



## Status of Road Transport and Transit Facilitation in Bangladesh



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Roads and Highways Department  
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges

# Outline

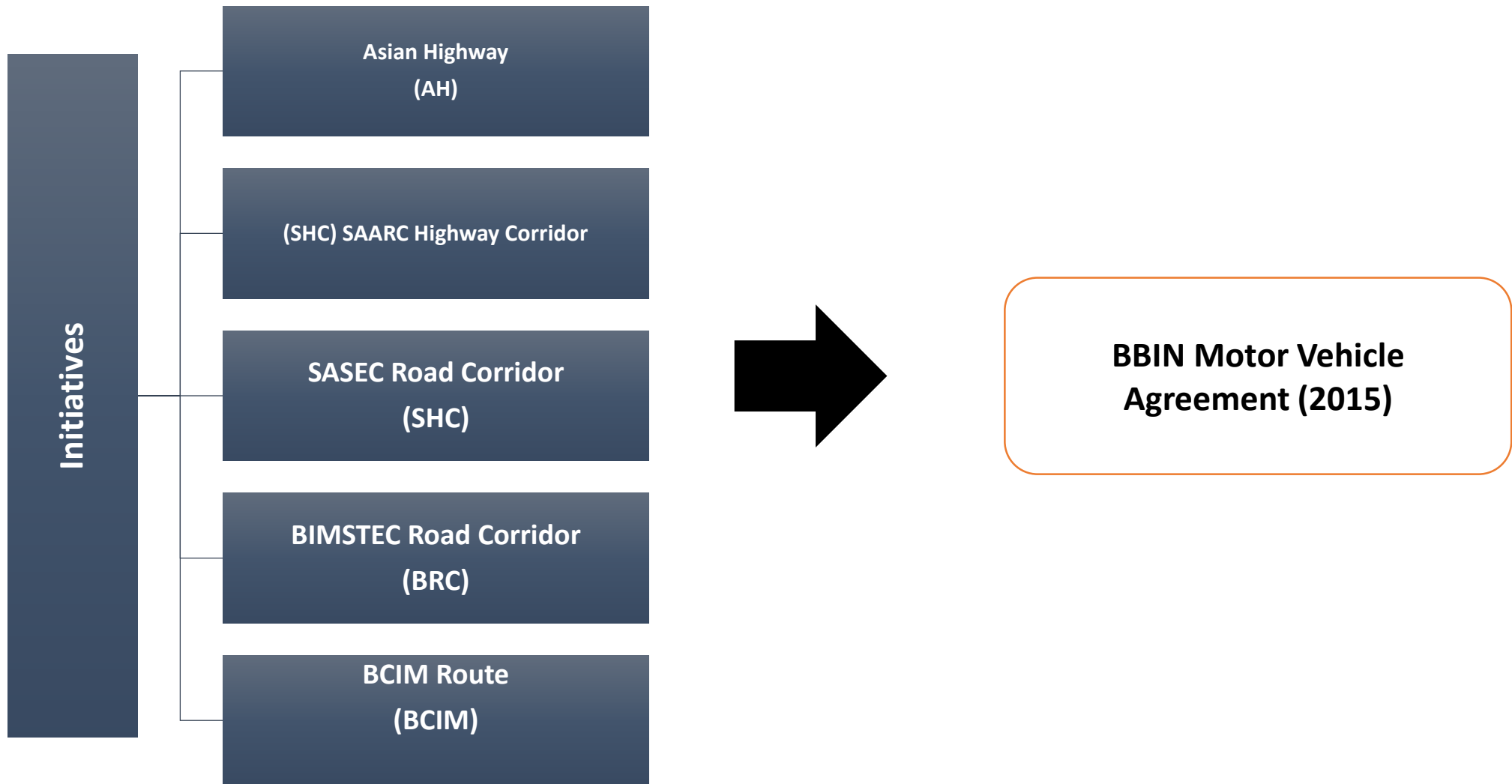
Status of Road Infrastructure in Bangladesh

