

## **PEDP-II Progress**

Bangladesh has one of the largest primary education systems in the world. Primary education is recognized as a means of reducing poverty and improving the quality of life for children. The government of Bangladesh (GoB) in the past implemented several primary education projects aiming at increasing enrollment, and improving the school infrastructure. The first Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-I) was implemented in the mid 1990s through several projects. As a result 1,79,53,300 children are enrolled 82,868 primary schools in the country and are taught by more than 3,52,935 teachers. This represented 30% increase in formal primary education from the level of 1991.

The Second Primary Education Development Program (PEDP-II) is the largest education program of the government catering to primary education for all children and implemented by Directorate of Primary Education under supervision of MOPME. It is based on a coordinated, integrated and holistic sub sector wide approach. 64% expenditure of this program costing 1.8 billion dollars is borne by the Government of Bangladesh.

### **The PEDP-II will cover four components:**

1. Quality improvement through organizational development and capacity building.
2. Quality improvement in schools and classrooms.
3. Quality improvement through infrastructure development and
4. Improving and supporting equitable access to quality schooling.

There are six Divisions and one EMIS Cell working under Directorate of Primary Education and carrying out the functioning of DPE including PEDP-II activities. Each Division prepares their own Annual Operation Plan including financial budget. Each division is headed by a Director responsible to the Program Director.

After start of PEDP-II in May 2004 (loan became effective in April 2004), very good progress has been made during the last three years, which was, perhaps not possible following traditional approach. A short description up to December 2007 of the progress is as follows:

### **Quality Improvement through organizational development and capacity building:**

This component is designed to improve organizational capacity of DPE, its divisions, districts, upazila and schools on accelerating process of decentralization. The program made in detailed bellow:

- Organizational and institutional capacity building report approved by the Government and review has been conducted by the consultants. Important recommendations have been received. Recommendations have been reviewed and considered by the government. Important recommendations have already been accepted.
- 2,007 officers and staff from PEDP-I (NORAD, IDEAL, ESTEEM, ADB, IDA) have been transferred to revenue budget and out of which 1,618 posts have been filled.
- 8,975 posts of Assistant Teachers appointed under PEDP-I have been transferred 187 posts of UEO/TEO and 500 posts of AUEO have been filled.
- 533 administrative posts at central and field level offices have been filled by promotion and recruitment.
- 30,375 posts of head and assistant teachers under revenue budget have been filled.
- 14,200 new posts of Assistant Teachers for PEDP-II have been created under revenue budget out of which 12,034 posts have been filled.

- Ministry of Establishment has recommended 216 posts of PTI Instructors and 491 posts of Account Assistants for Upazila Offices. Now it is under consideration for concurrence of Ministry of Finance. Ministry of Establishment recommendation to create 475 posts of AUEO.
- Already have been created 10578 posts of Assistant Teacher of PEDP-II under revenue budget and around 8,000 posts have been filled.
- 11 posts of Superintendents, 11 posts of Assistant Superintendents, 1 posts of DPEO have been filled and 54 posts of PTI's Instructors have been selected by the PSC and all posts have been filled.
- Promotion and Recruitment during PEDP-II at key professional position. By this time 909 key professional position posts have been filled.
- A cell has been established in the DPE to intensively monitor the promotion and vacancy of positions. Annual work plan has been prepared for filling professional positions in DPE & field level. Sent a proposal to MOPME for filling 74 vacant posts of UEO.
- Communication Strategy Paper reviewed and approved by the MoPME. Second annual and 7th issue of PEDP-II "News letter" has been published within 31 January 2008.
- Planning completed to create a separate Primary Education Cadre. Now it is under consideration of the government.
- Comprehensive communication strategy paper approved by MOPME.
- Human Resource Development Strategy paper has been developed and approved by the Government. Consultant of TST-1 (package B) developed & prepared a Human Resource Development Plan and sent to the MOPME for approval.
- New Finance and Procurement Division has been established in DPE with 60 officers and staffs (posts are come from revenue set-up, transfer from PEDP-1 & PEDP-2) to deal with all financial and procurement matters of DPE.
- Financial Management system has been established to meet the requirement of Development Partners and GoB.
- For the first time, procurement of computers and accessories, equipments and furniture's have been decentralized at the field level offices (up to district level).
- In the year of 2008, total text book printed 4,15,56,623 and distributed in Govt. & non-Govt. Primary school.
- Prepared Devolution Plan for some extend power to decentralization from top to field level. Some administrative power is decentralized to field level. Such as, third and fourth class employees (including teacher) transfer, Time scale, Selection grade, etc. Others recommendation is under consideration to the Govt.
- Revised recruitment rules for DPEs personnel and draft recruitment rules sent to MOPME. Now it is under consideration to the Govt.
- Job description for all level of DPEs personnel has been prepared. Now it is under consideration to the Govt.

