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Bangladesh Before All

13th National Parliament Election

Election Manifesto

2026



Bangladesh Nationalist Party-BNP

We Will Work, and Will Build the Country Together



“From the 13th February, the People’s Days will begin Insa’Allah.”

– Tarique Rahman



Bangladesh Nationalist Party-BNP

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Preface

The historic mass uprising of students and citizens in July 2024 that overthrew the 18 year-long autocratic regime of disenfranchisement, state repression and unchecked looting, once again proved that the people of Bangladesh are uncompromising about democracy, justice, and human dignity. The blood of thousands of martyrs and victims shed over the course of a prolonged struggle for democracy, the heroic sacrifices, and the grief of the families of forced-disappearances, have put upon us an inescapable duty to build an equitable, merit-based, and accountable state that will lead to a just, humane, and prosperous Bangladesh where people are always put first.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party-BNP firmly believes that the state belongs to the people, not to any individual or group and, as stated by the constitution, the people are all source of political power. However, over the past one and a half decades, the absence of free and fair elections, enforced disappearances, killings and torture, suppression of freedom of expression, politicization of the judiciary, and rampant corruption deprived the people of their ownership of the state. The long simmering grievance of the people resulted in the national outburst in July 2024-which was not driven merely by a desire for regime change but a determination to take back their country.

Bangladesh and the BNP are joined at the hip from birth. Leaders of BNP and the party played leading roles in every chapter of the country's history. In declaring independence of Bangladesh at the inception of the Liberation War in 1971, in returning to multi-party democracy after the one-party regime of BAKSAL, in political opposition to autocracy in the 1980s, in establishing parliamentary democracy in 1991, in founding and nurturing national economic development connected with the global economy, in the long existential struggle against the fascistic

Sheikh Hasina regime, and in the mass uprising of July 2024, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party has played leading and decisive roles with the aid and support of citizens of the country.

Time and time again, BNP stepped up to recover and restore the country from brinks of economic and political collapse. Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman turned back Bangladesh from a 'basket case' after the famine of 1974 and BAKSAL of 1975 to a model of development in the late 1970s through green revolution in agriculture, promotion of overseas employment and expansion of industry through encouragement of private sector and reform in the public sector. The two main pillars of Bangladesh economy in the last four decades, garments export and remittance income, are results of his policies and vision. He was a global pioneer in transforming a rigid, bloc-oriented underdeveloped economy first into a mixed economy and then into a free-market economy. President Ziaur Rahman also laid the course of an independent foreign policy for Bangladesh, particularly by pioneering the idea of SAARC and placing the country at the centre of South Asian regional diplomacy and cooperation and by forging strong ties with the Organization of Islamic Countries and the broader Muslim world. Through formulation and introduction of the ideology of Bangladeshi Nationalism, through setting free press and media, and through enshrining freedom of expression, Ziaur Rahman laid the foundations of a free, democratic and united Bangladesh.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia revitalized the economy left moribund by the autocratic regime through the expansion of the garments industry, the widening of the flow of migrant labour in the global market and the growth of the middle class. She set Bangladesh on course to reap benefits from the era of globalization that began at the end of the Cold War.

Her government strengthened the economic base by introducing the VAT system, modernizing tariff and import structures and adopting private and foreign investment-friendly policies. By providing free education for women, increasing women's participation in the formal labour market, improving child and maternal healthcare and opening the way for equal participation of women in the administration and security forces, she emerged as a pioneering leader of women's empowerment. It was during BNP's tenure that the largest number of people in Bangladesh were lifted out of poverty. Under Begum Zia's leadership, Bangladesh gained worldwide recognition as an "Emerging Tiger."

President Ziaur Rahman's 19-point programme for socio-economic liberation, Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia's Vision-2030 programme to transform Bangladesh into a modern, upper middle-income country and Chairman Tarique Rahman's 31-point agenda for state-rebuilding form the stepping stones of BNP's forward-looking politics. BNP does not believe in empty slogans but in clear and feasible plans. Guided by the philosophy of "**Bangladesh Before All**" our following comprehensive plan will, inshAllah, lead the country towards socio-economic development by ensuring employment, good governance, healthcare, education, sports, balanced growth, climate change resilience, the rule of law, and social safety and food security.

Following the guidelines of BNP's previously announced 31-point programme, the plan has been prepared over the past one and a half years since August 2024. This is why, on the day of his historic return to the homeland, Chairman Tarique Rahman declared before the nation, "**We have a plan.**"

Election Commitments: Main Points on Social Welfare and Public Goods

- To protect marginal and low-income families, a "Family Card" will be introduced to ensure the monthly provision of BDT 2,500 in cash or an equivalent amount of essential commodities.
- To ensure fair prices for farmers' produce, and access to subsidies, easy loans, agricultural insurance, and state-managed markets, a "Farmer's Card" will be introduced. Fish farmers, livestock farmers, and small entrepreneurs in the agricultural sector will also receive the benefits.
- To build a corruption-free and humane healthcare system, 100,000 health workers will be recruited nationwide; quality medical services will be ensured at

district and metropolitan levels; comprehensive maternal and child healthcare will be provided; and preventive healthcare programs will be expanded.

- To establish an engaging and employment-oriented education system, a skills- and values-based education policy will be formulated, maximum emphasis will be placed on primary education, technology support will be provided for teachers and students, and a "midday meal" program will be introduced.
- To secure the future of youth job creation, development of technical and language skills, support of start-ups and entrepreneurship, integration with global e-commerce platforms, and merit-based government recruitment will be ensured.
- To develop sports as a professional career for hundreds of thousands of citizens, sports infrastructure and training systems will be expanded at the district and sub-district (upazila) levels.
- To protect the environment and strengthen climate resilience, 20,000 kilometres of rivers and canals will be excavated and re-excavated, and 250 million trees will be planted over five years, including through voluntary, active participation of patriotic citizens. Modern waste management systems will be introduced through public-private partnerships and foreign investments.
- To strengthen religious and social harmony, government stipend and training-based welfare programmes will be introduced for religious leaders of all faiths at places of worship.
- To expand the digital economy and global connectivity, international payment systems (such as PayPal) will be introduced, regional e-commerce hubs will be established, and exports of "Made in Bangladesh" products will be promoted and expanded.

This manifesto is not merely an electoral pledge; it is a declaration of a new social and state contract with the citizens of Bangladesh. The BNP believes not in revenge, but in politics of justice and humanity. Rights of the people, not power, are at the core of our politics. Production, not plunder; rights, not fear; fairness, not discrimination; these are the principles that will guide the governance of the state.

If entrusted with responsibility by the people's mandate, the BNP will build a Bangladesh where the dignity of the vote is upheld, no one stands above the law, and every citizen can proudly say – **Bangladesh Before All.**

Chapter 1

Reforming the State

Democracy

If entrusted with the responsibility of governing the state through the people's mandate in the Thirteenth National Parliamentary Election, the BNP will establish a state and government that are accountable, responsible, just, and directly answerable to the citizens. A sustainable democratic framework will be built through necessary reforms of the Constitution and the electoral system. The core value of our governance will be “Bangladesh Before All.”

Implementation of the 31 points and the July National Charter: The 19 Points of President Ziaur Rahman, the Vision-2030 of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, the 31-Point State Reform agenda of BNP Chair Tarique Rahman; and all the points and clauses on which consensus has been reached and formally signed in the “July National Charter”, will be implemented in the agreed upon parliamentary process with the highest priority.

Forestalling the recurrence of fascism and the subservient state: Democracy will never be allowed to be destroyed, and fascism will never again be allowed to take hold in Bangladesh. Our country will not be allowed to become a subservient state to any foreign power.

Eliminating discrimination and establishing social justice: Equality, human dignity and social justice will be established through the integration of integrity, good governance, and honest government.

Re-establishing fair elections as the only legitimate source of state power: The previous fascist regime took away people's voting rights through elections without votes. A sustainable democratic framework will be built through necessary reforms to the electoral system and the Constitution to re-establish the vote of the people as the only legitimate source of state power. The democratic rights and future security of people long deprived of voting rights, especially the younger generation, will be restored. Democracy will not be confined only to elections rather will be enshrined into daily practice to build a transparent, accountable and self-reliant Bangladesh.

Complete faith and trust in Almighty Allah and building a just Bangladesh: With complete faith and trust in Almighty Allah, and upholding the ideals of the Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (peace be upon him), the BNP's guiding principle in running the state and government will be justice. Inspired by the Prophet's

model of just polity, a Bangladesh based on insaf (fairness) will be built.

Ensuring accountability at every level of the state: No one will be allowed to act arbitrarily. A culture of accountability will be developed through the practice of democracy. The government, opposition, political parties, political activists, mayors, chairmen, councillors, members—all be accountable to the people regardless of political affiliation

Formation of a “welfare-oriented government”: An inclusive and welfare-oriented government will be formed by bringing together all the political parties that participated in the struggle to restore democracy.

Ensuring freedom of the media and expression: A liberal and inclusive democratic society will be built where no opinion, belief, or identity is devalued. Free and safe expression, an independent media and an environment of unhindered thought will be ensured.

The Liberation War and the July Mass-Uprising

Independence and sovereignty were achieved in 1971. Democracy was re-established in post-1975 and 1990. It was again protected in 2024 through the July mass uprising.

Compilation of the list of martyrs in the Liberation War and ensuring state honour and recognition: A list of martyrs in the Liberation War will be compiled based on intensive surveys under state initiative and they will be accorded appropriate honours and recognition. Policies will be formulated and implemented for the welfare of martyred freedom fighter families. Freedom fighter allowances will be increased in line with inflation, and this allowance system will be made free from corruption and errors.

Presenting the correct history of the Liberation War: The previous fascist government had distorted the correct history of the Liberation War for political and partisan purposes. Appropriate measures will be taken to present the correct history of the Liberation War in the education curriculum.

Encouraging investment by freedom fighter entrepreneurs: Interested genuine freedom fighter entrepreneurs will be encouraged, and they will be provided with comprehensive support. Priority will be given to qualified and skilled freedom fighters in managing the Freedom Fighter Welfare Trust and other business and industrial establishments established for the welfare of freedom fighters.

Preservation of Liberation War memories: Identification and preservation of the memories of the Liberation War memories will be achieved by constructing memorials at the killing fields and the mass graves scattered throughout the country.

Naming government installations after martyrs of the mass uprising and anti-fascist movement: A list of all martyrs in the July mass uprising and the 16-year anti-fascist movement will be prepared, and government installations will be named after them in their respective areas. Martyrs' families will be provided with state recognition and financial assistance.

Provision of comprehensive assistance to those disabled in the Mass Uprising and anti-fascist movement: Recognition and employment assistance will be provided to the heroic July activists who became disabled or lost their eyesight in the Mass Uprising and anti-fascist movement.

Establishment of a separate division under the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs for the welfare of martyrs' families and fighters of the mass uprising: A separate division will be established under the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs to care for the families and fighters of the July Mass Uprising. This division will expedite the trial of cases filed by martyrs and the injured, provide dignified livelihoods, and take responsibility for the education of their children. Employment arrangements will be made for qualified members of martyrs' families and the injured through this division.

Constitutional Reform

1. The agreements reached and signed in the July National Charter on 17 October 2025 will be implemented with the highest priority.
2. "Absolute trust and faith in Almighty Allah" will be reintroduced into the Constitution as a fundamental principle of state governance. The BNP will review and re-examine all controversial and undemocratic constitutional amendments and provisions and will undertake necessary constitutional reforms. Necessary constitutional reforms will be carried out on the basis of the 31-point agenda to achieve democratic reform of the state.
3. A system of an "election-time, neutral caretaker government" will be introduced to re-establish democracy and voting rights in Bangladesh and to give transparent democratic processes a permanent constitutional and institutional form. The framework of the caretaker government will be determined through discussion in the next parliament and on the basis of the signed July National Charter. However, the BNP wants to keep the judiciary and the President outside of the caretaker government system. Notably, the caretaker government system was first introduced in this country in 1996 during the BNP's time in government and was

abolished during the fascist Hasina era.

4. The post of a Vice President will be created.
5. A person may hold the office of Prime Minister for a maximum of 10 (ten) years, regardless of how many terms or times he/she held the office before. A person serving as Prime Minister may simultaneously hold the position of party chief.
6. A balance of power between the President and the Prime Minister will be ensured.
7. Independence of the judiciary will be ensured.
8. A 100-member upper chamber will be introduced in parliament to assist in governance while keeping the unitary character of the Constitution intact. The upper chamber will be composed of eminent citizens and experts, renowned academics, lawyers, political scientists, sociologists, persons with administrative experience, and other professionals. Political parties will be represented in the upper house in proportion to the number of seats they secure in the lower house.
9. Of the two Deputy Speakers in both chambers of the legislature, one Deputy Speaker will be nominated from among members other than those of the ruling party.
10. At the time the final list of candidates for the general election to the lower chamber is published, it will not be necessary to publish the candidate list for the upper chamber. At least 10% of members of the upper chamber will be women.
11. Article 70 of the Constitution will be amended to ensure MPs can express their opinions freely on all matters except votes of confidence, money bills, constitutional amendment bills, and matters involving national security (e.g., wartime situations).
12. All bills other than constitutional amendment bills, money bills, votes of confidence, and national security matters (wartime situations), etc., will be sent to the upper chamber. If the upper chamber holds a bill for more than 1 (one) month, it will be deemed approved by the upper chamber.
13. National interest and state security will be given the highest priority in concluding international treaties. Parliament will be kept informed about concluded treaties.
14. On the basis of the July National Charter, necessary constitutional amendments will be brought to form an effective Election Commission comprising capable, neutral, acceptable, and resolute individuals.
15. Necessary laws will be enacted for forming the Public Service Commission and the Anti-Corruption Commission, and for appointments to the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General. The Public Service Commission will be transformed into an appropriately strong structure for recruitment in education, health, and general (all other sectors).

16. The Governor of Bangladesh Bank and the Chairperson and members of the Bangladesh Energy Regulatory Commission will be appointed by the government in accordance with law.
17. The President will appoint the Chief Justice from among the two most senior judges of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court in accordance with the constitutional obligation.
18. The Supreme Court will have a permanent seat in the capital. However, the Chief Justice may establish one or more permanent benches in each division.
19. The Supreme Judicial Council will be strengthened further and its jurisdiction expanded.
20. Necessary constitutional amendments will be made so that control over the service terms and conditions of subordinate court judges is vested entirely in the Supreme Court.
21. By law, a permanent prosecution/attorney service will be established gradually at the district level.
22. Opposition MPs will serve as chairpersons of the Public Accounts Committee, Privileges Committee, Estimates Committee, and Committee on Public Undertakings of the National Parliament. In addition to these committees, chairperson posts of various ministry-related standing committees in parliament will be ensured to be appointed from the opposition in proportion to the number of seats obtained in parliament.
23. Regarding the President's power of pardon, a provision will be added to the Constitution stating that the President shall have power to grant pardon, reprieve, and respite for any sentence passed by any court, tribunal, or other authority, and to remit, suspend, or reduce any sentence, and that the President will exercise this power following standards, principles, and procedures determined by law.
24. Elections to local government institutions will be held under the direct supervision of the Election Commission. Necessary laws will be enacted for this.
25. Appropriate laws will be enacted for the financial and fund management of local government institutions to ensure their effective autonomy.
26. The relationship between local government institutions and government officers/employees engaged in their work will be determined by appropriate law.
27. A Police Commission will be formed to ensure professionalism and accountability in the police force and to establish police services as people friendly. The relevant ordinance will be reviewed/reformed and enacted as appropriate law.
28. The issue of forming an independent criminal investigation service will be reviewed in parliament.

29. An independent inquiry commission will be formed to identify officials involved in state terror and repression during the July uprising, and officials accused of vote rigging and corruption, and to take appropriate action against them.
30. Legal and constitutional protection will be ensured for those who participated in the historic July student–mass uprising.
31. An “Ombudsman” will be appointed. In this regard, it is worth noting that the “Tax Ombudsman” post created during the BNP era was considered quite effective.
32. Proper application of existing laws will be ensured in investigating and trying corruption in the private sector.
33. Subject to approval by the National Parliament, Bangladesh will be made a state party to the Open Government Partnership.
34. Although an income tax return is a private document, provisions will ensure that the Anti-Corruption Commission or any other authority can summon it through the court.
35. The affiliation of learned lawyers' organizations with political parties is their political and constitutional right—this principle will be upheld.

Nation Building

BNP believes that nation-building means not just governing the state, but transcending division to create a unified national identity. On the basis of Bangladeshi nationalism, all citizens will be woven into a single thread regardless of religion, region, ethnicity, class, or gender, so that a united, inclusive, and harmonious nation can be built, enabling Bangladesh to advance as a diverse yet cohesive nation-state.

Ending political and social divides through Bangladeshi nationalism: Whether we are in the hills or on the plains, our one identity is that we are all Bangladeshis. BNP's goal is to form a coherent nation by embracing all parts of the nation, including religious, regional, and ethnolinguistic identities, and all classes and groups of men and women. The path to ending political and social division will be based on Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman's Bangladeshi nationalism. Accordingly, BNP emphasizes dialogue, discussion and mutual understanding among all ideologies as part of its effort.

Formation of a ‘Truth and Healing Commission’: In line with 31-points, we will create a ‘Truth and Healing Commission’ focused on victims and restorative justice. Through this initiative, we will uncover the truths of human rights violations committed during the fascist era, uphold the dignity of those who suffered, restore the dignity of victims, ensure meaningful compensation and bring perpetrators under accountability and punishment through due process.

Good Governance

(Anti-corruption, Rule of Law, Public Administration, Judiciary and Police)

BNP believes that good governance is the cornerstone of democracy and development. Rule of law and accountability will be ensured at every level of the state. In all state institutions merit-based, transparent, efficient, and people-friendly civil administration will be built. Alongside curbing corruption and embezzlement, ensuring the independence of the judiciary and speedy justice, BNP's governance philosophy centres on upholding the fundamental mottos of the Liberation War: equality, human dignity, and social justice.

