We define older persons....

In Bangladesh, Age 60 or above is considered as Older Persons according to National Policy On Older Persons-2013 and UN.
• In this context all Freedom Fighters are considered as older person.
Older Persons in Bangladesh

- In 1991 old age population was 6 million
- In 2011 old age population was 11.19 million
- The rate of increasing was 1.37%
- If this rate continues by 2050, the percentage of population will be about 20%
- Some study shows more of the percentage
Experiencing rapid change of the age structure of the countries population, because of

- Low mortality
- Increased life expectancy due to improved medical facilities.
Govt. Initiatives for MIPAA
Old Age Allowance (OAA)

- In fiscal year 4.9 million people have received OAA.
- In Running Fiscal Year (2021-22) 5.701 million have received OAA.
  - 500 BDT per month

(Total Budget 34445.40 million BDT.)
The beneficiary of the last 5 years Old Allowance Program (OAA)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Number of beneficiaries (In millions)</th>
<th>Annual budget (Million BDT)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017-2018</td>
<td>3.5</td>
<td>21000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018-2019</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>24000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-2020</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>26400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020-2021</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>29400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021-2022</td>
<td>5.7</td>
<td>34445.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COVID-19 response for OP

• Most poverty prone 112 upazilla covered 100% eligible older people under old age allowance scheme.

• It has been extended same scheme in more 150 upazilla in this running 2021-2022 financial year.
Improve Old Age Allowance (OAA) payment system;

• To make OAA payment more friendly and cost effective, Government to Person (G2P) payment system has been adopted to disburse OAA. In this financial year all recipient (5.701 million) is receiving their allowances through G2P system (Mobile Financial Management/Agent Banking) which will be continued.
Old Home in Bangladesh
(Aged Care/Long Term Care Initiatives from Government)

• In Bangladesh older persons usually leave with their children. But we have 85 institutions for children (Sorkari Shishu Paribar). There is a provision for 10 old persons to live with the children.

• Eight old home in eight divisional city of the country will be established under a project where 200 hundred old people will be accommodated with long term care. The total cost of the project is 740 million. The expected time to complete it by June 2022.
• .187290 million Freedom Fighters are receiving honorarium per month including 4 types of festival bonus.

• Government has taken project for establishing 30000 houses for Freedom Fighter by 2023.

• According to our policy 4% of lease money received from our market places are used for the development for Freedom Fighters.
Legal Initiatives for MIPAA

- Adoption of National Policy on Older Persons in 2013: to execute the policy, a plan of action was also accepted by the government thrusting mainly on health, transportation and accommodation.
- As per the provision of rule 8(1) of national policy on older persons 2013, president has declared “senior Citizen” age 60 and above years.
- Parental Care Act has been formulated in 2013 to preserve the right of older persons.
- The rules of this act has been drafted. We are trying to finalize it.
- A draft to ratify Older Persons Development Foundation has been formulated and near to finalize.
- A Draft for ‘National Pension Authority Act, 2022’ has been formulated.
Medical Initiatives

• Subject ‘Geriatric Care and Medicine’ has been introduced in the MBBS course. ‘Curriculum Geriatric Health problem” also included in the subject ‘Epidemiology of Communicable and Non-Communicable disease’.

• Establishment of separate counter to provide service on priority basis for the elderly female in different public hospital.
Government speaking up for calling UN Convention of older people

• Every year government is giving statement regularly through UN mission to Open Ended Working Group on ageing (OEWG) in favor of calling UN Convention for older people.
Methodology

We review our policy with inter-ministerial meeting almost in every year. In that meeting we review the policy gap, set priorities with targeted action to complete the MIPAA. The increasing no. of allowances is the result of this type of policy review.
Inter-Ministerial Meeting

We arrange Inter-Ministerial meetings. There are representatives from almost every important related ministries like Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Housing and Public Works, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Ministry of Communication, Cabinet Division participate in these meetings.
Stakeholder Participation

• We have develop a mechanism where we involve the stakeholders with all our plans and actions.
• We observe International Day of Older Persons on 01 October with the collaboration of stakeholder.
• Besides, there is a provision of helping financially to the stakeholders.
Database

• We have a database of 5.701 million Older Persons who have received Older Age Allowances (OAA) plus 187290 million Freedom Fighters in the last financial years.

• In our next census, we have prioritized that data with Age, Sex and Disability should be collected properly. In this reason, a series of meeting have been conducted already. If it is needed, we will again meet with Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).
Review of National Policies

• We have introduced the Policy for the Development of Older Persons in 2013.
• We have introduced Parental Care Act in 2013 so that the rights of the parents can be protected. In this act abuses are addressed and punishment is mentioned.
• Older Persons Development Foundation is near to finalize. We have few formalities to ratify it. Hopefully it will be introduced very soon.
Priorities

• According to UN Policy, Aged Care and income Security are our Priority.

• Eight old homes in eight divisional cities of the country will be established under a project where 200 hundred old persons will be accommodated. The total cost of the project is 740 million. The estimated time to complete it is by June 2022.

• We have 85 institutions for children (Sorkari Shishu Paribar). There is a provision for 10 old persons to live with the children.
• Bangladesh is prioritizing income security of the older persons. The persons who are now living in poverty are being included under the social safety net programs. Old Age Allowance (OAA) is being provided to them and more than .8 million people have been added in this fiscal year.
• We have formulated an act so that all older persons will be brought under 'universal social pension scheme' gradually. But we want to bring all our older persons who are facing poverty under social safety net programs firstly.
Challenges

• We have a family system in Bangladesh where older persons usually live with their children. But now due to economic growth we are bound to form nuclear family system. As a result traditional support system is decreasing.

In this context we are now facing some challenges like -

• Lack of awareness
• Resource limitations
• Aged care specially health related issues
The impact of ICTs

• We have showed that in the last financial year we have paid OAA to 5.701 million older persons through g2p payment system. There the older persons are being accommodated with knowledge of ICT.

• Due to introduction of this g2p system, the older persons are being able to have knowledge about technology. They are also being introduced to mobile banking, online payment etc. As a result they are going through continuous education and lifelong learning process. In this process more than 12000 number of social worker are helping them at various level. There is a system of monitoring this process at various national level.

• We have a plan to create user-friendly digital apps so that the older persons will be benefited
Capacity building needs

• We think we have some scope of works in the following issues:

1. Aged Care
2. Long term care system
3. Addressing the challenges of older people in community like livelihood, healthcare right access etc.
Regarding Review & MIPAA implementation (Our Planning)

• We have a plan to set up a unit under the Ministry of Social Welfare which will work centrally for the well being of older persons.
• This unit will monitor the implementation progress of MIPAA.
• Representatives from related ministries/and divisions will be included in this monitoring unit as focal point.
• These representatives will also finalize the review of MIPAA.
Continued

• Focal points of each ministries will also monitor the actions which are supposed to done by their respective ministries.

• In every month the meeting of this monitoring unit will be held. In this meeting the progress of action plan will be informed from each ministry/divisions.

• This committee will review the policies for implementation of MIPAA and will suggest for further improvement.
Thank you