

BAMU

Budget Analysis and Monitoring Unit
Bangladesh Parliament Secretariat



Budget Helpdesk 2026



National Budget 2026–2027: Summary Women and Children

সহযোগিতায়



1. Background

Following the thirteenth national parliamentary election held in February 2026, the government has pledged to develop women and children under the theme of ‘Bangladesh First.’ In line with the election manifesto, the 31-point state reform programme, and Vision 2030, the government has set a goal of eliminating gender discrimination by introducing a ‘Family Card’ for every household and ensuring higher education for girls. At the initial stage, monthly allowances of Tk 2,500 are being provided to female heads of 37,567 marginalised and low-income households across 13 districts and 3 city corporations [1]. In line with the election manifesto, the government plans to expand the Family Card programme with a total allocation of Tk 134 billion over the next five years [2].

To significantly expand educational opportunities for women, the government has pledged to make education completely free for female students up to the postgraduate level. It has also announced the nationalisation of at least one women’s college in every upazila headquarters. In addition, special vending machines are being installed in educational institutions to safeguard the health of female students.

To support children's physical and mental development, the government has introduced a ‘learning through play’ method to make education more enjoyable. To improve children's health and wellbeing, plans have been finalised to establish playgrounds of 8 bighas of land in every union and 10 bighas in every upazila [3]. The government has also planned a ‘One Child, One Tree’ programme to encourage children's participation in environmental protection. Reflecting this consistent set of priorities, the government has given special priority to the women and children sector in the proposed budget for FY2026–27.

2. Proposed Budget Allocation for the Women and Children Sector in FY2026–27

In the ongoing FY2025–26, the allocation for the women and children Sector was proposed at Tk 5,078 crore, 0.6 per cent of the total budget. Subsequently, this allocation was revised upward to Tk 5,371 crore, representing 0.7 per cent of the revised total budget. In the upcoming FY2026–27 budget, the total proposed allocation for the women and children sector is Tk 5,197 crore, which is 0.6 per cent of the total budget. Although the proposed budget allocation for the women and children sector in FY2026–27 has increased compared to the originally proposed budget for FY2025–26, it has decreased by 3.24 per cent compared to the revised budget of the same fiscal year.

Figure 1: Budget Allocation for the Women and Children Sector in FY2026-27 (in Amount and Percentage)

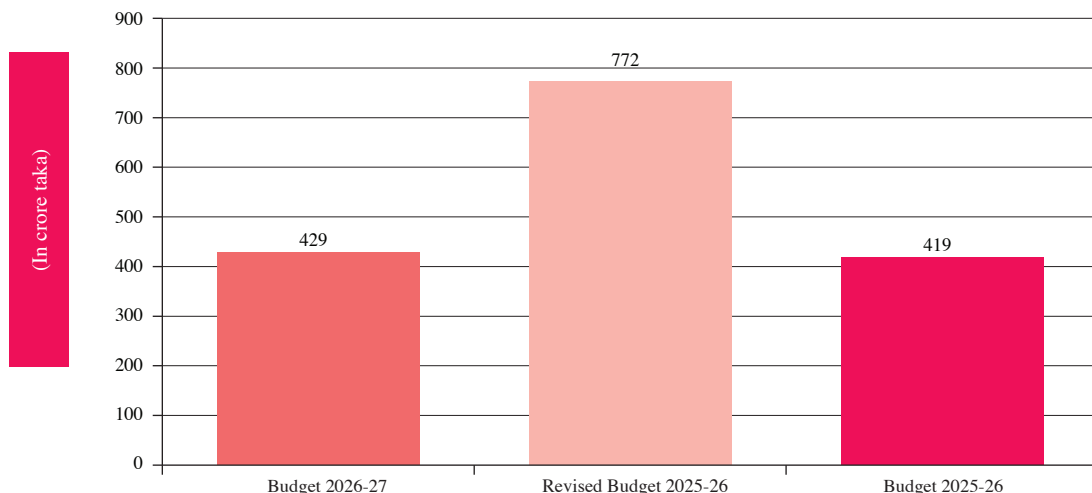


Source: Budget Summary, 2026–27, Statement 2.

3. Proposed ADP Allocation for the Women and Children Sector in FY2026–27

The allocation of the Annual Development Programme (ADP) for the women and children sector has been proposed at Tk 429 crore for the upcoming FY2026-27 (Figure 3). This allocation was Tk 772 crore in the revised budget for FY2025-26. As a share of total ADP allocation, the sector is proposed to receive 0.143 per cent in the upcoming fiscal year, down from 0.26 per cent in the revised budget of FY2025-26.

Figure 2: Annual Development Programme (ADP) Allocation for the Women and Children Sector



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

4. Conclusion

The development of women and children is one of the key foundations for building an inclusive and humane society. It is important that the government's development priorities more clearly reflect issues such as women's economic empowerment, equal access to education and healthcare, expansion of social protection programmes, increased participation of women in the workforce, and the safe, enjoyable, and discrimination-free development of children.

At the same time, a more capable, compassionate, and resilient social and economic system can be built through effective measures to prevent violence against women and children, eliminate child marriage, promote technology-based skills development, and ensure the effective implementation of social protection programmes.