

# Society, Culture and Sports

## Society

Bangladesh celebrated 53 years of independence in 2024. The Bengali calendar years 1430 and 1431 fell within this period. This year, Bangladesh witnessed several significant events in its social, cultural, and sports sectors. Population growth, success in international sports, and diverse cultural representations were widely discussed in the country.

According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, as of January 1, 2024, the country's population was 173.52 million (17.35 crore). Among them, the female population was 88.37 million (8.83 crore), while the male population was approximately 85.15 million (8.51 crore). Various government initiatives aimed at balancing this population growth, such as rural healthcare, educational development, and investments in women's empowerment, were particularly noteworthy. The literacy rate surpassed 75%, with a significant increase in school enrollment among girls. Initiatives such as bicycle distribution programs for girls, the establishment of rural education centers, and scholarships for female education played a crucial role in this progress. Additionally, in response to university teachers' protests, then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina revoked the universal pension scheme in 2024.

According to the latest update in June 2024 from the "Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics 2023," the country's average life expectancy decreased slightly by 0.1 years compared to the previous year, now standing at 72.3 years. However, this decline is not statistically significant. The life expectancy at birth for women and men is now 73.8 years and 70.8 years, respectively.

- The rate of marriage among girls under 18 has increased
- The divorce rate is highest in the Khulna division
- The Sylhet division has the lowest divorce rate
- The birth control rate has declined
- Out of every 1,000 people, 28.2 have disabilities

An analysis of marriage age trends reveals that the average age at first marriage for men has slightly increased. In 2022, the average age for men's first marriage was 24 years, which rose to 24.2 years in 2023. Conversely, the average marriage age for women remained unchanged at 18.4 years in both 2022 and 2023. In recent years, child marriage has remained a concerning issue, with an increasing trend of marriages before ages 15 and 18. Government statistics indicate that in 2023, the percentage of women aged 20–24 who were married before age 15 rose to 8.2%, up from 6.5% in 2022. Similarly, the percentage of women aged 20–24 who were married before age 18 increased to 41.6% in 2023, compared to 40.9% in 2022. In 2023, the gross divorce rate declined slightly compared to the previous year, dropping to 1.1 per 1,000 people, down from 1.4 per 1,000 in 2022. However, the divorce rate in rural areas remains approximately 22% higher than in urban areas. Among all divisions, Khulna had the highest divorce rate in 2023, with 1.9 per 1,000 people, while Sylhet had the lowest at 0.4 per 1,000.

When examining demographic patterns, divorce rates were found to be highest among Muslims, at 1.2 per 1,000 people. Among Hindus, this rate remained unchanged at 0.2 per 1,000, while among Christians and other religious groups, it was 0.4 per 1,000. Notably, a positive correlation was observed between women's education levels and the rising divorce rate—women with higher education levels were more likely to experience divorce. The leading cause of divorce, cited in the study, was extra marital affair (22.4%).

According to the Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics, the use of contraceptives declined to 62.1% in 2023, down from 63.3% in 2022, indicating a decrease in family planning adoption.

In 2023, the international immigration rate was 8.78 per 1,000 people, up from 6.61 per 1,000 in 2022. On the other hand, the international emigration rate in 2023 was 2.37 per 1,000 people, slightly lower than 2.97 per 1,000 in 2022. In both international immigration and emigration, men were more active than women. Among the same gender group, the emigration rate per 1,000 people was 4.36 for men versus 0.46 for women, while the immigration rate was 16.39 for men compared to 1.44 for women. The internal migration rate also saw a decline. In 2022, the inter-district migration rate was 30.8 per 1,000 people, which dropped

to 25.8 per 1,000 in 2023. Similarly, the inter-district emigration rate fell from 30.2 per 1,000 in 2022 to 22.4 per 1,000 in 2023. The rate of inward migration within districts decreased to 65.7 per 1,000 people in 2023, down from 110.8 per 1,000 in 2022. Outward migration within districts also dropped to 70.5 per 1,000 people in 2023, compared to 118.1 per 1,000 in 2022.

According to the findings of the “Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics 2023,” published in 2024, an estimated 28.2 per 1,000 people in Bangladesh experience some form of disability or functional impairment. The disability rate among men was 28.6 per 1,000, while among women, it was 27.8 per 1,000.

## Culture

In 2024, the book fair lasted for 31 days. Books worth 600 million BDT were sold at the fair, which was at least 130 million BDT more than in 2023. A total of 3,751 new books were published at the fair this year, compared to 3,730 in 2023. On February 21, International Mother Language Day was observed not only in Bangladesh but also worldwide.

Pahela Baishakh is an integral part of Bengali culture. On April 14, the first day of the Bengali year 1431, the nation welcomed the Bengali new year. People from all social classes, regardless of wealth or status, came together to celebrate the two Eids.

At “Riyadh Season 2024,” Bangladesh showcased its traditional clothing, dance, and handicrafts. A model village was built at the fairground to highlight Bangladesh’s heritage, featuring a pitha festival, Nakshi Kantha exhibitions, and folk music performances, which captivated the audience. On May 16, 2024, nine Bangladeshis were included in *Forbes* magazine’s “30 Under 30 Asia” list. This list features 300 individuals under the age of 30 from across Asia.

The seven-day-long *Jatra Festival*, organized by the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, was a significant event. Theater groups performed plays based on historical and social themes, contributing to the promotion of Bangladesh’s folk culture. The festival was held from November 1 to 7 at the open stage of Suhrawardy Udyan under the theme: “If you fear, you are finished; if you stand strong, you are Bangladesh.”

- A total of 3,751 new books were released at the book fair
- Theatrical performances at Shilpakala Academy sparked discussions

On November 10, filmmaker Mostofa Sarwar Farooki joined the advisory council of the interim government. Later in the year, he made headlines again with the release of his political satire film *840*.

In 2024, several notable films were released in Bangladesh’s theaters, including Mehazabien Chowdhury’s *Priyo Maloti*, Jaya Ahsan’s *Nakshi Kanthar Jomin*, and three films starring Shakib Khan—*Rajkumar*, *Toofan*, and *Dard*. In total, around 45 films premiered in the country’s cinemas throughout the year.

