



BANGLADESH



Country Paper on Information Society Statistics: Core ICT Indicators

Presented by

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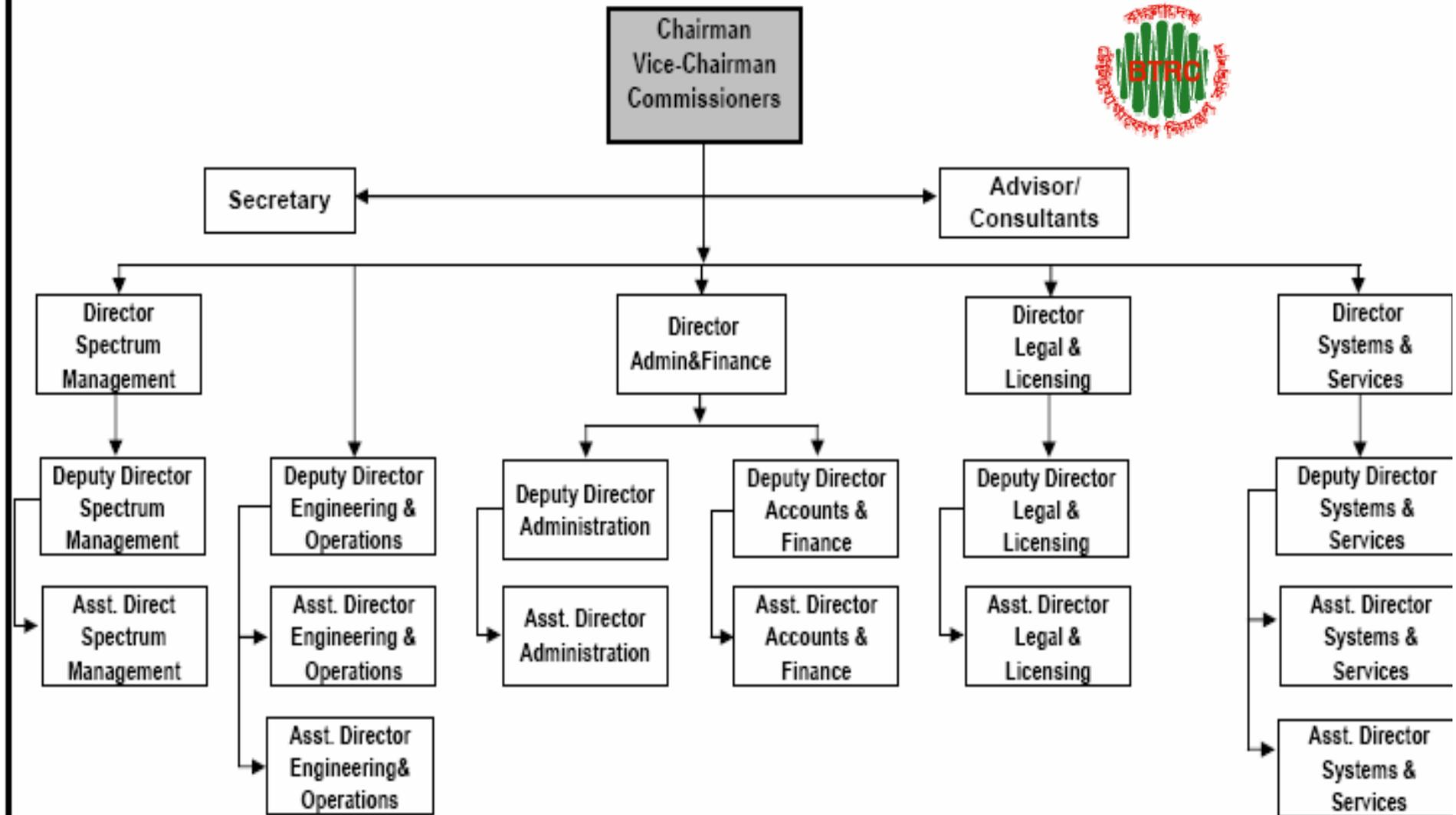
Country Profile



Name of the Country	: People's Republic of Bangladesh
Area	: 147,570 sq. km
Capital	: Dhaka
Currency	: Taka
Total Population	: 145 Million
Rural Population as a Percentage of total Population	: 76%(estimated)
Key economic sectors	: Readymade garments, frozen foods and shrimp Tea, Raw Jute and Jute Products, Leather and Leather Products, fertilizer, handicrafts, ceramic Products & Medicine.
Literacy in the national Language (s)	: 56%
Divisions	: 6
Districts	: 64
Sub Districts (Upazila)	: 465
Unions (rural)	: 4484
Villages (rural)	: 87319
Municipalities (urban)	: 223
Per capita GDP	: About USD 440

Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC)

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE



Vision & Mission of BTRC



Vision:

- **To Facilitate affordable telecommunication services of acceptable quality for all regardless of their location.**

Mission:

- **Add the teledensity at least 10 telephones per 100 inhabitants by 2010.**
- **Promote ICT applications to support socio economic development.**
- **Create an enabling environment and customer choice for ICT services.**
- **Encourage joint Public-Private cooperation in ICT development.**
- **Encourage ICT applications which stimulate poverty reduction**

ICT Indicators: Bangladesh Perspective



- Bangladesh is trying reap the benefit out of this sector for her growth and development. Lower prices for personal computers and low priced Internet service will enable greater number of people to participate in the information revolution. Government has reduced tax on IT related equipment to facilitate ICT.
- **i) Government's commitment to ICT for e-Government**
ICT has been declared as the thrust sector by the Government. Realizing the importance of ICT, a comprehensive ICT Policy has been formulated and a National ICT Task Force, headed by the Honorable Prime Minister, has been formed.

ICT Indicators: Bangladesh Perspective



ii) ICT Policy of Bangladesh

For the development of ICT sector within the framework of overall national development, the Government has published the national ICT Policy, 2002. The Policy aims at building an ICT-driven knowledge based society by the year 2010.

ICT Indicators: Bangladesh Perspective (Contd.)



■ **iii) Contribution of Government and private sector for introducing e-Government in Bangladesh:**

a. Government sector:

Bangladesh Telegraph & Telephone Board (BTTB), a state enterprise, it has 666 telephone exchanges and 1,145,000 subscribers.

b. Private Sector:

- In late 1996, GrameenPhone (GP), a private mobile phone operator, made a major break through in the field of Rural Telecommunication.
- In Bangladesh two private fixed phone company named Bangladesh Rural Telecom Authority (BRTA) and Sheba Telecom are providing telephone service for the rural people since 1989 and 1994 respectively. BRTA and Sheba have 115 digital exchanges 76,000 line capacity and 28,000 subscribers in rural area. Other ten PSTN Operators have 2,33,429 subscribers. More over six (6) other private mobile companies have also contribution for bridging the digital divide in Bangladesh.



ICT Services

- i) Fixed Telephone service.
- ii) Cellular mobile Telephone service
- iii) Transmission service
- iv) Overseas service
- v) Data service
- vi) Pay phone service
- vii) Internet service
- viii) E-Government
- ix) E-Commerce (Foreign bank/Stock exchange)
- x) Radio-AM, FM & HF Service
- xi) Television –Terrestrial & Satellite

Telecom Infrastructure in Bangladesh



- 1) Fixed line Telephone : 1,12 million (Up to Sep'07)
- 2) Digitalized Facility : Whole Country.
- 3) Mobile Telephone : 31.42 million (Up to Sep'07)
- 4) Teledensity : 23.24% per 100 people (Mobile & PSTN)
- 5) Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission established in 2002
- 6) Telephone call charge reduced significantly.
- 7) Now fixed line phone sector has been opened for private sector investment and 15 company got licenses.
- 8) Mobile tele coverage reaches most of the rural areas.
- 9) Recently Long Distance Telecom services (VOIP) Licenses under process to issue.
- 10) 1800 KM fiber optic cable under Bangladesh Railway is being utilized by the private mobile telephone operator.
- 11) Fiber optic link between few districts existing under BTTB.
- 12) Fiber optic link between all district is planned by BTTB.

Category of Service and Number of License



Category of Service	No. of License
Zonal PSTN Operator License (9 Company)	16
Nationwide PSTN Operator	5
PSTN Operator-ISL(rural area) & World Tel	2
Cellular Mobile Phone	6
Personal Handy phone System	1
Internet Service Provider (ISP)-	205
VSAT User	78
VSAT Provider	22
VSAT - HUB	7
Domestic Data Communication Service Provider (DDCSP)	30

Major Telecom Operators in Bangladesh



1. National wide Fixed Phone Operator :

- (i) Bangladesh Telephone & Telegraphy Board (BTTB)
- (ii) Sheba Rural Telecom Limited

2. Private PSTN (conversion) Operators:

- (i) Ranks Tel
- (ii) National Telecom Ltd.
- (iii) Dhaka Telephone Company Ltd.
- (iv) Squire Informatix Ltd.