Initiatives for upgrading of cross border connectivity

Regional Initiatives for MVA

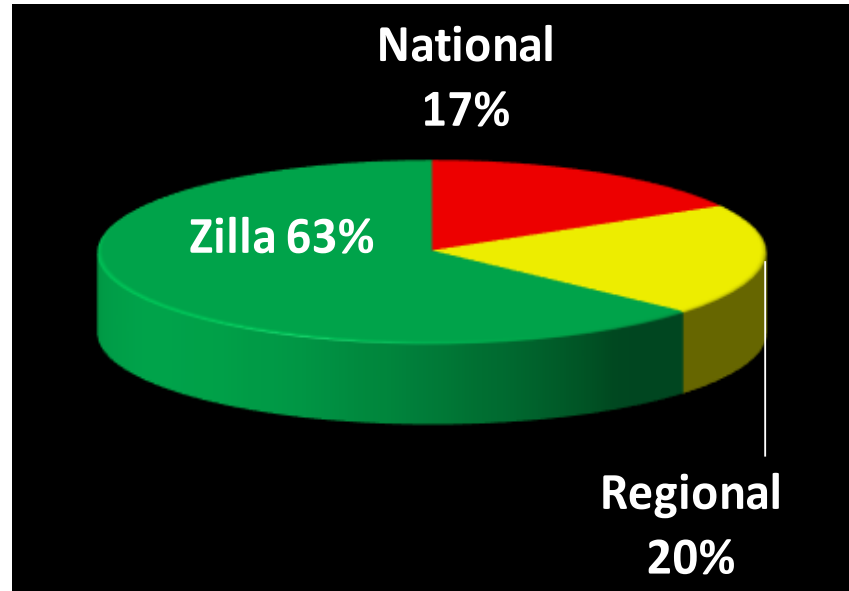
Challenges and way forward

# Regional and Subregional Initiatives for connectivity

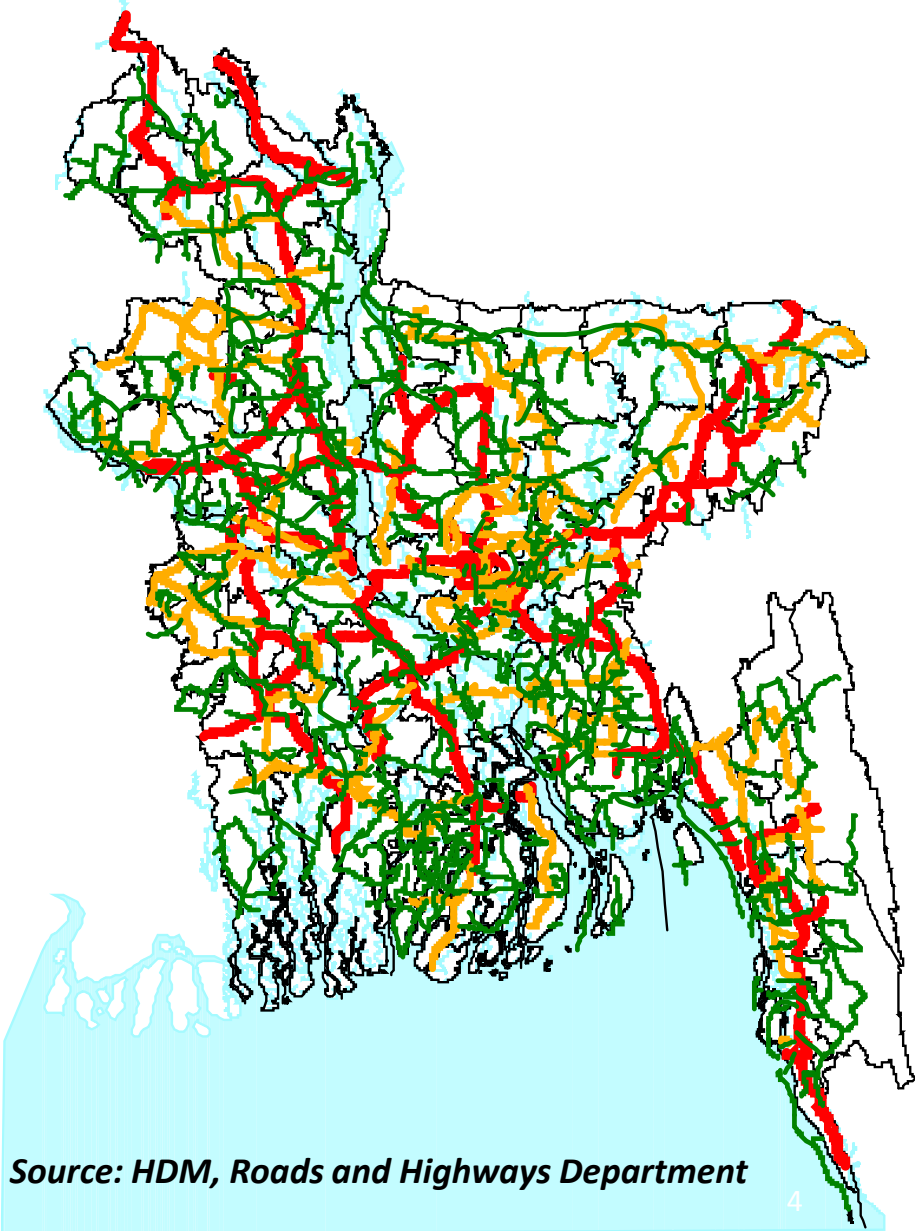


# RHD Road Network

National	--	3,570 km
Regional	--	4,323 km
Zilla	--	13,678 km
Total Roads		21,571 km



Bridges:	4,507 nos
Culverts:	13,678 nos



Source: HDM, Roads and Highways Department

# Asian Highway and Bangladesh

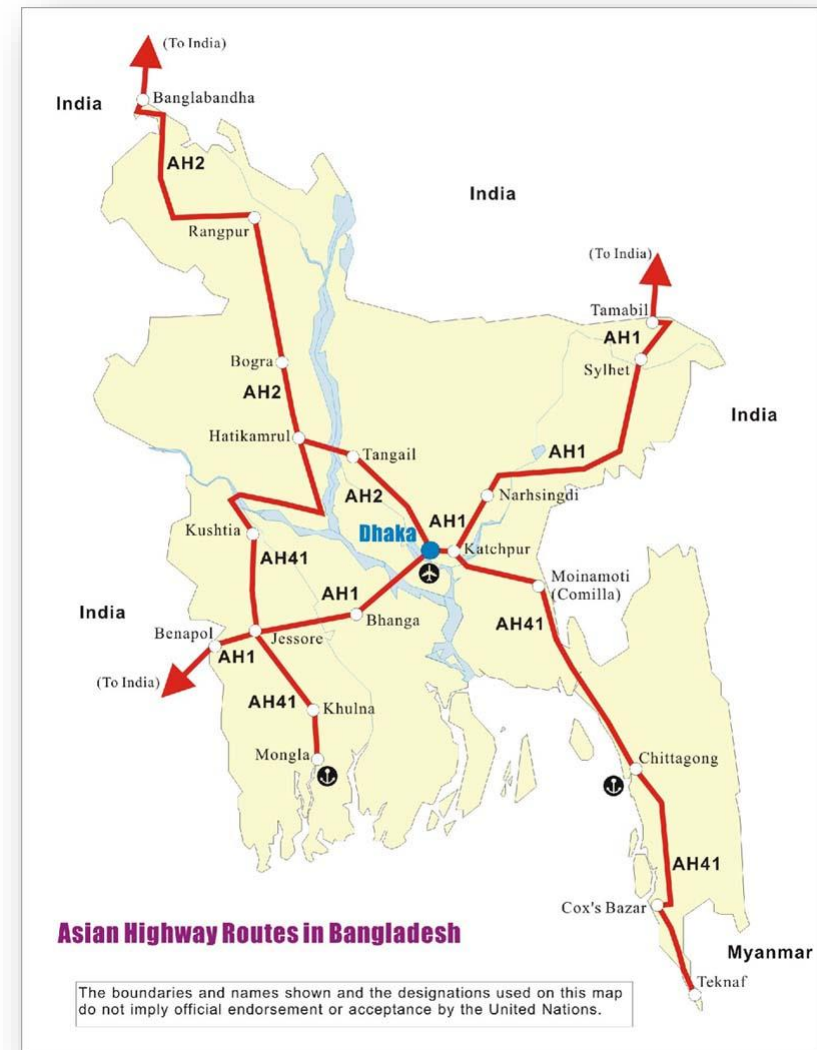
Bangladesh signed the Instrument of Accession in 2009 while the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Asian Highway Network entered into force in 2003

