Work Plan on Smart Bangladesh

স্মার্ট বাংলাদেশ
Smart Bangladesh

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Smart Bangladesh is a vision and policy of the Government of Bangladesh to build a digitally enabled, smarter, and more sustainable country. It aims to leverage the power of technology to improve the quality of life for all citizens, create new economic opportunities, and drive sustainable development. Building Smart Bangladesh by 2041, will be achieved by establishing Smart Citizen, Smart Economy, Smart Society, and Smart Government by 2041.

The goal of a smart Bangladesh is to use technology to address challenges and opportunities in the country, and to create a more sustainable, efficient, and inclusive society. This may involve the adoption of new technologies and approaches in various sectors, such as transportation, energy, and agriculture, as well as the development of policies and initiatives that support the use of technology to drive innovation and progress.

So, "Smart Bangladesh" is a term that refers to the use of technology and innovative approaches to improve the lives of people and the overall development of the country. In this context, "smart" refers to the use of advanced technologies, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), artificial intelligence (AI), and data analytics, to improve various aspects of society, such as healthcare, education, transportation, and governance.

Background:

What was a dream on March, 1971—Independent Bangladesh—became a reality on December 16, 1971. What was a dream on December 12, 2008—Digital Bangladesh—became a reality on December 16, 2021.
The newly announced dream on December 12, 2022 – Smart Bangladesh – will also be a reality on December 16, 2041. So, officially, we are now in the era of Smart Bangladesh.

Smart Bangladesh 2041 will be defined by a number of characteristics. These are:
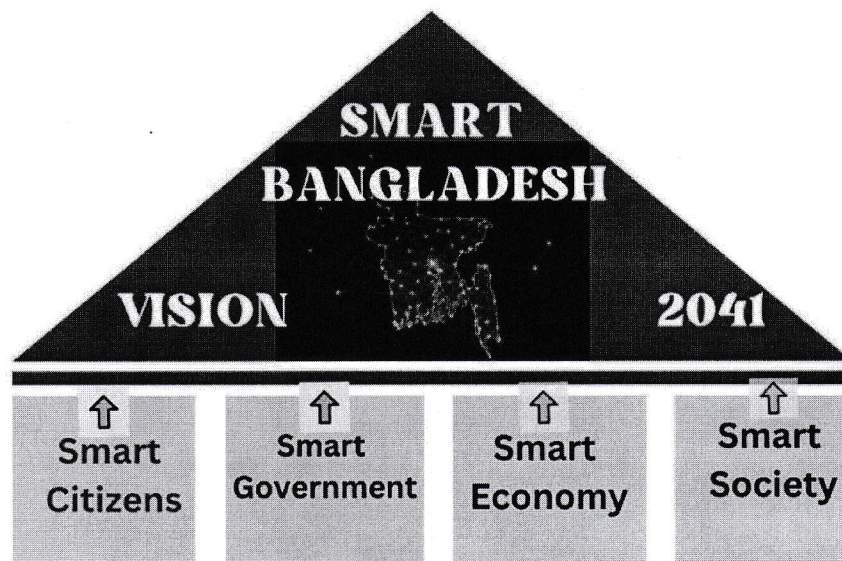
1. High-income: GDP per capita of at least $12,500;
2. Poverty-free: 0% extreme poverty and under 3% poverty
3. Macroeconomically stable: Low inflation (4-5%), low deficits (5% of GDP), increased investment (40% of GDP), and increased tax revenue (20% of GDP)
4. High human development: 100% high-school education including digital literacy, and 100% health financing for everyone while making the best use of our demographic dividend
5. Sustainable urbanization: 80% urban nation with 100% electrification, majority from renewable sources
6. Service at fingertips: 100% public services paperless and cashless, and at the fingertips of 100% citizens in the way they desire

Most importantly, Smart Bangladesh is all about establishing an equitable nation—equal rights, equal opportunities, with no marginalized groups.
In order to explain the four core pillars of Smart Bangladesh – Smart Citizen, Smart Government, Smart Society, Smart Economy – let me try and tell you stories of 4 Bangladeshis from 2041.

Pillars of Smart Bangladesh

Smart Citizen:

Smart Citizens are individuals who leverage technology and innovation to enhance their lives and the lives of those around them. They are proactive in using digital technologies, such as mobile devices and the internet, to access information, engage with their communities, and improve their quality of life. They are also active participants in the digital economy, using technology to access services, connect with businesses, and make informed decisions. They use online platforms and mobile apps to shop, manage their finances, and participate in the sharing economy.

Smart Government:

Smart Government is an approach to public administration that leverages technology to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of government services. It aims to create a more connected and transparent government, by using data and technology to streamline processes, enhance service delivery, and engage citizens in the decision-making process.

It is achieved through the implementation of various technology solutions, including cloud computing, big data analytics, mobile apps, and the Internet of Things (IoT). These technologies are used to automate government processes, reduce manual labor, and improve data management and analysis. By leveraging technology, Smart Government can also provide citizens with easy access to information and services, enhancing their engagement with the government and making it easier for them to participate in the decision-making process.

