Celebrating 35 years









Celebrating 35 years







This Book is Dedicated To:

Our Great Freedom Fighters





Celebrating 35 years

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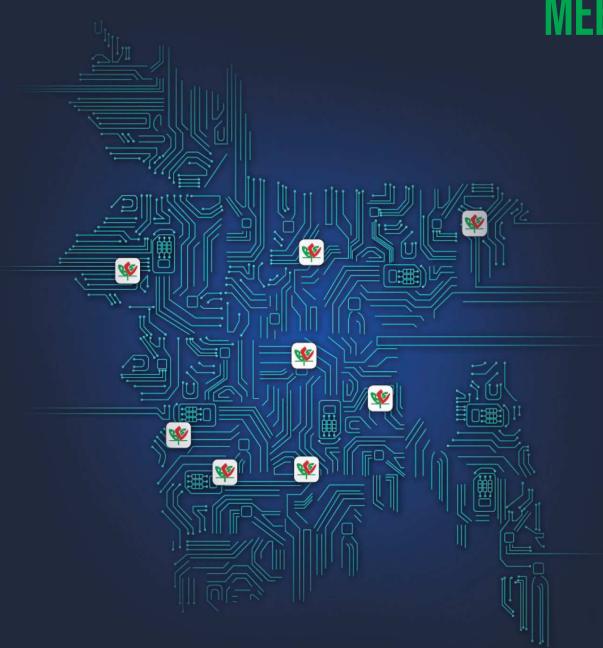
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MEET DIGITAL BANGLADESH MEET BCS







Editorial

n the 35th birth anniversary, the Bangladesh Computer Samity, commonly known as BCS, is drawing a lot of compliments and best wishes for the tremendous job done in the country for the last three decades.

With over 2500 members, BCS marked into the 35th year when the world is at the threshold of the 4th industrial revolution which is based on 5G and Ai.

This glorious journey of BCS started with a handful of tech-savvy vibrant youths, with a vision to serve and take the motherland to the top priority.

The visionary steps are taken by the government of honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the relentless effort of the tech-friendly BCS members have taken Bangladesh to the middle-income country group.

The government has created ICT infrastructure such as Hi-Tech Parks, Sheikh Russel Digital Labs, Multimedia Classrooms; Fiber Optic Connectivity to Union Level, 3G and 4G mobile broadband; launched the country's first satellite Bangabandhu-1 and expecting to launch the second satellite Bangabandhu-2.

We cordially thank our honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and the government for the prudent decision to make the ICT a mandatory subject from grade 6 to 12 among others.

With a view of widening the awareness and use of information and communication technology across the country, BCS has established dedicated computer markets in different districts. For instance, Jalil Market in Khulna, a market in the port city Chittagong and IDB in Dhaka.

In this special publication, we tried to accommodate and cover the activities and initiatives - nationwide awareness program, ICT fairs, participation in global events and promoting Bangladesh, holding coding and gaming competitions to motivate youths, activities of 8 branches, training campaigns, roundtables—taken by BCS as completely as possible.

Considering the limited space and time constraints we may miss some moments or activity or there might be some errors. We apologize for the unintentional mistakes you might find and seek your leniency in advance.

We thank all who have worked and contributed to making this publication possible.







PRIME MINISTER GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

12 Magh 1427 26 January 2021

Message

It is indeed a great pleasure for me that Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) is reveling its 35th founding anniversary. I congratulate all concerned relating to this celebration.

Bangladesh Awami League, for the very first time in 2008, unveiled the vision of Digital Bangladesh by 2021 to the people through the election manifesto. Since then we are rendering 200 digital services to the people by establishing 6,686 digital centers and 8,500 e-post offices all over the country. We have introduced fiber-optic cable for faster internet connectivity and launched the country's first satellite- Bangabandhu Satellite-1, which has opened a new horizon of digital services for our people. Setting up National Data Center Tier 4, we are keeping the national information safe and secured inside the country. Presently the number of registered mobile SIM is 164.170 million and internet users exceeded 110 million. Keeping the global cyber risks and crimes in mind, we have taken state-of-the-art cyber-security measures in all types of institutions so that the digital life of our citizens remains safe and secured. Our Government is keen to transform the young generation into human resources capable of sustaining in the digital world. Following successful implementation of the above mentioned and associated digital initiatives, Bangladesh has received recognitions from the International Telecommunication Union for its successful ventures.

We are planning to introduce the 5G network soon. Along with that our government is working on Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Big Data, BlockChain, Internet of Things, and future technologies in Bangladesh. We have started providing e-passports and the launching of e-visa is underway. We started transforming our traditional mass education system into online. Now we are planning to launch Bangabandhu Sattelite-2 and establish the Sub-Marine Cable-3 in near future. We are unceasingly working to eliminate the digital divide among the countrymen.

We have declared 2020-2021 as 'Mujib Year' for celebrating the birth centenary of our Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. We have taken many programs to celebrate this historic occasion. But amid the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, we have to limit, while celebrating the occasion on the digital platform. We are going to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of our Independence this year on 26 March. Despite all adversities due to the pandemic, our economy grew by 5.2 percent. Bangladesh has already graduated from LDC to a middle-income country as we perfectly executed our government's vision-2021 and we are confident that we can transform Bangladesh into a developed country status by 2041.

My warm wishes to Bangladesh Computer Samity along with the people of the country.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina

Jan Erran



ALL EC COMMITTIES OF BCS BCS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2020-2022



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR
President



MD. JABEDUR RAHMAN SHAHEEN Vice President



MOHAMMED MONIRUL ISLAM Secretary General



MD. MUZAHID AL BERUNI Joint Secretary General



KAMRUZZAMAN BHUIYAN Treasurer



MOSHARAF HOSSAIN SUMON Director



MD. RASHED ALI BHUIYAN Director



2019-2020



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR President



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Vice President



MOSHARAF HOSSAIN SUMON Secretary General



MD. JABEDUR RAHMAN SHAHEEN Treasurer



ENGR. SUBRATA SARKAR Director



Director



MD. ASUB ULLAH KHAN JEWEL MOHAMMAD MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN Director



ENGR. SUBRATA SARKAR President



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Vice President



MOSHARAF HOSSAIN SUMON Secretary General



MD. JABEDUR RAHMAN SHAHEEN Treasurer



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR Director



Director



MD. ASUB ULLAH KHAN JEWEL MOHAMMAD MUSTAFIZUR RAHMAN Director



2016-2018



ALI ASHFAK President



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Vice President



ENGR. SUBRATA SARKAR Secretary General



NAZMUL ALAM BHUIYAN (JEWEL) Joint Secretary General



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR Director



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Director



S.M. WAHIDUZZAMAN Director



ABU HANIF MD. MAHFUZUL ARIF President



MAZIBUR RAHMAN SAWPON Vice President



NAZRUL ISLAM MILON Secretary General



S.M. WAHIDUZZAMAN Joint Secretary General



KAZI SHAMSUDDIN AHMED LAVLU Treasurer



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Director



ALI ASHFAK Director



2012-2013



MD. FAIZULLAH KHAN President (2012)



MUSTAFA JABBAR President (2013)



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Vice President



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR Secretary General



MD. JABEDUR RAHMAN SHAHEEN Treasurer



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Director



MAZIBUR RAHMAN SAWPON Director



MUSTAFA JABBAR President



KAZI ASHRAFUL ALAM Vice President



MAZIBUR RAHMAN SAWPON Secretary General



NAZMUL ALAM BHUIYAN (JEWEL) Joint Secretary General



MD. AKTERUZZAMAN Treasurer



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Director



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR Director



2008-2009



MUSTAFA JABBAR President



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Vice President



MOHAMMAD ZAHIRUL ISLAM Secretary General



KAZI ASHRAFUL ALAM Joint Secretary General



MD. SHAHID-UL-MUNIR Treasurer



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Director



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Director



MD. FAIZULLAH KHAN President



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Vice President



YOUSUF ALI SHAMIM Secretary General



NAZRUL ISLAM MILON Joint Secretary General



KAZI ASHRAFUL ALAM Treasurer



MOHAMMAD ZAHIRUL ISLAM Director



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Director



2004-2005



S.M. Iqbal President



AHMED HASAN Vice President (2004)



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Vice President (2005)



ALI ASHFAK Secretary General



MD. FAIZULLAH KHAN Joint Secretary General



A.S.M. ABDUL FATTAH Treasurer



A.T.SHAFIQUE UDDIN AHMED Director



MOHAMMED AJEEZUR RAHMAN Director



MD. SABUR KHAN President



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Vice President





MOHAMMED AJEEZUR RAHMAN Secretary General



ALI ASHFAK Joint Secretary General



ABU HANIF MD. MAHFUZUL ARIF Treasurer



MUSTAFA JABBAR Director



S.M. IQBAL Director



2000-2001



ABDULLAH H. KAFI President



M. A. WOHAB Vice President



ENGR. MD. ATIQUL AHSAN Secretary General



MD. MOHIUDDIN BHUIYAN Joint Secretary General



MD. NAZMUL HAQUE (SHAMIM)
Treasurer



OBAIDUR RAHMAN Director



FORKAN BIN QUASEM
Director



AFTAB UL ISLAM President



MD. MOINUL ISLAM Vice President



MD. SABUR KHAN Joint Secretary General



MAZIBUR RAHMAN SAWPON Director



AHMED HASAN Secretary General



K. ATIQUE-E-RABBANI Treasurer



MUSTAFA SHAMSUL ISLAM
Director



1996-1997



MUSTAFA JABBAR President



ABDULLAH H. KAFI Vice President



MUNEEM HOSSAIN RANA Secretary General



BORHAN UDDIN Joint Secretary General



M. SABIR AHMED Treasurer



M. SHAHIDUZZAMAN Director



SHAIKH ABDUL AZIZ Director



SAJJAD HOSSAIN President



SAIF D. SHAHID Vice President



GHULAM MOHIUDDIN Joint Secretary General



MUNEEM HOSSAIN RANA Director



ABDULLAH H. KAFI Secretary General



MUSTAFA JABBAR Treasurer



M. SABIR AHMED Director



1992-1993



SAJJAD HOSSAIN President



SAIF D. SHAHID Vice President



GHULAM MOHIUDDIN Joint Secretary General



MUSTAFA JABBAR Director



MOIN KHAN Secretary General



ABDULLAH H. KAFI Treasurer



MUNEEM HOSSAIN RANA Director



S. M. KAMAL President



AFTAB UL ISLAM Vice President



MOIN KHAN Joint Secretary General



DIDAR A HUSAIN Director



SAIF D. SHAHID Secretary General



ABDULLAH H. KAFI Treasurer



SHAFQUAT HAIDER Director



BCS: GLORIOUS JOURNEY OF 35 YEARS

angladesh Computer Samity, popularly known as BCS, was formed three decades ago with a vision to become the guiding light of Bangladesh ICT sector and safeguard the interest of all industry stakeholders.

With its relentless and sincere service since its inception in 1987, BCS has established itself as the apex ICT business and trade industry association of organization of the country.

After becoming the first registered ICT trade association of Bangladesh in 1992 with 15 member companies, BCS now has 2,583 ICT companies as its members.

BCS has 8 branches—Sylhet, Khulna, Jessore, Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Cumilla, Barisal and Chattogram- across Bangladesh to spread the awareness of ICT services and products among the rural people.

BCS introduced now-famous ICT expositions to the country in the year 1993 with the title 'BCS Computer Show'.

The apex ICT trade body joined the Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization (ASOCIO) as an associate member in 1996 and expanded its activity and reach beyond border.

ASOCIO is an ICT Federation organized by ICT associations representing 24 countries across the Asia Pacific.

Today's affordability of internet connectivity is the success of BCS' advocacy since 1996 on behalf of VSAT license and economical bandwidth charge in the country.

BCS made its contribution to the policy making level by making 45 recommendations to the JRC committee in 1997. The historic recommendations included withdrawal of duties, tax & VAT from computer and its accessories, formation of National ICT Task Force headed by the lead of the government, declaring ICT as a thrust sector, formation of National ICT Policy, special incentives for the local and foreign investors and entrepreneurs among others.

Bangladesh government included Computer Education in curricula of SSC and HSC levels in 1998. The same year government also decided to withdraw all duties, tax and VAT on computer and computer accessories.

In the same year, BCS became a member of The World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), which is a consortium of ICT industry associations from economies around the world representing over 90 percent of the world ICT market.

Bangladesh Computer Samity established BCS Computer City, one-stop ICT market, at the IDB Bhaban in Dhaka in 1999. The market has been a role model in the South Asia.

The Samity Introduced ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit on ICT in the Asian-Oceanian region starting from Dhaka in 2000.BCS

obtained full membership of ASOCIO the following year.

BCS' another success came in 2002 when the Bangladesh government decided to connect Bangladesh to the international super data-highway via SEA-ME-WE4 consortium via Submarine Cable Line. BCS has been working for this for a long time.

Following BCS' initiatives, the country's first ICT Incubator was launched in 2002.

The Bangladesh government in association with BCS started a nationwide ICT awareness programme in 2005.

In a bid to provide a strong technological foundation, BCS has been designing and organizing awareness campaigns for the school children.

After a decade, in 2008, BCS received a National Award as a recognition for its contribution to the development and expansion of ICT in the country. BCS is the only ICT trade association and 256 registered trade bodies in the country to have received this award.

BCS, in 2009, had introduced 'BCS Digital Expo' in 2009 based on digital lifestyle.

In the same year, the oldest ICT trade body took a special project 'BCS Digital School' with a view to raise the use of ICT in education.

BCS distributed computers, internet modems and other materials to over 50 educational institutions across the country.



BCS Executive Council paid a courtesy call on the then-Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The EC was headed by BCS president Aftab UI Islam, MD Moinul Islam, vice president, Ahmed Hasan Jewel, secretary general, MD Sabur Khan, joint-secretary general, Atik E Rabbani, treasurer, and EC member Mustafa Samsul Islam Prince (1998).





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the BCS Digital Expo and ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2010.

The trade body also took initiative to establish Bangabandhu Digital University to offer higher education in ICT.

The project is now under direct initiative and funding of the government following the signing of MoU between the government and the BCS.

Again in 2011, BCS received yet another National Award in the category 'The Most Popular Non-Government e-Initiative'. The same year, BCS established the laptop market 'Eastern Plus BCS laptop bazaar' at the Eastern Plus Shopping Complex in the capital Dhaka.

BCS' relentless effort brought another historical and timely success when the government made computer education mandatory in high schools.

BCS continued to expand with establishing the country's largest ICT market at Jamuna Future Park Shopping Complex in 2013.

In 2014 BCS introduced warranty policy to ensure robust business environment and consumer rights for ICT products.

The same year Bangladesh Ministry of ICT, Banglalink Digital Communication Ltd and Daffodil International University won WITSA Global Excellence Award. BCS has nominated them for the award.

BCS also unveiled 'BCS Innovation Centre' to organize training, symposium, discussion session among members.

Bangladesh Computer Samity joined the Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business (AFACT) in 2015.

2015 is also the year when BCS introduced the famous 'Bangladesh ICT Expo'.

BCS president was elected as vice chairman of AFACT in 2016, showing competency in the global arena.

The same year, Bangladesh has been selected for hosting the 'World Congress on IT (WCIT/WICT) 2021' a mega-event of World Information and Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA)

In 2017, BCS president elected as AFACT chairman by AFACT Steering Committee and Bangladesh hosted the 36th AFACT Plenary Meeting the following year.

2018 has also been an important year in terms of consumer-oriented service. BCS introduced Warranty and Maximum Retail Price Policy (MRP) to safeguard the rights of consumers.



A group photo of BCS family from the early 90s. (1992-1993,)



First BCS Executive Council for 1987-91, from Left: Mr Aftab Ul Islam (vice president), Mr Abullah H Kafi (treasurer), Didar A Hossain (EC Member), Mr S. D. Shahid Secretary General, S.M. Kamal (president), Shafquat Haider (EC member), Mr Moin Khan (Joint Secretary General)





BCS holds a post-budget press conference titled "SHULKA O PSI MUKTA COMPUTER CHAI" demanding withdrawal of TAX and PSI on computers and all ICT accessories at the VIP lounge, National Press Club, Dhaka (2002).



Bangladesh Computer Samity along with Infrastructure Development Company Limited, Bangladesh Association of Software and Information Services and Internet Service Providers' Association of Bangladesh organizes seminar on 'IT Infrastructure for Bangladesh.



BCS members pays their tribute to the Language Movement martyrs in 2006.



Former state-minister of science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman speaks at a computer distribution programme of 'BCS Digital Education Campaign' while former BCS president Mustafa Jabbar and incumbent president Shahid-Ul-Munir and other distinguished guests listen to his speech (2009).





Newly elected BCS executive council for 2008-2009 pose for a photograph with election commissioners and other BCS member after the poll.



M N Islam, managing director of Flora Ltd. casts his vote during BCS Executive Council election for 2010-2011.



Sajeeb Wazed Joy, ICT advisor to Honoruable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives 'Most Popular e-Initiative in Private Sector' award to then BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar in 2011.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina giving crest to the Former Vice President of BCS, Kazi Ashraful Alam for his cotribution to the countries ICT at Digital Expo 2010.





A snap from the press conference prior to the 'BCS ICT World 2012' at the BCS' old office at Sonar Tori Tower in Dhaka.



BCS Digital Expo 2010 Convener Md. Shahid-Ul-Munir delivered his speech at the inaugural programme of and ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2010.



BCS greets newly elected BASIS executive council in 2016.



Honourable guests at the Iftar and Doa Mahfil hosted by BCS.





New-elected BCS executive council, for the term 2016-2017, pay a courtesy call on honourable State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak at the ministry.



BCS hosts a reception in honour of Mustafa Jabbar in 2018 for electing as Post, Telecommunication and ICT minister



BCS Secretary General Mosharaf Hossain Sumon speaks during a bootcamp in Naryanganj.



BCS greets Salman F Rahman after being appointed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's adviser on private industry and investment.





MUSTAFA JABBAR

Minister, Posts and Telecommunications Division

Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology

DIGITAL BANGLADESH:A GREAT EQUALIZER NATION

he global ICT body, WITSA is going to arrange its WCIT 2021 Summit this year, starting from 11 to 14 November. Every year the ICT body organizes this mega event in a selected country. Long before it was discussed that they were supposed to organize the event in Bangladesh. We are happy that this year, at the time of celebrating the golden jubilee of our independence, the event is going to take place in Bangladesh, which will be the host country. In addition, celebrating the birth centenary of our Father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is connected with this year. Therefore, we are celebrating both great events together; unfortunately, we Bengalis are sad that we could not be celebrating the two great events largely, as we dreamed of, due to the ongoing global pandemic restrictions. However, in the time of Covid-19, despite the social distancing and the travel risks we are going to host the event of WCIT.

I hope it's not just going to be their best event; it will be the best of best events in the world. The theme of the event is called 'ICT The Great Equalizer' which means ICT is a great tool for eradicating poverty and establishing equality in society. The theme of the summit was not only a demand of time; it's for ending inequality and poverty from the world, and I think the summit will show us a new direction to establish an exploitation-free knowledge-based society. This is an extraordinary idea that ICTs can minimize the digital divide,

economic inequality, and social injustice. I am grateful to those who selected the topic for the summit.

Especially for our country, such a summit with this great theme will help us to take more action to abolish social and economic inequality in every sphere of life. At the summit, our experts will get an opportunity to talk to experts from other countries. As I can remember 25 years before BCS became a member of WITSA, now it is going to be the biggest event after obtaining the WITSA membership. Even the summit could be termed as one of the prominent events in the history of BCS. It could be the greatest of the great summits if there were no covid-19. IT pioneers from every corner of the world could join the event and we could show how we made progress in the domain of the digital adoption process.

However, at the summit two million participants, 75 countries, 1500 delegates, and over a hundred speakers are expected to join. I am welcoming everyone on behalf of the people of my country. As co-organizer BASIS, ISPAB, BACCO, e-Cab, BIJF and TMGB will give the summit more significance. It seems the total ICT sector is joining the summit. I would like to thank and congratulate the leaders of BCS who created the bridge between BCS, WITSA and ASOCIO.

I am proud that I lead BCS for 14 years; 4 times I was elected as





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to former BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar for his contribution to the country's ICT at the BCS Digital Expo 2009 inauguration programme. Convener of the fair and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir is also seen in the picture.

President and worked as President for 8 years. My successors of BCS added another feather to the crown of BCS. It should be noted that the IT development in the country is projected to the international level by BCS. BCS started its journey in 1987. It was first registered as the ICT trade association of Bangladesh in 1992 with 15 member companies.

As a part of BCS, I realized every member of BCS is sincere, hard-working, and farsighted. BCS was built by many IT comrades; they are proud of the nation, proud of the IT industry, and proud of Digital Bangladesh. It is the platform to build the nation as Digital Bangladesh.

Everybody knows that before 50 years, Bangladesh was listed as an underdeveloped country. Two of the industrial revolutions out of three, we fully missed. We bought a mainframe computer in 1964 but the primary development in IT happened in Bangladesh in 1987 by using Bengali language-based computing application.

Bangladesh logged on the third industrial revolution by our father of the nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman with his visionary leadership to become member of ITU and UPU. He also emphasized on the development of technical education and development of human resources alonwith the inagauration of satellite earth station at Betbunia on 14th June 1975. He created the T&T board, after a long period we landed to the online internet world in 1996 by the click of our honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that was the participation in the 3rd industrial revolution for us. It is relevant to tell that the seed of the digital revolution was sowed by our father of the nation Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. While our Prime Minister held office in 1996 she boosted the IT endeavors. The great daughter of Bengal had taken all the initiatives to popularise ICTs before the year 2001. She introduced the speediest internet connection, spreading computer education, setting up IT villages, and focused on software export;

the great thing she did was waiving taxes and VAT from computers and accessories. She also ignited the mobile telecom reevolution by breaking monopoly and giving licenses to 4 telicom companies.

After 75-96 a great pause came to 2001 to 2008, it stopped all IT advancements. Our Honourable Prime Minister declared in her election manifesto about Digital Bangladesh on 12 December 2008. This declaration was the first in the world. Later Britain in 2009, India in August 2014, and Pakistan in 2019 December declared to convert their country as a digital nation. To digitize the country Indian Prime Minister expressed willingness to learn from Bangladesh how to make his country digitally developed. Later on, many countries, like the Maldives, took steps to digitalize their countries.

Surely, our Prime Minister got the idea of Digital Bangladesh from her son Sajeeb Wazed Joy, who is a highly qualified and internationally renowned IT expert. His continuous effort makes the dream of Digital Bangladesh come true. Under his leadership, the information technology, telecommunication, and postal departments are improving a lot, and ensuring people access to information, democratic right, transparency, accountability, reaching government services to the doorstep of the citizens, which are certainly contributing to the living standard of people. The information and communication technology department identified 4 pillars of the successes: 1-- Digital Governance, 2-- Human Resource Development, 3-- IT Industry Promotion and 4-- Connecting People.

Many people had given different opinions when our Prime Minister declared about Digital Bangladesh in 2008. In 2003 and 2006 at the WSIS summit IT leaders of the world thought about making a knowledge-based society before 2015. During the period, in 2011 CEBIT fair in Hanover, Germany discussed about the 4th industrial revolution; in 2016 the World Economic Forum held in Davos, Switzerland Klaus Shwab placed the concept of



বাংলাদেশ কম্পিউটার সমিতির পক্ষে সভাপতি জনাব মোস্বাস করারে ১৯ জুলাই ২০০৮ প্ররিখে মানীয়ে ধর্মদা উপস্টো ভ. ফথ-কান বাংমদেন কাছ থেকে জাতীয়া পুরন্ধার এখনে। সেনাবাহিনীর প্রধান (জনাবেল মইন উ আহ্দেন এবং কৃষি ও পানি সম্পন্ন উপস্টো ড, সি., এস. করিমত এ সময় উপস্থিত হিলেন। On behalf of Banjadesh Compute Samily as President Mr. Mustafa Jabbar recoived the National Award from the honorable Chief Adviser Dr. Fakhrudin Ahmed on July 19, 2008.

On behalf of Bangladesh Computer Samity, its then president Mustafa Jabbar receives the National Award from former chief advisor Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed on July 19, 2008.



4th industrial revolution. It was focused on the demands of industrial nations. Later Japan speaks of `Society 5.0'.