Due to their close association with former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Chanchal Chowdhury, Apu Biswas, Bijori Barkatullah, and many others faced criticism after August 5 in the wake of the anti-discrimination mass uprising. At the center of the controversy was a WhatsApp group named “*Alo Asbei*”, which included actors Ferdous, Riaz, Aruna Biswas, Tanvin Sweety, Jyotika Jyoti, and several others.

On the other hand, many cultural figures, including Azmeri Haque Badhan, Zakia Bari Momo, Prince Mahmud, Mosharraf Karim, and Siam Ahmed, took to the streets in support of the anti-discrimination movement and the one-point demand.

Theater performances at the Shilpakala Academy were suspended, prompting theater and cultural activists to organize protests. During one such protest gathering, eggs were thrown at the demonstrators. Despite all uncertainties, the plays were eventually staged.

The year 2024 also saw the passing of several prominent figures in the cultural arena, including actor Ahmed Rubel, Aliul Haque Rumi, Masud Ali Khan, Rabindra Sangeet artist Sadi Mohammad, singers Khalid, Shafin Ahmed of the band Miles, Hasan Abidur Reza Jewel, Sujay Shyam, Papia Sarwar, and finally, the poet of love and rebellion, Helal Hafiz.

## Sports

Following August 5, the sports arena witnessed significant changes. Asif Mahmud Sajib Bhuiyan, one of the key coordinators of the anti-discrimination movement, was appointed as an advisor to the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Longtime presidents of football federation and cricket board, Kazi Salahuddin and Nazmul Hasan Papon respectively, were at the center of discussions regarding leadership changes. Consequently, on August 21, Nazmul Hasan Papon voluntarily stepped down from his position at the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB). He was later replaced by former national team captain and former Chief Selector of the board Faruk Ahmed. Additionally, on August 21, all district and divisional sports associations, including women's sports associations, were dissolved nationwide. In October, Kazi Salahuddin's 16-year tenure as president of the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) came to an end with the federation's elections. Young sports organizer Tabith Awal was elected as the new president.

- After August 5, new faces joined the leadership of BCB and BFF
- The Bangladesh cricket team won the Test series against Pakistan
- The women's football team won the SAFF Championship title
- Hamza Choudhury received clearance to play for the Bangladesh national football team
- Chess player Monon Reza brought success

The year 2024 in cricket was a mix of triumph and heartbreak. Bangladesh reached the Super Eight stage of the T20 World Cup, secured a historic Test series victory against Pakistan, and defeated the West Indies in November. The T20 World Cup was held in the United States in June, where Bangladesh had a strong chance to reach the Super Four. However, they fell short, losing to Afghanistan by eight runs and had to be content with their Super Eight finish. One of the most remarkable achievements came in Test cricket. Bangladesh had never won a Test against Pakistan before, but from August 21 to 25, the Tigers secured a 10-wicket victory in the first Test in Rawalpindi. They then clinched a historic 2-0 series win with a six-wicket victory in the second Test from August 30 to September 3. However, in September, Bangladesh lost both Test matches against India and suffered a 3-0 whitewash at home against South Africa in October. In November, Bangladesh toured the West Indies, where they lost both the Test and ODI series but managed to claim a T20 series victory to salvage some pride.

One of the brightest moments for Bangladesh cricket in 2024 was winning the Youth Asia Cup. On December 8, the Bangladesh U-19 team put up a stellar performance in the final in Dubai, defeating a formidable Indian side by 59 runs to claim their second consecutive SAFF Championship title.

Throughout the year, Bangladesh's star cricketer Shakib Al Hasan remained at the center of controversy. Following August 5, cases were filed against him, creating confusion about his future in the national team. Although he played in Pakistan after August 5, he missed the home series against South Africa due to security concerns and opposition from certain groups. Despite traveling to Dubai, Shakib had to return to the United States instead of playing. Earlier in the year, he announced his retirement from T20 cricket and had planned to retire from Test cricket after the South Africa series at home, but due to his absence from the country, this plan remained incomplete.

Bangladesh's women cricketers also had some noteworthy performances in 2024. The U-19 women's team had a great chance to win the Tri-Nation T20 Series at the start of the year but fell short in the final. However, in October, they broke a 10-year-long drought in the T20 World Cup by defeating Scotland for the first time in 16 matches. The year could have ended on a high note for the women's team, but they lost the U-19 Asia Cup final to India by 42 runs. Nevertheless, their ODI series victory against visiting Ireland was a reason for celebration for Bangladesh's cricket-loving nation.

In football, Bangladesh saw little success at the international level in 2024, except for the women's team winning the SAFF Championship. The women's team significantly outperformed their male counterparts, who remained lackluster as usual. However, a major highlight was the men's U-20 team's triumph in the SAFF U-20 Championship in August. Bangladesh secured a thrilling victory against strong contenders India in the semifinals via a tie-breaker. In the final, they defeated Nepal 4-1, marking an exceptional

achievement for the young footballers. Another notable success came at the end of the year when Bangladesh defeated the Maldives in a FIFA friendly match.

Despite some positive moments, Bangladesh's national football team endured a series of losses throughout the year. They suffered defeats against Australia, Palestine, Bhutan, and Lebanon, with a draw against Bhutan in a friendly series in September being a particularly disappointing result. As a result, Bhutan remains ahead of Bangladesh in the FIFA rankings.

A historic achievement for Bangladesh's women's football team came when they won their second SAFF Championship title. In the final held in Kathmandu in October, the Bangladesh women's team defeated Nepal 2-1, marking an emotional and joyous moment. They received a grand welcome upon their return. Notably, the women players were the center of attention throughout the year, thanks to the strategic planning of coach Peter Butler and the team's excellent combination, which elevated Bangladesh's football reputation.

One of the biggest football stories of the year was Bangladeshi-origin English footballer Hamza Choudhury receiving clearance to play for the Bangladesh national men's team. In June 2024, he applied for a Bangladeshi passport, which he received in August. Shortly after, the English Football Association granted him clearance. Finally, in December, FIFA's approval removed all barriers for the Leicester City midfielder to represent Bangladesh on the international stage.

Beyond cricket and football, Bangladesh had little success in athletics on the international stage in 2024. However, in February, at the Indoor Athletics Championship in Tehran, Iran, the country won two medals—Zahir Raihan secured silver in the 400-meter event, and Mahfuzur Rahman won bronze in high jump. At the Summer Olympics in Paris in July, Bangladesh was represented by five athletes, but none could achieve notable success. Athletes Imran, swimmers Sonia and Samiul, and archer Sagar all failed to make a significant impact.

