

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



**August 2019**

**Research Department  
Bangladesh Bank**

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## Executive Summary

Agriculture sector plays key role in Bangladesh economy. Bangladesh has made credible progress over the past 40 years in achieving food security, employment, income generating activities and poverty alleviation through this prominent source of economic growth. According to the Labor Survey 2017 conducted by Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, about 40.6 percent of labor force engaged in this sector. Agriculture is a powerful driver of poverty reduction in Bangladesh despite insufficient formal financing. Bangladesh Bank has continued its proactive policy and support program to boost up agricultural production. In this regard, Agriculture and Rural Credit Policy and Program have been formulated to increase flow of funds in rural areas through agricultural and SME financing under its intensive financial inclusion strategies.

***The annual agricultural credit disbursement target has fixed at Tk. 24124.00 crores for FY20 which was 10.66 percent higher than Tk. 21800.00 crores targeted in FY19.***

In August 2019, actual agricultural credit disbursement by all banks stood at Tk. 993.01 crores, which was 5.72 percent higher than Tk. 939.24 crores for the same month of the preceding year. Recovery of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1331.76 crores in August 2019, which was 9.14 percent higher than Tk. 1220.28 crores for the same month of preceding year.

Outstanding balance (including interest) of agricultural credit **stood at Tk. 42335.17 crores at the end of August 2019**, which was 6.39 percent **higher than Tk. 39794.51 crores at the end of August 2018**.

**During July-August 2019**, total agricultural credit disbursement **stood at Tk. 1970.16 crores**, which was 5.75 percent lower than **Tk. 2090.36 crores in July-August 2018**. Total recovery of agricultural credit **stood at Tk. 2684.94 crores during July-August 2019**, which was 2.90 percent lower than **Tk. 2765.13 crores in July-August 2018**. Overdue of agricultural credit **stood at Tk. 6723.74 crores at the end of August 2019**, which was 7.44 percent lower than **Tk. 7264.51 crores at the end of August 2018**. **Overdue of agricultural credit as percentage of outstanding stood lower at 15.88 percent at the end of August 2019 compared to 18.26 percent at the end of August 2018**.

In August 2019, Grameen Bank and other large nine NGOs disbursed Tk. 7456.69 crores as microcredit and recovered Tk. 8838.21 crores. The total outstanding balance of microcredit of all these organizations stood at Tk. 71113.27 crores of which the overdue of microcredit stood at Tk. 1555.56 crores at the end of August 2019.

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.

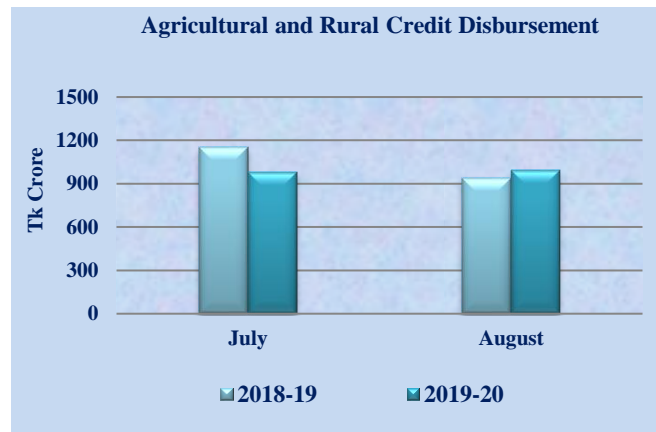
## Disbursement Target

The disbursement target by all scheduled banks has fixed at Tk. 24124.00 crores for FY20, which was 10.66 percent higher than Tk. 21800.00 crores targeted for FY19. The disbursement target of all state-owned banks (commercial and specialized) was fixed at Tk. 10360.00 crores and PCBs & FCBs target was fixed at Tk. 13749.00 crores which were 42.97 and 57.03 percent respectively of total agricultural credit disbursement target.

## Disbursement

In August 2019, the actual disbursement of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 993.01 crores, which was 1.62 percent higher than Tk. 977.15 crores for the previous month. In the same manner, it was 5.72 percent higher than Tk. 939.24 crores for the same month of the preceding year.

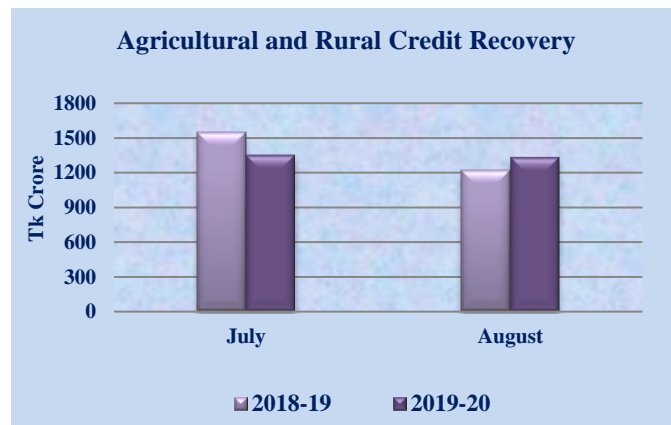
During July-August 2019, the actual disbursement of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1970.16 crores which was 5.75 percent lower than Tk. 2090.36 crores in the same period of the last year. The achievement was 8.17 percent of the disbursement target for FY20.



## Recovery

In August 2019, the recovery of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 1331.76 crores which was 1.58 percent lower than Tk. 1353.18 crores for the previous month and 9.14 percent higher than Tk. 1220.28 crores for the same month of the preceding year respectively.

During July-August 2019, the recovery stood at Tk 2684.94 crores, which was 2.90 percent lower than Tk. 2765.13 crores in the same period of the last year.