A. Anti-Corruption

When BNP assumed responsibility for Bangladesh, a country labelled champion in corruption in 2001, the government's stringent measures to combat corruption freed Bangladesh from the stigma of a corruption champion. By October 2006, when BNP left state power, Bangladesh had already shed the infamy of being a lowest ranked nation in corruption and gained recognition as an "Emerging Tiger." It is noteworthy that not only in 2001, but post-independence Bangladesh had also earned the label of a "bottomless basket" worldwide due to the corruption and plunder of the then Awami League. Later, it was the BNP government under the leadership of President Ziaur Rahman, that succeeded in lifting Bangladesh out of the "bottomless basket" stigma.

Upon assuming responsibility in October 2001, BNP undertook comprehensive efforts to control corruption. Begum Khaleda Zia's government transformed the Anti-Corruption Bureau as a completely independent organization free from government interference by forming an independent 'Anti-Corruption Commission' instead. Due to the BNP government's various measures to control corruption, Bangladesh began to make progress on the corruption index from the very first year. As a result, in the TIB report published in 2002, Bangladesh's score improved from 0.4 to 1.2. In 2003 it was 1.3, in 2004 it was 1.4, in 2005 it was 1.5, and in 2006 it reached 2.0, meaning corruption declined consistently under BNP. Due to the unbridled corruption of the fallen fascist government, Bangladesh's score began to decline again from 2013 onwards.

If BNP receives the opportunity to govern the state through the people's mandate in the upcoming national parliamentary elections, strict anti-corruption measures and law and order control will be BNP's top priority.

Legal and systematic reforms to fight corruption: BNP will not compromise with corruption. To rein in corruption that has spread like a disease across all levels of society, systematic and legal reforms, along with ensuring transparency and accountability, will be undertaken. Alongside reforming the Anti Corruption

Commission and the Anti Corruption Act, transparency and accountability of the ACC will be ensured through procedural reforms. BNP believes that interim government measures related to ACC reforms were not sufficient.

Ensuring open tendering and real-time audits: To build a corruption-free Bangladesh, complete transparency in all sectors will be ensured. Measures like open tender systems, asset declarations, real-time audits, and a strong Right to Information law will be implemented.

Establishment and implementation of a Single-Window Clearance: To eliminate harassment and red tape in business and commerce, single-window clearance, one-stop service, and fully digital workflows will be created. At the same time, steps will be taken to reduce direct physical contact to curb bribery or illicit transactions.

Appointment of an Ombudsman: By enacting laws under the Constitution, an Ombudsman will be appointed.

Implementation of government expenditure and project performance audit: BNP Government will not only conduct financial audit of government expenditure and project costs, but also review how much of the allocated government expenditure/projects have actually been realized.

Rooting out money laundering and bringing back looted money from the fascist era: A comprehensive white paper will be published after investigating the money laundering and corruption that occurred during the previous fascist Awami era, and legal, diplomatic, administrative and legal measures will be taken against those identified in the white paper to repatriate the looted funds. It should be noted that the interim government's white paper is not comprehensive, and it is essential to publish a complete white paper in the interest of justice.

B. The Rule of Law

Implementation of the rule of law at all levels: BNP is firmly committed to enforcing the rule of law. At the same time, BNP believes in human values and human dignity. Of course, no form of "black laws" in the name of the rule of law will be acceptable. The Special Powers Act, 1974 will be repealed.

Ensuring justice for crimes against humanity committed during the fascist era, including the July 2024 Mass Uprising: During the July 2024 mass uprising and over the last one and a half decades under the fascist government, enforced disappearances, killings, abductions, rape, false and harassing cases, brutal physical torture, and extrajudicial killings carried out in the name of "crossfire" occurred in massive scale and with impunity with direct support from the top of the political and state power structure. The ongoing trials

for these crimes will be completed swiftly to ensure justice for the victims and the nation. For killings where investigations have not yet begun, investigations will be initiated and those who were responsible will be brought to trial swiftly.

Preventing enforced disappearances and taking legal measures in line with international conventions: Enforced disappearance is an extreme violation of human rights. To date, justice has not been achieved in even a single enforced-disappearance case. To ensure that no one is ever disappeared again in Bangladesh, BNP will promptly take appropriate legal measures in accordance with the UN International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance (ICPPED).

Naming major roads and institutions after martyrs of killing and disappearance: Major roads and key public and private institutions will be named after those who became martyrs as victims of disappearance and killing during the fascist era, so that generation after generation can remember them with sombre pride and reflect on their lives.

Construction of memorial for enforced disappearances and July Memorial Monument: A central memorial listing those who were disappeared during the previous fascist rule will be built and the July Memorial Monument will be granted official recognition.

Ensuring protection of human rights: Human rights protections will be ensured in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Appointments to the Human Rights Commission will be made on the basis of specific, defined criteria.

C. Public Administration

Rebuilding a “Meritocratic Bangladesh”: Talent, integrity, creativity, competence, experience, and training will be treated as the sole criteria for recruitment, transfer, and promotion in the civil and military administration.

Recruitment of 500,000 government employees with transparency and speed: Nearly more than 500,000 government posts are vacant across various departments and agencies. If BNP is entrusted with governing the state, it will, as quickly as possible and through a fully transparent process, appoint meritorious young men and women to all vacant posts according to their qualifications.

Pay scale: A new pay scale will be implemented in an appropriate time.

Formation of an “Administrative Reform Commission”: BNP believes that the administrative reforms undertaken by the interim government are not sufficient. To build a service-oriented, patriotic civil administration, an “Administrative Reform Commission” will be formed comprising qualified, experienced, and learned

individuals, and the public administration will be reformed and restructured.

Establishing an accountable and people-friendly public administration: An efficient, talented, accountable, and people-friendly public administration will be developed. Appropriate reforms will be made to the recruitment process to ensure proper evaluation of merit. A suitable Civil Service Act will be enacted in accordance with the Constitution. E-governance will be introduced at all levels of administration.

Building a strong Public Service Commission: The Public Service Commission will be transformed into a properly empowered institution.

Introducing private sector service rules: Private sector service rules will be formulated so that private employees are not deprived of their due and fair benefits.

Enhancing professionalism in state institutions and preventing politicization: In recent years, national and government institutions have been rendered ineffective for narrow partisan-political interests. BNP will ensure the effectiveness and accountability of the state administration, police, and other institutions by relying solely on integrity, competence, merit, qualifications, patriotism, and experience, without considering an individual’s beliefs or disbelief, or party loyalty.

D. The Judiciary

Ensuring effective independence of the Judiciary: In accordance with the Constitution and the verdict in the Masdar Hossain case, the effective independence of the judiciary will be ensured.

Reducing case backlogs and access to justice free from harassment: Case backlogs will be reduced by appointing the necessary number of qualified judges. The inequalities that people in the country face in obtaining justice must be dismantled. Practices must ensure that people are not subjected to discrimination or unnecessary delays in the justice system.

Modernizing judicial services to eliminate corruption: To build a corruption-free, transparent, and accountable justice system, judicial administration and court processes will be fully transformed into electronic/online management.

Enacting a “Judges’ Appointment Act”: Judges will be appointed beyond partisan considerations, assessed strictly on the standards of knowledge, wisdom, integrity, judicial temperament, and reputation. To appoint Supreme Court judges, a “Judges’ Appointment Act” will be enacted in accordance with Article 95(2)(c) of the Constitution.

Establishing a “Judicial Commission”: A Judicial Commission will be established to reform the existing justice system. Control and disciplinary authority over the subordinate courts will be vested in the Supreme

Court. A separate secretariat for the judiciary, under the control of the Supreme Court, will be further strengthened.

Maintaining continuity of the “Supreme Judicial Council”: In matters relating to the impeachment of Supreme Court judges, the previously prescribed Supreme Judicial Council system, as outlined in the Constitution, will be retained and further strengthened. To this end, the necessary constitutional amendments will be introduced. It may be noted that the Supreme Judicial Council was originally established during the tenure of President Ziaur Rahman and was abolished during the fascist period.

E. The Police

Building a service-oriented Police: The police service will be developed befitting for a free and democratic society. Appropriate measures will be taken to improve police motivation, training, and moral development with the aim of building a people-friendly and service-oriented police force. Judicial oversight of the police will be ensured in accordance with the CRPC, PRB, Police Act, and related laws and regulations to establish an accountable and welfare-oriented police administration.

Restoring the service morality, morale of the Police and gaining public trust: The previous fascist government arbitrarily used the police as a tool to prolong its illegitimate power. As a result, during the July–August mass uprising, the police's moral standing collapsed under the wrath of the angry public. Appropriate measures will be taken to restore the moral commitment and service morale of the police and regain public trust.

Expanding online complaint filing facilities: Beyond just GDs (General Diaries), opportunities will be created for filing complaints online at police stations across the country, thereby facilitating the establishment of the right of criminal justice seekers to truly access the protection of the law.

Review of the "Police Commission" Ordinance: The Police Commission Ordinance will be reviewed. If necessary, relevant laws will be amended to achieve this objective.

Local Government

BNP believes that local government is at the heart of democracy and development of the nation. If power and economic development are not Dhaka-centric and are handed over to local leaders in villages and towns, people-oriented, effective, and sustainable development becomes possible. BNP's one of the core aims in governance is strengthening local government administration to deliver services to the people—covering development activities, law and order, health and education – so that local problems are solved at the local level with transparent and accountable

service delivery.

Ensuring local solutions at the local level: The country will not be governed by the Secretariat in Dhaka. The country will run according to the will and opinions of the people at the grassroots. Where there is a problem, there will be a solution. Based on the principle that “sustainable solutions are possible through local leadership,” accountability will be ensured and local government institutions will be empowered.

Strengthening local administration: A robust local administration will be built to implement important programs like the Family Card and the Farmer's Card. Meaningful decentralization of government institutions will strengthen local government and increase public participation. To enhance the capacity of local government representatives, quality training and accountability will be ensured. Additionally, government administrators will not be appointed to local government institutions unless there is a death, or a court order to vacate a post. Until a court verdict of conviction is issued, elected local government representatives will not be removed or suspended by executive order.

Enhancing accountability and reducing interference in local government institutions: All local government institutions will be brought under accountability. Local administration and other elected representatives will have independence, free from supervision or meddling.

Ensuring adequate funding: To address underfunding and inequality, a significant portion of the national development budget will be allocated to support local governments. An independent commission established by law will distribute the allocated funds according to clear guidelines. Revenue and tax reforms will be undertaken to increase local government revenue.

Establishing people's power: At every level from local government to the national parliament, the establishment of people's power will be achieved through direct elections of representatives by the people.

Annual open development meeting: At least once a year, an open meeting on development works will be organized by elected representatives of the union councils with the participation of local people. This will ensure transparency in decision-making and broaden grassroots participation. Elected representatives will also become accountable and responsible to the people.

Providing open information about local services through boards: All services under local government and the social security net (for example: Family Card, Farmers Card, old-age pension, widow pension, VGF, disability pension, etc.) will be displayed publicly in open formats (billboard-style) to inform the people. This will promote transparency and reduce corruption, nepotism, and partisan favouritism.

Chapter 2

Achieving Equitable Socioeconomic Development and Sustainable State Capacity

Poverty Alleviation and Social Protection

BNP believes that poverty is not a personal failure but a political, economic, and structural failure. With a population of about 40.17 million in extreme poverty, poverty rate around 28%, ultra-poverty rate nearly half of that, and 55% of household income spent only on food, Bangladesh faces a severe social protection gap. BNP commits to building a humane, just, and dignity-based social protection framework in which the state plays a responsible role in securing every citizen's life and livelihood. BNP will progressively provide every family with a 'Family Card' and give a 'Farmer's Card' to farmers, agricultural workers, small traders, fish farmers, and livestock keepers.

Expanding the scope of social protection and bringing in transparency: The existing scope of social protection will be expanded. Expenditure in social protection will not be diverted to other sectors; it will be used only for areas covered under social protection. Duplications and other irregularities will be eliminated to ensure transparency.

Implementing good governance in social protection: Political interference in social protection will be halted. Special pension schemes will be made free from corruption and faults. Financial and administrative authority for selecting beneficiaries, implementing services, and monitoring will be entrusted to upazila (sub-district) and union councils. All cash assistance will be mandatorily provided directly into the accounts of women or families to promote financial inclusion of women. In each village, a committee comprising local government leaders and prominent community leaders will identify beneficiaries of security programs through discussions, ensuring transparency.

Raising pension amounts: The pension amounts will be increased for all destitute, widowed, deserted women, and vulnerable elderly people in line with inflation. Consideration will be given to increasing medical allowances for elderly pensioners.

Formation of a 'Pension Fund': To alleviate the hardships of those employed in the private sector who are aging, a Pension Fund will be established through legislation to provide steady pension.

Sustainable employment in poverty-affected and

backward regions: BNP government will identify education and health services and infrastructure-deprived areas at the grassroots level through surveys and establish sustainable employment in the medium to long term by creating educational, health, and physical infrastructure opportunities in these areas.

Building disability-friendly national citizen services: Provisions will be made for free travel for people with special needs on buses, trains, and launches. A disability-friendly national citizen service will be built.

Effective implementation of parental support laws: Review and address the weaknesses of the Parental Maintenance Act, 2013 to prevent the sad trend of forcing parents to abandon their family and home or sending them to old-age homes against their will by their ungrateful children .

Prioritizing marginalized communities: Social protection will include marginalized groups or communities (e.g., the third gender, Bede, etc.) on a priority basis. Rehabilitating, training, and creating employment for floating and internally displaced people. Legal recognition and protection for domestic workers and gig workers. Efforts will be made to gradually bring indigenous communities under full social protection coverage.

Special fund for destitute orphans: A national maintenance fund for destitute orphans will be established, ensuring free education, employment, and essential services.

Priority to harnessing the upcoming longevity dividend: In 2040 and the years beyond, the number of older persons in the country will increase. Rather than neglecting them, the elderly population will be kept active and empowered by ensuring their good health, encouraging their participation in voluntary activities, and bringing them under comprehensive social protection, thereby promoting their overall development.

Women's Empowerment

BNP believes that women's empowerment is a most critical part of national development. BNP will strengthen women's participation and empowerment in society by promoting leadership from the grassroots to

national levels, expanding employment, education, and protection opportunities for women.

Providing Family Card in the name of the female head of the family: Among nearly four crore marginalized families, the Family Card will initially be launched for five million poor rural families. This card will primarily be issued in the name of female heads of households, i.e., mothers and sisters. Through this card, over time every family in the country will receive monthly financial assistance of 2,000–2,500 taka or food provisions such as rice, lentils, oil, and salt. This level of financial support will be increased gradually. The card will help reduce poverty, eliminate hunger, and ensure women’s economic empowerment. Begum Khaleda Zia had ensured women’s education nationally, and now BNP aims to secure their economic freedom.

Free education up to masters: For women students, opportunities for free education up to the postgraduate level will be created. Strong academic and technical education opportunities will be ensured for women, so that girls in rural or urban areas, wherever they are, can acquire skills to shape their futures. It should be noted that Begum Khaleda Zia played a special role in advancing women’s education in this country.

Women’s social and economic empowerment: Women will be placed at the centre of family and social development. Health, rural development, and employment will be prioritized for women. The safety and healthy development of girl children will be ensured.

Increasing women’s participation in policy making: From the grassroots to the national level, women’s leadership will be encouraged, and women’s participation in politics, administration, and national policy formulation will be enhanced.

Enhancing reproductive and mental health support: Ensure women’s safety in travels and commute, strengthen reproductive health rights, remove cultural barriers, include marginalized women, expand mental health support, and take effective measures to ensure women’s equity in the face of climate change risks.

Strict legal measures to end gender-based and online violence, hatred, and bullying: End gender-based violence and discrimination against women. Increase awareness to stop digital/online violence, hatred, and bullying, and take effective legal and administrative steps to stop women’s online harassment.

Enforcing exemplary punishments for rape and female abuse: Women’s safety will receive top priority. Strict and effective legal actions will be taken against female abuse, dowry, acid throwing, sexual harassment, rape, and trafficking of women and children, with swift

judicial processes ensuring exemplary punishment for perpetrators.

Special Union-level women support cells: Specialized “Women Welfare Centres” at the union level will be established. In these centres, female doctors, lawyers, and human rights workers will provide integrated support to abused women according to their needs.

Financial and skill support for women entrepreneurs: To increase self-reliance, government will provide interest-free loans to women in micro, cottage, and small industries, along with tax exemptions. Provision of necessary training, development, and marketing support.

Increasing employment of women in formal economic Sectors: Through education and skills development, government will expand women’s employment in the formal sector. Increasing women’s employment will raise family income and facilitate education for children and poverty reduction targets.

Establishing day-care and breastfeeding corners at workplaces: Government will establish childcare centres for women at workplaces. Additionally, arrangements will be made to set up Breastfeeding Corners in garments and all industrial factories, offices, and courts where mothers can safely and comfortably nurse their new-borns.

Installing vending machines for health and hygiene: Initiatives will be taken to install vending machines for sanitary napkins at all secondary schools, madrasas, and equivalent educational institutions. Over time, this service will be expanded to all public and private industries and institutions.

Farmers, Agricultural Development and Food Safety

A. Farmers and Agricultural Development

Agriculture is Bangladesh’s lifeline. Through crop production, fish farming, and livestock rearing, agriculture plays an indispensable role in ensuring national food and nutrition security, protecting the livelihoods of millions, and keeping the economy stable. Yet for a long time, the sector has failed to develop in line with its potential due to short-sighted policies, institutional corruption, and limited use of modern science and technology. Bangladesh lags behind most of the peer developing countries in agricultural productivity thus there is enormous potential for catch-up growth in this sector. BNP is committed to a fundamental transformation of the agricultural sector.

Farmer’s Card and comprehensive farmer protection: A secure and reliable Farmer Card will be issued for farmers. Through this card, farmers will be able to

access fertilizer, seeds, pesticides, government subsidies and incentives at fair prices, and agricultural machinery at low cost. In addition, they will receive low-cost irrigation services, easy-term agricultural loans, agricultural insurance, facilities to sell farm produce at fair prices, and agriculture-related training. Farmers will also be able to receive weather and market information on their phones and access mobile-based crop treatment/advisory services using the Farmer Card. Fish farmers and livestock farmers will also receive these benefits. Small businesses linked to the agricultural sector will be included as well. In every Union Parishad, an open consultation process will be used to build a transparent database and prepare a list of genuine farmers eligible for state support.

