

# **Bangladesh Sugar & Food Industries Corporation**

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**The overall activities of Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) are described below in the light of goals and targets of SDG:**

Sustainable development is one of the most considered and anticipated things in Bangladesh and whole of the world. Bangladesh has adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) to stimulate comprehensive social and economic development, environmental sustainability, ensure equity and human rights. Government of Bangladesh is committed to achieve the targets of SDGs within specified time accordingly the Ministry of Industries is leading five goals of SDGs.

Sugar industry plays an important role in the economy of Bangladesh by way of producing as well as employment generation. At present, Bangladesh can meet about 5 percent of its annual demand for sugar through domestic production. BSFIC, helps the government to keep the sugar price stable, that has the capacity to produce 2.1 lakh tons of sugar a year. Along with sugar production BSFIC is taking and implementing strategies; projects and programs for diversification, industrialization, technological up gradation as well as the socio-economic development in align with the whole of society approach.

## **Sustainable Industrialization & Environment Protection:**

The country has 15 (fifteen) sugar mills, one molasses based distillery plant and one Engineering unit, total area of which 19095.15 acres of land owned and managed by Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries Corporation (BSFIC) under the administrative Control of the Ministry of Industries.

BSFIC was established in 1976. The economic life of most of the sugar mills has come to an end. In order to sustain the industrialization Bangladesh Sugar & Food Industries (BSFIC) are gradually implementing some development project of Balancing, Modernization and Replacement (BMR) in sugar mills, product diversification project like by-product based fertilizer plant and production of electricity through co-generation, establishing of sugar refinery and effluent treatment plant (ETP).

Industrialization has led to environmental degradation in terms of industrial pollution. Along with sugar production, some byproduct and environmental pollutant wastes (liquid and gas) produces from sugar mills. According to the “Environment Protection Act, 1997” BSFIC had established one ETP in Natore Sugar Mill in order to discharge the contaminated and polluted water before releasing it back to the environment. Besides, BSFIC has taken a project in hand to establish ETP in another 14 Sugar Mills under his jurisdiction. In order to discharge gaseous waste every sugar mills uses the chimney with appropriate height which releases the polluted gas above the breathing level.

### **Highest Utilization of Resources:**

As the economic life of the sugar mills in Bangladesh has come to an end, it is a great challenge for BSFIC to efficient utilization of its resources of old machinery, manpower, land and energy. However, BSFIC continued sugar production through the highest use of their old machinery along with manpower to meet the country's sugar demand. Being a Agro-based industry, BSFIC has around 325200 acres of cultivable land. But the cultivable land of sugarcane is decreasing day by day because of the changing behavior of farmers of using their land for short cropping. So, motivational activities and training programs are being adopted on regular basis.

### **Economic, Social & Environment Development:**

Around 50 million people are directly and indirectly dependent on this industry that indicates important effects in the national economy of northern region of Bangladesh. Currently there are 14470 employees that working in the corporation headquarters and its affiliated institutions. The remaining people are belongs to sugarcane growers and daily basis labor that are mostly dependent on sugar industries for their living beings. BSFIC is ensuring social and economic development by securing every staffs life of sugar industry through allocating earnings, gratuity as a rate of 2 (two) times of their basic salary per year after retirement. Moreover, every staff, their family members as well as the children of sugarcane growers get medical support and educational facility from the 16 units that run under BSFIC.

In addition, BSFIC has taken appropriate measures regarding the environmental development by establishing ETP and using environmetally friendly automated machineries in every sugar mills, using subsoil water instead of underground water in the production process as well as green farming in the available land.

### **Inclusion of 5Ps (People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace & Partnership):**

Around 50 million people are dependent on the sugar industry. BSFIC is dedicatedly working in securing lives of its staffs, day labor and sugarcane growers.

BSFIC has taken appropriate measures to discharge its industrial liquid and gaseous waste in order to protect the planet from degradation through establishing ETP in every sugar mills as well as green farming in the available land and releasing the polluted gas above the breathing level. And also uses its resources by recycling the byproduct, reuse solid waste as well as reduce expenditure.

Peoples that are involved with this industry getting educational opportunity and medical assistance as every sugar mills have their own school and medical facility. Moreover, sugarcane growers are getting digital support through mobile banking sure cash system, e-purji, e-gazette, cane growers loan management system. BSFIC also concern about the human rights affair for its employees as a large number of people are engaged with this industry and maintained a peaceful atmosphere which are free from fear and violence.