**3 Routes in  
Bangladesh**

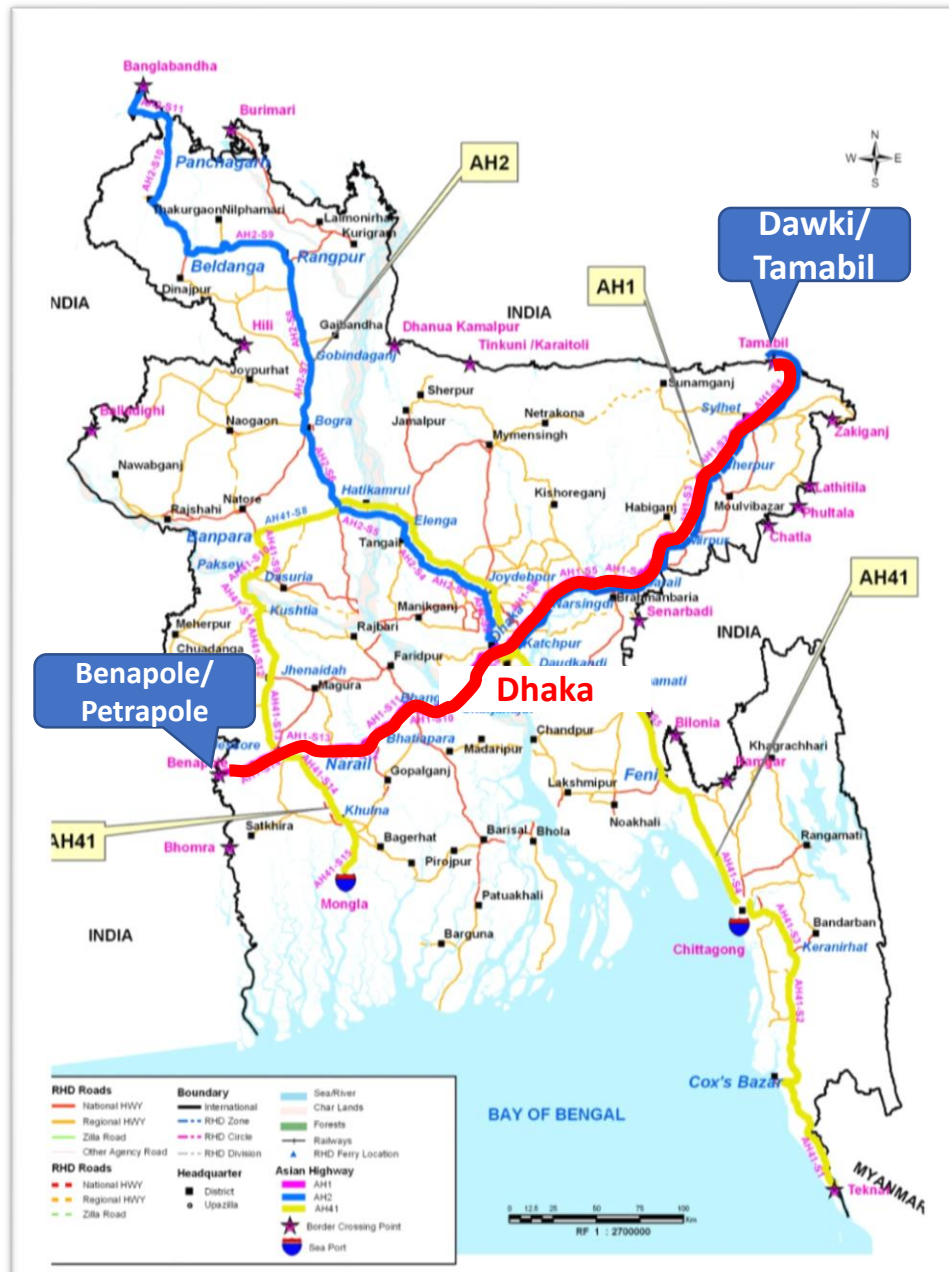
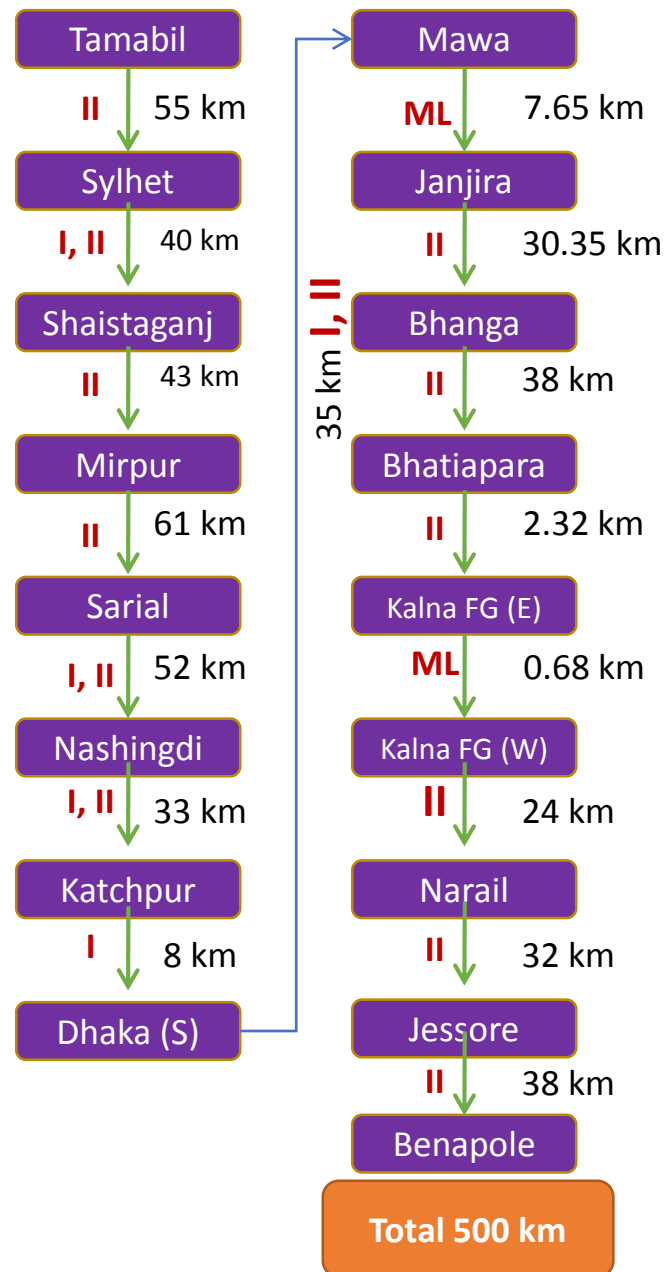
**AH1**

