



Leather and leather goods possess the quality of earning more foreign currencies.

World Customs Organization (WCO) International Convention on Simplification and Harmonization of Procedures (Revised Kyoto Convention). As a result, our customs department will follow the international standards and best practices set by the WCO in its day-to-day operations. In addition, Bangladesh has signed the WCO SAFE Framework of Standards with a view to strengthen the security and participation of customs department in trade liberalisation. Diversity and innovation in the role of customs department has increased manifolds in this century. Its role has been extended from preventing entrance of counterfeit medicine and other goods to urgently clearing relief goods during the time of natural disasters. To ensure more active participation in these efforts, representation of customs department in the World Customs Organization in Brussels need to be increased. The process of such placement is underway.

298. Currently, in Bangladesh, there is no separate H.S. Code for solar power driven water distillation plant. It is reported that initiatives for establishing such plants have been taken in many parts of the country. In this context, I propose to provide import tariff exemption to this product similar to capital machineries by allocating a separate H.S. Code.

299. Considering the volume of import and export, launching of new products due to technological advancement and on the basis of proposals made by the member countries, World Custom Organization changes the six digits H.S. Code in every five years. After 2007, such changes have been made again in 2012. As documents of such changes have been received from WCO, I propose to introduce necessary amendments and changes in Bangladesh Customs Tariff (BCT) and other relevant SROs.

300. At present, a plenty of *Hilsha* fish is exported from Bangladesh. Currently, there is no separate H.S. Code for *Hilsha* fish in Bangladesh Customs Tariff (BCT). Instead, other fishes are also exported using the same code and as a result, authentic data regarding *Hilsha* export cannot be reported. In this context, I propose to introduce a separate H.S. Code for ensuring the accurate record of *Hilsha* export.

Chapter X Conclusion

Mr. Speaker

301. You are aware that though we shall have one more opportunity to propose a budget, the responsibility of its implementation will lie with the next government. In this regard, this is the last complete budget of this government. This is why, in my opening remarks, I identified this budget as a great challenge. From the very beginning, therefore, I tried sincerely to present before the nation the extent of our achievements in the implementation of the initiatives, work plans and commitments that we outlined in the last three budgets.

302. At the end of the budget speech, let me once again reiterate that we have made a good start in implementing the master plan of development for Bangladesh we initiated on the basis of 'Vision 2021'. We have not only been able to accelerate the economic growth, but also have brought down rapidly the income and human poverty. Increasing significantly

from FY2007-08 onwards, the financial deepening of our economy has now reached 56 percent. During the last three years, trade openness of our economy has increased from 26 percent to 69 percent. The responsibility of implementing the unfinished tasks that we planned to execute will lie with the next government. We believe in a democratic polity and therefore whoever comes to power will set an inimitable example by accomplishing our unfinished tasks.

Mr. Speaker

303. Today, I recall the unfailing message of the Father of the Nation, 'you won't be able to subdue the spirit of seven crore people'. No regime could defeat us then. Defying all odds, we achieved our independence and a sovereign Bangladesh at the cost of lives of the millions. We had a dream of building a happy and prosperous country, free from exploitation and deprivation. But, that cherished dream of the Bangalees faltered time and again. The reactionary forces hatched evil design to stall our progress. We were afflicted with the cruel words of harsh critics from home and abroad. Many abusively called us 'bottomless basket' and 'test case of development'. Then came the darkest episode of our history. The Father of the Nation was killed along with his family members. Conspiracies were plotted to destroy the spirit of liberation. But, Bangabandhu's most favourite Bangalee nation was indomitable. The eternal flame of the spirit of liberation that he ignited within us shall always guide us forward. We are sailing through innumerable adversities taking the country forward in our journey to a higher growth trajectory.

304. Today, the world recognizes us as a country of immense potentials. Bangladesh has been recognized as the next potential member of the aristocratic club (7 percent club) of economies for achieving high growth for an extended period. Bangladesh has been grouped as one of 11 3G (Global Growth Generators) countries. Bangladesh has also been included in a group of 26 economies along with China and India as a country of economic prospects. The rare victory that we secured in the maritime boundary suit in the International Court has further strengthened our position in the comity of nations.

305. The people of this country is our priceless asset. What we have achieved so far could only be possible at the cost of their highest forbearance and sacrifice. We have unlocked the door of immense opportunities. Making them a reality will largely depend on sustained political peace and stability and above all, on democracy. We should demonstrate political wisdom and create a tolerant environment. We should show respect to the continuity of our national agenda for development and its progress. We should further advance the dynamism of our economy for the sake of the nation. We would resist any ill-motivated interruption. I am confident we would act wisely and understand the spirit of the people and their hopes and aspirations. We shall stand united and build a prosperous, happy and caring Bangladesh. We are confident - our people, our country will emerge victorious and stand upright with dignity. It's only a matter of time.

