



National Budget 2022-23: Summary

Health



Implemented by


BAMU

Budget Analysis and Monitoring Unit
Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat

Technical Cooperation



Funded by
the European Union

Supported by  DT Global



সেন্টার ফর পলিটিক্স ডায়ালগ (সিপিডি)
Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

**BUDGET
HELPDESK
2022**

Health

1. Background and the Main Features of the Health Sector's Budget

Among the six priority sectors for development mentioned in the 8th Five Year Plan, the most significant are - 'Rapid Recovery from COVID-19 to Restore Human Health, Confidence, Employment, Income and Economic Activities'. The government is implementing the vaccination programme for all citizens of the country free of cost. At the initial stage, 80 percent of the total population was planned to be vaccinated, but later the target was reduced to 70 percent per the WHO guidelines. The vaccination of the first doses started on 08 February 2021 and the second doses started on 08 April 2021. Later the booster doses, approved by the WHO, were administered. While conducting the vaccination programme the gender balance has been ensured. So far, a total of 12.9 crore first doses, 11.8 crore second doses, and 1.5 crore booster doses have been administered. By giving the highest priority to this agenda, the government is trying to boost the confidence level of the people by strengthening the public health system, creating job opportunities by keeping economic activities normal.

The government is continuously working for autism and autistic children. In the meantime, 1.33 lakh autistic children have been given treatment. Child Development Centre has been established in 16 Medical College Hospitals including at Dhaka Shishu Hospital. and it has also been planned to do so in 15 more Medical College Hospitals and 9 District Hospitals.

To achieve 'Universal Health Care Coverage' steps have been taken to formulate 'Health Protection Law'. 'Infection Protection Guideline' has been prepared for the community clinics. 'Government Outdoor Dispensary Operational Guideline' has already been finalised and under this guideline at least 8 Government Outdoor Dispensaries (GoD) will start functioning in the next fiscal year.

To form a base for fundamental and action research in the medical science sector in the country and to use this knowledge in health service, health education, public health, microbiology, pathology, and disease control sector, an 'Integrated Health-Science Research and Development Fund' was created of Tk. 100 crore. In the current fiscal year, a total of 23 researchers/research institutions have been selected for starting their research tasks. An amount of Tk.100 crore will also be allocated to this fund in the nextfiscal year.

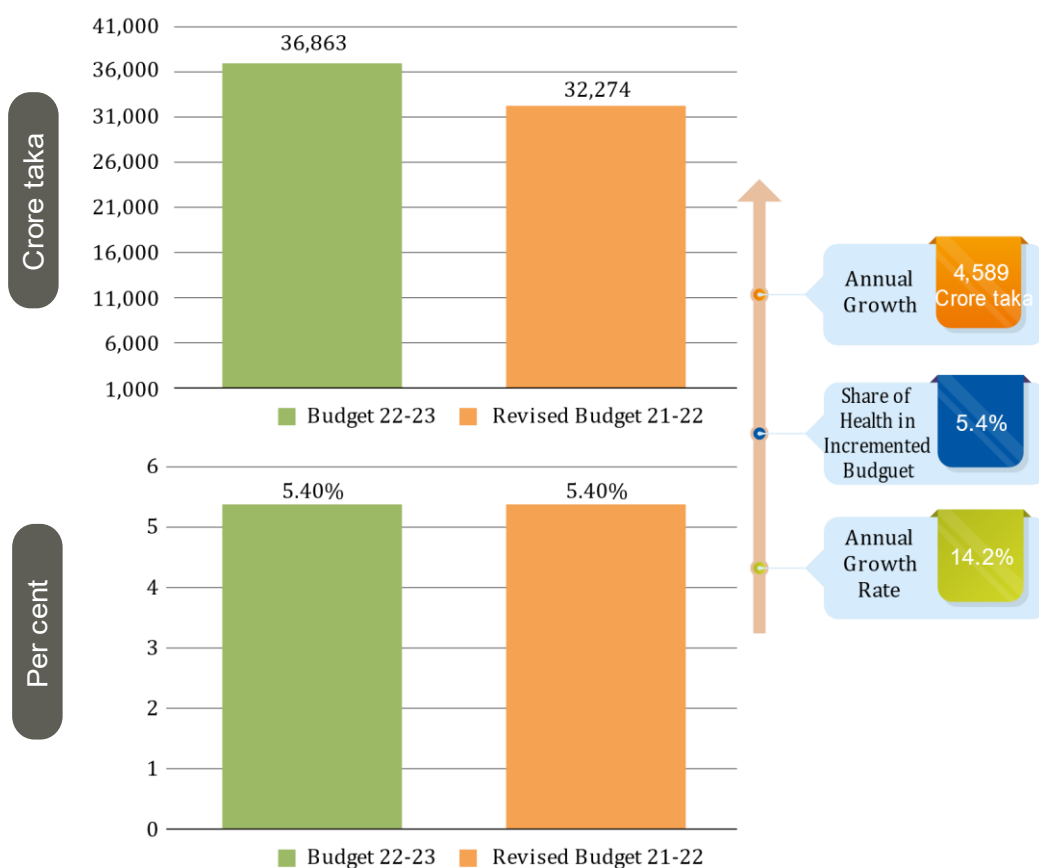
Imposing taxes on soft drinks and fortified drinks in the proposed budget is a good initiative considering the health risks. The share of development allocation in the health budget has been increased from 48 percent to 51 percent in the 2022-23 budget.

