

# Monthly Report On Agricultural and Rural Financing<sup>1</sup>



**July 2017**

**Research Department  
Bangladesh Bank**

---

<sup>1</sup>The report has been prepared by Internal Economics Division, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank (Central Bank of Bangladesh). Comments on any aspects of the report are highly welcome and can be sent to Mr. Md. Jasim Uddin, Deputy General Manager, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank. E-mail: [jasim.uddin@bb.org.bd](mailto:jasim.uddin@bb.org.bd); Ms. Zahira Hasin, Joint Director, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank. E-mail: [zahira.hasin@bb.org.bd](mailto:zahira.hasin@bb.org.bd) and Razeul Islam, Assistant Director, Research Department, Bangladesh Bank. E-mail: [razeul.islam@bb.org.bd](mailto:razeul.islam@bb.org.bd);

## **Report Preparation Committee**

### **Chief Coordinator**

**Dr. Md. Akhtaruzzaman**

Economic Adviser

### **Coordinator**

**Asish Kumar Dasgupta**

General Manager

### **Team Members**

**Md. Jasim Uddin**

Deputy General Manager

**Zahira Hasin**

Joint Director

**Razeul Islam**

Assistant Director

## Executive Summary

Agricultural and rural economy of Bangladesh is playing a vital role to reduce poverty from the country. A number of initiatives have been taken by Bangladesh Bank (BB) to increase flow of funds in rural areas through agricultural and SME loans under its intensive financial inclusion strategies.

Annual agricultural credit disbursement target was fixed at Tk. 20400.00 crore for FY18 which was 16.24 percent higher than that of the preceding year.

In July 2017, the starting month of FY18, actual agricultural credit disbursement by all banks stood at Tk. 1574.07 crore, which was 49.06 percent higher than that of the same month of the preceding year. Recovery of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1613.61 crore in July 2017, which was 70.64 percent higher than that of the same month of the last year.

Outstanding balance (including interest) of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 39059.21 crore at the end of July 2017, which was 13.07 percent higher than Tk. 34542.87 crore at the end of July 2016. Overdue of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 6620.84 crore at the end of July 2017 which was 7.56 percent higher than Tk. 6155.38 crore at the end of July 2016. Overdue of agricultural credit as percentage of outstanding stood at 16.95 percent at the end of July 2017 compared to 17.82 percent at the end of July 2016 due mainly to strengthen monitoring and speed up recovery activities.

Bangladesh Bank initiated a special agricultural refinance program for sharecroppers through BRAC with a short-term revolving fund of Tk. 600 crore for the tenure from July 2015 to June 2018<sup>2</sup>.

Bangladesh Bank did not provide any refinance facility during July in FY18. During FY17, Tk. 360.0 crore was recovered from refinance compared to Tk. 1138.68 crore in FY16.

In July 2017, Grameen Bank and other large nine NGOs disbursed Tk. 7601.41 crore as microcredit and recovered Tk. 7560.46 crore. The total outstanding balance of all these organization stood at Tk. 51281.82 crore whereas the overdue stood at Tk. 1050.69 crore as of end July 2017.

Bangladesh bank is continuously providing policy directions to promote sustainable inclusive economic growth and to expedite credit flow to all sub-sectors of agriculture and non-farm activities.

---

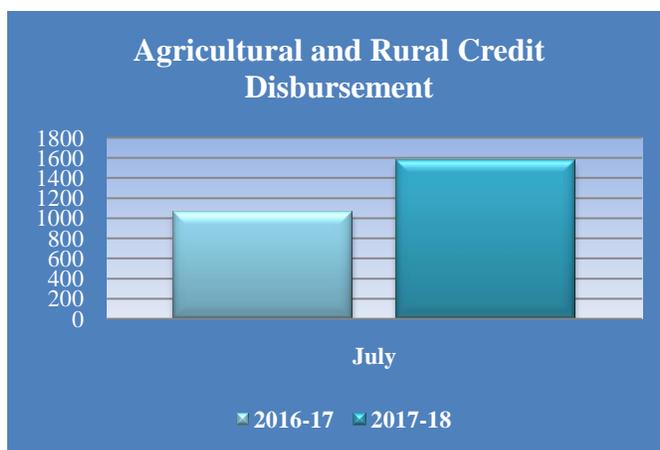
<sup>2</sup> Agricultural Credit Department, Bangladesh Bank.  
Note: FY indicates financial year (July-June).  
100 crore= 1billion.  
1 crore =10 million.

## Disbursement Target

The disbursement target by all scheduled banks is fixed at Tk. 20400.00 crore for FY18, which is Tk. 2850.00 crore or 16.24 percent higher than Tk. 17550.0 crore target for FY17 and it is 2.85 percent lower than the actual disbursement in FY17. The disbursement target of all state-owned banks (commercial and specialized) was fixed at Tk. 9590.00 crore and PCBs & FCBs target was fixed at Tk. 10810.00 crore which were 47.01 percent and 53.99 percent respectively of total agricultural credit disbursement target.

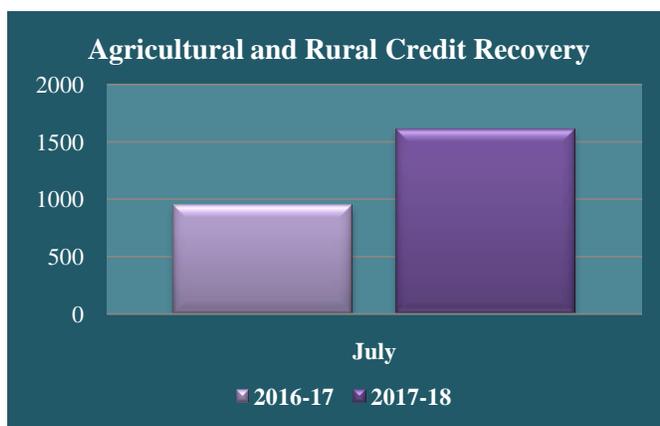
## Disbursement

In the starting month of FY18 (July 2017), actual disbursement of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1574.07 crore, which was 23.70 percent lower than that of the previous month and 49.06 percent higher than that of the same month of the preceding year. The achievement was 7.72 percent of the total target.



