



Information Technology and Development: Bangladesh Perspective-II

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At a recently held seminar in Dhaka, the Science and Information and Communication Technology Minister Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan said that like e-commerce, the government would introduce e-governance in civil administration. He further added that the government is now implementing a project to distribute 10,000 computers in a couple of months to schools all over the country. These computers having telephone network and Internet access, aimed at creating IT awareness among students and start a process of training them right from school level. (Source: The BO, 13/09/2002).

Role of IT in various fields:

Needless to say that from the very beginning IT has been playing a great role in every spheres of the country. Usually, the role of this sector is considered to be multidimensional. It can vary from organization to organization. However, the precise roles of IT in various fields of the country are worth mentioning:

1. Education:

1.1. Student and other professionals who are unable or get no more time to attend the physically located training institutes, they can easily get that opportunity through on-line system of learning. Such system of learning is existing in the country as follows:

healthcare delivery. In fact, no field of medicine seems immune to its charms. Following warrant special mention:-

2.1.1. **Teleradiology:** Using it, digital images can be sent to a radiologist located at faraway places for interpretation and diagnosis.

2.1.2. **Telepathology:** It is the transmission and interpretations of tissue slides through remote telecommunication, generally for the purpose of diagnosis or consultation. A basic telepathology system comprises of a microscope with a digital camera and a computer optimized for graphics.

2.1.3. **Telesurgery:** It is the provisions of surgical care over a distance, with direct real time visualization of the operative field.

2.1.4. **Telepsychiatry:** Access to quality mental health care regardless of patients locations through interactive telecommunications is called telepsychiatry. Diagnostic assessments, mental status evaluations and pharmacological consultations are some of the services provided by telepsychiatry.

Here it is worth mentioning that the Delta Network System (DNS) is the pioneering organization in various IT-related activities

exchanges have implemented automated securities trading systems in 1998.

3.3. IT has reduced the sufferings of tender bidders and seeker. Recently, a private enterprise has opened a web-site named as WWW.tenderbangla.info that will obviously, enrich anyone with a huge information of tender notices from all possible sectors of Bangladesh. It is a TBIMS software driven informative website that gathers all the local and international tender notices as per one's requirement. (Source: The BO, 7/09/2002).

3.4. The recent introduction of debit cards (e.g. ready cash) can eliminate some of the concerns of the seller of goods or services about the availability of funds from the buyers.

3.5. And also the M-commerce that is mobile-commerce has long been practiced among the traders.

4. Banking:

4.1. Inter-banking payment can easily be done with the use of IT.

4.2. Many corporate branches of government and private banks of the country are safely using the Automatic Teller Machine (ATM). These banks have already been introduced the facility of credit card.

getting upgraded day by day. GTC expects that when GrameenPhone has completed its network in December 2002, then 40 thousand VP operators will be employed for a combined net income of \$ 24 million USD per annum.

6.3. Combining Internet with the conventional radio system can increase access of the rural community to various information pertaining to agriculture, health, sanitation, population planning etc. The fixed as well as mobile phones can also greatly help in making useful information available to the farmers and other rural people through the "Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system".

7. Public utilities:

7.1. Problems in billing systems of public utilities (e.g. power supply, water supply, gas supply, telecommunications) can be resolved through electronic communication (i.e. through ATM as introduced by the Ministry of Power, which started functioning from September 17) which can be carried out by the consumer at his/her own convenience rather than wasting valuable office time. (Source: The BO, 12/09/2002)

7.2. Members of public have to interact with the city corporation or municipality offices for a variety of services e.g. payment of holding tax, obtaining trade

MYAENSINGH: The miscreants district on November 8. One of the



SYLHET, Nov. 16--A newly wed housewife was electrocuted in Jampur residential area of the town Wednesday. The victim was identified as Isra Jahan Chowdhury Dola, 19, wife of local JCD leader Mostafa Kamal Pasha. Dola, who got married six months back, was seriously injured as she touched a torn live wire in their bathroom. She was rushed to Hosher Osman Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead. A UD case was filed, reports UNB.

Housewife electrocuted

Two other physicians have to maintain the emergency section and indoor beds as well as outdoor patients. Hence, many patients are deprived of treatment facilities after waiting for long hours.

The officials said 400 tonnes of rice and 418 tonnes of wheat had already been sold so far through the dealers. Controller Assistant Food Controller Ashaque-E-Elahi told that the OMS activities were being constantly monitored at field levels and no irregularities were yet been reported. He also said each dealer at union and upazila levels have been getting 500 kg rice every day for selling.

Out of the 50-km road from Madaripur to Shibchar ferry to ghat, the condition of 20 km As upto Charanajay ferry ghat from in Bhanaga is pitiable hampering smooth plying of vehicles. The road developed innumerable potholes all over causing sufferings to passengers due to continuous jerking of the vehicles. Hurdled of vehicles carrying passengers and goods are plying on this road coming from 20 districts of southern region.

Bus journey has become hazardous on Madaripur-Shibchar road due to dilapidated condition of some bridges and the road.

Most of the schools do not have required number of teachers and other educational appliances.

Bridges in bad shape