Waiver of agricultural loans up to 10,000 takas (including interest): The cost of farm inputs, including fertilizer, seeds, fuel, electricity, irrigation water, and more are rising, but hardworking farmers are not getting fair prices for their produce. As a welfare-oriented government, we will waive agricultural loans of up to 10,000 takas for all farmers, including interest. Many farmers, crushed by inflation, are struggling to pay for instalments on various microloans in this difficult time. The BNP government will pay, on farmers behalf, one year's instalments of microloans taken from MRA registered NGOs. This will reduce their burden and make life more manageable, allowing them to meet other needs, including nutritious food. It is worth noting that during Begum Khaleda Zia's tenure, interest and principal on agricultural loans up to 5,000 takas were waived—an initiative that eased farmers' hardship and effectively helped increase agricultural production.

Restarting the Barendro project and setting up special cold storage for mango preservation: The Barendro project will be relaunched for overall agricultural development in the Barind region. Canals in the region will be excavated. In addition, "special cold storage" facilities will be established in Rajshahi and surrounding areas to ensure proper mango preservation.

Fair prices for crops, protection of farmland, and construction of procurement centres: Fair prices for agricultural products will be ensured. A sound marketing policy will be formulated to strengthen farmers and make them more resilient. Farmers will be encouraged to produce high-value and high-yield crops, supported by targeted, data-based policy assistance. Non-agricultural use of farmland will be discouraged. Government procurement centres will be set up at the union level to buy produce directly from farmers at fair prices, and a nationwide cold-storage network will be built.

Agricultural insurance system: Crop, livestock, fisheries

and poultry insurance will be introduced and expanded, even if subsidy is required, so that farmers' risks are reduced during natural disasters and thus, stability and security in agricultural production are ensured.

Implementing a canal excavation programme: By reintroducing the canal excavation programme initiated by President Ziaur Rahman, an initiative will be undertaken to excavate, re-excavate and restore 20,000 kilometres of rivers and canals. Through this programme, 520 disappeared rivers, thousands of canals, and their natural water flows will be restored, and irrigation efficiency will be improved.

Establishing agricultural export zones in the northern region: Priority-based, specialized agricultural export zones will be developed in agriculture-intensive northern districts to stimulate agro-based industrialization, large-scale employment for people in the region, and balanced economic development.

Launching an "Agro-entrepreneurship" start-up project: To increase self-employment among youth, an "Agro-entrepreneurship" start-up project will be undertaken and an "Agricultural Entrepreneur Platform" will be formed.

Emphasis on region-based production and research: Targeted policies and financial support will be provided so that crops best suited to each region are cultivated there. Modern agricultural research will be strengthened—focusing on salt-tolerant varieties, low-water crops, early-maturing varieties, and more. Research centres will be further upgraded and strengthened, and sufficient budget allocations for agricultural research will be ensured.

Precision agriculture: Modern, data-driven precision agriculture will be introduced to reduce production costs and increase farmers' incomes. Initiatives will be taken to reduce the use of seeds, chemical fertilizers, and pesticides that are harmful to the environment and public health.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution and agriculture: To transform agriculture into a modern, efficient, and sustainable sector in the era of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, remote sensing, artificial intelligence, drones, and nanotechnology will be applied in agriculture. Through biotechnology, the production and use of organic fertilizers and biochar will be expanded to improve soil quality and reduce dependence on chemical fertilizers. Government incentives, training, and support for mechanization will be strengthened to save time, labour, and costs.

Addressing climate risks: An integrated action plan will be adopted to rebuild agriculture on a sustainable, modern, and climate-resilient foundation to address

Bangladesh's climate risks. Research, innovation, training, and extension activities will be prioritized to tackle the impacts of climate change.

Reviving cooperatives: The cooperative sector will be revitalized, and specialized cooperatives will be formed for area-based production and marketing. Steps will be taken to expand modern cooperative farming systems to increase production and profits in agriculture, alongside necessary training for stakeholders.

Livestock sector development: Necessary regulatory systems will be established to ensure the production and supply of safe, quality feed for poultry and fish farms. Each upazila will have an adequate supply of animal vaccines/medicines, and veterinary doctors will be appointed. Credit support will be provided to all small and medium farmers, including women, young and expatriate entrepreneurs and government veterinary services will be strengthened. Efforts will be made, through a public-private partnership (PPP) model, to produce feed and establish vaccine plants.

Fisheries sector development: The leasing system for water bodies, coastal canals, and haors will be abolished, and these resources will be opened to local fishers and poor communities based on the principle of “the water belongs to those who fish it.” Alternative employment and food support for fishers during fishing-ban seasons will be strengthened. Priority will be given to developing improved fish varieties, producing quality feed, and expanding processing industries. The use of disease-free fingerlings will be encouraged; PCR lab facilities in hatcheries will be expanded; and fish farmers will be trained in scientific aquaculture. A comprehensive plan will be adopted to create Bangladeshi shrimp as a global brand and to improve quality supply-chain management for overseas supermarkets, ensuring increased export earnings from the sector.

B. Food Safety

To ensure food security for every citizen of Bangladesh, agriculture and the production, processing, and marketing of safe food will be treated as a national priority sector.

Stronger institutions and monitoring for preventing adulteration: To ensure safe food nationwide and to stop the production, supply, and marketing of counterfeit and adulterated food and consumer goods, the Safe Food Authority, BSTI, and other related institutions will be strengthened through adequate staffing, much tighter field-level oversight, and strict enforcement of food-safety laws.

Emphasis on safe crop production: Ensuring food safety will be prioritized starting at the farmer level. Organic

farming, safe fertilizers, and environmentally friendly production methods will receive strong emphasis. Steps will also be taken to raise consumer awareness.

Processing centres and cold storage: Post-harvest processing centres and cold-storage facilities for fruits and vegetables will be established across the country to reduce spoilage and waste, increase farmers' profits, and ensure consumers receive safe, affordable, nutritious food. These will be developed by creating direct linkages between farmers and markets.

Establishing a “Food and Drug Control Authority”: A strong and effective Food and Drug Control Authority will be formed, backed by the necessary legislation.

Transparency in food imports: The food import process will be made corruption-free, and imports will gradually be reduced to make the country self-sufficient in food.

Nationwide Employment

Unemployment is one of the most critical problems in today's Bangladesh. At present, the number of unemployed is more than about 2.7 million, including around 900,000 highly educated jobseekers with graduate degrees. Among them, roughly 22% of young men and women are not engaged in any form of education, employment, or training. Most of this large unemployed population is youth aged 15–29. If the BNP forms a government with the people's votes, its first and foremost priority from day one will be implementing sector-based plans to create jobs. In sequence, through comprehensive economic reforms, revitalizing sector- and region-based economic activity, and increasing domestic and foreign investment in industry and trade, the target of creating 10 million jobs nationwide will be achieved.

Launching government employment exchanges at district and upazila levels: A district- and upazila-level employment exchange system will be introduced on a priority basis under the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Jobseekers will register here. Qualified unemployed will receive necessary support to be placed in vacant positions across different institutions through a matching process based on skills and other qualifications. Those who lack skills will be referred to appropriate training centres (technical and others) to gain the required skills. In this process, drug testing will be implemented.

Language and skills training for overseas employment: Short-term training will be launched nationwide in foreign languages and in-demand skills; pathways will be created to place two million people in jobs abroad each year; and interest-free, easy-term loans will be provided to support migration for work.

Demand-driven, up-to-date education: Technical and

vocational education and training institutions will be modernized nationwide, with skill-based employment pathways, hands-on technology learning, direct training inside factories and industries, practical training, and internationally recognized certification so that young people can be job-ready for domestic industry and higher-paying overseas jobs. A portion of them will also be able to become self-employed.

Training and career centres in higher education institutions: In all colleges and universities, free skills development, freelancing, and outsourcing training will be provided, and career centres will be established to organize campus-based job interviews, internships, and apprenticeships and to build effective links between educational institutions and businesses.

Support for small and medium entrepreneurs: Based on each district's heritage and renowned products, low-interest loans will be provided to develop cottage industries and the SME sector; supportive steps will be taken to expand private industry and create jobs with the aim of exporting products via global e-commerce platforms; and the banking system will be made transparent, non-partisan, and business-friendly.

Merit-based public recruitment: Fair evaluation of merit and competence will be ensured in BCS and all government recruitment so a transparent process free of discrimination and partisan influence is established. Government job numbers will also be increased in line with demand for service and efficiency.

New industries in information technology: By building new industries in the IT sector, including cybersecurity, outsourcing, data processing, artificial intelligence, semiconductors, large-scale training and skills development programmes will be run with the goal of creating 200,000 direct jobs annually and, indirectly, 800,000 jobs through freelancing, creative industries, and content creation.

Job creation through development projects: To implement BNP's planned programmes and projects across all sectors—Family Card, Farmer's Card, education, sports, culture, industrialization, IT, infrastructure, environment and energy—hundreds of thousands of jobs will be created in both public and private sectors based on professional qualifications.

Diversifying exports: Alongside strengthening software, hardware, and ICT industries, the export base will be diversified by prioritizing agriculture-, fisheries-, and livestock-based products, pharmaceuticals, leather and footwear, light engineering, and other industries. Through new product innovation and market expansion in the ready-made garment sector, "Made in Bangladesh" will be positioned more strongly in global markets so that every sector sees a wave of job creation.

Innovation, start-ups, and entrepreneurial support: Nationwide and campus-based innovation idea competitions will be organized for young people, and winners will receive start-up funds, training, and technical support. Adequate space will be allocated for entrepreneurs and students in unused areas of local economic zones, EPZs, BSCIC estates, high-tech parks, and software parks.

Encouraging investment in the stock market: Procedures will be simplified to make domestic and foreign investment easier; transparency will be ensured by breaking syndicates that harm investors' interests; investment centres will be developed at the district level; special investment facilities will be offered for expatriates; and nationwide investment education will be expanded for young entrepreneurs.

International payment facilities: International payment gateways, including PayPal, will be introduced for freelancers and tech professionals to make global transactions, shopping, and the digital payment of bills and fees easier. Formal business payments and money transfers between Bangladeshi and foreign banks will be made more convenient.

Employment for marginalized groups: Targeted employment programmes will be introduced for rural illiterate people, homemakers, the elderly, and the long-term unemployed, including duck and poultry rearing, livestock, handicrafts, cottage industries, small business, computer and digital skills training, along with low-cost microcredit and equipment support.

Support for the informal economy: For rickshaw pullers, day laborers, hawkers, sidewalk vendors, transport workers, security guards, Harijon communities, and all others working in the informal sector and the private sector, safe working conditions, social protection, healthcare, and fair wages will be ensured. Training will also be provided through public and private initiatives to expand opportunities for daily income.

Equal rights and inclusion: Practical policies will be adopted to create new employment opportunities for persons with disabilities, Harijon communities, third-gender people, Dalits, indigenous peoples, and other disadvantaged groups, and to actively engage the private sector in this program.

Unemployment allowance: Educated young men and women will be provided a special financial allowance for 6 months up to a maximum of 1 year—or until they become employed (whichever happens first).

Youth Development

BNP believes that the country's future and national development depend on a skilled, self-reliant, and

responsible youth force. BNP wants to prepare the young people in a way that they become confident, productive, and socially responsible, so they can contribute to the country's economy and society. In its program for youth development, BNP will primarily prioritize expanding technical education, digital skills, entrepreneurship and innovation, and access to global training opportunities.

SME loans and linking to Amazon and Alibaba: Interest-free loans will be provided to develop cottage industries and the SME sector based on each district's traditional and well-known products, and opportunities will be created to export products through global e-commerce platforms.

Priority for foreign-language education, start-up funds and youth skills development: Special emphasis will be placed on high-demand occupations for youth skills development, such as plumbing, electrical work, automobile repair, electronics assembly, data entry, graphic design, coding, AI, cybersecurity, robotics, nursing, caregiving, agriculture and food processing, housekeeping, front-desk services, tourism and hospitality management, food and beverage service, travel assistance, and professional driving. Foreign language education programs will be introduced, and loan support for going abroad and start-up funds will be created.

Digital skills development, career portal, and job-matching services: Opportunities to gain digital skills will be expanded through partnerships with Coursera, Google, Meta, and others. Initiatives will be taken to launch a national dashboard for technical education, a career portal, job-matching, and microlearning services.

Establishing a National Digital Skills Authority: Steps will be taken to establish a "National Digital Skills Authority" to develop the digital workforce and strengthen digital skills. Sector-specific courses/curricula will be introduced in promising fields with strong overseas demand. At the same time, initiatives will be taken to form sector-based skills councils (garments, ICT, logistics, tourism, caregiving).

Priority to harness the demographic dividend and the coming longevity dividend: BNP is determined to make effective use of two major demographic shifts in Bangladesh. On the one hand, Bangladesh has the advantage of a demographic dividend from the working-age population (15–64), expected to last until around 2040. Through quality education, market-relevant skills, employment, and large-scale work-oriented programs for working youth, the country will quickly realize the positive potential and returns of this working-age population. BNP will harness

longevity dividend through different initiatives.

Education and Human Resource Development

BNP will modernize the country's education system and make it job-oriented, productivity-focused, and aligned with the needs of the times. BNP's education policy will be life-oriented. Emphasis will be placed at all levels of education, with the greater focus on primary education. Alongside textbook learning, strong emphasis will be given to teaching core values. By ending the current disorder in the education sector, demand-based education will be prioritized at the lower and middle levels, while knowledge-based education will be emphasized in higher education.

Allocate 5% of GDP to education: Public spending on education will be gradually increased to five percent of GDP. This funding will not be limited to constructing buildings; it will focus on improving educational quality, especially at the primary level, by strengthening teachers' teaching standards and skills through proper training. Emphasis will also be placed on technology and the development of inclusive learning materials. In line with economic growth, budget allocations for education will be increased gradually in the future.

One Teacher, One Tab: To enhance modern, up-to-date training, skill development, and overall facilities for teachers of primary and secondary schools and equivalent institutions, tablet computers will be provided.

Multimedia classrooms: Multimedia classrooms will be set up in primary and secondary schools to support the curriculum and moral education through educational images, videos, documentaries, and online content.

Learning with happiness: From Class Six onward, education will be made more enjoyable to help students grow into responsible citizens through teamwork, personal skill development, and family, social, and moral education.

Mandatory third-language learning: To create opportunities for employment and higher education at home and abroad, third-language education such as Arabic, Japanese, Korean, Italian, Mandarin, and others will be introduced from the secondary level alongside Bangla and English.

Technical education for all: To make students skilled and capable for self-employment and for jobs in Bangladesh and abroad, technical education will be made compulsory at the secondary level alongside general education. The syllabus will be designed so that even if a family cannot support a child beyond SSC or intermediate level, that education alone will enable the student to secure employment for themselves.

Inclusion of sports and cultural education: To develop students into thoughtful individuals, sports such as football, cricket, and swimming, along with cultural subjects such as music, dance, and drama, will be included in the curriculum.

Priority to health and food: clean, pleasant environments will be ensured for everyone—teachers and students alike—along with hygienic toilets. A “mid-day meal” programme will be introduced gradually nationwide for students in marginalized and hard-to-reach areas.

Talented teachers for quality education: Large employment opportunities will be created by encouraging talented young people to join teaching in all subjects, including mathematics, science, third languages, sports, culture, IT, and technical fields. The economic and social status of all existing cadre and non-cadre teachers will be increased gradually.

Reducing social and geographic inequality in education: Education is not the exclusive right of the wealthy. Quality education will be ensured for everyone, regardless of income. Educational opportunities will be brought to the doorstep of people in disadvantaged areas. Through talent scouting and creating the right opportunities, BNP will open pathways for hidden talent to flourish.

Introducing free Wi-Fi: To expand digital access in education, BNP plans to introduce free Wi-Fi in schools, colleges, cafés, and libraries—supporting students’ study and research and reducing the digital divide.

Providing free school uniforms: BNP plans to provide “free school uniforms” to students.

Inviting teachers to state programmes: As recognition of teachers’ social status, initiatives will be taken to invite primary and secondary school teachers to national-day events at the district, upazila, and municipal levels.

Establishing an “Education Reform Commission”: An Education Reform Commission will be formed on a priority basis. The main goal will be to include realistic, relevant components in the curriculum from the primary level, including multilingual learning, sports, culture, and personal and professional development.

Support for those injured in mass uprisings and anti-fascist movements: Special educational incentives will be provided to the children of martyrs and injured people from anti-fascist movements in recent years, to the children of families of those martyred in the July–August mass uprising, and to the July student fighters who suffered severe injuries, limb loss, or disability, as well as their student children.

Ensuring universal access to pre-primary education: Quality universal pre-primary education and Early Childhood Development (ECD) will be ensured so that children’s cognitive and social development is built on a strong foundation. Along with good books and a good syllabus, emphasis will be placed on social, religious, and moral values education. Mother-tongue-based learning will be prioritized. At the same time, a unified kindergarten education policy will be adopted to ensure good governance and quality standards in this system.

Improving education for learners with special needs: Adequate opportunities will be ensured for students with physical, mental, and emotional special needs to receive appropriate education through trained teachers, specialized education arrangements, and necessary learning materials.

Introducing a unique digital identity (Edu-ID): Every student, teacher, and school will have a unique digital identity, or Edu-ID. Through this ID it will be possible to track how far someone has learned, where they are falling behind, and where they are progressing, helping prevent student dropouts.

Implementing the One Child, One Tree programme: To help students become builders of a better future, BNP will involve them in tree-planting activities. Under the “One Child, One Tree” program, every child in Bangladesh will be engaged in tree-planting each year.

A dedicated education TV channel: A separate education channel will be launched on national television to improve and expand educational quality.

Creating opportunities to develop hidden talents: A key future goal will be to gradually identify students with hidden talents (e.g., Quran recitation, cultural activities, mathematics, English, sports) and open up pathways for their development.

Emphasis on creativity and analytical thinking: Priority will be given to moving students away from rote learning and toward constructive creativity, analytical thinking, and skill development.

