
Travel cost	20	3,704,778	6,267,579
Staff training and capacity building cost	21	12,624	417,847
Operating cost	22	56,766,554	63,267,618
Activity cost	23	23,533,484	52,867,868
Capacity building of CCC, YES, YES Friends and Partners	24	28,572	1,160,816
Property, plant and equipment (Non capitalized expenditure)	25	133,893	278,697
Technical support and consultancy cost		136,850	223,900
Property, plant and equipment (capitalized expenditure)		130,746	1,196,109
Other adjustment	26	5,788,732	1,453,309
Total payments		378,965,190	415,667,543
Closing balance:			
Cash in hand	8	329,723	295,074
Cash at bank		95,296,896	71,976,513
		95,626,619	72,271,587
Total		474,591,809	487,939,129

The accompanying notes from 1 to 26 and annexure 1 to 7 from an integral part of these Financial Statements.


Treasurer


Executive Director
Auditors Report
See annexed report of date


Chairperson

Dated: Dhaka
10 September 2020


MABS & J Partners
Chartered Accountants

ABBREVIATIONS

ACA	Anti-Corruption Agency
ACC	Anti-Corruption Commission
AI Desk	Advice and Information Desk
ALAC	Advocacy and Legal Advice Centre
ALRD	Association for Land Reform and Development
BCCTF	Bangladesh Climate Change Trust Fund
BIBEC	Building Integrity Blocks for Effective Change
CAG	Comptroller and Auditor General
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCC	Committee of Concerned Citizens
CFG	Climate Finance Governance
CPCs	Corruption Prevention Committees
CSO	Civil Society Organization
DFID	Department for International Development
EOD	Embassy of Denmark
F&A	Finance and Administration
FtP	Face the Public
IYD	International Youth Day
KUDS	Khulna University Debating Society
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NIS	National Integrity System
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
RMG	Ready-made Garment
RTI	Right to Information
SDC	Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SWAJON	Swachhotar Jonno Nagorik (Citizens for Transparency)
TI	Transparency International
TIB	Transparency International Bangladesh
YES	Youth Engagement and Support
UNO	Upazila Nirbahi Officer



TRANSPARENCY
INTERNATIONAL
BANGLADESH

Social movement against corruption

Supported by



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EMBASSY OF SWEDEN



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



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