



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Finance  
Economic Relations division  
World Bank Branch-6

PRESS RELEASE

“Bangladesh COVID-19 School Sector Response” Project

A Grant Agreement has been signed to-day on 15 February, 2021 between the government of Bangladesh and International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank Group for an amount of 14.8 million US\$ from COVID-19 Accelerated Funding Window of Global Partnership for Education (GPE) at Economic Relations Division (ERD), Dhaka. “Bangladesh COVID-19 school Sector Response” project will be jointly implemented by Ministry of Primary and Mass Education (MoPME) and Secondary and Higher Education Division (SHED) of Ministry of Education (MoE).

Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary, ERD and Ms. Mercy Miyang Tembon, Country Director of the World Bank, Dhaka office signed the agreement on behalf of their respective sides.

The project has been approved by the World Bank Board on October 20, 2020 and by Planning Commission on January 19, 2021.

The main objectives of the project are:

- To strengthen the basic school system's institutional capacity to recover from the COVID-19 crisis and to build resilience to face future crisis from pre-primary to secondary level.
- 25 Lakh children of pre-primary to grade 10 ( 12.05 Lakh Boys and 12.95 Lakh) will be supported with inclusive distance learning through 35 subject programs with complete and appropriate digital contents.
- Remote learning system will be fully functional integrating with the basic school system.

The World Bank (WB) is the largest multilateral development partner of Bangladesh. The WB has been providing development assistance to Bangladesh in Education and Energy sector, Inland connectivity & logistics, Regional & global integration, Urbanization and Adaptive delta management sector since after having membership in 1972. Since then, the World Bank has committed more than US\$ 33.5 billion in grants, interest-free and concessional credits to the country. Moreover, the World Bank has provided support to mitigate the challenges due to Covid-19 pandemic and to overcome the possible consequences in economic sector.

*Afrina Islam*  
15/02/2021  
**Afrina Islam**  
**Deputy Secretary**