For Bangladesh, it was an idea to transform the society from agricultural level to 4th industrial revolution and beyond. We targeted it for 2021, the year of celebrating the golden jubilee of Bangladesh Independence and we achieved the target as we Bengali won 1952, 1969, 1970, and 1971 in defeating oppressors. This is the great success in the history of Bangladesh by overcoming all kinds of hurdles.

We are lucky and proud that our country is the dream nation of Bangabandhu, his brilliant daughter inherited all the talents from him to make our country Digital Bangladesh, she applied his wisdom, farsightedness, knowledge, experience, and savvy in 1996 to 2001 and 2009 till today. Now Bangladesh is not a so-called bottomless basket, rather a great model of development, followed by many countries.

When the people are discussing about making society equal by ICTs, in the time we must think about the next step of Bangladesh and where we want to take our country now.

I congratulate to BCS for hosting the prestigious international event WCIT 2021 & ASOCIO Digital summit 2021 in Bangladesh.

The writer served Bangladesh Computer Samity four times as President.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina receives ASOCIO IT Award from Looi Kien Leong, the then president of ASOCIO (Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization) at the inaugural programme of BCS Digital Expo and ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2010.



Former BCS president and incumbent Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, hands over crest to late president of Bangladesh Md. Zillur Rahman (2009).





ZUNAID AHMED PALAK, MP State Minister Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

TAKING BANGLADESH TO THE HEIGHT OF 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

n the time of fifty years of Bangladesh's independence when Bangladesh Computer Samity, BCS, is ready to celebrate its 35th Birth Anniversary, as State Minister for ICT, I feel proud that we made remarkable progress in the ICT adoption in every field of governance, taking services to the grassroots level and digitally empowering people. BCS is one of the stakeholders of the advancement, the oldest ICT body with its big pool of members always stands beside the government to make our digital dreams come true.

It's sad to remember that once the then US Security Adviser Henry Kissinger compared Bangladesh with a bottomless basket and hinted at an uncertain future of the country, which is now a role model of development. Eminent economist Austin Robinson in his book `Economic Prospectus of Bangladesh expressed doubts about the survival of the county that turned to be a middle-income country in 2015 as per World Bank's statistics. Immediately after our independence, earned through the nine months long bloody war, the country did not have any infrastructure or resources. It was a war-ravaged country. There were signs of ruins everywhere. It was the poorest country, not only in South Asia but also one of the top ten poorest countries in the world. Around 88 percent of the population in Bangladesh was poor and the dependence on foreign aid was also 88 percent. That Bangladesh is now ranked 41st in global economies. Center

for Economic and Business Research (CEBR), a British economic research organization has forecasted that Bangladesh will become the 25th largest economy in the world by 2035 if the current trend in economic growth continues. Bangladesh is now being introduced as a great example of development in the world. But the journey towards reaching such a stage in 50 years was not so easy. The military autocratic and pseudo-democratic rulers in collaboration with anti-liberation fundamentalist forces ruled the country and hampered the trend of development and progress. But what is the magic that takes the country to a unique height in 50 years? If anyone goes through the deeper analysis, he or she will find that the three leadership qualities of Sheikh Hasina play a role to take Bangladesh to a new height. These are her honesty, courage, and vision.

First, I would like to discuss here her honesty. There are lots of instances that made her one of the honest statesmen on the globe. In the case of the Padma Bridge Project, her bold stance against the World Bank's allegation of corruption has added to build her crystal-clear image in the international arena. Challenging WBs allegation of corruption and decision to cancel the loan for implementing Padma Bridge, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina categorically said not a single farthing has been embezzled from Padma Bridge Project. Immediately after the cancellation of the loan, she told in a parliament session that





His Excellency Abdul Hamid and Zunaid Ahmed Palak, Minister of state for information and communication technology, visits a stall at the BCS ICT expo.

Bangladesh would build Padma Bridge from its own resources. Finally, it was proved that Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's stance was correct. Even the Canadian Superior Court justice dismissed an international bribery case linked to the Padma Bridge Project. The verdict proved that the government was right. All credits go to the farsightedness of the Prime Minister because she had taken a bold stance. Her stance brightened the image of Bangladesh. What is the present reality? The dream project the Padma bridge is visible now. Bangladesh has built it from its own resources. It should not be wise to see it as a mere bridge. It should be considered as a symbol of the honesty of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's second magic is her courage. We all know about the two stigmatic events of history, one is war crimes in 1971 and the other is the assassination of Bangabandhu on 15 August 1975. BNP and the anti-liberation fundamentalist forces that were in power over a long period did not take any initiative to erase this stigma. Rather the governments of General Zia, General Ershad, and Begum Khaleda Zia introduced a culture of impunity by rehabilitating and making co-sharer of powers both the war criminals and killers of Bangabandhu. General Zia blocked the way to try the killers of Bangabandhu by legalizing the indemnity ordinance. It is Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina who after coming to power in 1996 and then in 2009 established the rule of law by holding trials of both war criminals and killers of Bangabandhu despite heavy pressure from the international community. It is because of her courage the nation has been freed from stigma.

Prime Minister's third magic is her vision or far-sightedness.

Digital Bangladesh is the outcome of her visionary thinking and dream. It emerged as the main element of Vision 2021, the charter for change on 12 December 2008 at the initiative of noted ICT expert Mr. Sajeeb Wazed Joy who also designed to implement Digital Bangladesh. After the elapse of 13 years, the visionary thinking of the Prime Minister has been proved to be worthy with the implementation of Digital Bangladesh. The ICT-based solution is being used in almost every sector. The size of the digital economy is now at \$1.3 billion. The government has made people easy access to public services by digitizing its services. The capacity to adapt and usage of ICT by people including rural people has been increasingly contributing to the reduction of the digital divide between villages and urban and paving the way for building an equitable society as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. In fact, Digital Bangladesh is being called a modern version of Bangabandhu's Golden Bengal (Shonar Bangla).

I would like to draw the attention of the readers to the initiatives undertaken by the prudent and visionary leader Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to build Golden Bengal (Shonar Bangla). After returning home from the Pakistani jail on 10 January 1972, Bangabandhu embarked on the most difficult task of rebuilding the country from the war-ravaged. Considering the importance of planned economic activities, Bangabandhu formulated the first five-year plan (1973-1978). In the first five-year plan, poverty reduction was determined as the priority goal. The target was set at average GDP growth of 5.5 percent per annum. It's a matter of surprise that in the second year of the plan, in 1974-1975, the highest GDP growth of 9.59 percent was achieved against the target of 5.5 percent. But the conspirators of both local and international stopped the trend of this development. They killed Bangabandhu on the fateful night



Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with WITSA Eminent Persons Award 2021 at WCIT-2021 for her outstanding contributions. On behalf of the Honorable Prime Minister, State Minister of ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP. is receiving the award. On the occasion, the Planning Minister and Senior Secretary of the ICT Division were also present.





Ministerial conference at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, from the left side, Communication Technology Minister of Somalia, Abdi Ahmed, State Minister of ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP; Maldives's State Minister for Environment, Climate Change, and Technology Mr. Mohamed Shareef; Anir Ahmed, Policy Adviser of A2i. Sajeeb Wazed Joy, ICT Adviser to Honorable Prime Minister, joined the conference virtually.

of August 15, 1975, and Bangladesh's economy sank into a spell of deep darkness and the process of building a happy and prosperous golden Bengal initiated by the Father of the Nation came to a halt. The country was ruled by military autocrats and pseudo democrats for long 21 years.

After a six-year exile, the blood heir of Bangabandhu and torchbearer of golden Bengal and popular leader Sheikh Hasina returned home in 1981. She launched a vigorous movement against the autocratic regime. The people kept trust in her and took to the street to oust the autocratic governments. The people voted her to power in the election held in 1996. The new journey began to build the country under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. During her rule, (1996-2001) the average GDP growth was 5.5 percent and inflation was 4.4 percent. But the economic progress and development came to a halt again after BNP-Jamaat was installed into power through the election in October 2001.

We are fortunate enough that the Awami League Chief Sheikh Hasina again came to power in 2009 and she has been ruling the country since then. The country witnessed magnificent development in all sectors during the last 13 years. The average growth of GDP was 6.6 percent which was above 7 percent in FY2017-2018, 2017-2018, and 2018-2019 and exceeded 8 percent in FY2018-2019. Price inflation was at a tolerable level. In FY2005-2006, our per capita income was US\$ 543, which is now US\$ 2,254. At that time, the poverty rate was 41.5 percent.

At present, the poverty rate has come down to 20.5 percent. The size of GDP has increased from Tk. 4,82,337 crore to Taka 28 lakh crore. Foreign exchange reserves stood at just US\$ 0.744 billion in FY2005-2006, or less than US\$1 billion, which has now crossed over US\$44 billion. The size of the budget in FY2005-2006 was Tk. 61,000 crore which has now increased ten times in the current fiscal year. The average life expectancy has increased from 59 years in FY2005-2006 to 72.6 years in FY2019-2020. The infant mortality rate has come down from 84 to 28 per thousand and the maternal mortality rate from 370 to 185 per lakh. Allocation

for the social security sector was Tk.2,505 crore in FY2005-06. Tk. 95,574 crores is allocated in the current fiscal year. Production of granular grains in FY2005-2006 was 1 crore 60 lakh tons. It has now increased to 4 crores 53 lakh 44 thousand metric tons. Power generation capacity has increased from 4,900 MW to 25,227 MW.

Currently, we are celebrating the birth centenary of Bangabandhu and the Golden Jubilee of Independence. In this auspicious time, successfully BCS and Bangladesh Computer Council jointly arranged WCIT Summit in the country while COVID-19 challenges were prevailing globally; and in this month of victory, it's going to celebrate its much-discussed 35th Birth Anniversary. The country is an example of development in the world. We have achieved middle-income country status in 2015. Bangladesh has got the final recommendation from the UN for graduation from LDC status. If everything goes well, we will be a developing nation by 2026 and a developed nation by 2041.

One of the recurrent discussed topics in the ICT industry is the Fourth Industrial Revolution, 4IR, or Industry 4.0, which is coined by Klaus Schwab, Founder of the World Economic Forum and its Executive Chairman. It tells an inevitable revolution taking us in adopting the rapid change in the course of technology, industrial productions, social matrixes, and processes due to increasing interconnectivity and smart automation. It's a blend of advances in artificial intelligence (AI), robotic functions, the Internet of Things (IoT), genetic engineering, quantum computing, etc. Therefore, at present, we are becoming ready for the 4th Industrial Revolution, 4IR; busy in creating the generation of 4IR. We are establishing the Sheikh Hasina Institute for Frontier Technology; 300 schools of IT; building specialized labs at various universities; going to make 64 Sheikh Kamal IT Training and Institutes. We have taken an attempt to introduce robotic courses, IoT, big data, etc. education at several universities.

BCS, along with other ICT associations, is working with the government to migrate the country to the highest domain of the 4th Industrial Revolution by utilizing the past experiences, and taking the benefits of leapfrogs in technology adoption.



Zunaid Ahmed Palak, State Minister of ICT, MP, is receiving 'ASOCIO Leadership Award 2021' on behalf of Sajeeb Wazed joy, ICT Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister, at the WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and ASOCIO Digital Summit 2021 organized 'ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT'.





DR. BIKARNA KUMAR GHOSH Managing Director (Additional Secretary) Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority

ROLE OF BANGLADESH HI-TECH PARK AUTHORITY: DRIVING TOWARDS ICT DESTINATION

angladesh Computer Samity, BCS, is going to celebrate its 35th Birth Anniversary with the vision of taking Digital Bangladesh to the next level of the 4th Industrial Revolution. Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority is always staying beside the BCS members for building info-tech infrastructures across the country. The Authority started its journey in 2010 to bring economic prosperity to the country through developing appropriate frustules and favorable policies to support entrepreneurs and investors to stay ahead in adopting the 4IR. With the gradual development of high-tech and software technology parks, IT incubation and training centers, specialized laboratories across the country the youth of the country now have access to information technology research focusing on emerging technology. The entire ecosystem is driving towards the implementation of Digital Bangladesh, creating a stream of technology-based employments and decentralizing infrastructure and local employments by promoting entrepreneurship.

Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority is working to establish 39 Hi-Tech Parks and Software Technology Parks and 64 IT training and incubation centers across the country. Among which 8 hi-tech parks and software technology parks are already in business with 8 IT Training and Incubation Centers are going to be operational by the year 2021. Construction of 31 Hi-Tech Parks

and Software Technology Parks and 56 IT Trainings and Incubation centers are ongoing. With more than 152 startups and 169+ investors in the hardware, software, and biotech sector, Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority has generated over 21,000 employments in just four years.

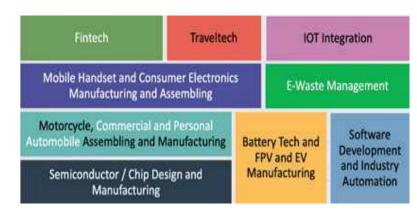






Competitive Incentive Packages for Investors

Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority is committed to providing full support to the investors to create a favorable business environment for them in Hi-Tech Parks. For that, BHTPA has come up with multiple incentives for the investors which will support the business to grow in the process:



Future Industries to Meet the Global Demand

To accelerate the development of the country by utilizing the immense potential of the trillion-dollar ICT sector in the world market, the government has set a target of 5 billion in export revenue from the ICT sector and employment of 2 million people by the year 2030. The following sectors are picking up momentum with a sustainable supply and demand:

Bangladesh's fintechs are helping to boost financial inclusion. Bangladeshis nearly doubled the number of transactions they made using mobile devices between 2016 and 2019, from US\$27 billion to more than US\$51 billion (Economist, 2020). Growth has been observed in Travel Tech too, as for the first-time domestic

travel saw a twofold growth during the year 20-21. The market of IoT is gradually increasing and it is being expected that the rate of this growth will reach at 38.3% in 2020 whereas the total market will stand at 267 billion. The adoption process to support electronics vehicles and supporting policy to assist related technologies are also ongoing.

Following the sectoral plans, Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority is working on providing support on policy, technology adoption, employee skill-up facilities throughout their investment journey in the Hi-Tech ecosystem.



51 ICT related companies are working in Sheikh Hasina Software Technology Park, Jashore.



BCS executive Committee along with BCS President Md. Shahid-Ul-Munir congratulate Dr. Bikarna Kumar Ghosh for joining as Managing Director of Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA).





SHAHID-UL-MUNIR President Bangladesh Computer Samity

THREE DECADES JOURNEY TO CHANGE THE ICT LANDSCAPE OF BANGLADESH

his is the moment of joy and celebrating what Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) achieved throughout the three decades in serving the country by developing the IT sector. Therefore, I would like to express my gratitude to all the respected founders, former and current colleagues of BCS for their sincere 35 years of services to BCS in building the digital nation widening the use of ICTs.

We learned a lot from our predecessors who made the great groundwork for the hi-tech industry; they taught us how to sustain and survive with minimum resources, which is now helping us to recover losses we incurred in the last few months for the COVID-19 ruined global economy.

BCS has been, from the first day of establishment, working at the grassroots level with initiatives like ICT awareness programs across the country with people from different strata - school children to service holders to retired, organizing ICT expositions in different parts of the country to help rural people to experience and own globally trending technology.

BCS is honored to be able to represent the country in global platforms like ASOCIO, WITSA, and other global technology events. The country has also received a number of prestigious awards from ASOCIO and WITSA for integrating ICTs in government and private sectors. It is promoting the nation in the

year-long events, seminars, meetings, fairs etc.

The tech expositions organized by Bangladesh Computer Samity are always thronged by the youths. BCS, too, arranges specific programs - coding and gaming contests, training on outsourcingfor them during and after the expositions.

As we are at the doorsteps of the 4th industrial revolution and Digital Bangladesh is now a reality, ICT products and services have become a booming industry in the country.

With the visionary guidance and steps by the prudent leadership of the current government, the country has taken as a top priority to join the global technology players.

The country has launched its first satellite 'Bangabandhu-1' which has enabled us to offer a wide range of digital services to consumers and save foreign currency. With great enthusiasm, we are awaiting the launch of the second satellite 'Bangabandhu-2'.

Setting up a countrywide fiber-optic cable network for faster and low-cost internet connectivity at the consumer level has empowered our tech professionals to work globally and earn foreign currency.

We now relish the services of Digital Bangladesh with mobile banking, online results of all public examinations, online tax payment among other services.





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the 'BCS Digital Expo 2009' as chief guest while former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan, former finance minister A M A Muhith, former state-minister for Science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman, former BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, and Shahid-Ul-Munir convener of the fair and incumbent president of BCS listen to her speech.

The government's decision to focus on hardware manufacture and export has opened up yet another avenue for employment. The government is also providing incentives and keeping the national policy updated with the global trend.

BCS is working with the government to augment the living standard of the people of the country and to get rid of the digital-divide among the countrymen.

I would also like to mention that BCS is not just a trade association, it is more like a big family for each member. BCS maintains an emergency fund to provide aid to members in their difficult times. We arrange training, seminars, and guide our members on VAT and Tax related issues.



Shahid-Ul-Munir is seen receiving award from Hounarable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for being successful convener of the tech fair 'BCS ICT World' while former BCS president Mustafa Jabbar and former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan applause (2009).

Every year, BCS organizes picnics and other events for the families of its members to celebrate togetherness.

Also, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the BCS members for their tender-heartedness and distributing food, clothes, ICT products among the deprived ones.

It is my honour to serve as the president of this prestigious ICT organization of the country, especially in the time of the 35th-anniversary celebration when I got this rare opportunity to welcome you to the event and thank you for the remarkable contribution to the ICT sector.



BCS President and WITSA Vice Chairman (Asia Pacific Region) Mr. Md. Shahid-Ul-Munir delivered his speech at `2021 WITSA GLOBAL ICT EXCELLENCE AWARD' ceremony at Dhaka, Bangladesh.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to the convener of BCS Digital Expo 2010, Shahid-Ul-Munir for his cotribution to the countries ICT.





ABDULLAH H. KAFI

Co-founder and former President, Bangladesh Computer Samity & Former Chairman, Asian-Oceanian Computing Industries Organization (ASOCIO)

THE STORY BEHIND BUILDING BCS

am happy to see my successors are in the agility of organizing the extravaganza event with overcoming the challenges erected from the Covid-19 situation. Certainly, I will congratulate BCS members at the central office to the branch members at the grassroots level. Their altogether effort made the body the biggest IT trade association in the country.

Today I am proud to be one of the co-founders of BCS and former President of the trade association, which now went beyond its business peripheries. We all know a tiny seed can't be a banyan tree unless we nurture it with water, fertilizers, light, etc. This is teamwork, and from time to time a team should be changed to create new leadership. I was not only involved with the BCS during its three-decade-long journey, with other IT pioneers I helped to create the ground for building BCS.

Since the 1980s I am involved with the IT sector as a businessman and turned organizer for popularising ICTs in the country and in the international arena. From the beginning of Bangladesh Computer Samity, I worked continuously for BCS for more than 15 years. After that, I tried to represent the ICT sector of the country in the international zone. I was elected as Vice Chairman of ASOCIO in the year 2005. In 2010 I became Deputy Chairman of ASOCIO, and in 2013/2014 I became Chairman of the international IT body. From 2015 till today, I am the Chairman of the award committee of the body. Besides, I am running my IT businesses named JAN Associate and Canon Products.

Our Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is sincere and serious about helping us for making Digital Bangladesh

successful; we have taken inspiration from her to create examples of making the best ICT infrastructures in front of other nations. Under her dynamic leadership, the country has launched its first satellite 'Bangabandhu- 1' enabling us to offer a wide range of digital services to consumers, which is now saving our foreign currency. Soon we are going to launch the second



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to former BCS president A. H. Kafi for his contribution to the country's ICT at the BCS Digital Expo 2009 inauguration programme. former BCS president and incumbent Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan and convener of the fair and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir are seen in the picture (2009).





At 'ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT' Former Chairman of ASOCIO Abdullah H. Kafi, and CEO and Deputy chairman of ASOCIO Mr. John Choi are awarding crests to two organizations.

satellite 'Bangabandhu- 2'. It's a matter of time to see the country from the galaxy and every part of the nation is digitally connected.

However, still, we are struggling with some bureaucratic bottlenecks and a traditional mindset. We should pay more attention to the local entrepreneurs than taking solely advice from foreigners with ignoring local experts' opinions.

It was my privilege that I was one of the men behind the registration of BCS, which went through some technical problems about selecting the right name and address for the registration from the Joint Stock Company. I approached the renowned Artist Mr. Hashem Khan who made designs of three logos for us, one of them instantly impressed me; I shared all designs with other founding members of BCS, they without hesitation chose what I liked first.

I teamed up with some IT pioneers to launch BCS in 1987, but it was first registered as the ICT trade association of the country in 1992 with 15 member companies. Currently, BCS has 2,165 ICT companies as its members. BCS has 8 branches—Sylhet, Khulna, Jessore, Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Cumilla, Barisal, and Chittagongacross Bangladesh to promote ICT services and products among the common people. In the year 1993, we drew the attention of the citizens of the country with a mega-event called 'BCS Computer Show.'

In the 35 years of BCS's journey, I can remember a lot of things, which should be written as memoirs and read by the younger generation of BCS. I can remember some of the members who contributed hugely to the rise of BCS to the international arena.

BCS is representing itself on global platforms like ASOCIO, WITSA, and at prestigious IT events. The country has also

received several prestigious awards from ASOCIO and WITSA for integrating ICTs in the government's projects and private sectors. It is promoting the nation in the year-long events - seminars, meetings, fairs etc.

The apex ICT trade body joined the Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization (ASOCIO) as an associate member in 1996 and has taken a remarkable place in the international field. ASOCIO is an ICT federation organized by ICT associations of 24 countries from the Asia Pacific.

BCS made its contribution to the policy-making level by proposing 45 recommendations to the JRC committee in 1997. The historic recommendations included the withdrawal of duties, tax, and VAT from the computer and all kinds of computer accessories, the formation of the National ICT Task Force headed by the head of the government, declaring ICT as a thrust sector, the formation of National ICT Policy, special incentives for the local and foreign investors and entrepreneurs among others.

As part of our campaign, the government included computer education in the curricula of SSC and HSC levels in 1998. The same year the government also decided to withdraw all duties, tax, and VAT on computer and computer accessories.

In the same year, another achievement was joining as a member of the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA), which is a consortium of ICT industry associations from economies around the world representing over 90 percent of the world's ICT market.

Bangladesh Computer Samity established the BCS Computer City, a one-stop ICT market, at the IDB Bhaban in Dhaka in 1999.



Former BCS president Abdullah H Kafi signs agreement to purchase property for the trade body. In this Moment Founder and Editor of Computer Bichitra Mr. Bhuiyan Inam Lenin were present there.





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh receives ASOCIO IT Award from Looi Kien Leong, the then president of ASOCIO (Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization) at the inaugural programme of BCS Digital Expo and ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2010.

The market has been a role model in South Asia. BCS introduced ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit on ICT in the Asian-Oceanian region starting from Dhaka in 2000. It obtained full membership of ASOCIO in the following year.



Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) former President Abdullah H Kafi received the 'The ASOCIO Honorary Award' during the ASOCIO Digital Summit 2018, Tokyo, Japan.

In the era of the 4th Industrial Revolution, when we are looking for strategies to migrate from the level of the 3rd Industrial Revolution to go beyond. In this context, Digital Bangladesh is no longer a dream, it's a necessity and a reality. We are not only busy with selling ICT products and services; we made tremendous progress in providing government services through software and applications. We became one of the outsourcing destinies; even freelancers are inspired by BCS IT fairs and awareness programs.

The history of computer use in the country is longer than many developed countries in the world. We started using a mainframe computer in 1964 at the Atomic Energy Commission. The rich history has taken us at the doorsteps of the 4th Industrial Revolution.



ASOCIO former Chairman Mr. Abdullah H Kafi with ASOCIO DIGITAL GOVERNMENT AWARD for 'Development of National ICT Infra Network for Bangladesh Government (Info-Sarker).

We are going to be more than just a technology-driven society; bringing an opportunity at a common ground to help everyone: creating rendezvous for leaders, policy-makers, experts, and people from all income groups and nations, and nurturing the adoption of technologies for building an inclusive human-centered future blessed by the artificial intelligence, which will be run by the new generation of BCS members.

We were dreamers in the 1980s and found like-minded friends to move ahead with the digital dream, today BCS is the carrier of the dream; Our young successors are dreaming more than us. Therefore, certainly, they are finding the right path to take the dream to the next level of the 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR).