## Outstanding

At the end of August 2019, total outstanding balance of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 42335.17 crores, which was 6.39 percent higher than Tk. 39794.51 crores at the end of August 2018.

## **Overdue**

Overdue of agricultural credit stood at Tk. 6723.74 crores at the end of August 2019, which was 7.44 percent lower than Tk. 7264.51 crores at the end of August 2018. Overdue of agricultural credit as percentage of outstanding stood lower at 15.88 percent at the end of August 2019 compared to 18.26 percent at the end of August 2018.

## **Refinance**

In FY20, Bangladesh Bank granted Tk. 1000.00 crores as short term refinance facility to BKB. But Bangladesh Bank has not recovered any refund from BKB and RAKUB in August 2019. At the end of August 2019, total outstanding amount of refinance stood at Tk. 3293.14 crores.

An annexure table regarding agricultural credit activities by banks is enclosed herewith.

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

The disbursement target of Bangladesh Rural Development Board (BRDB) was fixed at Tk. 870.00 crores for FY20. In August 2019, it disbursed Tk 75.67 crores from its own source and recovered Tk. 59.14 crores which were Tk. 76.39 and Tk. 84.43 crores respectively in July 2019. In August 2018, the disbursement and the recovery were Tk. 72.96 and Tk. 75.77 crores respectively. During July-August 2019, BRDB disbursed Tk. 152.06 crores and recovered Tk. 143.57 crores which were Tk. 145.35 and Tk. 153.68 crores respectively in the same period of the last year.

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

The disbursement target of BSBL, a non-scheduled bank, was set at Tk. 22.00 crores for FY20. Both in July and August 2019, BSBL didn't disburse any loan. But it recovered Tk. 0.34 crore and Tk. 0.46 crore in July and August 2019 respectively. In the same way BSBL didn't disburse any loan, but recovered Tk. 0.18 crore in August 2018. During July-August 2019, BSBL recovered Tk. 0.80 crores which was Tk. 0.67 crores during July-August 2018.

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

In August 2019, Grameen Bank and other large nine NGOs<sup>2</sup> disbursed Tk. 7456.69 crores for productive and income generating activities in rural areas under their microcredit program, which was 31.08 percent lower than that of the same month of the preceding year. Under this program, about 26.68 million members availed loan facility through 10315 branches. It is noted that Grameen Bank, BRAC and ASA disbursed 86.97 percent of the total microcredit in August 2019. However, in August 2019, total recovery of the microcredit stood at Tk. 8838.21 crores, which was 9.38 percent higher than that of the same month of the preceding year. At the end of August 2019, total outstanding stood at Tk. 71113.27 crores, which was 12.16 percent higher than that of the same month of the preceding year. Overdue of microcredit stood at Tk. 1555.56 crores at the end of August 2019, which was 41.64 percent higher than that of the same month of the preceding year. At the end of August 2019, the overdue as percentage of outstanding stood at only 2.19 percent.

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<sup>2</sup> BRAC, ASA, Proshika, TMSS, RDRS Bangladesh, CARITAS Bangladesh, Jagoroni Chakra Foundation, Society for Social Services [SSS], Shakti Foundation for Disadvantaged Women.

## **Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation**

Palli Karma Shahayak Foundation (PKSF) extended loan facility amounting to Tk. 327.84 crores to its 278 POs (Partner Organizations) and recovered Tk. 266.84 crores in June 2019. Total outstanding balance and overdue stood at Tk. 5352.17 crores and Tk. 185.19 crores respectively at the end of June 2019.

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

- According to the ACD Circular No. 02; 23 July 2019, Bangladesh Bank declared the Annual Agricultural and Rural Credit Policy and Program for FY20. 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 Bank. More detail information are available in the link:-(<https://www.bb.org.bd/mediaroom/circulars/acd/jul232019acd02.pdf>).
- As stated in the ACD Circular No. 03; 24 July 2019, Bangladesh Bank has undertaken contemporary credit facility for recent flood affected farmers. More detail information are available in the link:-(<https://www.bb.org.bd/mediaroom/circulars/acd/jul242019acd03.pdf>).

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 to the sector. Non-crop sectors like fisheries and livestock & poultry farm are also gaining momentum. The role of the agriculture is immense even to encounter environmental calamity and the negative impact of climatic changes. With a view to improving the socio-economic condition of the country along with an underscored role of the agriculture and rural sector, agricultural and rural credit policy and program is being implemented through all scheduled banks. Agricultural production must be boosted up by raising productivity through channeling more credit as well as encourage to use latest technology in both crop and non-crop sectors which is also necessary to enhance sustainable growth of the sector.

### Monthly Agricultural-Credit Performance by Schedule Banks

(In crore Taka)

Month	Disbursement		Recovery		Outstanding (at the end of Month)	
	FY19	FY20	FY19	FY20	FY19	FY20
July	1151.12	977.15	1544.85	1353.18	40127.65	42596.13
August	939.24	993.01	1220.28	1331.76	39794.16	42335.17
September	1403.28		1742.83		39623.83	
October	1858.43		2048.44		39382.96	
November	2123.53		1923.00		39606.40	
December	2755.81		2913.84		40368.16	
January	1869.63		1912.26		40305.75	
February	2012.52		2015.99		40412.89	
March	2150.43		1692.76		40922.85	
April	2261.51		1916.02		41360.56	
May	1810.22		1724.86		41610.67	
June	3280.53		3079.19		42974.29	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13605.57</b>		<b>13193.95</b>			

Source: Agriculture Credit Department, Bangladesh Bank.