Modernizing and updating Madrasa education: While giving the highest priority to religious education, the government will create adequate opportunities for Madrasa students to learn ICT and take freelancing-related courses. Incentives and facilities will be increased to ensure madrasa students can enter technical training institutes without any hindrance. Madrasa curricula will include more career-based and vocational subjects. Alongside religious studies, there will be provision for science, technology, IT, English, and other languages, so madrasa students are not left behind in productive work, jobs at home and abroad, other professions, or admission to higher education.

Full implementation of recognition for Qawmi certificates and removing barriers to higher education: Notably, when BNP was last in office, it declared the Qawmi madrasa “Dawrae Hadith” certificate equivalent to a master’s degree. Full recognition of Qawmi certificates will be implemented. Obstacles faced by Qawmi certificate-holders in pursuing advanced religious education abroad will be removed.

Priority in government recruitment: Recruitment to government jobs will be based on merit, with priority especially for posts in government mosques, the Islamic Foundation, the Army, Navy, and Air Force (religious teacher-cum-imam), and for religious-teacher posts in primary and secondary schools—for qualified certificate holders.

Honour and recognition for Quran memorizers: Effective steps will be taken to provide state honours and recognition to Hafiz-e-Quran, Qaris, and scholars who earn distinction internationally.

Introducing “Notun Kuri” Quran recitation: If BNP comes to power, “Notun Kuri” Quran recitation will be introduced.

Emphasis on research: Special importance will be given to research in education. To build a knowledge-based state and society, educational institutions and universities will be transformed into hubs of learning and research. To develop skills and human resources in the IT sector, a corporate apprenticeship law for large companies will be introduced. Joint university–industry research labs will be established.

Improving the National University and the University Grants Commission: The National University will be divided into eight regional branches, each with a pro-vice-chancellor, to improve administration and make curricula modern and aligned with the labor market. The UGC will be further empowered and strengthened so it can provide overall strategic leadership in higher education and research.

Income-tax exemption for private universities: Since private universities began in 1991 under Begum Khaleda Zia’s patronage, they have made an outstanding contribution to expanding higher education. They help prevent brain drain, saving foreign currency while enabling domestic talent to contribute to national development. Treating private universities as non-profit institutions, education provided and received there will be made income-tax exempt in the interest of expanding education.

Addressing university students’ problems and improving standards: Urgent steps will be taken to solve university students’ housing and library problems. Effective measures will be taken to make educational institutions

completely free of terrorism/violence and drugs.

Preventing dropouts in remote areas: Special priority will be given to funding infrastructure and human-resource development in remote areas, including hill tracts, haor regions, and char areas so that no child is deprived of the light of education.

Ensuring safe health protection for female students: Efforts will be made to set up sufficient common rooms and special vending machines with menstrual/health-hygiene supplies for female students in educational institutions.

Making teachers’ retirement benefits easier to obtain: Initiatives will be taken to create a simple, digital payment model so pension-covered teachers can receive retirement benefits into their own bank accounts immediately after retirement.

Expanding internships and industry–academia collaboration: Effective steps will be taken to expand apprenticeships, internships, and industry–academia cooperation to make education more practical. Initially, this will begin by linking universities in divisional cities with local businesses, enabling hands-on learning and creating greater entry into the workforce.

Seed funding / innovation grants: Competitive seed funding or innovation grants will be provided at colleges and universities to commercialize innovative business ideas. Initiatives will be taken to establish “Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Institutes” and “Science Parks” in higher-education institutions.

Student loans for overseas higher education and removing complications in bank loans: To help talented students obtain top degrees from renowned institutions abroad, student loans will be provided and complexities in obtaining bank loans will be reduced. If a student wants to go abroad for language or technical training aimed at promising overseas job markets, steps will be taken to provide bank loans.

Launching visiting faculty and exchange programs: Visiting faculty programmes for foreign experts will be introduced to support joint research supervision and capacity-building workshops. Exchange programmes will be initiated through bilateral agreements with reputed universities abroad.

Health Services

Health is not a privilege – it is a fundamental human right. Bangladesh’s health sector has been crippled by years of neglect, political interference, and a lack of accountability. People still pay 72% of health expenses out of pocket, making illness one of the leading causes of poverty. Public hospitals are overstretched, health workers are demotivated and unevenly distributed, and

access to quality care is a daily struggle for millions of people. Guided by the principle of “Health for All,” our goal is to ensure universal health coverage and deliver healthcare to every citizen with dignity and respect so that no one is ruined paying medical bills, and quality care reaches everyone’s doorstep.

Allocating 5% of GDP to health: Everyone will receive treatment according to need, not ability to pay. Public spending on health will be gradually increased to five percent of GDP.

E-health card: Every citizen will receive an electronic health card, enabling doctors at any hospital or clinic to instantly access prior treatment, tests, and medication history—supporting better decisions and reducing wrong treatment, duplicate medications, and unnecessary costs through coordination.

Guaranteeing free, quality primary healthcare: Primary healthcare will be established as the foundation of the system, ensuring care is within everyone’s reach. Following the UK’s NHS GP model, one primary healthcare unit will be set up in every rural union and one or more units in every city ward. These units will provide completely free treatment and medicines for common maternal and child health conditions, along with mental health services, disability-friendly care, women’s health services, and age-friendly services for seniors. Each centre will have a mini lab and pharmacy supplying essential medicines free of charge. Under each primary healthcare unit there will be three peripheral service centres (community clinics), each staffed by three trained community health workers who will regularly deliver a range of services to people’s doorsteps.

Recruitment of 100,000 health workers: To ensure healthcare for all citizens nationwide, around 100,000 new health workers will be recruited, 80% of them women.

Primary healthcare in metropolitan and district towns: Primary healthcare will be ensured, in phases, for all residents of every metropolitan area and district town.

Corruption-free healthcare: Every hospital and health centre will be brought under strict accountability to prevent corruption. Necessary legal reforms will be implemented to build an accountable, rights-based health system in Bangladesh.

A modern “secondary healthcare unit” in every district: To ensure safe, quality treatment for complex diseases within one’s own district, a modern secondary healthcare unit will be established in each district. Upzilla health complexes will be connected with specialist consultation, 24/7 ambulance services, and digital referral tracking, and will be developed as key

hubs for maternal, newborn, child, and reproductive healthcare. District hospitals will become specialized referral centres offering cardiology, diabetes care, cancer care, mental health and rehabilitation, kidney dialysis, major and minor surgery, trauma care, modern lab and imaging facilities, and ICU services.

Disease prevention and health awareness: To deliver services door-to-door in villages, trained health workers will initially focus on identifying diarrhoea, high blood pressure, diabetes, malnutrition, and other problems, strengthening prevention and awareness, and prioritizing care for women, children, and the elderly.

Comprehensive maternal and child healthcare: Steps will be taken to ensure full maternity care, including safe childbirth plus newborn and child health services at Upzilla health complexes.

Public–private partnerships for deadly diseases: With government financial support, affordable specialized treatment for costly and life-threatening conditions such as road-traffic injuries, stroke, heart failure, kidney failure, and cancer will be arranged at high-quality private hospitals. Through the National Health Protection Authority, the government will purchase services from registered private hospitals under a PPP model using a “Health Protection Fund” to provide advanced treatment for complex illnesses for poor citizens. Poor families will receive assistance up to BDT 500,000, and middle-income families will receive subsidies at fixed rates.

Medicine and vaccine supply network: In phases nationwide, free medicines for primary healthcare, low-cost medicines for deadly illnesses (including cancer, stroke, diabetes), and free locally produced vaccines will be supplied, bringing scarce and expensive medicines within people’s purchasing power. Fair pricing of medicines will be ensured. The state-owned Essential Drugs Company Limited (EDCL) will be restructured, investment will be made in domestic API production and research, and a nationwide “national pharmacy network” run by trained pharmacists will be created.

Eliminating mosquito-borne diseases: Year-round, science-based mosquito control and treatment programs will be run to prevent deadly diseases like dengue, chikungunya, and malaria.

Healthy living, sanitation, and nutrition awareness: Large-scale public awareness will be built around healthy lifestyles, sanitation, and nutrition. A specialized training scheme for doctors and health workers will be introduced.

Safe water supply: Modern purification systems and, in phases, nationwide reservoirs for rainwater harvesting

will be built to ensure safe water.

A “National Ambulance Pool” and emergency-care network: A national ambulance pool/network will be created so no life is lost on the road for lack of timely transport, with 24/7 patient transport and emergency assistance.

A national accreditation council for health services: A National Hospital and Clinic Accreditation Council will be formed to regularly evaluate and ensure discipline and transparency across all public and private hospitals and clinics—covering service quality, medicine management, infection control, and emergency preparedness—creating an accountable, professional environment in the health sector.

Dignity, safety, and development of health workers: Nurses, midwives, paramedics, medical technologists, and community health workers are a key strength of Bangladesh’s health system, yet many lack a clear career path and remain stuck in the same post for years without promotion, training, or recognition. A structured career plan will be introduced, ensuring opportunities for promotion, training, higher education, and leadership development. Each cadre—nurses, midwives, paramedics, medical technologists, and community health workers—will have a separate career framework, with postings and promotions based on merit and performance. Women health workers’ participation and leadership will receive the highest priority.

Safe management of medical waste: A comprehensive national medical-waste management policy will be formulated and implemented, prioritizing awareness, segregation at source, safe transport, and modern technology for safe disposal.

Integrated, modern nutrition programme: BNP will implement an integrated national nutrition program to tackle stunting among children under five, working on three tiers: maternal nutrition during pregnancy, treatment of severe acute malnutrition in children, and food/nutrition education. It will be implemented in coordination with agriculture, education, and food sectors, and integrated as part of primary healthcare.

Controlling tobacco-related non-communicable diseases: Protecting public health will require strong focus on controlling tobacco-related NCDs (cancer, stroke, heart disease, lung disorders, etc.). Necessary legal steps and other actions will be taken to curb tobacco use. Notably, under Begum Khaleda Zia’s BNP government, Bangladesh became one of the first countries to sign the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control in 2003 and enacted the Tobacco Control Act in 2005, widely seen as a major milestone for public health protection in Bangladesh.

Defence System

A modern, professional, and strong, armed force is an essential foundation for the state in the context of our national sovereignty, regional stability, and changing global security realities. BNP believes that only a well-disciplined, depoliticized defence force built with contemporary capabilities can keep the country safe and simultaneously play an effective role in development and fulfilment of international responsibilities.

Disciplined and modern armed forces: The armed forces are proud institutions of the nation built on courage, valour and discipline. BNP will take comprehensive initiatives to build the Bangladesh Armed Forces as modern, agile, ever ready and strong force. It will be kept above all political controversies while maintaining its inherent dignity.

Four-dimensional armed forces and credible deterrence capability: A contemporary, self-sufficient, and four-dimensional armed forces will be built to protect national sovereignty, ensuring credible deterrence capability. To this end, a National Security Council will be established, depoliticization of the armed forces will be ensured, and professionalism will be strengthened.

National security strategy, comprehensive planning and capabilities enhancement: In the changing global reality, increasing military capability is essential. BNP will formulate a national security strategy, based on which a comprehensive plan for armed forces development will be adopted. This will also prioritize the “Bangladesh Before All” policy in the defence industry, multi-domain warfare capabilities, increasing the strength of land, naval, and air forces, and domestic research in technologies.

Contemporary defence policy and doctrine: A modern defence policy and defence doctrine will be formulated in the light of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman's 'People's Warfare Doctrine,' and effective coordination of all defence-related policies will be ensured.

Domestic defence industry: A self-reliant 'Made in Bangladesh' defence industry will be built to meet the needs of the armed forces.

Strong air force: In regional and geopolitical reality, a strong air force is essential for national security. BNP considers the development and capacity enhancement of the air force as a 'nationally important' matter and will take effective measures through a fast-track process.

Maritime security and navy: Keeping sea lanes of communication secure is an important responsibility of the navy to sustain Bangladesh's ocean-dependent economy and future ocean-centric development plans. BNP will give highest priority to acquiring necessary

capabilities for this purpose of secured maritime boundaries.

Pension for retired armed forces members: The 'One Rank One Pension (OROP)' policy will be formulated to ensure justice and financial equality among retired armed forces members. Additionally, rations and other reasonable facilities will be ensured.

Democratic civil-military relations: A strong framework of civil-military relations suitable for democratic society will be established. Participation of armed forces in national development activities and international peacekeeping missions will be encouraged.

Strong stance against terrorism, militancy and extremism: Terrorism, militancy, and extremism are extremely dangerous problems for the nation. The absence of democracy, lack of rule of law, and human rights violations are among the main reasons for the spread of these evil forces in this country. BNP will take strict and effective measures against terrorism, militancy, and extremism.

Zero tolerance and national consensus: BNP will not tolerate any kind of terrorist activity on Bangladesh's soil and will not provide shelter or support to any terrorist. A national consensus will be built against militancy, extremism, and terrorism, and these evil forces will be eradicated through active participation of the people.

Social and preventive strategies: Emphasis will be placed on poverty alleviation, unemployment reduction, and reducing social inequality in combating militancy, extremism, and terrorism. At the same time, anti-terrorism peace and harmony values will be strengthened, and social tolerance and mutual respect will be consolidated by encouraging inter-religious dialogue.

Foreign Policy

The core philosophy of BNP's foreign policy is – '**Bangladesh Before All**'. BNP believes that beyond Bangladesh's borders, there are friends, not masters. In every aspect of foreign policy, Bangladesh's independence, sovereignty, national interests, national security and people's welfare will receive top priority. Based on equality, fairness, and mutual respect, Bangladesh will adopt a self-respecting, active, and responsible global position.

Bilateral and multilateral Relations: BNP will emphasize establishing bilateral and multilateral relations with all states based on equality, fairness, pragmatism, recognition of mutual interests, and international rules and regulations, and will take effective initiatives to resolve problems. Bangladesh will not interfere in the internal affairs of any other state and will expect that no

other state will interfere in Bangladesh's internal affairs.

Economic diplomacy: Special emphasis will be placed on economic diplomacy. New market access and preferential trade agreements will be concluded with international economic organizations and alliances, and emerging regional blocks. Strategic partnerships will be developed to attract foreign direct investment, technology transfer, and increase value addition in industries. Labor and migration diplomacy will be strengthened so that skilled manpower can enter the global market.

Global trade and strategic partnership: Tireless efforts will be made to strengthen Bangladesh's relations with important global powers and our most important international trade partner countries. Effective diplomacy will be adopted to increase export diversification, explore new markets, and protect tariff and trade benefits. Effective initiatives will be taken to expand trade with South America and Africa with the aim of supplying raw materials for agriculture and industries and diversifying trade relations. Regional strategic partnerships will be increased to maintain the geopolitical reality of the Bay of Bengal region, combat climate change disasters, maritime security, freedom of navigation, coastal security, and peaceful dispute resolution.

Relations with neighbouring states: We are committed to building relations of equality, cooperation, and friendship with our neighbours. The foundation of that relationship will be mutual respect and understanding, which will ensure our collective progress. Our initiatives and efforts in this regard will always continue.

Transborder rivers and water resources: Fair share of water from the Padma, Teesta, and all transboundary rivers of Bangladesh will be ensured.

Border security: Since any attack on the people of Bangladesh is naturally unacceptable, strong measures will be taken to prevent all unfair activities including border killings and push-ins. Necessary legal measures will be taken regarding foreign nationals residing illegally in Bangladesh. Smuggling, human trafficking, and drug trafficking at the border will be strictly suppressed.

Regional and international Relations: A strong role will be taken in maintaining peace and security in the Indo-Pacific region and achieving economic prosperity. We will work together with other countries in this region to strengthen relations. Efforts to achieve full membership in ASEAN and make SAARC effective will continue. Efforts to increase bilateral and multilateral cooperation with countries and economic blocks in the Americas, Europe, the East, Far East, Africa, and Oceania regions alongside SAARC and ASEAN regions

will continue.

Muslim world: BNP historically had deep relations with Middle Eastern countries and the Muslim world. Sincere efforts will continue to deepen and strengthen relations with the Middle East in international politics.

Formation of strategic partnership with Gulf countries: Bangladesh wants to build a strategic partnership with member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), the goal of which will be to achieve economic integration by combining the surplus capital of Gulf countries with Bangladesh's productivity and human resources. This partnership will work to increase mutual food security, digital transformation, cybersecurity, and military industry and training support.

Rohingya problem: Rapid resolution of the Rohingya crisis is BNP's priority. Due to the failure of the foreign policy of a government without people's mandate for eight long years, repatriation of Rohingyas to their own country has not started. Historically, BNP has successfully resolved the Rohingya crisis twice (1978 and 1992). In this continuity, BNP is firmly committed to ensuring safe, voluntary, dignified, and sustainable return of Rohingyas to Myanmar with full citizenship rights. Strong measures will be taken for Rohingya repatriation through effective diplomatic initiatives jointly with neighbouring countries and international partners.

Emphasis on soft power, sports and cultural diplomacy: For long-term development of the country and increasing 'people-to-people contact', importance will be given to soft power diplomacy and sports diplomacy. A pool of education-exchange programmes, teachers, researchers, writers, cultural personalities, private policymakers, and youth-politicians will be developed. To expand cultural diplomacy, Bangladesh's culture-minded younger generation will be engaged globally, thereby increasing soft power.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs and administrative capacity: Additional recruitment, expansion of mission activities abroad, and training at various levels will be provided to increase manpower, management, skills, and capacity in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and embassies.

Labour and Workers' Welfare

President Ziaur Rahman viewed the two hands of workers as the keys to development. He took ground-breaking steps for workers' welfare in this country. Continuing that legacy, when the BNP was in power it launched wide-ranging programmes to improve the lives of workers, reforming and modernizing labour laws, establishing labour education and welfare centres, forming pay and wage commissions, setting minimum wages for workers in

many sectors (including garments, transport, bidi, and salt), creating tripartite consultative councils and ensuring their implementation, arranging bonuses, drafting a labour code, forming a Workers' Welfare Foundation, and putting in place special support for garment workers' children's healthcare and education. These efforts to advance the overall progress of working people will continue in the future.

Ensuring fair wages: Under the crushing pressure of soaring prices and inflation, working people's lives have become extremely difficult. Fair, price-index-based wages will be ensured in line with inflation. A review system will be introduced every two years to set minimum wages in all sectors in line with market prices and inflation. Special programmes will be taken and implemented to reduce income disparities and promote balanced development for workers in tea gardens, slums, char areas, haor/baor regions, monga-affected areas, and coastal regions.