HABIBULLAH N KARIM Founder, CEO of Technohaven Company Ltd. and Co-founder, Bangladesh Computer Samity

ICT INDUSTRY IS GROWING FAST WITH THE BOON OF EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

angladesh has been riding the growth waves in the last three decades with spectacular results: our exports grew six-folds, our GDP quadrupled and our extreme poverty levels got slashed by more than half, not to mention our 30 percent increase in longevity and other human development achievements. Many global institutions from Gartner and McKinsey to Wall Street investment banks and the World Bank have been projecting continued healthy growth of our economy and our sure-shot place among the top economic powerhouses of this century despite the setbacks of the Coronavirus pandemic stalling growth on a global scale.

Sustaining such a growth trajectory for a country with little natural resources, a small geographical footprint, and the sixth-highest population in the world has only been possible through prudent and pragmatic policies of the government, visionary entrepreneurs, and resilient workforce. The 'Digital Bangladesh' thrust of the current government since 2009 has seen the ICT adoptions in government, and industry soar, software and IT services exports rise by eight folds, and internet penetration jump 20 times in less than 12 years. This is especially significant because sustaining the nation's growth can only be possible through the adoption of a diverse array of the latest technologies that will help us eke out an ever-greater output per capita and per square meter. Technology has always been a

driver of change and development in all layers of society.

As we celebrate more than three decades of Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS) - the information technology industry association of Bangladesh - we are delighted to see manufacturing and assembly of digital devices; design and development of enterprise and utility software applications; and proliferation of IT services in all emerging tech, from artificial intelligence and blockchain to data science and virtual reality; and these are happening in ever greater crescendo all around us.

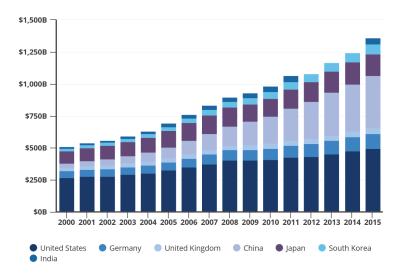
Below is a sample of the emerging technologies that lie at the front and center of our innovation-driven future. These are the tech that can carve out a future for us where we are the pioneers and not followers, where we lead by example and are not forced to make knee-jerk reactions. The range of technologies and knowledge paradigms will touch everything from our green pastures in the villages to the tall glass edifices in the cities – everyone from the bottom of the social pyramid to those at the top of the heap.

In agriculture, agro-processing, and food industries, biotechnology and bioinformatics can unleash the bounty of nature like never before. Whether through genomics, genetic engineering, DNA sequencing, or high-throughput image analysis, biotechnology and its interdisciplinary cohort -





bio-informatics, are bringing about a revolutionary change in the way we hybridize seeds for resilience to drought, increasing sea levels leading to salty crop-fields and extreme weather symptoms. Bio-informatics has a special significance as it helps unravel the mysteries of cellular biology and gives us the tools to get a leg up on the cutting-edge developments in biotechnology.



In manufacturing industries increasing levels of process automation and use of robotics is enhancing productivity on the one hand and lowering the use of physical labor. While double-digit growth of goods exports and accompanying manufacturing jobs growth have been one of the pillars of the economic success of the nation but going forward the success of this sector will no longer depend on our large labor pool but how we turn that labor force into a cyborg-like greater-than-human force by leveraging robotic technologies and machine learning algorithms. The challenge is to retool our workforce into skilled machine-assisted industrial super-human workers or skilled robotic operators. This may sound like science fiction but it's already happening in our largest industrial segment, i.e., in ready-made-garments manufacturing as reported in the Wall Street Journal nearly two years ago. This transformation is less

than obvious in a country where labor is perceived to be plentiful and cheap. However, an uptick in labor costs is already felt by the middle class as costs of domestic help have crept up beyond their purchasing power. With the increasing use of machine-assisted process automation and robotic tools, there is a huge potential for IT services around machine learning, artificial intelligence, internet-of-things (IOT), and robotics programming.



Machine and deep learning tools are the new frontiers where we must create our own footprint if we are to remain relevant in the new industrial paradigm. It is truly heartening that some of our IT industry colleagues are taking bold steps to gain a foothold at the forefront of these developments. However, the entrepreneurial efforts alone will not be enough – there needs to be a concerted effort from the trio of government-academia and industry for this emerging technology to become mainstream here. There are several such collaborations already underway for digital device manufacturing, blockchain technology adoption, and IOT development.





The biggest disruptor and enabler in the field of artificial intelligence and machine learning is the new paradigm of quantum computing. The classical computing model is based on binary computing where there are only two states - on or off - 1 or O - but in quantum computing, there is a third 'quantum' state or 'Qubit' that makes a whole slew of new algorithms and computing models that can solve compute-intensive problems in cryptography, big data, 3-D simulations, etc. much faster than conventional computer systems. Microsoft has already launched a programming language for quantum computing and many others are coming. Our universities need to focus on these emerging trends and equip our students with the tools and inquisitiveness to take deep dives into this new computing paradigm and collaborate with the industry to make quantum computing applications to solve our climate adaptation, extreme weather, and public health quandaries. The government needs to support such initiatives with appropriate funding, international research linkages, and national recognitions.

The biggest enabler of these emerging technologies and trends is the internet and cloud-based infrastructure sitting on the internet. While the government is fast deploying its own data centers and disaster recovery sites that constitute its cloud strategy, the government also needs to encourage private clouds whether they are locally set up or provided by global majors such as Amazon or Microsoft. We simply do not have the resources or the time to wait for computing infrastructures to be built over many years and then leverage such systems for our use. The abundance of cloud infrastructure globally makes it quite easy for us to take on any large problems and try it out on the cloud without having to get weighed down with big capital expenditures before we have figured out what works and what does not. In this area, the availability of cloud infrastructures is a great boon for IT entrepreneurs and start-ups as well as tinkerers. Who can tell: today's tinkerer can be tomorrow's Steve Jobs or Elon Musk.



At WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, BASIS is organizing 4IR Seminar where Md. Mosaraf Hossain Sumon, Director of BCS, is giving crest to Habibullah N Karim, former President of BASIS.





K ATIQUE E RABBANI
B Tech (Hons), UK, FCA
Managing Director, The Computers Ltd.
& Co-founder, Bangladesh Computer Samity

DEMYSTIFYING INTRIGUED MYTHS OF THE BLOCKCHAIN PROCESS

magine you found a shipwreck and the ship is named "ChalShip", which was caught in a storm and floated aground. The ship was carrying chal (Rice) of bags. 100 people found themselves on a deserted island with 100 bags of Chal salvaged. Each bag contained 40 kgs of chal. Each survivor had a bag of chal for himself.

Unfortunately within a few hours, another shipwreck happened. This time it was "DalShip". Coincidentally again 100 survived with 100 bags of dal (lentils). Each bag of dal contained 40 kgs of dal. Each survivor here had also a bag of dal for himself.

One self-declared Leader came out. A survival plan was chalked out. Each chal bag owner would give a kg of chal to dal bag owner in return for a kg of dal. The Leader would keep a tab. One would cook his chal and dal and survive till rescuers hopefully arrive. Soon confusion arose about who gave chal to whom and were they reciprocated properly with kgs of dal. Furore turned to be a fight, chal bags and dal bags were ransacked and spread in sand. 90 chal persons and 90 dal persons died in the melee.

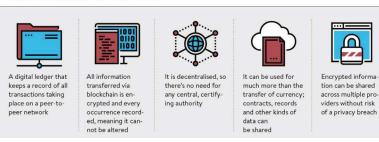
One stooping wise man called a halt, managed to get the men to bury the dead. He then asked if the surviving 19 would like to live. All 19 said yes. Together with the wise man there were now 20 persons. Ten of them found a bag of chal each containing 40 kgs of chal. Another ten found a bag of dal each with 40 kgs of dal in them.

The wise man said let us try this plan. He gave out a pen and a small notebook that he saved from the wreck to each. His instruction was as follows. Let us call each chal bag owner C1, C2,... C10 and each Dal bag owner D1, D2, ..., D10. Every exchange will be for 1 kg of either Chal or Dal. After every exchange, all would record the transactions simultaneously. After each exchange one will eat "chaldal" combination cooked for 10 days. At the end of ten days, each would have consumed one kg of chal and one kg of dal. After that, another exchange will happen with recording by everyone. Hopefully, rescuers will come by the time the last kg of chal and dal have been consumed.

Before each exchange, the supplier, say, C1 would shout to all 20 that he is giving a kg of chal to say, D1. D1 would shout to acknowledge receipt of a kg of chal and to give one kg of dal in exchange to C1. Everybody would record it together with balances left with C1 and D1. Here C1 now has 39 kgs of chal and 1 kg of dal. D1 has 39 kgs of Dal and 1 kg of chal. After ten days C1 would have 38 kgs of chal and no Dal and D1 would have 38 kgs of dal and no chal. This would be publicly announced by each for recording by all. It is tedious to note this down for all but rather than risk another fight and self-immolation they decided to go with this system. All would reconcile their notebooks after each exchange and they all lived happily ever after till their last kg of chal and dal. A ship saw their chal dal fire and they all were rescued.



WHAT IS BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY?



What were the characteristics of this Wise man's system? There was no central authority keeping records. Each transaction was recorded by all members of group and therefore no one could dispute what all 20 had recorded. Distributed recording. Moreover, trust was not necessary between individuals but community/consensus/system provided the trust. Everyone depended on the consensus of records kept by the group.

Add unchangeability/immutability of transactions kept by all 20 survivors and this, ladies and gentleman is the fundamental concept of BlockChain.

Comparison of (a) Centralised,(b) Centralised with backup, and (c) a Blockchain technology based decentralized digital system over the internet

Centralized System

A boy Badal says to the girl Ganga "I love you, Ganga." Then Badal changes his mind and leaves Ganga. Ganga feels remorse but has no recourse. This is a faulty centralized system.

Centralized with backup System

Boy Badal says to girl Ganga in front of friend Fazal" I love you, Ganga." Badal changes his mind and leaves Ganga. Badal also cajoles Fazal to deny what Badal said to Ganga earlier. Ganga feels remorse but has no recourse as Fazal was compromised. This is a faulty centralized system with backup.

Blockchain technology-based digital decentralized Systems over the internet

Boy Badal says to girl Ganga" I love you, Ganga" in an open space with lots of strangers." Badal cannot change his mind and leave Ganga as witnesses are strangers, too many, and cannot hence be manipulated. This is essentially a Blockchain system. Blockchain eliminates centralized authority and hence one point of vulnerability and one point of failure.

One to many paradigms, decentralization, disintermediation, immutable

Blockchain moves the responsibility of custodianship from one to many. Everyone has the same information. Blockchain fosters a collaborative rather than a hierarchical system in finance, in business, in government, in education, and in any sphere of activity. The "many" paradigm ensures the system is peer to peer consisting of participants with equal status. Information once agreed by all is unchangeable and each participant has a copy of

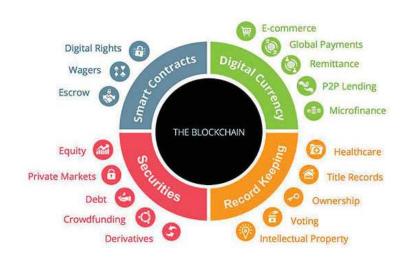
the latest updated information. It thus lends to a cash-like decentralized, disintermediated system over the internet. Blockchain enables the extrapolation of a small village cash-based system to a global electronic cash system. Blockchain turns the internet of information into the internet of value. Just as we send information across to each other we can send/ exchange value/ credentials across to each other with authenticity and confidence.

Interlinked blocks and Cryptographic Hash ID

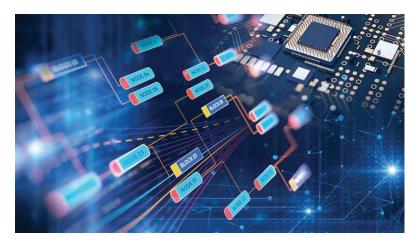
Blockchain keeps data in a chain of interlinked blocks. Each block contains data that cannot be changed after everyone in the network agrees it to be true. The block added to the chain represents the latest state of affairs of the chain at that point in time. Each block has an ID that is derived from the previous block ID and the content of the current block. This ID or hash-ID of the current block is created by what is called a cryptographic hash function. Cryptography is the science of hiding information from third parties. Hash refers to a string of characters, hitherto meaningless, that represents the original meaningful data. The inputs to the cryptographic hash function are, amongst others, the previous block ID and the content of the current block. The output is the Cryptographic hash ID of the current block. This cryptographic hash ID of a block is a fixed string of characters, also known as a digest, and is essentially the fingerprint of the content of the block. This chain of interlinked blocks representing the latest state of blockchain database at that moment in time, maintained by each in the network, becomes a secure, tamper-proof, one truth for all information repository in the network.

Blockchain enables Sovereign ID system

Each of us presently doesn't own our own personal digital data. Data is the new oil and social media companies/ outside agencies inappropriately use our personal data kept with them to, say, direct advertisers to push advertisements to us and







generating revenue for these digital companies. Blockchain enables Sovereign ID so that each of us will have a virtual locked box, for example, containing all our personal data. We only release as much data as is needed, say to hospitals, retail stores, and other agencies for their needs and maintain ownership and control of our own data.

Blockchain applications, Permissionless and Permissioned Blockchains, Innovations

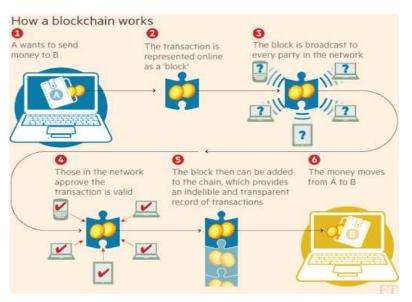
Blockchain applications are only limited by imagination. Any transaction-oriented, compliance hungry, privacy-preserving, authenticity seeking, immediate accessibility enabling to one truth for all system is likely to be disrupted and benefitted by Blockchain. Bitcoin, Ethereum (with Smart Contract - meaning software coded self-executing contract), and other Cryptocurrencies (Digital currency without any physical representation) have been the first applications of Blockchain. This is because Blockchain, based on Distributed Ledger Technology or DLT (ie one instantly verified shared ledger for all) can prevent against double-spending of cryptocurrencies, a crucial feature for the existence of cryptocurrencies. These cryptocurrency enabling blockchains like Bitcoin and Ethereum are essentially permissionless or public blockchains where anyone can join in. In contrast, permissioned or private/ enterprise or closed group Blockchains like Hyperledger, R3 Corda which exist in a centralized - decentralized continuum have also emerged for applications in, say, Finance, Supply Chain, Accounting, Government, Land Records, Education, Media, Charity, Music and a whole host of other areas. Innovations are coming on stream to overcome Blockchain limitations, say, of the speed of execution, for designing better multiparty consensus algorithms, seamless inter blockchain operability, private-public chain anchoring, reliability of information feed (ie temperature, price of the security) from outside (called oracles) as inputs to smart contracts (contract automatically executed by a computer program, triggered by inputs) in the blockchain. Quantum computing with astronomical processing power can challenge the present cryptography-based security system. Innovations are also underway to produce Quantum safe consensus algorithms and hence evolving quantum-proof blockchains.

Blockchain ushers in sanity digitization from the earlier vanity digitization

Digital systems, digital data so far have been prone to hacking and tampering. Blockchain makes digital systems secure and trustworthy through its immutability, distributed (information replicated with everyone in the network), decentralization, and consensus (agreement by all in the network required for recording data) features. Digitization has transcended from pre Blockchain vanity digitization to post Blockchain embedded sanity digitization. In these days of the fourth industrial revolution where many technologies like the Internet of things (IOT), Robotics, Artificial Intelligence are at play resulting in an explosion of data. How can we place confidence on these data so created? The answer is this foundational technology, called Blockchain. Blockchain technology only can lend authenticity to these data so generated. Blockchain, therefore, is a humanizing technology. We must understand and embrace this in Bangladesh in all earnest.

A world without friction, a world without intermediaries

Friction is the money middlemen, intermediaries collect and the delay that happens in fulfilling a transaction between remotely placed transacting parties as in migrant workers sending money home. We can look forward to a future where there will be no intermediaries. Over the internet transacting parties the world over like buyer and seller from two geographic regions, service



giver to service receiver who are strangers to each other, loan giver to loan receiver unknown to each other (also known as DeFi - decentralized finance) will make non repudiating deals with confidence. These will be done over the internet under the smart contract/ software coded trust algorithm offered by Blockchain and DLT (Distributed Ledger Technology) together with other enabling technologies like IOT (Internet of things), AI (Artificial Intelligence), and the like and do away with a friction producing intermediaries.





YANNIS SIRROS Chairman World Innovation, Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA)

WITSA AT A GLANCE

orld Innovation, Technology and Services Alliance called WITSA was incorporated in 1998 in the Commonwealth of Virginia within the United States of America. Founded in 1978, the World Information Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA) is a leading consortium of ICT industry association members from over 80 countries/economies around the world. WITSA's members represent more than 90 percent of the world's ICT market.

As the leading recognized voice of the global ICT industry, WITSA aims to drive transformation and grow the industry given that ICT is the key driver of the global economy:

Advocating international public policies that advance the industry's growth and development;

Facilitating international trade and investment in ICT products and services through our global network of contacts;

Promoting industry cooperation and strengthening our national associations through the sharing of knowledge, experience, and critical information;

Working closely with internationally recognized organizations to promote and facilitate growth;

Awarding signature events - WITSA World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) - to member countries from around the world;

Organizing Global ICT Excellence Awards to recognize outstanding ICT users.

ASPIRATION

WITSA members are leaders in a globally interconnected marketplace. As the challenges facing the ICT industry are undisputedly global, our members work together to achieve a shared vision on important issues of common interest. We make



In the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and the Silver Jubilee event of WCIT, Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak, M.P. State Minister of ICT is presenting a crest to N M Ziaul Alam, Senior Sectary of ICT Division. Salman F Rahman, Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister; Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS, Dr. Abdul Mannan, Executive Director of BCC are seen.



it possible for our members throughout the world to identify common issues and priorities, exchange valuable information, and present a united position on industry issues.

VISION

WITSA is the leading recognized voice of the global ICT Industry which is the key driver of global economic growth. WITSA also envisions itself as the leader in Fulfilling the Promise of the Digital Age for everyone.

MISSION

To promote and facilitate the global growth of the information and communications technology and services industry through public policy development and advocacy, the promotion of global trade and investment, global forum, and experience.

GOALS

WITSA aims to further advance and position the organization as the leading recognized voice of the global ICT industry. WITSA has identified and adopted eight key critical forces to propel the organization to greater heights.

WITSA aims to further advance and to position the organization as the leading recognized voice of the global ICT industry. WITSA has identified and adopted eight key critical forces to propel the organization to greater heights:

Public Policy: To strengthen WITSA's advocacy role in the development of ICT-related international public policy.

- Global Trade: To facilitate global trade among WITSA members that impact the growth of the ICT industry.
- Membership: To increase and to retain WITSA members by providing greater membership value.
- Partnership: To build and enhance WITSA's relationships with corporations, globally recognized organizations, and institutions and governments in order to garner greater support, participation, and recognition of WITSA.
- Flagship Events: To continue hosting WITSA's flagship events in different parts of the world in order to strengthen WITSA's global thought leadership position.
- Global Recognition: To improve WITSA's brand and public relations efforts in order to increase and enhance WITSA's image and reputation globally.
- Operational Efficiency: To improve WITSA's operational efficiency in financial capabilities, organizational capabilities, and increase value to WITSA's members and partners.
- Organizing Global ICT Excellence Awards: To recognize outstanding ICT users from around the globe.
- Capacity building: To focus on understanding the obstacles that inhibit people, governments, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations from realizing the benefits from ICT and its development.

These key critical forces will be supported and implemented via various initiatives, activities, and tasks.



State Minister of ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP. is speaking at the launching event of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.





DAVID WONG
Chairman
Asian-Oceanian Computing Industries Organization (ASOCIO)

CONGRATULATION TO BANGLADESH COMPUTER SAMITY ON 35TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

n behalf of the entire ASOCIO family, I would like to extend our heartiest felicitations and congratulations to Bangladesh Computer Samity on its 35th Anniversary. BCS has come a long way and 35 years is certainly an achievement to be proud of. Let me share with you some achievements of BCS over the years.

As many of you are aware, ASOCIO was formed in 1984 in Tokyo as a fledging organization representing the computer industry in the Asian and Oceanian regions. Five industry associations from Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Australia came together to form ASOCIO. The computer industry as our industry was then known as was in its nascent stage. The PC was then not on every office desk and much less available to students.

Now, ASOCIO is an umbrella body of 24 economies in the region covering 10,000 ICT companies representing USD 500 billion in annual revenue. Over the years, ASOCIO has grown and our footprint today includes economies in the far east, Southeast Asia, Australasia, and South Asia.

BCS has been at the center of the development of ASOCIO. BCS has been an active member of ASOCIO for over two decades. As an active member, BCS has taken the lead to organize a number of ASOCIO programs including hosting the ASOCIO Digital Summit or the ASOCIO General Assembly and Symposium as it

was known then in 2021. BCS also was part of the Multilateral trade Visit to explore business opportunities between ASOCIO member economies and Bangladesh in 2003 & 2010. The feather in the cap was the culmination of many years of service and



Respected organizers at ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT' at the WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and ASOCIO Summit.



ASOCIO members elected Abdullah Kafi to be the Chairman of ASOCIO in 2012.

That is a testament of the confidence we have in BCS in driving the digital agenda for the region. Such leadership is not just by chance but by sheer determination, commitment, and resolve that BCS is a leading light in the ASOCIO family.

As a trailblazer, BCS has an important role to play in championing the digital transformation we see happening before us. With its strong leadership and an excellent network in the region, BCS leaders will steer the ship into the new digital realm.

We see that happening this year with the twin summits hosted concurrently by BCS. ASOCIO Digital Summit and the World Congress on IT in Dhaka, from 11-14 November 2021, are events hosted by BCS that will place it on the world's ICT map.

I am so proud that a member of ASOCIO has been able to achieve so much in its 35 years of service to the ICT industry in Bangladesh and the region.

I extend my warm wishes and heartfelt greetings to BCS on the 35th Anniversary. Wishing you many more years of success and accomplishments.

Warm regards and best wishes



Organizers are seen with awardees of different categories at the ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT.





SYED ALMAS KABIR
President
Bangladesh Association of Software & Information Services (BASIS)

CONTRIBUTIONS OF BASIS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ICT SECTOR

angladesh Association of Software & Information Services. BASIS, has started its onward journey with only 18 charter members in 1997. Being the national trade body for the software and IT-enabled services industry of Bangladesh, BASIS has been playing a pivotal role to develop a vibrant and sustainable industry since its inception. Today BASIS contains around 1700 members and the membership growth is significantly exponential. BASIS achieves a pioneering position that leads it to advocates policy formation, conducts various programs and activities towards the overall development of this sector. BASIS is very much aligned with the Digital Bangladesh vision (Vision 2021) of the government. In addition to digitization and automation in the domestic market, BASIS has been actively contributing towards achieving the export target of the government i.e. US\$ 5 billion by 2024. Considering the national interest and importance of the Software & ITES sector importance of this sector, the Ministry of Commerce has made BASIS membership mandatory for the software companies which are operating in Bangladesh through a gazette notification.

In the last 24 years, BASIS has been able to create its positioning and brand value within the country and beyond. Numerous national and international initiatives have been organized and participated by BASIS. BASIS SOFTEXPO is one of the mega events of BASIS held annually since 2004. Over the period, BASIS

Softexpo has become Asia's largest technology congress in the private sector and a reputed business platform for Bangladesh IT/ITES companies. Alongside, BASIS organizes plentiful awards; i.e. BASIS Outsourcing Award, BASIS National ICT Award, e-Commerce Week, Internet Week, Code-Warrior Challenge, NASA Space Apps Challenge, etc. all of these events and activities and widely known and similarly popular. In addition to that, BASIS played a prominent role in organizing "Digital World", the largest ICT exposition of the country being organized jointly by the ICT Division & BASIS as a Public-Private Partnership initiative.



BASIS PRESIDENT SYED ALMAS KABIR Delivered his speech at a seminar named `TECHNOLOGY FOR PROSPERITY' in BASIS SOFT EXPO 2019.





A BASIS Team participated GUANGZHOU `18th APICTA- The Asia Pacific ICT Alliance Awards.'

"Connecting Startups Bangladesh" is also another initiative of the Bangladesh Hi-tech Park Authority which was successfully organized by BASIS in 2016.