3. Mobile Phone Operators :

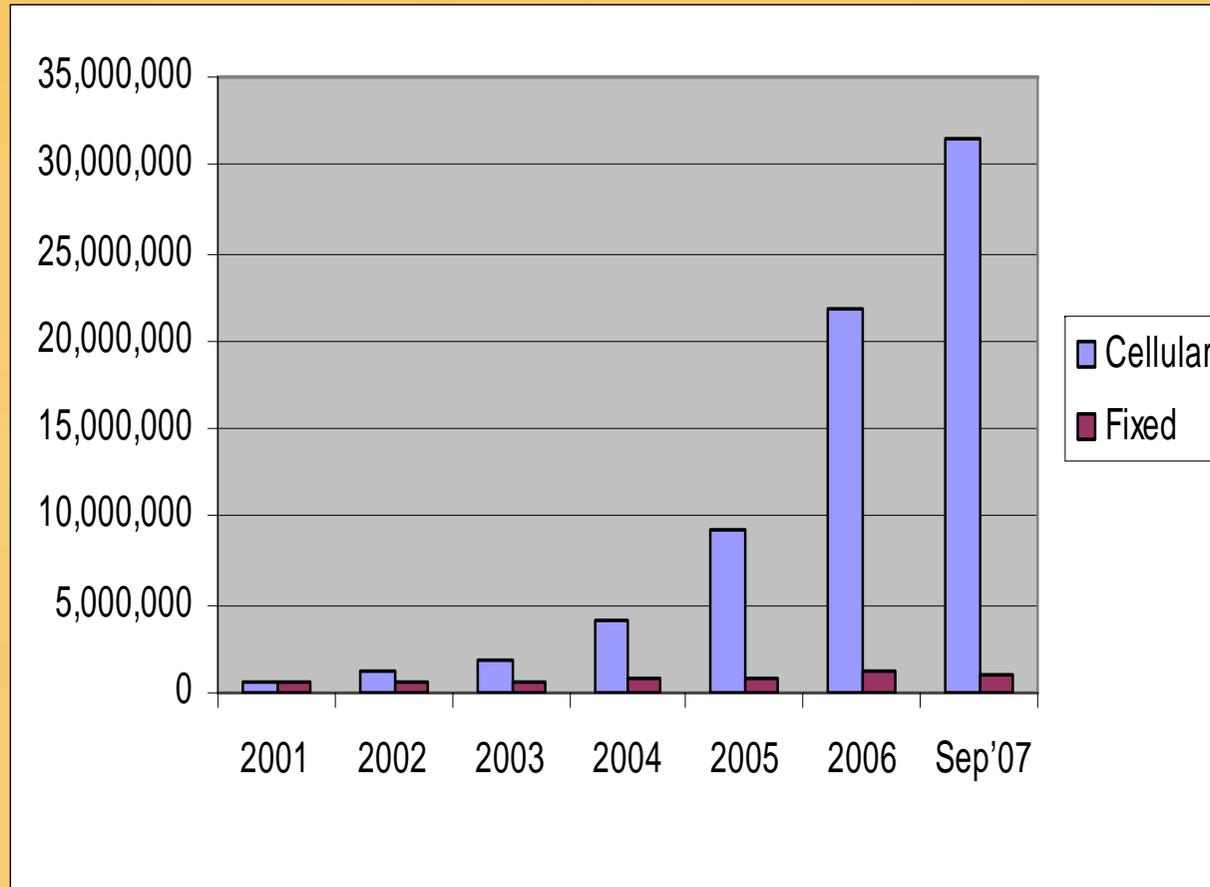
- (i) Pacific Bangladesh Telecom limited (PBTL)
- (ii) Sheba telecom Limited
- iii) GrameenPhone (GP) Limited.
- (iv) Telecom Malaysia International Bangladesh (TMIB)
- (v) Teletalk Bangladesh Ltd.
- (vi) Warid Telecom International



Present Statistical Overview As at September- 2007

Name	Total Subscribers
Fixed phone (up to September 2007)	1.12 million
Mobile phone (Up to September 2007)	30.42 million
Trunked Radio	504
Radio paging	336

Provisional



Subscriber's Growth Report

Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Sep'07
Cellular	662,000	1,140,000	1,907,000	4,151,000	9,278,000	21,760,000	31,420,000
Fixed	564,000	682,000	716,000	831,000	871,000	1,145,000	1,120,000

Internet Service in Bangladesh



First introduced in 1996

Number of ISPs : 205, 80% ISPs are located in Dhaka

Government owned Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB)
has extended ISP services to all 64 district HQ,