### **Quality improvement in schools and classroom:**

The objective of this component is to improve software environment of schools including training of teaching staffs. During the period of PEDP-II 100% primary teachers will receive C-in-Ed training and also other subject based trainings. Proportion of female teachers will be increased to 60%, teacher student ratio will be 1:46 with 750 contact hours per annum. Distribution of free Text Books will be ensured. Primary Teacher Registration Board will be established for registration of primary school teachers, "Excellent Teacher Award" will be introduced and record of professional development for primary school teachers have been

developed. System of 'Innovation Grant' will be setup for unique local initiatives for primary education. The progress so far made are:

- 45,397 Primary teachers have received C-in-Ed training under PEDP-II
- 19,280 teachers are receiving C-in-Ed training in two shifts.
- 1,120 teachers have received Training of Trainers (TOT) on different subjects.
- 95 PTI Instructors received training on different subjects at NAPE.
- 135 UEOs/AUEOs have received School Management and Academic Supervision training at NAPE (National Academy for Primary Education).
- 49,875 teachers have received subject based training on different subjects.
- 450 URC Asst. Instructors have been trained TOT on different subjects.
- 36 DEO of URC have already received computer training.
- 250 teachers have been trained on orientation of teaching aids.
- 5670 primary schools were given money for procuring teaching learning materials (TLM)

### **Quality Improvement through Infrastructure Development:**

Quality education requires improved infrastructure facilities and other tangible supports. PEDP II has a provision for construction of 30,000 additional classrooms in 15,000 schools (Two class rooms in each school). It will reduce the staggered shift (double be shift) of primary schools. New designed and improved furniture will also be provided to all these schools. 15,000 attached toilets will be constructed and 15,000 Arsenic Free Tube wells will be sunk within the programme period. DPE and all the field level offices and the Primary Training Institutes will be refurbished during the PP period. The progress achieved up to December 2007 is described below:

- Approved no. of 29,580 additional classrooms for construction. 15,294 classrooms have already been constructed. Constructions of remaining classrooms are at different stages.
- Approved no. of Upazila Resource Centers is 362. Constructions of 222 URCs have already been constructed up to September 2007. Constructions of Remaining URCs are at different stages.
- Up to September 2007 no. of 7,564 attached toilets has been constructed out of approved no. 14278. Remaining attached toilets are under construction.
- 10,240 no. of Arsenic free tube wells were approved for sinking. 7,374 Arsenic free tube wells have already been sunk.
- Extension and renovation of DPE is completed as per PP provision.
- Extension and Repair of 40 District Primary Education Offices (DPEOs) has been completed out of approved no. of 58 DPEOs. Construction of 44 DPEOs has been completed, 13 is at deference stages. Rest 01 DPEO office is under process.
- Extension and Repair of 312 Upazila Education Offices (UEOs) has been completed out of approved no. of 456 UEOs. Repair and extension of remaining UEOs are implementing at deferent stages.
- Refurbishment and extension 09 PTIS have been completed. 44 PTI's are under construction.
- Expansion and renovation work of NAPE revised estimate have approved by steering committee and tender invited by LGED.
- For monitoring and supervision of the quality aspect of civil works (Including supply of Furniture) two Architectural & Engineering consulting firms namely Sthapati

Sangshad Ltd and Desh Upodesh Ltd & Development Project Design and services Ltd were appointed. Inception Reports of two firms were accepted. Both the firms are functioning as per TOR and submitted monthly progress report. As per programs reports requested to LGED for taking needful action and give feed back.

- Consultants (Local and International) have been mobilized under UNICEF supported fund. SLIP working group is formed. SLIP operational guideline is approved. Core trainer training & Master Trainer training have been completed in 26 Upazilas. Planning team training is under way in 26 Upazilas. Rolling fund disbursed to the SLIP pilot phase of 13 upazilas for implementing SLIP activities in the school level.
- Supply of need based furniture package approved by PLU & tender invited by LGED.