Another milestone initiative is establishing BASIS Institute of Technology & Management Limited (BITM). To address the skill gap of HR in the industry, BITM was established in 2007. BITM is a vehicle by which every IT professionals can engage and contribute to education and professional advancement. All the training materials of BITM are designed and reviewed by the industry experts and practitioners based on the industry's needs.

BASIS has played a significant role in formulating national-level Policies, Acts, and Laws which includes National ICT Policy 2009 (revised in 2018), Bangladesh Outsourcing Policy, Cyber Security Act, Digital Commerce Policy, Made in Bangladesh policy, EEF/ESF policy, PPR, Knowledge Worker Law, IPR Law, Export and Import Policy and the like. Besides, in response to the requests from BASIS NBR declared corporate tax exemption for Software/ITES companies in phases from 2011 which is valid up to 30th June 2024. On the other hand, Bangladesh Bank has extended its support in increasing the limit of International credit



BASIS NATIONAL ICT AWARDS 2020 MEET THE PRESS

from US\$ 10,000 to US \$ 40,000 for IT-related purchases. Bangladesh Bank also introduced two-factor authentication for online transactions. Especially Bangladesh Bank introduced 10% cash incentives on the export earning from software & ITES since 2018 and so far 200+ BASIS member companies received cash incentives.

During the last 24 years, BASIS has participated in the most popular international IT expositions especially in COMDEX and Outsource World in the USA; CeBIT Germany, Australia & Thailand; SODEC and JAPAN IT Week in Japan; GITEX Technology Week in Dubai; Easyfair Denmark & Sweden; INDIA SOFT & Global Exhibition on Services (GES) in India, WAN-IFRA Germany. BASIS also organized US-Bangladesh Tech Investment Summit and Europe-Bangladesh Tech Investment summit earlier



ICT State Minister and BASIS President With BASIS AWARD ceremony with Award Winners.

to attract foreign investment in the Bangladesh Technology Sector followed by business-to-business (B2B) meetings. BASIS tried to explore the international market with the slogan "Bangladesh NEXT- your next IT destination". Besides, BASIS successfully implemented a good number of donor-funded projects like the IT-Upgrade Project with the support of the European Commission, Bangladesh Information Technology Management Program (BITMAP) phase I and II with the support of the Embassy of Denmark, IT Outsourcing Export Coaching Program(ITO-ECP) and Netherland Trust Fund (NTF) II and III project with the support of CBI Netherlands and ITC for export capacity building, SheTrades for capacity building of women entrepreneurs with the support of UKAID and Skill Enhancement and Investment Program (SEIP) for the training of human resources with the support of ADB and Ministry of Finance and policy advocacy program with the support of Asia Foundation.

In terms of building relationships and partnerships with both the Government and the Private-Sector, BASIS has remarkable contributions and initiatives. For example, BASIS-A2I Joint Project for National Portal Framework Development was one of the significant initiatives. BASIS also signed MoU with a good number of national and international organizations. Most importantly with KATALYST, The Swiss Import Promotion



Program (SIPPO), World Summit on Information Society (WSIS) the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DCCI), Prime Bank, Brac Bank, PUM Netherlands Senior, Women chamber, CanCham and more than 50 other MoU with various service providers on a special discounted price for BASIS members.

In 1999, BASIS became a member of FBCCI in the "CLASS A" category and earned the status of securing a position of a nominated Director through a Gazzette published on 5th December 2017.

BASIS has published

several quality publications including BASIS member directory, Software, and IT Services catalog, Exporter Director, expobrochure, HR Handbook, and the like on a regular interval. BASIS also published a monthly newsletter earlier.

BASIS became the management agency of the country's first and only "ICT Incubator," offering services and managing the ICT Incubator's various concerns which have been declared as the country's first Software Technology Park (STP-1) by the then ICT Minister in 2011.

It received one of the prestigious awards, the "FBCCI-STANDARD Chartered SME Award 2009". This trade body was recognized as the "Best SME facilitator organization" for contributing outstandingly to SME development and & `Centenary Award' by MCCI for pioneering role in ICT development through promoting the Software & IT services industry in 2014. BASIS achieved the

ISO 9001 Certificate in 2016. In 2015, BASIS became the APICTA member 2015 and since then BASIS has been achieving the APICTA Awards 2017.

BASIS also envisioned a strategy named "One Bangladesh". To create 1 million jobs for ICT Professionals, to increase 1 crore internet users per year, to earn the US \$ 1 billion, and to contribute 1% to the GDP were the four major goals of this strategy.

To enrich the IT industry by creating IT professionals BASIS formed the BASIS Students' Forum and to encourage women professionals ICT BASIS Women's Forum was also formed.

BASIS has made almost all member services digital and the BASIS Secretariat has been strengthened to ensure effective and efficient service delivery. BASIS members can easily may payments online using a mobile app or BASIS Website.

Last but not the least, BASIS is quite concerned with Corporate Social Responsibility. As a part of CSR, BASIS took the initiative to ensure the proper treatment of a bright freelancer Jahid. Also, BASIS contributed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister's Relief and Welfare Fund to deal with the corona crisis. In addition to that BASIS extended its financial contributions to the Rana Plaza survivors and occasionally distribute warm clothes for the distressed people in the winter season.

BASIS has been relentlessly working for making a vibrant and business-friendly environment for the software & ITES industry of the country and is yet to go a long way ahead.



STATE MINISTER MR. ZUNAID AHMED PALAK, M.P is giving his speech to inaugurate BASIS SOFT EXPO 2019. Basis President Syed Almas Kabir was present there.





MOHAMMAD AMINUL HAKIM
President
Internet Service Provider Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB)

EVOLUTION OF THE INTERNET IN BANGLADESH

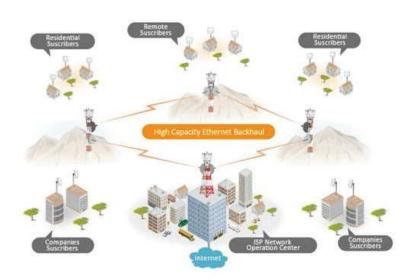
ike Rome, the current posture of the Internet in Bangladesh was not built in a day! It took almost three decades of hard work, passion, and dedication to come to today's shape. Meanwhile, since the early 90's when this long journey was kicked off, the world had witnessed a number of events from 'Shattering of Berlin-Wall to Launching of Bangabandhu Satellite' that actually changed the path of human history.

Along with all those events, another silent struggle was going on behind the spotlight--the Internet revolution in Bangladesh. That journey was not as simple as climbing 25 steps in 25 years or as a relay race where you can pass the baton to your next teammate after crossing a certain distance. Apart from the progress, there were also false starts, wrong steps, opposite forces, retreats, failures, and even dead-ends. All those up-climbs and down-falls are an integral part of our history of the Internet. A major part of this generation and young professionals cannot even imagine how tough a battle their predecessors had to fight to give them the ultimate comfort of hi-speed internet. Waiting 30 minutes for a simple image to download or sparing one hour to attach a document may sound like fairy-tales to the generation who are used to browse at a speed of 10 to 100mbps. So, as an evewitness and a participant of that old school. I feel a sort of responsibility to make the youngsters aware of how every phase of the internet was developed by placing brick after brick, building block after block, and devoting year after year.

Imagine you need to spend BDT 2 per Kilobyte of data to send an email with a maximum size of 2 Kilobytes. I know it is hard and

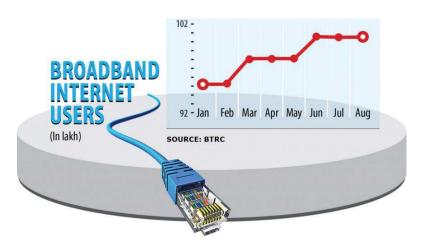
even impossible to think while you are reading this article on your LED monitor or the screen of your smartphone. This is exactly what you would have to experience if you were one of the few users of the offline email era that started in 1993 and lasted till early 1996. Let's not dig into the technical details as those are not relevant today. But there is no way we ignore 1993 because the history of the Internet in Bangladesh truly began in that year with offline emailing.

Now, we will press the fast-forward button to reach the halfway





mark of the year 1996. On the 6th of June in 1996, one of the most significant milestones of our national Internet history had been laid. Information Services Network (ISN) Limited had launched the first-ever internet service using VSAT. At the current time, you may know VSAT (a very small aperture terminal) as a technology that represents another option for Internet connectivity in extremely remote areas and distant field locations. But throughout the mid-90s and early 2000, it was the only technology to provide Internet service. Throughout the period a handful of Internet service providers emerged in the market with dial-up Internet service. Usage charge was BDT 3/ minute and the monthly rent of 64kbps VSAT was USD\$ 8,000.



Bangladesh Telephone and Telegraph Board (BTTB), which is now renamed as BTCL, had entered the scenario of dial-up Internet in 1999. It was then the only telephone operator in Bangladesh. So, naturally, it could gain remarkable market share and command over the private sector ISPs. Having around 25,000 subscribers, it emerged as the biggest threat to private Internet service providers. However, private-ISPs could ultimately sustain to emerge as a full flagged industry later on.

Bangladesh got a unique identity in cyberspace while had been authorized to use '.bd' as its first-ever CCTLD (Country Code Top-Level Domain) in 2000. This domain was initially being maintained by BTTB and is currently being administered by the 'Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology. Meanwhile, the demand for high-speed internet was mounting, and ISPs started upgrading the existing network infrastructure. As a result, some of the ISPs started deploying their own overhead copper wire and some even deployed Hybrid Fiber Coax. By the end of 2001 some links went up to 6 kilometers and speed touched the 8 mbps mark. At the same time, radios also appeared in the market to connect the remote places.

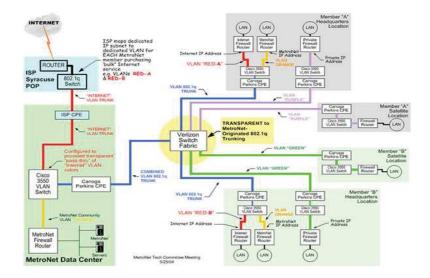
With all those progress in hand, one major question was still to be answered. How the mass people who don't have computers would access the Internet? That was answered partially by the Cyber Cafés. Cafés became popular throughout the cities and towns all over Bangladesh. By the end of 2004, a large number of

urban people came under the umbrella of Cyber Cafés. In the meantime, those Cafés started extending their Ethernet to the user premises acting as a local ISP. Illegal local ISPs started mushrooming since then and it is a big challenge to stop them despite the governments' introduction of Category A, B & C ISP licenses.

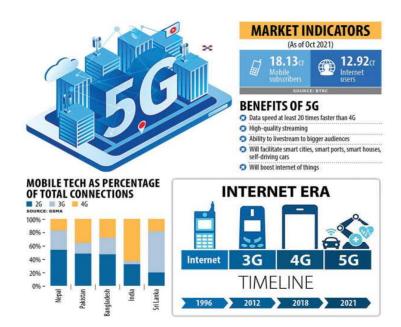
Now, come to the question of synchronization. Service providers were then operating isolated from each other. As a result, the utilization of bandwidth and latency was high. So, the need for a sort of interconnectivity between the ISPs was felt strongly. To address the issue, BDIX (Bangladesh Internet Exchange) was established in 2004. BDIX was set up for peering of ISPs among themselves for the purpose of routing the domestic traffic within the country, instead of taking it all the way abroad. It ultimately resulted in a better quality of service (reduced latency) and reduced bandwidth charges for ISPs by saving on International Bandwidth.

The year 2005 was one of the most remarkable years in the development of the Internet in Bangladesh. In that year, optical-fiber-based connectivity was introduced for metropolitan cities. Internet speed increased dramatically after replacing copper cables with optical fiber. The second remarkable development of 2005 was the introduction of mobile Internet in the form of GPRS/EDGE. In 2005, the mobile network was covering almost every part of Bangladesh. So, after the introduction of mobile Internet, all of a sudden most of the people came under Internet coverage, thanks to that pre-existing infrastructural benefit of mobile operators.

The following year (2006) turned into a game-changer after Bangladesh got connected with SEA-ME-WE 4, an optical fiber submarine communications cable system that used to carry telecommunications between the countries of South-East-Asia, Middle-East, and Western Europe. Bangladesh was connected with that 18,800 Kilometres long cable on 20th May 2006. SEA-ME-WE-4 has a faster rate of data transmission at 1.28 TBPS against its predecessor SEA-ME-WE-3's 0.96 TBPS. The







SEA-ME-WE-4 provides far higher data transmission speeds intended to accommodate the increasing demand for high-speed Internet access in developing countries. The cable uses Dense Wavelength Division Multiplexing (DWDM) technology allowing for increased communications capacity per fiber and also facilitates bidirectional communication within a single fiber.

Here comes the ILDTS Policy of 2007, which was one of those wrong steps of our Internet history, which are still pulling us backward. The then non-political government launched the 'International Long Distance Telecommunication Services (ILDTS) Policy and created IIG, IGW, ICX, IPTSP, and NIX licensing. However, that policy adopted without any real feasibility studies and expert opinions caused permanent damage and imbalance in the ICT sector. As a result, the next democratic government amended this policy in 2010.

The SEA-ME-WE-4 brought rapid growth of Internet bandwidth in Bangladesh. People began enjoying high-speed Internet. However, high-speed Internet brought the dangers of cyber security. Customer complaints about malware, phishing, email spam, DDoS, and other cyber-attacks increased drastically. Customers believed it was the ISPs' job to clean up the mess! There was no organized group to handle cyber threats and help ISPs. In this situation, in July 2007, a group of industry colleagues came forward voluntarily to form an incident response team, BDCERT. It provides incident handling, information sharing, coordinates with ISPs, and collaborates with international CSIRTs to ensure internet security.

In 2009, the government had issued three WiMAX licenses, only two went online. Accepting the reality, they were bound to move to LTE, as WiMAX is now an element of history. In the same year, Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network (NTTN) came on the scene as a result of the previously adopted ILDTS Policy to get rid of the overhead fiber jungle and provide a

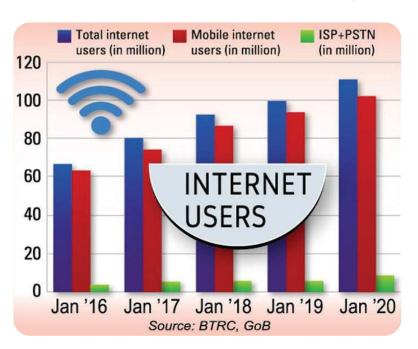
common backbone to Active Service Network (ANS) operators. Though the ultimate impact of those 5 (in practice-2) NTTN operators is debatable, it was at a minimum, a curtail milestone of Bangladesh's Internet history. Meanwhile, in 2008, IPTSP services were launched in the country.

Despite getting connected to SEA-ME-WE-4 in 2006, a major headache of the ICT industry still prevailed. There was no redundancy (alternative) to manage the crisis that may arise due to the failure or maintenance of that submarine cable. That long-anticipated redundancy for SE-ME-WE-4 had come to the market in the form of International Terrestrial Cable (ITC), when BTRC issued 6 ITC licenses in 2012.

In 2013, Bangladesh had witnessed another significant development in the ICT sector, when 3rd Generation Mobile Communications (3G/LTE) was launched in the country. It was in fact delayed 3 years because of the 3 years long bargaining between the government and the mobile operators on the issue of license fees. It is difficult to determine who actually won, but the people of Bangladesh were definitely among the winners! Users from all district towns can now able to access 3G services; though covering the whole of Bangladesh is still a long cry.

The second Submarine Cable (SEA-ME-WE-5) was activated in September 2017. The cable landing station is set up in Kuakata, which will serve as redundancy and boost Internet traffic up to 1,500 Gbps. It also reduced our dependency on terrestrial cables of India. In February 2018, 4G license was awarded to 3 mobile operators by the government, and the service was launched in major divisional headquarters instantly.

We have achieved one of the most remarkable milestones (if not the most remarkable) this year when we could launch a satellite in the space embedded with our Red-Green Flag and titled with the name of the father of the nation. Yes, I am talking about







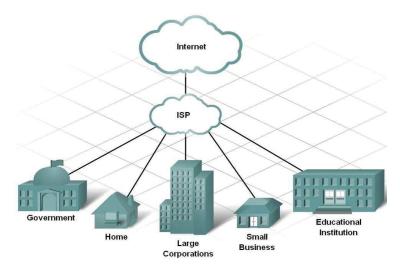
Bangabandhu Satellite-1, the first-ever communications and broadcasting satellite of Bangladesh. On the 11th of May 2018, a 'SpaceX-Falcon 9' rocket started its journey carrying the 'Bangabandhu Satellite-1' and the dream of an entire nation toward the space from the Kennedy Space Center, Florida, United States. The history was made.

With the view to bring discipline to the ISP sector, the government has finalized the licensing guidelines for ISPs on 15-Dec-2020. The new guideline will help to make the internet services more customer-oriented and pave the way for the operators for innovative services which will help to build Digital Bangladesh.

To further boost internet penetration in the rural area, the government has finalized a uniform tariff for broadband internet service across Bangladesh on 06-June-2021 named "One Country, One rate". This will allow rural consumers to enjoy their connection at a rate that is currently only available to urban users. To implement this uniform tariff, the government has also fixed the tariff of private NTTN operators in August 2021. The rates have different slabs, price floors, and ceilings for different types

of customers and areas.

To meet the growing demand for uninterrupted internet bandwidth, Bangladesh has signed up for a third submarine cable connection in Sep 2021 which is expected to be operations by



2024. It is estimated that by 2024, the country will need more than 6.000 Gbps bandwidth.

To boost high-speed Internet access in the country, the government is going to launch Fifth Generation (5G) mobile network service by the end of 2021 and make it available in all districts by 2023. 5G has the potential to benefit everything from entertainment, gaming, education, and public safety. It will be transformative, fueling innovation across every industry and every aspect of our lives."

But, I can assure you that the history of the development of the internet in Bangladesh is not going to be ended very soon. Maybe in 2121, someone like me would start writing an article with the same title. And at the end, he/she would express the same optimism, like me, that the history of the Internet in Bangladesh is not going to end very soon.





WAHID SHARIF President Bangladesh Association of Call Center and Outsourcing (BACCO)

BPO IS BOOSTING BUSINESS BOONS

usiness Process Outsourcing (BPO) is one of the few buzzwords, which is now turned to be an attractive spotlight in the domain of the ICT world. In recent times, top BPO provider countries are looking for more ways to go next level of the outsourcing business. The interest of Bangladesh lies here to seize the opportunity of making itself a global BPO destination. With the view of promoting the business opportunity of the country, the central trade body for the country's BPO/Outsourcing industry, the Bangladesh Association of Call Center and Outsourcing (BACCO) is making every effort with the Government to achieve the target of \$1 Billion revenue-earning

within 2025. The presence of a high number of young entrepreneurs and their enthusiasm and the government's focus on 'Digital Bangladesh' are the main driving forces behind the ICT industry in the country.

Over the years, one of the key reasons behind the growth of BPO in the country has been the extended support of the Government-led development plan, which ensured incentivizes to local and international investments. Also, there have been other contributing factors, which have played a huge role in how the BPO industry has changed the face of the nation's economy. The IT/ ITES industry of the country expects a greater export

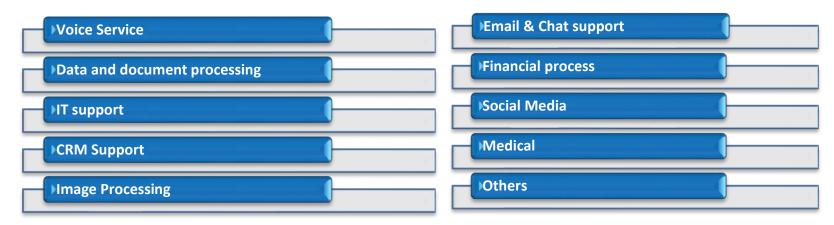


Figure: BPO services at a glance



market revenue growth by the coming years, which is visualized by a steep rise in the graph. Recently, the global BPO services delivery landscape undergoing a significant transformation.

Within just over two decades, the BPO sector has been transformed into one of the most widespread industries and service sectors globally with a continuing desire for further geographic expansion. At present, the country ranks as the second most preferred outsourcing destination in Asia, especially for English-speaking clients, because of its large number of IT skilled workers who are also experts at the language.

Figure: Human Resource Growth of BPO Industry Growth



Figure: BPO Industry Revenue in Million/Billion USD

Significant initiatives are taken by the Government and the private sector to enhance the BPO business as well as train the pool of younger talents, including many remarkable projects such as Leveraging ICT, She-power, SEIP, LEDP, etc., and establishment of Technology Parks in different divisions of the country. Nevertheless, the scope for Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) industry will keep growing in the coming years.

In this technological advancement journey, the ICT industry trade association of the country, Bangladesh Computer Samity has also been seamlessly catalyzing the public and private sectors' ICT stakeholders of the country for the last three decades. BCS has successfully led to popularize, expand and leverage the ICT sector in manifolds globally. It has been our pleasure to collaboratively working with BCS.

The success that BCS has achieved all through these 35 years is a source of encouragement for all of us. We are privileged to get your generous support and significant contribution to developing the IT/ITES industry of the country. We wish BCS many more years of the remarkable journey ahead.







SHOMI KAISER
President
e-Commerce Association of Bangladesh (e-CAB)

GROWTH OF E-COMMERCE ON THE RISE

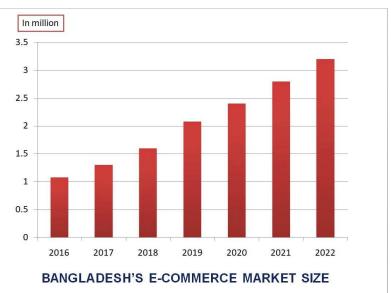
e all are becoming integrated parts in the expansion of e-Commerce services. In Bangladesh, we have been a witness of this expansion for the last one and a half years. The growth in the e-Commerce sector has increased by 25%. This growth has doubled in the last year.

In 2018, the global retail market was 2.98 trillion dollars, whereas it was 3.53 trillion dollars in 2019. Furthermore, the retail market was 4.206 trillion dollars in 2020, it was expected to be 4.92 trillion dollars in 2021, it is going to be 5.69 trillion dollars in 2022 and it is estimated to be 6.54 trillion dollars in 2023. This growth is estimated to be close to double in 3 years. However, if we closely look at the last 10/15 years of growth, we will notice that we have lagged quite a bit in the past. Recently, our economic growth is comparatively much better than that. In Bangladesh, the e-Commerce market is said to be worth 16,000 crores BDT in 2020, and by the end of the 21st Century, it is expected to be worth 24,000 crore BDT.

Our growth was quite satisfactory even before the COVID-19 outbreak. The use of the internet, social media, smartphones and an increase in electricity connections have had an impact on this growth. Since 2015, the advent of e-CAB attempts have been made to solve some of the problems directly which has led to the expansion of several delivery service organizations and some other services as well. The policymakers have been working with the government to address the issues of some policies. For example, Bangladesh Bank's ESCROW service was launched on June 30, and the Ministry of Commerce announced the Digital

Commerce Management Guidelines on June 4 to ensure the financial security of the customer.

From the start of the COVID outbreak, creating separate guidelines for the health safety of the delivery workers, providing them with sufficient health advice, running emergency services with the government's permission, allowing food delivery service to restaurants and homes during Ramadan, and providing opportunities to sell Eid-centric fashionwear entrepreneurs of

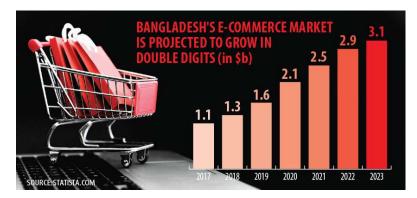




e-Commerce have been protected from an economic catastrophe. However, all of the vendors were not able to turn their dire situation around.

Although the commodity services and the urban chain supply were in operation, the connections to the productive rural supply chains were repeatedly cut off. Meanwhile, alternative services were added to deliver non-toxic mangoes from the mango farmers to the customers of the city through online entrepreneurs.

It has already been established that online entrepreneurs have fulfilled their responsibility of delivering daily necessities at fair prices to every household during the lockdown and due to which people's confidence in e-Commerce has increased manifold. e-CAB set a milestone in the success of alternative product services as well. For example, marginal farmers and ranchers selling sacrificial cows in the digital market, providing help to 10,000 impoverished people through a project for human charity service, reducing the price of onions in the marketplace by starting to sell them through online services for only 36 taka with the help of the Ministry of Commerce.