**AH2**

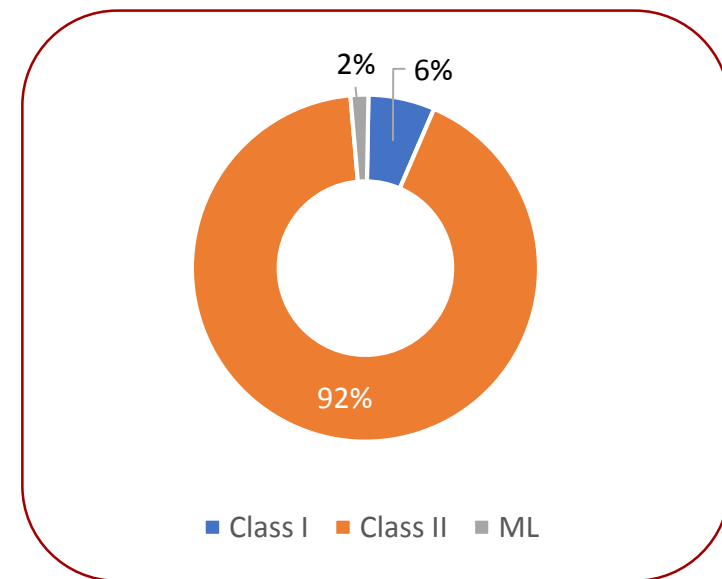
**AH41**



# Asian Highway 1

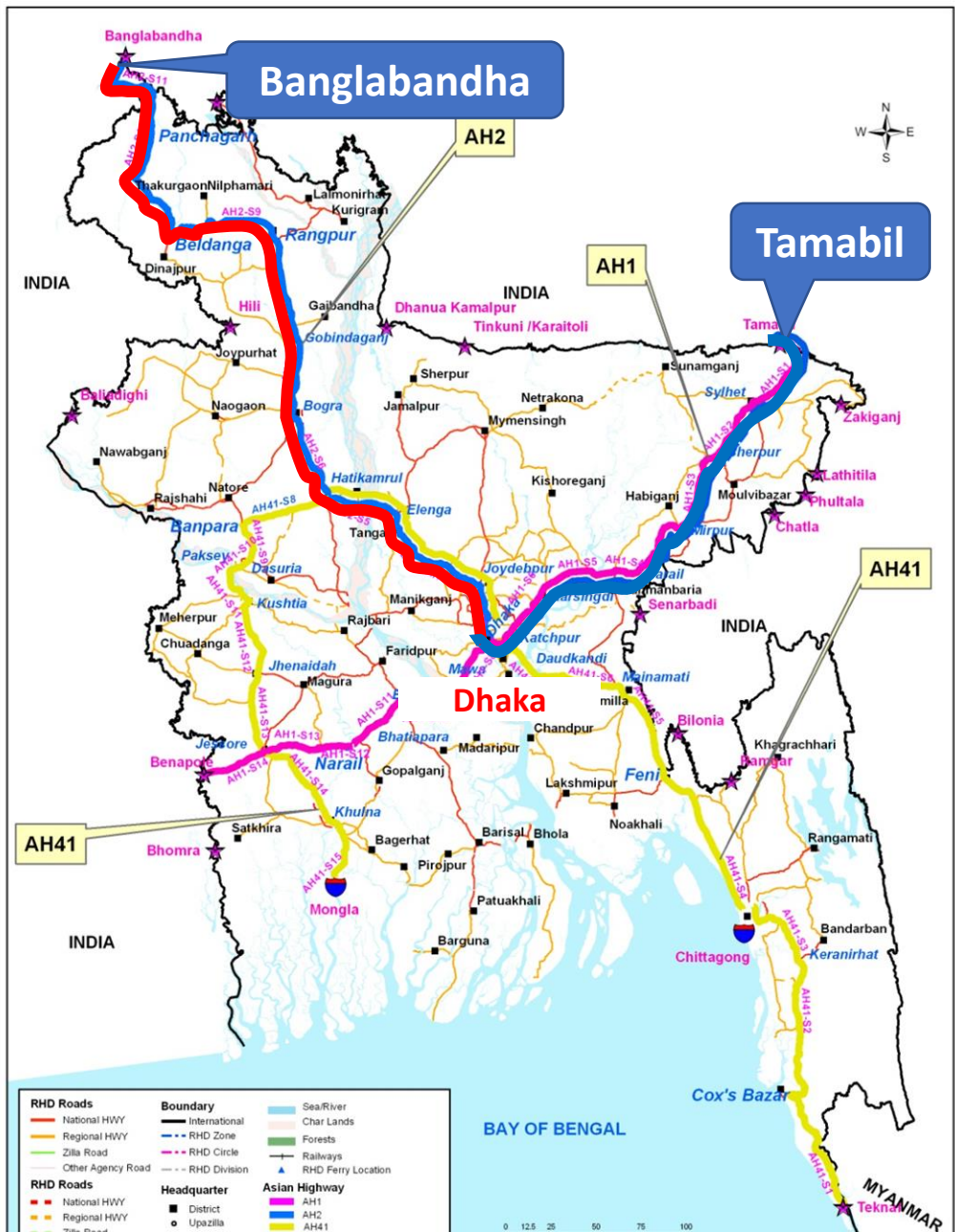
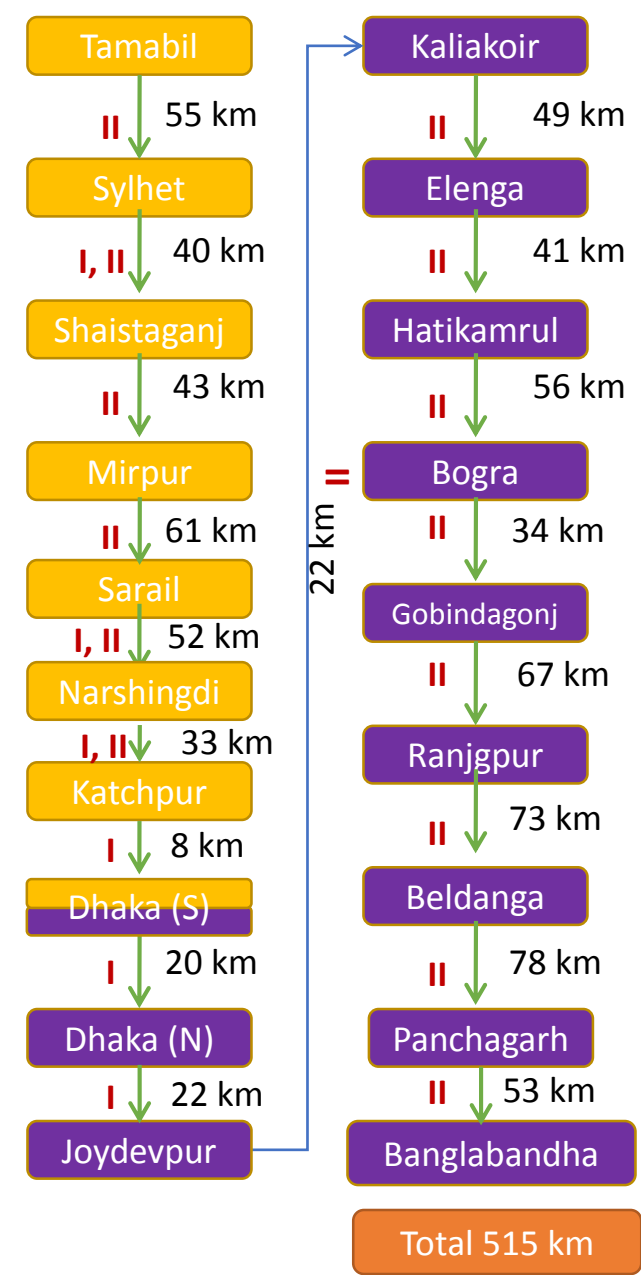