Reasonable wages and social protection for informal-sector workers: For those in the informal economy such as rickshaw pullers, hawkers, ghat laborers, day labourers, sidewalk and floating micro-traders, security guards, domestic workers, brick-kiln workers, construction workers, transport workers, and private-sector employees, reasonable wages will be set, and safe working conditions, social security, and healthcare will be ensured. Alongside this, jobs and self-employment will be supported through education and training provided via public and private enterprises.

Introducing pensions in state-owned industries and institutions: A pension system will be introduced in state-owned industries and institutions. It will be financed by the enterprises themselves, without creating pressure on the national budget.

Reopening closed industries: Effective steps will be taken to restart all closed industries, including jute mills, textile mills, and sugar mills. A task force combining government, owners, workers, and experts will be formed, and closed industries will be reopened through state ownership, public-private joint ownership, or private ownership.

Ensuring fair-price food for workers: In factory and industrial areas, permanent fair-price outlets run and easy access to essentials at affordable prices through OMS will be arranged for workers.

Equal pay for equal work: Effective steps will be taken to reduce wage disparities between the public and private sectors. Equal pay for equal work will be made legally mandatory for all workers—women, men, and persons with disabilities.

Paid maternity and paternity leave: Regardless of

ownership, six months of paid maternity leave and one month of paid paternity leave will be set for all female and male workers and employees respectively.

Ensuring justice and healthcare: The number of labour courts will be increased and necessary measures will be taken to ensure speedy justice and protect workers' legal rights. To ensure workers' healthcare, laws will define the responsibilities of the private and state sectors in alignment with the national health system. Effective measures will be taken to reduce occupational health risks. Satellite clinics will be set up in labour-dense areas so workers can receive care at times convenient to them. Hospitals, schools/colleges, and training centres will be established or expanded in all industrial areas to broaden access to workers' treatment and their children's education.

Effective steps to prevent workplace accidents: A coordinated inspection system will be built by bringing together the Department of Inspection for Factories and Establishments, the Explosives Directorate, the Boiler Directorate, Fire Service, the power department, and other relevant bodies. Steps will be taken to provide compensation to the dead and injured in accordance with ILO conventions.

Ending child labour and forced labour: Child labour will be stopped and an enabling environment and system will be ensured for children's development. Appropriate legal measures will be taken.

Trade union rights: BNP will ensure the democratic rights of working people to form trade unions and engage in collective bargaining.

Developing workers in small and cottage industries: Effective steps will be taken to develop tanneries, footwear, agro-based industries, flower and fruit sectors, and small and cottage industries.

Protection for working women: Sexual harassment and all forms of violence against female workers and working women will not be tolerated. Initiatives will be taken to ensure safe housing and safe transport for female workers.

Improving labour-management relations: Peace and higher production in industries will be promoted by improving relations between owners and workers. Steps will be taken so workers also receive a fair share of the profits gained from increased productivity.

Meeting the challenges of the Fourth Industrial Revolution: To meet automation and Fourth Industrial Revolution challenges and to use the opportunities they create, appropriate short, medium, and long-term plans will be adopted to build a skilled workforce.

Ensuring rehabilitation and compensation: Workers

killed in the 2024 mass uprising will be properly recognized and compensated, and appropriate steps will be taken to provide quality treatment and rehabilitation for the injured.

Overseas Employment and Expatriate Welfare

It was under the leadership of President Ziaur Rahman that Bangladesh first began exporting manpower. During the previous fascist era, a small syndicate of manpower agencies captured and controlled the overseas employment business. Because of this syndicate, the cost of going abroad rose sharply, and thousands of people were deceived and harmed in various ways. The previous government failed to create legal avenues for sending workers to different countries; in fact, in many countries legal manpower export was halted altogether. The BNP will take steps to end the existing syndicate and fraud in overseas employment and remove all obstacles to manpower export.

Making migration costs reasonable: To bring migration costs down to a reasonable and affordable level, the complexity of the problem will be examined and effective legal and institutional controls, along with awareness programs, will be introduced.

Expanding employment and ensuring safe migration: Well-planned measures will be taken to expand overseas employment, ensure safe and risk-free migration, and establish good governance in migration management. To prevent fraud and harassment in worker recruitment, transactions will be made mandatory through proper contracts and money receipts. Opportunities for skilled workers to obtain accurate and globally recognized international certification will be expanded. New initiatives will be taken to send skilled workers by analyzing country-specific demand in the global market. Technical and vocational training will be introduced according to demand so that more high-paying jobs can be secured more easily than at present. To improve workers' skills, institutional arrangements will be developed to teach foreign languages beyond English along with necessary training.

Development of women migrants: Through a major strategy, initiatives will be taken to raise women's participation in global employment to 20%. Effective steps will be taken to ensure the protection of female migrant workers.

Legal action to prevent human trafficking: Extensive awareness campaigns and strict legal measures will be taken against trafficking through illegal routes.

Diplomatic action to secure expatriates' rights, including human rights: Violations of the rights of Bangladeshi migrant workers will be addressed through

meaningful discussions with the countries concerned, based on bilateral agreements or memoranda of understanding.

Faster services at embassies: Staff at all embassies will be increased to reasonable levels so services are easier to access.

Safe and reliable remittance transfer: For expatriates to send their hard-earned income to Bangladesh easily through legal channels, a fast, secure, and reliable remittance system will be built, with adequate numbers of exchange houses/banks and incentive facilities.

Ending harassment at airports: Harassment of expatriate passengers at airports will be stopped.

Programmes for returning migrant workers: Various projects will be undertaken for their welfare and reintegration, including high-quality, modern housing, hospitals, educational institutions, parks, playgrounds. Expatriate Bangladeshis will be given encouragement, opportunities, and special incentives to invest.

People with Special Needs

We want to build a dignified, capable and prosperous society for people with special needs. We envision a Bangladesh where every person overcomes their limitations and has the opportunity to realize their dreams. Steps will be taken to improve the livelihoods of people with special needs, grounded in ensuring economic self-reliance, social capability, and human dignity.

Establishment of a specialized health care unit: We will strive to establish specialized health care units at each district headquarters hospital, offering modern facilities for physical therapy, mental health care, and essential medical treatments.

Establishment of specialized schools: At the district level, plans will be made to establish specialized schools for students with special needs, incorporating modern inclusive education methods such as sign language and braille.

Scholarships in technical education: Create opportunities to enter the workforce through technical and vocational education and provide scholarships and necessary educational materials for students with disabilities.

Mobile health clinics: Initiatives will be undertaken to run mobile health clinics for people with special needs in remote areas.

Incentives for the production of assistive devices: Initiatives will be taken to provide incentives for setting up

factories and tax exemptions for importing necessary assistive devices for people with special needs. A dedicated program for intensive care for severely disabled individuals will be developed.

Incentives for employing people with disabilities: Major businesses in the country will be encouraged to hire a certain percentage of physically challenged individuals. Businesses will be provided with tax benefits or compliance certificates.

Establishment of a separate directorate: A separate directorate will be established to manage specific plans for disabled brothers and sisters and to coordinate activities across various ministries or departments.

Expansion of training and Para Olympic support: To build the physical capabilities of children with special needs, training and skill development will be provided; a systematic development of sports from peripheral to central levels and support for the Para Olympics through tournaments will be implemented.

Effective implementation of disability-related laws: The current disability laws and the national policy on disability, 1995, will be updated to ensure effective implementation of rights-related laws for people with disabilities.

Development of disability-friendly citizen services: Various measures will be taken to make buses, trains, roads, government institutions, and educational institutions accessible to people with disabilities. Initiatives will be undertaken to create accessible travel infrastructure and ensure harassment-free service.

Support for organizational and creative work: Initiatives will be taken to support the research and creative activities of associations of people with disabilities in the country.

Social Pathologies

Drug control, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts: Comprehensive awareness programs will be launched to free adolescents and youth from the deadly grip of drugs. Strict laws will be enforced to prevent the import, production, marketing, and illegal entry of drugs and tobacco into Bangladesh. Mental health treatment support, quality counselling, and appropriate social support will be expanded for the rehabilitation of drug addicts.

Development and expansion of mental health services: Mental health services will be integrated with the primary healthcare system, and awareness programmes will be strengthened to eliminate social superstitions regarding mental health issues. Necessary support and cooperation will be provided to universities and medical

colleges to create mental health professionals.

Environmental Conservation and Sustainable Development

Planting 250 million trees and generating green employment: Over the next five years, at least 250 million trees will be planted and maintained across the country. BNP's goal will be to transform tree plantation from merely a conventional programme into a green revolution of economic, social, and generational development. Through this initiative, over 350,000 green jobs will be created directly and indirectly, with equal participation from women, youth, and rural populations. Simultaneously, 10,000 new nursery entrepreneurs will be developed, creating over 250,000 jobs.

Integrated waste management and pollution prevention: Integrated waste management will be gradually established across the country, through which fuel and organic fertilizer will be produced from waste, and the environment will be pollution-free through recycling.

Planned eco-tourism development along canals and riverbanks: A 'Green Canal Bank Model' will be launched along riverbanks and canal shores, where a new green economy will be created through tree plantation, biodiversity conservation, and eco-tourism development.

Science-based tree plantation: To make tree plantation scientific and sustainable, a Geographic Information System-guided 'Land Inventory Map' will be introduced, which will identify suitable land and help determine species based on region.

Introduction of 'Green Metrics' standards and 'Green Building Certification': Suitable trees will be planted in urban parks, along footpaths, and beside playgrounds, and mandatory 'green metrics' standards will be incorporated into building construction regulations. In major cities, afforestation, including rooftop gardens will be encouraged through 'Green Building Certification' systems and tax incentives.

Greening of islands and char Areas: Specialized drone technology will be used for rapid tree plantation on newly formed islands in rivers, canals, chars, and the Meghna estuary, accelerating nationwide greening.

Formation of green volunteerism, climate youth fellowship and environmental start-up fund: Green volunteerism' will be added to school curricula to make students environmentally conscious. Initiatives will be taken to launch 'Climate Youth Fellowship' and establish an 'Environmental Start-up Fund'.

Carbon credit revenue: Bangladesh has the potential to earn up to one billion dollars annually in carbon credits

by reducing carbon emissions. BNP will turn this potential into reality.

Formation of carbon trading market: A centralized Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV) system will be launched to reduce carbon emissions from the three main sectors (energy, agriculture, and waste), along with reforestation, through which BNP will establish a self-sufficient carbon trading market in the country.

20% renewable electricity generation by 2030: By 2030, at least 20 percent of the country's electricity will be ensured from renewable sources such as solar, wind, hydropower, and waste-to-energy. A green energy-dependent economy will be built by gradually reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

Use of water-saving technology in rice cultivation: By 2035, water-saving 'Alternate Wetting and Drying (AWD)' technology will be introduced in 30-50 percent of the country's rice fields. As a result, both irrigation water usage and methane gas emissions in rice cultivation will be reduced by almost half, and farmers' profits from rice farming will increase manifold.

Waste Management and Pollution Control

Implementation of 'Circular Future Model' in waste management: BNP's goal is a clean, safe, and economically revitalized Bangladesh, where waste becomes a new resource and the environment is the power of development. Regarding waste management, BNP will establish a 'Circular Future Model', where waste will be transformed into resources.

Establishment of regional material recovery centres: Material Recovery Centres will be established in specific districts and regions according to waste production volumes. Additionally, e-waste recycling factories will be set up in each division for electronic waste management, from where valuable metals will be collected. Through this initiative, 200,000 informal workers will be included in the formal sector.

Implementation of 'Three R' policy in waste management: The Three R (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) policy will be implemented in waste management nationwide, through which plastic waste will be reduced by 30% within five years.

Pollution remediation and air quality improvement: BNP government will reclaim land and water bodies polluted by industrial and human waste.

Energy production from waste: Waste-to-energy projects will be launched, which will meet the fuel demands of cities and reduce pollution. Additionally, effective measures will be taken for organic fertilizer production from waste and plastic waste recycling.

Encouraging use of eco-friendly materials in industry and households: Harmful plastics and toxic chemicals will be gradually banned, and the use of eco-friendly alternative materials in industry and households will be encouraged. Quick, appropriate, and effective measures will be taken to save Dhaka city from the grip of pollution. Necessary initiatives will be taken to eliminate mismanagement in waste management in the country's cities.

Natural Resource Conservation

Conservation of forests, wetlands and grazing lands: Appropriate effective initiatives will be taken to revitalize the country's forest areas. Dried-up rivers and canals, haor and beel areas, oxbow lakes, natural lowlands, etc., will be used as water reservoirs. Char areas will be freed from illegal occupation and converted into grazing lands for livestock to increase the supply of nutritious milk and meat. Deforestation, forest encroachment, theft of forest resources, hill cutting, damage to mangrove forests, killing of wildlife, etc., will be stopped.

Conservation of wildlife habitats and sanctuaries: Establishment of industries and factories in wildlife habitats and sanctuary areas will not be allowed.

Recovery of encroached scenic sites: Bangladesh has many scenic and beautiful locations. Over the years, these sites have fallen victim to illegal occupation. These sites will be identified and recovered and necessary development will be undertaken.

Climate Change, Water Resources and Disaster Management

Adopting sustainable and effective strategies to address climate change-related crises: Sustainable and effective strategies will be adopted to address climate change-related crises and losses. Institutional capacity will be increased by procuring the most modern equipment to combat natural disasters such as floods, tidal surges, cyclones, and earthquakes. Bangladesh will play an active role in building global consensus and taking practical steps to establish an international cooperation framework for addressing climate change-related damages in the international arena.

Signing the Water Convention, 1997: By signing the UN Water Convention-1997 (Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses), Bangladesh's water problems will be highlighted in the international arena.

Implementation of Teesta Master Plan and Padma Barrage: Through the implementation of the Teesta and Padma barrages, water security, flood prevention, and desertification control will be ensured in the northern and southern regions. This initiative will provide irrigation facilities to 7.5 million hectares of land and

protect more than 50 million people from floods.

Strengthening the Joint River Commission: The Joint River Commission will be strengthened to ensure Bangladesh receives its fair share of water from rivers flowing across the border. China will also be made a partner in this matter. Additionally, all water treaties will be reviewed anew to ensure that no country receives unilateral benefits.

Water conservation: Rural natural water reservoirs will be built in coastal districts to ensure drinking water security by conserving rainwater. Efforts will be made in Dhaka and various divisional cities to ensure rainwater harvesting and grey-water reuse in high-rise buildings and real estate company residences.

Ensuring flood protection: High roads, shelters, culverts, and modern warning systems will be established in flood-prone areas.

Prevention of river erosion: Strategies will be adopted on a priority basis to prevent river erosion and for employment and rehabilitation of families affected by river erosion.

Reducing salinity in agricultural land: Efforts will be made to reduce salinity in agricultural lands adjacent to the Sundarbans by increasing water flow in the rivers of southern Bengal.

Formation of National Search and Rescue Unit: A rapid response National Search & Rescue Unit will be established for natural and man-made disasters. This unit will work in an integrated command structure with Fire Service, Army, Navy, Coast Guard, and local service providers and volunteer organizations. A command center will be established in each disaster-prone area, from which relief and rescue operations will be conducted.

Launching Fire Rescue Centres: 24-hour operational 'Fire-Rescue Centres' equipped with modern equipment, drones, paramedics, and ambulances will be launched in every upazila. 50,000 trained volunteers will be ready for emergencies. Rescue helicopters and air ambulances will be ensured in each division, which will ensure rapid rescue even from remote areas.

Earthquake: A comprehensive and planned initiative will be taken for earthquake disaster management. Trained volunteer forces will be developed to assist existing government institutions. Social awareness projects will be undertaken on earthquake self-protection measures. Appropriate preparations will be made for post-earthquake recovery and rehabilitation.

Implementation of Building Fire Safety Code: The Building Fire Safety Code, 2026 will be strictly implemented, and a corruption-free accountable supervision structure will be established.

Chapter 3

Rebuilding and Restoring a Fragile Economy

Democratization of the Economy – The Trillion-Dollar Economy

Economic democratization: This journey of economic transformation of the country under BNP's leadership will not be based on special privileges of any group but rather will be built on the productive power of every citizen of the country. At the centre of this vision is economic democratization through which the economy will be inclusive, participatory and open to all.

Breaking oligarchic structure and ensuring people's participation: Fair distribution of value, increased access to financing and markets, and ensuring direct participation of people in economic decision-making will be the core commitment of this agenda. The aim is to break the oligarchic structure that monopolizes wealth and opportunities, ensuring every citizen will have genuine participation.

Highest priority to job creation: BNP's primary objective is to create employment. Our main goal will be to transform the debt-dependent economy into an investment-dependent economy. An investment-based economy will be the driving force in generating employment and building wealth.

Building a Trillion-Dollar economy: Our goal is to transform Bangladesh into a modern, democratic, upper-middle-income country, where a one trillion-dollar annual national GDP economy will be built by 2034.

Harmonisation of fiscal and monetary policies: A dynamic and sound financial management system will be established in the country through an effective coordination between the revenue and monetary systems.

Creating a business-friendly Environment: Visible measures will be taken to improve the cost of doing business and ease of doing business to achieve the country's economic prosperity. An effective business environment will be created by prioritizing deregulation policies in the economy.

Single-Window Clearance and One-Stop Service: Single-window clearance, one-stop service and completely digital workflow will be created to eliminate harassment and complexity in business and trade. At

the same time, necessary measures will be taken to reduce the amount of direct physical contact.

Private Sector Development for Investment

The private sector is the main driving force of Bangladesh's economic growth, job creation, and export diversification. BNP's goal is to create a conducive environment for private investment through development plan, removal of policy and structural barriers and incentives for an accelerated inclusive and sustainable economic development.

Providing comprehensive policy Benefits: Comprehensive policy benefits will be ensured for private sector development. Digital systems will be introduced by reducing complexity in all areas, including business registration, licensing, tax, legal-regulatory matters.

Simplification of licensing process: Initiatives will be taken to reduce complexity in license renewal. A 'Common Application Platform' will be launched by reducing the number of multiple permissions.