The biggest achievement of this COVID situation has been the development of people's confidence in e-Commerce. According to media reports, the number of organizations providing daily necessary services has tripled which means 300% growth. In the last 6 months of last year, the daily commodity transactions alone was 3,000 crore BDT, and at present more than 2 lakh deliveries are being made every day.

There are still several problems regarding product delivery at the rural level. Entrepreneurs in the e-Commerce sector do not receive any bank loans and investments. As a result, despite having enough potential this sector is not developing. However, by involving a private bank in the process, e-CAB has helped 13 companies to get loans ranging from BDT 5 lakh to BDT 1 crore last year. Cross-border e-Commerce, which we call export-oriented e-Commerce, has an annual growth rate of 74%. But in this sector too there is a lack of various facilities.

To maintain the growth of e-Commerce, it is necessary to use artificial intelligence to improve the effectiveness of the digital commerce cell and increase its capacity. According to the Digital Commerce Policy-2018, decisions like risk factor management



and technical committee have to be taken. This measurement can prevent problems before they occur. A proposal has also been submitted to the government from e-CAB to create a delivery/logistics aggregator platform by connecting through the postal department. To resolve consumer complaints, the most needed strategy is the creation of a Central Digital Complaints Management System through the Ministry of Commerce / Department of Consumer Protection.

Even though the success and growth have arrived there are still some problems. Ensuring delivery service at our marginal stage is an example of an existent problem. e-CAB has been in constant touch with the concerned agencies of the government in this regard. Another problem is the financial security of online consumers. For this purpose, e-CAB has already started working with Bangladesh Bank to launch the ESCROW service.

For the digital transformation of Bangladesh, 8 new sectors along with the previous 22 sectors have been declared tax-free. 1. Cloud service; 2. System Integration; 3. e-learning platform; 4. e-book publications; 5. Mobile application development service; 6. IT Freelancing. If the annual turnover of any organization in the SME sector owned by women entrepreneurs is up to Tk 60 lakh at their incentives, then the income of the organization has been declared tax-free. Tax exemption has been given for 10 years for all diploma and vocational courses in the field of science and IT to promote national skills development and employment.

There are more than 2,000 institutions in the country including small and big ones. There are some conventional online shops as well. However, there are about 2 lakh active pages based on Facebook. Except for a few organizations, the rest are called non-formal businesses. Because many of them do not own a trade license. That is why the government has already declared to make UBID mandatory.

Only 4% of the total population shop online. Considering the country's communication system, internet, use of smartphones,

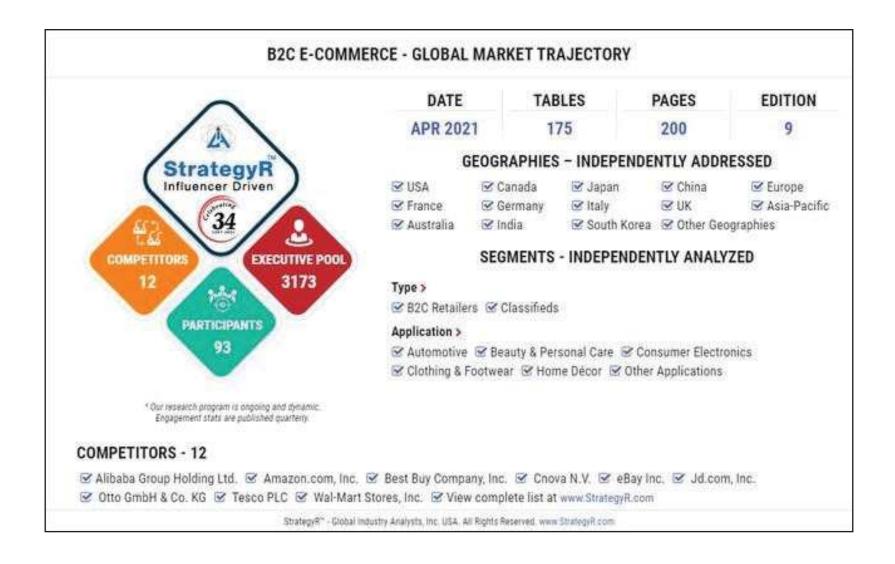


and other developments including electricity connection and other developments, 70% of people can shop online. Furthermore, at present, only a fraction of urban shoppers shop online, but this rate is expected to exceed 20%. About 95% of this sector includes small and young entrepreneurs. During the COVID period, this sector employed 3 lakh people and now serves 2 lakh families every day. In the context of which e-CAB has won the national "Digital Bangladesh Award 2020".

In the future, the development of infrastructure and policy will start a new journey through the coordination of the private and public sectors by solving the problems of the past. e-CAB has already submitted several proposals to the government, identifying the problems that may arise in the future. We hope that the e-Commerce sector will play an important role in bringing dynamism to the digital economy of Bangladesh through the acquisition of digital capabilities and in the

implementation of the government's Digital Bangladesh. We, the service recipients and service providers, will be connected with e-Commerce in one way or another and every person in the country will benefit from it.

Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's acquaintance with us in the past, the government's quick response, especially the cooperation of various departments including the Ministry of Commerce, ICT Division, Postal Department, Hon'ble IT Advisor Mr. SajeebWazed Joy's implementation of instructions have helped pave our way becoming the direction to our roadmap. This progress will continue till the implementation of developed Bangladesh.







MOHAMMED MONIRUL ISLAM Secretary General Bangladesh Computer Samity (2020-22)

NEW GENERATION WOULD REMEMBER THE CELEBRATION OF BCS

angladesh Computer Samity, BCS, turns 35 in this remarkable year when the country is celebrating the birth centenary of our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and the Golden Jubilee of Independence. This celebration of the 35th Birth Anniversary is a milestone for BCS, and its new generation would remember the celebration till the next decade.

As a General Secretary of Bangladesh Computer Samity, the whole situation made us proud. It's a great privilege to see that other pioneering IT associations joined the celebration to make every event successful. For about three decades, BCS is branching out its activities throughout the country and now representing the country in the international arena through global platforms like ASOCIO and WITSA.

On behalf of the members of BCS, I am apologizing that several times we changed the time of the celebration for unavoidable circumstances. BCS members would like to thank the volunteers who are serving every event day and night, the staff at the secretariat, and the Chairman of the Souvenir Committee, Editor, Convenor, and the members of the Editorial Team, and no less importantly, the sponsors and advertisers for having made this souvenir possible.

The members would like to further thank the very important persons of the country for spending their valued time to write the messages for the souvenir and my warm regards to the guests who are joining us for the celebration of the 35th Anniversary.



The Crest of Speaker of Honor is given to the Honorary President of ATCI Thailand Bunrak Saraggananda by Mohammed Monirul Islam, Secretary General, Bangladesh Computer Samity.





DR. LAFIFA JAMAI Department of Robotics and Mechatronics Engineering University of Dhaka & President, Bangladesh Women in Technology

DIGITAL BANGLADESH: THE DREAM COMES TRUE

igital Bangladesh"- the dream of our honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina; the modern transformation of the Golden Bangla dreamt by the greatest Bengali of all time. our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Without advancement in ICT, socio-economic development isn't possible. So one decade ago the government vowed in its election manifesto to realize the vision of Digital Bangladesh within 2021. Under the excellent leadership and sincere efforts of our honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the dream of Digital Bangladesh came true. Almost every citizen of the country is benefitting from the use of ICT. It wasn't easy to reach this goal. The leader of our nation, Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina declared to build Digital Bangladesh on 12 December 2008. She delcared Rupkolpo 2021. At that time, we were struggling with the adoption of ICT. This was a revolutionary step in making the plan for building Digital Bangladesh.

The main objective of establishing Digital Bangladesh is ensuring democracy, justice, transparency, accountability, corruption-free administration, quick services, and a sustainable economy. The core pillars for building Digital Bangladesh include creating a skilled workforce, developing ICT infrastructure and connectivity, establishing e-governance, taking governmental initiatives for the growth of the IT industry, making policies and plans. Digital Bangladesh is the first step towards a knowledge-based society.

Digital Bangladesh is aimed at fulfilling the Bangabandhu Sheikh Muiibur Rahman's vision for independent Bangladesh.

We successfully launched the red and green Bangabandhu Satellite-1 to space, its colors resembling the flag of Bangladesh. This made our country the 57th member of the elite club of satellite-owning nations. Several banks and all TV channels are using this satellite.

Thirteen years ago, only 40 lakh citizens had access to the internet. The government reduced the price of the internet; presently, citizens can afford it. The internet broadband connection will be available even in the remotest parts of our country. Today, the internet reached 11 crores subscribers in Bangladesh. The digital economy isn't possible without an internet connection. To make digital services accessible in villages from the towns the government opened about 5000 digital service centers. From these centers, 42 crore services have been delivered. With the support of info-governance, optical fiber facilities have been built at the Upazila level.

In the last 10 years, about 10 lakh people have been employed in the ICT sector. The government fixed a five billion-dollar target of exporting software and IT services. The government has undertaken several projects for IT entrepreneurs. Financial grants, working spaces, mentoring services, research opportunities, and



development facilities are being provided. The government built 28 high-tech parks, many software technology parks, many IT training centers, and incubators with local and international investment to ensure the growth of the IT industry and create employment and human resources. There is no alternative to international standard research projects for driving the country to the next level. The government has established 21 specialized reacher centers at several universities and is planning on creating more to bridge the gap between industry and academy.

In order to spread ICT education at the school and college levels, 4184 Sheikh Russel Digital Labs have been established and 23,331 high schools and 1500 primary schools have been equipped with multimedia classrooms. A digital platform called 'Shikkhok Batayon' has been created to run multimedia classrooms. With research labs, multimedia classrooms, and digital platforms, we can prepare our students with skills required for the 4th Industrial Revolution. Teachers also need advanced training, so we should keep in mind that there are qualified teachers to guide students to a bright future. The government has taken up several projects for developing human resources in the IT sector.

Over 35000 people received IT training under projects for Leveraging ICT for Growth and Employment and Governance. In the era of the 4th industrial revolution for making the IT generation suitable for facing challenges, the generation is taking courses on robotics, IoT, artificial intelligence, machine learning, blockchain, implanted reality, virtual reality, etc. The government is framing 'National Robotics Strategy' to leverage robots for economic growth, job protection and creation, and improved quality of life. The University of Dhaka has an undergraduate degree program in Robotics which is creating labour force in robotics. The linkage of industry and academia can play a vital role in developing necessary skilled professionals for reengineering work processes to accommodate robots.

The biggest segment of our country's population uses the mobile banking system. Access to Information (A2i), a project of the government, has undertaken several financial inclusion services. Therefore, marginalized people are getting financial services without physically being in a bank.

An agricultural Digital platform called "Krishi Batayon" is helping farmers in their fields - they are receiving experts' advice, managing land, crops, fertilizer, insecticides, checking the market price of crops, etc. About one core farmers and about 20 thousand officials are involved with the "Krishi Batayon" digital platform.

The government has taken several initiatives to make e-governance effective. According to a UN e-governance survey for contributions to this field, our country ranks 115 out of 150. Two surveys were conducted by the UN Economic and Social Division, which revealed that our country went beyond 35 stages and is ranked 115 out of 193 for e-governance.

For information services, the 333 call center was launched. The center takes calls 24/7 for people needing government services and talking to any official, including district controllers to Upzila executive officers. By calling 999, anyone can call the police, fire

services, ask for an ambulance, etc.

E-tendering and procurement processes have become more streamlined through digitalization. The courts are under an e-management system. All documents of the courts are in a digital archive. The land came under the digital recording process and digital Khotian and Porcha are on the clicks. Soon digital record rooms will be launched. The e-filing system has been initiated to increase efficiency in government services and ensure smooth services.

During Covid-19 lockdowns, Digital Bangladesh played a key role in ensuring service continuity in healthcare and education, commerce and trade, and social safety net payments for the new poor.

In the 2019-20 national budget, the 4th Industrial Revolution was highlighted for developing robotics and artificial intelligence technology. Our honorable Prime Minister placed emphasis on these latest technologies. They will improve the quality of life, livelihood, and income. BUET and University of Dhaka have already started working on robotic labs.

Our Father of the Nation gave us an independent country through blood-shed and now his brilliant daughter, our honorable Prime Minister, has led our country to a prosperous Digital Bangladesh. This was just a dream in 2008, but it is now a reality.









BIRENDRA NATH ADHIKARY Director, Excel Technologies Ltd. & CEO, ICT Industry Skills Council of Bangladesh.

BCS ROLE MAKING ICT FOR EQUALITY AND WELFARE OF THE MASSES

angladesh Computer Samity, popularly known in its abbreviated name as BCS, is the largest and oldest trade organization in Bangladesh in the field of information & communication technology (ICT). In 2021, this organization is going to step into 35 years. This year is especially significant for Bangladesh in many ways- firstly, the celebration of the birth centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman will end on 17 March 2021, secondly, we will celebrate the golden jubilee of our independence as a Bengali Nation and thirdly, this year Bangladesh will host the 'World Congress on Information Technology 2021', short for 'WCIT2021', the world's largest event in the field of information & communication technology and known as the Olympics in this field.

Bangladesh Computer Samity has a close connection with various ICT oriented events in the country. The topics of this connection can be started with the logo of the association. This logo was drawn by the late eminent artist Hashem Khan about thirty years ago. He combined the two colors of the national flag of Bangladesh- red & green and the national flower water lily & briefly drew the logo with the abbreviated English name of the association 'BCS'. He did this by combining the colors, symbols & the short name of the association in such a way that Bangladesh Computer Samity represents Bangladesh and the ICT sector of the country.

It is very pertinent to mention that we have achieved an independent-sovereign country 'Bangladesh', a map and a flag through the longest 23 years of movement and struggle under the charismatic leadership of the greatest Bengali of all time, the great architect of independence and Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. The Father of the Nation, through his magical leadership, inspired the people of the delta region in the spirit of Bengali Nationalism in such a way that they turned from unarmed to armed fighters overnight and fought to the death to defeat the powerful Pakistani aggressors equipped with modern weapons. He also led the way in building a war-torn and newly independent country on the basis of this nationalism. He took a number of far-sighted steps in the fields of administration, finance, science, technology, industry, trade, commerce, health, education, agriculture, food, communication, physical infrastructure and foreign & diplomatic relations. He initiated & got Bangladesh's membership in the International Telecommunication Union in 1973 and established the first satellite earth station in the country in 1975. Following these fundamental developments in the telecommunications sector, the information and communication technology sector has undergone a wonderful growth in the modern time. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the worthy daughter of the Father of the Nation, is leading and Sajeeb Wazed Joy, the third generation of the Father of the Nation, a technologist and Prime Minister's



Adviser on Information and Communication Technology, is working as the chief architect. The techno-savvy three generations have taken Bangladesh on the information technology superhighway today and it has been possible to encircle the entire country in a high speed fiber optic network and launch its own successful & effective satellite named 'Bangabandhu-1' in 2019. And, in the election manifesto declared on 12 December 2008, the echo-chanting 'Digital Bangladesh' program was adopted and through its rapid implementation, Bangladesh has become & known as the infinite wonder of the world today. Worth defining 'Digital Bangladesh' as a happy, prosperous, educated population free from discrimination, corruption, poverty and hunger free country, that is truly a people's state and whose driving force is the digital technology. It encompasses the hopes, dreams and aspirations of the people of Bangladesh. It is the best means of meeting the minimum basic needs of the people. It is a vision for realizing the dreams

of independence in 1971. It is a commitment for transforming Bangladesh from a least developed or poor country to a prosperous and rich nation by enhancing per capita and the national income.

In the meanwhile, the most of the agenda of 'Digital Bangladesh' have been implemented, and the result of which is in reality, being Bangladesh has been transformed from least developed country to middle income generating group and the vision of a developed nation has been set in 2041. Under the pragmatic & brave leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the country has been marching towards achieving the goal even during the pandemic period with a positive GDP growth placing Bangladesh on the top in the South Asia.

On the other hand, one after another manufacturing factories are being set up in 42 high-tech parks across the country by providing incentive packages to local and foreign investors. Since 2015, Bangladesh has been on-try self-sufficiency in the production of goods with the theme of 'Made in Bangladesh' and is rushing towards the consequences of an exporting country within short period of time with inspiration of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Bangladesh Computer Samity has been providing all out support and working hand-in-hand with these various activities of the government for the development and expansion of the information & communication technology sector. The association has continued to participate and contribute to these wonderful developments in the information and communication technology sector in Bangladesh – such as,

- Organizing the first information and communication technology exhibition in the country called 'BCS Computer Show' in 1993;
- Enrolled as Associate Member in Asian Oceanian Computing Industry Association (ASOCIO) in 1996 and became its full Member in 2001;
- Formation of 'JRC Committee' under the name of & headed by National Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury in 1997 to

recommend policy for the development of IT sector:

- Duty free computer import movement in 1998;
- Registered as Member in World Information Technology and Services Association (WITSA) in 1998;
- Establishment of the first spacious, modern and complete computer market in the country called 'BCS Computer City' at IDB Building, Dhaka in 1999, followed by setting up of multiple computer markets across the country;
- Awareness programs on IT have been organized all over the country since 2005;
- Participated in the 'Ekushey Book Fair' in 2008 on the occasion of 'International Mother Language Day' with the theme 'Digital Bangladesh: The Dream of Ekushey';
- Organizing 'BCS ICT World' in 2008 with the theme 'Towards Digital Bangladesh';
- Awarding the International 'Associate Leadership Award' to Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on March 30, 2010 for announcing the 'Digital Bangladesh' program with utmost emphasis on the development of information and communication technology sector;
- For the production of computer products in the country, the exhibition has been organized since 2015 with the aim of implementing the slogan 'Made in Bangladesh'.

It is evident from activities specified hereinabove that Bangladesh Computer Samity has been making relentless efforts to increase use of and spread information technology to the people of all walks of life in the country. As a result, digital divide has been reduced, free flow of information has taken place, people across the country are getting access to information technology highway, youths are earning & children are learning from home and social inequality is gradually decreasing. Therefore, it is obvious that Bangladesh Computer Samity has been in the process of implementing the ideals, goals and objectives for which the independent-sovereign Bangladesh was established, while the activities exactly go with the definition of 'Digital Bangladesh' which can be defined as a happy, prosperous, educated population free from discrimination, corruption, poverty and hunger, that is truly a people's state and whose driving force is the digital technology. It encompasses the hopes, dreams and aspirations of the people of Bangladesh. It is the best means of meeting the minimum basic needs of the people. It is a vision for realizing the dreams of independence in 1971. It is a commitment for transforming Bangladesh from a least developed or poor country to a prosperous and rich nation by enhancing per capita and national income. It is the first step towards building a knowledge-based society. It is the Golden Bengal of the Twenty-first Century as dreamt by the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Undoubtedly, this impetus of Bangladesh Computer Samity will continue and its successes in thirty-five years will follow its golden jubilee & centenary celebrations.





MD. JABEDUR RAHMAN SHAHEEN Vice President, Bangladesh Computer Samity & Convener of Celebrating 35 years of BCS

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF BCS: A CELEBRATION FOR JOINING FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

n the era of joining the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Bangladesh Computer Samity is celebrating its 35th Birth Anniversary with the vision of adopting the challenge of technologies of the 21st century.

We are putting constant efforts to survive in the IT businesses and services when the covid-19 pandemic is slowing down the global trade. We learned throughout three decades how to sustain in a difficult situation. However, recently we successfully concluded the WCIT 2021 Summit in Dhaka.

I am proud to be the convenor of the BCS 35th Birth Anniversary Celebration Team. Since my days of study, I am an IT enthusiast that made me come into the info-tech business. Now I am Vice-President of BCS, which is the oldest IT association in the country.

At the end of 2008, our Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina declared in her election manifestation about Digital Bangladesh. It's been about 13 years, and we have witnessed tremendous developments in the domain of info-tech. It's great to see that recently our Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with WITSA Eminent Persons Award 2021 at WCIT-2021 Summit for her outstanding contributions. On behalf of the Premier, State Minister for ICT, Zunaid Ahmed Palak received the award. 'ASOCIO Leadership Award 2021' was awarded to Sajeeb Wazed

Joy, ICT Adviser to the Prime Minister.

Celebrating the birth centenary of our father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and the Golden Jubilee of the Independence of Bangladesh made BCS members proud to celebrate the 35th Birth Anniversary in the same year.

Now we are talking about the Fourth Industrial Revolution, or Industry 4.0, which is different than last three Industrial Revolutions; we need more profound knowledge to understand its meaning as we can truly take benefits out of it, because we almost missed the chances of taking advantage of the industrial revolution of using steam, water power, electricity, etc.

The fourth Industrial Revolution is an extension of the computerization of the 3rd Industrial Revolution, which once we called the Digital Revolution. Industry 4.0 is outdating almost every industry in every country and engineering huge changes at the speed of unprecedented motion. It's about improving the quality of life, livelihood, and increasing the income of people.

We are building many hi-tech parks and making a lot of facilities available for the IT generations who are talented and promising to make the next industrial revolution successful. Along with governments of different countries, we should make long-term plans to regulate our new capabilities and ensure our security. There is risk in the rapid changes of the socio-economic level if it



is imposed on the people who are without ready to accept the challenges from the latest technologies. We must prepare ourselves and become ready to compete with the developed world. Now BCS is ready to make our people prepare to embrace the inevitable changes coming from Industry 4.0 Revolution.

I would like to thank very important people of the country for spending their valuable time in writing the messages for the souvenir and the guests who are joining us for the celebration of the 35th Anniversary.

I would take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to the BCS members and the committee for celebrating the 35th Birth Anniversary. All of them have been working with us since the beginning of the planning stage and they are still here today for all of us, even though they are busy with their responsibilities at their businesses.

I would like to thank the Editor of the Souvenir Committee, the members of the Editorial Team, the PR Team, and the Secretariat Staff, and special thanks to the sponsors and advertisers for making the publication of this souvenir possible.

I truly appreciate your dedication.



International and local guests at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 Summit organized by BCS.



BCS'S BRANCHES ACTIVITIES

Various activities of Bangladesh Computer Samity, BCS, went beyond the border of the capital city of Dhaka. Throughout the decades BCS built many branches in other divisions, opened offices at district level to Upazila level. The members of the branches are not only busy with businesses and providing IT-enabled services; they are running many awareness programs, educating events, charity works, cultural parties, picnics, get-togethers, etc.

Introductions to BCS's branches located outside Dhaka are as follows:

BCS KHULNA BRANCH



With some energetic IT entrepreneurs, the Khulna Branch of BCS was launched, till today it's one of the busiest branches with a lot of activities. It was established in the year 2003, the branch is housed at 306 Jalil Tower (2nd Floor), Khulna Computer City, Khulna-9100.

The First Khulna Branch ad hoc Committee

- 1. Md. Nurul Islam, Chairman, Owner of e-Zone Computers
- 2. Sheikh Shahinur Alam Siddique, Vice Chairman, Owner of World Com
- 3. S.M Monirul Islam, Secretary, Owner of Interwave Computers
- 4. Munshi Arifuzzaman, Joint Secretary, Owner of Ariana Systems
- 5. Ahmed Kabir, Treasurer, Owner of Have Solutions
- 6. Mohammad Ali, EC Member, Owner of Intiger Computer
- 7. G. M. Mujahid, EC Member, Owner of Neotech Computer

Now the branch is effectively helping BCS in expanding its horizon and service to the remote parts of the district.

One of the major activities of the branch is to educate and aware the rural people of the country about information and communication technology, the BCS Khulna branch regularly organizes awareness programs across the district.

The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.

The Khulna branch holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.

The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.

During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar parties and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.

The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.





BCS SYLHET BRANCH



BCS set up its Sylhet Branch in the holy district, in a beautiful area called Zindabazar. IT business in the region is very agile and residents are interested in gadgets. It was founded in the year 2009, the branch is housed at Planet Araf (5th Floor), Zindabazar, Sylhet.

The First Sylhet ad hoc committee

- 1. Md. Kamruzzaman Babu, Chairman, Managing Director, Alternate Associates Limited
- 2. M.A. Monsur Alam, Vice Chairman, Managing Director, Hitech Computer Corporation

- 3. Anamul Quddus Chowdhury, Secretary, Managing Partner, Computer Gallery
- 4. Joinul Akhter Chowdhury, Joint Secretary, Owner of Computers Engineers
- 5. A. S. M. G. Kibria, Treasurer, Owner of Genius Technology
- 6. Md. Abul Monsur Siddique, EC Member, Managing Partner, Greenhill
- 7. Mushfique-us-samad Chowdhury, EC Member, Managing Partner, Tulip Computers

The branch is now an integrated part of the BCS in spreading businesses and educating people in every part of the district.

