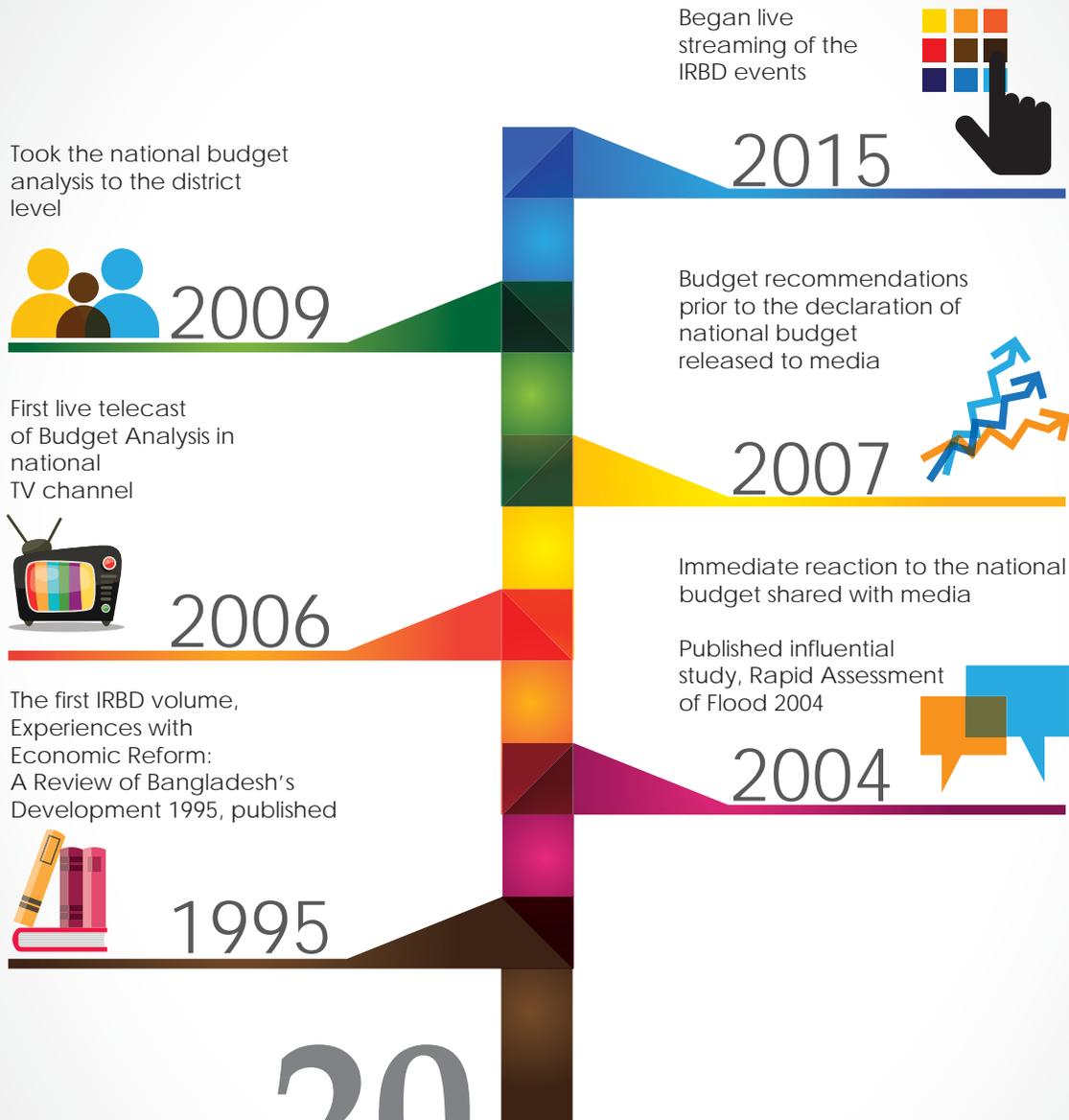




# 2015 Annual Report



**20** Years of  
Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD)



**2015**  
**Annual Report**



Published in June 2016

Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)

House 6/2 (7th & 8th floors)

Block - F, Kazi Nazrul Islam Road

Lalmatia Housing Estate, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh

Telephone: (+88 02) 9141734, 9141703, 9126402, 9143326 & 8124770

Fax: (+88 02) 8130951

E-mail: [info@cpd.org.bd](mailto:info@cpd.org.bd)

Website: [www.cpd.org.bd](http://www.cpd.org.bd)

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Design by

Avra Bhattacharjee

AKM Fazley Rabbi Faruque

Printed at

Enrich Printers

41/Purana Paltan, Dhaka 1000

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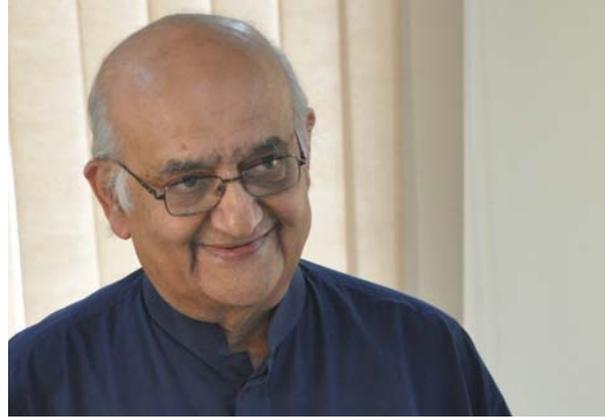
# Contents

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <i>Chairman's Message</i>                             | <i>vii</i> |
| <i>Executive Director's Message</i>                   | <i>ix</i>  |
| ABOUT CPD   | 1          |
| GOVERNANCE AND INTERNAL MANAGEMENT                    | 3          |
| 20 YEARS OF IRBD AND COUNTING...                      | 7          |
| POLICY RESEARCH                                       | 12         |
| 1.0 Tracking the National Economy                     | 13         |
| 2.0 Trade Connectivity                                | 20         |
| 3.0 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)              | 22         |
| 4.0 Apparels Sector in Bangladesh                     | 24         |
| 4.1 Rana Plaza Tragedy and Thereafter                 | 24         |
| 4.2 Does Margin Matter in Ensuring Compliance?        | 25         |
| 5.0 Bangladeshi Migrant Workers and Remittance        | 26         |
| 6.0 CPD Estimates Women's Contribution to the Economy | 28         |
| 7.0 Geographical Indications of Jamdani               | 29         |
| LINKING LOCAL TO GLOBAL                               | 30         |
| 1.0 Global Initiatives                                | 32         |
| 1.1 Southern Voice                                    | 32         |
| 1.2 LDC IV Monitor                                    | 36         |
| 2.0 Collaborative Research                            | 38         |
| 2.1 CPD Teamed with WEF to Prepare GCR 2015-16        | 38         |
| 2.2 CPD - GINI Study on Taxes on SMEs in South Asia   | 39         |
| 3.0 Partnering Events                                 | 40         |
| 3.1 Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs               | 40         |
| 3.2 CPD's Session in WTO Public Forum 2015            | 41         |
| 3.3 CPD Launches UNCTAD's LDCs Report 2015            | 42         |
| CPD'S SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS                             | 43         |
| 1.0 Special Events                                    | 44         |
| 2.0 Young Scholars' Seminar Series (YSSS)             | 45         |
| 3.0 CPD in Virtual Platform                           | 46         |
| 4.0 CPD In-house Recreational Activities              | 47         |
| FINANCIAL REPORT                                      | 48         |
| ANNEXES   | 51         |

THE YEAR 2015  
MARKED THE  
20TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF  
CPD'S FLAGSHIP  
IRBD  
PROGRAMME.  
OVER THE YEARS  
IRBD OUTPUTS  
HAVE EMERGED  
AS ESSENTIAL  
REFERENCE  
POINTS,  
INFLUENCING  
PUBLIC OPINIONS  
AND PROVIDING  
EVIDENCE-BASED  
POLICY INPUTS

# Chairman's MESSAGE

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15



CPD began its journey when the nation was in need of developing a vibrant civil society that represented individuals, groups and institutions, who are active outside the sphere of both government and the legislature. It had to be a home-grown effort for a democratic culture to take root in Bangladesh. It is in this backdrop that, CPD took on the challenge of preparing an Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD) every year to constantly bear witness, maintain transparency and hold accountable to the work of the institutions of the state. From the inception of this programme it was well participated by policymakers, economists and bright minds of Bangladesh. The year 2015 marked the 20th anniversary of CPD's flagship IRBD programme. Over the years IRBD outputs have emerged as essential reference points, influencing public opinions and providing evidence-based policy inputs.

On Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CPD has proactively began working prior to SDGs adoption by the UN assembly and tried to raise awareness among the stakeholders for better alignment with goals and targets with nation's mid and long term policies. On trade connectivity and regional cooperation, substantive work has been conducted under the leadership of CPD's Executive Director, Professor Mustafizur Rahman. The findings were well communicated among the stakeholders and we are hopeful that it will be incorporated in government-to-government (GtoG) negotiations. Dr Fahmida Khatun, Research Director, CPD perused an important study to estimate women's contribution to the economy of Bangladesh. I believe this study has set a direction towards equity oriented research that would feed into policymaking and pave ways for many such studies in years to come. CPD has also worked on issues concerning Bangladeshi migrant workers and how the government organisations and financial institutions can support them for better financial inclusion. We have continued championing the cause of the Rana Plaza victims and following up on the lessons learned through the programme, Post-Rana Plaza Monitoring: A Civil Society Initiative. Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Additional Research Director, CPD has been working on this most pivotal industry of Bangladesh economy, the apparel sector. I expect this effort would yield insights on how Bangladesh can emerge as a key sources country in the context of China-Plus-One.

Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD and Chair of two global initiatives, the Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Goals and LCD IV Monitor, has shown commendable resourcefulness in perusing knowledge for evidence-based policymaking globally. CPD has been hosting these global networks

under the aegis of which several events and policy influencing activities have been carried out.

I would like to thank all the colleagues in Research, Dialogue and Communications, Administration and Finance Divisions of the CPD for their dedication to implement the vision of the CPD. We remain thankful for the unwavering support of the media, network members, well-wishers, supporters and partners of the CPD.

Lastly with a heavy heart, I would like to remember Mr Syed Humayun Kabir, Treasurer and one of the founding Members of CPD Board of Trustees who passed away this year. On behalf of the Board, I would like to convey our deepest respect to the memory of Mr Syed Humayun Kabir. We shall always remember him for his honesty and integrity and for his unwavering support to the CPD. May his soul rest in peace.



(Rehman Sobhan)

THE YEAR  
2015 MARKED  
AN  
IMPORTANT  
MILESTONE IN  
CPD'S TWO  
DECADE LONG  
JOURNEY AND  
WAS A  
DISTINCT ONE  
IN TERMS OF  
THE DIVERSITY  
OF ACTIVITIES  
IT PURSUED

# Executive Director's MESSAGE

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The year 2015 marked an important milestone in CPD's two decades of long journey and was a distinct one in terms of the diversity of activities it pursued. CPD's involvement this year covered a wide-range of activities that included monitoring Bangladesh's macroeconomic and sectoral performance, giving voice to the marginalised sections of the Bangladesh's society, promotion of regional integration in South Asia and Bangladesh's strengthened global integration, advancing the interests of the LDCs and articulating how best to reposition and re-strategise in view of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The pioneering initiative of CPD's Founding Chairman Professor Rehman Sobhan to undertake an Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD) exercise, has been appreciated by many as a unique endeavor to systematically assess macroeconomic performance of the Bangladesh economy on an ongoing basis. The IRBD exercise involved evidence-based research, generation of inputs through field level surveys, organising expert group meetings and getting feedbacks from dialogues, discussions and outreach activities. The range of activities under the IRBD has broadened significantly over the years and the quality of IRBD deliveries has also seen a significant improvement. All those who have helped the implementation of the IRBD programme over the past years deserve special appreciation.

One of the highlights of 2015 was the public lecture by Nobel Laureate Professor Amartya Sen on Economic Growth and Human Progress which was organised by CPD in collaboration with Bangladesh's leading vernacular, the Daily Prothom Alo. It was a very well-attended event that received wide publicity.

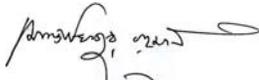
In 2015, CPD has continued with a number of activities as part of its post-Rana Plaza Monitoring initiative, with full support from its partners. CPD helped to keep alive in public discourse the deliverables that were promised in the aftermath of this tragedy, and endeavoured to ensure that the promises were acted upon by the relevant stakeholders. All the planned activities under the Think Tank Initiative (TTI), of which CPD is the proud awardee, were successfully implemented in this year.

The regional focus of CPD's activities was further strengthened through research, organisation of dialogues and participation in the various regional events. CPD activities were geared towards advancing Bangladesh-India bilateral relationship and promoting the cause of Bangladesh-China-India-Myanmar (BCIM)-Economic Corridor and the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). CPD's network with global leading think tanks further consolidated and strengthened in 2015 through activities undertaken as part of LDC

IV Monitor and Southern Voice on Post-MDGs. A number of important research works were carried out under the banner of these three global initiatives that CPD is hosting. CPD had organised several events in Bangladesh and abroad to present the research outputs. CPD's aspiration to be a think tank with local roots and global reach was further advanced through these activities.

This is also an opportunity to express my deep gratitude to all my colleagues at CPD for their unwavering support in the execution of my duties. I am grateful for the advice and support extended by Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD. CPD's Dialogue and Communication Division under the stewardship of its Head Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf, and Research Division, under Research Director Dr Fahmida Khatun, have worked tirelessly to implement CPD's Research and Dialogue activities. My sincere gratitude goes to Professor Rehman Sobhan, Founding Chairman of CPD, for his vision and direction and for being the inspiration behind all our activities. On behalf of the Management, I would also like to take this opportunity to express our sincere appreciation for the valuable guidance that we have received from the CPD Board of Trustees. I would also like to thank the media, network members, well-wishers, supporters and partners for their support towards CPD in 2015.

On a sad note, we offer our deepest sympathy and condolence to the family of Mr Syed Humayun Kabir, Treasurer and Member of Board of Trustees of CPD who passed away this year. He has been Member of Board of Trustees since the very beginning of CPD and we remain grateful for his contribution over the years. He will be much missed by all the members of the CPD Family.



(Mustafizur Rahman)



# About CPD

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Over the last two decades the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) has emerged as a leading think tank stimulating all the state actors, particularly the civil society to become active players in influencing policy decisions to steer the country towards socio-economic progress. With the vision of creating an inclusive society based on equity, justice, fairness and good governance, CPD came into being in 1993. It was founded by eminent economist and civil society leader Professor Rehman Sobhan with the support from the premier civil society and NGOs in Bangladesh. The CPD's programme portfolio has evolved through the decades of monitoring, research, activism and dialogue focusing on the issues critical to the country's development.



---

shape and influence  
the country's  
development prospects

## Our Focus

CPD strives to focus on the frontier issues that are critical to the development process of Bangladesh in the present context, and which are expected to shape and influence the country's development prospects over the mid-term horizon.

---

equity, justice,  
fairness and good  
governance.

## Our Vision

To contribute to the emergence of an inclusive society in Bangladesh that is based on equity, justice, fairness and good governance.

---

research, dialogue,  
dissemination and  
policy advocacy

## Our Mission

To service the growing demand of the civil society of Bangladesh for a demand-driven and accountable development process by stimulating informed debate, generating knowledge and influencing policy-making through research, dialogue, dissemination and policy advocacy.

---

poverty alleviation  
trade, investment,  
transport

## Our Objectives

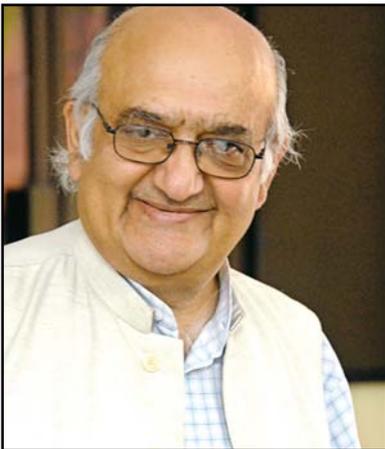
CPD aims to enhance national capacity for economy-wide policy analysis; foster regional cooperation in poverty alleviation, trade, investment, transport and other key areas; address issues which concern Bangladesh's effective integration into the process of globalisation.



# Governance and Internal Management

The highest body in CPD's governance structure is the BoT. The members include some of the leading lights in Bangladesh's civil society. The BoT meets at least twice a year and is entrusted with providing overall guidance to the activities undertaken by the Centre. The Executive Committee (EC) of the Board, which includes a Member-Secretary and a Treasurer, meets as and when needed as per advice of the Chairman, CPD, between BoT meetings.

## Board of Trustees (BoT)



**Professor Rehman Sobhan**  
Chairman, CPD and  
Former Member of  
the President's Advisory Council



**Sir Fazle Hasan Abed**  
Founder and Chairperson  
BRAC



**Ms Khushi Kabir**  
Coordinator, Nijera Kori  
Former Chairperson, ADAB



**Mr Syed Humayun Kabir**  
Chairman, Renata Ltd and  
Former Chairman, TIB  
*who passed away on 7 July 2015*



**Nobel Laureate  
Professor Muhammad Yunus**  
Chairman, Yunus Centre



**Mr M Syeduzzaman**  
Member, BoT, International Rice  
Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines  
and Former Finance Minister



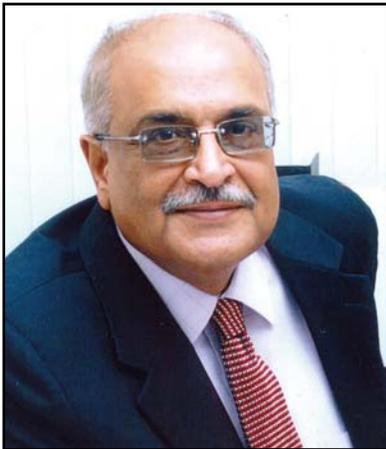
**Mr Syed Manzur Elahi**  
Chairman, Apex Group and  
Former Advisor  
Caretaker Government



**Dr Anisuzzaman**  
Professor Emeritus  
Dhaka University and  
President, Bangla Academy



**Advocate Sultana Kamal**  
Executive Director  
Ain o Salish Kendra and  
Former Advisor  
Caretaker Government



**Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya**  
Distinguished Fellow, CPD  
Former Ambassador and  
Permanent Representative of Bangladesh  
to the WTO and UN Offices in Geneva



**Dr Mahabub Hossain**  
Executive Director, BRAC  
(passed away on 4 January 2016)



**Ms Rasheda K Choudhury**  
Executive Director, CAMPE and  
Former Advisor  
Caretaker Government  
She joined BoT on 19 August '2015



**Professor Mustafizur Rahman**  
Member Secretary, BoT  
Executive Director, CPD

## MIC

### Management and Implementation Committee

MIC is mandated with the task of overall supervision, monitoring and guidance of the day-to-day work of the Centre. The MIC meets on a regular basis to review the progress of research and dialogue activities, and discuss future plans of CPD. The committee is also mandated to take decisions on daily administrative and management issues. A total of 18 MIC meetings were held in 2015. Mr. M Shafiqul Islam, Additional Director, Administration and Finance, CPD is the Member Secretary of MIC.



Professor Mustafizur Rahman  
Executive Director



Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya  
Distinguished Fellow

## RMC

### Research Management Committee (RMC)

The RMC was set up in 2008 with a view to ensuring proper planning and implementation of various research programmes of the CPD. Chaired by the Research Director, the RMC include mid-to-senior level CPD researchers as its other members. The RMC takes stock of progress in research works, discusses research proposals, and deliberates on CPD's research collaborations and partnerships. It is the RMC's task to design research strategy of CPD to submit before the CPD-BoT for its consideration and approval. In 2015, the 31st RMC meeting was held in August 2015. Ms. Khaleda Akhter, Senior Research Associate, CPD was the Coordinator.



Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf  
Director  
Dialogue & Communication



Dr Fahmida Khatun  
Research Director

## RECAP

### Review, Coordination and Planning

The RECAP body is comprised of all the CPD staff as its members. RECAP meetings provide an opportunity for the CPD staff to discuss issues pertaining to research, dialogue, administration or any other institutional matters. A total of 3 RECAP meetings were convened during the reporting period. Mr. Kishore Kumar Basak, Senior Research Associate, CPD is the Coordinator.



Dr Khondaker G Moazzem  
Additional Research Director



Mr M Shafiqul Islam  
Additional Director  
Administration and Finance



20 Years of  
IRBD  
and Counting...

# Promoting informed policy choices...

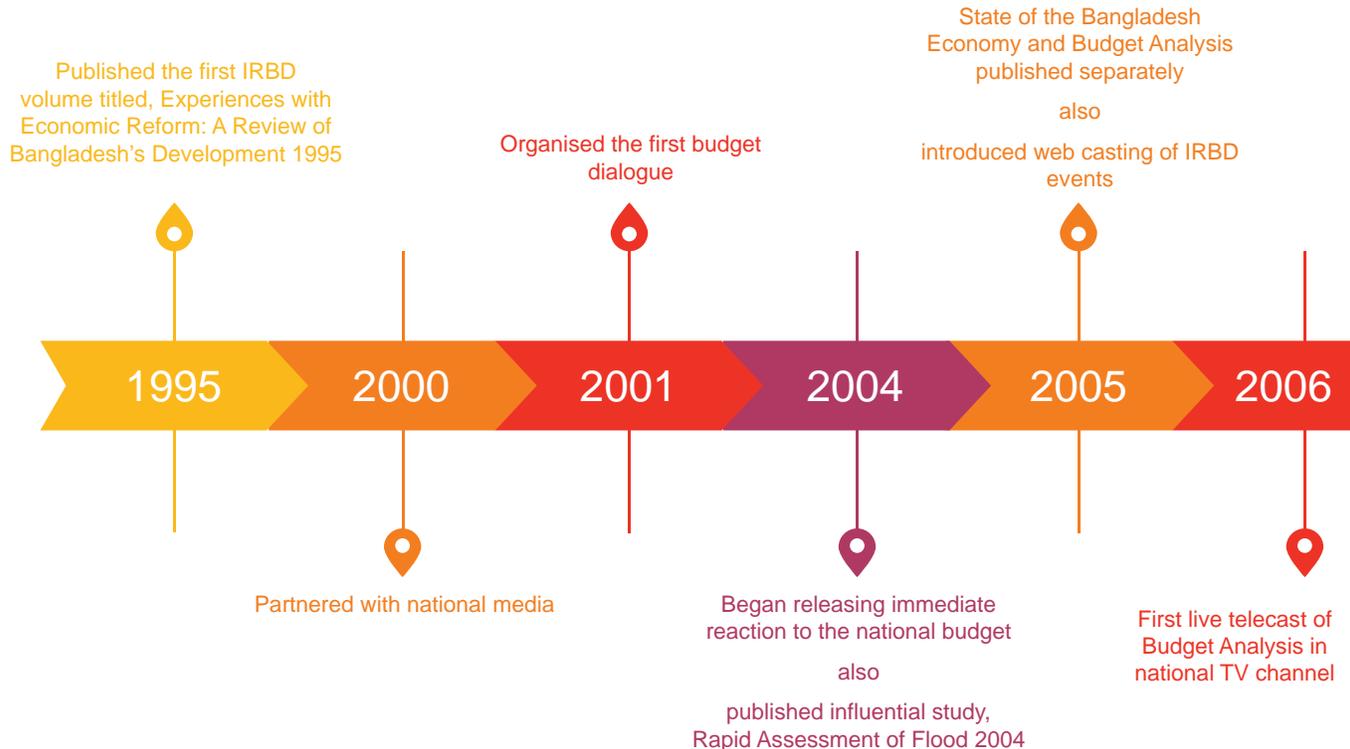
In the past, Bangladesh like many other developing countries, depended on the World Bank's grey report to understand the overall performance of its national economy. In 1995, Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD took a bold initiative of leading a team of talented Bangladeshi economists to prepare an independent civil society report-card

based on key macroeconomic parameters. Hence the Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD) began its journey. Unlike the donor-driven reports the distinguishing feature of this new report was to provide the stakeholders with the perspectives on both strategic and policy issues and match it with the current developments.

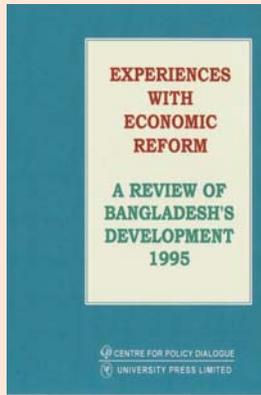


Professor Rehman Sobhan  
Chairman, CPD

"...If a democratic culture is to take root in Bangladesh, we need a vibrant civil society, built up by individuals, groups and institutions, active outside both government and the legislature, to constantly bear witness to the work of these institutions of the state. CPD took up the challenge of preparing such an Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development every year. The underlying vision, design and execution of the IRBD thus remain, from beginning to end, a home grown effort" –



The book cover of the first IRBD publication in 1995



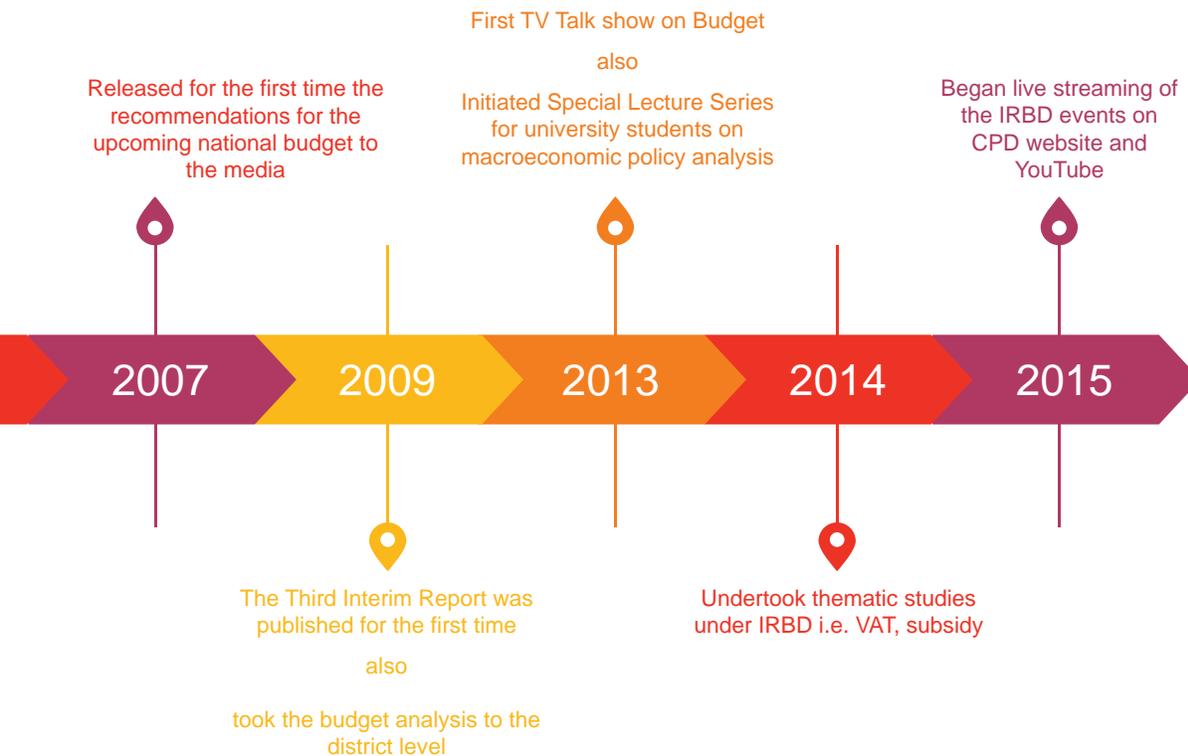
In 1995, CPD published its first volume of the Independent Review of Bangladesh's Development (IRBD). Over the years the report remains highly anticipated by the stakeholders while the recommendations and findings are regularly referred by policymakers, development agencies, academics and media alike.



On the occasion of the first IRBD publication launch of the *Experiences with Economic Reform: A Review of Bangladesh Development 1995*. (From left) Mr Khondakar Delwar Hossain, the-then Chief Whip; Mr Abdus Samad Azad, the-then Minister of Foreign Affairs and Prof Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD



The first IRBD dialogue was organised in 1995. (From left) Mr AMA Muhith, MP; Mr Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury, MP, the-then Member Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce; Mr Saifur Rahman, MP, the-then Minister of Finance, Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman, CPD and Mr Morshed Khan, the-then special envoy of the Prime Minister.

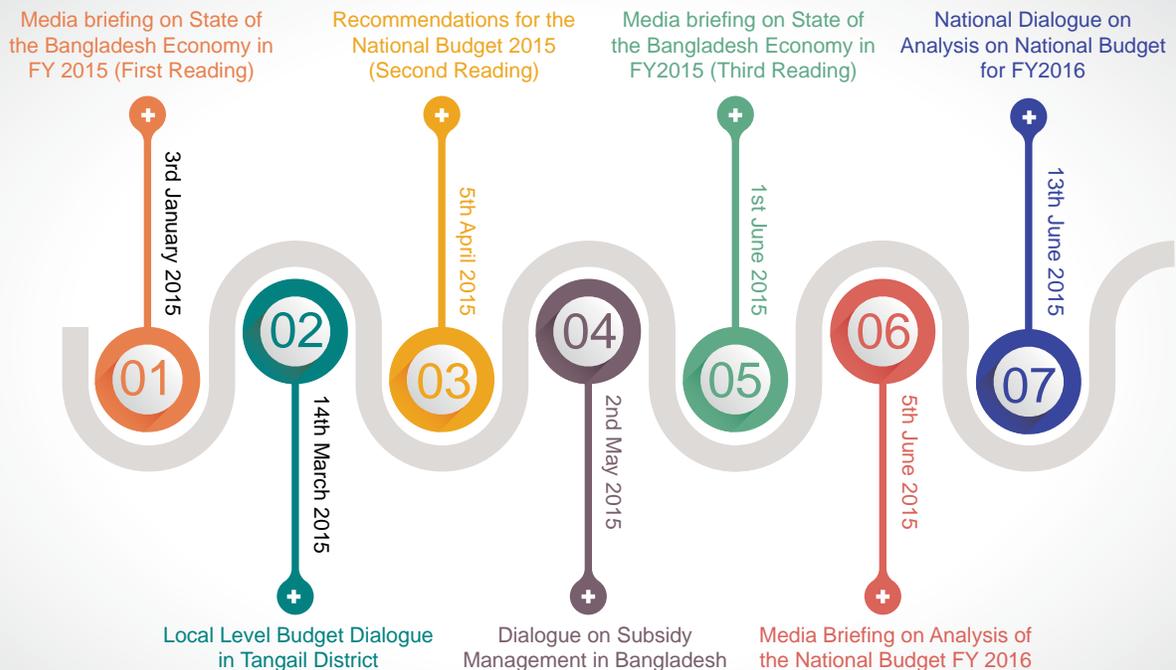


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# Features

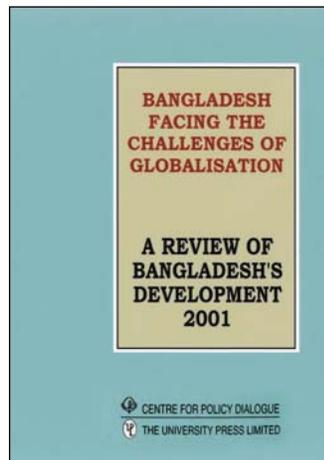
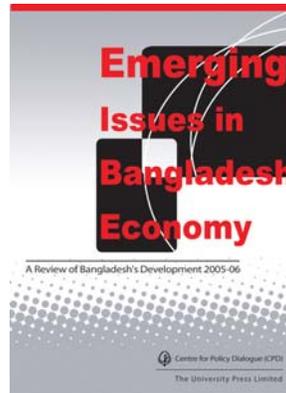
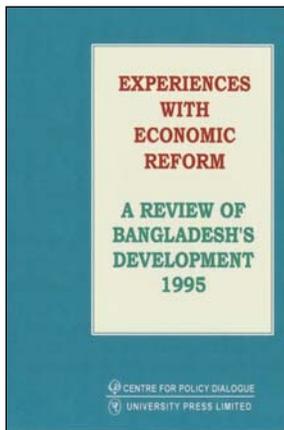
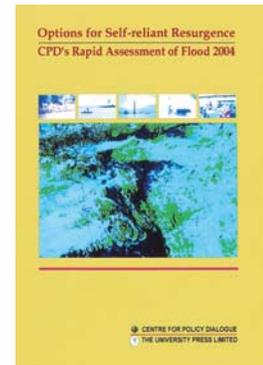
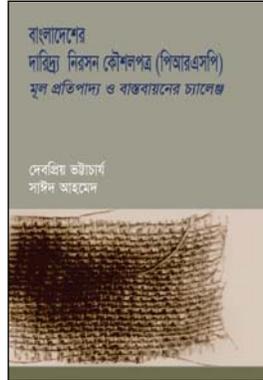
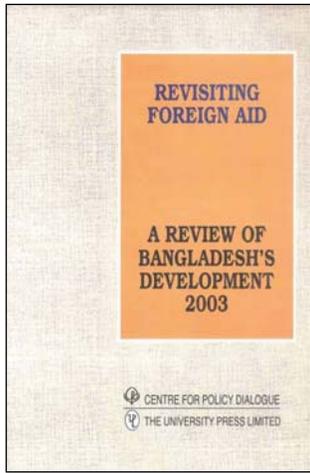


## IRBD Events in 2015



# A Few IRBD Publications of Last 20 Years

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Policy  
Research



# Tracking the National Economy

2015

Like every year, in 2015 under the IRBD programme studies were conducted periodically to review the State of the Economy. These reports were released to the media and also posted on the website for wider disseminations. Most importantly, copies were sent to the policymakers to be used as inputs for evidence-based policymaking.



*The third interim report on the performance of Bangladesh economy in FY2015 was shared with the press under IRBD programme.*

The third interim report on State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2015 document takes a close look at three thematic areas of contemporary relevance:

- **Recent dynamics of rice economy**
- **The state of the fast track public investment projects**
- **An analysis of the Sixth Five Year Plan (SFYP) with the terminal year of FY2015**



## **Recent Dynamics of Rice Economy in Bangladesh**

The study examined data mismatch for demand and supply of rice, incentives reaching to farmers, inefficiency in marketing rice and provided recommendations to address these challenges. The study found:

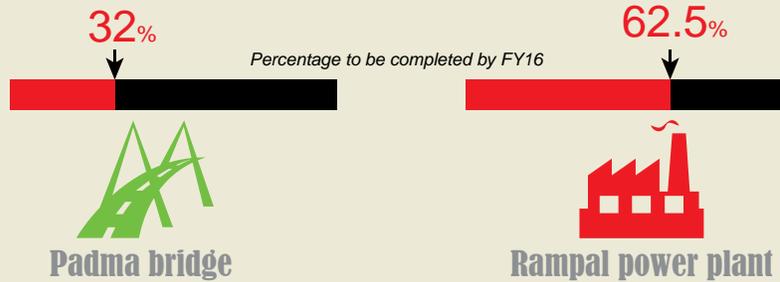
Existing practices are leading to erroneous conclusion on 'food gap' in Bangladesh

The import duties levied on rice is having favourable impact on production incentive for the farmers

The nature and the process of the rice procurement system exclude farmers as well as small and traditional rice millers.

# How **FAST** are Fast Track Public Investment Projects ?

CPD report says, only in case of two projects significant progress has been made:



Source: Bangladesh Bridge Authority (BBA)

Source: Bangladesh-India Friendship Power Company (Pvt.) Limited (BIFPCL)

## State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2015 and the Closure of Sixth Five Year Plan

Bangladesh is enjoying macroeconomic advantages on



Fault lines of elapsing fiscal year were



Since FY2012, private sector investment growth has stagnated while the provisional GDP figure for FY2015 projects a marginal improved private investment performance in the atmosphere of 'democratic discomfort'.

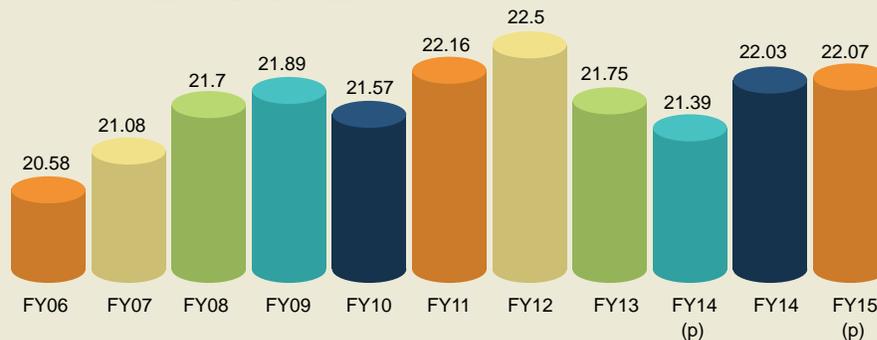


Figure: Private investment (% of GDP) in last 10 years

Source: Calculated from BBS.

Note: p denotes provisional estimate.

# Highlights of CPD's Analysis on National Budget FY2016

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CPD researchers are sharing their observations at a media briefing on the analysis of National Budget for FY2016 following the Finance Minister's budget announcement a day before.

## The highlights of the analysis

- ✓ Identifies biggest challenge
  - Financing the proposed budget of Tk 2.95 lakh crore
- ✓ Agrees on
  - Investment has to be increased to accelerate the pace of economy and revenue collection as the percentage of GDP.
- ✓ Disagrees on
  - The uniform minimum tax of Tk 4,000 for all taxpayers is unfair.
  - Allocation on education remains below 2 per cent of GDP and should be increased.
  - The drop in allocation for the agriculture and health sectors needs to be reviewed.
- ✓ Predicts
  - The revenue collection target of Bangladesh government will fall short of Tk 30,000 crore in the outgoing fiscal year. (Later, it was proven to be correct.)
  - Government will have to depend on borrowing from more expensive sources i.e. banks and non-banking institutions.
  - The flow of foreign aid is projected to grow but the target is impossible to achieve due to the usual slow implementation of Annual Development Programme (ADP).
- ✓ Inquires
  - As announced by the Finance Minister in the previous budget, what happened to the District Budget and the Audit Act for budget implementation?
- ✓ Suggests
  - The revenue collection should be increased by 35 per cent to attain next year's target.
  - Greater focus is needed for utilising foreign aid effectively to reduce overall interest payment burden.
- ✓ Recommends
  - As in the past, the Finance Minister should continue to share break-down of revenue collection or loss against budgetary measures. (Later, Mr AHM Mustafa Kamal, Planning Minister, Government of Bangladesh explained the break-down of the additional revenue sources in CPD's Budget Dialogue.)



## Budget Dialogue 2015

Explained the break-down of additional revenue sources of Budget FY2016...

*Mr AHM Mustafa Kamal*  
Planning Minister

To break the decade-long 6 per cent GDP growth-barrier, establishment of five independent commissions would be of great importance which are: statistical validation, agriculture price, local government financing, public expenditure review and financial sector reform.