Increasing support for small and medium Industries: Guarantee schemes, cash-flow based loans, venture capital, crowdfunding, and insurance coverage will be increased for small and medium industries and start-ups. The scope of special banking services for the small and medium industry sectors will be expanded in commercial banks. Low-interest loans will be arranged for this sector.

Incentives for export-oriented industries: Various types of incentives will be provided in industries such as pharmaceuticals, IT, leather and footwear industry, and agro-processing.

Infrastructural development and increasing capacity of industrial parks: Basic infrastructure, including transportation, logistics, and electricity will be developed. The capacity of existing industrial parks will be increased to provide facilities to small industrial units of youth community start-ups. Initiatives will be taken for rapid development of economic zones and implementation of new industrial parks.

Incentives for creative economy development: Policy and other benefits will be provided for the development of the creative economy such as film, music, theatre,

animation, gaming, and digital content creation.

Interest rate rationalization and capital market reform:

Effective policies will be formulated to ensure good governance in the banking sector, control inflation, rationalize interest rates and restore confidence in the capital market. The burden of additional taxes on the people will be reduced.

Foreign Direct Investment

Domestic and foreign direct investment will be attracted by enhancing institutional capacity, establishing rule of law and a rule-based business environment and removing the main obstacles to capital flow. A business-friendly environment will be created where domestic and international capital will work together to accelerate national growth and productivity. Bangladesh will be developed as a safe, prosperous investment destination.

Raising foreign investment to 2.5% of GDP: According to the one trillion-dollar economic roadmap, efforts will be made to raise foreign direct investment from 0.45% to 2.5% of GDP.

Prevention of sudden policy changes: BNP will take effective initiatives to maintain continuity in tariffs, taxes and export incentives. Stability will be ensured in foreign exchange policy.

'Single Window' at BIDA: A 'single window' will be launched under the Bangladesh Investment Development Authority (BIDA), where all approvals and registrations will be provided in one place. Company registration will be completed within 48 hours, and work permits within 7 days.

Complete digitalization of approval process: The approval process will be completely digitalized to create a 'plug and play' environment so that investors can start operations from day one. The functions of investment-related departments will be simplified for investors. VAT and customs refunds will be digitalized.

Appointment of 'FDI Captain' and 24/7 active helpdesk: FDI Captain will be introduced to serve as liaison officers of the investors. A 24/7 active helpdesk and formal complaint resolution system will be established to build investor confidence.

Simplification of visa and work permits: Visas and work permit for investors and necessary officials will be issued within 10 days. A five-year multiple entry investor visa will be launched.

Ensuring profit repatriation: Effective measures will be taken so that legally operating foreign businesses can repatriate their stipulated profits to their home countries within 30 days. The number of bilateral

investment treaties and double taxation avoidance agreements will be increased.

Investor protection regulation: An 'Investor Protection Regulation' will be enacted to ensure tax stability, rights protection, and policy transparency for investors.

Establishment of 'Bangladesh International Commercial Court' for Quick Settlement of Commercial Cases: A 'Bangladesh International Commercial Court' will be established to settle commercial cases within a specified timeframe, and international arbitration alternatives will be encouraged.

Uninterrupted electricity and gas supply to industries: Infrastructure is the foundation of investment. Therefore, emphasis will be placed on uninterrupted electricity and gas supply, development of modern roads, ports, and logistics hubs. Investment in renewable energy will be encouraged and increased.

Next Frontier Economy' branding: A global campaign will be launched to brand Bangladesh as a 'Next Frontier Economy'. The country's promising sectors will be highlighted through embassies and roadshows.

Priority sectors: IT & digital services, pharmaceutical manufacturing, creative sectors (film, music, art, design) and renewable energy will be treated as priority sectors. To this end, tax, VAT, and other restrictive tax policies will be reconsidered.

Banking and Financial Sector Reform

Return of depositors' money from liquidated Islamic banks: The money of depositors from liquidated Islamic banks will be returned in full as quickly as possible. A Deposit Protection Ordinance will be enacted to ensure the protection of depositors, through which the responsibilities of the Deposit Protection Fund will be expanded and financing for the transfer of insured deposits will be made possible. In this case, the Pay-Box Plus Model will be considered.

Formation of 'Economic Reform Commission': An 'Economic Reform Commission' will be formed comprising expert economists and researchers, experienced bankers, corporate leaders, and people with administrative experience to ensure economic justice.

Ensuring discipline, supervision, and transparency of financial institutions: To ensure discipline in the country's financial institutions, the central bank's autonomy, power, and intensive supervision and transparency will be strengthened. With ensured autonomy, effective surveillance by Bangladesh Bank over public and private banks and financial institutions will be increased.

Abolition of Banking Division: The Banking Division of the Ministry of Finance will be abolished, and the responsibility for managing and supervising state-owned banks will be entrusted to the central bank.

Stopping political interference in the banking sector: Political interference in bank operations will be stopped, and bank management policies will be freed from family influence.

Taking Steps to Resolve Non-Performing Loans: The problem of high non-performing loans (NPL) in financial institutions will be reviewed, those responsible will be brought under the law, and swift measures will be taken to resolve the problems of these institutions.

Customer protection in insurance: Customer protection in the insurance sector, accountability in fund management through strengthened IDRA.

Capital Market Reform and Development

Independence and Autonomy of the Securities and Exchange Commission: The Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission will be developed as an independent and autonomous institution with increased transparency and accountability.

Capital Market Reform Commission: A 'Capital Market Reform Commission' will be formed for capital market reforms. Additionally, a special investigation commission will be formed to investigate irregularities in the capital market over the past 15 years. BNP will take punitive measures against those involved in irregularities and fraud in the share market.

Bringing transparency to the Stock Market: Qualified, honest, and skilled individuals will be appointed to the Securities and Exchange Commission and state-owned bank boards of directors. Strict enforcement of existing securities laws in the capital market will be ensured.

Stopping stock market manipulation: Strong and effective legal measures will be taken against market manipulation, insider trading, and abuse of power. Investor confidence will be restored, investment-friendly and rational tax policies will be formulated, and good governance and institutional capacity in the capital market will be strengthened.

Formation of strong Bond and Equity markets: By effectively resolving existing problems in the stock market, a strong share market, bond market, and equity market will be developed in the country. BNP's goal is to democratize investment and create 'opportunities for wealth creation for all.'

Corporate Bonds and Sukuk: The SME board will be strengthened, and the corporate bond market will be expanded. Gradually, Exchange Traded Funds (ETF),

Sukuk (Islamic bonds), and Green Bonds will be launched. Green Bangladesh Bonds worth 50 thousand crore taka will be issued by 2030 for climate-resilient projects.

Launch of investment gateway for expatriates: An NRB Investment Gateway will be launched for expatriate Bangladeshis.

Blockchain technology: Both the market and products will be expanded using blockchain technology in the capital market. Effective measures will be taken to increase the number of foreign investors and the amount of investment in the capital market. A 'Foreign Portfolio Investment (FPI)' onboarding portal will be launched for foreign investors, and relevant provisions will be aligned with international standards to increase the attraction of foreign capital.

Facilitating access to capital markets: Market access will be made easily available from all places in Bangladesh.

Digital IPO Express' System for Start-ups and SME Sector: A 'Digital IPO Express' system will be launched for the start-ups and SME sectors with listing facilities within 30 days through a faster and easier process.

Capital Market Tribunal: Effective initiatives will be taken to form a fast-acting 'Capital Market Tribunal' to restore investor confidence and introduce whistle-blower protection and investor complaint resolution systems.

Expansion of capital market education among students: Personal finance and capital market education will be included in colleges and universities.

Trade Liberalization and Expansion of International Markets

Liberalization and deregulation: The investment environment will be liberalised and deregulated to create a business-friendly environment. Market management will be freed from syndicates, and red tape will be reduced to create a truly business-friendly environment.

FTA Initiatives: BNP will prioritize strategic Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) at bilateral, multilateral, and unilateral levels with important states, economic blocs, and regions in the East, Far East, Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. While ensuring the protection of national interests and considering the competitive capabilities of the agriculture, industry, and service sectors, tariffs will be gradually reduced, non-tariff barriers lowered, market access increased and technology and investment cooperation strengthened, so that export diversity increases, employment is

created, and the economy moves forward sustainably in the long term.

Increasing competitiveness: Since Bangladesh receives duty-free market access, special trade benefits, and development assistance due to being a Least Developed Country, our goal will be to gradually convert these into our own capabilities. For this purpose, integrated policies will be adopted to improve the quality of the export sector, increase productivity, transfer technology, expand markets for new products, develop skills, reform tax and tariff systems, strengthen trade diplomacy for increased competitiveness in the industrial sector to survive and expand independently and sustainably in the global market even without LDC benefits.

Diversification of export products and emphasis on economic diplomacy: Initiatives will be taken to introduce Bangladesh's pharmaceuticals, agro-processed products, IT, handicrafts, home décor, jute products, natural cosmetics, toys and children's products etc. to international markets, beyond ready-made garments. Emphasis will be placed on economic diplomacy in searching for new markets, market expansion, and trade expansion.

Integration with global E-commerce platforms: Initiatives will be taken to transform Bangladesh into an e-commerce hub in the global market. Production of small and medium industries in the country will be increased according to the demand of world-renowned e-commerce platforms like online-based giant companies Amazon, eBay, or Alibaba.

Establishment of logistics hub: An integrated logistics hub will be established centered around Chittagong and Mongla ports to develop Bangladesh's coastal region as a strategic centre for regional and global trade. Under this initiative, port infrastructure will be modernized, deep seaport capacity increased, multimodal transport networks (sea-road-rail-waterway) integrated and digital customs and trade facilitation strengthened. At the same time, supply chain efficiency will be ensured through expansion of modern warehousing and distribution centre facilities.

Industrial Sector

Investment-friendly policies: Investment-friendly policies will be adopted to develop the industrial sector and attract domestic and foreign investment. Priority will be given to projects that create massive employment.

Reactivation of Closed Industries and Diversification of Export Sector: A list of medium and large industries that were closed during Awami misrule, including jute mills, textile mills, and sugar mills, will be prepared and

visible initiatives will be taken to restart them. To this end, a taskforce comprising representatives of the government, owners, workers, and experts will be formed to quickly restart all closed industries under government, public-private joint ownership, or private ownership.

Reduction of trade deficit: During the fascist Awami League period, the trade deficit increased due to high import dependency and weak export diversification. By restructuring trade policy, the tariff structure for raw materials will be rationalized, preferential agreements will be reassessed and domestic production capacity for important inputs will be developed to reduce the trade deficit.

National Trade Competitiveness Council and Strategic Textile Fund: A 'National Trade Competitiveness Council' will be formed in Bangladesh. Additionally, a Strategic Textile Fund will be established, which will ensure sustainable, low-interest, long-term financing for the development of backward linkage industries.

Financing and incentives: Special incentives will be given for tax holidays and reduction of duties on machinery imports to encourage technological modernization in the industrial sector, with special emphasis on fair and affordable financing for SME entrepreneurs.

Trade and Industrial Stabilization Fund: Low-interest loans and export guarantees will be provided from the 'Trade and Industrial Stabilization Fund' for priority sectors.

National Green Industrial Policy: Through the 'National Green Industrial Policy,' green industries will be developed by providing incentives for energy-efficient technology, resource production from waste, and low-carbon industrialization.

Increasing Regional Cooperation: Initiatives will be taken to conclude new market facilities and preferential agreements in various sectors with BIMSTEC, ASEAN, GCC and the European Union.

Craft, Handicrafts, and Rural Economy Development

One Village One Product - We Will Bring Back Lost Heritage: A 'One Village One Product' programme will be launched across the country, where each village will be transformed into a production centre for its own traditional products such as Sonargaon's Jamdani, Tangail's saree, Rajshahi's silk, Rangpur's Shatoronji, Jhalokathi's Shitolpati, etc. The government will provide design support, order-based loans, and national and international e-market connectivity in this initiative. Through this, millions of people, including women and

youth, will be employed very quickly.

Providing targeted support to small, cottage and medium industries: Under the targeted support programme for small, cottage, and medium industries, support for entrepreneurs will be provided for export, designing, branding, and sales in domestic and foreign marketplaces.

Information and Communication Technology-ICT

Information and communication technology (ICT) sector will be one of BNP's special priority sectors and the new driving force of the country's economic growth. In line with the "Bangladesh First" principle and based on the foundations of Industrial Revolution 4.0 and the rapid advancement of AI technology, a future-oriented, dynamic and technologically inclusive Bangladesh will be built. The core goal of this vision is to use technology effectively to serve ordinary citizens, students, freelancers, IT entrepreneurs and businesses, and to establish our country as one of the leading technology nations in the world.

One million new jobs: By rapidly activating the ICT sector and through proper education systems, directly create 200,000 jobs in five key areas cybersecurity, BPO, AI-data, semiconductors and Industry 4.0 and indirectly create a further 800,000 jobs through freelancing and content creators. By strongly promoting innovation and ICT service exports, the contribution of the ICT sector to the country's GDP will be raised to 5–10%.

Fast and reliable internet for all: Reliable and high-speed internet services will be ensured for every citizen of the country, in both urban and rural areas. A robust infrastructure will be developed by integrating wireless and fibre-optic broadband networks, so that every person can access the world's best ICT services at home, in schools and colleges, and in business centres, and enjoy equal opportunities to participate in the global technology-driven economy. To ensure the free flow of information and deliver digital services to people's doorsteps, free high-speed internet connections will be provided at all schools and colleges, government and private offices, rural digital centres, hospitals, railway stations, airports and other major public spaces.

Global internet connectivity and infrastructure: Giving priority to future consumer and business needs, a modern "Connectivity Masterplan" will be implemented through public-private partnerships (PPP). The main pillars of this plan will be: world-class submarine cable connectivity, adequate low-orbit satellite backup, and effective links with diverse international internet hubs. Our goal will be to ensure

99.999% network reliability, so that uninterrupted, fastest and most reliable internet services reach every corner of the country.

Taking Bangladesh to an internationally important position in the software, app and hardware industries: To strengthen the country's software, hardware and BPO industries, a future BNP government will launch the "Made in Bangladesh / Assembled in Bangladesh / Serviced in Bangladesh" initiative, so that these products and services can compete at the very front of the international market.

National cyber security, cyber bullying and citizen data protection: To protect all citizens from cyber threats and cyber bullying, and to safeguard information and the country's critical digital infrastructure, BNP will formulate strong cyber security policies and laws in collaboration with domestic and foreign stakeholders. A National Cyber Security Centre will be established to coordinate security across government and private sectors, so that no child, student, woman or man has to face harassment from cyber bullying. If such incidents occur, any victim will be able to file a complaint with the relevant authorities, who will take immediate action to resolve the root cause.

PayPal and a technology-based cash-light economy: If given the opportunity to form the government, BNP will introduce a national e-wallet including PayPal for the benefit of freelancers and technologists. This will allow everyday shopping, bill payments, fees and taxes to be paid easily in digital form, and ensure that freelancers, young ICT entrepreneurs and businesses do not face banking complications in receiving their hard-earned foreign income.

AI-driven data centre campus, edge data centres and digital sovereignty: Under a cloud-first technology framework, the country's first AI-driven data centre campus will be established. It will provide secure, fast and scalable infrastructure for both government and private services. Initiatives will be taken to position Bangladesh as an "edge data centre hub" for companies like Google, Facebook, Amazon and Microsoft. As a result, the country's data will remain within Bangladesh, dependence on bandwidth imports will decrease, and genuine digital sovereignty will be established.

Investment-friendly policies, start-ups and innovation funds: To encourage domestic and foreign investment in the ICT sector and to ensure investor protection, a "Long-term Framework Agreement" will be signed. Under this, ICT investors will be guaranteed 10-year tax benefits, uninterrupted power supply, high-speed internet connectivity and necessary logistical support. To maximize the use of the IT Innovation Fund, various

creative and integrated programs will be implemented by 2030. Comprehensive support will be provided to talented youth and interested entrepreneurs in the software and IT services sectors. The existing “Startup Fund” will be expanded for financially disadvantaged entrepreneurs, providing subsidized loans, equity support and various financial incentives.

Capital market: Special encouragement and policy support will be given to create mutual funds and venture capital based on the capital market for the development of the ICT industry.

National crowdfunding platform for start-ups: Prioritizing start-ups and youth development in the ICT sector, a citizen-investment-based national crowdfunding platform will be launched. A legal framework will be created to ensure safe and profitable investments by expatriate Bangladeshis in the start-up sector.

Future ICT & Telecom Policy: Creating open competition and ensuring affordable services: The markets for VoIP, Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network (NTTN), Internet Service Providers (ISP) and International Internet Gateway (IIG) will be progressively opened in accordance with international standards. This will create competition, increase employment, improve efficiency and reduce internet costs. The Telecommunication Network and Licensing Policy 2025 adopted by the interim government will be reviewed; its positive aspects will be continued, while controversial provisions will be re-examined and amended.

Services Sector

As the global economy gradually shifts toward the service-based sector, Bangladesh is still not fully capitalizing on the immense potential of its large service sector. BNP believes that modernizing the service sector and strategic development are essential if the country is to move toward a high-income, knowledge-based economy.

Coordinated strategy for service sector development: A comprehensive development plan to modernize and enrich the service sector by ensuring optimal use of land for industrial establishment and land-use-based modern services such as banking, insurance and financial services, hotels and restaurants, the IT industry, entertainment, tourism, transportation, telecommunications, distance education, air hubs, water hubs, security services, ports and ships, healthcare, telemedicine, etc. Multinational technology companies will be incentivized to establish regional headquarters or research centres. A digital single window will be established to obtain licenses, tax certificates, and other

necessary approvals for all service establishments in one place.

Job creation and export diversification: BNP aims to transform the service sector into a modern, technology-driven, innovation- and export-oriented strength that will generate substantial employment and diversify exports.

Tourism sector development: A new national strategy for tourism, visa facilitation, smart logistics hub, and effective steps to improve skills in the hospitality sector will be undertaken.

Assistance for international certification and branding: Professional establishments in architecture, engineering, consultancy, and healthcare will be supported in obtaining international certifications and branding.

Improvement of citizen services: The quality of services across all state and constitutional bodies will be progressively enhanced, including electricity supply, drinking water supply, sewage disposal, a clean environment, specialized police services, judicial services, healthcare, and administrative services.