In chess, Bangladeshi player Monon Reza Neer brought glory to the country by becoming an International Master. He achieved this feat by securing his third norm in Budapest, Hungary. The previous year, he had been crowned national champion. Meanwhile, in archery, Bangladesh claimed two silver and one bronze medal at the Asia Cup Archery Championship in Baghdad, Iraq, opening new doors of opportunity for the sport in the country.

The year also saw the passing of several notable sports personalities. The world-renowned Grandmaster Ziaur Rahman passed away suddenly on July 5. On July 17, Commonwealth Games gold medalist shooter Atiqur Rahman also passed away. Additionally, five members of the Swadhin Bangla Football Team passed away in 2024. In December, SA Games gold medalist shooter Sadia Sultana also passed away.

The successes and setbacks of 2024 in society, culture, and sports will continue to inspire Bangladesh in achieving its future aspirations.

## Politics

The year 2024 was marked by numerous political upheavals. The general election, initially scheduled for 2023, was eventually held on January 7, 2024. Although 28 registered parties participated in the election, major opposition parties, including the BNP, abstained. Due to the absence of opposition candidates, multiple candidates from the ruling party were allowed to contest as independent candidates, commonly referred to as “dummy candidates.” While the election was conducted as per the usual process, opposition leaders labeled it as a “dummy election” of 2024. In several constituencies, the ruling Awami League's

nominated candidates failed to secure victory. A total of 62 independent candidates, labeled as “dummy candidates,” won the election. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina acknowledged that, despite personally scrutinizing nominations, the victory of so many independent candidates indicated flaws in her selection process. The opposition failed to mount any effective resistance against the election, though they continued their protests through meetings, processions, and rallies. Throughout the year, various BNP and Jamaat leaders were imprisoned, while BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia remained under house arrest. The early part of the year saw prominent leftist and smaller opposition party leaders actively engaging in television talk shows and writing columns in newspapers.

- 12<sup>th</sup> national election was held on January 7
- The anti-government movement intensified from the student quota protest
- On August 5, then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina left the country with military assistance
- After the government's fall, chaos spread across the country
- On August 8, a new government was formed under the leadership of Dr. Yunus

A major political shift occurred following the quota reform movement led by students of Dhaka University. Earlier, some quota-supporting students filed a petition in the High Court, leading to the reinstatement of the abolished quota system. This decision sparked outrage among students, who strongly opposed the reinstatement. The government largely ignored their demands, which further fueled the protests. Tensions escalated when members of the ruling party’s student wing allegedly attacked general students at Dhaka University. The attack enraged the students, intensifying the protests. Eventually, the government secured a verdict from the Supreme Court that reformed the quota system, reducing the freedom fighter quota to 5% and capping all quotas at 7%. By this time, a large number of general students had become politically engaged, with the situation reaching a boiling point between July 15 and August 5. Gradually, ordinary citizens joined the protests alongside the students.

Following the killing of Abu Sayed from Rangpur’s Begum Rokeya University and Mir Mugdho from BUP, along with several others, the movement escalated into a fierce battle between students and law enforcement. On August 5, then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina left the country for India with military assistance, reportedly within just an hour and a half of receiving intelligence reports. Although rumors of her departure had already circulated on social media, her sudden exit led to the downfall of the Awami League government. Her ministers and party leaders fled or went into hiding. Protesters reached the Prime Minister’s residence (Gonobhaban) shortly after her departure. With the anti-government movement spreading rapidly across the country, violent clashes erupted between protesters and security forces. Official records indicate that at least 834 people were killed, and 15,000 to 20,000 were injured. On the other hand, 44 police officers reportedly lost their lives. Numerous police stations were set on fire. In some districts, such as Narsingdi, prisons were stormed, allowing dangerous criminals to escape. Nearly 2,000 firearms were looted, of which only a few were recovered. By the end of the year, approximately 1,500 firearms were still unaccounted for.

From August 5 to August 8, there was no functioning government in the country. During this period, widespread looting, robberies, and violent crimes took place. The term “mob justice” gained prominence as people took the law into their own hands.

On August 8, 2024, a new government was formed under the leadership of Dr. Muhammad Yunus with a small advisory panel, which was gradually expanded. After Sheikh Hasina’s departure, parliament was dissolved, and her resignation was formally announced. The police force collapsed entirely and did not regain full functionality until December. During this time, the military took over law enforcement duties in many areas. As a result, the country’s development progress remained stalled until the end of the year.

## Crime

Due to the political instability of 2024, the nature and scale of crimes varied significantly. Alongside conventional crimes, political violence played a major role throughout the year. The country witnessed



widespread incidents of murder, rape, violence against women and children, cybercrimes, robbery, drug trafficking, smuggling, persecution of religious minorities, arson, mob killings, money laundering, loan defaulting, journalist killings and assaults, extrajudicial killings, police killings and torture, kidnappings, and smuggling. Between July’s mass uprising and the protests from August to September, the most notable incidents included the killing of protesters, arson attacks on homes and businesses, vandalism of public and private properties, and the killing of journalists and police officers.

The year also saw some new trends and tactics in criminal activities. The murder rate stood at 2.6 per 100,000 people, which, excluding casualties from the mass uprising, was lower than the previous year. Many individuals provided financial and other forms of support to those injured during the movement. The government established a foundation to assist the injured and deceased victims of the uprising. Violence was particularly high against students and police officers, with men experiencing more violence than women. According to the Police Headquarters’ statistics, there were 3,432 murders in 2024, averaging 286 murders per month. In comparison, 3,023 murders were recorded in 2023, indicating a rise in homicide cases. Kidnappings also increased by 38% compared to the previous year, with 642 cases reported in 2024 versus 463 in 2023. Additionally, attacks on police officers rose to 643 in 2024 from 607 in 2023.

- The crime rate increased from 3,023 in 2023 to 3,432 in 2024
- A significant number of fabricated cases were filed
- Violence against women slightly decreased, but attacks on religious minorities increased

The year also saw a significant number of fabricated cases, with even prominent figures like Ain o Salish Kendra Chairperson Advocate Z. I. Khan Panna being accused of murder, which shocked many. According to statistics from the Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, violence against women slightly decreased compared to previous years. However, many rape cases were reported, some of which led to suicides. Although violence against women declined, attacks on minorities increased.