## Recovery

In July 2017, recovery of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1613.61 crore which were Tk. 2192.07 and Tk. 945.65 crore respectively in the previous month and the same month of preceding year.



## Outstanding

At the end of July 2017, total outstanding agricultural credit stood at Tk. 39059.21 crore which was 13.07 percent higher than Tk. 34542.87 crore at the end of July 2016 due mainly to postpone recovery in haor area.

## Refinance

In FY17, Bangladesh Bank did not provide any refinance facility to any banks and financial institutions. During the period an amount Tk. 360.00 crore was recovered compared to Tk. 1138.68 crore in FY16.

At the end of June 2017, total outstanding (including interest) refinance facilities stood lower at Tk. 3246.96 crore compared to Tk. 3476.82 crore at the end of June 2016.

### **Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB)**

In July 2017, Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) disbursed Tk. 64.67 crore from its own source and recovered Tk. 60.80 crore which was Tk. 94.03 crore and Tk. 82.36 crore respectively in the previous month.

### **Bangladesh Shomobay Bank Limited (BSBL)**

In July 2017, BSBL, a non-scheduled bank, disbursed Tk. 0.07 crore and recovered Tk 0.84 crore which was Tk. 2.06 and Tk. 0.73 crore respectively in the previous month.

### **Agricultural Credit Program to the Sharecroppers**

A special agricultural credit program named “Agricultural Credit Program to the Sharecroppers” was taken by Bangladesh Bank in FY09 with an amount of Tk. 500.00 crore (Tk. 450 crore short-term and Tk. 50 crore mid-term) for three years as revolving fund under the refinance scheme implemented by BRAC and its duration was extended for another 3 years from July 2012 to June 2015. As the program has played an important role to improve socio-economic condition of the sharecroppers, Bangladesh Bank has re-extended the program for next 3 financial years (from July 2015 to June 2018) with the amount of Tk. 600 crore on short-term basis.

### **Microcredit Operations by Grameen Bank & Large Nine NGOs**

In July 2017, Grameen Bank and other large nine NGOs<sup>3</sup> disbursed Tk. 7601.41 crore for productive and income generating activities in rural areas under their microcredit program. Under this program, about 26.96 million members got loan through 9789 branches. It is noted that Grameen Bank, BRAC and ASA disbursed 89.75 percent of the total micro credit during July 2017. However, in July 2017, total recovery of the micro credit stood at Tk. 7560.46 crore. At the end of July 2017, total outstanding stood at Tk. 51281.82 crore. At the end of the period the overdue as percentage of outstanding stood at only 2.05 percent.

### **Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation<sup>4</sup>**

Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation (PKSF) extended loan amounting to Tk. 214.66 crore to its 276 POs (Partner Organizations) in May, 2017 and recovered Tk. 261.96 crore. Up to May 2017, PKSF’s outstanding balance and overdue stood at Tk. 4576.06 crore and Tk. 190.85 crore respectively.

---

3 BRAC, ASA, Proshika, TMSS, RDRS Bangladesh, CARITAS Bangladesh, Jagoroni Chakra Foundation, Society for Social Services [SSS], Shakti Foundation for Disadvantaged Women

4 Data of May 2017

## **Recent Measures Taken by Bangladesh Bank to Facilitate Rural Financing**

- Bangladesh Bank declared the Agricultural and Rural Credit Policy and program for FY18. All scheduled banks and the BRDB were advised to follow and implement the policy and program and inform it to the Agricultural Credit Department of Bangladesh (Ref: ACD Circular No. 02; 27 July 2017).
- According to the ACD Circular No. 02; 31 July, 2016, the commercial banks having Agent Banking activities and are willing to start, will be able to participate in the agricultural and rural credit disbursement program through Agent Banking operations alongside the ongoing agricultural credit disbursement. The main features of the circular are as follows;
  - All banks including agent banks have to disburse 60.0% of annual agriculture and rural credit target in the crop sector.
  - Declining rate of interest may be applied in realization of loan installments.
  - Banks will impose maximum 0.50% commission/service charge (including VAT) from the borrowers in addition to the stipulated interest rate and no other commissions/fees will be charged. Bank will credit this commission/service charge directly to the agents account and agent will not allow to collect any commission/service charge from the borrowers.
- According to ACD circular no. 03, 18 August, 2016, an amendment has been made to section 8 (B) of ACD circular no. 02, 2 June, 2015. Scheduled banks are instructed not to realize any subsidiary deposit from the said borrowers. All other conditions of ACD circular no. 02, 2 June, 2015 and ACD circular no. 03, 25 August, 2015 will remain unchanged.

Bangladesh Bank is providing policy directions to promote inclusive economic growth and to expedite credit flow to all sub-sectors in agriculture and non-farm activities. Agriculture sector has experienced a steady rise in crop production over the years as high attention has been given sector. Non-crop sectors like fisheries and livestock & poultry farm are also gaining momentum. However, during FY18, it is observed that agricultural credit disbursement in all sub-sectors like crops, irrigation equipment, live-stock & poultry farm, fisheries and agri-equipments were higher than the same period of the previous year. Agricultural production must be boosted up by raising productivity through channeling more credit in both crop and non-crop sectors which is also necessary to enhance sustainable growth of the sector.