Blue Economy

BNP will ensure the science-based sustainable use of the country’s immense sea resources.

Emphasis on food, energy, and employment: Bangladesh’s maritime boundary is a future strength, a major source of our food, energy, industry, and employment. The blue economy will be developed as a national development priority and a new horizon for future prosperity. Sustainable development of the blue economy will be leveraged to strengthen the country’s economy. By implementing sea resource surveys and stock-based extraction policies, oil and gas exploration, renewable energy, fish harvesting, efficient port management, and shipbuilding industry will be advanced.

Sustainable fishing and prevention of poaching: The country’s sea resources will be extracted and used in a sustainable manner. Emphasis will be placed on deep-sea fishing through the use of modern ships and by establishing fish conservation and processing centres. Illegal deep-sea fishing will be strictly prevented. Additionally, strengthening surveillance and patrols in deep seas will ensure the safety of domestic fishermen. Looting by hostile forces will be prevented in the maritime domain.

Emphasis on fisheries and marine food production: Special steps will be taken to cultivate other marine foods in demand on international markets, including

seaweed. This will create new employment opportunities in lucrative industries like marine fisheries and marine food processing.

Oil and gas exploration and energy security: By ensuring full utilization of sea blocks, oil and gas exploration projects will be undertaken with domestic and foreign investment partnership. Domestic energy production will reduce import dependence and ensure energy security.

Adoption and implementation of blue employment programmes: An integrated blue employment program will be created for coastal youth, fishing families, and marginalized communities. In coastal areas, an internationally acclaimed eco-tourism industry will be developed, with the aim of creating nearly 1 million direct and indirect jobs.

Establishment of a Maritime Innovation Fund in education and industry: In partnership with universities and industry, a Maritime Innovation Fund will be established for marine science and innovation. A blue finance framework will be developed, and initiatives to launch a “Blue Bond” and a “Sustainable Maritime Investment Fund” will be undertaken.

Maritime sector raw materials: To source raw materials for the pharmaceutical industry from various marine microorganisms, algae, and chemical substances, necessary incentives and research activities will be increased.

Safe shipbreaking and development of shipbuilding industry: Modern and environmentally friendly practices will be established for shipbreaking and shipbuilding. Specific policies will be formulated to protect the environment and workers’ safety, making Bangladesh a new hub for ship exports. Moreover, the Green Ship-Breaking Transition will ensure safe and environmentally friendly ship recycling in line with the Hong Kong Convention.

Establishment of the National Blue Economy Authority: To coordinate policy, regulate licensing, and simplify marine resource management, the National Blue Economy Authority will be established under the Prime Minister’s Office. A specialized research cell will be set up to properly harness maritime potential.

Ecosystems and biodiversity protection: Measures will be taken to protect the ecosystems and biodiversity (flora and fauna) of the marine region, ensure sustainable harvesting and utilization, and bring products to market responsibly.

Prioritizing a Just Transition Framework: In all sea-based resource extraction and economic activities, the Just Transition Framework will be prioritized to

ensure that coastal communities, their livelihoods, and the environment are not harmed while developing sea-based resources or industries.

Port development and accountable governance in the blue economy: National shipping, fleet modernization, port modernization, and trade facilitation will be undertaken. Seafarer training will be modernized to secure international employment. Reforestation and accountable governance will be established to protect seas and coasts.

Development of a Creative Economy

BNP’s aim in the creative economy sector is to unlock the vast economic potential of the country’s creative industries, so that this promising sector can contribute significantly to human resource development, national branding, and future welfare.

Achieving 1.5% of GDP and creating 500,000 jobs: Proactive steps will be taken to develop creative economy sectors such as film, music, theatre, digital content creation, animation, VFX, gaming, content creation. By 2035, the sector’s contribution will be raised to 1.5% of GDP and 500,000 new jobs will be generated through diverse strategies focused on high-skill, future-oriented areas.

Regional creative hubs and incentives: Regional creative hubs will be established across the country. A performance-based grant scheme will be launched for new entrepreneurs and export-ready commercial projects.

National branding and institutional framework: Support will be provided to Bangladeshi content creators and companies in this sector to enter international markets. A national brand called “Creative in Bangladesh” will be launched to showcase creative potential in international festivals and markets. To lead strategic initiatives in the creative economy, the “Bangladesh Creative Development Authority” will be established.

Long-term investment and fund formation: A 10-year investment plan will be adopted for the development of the creative economy sectors, including modern studios and innovation hubs, specialized training and scholarships, subsidies for high-quality software, and sustained efforts to strengthen global marketing.

Power and Energy Sector Development

Over the past one and a half decades, boundless corruption, opaque procurement processes, expensive short-term contracts, suicidal capacity charges, and excessive import dependency have turned Bangladesh’s power and energy sector into a costly, corruption-ridden, inefficient structure that is also a

national constraint. BNP believes that without long-term energy security, industrialization, employment, and sustainable economic growth are not possible. BNP's goal is to build an affordable, reliable, and environmentally friendly power and energy system through transparency, efficiency, and optimal use of domestic resources, which will serve as the main driving force of national development.

A. Power Sector

Increasing production and transmission capacity: By 2030, power generation capacity will be increased to 35,000 megawatts and transmission lines will be expanded to 25,000 circuit kilometres. A balance between public and private production will be ensured, and inefficient power plants will be modernized. A significant portion of the energy budget will be allocated for complete modernization of transmission and distribution networks and smart grid development to reduce system losses and improve supply reliability.

Capacity charge and contract reform: Due to the unprecedented corruption of the fascist government, the nation has incurred a massive burden in the energy sector. Rental and short-term contracts, including capacity charges, will be reviewed to reduce unnecessary and unreasonable costs and ensure transparency and efficiency in this sector.

Least cost generation and fuel mix: A least-cost generation plan will be formulated and implemented, and the optimal fuel mix for the country will be ensured.

Energy efficiency and energy audits: Energy audits will be introduced in households, industries, and public-private sectors, and incentives will be provided for using energy-efficient equipment.

Reducing import dependency: The causes of import dependency in the power and energy sectors will be identified, and a realistic balance will be established between domestic sources and imports.

B. Energy Sector

Transparent tariff system: The effectiveness of tariff determination will be strengthened to keep energy prices affordable and transparent, and an independent review process will be introduced as necessary.

Ending secret contracts: No secret contracts will be made in power and energy procurement, and relevant information will be disclosed to the public. Contracts with foreign companies will be rearranged to ensure national interest, technology transfer, and reasonable state control.

Crude oil refinery construction: An initiative will be

taken to construct a new crude oil refinery with a refining capacity of 5 million tons in phases in Chittagong or coastal industrial areas.

Domestic gas exploration and strengthening BAPEX: By strengthening BAPEX in geological surveys and well drilling, onshore and offshore gas exploration will be intensified, and a transparent, technology-based framework for resource management will be ensured.

Gas distribution and pricing policy reform: Distribution structure and pricing policy will be reviewed to ensure fair, uninterrupted, and affordable gas supply to households and industries.

Inter-country energy connectivity: National energy security will be strengthened through regional and inter-country gas pipelines and energy cooperation.

Reducing energy inequality: Special programs will be adopted to establish solar home systems, micro-grids, and biogas plants in remote and inaccessible areas to eliminate energy inequality.

C. Renewable Energy

Increasing renewable energy share: Efforts will be intensified to achieve the goal of raising the share of renewable energy to 20% in the total energy mix by 2030.

Green financing and tax incentives: Tax breaks and low-cost green financing facilities will be provided for renewable energy and energy efficiency.

Hydropower and regional cooperation: Initiatives will be taken for water management and low-cost hydropower generation through regional cooperation.

Nuclear energy: Necessary measures will be taken in the national interest, considering the possibility of safe and peaceful use of nuclear energy.

Rooppur project review: The effectiveness of the Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant will be re-examined, and related corruption will be investigated.

Waste-to-energy: Waste-to-energy projects will be launched to meet the energy needs of cities, ports, and urban areas and reduce pollution.

Communications and Transport Sector

Bangladesh today faces serious obstacles due to inefficiency and disorder in the transport sector. BNP believes that a world-class multimodal transport system is one of the fundamental pillars of a modern state. Our goal will be to increase national productivity by prioritizing the most affordable and sustainable modes of transport, strengthen economic connectivity between regions, and ensure safe and affordable mobility for all.

Our aim is to build an integrated, efficient, and green transport corridor.

A. Road Transport System

Establishing a national expressway grid: All districts and major cities of the country will be connected. Effective measures will be taken to establish a national expressway grid with four-lane divided highways, controlled access points (intersections), and connections to land ports, economic zones, and borders. The country's road infrastructure will be connected to the Asian Highway Network.

Rural road development: All unpaved rural roads will be gradually paved to ensure "last mile" connectivity to remote areas, enabling direct travel from villages to regional and national highways and commercial corridors.

Axle load control and construction of overpasses-underpasses: Axle load control centers and smart monitoring systems will be established to preserve highway infrastructure durability, and necessary overpasses and underpasses will be constructed at congested intersections.

Bridge construction: The second Padma Bridge at Paturia-Daulatdia, the second Jamuna Bridge, and the Dhaka-Chittagong Expressway will be completed quickly.

Safety, discipline and route rationalization: An integrated and smart management framework will be established to ensure discipline, safety, and efficiency in road transport. Bus route rationalization programmes will be implemented through coordination of urban planning and transport policy.

Traffic congestion mitigation and public transport quality improvement: Special initiatives will be taken to expand and improve public transport systems to alleviate traffic congestion and make public transport more effective and accessible in densely populated cities. To this end, initiatives will be taken to gradually relocate inter-district bus terminals and illegal truck stands in Dhaka to appropriate locations outside the city.

Separate lanes and reclaiming roads from encroachment: Initiatives will be taken to create separate lanes for two-wheelers. Roads and footpaths will be freed from encroachment, and unsafe, slow-moving, and unsuitable vehicles will be gradually removed.

Launch of ride-sharing bicycle service: Under a public-private partnership and as part of an environmentally friendly program to reduce traffic congestion, a mobile app-based special ride-sharing

bicycle service will be launched in the capital Dhaka. Initiatives will be taken to implement this system in other cities in phases.

Uniforms for road transport workers: Effective initiatives will be taken to ensure drivers and helpers wear designated uniforms to provide social recognition to the profession, prevent harassment during travel, and bring discipline to passenger services.

Road safety law and accident prevention: An integrated and sustainable strategy will be adopted to prevent road accidents. To ensure road safety, proper training and licensing of drivers will be ensured, vehicle fitness will be confirmed, and discipline and responsible behavior on roads will be developed through public awareness. A strong "Road Safety Act" will be formulated and implemented for this purpose.

Ensuring passenger safety: Strong measures will be taken to combat mugging, theft, and terrorist activities on roads and highways.

Road transport insurance: Each vehicle will be gradually brought under insurance coverage to bear the costs of compensation, proper treatment, and rehabilitation for passengers, vehicle drivers, and assistants who are killed or injured in accidental incidents.

B. Waterways Transport System

Circular waterway development: Effective measures will be taken to create circular waterways around river-based cities and implement dredging programs, so that road traffic congestion is reduced, river-based transport is revived, and passenger and goods transport is ensured in an environmentally friendly manner.

Modern 'water highway' transformation: Certain river routes will be declared as high-frequency water highways, and modern river ports and intermodal terminals will be built in centers such as Narayanganj, Chandpur, Barishal, Khulna, Chattogram, Hatia, and Swandip.

River and sea port connectivity: An underground tunnel will be progressively constructed in the Buriganga, Gomati, Padma, and Meghna rivers to facilitate easier, faster, and safer movement on both banks. An underground tunnel will be constructed at the old Jagannath Ganj ghat on the Jamuna River to connect with Sirajganj. The Bay of Bengal will be developed as a strategic hub for international trade and transport flows.

Coastal connectivity development: Necessary infrastructure will be built to ensure safe and smooth connectivity between coastal areas and the mainland

across various islands, and an adequate number of coastal ships and ferries will be operated.

Discipline and safety in waterways: To ensure discipline and safety in river transport, policies, oversight, and implementation frameworks will be strengthened. In Dhaka and other major river-adjacent cities, new passenger and goods terminals will be established based on demand and geographical potential.

C. Rail Transport System

Domestic and regional rail expansion: Rail will be revitalized as the central backbone of national transport. Electrification and double-track construction on the Dhaka-Chittagong, Dhaka-Panchagarh, and Dhaka-Chapainawabganj corridors will be treated as national missions. All districts and major cities will come under an integrated rail network. Metro rail, elevated rail, and circular commuter lines will be pursued in Dhaka and other metropolises. Priority will be given to connecting Myanmar-based routes and the Dhaka-Kunming rail link to strengthen regional connectivity.

Expansion of express services and modernization of rail management: More express services will be introduced on major intercity routes.

Public-private partnership encouragement: Public-private partnerships will be encouraged in passenger and freight corridors and urban rail systems to improve infrastructure and service quality. Smart monitoring will be implemented to ensure security, efficiency, and discipline.

Discounts for students, disabled, and seniors: Special concessions will be considered for students, persons with disabilities, and those over 60 across metro and long-distance rail.

Bullet train connectivity: Plans will be made to develop a high-speed rail network to connect Dhaka with major regional cities within one hour, progressively.

D. Air Transport System

Aviation hub transformation: By 2034, Bangladesh will be transformed into one of the leading aviation hubs in South and Southeast Asia. A national air connectivity grid will be created, initially linking divisional capitals and progressively district towns with small airports and airstrips.

Secure cargo services: Dhaka, Chattogram, and Sylhet International Airports will be upgraded to full-fledged logistics and passenger hubs. International gateways will be developed at Cox's Bazar, Jessore, Rajshahi, and Saidpur. A national logistics digital platform will be launched for integrated cargo tracking, booking, and

route planning. Airports will be encouraged to use renewable energy.

Hassle-free passenger services: Safe, respectful, and harassment-free passenger services will be ensured at all airports. Ticket black markets, fraud, and illegal financial exploitation will be prevented.

Bangladesh Biman as a profitable enterprise: Bangladesh Biman will be developed into a profitable and competitive state-owned carrier, with organizational reforms in operations, route management, and service quality. Bilateral agreements will be expanded to improve access to international routes.

Policy support for private airlines: Private airlines will receive policy support to enter international markets and compete. Investments and employment opportunities in aviation technology and cargo sectors will be created, and appropriate preventive measures will be taken to reduce accidents in this sector.

Revenue Mobilisation and Expenditure Management

BNP believes that the prerequisite for building an effective state is restoring public trust in the revenue system. Taxes gain legitimacy only when they are collected fairly and visibly used for public welfare. Bangladesh's revenue crisis is not primarily technical; it is the result of an inequitable political economy where high-income groups have remained outside the tax net for a long time. BNP is committed to breaking this structure and expanding the revenue base by making the income tax and VAT systems fair, universal, and technology driven.

The centrepiece of BNP's revenue strategy is increasing investment, developing small and medium industries, and strengthening the domestic market, through which production expands, employment and income increase, consumption grows, and tax revenue increases sustainably from that expanded economic activity. At the same time, tax exemptions and incentives will be linked to actual investment, employment, and technology development to prevent revenue erosion. Property and asset value increases will be brought into the tax base through modern property taxes, so that wealth created from production and investment is reflected in state revenue. In BNP's view, revenue growth is not a condition of the economy; rather, it is the result of economic revival. A fair, strong, and sustainable revenue structure is built through the natural expansion of investment, production, employment, and consumption—where tax is not an obstacle to development, but rather a natural consequence of development.

Achieving a 15% Tax-to-GDP ratio: By 2035, the

tax-to-GDP ratio will be raised to 15 percent. Realistic and effective initiatives will be undertaken without increasing the tax burden.

Short-term enhancement to 2%: In the short term, additional revenue exceeding 2 percent of GDP will be achieved through consolidating VAT rates and rationally limiting VAT exemptions, adjusting minimum turnover tax rates, enacting modern excise laws for tobacco products, and imposing excise taxes including pollution costs on imported motor fuels that emit greenhouse gases.

Medium-term enhancement to 10%: Medium and long-term revenue strategies will be implemented with visible reforms in tax administration and strengthened revenue collection. The tax-to-GDP ratio will be increased from the current level to 10%.

Activating the investment - production - employment - consumption - tax cycle: The root cause of Bangladesh's revenue crisis is not just weakness in tax administration; rather, it is the narrowness of economic activity. BNP believes that to achieve sustainable income growth, revenue policy must be linked to the real dynamics of the economy. When investment increases, production increases; when production increases, employment increases; when employment and income increase, consumption increases; and when consumption and income increase, tax revenue increases sustainably. Activating this natural economic cycle is the centrepiece of BNP's revenue strategy.

Investment expansion for revenue growth: During the fascist regime, policy instability, weakness in the financial sector, and discriminatory privileges discouraged investment. Therefore, BNP is committed to revitalizing domestic and foreign investment by making the investment environment stable, predictable, and fair.

Employment and income growth for natural expansion of the tax base: The most significant result of investment is job creation. The employment deficit in Bangladesh is one of the main reasons for the contraction of the tax base. When investment in labour-intensive sectors increases, employment increases, workers' and working people's income increases, and opportunities for revenue collection are created in both income tax and VAT. BNP believes that the expansion of the income tax system becomes sustainable not only through administrative strictness

but by increasing people's earning capacity. When more people receive regular and dignified income, tax payment becomes a natural civic behaviour.

Production and consumption growth for increasing VAT and indirect tax yield: BNP believes that the most sustainable way to increase VAT revenue is not to raise tax rates but to expand the scope of production and consumption. For this, investment-friendly policies, development of small and medium industries, and strengthening the domestic market will be implemented.

Stopping revenue erosion: Tax exemptions in the name of increasing investment have long become the main source of revenue erosion. BNP will directly link tax incentives to production, employment, and technology development. Incentives that create actual investment and employment will remain; those that only increase profits and cause revenue erosion will be cancelled.

Property and wealth tax: Along with the expansion of economic activity, fixed assets and asset values increase. BNP will build a modern property tax system to bring this wealth growth into the tax base. This will convert wealth created from production and investment into revenue and increase the equity of the tax structure.