Crime Statistics of Bangladesh			
Year	Murder	Kidnapping	Attacks on Police
2024	3,432	642	643
2023	3,023	463	607
2022	3,126	460	601
2021	3,214	445	608
2020	3,539	486	449
2019	3,653	598	555

Source: Bangladesh Police Headquarters | 2025

Women were also involved in various crimes in 2024, with reports of female perpetrators surfacing even in the last week of December. Midway through the year, following the protests, there was a sense of hope among the youth, but by the year’s end, this hope had somewhat faded. Understanding how this despair might drive young people toward criminal activities is a subject for further research.

Despite heightened attention to recovering laundered money, actual implementation remained limited. Only a small portion of escaped prisoners and looted weapons were recovered. Terrorist activities did not gain much visibility this year, but drug trafficking increased. However, no national report was published detailing the extent of this rise. Law enforcement officials, politicians, and small-scale traders were found

to be involved in drug smuggling. Gold smuggling remained rampant throughout the year. Additionally, incidents of arson attacks on vehicles and vandalism of shops were notably high.

## Women and Children

In 2024, issues related to women and children emerged as serious social concerns in Bangladesh. Complex issues such as gender inequality, poverty, and access to fundamental rights had a significant impact. Despite progress in areas like literacy rates and healthcare access, various challenges remained. Women and children in Bangladesh faced gender-based violence, child marriage, limited educational opportunities, high malnutrition rates, and child labor.

According to UNICEF's 2024 data on child rights and protection, nearly 51% of girls in Bangladesh were married before the age of 18. A study by CARE Bangladesh revealed that 89% of women in Bangladesh experienced intimate partner violence (IPV), with a 9% increase in such crimes from 2015 to 2024.

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) 2024 Global Gender Gap Report indicated notable progress in multiple sectors. Bangladesh maintained its top position in South Asia but dropped 40 places in the global ranking, now standing at 99th place. The country's gender parity score fell from 0.722 in 2023 to 0.689 in 2024, with a significant decline in economic gender equality.

- The rate of violence against women and children, as well as child marriage, remains at an alarming level
- Bangladesh has dropped to the 99th position in the Global Gender Gap Index
- The participation rate of women in the workforce is significantly lower compared to men
- 1.78 million children are engaged in hazardous labor

According to Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, in 2024, a total of 2,525 women and girls were subjected to violence. Among them, 516, including 367 girls, were raped. Additionally, 142, including 86 girls, were victims of gang rape. At least 23 victims, including 18 girls, were killed after being raped, while 6, including 5 girls, died by suicide due to sexual assault. There were 94 attempted rapes, including 58 cases involving girls. Sexual harassment cases reached 181, of which 135 victims were girls.

A total of 528 women and girls, including 77 girls, were murdered, while 25 people survived attempted murder. Unexplained deaths accounted for 236 cases, including 57 girls. A total of 214 suicides, including 76 girls, were reported, and 23 of these deaths were linked to incitement to suicide.

Cases of child marriage remained a concern, with 20 confirmed incidents and 48 attempted cases. A total of 68 cases of dowry-related violence were recorded, of which 33 women were killed. Domestic violence and physical abuse affected 145 women, including 25 girls. In addition, 24 domestic workers faced abuse, 14 of whom—including 9 girls—were murdered.

Gender parity in primary and secondary education has nearly been achieved. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) 2024 data, the literacy rate among women aged 15–24 has risen to 96.1%. However, rural girls still face some educational barriers.

A 2024 BBS survey revealed that women's labor force participation reached 43.2%, slightly up from 42.68% in 2023 but still significantly lower than men's participation at 82.8%. Meanwhile, the World Bank reported women's labor force participation at 37%, compared to 80.2% for men (2023). Many women continue to work in the informal sector with low wages, and the gender wage gap remains a persistent issue.

Bangladesh has 50 reserved seats for women in its 350-member parliament, comprising about 14.3% of the total seats. When directly elected female MPs are included, women's overall representation in parliament stands at approximately 20%. In local government, 3 out of 13 seats are reserved for women, accounting

for around 23% of total seats. The number of female Upazila Nirbahi Officers (UNOs) increased from 106 in 2017 to 137 in 2024.

Women's participation in business remains limited. In 2021, approximately 60% of entrepreneurs in Bangladesh were women. By 2024, there were around 7.8 million registered SME entrepreneurs, of whom only 7.21% were women. While female participation in business and SMEs is increasing, further support is needed to enhance their involvement.

As of June 2024, a total of 14,292 community clinics had been built, with 14,275 operational and 98 under construction. Around 80% of service recipients at these clinics were women and children, demonstrating a significant impact on healthcare access.

According to the BBS's March 2024 report, approximately 1.78 million children (aged 5–17) were engaged in child labor, with many involved in hazardous work. Their average monthly income was BDT 6,675. Around 7% of child laborers worked with heavy or sharp machinery, often during night shifts. The highest concentration of hazardous child labor was in the automotive sector. Rural areas accounted for 35.7% of hazardous child labor cases, while urban areas had a higher rate of 64.3%.

Despite some progress in women's and children's development in 2024, challenges such as economic disparity and violence require more effective interventions. Sustainable development can be ensured through women's economic empowerment, increased educational participation, and equal workplace rights. Additionally, greater awareness and policy implementation are needed to eliminate child labor and secure a better future for children.

## Economics

Bangladesh's economy has been going through a deep crisis for the past two years. Structural weaknesses such as high inflation, a shortfall in foreign exchange reserves, increasing debt pressure, high fuel prices, weak tax collection, lack of investment, a high rate of loan defaults, and unemployment have put the country's economy in a vulnerable state. These problems have not only constrained economic activities but have also significantly affected social and political stability.

As the interim government took office, eastern Bangladesh faced severe flooding due to heavy rainfall and upstream water. The floods caused massive damage to livelihoods, infrastructure, and agriculture across 11 districts. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, the damage amounted to approximately BDT 14,421 crore, which is 0.26% of the GDP for the 2025 fiscal year. The floods claimed 54 lives and affected nearly 5.4 million people. Meanwhile, the northern region of the country faced fresh floods, further complicating efforts for economic recovery.

