



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Finance
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Press Release

Signing of a Finance Contract on 'Bangladesh Covid-19 Public Health Programme'.

A Finance Contract (FC) of 250 Million EUR (283.06 million USD, 2426.44 crore BDT) has been signed on 29 December 2021, between the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the European Investment Bank (EIB), to finance the 'Bangladesh Covid-19 Public Health Programme'. Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. Edvardas Bumsteinas, Head of Asia and Pacific Division, and Mr. Imanol Lecue Gurtubay, Legal Counsel, signed the loan agreement on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh and EIB respectively. The Executing Agency of this Programme is Finance Division, Ministry of Finance and the Implementing Agency is Health Services Division, Ministry of Health and Family welfare.

Main Objectives of the Programme are:

- a. To purchase and supply vaccine for prevention of Covid-19 infection
- b. Strengthening the healthcare system and
- c. Expanding social security in the health sector

It is a concessional loan to the Government of Bangladesh, with a repayment period of twenty years including five years grace period. This is their first ever highest contribution as part of their development cooperation to our country.

EIB is an important development partner of Bangladesh. It co-financed four projects along with ADB amounting to \$423 million US dollar-in railway and water treatment plants of Dhaka WASA. Unlike the previous co-financed contribution, this is a first time standalone contribution for Bangladesh.

Kazi Ziaul Baset
Deputy Secretary
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