

Social Safeguard Monitoring Report

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Semi-annual Report
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Loan No 3350-BAN: Power System Expansion and Efficiency Improvement Investment Program-Tranche 3 (400/230/132 kV Grid Network Development Project)

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POWER GRID COMPANY of BANGLADESH (PGCB) LIMITED
MINISTRY OF POWER, ENERGY & MINERAL RESOURCES
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH



11th Social Safeguard Monitoring

Report December, 2022

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

- ADB- Asian Development Bank
- GoB- Government of Bangladesh
- WHO-World Health Organization
- DoE- Department of Environment
- CEGIS- Center for Environmental and Geographic Information Services
- PGCB- Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd
- GNDP- Grid Network Development Project
- ECR- Environmental Conservation Rule
- EIA- Environmental Impact Assessment
- ECA- Environment Conservation Act
- EMP- Environmental Management Plan
- EPC- Engineering, Procurement and Construction
- GRM- Grievance Redress Mechanism
- DC- Deputy Commissioner
- TL- Transmission Line
- AP-Affected Person

Executive Summary

This Social Safeguard Monitoring is conducted based on ADB safeguard's policy, the laws and policies of Bangladesh Govt. and Loan covenants between ADB and GoB. At this stage, 9th monitoring has been completed where sub stations are being started for rehabilitation and augmentation. The project includes construction of 4 nos. (New 2 nos. and up gradation 2 nos.) Grid substations and construction of approximately 72 km Transmission lines. "400/230/132 kV Grid Network Development Project", Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd (PGCB) aims to improve provision of sustainable and reliable power supply both in Dhaka & Chittagong city and also enhance the transmission network efficiency in the two cities by Asian Development Bank (ADB) financed projects.

Based on the prepared checklist and policy standard of ADB, Bangladesh Govt. and loan covenant between ADB and Bangladesh Govt., the monitoring team observed the physical (Air quality, waste management, Noise and soil quality), Ecosystem and Biodiversity and social environmental status of the construction site qualitative and quantitative approaches.

The labors, site manager, Health and safety manager, and relevant stakeholders were consulted and different environmental and social issues like occupational health and safety and working condition status (i.e. labor shed, toilet facilities, source of drinking water, wash room, kitchen etc) and gender status, and equal opportunity for those labors were explored during this stage of the environmental monitoring.

Based on the selected parameters of air quality, the results of the air quality were checked to be satisfactory at the project site, whereas no external source of air pollution was observed that can deteriorate air quality in the project areas. During field visit, it was found that water is being sprayed every day to control fugitive dusts and other particles when earth materials become suspended.

Waste management system at Madunaghat and Cumilla (South) is relatively good. All the sites were neat and clean in terms of prevalent solid wastes. Besides, considering the overall situation been observed, there were no significant impacts on the existing vegetation and wildlife.

The working environment is good inside the sub-station; all labors use safety equipments provided by the EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) contractor. Due to Corona Virus now the workers are more awareness and maintaining physical distance as per WHO's instructions. The monitoring team suggested for complying all things using safety equipment for avoiding any accidental cases to reduce overall physical losses during the construction activities.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 The People's Republic of Bangladesh has scaled up its priority to strengthen the electricity production, transmission, and distribution for overall growth and development of the country. In this respect, Bangladesh Govt. has set their goal in providing access to affordable and reliable electricity for all by 2021.

1.1.2 To meet up this increasing demand, Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Ltd (PGCB) has taken initiatives to expand its infrastructure in the transmission system with the construction of the new line, substations, and renovation of existing substations. This project has already obtained the site and environmental clearance certificate from DoE and started the construction works.

1.1.3 A loan agreement was signed between ADB and GoB in this regard on December 22, 2015. The project includes construction of 4 nos. (New 2 nos. and up gradation 2 nos.) Grid substations and construction of approximately 72 km Transmission lines to improve transmission network of Dhaka & Chittagong and improve the power supply reliability.

