

PRS Implementation Forum, 2005

Working Session 2
November 16, 2005

Social Development and Empowering the Poor

A 1 Year Agenda for Action

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PRSP Follow-up: Action Plan for 2006

PRIORITY AREA	ISSUES FOR STUDY/REVIEW	ISSUES FOR CONSENSUS-BUILDING	ISSUES FOR PROGRAMME INITIATIVE
<i>Addressing inequality</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preparation of area-specific industry profiles to assist local entrepreneurship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Align SME policy more closely with local business realities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased allocation to rural areas
<i>Local governance</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rapid assessment of Union Block grants ▪ Draft comprehensive local govt legislation ▪ Comprehensive annual sector report on local government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reformulating upazila proposal ▪ Viable proposal on city government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased allocation on Union block grant with enhanced participation and performance review ▪ Revamped training strategy for union parishads
<i>Social protection</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Detailed munga mapping ▪ Comprehensive mapping of new risks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social partnership for a comprehensive anti-monga strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A 4-pronged anti-monga strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safety nets - physical protection - livelihood diversification - awareness campaign ▪ Pilot on consolidating implementation of safety nets through union parishads ▪ Reduction of toll at Jamuna bridge

<p><i>Quality Education and Skills</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Independent review on PEDP-II progress ▪ Viable approach to pre-schooling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rationalize private tutoring at primary level ▪ Community engagement on pre-schooling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pilot on school meal at primary level ▪ Voluntary information bank on returned migrant workers ▪ Enhanced focus on english in school and skill education
<p><i>Women's advancement</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive status report on women's advancement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ratification of international covenants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Female-only public transports in Dhaka and Chittagong and on selected inter-district routes

Relevant Statistics

Table 1

Reasons for Dowry

Reason for dowry	% of rural households
Meet immediate financial needs of family	26%
Start-up capital for groom	33%
Prestige considerations	33%
Financing higher education	4%

Source: PPRC-DFID Purposive Study to assist PRSP Poverty Analysis: 62 Village Re-Study, 2004

Table 2

Poverty Burden of Marriage Expenses

Issue	Boy	Girl
Average marriage expenditure for all rural households	19000 Taka	50000 Taka
Average marriage expenditure for poor rural households	6700 Taka	25000 Taka
Girl marriage expense as % of average rural household income		84%
Girl marriage expense as % of average poor rural household		115%
Dowry as % of marriage expense for poor households		80%

Source: PPRC-DFID Purposive Study to assist PRSP Poverty Analysis: 62 Village Re-Study, 2004