

BAMU

Budget Analysis and Monitoring Unit
Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat



Budget Helpdesk 2026



National Budget 2026–2027: Summary Transport and Communication

সহযোগিতায়



1. Background

Recognising the development of the transport and communication system as a key requirement for the country's overall economic progress, the current government is giving special priority to this sector. The government has started working towards building an integrated, efficient, and environmentally friendly transport corridor.

Special directives have been issued to transform Bangladesh Railway from a loss-making organisation into a profitable and service-oriented institution, while also preventing ticket black marketing, reducing corruption, and improving the quality of passenger services. In addition, initiatives have been taken to upgrade the Dhaka–Sylhet highway and establish a double-track railway line on this route.

In line with the commitments made in the current government's election manifesto, a national expressway grid connecting all districts and major cities will be developed, and the country's road infrastructure will be linked to the Asian Highway Network [1]. The construction of a second Padma Bridge at Paturia–Daulatdia, a second Jamuna Bridge, and the rapid completion of the Dhaka–Chattogram Expressway are under consideration.

In the railway sector, the electrification and construction of double-track lines on the Dhaka–Chattogram, Dhaka–Panchagarh, and Dhaka–Chapainawabganj corridors have been identified as national missions. There are also plans to expand metro rail, elevated rail, and circular commuter rail services in Dhaka and other major cities.

In the inland water transport sector, the government has committed to developing circular waterways in river-based cities, establishing modern river ports, and positioning the Bay of Bengal as a strategic hub for international trade.

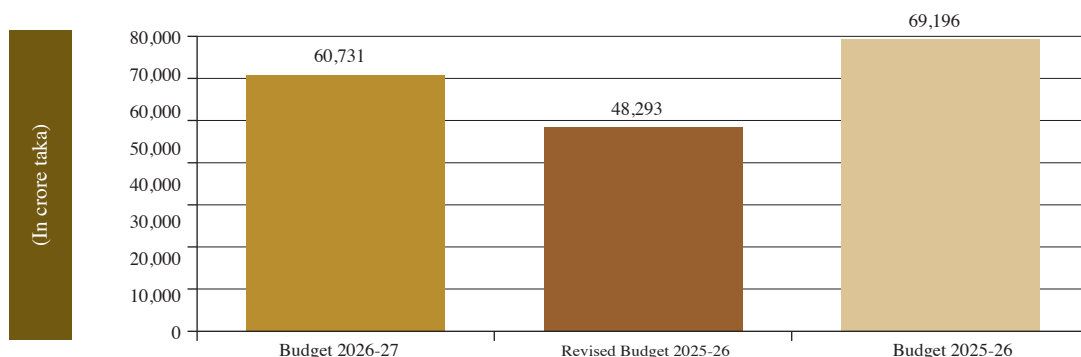
To address traffic congestion in Dhaka, initiatives are being considered to develop satellite towns, introduce a monorail system, and launch women-operated special bus services to ensure safer transportation for women [2].

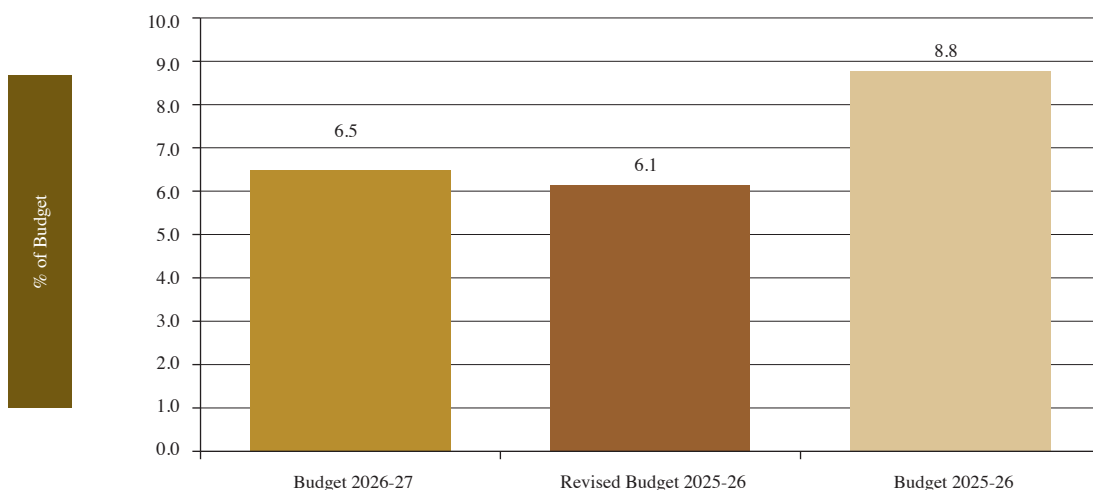
In continuation of these efforts, the proposed budget for FY2026–27 includes allocations aimed at making the transport and communication system safer, more affordable, and more accessible for all.

2. Budget Allocation for the Transport and Communication Sector in FY2026–27

In the current FY2025–26, the allocation for the Transport and Communication sector was proposed at Tk 62,872 crore, which was 9 per cent of the total budget. This allocation was later reduced in the revised budget to Tk 50,280 crore, which was 6.4 per cent of the revised total budget. In the upcoming FY2026–27 budget, the total proposed allocation for the Transport and Communication sector has been set at Tk 62,872 crore, which is 6.7 per cent of the total budget. The proposed allocation for FY2026–27 represents a 25.1 per cent increase compared to the revised budget of FY2025–26 (Figure 1).