1.1.4 The project should be implemented in compliance with all the applicable Environmental and Social Rules and Regulations under the Environmental Conservation Rule (ECR) 1997 of Bangladesh, Environmental and Social Management Plan and Monitoring plan described in the EIA report as well as the requirement of Project financier- Asian Development Bank (ADB).

1.1.5 A checklist has been prepared to monitor all indicators regarding national laws and policies as well as the ADB loan covenants. The EPC Contractor started construction for substations & Transmission Line locations and monitoring result identified through monthly field visit regarding the indicators fixed in the checklist.

1.1.6 Under Power System Expansion and Efficiency Improvement Investment Program -Tranche 3 of ADB, 400/230/132 kV GND Project of Power Grid Company of Bangladesh (PGCB) is executing this project. A loan agreement was signed between ADB and GoB in this regard on December 22, 2015.

1.1.7 This is a social safeguards monitoring report for July, 2022 to December, 2022 time period. The objective of this report is to provide a status update on the implementation of social safeguards compliance. This monitoring report is being submitted by 400/230/132 kV GND Project, PGCB to ADB.

1.2 Objectives

1.2.1 Main Objective

The main objective of this Social Safeguard Monitoring Report is to assess the progress on safeguard measures taken during the implementation of the project including the payment of compensations to

the APs.

1.2.2 Specific Objectives

The specific objectives of the Social safeguard monitoring are to:

- i) To assess the compensation and assistance payments,
- ii) To assess the life skill training and status of restoration of livelihoods,
- iii) To review the consultations, disclosure process, grievances & grievances redress mechanisms
- iv) To assess status of the APs,
- v) To assess the safeguard measures at construction sites.

1.3 Project Locations

The final list of the proposed sub-stations & Transmission Line area is mentioned in the Table 1.3.1.

Table 1.3.1: Proposed Substations/ Transmission Lines

Sl. No.	Name of the substations/ Transmission Lines	Address	Remarks
01	Kachua 132/33 kV, 2x50/75 MVA AIS Grid Sub-station.	Kachua, Chandpur.	
02	Kalurghat 132/33 kV, 2x50/75 MVA GIS Grid Sub-station.	Kalurghat, Chittagong.	
03	Up gradation of Madunaghat 132/33 kV AIS substation to GIS substation at.	Madunaghat, Chittagong.	
04	Up gradation of 132/33 kV AIS substation to GIS substation at Cumilla(S).	Cumilla South	
05	Madunaghat-Kalurghat 132 kV Double Circuit Underground Transmission Line	Madunaghat-Kalurghat	7 km
06	Re-conductoring of Existing Cumilla(South)-Chandpur 132 kV Double Circuit Overhead Transmission Line	Cumilla(South)-Chandpur	65 km



Fig: Site Location of 132/33 kV AIS Grid Substation at Kachua, Chandpur.



Fig: Site Location of 132/33 kV GIS Grid Substation at Kalurghat, Chittagong.



Fig: Site Location of 132/33 kV GIS Grid Substation at Madunaghat, Chittagong.



Fig: Site Location of 132/33 kV GIS Grid Substation at Cumilla (South).

2.0 Scope

2.1 Scope of Studies

In line with the aforementioned objectives the scope of the services should cover the following:

- i. Monthly monitoring of construction activities to see their compliance with national environmental and social regulations, and ADB's performance standards on social and environmental sustainability;
- ii. Physical observation (monthly) to assess that all mitigation measures are carried out or in place in conformity with the EMP and action plan;
- iii. Monthly monitoring of different activities of EPC contractor regarding analysis of air quality, water quality, soil texture and quality, soil and land erosion, noise measurement, waste management, etc in connection with the environmental monitoring plan;
- iv. Monthly monitoring of socio-economic issues like community safeguard due to pollution, hazards and employment opportunity;
- v. Suggestion of pollution prevention and mitigation measures to ensure environmental safeguard, to ensure compliance with national environmental and social regulations;
- vi. Keep close liaison with the project implementation office (Project Director), and EPC contractor;
- vii. Provide a monitoring report at the end of every six (6) months in line with the reporting requirement of ADB satisfying equator principles.

