

ITEM 3: Strategies for strengthening for social protection in the implementation of the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific

Ministry of Social Welfare

**Dear Chair, Excellences, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen
Good Morning/Good Afternoon**

In the context of Bangladesh, vision on Social Welfare, is “*To build better life and caring society*”

To implementing the vision, various types of Programs to reduce inequality in different sector in society and Empowerment of disadvantaged segments specially for Women and Marginalized people of Bangladesh. To develop or strengthen social protection system, Government implementing different programs under Social Safety Net Programs, like Old Age Allowances, Widows Allowances and Allowances for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs).

The Country has also undertaken multidimensional and intensive programs for the welfare of disadvantaged segment, unemployed, landless, orphans, distressed, vagrants, homeless, socially, intellectually and physically challenged and neuro-developmental challenged. Besides these, poor and helpless patients, children at risk of both rural and urban areas have been taken under special consideration.

Ministry of Social Welfare and the departments and agencies affiliated with it have been implementing multi-purpose activities to implement of the ICPD/APMD in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and also a lead ministry of NSSS (National Social Security Program) of Bangladesh.

Different policies and activities are taken to build a strong social protection system for older person and person with disabilities and their vulnerabilities to poverty and social isolation are as follows:

Related Legal Frame/Policies in Bangladesh

- ❖ The Children Act, 2013 (in which the development, protection & care for the disable children are mentioned)
- ❖ The Rights and Protections of PWDs Act- 2013

- ❖ The Protection of Neuro-Developmental Disability Trust Act, 2013
- ❖ Parental Supervision Act-2013
- ❖ Elderly Policy-2013
- ❖ The National Policy on Disability, 1995
- ❖ The National Action Plan on Disability, 2006

Different Allowances and Financial Aids are provided as-

1. Old Age Allowance.
2. Allowance for the Widow and Husband Deserted Women
3. Allowance for the Insolvent Persons with Disabilities; and many others like these

We are implementing some Poverty reduction program like

- ❖ Rural Social Services Programme through micro-finance
- ❖ Rural Mother centre through micro-finance
- ❖ Rehabilitation for acid burn and PWDs
- ❖ Urban community Development

Some Child Protection and Development Program like:

- ❖ Government Orphanage (Child Home)
- ❖ Baby Home
- ❖ Day care center---- are implemented in the country

Some ongoing programs on Protection and Development for the Persons with Disabilities (PWD) including Autism are:

- ❖ Disability detection survey
- ❖ Training and rehabilitation for PWDs
- ❖ Integrated education for visually impaired
- ❖ Special Schools for the Children with autism
- ❖ Hostel for the working people with disabilities (male and female)
- ❖ Autism Resource Centre for addressing the developmental disorder
- ❖ National Disability Complex and Disability Sports Complex
- ❖ Disabled Children Home
- ❖ National Social Security Strategy (NSSS)-2015

Bangladesh is also formulating New Policies for PWDs and Autism on

- ❖ Inclusive Education Policy 2018 for Neuro Developmental Disabilities
- ❖ Inclusive Education Policy 2018 for Children with Disabilities except Neuro Developmental Disabilities
- ❖ Cochlear Implant policy 2018

Since Social Safety net Programs initiated in FY 2009-10, coverage of Financial assistance for the beneficiary in number, as well as budget have been gradually increased from 52% to 425% for different beneficiary groups.

In light of the special needs of persons with disabilities, efforts are being made to integrate them into the mainstream of society as skilled manpower by providing accommodation, education and training under special management, and supplying them assistive devices.

Mr. Chair, in conclusion, I would like to mention that, in line with strategies for strengthening social protection in the implementation of 2030 Agenda, Bangladesh have taken all the action plan to eradicate poverty aligning with Seventh Five-Year Plan and Vision 2021 and SDGs, where, all the disadvantaged, marginalized and back ward people have been included.

Thank you very much for your patience!