- For the sake of IT education, the branch is enlightening the rural people of the country about information and communication technology, it regularly organizes awareness programs across the district.
- The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.
- The Sylhet branch holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.
- The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.
- During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.
- The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.





BCS MYMENSINGH BRANCH



Mymensingh is one of the attractive areas of the computer business and ICT activities. People in Mymensingh don't need to come to Dhaka for IT solutions. The branch was first established on June 17, 2011, it is housed at 13 Rambabu Road, 2nd Floor, Mymensingh, and includes Netrokona, Kishoregani, Sherpur, Jamalpur, and Tangail.

The first Mymensingh ad hoc Committee

- 1. Shawkat Sarwar Hossain, Chairman, Owner of Lotus Computer
- 2. MD Mukhlesur Rahman, Vice-Chairman, Owner of MM Computer
- 3. MD Ismail Hossain, Secretary, Owner of the Success Computer
- 4. Shahin Mohammad Asif, Joint-Secretary, Partner of Millenium Computers and Networking

- 5. Jov Prakash Mandal. Treasurer. CEO of J. S Computer Source
- 6. MD Shamsul Alam Sujan, Member, Partner of Active Computers and network
- 7. Sourav Kanti Pal, Member, Owner of S S Computer

The branch is very efficient in helping BCS to achieve its goal and business target. It is now branching out its network across the district. Like other branches, the BCS Mymensingh routinely organizes awareness programs across the district.

The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.

The Mymensingh branch holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.

The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.

During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar parties and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.

The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.





BCS RAJSHAHI BRANCH



Vibrant Rajshahi Branch was created on July 9, 2011, with some workaholic of IT folks. Now the branch includes all the districts of the Rajshahi division and is housed at Joynob Plaza, 2nd Floor, Greater Road, Rajshahi-6000.



The First Rajshahi ad hoc committee

- 1. Ashfraf Siddigui Noor, Chairman, Director of Pixel Pvt Ltd
- 2. S. M. Musfeq-Us-Salehin, Vice-Chairman, CEO of Cell Computers
- 3. MD Abul Fazal Kashemi, Secretary, Owner of TechLab
- 4. Syed Abul Moyez (Dollar), Joint Secretary, Owner of Computer Palace
- 5. MD Sazzad Hossain, Treasurer, Partner of Cyber Zone
- 6. Fahim Muntasir (Sumon), Member, Chairman of North Bengal IT Ltd.
- 7. S M Latiful Bari, Member, CEO of New Comdex System

The branch effectively helps BCS in expanding its horizon and service to the remote parts of the district.

- As part of the awareness program the branch is educating rural people about information and communication technology, often the branch is running awareness events across the district.
- The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.
- The Rajshahi branch holds Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.
- The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.
- During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.
- The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.



BCS CUMILLA BRANCH



Cumilla Branch is very popular in the district; tech adoption among the people is on the rise. It was established on July 16, 2011, the branch is housed at New Market (4th Floor), Kandirpar, Cumilla, and comprises Cumilla, Brahammanbaria, and Chandpur districts.



The first Cumilla ad hoc committee

- 1. MD Nazrul Amin Mollah, Chairman, Owner of IT Palace)
- 2. MD Moazzem Hossain Bulbul, Vice-Chairman, Owner of Cumilla Ananda Computer
- 3. Mujibur Rahman Mukul, Secretary, Owner of Genetic Institute of Information
- 4. MD Farhad Ullah, Joint-Secretary, Partner of Softlink Computer and Multimedia
- 5. Mohammad Nasir Uddin Sumon, Treasurer, Owner of Computer Plus
- 6. MD Jahangir Alam Sohel, Member, Owner of Secure Computer
- 7. MD Sultan Mahmud Tutul, Member, Owner of Bluebox Computer

The branch effectively helps BCS in expanding its range and services to the remote parts of this district.

- To educate and aware the rural people of the country about information and communication technology, the BCS Cumilla chapter regularly arranges awareness programs across the district.
- The branch also holds BCS expositions to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.
- The Cumilla wing holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.
- The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.
- During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.
- The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.



BCS BARISHAL BRANCH



One of the great branches of BCS is Barishal Branch; it has significant numbers of members. The branch was established on July 29, 2011, the branch covers Barishal, Patuakhali, Barguna, Jhalakathi, Pirojpur, and Bhola districts.

The branch office is housed at 10 Parara Road, Barishal-8200. The branch always with BCS's goal to flourish IT usages to the remote parts of the district.

The first Barishal ad hoc committee

- 1. Sunil Baran Saha, Chairman, Owner of Lanka Corporation
- 2. Monowar Rahman Harun, Vice-Chairman, Owner of A Computer

- 3. Shah Borhan Uddin Adnan, Secretary, Owner of Ideal Computer System
- 4. Rais Uddin Atik, Joint-Secretary, Owner of Ark Computer System
- 5. Zillur Rahman, Treasurer, Owner of Universal Computer
- 6. Khorshed Alam, Member, Partner of Barishal Computer
- 7. Ratan Kumar Banik, Member, Partner of Jhalak Computer Solution
- One of the major activities of the branch is to educate and aware the rural people of the country about information and communication technology, the BCS Barishal branch regularly organizes awareness programs across the district.
- The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.
- The Barishal branch holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.
- The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.
- During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.
- The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.





BCS CHATTOGRAM BRANCH



BCS got its powerful branch in the commercial district Chattogram on October 23, 2011, which includes Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Rangamati, Khagrachhari, Bandarban, Lakshmipur, Feni, and Noakhali districts. The office is housed at Chittagong Computer City, R.F Zohura Tower (4th Floor), Room # 516, 1401 Sk Mujib Road, Chowmuhani, Chattogram.

The first Chattogram ad hoc committee

- 1. Shakhawat Hossain Jewel, Chairman, Global Touch
- 2. Manjur Hossain Manju, Vice-Chairman, CEO of Winchip Computer
- 3. Muhammad Kamrul Hasan Siddiqui, Secretary, Computernix

- 4. MD Anisur Rahman, Joint-Secretary, CEO of Greatway Computer System
- 5. MD Nazrul Islam Khan, Treasurer, Owner of Janani Computer
- 6. Mohammad Amanat Ullah, Member, CEO of Omega Computer
- 7. Rakhal Chandra Nath, Member, CEO of Power Line Computer

The branch is effectively playing an important role in boosting BCS' efforts and services to every corner of the port city. Besides business, the branch is very busy with popularising ICTs in the city and taking them to the grassroots level. Its awareness programs go as follows.

The branch also holds BCS tech fairs to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.

The port city wing of BCS holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.

The branch Organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.

During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.

The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.





BCS JASHORE BRANCH



Recently Jashore Branch of BCS made a tremendous advancement, its dynamic members are actively running a lot of activities regarding business and awareness. It was established in the year 2011, the branch is housed at 14 Nahar Plaza (3rd Floor), Shaheed Road, Mike Potti, Jashore.

The first Jashore ad hoc committee

1. Hoymonti Saha, Chairman, Owner of Jaan Computer

- 2. Partho Protim Deb Nath (Roty), Vice-Chairman, Owner of Nath Computer
- 3. Dinesh Chondra Mojumder, Secretary, Owner of United Computers
- 4. K M Aktaruzzaman, Joint-Secretary, Owner of Arpanet
- 5. Md. Mominur Rahman, Treasurer, Owner of S. Computer
- 6. Md. Babor Ali, EC Member, Owner of Babor Computer
- 7. Ram Proshad Roy, EC Member, Owner of Ram Computer

The branch is convincingly helping BCS in expanding its range and service to every part of the district.

- Taking IT to the commoners of the district by the effort of the BCS Jashore wing.
- The branch also holds BCS expositions to introduce the latest technology and tech products to the people of the district at an affordable cost.
- The Jashore wing holds an Annual General Meeting for the district to maintain the smooth operation of the Bangladesh Computer Samity.
- The branch organizes discussion sessions on various ICT-related issues with renowned ICT experts and the country's policymakers.
- During the Holy month of Ramadan, the branch arranges Iftar fest and Du'a Mahfils with eminent personalities and VIPs.
- The branch also organizes blood donation campaigns, clothes, and food distribution among the deprived ones of the district among other activities.









Acer Incorporated is a Taiwanese multinational hardware and electronics corporation specializing in advanced electronics technology. It is Taiwan's leading exporter and the world's fifth-largest computer manufacturer. The company was founded by Chen Jung Shih back in 1976 and is headquartered in Taipei, Taiwan. They engage in the research and development of user interface, industrial design, information and communication technologies related to software and hardware, and electronic sports-related applications. Its product line includes computers, laptops, smartphones, smart cameras, virtual reality, web servers, and browsing tools. It also offers software and repair services.

Acer has nearly 30 years of growth results primarily from its business of manufacturing and assembling branded and contract PCs in several locations throughout the world. The company sells its products through dealers and distributors in more than 100 countries. Recently, In Bangladesh Acer start their new journey with UCC. They brings gaming and business laptop of Acer. UCC makes a new gaming customer base in the country. Acer has diversified its range of products to include low-cost desktops, laptops, servers, storage devices, peripherals and also the latest smartphones, tablets, etc.

A lot of people like Acer thanks to its enormous selection of laptop models. They have budget laptops for starving college students as well as expensive premium laptops for people who want to show off their wealth. Acer knows that innovation is what makes their product stand out which is why a lot of their premium laptops have little innovations here and there that make things more convenient for its users. It's an amazing laptop brand with tons of value selection and innovative technologies. Its new innovations and customers satisfaction make Acer dominate in the industry for a long time.



ADN Telecom Limited commenced its commercial operations in 2003 after being incorporated as 'Advanced Data Networks System Limited' on September 22, 2003, as a private limited company under the Companies Act, 1994. The company was renamed as "ADN Telecom Limited" on April 15, 2012, and was converted into a public limited company on July 25, 2012.

Today ADN Telecom Limited is one of the leading IT and telecommunication service providers in Bangladesh offering a wide range of data, voice, and internet services to its local and international clients.

ADNTEL owns the most diverse access network in the country empowered with wireless, fiber optics, and satellite infrastructures. Being ISO 9001:2015 certified company ADN Telecom has been ensuring seamless and secure connectivity for all its esteemed clients through constant innovative endeavors and prompt modernization.

BTRC has allocated several radio frequencies in different bands in favor of ADNTEL for its access and transmission networks which have driven the company to deploy the updated connectivity services countrywide. ADN Telecom is also tied up with leading global telecom operators such as Singtel, TATA Communications, and Orange Business Service that enables the company to provide end-to-end solutions, both domestically and internationally.

Currently, ADN Telecom Limited is enlisted in both Dhaka and Chittagong Stock Exchanges.



AsusTek Computer Inc. is a Taiwan-based multinational computer and phone hardware and electronics company headquartered in Beitou District, Taipei, Taiwan. Its products include desktops, laptops, netbooks, mobile phones, networking equipment, monitors, WIFI routers, projectors, motherboards, graphics cards, optical storage, multimedia products, peripherals, wearable, servers, workstations, and tablet PCs. The company is also an original equipment manufacturer (OEM). The Combined talent of 16,000 international employees including a world-class R&D team of 5,000 engineers, has elevated ASUS to become one of the Fortune magazine's World's Most Admired Companies in 2018. The total revenue for 2017 was approximately US\$ 13 billion.

Asus is passionate about technology and driven by innovation. We dare and we strive to create an effortless and joyful digital life for everyone. We're always in search of incredible ideas and experiences, and we aspire to deliver the incredible in everything we do. Asus is the world's Top 3 PC vendor by 2017 unit sales. Asus appears in BusinessWeek's "InfoTech 100" and "Asia's Top 10 IT Companies" rankings, and it ranked first in the IT Hardware category of the 2008 Taiwan Top 10 Global Brands survey with a total brand value of \$1.3 billion.

Asus brings you world-class reliability and unrivaled quality, with products designed to bring harmony and simplicity to your personal and professional life. Our award winning products are inspired by the principals of Zen, featuring a harmonious blend of incredible technology and stunning style. We constantly strive to create products that enable a seamless and connected digital life. But don't just take our words for it- always get expert advice before you buy.





B-Trac Technologies Ltd. is an affiliated company of Bangla Trac Group, which started its business in the IT industry on January 6, 2014. We are a growing Value-Added IT Distribution company in Bangladesh. We are • BTRAC the authorized distributor of top technology brands AVITA, BlackBox, Dell Technologies, HP, Microsoft, TECHNOLOGIES Nexstgo & Panasonic.

We work as the bridge between Technology and Markets with our strong Channel Partner base and portfolio of leading Technology Vendors. We are committed to enabling our partners in achieving their business and digital transformation goals through service excellence and innovative solutions while ensuring sustainable growth and value for stakeholders.



Daffodil Computers Ltd. (DCL) is the first startup to start its journey concentrating on IT and Education. It was established in 1990 as a proprietorship company of Dr. Md. Sabur Khan, the former president of Dhaka Chamber of Commerce and Industries (DCCI) and Bangladesh Computer Samity (BCS). DCL became public listed in 2001 and got listed in Dhaka Stock Exchange and Chittagong Stock Exchange in 2002 as the first pure IT Company in the country.

Today DCL has countrywide clients, customers, partners, and global linkages. DCL brought all types of IT/ITES services under one umbrella and delivered advanced technology to the local market as per its commitment to improving people's lives. DCL has the comprehensive, cross-industry experience and expertise to serve exactly the way clients expect. Also, it has a broad product portfolio and long product life cycles which helped

Technology is the trend and Daffodil Computers is leading that trend ensuring Industrial Revolution 4.O. Being an ISO ISMS 27001 Certified Company, it is working to fulfill the exact demand of applications and customize the software for existing and potential local and international markets. DCL is run by an expert management team as well as a skillful technical and business team who are certified by the different vendor certificates including International Software Testing Qualifications Board (ISTQB). All of the products and services are implemented, tested, and documented following international standards and compliances.

To play a role in the dissemination, marketing, and production of Bangladeshi products, Daffodil Computers is working to produce "DCL" own branded IT products like Laptop, Mobile, UPS, etc. To create employment and build its own branded products DCL introduce a manufacturing factory at Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City, Kaliakair, Gazipur. DCL ensures the Returns on Investment (ROI) of its clients and shareholders.



Daffodil International University (DIU) is the prominent education venture of Daffodil Group and concerns of Daffodil Education Network. Daffodil International University is carrying the group mission and vision in the higher education systems in Bangladesh. Today DIU is a leading private university in Bangladesh moving forward with a vision to impart quality education to produce quality graduates who will be able to stand out among others nationally and globally. The University has already been recognized in independent government assessments as one of the top graded universities in Bangladesh, DIU today combines state-of-the-art facilities and a dynamic approach to teaching and research with its proud heritage of service and achievement.

The prime objective of DIU is to create leaders in the fields of industry and commerce, science and technology, arts, as well as all other disciplines of life. The University has the aim to raise a generation of worthy citizens in order to create a productive workforce to lead our nation out of a vicious cycle of poverty. Moreover, DIU has taken the mammoth responsibility of cultivating, nurturing and mentoring the youth to turn them not only into good and ethical human beings but also into entrepreneurs who will be able to contribute to Gross Domestic Production (GDP) of Bangladesh by generating employment. Today DIU is connecting with 500+ local and International institutions and creating scopes for the youth and the country. For its effort DIU has won and been recognized with prestigious awards from home and abroad.

For more info. Visit https://daffodilvarsitv.edu.bd/



With the richest technology from back home and perfect assembling in China, Digital X proudly presents the first ever Bangladeshi brand providing the world class sound quality with the most customized products and impeccable audio solution. We have more than 100 models of different categories; Wired speaker, Bluetooth speaker, Sound Bars, Wired or Bluetooth headsets, Micro SD Card slot and FM connectivity which can offer fantastic experience of music to the users in their work or life at home or workplaces, even for outside activities, fulfilling everyone's need and

The Cutting Edge design has made all the models even more spectacular, fitting into any space, any room. One can get a sleek or matte black design or even a wooden body sound speaker, the outstanding shaped speakers the keep the profile low and pump out big sound.

Digital X is one of the most accomplished audio system brands of Bangladesh available in the market right now with the least conceivable cost for marvelous sound quality.

On top the best speaker line up in Bangladesh, DigitalX is also dominating the UPS industry with quality UPS for both personal and corporate use. All UPSs are built carefully with safety and quality in mind for the consumers to use. DigitalX UPSs are tested thoroughly before reaching the market. With support for both online and offline UPS and a compact design DigitalX UPS can be placed quite easily with any system or location. With range of power from high to low along with excellent back up power truly makes it the best among the competitors.

Bangladesh Contact: Excel Technologies Ltd. For More, Visit www.excelbd.com





Fiber@Home Group started its journey in 2009 to align its vision with the Bangladesh Govt, mission of Digitalization, Fiber@Home Group has 4 major verticals to operate its business in different sectors.

Fiber@Home Ltd (FHL): FHLis the 1st NTTN (Nationwide Telecommunication & Transmission Network) license holder to develop, build, maintain and operate Nationwide Telecommunication Transmission Network in Bangladesh in the year of 2009. Our optical fiber network is around 50,000 KM all Fiber (2) Home across the country with the in 8 Divisional HQ, 64 Districts, 492 Upazillas & 3758 Unions with Geographical Redundancy, Fault Tolerant Path and Device, to keep the network available up to 100%, with 24/7NOC and Customer Care Service.

Fiber@Home Global (FGL): FGL had its license for International Terrestrial Cable (ITC)&International Internet Gateway (IIG) on January 5, 2012 and April 12, 2012 respectively by BTRC. The main objective of this license is to reduce the complexation of maintaining the international connectivity through submarine cable.

Bangladesh Technosity Ltd (BTL): BTL has started its journey in 2015 with an agreement with Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA) to Design, Develop, Market and Operate Block III of the Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City (BHTC) in Gazipur, Dhaka, Bangladesh to develop a world class Special Economic Zone with "Bonded Warehouse" facilities for technology-orientated companies, and to promote Bangladesh and BHTC as an attractive investment destination for Multi-National Corporations to consider.

Felicity Internet Data Centre (FIDC): FIDC is the 1st Carrier-Neutral Colocation and Internet Data Centre situated in Bangabandhu Hi-Tech City (BHTC) in Gazipur, Dhaka, Bangladesh with Tier-III, ISO-27001, ISO-9001 and PCI-DSS certification. FIDC is a 5 MW, 500 Rack facility with multiple-redundant fibre optic backbone from multiple NTTN operators. FIDC provides the Colocation Service, Network as a Service [NaaS], Metal as a Service [MaaS] and Infrastructure as a Service [laaS].

Gigabyte Technology is a Taiwanese manufacturer and distributor of computer hardware. Gigabyte's principal business is motherboards. It shipped 4.8 million motherboards in the first quarter of 2015, which allowed it to become the leading motherboard vendor. Gigabyte also manufactures custom graphics cards and laptop computers (including thin and light laptops under its Aero GIGABYTE[™] sub-brand). In 2010, Gigabyte was ranked 17th in "Taiwan's Top 20 Global Brands" by the Taiwan External Trade Development Council. Gigabyte designs and manufactures motherboards for both AMD and Intel platforms, and also produces graphics cards and notebooks in partnership with AMD and Nvidia, including NVidia's Turing chipsets and AMD's Vega and Polaris chipsets. Gigabyte's components are used by Alienware, Falcon Northwest, CybertronPC, Origin PC, and exclusively in Technology Direct

desktops. Other products of Gigabyte also have included desktop computers, tablet computers, ultrabooks, optical drives, mobile phones, personal digital assistants, server motherboards, server racks, networking equipment, keyboards, cooling components, power supplies, and cases. Based in Nanping in Taoyuan, Ningbo, and Dongguan, GIGABYTE's production lines are both in good supply and quality rating, and the constant renewals of equipment and automation adaptations ensure innovation and a high standard of quality control. Gigabyte developed and applied the world's first pure rice husk eco-package, which not only became a sustainability milestone in technology industry, but also won international awards such as IF, Red Dot and Good Design. As a gardener of technology and sustainability, they believe that every action is a seed of anticipation and will thrive into a better future.

Recently Bangladesh High Tech Park Authority announced Halima Telecom factory as HI-Tech Park. With the visionary leadership of Group Chairman Mr. Abul Kalam Hasan, the journey of Halima Telecom was started at 2000. Halima Telecom has pulled out all the steps to become a pioneer of Mobile Accessories Company in Bangladesh. Halima Group is currently operating in 08 companies, 03 factories with more than 2500 work force, 800 distributors, 30000 retailers and 100 suppliers under its umbrella. Among them 90% of factory work force are female with lack of education and skill. With proper training Halima Group make them productive recourse. Halima Group has wide range of mobile accessories and electrical products under the brand name HALIMA. H.T.E and TIPS. Millions of satisfied customers, HG is committed to quality compliance and serving customers at affordable price. The Group now boasts entities in sectors including Mobile accessories, Mobile Phone, Electricals & Electronics, Home Appliances, Cables and Security Products.

Keep Promises, Team Work, Respect, Customer Focus, and Integrity is the core values of Halima Group.

Halima Group does not want to grow alone; we believe grow together. Halima Group committed to the development of the country. Group's cordial relations with all our valued customers and clients, as partners of prosperity, will be strengthened further in future.

HIKVISION*

Founded in 2001, Hikvision is an IoT solution provider with video as its core competency that has been consecutively ranked world's number one since 2011 till date.

Having more than 42,000 employees, over 20,000 of which are R&D engineers, Hikvision annually invests over 10% of its annual sales revenue to research and development for continued product innovation. It has established a complete, multi-level R&D system that includes every operation from research to design, development, testing, technical support, and service. Centered at its Hangzhou headquarters, the R&D teams operate globally, including R&D centers in UK, Canada and Asia-Pacific region, as well as eight cities in China.

Hikvision advances the core technologies of audio and video encoding, video image processing, and related data storage, as well as forward-looking technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing and big data. Hikvision has established one of the most extensive marketing networks in the industry, comprising 66 international subsidiaries and branch offices, to ensure quick responses to the needs of customers, users and partners. Hikvision products serve a diverse set of vertical markets covering more than 150 countries.

Excel Technologies Ltd., the National Distributor of Hikvision, explored Hikvision products & service first time in Bangladesh market in the year 2013. Sincere effort, commitment and dedication of Excel Technologies Ltd. during last more than eightyears; Hikvision has been positioned number one security surveillance solutions provider in the country.



kaspersky

Kaspersky is a global cybersecurity company founded in 1997. Kaspersky's deep threat intelligence and security expertise is constantly transforming into innovative security solutions and services to protect businesses, critical infrastructure, governments and consumers around the globe. The company's comprehensive security portfolio includes leading endpoint protection and a number of specialized security solutions and services to fight sophisticated and evolving digital threats. Over 400 million users are protected by Kaspersky technologies and they help 270,000 corporate clients protect what matters most to them. Kaspersky's consumer software includes the Antivirus, Internet Security and Total Security products. The Antivirus software includes malware protection, monitors the PC for suspicious program behavior, and warns users about potentially dangerous websites. The Internet Security software adds privacy features, parental controls, anti-phishing tools. Total Security adds parental

controls, adult website filters, diagnostic tools, a Password Manager application, and other features. Kaspersky's software is available for Macs, PCs, Android, iOS, Windows Mobile, BlackBerry and Symbian. For businesses the company markets the Kaspersky Endpoint Security for Business suite. It includes a centralized user interface and management application called the Kaspersky Security Center. The cybersecurity software itself is called the Kaspersky Security Network. The Kaspersky Administration Kit Security Center manages configuration, installation and remote use. The business suite also has quarantine, reporting, and other features. Its software product for businesses with 25 staff or less is called Kaspersky Small Office Security (KSOS). Within the suite are products specifically for virtualization security, mobile security, and fraud protection among others. Kaspersky also develops a free tool that helps businesses gain access to Windows devices that are infected by ransomware. The Kaspersky Anti-Virus engine also powers products or solutions by other security vendors, such as Check Point, Bluecoat, Juniper Networks, Microsoft Forefront, Net intelligence, Clearswift, FrontBridge, Netasq, Wedge Networks, and others. Altogether, more than 120 companies are licensing technology from Kaspersky Lab. Kaspersky Lab also has a number of partnerships with various technology companies.