- Severe crises have emerged due to high inflation, investment shortages, and foreign currency deficits
- The GDP growth forecast for the fiscal year 2025 has been revised down from 5.7% to 4%
- Inflation has reached 11.66%
- The implementation of the Annual Development Program (ADP) has come to a standstill

The simultaneous shocks of natural disasters and political instability have pushed the economy into a crisis. In October 2024, the World Bank's South Asia Development Report lowered Bangladesh's GDP growth forecast for the 2025 fiscal year from 5.7% to 4%. This is the lowest growth projection in recent years, except for the 3.5% growth recorded during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

Bangladesh faced significant economic challenges in the 2023-24 fiscal year. The country's GDP growth declined to 5.2%, compared to 5.8% in the previous year. The primary reasons for this decline include sluggish consumer spending, a drop in export earnings, and reduced investment. The industrial sector, a key contributor to GDP, shrank from 8.4% to 5.8%. The construction sector, in particular, was severely



impacted by high building material costs and disruptions in gas supply. However, the agriculture and services sectors remained relatively stable. Agricultural production grew by 3.3%, contributing to food security.

Inflation, which remained above 9% from January, surged to 11.66% by the end of July. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) forecasted in September that Bangladesh's inflation rate for the 2024-25 fiscal year would be 10.1%. By the end of the 2023-24 fiscal year, inflation had reached 9.7%, up from 9% the previous year. The main drivers of inflation included high food and fuel prices, rising raw material costs in the international market, and the depreciation of the Bangladeshi Taka. Food inflation, in particular, hit 14.1% in July, significantly reducing the purchasing power of ordinary people. Although Bangladesh Bank adopted a strict monetary policy to curb inflation, implementation challenges prevented the desired results.

Despite challenges in foreign trade, the current account deficit (CAD) significantly decreased to \$6.5 billion, down from \$11.6 billion in the previous fiscal year. This reduction was mainly due to lower import expenses and increased remittance inflows. Remittance earnings grew by 10.7%, positively impacting foreign exchange reserves. However, export earnings declined by 5.9% to \$40.8 billion. The ready-made garment (RMG) sector, in particular, saw a 5.4% drop in export earnings due to falling global demand and supply chain disruptions.

Import costs decreased by 10.6% to \$63.2 billion, primarily due to import restrictions and foreign exchange shortages. The 5.9% decline in export earnings negatively impacted the country's trade balance. However, the rise in remittance inflows and the contraction of import expenditures helped stabilize the current account deficit to some extent.

While total consumer spending increased by 3.9%, inflation and reduced purchasing power limited its growth. High food and fuel prices made life more difficult for low-income people. The investment sector also slowed significantly. The growth of gross fixed capital investment dropped to 4.8%, down from 11.7% in the previous year.

Government debt reached 38.8% of GDP, with domestic debt accounting for 56% of the total. External debt was primarily long-term and obtained from multilateral lenders. Foreign direct investment (FDI) saw a slight increase, reaching \$1.7 billion. However, challenges in the business environment and political instability limited FDI inflows.

The exchange rate of the Bangladeshi Taka depreciated significantly. Bangladesh Bank adopted a slow-paced pegged exchange rate system, keeping the Taka stable between 117 and 120 per US dollar. This policy helped reduce the gap between official and informal exchange rates. Additionally, under the Awami League government, some weak banks were merged with stronger banks.

The budget deficit stood at 4.5% of GDP. VAT and import duties were the main sources of revenue, but the decline in imports led to lower customs revenue. Income inequality in urban areas widened further. The national Gini coefficient reached 0.53, an increase of 0.03 points from the previous year. The unemployment rate among highly educated youth reached 27.8%, contributing to income disparity.

The implementation of Bangladesh's Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the 2024-25 fiscal year remains stalled. In the first five months (July to November), the ADP implementation rate was only 12.29%, significantly lower than in the previous year. Notably, the health and foreign affairs ministries did not spend any funds. Ten ministries had implementation rates below 5%.

The total ADP allocation was BDT 2,78,288 crore, but only BDT 34,214 crore was spent in the first five months. With seven months remaining, spending the remaining BDT 2,44,000 crore appears nearly impossible. As a result, it is estimated that around BDT 50,000 crore will be cut from the ADP.

The biggest budget cuts in the revised ADP are expected in the Roads and Highways Department. Some projects will not be able to spend their allocated funds due to delays, particularly in land acquisition. The Road Transport and Highways Division is expected to cut nearly BDT 11,000 crore.

Additionally, about BDT 20,000 crore will be cut from foreign loans. Some projects will be scrapped for political reasons, and allocations for foreign-aided projects will be reduced. Consequently, after the

finalization of the revised ADP next month, government funding may decrease by up to BDT 30,000 crore. The Local Government Division leads in ADP implementation, but most ministries have spent less than 5% of their allocated funds.

Despite the challenges, there are important opportunities for Bangladesh's economic development. The export sector, especially the ready-made garment (RMG) industry, has the potential for revival by increasing global demand and exploring new markets. Investing in eco-friendly production and high-quality products can enhance the industry's competitiveness. Additionally, improving the skills of migrant workers and expanding to new labor markets can boost remittance inflows, strengthening the country's foreign exchange reserves.

After graduating from the Least Developed Country (LDC) status, Bangladesh will have new opportunities in international trade and investment. However, losing duty-free privileges will increase competition, which can be tackled by improving productivity. Modernizing the agriculture sector and adopting sustainable technologies can enhance food production and ensure food security.

## Public Health

In 2024, significant changes and advancements were observed in Bangladesh's public health sector. The implementation of various development projects, the adoption of new technologies, and international collaborations contributed to an increase in life expectancy and the successful management of certain challenges. This report discusses the progress and challenges of public health in 2024.

An analysis of the key statistics of public health in 2024 shows that Bangladesh's population has surpassed approximately 175.5 million, with a slightly higher number of females. About 42% of the total population resides in urban areas, while 58% live in rural regions. Maintaining a balance between the increasing urban population and the development of healthcare services in rural areas was a major challenge, which was addressed through technological and policy-driven initiatives. National statistics indicate that the average life expectancy has reached 73.82 years, an increase of 1.5 years compared to the previous year. Additionally, the maternal mortality rate has decreased to 140 per 100,000 live births, marking a 10% decline from 2023.