*Professor Mustafizur Rahman*  
Executive Director, CPD

Setting aside Tk 5,000 crore of taxpayers' money for recapitalising the state-owned banks is a wrong response to the indiscipline in the financial sector.

*Mr Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury*  
Member, Advisory Council of the BNP Chairperson

“

**Eighteen percent of the revenue budget goes for interest payment.**

*Mr Arastoo Khan*  
Member, Physical Infrastructure Division  
Government of Bangladesh

”

# Pre-budget Local Level Dialogue

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Parliamentarians should place justified demands before the government for their constituencies for improving people's lives.

Mr Fazlur Rahman Khan Faruk  
Administrator, District Council, Tangail and  
Chief Guest at CPD dialogue



## Tangail

is the first district for which a separate experimental District Budget was prepared

CPD organised a pre-budget discussion at the district level in Tangail on 14 March 2015 to identify the needs for local level development, strengthening governance and restructuring the methodology of formulating district budget.

### Recommendations

- ✓ Policymakers must have close coordination with the district-level administration to drive effective development measures.
- ✓ Legal framework and function of the district council should be reviewed to ensure adequate implementation of the district budget.
- ✓ Structure of the local government needs to be strengthened to mobilise local funds.
- ✓ Local Government Financing Commission is essential to ensure quality of public expenditure, which would determine appropriate financial allocation according to the local demand.

bringing the community perspectives



## Subsidy Management in Bangladesh

**If the government enterprises cannot meet their variable costs, those (enterprises) should be closed down**

*Dr A B Mirza Azizul Islam*  
Former Advisor to the  
Caretaker Government

**Subsidy for quick rental power plant was supposed to be given temporarily.**

*Dr M Asaduzzaman*  
Professorial Fellow  
Bangladesh Institute of  
Development Studies (BIDS)

The CPD study under IRBD, Understanding Efficiency and Distributional Equality of Subsidy in Bangladesh, attempted to analyse subsidy expenditure at macro level, its relevance in current economy and effectiveness.

Conducted by Visiting Fellow, Dr. Kaniz Siddique the study urges government to formulate National Subsidy Policy that would stop allotting unnecessary subsidies, prevent leakages and make state interventions more targeted and efficient. The recommendation emphasised, the National Subsidy Policy should be developed taking into consideration “what-worked” for other countries, matching it with pro-poor ground reality and maintaining transparent distributive process.

**“Had there been a national policy, the country [Bangladesh] would have been able to decide when the prices of rice or oil have to be subsidised.”**

*Dr Debabpriya Bhattacharya*  
Distinguished Fellow, CPD at the dialogue on subsidy  
management held on 2 May, 2015 at Lakeshore Hotel in Dhaka

## Special Lecture Series for Students of Economics

### Understanding Budget for FY2015-16 and its Implementation Challenges

This year's special lecture was held at East West University (EWU) where a large number of students and faculty of the economics and business school were present. Dr Mohammed Farashuddin, Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Founder Vice Chancellor, EWU and Former Governor, Bangladesh Bank and Professor Ahmed Shafee, Vice Chancellor, EWU also addressed the event.



Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan, Research Fellow is delivering the lecture.

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## TV Talk Shows on Budget



CPD researchers appeared on popular TV talk shows and participated in various national budget discussions to provide observations and analysis.

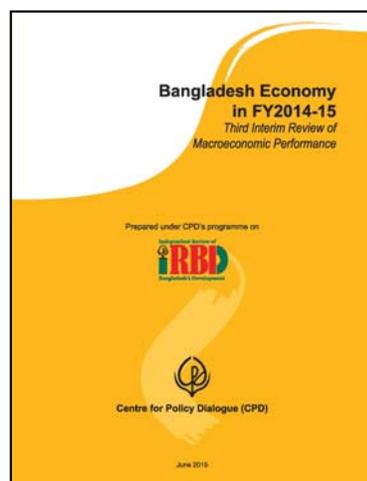


Samakal, a much popular Bangla daily published summary of the budget discussions that were broadcasted in Jamuna TV.



CPD hosted a TV talk show series on the National Budget for FY2016 with Jamuna TV, a leading national TV channel in Bangladesh.

## LATEST IRBD PUBLICATION



### Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15: Third Interim Review of Macroeconomic Performance

This book, Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15: Third Interim Review of Macroeconomic Performance was published under the IRBD programme. The volume contains three chapters; (i) State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15 and the Closure of Sixth Five Year Plan, (ii) Surfing in Uncertain Times: An Outlook for the Upcoming Budget and (iii) District Budget Experience in Bangladesh: The Case of Tangail, launched at the Budget Dialogue on 13 June, 2015.

### Op-eds



A total of  
**84**  
op-eds and  
articles were  
published.

### Interviews



**32**  
interviews of CPD  
researchers were  
published in national  
dailies.

# Trade Connectivity

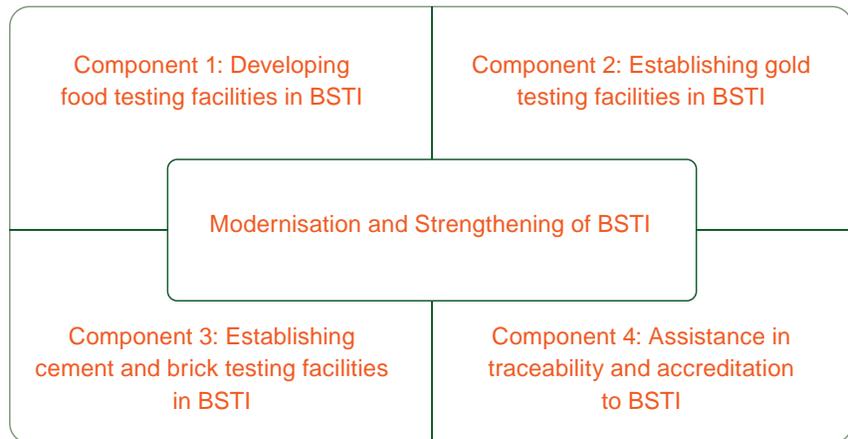
In continuation of its effort towards advancing the cause of South Asian economic integration, CPD in 2015 has undertaken two critically important studies. These studies relate to promoting trade facilitation, eliminating non-tariff barriers to trade and strengthening transport linkages.

## Non-tariff Barriers in Bangladesh-India trade Addressing Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Concerns



Mr Mahbubur Rahman, ICC-B chaired the dialogue. Mr Amitabh Chakraborty, Additional Secretary, Commerce Ministry; Mr Humayun Rashid, Acting President, DCCI; Mr Md Tanveer Islam, GM-Export, PRAN-RFL Group and Professor Mustafizur Rahman, ED, CPD were also present.

Diagram: As part of the Indian USD 1 billion Line of Credit (LoC), BSTI is implementing a project on modernisation and strengthening at a cost of USD 2.2 million. The project has four components.



Only twenty per cent of Bangladesh's export to India in 2014 constituted agri-products which is way below its potential. Realisation of export potential of these items are severely constrained because of the various Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) including sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures. A CPD research titled, "Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) in Bangladesh-India Trade Addressing SPS Issues and Concerns" dealt with some of these concerns.

The findings of the research was shared in a dialogue on 18 April 2015 where Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD emphasised that Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between India and Bangladesh will enable the two countries to accept each other's standards, certificates and laboratory testing results which will help to address many of the SPS-related disputes. However, for this to happen the capacity of Bangladesh Standards and Testing Institution (BSTI) will need to be significantly improved.

# Trade Facilitation in South Asia through Transport Connectivity: Operationalising the Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA)

2015

Road Transport and Bridges Minister Mr M Obaidul Quader is speaking at the dialogue. Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh HE Mr Pankaj Saran, and Nepalese Ambassador HE Mr Hari Kumar Shrestha, FBBCI President Mr Abdul Matlub Ahmed. CPD Chairman Professor Rehman Sobhan and Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD were also present.



Following the MVA, road construction will entail complexities of land scarcity. The land ports already suffer from traffic congestion. To resolve this, connectivity needs to go beyond roads, involving all four modes including coastal shipping, waterways and railways.

H E Mr Pankaj Saran  
High Commissioner of India

## Number of Active Land Customs Stations

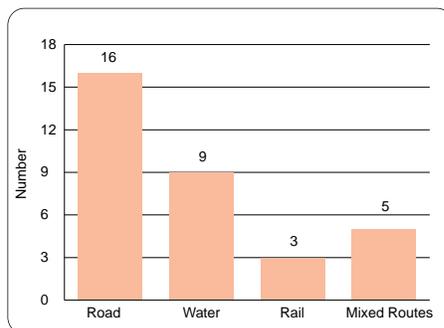
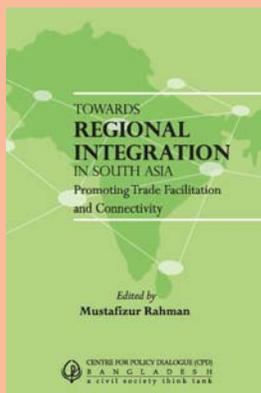


Figure: Presently among all the active customs stations between India and Bangladesh, road stations are the highest.

The main challenge of developing internal infrastructure is relocating the (existing) local establishments while constructing the new road ways.

Mr Obaidul Quader, MP  
Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Road, Transport and Bridges

Based on field-level investigation in Bangladesh and India, wide ranging consultations and perception surveys, the volume has put forward concrete proposal to overcome challenges of strengthening trade, investment, transport and people-to-people connectivity in South Asia. This book is a compendium of three chapters: (i) Trade and Transport Facilitation in Bangladesh: An Audit of the State of Play, (ii) Addressing Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Concerns in Bangladesh – India Trade: Framework for an Agreement, and (iii) Trade Facilitation in South Asia through Transport Connectivity: Operationalising the Motor Vehicle Agreements (MVAs).



The landmark sub-regional Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA) which covered Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) was signed on 15 June 2015. The CPD research titled "Trade Facilitation in South Asia through Transport Connectivity: Operationalising the Motor Vehicle Agreements" led by Professor Mustafizur Rahman, examined issues of operationalisation of the agreement. The study mentioned that about eight billion US dollar is needed to develop the relevant infrastructure. The study also stressed the need for proper documentation and procedures, facilitation of frontier crossing formalities, registration of vehicles, putting in place container customs regime, determination of appropriate taxes, fees and other charges, institutional arrangements and suitable guidelines for application of laws and regulations.

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# Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



On 25 September, 2015 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the new framework, Transforming Our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which is composed of 17 (sustainable development) goals and 169 targets to wipe out poverty, fight inequality and tackle climate change over the next 15 years. In 2015, prior to the declaration of UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CPD initiated various activities and immediately engaged with advocacy platforms to contribute to the SDG related activities.

## Delivering on the Promise: Ensuring Successful Implementation of the Post 2015 Agenda in Bangladesh



On 26 August, 2015 prior to the adoption of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), CPD organised an EGM with a select group of stakeholders including high level government officials, development partners, experts and civil society representatives having interest in the SDGs and its implementation.

At the meeting, CPD shared some of the initial findings of CPD's ongoing study on SDGs titled, "Delivering on the Promise: Ensuring Successful Implementation of Post 2015 Agenda", reviewed its alignment with the national plans with the post-2015 goals and targets, and analysed resources allocation in the national budget on SDG-related areas.

## Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Implementation Challenges for Bangladesh



After the adoption of the Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): Implementation Challenges for Bangladesh, CPD briefed media on 5 October, 2015, Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice and Distinguished Fellow, CPD considered the key challenges for Bangladesh for implementing the SDGs as:

- Integration in the national planning process
- Financial and non-financial resources
- Institutional mechanism for implementation
- Data for Monitoring
- Participation and accountability

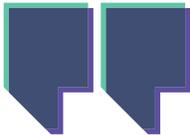


# SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

# The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: In Country Implementation Challenges



The dialogue on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: In Country Implementation Challenges was organised by CPD in association with Southern Voice and in partnership with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), convened a wide range of stakeholders to deliberate on ways to align SDGs implementation with national planning and policy processes in Bangladesh.



*Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, Founder Chairperson of BRAC, and Member of CPD Board of Trustees.*

Every citizen should be informed about the SDGs. The government should publicise as much as possible for increasing awareness about the goals and ensuring successful delivery of the targets in the context of Bangladesh.



## Workshop for Government Officials on 2030 Agenda



*Twenty-six government officials participated in the CPD's appreciation course on 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and Implementation Challenges for Bangladesh.*

CPD organised the workshop to provide the participants with a comprehensive understanding as regards the process and substance of the 2030 Agenda with its goals, targets and possible Indicators; resource gaps and financing of the SDGs and implementation challenges in the context of Bangladesh.

# Apparels Sector in Bangladesh

Apparel sector is the most pivotal industry in the economy of Bangladesh. Since 2013, CPD is continuing championing the cause of the Rana Plaza victims through the programme titled, 'Post-Rana Plaza Monitoring: A Civil Society Initiative'. Also a research study titled, 'Bangladesh Apparels Sector: Does Margin Matter in Ensuring Compliance?' was completed. The programme and study were led by Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Additional Research Director of CPD.

## 4.1 Rana Plaza Tragedy and Thereafter



Dr Khondaker G Moazzem, Additional Research Director of CPD, unveiled the report at the dialogue titled "Rana Plaza Tragedy: Two Years After" on 21 April, 2015

CPD undertook a programme titled 'Post-Rana Plaza Monitoring: A Civil Society Initiative' after the collapse of Rana Plaza in 2013 to follow up on the actual delivery status of commitments made to the victims in partnership with fourteen civil society organisations and a few eminent persons in Bangladesh. The monitoring exercise, carried out for two consecutive years (2013-2015), led to the preparation of four in-depth reports based on field-level investigations and interviews of all stakeholders including the victims, RMG workers, factory-owners, policymakers and buyers.

### CPD study findings on positive outcomes:

- Increased industry awareness on workplace safety and labour rights
- Victims were given 70 per cent of the sanctioned money
- Some of the victims were re-employed
- Injured workers received medical care through various initiatives though long-term treatment remains a concern

### Important Facts:

- As of April 2015, the number of garment factories in Bangladesh assessed for structural safety has risen to 2,703 which is 77 per cent of the total of 3,500 factories.
- The delay in trials of the persons responsible for the Rana Plaza incident after two years is giving rise to concerns among stakeholders.

**Seven hundred factories located in shared or converted buildings have been shut down due to international retailers' unwillingness to place orders in such structures.**

*Mr Abdus Salam Murshedy*  
President of Exporters Association of Bangladesh

# 4.1 Does Margin Matter in Ensuring Compliance?

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On 12 August, 2015 the CPD-FES study findings were presented at the dialogue on “Bangladesh Apparels Sector: Does Margin Matter for Ensuring Compliance?”



Dr Khondaker G Moazzem, Additional Research Director and Mr Kishore K Basak, Senior Research Associate at CPD carried out a study in collaboration with Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Dhaka on ‘Margin and Its Relation with Firm Level Compliance: Illustration on Bangladesh Apparel Value Chain.’

The CPD-FES study findings were:

- Bangladeshi firms have to make considerable amount of investment in order to address the weaknesses in fire, electrical and physical integrity.
- Suppliers expect investment on compliance would ensure better return for them.
- There is a strong relevance between improvement of firm level compliance and the suppliers’ margin.
- Strengthening Bangladesh government’s monitoring and inspection mechanisms so that all the firms are at par.



**The whole regulatory initiative has unfortunately been coming from buyers. But the primary responsibility for regulation is with the government of Bangladesh.**

Professor Rehman Sobhan  
Chairman, CPD

# Bangladeshi Migrant Workers and Remittance

CPD had undertaken a study on financial inclusion and social protection of Bangladesh's migrant workers. The three key issues were focused:

- Reduction of cost of sending remittances
- Greater financial inclusion of small-scale remitters
- Improve social protection of migrant workers

Findings from the study titled, "Promoting Decent Work through Improved Migration Policy and its Application in Bangladesh" are as follows:

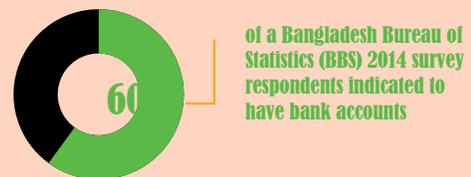
## Investment pattern of remitters



## Charges on remitted money



## Financial inclusion



## Social security



All regular overseas wage earners pay a welfare fee of Taka 3,500 before departure but few know the benefits s/he would receive.

# Dialogue on Safeguarding Interests of Bangladeshi Migrant Workers Issues of Financial Inclusion and Social Protection

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Mr AHM Mustafa Kamal, MP, Planning Minister, Government of Bangladesh is speaking at a dialogue on “Safeguarding Interests of Bangladesh Migrant Workers: Issues of Financial Inclusion and Social Protection” organised by CPD to discuss the study findings and policy recommendations.

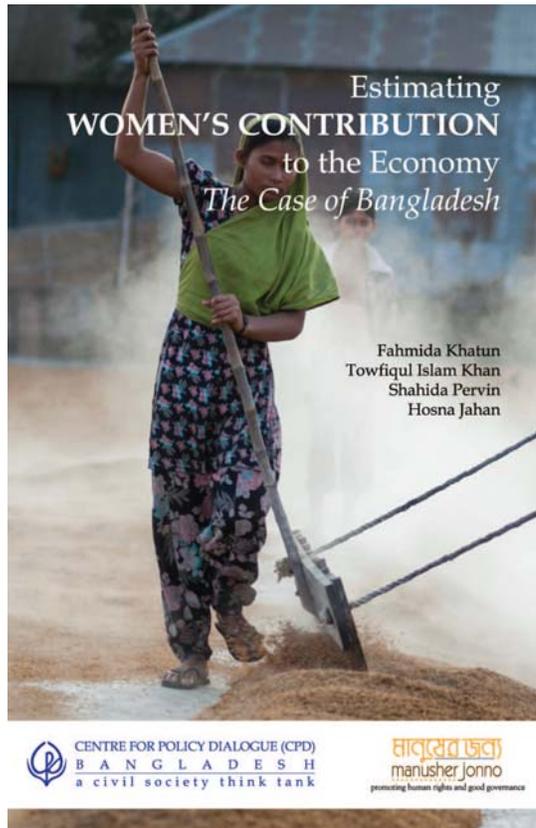
## CPD Study Recommendations

- Bangladesh needs to negotiate at government (GtoG) level of high-priority destinations on bilateral social security agreements to regularise Bangladeshi migrant workers for improved work, workplace safety and security.
- Develop social protection policies geared at pre-migration, host country and post-return that will ultimately be included as dedicated section for migrant workers in the National Social Security Strategy (NSSS).
- Develop (destination) region-specific manual and create voice enabled, user-friendly mobile application for better access and promotion.
- Make pre-departure financial and existing social security education mandatory.
- Ensure the exiting returnee (migrant) registration is comprehensive enabling relevant agencies to support the returnee migrants.

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6.0

# CPD Estimates Women's Contribution to the Economy



The book titled, "Estimating Women's Contribution to the Economy: The Case of Bangladesh" was published jointly by CPD and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF).

This pioneering study was undertaken by a team of CPD researchers lead by Research Director, Dr Fahmida Khatun. The survey for the study was conducted among 8,320 women and 5,334 men in 5,670 households across the 64 districts of Bangladesh. Several findings of this study have important implications for the country's System of National Accounts (SNA).