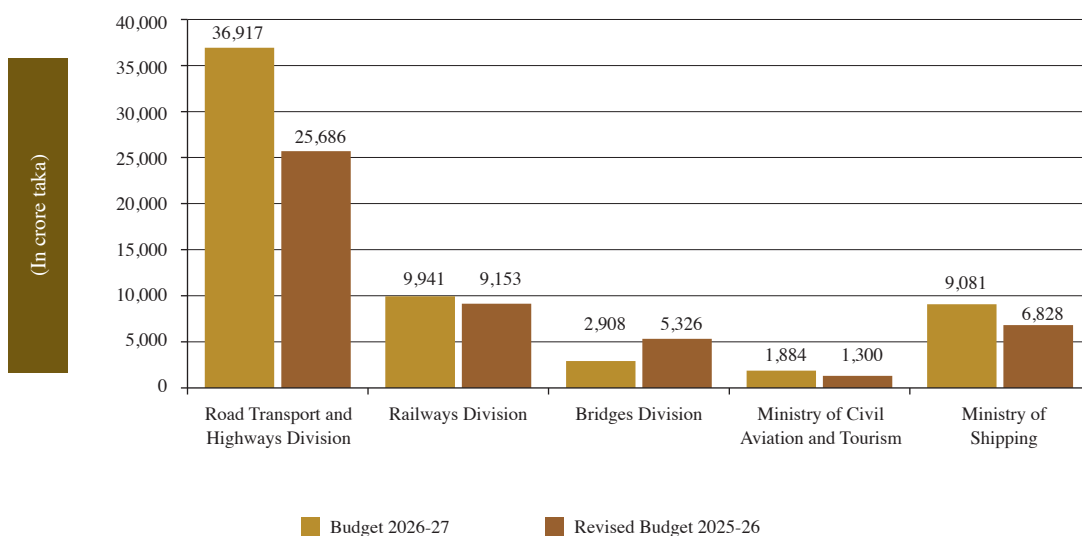
Figure 1: Budget Allocation for the Transport and Communication Sector





Source: Budget Summary, 2026–27, Statement 2.

Figure 2: Ministry-wise Budget Allocation for the Transport and Communication Sector



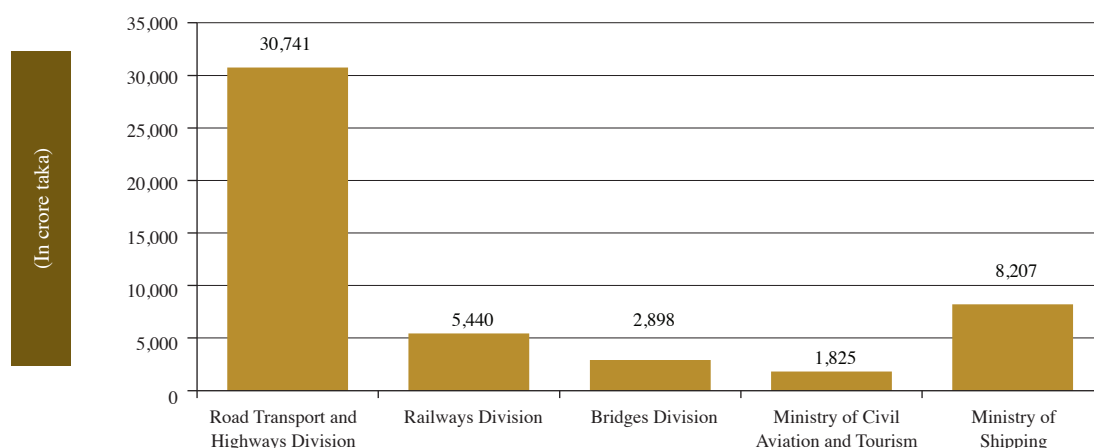
Source: Budget Summary, 2026–27, Statement 2.

For FY2026–27, an allocation of Tk 36,917 crore has been made for the Road Transport and Highways Division. In addition, allocations of Tk 9,941 crore, Tk 2,908 crore, and Tk 1,884 crore have been made for the Railway Division, the Bridges Division, and the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism, respectively.

3. Allocation for the Transport and Communication Sector under the Annual Development Programme in FY2026–27

Under the Annual Development Programme for FY2026–27, a total of Tk 49,111 crore has been allocated for the Transport and Communication sector, representing 16.4 per cent of the total ADP allocation. The largest share of this sector's allocation, Tk 30,741 crore (62.6 per cent), has been given to the Road Transport and Highways Division. In addition, the Ministry of Shipping has been allocated Tk 8,207 crore (16.7 per cent), and the Railway Division Tk 5,440 crore (11.1 per cent). Furthermore, for constructing smaller bridges in the period following the Padma Bridge, the Bridges Division has been allocated Tk 2,898 crore (5.9 per cent), and the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism Tk 1,825 crore (3.7 per cent).

Figure 3: Ministry-wise Allocation for the Transport and Communication Sector in the Annual Development Programme (ADP)



Source: Budget Summary, 2026–27, Statement 10, p. 48.

4. Conclusion

The sustainable development of the transport and communication sector, along with the strategic use of budget allocations in this area, is essential for ensuring the country's economic dynamism. Through the integrated development of roads, railways, and waterways, the expansion of modern public transport systems, and improvements in the safety and efficiency of existing infrastructure, it is possible to build a transport network that is affordable, reliable, and efficient.

Planned investment in this sector will not only reduce travel difficulties and improve connectivity. Still, it will also contribute to the expansion of trade and commerce, the creation of employment opportunities, and the reduction of regional disparities over the long term.

References: [1] Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Manifesto.

[2] <https://tinyurl.com/33e9n6zk>