Class I	: 31 km
Class II	: 460.67 km
Missing Link	: 8.33 km

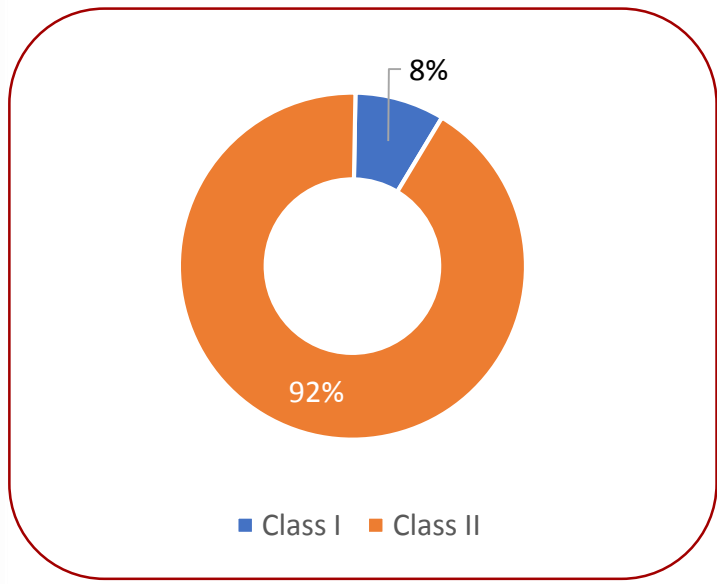




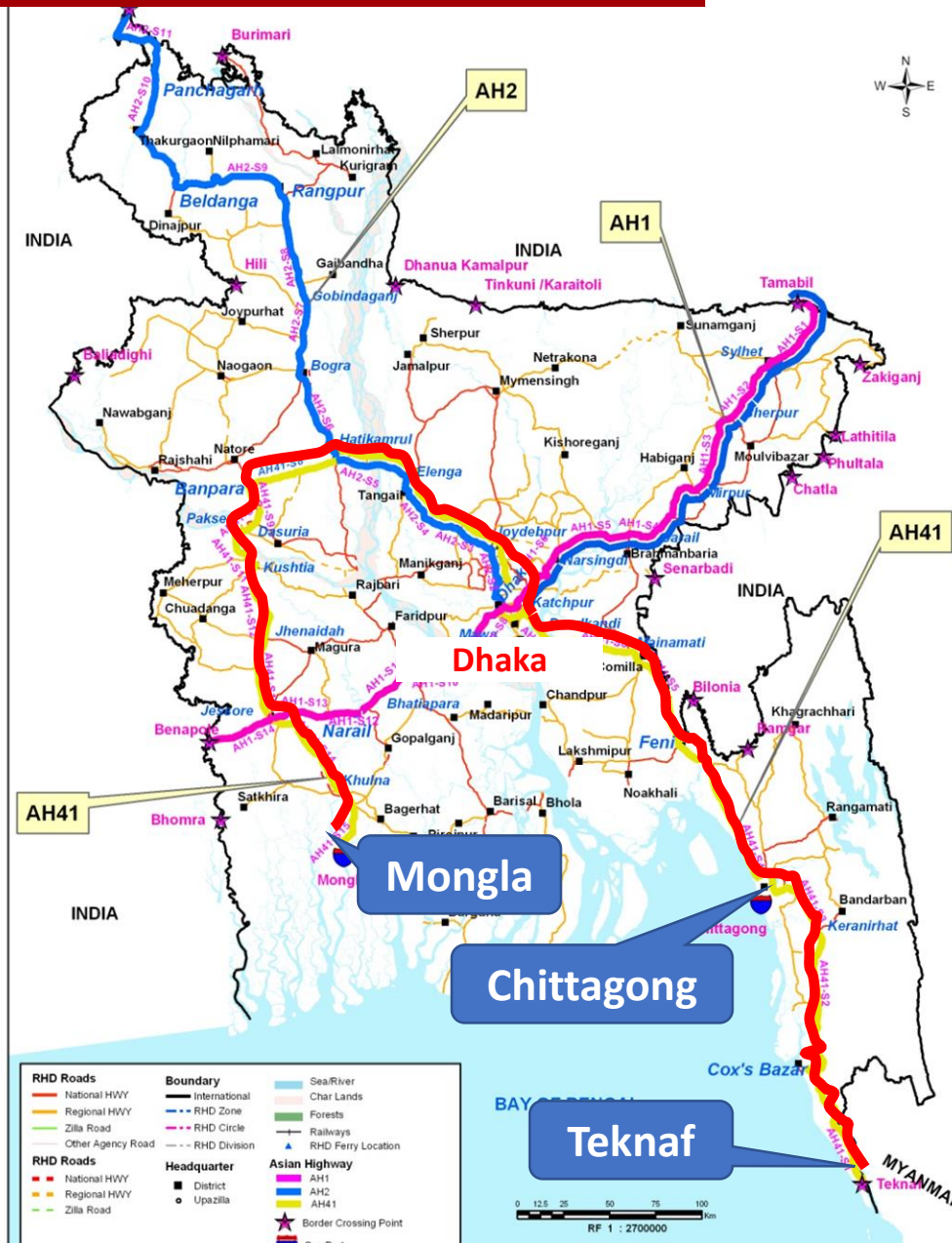
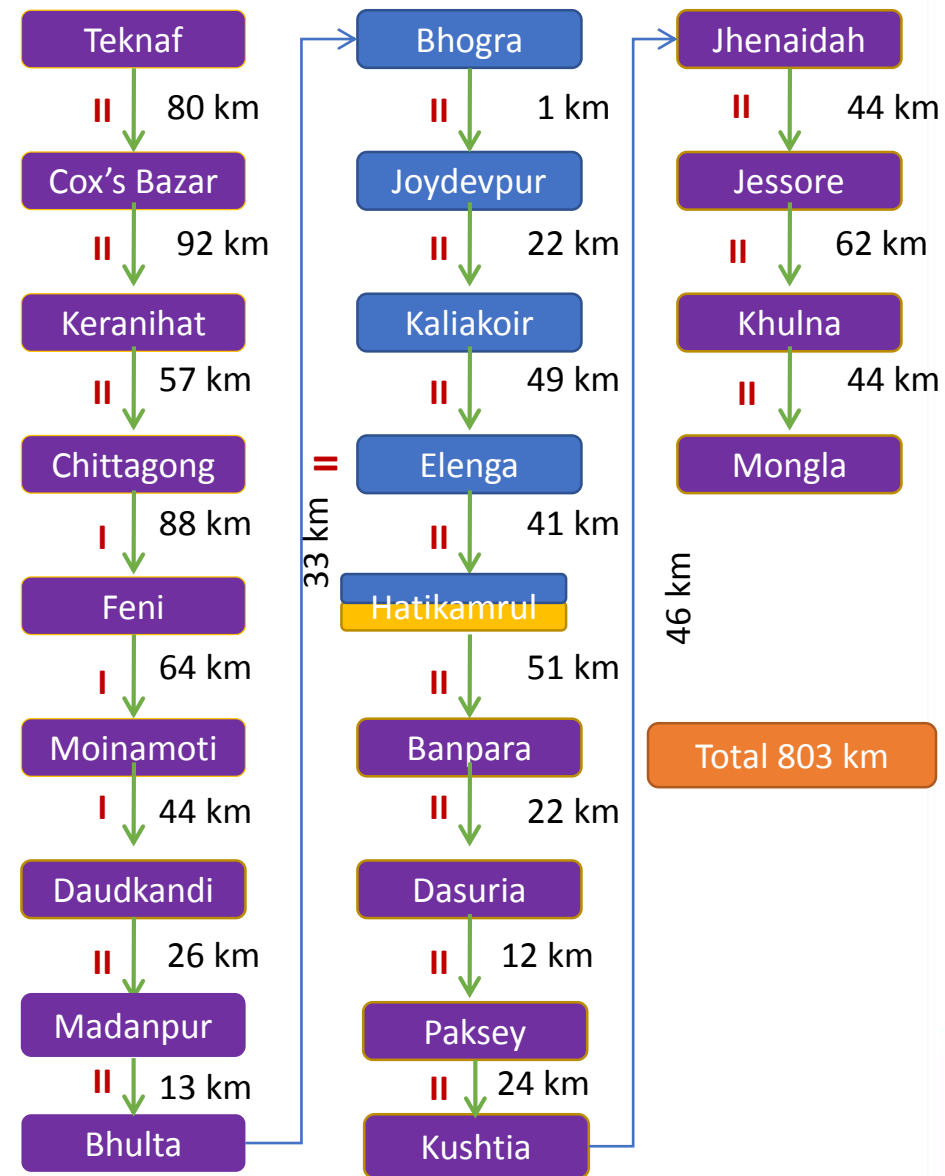
# Asian Highway 2