Tax administration reform: BNP will make tax administration modern, professional, and technology-based, so that the expansion of economic activity is directly reflected in revenue growth. Tax administration will be supportive, not punitive so that economic momentum is not hindered but the tax base voluntarily expands.

Expenditure discipline, not austerity but ending waste: BNP does not believe in reducing public welfare expenditure in the name of austerity. However, it will take a firm stance against waste, inefficiency, and politically motivated display expenditures. The expensive mega-projects of the past have yielded inadequate results compared to employment and productivity. In the future, cost-benefit analysis, parliamentary oversight, and transparent audits will be mandatory for all major projects.

A new fiscal social contract - equity and security for generations: BNP proposes a new fiscal social contract, in which taxes will be fair, the benefits of expenditure will be visible, and policies will be forward-looking.

Chapter 4

Regional Balanced Development

Various economic and development disparities exist across different regions of the country. BNP is determined to ensure equity-based balanced development for everyone in all regions of the country. BNP will prioritize that appropriate economic development and industrialization in that region. Effective initiatives will be taken to revitalize the economy of economic zones, EPZs, and BSCIC industrial areas in every corner of the country and create extensive new employment in each region. To this end, domestic and foreign investment will be quickly attracted through investment-friendly policies, single-service windows, and infrastructure development.

Chittagong as Commercial Capital

Chittagong will be developed as the country's commercial capital. Additionally, this region will be developed as an employment hub.

Development of the Northern Region

BNP is determined to free the country's northern region from the stigma of long neglect and industrial backwardness. Agricultural industrialization will be developed around the northern region, which plays an important role in the country's agricultural economy. To this end, specialized 'Agricultural Product Production, Preservation and Export Zones' will be established on a priority basis in the agriculture-intensive districts of the northern region to ensure agriculture-based industrialization, extensive employment for the people of the northern region, and balanced economic development of that region.

Development of the Haor and Wetland Regions

Water-centric infrastructure and livelihood-based economy will be strengthened for the sustainable development of the people of haor-baor areas. To this end, sustainable embankments, water control systems, and forecast-based disaster management will be strengthened to combat floods and sudden torrents. At the same time, human development indices will be improved by reducing seasonal isolation through expansion of communication, electricity, health, and education services. Multifaceted plans will be implemented in agriculture, fisheries, duck farming, tourism, and biodiversity conservation to restructure the haor economy. It is noteworthy that Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman was the first to form the 'Haor Development Board' in 1977 for the development of

haor and the lives and livelihoods of people in haor areas.

Development of Coastal Regions

Climate adaptation, safe livelihoods, and economic connectivity will be prioritized for the development of people in coastal areas. Protection of women, children, safe water, sanitation, healthcare, fishermen, and other professionals will be ensured from the risks of climate change. Sustainable coastal embankments, cyclone shelters, and early warning systems will be improved to combat cyclones and tidal surges. Employment will be created through salinity-tolerant agriculture, modern fisheries and marine economy, small and medium enterprises, and skills development. Emphasis will be placed on the development of the blue economy and modern port management. A 'Coastal Development Board' will be formed with the aim of comprehensive development of coastal areas.

Urbanization and Housing

Every citizen has the right to housing, a fundamental right. The BNP's aim is to transform Bangladesh's cities and regions into planned, productive, and environmentally friendly liveable areas, solve the national housing crisis through innovation, inclusion, and modern design, and progressively provide housing for every citizen.

Zoning: In urban development, 'economic zones' and 'land-use mapping' will be introduced by designating specific zones for agriculture, industry, housing, and green areas, protecting ecologically important regions and fertile land from haphazard development.

Modern and safe cities: A modern and safe city will be built with digital technology, sustainable planning, and citizen participation. Sustainable transportation, digital services, sensor-based traffic management, and waste and water management will be safe, affordable, and accessible. Additionally, citizens will be able to access government services online through portals, learn necessary information, and participate in city decision-making. As a result, living standards will improve, climate risk will decrease, and social and economic activities will accelerate.

Integrated waste and water management: We will introduce integrated waste and water management. All city corporations will have modern centralized sewage treatment plants and recycling facilities.

Empowering local government: Local government will be empowered as the main driver of urban management. City corporations and municipalities will be empowered in urban planning, land use, and service delivery. An integrated digital land and planning portal will be established to reduce corruption and complexity.

Establishment of a ‘Citizen Service Corner’: With adequate public toilets and resting facilities for senior citizens, a plan to establish ‘Citizen Service Corners’ in every metropolitan and district town, including Dhaka, and later spreading to sub-districts and municipalities, will be undertaken to ensure affordable water supply. At important city sites, adequate sidewalk benches will be provided to improve citizen service.

Urban poverty alleviation: To reduce urban poverty, initiatives will expand social protection services for urban and peri-urban poor populations based on population and demand.

Life improvement for floating and homeless populations: Appropriate actions will be taken to improve the living standards and ensure safe rehabilitation for floating and homeless populations (those living on streets, at stations, riverfronts, or pavements, climate-displaced), gender minorities, drug addicts, and those deprived of rehabilitation.

Planned housing: To curb unplanned and chaotic urbanization, a national master plan will be developed to implement planned housing (for example, clustered residences and multi-story housing, i.e., vertical residences) and urbanization policies.

Housing for all, gradually: BNP will pursue a practical, multi-faceted project to provide affordable planned housing facilities for low-income and slum dwellers. Gradually, housing for all poor people in the country will be ensured. A nationwide, skilled, economically viable, and climate-resilient housing network will be established. All urban residents will have access to piped gas, water, and modern sanitation.

Housing for slum dwellers and improving education and health systems: To resolve the housing crisis of residents of the Karail slum, small flats will be constructed and registered in each person’s name. Before slum residents move out, each family will be given an advance housing allotment letter for the flats. Additionally, measures will be taken to develop the education of their children and the health of all residents.

Initiatives to establish a ‘Land Bank’: An initiative to establish a ‘Land Bank’ for the purchase and sale of land will be undertaken. This will help reduce corruption in land transactions, curb land grabbers, and largely prevent land transactions through fake

documents.

Safe and Sustainable Dhaka Development

Satellite Town development: Outside Dhaka, satellite towns will be established to address various problems including traffic.

Monorail operation: Along with the metro rail, a monorail system will be introduced. This will make it easier and safer to connect Dhaka with nearby areas.

Women safety and women-friendly bus service: To ensure women’s constant safe travel, initially “women-only” buses (pink buses) will operate on various routes in Dhaka. In pilot, women will also serve as drivers and conductors.

Electric vehicles (EV) operation: Electric vehicle will be piloted in Dhaka city to improve air quality.

ITS and CCTV network expansion: Implementing an Intelligent Transport System (ITS) on major Dhaka roads will reduce congestion, and increasing CCTV coverage at all city edges will enhance public safety. Digital tracking and tolling in vehicles will reduce city and highway congestion.

Shared parking: Effective measures will be taken to solve parking problems in Dhaka city, and shared parking will be encouraged.

Realistic plan for rickshaw operation: A coordinated, realistic plan for rickshaw operations will be adopted. Free training will be provided to rickshaw pullers, and necessary licenses will be issued.

Ring road network expansion and circular waterways: To reduce inter-district traffic on Dhaka, a ring road network and connected radial roads will be rapidly implemented.

Formation of Metropolitan Transport Authority: An independent Metropolitan Transport Authority will be established to coordinate traffic management.

Tourism Sector

Despite vast potential, Bangladesh has not yet become a tourist-friendly country. To popularize, expand, and develop the tourism industry and build Bangladesh as a tourism-friendly nation, the national tourism policy will be updated. Entry routes and tourism centres will be developed into cleaner, smoother, service-oriented, and more attractive access points for tourists.

Ensuring tourist safety and tourism-friendly policy: Clean and healthy accommodation, safe and comfortable travel will be provided for domestic and international tourists. For foreign tourists, visa and banking facilities will be streamlined, trained

interpreters and tour guides fluent in foreign languages will be provided. A single online portal and mobile app will be launched for foreign tourists, offering hotel booking, visa assistance, guide services, translation, and safety information. Tourism-friendly laws will be enacted for integrated and planned development of the sector. A sufficient number of skilled and capable tourist police will be deployed to ensure tourist safety.

Eco-tourism development: Sustainable tourism development with a focus on eco-tourism will be advanced. Rural cultural practices such as jarigan, sarigan, gambhira, journey songs, stick-dance, rural sports, rural Dhaka- Dhola (drumming), handicrafts and crafts, extensive rural green landscapes, rivers and canals, etc., can attract domestic and international tourists.

Development of community, Ethnic and Water Tourism: Expansion of Community Tourism will be pursued. Initially, in every district, at least one village will be selected to develop village tourism with overnight facilities, with government initiatives and private sector encouragement. Ethnic tourism and water tourism will be launched at suitable locations across the country. In each tourism area, Smart Tour Guides will be developed as a prestigious and profitable profession for local youths.

Expanding culinary tourism: Every year, the Dhaka Food and Culture Festival will be organized for tourists. Through this festival, local restaurants, chefs, and cultural workers will showcase Bangladesh to the world as the “capital of taste and culture.”

Chapter 5

Religion, Society, Sports, Culture and Solidarity

Religious Harmony

The fundamental principles of the great Liberation War were equality, human dignity, and social justice. Irrespective of religion, race, or geographical-ideological position, every citizen should be able to enjoy their religious, political, cultural, and social rights without hindrance. During the Liberation War, there was no question of who was Muslim, who was Hindu, who was Buddhist, who was Christian. Therefore, BNP believes that in independent Bangladesh, there is no room for discussion of so-called minorities or majorities. Every citizen of the country will enjoy equal rights and freedom, which is BNP's policy. We believe that party, ideology, religion are a matter of an individual, but the state belongs to all, and the right to security belongs to all. Every citizen has only one identity—we are Bangladeshi.

Ensuring religious freedom and harmony: Based on the fundamental principle "religion is individual, the state is for all," every religious person will enjoy full rights to practice their own religion. No one will be allowed to hurt any citizen's religious beliefs. People of different religions and every group, clan, and community in the country will celebrate their respective religions and religious festivals without hindrance and worry.

Improving social status and living standards of all religious leaders: Khatibs, Imams, and Muezzins will be provided monthly honorariums under government management. They will be given special allowances during religious festivals. Leaders of other religious places of worship (Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, and others) will be given monthly honorariums and festival allowances. Through skill-development training, part-time alternative employment will be created to facilitate their additional income. Initiatives will be taken to increase the social and state dignity of Khatibs, Imams, Muezzins, and others.

Ensuring security for all religious communities: Strict and exemplary legal action will be taken against those responsible for vandalizing the homes, businesses, and places of worship of various religious and ethnic groups and for seizing their property, so that no one engages in such illegal activities. At the same time, social resistance will be built in this regard. A Bangladesh will be built as seen "through a mother's eyes," where every

child, every person—believer, non-believer, skeptic—will live safely.

Development of Religious Welfare Trusts: Budget allocations to the Hindu Religious Welfare Trust, Buddhist Welfare Trust, and Christian Welfare Board will be significantly increased so that their religious, educational, and welfare activities are strengthened. The Islamic Foundation will be made corruption-free and dynamic. The Foundation's budget allocation and scope of work will be increased.

Expansion of Islamic research activities: Islamic research will be given special importance, and Islamic research activities will be expanded to the upazila level. Participation of acceptable Ulama (religious scholars) in decision-making on religious matters will be ensured. Assurance will be provided for scholars to perform their duties in the religious arena without hindrance, with dignity, and freely.

Affordable, accessible, and expatriate-friendly Hajj management: An affordable, accessible, humane, and expatriate-friendly Hajj management system will be established for devout citizens. State and diplomatic initiatives will be taken to reduce the cost of performing Hajj.

Expansion of mass education programs: The mosque-based children's and mass education program introduced by the BNP government in 1993 will be expanded throughout the country.

Hill and Plains Ethnicity

In the hills and plains, we have only one identity – we are all Bangladeshi.

Ensuring security and protection of rights for all: Regardless of party affiliation, ideology, ethnicity, religion, or race, the constitutional social, political, cultural, economic, and religious rights, civil rights, and complete security of life, dignity, and property of all ethnic groups – small and large – in the hills and plains, will be guaranteed.

Establishment of a 'Small Ethnic Communities Development Directorate': A 'Small Ethnic Communities Development Directorate' will be established to preserve the linguistic, literary, and cultural distinctiveness of small ethnic communities

living in different parts of the country and to ensure balanced development.

Establishing sustainable peace: The 1997 Peace Accord will be reassessed with the participation of all relevant parties. Confidence-building measures and social rehabilitation programs will be adopted to help members of armed groups abandon violence and reintegrate into normal life.

Modernization of hill district hospitals: To ensure healthcare, the district hospitals in the three hill districts will be modernized.

Employment and economic development: Special programmes and special economic zones will be created to promote investment in hill products, handicrafts, and eco-tourism, and to develop employment and skills for local youth.

Ensuring 100% social protection: Efforts will be made to progressively bring all eligible members of small ethnic communities in the hills and plains under 100% social protection coverage.

Sports

BNP wants to transform sports as a profession. From the 4th grade onward, sports will be made compulsory in the national curriculum. Through the 'Notun Kuri Sports' programme, scholarships will be provided to talented sports students aged 12-14. Quality indoor stadiums will be built in 450 upazilas. Sports villages with indoor facilities will be constructed in all 64 districts. Sports officers and sports teachers will be appointed in all upazilas across the country. Subject-specific sports teachers will be gradually recruited in every educational institution. BKSP branches will be established in every divisional city. Playgrounds will be properly arranged in all metropolitan areas and rural areas of the country. Opportunities for people with special needs and the underprivileged to participate in sports at national and international levels will be ensured. A sports equipment industry will be established in the country.

Ward-based field creation and liberation of occupied fields: Plans will be made to create playgrounds on a ward/thana basis in Dhaka city. If possible, initiatives will be taken to build one playground between two wards. Encroached playgrounds will be recovered.

Planned steps to establish a strong position in the international arena (multi-games events): Planned and effective measures will be taken to ensure that Bangladesh achieves a respectable position on the world sports map in several sporting disciplines by 2030. A modern National Olympic Academy will be established in the country to help Bangladesh achieve

honourable positions in multi-games events such as the South Asian Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Olympic Games, etc.

Introduction of 'Talent Hunt' schemes: Talent hunt schemes will be introduced in schools, colleges, and universities in the field of sports. Athletes who achieve success at the international level will be given prestigious national awards.

Enhancing security and facilities for female athletes: Effective initiatives will be taken to eliminate harassment of female athletes in sports and to provide them with all modern facilities and security.

Stopping party interference in sports: Party interference will be stopped to establish proper leadership in sports arenas and sports institutions.

Infrastructure development and increasing private investment: Government and private investment will be increased to recruit international-standard coaches, develop necessary infrastructure, and procure sports equipment for the development of sports. Banks and private business institutions will be further encouraged to include sports development in their corporate social responsibility.

Launching professional leagues in other sports sectors: In addition to cricket and football, professional leagues will be launched in hockey, basketball, volleyball, chess, and other sports.

Establishment of a National Sports Research Institute: A National Sports Research Institute will be established that will use scientific research, modern technology, and data analysis to help athletes reach international standards.

Expanding the 'Sports Economy': The sports economy will be expanded and encouraged. Effective initiatives will be taken so that the sports sector can add value to the country's economy.

Mass Media

BNP respects fearless and unbiased journalism. Journalists serve as a crucial pillar of democracy. BNP will certainly provide protection and recognition for their work. BNP always welcomes objective criticism. Ensuring professional freedom for journalists and providing security to constructive and objective critics is the responsibility of the state. BNP will always remain committed to fulfilling that responsibility.

Suppression of legal complications and harassment: The Digital Security Act will be reviewed.

Prevention of aggression against media: BNP is determined to ensure uninterrupted security for all types of media, media workers, and media offices in the

country. Any kind of attack and aggression against the media will be strictly resisted.

Formation of accountable regulatory framework: An independent, strong, and accountable media regulatory framework similar to the UK's Ofcom will be established, aimed at protecting freedom of expression, protecting children, women, and minorities, and ensuring ethics and professionalism in media. In coordination with fact-checking organizations, efforts will be made to prevent rumours, fake news and hate speech and misinformation. Additionally, citizens will have the opportunity to file complaints online regarding these matters, and complaint resolution within 30 days will be made mandatory.

Ensuring justice for murders and torture: Effective initiatives will be taken to ensure justice for all journalist tortured and murdered. All false cases filed against journalists for political purposes will be withdrawn. A special cell will be formed to prevent journalist torture.

Formation of 'National Journalist Retirement Welfare Board': Various projects for the welfare of journalists will be implemented. A 'National Journalist Retirement Welfare Board' will be formed.

Ending Political Bias: Political bias in the allocation of advertisements to newspapers will be eliminated.

Arts and Culture

Encouraging nationalist and democratic culture: Anti-national cultural practices will be discouraged. All obstacles in encouraging democratic culture will be removed. Democratic methods will be followed to

ensure proper reflection of independent thought and ideology through culture.

Creating environment for Healthy Culture and Entertainment Practice: An environment and facilities for practicing healthy culture and entertainment will be created in educational institutions.

Expansion of Recognition for Contributions to Culture: The practice of awarding national medals for contributions to major fields of national culture will be further expanded. It is noteworthy that national awards such as Independence Award and Ekushey Padak were introduced in Bangladesh under BNP's initiative.

Restoring Morality and Virtue in Public Life

It is unfortunate but true that a terrible decline in moral values has occurred in Bangladesh. As a result, instability and anarchy in society have taken a serious shape. BNP is firmly committed to preventing the decline of morality and values through academic education, practice of correct religious values, and positive social movements. To this end, appropriate reforms will be made to the education curriculum. Mass media will be utilized for this purpose. Teachers, who are the architects of students and human beings, will be motivated with the correct and appropriate spirit of creating a humane, tolerant, just, inclusive, and equality-based society.

Currently, due to the decline in moral values among teenagers, the menace of teenage gangs has increased severely in society, creating widespread discomfort and security threats in public minds. To solve this problem, this unacceptable menace will be suppressed by taking collective efforts from family, society, and the state.

**অবাব
আগে
বাংলাদেশ**

Bangladesh Before All

**We Will Work, and Will Build
the Country Together**



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