Joy Bangla

Joy Bangabandhu

Long Live Bangladesh

Table-1: Successfully Implemented Policies or Programmes Included in the Last Three Budgets

SI No		Budget Commitments
		Budget and Planning
1.		Perspective Plan 2010-21 formulated
2.		6th Five-Year Plan formulated
3.		The 2009 global recession successfully tackled
4.		Sovereign Credit Rating (Moody's and Standard & Poor's) achieved and retained
5.		The time horizon of 3 year MTBF extended to 5 year in the perspective of Sixth Five Year Plan
6.		Budget and Planning wing created in all Ministries/Divisions
7.		Public Finance and Budget Management Act, 2009 enacted
8.		Economic code based mapping of development and non-development budget initiated
9.		All Ministries/Divisions brought under MTBF
10.		Performance Audit undertaken on pilot basis
		Financial Sector
11.		Money Laundering Prevention Act, 2012 enacted in line with international standards by repealing the act of 2009
12.		Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2012 enacted by amending Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009
13.		Insurance Act, 2009 Passed
14.		Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority Act, 2009 passed and the Insurance Development and Regulatory Authority established
15.		Bangladesh Development Bank Ltd. established by merging Bangladesh Shilpa Bank and Bangladesh Shilpa Rin Shangstha
16.		The face value of all shares and mutual funds listed with the stock exchanges reset to Tk 10
17.		The mandatory provision for sponsor-directors of listed limited companies to hold individually minimum 2.0 percent and collectively 30 percent share made
18.		Securities & Exchange Commission (Public Issue) Rules, 2006 amended
19.		Securities & Exchange Commission (Mutual Fund) Rules, 2001 amended
20.		Securities & Exchange Commission (Merchant Banker & Portfolio Manager) Rules, 1996 amended
21.		Network between all departments of the head office and the branches of central bank established
22.		The total accounting and human resource management system of Bangladesh Bank brought under Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) software
		Business Environment
23.		Bangladesh Economic Zones Act, 2010 enacted. Establishment of Bangladesh Economic Zone Authority under process. Seven sites have already been identified.
24.		One-stop investment service introduced
25.		Import-Export policy updated
26.		Full-fledged bond commissionerate and appellate commissionerate established in Chittagong
27.		PPP Technical Assistance Fund and Economic Viability Fund Guidelines approved
28.		PPP Office established
29.		Bangladesh Infrastructure Finance Fund Limited (BIFFL) formed
		Power and Energy
30.		Power Sector Master Plan approved
31.		3300 MW of electricity added to the national grid by May 2012
32.		Additional 523 kilometer of transmission lines and 22,857 kilometer of distribution lines laid out and 10 new sub-stations installed
33.		Pre-paid meter to reduce system loss of electricity introduced
34.		Gas Development Fund formed and Gas Development Fund Policy issued
35.		Use of energy saving bulbs introduced
36.		Power and Energy Fast Supply Enhancement (Special Provisions) Act, 2010 enacted
37.		Bangladesh Gas Act, 2010 enacted
38.		Energy source diversified
39.		Extractable oil reserve of 55 million barrel in Koilashtila and Haripur discovered
40.		Production Sharing Contract (PSC) with Conocophillips to explore oil and gas in 02 offshore blocks signed
		Integrated Agriculture and Rural Development
41.		Agricultural equipment assistance card introduced and facility to open bank account with 10 Tk provided
42.		Expansion of cultivable land area/scope of multiple crop production ensured
43.		Seed production, supply and storage capacity enhanced
44.		Water logging problems in Haor areas removed
45.		Haor board formed
46.		Agriculture Research Council Act, 2011 for strengthening national agricultural research program approved
47.		Plantation of salinity tolerant BINA-8 and BRI-47 rice initiated
48.		Salinity tolerant BRI-53 and 54, BRI-51 and 52 for flood prone area invented
49.		The programme for applying fertilizers on the basis of digitally assessed soil fertility in 30 Upazilas introduced
50.		Database in all unions across the country established
51.		12 lakh fair price cards among the poor distributed
52.		91 percent population brought under sanitation coverage
53.		SAARC Seed Bank Agreement signed
54.		Tk. 500 crore worth refinancing fund established for share croppers
55.		Removal of water logging in the southern and western regions
56.		12 endangered species of fish saved
57.		Fish Feed and Animal Feed Act, 2010 enacted
58.		Fish Hatchery Act, 2010 enacted
59.		Cattle Grazing Land Policy for the Cooperatives, 2011 issued
60.		Animal Slaughter and Meat Quality Control Act, 2011 enacted
61.		Plant Quarantine Act, 2010 enacted