### **Equitable Access:**

Bangladesh is committed to equitable access for indigenous, remote, poor and special needs children as part of achieving the millennium development goals. PEDP-II implementation plan has given priority to disadvantaged, poorer areas for capacity building activities, including civil works. The progresses made so far are detailed below:

- Access and Inclusive Education Cell has been established in the Policy and Operation Division of the DPE to coordinate, initiate and implement activities on inclusive education. A two hours training session on Inclusive Education incorporated in existing SMC training in 438 upzilas. Piloting of one day orientation training is going on. Sub-cluster leaflet on Inclusive Education developed. 03 Meena Book on inclusive education developed. Draft Inclusive Education guide book developed and 6 divisional orientation workshop started. Under innovation grant 7 innovative project on Inclusive Education is running.
- The gender action plan has been approved by MOPME and disseminated to all concerned for implementation. Review meetings of the focal points on gender issues are being held regularly to monitor progress of implementation.
- The Action Plan on Mainstreaming the Special Needs Children has been approved and is currently under implementation. A Circular has been issued for field level giving instructions to admit, to reserve bench in front line, to give priority in book distribution & stipend distribution and to instruct the normal students to treat the special needs children as their friend. Ramp built in newly constructed school building. 3 Special Needs projects are running under innovation grant.
- The Action Plan on Mainstreaming Tribal Children has been approved and is currently under implementation. A Circular issued to field level giving instruction to survey the tribal children of the catchments area, to admit, to visit their home to make sure their presence in school, to give priority in stipend distribution and to instruct the students to treat the tribal children as their friend. 2 Innovative project is running for tribal children's education.
- Strategy and action plan on Vulnerable Group Children's Education developed and approved. Implementation procedure is in process. Innovative project on Bede children's education running.
- A committee is working for development of a strategy and action plan on early childhood education at MOPME. A draft policy framework developed and shearing workshop held to finalize the framework.
- Innovation Grants Manual has been developed with inputs from DPs and approved by the MOPME. More than 2029 Proposals have been received by DPE for innovation grants, which are being scrutinized and checked. 10 proposals finalized and selected by the Steering Committee. Contract sign completed. Contract signed

between DPE and organizations completed. Payment of first quarter completed. Monitoring format developed and distributed to the organizations.

- Action has been initiated for considering Teacher's Registration at the MOPME level.
- As part of social mobilization Interactive Popular Theater (IPT) are being staged in rural areas in important public places. Budget and guideline sent to field for new IPT show and wall painting.
- A TV Drama serial titled "Alo Amar Alo" has been telecast to BTV from 18 July 2007 after news at 8:00 PM.
- Role of SMCs have been reviewed and approved. A proposal on this has send to the MOPME for approval.
- Teacher recruitment policy developed and approval is in process.
- The government has approved teacher transfer policy and implementation is going on.
- The government has declared and implemented the new pay scale for primary school teacher.
- Cataloging 2,200 documents completed. Documentation Centre is now fully functional and providing user services. Cataloging of documents in continuing. Tender ignites to purchase of 700 books.

### **OTHERS:**

#### **National Assessment Cell (NAC):**

National Assessment Cell has been established at DPE under the direct supervision of Monitoring & Evaluation division. National Assessment Test has been done by consulting firm. Administered firm has submitted final report of National Assessment Test 2006. and the report approved by the ministry. Report published and distributed to all stakeholders.

#### **Baseline Survey:**

Baseline survey for quantity & Quality part has been completed. Report published (quantity part) and distributed to all stakeholders.

#### **Technical Support Teams (TSTs):**

Three Technical Support Teams (TSTs) have been appointed and they joined at the end of November 2006. They will work on Organizational Capacity Development, Quality Primary Education and Access and Equity. With their joining the activities of PEDP-II will be further accelerated.

#### **Quarterly Program Performance Report (QPPR):**

Quarterly Progress report is being produced regularly according to Programme Performance Monitoring Framework for the Development Partners.

#### **Program Performances Monitoring Frame work (PPMF):**

The part of PPMF comprising PSQL indicators, KPIs and loan covenants approved by MOPME and accordingly steps have been taken for collecting data for updating KPIs and PSQL indicators.

#### **Annual EMIS 2006 and 2007 data collection & analysis:**

A questionnaire for 2006 data collection regarding school census has been prepared and printed. Workshops were held in 16 districts of the country. EMIS data collection for 2006

completed in January' 07. Printing of questionnaire for 2007 data collection is completed and sent to the schools. Firm selection for 2006 & 2007 data entry, cleaning, editing, analysis and report writing is in process. EMIS data collection for 2006 completed in January, 07, data collection for in process Firm selection for 2006 & 2007 data entry, cleaning, editing, analysis and report writing is going on. Beside that printing of data capture format for 2008 is in process.

Management Information System (MIS) plays a vital role for efficient planning, monitoring and management of the one of the largest education systems like primary education in Bangladesh. As the activities of primary education expands day by day, the need of MIS is felt more day by day. For this reason the PEDP II aims to strengthen the MIS Cell.

Significant progress has been achieved towards strengthening the MIS Cell by establishing hardware, software and man power facilities by PEDP II.