- Life expectancy has increased to 73.82 years
- The maternal mortality rate has decreased by 10%
- The expansion of telemedicine services has occurred

With Bangladesh's growing economy, improvements in the standard of living and life expectancy have become noticeable. Several factors contributed to these enhancements. In 2024, key health initiatives focused on improving accessibility to healthcare, providing affordable medical services, and raising public awareness. Some notable initiatives undertaken in 2024 include:

- **Nutritional Improvement:** Extensive campaigns were conducted at both governmental and non-governmental levels to improve nutrition. School-based nutrition programs engaged 7.2 million students to reduce stunting and micronutrient deficiencies (vitamins and minerals). Additionally, an initiative was launched to distribute iron-rich food to prevent anemia.
- **Safe Water and Sanitation:** The availability of safe drinking water in rural areas increased to 89%, while sanitation coverage improved to 82%. In urban areas, especially in Dhaka, the government took several measures to address air pollution and the shortage of clean water.
- **Preventive Healthcare:** The vaccination program was further expanded. Advanced immunization programs were introduced for newborns and pregnant women.

Bangladesh achieved several significant milestones in the public health sector in 2024, which played a crucial role in improving healthcare services. The government allocated 7% of the total budget to the health sector for the 2024-25 fiscal year, marking a 1% increase from 2023. A portion of this fund was used for

constructing new hospitals and renovating existing ones. The health sector budget was increased for the 2024-25 fiscal year, with an allocation of BDT 29,782 crore under the Annual Development Program, showing a significant rise from the previous year.

So far, 14,311 community clinics have been established across the country. Additionally, 96 hospitals, including 24 specialized hospitals, 15 district hospitals, and 57 sub-district hospitals, have introduced high-quality telemedicine services, making healthcare more accessible to remote areas. The introduction of mobile health units in remote regions was a groundbreaking initiative, particularly benefiting maternal healthcare and child vaccination programs. Through this project, 3.5 million people across the country received healthcare services.

Mental health was prioritized in 2024, with over 100 campaigns conducted. Telemedicine services benefited 150,000 patients, effectively reducing disparities in healthcare access between urban and rural areas.

The achievements of the UK's "Better Health in Bangladesh Program" were celebrated for contributing significantly to Bangladesh's healthcare system. On November 4, 2024, a closing ceremony for this £65 million program was held at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka, organized by the British High Commission, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and other implementing partners. Since its inception in 2018, this flagship health initiative by the UK has made notable contributions to improving public health in Bangladesh.

Over the past seven years, the BHB program has prevented approximately 2,835 maternal deaths, supported 1.8 million safe deliveries, and provided modern family planning services to 347,519 women. The program also ensured proper nutrition for 420,000 children, screened over one million women for cervical cancer, and accredited 10,345 pharmacies and drugstores. Additionally, it facilitated the vaccination of over five million people with COVID-19 vaccines provided by the UK and trained 16,651 healthcare providers and local community leaders on climate-related health risks and advanced digital health systems. Key achievements of this initiative included reducing preventable deaths, improving health standards, addressing antimicrobial resistance, and mitigating climate change-related health risks.

For the first time, Bangladesh hosted the PHA Global Summit 2024, attended by 50 internationally renowned medical scientists, over 100 esteemed local specialists, and more than 2,000 doctors, researchers, and academics. The nine-day summit featured over 30 courses and scientific sessions. The main conference took place on February 24-25 at the United Convention Center near Shahjalal International Airport in Dhaka. Scientific seminars reviewed and focused on medical advancements and technological progress in healthcare worldwide. At least five hands-on courses and 20 three-hour sessions were conducted by globally acclaimed experts.

On December 6, 2024, the 10th International Public Health Conference was held, where national and international experts discussed various aspects of public health. The theme for this year was "Leveraging Innovation for Resilient Health Systems." A total of 556 public health experts participated, including 40 international and 516 Bangladeshi professionals. This conference provided new directions for the advancement of the country's healthcare system.

Several challenges were identified in Bangladesh's public health sector in 2024, and effective measures were taken to address them. To address the shortage of healthcare workers in rural areas, new training centers were established, and approximately 10,000 healthcare professionals were trained. To mitigate the doctor shortage in government hospitals, recruitment efforts were undertaken through the 46th and 47th BCS, with more than 1,500 doctors being appointed in each session. Despite an increase in the prevalence of diseases like dengue and malaria due to climate change, special medical teams and research efforts continued to control these outbreaks.

Bangladesh made significant progress in public health in 2024, marking a major step toward improving healthcare services. Increased budget allocation, the use of digital technology, and international collaborations are propelling the country's health sector to new heights. However, challenges such as climate change and equitable healthcare distribution remain, requiring long-term strategic planning for sustainable solutions.

# Farmers and Labours

## Farmers

The condition of farmers in 2024 was not very favorable. They faced several challenges, including selling their produce at lower prices than production costs, crop damage due to natural disasters, weight fraud, and manipulation. Towards the end of the year, it was observed that while purchasing various vegetables from farmers, local authorities declared reductions of five to ten kilograms per maund (a traditional weight unit). For staple grains like rice, wheat, and maize, a reduction of two to three kilograms per maund was recorded. According to agricultural economists, even at the minimum estimated value, farmers suffered losses amounting to approximately 350 billion BDT due to weight discrepancies during sales.

Many of the revolutionary students and people involved in uprisings came from rural farming communities. Additionally, farmers actively participated in the anti-discrimination movement. According to a family's claim, a leader of a political farmers' organization who was actively involved in the movement was killed in December.

According to the 2024 Agricultural Diary published by the Bangladesh government, 24.693 million people were engaged in agricultural work. The same report stated that the net cultivated land area was 8,126,340 hectares, while the total agricultural land recorded by the government was 16,056,816 hectares. Heavy rainfall during the planting season affected potato and onion production, while floods impacted vegetable and rice yields. Due to a dollar crisis, import disruptions led to a shortage of fertilizers, seeds, and other agricultural inputs, further increasing production costs. The budget allocation for farmers decreased, and after the fall of the government, allegations arose regarding the misappropriation of subsidies in the agricultural sector.