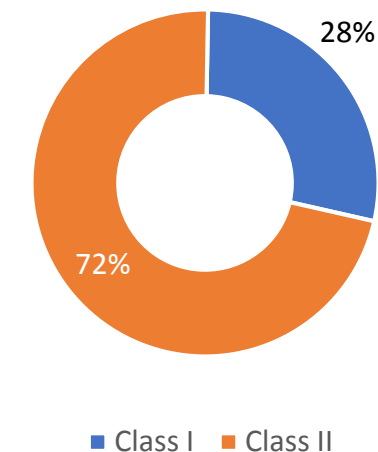
Class I : 42 km  
Class II : 473 km



# Asian Highway 41



Class I: 227 km  
Class II: 576 km





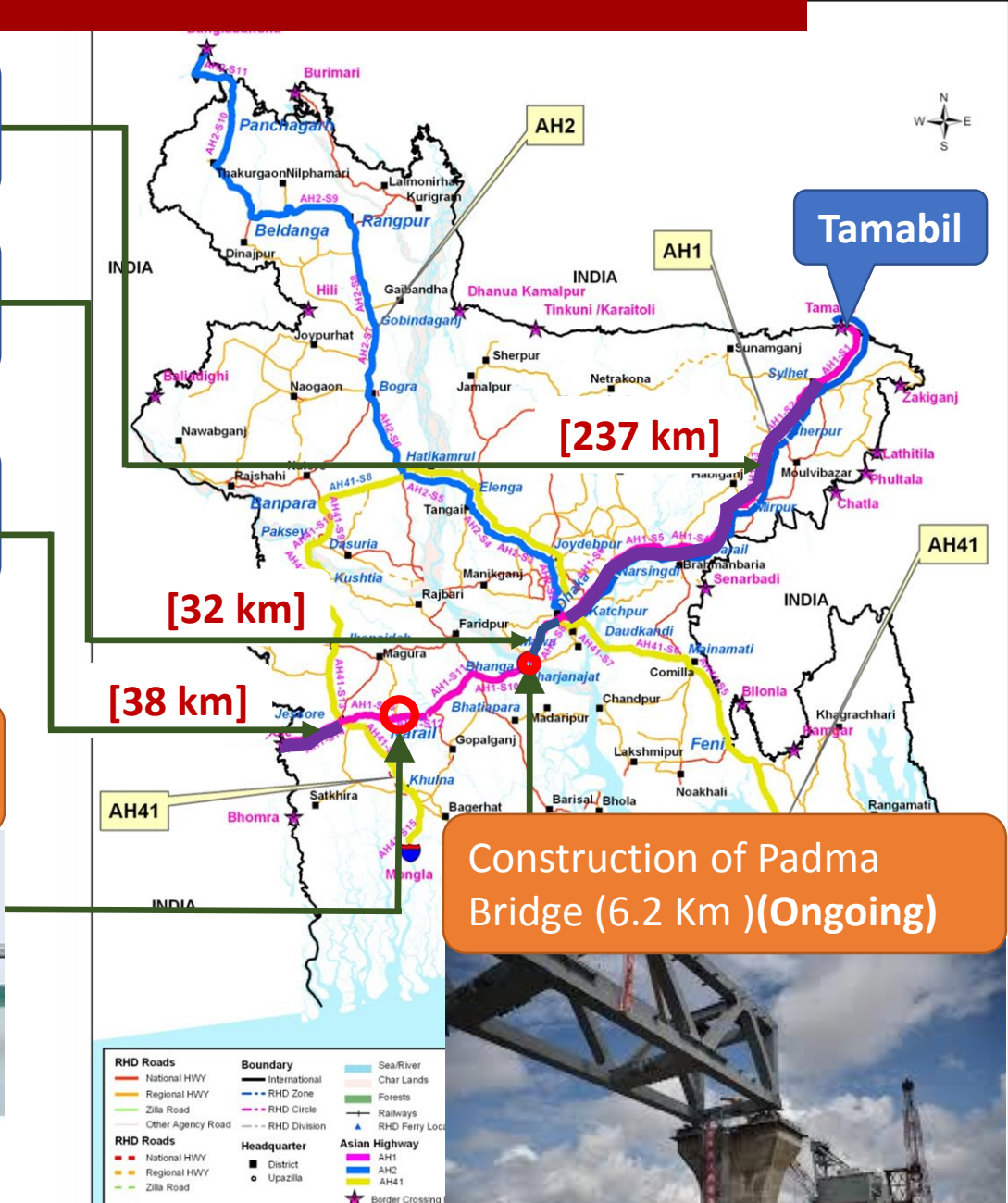
# Upgrading infrastructures along AH-1

Upgrading of Dhaka-Sylhet Highway (Proposed)

Dhaka-Mawa Expressway (Ongoing)

Upgrading of Jessore-Benapole Highway (Proposed)

Construction of 680m Kalna Bridge to commence soon (Ongoing)



With completion of projects  
Class II Roads will increase

31 km (6%) → 338 km (67.6%)

There will be **No Missing Links** on AH-1

Construction of Padma Bridge (6.2 Km )(Ongoing)



# Upgrading infrastructures along AH-2

SASEC Road Connectivity Project-III  
(Proposed)

[138 km]

SASEC Road Connectivity Project-II  
(Ongoing)

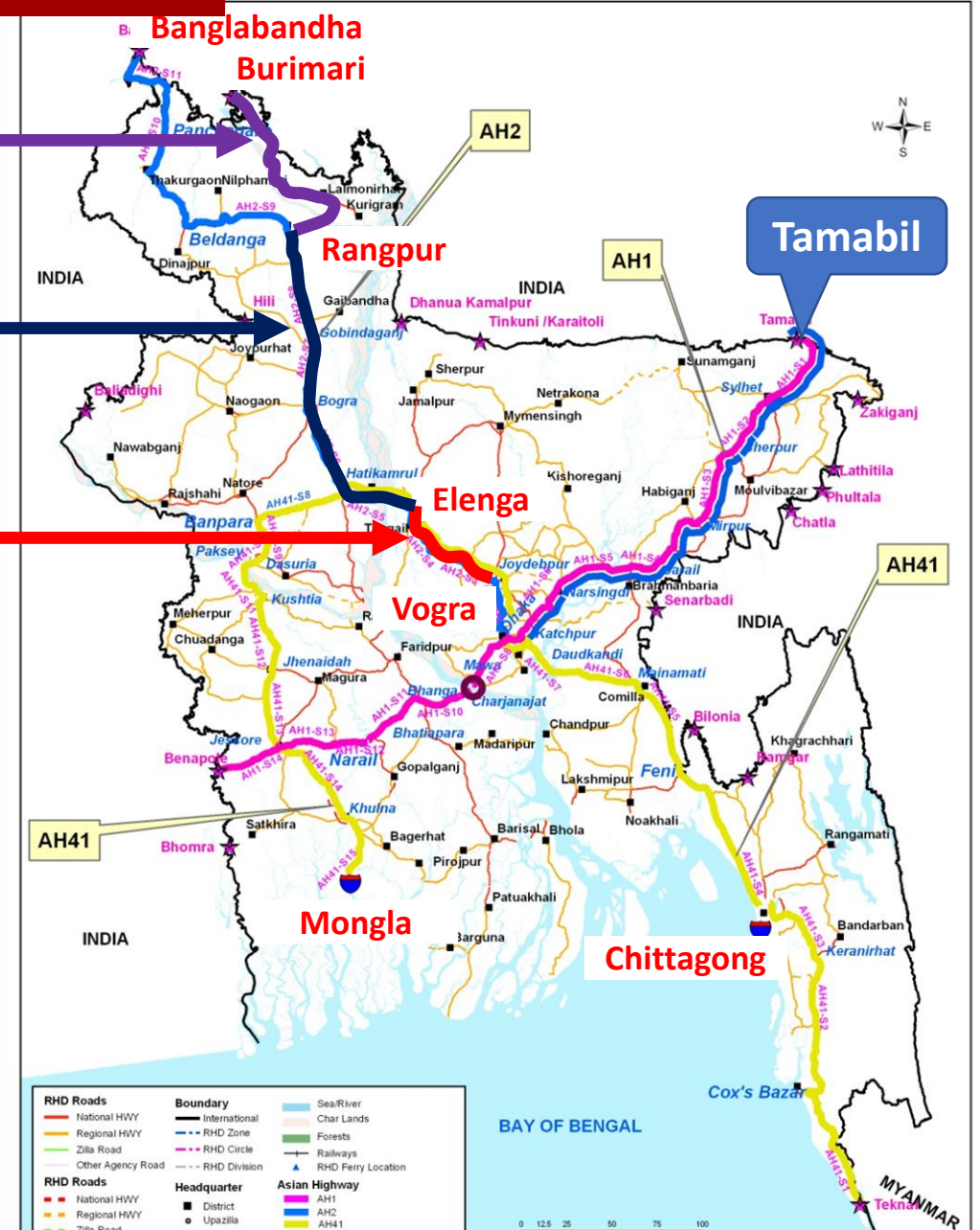
[190 km]

SASEC Road Connectivity Project  
(Ongoing)

[70 km]

- Improving connectivity between **Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Bhutan**
- Upgrading of existing 2-Lane Highway to 4-Lane Highway including **SMVT Lanes**
- Construction of **grade separating structures** at busy intersection and bazaar areas

Asian Highway Routes in Bangladesh





# Upgrading infrastructures along AH

Asian Highway Routes in Bangladesh

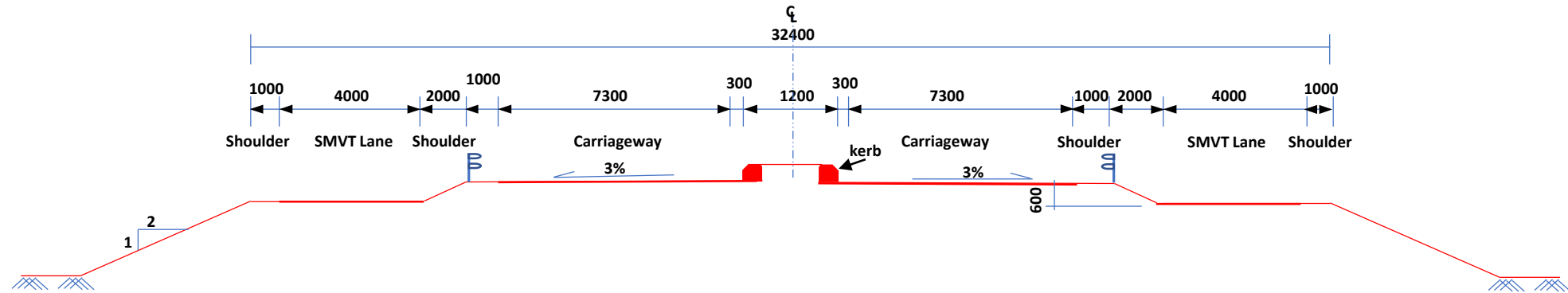
Construction of Access-Controlled Dhaka Bypass to commence soon (PPP)

Upgrading Daudkandi-Chittagong to 4-Lane Highway (Completed)

Dhaka-Chittagong Expressway Project to commence soon (PPP)



# Enhancing Road Safety



Typical upgrading scheme from 2-Lane to 4-Lane Highway



- **Enhanced road safety** due to segregation of slow-moving traffic from main carriageway
- **Enhanced level** of service for fast-moving vehicles
- Grade-separating structures at intersection and bazaar areas allow fast moving vehicles to **avoid congestion**

# Enhancing Road Safety

Countermeasures  
implemented for

**209**

Blackspots on National  
Highways

- Improving of Intersection
  - Major/Major
  - Major/Minor
- Easing sharp bends
- Making pedestrian movement safer

Implementation of road safety countermeasures on N5 resulted in reduction of **53.33% reduction of road crashes** between 2011 and 2012 (**46.67% reduction of death and 30.38% reduction of injury**)

*Source: BRTA, 2012*





# BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement

Signed on 15 June 2015 in Thimpu (Bhutan), BBIN MVA is an agreement **to allow vehicles to enter each other's territory for passengers and cargo.**

Three countries—Bangladesh, India and Nepal—ratified the MVA and are considering **implementation of the MVA** with Bhutan join it after it ratifies the Agreement.