In the proposed national budget for the fiscal year 2022-23, 5.4 percent has been set aside for the health sector. In the financial year 2021-22, the allocation for health is Tk 32,264 crore. In the financial year 2022-23, Tk 36,063 crore has been allocated.

2. Proposed Budget for FY2022-23 and the Health Sector

The total revised budget allocation for the health sector in FY 2021-22 was 5.4 percent which remained unchanged in FY 2022-23, but with the increase in the size of the budget, the allocation for the health sector has increased. The amount of budget allocation has increased by 14.2 percent (Figure-1).

Figure 1: Proposed Budget of FY2022-23 and the Health Sector

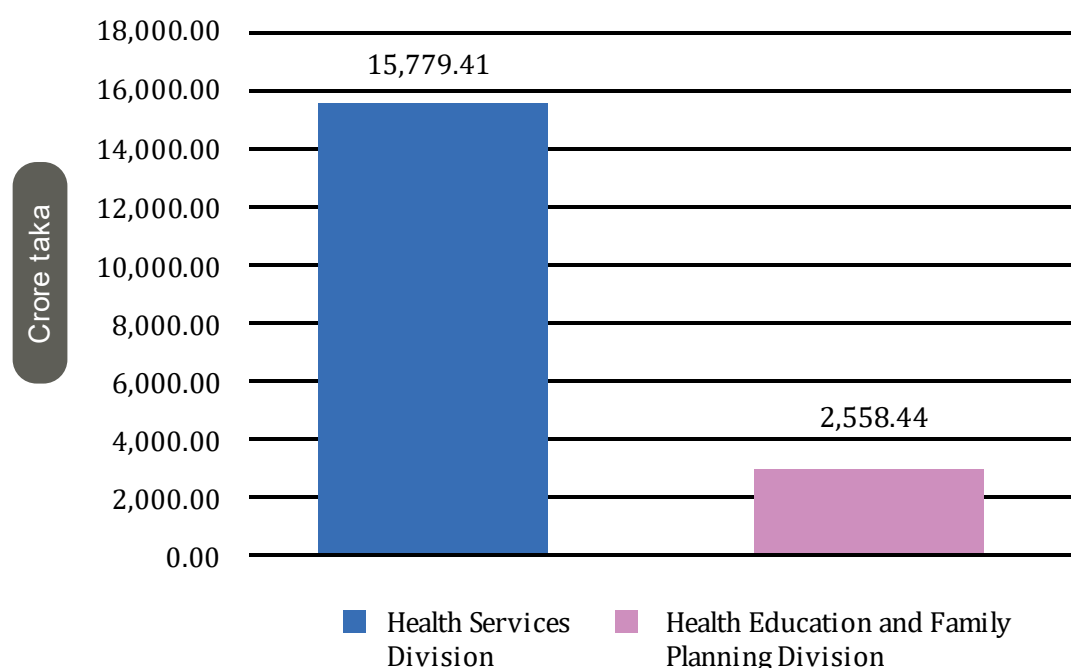


Source: Budget in Brief, 2022-23, Minister of Finance

3. Allocation for the Annual Development Programme

In FY 2022-23, 41 new investment projects related to healthcare, health education, nutrition, and population and family welfare have been planned under the health sector, including the 4th Health, Population and Nutrition Program in the Annual Development Program. It is proposed to spend more than 7% of the 2022-23 Annual Development Plan or ADP allocation on healthcare and development (Figure-2).

Figure 2: Annual Development Programme under the Allocation for the Health Sector



Source: Budget Speech 2022-23, 9 June 2022

4. 8th Five-Year Plan and Budget Allocation to the Health Sector

Due to the lack of adequate health insurance plans in Bangladesh, it is very difficult to finance the health-related expenses of the poor and lower-middle-class, so the health care of low-income people has been given top priority in the 8th Five-Plan Plan. Future plans to this end include "expansion and integration of community-based primary health care", "Union Health and Family Welfare Center to be modernized with enhanced human resources to provide 24/7 hours service", "ensuring quality of medical education and training, service facilities, modernization of testing methods", and "Quality of medical education and training, service facilities, ensured by modernization of examination system", "Review and restructuring of urban primary health care services to meet the needs of rapidly expanding population in the city", "Expansion of health care schemes for the poor" and extensive digitization in health, and nutrition services at all levels by increasing the use of information technology". Strong development in the delivery of healthcare requires proper implementation of the health sector budget aligned with the Universal Health Protection (UHC).