- A loss of nearly Tk 35,000 crore has occurred due to prices being lower than production costs
- New innovations have been observed, including the unlocking of the life secrets of catfish and new climate-resilient varieties of mustard

A team of researchers at Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) successfully uncovered the genetic secrets of native Shing fish, identifying the genes responsible for determining male and female fish. This study, initiated in 2020 through genome sequencing, provided crucial insights that could help in enhancing production and modifying characteristics.

To protect crops from the adverse effects of climate change while increasing farmers' income, Professor A.B.M. Arif Hasan Khan from the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding at BAU led a team that developed a state-of-the-art greenhouse. After seven years of research (2018–2024), a new mustard variety, BAU Mustard-9, was introduced. This variety is short-duration, high-yielding, disease-resistant, and tolerant to salinity.

A research team led by Professor Golzar Hossain from BAU's Department of Microbiology and Hygiene discovered a natural component in mango seeds that is effective against bacteria. In February 2024, an automated real-time potato grading machine was launched. The machine efficiently and accurately sorts potatoes based on size, color, and defects using sensors and computer vision technology. It can sort 30–35 kilograms of potatoes per hour, with a success rate of 86%.

## Labours

According to a report by the Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS), based on data from various national newspapers, 820 workers died in 2024, while 292 were injured. Among the deceased, 707 died due to workplace accidents, and 113 were victims of workplace violence. In comparison, 895 workers had died due to accidents and violence in 2023.

More than a hundred workers were reportedly killed during the anti-government protests. After the political shift, garment workers in Gazipur and Ashulia took to the streets demanding their rights, disrupting production in several factories. Eventually, the owners agreed to an 18-point demand presented by the workers.

In the midst of ongoing labor protests demanding higher wages, at least 300 garment factories in Mirpur, Ashulia, Chandra, Gazipur, and other areas temporarily shut down. As tensions escalated, clashes broke out between the law enforcement agencies and protesting workers. On October 27, police opened fire, killing two workers, including a female worker. After the interim government assumed office, it formed a Labor Reform Commission.

- 820 workers have been killed in Bangladesh
- The introduction of a new insurance system in Saudi Arabia will benefit expatriate Bangladeshi workers

According to Bangladesh Bank, as of December 28, 2024, Bangladesh received \$26.67 billion in remittances through official channels, compared to \$21.92 billion in 2023—an increase of nearly \$4.7 billion.

As per the Bureau of Manpower, Employment, and Training (BMET), from January to November 2, 2024, 930,000 workers migrated abroad, compared to 1.246 million in 2023. Despite being a key driver of the economy, the management of migrant labor still faces significant shortcomings. Post-COVID-19, civil society has been advocating for the rehabilitation of returnee migrants.

In the recent mass uprising, migrant workers actively participated by halting remittance transfers as a form of protest against inequality. To acknowledge their contributions, the interim government is expected to take positive steps, particularly in ensuring economic and social security for these workers. Additionally, Bangladeshi migrant workers have long demanded voting rights, but despite discussions by the Election Commission, implementation remains pending.

There was good news for Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia in 2024. Due to frequent violations of labor rights and visa fraud, expatriate workers often face exploitation by their employers. To address this, the Saudi Ministry of Labor introduced a new insurance system.

Under the Bangladesh Textile Garment Workers Federation, garment workers organized a march in Dhaka in June demanding budget allocations for rations. In September, the Secretary of the Ministry of Labor and Employment announced that garment workers would receive rations in the future. However, by the end of the year, no concrete steps had been taken. The government also mentioned that the Labor Ministry was working on increasing the supply of essential goods at fair prices beyond the existing Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) card system, particularly in industrial hubs such as Savar, Ashulia, Gazipur, Tongi, and Narayanganj.

## Environment and Climate Change

In 2024, the global environmental and climate crisis intensified. As a vulnerable country, Bangladesh ensures active participation in tackling this crisis and managing global climate issues. The South Asia Climate Conference 2024 is held in Dhaka, where Bangladesh's environmental conservation model receives international acclaim. To keep pace with the world, Bangladesh has made significant investments in renewable energy, launching several new solar power projects that enhance electricity access in rural areas. The country has also taken various initiatives to protect the environment, including effective measures to free rivers from encroachment and combat climate change.

Due to global warming, climate change has made Bangladesh one of the most affected countries in the world. Throughout the year, the people face natural disasters such as floods, tropical cyclones, storms, heatwaves, and heavy rainfall. Especially from May to August, the country is devastated by storms, heatwaves, and repeated floods, affecting millions and causing extensive economic damage. Additionally,



repeated air pollution has raised new concerns, with Dhaka's Air Quality Index (AQI) frequently exceeding 300 in January and February, where a safe level is only 50. Although air quality improves somewhat during the rainy season, it regularly stays between 200 and 300 in winter, nearly 100 points higher than the second-ranking cities.

In 2024, intense heatwaves alongside marine storms and cyclones became central to discussions in Bangladesh. Various regions suffered from repeated floods from May to August.

However, in August, devastating floods hit the eastern districts of Feni and Noakhali, considered a catastrophic natural disaster. Between May and August, various disasters, including cyclones and floods, affected 18.3 million people. Furthermore, extreme heat and heatwaves throughout the summer caused significant suffering among the population. Record temperatures were observed globally from June to August 2024, with an average temperature of 16.82 degrees Celsius, never seen before. This global warming deeply impacted Bangladesh as well. In March, the southeast experienced a heatwave that spread from March 16 to Chattogram, Rangamati, and Cox's Bazar. Persistent heatwaves throughout April caused temperatures to rise above 40 degrees Celsius, the longest since 1948. On April 30, the highest temperature recorded in Jessore was 43.8 degrees Celsius. The intensity of the heat increased so much that educational institutions were closed from April 21 to 27. In May and June, mild to moderate heatwaves swept through various districts, repeating again in July and September. On September 20, the maximum temperature in Sylhet was 38.3 degrees Celsius, and on the same day, the temperature in Dhaka reached 37 degrees Celsius. Although seasonal rainfall in August brought some temporary relief, the summer's heatwave caused extensive hardship for the people.