Number of Internet users : 3 Million

Transmission : VSAT

Submarine cable is connected at the end of 2005

ICT Status in Bangladesh



Computer ownership per 100 inhabitants	: 0.8
Telephone Lines per 100 inhabitants	: 23.24 line
Internet hosts per 10,000 inhabitants 0.015(estimated)	:
Internet users per 10,000 inhabitants	: 19.04
Internet cafes/tele centers per 10,000 (estimated)	: 0.19
Number of websites in the national Language (s) (estimated)	: 200
Number of websites in English and other Language:	600 (estimated)
National bandwidth within the country (data) (estimated)	: 68 Mbps
National bandwidth to and from the country (estimated)	: 112 Mbps

Internet Subscribers and usage rate :



- Total ISP Subscribers 300000
- Peak hour internet usage rate: from taka 1.50 to lowest taka 0.20
[US\$1 = BDT69.50]
- For unlimited access: Tk. 800–1000 per month

Cyber Cafe's in Bangladesh

- Cyber Cafes are working as Community e-Centre.
- The speed of the internet service varies from 32 Kbps to 4 Mbps.
- By Dec,05 there are about 500 active cyber cafe's operating in Bangladesh .

Constrains for Development of ICT

Sector in Bangladesh



Low computer penetration,

Low Teledensity,

Economic condition,

Weak data communication infrastructure,

Absence of legal infrastructure ;

- : No law against cyber crime

- : No law of electronic authentication

- : No electronic certification authority

Lack of public awareness about ICTs,

Lack of adequate human resource,

Positive Steps towards Computerization & ICT development



Exemption of tax on Computer items

Computer education in schools

Computerization of government offices

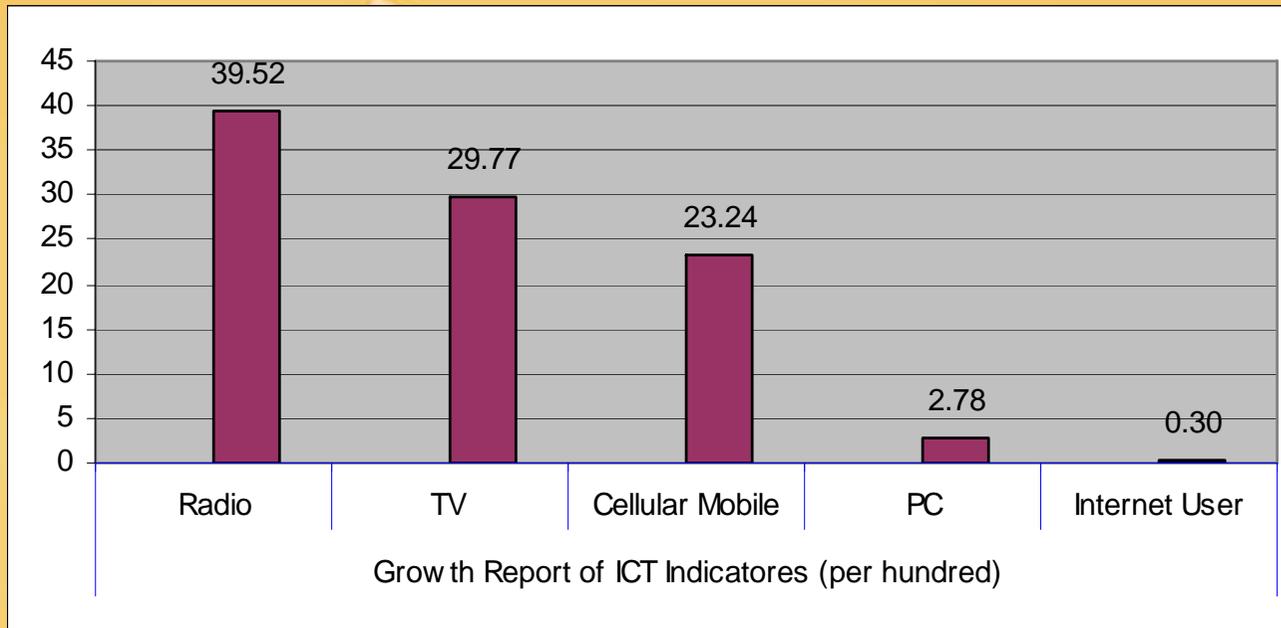
Launching of websites of government offices, (e.g. gov.bd)

Use of Computers at the sub-district level,

Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh is very serious to improve the infrastructure facilities of telecommunications. Development of Information Technology is one of its principal policy goals.

New value added services like Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN), e-commercial, e-educational, e-medical, e-official, e-political & e-other activities are being already introduced by the Bangladesh telecom sector.

BTRC is encouraging orderly and faster development in telecommunication though introducing private sector investment.



Growth Report of ICT Indicators (per hundred)

Radio	TV	Cellular Mobile & Fixed Phone	PC	Internet User
39.52	29.77	23.24	2.78	0.30



Thanks!