Lenovo is world's renowned IT Product brand, especially famous for notebooks. The company designs, develops, manufactures, and sells personal Computers, Tablet Computers, Smartphones, Workstations, Servers, Supercomputers, Electronic Storage Devices, IT Management Software, and Smart Televisions, and is the world's largest personal computer vendor by unit sales as of January 2021. It also markets the ThinkPad and ThinkBook business lines of laptop computers; IdeaPad, Yoga, and Legion consumer lines of laptop computers; and the IdeaCentre and ThinkCentre lines of desktop computers.

Lenovo was founded in Beijing in November 1984 as Legend, and was incorporated in Hong Kong in 1988 by Liu Chuanzhi. Lenovo has operations in more than 60 countries. Lenovo's principal facilities are in Beijing and Morrisville, with research centers in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Xiamen, Chengdu, Nanjing, and Wuhan in China, Yamato in Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, and Morrisville in the U.S. It also has a joint venture with NEC, Lenovo NEC Holdings, which produces personal computers for the Japanese market.

Global Brand Pvt. Ltd. is one of its distributors in Bangladesh. Lenovo started business with their Notebook & Tablet Products with Global Brand Pvt. Ltd. in 2013. Currently Global Brand has a wide range of Lenovo Product Segments- Notebook, Tablet, Desktop, and Monitor & Server for both Retail & Corporate Customers.

With a sharply dedicated team, Lenovo Global Brand operates their business throughout Bangladesh with 29+ of own branches and dedicated distribution Partners. It is headquartered in West Panthapath, Dhaka.

In recognition of continuous excellence in delivering warranty services, Lenovo recognizes Global Brand as their Authorized Service Provider in Bangladesh in 2020.



In Bangladesh, LG Monitor has started its business since 1997. Global Brand Pvt. Ltd is the sole distributor of LG Monitor of this renowned tech giant. Currently it has three variants available based on usage type—Consumer Use series, Professional series & Gaming Series whose screen size varies from 22inch to 43inch. At present, LG monitor has won the Third largest Monitor Market Share of Bangladesh and the first monitor brand who has brought 1ms refresh rate monitor worldwide.

LG Corporation is a South Korean multinational conglomerate. It is the fourth-largest chaebol inSouth Korea. Its headquarters are in the LG Twin Towers building in Yeouido-dong, Yeongdeungpo District, Seoul. LG makes eletrics, chemicals, and telecommunications products and operates subsidiaries such as LG Electronics, Zenith, LG Display, LG Uplus, LG Innotek, LG Chem, and LG Energy Solution in over 80 countries.

The LG Electronics USA HE B2B Division serves customers in the lodging and hospitality, digital signage, systems integration, healthcare, education, government and industrial markets

LG Electronics, Inc. is a global leader and technology innovator in consumer electronics, home appliances and mobile communications. Employing more than 72,000 people working in over 120 operations including 80 subsidiaries around the world. Comprising four business units --Mobile Communications, Digital Appliance, Digital Display and Digital Media with 2006 global consolidated sales of US \$48.5 billion.

LG has a large variety of computer monitors, including 4K Monitors, TAA Monitors, FHD Monitors & UltraWide Curved Monitors. From high-performance curved, UltraWide [™] computer monitors designed for multitasking, to immersive gaming monitors, stunning Digital Cinema 4K, UHD 4K, and the true-to-life colors of our IPS monitors – LG has been bringing out latest innovations regularly.



MyHealthBD works for healthcare professionals to find patients as well as to find the right doctor and the right hospital services for patients. It is a platform for all - patients, doctors, hospital owners, healthcare professionals, and other healthcare services providers to meet the need for better health for all. A patient can obtain all kinds of hospital services, such as online doctor's appointment booking, telemedicine, teleradiology, electronic medical record, patient portal, ambulance service, home sample collection for diagnosis etc., just by clicking away. Our effort is to establish a one-stop healthcare platform in Bangladesh for everyone.

In Bangladesh, most people live in rural and suburban areas where most hospitals and renowned doctors live in metropolitan cities. It encouraged us to make a "digital healthcare database" where people will find electronic health records through the patient portal service. It is also working as a bridge connecting people to doctors, hospitals, diagnostic centers, and other healthcare providers. Our purpose is to help people all around

Bangladesh in a more painless process to get healthcare services.

Since MyHealthBD brings an integrated, multi-function platform for doctors, hospitals and diagnostics centers to transform healthcare business and help to manage routine tasks easily and seamlessly.

MyHealthBD is an extremely powerful and reliable virtual hospital system ensuring flexibility and scalability for health care verticals and helping them manage their resources more efficiently and effectively thus leveraging tangible benefits to them.

MyHealthBD enabling health care verticals leverage benefits of multi-tenancy, 24 X 7 availability of applications, On demand - Anytime Any Device access, a Delivery model which was flexible & elastic with instant commercial viability to our clients, all of this without doing capital investment

Finally, MyHealthBD designed to scale from a standalone private practitioner to large-scale multi-geography hospitals and diagnostic centers





Nagad is poised to become an essential component of Bangladesh's financial fabric. In alignment with the needs of the people and the development goals of the Bangladesh Government, Nagad envisions its role as a one-stop digital banking destination in partnership with the entire financial services industry.

At Nagad, we believe that strategic partnerships are the key to providing the people of Bangladesh with the most relevant and impactful digital financial services. We invite you to reimagine and leapfrog into the future of financial services alongside us.

Bangladesh is a thriving economic playground, pulsing with optimism and aspiration. A population of 165 million people, nearly half of which are under 25, have awakened to the vast possibilities of the future. They eagerly adopt new ideas from the outside while also confidently forging their own path.

Under the innovative and century-old financial authority of the Bangladesh Post Office, Nagad was launched by The Hon'ble Prime Minister of the People's Republic of Bangladesh on March 26th, 2019 as a groundbreaking partnership. The mission is clear: provide a comprehensive digital and ever-evolving financial service to the country's people and small businesses.

Within a very short time span, Nagad has set remarkable benchmarks. Nagad has achieved a customer count of 5.85 Crores, Uddokta count of 2.40 lakhs, and a daily transaction of BDT 700 Crores. Besides that, the option of opening a Nagad Account just by dialing *167# was a revolutionary innovation by Nagad, that enabled customers to easily open a Nagad Account who even use feature phones.



Founded in 2000, NETIS SYSTEMS is a global leading provider of networking products and solutions. With state-of-the-art technology, outstanding product quality and satisfying customer service, NETIS SYSTEMS has become a major provider in the data communication industry, with a growing reputation for reliable products worldwide. The NETIS SYSTEMS' product family includes wireless routers, wireless adapters, switches, DSL modems & routers, network adapters, EPON, GPON, etc., and is evolving into products that related to smart life, security and other technologies. With annual Investment of 30% of sales revenue, strong upstream technology support and more than 300 experienced software and hardware engineers, NETIS SYSTEMS' R&D team provides products designed for optimal human use involving a variety of technologies. Nowadays, NETIS SYSTEMS has established

more than 20 sales branches throughout China and has gradually set up overseas offices to provide quick and comprehensive services to global customers in North America, Europe, Taiwan and Korea. Trusting NETIS SYSTEMS' product quality and services, more and more worldwide customers are joining the NETIS SYSTEMS reseller and distributor team. Since 2008, NETIS SYSTEMS has maintained a steady 30% annual sales growth rate. For home users they have Wireless Routers, ADSL, VDSL, Wireless Adapters, Network Adapters, Switches, Accessories, Smart Home and Eol. For Business use they have Wireless Access Points, Switches, LTE CPE & MiFi, PoE switch and Eol. For ISP they have Wireless Routers, ADSL, VDSL, EPON and GPON. In the year 2019 it released the first automaxion hub with Tuya.



Under the above organization we are doing business with the following titles;

- Orient Computers: Started in 1998. Distributor of number of International brands of IT, Power and Security items.
- Orient Button Limited: Started in 2014. 100% Export oriented factory. Producing all kinds of Buttons for Garments.
- Supreme Computerized Labels Limited: Started in 2008. Producing all kinds of Labels for Garments Industry
- Power House: Started in 2012. Producing Offline UPS for home and Office. IPS for Home. Conventional Batteries for IPS



With a mission to deliver Excellence, through Innovation in designing solutions, implementing those in an innovative way using the right technologies. PTVL is the newest concern of renowned Pakiza Group, the standard of excellence in all its business sectors. PTVL always love to optimize, not to be the lowest price, its solution to meet its client's requirement & thus ensure value for money. Ensuring high quality in both product & service, PTVL wants to give its client's a great experience & to be the reliable and first choice of its kind.



PrismERP is conceived the idea to incorporate enterprise business solutions that administer business-related operations for conglomerates.

Its mode of operanda executes a centralized framework to integrate and automate all business processes of an establishment. Thus, objectively day by day, it is increasing operational efficiency and improving the accessibility and ow of information across all sectors such as financial management solution, inventory management solution, payroll management solution, asset management solution & above all supply chain & logistic management solution that also analog commerce & merchandizing management solutions finally not the last but least is planning management solution and distribution & delivery management solution. This application functionality illustrates a

broader vision in realism diversifying place & platform for any user friendly business atmosphere that inter-acts one stop solutions. It's transparent user-interactive proposition that resembles business owners to figure out achievable Financial control and rich management skills in the field of business managerial development & outsourcing. The solution is an integration of core business modules which have the capability to organize your all-encompassing business into one point of preference as top real time business intelligence solutions.

In regards, the perspective - is to enable businesses to organize faster decisions in healthy markets economy. It is designed to keep business management processes as black & white as possible, catering users with one stop technology to evaluate all authentic source of information in a single architecture, rational format which symbolize that users can promptly reach the height of efficiency in directing the absolute worthiness of the software.





Smart Technologies (BD) Ltd is one of the largest ICT distribution companies dealing with hardware, networking goods & software business in Bangladesh. Smart Technologies (BD) Ltd is the authorized distributor of different renowned ICT Brands like ACER, ADOBE, AMD, APPLE, BENQ, CANON, CISCO, CORSAIR, DELL, EPSON, GIGABYTE, GLORIOUS PC GAMING, HP INC., HEWLETT PACKARD ENTERPRIZE, HIKVISION, HUAWEI, I-LIFE, INTEL, KASPERSKY, KINGSTON, LENOVO, LITEON, LOGITECH, MATRIX, MICROLAB, MIKROTIK, MERLAUD, MICROSOFT, MOTOROLA, NETIS, ORACLE, PATRIOT, PNY, POLYCOM, PROLINK, POWER PAC, REAL MEDIA, REDHAT, RICOH, SAMSUNG, SEAGATE, SEKONIC, SMANOS, SMART PC, TARGUS, TOSHIBA, TWINMOS, TEAM VIEWER, WESTERN DIGITAL, WOOSIM, X-MINI, X-TREME, XFace etc.

Today, the presence of Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) has become a necessity. In this time, these technologies have altered the ways we communicate, work, learn and play. All these ways have been enhanced and these enhancement have had impacts, so that, now, the method in which affairs are conducted, the means by which organizations evolve and the ways in which relationships are established, have all become optimized. But here in Bangladesh we are far behind from the up to date touch of such technologies. With no defined structure and inadequate support, Bangladeshi companies or organizations are finding it difficult to keep abreast of these new technologies.

To resolve this dilemma, SMART Technologies (BD) Ltd was established in 1998 to offer complete technological solutions with the most up to date and recent technologies. From different hardware and operating system platforms to complex network configuration, SMART's team will endeavor to provide the best and most recent technological solution that is within the client's budget

STBL, in its 21 years of business experience has gathered immense reputation in hardware, software, IT enabled services, end to end solutions and networking. Innovative business approach, foresight, sustainability, resource mobilization, quality assurance and superior service have been the factors of our success.



Southeast Bank Limited was established in 1995 with a dream and a vision to become a pioneer banking institution of the country and contribute significantly to the growth of the national economy. The Bank was established by leading business personalities and eminent industrialists of the country with stakes in various segments of the national economy. The incumbent Chairman of the Bank is Mr. Alamqir Kabir, FCA, a professional Chartered Accountant.

Southeast Bank is run by a team of efficient professionals. They create and generate an environment of trust and discipline that encourages and motivates everyone in the Bank to work together for achieving the objectives of the Bank. The culture of maintaining congenial work - environment in the Bank has further enabled the staff members to benchmark themselves better against management expectations. A commitment to quality and excellence in service is the hallmark of their identity.

Southeast Bank takes pride for bringing women into the banking profession in a significant number for gender equality.



Star Tech & Engineering Ltd. is one of the most reputed names in the Tech-based industry in Bangladesh. Star Tech had started its journey in the IT industry on March 1, 2007, with a humble beginning. Now, Startech is the largest brand chain of Retail, E-commerce, and Distributing shops in the Bangladesh Tech market. Star Tech mainly sells Tech products like computers, gadgets, and computing components & accessories. As of 2022, Startech is comprised of 15 branches in 5 major cities in Bangladesh. In addition to the physical Stores, Star Tech also has an E-Commerce website for those who want to shop genuine Tech products online from a reliable place. So far, Star Tech has made a name With its top-quality products and customer-friendly business approach. Whether it's a recurring customer or potential one Star Tech Treats them with Priority and this is what gained Star Tech a loyal supporter

base that is growing exponentially. During the Covid-19 Lockdown, when the IT-based E-commerce industry of Bangladesh was at a critical stage; Star Tech upheld customer trust by delivering their products to customers against all odds. Today, They are the authorized distributor of more than 23 (twenty-three) well-known global computer component and Gaming accessories brands in Bangladesh, namely Antec, Razer, ESET, Gamdias, ASUSTOR, GALAX, Zyxel, Team, and Deli, etc. Keeping up with the modern trends, Star Tech had also ventured into the gaming territory and succeeded in becoming a recognized name in the gaming community of BD. Apart from selling the Best gaming Equipment; Over the course of the years, Star Tech has contributed to many reputed Gaming events like the Razer Valorant Cup in 2021. Visit Star Tech Official website to purchase any tech product - https://www.startech.com.bd/



For over 15 years, Synesis IT has been providing industry leading products & services to the national economy of Bangladesh. Our core expertise in delivery solutions & excellence in health, education Agriculture, Telecom, Finance, governance, energy and power and Business Process Outsourcing, our personalized software solutions and cost effective implementations distinguish us, with our esteemed customers, industry peers & independent partners. With a diverse pool of 500 employees we combine a proactive approach, domain knowledge with a commitment to quality to deliver innovative solutions & services in an affordable and agile way.

As a thought leader & change-maker, Synesis IT has changed millions of lives over the last two decades.





Founded in 1999, Tenda technology is the recognized leading supplier of networking devices and equipments. Tenda has committed to delivering easy-to-install and affordable networking solutions, offering innovative, cutting-edge products to realize people's intelligent life.

As the first home-grown router and wireless network device manufacturer in China, Tenda has overcome all kinds of difficulties. Combined R&D, manufacturing & sales together, Tenda adopts the latest technology and professional service system to establish reliable network to be professional high-tech company in the world.

Tenda products include home networking, business networking, switch, broadband CPE, gateway, powerlines, mobile broadband, IP camera etc. Excellent performance, steady signal, easy use and installation, top quality with competitive price are the common features of all Tenda products.

Tenda attracts a lot of excellent talents by its cooperate culture. Nearly 120 graduates from key universities join in Tenda each year. They contribute a lot to Tenda development.

Excellent company must have excellent strategic partner. Tenda has established strategic partnership with Broadcom in 2012 and became the most important partner of Broadcom in China. Tenda adopts Broadcom chip which is similar as Apple devices to bring terrific performance to all Tenda products.



Founded in 1996, TP-Link is a global provider of reliable networking devices and accessories, involved in all aspects of everyday life. The company is ranked by analyst firm IDC as the No. 1 provider of Wi-Fi devices for a consecutive 10 years, supplying distribution to more than 170 countries and serving billions of people worldwide.

TP-Link products include high speed cable modems, wireless routers, mobile phones, ADSL, range extenders, routers, switches, IP cameras, powerline adapters, print servers, media converters, wireless adapters, power banks, USB Hub and SMART home technology devices. TP-Link also manufactures smart home devices under their Kasa Smart and Tapo product lines.

TP-Link sells through multiple sales channels globally, including traditional retailers, online retailers, wholesale distributors, direct market resellers ("DMRs"), value-added resellers ("VARs") and broadband service providers.

TP-Link's control over ODMs and supply chain is a key competitive differentiator from others.

In Bangladesh, Excel Technologies Ltd. has been the exclusive distributor of TP-Link since the year 2004 till date capturing the major market share of its kind alone. There are more than 11 million pieces of TP-Link Wi-Fi routers, Switches and other tools have been distributed in Bangladesh market till date and those are being used across the country staring from the remotest area to the capital city of Dhaka.



Transcend is a leading global brand of digital storage, multimedia and industrial products. Transcend is basically a Taiwanese company that operates from Taipei, Taiwan. From the beginning of the company in 1988, they always give focus on quality over everything. They not only manufacture and distributes the products but also observe how customers are reacting and taking their products. They have almost all sorts of memory applications in gaming, transportation, healthcare, automation, and military applications. Their products are solid-state drives, body cameras, personal cloud storage, memory cards, USB flash drives, memory modules, card readers, and multimedia products.

Transcend Always think for the customers and try to bring something new for the customers. They ensure the quality of the products and they make sure customers get proper service after purchasing products from them. Transcend has ensured the Total Quality Control concept from the beginning of the company, as a result, Transcend is the first memory module manufacturer in Taiwan and the second in the world to receive ISO 9001, ISO 14001, and QC080000 approval. Their product quality and customer service earn the trust of customers from all around the world. They operate from 13 offices worldwide. They have offices in the United States, Germany, the Netherlands, United Kingdom, Japan, Hong Kong, China, and South Korea. In Bangladesh, UCC is the only distributor of transcend. They distributes all the products of transcend for 21 years.

As a customer-focused company, Transcend has the ability to quickly respond to the market's changing needs. They always fulfill the requirement of their customer's needs. And that is the reason transcend has been dominating the industry for a long time.



UCC was formed in 1999 with the sole purpose to enrich the Bangladesh IT industry with the tastes of premium brands that involve every component needed for a well-built PC and top-of-the-line workstation. UCC is the Authorized National Distributor for globally leading brands such as AMD, Acer, ACTi, CP Plus, D-Link, Fitbit, GEIL, i2V, MSI, PROMISE, Seagate, SAPPHIRE, Transcend, Thermaltake, ViewSonic & Zotac in Bangladesh. UCC is also the exclusive distributor for many brands mentioned above. UCC's headquarter is located in Begum Rokeya Sarani, Dhaka, and retail outlets in Dhaka (IDB, Multiplan, HM Plaza), Chittagong, and Khulna.

UCC offers a complete line of exclusive gaming build components. It has also expanded its business to Internet of Things, Cloud, Security, and Surveillance industries. UCC has been leading the market occupying a major share of as much as 50 percent and more in the

Bangladesh IT market for graphics cards and storage devices. UCC ensures the best quality of our products and/or services. For any manufacturing faulty items, we provide instant replacement through our UCC Care department. A department dedicated to warranty and service.

Distributing and making selective premium brands available all over Bangladesh through dealer networks. We provide top-notch after-sales support for both our customers and retailers. We engage with gaming enthusiasts and enhance their passion for gaming. UCC has been endorsing eSports from its inception. To make the strongest eSports community in Bangladesh. We want to expand as their reliable support and mentor them from step to step. From our inception, we focused on building an ecosystem for our retailers and strengthening our dealer networks. Our vision is to satisfy not only our valued customers but also our retailers in every aspect.



Value-Top

Value-Top emerged as an ODM Brand under Computer City Technologies Ltd. since 2003. The requirement for a consumer-centric ODM brand came from the customers who were not able to find satisfactory products according to their requirement. We have a local R&D team that advises renowned manufacturers on building products under the brand name of Value-Top. Under this brand name we currently provide computer chassis, power supply unit, keyboard and mouse.

The local R&D team works closely with our customers and partners and incorporate their feedback into product design along with some special requirements like electricity & humidity condition which are unique to Bangladesh. As a result we have been able to develop products that provide better performance and long lifetime in our region. The confidence of our product quality is evident from the

warranty period of our products. We are the only local brand that has been consistently offering 2 year warranty on our computer power supply units & Chassis. Also because of the superior build quality and impressive variety of available models, Value-Top is currently regarded as the number one computer chassis & PSU brand in Bangladesh. Our keyboard and mouse have gained a very good reputation with end customers and retailers for exceptional build quality. All our keyboards come pre-printed with Bangla alphabets.

We are constantly striving for a better experience for our consumers, always trying to keep in pace with latest technology, aiming to produce practical products with good quality and trendy designs all the while innovating and revamping products. In near future, we have plan to establish an assembling plant to manufacture Value-Top branded products.



ViewSonic Corporation is a privately held multinational electronics company that launched ViewSonic's brand line of color computer monitors in 1990. ViewSonic headquarters is held in Brea, California, the United States, and a research & development center in New Taipei City, Taiwan. In that three decades, Viewsonic has been an established source of monitor and display solutions worldwide markets. ViewSonic Corporation is a leading provider of cathode ray tube (CRT) and liquid crystal display (LCD) computer monitors, including those for high-end, computer-aided design, desktop publishing, and graphic design, and those offering state-of-the-art technology at affordable prices. ViewSonic distributes its products globally through big IT distributors. UCC is one of them which operates the monitor segment in Bangladesh since 2003.

ViewSonic has six distinct product lines which are desktop displays, entertainment/television displays, projectors, plasma displays, mobile and wireless displays, and peripherals such as speakers, keyboards, and mice. ViewSonic monitors were especially suited for graphical user interfaces, Windows, and desktop publishing environments. ViewSonic monitors deliver incredible images thanks to some of the best panel technologies, stunning resolutions, and amazing color accuracy. Curved, ultra-wide, or all of the above. Our monitors come in a range of shapes and sizes - all engineered to help users work smarter, faster, and more efficiently - no matter the workflow.

Viewsonic Inspire the world to see the difference between the ordinary and the extraordinary by providing innovative visual solutions for work, play, and learning. ViewSonic serves the needs of the customers by actively listening to their challenges and delivering solutions to solve their problems. Moreover, ViewSonic's innovative R&D capabilities have consistently allowed us to bring the right technology to you at the right time.



Walton is the pioneer and the most popular, trusted & prestigious Bangladeshi Tech-Giant, Electrical, Electronics, Home and Kitchen Appliances Brand with the largest & most sophisticated R&I facilities. It has a well-equipped manufacturing plant which is treated as one of the best manufacturing plants in Bangladesh even in South Asia.

Computer Walton Digi-Tech Industries Limited started its journey in 2018 manufacturing Desktop Computers, Laptops, Mobile Phones, Networking Devices, Monitors, Projectors, Motherboards, Data Storage Devices, Peripherals,

Wearables, Workstations, Tablet PCs and just to name a few.



Xtreme is a quality ICT accessories manufacturing Brand. Xtreme brand has got Speaker, Mouse, Keyboard, Casing and many other accessories. Xtreme products are manufactured mainly in China. Xtreme speaker has become one of the most popular one in Audio market of Bangladesh. They feature everything from high-end surround-sound speakers to easy, affordable stereo speakers. With multiple ways to connect, Xtreme wired and Bluetooth speakers are easy to set up and play in your living room, bedroom, kitchen, home office, and more. Various speakers connect via an audio jack, RCA, optical, Bluetooth, or USB. Logitech speakers can be used for just about anything, from work to your entertainment system. Use them to take your favorite movies, shows, or PC and console games to the next level. Xtreme has a few types of speakers available to buy. First is the most common Wired ones being the oldest ones. They utilize

a 3.5 mm connector jack as a form of connectivity. Wireless ones are the most popular and common ones available. They utilize Bluetooth and Wi-Fi as a form of connection. These devices can connect with any Laptop, Tablet PC, iPad, Smartphone, or any device that has Bluetooth support. The third type is wireless sound bars. These sound bars are a lot like a wireless speaker but they are much more compact in design. These speakers also utilize Wi-Fi and Bluetooth. They have customizable RGB lightings and all wire speakers support. There are other types of Xtreme speakers available and they are called party speakers. They are a little taller and bulkier in size and they have the properties of both a soundbar and wired speakers. They come mostly in wired variants and support external microphone input for karaoke. They also have customizable LED lighting and remote control. All types of Xtreme speakers deliver robust and premium sound quality. And they cost way less than any other speakers in the market.