2.2 Scope of Report

The report includes brief description of the project, status of the project implementation, and implementation of social safeguards policy. This report emphasises on land requisition procedure, land requisition act, compliance with legal and policy requirements and social safeguard covenants.

2.3 Scope of Works

- **Lot-1 (Sub-station)**
 - a) New 132/33 kV, 2x50/75 MVA AIS Grid Sub-station at Kachua.
 - b) New 132/33 kV, 2x50/75 MVA GIS Grid Sub-station at Kalurghat.
 - c) Up gradation of 132/33 kV AIS substation to GIS substation at Madunaghat.
 - d) Up gradation of 132/33 kV AIS substation to GIS substation at Cumilla(S).
- **Lot-2 (Transmission Lines):**
 - a) Madunaghat-Kalurghat 132 kV Double Circuit Underground Transmission Line: 7 km
 - b) Re-conductoring of Existing Cumilla(South)-Chandpur 132 kV Double Circuit Overhead Transmission Line: 65 km

3.0 Project Description

The objectives of the Project include:

- a) To increase the power supply reliability of Cumilla, Chandpur (Kachua) and Chittagong (Kalurghat & Madunaghat).
- b) To meet the growing demand of Cumilla, Chandpur (Kachua) and Chittagong (Kalurghat & Madunaghat).
- c) To strengthen the power evacuation arrangement & increase power supply stability, reliability & Transmission capability in Cumilla, Chandpur (Kachua) and Chittagong (Kalurghat & Madunaghat) area.

3.1 Project at a Glance:

Table 3.1: Proposed Substations/ Transmission Lines

Project Title	:	400/230/132 kV Grid Network Development Project (Power System Expansion and Efficiency Improvement Investment Program- Tranche 3, Loan No: 3350-BAN)
Ministry/Division	:	Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources/Power
Executing Agency	:	Power Grid Company of Bangladesh Limited (PGCB)
Location of the Project	:	District: Cumilla, Chandpur & Chittagong. Upazilla : Cumilla Sadar, Hajiganj, Hathajari, Chandgaon.

3.2 Status of Project Implementation:

Construction of Kachua 132/33 kV AIS Substation has been completed. Other construction/upgradation work is going on and the progress is as follows.

3.3 Financial And Physical Progress of Project:

Financial Progress Status

Lot#	Contract Price		Cumulative Disbursement			% Progress
	US\$	BDT	US\$	BDT	Equivalent mUS\$	
Lot-1 (Substation)	23,271,515.38	367,308,771.14	23,271,515.38	367,308,771.14	27.00	100%
Lot-2 (Transmission Line)	12,302,867.72	29,881,932.18	12,302,867.72	32,171,049.33	12.68	100%

N.B.: 1US\$= 84.80 BDT

Physical Progress Status

Lot-1 (Substation):

- 1) **132/33 kV AIS Substation at Kachua:**
 - i) **All Line Bays of the Substation (132 kV Comilla-1, 132 kV Comilla-2, 132 kV Chandpur-1 & 132 kV Chandpur-2) including 132 kV Main Bus-1 & 132 kV Main Bus-2 have been successfully energized on 12/01/2021.**
 - ii) **132 kV Transformer-1, 132 kV Transformer-2, 132 kV Bus Coupler Bay and 33 kV Bus along with the associated Bay Equipment have been successfully energized on 17/01/2021**

- 2) **Upgradation of 132/33 kV Cumilla (South) AIS Substation to GIS Substation:**
 - i) **This Substation is charged on 27/03/2022**

- 3) **132/33 kV GIS Substation at Kalurghat:**
 - i) **Substation has been charged on 19/04/2022.**

- 4) **Upgradation of 132/33 kV Madunaghat AIS Substation to GIS Substation:**
 - i) **The Substation has been successfully energized on 28/12/2021.**

Overall Physical Progress of Lot-1(Substations) is 100%.