### **Implementation of 3Rs (Reuse, Reduce & Recycle):**

Sugar industry uses some machineries that made from Cast Iron (roller, pump, coupling, trash plate, etc), Gun metal and Brass. BSFIC has an engineering workshop that recycle the old machineries through casting method that uses in the sugar mills again which reduces some expenses.

Apart from that sugar mills produces some byproduct such as bagasse, molasses and spent wash along with sugar. Bagasse is used in boiler for heat generation, molasses is used to produce alcohol in distillery unit, and spent wash is used in producing organic fertilizer. This organic fertilizer is used in sugar cane cultivation.

### **Leave no one behind:**

BSFIC is taking and implementing strategies; projects and programs in compliance with the whole of society approach. It is trying to implement the SDG agendas for the benefit of all stakeholders that are directly and indirectly related to sugar industry, for today's generation and future generations. Human rights affair also taken care for its employees so that no one should be deprived.

### **Efforts for raising lower income people:**

Around 50 million people are directly and indirectly dependent on sugar industry. Sugarcane growers and daily basis labor those are mostly dependent on sugar industries for their living beings. BSFIC provide all kind of agricultural equipment/support to the sugarcane growers through cane grower's loan management system. In the fiscal year 2017-18 the government has provided 9 crore 30 lakhs taka as subsidy to sugarcane farmers in the sugarcane cultivation sector through Bangladesh Sugar and Food Industries corporation to increase the yield of sugarcane. Sugarcane growers are getting all kind of digital support through mobile banking sure cash system, e-purji, e-gazette, cane growers loan management system.

### **Alignment with Election Manifesto 2018:**

Currently BSFIC is implementing development project of Balancing, Modernization and Replacement (BMR), sugar beet cultivation, product diversification project like by-product based fertilizer plant, production of electricity through co-generation, establishment of sugar refinery and ETP. All this undertaking is aligned with the section 3.14, 3.15 and 3.16 of Election Manifesto 2018. Beyond that, BSFIC organize training on regular basis for the employees to build their capacity in QA/QC and production process which increases institutional capability and also consistent with the section 3.11 of Election Manifesto 2018.

### **Minimal use of underground water, maximum use of surface water and recycling of water use:**

Every sugar industry uses the subsoil water in the whole production process, along with heating and cooling system of different equipment. This water stored in spray pond and reuses in the production process.

### **Role of Private Sector, NGO & Development Partners:**

Although the NGO and Development Partners have no role in the sugar industry but the private sector has an important role to play. BSFIC has one Engineering Unit named “Renwick, Jajneswar and Company Bangladesh Limited” (RJC) along with 15 (fifteen) sugar mills and the molasses based distillery plant. RJC playing an important role by collecting iron made machineries from the small scale industry through sub contract agreement in Bangladesh that need to be imported. There are almost 29 to 30 small scale industry enlisted with RJC.

### **Role of Industrialization on principle of ‘Whole of the Society Approach’ and Whole of Government Approach’:**

BSFIC is taking and implementing projects, programs and activities in align with the multistakeholder partnership. A large number of female and male employees and sugarcane growers are associated with sugar industry. BSFIC is trying to implement the SDG agendas for the benefit of all stakeholders. Furthermore, associate activities performed with diverse ministries, organizations and department such as: Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Agriculture (BSRI, BADC), Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources, Ministry of Planning, Ministry of Land, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, LGED and BCIC.

### **Fostering Green Innovation:**

Sugar industry is playing an important role to promote green innovation by using biomass fuel instead of fossil fuel in the production process. At present BSFIC is implementing 4 (four) development projects of BMR, by-product based fertilizer plant, production of electricity through co-generation, establishment of sugar refinery and ETP. They are using automated and environmentally friendly technologies which inflicts positive impact on the environment.

### **Skill Development:**

BSFIC regularly arrange training for its officers and workers locally and internationally to build their capacity in QA/QC and production process. Every year almost 1546 officers/employees/workers got trained on different topics. Besides, every year around 3000-3500 sugarcane growers get training on cultivation system.

As a Government entity sugar industry is strongly committed to move on with the new world development agenda for 2030. It plays an important role in the economy of Bangladesh by way of farming, producing and employment along with development of sugarcane and other agro based industries. BSFIC has resources of around 19095.15 acres of land and active manpower. So there is an enormous scope of achieving goals and targets of SDG through establishment of agro based industries with this resources which will create employment and socio economic development for a vulnerable group that are still marginalized.