BCS PHOTO GALLERY





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to former BCS president Aftab UI Islam for his contribution to the country's ICT at the BCS Digital Expo 2009 inauguration programme. Former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan and Shahid-UI-Munir convener of the fair and incumbent president of BCS are also in the picture (2009).



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to former BCS president Md. Faizullah Khan for his contribution to the country's ICT at the BCS Digital Expo 2009 inauguration programme. Former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan and Shahid-Ul-Munir convener of the fair and incumbent president of BCS are also in the picture (2009).



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates 'BCS Digital Expo 2009' as chief guest with former finance minister A M A Muhith, former BCS president and incumbent Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, former jute and textiles minister, and later former posts, telecommunication and ICT minister Abdul Latif Siddiqui as special guests. Convener of the fair and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir is seen in the picture.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina gives crest to former BCS president Sabur Khan for his contribution to the country's ICT at the BCS Digital Expo 2009 inauguration programme. former BCS president and incumbent Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar and convener of the fair and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir are seen in the picture.





A snap from the ICT Awareness programme in Cox's Bazar in 2009.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina inaugurates the BCS Digital Expo and ASOCIO Multilateral Trade Visit 2010.



Former BCS presidents, from left: Mustafa Jabbar, S. M. Iqbal, A.H. Kafi, Aftab UI Islam, S. M. Kamal, Faizullah Khan and Md. Sabur Khan pose with the National Award at the reception hosted by Daffodil International University in honour of Bangladesh Computer Samity.

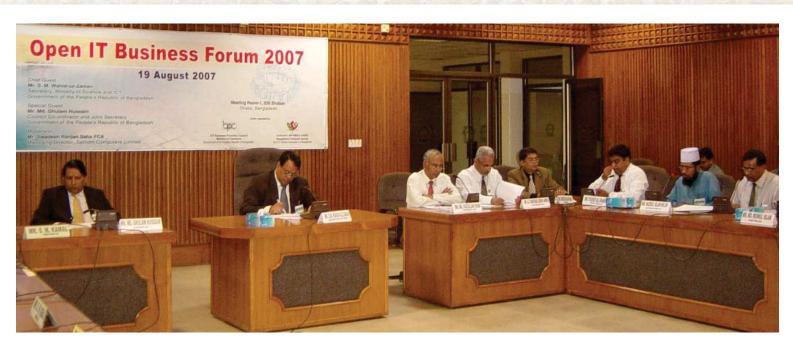


Former BCS president S M Ikbal hands-over leadership to Failzulla Khan, chief of the then newly-elected committee, while Md Ali Ashfak looks on (2004).





A moment from 2006 Annual General Meeting of Bangladesh Computer Samity.



Speakers and participants at the Open IT business Forum 2007. The event was organised by BCS along with BPC.





Former BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar speaks at the Annual General Meeting of Bangladesh Computer Samity in 2009.



A moment from 2010 Annual General Meeting of BCS.





A snap from the 2014 Annual General Meeting.



Executive Council of for the term 2002-2003





In 2003 BCS holds a seminar on 'Internet Application and Its Future' as part of its regular activity



BCS unveils the BCS Computer Show 2005 in front of the journalists.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina giving crest to the Former Joint Secretary General of BCS, Nazmul Alam Bhuiyan (Jewel) at "Digital Expo 2010" for his cotribution to the countries ICT.





Bangladesh Computer Samity EC meet with the then president lajuddin Ahmed in 2006.





A moment from the BCS-organised training on 'Effective Marketing & Selling Techniques' in 2007.



Champion and runner-up teams pose with chief guest A. H. Kafi and BCS president Mohammad Fazullah Khan after the Final match of BCS-sponsored cricket tournament 'Cricket Fiesta' in 2007.





BCS Computer City committee gave an honour 'In recognition for receiving the national award for the contribution to the ICT sector of the country, BCS'



Former state-minister of science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman, former BCS president Mustafa Jabbar and Mohammed Ajeezur Rahman, former general secretary of BCS and managing director of Index IT Limited handsover computer to poet Nirmalendu Goon for his school at ata computer distribution programme of 'BCS Digital Education Campaign'. Index IT Limited participated as donor with 50 computers in the BCS' Digital Education Programme (2009).



Speakers and participants at the Open IT business Forum 2007. The event was organised by BCS along with BPC.



Speakers and participants at the Open IT business Forum 2007. The event was organised by BCS along with BPC.





Speakers during a discussion session on Digital Education System prior to Digital Bangladesh Summit in 2009.



Prior to BCS-organized 'Digital Bangladesh Summit 2009', former railway minister late Suranjit Sengupta, former state minister of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs and minister of food Qamrul Islam, Shaikh Abdul Aziz, managing director of Leeds Corporation, H N Karim, managing director of Technohaven Company Ltd, Ahmed Hasan Jewel managing director and CEO of Ryan Computers among other distinguished guests participate at pre-summit discussion on reformation of law and regulations to realize the the vision of Digital Bangladesh.



A moment from BCS-organized Dua Mahfil, Iftar and MoU signing programme in 2009.





Speakers on a discussion session on 'Digital Sangsad' prior to Digital Bangladesh Summit in 2009.



Speakers at the pre-Digital Bangladesh Summit 2009 discussion session on 'Knowledge-based economy for Digital Bangladesh.



Newly elected BCS Executive Council for 2008-2009. From Left: Md. Moinul Islam, Mohammad Zahirul Islam, Yousuf Ali Shamim, Mustafa Jabbar, A.T. Shafique Uddin Ahmed, Shahid-Ul-Munir and Kazi Ashraful Alam.





A moment from BCS Picnic Day in 2012.



A moment from a discussion session on "Mobile Sector for Digital Bangladesh" during Digital Bangladesh Summit 2009.



A moment from a seminar during the BCS Digital Expo 2010. BCS, since its inception, has regularly been organizing discussions, awareness programmes to encourage various stakeholders in adopting technology





Executive Committee members of Bangladesh Computer Samity (2012-2013) Courtesy Meet up with Zillur Rahman the Former President of Bangladesh.





New elected executive council for the term 2012-2013 pose for a group photo.



BCS, BASIS and FBCCI organize seminar on opportunities and challenges in Bangladesh's ICT development in 2013.



Zunaid Ahmed Palak, honourable state minister for ICT ministry invites Honourable President Abdul Hamid to the Bangladesh ICT Expo 2015.





Speakers at the Post-Budget Reaction Press Conference.



Honourable State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, former BCS president MD Ali Ashfak and other honourable guests & BCS members are seen in the picture.





Honourable President Abdul Hamid inaugurates Bangladesh ICT Expo 2015.



New BCS executive council members for the term 2014-2015 are being greeted before commencing annual general meeting.





Participants pose for a photo after a discussion session along with BASIS EC at the BCS office.



Former BCS president Md Ali Ashfak speaks during a discussion session with BIJF (Bangladesh ICT Journalist Forum).





Annual General Meeting in 2007.



Speakers and participants at the Open IT business Forum 2007. The event was organised by BCS along with BPC.





in 2016, The then-president of BCS MD Ali Ashfak lead a team to meet the then-finance minister A M A Muhith.



State Minister for Post and Telecommunication Tarana Halim hands over awards to Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Bangladesh received WITSA Global ICT Excellence Award, e-Asia Award and ASOCIO Digital Government Award for outstanding contribution in ICT sector.



Speakers at the roundtable on 'Cyber Security and our readiness' at the BCS Innovation Centre organized jointly by ICT Business Promotion Council and Bangladesh Computer Samity.





Former BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar speaks during BCS' Iftar and Doa mahfil.



BCS organizes training on how to perform Hajj for its members.



BCS members at a roundtable session with National Consumer Rights Protection body.





Speakers at a discussion session on 'Sheikh Hasina Software Technology Park in Jessore' during Bangladesh ICT Expo 2017.



Hosne Ara Begum, managing director, Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority, Shahid-Ul-Munir, president Bangladesh Computer Samity and other BHTPA and BCS officials during an agreement signing ceremony.



BCS president Shahid-Ul-Munir speaks during the celebration of Bangla New Year 'Pahela Baishakh'.



Speakers at a seminar on 'Computer Hardware Industries in Bangladesh: The Field of Golden Possibilities' jointly organized by Bangladesh Computer Samity and ICT Business Promotional Council.





BCS EC greets its former president Mustafa Jabbar for being appointed Post, Telecommunication and ICT minister.



BCS EC greets its Zunaid Ahmed Palak for being appointed state minister for ICT.



Eminent guests are discussing women in ICT field.



Honourable State Minister for ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak speaks at a joint press briefing.





A group photo with newly elected BCS central executive council and ECs of all the branches.



Veteran BCS leaders meet lajuddin Ahmed, ex president of Government's Republic of Bangladesh.



Former BCS MD Ali Ashfak speaks during training programme jointly organized by Bangladesh Computer Samity and ICT Business Promotion Council.





In this photo, Akhtaruzzaman Manju, the then-president of ISPAB greets newly-elected BCS EC.



Former BCS president MD Sabur Khan along with other BCS members greets former minister Tariqul Islam.



Former minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan inaugurates BCS Computer Show 2005 among other honourable guests.



BCS talks to the journalists at a post-budget meet to express its reaction to the national budget for the fiscal year 2012-2013 and on fraudulent activity regarding outsourcing.





The ICT trade bodies of the country jointly host a reception in honour of Mustafa Jabbar and Zunaid Ahmed Palak for their appointments as minister and state minister respectively.



ASOCIO holds its "ASOCIO Officers' Meeting" in Dhaka with the then Science and ICT Minister Dr Abdul Moyeen Khan as chief guest.



BCS and its members pose for a photo at a global ICT festival.



A group photo from 2006 ASOCIO (The Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization) General Assembly.





BCS members pose for a click at the PIKOM Software and Service Showcase 2006 in Malaysia.



BCS meets NBR chairman to discuss on TAX and VAT withdrawal prior to the national budget for the current fiscal year.



BCS joins Bangkok Business Visit 2009 for MoU signing ceremony.



BCS members at the WCIT 2012. The World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT) is one of the oldest and most influential information and communications technology (ICT) events in the world.





BCS inaugurates Laptop Bazar at Eastern Plus market, Shantinagar in the capital.



BCS and CTO Forum officials pose for a photo during a workshop on cyber security.





Mohammad Johirul Islam, managing director of Smart Technology BD wins ASOCIO Outstanding AWARD for Best Company award among ASOCIO members at the ASOCIO ICT Summit 2016 in Myanmar.



MD Ali Ashfak. the then-president of BCS and a high official Taiwan Trade Centre during a bilateral agreement signing ceremony.



Bangladesh delegates enjoy a jubilant moment at the farewell party by WITSA and ASOCIO during ASOCIO ICT Summit 2017. Bangladesh had received a record number of awards - a total of 12 awards in government and private categories at the global stage.

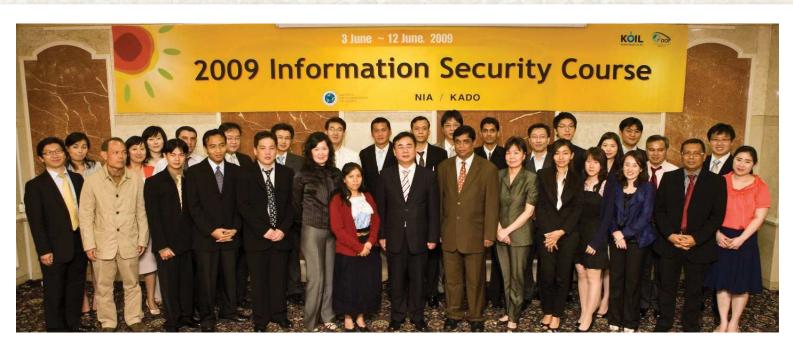


Bangladesh delegates pose with WITSA chairman Yvonne Chiu at the ASOCIO ICT Summit 2017. Former BCS president MD Ali Ashfak and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir are also seen in the picture.



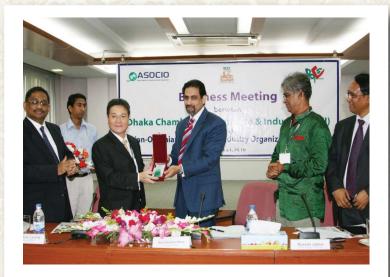


AS a member of The Asian-Oceanian Computing Industry Organization, BCS participates at the ASOCIO ICT Summit 2004.



A group photo of the participants of the 2009 Information Security Course in Korea organized by Korea





A captured moment during a business meeting between ASOCIO and DCCI (Dhaka Chamber of Commerce & Industry) organized by BCS.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina giving crest to the Former Director of BCS, Yousuf Ali Shamim at "Digital Expo 2010" for his cotribution to the countries ICT.



BCS at 2017 ASOCIO ICT Summit.





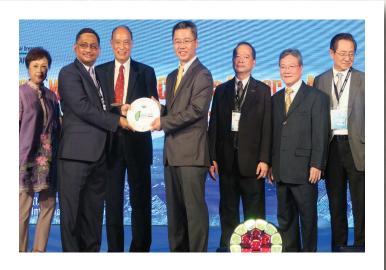
Bangladesh delegates at the Japan IT Week 2017.



Former BCS presidents Abullah H Kafi, MD Ali Ashfak, Subrata Sarkar pose with other global ICT leaders during an ASOCIO Summit in 2017.



Merry former BCS presidents and WITSA high ups pose for a photo after a meeting at WITSA Summit 2017 in Taiwan.



Former BCS president Abullah H Kafi receives the "Living the Digital Dream" award during WCIT 2017 in Taiwan.





ASOCIO honours Zunaid Ahmed Palak, honourable state minister for ICT, during ASOCIO ICT Summit 2016 in Myanmar.



BCS hosts its first Asia Pacific Council for Trade Facilitation & Electronic Business (AFACT) Plenary meeting in 2017 after being selected as its secretariat.





Late Shah A M S Kibria, the then-commerce minister Tofail Ahmed and Prof. Jamilur Reza Chowdury inaugurate first BCS software show in 2000.



Bangladesh delegates pose for group picture during ASOCIO Summit in Tokyo, Japan.



A moment from the press conference of 1998's BCS International Computer Show. BCS president Aftab UI Islam, MD Moinul Islam, vice president, Ahmed Hasan Jewel, secretary general, MD Sabur Khan, joint-secretary general, Atik E Rabbani, treasurer, Abullah H Kafi and Mojibor Rahman Swapan are seen in the photo.



BCS in Silicon Valley: In 2003, BCS leaders visited California in order to make ways for local talents to work with global companies.





BCS president Shahid Ul Munir speaks at a press conference on the mega tech event World Congress on IT (WCIT) 2021 to be hosted by Bangladesh.



Mr Tofail Ahmed, the then-commerce minister honours S.M. Kamal BCS founder president for his contribution to Bangladesh's IT industry during a BCS fair in the year 2000.



Kids are seen at the dedicated competition and gaming zones for them at BCS Fair Show 2006 Bhashani Novo Theatre now known as Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Novo Theatre





Shahid-Ul-Munir, Convener of the fair receives souvenir from former state-minister of science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman in 2011.



A joyful moment captured among former state-minister for Science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman, ex-BCS president and present Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, ex information and cultural affairs minister Abul Kalam Azad, and convener of the exposition and reigning BCS president Shahid-Ul-Munir at the closing ceremony of the 'BCS Digital Expo 2009'.



Former state-minister for Science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman greets then director and current BCS vice-president Yousuf Ali Shamim at 'BCS Digital Expo 2011'.



Honourable President of Bangladesh Mohammad Abdul Hamid (then speaker of the national parliament), former BCS president and incumbent Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar, former commerce minister Lt. Col. (Retd) Faruk Khan, former state-minister for Science and ICT Architect Yeafesh Osman, the then CEO of Grameenphone and convener of the event and current BCS President Shahid-Ul-Munir are seen at the inauguration programme of 'BCS ICT World 2009'.





Honourable President of Bangladesh Abdul Hamid, the then speaker of the House, and former commerce minister Faruk Khan visit the stall of Flora Limited at the BCS Digital Expo 2009. Late managing director of Flora M. N. Islam is also seen in the picture (2009).



A section of contestants at the drawing competition organised during BCS fair. Bangladesh Computer Samity regularly holds drawing competition for children to encourage their creativity.



To encourage the use of technology, BCS always take different types of initiatives and bring students to fair for free. In this photo, students are seen lined up to experience ICT products at the 'BCS ICT Expo 2009' at the Multiplan market.



To encourage the use of technology, BCS always take different types of initiatives and bring students to fair for free. In this photo, school kids are seen in front of a stall 'BCS ICT Expo 2009' at the Multiplan market.





Fisheries and Livestock Minister Narayan Chandra Chanda, former BCS president MD Ali Ashfak and other honourable guests at the inauguration ceremony of BCS Digital Expo Khulna 2017.



Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visits the Bangladesh Digital Expo 2009 after inaugurating the event.



Former finance minister A M A Muhith inaugurates the tech exposition 'BCS ICT World' in 2010. Late Akhtaruzzaman Manju, then president of Internet Service Providers Association of Bangladesh (ISPAB) is also seen in the picture.





In a bid to popularize Multiplan Market as a hub for ICT products, BCS holds the very first ICT expo at the mall in 2008. Former advisor Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman speaks as the chief guest at the inauguration programme of the ICT fair. Former BCS president and current Post and Telecommunication Minister Mustafa Jabbar are also seen in the picture among other distinguished guests.



Water-resistance feature is being demonstrated to the distinguished guests at a stall at the 'BCS ICT World' in 2010.



Winner of 'Art Competition' receives prize at the BCS ICT World 2010.





Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina giving crest to the Former Secretary General of BCS, Mazibur Rahman Sawpon at "Digital Expo 2010" for his cotribution to the countries ICT.



BCS ICT World is being inaugurated by the then finance minister A M A Muhith (2012).



The then finance minister A M A Muhith inaugurates 'Computer and Mobile Fair' at the Jamuna Future Park in 2012.



BCS Computer Show, ICT journalists were honoured for their constructive role in spreading the ICT awareness in the country (2003).





MD. Moinul Islam the then-vice president of BCS, along with senior-most ICT journalist Bhuiyan Inam Lenin, distributes prizes among the winners of the competetion in various categories of BCS ICT World WebFair.



Honourable guests inaugurate BCS Digital Expo 2012 in Cumilla.



The members of BCS Rajshahi branch pose with the central executive council of Bangladesh Computer Samity in 2010.





WITSA's flagship event, the World Innovation, Technology and Services Alliance (WCIT 2021) took place in Bangladesh from November 11-14. The four-day conference held at Bangladesh International Conference center (BICC) of the city. The event's theme was "ICT, the great equalizer", which was also the focusing page of the event. The conference is jointly organized by the Department of Information and Communication Technology, Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC) and Bangladesh Computer Society (BCS) at the initiative of The World Innovation, Technology and Services Alliance (WITSA).

Bangladesh proudly hosted the 25th session of WCIT. 30 webinars and B2B sessions along with several programs took place both physically and virtually. Approximately 1500+ delegates from 75+ countries where more than 100 speakers, participated the voluptuous sized event. The Asian-Oceanian International Conference ASOCIO "Digital Summit 2021" is also being held simultaneously with the "WCIT 2021" conference.

The mega event has several prestigious moments captured those are summoned altogether.



Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has been conferred with WITSA Eminent Persons Award 2021 at WCIT Bangladesh 2021 for her outstanding contributions. On behalf of the Premier, State Minister of ICT Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP. is receiving the award. On the occasion, the Planning Minister and Senior Secretary of the ICT Division were present.





President of Bangladesh, Mohammad Abdul Hamid, is inaugurating WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 Summit.



At WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 summit, BCS is organizing a seminar titled 'Democratizing Technology: How Democratizing Technology Adds a Crucial Elements to Enterprise Innovation' where guests are given floral greetings by Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS.



Guests at the Welcome Dinner of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021



The seminar named 'National Digital Strategies/Agendas-Accelerating National Digital Transformation Through Strategy in the Digital Age & ICT Policy Priorities', person from left, moderator Dr. Ananya Raihan; discussants as follow Mr. Mohamed Shareef, Maldives's State Minister for Environment, Climate Change, and Technology; Dr. Abdul Mannan, Executive Director of Bangladesh Computer Council; M Rokonuzman, Professor at ECE of North South University; and UNDP Team Leader of Somalia, Mr. Abdiwahab M. Ali.





Dr. Abdul Mannan, Executive Director of Bangladesh Computer Council, is delivering his speech at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.



Zunaid Ahmed Palak, State Minister of ICT, MP, is speaking at the ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT.



On the occasion of `Celebrating Birth Centenary of The Father of The Nation' Mofidul Haque, one of the founders of Liberation War Museum, is receiving a crest of honor from ICT Minister Zunaid Ahmed Palak, MP. Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee for Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications & Information Technology A.K.M. Rahmatullah, MP, is seen in the picture.



Executive Director of BCC Dr. Abdul Mannan is giving the 'Digital Government Award' to the Honorary President of ATCI, Thailand Bunrak Saraggananda at ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT.





MoU signing, at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, between Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA) and IT PARK UZBEKISTAN.



Guests gathered at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 Summit.



Secretariat team of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.



Winners of the awards with the State Minister of ICT at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.





The seminar 'Bangladesh Going Global' at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021. Discussants are as follow, Dr. Bikarna Kumar Ghosh, Managing Director of Bangladesh Hi-tech Park; Wahid Sharif, President of BACCO; Md. Liakat Ali, DMD of Walton Digi-Tech Industries Limited; Zamilur Rashid, Founder and CEO of Ulka Games and Dr. Syed Ferhat Anwar, Professor of IBA, DU, who moderated the event.



In the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and Silver Jubilee event of WCIT, As Chief Guest Salman F Rahman, Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the honorable Prime Minister, is delivering his speech.



Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak, M.P. State Minister for ICT is speaking at the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and the Silver Jubilee event of WCIT.





A representative of Janata Bank Limited, Bronze Sponsor of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdual Mannan, ED of BCC, and Shahid-Ul-Munir is seen.



In the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and Silver Jubilee event of WCIT, Salman F Rahman, Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the honorable Prime Minister; Mr. Zunaid Ahmed Palak, M.P. State Minister for ICT, Shyam Sunder Sikdar, Chairman of BTRC and Md Sabur Khan, Chairman of Daffodil Group are seen.



In the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, Shahid-Ul-Munir, President, BCS is giving a crest to Dr. Abdul Mannan, Executive Director of BCC



Dr. Abul Mannan is presenting a crest to Dr. Bikarna Kumar Ghosh, MD, Hi-Tech Park Authority (BHTPA), One of the co-organizers of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.





A representative of Walton, Platinum Sponsor of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdul Mannan, ED, BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



A representative of Thakral Information Systems Pvt. Ltd, Bronze Sponsor of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdual Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



A representative of Minister Hi-Tech Park Limited, Bronze Sponsor of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdual Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



Salman F Rahman, Private Industry and Investment Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister, and Zunaid Ahmed Palak, M.P., State Minister for ICT, with the organizers, sponsors, and associate organizations at the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and Silver Jubilee event of WCIT.





A representative of Huawei, Bronze Sponsor of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdual Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



In the closing ceremony of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, Md. Sabur Khan is receiving a crest of honor from Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS. Vice President of BCS, Jabedur Rahman Shaheen, Secretary General Mohammed Monirul Islam and Director Mosharaf Hossain Sumon are also present.



BACCO, an associate of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdul Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



ISPAB, an associate of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021, is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdul Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.





E-CAB, an associate of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 is receiving a crest from Dr. Abdul Mannan, ED of BCC. Shahid-Ul-Munir, President of BCS is also present.



National Anthem before the inauguration of WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.



WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 event presided over by State Minister for ICT Mr. Junaid Ahmed Palak, MP; Special Guest Mr. N M Ziaul Alam; Executive Director of Bangladesh Computer Council Dr. Abdul Mannan and President of Bangladesh Computer Samity Mr. Shahid-Ul-Munir are also present.



Dr. Abdul Mannan, Executive Director of Bangladesh Computer Council is delivering his speech at WCIT BANGLADESH 2021.





Zunaid Ahmed Palak, State Minister of ICT, MP, is receiving 'ASOCIO Leadership Award 2021' on behalf of Sajeeb Wazed joy, ICT Adviser to the Honorable Prime Minister, at the WCIT BANGLADESH 2021 and ASOCIO Digital Summit 2021 organized 'ASOCIO AWARD NIGHT'.