Seasonal rainfall began in various parts of the country in March 2024. However, in late March, severe hailstorms hit several districts in the eastern region, with an unprecedented hailstorm occurring in Sylhet city on the last day. Some of the ice pieces that fell were over 200 grams. The intensity of the hailstorm in Sylhet was such that the windshields of cars and CNG auto-rickshaws were shattered by the ice pieces. Several people were injured and hospitalized due to the hailstorm. Generally, April sees a high tendency for Kalbaishakhi storms, but there were fewer storms in April this year. Nevertheless, Kalbaishakhi storms hit Lalmonirhat in Bhola on April 20 and Nabiganj in Habiganj on April 29. Hailstorms in Nabiganj caused significant damage to Boro rice. From the first week of May throughout the month, Kalbaishakhi storms and hailstorms struck various parts of the country. On May 9, the meteorological department forecasted Kalbaishakhi storms and hailstorms in several areas. In June, July, and August, Kalbaishakhi storms sporadically affected various regions, causing widespread damage to homes and crops, along with some casualties. While cyclones originating in the Bay of Bengal frequently hit Bangladesh's coastal regions, 2024 saw a relatively lower incidence of cyclones, with only two making landfall this year. The most notable was Cyclone 'Remal', which resulted in the deaths of 10 people and injuries to many in seven districts. Furthermore, the cyclone caused extensive damage to crops and properties. On May 26, Cyclone Remal crossed Bangladesh's southern coast, leading to a signal 10 warning for several coastal districts, including Payra and Mongla sea ports. Wind speeds reached between 90 to 120 kilometers per hour, causing flooding in various areas. According to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, 119 upazilas in 19 coastal districts were affected by Remal, impacting nearly 4.6 million people.

A few months later, in the last week of October, another cyclone struck the coastal region. The cyclone named 'Dona', formed in the Bay of Bengal, primarily crossed the coastal region of Odisha, India, but its effects were felt in Bangladesh as well. In some upazilas of Bhola and Patuakhali, homes were destroyed, and several people were injured. Various places in the country experienced rainfall due to the influence of 'Dona'. Seasonal rains and floods from India led to multiple rounds of flooding in various districts from May to August, affecting nearly 10 million people.

In the last week of May and throughout June 2024, Sylhet faced several sudden floods. Due to flooding from India and continuous rainfall, over a hundred villages in five upazilas of Sylhet were inundated. Just as the floodwaters began to recede, severe flooding occurred again in the third week of June due to incoming water from India, affecting Sylhet, Sunamganj, Netrokona, and several districts in the northern region, causing the number of affected people in Sylhet to exceed one million. Flooding resumed in the first week of July, and as of July 7, according to the Ministry of Disaster Management and Relief, nearly 2

- Significant investments have been made in renewable energy
- People in 73 districts of Bangladesh affected by devastating floods

million people were affected in Sylhet, Sunamganj, Netrokona, Moulvibazar, Habiganj, Rangpur, Jamalpur, Gaibandha, Feni, Rangamati, Bogura, Kurigram, Sirajganj, Lalmonirhat, and Cox's Bazar districts.

The floods that occurred in the eastern districts in the last ten days of August 2024 are considered the most catastrophic disaster of the year. According to international aid organization Oxfam, Feni and Noakhali districts were the hardest hit, with 90% of people facing severe damage and 48% of homes being destroyed. Heavy rainfall and flooding from Tripura, India, created a flood situation in Bangladesh. At least 73 upazilas in Bangladesh fell victim to the severe floods. Additionally, flooding from upstream affected the low-lying areas of five other districts in the northeast, southeast, and eastern regions of the country. Approximately 60 people died in this catastrophic flood, with the highest number of deaths, 23, occurring in Feni district. Furthermore, 14 died in Cumilla, 9 in Noakhali, 6 in Chattogram, 3 in Cox's Bazar, and one each in Khagrachari, Brahmanbaria, Lakshmipur, and Moulvibazar.

On April 22, in observance of Earth Day, this year's theme was 'Earth vs. Plastic'. We must choose one to focus on, emphasizing raising awareness to combat plastic pollution. To celebrate the day, "We for Earth" and "Waterkeepers Bangladesh" jointly organized a silent protest and sit-in in the Dhaka University campus demanding an end to polythene and plastic pollution. Various activities were conducted across the country on June 5 to celebrate World Environment Day, with this year's theme being "We will restore the land, we will stop desertification." The former prime minister inaugurated the environment and tree fairs and initiated the national tree planting program. The environment fair ran from June 5 to 11, and the tree fair from June 5 to July 13. The day was celebrated in more than a hundred educational institutions across the country's districts, upazilas, and Dhaka metropolis, conducting various activities to raise awareness for environmental protection. Unilever released its Climate Transition Action Plan (CTAP) to address the challenges of climate change, aiming to significantly reduce carbon emissions by 2030 while achieving sustainable business success. Since 2015, greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced by 74%, and various initiatives have been undertaken to transition to renewable electricity and produce environmentally friendly products. CTAP emphasizes setting science-based targets and taking long-term effective actions through modern technology, garnering 97% support from stakeholders. Unilever is committed to making positive changes against climate change through new technologies, innovation, and collaboration.

From October 1, the use of polythene and polypropylene bags has been banned in supermarkets by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Instead, initiatives have been taken to provide jute and cloth bags for customers. The Cabinet Division has directed the use of sustainable products as alternatives to single-use plastics. Although there have been previous attempts to ban polythene, they were not practically effective. This new initiative is expected to play an effective role in preventing environmental pollution. Additionally, various initiatives have been taken to stop the use of single-use plastics in Saint Martin, such as limiting the number of tourists and prohibiting overnight stays on the island.

COP 29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan in 2024, emphasizes financial assistance and technology transfer for developing countries to tackle the impacts of climate change. Bangladesh, being one of the most affected countries by climate change, raised several important demands at this conference. Among the commitments of developed countries are to provide financial and technological support to developing nations in addressing climate change, increasing annual funding to \$300 billion by 2035, and leading in carbon emission reduction. However, representatives from Bangladesh and other climate-vulnerable countries expected more effective outcomes from this conference. Bangladesh expressed frustration over funding conditions and the lack of timely financing.

The 'Environment Innovation Summit', organized jointly by the Dhaka University Research Council, Mission Green Bangladesh, and JCI Dhaka Metro, was held on December 28 at the TSC auditorium of the university.