

Preface

I am happy to know that the 42nd issue of the flagship publication - **“Flow of External Resources into Bangladesh”** of Economic Relations Division (ERD) is being published. It has been maintaining remarkable efforts in presenting external debt in a professional way. It has earned the credibility to serve as “one stop” reference book on external debt as it contains all information related to the issue. The publication provides each and every single data related to external debt and analyses those in terms of debt composition and trend, currency composition and so on. It has a particular focus on risk analysis, as it intends to examine the foreign currency risks, liquidity risks, solvency risks and re-fixing and interest rate risks.

Bangladesh has been experiencing excellent macroeconomic performances with a strong and stable external debt performance over the last decade. At the end of FY 2019 total outstanding of external debt stands 38.48 billion dollar which is around 14.7 percent of GDP. Since Bangladesh became a “lower middle income country” in the rating of the World Bank in 2015, the cost of borrowing has got an increasing trend in the last couple of years. Despite of some exceptions, most of the loans we receive in recent times are concessional with long tenor and generous grace period. It can be mentioned here that at the end of FY 2019 total amount of pipeline stands 47.27 billion dollar. In the financial year 2018-19, the total commitment was 9906.861 million USD and the disbursement amount was 6542.574 million USD which was the highest disbursement ever.

The publication captures debt data of multilateral and bilateral development partners and debt servicing data from the internal sources. A summary data on borrowing from International Monetary Fund (IMF), external debts of State Owned Enterprises (SOEs) and grants extended to the Non-government Organizations (NGOs) are also recorded at aggregated level. Public debts relating to defense establishment as well as private sector debt remain outside the remit of the publication.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge the contribution and hard work of the ERD officials in compilation of huge data meticulously and presenting those coherent sequences and analyzing with eye-catching colorful graphs. I am sure that the publication will meet the need of the concerned interested in this field. I look forward to continuing the publication in future and seek some suggestions from the users’ end for further improvement of the book.

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