- Time spent per day on non-SNA activities by a female member in a household is about *three* times higher than that by a male member.
- On an average, on a typical day, a woman works for about 7.7 hours on non-SNA activities undertaking 12.1 non-SNA tasks, while a man works for about 2.5 hours and does 2.7 non-SNA tasks.
- The estimated value of women's unpaid non-SNA activities is equivalent to 76.8 per cent of Bangladesh's GDP in FY2013-14 based on the replacement cost method and 87.2 per cent of GDP based on the willingness to accept method.

# 7.0

# Geographical Indications of Jamdani

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## Dialogue on Geographical Indications- Recent International Developments: Implications and Opportunities for Bangladesh

Ms Alexandra Bhattacharya, an international Intellectual Property (IP) lawyer, laid out the multilateral legal framework for Geographical Indication (GI) Protection, the positions of World Trade Organization (WTO) and World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), recent developments in global GI regime and experiences from the LDCs at a CPD in-house discussion. Regarding the GI claim over Jamdani as Bangladesh's heritage product, she observed that Bangladesh would have to go for sui generis or national level initiative for which the registration process and necessary arrangements must take place first.

Legal experts, Intellectual Property (IP) and trade professionals, academics, crafts council and customs specialists attended the event with CPD senior and junior researchers. The event was held on 2 August 2015.



Linking  
Local to  
Global

## At the global level CPD operates in various capacities:

### 1.0 Global Initiatives

CPD hosts secretariats of two global networks - Southern Voice on Post-MDG, a think tank network and LDC IV Monitor, an independent partnership of think tanks and academic institutions from the Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

### 2.0 Collaborative Research

CPD partners with global institutes in shaping the international development agendas through research. Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) with World Economic Forum (WEF) and Taxes on SMEs in South Asia with Governance Institutes Network International (GINI) are the two significant research partnerships with international organisations of CPD this year.

### 3.0 Partnering Events

CPD organises events in partnership with various international organisations on strategic issues. This year CPD organised three events: a dialogue on Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs, a session in WTO Public Forum 2015 and launched UNCTAD's LDCs Report 2015 in Bangladesh.



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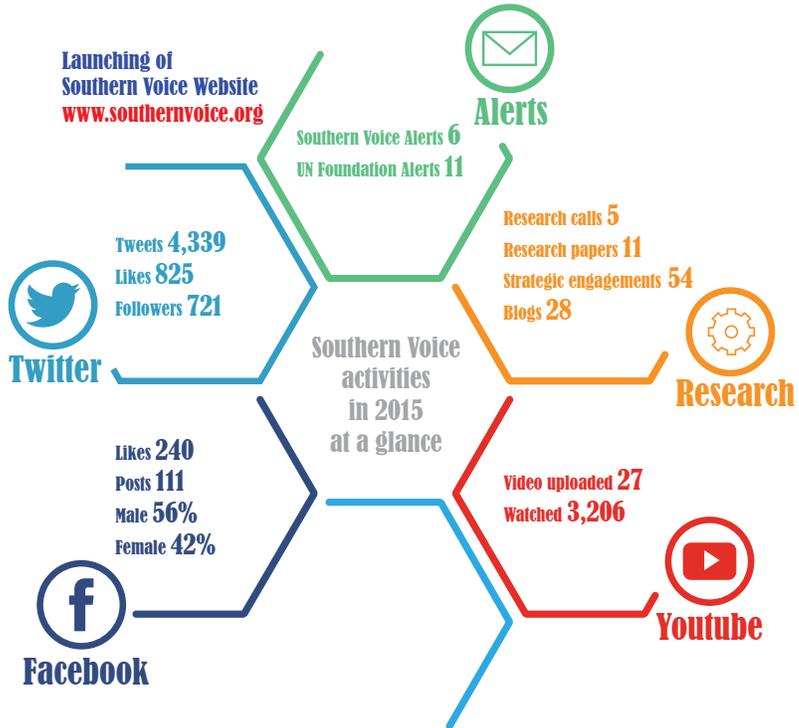
# Global Initiatives



## Southern Voice

2015 On Post-MDG International Development Goals

Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals (Southern Voice) is a network of 48 think tanks from Africa, Asia and Latin America, which serve as an open platform to make contributions to the international discourse on what should succeed the UN's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).



# Strategic Engagements of Southern Voice

2015



*Presenters and participants at various sessions of Southern Voice conference*

The first research conference on “Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets” was organised by SV in association with Think Tank Initiative (TTI) on 16-17 February, 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey which was attended by more than 70 participants from Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and North America. A total of twenty papers on various themes were presented at the conference.



*The Chair of Southern Voice, Dr. Bhattacharya speaking at the launch of the Fifth European Report on Development (ERD 2015) on 4 May 2015 in Brussels, Belgium.*



*Southern Voice entered into a partnership with E15 Initiative. Dr. Bhattacharya attended the first Expert Group Workshop on Trade, Finance and Development held in Geneva, Switzerland on 13-14 April 2015.*



*Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, is moderating the 2015 Meeting of the UN's High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF 2015) on 30 June 2015 in New York, USA.*



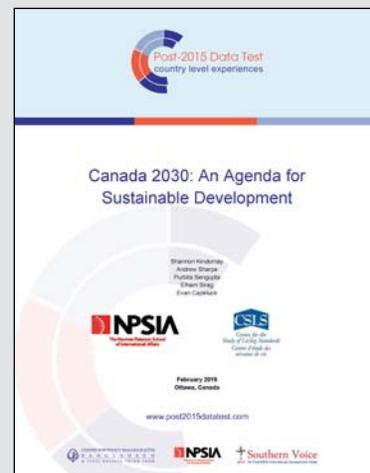
## Post-2015 Data Test country level experiences

Southern Voice, Norman Paterson School of International Affairs (NPSIA), Ottawa and CPD launched an initiative “Post-2015 Data Test Country Level Experiences”. It examines how the universal post-2015 development agenda can be applied and measured across a variety of country contexts. The participating countries include Bangladesh, Canada, Ghana, Peru, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Turkey. Carried out by local think tanks in each country, the Post-2015 Data Test examines country priorities and challenges related to accessing the data and measuring the progress in seven potential post-2015 goal areas.



*Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow, CPD is presenting the findings from the Post-2015 Data Test Country Level Experiences at an event organised by Think Tank Initiative (TTI) on 19 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.*

As part of Post-2015 Data Test Initiative, a joint report, “Canada 2030: An Agenda for Sustainable Development” was launched on 25 February 2015 at the Carlton University, Ottawa. The report unpacks global and Canada’s sustainable development priorities, challenges and opportunities for SDGs implementation. It also looks at the data availability for measuring progress.



# Strategic Engagements of Post-2015 Data Test Initiative

2015

Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya is discussing how the SDGs would require responsive statistical systems with the capacity to track development progress of countries across a much broader spectrum of development challenges on 30 March, 2015 at OECD Headquarter, Paris at 2015 Global Forum on Development.



Dr. Suwadu Sakho-Jimbira and Dr. Ibrahima Hathie of IPAR, Senegal and members of Southern Voice network represented the Post-2015 Data Test initiative at the UNECA's High-Level Conference (HLC) on Data Revolution in Africa. The event was held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 29 March 2015 and the theme was 'Setting the scene for a sustainable development agenda powered by Data Revolution in Africa'.

CPD's Executive Director, Professor Mustafizur Rahman is making a presentation at the Third International Open Data Conference held in Ottawa, Canada on 28-29 May 2015. The session was moderated by Mr. Peter Taylor, Program Manager of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC).



# 1.2 LDC IV Monitor



LDC IV Monitor is an independent partnership of eight think tanks and academic institutions from LDC and partner countries. It is monitoring and assessing the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (IPoA) adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC IV). CPD is the secretariat of this initiative.



## Synthesis Report prepared under LDC IV Monitor translated in French

LDC IV Monitor's Synthesis Report, derived from the critical analyses of the state of play concerning the IPoA, presents the broad messages and key recommendations, put forward by the earlier published volume titled, "Istanbul Programme of Action for the LDCs (2011-2020): Monitoring Deliverable, Tracking Progress - Synthesis Report".



*Mr Federico Bonaglia, Deputy Director, OECD Development Centre (DEV) presented the highlights of the French version of the report, Programme d'action d'Istanbul en faveur des PMA (2011-2020): Suivi des résultats et évaluation des avancées – Rapport de synthèse, at the OECD headquarter in Paris, France.*

## Strategic Engagements of LDC IV Monitor

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Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, LDC IV Monitor spoke at the Roundtable on The Istanbul Programme of Action (IPoA). He observed that three sets of factors have constrained the delivery of the special programme for the LDCs namely, inhospitable global economic environment; inability of international development partners to meet their commitments; and lack of domestic reforms in LDCs. The roundtable was organised by the United Nations Foundation in New York, USA on 7 April 2015.



## LDC IV Monitor, Southern Voice and CPD's Session on Trade Facilitation

LDC IV Monitor, Southern Voice and CPD co-organised a session on, "The Role of Trade Facilitation in the Context of Increasing Regional Integration of Least Developed Countries" on 17 December 2015 as part of the Trade and Development Symposium (TDS). The event was held in sideline of Tenth Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (MC10) in Nairobi, Kenya.



*Dr Jodie Keane, Research Fellow, Overseas Development Institute (ODI) spoke about the capability of LDCs to negotiate trade agreements at a session.*



**Trade Facilitation is the last great barrier that LDCs have to surmount for increased regional integration.**

*Professor Mustafizur Rahman  
Executive Director, CPD*

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## Collaborative Research

### CPD Teamed with WEF to 2.1 Prepare GCR 2015-16



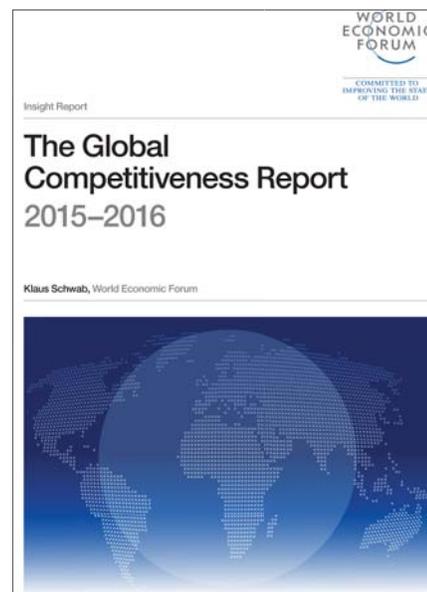
*Dr Khondker Golam Moazzem presenting the major findings from the GCR 2015-16 and Bangladesh's Business Environment Study 2015 at a media briefing on 30 September, 2015 at BRAC Centre, Dhaka. CPD conducted this study as one of the partner institutes of World Economic Forum (WEF)'s Global Competitiveness Report 2015-16.*

**Bangladesh ranked 107th among 140 economies by moving two notches upward in terms of competitiveness in 2015**

– Global Competitiveness Report 2015-16

**Within the next 10 years the foremost risks for doing business in Bangladesh are energy price shock, underdeveloped infrastructure and weak governance**

– according to most Bangladeshi entrepreneur respondents in Bangladesh's Business Environment Study 2015



## 2.2 CPD-GINI Study on Taxes on SMEs in South Asia

2015

The Governance Institutes Network International (GINI) had invited fifteen leading think tanks and research institutes across South Asia including CPD to conduct a collaborative, time-bound research. The study covering Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka focused on the impacts of tax exemptions and concessions, VAT reforms, and property tax on the development of SMEs in South Asia.



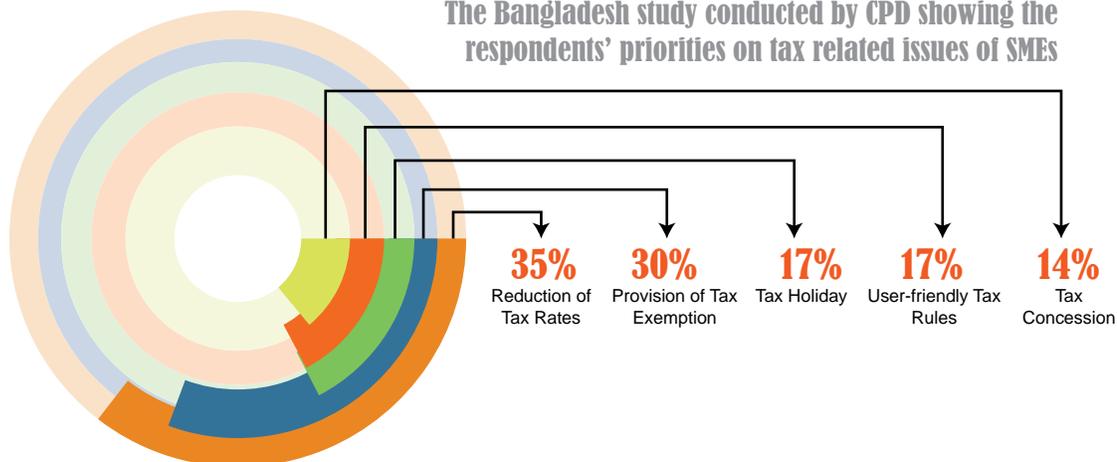
A dialogue on "SME Development in South Asia: How Conducive are the Tax Policies?" was organised by CPD in collaboration with GINI.

**Bangladesh study found that there is clear knowledge gap in regards to the new VAT law among SME entrepreneurs.**

The recommendations from the Meta Analysis of GINI study on Tax Policy and Enterprise Development in South Asia are:

- Educating SME entrepreneurs on tax systems
- Making provisions for self-assessment of tax for SMEs
- Developing transparent tax return calculation mechanism for SMEs at national levels
- Improving the accessibility to tax administration's service offices for the SME entrepreneurs

The Bangladesh study conducted by CPD showing the respondents' priorities on tax related issues of SMEs



## Asian Partnership in 3.1 Financing SDGs

The two-day long Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs was organised by CPD and Southern Voice in partnership with the UN Millennium Campaign on 16-17 May, 2015 in anticipation that viable suggestions for financing the development agendas would feed the upcoming Third Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in July 2015. Thirteen participants from Asia and beyond attended the EGM.



(left) Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Chair, Southern Voice and Distinguished Fellow, CPD; H E Mr Lee Yun-young, Korean Ambassador; Mr A H M Mustafa Kamal, MP, Planning Minister; Prof. Mustafizur Rahman, ED, CPD; Mr Robert Watkins, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative and Mr Sering Falu Njie, Deputy Director, Policy, UN Millennium Campaign

The opening session was on Global Partnership for Financing Post-2015 Agenda in Asia: An Analysis of Trends and Framework Issues followed by the three working sessions titled:

- Financing Public-Private Partnership in Infrastructure: An Asian Perspective
- Economic Role of Remittances in Financing SDGs in Asia
- Delivering on Data Needs for Monitoring SDGs: Addressing Financing Issues in Asia-Pacific Context

Speakers observed that at the regional level, countries in South Asia and South East Asia have shifted reliance from overseas development aid to domestic resources for financing development but they need to strengthen their institutional frameworks for improved coordination. While at national level, Bangladesh needs to enhance focus on financing development by increasing: revenue generation, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), private investment, remittance, export and intra-regional trade.

## CPD's Session in 3.2 WTO Public Forum 2015

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CPD organised a session with the IDEAS Centre, Geneva on “To Be or Not to Be in a Megadeal/Plurilateral Agreement: How to Articulate Exclusive Deep Integration Agreements with Inclusive Rules?” in the WTO Public Forum 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland on 30 September 2015. The session discussed how WTO should contribute to limit potential negative effects of WTO trade rules on its poorest members and ensure that its role as the guarantor of an inclusive multilateral trading system is not eroded.



*Professor Mustafizur Rahman, ED, CPD speaking at CPD's session in WTO Public Forum 2015.*

## CPD's Reaction to the Outcomes of Global Events



CPD shared with media its immediate reaction to the outcomes of COP21, Paris and the 10th World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference (WTO MC-10), Nairobi and what these mean for Bangladesh. Two separate keynote presentations were made by the CPD Research Director Dr Fahmida Khatun and the Executive Director Professor Mustafizur Rahman on the COP21 and WTO MC-10 respectively.

On COP21 outcome ...

**Bangladesh should invest in Green technology to graduate to a Green Economy path**

**Dr Fahmida Khatun, Research Director, CPD**

On WTO MC-10 outcome ...

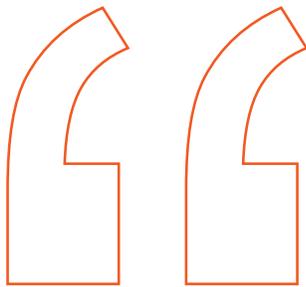
**To address the systemic changes in the WTO, Bangladesh will need to examine implications of the various approaches to negotiations including multilateralisation of plurilaterals with embedded Special and Differential (S&D) provisions.**

**Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director, CPD**

# CPD Launches 3.3 UNCTAD's LDCs Report 2015

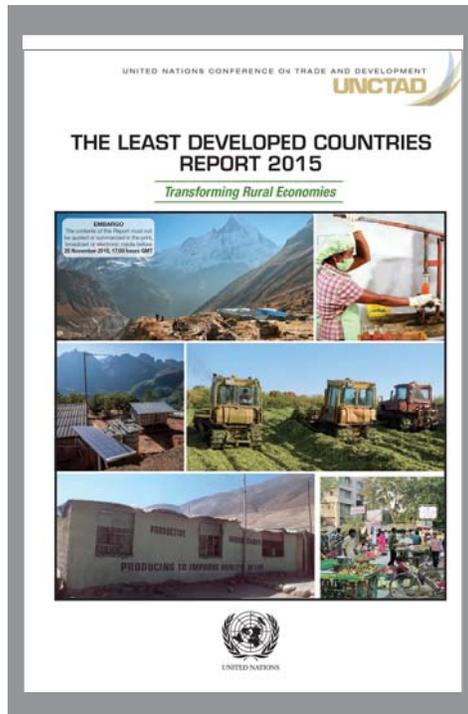


At the launching of UNCTAD's The Least Developed Countries Report on 26 November, 2015 in CIRDAP Auditorium, Dhaka



**With the endorsement from UN's Economic & Social Council and being approved from the General Assembly, Bangladesh may graduate from LDC status in 2024**

– according to the UNCTAD's The Least Developed Countries Report 2015



The UNCTAD's The Least Developed Countries Report 2015 emphasised eradication of poverty as envisioned by the SDGs will critically hinge on the development of rural economies in LDCs.



CPD's  
Special  
Engagements

20  
15



## Special Events

### Celebration of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's International Recognitions and Contributions to CPD



CPD organised a reception to celebrate Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's many international recognitions for his humanitarian work and contribution in the development of CPD as an esteem Member of its Board of Trustees on 3 August, 2015 at Lakeshore Hotel in Dhaka.

### Public Lecture by Amartya Sen



Professor Amartya Sen addressed a massive audience at the launch of the Bangla translation of his book titled, "Bharat: Unnayan O Banchana" from *An Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contradictions*.

Nobel laureate Professor Amartya Sen speaking on, "Economic Growth and Human Progress" co-organised by CPD and the leading Bangla daily, Prothom Alo.



# Young Scholars' Seminar Series (YSSS)

2015

As part of CPD's Young Scholars' Seminar Series (YSSS) there were several seminars organised in 2015. In this platform, young researchers are encouraged to share their ideas which are taken as inputs for setting research activities and priorities.



## Seminar on “Data Needs and Accountability Mechanism for Delivering the SDGs in Bangladesh

Mr Mostafa Amir Sabbih, Research Associate speaking on means of SDGs implementation at the country level.



## Seminar on “Dynamics of Labour Force Participation in Bangladesh with Special Reference to Women

Ms Shahida Pervin, Research Associate sharing observations on how access to finance seems to be crucial for women's engagement in economic activities.