The three countries agreed to **conduct trial runs of cargo** vehicles before finalizing the protocol for cargo vehicle movement.

The implementation of the MVA is expected to improve economic **cooperation and connectivity among member countries.** It will also **help landlocked countries** to integrate more efficiently with global economy



Source: The Daily Star

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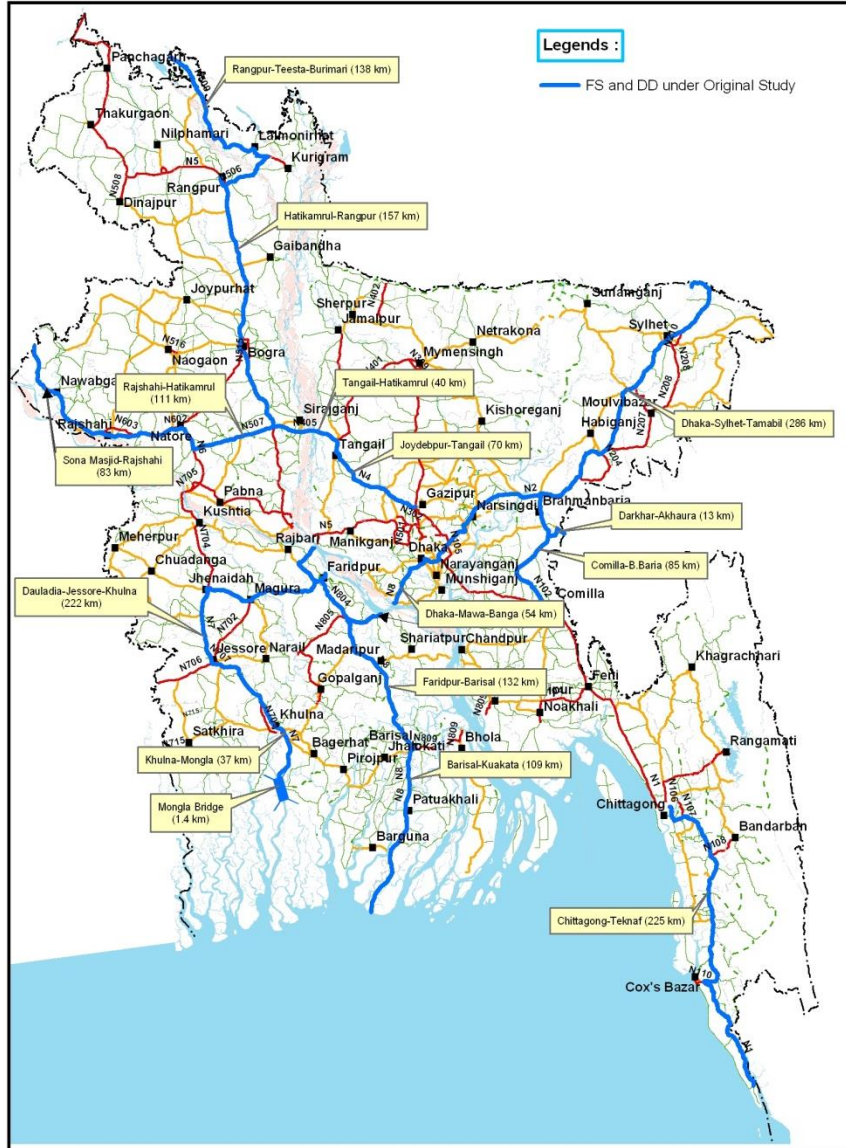
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BBIN Routes



# Studies of cross-border infrastructures



SRTPPF completed  
FS & DD of  
**1751 km Roads**

SRTPPF-II is conducting  
FS & DD of  
**600 km Roads**



# Combating overloading of vehicles

## Legal Framework

Maximum Permissible  
Weight limits for  
Motor Vehicles

**Motor Vehicle Ordinance 1983** (as amended)  
Notification no. **RRD/BRTA/Overload-38/96(P-1)-653**,  
dated **16 November 2003**

Schedule of fine for  
overloading of vehicles

**Government Notification no. 35.00.0000.030.22.003.14-225**, dated **16-08-2016**

Axle Load Station

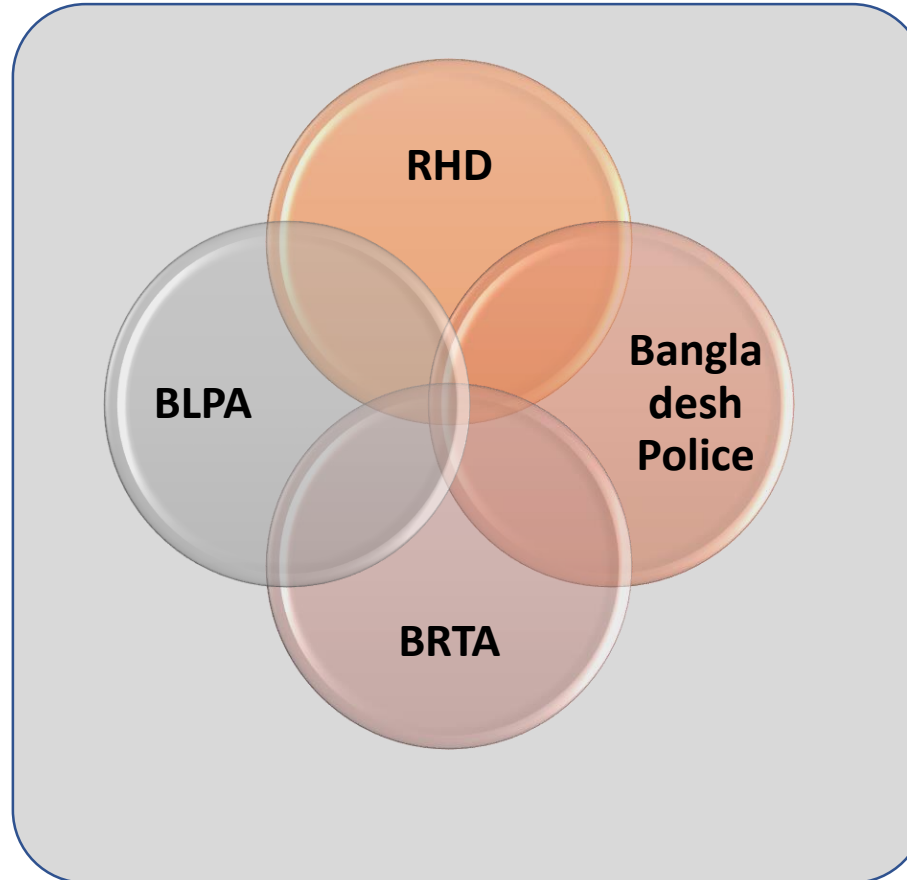
**Axle Load Control Station Operation Policy 2012**