Junior Consultant (IT) and Maintenance Engineer recruited under PEDP II help a lot in keeping the hardware in workable condition in MoPME, DPE, NAPE as well as in field offices. As well in DPE LAN is working among more than 135 users. Broadband facilities is provided in MoPME and DPE. E-mail connection has provided to each Divisional offices, District offices and some Upaila offices. VPN has been established in 6 Divisional office and 22 District offices through which information can be received quickly. Intranet is available to the users of DPE.

DPE and PEDP II web pages have been hosted and are updated regularly.

Besides, MIS Cell acts as a service provider to all the Line Divisions of DPE; thus acts in the background. MIS Cell stores and process data to get the required information asked for. Normally data is collected by the respective Line Divisions.

### **MIS Cell**

- Helped in data analysis and report preparation from Baseline Survey 2005
- Produce different types of reports from Baseline data
- Prepared list of nonqualified teachers to plan for better performance
- Stored data of KG schools for taking action for uniform primary education
- Develop data entry software for PSQL
- Prepare reports for further room, toilet construction from Baseline data
- Keep records of the Civil works of schools under PEDP II
- Conduct data and EMIS related training
- Identify and provide facilities for EMIS and computer related training
- Enter Primary Scholarship Examination data and analysis to result etc.

### **GIS:**

Primary school mapping has been done by GIS Unit of LGED. Printed maps supplied by LGED were checked by the UEO after orientation them to do so. From their feedback, LGED is correcting the maps. The schools data of Baseline survey were linked with map on test basis. It is expected after receiving the training of GIS by LGED to the DPE and MoPME officials this could be done for efficiently. For the harmonization of the GIS works throughout the 64 districts, the rest of the schools of 28 districts (under PEDP I) need to be mapping. GIS survey has been outsourced to the LGED. Survey work of all districts has been completed. The draft map has also been produced which are now undergoing validation. LGED will start conducting training on GIS to DPE officials in January 2008. MIS cell helps in preparation of data collection form for census 2008 as well as data entry software.

### **Financial & Procurement Activities**

Total Expenditure of Finance & Procurement Division up to December 2007 (FY-2007-08) is Tk. 50354.91 Lac. The major expenditures are as follows:

### **Finance**

- Civil Works (Construction) Tk. 35564.81 Lac.
- Machinery & Equipment Tk. 382.62 Lac.
- Manpower Tk. 4569.13 Lac.
- Furniture Tk. 37.04 Lac.
- Local Training Tk. 4239.94 Lac.
- Meetings, Workshops & Seminars Tk. 29.81 Lac.
- Textbooks (including taxes) Tk. 2214.67 Lac.
- Curriculum Revision Tk. 0.00 Lac.
- Surveys, Studies, National Assessment & Evaluation Tk. 69.56 Lac.
- Professional Fee to LGED Tk. 0.00 Lac.
- GIS Database & Mapping Tk. 0.00 Lac.
- Storage Facilities in the classroom Tk. 0.00 Lac.
- Maintenance and repair of schools Tk. 0.00 Lac.
- Consultancy Tk. 884.60 Lac.
- Contingencies & miscellaneous Tk. 102.05 Lac.
- Third party supervision Tk. 68.96 Lac.
- Innovation Grants Tk. 15.20 Lac.
- SRM and Teachers Guide Tk. 39.92 Lac
- Vehicle Tk. 0.00 Lac
- TLM and Education Kit Tk. 567.50 Lac
- Social Mobilization Tk. 230.37 Lac

### **Procurement**

- 633 Computers and 633 Printers has been procured.
- Stationary, Photocopier-Toner and other things are procured worth Tk. 39,67,229.00 under Framework contract.
- 17 Kinds of Books of SRM have been fielded. 1 kind of Book is under process of fielding.
- Evaluation of the technical & financial proposals for selection of Firms for conduction the Research/ Studies in Primary Education have been completed.
- Evaluation of the technical & financial proposals for selection of Firms for conducting the EMIS Data Entry and Cleaning has been completed.
- 101 Battery of UPS have been procured.
- 1,000 copies of Baseline Survey Report 2005 have been printed.
- 57 DPEO's procure Furniture for DPEO and UEO's Offices. 7 DPEO's will procure the Furniture for DPEO and UEO's Offices in 2007-2008.
- 48474 Weighing Machines & 48474 Bells for the Primary Schools have been procured at school level.
- Two cars and Two Microbuses have been procured.

- Procurement of 7 Air Cooler Tk. 6.30 lakh Tender invited
- Procurement of 20 Ceiling Fan Tk. 0.30 lakh Tender invited
- Procurement of 35 Fax for DPEO office Tk. 24.50 lakh Order given to DPEO for procuring fax.
- Procurement of Contingency (Office Stationary) Tk. 40.00 lakh Tender invited