## Special YSSS on Generating Research Idea

Three young researchers Mr Mahtab Uddin Ahmed, Mr Muntaseer Kamal and Mr Shashish Shami Kamal are suggesting following potential research topics: (i) Impact of 'Creative' Education System on Commercializing School Education, (ii) The Next Big Thing in Bangladesh Economy after RMG, and (iii) Impact of Regulatory Measures in BSEC on Stock Market Volatility.



## Seminar on “Bangladesh Graduates from Low to Middle Income Group: Entering into Middle Income Trap?

Mr Estiaque Bari, Research Associate is presenting on how Bangladesh can avoid the middle income trap.

20  
15



# CPD in Virtual Platforms



**444**

tweets

**120**

retweetes

**215**

likes

\*\*\*\*\*



**2841**

page likes

M= **86%**

F= **13%**

**349**

posts

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**17**

Posts

**23**

clicks

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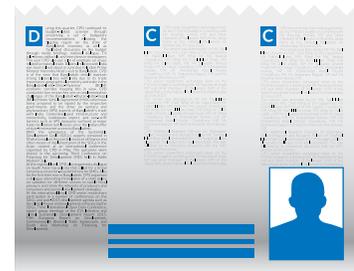
**577**

video  
uploaded

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**e-Newsletter 10  
News Alert 8**



**Views  
242,305**







# Financial Report 2015



## Financial Affairs

CPD is committed to maintain the highest possible standards with regard to its financial management by following stipulated rules and regulations and best accounting practices, through internal auditing and independent external auditing, which are conducted on a regular basis. On financial matters CPD remains accountable to its Board of Trustees, NGO Affairs Bureau, National Board of Revenue (NBR) and its supporting agencies and institutions.

## Financial Statement of CPD

Hoda Vasi Chowdhury & Co. has carried out the audit of the financial statements of the CPD for the calendar year 2015.

The Auditor has reported that the financial statements, prepared in accordance with Bangladesh Financial Reporting Standards/Bangladesh Accounting Standards. The Auditor's report gives a true and fair view of the state of the CPD and its projects' affairs as at 31 December 2015. The report shows results of CPD's consolidated operations and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended and the state of compliance with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations.

The summary of the Statement of Income & Expenses for the year ended on 31 December 2015 and the Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) as on 31 December 2015 is provided below. These extracts provide an overview of the state of financial affairs of the Centre.

## Statement of Income &amp; Expenses for the year ended on 31 December 2015

|   | Amount in Taka ('000)     |                           |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Year ended<br>31 Dec 2015 | Year ended<br>31 Dec 2014 |
| <u>Incoming resources</u>               |                           |                           |
| Fund and grants                         | 90,910                    | 119,265                   |
| Other Receipts                          | 3,528                     | 13,799                    |
| Total resources                         | <u>94,438</u>             | <u>133,064</u>            |
| <u>Resources Expended</u>               |                           |                           |
| Administrative & management expenditure | 70,904                    | 67,131                    |
| Project / programme expenditures        | 44,382                    | 76,613                    |
| Total Expenditure                       | <u>115,286</u>            | <u>143,744</u>            |
| Reserve/Deficit                         | <u>(20,848)</u>           | <u>(10,680)</u>           |

## Statement of Financial Position (Balance Sheet) as on 31 December 2015

|                           | Amount in Taka ('000) |                      |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
|                           | As at<br>31 Dec 2015  | As at<br>31 Dec 2014 |
| Assets                    |                       |                      |
| Fixed Assets              | 124,889               | 123,861              |
| Current Assets            | 128,426               | 151,755              |
| Less: Current Liabilities | (1,654)               | (5,900)              |
| Net Assets                | <u>251,661</u>        | <u>269,716</u>       |
| Represented by:           |                       |                      |
| Unrestricted Funds        | 182,060               | 204,116              |
| Restricted Funds          | 69,601                | 65,600               |
|                           | <u>251,661</u>        | <u>269,716</u>       |



# Annexes

## List of Publications

### Books

1. *Protecting Bangladesh's Geographical Indication Interests: The Case of Jamdani*. Dhaka: CPD and National Crafts Council of Bangladesh (NCCB).
2. CPD. 2015. সমসাময়িক উন্নয়ন চিন্তা: ২০১৪ সালে মিডিয়াতে সিপিডি'র নির্বাচিত মন্তব্যসমূহ. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).
3. Nesa, M, 2015. *Economic Empowerment of Women through Entrepreneurship: A Study on Women SME Entrepreneurs in Bangladesh*. Saarbrücken: Dictus Publication.
4. CPD. 2015. *Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15: Third Interim Review of Macroeconomic Performance*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).
5. Rahman, M. (Ed.) 2015. *Towards Regional Integration in South Asia: Promoting Trade Facilitation and Connectivity*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).
6. Sobhan, R. 2015. *From Two Economies to Two Nations: My Journey to Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Daily Star Books.
7. Bhattacharya, D. & Mikić, M. (Eds.). 2015. *Least Developed Countries and Trade: Challenges of Implementing the Bali Package*. Bangkok: United Nations publication, Studies in Trade and Investment No. 83. Available at: <http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/LDCs%20and%20trade.pdf>
8. Sobhan, R. 2015. *Untranquil Recollection: The Years of Fulfilment*. New Delhi. SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd.
9. Khatun, F. Khan, T.I. Pervin, S. and Jahan, H. 2015. *Estimating Women's Contribution to the Economy: The Case of Bangladesh*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF).

### Journal Articles

1. Jahan, R. and Afsana, K. 2015. "Sustaining Progress towards Comprehensive Reproductive Health Services in Bangladesh." *Global Public Health*, 10 (2): 180-182. DOI: 10.1080/17441692.2014.986164
2. Moazzem, K.G. and Basak, K.K. 2015. "Bangladesh-Canada Bilateral Trade: Exploring Possible Impact of Bangladesh's Graduation from an LDC." *CanCham Review*, IX (March 2015): 12-18.
3. Rahman, M. and Jahan, H. 2015. "Second-Generation Cooperation Agenda: Opportunities and Challenges of Enhanced Integration among the Asian Sub regions." *South Asia Economic Journal*, 16: 1-26. DOI: 10.1177/1391561415575125
4. Jahan, R. 2015. "The Parliament of Bangladesh: Representation and Accountability." *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, 21 (2): 250-269. DOI:10.1080/13572334.2014.975470
5. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. "Regional Integration and the Post-2015 Framework: A South Asian Perspective." In Kelegama, S. & De, P. (Eds.), *Selected Papers of the Seventh South Asia Economic Summit, New Delhi, 5-7 November, 2014*. New Delhi: SAGE Publications. Research article in South Asia Economic Journal Supplement Issue. Retrieved from [http://sae.sagepub.com/content/16/2\\_suppl](http://sae.sagepub.com/content/16/2_suppl)
6. Khatun, F. and Ahamad, M.G. 2015. "Foreign Direct Investment in the Energy and Power Sectors in Bangladesh: Implications for Economic Growth." *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 52: 1369-1377, dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rser.2015.08.017.
7. Jahan, R. 2015. "The Parliament of Bangladesh: Representation and Accountability." *Journal of Legislative Studies*, 16: 1-26, doi: 10.1177/1391561415575125.
8. Jahan, R. and Afsana, K. 2015. "Sustaining Progress towards Comprehensive Reproductive Health Services in Bangladesh." *Global Public Health*, 10 (2): 180-182, doi: 1080/17441692.2014.986164.

## Working Papers

1. Rahman, M. Akhter, K. and Saif, M.N.G. 2015. *Trade and Transport Facilitation in Bangladesh: An Audit of the State of Play*. CPD Working Paper 110. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).
2. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. *Regional Monitoring and Review Mechanism for Effective Implementation of the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. UNESCAP Working Paper Series. Bangkok: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP).
3. Rahman, M. 2015. *Bali Ministerial of the WTO and the way Forward: Safeguarding LDC Interests*. CPD Working Paper 111. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

## Rana Plaza Monitoring Report

1. CPD. 2015. *One Year After the Rana Plaza Tragedy: Where Do We Stand? – The Victims, the Sector and the Value Chain*. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

## Southern Voice Occasional Paper Series

CPD Output as *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals* Secretariat

Series Editor: *Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya*, Distinguished Fellow, CPD and Chair, *Southern Voice on Post-MDGs*

1. Khan, S.T. 2015. *Development Policy Failure in Pakistan: Institutional and Governance Challenges*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 19. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
2. Khatun, F. and Amin, M.A. 2015. *CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions, Energy Consumption, Deforestation and Agricultural Income in LDCs: Lessons for Post-2015 Development Agenda*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 20. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
3. Branisa, B. and Cardona, C. 2015. *Social Institutions and Gender Inequality in Fragile States: Are They Relevant for the Post-MDG Debate?* Southern Voice Occasional Paper 21. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
4. Gunasekara, V. *Unpacking the Middle: A Class-based Analysis of the Labour Market in Sri Lanka*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 22. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
5. Taco, M.A.V., Garces, M.F.M. and López, R. 2015. *Alternatives for Development or Alternatives to Development?* Southern Voice Occasional Paper 23. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
6. Hernani-Limarino, W., Jimenez, W. and Saravia, K. 2015. *Mind the Data Gap: Evaluating MDG's Contribution to the Improvement of Statistical Capacities in Bolivia, 2000-2013*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 24. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
7. Khan, T.I. and Akbar, M.I. 2015. *Illicit Financial Flow in view of Financing the Post-2015 Development Agenda*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 25. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
8. Agrawal, P. 2015. *Can Foreign Portfolio Investment Contribute to Post-2015 Development Goals in Asia?* Southern Voice Occasional Paper 26. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
9. Fernando, K. and Gunawardena, P. 2015. *Growth within Natural Limits: The Debates, Propositions and Possibilities*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper 27. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
10. Bhattacharya, D. *The Post-2015 Agenda and its Implementation Challenges: A View from the South*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper Special Issue 3. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.
11. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. *The Post-2015 Agenda and its Implementation Challenges: A View from the South*. Southern Voice Occasional Paper Special Issue 3. Dhaka: Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals.

## CPD Dialogue Report

1. CPD. 2015. *Subsidy Management in Bangladesh: Efficiency and Equity Issues*. Dialogue Report 111. Dhaka: Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD).

## Other International Publications

1. Basnett, Y. and Bhattacharya, D. 2015. *Exploring Spaces for Economic Transformation in the Sustainable Development Goals*. Output Paper of the ODI Project Effective International Development Action Beyond 2015. London: Overseas Development Institute (ODI). Available at: <http://www.odi.org/sites/odi.org.uk/files/odi-assets/publications-opinion-files/9651.pdf>
2. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. Post-2015 *International Development Agenda in the Context of Interlocking Trade and Financing in the LDCs*. Geneva: International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and World Economic Forum (WEF). Think Piece, E15 Expert Group on Trade, Finance and Development. Available at: <http://e15initiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/E15-Finance-Bhattacharya-final.pdf>
3. Rahman, M., Khan T.I., Sadique, M.Z. and Sabbih, M.A. 2015. *Measuring for Monitoring: The State of Data for SDGs in Bangladesh*. Country Report prepared under the Post-2015 Data Test: Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country Level. Available at: <http://www.post2015datatest.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Bangladesh-Country-Report-Final.pdf>
4. Sachs, J.D., Modi, V., Figueroa, H., Fantacchiotti, M.M., Sanyal, K. Khatun, F. and Shah, A. 2015. *ICT and SDGs: How Information and Communications Technology can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*. Joint research report prepared by the Earth Institute, Columbia University and Ericsson. Available at <http://www.ericsson.com/res/docs/2015/ict-and-sdg-interim-report.pdf>
5. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. "Role of South-South Cooperation in the Context of the Post-2015 Agenda." In Boussichas, M. and Guillaumont, P. (Eds.) *Financing Sustainable Development: Addressing Vulnerabilities* (pp. 91-102). Clermont-Ferrand: Fondation pour les études et recherches sur le développement international (Ferdi) in association with Éditions Economica, Paris.
6. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. Regional monitoring and review mechanism for effective implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. Secretariat Note E/ESCAP/FSD(2)/INF/1. Available at: [http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/pre-ods/FS\\_D2\\_INF1E.pdf](http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/pre-ods/FS_D2_INF1E.pdf)

## Conference Presentations

1. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. "Towards a UN Declaration in the Context of Post-2015 Development Agenda" at the *First Intergovernmental negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda*, facilitated by UN-NGLS and UN DESADSD at UN Headquarters held during 19-21 January in New York, USA.
2. Akhter, K. 2015. "Poverty Alleviation through Development Programmes in the BCIM Region" at the *12th Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) Forum on Cooperation for the Development of the BCIM*, hosted by Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar during 9-11 February 2015 in Yangon, Myanmar.
3. Khatun, F. 2015. "CO2 Emissions, Energy Consumption, Deforestation and Agricultural Income in LDCs: Lessons for Post-2015 Development Agenda" at the session 'Tackling Inequality and Gender Dimensions' at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February in Istanbul, Turkey.
4. Khan, T.I. 2015. "Illicit Financial Flow in view of Financing the Post-2015 Development Agenda" at the session on 'Options for Financing Sustainable Development' at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February in Istanbul, Turkey.
5. Akhter, K. 2015. "Addressing SPS Measures and Motor Vehicle Agreement in Bangladesh-India Trade," at a seminar on *Assessment of India-Bangladesh Trade Potentiality*, organised by CUTS International on 18 March 2015, in New Delhi, India.
6. Moazzem, K.G. 2015. "Beyond Tariff: Protectionism through Non-Tariff Barriers in IORA Countries" at the international conference *India and The Indian Ocean: Renewing the Maritime Trade & Civilisational Linkages*, organised by Institute of Social and Cultural Studies and RIS during 20-22 March in Bhubaneswar, India.
7. Rahman, M. 2015. "Bangladesh's breaking into Manufacturing and Making Progress Graduation from LDCs" at a consultative meeting of Commonwealth Expert Group on Trade (CEGT) held during 25-26 March in Golden Sands, Malta.
8. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. "Post-2015 Development Agenda: Interlocking Trade and Finance in the LDCs" at the E15 Initiative's *First Expert Group Workshop on Trade, Finance and Development*, held on 13-14 April, in Geneva, Switzerland.
9. Moazzem, K.G. 2015. "Issues of Concern to LDCs in the WTO process" at a workshop on *Post-Bali Issues and Preparation for the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference: A South Asia Perspective*, organised by

- Commonwealth Secretariat, CUTS International and Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) during 18-19 May, in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
10. Moazzem, K.G. 2015. "LDCs Issues: Update and Strategies to Advance the Agenda" at a workshop for Commonwealth African Countries in preparation for the *10th WTO Ministerial Conference* during 18-19 June, Kigali, Rwanda.
  11. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. "Implementation of Post-2015 Development Agenda: Interlocking Trade and Financing in the LDCs" at *2nd Expert Group Workshop on Finance and Development* of the E15 Initiative during 7-8 July in Geneva, Switzerland.
  12. Khan, T.I. 2015. Presented a paper titled "Illicit Financial Flows in the Context of Bangladesh", at an international conference titled *Many Voices, One Purpose: The 6th Financial Transparency Conference*, organised by Financial Transparency Coalition (FTC), Transparency International Indonesia, and Prakarsha, held on 19-21 October 2015, in Jakarta, Indonesia.
  13. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. Made a presentation on the UNESCAP report titled "Least Developed Countries and Trade: Challenges of Implementing the Bali Package," prior to the Expert Group Meeting on *Trade Policies for Sustainable Development*, organised by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), during 3-4 November 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.
  14. Moazzem, K.G. 2015. Made a presentation on "Developing Growth Zone through Economic Cooperation between Bangladesh-North East India and beyond", at a seminar titled *Bangladesh's Neighbors in Indian Northeast: Exploring Opportunities and Mutual Interests*, on 13 November 2015, Dhaka.
  15. Khan, T.I. 2015. Made a presentation on "Estimating Women's Contribution to the Economy: the Case of Bangladesh", at the *5th South Asian Regional Meeting of Think Tank Initiative (TTI)*, organised by The Centre for Policy Research (CPR), during 18-20 November 2015, in Haryana, India.
  16. Bari, E. 2015. Made a presentation on "Bangladesh's Political Economy of Change: Avoid Transformation Trap", at a regional conference on *Economy of Tomorrow: Escaping the Transformation Trap*, organised by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), during 3-4 December 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.
  17. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. Presented the keynote lecture titled "Revisiting South Asian Cooperative Relationship through the Prism of 2030 Global Agenda of Sustainable Development", at the Opening Plenary on *Securing Peace and Prosperity of 8th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VIII)*, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), during 7-8 December 2015, in Islamabad, Pakistan.

## Interviews in International Publications

1. Sobhan, R. 2015. On a mission. *China Daily Asia Weekly*: February-March Issue, 27 February.
2. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. Time to 'call EU's bluff' on paradigm shift. *Devex*, 27 May.
3. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. মোদীর বাংলাদেশ সফর আঞ্চলিক ক্ষেত্রে প্রভাব বিস্তার করবে. *Voice of America*, 7 June.

## Articles in International Publications

1. Moazzem, K.G. 2015. "Enhancing FDI Flow in South Asia: Exploring a Framework for Regional Cooperation." *SARCist*, March 2015.
2. Khatun, F. 2015. Evaluating Aid for Trade on the ground: lessons from Bangladesh. *ICTSD Bridges Africa*, 4(5), 26 May.
3. Khatun, F. 2015. Post-Rana Plaza initiatives and RMG sector sustainability. *NETZ Magazine*, 4 June.
4. Moazzem, K. G. and Sehrin, F. 2015. Informal Cattle Trade between Bangladesh and India. *SARCist*, June 2015.
5. Rahman, M. 2015. NTBs: The Next Frontier to Overcome, *SARCist*, September Issue.
6. Khatun, F. 2015. Will foreigner killings hurt Bangladesh economy? *The China Post*, 7 October.
7. Khatun, F. 2015. Still a way to go for a middle-income Bangladesh, East Asia Forum, 15 October.
8. Khatun, F. 2015. 10th WTO Ministerial Conference: LDC agenda for Nairobi. *Trade Insight*, 11 (3): 14-19. Kathmandu: South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE).
9. Khatun, F. 2015. Political Stability is the key to growth in Bangladesh, East Asia Forum, 29 December.

