## Press release

Signing of a Grant Financing Agreement on 'Construction and Augmentation of Substation and Installation of the Capacitor Bank in Power System under DPDC Area' Project;

A Grant Financing Agreement (GFA) of 12 Million EURO has been signed on 08 June 2021, in Dhaka between the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Agence Française de Développement (AFD), France to finance 'Construction and Augmentation of Substation and Installation of the Capacitor Bank in Power System under DPDC Area' Project. Ms. Fatima Yasmin, Secretary, Economic Relations Division, Ministry of Finance and Mr. CHASSATTE Benoit, Country Director, AFD signed the Grant Agreement on behalf of the Government of Bangladesh and AFD respectively.

It is to be noted that the grant is supplemented to the loan of 100 million EURO which has previously been signed between Bangladesh and AFD to finance the similar project. Duration of the project is 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2023. Main objective of the project is to supply quality and uninterrupted electricity to the customers under DPDC area and to improve power supply at 132 Kv, 33Kv and 11 Kv voltage level. In addition, the project will contribute to improve reliability, electric power supply and demand balance by augmentation of substations and introduction of smart grid system under DPDC.

The Agence Francaise de development (AFD) is the bilateral development agency implementing Official Development Assistance on behalf of the French Government. It has had its operation in Bangladesh since 2012. It supports development projects in various sectors like urban development and infrastructures (water and sanitation, public transports, urban services), power and green energy (energy efficiency, renewable power), corporate and social responsibility (enhancement of safety standards and environmental and social performance). The agency provides concessional sovereign loans and mobilizes grants under the regional blending facility of the European Union.