Assigns RHD the task of setting up **weigh stations at strategic places**;  
Stipulates that **a separate enforcement unit** for weigh stations;  
Specifies **a web-based monitoring system**;  
Allows for **changing policies** by Gazette notice

# Combating overloading of vehicles

## Administrative control of overloading



RHD controls overloads as it has a **vested interest in protecting** its roads and bridges

RHD **installs axle load system** on highways and **penalizes vehicles for overloading**

**Weighbridges are in operation** at dry ports under **BLPA**

BRTA provides **the regulatory framework** and takes legal measures against overloading (BRTA Act 2017)

Bangladesh Police **enforces laws against overloading**



# Combating overloading of vehicles

Axle Load Control Stations are installed at strategic locations



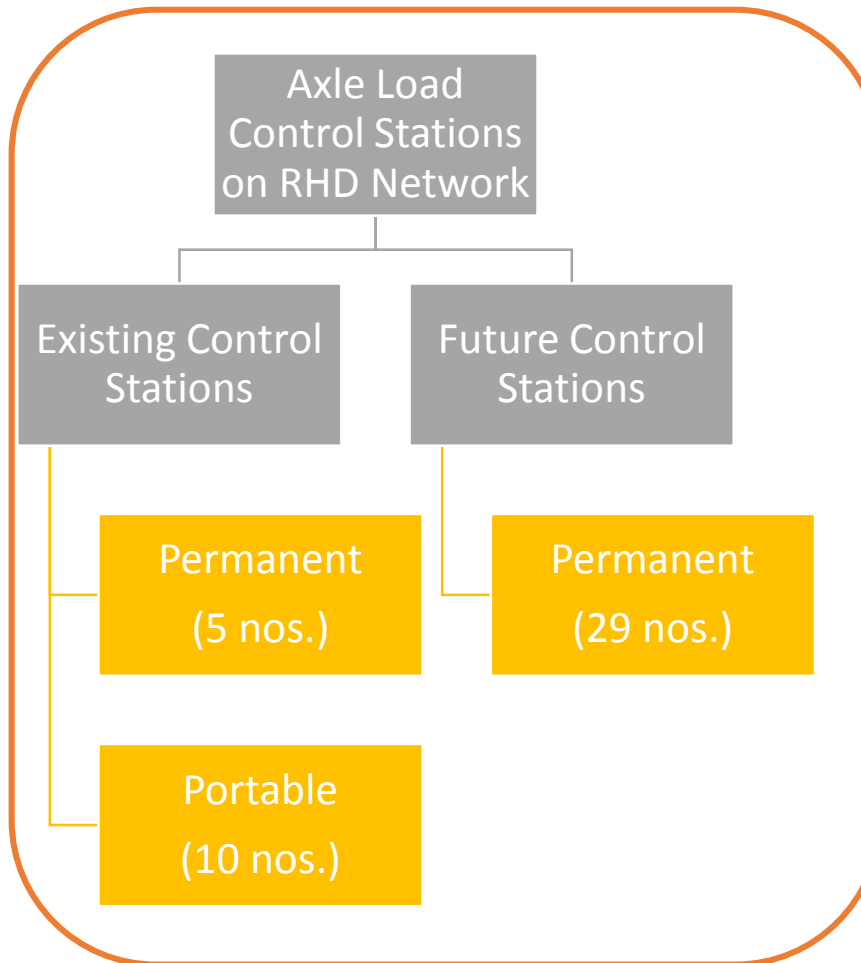
Near **sources of overloading**: Dry Ports, Sea Ports, River Ports, Material Sources, etc.

2 types of axle load stations are in operation: **Permanent and Portable**

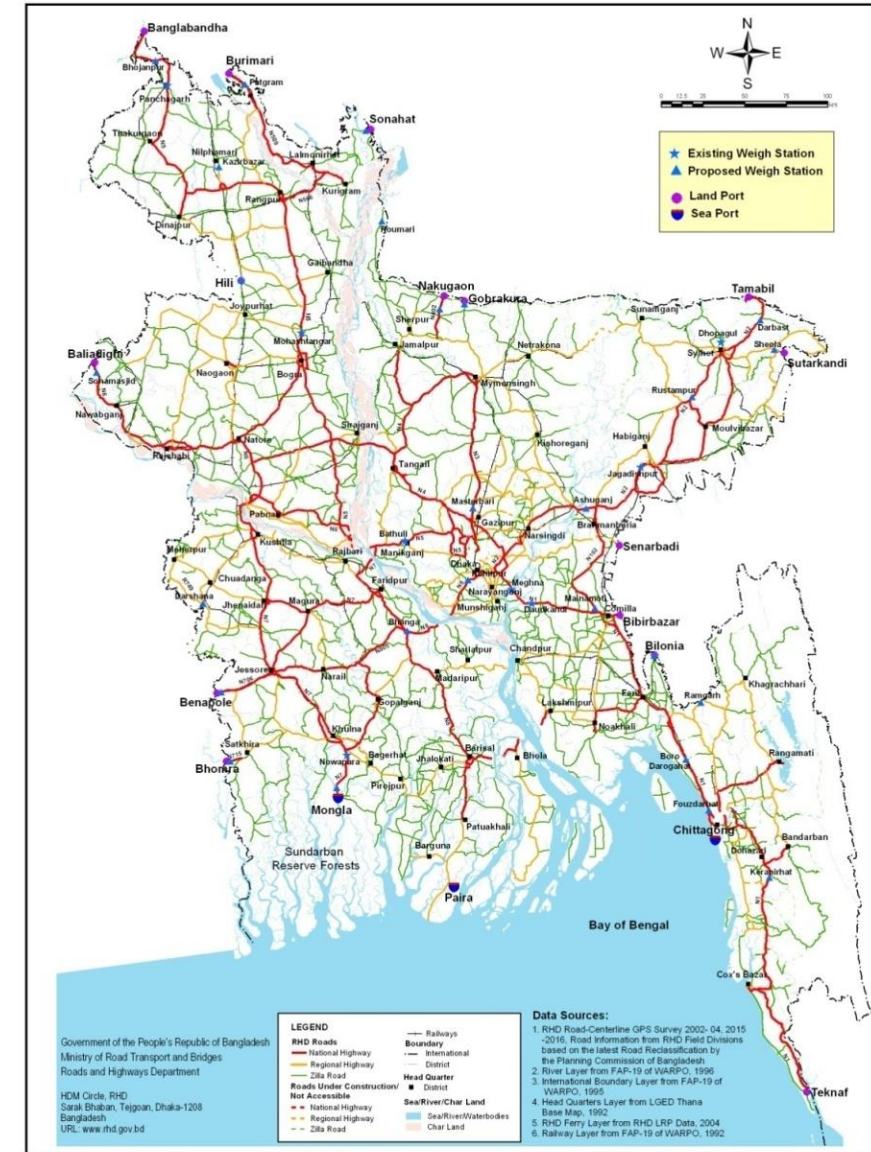
The Selection of location of axle load control stations depends on:



- ✓ Number of commercial vehicles
- ✓ Degree of overloading
- ✓ Reducing incentive of overloading
- ✓ Physical constraints (e.g. ROW)
- ✓ Enforcement



BANGLADESH  
RHD Road Network



# Challenges for Bangladesh

## Missing links & Sub-standard sections

- The construction of **Padma Bridge** (6.15 km) will eliminate the longest missing link on AH1
- Construction of Kalna Bridge (680 m) is included in JICA assisted Cross Bridge Road Network Improvement Project

## Financing

- Projects are financed **by Government and Development partners**
- Where possible, **PPP options** is being explored
- Support from **development partners** need to continue to bridge financing gap

## Infrastructure

- **Road Geometry** to allow regional traffic
- Harmonization of Standards
- Border facilities
- Multimodal integration

**Thank you**