## Blog Post

1. Khan, T.I. 2015. The Quest for a New Data Ecosystem – Monitoring Sustainable Development in Bangladesh. Available at [www.post2015datatest.com/publication/article-the-quest-for-a-new-data-ecosystem-monitoring-sustainable-development-in-bangladesh](http://www.post2015datatest.com/publication/article-the-quest-for-a-new-data-ecosystem-monitoring-sustainable-development-in-bangladesh)

## Newspaper and Magazine Articles

1. Sobhan, R. 2015. তারুণ্য বদলে দিচ্ছে দেশ. *Samakal*, 1 January.
2. Rahman, M. 2015. বিনিয়োগ অনিশ্চয়তা এখনও কাটেনি. *Shokaler Khobor*, 1 January.
3. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. বিশেষজ্ঞ মন্তব্য: দেবপ্রিয় ভট্টাচার্য. *Prothom Alo*, 1 January.
4. Khatun, F. 2015. Bangladesh Economy: Looking back and looking forward. *The Daily Star*, 1 January
5. Moazzem, K.G. and Sehrin, F. 2015. Export-oriented plastic industry of Bangladesh: Opportunities and Challenges. *The Financial Express*, 27 January.
6. Sobhan, R. 2015. Is there any light at the end of the tunnel? *Dhaka Tribune*, 20 February.
7. Sobhan, R. 2015. ফলাফলশূন্য খেলায় নেমেছেন রাজনীতিকরা. *Manabzamin*, 24 February.
8. Sobhan, R. 2015. Prelude to an order for genocide. *The Daily Star*, 2 March.
9. Khatun, F. 2015. When Politics Stifles Economic Growth, *The Daily Star*, 4 March.
10. Khatun, F. 2015. Fortune of the few, forget the rest. *The Daily Star*, 9 March.
11. Khatun, F. 2015. Banking sector in search of respite. *The Daily Star*, 10 March.
12. Moazzem, K.G. and Nessa, M. 2015. In search of strategies for export diversification. *The Daily Star*, 10 March.
13. Khatun, F. 2015. Living within planetary boundaries. *The Daily Star*, 16 March.
14. Sobhan, R. 2015. খাদের কিনারে দাঁড়িয়ে. *Prothom Alo*, 20 March.
15. Sobhan, R. 2015. অসহযোগ থেকে জনগণের রাজ. *Prothom Alo*, 21 March.
16. Sobhan, R. 2015. শক্তিশালী অবস্থান থেকে আপসরফা. *Prothom Alo*, 22 March.
17. Khatun, F. 2015. A journey through light and shadow. *The Daily Star*, 23 March.
18. Sobhan, R. 2015. Over the Precipice: March 1971 Diary. *Dhaka Tribune*, 9-25 March.
  - a. Too little too late, part I, 9 March
  - b. Too little too late, part II, 10 March
  - c. Over the Precipice, part I, 11 March
  - d. Over the Precipice, part II, 12 March
  - e. Over the Precipice, part III, 13 March
  - f. Over the Precipice, part IV, 14 March
  - g. Over the Precipice, part V, 15 March
  - h. From non-cooperation to People's Raj, part I, 16 March
  - i. From non-cooperation to People's Raj, part II, 17 March
  - j. From non-cooperation to People's Raj, part III, 18 March
  - k. From non-cooperation to People's Raj, part IV, 19 March
  - l. From non-cooperation to People's Raj, part V, 20 March
  - m. Negotiating from strength, part I, 21 March
  - n. Negotiating from strength, part II, 22 March
  - o. Negotiating from strength, part III, 23 March
  - p. Negotiating from strength, part IV, 24 March
  - q. Negotiating from strength, part V, 25 March
19. Khatun, F. 2015. Development vs democracy. *The Daily Star*, 30 March.
20. Khatun, F. 2015. China's entry to global financial architecture. *The Daily Star*, 6 April.
21. Moazzem, K. G. 2015. রাজনীতির কারণে ক্ষতি অর্থনীতির. *Samakal*, 9 April.
22. Khatun, F. 2015. Redefining goals of the upcoming budget. *The Daily Star*, 13 April.
23. Khatun, F. 2015. Post-Rana Plaza initiatives and sustainability of the RMG sector. *The Daily Star*, 20 April.
24. Khatun, F. 2015. How happy are we? *The Daily Star*, 27 April.

25. Khatun, F. 2015. When the roof collapses. *The Daily Star*, 4 May.
26. Khatun, F. 2015. Home away from home. *The Daily Star*, 11 May.
27. Khatun, F. 2015. If the police were all women. *The Daily Star*, 18 May.
28. Khatun, F. 2015. All eyes on the South. *The Daily Star*, 25 May.
29. Khatun, F. 2015. On the eve of the budget. *The Daily Star*, 1 June.
30. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. বাজেটের আর্থিক কাঠামো কি দুর্বল হয়ে যাচ্ছে? *Prothom Alo*, 5 June.
31. Rahman, M. 2015. বহুমাত্রিক অর্থনৈতিক সম্পর্ক দৃঢ় হবে. *Samakal*, 6 June.
32. Bhattacharya, D. 2015. দু'দেশের সম্পর্ক নতুন সোপানে নিয়ে যাবে. *Sangbad*, 6 June.
33. Khatun, F. 2015. Enthralling Modi, Enthusiastic Bangladesh. *The Daily Star*, 8 June.
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## Newspaper Interviews

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## CPD Professionals in National & International Fora in 2015

### CPD Professionals in National Fora

#### Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman

- Delivered lecture on *Thriving Democracy in Bangladesh: Our Challenges* at the National Defence College, Dhaka on 2 February 2015.
- Attended the *Pre-budget Discussion with Finance Minister* on 8 April 2015.
- Participated the conference titled *Towards Sustained Eradication of Extreme Poverty in Bangladesh*, as Guest of Honour, organised by Bangladesh Bank and BIDS at the Planning Commission during 8-9 April 2015.
- Attended the celebration of SIDA 50 Years, organised by Embassy of Sweden at the residence of Swedish Embassy at Gulshan, Dhaka on 18 November, 2015.
- Attended the Governing Council Meeting of South Asia Foundation (SAF) at Hotel Westin Dhaka on 24 November, 2015.
- Attended the Board Meeting of Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) on 22 December 2015.

#### Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director

- Attended *Monetary Policy Preparation Meeting* of Bangladesh Bank on 10 January 2015.
- Chaired a session on “Industrial pollution related implementation problems” at the conference on *Environment Policies and Acts Implementation Problem*, organised by Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon and Bangladesh Environment Network, on 10 January 2015.
- Made a presentation on “Developments in the WTO: Addressing the Emerging Challenges to Safeguard Bangladesh's Interests” at Fourth Executive Development Seminar on *Future Role of International Trade in Ensuring Macroeconomic Stability: Bangladesh Perspective*, organised by Bangladesh Bank, on 13 January 2015.
- Was a Special Guest at the seminar *Greening the Garments Accessories and Packaging Industries*, organised by Bangladesh Garments Accessories and Packaging Manufacturer and Exporters Association, on 17 January 2015.
- Moderated a roundtable on *Operationalization of WTO LDCs Service Waiver: Bali Decision and its Implementation*, organised by BFTI, on 25 January 2015.
- Addressed the discussion *Access to Finance: Environmental Sustainability in the Textile Sector*, organised by PRI, on 14 February 2015.
- Was a panellist at a workshop on *Labor Markets and Growth*, organised by BIGD, RAND Corporation, USA and University of Sussex with support from DFID, ESRC and Institute for the Study of Labour (IZA), on 2 March 2015.
- Was the Chief Guest at a seminar on *RMG Sector: Its Contribution and Challenges*, organised by BGMEA University of Fashion and Technology on 20 April 2015.
- Was a Designated Speaker on “Financing of the Rampal Power Plant” at a conference on *Coal Energy in Bangladesh: Impact on Water and Climate*, organised by Waterkeepers Bangladesh National Committee for Saving the Sundarbans (NCSS) and Waterkeeper Alliance during 2-3 May 2015.
- Was a Discussant at a dialogue on *Budget 2015-2016: Our Expectations*, organised by MCCI and Maasranga Television on 15 May 2015.
- Attended a meeting with the Finance Minister on “কর্মসংস্থান সৃষ্টি: বাজেটে বড় চ্যালেঞ্জ”, organised by the American Chamber of Commerce in Bangladesh (AmCham) on 21 May 2015.

- Attended a pre-budget discussion organised by Economic Reporters' Forum on 23 May 2015.
- Attended a roundtable on *Bangladesh and Free Trade Arrangement (FTA)*, organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 9 June 2015.
- Was a panellist at a discussion on *Sustainable Development of Apparel Export: Priorities and Way Forward*, organised by HSBC on 31 August 2015.
- Was a discussant at a seminar on *Bangladesh and the Emerging Plurilateral Trading Arrangements*, organised by Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS) on 16 September 2015.
- Made a presentation on "Bangladesh: Learning from MDGs and Lessons for SDGs" at a seminar on *Moving from MDGs to SDGs: Bangladesh Experience and Expectation*, organised by BIISS on 17 September 2015.
- As the Guest of Honour, addressed an event on *SDGs and Sustainable Development of Bangladesh's RMG Sector*, organised by Textile and Garments Workers Federation on 19 September 2015.
- Attended Bangladesh Development Forum (BDF) hosted by Economic Relations Division (ERD) during 15-16 November 2015.
- Presented keynote at National Level Training Workshop on Sustainable Development Goals: Land Use, Food security and Changing Patter of Agriculture in Bangladesh organised by Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) in Comilla on 29 November 2015.

#### **Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow**

- Attended a conference on *Gender Diversity and Development*, organised by Dhaka University Department of Women and Gender Studies, during 27-29 March 2015.
- Made a Presentation on "Bangladesh, Vision 2021 and Post 2015 International Development Agenda," at Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC), Savar on 19 April 2015.
- Made a Presentation on "State of The Economy FY2015-FY2016" at a pre-budget discussion organised by United International University (UIU) Institute of Business and Economic Research on 26 April 2015.
- Was the Special Guest at a special lecture on *Inclusive Development and the Role of Casual Workers in Bangladesh: a Focus on Agricultural Labour*, organised by Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS) on 16 September 2015.
- Delivered a lecture on "Bangladesh: Vision 2021 and Post 2015 International Development Agenda" at Foundation Training Course (FTC) of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) on 27 October 2015.
- Delivered a lecture on "Bangladesh Vision 2021 and Post-2015 International Development Agenda," at Advanced Course on Administration and Development (ACAD) of Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre (BPATC) on 8 November 2015.

#### **Professor Rounaq Jahan, Distinguished Fellow**

- Attended a conference on *Gender Diversity and Development*, organised by Dhaka University Department of Women and Gender Studies, during 27-29 March 2015.
- Chaired a session on "Welfare Regime, Gender and Extreme Poverty" at the conference on *Towards Sustained Eradication of Extreme Poverty in Bangladesh*, organised by Planning Commission during 8-9 April 2015.

#### **Khondaker Golam Moazzem, Additional Research Director**

- Presented keynote at a workshop on *বিশ্বায়ন, বৈদেশিক বিনিয়োগ ও উন্নয়ন* organised by Bangladesh Economic Association, on 9 January 2015.
- Presented keynote on "Canada-Bangladesh Bilateral Trade: Exploring Possible Impact of Bangladesh's Graduation from an LDC," at the seminar *Canada-Bangladesh Bilateral Trade*, on 14 February 2015.
- Was a discussant on "Bangladesh-China Trade and Investment Corridor", organised by SCB and The Daily Star on 12 April 2015.
- Attended a pre-budget discussion on *National Budget 2015-16*, organised by ICMAB on 15 April 2015.
- Presented keynote at pre-budget discussion organised by Aviation and Tourism Journalist's Forum of Bangladesh (ATJFB) on 22 May 2015.
- Was a key discussant at *Post Budget National Consultation for 2015-16*, organised by Sushasoner Jonno Procharavizan on 14 June 2015.
- Made a presentation on "National Budget FY2015-16" at a seminar organised by Green University on 14 June 2015.

- Made a presentation on “National Budget FY2015-16” and Industrial Sector at Embassy of Japan on 29 June 2015.
- Was a discussant at a roundtable on *আন্তর্জাতিক প্রেক্ষিত ও এবারের বাজেট*, organised by *মার্কেট পালস ও বণিক বার্তা* on 4 July 2015.
- Was a discussant at an event on *Analysis of National Budget FY2015-16: Perspective on ADP Implementation* organised by JICA on 13 July 2015.
- Was a discussant at an event on *Concerns over Increasing Cost of Doing Business*, organised by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI) on 23 August 2015.
- Presented keynote at a seminar titled *Increased Production for Vision 2021* organised by National Productivity Organisation (NPO) on 2 October 2015.
- Attended as a panelist at a *Round Table Discussion on Foreign Direct Investment* organised by Foreign Investors’ Chamber of Commerce and Industries on 14 October 2015.
- Presented keynote at a seminar on *Regional Connectivity: Opportunities and Challenges for Bangladesh*, organised by DCCI on 17 October 2015.
- Presented a technical paper at the SAFA International Conference 2015 on “Financial Reforms to Boost Industry and Service Sectors,” organised by Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB) on 18-19 October 2015.
- Attended a seminar on “Bangladesh’s Neighbours in Indian Northeast: Exploring Opportunities and Mutual Interest” organised by Bangladesh Asiatic Society on 13 November 2015.
- Attended as a discussant in Plenary Session 1 of the Annual Banking Conference 2015 of Bangladesh Institute of Bank Management on 22 November 2015
- Attended a seminar titled *Trade Facilitation: Opportunities and Challenges for Sustainable Growth* organised by Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 1 December 2015.
- Moderated the inception workshop on “Problems and Challenges of Tea Workers of Bangladesh” organised by the Asia Foundation on 14 December 2015
- Presented keynote in a seminar titled *Regional Connectivity- Opportunities and Challenges for Bangladesh* organised by Bangladesh Supply Chain Society on 19 December 2015.

#### **Towfiqul Islam Khan, Research Fellow**

- Addressed the 8th strategic meeting on *Capacity for Research and Advocacy for Fair taxation project*, organised by SUPRO and Oxfam, on 10 March 2015.
- Attended a pre-budget discussion organised by Bangladesh Krishak Samity and Samajtantrik Khetmajur and Krishak Front on 22 May 2015.
- Attended a pre-budget discussion *Eradicating Extreme Poverty: Development Strategy Model*, organised by BRAC on 14 June 2015.
- Attended draft placement of the seventh five-year plan at the National Economic Council (NEC) on 15 June 2015.
- Delivered a presentation on ‘Women of Bangladesh in the Context of Economy and Development’ at a workshop titled “Gender, Women Empowerment and Development” organised by Mahila Parishad at the Sufia Kamal Auditorium on 10 October 2015.
- Was a panelist at a discussion titled “Taxes: Who Benefits? Who Pays?” organised by University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) at Shilpakala Academy Auditorium on 28 November 2015.
- Was a discussant at a National Consultation Meeting titled “Fair Tax Monitor Bangladesh” organised by SUPRO (Campaign for Good Governance) at the A S Mahmud Seminar Hall of the Daily Star on 15 December 2015.

## **CPD Professionals in International Fora**

#### **Professor Rehman Sobhan, Chairman**

- Made a presentation on “Existing Models of SOE Governance Lessons from the Bangladesh Experience,” at the international workshop on *Performance Evaluation and Management of State Owned Enterprises*, organised by *Department of Public Enterprises*, Performance Management Division, Cabinet Secretariat and Institute of Public Enterprise with UNDP and World Bank, during 14-15 January 2015, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended the *12th Kolkata Group Workshop*, organised by Pratiche India Trust, Harvard Global Equity Initiative and UNICEF India during 5-7 February 2015 in Kolkata, India.

- Attended a roundtable discussion on *Intersectional Inequality: Perspectives from South Asia*, organised by UNDP on 9 February 2015 in New Delhi, India.
- Chaired a session at the launch of “South Asia Development and Cooperation Report 2015,” published by Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) on 25 June 2015 in New Delhi, India.
- Attended SACEPS Board Meeting on 26 June 2015 in New Delhi, India.
- Attended as a participant at the brainstorming session on *Innovative Approaches for follow-up and review of the sustainable development goals: Is there a role for southern think tank?* hosted by UN Foundation and Southern Voice on Post-MDGs, 22 September 2015, in New York, USA.
- Participated in the *Bangladesh Development Initiatives (BDI) Conference*, organised by the Institute for South Asia Studies, Berkeley University, during 6-8 November 2015, in Berkeley, California. His roles included:
  - Chaired a session titled *Professor Nurul Islam’s contribution to Economic Theory and Practice*, with a paper titled “Nurul Islam: Celebrating the life of a Freedom Fighter.
  - Attended as a panellist at a session titled *Politics and Governance*.
- Attended the launching ceremony of the book *Untranquil Recollections: The Years of Fulfilment*, organised by SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd, on 14 December 2015, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended and addressed the second day of the international seminar on *Trade and Employment Challenges: Insights for South Asia*, jointly organised by the Research Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva and Institute for Human Development (IHD) on 17 December 2015 in New Delhi, India.
  - Also chaired the fourth session of the same seminar titled “Regional Trade Agreements: Employment Challenges and Opportunities of Integrated Markets in South Asia”.

**Professor Mustafizur Rahman, Executive Director**

- Made a presentation on “Challenges in Going Forward towards a Data Revolution,” at the forum on *Building Capacity for African Development Data*, hosted by Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR), during 19-20 January 2015, in Nairobi, Kenya.
- Chaired a session on “Varying Perspectives on Global Development Agenda” at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Was a panellist at *Think Tank Initiative Exchange 2015: Research Quality, Outreach and Impact* during 18-20 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Attended a technical review workshop on *Commonwealth Flagship Publication on Trade* on 5 March 2015 in London, UK.
- Made a presentation on “Bangladesh’s breaking into Manufacturing and Making Progress Graduation from LDCs” and was a respondent on “Multilateral Trade Issues for the Commonwealth” at a consultative meeting of Commonwealth Expert Group on Trade (CEGT) during 25-26 March 2015 in Golden Sands, Malta.
- Attended 2015 *Global Forum on Development: Post-2015 Financing for Sustainable Development* during 30 March-1 April 2015 in Paris, France.
- Was a panelist at a dialogue on *Restoring Multilateral Trade Cooperation*, organised by China Institute for WTO Studies, University of International Business and Economics and South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) during 10-11 April 2015 in Beijing, China.
- Participated at the dissemination and advocacy meeting on *Trade and Knowledge Sharing in HYV Rice Seeds: Scope for Agricultural Cooperation between Bangladesh and India*, hosted by CUTS International on 30 April 2015 in New Delhi, India.
- Addressed a session on “Post-2015 Data Test: Unpacking the Data Revolution at the Country Level,” at *Third International Open Data Conference* during 28-29 May 2015, in Ottawa, Canada.
- Participated at Commonwealth trade symposium on *Shaping a Global Trade Agenda for Development*, during 23-24 June 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Attended a technical review workshop on *Commonwealth Flagship Publication on Trade*, organised by the Commonwealth Foundation, on 20 July 2015, in London, UK.
- Participated at the *WTO Public Forum on Trade Works* at the WTO Headquarters during 30 September-2 October 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended a workshop on *Restoring Multilateral Trade Cooperation in a Multipolar Global Economy: What is the Future of the WTO?* organised by South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA), on 2 October 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.

- Participated in the *2nd meeting of the BIMSTEC Network of Policy Think Tank*, co-hosted by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand and the Indian Studies Centre of Chulalongkorn University, during 8-9 October 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the brainstorming meeting on *Study Methodology of the Research Programme on South-South and Triangular Cooperation*, jointly organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Science Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organization (STIPRO), during 12-13 October 2015, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Attended the strategic vision meeting for the Southern Voice network titled *Towards an Effective Southern Voice Network*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and STIPRO, during 13-14 October 2015, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Participated in the *Annual Forum of Re-thinking Asia* titled “Ensuring Social Standards in Global Trade: A Common Challenge for Asia and Europe”, during 2-3 November 2015, in Tutzing, Germany.
- Participated in the *5th South Asian Regional Meeting of Think Tank Initiative (TTI)*, organised by The Centre for Policy Research (CPR), during 18-20 November 2015, in Haryana, India.
- Participated in the *8th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VIII)*, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), during 7-8 December 2015, in Islamabad, Pakistan; where he was designated speaker in the:
  - Concurrent Panel A-5 titled *Sustainable Transportation and Logistics Corridors in South Asia*
  - Concurrent Panel B-5 titled *Investment in Agriculture in South Asia and Scope for Regional Cooperation*
- Attended as a speaker in a session titled “The Role of Trade Facilitation in the Context of Increasing Regional Integration of Least Developed Countries”, as part of the *Nairobi Trade and Development Symposium (TDS)* – sideline event of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC-10), organised jointly by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and LDC IV Monitor, on 17 December 2015, in Nairobi, Kenya.

#### Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya, Distinguished Fellow

- Made a presentation on “Towards a UN Declaration in the Context of Post-2015 Development Agenda,” at the *First Intergovernmental Negotiation Session on the Post-2015 Development Agenda*, facilitated by UN-NGLS and UN DESA-DSD at UN Headquarters, during 19-21 January 2015, in New York, USA.
- Attended a meeting on *Financing Key Priorities of the Data Revolution*, convened by the UN and The World Bank, on 22 January 2015, in New York, USA.
- Addressed a session on “What’s the political deal and outcomes for Addis,” at *LDC Retreat on Financing and other Means of Implementation for Post-2015*, co-hosted by the Permanent Mission of Benin and the United Nations Foundation, on 23 January 2015, in New York, USA.
- Made a presentation on “Towards a UN Declaration in the Context of Post-2015 Development Agenda” at the *First Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Post-2015 Development Agenda*, facilitated by UN-NGLS and UN DESADSD at UN Headquarters during 19-21 January 2015 in New York, USA.
- Attended a meeting on *Financing Key Priorities of the Data Revolution*, convened by UN and World Bank on 22 January 2015 in New York, USA.
- Addressed a session on “What’s the political deal and outcomes for Addis” at *LDC Retreat on Financing and other Means of Implementation for Post-2015*, co-hosted by Permanent Mission of Benin and UNF on 23 January 2015 in New York, USA.
- Conducted the curtain raising session and provided closing remarks at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Moderated the plenary session “Research Quality for *Think Tanks*” at the *Think Tank Initiative Exchange 2015: Research Quality, Outreach and Impact* during 18-20 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Was a discussant on “Post-2015 Context and ‘End Game’: Perspectives for a Global Partnership” at the open forum on *Beyond Aid: Innovative Governance, Financing and Partnerships for the Post-2015 Agenda*, organised by Wilton Park during 25-27 February 2015 in London, UK.
- Was a panellist on “Strengthening the Dimension of Women’s Economic Empowerment in Post-2015 framework” at the *High-Level Event on Post-2015 and Beijing+20: Women’s Economic Empowerment and Sustainable Development*, organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Commission and Latvian Government on 2 March 2015 in Riga, Latvia.
- Was a speaker on “Leaving No One Behind: Tackling Inequalities in the Post-2015 Development Agenda,” hosted by Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, ODI and UNF on 19 March 2015 in New York, USA.

- Attended a series of meetings with UNESCAP Statistics Division during 25-27 March 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated at *2015 Global Forum on Development: Post-2015 Financing for Sustainable Development*, during 30 March-1 April 2015 at OECD Conference Centre in Paris, France, as part of which he
  - Addressed the presentation “Financing and other Means of Implementation in a Post-2015 Context” on 1 April
  - Was a panelist at “Needs & Challenges in Financing for Development” on 1 April
- Was a discussant at the conference on *South Asian Economic Development: The Way Forward*, hosted by South Asian University, during 9-10 April 2015 in New Delhi, India.
- Made a presentation on “Post-2015 Development Agenda: Interlocking Trade and Finance in the LDCs” at the *E15 Initiative’s First Expert Group Workshop on Trade, Finance and Development*, on 13-14 April 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participated at expert group meeting for *Global Sustainable Development Report 2015*, organised by the UN Division for Sustainable Development during 13-14 April 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Addressed the launch of the *Fifth European Report on Development (ERD 2015)* on 4 May 2015 in Brussels, Belgium.
- Participated at OECD expert group meeting on *Total Official Support for Sustainable Development (TOSSD)* on 13 May 2015 in Paris, France.
- Participated at first meeting of the *Advisory Group on Monitoring of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Co-operation (GPEDC)* during 20-21 May 2015 in New York, USA.
- Participated at a meeting on *China’s Overseas Development Policy in a World beyond Aid*, organised by Asia Foundation during 9-10 June 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Was panellists at the sessions on “Trade Challenges of Developing Countries,” and “Trade in the Post-2015 Development Agenda” in Commonwealth Trade Symposium on *Shaping a Global Trade Agenda for Development*, during 23-24 June 2015 in Johannesburg, South Africa.
- Moderated a session at *2015 Meeting of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development* of the United Nations on 30 June 2015 in New York, USA.
- Was a panellist at the launch of the European Commission study, “Assessment of Economic Benefits generated by the EU Trade Regimes towards Developing Countries” on 6 July 2015, in Bruxelles, Belgium.
- Made a presentation on “Implementation of Post-2015 Development Agenda: Interlocking Trade and Financing in the LDCs” and chaired a session on “Ensuring Emerging International Trade Rules Support Financial Development,” at *2nd Expert Group Workshop on Finance and Development* of the E15 Initiative during 7-8 July 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participated at the *Third Finance for Development (FfD3) Conference* side event on “Multi-Stakeholders’ Positioning to Support Implementation & Monitoring on Financing for Development Post-Addis,” organised by UN Millennium Campaign on 13 July 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- Attended the *Theme Leaders and Conveners Meeting*, organised by E15 Initiative, on 3 September 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Attended a meeting titled *Conversation on the Global Trade and Investment Architecture*, organised by E15 Initiative, on 4 September 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participated in a brainstorming session on *Innovative Approaches for follow-up and review of the sustainable development goals: Is there a role for southern think tank?* hosted by UN Foundation and Southern Voice on Post-MDGs, on 22 September 2015, in New York, USA.
- Participated at a discussion on *Implementing the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Roundtable Discussion on Investments to End Poverty*, on 24 September 2015, in New York, USA.
  - Participated in Day After strategy session.
- Attended a caucus meeting for Dar es Salaam preparation, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs, Think Tank Initiative and Hewlett Foundation, on 27 September 2015, in New York, USA.
- Attended the *Second Meeting of the Monitoring Advisory Group of Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC)*, at OECD Conference Centre, during 28-29 September 2015, in Paris, France.
- Participated at *WTO Public Forum on Trade Works* at the WTO Headquarters during 30 September-2 October 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland; where he:
  - Was a speaker at the session *Trade works through innovative partnerships for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda*, on 1 October

- Participated as a panellist at a panel discussion on *Multilateral Framework on Competition*, organised by Consumer Utility and Trust Society (CUTS) International, on 1 October.
- Participated as a panel member in the brainstorming meeting on *Study Methodology of the Research Programme on South-South and Triangular Cooperation*, jointly organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and STIPRO, during 12-13 October 2015, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Delivered the welcome and closing remarks at the strategic vision meeting for the Southern Voice network titled *Towards an Effective Southern Voice Network*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and STIPRO, during 13-14 October 2015, in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Made a presentation on the launching of the UNESCAP report titled “Least Developed Countries and Trade: Challenges of Implementing the Bali Package,” prior to the Expert Group Meeting on *Trade Policies for Sustainable Development*, organised by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), during 3-4 November 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the *5th South Asian Regional Meeting of Think Tank Initiative (TTI)*, organised by The Centre for Policy Research (CPR), during 18-20 November 2015, in Haryana, India.
- Attended as a discussant in the *2nd Busan Global Partnership Forum*, funded and organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, during 23-24 November 2015, in Seoul, Republic of Korea.
- Attended the Expert Group Meeting on *Macroeconomic Prospects, Policy Challenges and Sustainable Development in Asia-Pacific*, organised by ESCAP on 30 November 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.
- Participated in the *8th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VIII)*, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), during 7-8 December 2015, in Islamabad, Pakistan
  - Presented the keynote lecture titled “Revisiting South Asian Cooperative Relationship through the Prism of 2030 Global Agenda of Sustainable Development”, at the Opening Plenary on *Securing Peace and Prosperity*.
- Participated in three sidelines events of the *10th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC-10)*, during 15-18 December 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya; including:
  - Speaker at an E15 Initiative meeting on *Leveraging Finance for Development Beyond 2015*, organised by International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD) and World Economic Forum (WEF).
  - Speaker at a TDS session on *The WTO and Sustainable Development: An Agenda for the General Council*, organised by ICTSD.
  - Moderated a session titled *The Role of Trade Facilitation in the Context of Increasing Regional Integration of Least Developed Countries*, organised jointly by the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and LDC IV Monitor.

#### **Professor Rounaq Jahan, Distinguished Fellow**

- Attended the *12th Kolkata Group Workshop*, organised by Pratichi India Trust, Harvard Global Equity Initiative and UNICEF India during 5-7 February 2015 in Kolkata, India.
- Participated in a brainstorming session on *Innovative Approaches for follow-up and review of the sustainable development goals: Is there a role for southern think tank?* hosted by UN Foundation and Southern Voice on Post-MDGs, on 22 September 2015, in New York, USA.
- Participated in the *Bangladesh Development Initiatives (BDI) Conference*, organised by the Institute for South Asia Studies, Berkeley University, California during 6-8 November 2015, in Berkeley, California; where she:
  - Chaired a session titled *Politics and Governance*.
  - Attended a session titled *Professor Nurul Islam’s contribution to Economic Theory and Practice*, with a paper titled “Nurul Islam: Celebrating the life of a Freedom Fighter.
- Attended the launching ceremony of the book *Untranquil Recollections: The Years of Fulfilment*, organised by SAGE Publications India Pvt Ltd, on 14 December 2015, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended as a panellist in the concluding panel on “Trade, Investment and Employment Policies for Sustainable Development”, at an international seminar on *Trade and Employment Challenges: Insights for South Asia*, jointly organised by the Research Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva and Institute for Human Development (IHD), on 17 December 2015, in New Delhi, India.

**Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf**, Director, Dialogue and Communication

- Joined the Bangladesh delegation to *12th Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) Forum on Cooperation for the Development of the BCIM*, hosted by Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar during 9-11 February 2015 in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Participated in a workshop on *South Asia Workshop on Financing for Development: Advancing Progressive Regional to Global Policies*, co-convened by Regions Refocus 2015, Women and Media Collective and Asian Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, during 7-8 June 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

**Dr Fahmida Khatun**, Research Director

- Made a presentation on “CO2 Emissions, Energy Consumption, Deforestation and Agricultural Income in LDCs: Lessons for Post-2015 Development Agenda” at the session ‘Tackling Inequality and Gender Dimensions’ at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Attended a workshop on *Charting a Vision of Progress for Trade and Environment in 2030*, organised by the United Nations Environment Programme and International Institute for Sustainable Development on 12 May 2015 in Geneva, Switzerland.
- Participated at the launching ceremony of the report on *ICT and SDGs: How Information and Communications Technology can achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*, a joint publication of Earth Institute, Columbia University and Ericsson, on 23 September 2015, in New York, USA.
- Attended a conference on *Advancing the BBIN Agenda: Exploring Possibilities in Trade, Transit, Energy and Water Cooperation*, organised by Observer Research Foundation (ORF) and The Asia Foundation, on 3-4 December, in Kolkata, India.
- Participated in a session on “The Role of Trade Facilitation in the Context of Increasing Regional Integration of Least Developed Countries”, as part of the *Nairobi Trade and Development Symposium (TDS)* – sideline event of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference (MC-10), organised jointly by CPD, Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and LDC IV Monitor, on 17 December 2015, in Nairobi, Kenya.

**Mr M Shafiqul Islam**, Additional Director, Admin and Finance

- Participated in a Financial Modelling training during 27-28 April 2015 in Jakarta, Indonesia.

**Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem**, Additional Research Director

- Participated at the international seminar on *21st Century Maritime Silk Road Initiative*, hosted by State Council Information Office during 11-12 February 2015, in Quanzhou, Fujian Province, China.
- Made a presentation on “Beyond Tariff: Protectionism through Non-Tariff Barriers in IORA Countries” at the international conference on *India and The Indian Ocean: Renewing the Maritime Trade & Civilisational Linkages*, organised by Institute of Social and Cultural Studies and RIS during 20-22 March 2015 in Bhubaneswar, India.
- Made a presentation on “Issues of Concern to LDCs in the WTO process” at a workshop on *Post-Bali Issues and Preparation for the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference: A South Asian Perspective*, organised by Commonwealth Secretariat, CUTS International and Institute of Policy Studies of Sri Lanka (IPS) during 18-19 May 2015 in Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Made a presentation on “LDCs Issues: Update and Strategies to Advance the Agenda” at a workshop for *Commonwealth African Countries in Preparation for the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference* during 18-19 June 2015 in Kigali, Rwanda.
- Was a panellist at the *3rd Bangladesh Investment Summit*, organised by FinanceAsia, on 1 September 2015, in Singapore City, Singapore.
- Participated in a regional conference on *Transparency in the Global Garment Sector*, organised by Garment Industries Transparency Initiative (GITI), during 8-9 September 2015 in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Participated in the 5th South Asian Regional Meeting of Think Tank Initiative (TTI), organised by The Centre for Policy Research (CPR), during 18-20 November 2015, in Haryana, India.
- Attended as a panellist in the workshop on *Impact of FDI on Growth: An Empirical Analysis Involving South Asian Countries*, organised by The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI), on 3 December 2015, in New Delhi, India.

- Participated in the *8th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VIII)*, organised by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), during 7-8 December 2015, in Islamabad, Pakistan; where he was designated speaker in the:
  - Concurrent Panel A-7 titled *Intra-regional Investment and Supply Chains in South Asia*
- Attended as a panellist at a session on “Regional Integration and Employment from the Perspective of South Asian Economies” of the international seminar on *Trade and Employment Challenges: Insights for South Asia*, jointly organised by the Research Department of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva and Institute for Human Development (IHD), on 17 December 2015, in New Delhi, India.

**Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan**, Research Fellow

- Made a presentation on “Illicit Financial Flow in view of Financing the Post-2015 Development Agenda” at the session on ‘Options for Financing Sustainable Development’ at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.
- Presented a paper titled “Illicit Financial Flows in the Context of Bangladesh”, at an international conference titled *Many Voices, One Purpose: The 6th Financial Transparency Conference*, organised by Financial Transparency Coalition (FTC), Transparency International Indonesia, and Prakarsha, held on 19-21 October 2015, in Jakarta, Indonesia.
- Made a presentation on “Estimating Women’s Contribution to the Economy: the Case of Bangladesh”, at the *5th South Asian Regional Meeting of Think Tank Initiative (TTI)*, organised by The Centre for Policy Research (CPR), during 18-20 November 2015, in Haryana, India.
- Participated in a Meeting of Technical Working Group on *Defining, measuring and reporting South-South Cooperation: Accounting grants, debt, technical assistance and in-kind support between developing countries*, organised by Network of Southern Think-Tank (NeST) and UNCTAD, held on 17-18 December 2015, in Geneva, Switzerland.

**Ms Khaleda Akhter**, Senior Research Associate

- Made a presentation on “Poverty Alleviation through Development Programmes in the BCIM Region” at the *12th Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) Forum on Cooperation for the Development of the BCIM*, hosted by Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar during 9-11 February 2015 in Yangon, Myanmar.
- Attended a seminar on *Assessment of India-Bangladesh Trade Potentiality*, organised by CUTS International on 18 March 2015, in New Delhi, India.

**Mr Kishore Kumer Basak**, Senior Research Associate

- Joined the Bangladesh delegation to *12th Bangladesh, China, India and Myanmar (BCIM) Forum on Cooperation for the Development of the BCIM*, hosted by Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar during 9-11 February 2015 in Yangon, Myanmar.

**Ms Mahenaw Ummul Wara**, Research Associate

- Participated at a research conference on *Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and Targets*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDGs and TTI during 16-17 February 2015 in Istanbul, Turkey.

## Institutional Capacity Building for CPD Officials in 2015 International Programmes

### **Kishore Kumer Basak**, Senior Research Associate

- Participated in the China-Bangladesh Capacity Building Programme under the guidance of Chinese Embassy to Bangladesh, Publicity Department of Yunnan Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China and Yunnan Academy of Social Science (YASS) from March to September 2015.

### **Md. Zafar Sadique**, Senior Research Associate

- Attended a training workshop titled *Introduction to General Equilibrium Modelling using RunGTAP*, organised by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), during 2-4 December 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.

### **Umme Shefa Rezbana**, Senior Research Associate

- Attended a brainstorming meeting on *Study Methodology of the Research Programme on South-South and Triangular Cooperation* and the strategic vision meeting for the Southern Voice network titled *Towards an Effective Southern Voice Network*, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and STIPRO, during 12-14 October 2015, in Dar es Salam, Tanzania.
- Participated as a discussant in two-day consultation on Regional Cooperation on Trade, Climate Change and Food Security in South Asia: Reflections and Way Forward, organised by South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment (SAWTEE) and Oxfam, during 27-28 December 2015, in Kathmandu, Nepal.

### **Mohammad Afshar Ali**, Research Associate

- Participated at *10th ARTNeT Capacity Building Workshop for Trade Research Empirical Methods in Trade: Analyzing Trade Costs and Trade Facilitation*, organised by WTO/ESCAP during 15-19 June 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.

### **Shahida Pervin**, Research Associate

- Attended a workshop on *Universal Health Care, Anti-Microbial Resistance and Access to Medicines*, organised by Third World Network and the Commonwealth Foundation during 6-7 April 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Participated in the Third Training Programme on *Labour Economics: Theories, Methodologies and Research Issues*, organised by South Asian Research Network (SARNET), Institute for Human Development (IHD) and the International Labour Organization (ILO), during 27 October-7 November, 2015, in New Delhi, India.
- Attended the 11th Workshop for Empirical Trade Analysis titled *Impact of Trade Facilitation and Aid for Trade*, organised jointly by World Trade Organization (WTO) and ESCAP, during 21-24 December 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.

**Refaya Rashmin**, Research Associate

- Attended a brainstorming meeting on *Study Methodology of the Research Programme on South-South and Triangular Cooperation* and the strategic vision meeting for the Southern Voice network titled Towards an Effective Southern Voice Network, organised by Southern Voice on Post-MDG International Development Goals and STIPRO, during 12-14 October 2015, in Dar es Salam, Tanzania.

**Estiaque Bari**, Research Associate

- Attended the regional conference on the *Economy of Tomorrow: Escaping the Transformation Trap*, organised by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES), during 3-4 December 2015, in Bangkok, Thailand.

**Lam-ya Mostaque**, Research Associate

- Attended a youth summit titled *One Young World Summit 2015*, organised under the initiative of "Call on COP," held during 18-21 November, 2015 in Bangkok, Thailand.

## National Programmes

**Umme Shefa Rezbana**, Senior Research Associate

- Participated as a discussant at a seminar on *Geographical Indication of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 2013: Significance of GI, Implementation Challenges and Needed Initiatives*, organised by Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI) and Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), on 20 August 2015, in Dhaka.

**Farzana Sehrin**, Research Associate

- Attended a workshop on *Outcome of the Bali Ministerial with particular focus on LDCs decision & Trade Facilitation Agreement*, organised by WTO and Bangladesh Government, during 10-11 February 2015.

**Md Naimul Gani Saif**, Research Associate

- Attended a stakeholder's consultation on *Non-Tariff Measures (NTMs)* in South Asia, organised by South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM) on 2 July 2015.

**Shahida Pervin**, Research Associate

- Attended a workshop on *Exploring Unpaid Work of Women: Barriers, Implications and Opportunities*, organised by the Centre for Gender and Social Transformation at BIGD, BRAC University with Oxfam, on 26 February 2015.

**Mostafa Amir Sabbih**, Research Associate

- Attended a workshop on *Our Money Our Budget: Universal Access to Public Services*, organised by SUPRO on 13 December 2015, in Dhaka.

**Estiaque Bari**, Research Associate

- Attended the *Eighth South Asian Training Programme on CGE Modelling*, organised by South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM), during 4-8 August 2015, at Cox's Bazar, Chittagong.

