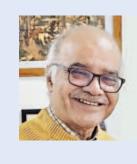


Improving the Human Development Index: The Bangladesh perspective



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objective of development is to

create an enabling environment

for people to enjoy a long,

healthy, and creative life. Human

analysis, human development is

the development of the people,

development for the people,

Development Index (HDI) for

assessing achievements in

basic dimensions of human

development. It consists of three

basic dimensions of human

development—a long and

healthy life, measured by life

expectancy at birth; knowledge,

measured by mean years of

Even with all People are the real wealth of

still faces development is simply defined

several human as a process of enlarging choices

development and creating opportunities

the phenomenal a nation. The fundamental

schooling; and a decent standard theoretical maximum value of the HDI is 1.0. Division, UNDP.

development fronts, as measured by the HDI. From 1990 to 2019, Bangladesh's HDI improved from 0.394 to 0.632 - a nearly

category.

development fronts,

schooling and expected years of three-fifth increase. In fact, progress has been better than (5.0 years). with China leading the race, its neighbors. Bangladesh has of living, measured by gross Bangladesh is one of the top five achieved a life expectancy national income per capita. The countries in terms of the largest at birth of nearly 73 years, absolute gains in the HDI score compared to nearly 70 years in during that period. Over the India and 67 years in Pakistan. Over the years, Bangladesh last 30 years, Bangladesh has In 2019, the under-5 mortality has made tremendous progress moved to the medium human rate per 1,000 live births was on economic and human development category from 31 in Bangladesh, 34 in India, the low human development and 67 in Pakistan respectively. Its mean years of schooling at And on many human 6.2 years is better than that of its Pakistan (5.2 years) and Nepal

When the male and female HDI of Bangladesh are compared, in 2019, while the HDI value for women in Bangladesh was 0.596, that of men was 0.660. The overall Gender Development Index (GDI) score for Bangladesh in 2019 was 0.904, higher than those of India (0.820) and Pakistan (0.745). Even though both Bangladesh and India started from the same GDI score (0.702) in 1995, by 2019, Bangladesh surpassed India, reflecting better progress in gender equality in human development, as measured by

The potential gains in human development are sometimes lost because of existing socioeconomic inequalities. When measured by the income-inequality adjusted HDI (IHDI), Bangladesh loses 24 percent of its overall HDI. However, the good news is that during the last decade (2010-2019), the IHDI value of Bangladesh increased from 0.387 to 0.478, implying that inequality in human development declined during that period.

On the health front also, Bangladesh has made notable progress. During the last three decades, (1990-2019), Bangladesh reduced its infant mortality rate from nearly 100 per 1,000 live births to just

21 per 1,000 live births: the maternal mortality rate from 165 per 100,000 live births, down from 594 deaths per 100,000 live births. The country has also fared better in child immunization. The diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus (DPT) immunization rate now cover 98 percent of children aged 12-23 months. The situation of child nutrition has improved substantially in Bangladesh. During the period 1990-2019, the prevalence of stunting in children declined from 55 percent to 28 percent, and the incidence of underweight children reduced from 56 percent to 22.8 percent. Over the years, Bangladesh has successfully reduced its total fertility rate (TFR) from 4.5 births in 1990 to 2.04 births in 2019.

The country has also made notable progress in the area of education. The adult literacy rate in the country has improved to 74 percent in 2018 from just 35 percent in 1990. Between 1990 and 2019, the net primary enrolment rose from 75 percent to 97 percent, and the secondary enrolment up from less than 20 percent to 66 percent. One remarkable progress has been in female secondary education enrolment and in that indicator, Bangladesh has done better

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challenges. Some for everyone. In the ultimate of the challenges represent **lingering** and development by the people. challenges, like The human development **poverty; some** framework has also introduced **deepening** a composite index—the Human challenges, like climate change; and some emerging challenges like pandemics.

human progress

over the years,

Bangladesh



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