Overall, Smart Government is a critical component of modern public administration, providing the government with the tools and technologies needed to better serve citizens and improve the delivery of public services. Whether it's improving service delivery, increasing transparency, or

engaging citizens, Smart Government is essential for creating a more efficient and effective public sector.

Smart Economy

Smart Economy is an economic system that leverages technology and innovation to drive economic growth and development. It is characterized by a focus on digital transformation, data-driven decision-making, and a shift towards a more knowledge-based and sustainable economy.

Smart Economy also focuses on creating a data-driven economy, where data is used to inform decision-making and drive innovation. By analyzing vast amounts of data, businesses, and governments can identify trends, predict future events, and make informed decisions. This allows for more effective resource allocation, increased productivity, and improved economic outcomes.

Smart Economy is also characterized by a shift towards a more sustainable and circular economy, where the focus is on reducing waste and maximizing the use of resources. This is achieved through the adoption of sustainable practices, such as renewable energy, recycling, and green manufacturing. By adopting a circular approach to the economy, businesses can reduce their carbon footprint and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Smart Society

Smart Society is a concept that describes a society that leverages technology and innovation to improve the quality of life for its citizens. It aims to create a more connected, inclusive, and sustainable society, where technology and data are used to address social and environmental challenges.

Action Plan for Smart Bangladesh:

Vision 2041" is a strategic plan to transform Bangladesh into a developed country by 2041, which marks the 70th anniversary of Bangladesh's independence. To achieve this goal, the government of Bangladesh has developed the "Action Plans for Smart Bangladesh-2041," which outlines several key initiatives and strategies that will enable the country to become a developed and prosperous nation. Here are some of the key action plans that are part of the "Action Plans for Smart Bangladesh-2041":

1. Setting up Bangladesh as a knowledge-based economy and innovative nation.
2. Self-employment-based training activities to build an inclusive digital society.
3. Setting up Digital Leadership Academy to build a smart government.
4. Setting up Interactive School for Start-up Educators.
5. Preparing enterprise-based businesses as investment-friendly start-ups so that SME sector contributes more on GDP.
6. Launching Bangladesh Knowledge Development Park.
7. Founding Center for Learning Innovation and Creation of Knowledge (CLICK)
8. Founding Agency for Knowledge on Aeronautical and Space Horizon
9. Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship Development (SED) Platforms

10. Generating government service and infrastructure-based entrepreneurs in the Service Aggregator Training (SAT) model
11. Bringing all digital services to a centrally integrated cloud
12. Initiating Data Security Act, Innovation Design and Entrepreneurship Academy (IDEA) Act
13. Digital Service Act, Agency for Knowledge on Aeronautical and Space Horizon Law, and Digital Leader initiative

Smart Bangladesh Initiatives:

Here we will discuss about the Various initiatives and programs that the government has implemented or plans to implement to achieve the goals of Smart Bangladesh.

1. Expanding access to affordable and reliable broadband internet: One of the main pillars of Smart Bangladesh is expanding access to broadband internet to all parts of the country. This includes building infrastructure such as fiber optic cables, satellite systems, and wireless networks, as well as providing subsidies and incentives to encourage the use of internet services.

2. Promoting digital literacy and skills development: To fully realize the benefits of the digital age, it is important for citizens to have the knowledge and skills to use ICT effectively. The government has implemented various programs to promote digital literacy and skills development, such as providing training to school teachers and students, offering e-learning courses, and establishing digital literacy centers in rural areas.

3. Encouraging the use of ICT in various sectors: The government is also encouraging the use of ICT in various sectors of the economy, such as healthcare, education, agriculture, and finance. This includes implementing electronic medical records, digitizing educational materials, using precision agriculture technologies, and promoting online financial services.

4. Building smart cities and smart villages: Another key element of Smart Bangladesh is the development of smart cities and smart villages, which use technology to improve the efficiency and sustainability of urban and rural communities. This includes implementing smart city solutions such as smart transportation systems, smart energy systems, and smart waste management systems, as well as developing e-governance systems to improve the delivery of public services.

5. Developing a digital infrastructure: In order to support the growth of the digital economy, it is important to build a strong digital infrastructure, including data centers, cloud computing, and artificial intelligence. The government is working to establish data centers and cloud computing facilities in the country, as well as promoting the use of artificial intelligence in various sectors.

6. Promoting innovation and entrepreneurship: Finally, the government is promoting innovation and entrepreneurship in the digital sector by providing funding and support to startups and small businesses, establishing incubation centers and accelerators, and encouraging collaboration between academia and industry.

By implementing these initiatives and programs, the government hopes to create a more connected, efficient, and sustainable society in Bangladesh, and drive economic growth and development in the country.

Conclusion

Bangladesh has made significant strides in recent years, and its government is now focusing on creating a "smart" Bangladesh that can compete on the international stage.

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