**Mahtab Uddin Ahmed**, Research Associate

- Participated at floor deliberation at a seminar titled *The Potentiality of Tripartite Discussion Mechanism for Solving the Labor Disputes and Labor Issues*, organised by Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS), on December 2015 in Dhaka.

## **Working Committee Memberships in 2015**

### **Involvements of CPD Members in Policymaking and Government's Advisory Bodies**

***Mustafizur Rahman***, Executive Director

1. Member, Panel of Economists for the Seventh Five Year Plan of Bangladesh
2. Member, Steering Committee of BCIM Economic Corridor Study Group
3. Member, Advisory Committee on the WTO set up by the Ministry of Commerce
4. Member, National Consumer Rights Protection Parishad (NCRPP)
5. Member, Governing Council, Institute of Public Finance Bangladesh (IPF)
6. Member of Advisory Committee of Bangladesh Securities and Exchange Commission (BSEC)
7. Member, Panel of Experts for Support to Sustainable and Inclusive Planning set up by the Planning Commission
8. Member, Public-Private Stakeholders' Committee (PPSC), Ministry of Planning

***Khondaker Golam Moazzem***, Additional Research Director

1. Member, Advisory Board of the Accord on Fire and Safety in Bangladesh
2. Member, Working Group, Bangladesh Partnership for Cleaner Textile (PaCT) Project
3. Member, Review Committee, Industrial Policy 2015 (proposed)

## CPD Staff List

**Professor Rehman Sobhan**, Chairman  
**Professor Mustafizur Rahman**, Executive Director  
**Dr Debapriya Bhattacharya**, Distinguished Fellow

## Research Division

**Dr Fahmida Khatun**, Research Director  
**Dr Khondaker Golam Moazzem**, Additional Research Director  
**Mr Towfiqul Islam Khan**, Research Fellow  
**Dr Subir Kanti Bairagi**, Research Fellow  
**Ms Tulsi Byrne**, Visiting Associate (till January 2015)  
**Ms Irina Veleva**, Visiting Associate (till January 2015)  
**Mr Kishore Kumer Basak**, Senior Research Associate  
**Mr Md Zafar Sadique**, Senior Research Associate  
**Ms Umme Shefa Rezbana**, Senior Research Associate  
**Mr Mashfique Ibne Akbar**, Senior Research Associate (till February 2015)  
**Ms Hosna Jahan**, Senior Research Associate (till April 2015)  
**Ms Khaleda Akhter**, Senior Research Associate ( on study leave from April 2015)  
**Ms Shahida Pervin**, Research Associate  
**Mr Mostafa Amir Sabbih**, Research Associate  
**Mr Ariful Islam**, Research Associate  
**Ms Refaya Rashmin**, Research Associate (from April 2015)  
**Mr Estiaque Bari**, Research Associate (from April 2015)  
**Mr Mahtab Uddin Ahmed**, Research Associate (from June 2015)  
**Ms Lam-ya Mostaque**, Research Associate (from June 2015)  
**Mr Muntaseer Kamal**, Research Associate (from June 2015)  
**Mr Shashish Shami Kamal**, Research Associate (from August 2015)  
**Mr Ashraful Haque Mahfuze**, Research Associate (from November 2015)  
**Mr Nirman Saha**, Research Associate (till February 2015)  
**Ms Rehnuma Jahan Islam**, Research Associate (till April 2015)  
**Ms Kashfi Rayan**, Research Associate (till May 2015)  
**Ms Nusrat Afroz Tania**, Research Associate (till May 2015)  
**Ms Nashia Zaman**, Research Associate (till June 2015)  
**Ms Farzana Sehrin**, Research Associate (till June 2015)  
**Ms Mahenaw Ummul Wara**, Research Associate (till June 2015)  
**Ms Israt Hossain**, Research Associate (till July 2015)

**Mr Mohammad Afshar Ali**, Research Associate (till August 2015)  
**Mr Md Naimul Gani Saif**, Research Associate (till September 2015)  
**Ms Nazneen Sultana**, Research Associate (till October 2015)  
**Ms Meherun Nesa**, Research Associate (till December 2015)  
**Ms Maeesa Ayesha**, Programme Associate  
**Ms Ummah Salma**, Programme Associate (from August 2015)  
**Ms Sana Kainat Moyeen**, Programme Associate (till April 2015)

## Dialogue & Communication Division

**Ms Anisatul Fatema Yousuf**, Director, Dialogue & Communication  
**Ms Nazmatun Noor**, Deputy Director, Publication  
**Mr Avra Bhattacharjee**, Deputy Director, Dialogue and Outreach  
**Mr Monjur Ahmed**, Deputy Director, Dialogue, Outreach and Publication (till September 2015)  
**Mr AKM Fazley Rabbi Faruque**, Publication and Print Associate  
**Ms Zeenath Sultana**, Dialogue Associate  
**Mr Muhammad Zahir Hassan Nabil**, Dialogue Associate (till November 2015)  
**Mr Md Shaiful Hassan**, Programme Associate (DTP)  
**Mr Mubrook Mohammad**, Publication Associate (till May 2015)

## Administrative and Finance Division

**Mr M Shafiqul Islam**, Additional Director, Admin. & Finance  
**Mr M Humayun Kabir**, Deputy Director, Administration  
**Mr Uttam Kumar Paul**, Deputy Director, Accounts  
**Mr A H M Ashrafuzzaman**, Deputy Director, IT  
**Mr Hamidul Hoque Mondal**, Senior Administrative Associate  
**Mr Abdul Quddus**, Senior Administrative Associate  
**Mr Md Mamun-ur-Rashid**, Senior Administrative Associate  
**Mr Md Shamimur Rohman**, Senior Accounts Associate  
**Mr Muhammad Zillur Rahman**, Accounts Associate  
**Mr Md Sarwar Jahan**, Associate, IT (from January 2015)  
**Ms Tarannum Jinan**, Administrative Associate (from August 2015)  
**Mr Ziaul Hoque Zia**, Programme Associate-Accounts (till August 2015)  
**Mr Md Hasanur Rahman**, Front Desk Officer  
**Ms Tanzen Ara Rahman**, Executive Assistant (from September 2015)  
**Ms Teresa Gonsalves**, Executive Assistant (from September 2015)  
**Ms Diana Meriline Chowdhury**, Executive Assistant (till August 2015)  
**Mr Shoeb Siddique**, Junior Administrative Associate  
**Mr Harunur Rashid**, Junior Administrative Associate

## Interns

|                                | <b>Host Institution</b>                      | <b>Duration</b>                      |
|--------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Ms. Mubash Shira Rahman</b> | University of California, USA                | 01 June 2015 – 31 July 2015          |
| <b>Ms. Parisa Pinaz Khan</b>   | SOAS University of London, UK                | 04 August 2015 – 05 August 2015      |
| <b>Ms. Quanita Ahmed</b>       | York University, Canada                      | 01 July 2015 – 7 August 2015         |
| <b>Mr. Aqmar Mallick</b>       | University of Ottawa, Canada                 | 01 June 2015 – 24 August 2015        |
| <b>Ms. Fabia Rahman</b>        | University of Nottingham, Malaysia           | 01 July 2015 – 01 September 2015     |
| <b>Mr. Zareer Jowad Kazi</b>   | Campus<br>North South University, Bangladesh | 01 September 2015 – 01 December 2015 |

20  
15

## Chronology of CPD Events in 2015

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| 1 January 2015   | 226th MIC Meeting held   |
| 3 January 2015   | Press Briefing titled <i>State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15 (First Reading)</i> organised  |
| 10 January 2015  | CPD visit by officials from the Shanghai Institute for International Studies held  |
| 11 January 2015  | CPD visit by the Hon'ble French Ambassador in Bangladesh held  |
| 17 January 2015  | YSSS session on <i>The Right to Work: A Case Study of the RMG Sector in Bangladesh and the Rana Plaza Tragedy</i> held   |
| 28 January 2015  | 227th MIC Meeting held   |
| 31 January 2015  | Expert Group Meeting on <i>Trade and Transport Facilitation Audit in South Asia: Bangladesh Country Report</i> held  |
| 3 February 2015  | Meeting with the World Bank team held  |
| 3 February 2015  | 44th BoT Meeting held  |
| 4 February 2015  | Discussion meeting on <i>SDG Global Programme of Current Affairs</i> held  |
| 8 February 2015  | Meeting with the Save the Children, Bangladesh team held   |
| 8 February 2015  | Meeting with the Global Times China team held  |
| 14 February 2015 | 228th MIC Meeting held   |
| 14 February 2015 | Celebration of Collective Birthday (July-December 2014) held   |
| 16 February 2015 | Meeting with the Save the Children, Bangladesh team held   |
| 23 February 2015 | CPD-Prothom Alo Public Lecture by Nobel Laureate Professor Amartya Sen on অর্থনৈতিক উন্নয়ন ও মানবিক প্রগতি (Economic Development and Human Progress) and Launching of ভারত: উন্নয়ন ও বঞ্চনা (Bangla translated – An Uncertain Glory: India and Its Contradictions) by Amartya Sen & Jean Drèze organised |
| 24 February 2015 | 229th MIC Meeting held   |
| 8 March 2015     | Celebration of International Women's Day 2015 organised  |
| 10 March 2015    | 230th MIC Meeting held   |
| 12 March 2015    | Celebration of 80th Birthday of Professor Rehman Sobhan organised  |
| 14 March 2015    | <i>Pre-Budget Dialogue 2015: Tangail District Budget and Relevant Issues</i> organised   |
| 21 March 2015    | Celebration of 80th Birthday of Professor Rehman Sobhan organised  |
| 1 April 2015     | Orientation Session on CPD Service and Financial Rules 2012 held   |
| 5 April 2015     | Press Briefing on <i>Recommendations for the National Budget FY2015-16</i> organised   |
| 6 April 2015     | 231st MIC Meeting held   |
| 18 April 2015    | Dialogue on <i>Non-Tariff Barriers in Bangladesh-India Trade: Addressing Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) Concerns</i> organised   |
| 19 April 2015    | Meeting with the DFID officials held   |
| 21 April 2015    | Dialogue titled <i>Rana Plaza Tragedy: Two Years After</i> organised   |

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 23 April 2015  | CPD-GINI Dialogue titled <i>SME Development in South Asia: How Conducive are the Tax Policies?</i> organised  |
| 2 May 2015     | Dialogue titled <i>Subsidy Management in Bangladesh: Efficiency and Equity Issues</i> organised   |
| 10 May 2015    | Expert Consultation on <i>State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15 (Third Reading)</i> organised  |
| 12 May 2015    | CPD visit by the Yunnan Daily Press Group, Yunnan, China held   |
| 19 May 2015    | CPD visit by Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA) held   |
| 23 May 2015    | Academic visit of students and faculty from Muhlenberg College, USA to CPD held   |
| 24 May 2015    | CPD visit by Office for International Exchange and Cooperation (OIEC), Beijing Foreign Studies University held  |
| 7 May 2015     | Meeting with consultation mission on <i>Improving Employment Outcomes of ADB</i> held   |
| 10 May 2015    | 107th RECAP Meeting held  |
| 12 May 2015    | Meeting with consultation team of UNDP/ERD Aid Effectiveness Project held   |
| 14 May 2015    | 232nd MIC Meeting held  |
| 16-17 May 2016 | Expert Group Meeting on <i>Asian Partnership in Financing SDGs</i> held   |
| 18 May 2015    | Meeting with Let's Work Global Partnership, World Bank Group team held  |
| 18 May 2015    | 233rd MIC Meeting held  |
| 1 June 2015    | Press Briefing on <i>State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2014-15 (Third Reading)</i> organised   |
| 1-3 June 2015  | CPD-Jamuna Television Live Talk Show Series on <i>বাজেট ও উন্নয়ন ভাবনা (National Budget and Development)</i> organised                                   |
| 5 June 2015    | Media Briefing on <i>CPD's Analysis of the National Budget FY2015-16</i> organised  |
| 10 June 2015   | Briefing with Members of Parliament on National Budget FY2015-16 held   |
| 13 June 2015   | Dialogue titled <i>Analysis of the National Budget FY2015-16</i> organised  |
| 14 June 2015   | 234th MIC Meeting held  |
| 20 June 2015   | Dialogue titled <i>Trade Facilitation in South Asia through Transport Connectivity: Operationalising the Motor Vehicle Agreements (MVAs)</i> organised    |
| 1 July 2015    | 108th RECAP Meeting held  |
| 4 July 2015    | 235th MIC Meeting held  |
| 5 July 2015    | Special Lecture for the Economics students on <i>Understanding Budget for FY2015-16 and its Implementation Challenges</i> organised                       |
| 11 July 2015   | 236th MIC Meeting held  |
| 12 July 2015   | Special CPD Iftar organised   |
| 23 July 2015   | 237th MIC Meeting held  |
| 23 July 2015   | YSSS session on <i>Dynamics of Labour Force Participation in Bangladesh with Special Reference to Women</i> held  |
| 27 July 2015   | CPD visit by the Hon'ble Canadian High Commissioner in Bangladesh held  |
| 27 July 2015   | Expert Consultation on <i>Development of Sustainable Apparel Value Chain in Bangladesh: Restructuring, Upgradation and Compliance Assurance</i> organised |
| 28 July 2015   | Meeting with analysts from Fitch Ratings (as part of Bangladesh's Sovereign Credit Rating Review Visit of Fitch Ratings – 2015) held                      |
| 30 July 2015   | Orientation Session on CPD Service and Financial Rules 2012 held  |
| 1 August 2015  | Consultation with the Media Gatekeepers held  |

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| 2 August 2015     | In-house dialogue on <i>Geographical Indications – Recent International Developments: Implications and Opportunities for Bangladesh</i> organised                                  |
| 3 August 2015     | Celebration of Sir Fazle Hasan Abed's International Awards held  |
| 3 August 2015     | YSSS session on <i>Post-2015 International Development Agenda: Exploring Issues Related to Means of Implementation</i> held  |
| 3 August 2015     | YSSS session on <i>Data Needs and Accountability Mechanism for Delivering the SDGs in Bangladesh</i> held  |
| 6 August 2015     | Celebration of Collective Birthday (January-June 2015) held  |
| 6 August 2015     | 109th RECAP Meeting held   |
| 9 August 2015     | EC Meeting of the CPD-BoT held   |
| 9 August 2015     | 45th BoT Meeting held  |
| 10 August 2015    | Meeting with TTI official held   |
| 11 August 2015    | 31st RMC Meeting held  |
| 12 August 2015    | CPD-FES Bangladesh Office Dialogue titled <i>Bangladesh Apparels Sector: Does Margin Matter in Ensuring Compliance?</i> organised  |
| 13 August 2015    | 238th MIC Meeting held   |
| 20 August 2015    | Farewell Lunch for H E Mr Lee Yun-young, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Bangladesh organised  |
| 23 August 2015    | YSSS session on <i>Impacts of "Creative" Education System on Commercialising School Education</i> held   |
| 23 August 2015    | YSSS session on <i>The Next Big Thing in Bangladesh Economy after RMG</i> held   |
| 23 August 2015    | YSSS session on <i>Impact of Regulatory Measures of BSEC on Stock Market Volatility</i> held   |
| 26 August 2015    | Expert Group Meeting on <i>Delivering on the Promise: Ensuring Successful Implementation of the Post-2015 Agenda in Bangladesh</i> organised                                       |
| 27 August 2015    | CPD visit by the Hon'ble Pakistani High Commissioner in Bangladesh held  |
| 30 August 2015    | Discussion meeting on <i>Proposed Research Programme on Sustainable Apparel Value Chain in Bangladesh</i> held   |
| 4 September 2015  | Meeting with Accord-Alliance team held   |
| 8 September 2015  | 239th MIC Meeting held   |
| 14 September 2015 | 240th MIC Meeting held   |
| 20 September 2015 | 241st MIC Meeting held   |
| 30 September 2015 | Release of the <i>Global Competitiveness Report 2015-2016 and Bangladesh Business Environment Study 2015</i> organised   |
| 5 October 2015    | Media Briefing on <i>The Agenda of Sustainable Development Goals: Implementation Challenges for Bangladesh</i> organised   |
| 6 October 2015    | 110th RECAP Meeting held   |
| 11 October 2015   | CPD visit by USAID officials to discuss on regional connectivity   |
| 21 October 2015   | MEWOE-CPD-ILO Bangladesh Country Office Dialogue titled <i>Safeguarding Interests of Bangladesh Migrant Workers: Issues of Financial Inclusion and Social Protection</i> organised |
| 28 October 2015   | YSSS session on <i>Bangladesh graduates from low to middle income group: Entering into the middle income trap?</i> held  |
| 28 October 2015   | Celebration of Collective Birthday (July-September 2015) held  |
| 31 October 2015   | CPD-SV-FES Bangladesh Office dialogue titled <i>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: In-country Implementation Challenges</i> organised  |

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| 9 November 2015   | Discussion Meeting on <i>Implementation of the Research Programme on New Dynamics of Bangladesh's Apparels Enterprises</i> held   |
| 10 November 2015  | Appreciation Course for Government Officials on <i>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Implementation Challenges at the National Level</i> organised  |
| 12 November 2015  | 111th RECAP Meeting held  |
| 21 November 2015  | In-house dialogue on <i>The Chinese Dream: Challenges for China &amp; the World</i> held  |
| 23 November 2015  | CPD visit by the team from China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR) held  |
| 25 November 2015  | Meeting with TTI officials held   |
| 26 November 2015  | In-house dialogue on <i>China's "One Belt One Road" Initiative and Unrest in China's West</i> organised   |
| 26 November 2015  | Launching of UNCTAD's <i>The Least Developed Countries Report 2015: Transforming Rural Economies</i> organised  |
| 26 November 2015  | Reception in honour of the TTI team held  |
| 3 December 2015   | Meeting on <i>National Platform for SDGs</i> held   |
| 7-8 December 2015 | 8th South Asia Economic Summit (SAES VIII) on <i>Regional Cooperation for Sustainable Development in South Asia</i> held  |
| 10 December 2015  | Farewell Dinner for Mr Henrik Maihack, Resident Representative, Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), Bangladesh Office and Welcome Ms Franziska Kornthe, the new Res. Rep. of FES Bangladesh Office organised  |
| 11 December 2015  | Farewell Lunch for H E Mr Pankaj Saran, High Commissioner, Indian High Commission in Bangladesh organised   |
| 12 December 2015  | Farewell Lunch for H E Mr Robert Winnington Gibson CMG, High Commissioner, British High Commission in Bangladesh organised  |
| 17 December 2015  | Session on <i>The Role of Trade Facilitation in the Context of Increasing Regional Integration of LDCs</i> , as part of the "Nairobi Trade and Development Symposium (TDS)" at the Tenth WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi, Kenya organised |
| 20 December 2015  | 242nd MIC Meeting held  |
| 22 December 2015  | Expert Consultation on State of the Bangladesh Economy in FY2015-16 (First Reading) held  |
| 23 December 2015  | Media Briefing on The Recent Two Global Events – COP21 and WTO MC-10: What do they mean for Bangladesh? organised   |
| 24 December 2015  | 243rd MIC Meeting held  |
| 30 December 2015  | 244th MIC Meeting held  |
| 31 December 2015  | Celebration of New Year 2016 held   |



**Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD)**

House 6/2 (7th & 8th floors)

Block - F, Kazi Nazrul Islam Road

Lalmatia Housing Estate, Dhaka - 1207, Bangladesh

Telephone: (+88 02) 9141734, 9141703, 9126402, 9143326 & 8124770

Fax: (+88 02) 8130951

E-mail: [info@cpd.org.bd](mailto:info@cpd.org.bd)

Website: [www.cpd.org.bd](http://www.cpd.org.bd)