Lot-2 (Transmission Lines):

- 1) **Madunaghat-Kalurghat 132kV Double Circuit Underground Transmission Line :**
 - i) **Charging has been completed on 09/04/2022**

2) Re-conductoring of Existing Cumilla(S)-Chandpur 132kV Double Circuit Overhead Transmission Line:

- i) Re-conductoring work of Comilla-Chandpur 132 kV transmission line has been completed on 03/05/2019.
- ii) The LILO line for Kachua 132/33 kV substation has been successfully energized on 15/01/2020;

Overall Physical Progress of Lot-2(Transmission lines) is 100%

3.4 Safety Photos at different Substation



Figure: Safety Awareness (Madunaghat)





 REDMI NOTE 9 PRO MAX
 64MP QUAD CAMERA



Figure : Safety Awareness Gathering



Figure : Working with safety (Cumilla SS)



Figure: neat And Clean Workspace At Kalurghat SS

4.0 Involuntary Resettlement:

4.1 Involuntary Resettlement:

The project is category B for involuntary resettlement. ADB safeguard policy statements 2009 (SPS 2009) has been followed in Land Acquisition and Resettlement process. As the selected locations for substations are basically empty & shallow lands, compensations have been paid to the landowners as per provision of the existing law for the value of land and to meet their losses of crops, trees or any other valuables on the land with mutual discussion with land owners. According to the PGCB resettlement plan (2013) the land acquisition for substations involved 38 APs who have been economically displaced due to the project and compensation has been paid to them by PGCB via concerned DC office with additional 50% of market price of the land along with the market price.

As per Electricity Act 1910 and Telegraph Act 1885, permanent land acquisition will not be required for the transmission line. No permanent structure will be affected as the selected route of the transmission line runs basically through crops field and low land area, no resettlement will be necessary. However, compensation has been paid to the landowners as per provision to meet their losses of crops and trees.

Compensation for Resettlement Budget:

Item of Work		Quantity	Price of the acquired land	Compensation	Remarks
Substation	Kachua 132/33 kV AIS Substation	5.00 acre	mBDT 102.92	mBDT 51.46	Additional 50% of the market price of the land for compensation

4.2 Indigenous People

There were no major impacts on indigenous people and communities. The project is category C for indigenous people.

5.0 Performance Monitoring:

5.1 Compliance with Legal and Policy Requirements

Land Acquisition Rules and Regulations:

All land acquisition for power sector development work is done by the land acquisition department of Deputy Commissioner Office by following the acquisition of immovable Property Rules, 1982. As a public limited company PGCB follows the rules of land acquisition strictly and land acquisitions are conducted and compensations are paid through respective DC office.

For any kind of development work land acquisition is a requirement. For a country like Bangladesh which is one of the most densely populated countries land acquisition becomes a difficult task. In order to meet the social safeguard guideline of ADB, the Grievance Redress Committee has been

formed. ADB SPS 2009 and address whether top up payments were delivered on top of DC's to ensure replacement cost at current market price.

5.2 Compliance with Social Safeguards Covenant:

Para	Description	Compliance
5.3	All land and all rights-of-way required for the Project, and all Project facilities are made available to the Works contractor in accordance with the schedule agreed under the related Works contract and all land acquisition and resettlement activities are implemented in compliance with (a) all applicable laws and regulations of the Borrower relating to land acquisition and involuntary resettlement; (b) the Involuntary Resettlement Safeguards; (c) the RF; and (d) all measures and requirements set forth in the respective RP, and any corrective or preventative actions set forth in a Safeguards Monitoring Report.	Being Complied
5.4	No physical or economic displacement takes place in connection with the Project until: (a) compensation and other entitlements have been provided to affected people in accordance with the RP; and (b) a comprehensive income and livelihood restoration program has been established in accordance with the RP.	Being Complied
5.7	The Borrower shall ensure, or cause the Project Executing Agency to ensure, that all bidding documents and contracts for Works contain provisions that require contractors to: (a) comply with the measures and requirements relevant to the contractor set forth in the RP and any small ethnic community peoples plan, and any corrective or preventative actions set out in a Safeguards Monitoring Report; (b) make available a budget for all such social measures; (c) provide the Borrower with a written notice of any unanticipated resettlement or small ethnic community peoples risks or impacts that arise during construction, implementation or operation of the Project that were not considered in the RP or any small ethnic community peoples plan; (d) adequately record the condition of roads, agricultural land and other infrastructure prior to starting to transport materials and construction; and (e) fully reinstate pathways, other local infrastructure, and agricultural land to at least their pre-project condition upon the completion of construction.	Being Complied

5.3 Compliance with resettlement plan requirements

As the selected locations for substations are basically unused lands and compensations have been paid to the landowners as per provision of the existing law as the value of land and to meet their losses of crops, trees or any other valuables on the land. Relating with law PGCB or contractor can cut down only those trees which hamper to construct the transmission line or project. Transmission lines are constructed in mainly open or bared land. So no resettlement required. According to the government law no compensation is provided for transmission line to land owners. But crop or tree compensation is provided as per law. Project official's contractor give high emphasis, so that minimum use of land occurs. Necessary social safeguards are kept in contract document and contractors are bound to follow.

6.0 Implementation of Grievance Redress Mechanism and Stakeholders' Complaints:

6.1 Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM)

There have been successful Implementations of social safeguard policy, including resettlement till date in the project. No significant issues related to the safeguard policy were reported during the monitoring period. Most of the project operations are as per the prescribed format of the resettlement plan and safeguard policy. To resolve all project related grievances and complaints a common social and environmental grievance redress mechanism will be in place. Common and simple grievances will be sorted out at project site level by the Contractor's Resettlement Supervisor, supervision staff of PMU and project NGO within 7 days. More serious complaints will be sent to the safeguard officer at the PMU to be resolved in 14 days. Any unresolved grievances will be forwarded to GRC to be resolved within 21 days. Despite the project GRM, an aggrieved person shall have access to the country's legal system at any stage.

6.2 Status of Implementation of the GRM

Compensation was paid to owners those were affected on acquisition by account payee cheque in presence of the local Member of Parliament, local representatives and local Government officers. Permanent Land acquisition was not required for the TL as per Electricity Act 1910 and Telegraph Act 1885 but due Compensation will be paid to the land owners to meet their losses of crops and trees. No permanent structure will be affected as TL passed through open field and agricultural land. PGCB project officials, District office are always ready to meet any kind of argue or dispute with proper judgment according to existing laws. Regarding Grievance Redress Mechanism, a complaint register has been opened at each site. A **Safeguard Focal Point** has been in charge to address any grievance regarding the project. However, not a single major grievance has been recorded in the project area.

7.0 Stakeholder Engagement:

7.1 Stakeholder Engagement Process

Stakeholders are fully engaged in compensation process. They can also argue if they think payment is not satisfactory.

7.2 Consultations

Project office has welcomed consults from the stakeholders. Still now no complaint has been found by affected persons or local people. The PGCB officials and contractor will deal any kind of issues if raised in future and resolve it.

8.0 Conclusion:

This monitoring was conducted at three sites and explored the compliance status based on ADB safeguard policy, EMP provided in the EIA, Bangladesh Govt. and ADB loan covenant. In this stage of environmental monitoring, the Environmental Management System and Action Plan, Occupational Health and Safety, Workers' wellbeing, Biodiversity and Sustainable Management of Natural Resources have been observed through site specific field visit (monthly) and following the indicators stated in the checklist. In addition, compliance status has been provided made it clear indicator's base status during the construction phase of the project at the three selected sites.

The objective of social safeguard and monitoring is to compensate the people, who are affected by the projects, resolve any kind issues. It is a continuous process by which people can live with full satisfaction.

The copies of own policy documents of the contractors and their subcontractors pertaining to regular consultation with local people with various issues.

PGCB will also follow up with local administration regarding any kind of problems or discomfort with local people and try to resolve it.