

Statistics Act, 2013

(Act No. 12 of 2013)

[March 3, 2013]

Act Aimed at Formulating Provisions for the Mobilization, Integration, Orientation and Preservation of Statistical Operations

As it is expedient and necessary to make provision for the mobilization, integration, orientation and preservation of correct and accurate statistical operations regarding the population, agriculture, industry, demographics, economy, socio-economic issues, natural resources, environment, etc., of Bangladesh; Hence, it was enacted as follows:-

Short Title and Commencement

1. (1) This Act shall be called the Statistics Act, 2013.
- (2) This Act shall come into effect immediately.

Definition

2. Unless there is nothing repugnant to the subject or context, in this Act-
 - (1) "Deputy-Director" means the Deputy-Director of the Bureau;
 - (2) "Survey" means collection of data by selecting samples out of the whole through scientific methods;
 - (3) "Statistics" means data collected and published through census and survey, conducted in accordance with Statistical Science or internationally recognized methods;
 - (4) "Rules" means the Rules formulated under this Act;
 - (5) "Person" means an individual or individuals and it also includes a company, association, partnership business, statutory or other organizations or their representatives;

- (6) "Bureau" means Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics;
- (7) "Director General" means the Director General of the Bureau;
- (8) "Census" means counting all persons and various sectors or units of a territory; And
- (9) "Government Statistics" means the statistics prepared, stored, published by the Bureau, and where applicable, approved under Article 11.

Precedence of Law

3. Notwithstanding anything contained in the laws in effect for the time being, the provisions of this Act will prevail.

Establishment of the Bureau

4. After the enactment of this Act, the Government, by notification in the Official Gazette, shall establish a Bureau named Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics in no time for the purposes of this Act.

Head Office of the Bureau, etc.

5. (1) The Head Office of the Bureau shall be located in Dhaka.
(2) The Government may, if necessary, set up its Branch Office anywhere outside Dhaka and determine its scope of business.

Functions of the Bureau

6. For the purpose of this Act, the functions of the Bureau shall be as follows:
 - (A) Prepare and maintain correct, accurate and timely statistics;
 - (B) Conduct surveys in various socio-economic areas of the country to produce correct, accurate and timely statistics;
 - (C) Take all necessary initiatives for other census and surveys including for the purpose of conducting population census, agricultural census, fisheries and livestock census, economic census;

- (D) Provide reliable and user-friendly statistics at government level as per the requirement of the development planners, policy makers, research and educational institutions, national and international organizations and other users;
- (E) Formulate policies and procedures regarding statistics;
- (F) Supervise the functions of the Branch Office, and, if applicable, take necessary steps for reviewing and publishing its reports;
- (G) Formulate the National Strategy for Development of Statistics and update the same from time to time;
- (H) Conduct necessary training programs to create skilled manpower on statistics;
- (I) Raise public awareness about the importance of the role and function of statistics;
- (J) Ensure the use of information technology in performing statistical activities;
- (K) Extend necessary coordination and cooperation with any authority, consulting agency, non-government organization and international organization on statistics;
- (L) Prepare consumer price index, other price indexes and national accounts;
- (M) Formulate and publish economic, environmental, social and demographic indicators;
- (N) Estimate production and production-cost of different crops, and land under cultivation, including land use;
- (O) Formulate a geo-code system, and updating and preserving the same regarded as the only government geo-code system, while encouraging all other government agencies or institutions to use it;
- (P) Formulate National Population Register and updating the same from time to time;
- (Q) Formulate an Integrated Central Geographical Information System;

- (R) Standardize the main statistical activities to international level (standardization);
- (S) Create a National Data Repository with an alternative method of preservation and preserve the same in archives through modern way;
- (T) Authentication of government statistics made for national and international organizations;
- (U) Provide consultation services regarding statistics;
- (V) Perform other duties as directed by the government; And
- (W) Take necessary measures to discharge the above-mentioned duties and functions.

Director General and Deputy Director General

7. (1) The Bureau shall have a Director General and a Deputy Director General.
- (2) The Director General and the Deputy Director General shall be appointed by the Government and their qualifications, experience and job conditions shall be determined by the Government.
- (3) The Director General shall be the Chief Executive of the Bureau.

Power and Functions of the Director General

8. (1) The Director General shall -
 - (A) Conduct all administrative and financial affairs of the Bureau;
 - (B) Supervise the duties discharged by the officers and employees of the Bureau and provide professional guidance;
 - (C) Subject to the provisions of this Act and from time to time, perform the functions, exercise power and perform the duties as may be prescribed by the Government; And
 - (D) Undertake such activities as may be deemed fit and necessary at his/her discern.
- (2) If the position of Director General becomes vacant, or if the Director-General is unable to perform his duties due to absence, illness or any other reason, the Deputy Director General or any person appointed by the government shall temporarily act as the Director General, until a newly-appointed Director General takes office, or until the Director General is able to resume his duties.

- Committee** 9. For the purpose of this Act, the Government may form one or more committees and determine their procedures of action.
- Compulsory use of the Government Statistics** 10. The government statistics shall be used compulsorily for the purpose of the statistical functions in any ministry, division or any office, department or organization under them.
- Preparing Statistics by Organizations Other than the Bureau** 11. In all matters on which the Bureau does not produce statistics, any ministry, division or any office, department or organization under them may prepare and publish statistics in accordance with the Rules laid down by the Bureau and following the methods and timeframe prescribed by the regulations after obtaining the No Objection Certificate from the Bureau.
- Obligation of Individuals, Organizations or Authorities in Providing Information etc.** 12. (1) For the purpose of this Act, any person, organization, institution or authority shall be obliged to provide the information, etc., preserved with them, as per the requirement of the Bureau.
(2) The officers and the employees of the Bureau shall ensure the confidentiality of the information received under subsection (1):
Provided that the information collected may be disclosed with the consent of the person, organization, institution or authority concerned.
- Power of Entrance etc.** 13. Notwithstanding anything contained in any other provision of this Act, in line with the provisions of other laws and due notification, the Director or any officer or employee of the Bureau, generally or specially empowered, shall be entitled to enter any building or place for examining, verifying or collecting any record, register, document or any important information thereof with a view to executing the duties conferred upon them under this Act or Rule, and the owner or authority of the concerned building or site shall be obliged to provide such information required by the authority.

- Training Academy** 14. (1) For the purpose of this Act, the Government may, if necessary, establish a Training Academy, to undertake other activities including research on statistics and related matters.
(2) The duties and functions of the Training Academy shall be determined by the Rules.
- Appointment of Officers and Employees** 15. The Bureau may appoint necessary number of officers and employees in accordance with the organogram approved by the Government for the smooth operation of its functions, and their terms of service shall be determined by the Rules.
- Publication** 16. (1) The Bureau shall publish the statistics collected and prepared by itself.
(2) Publications published under sub-section (1) shall, from time to time, be updated and stored in the library using modern technology.
- Informative Programs** 17. The Bureau shall take appropriate measures to inform the public about its activities, procedures and reports.
- Crime and Punishment** 18. If any person contravenes the provisions of section 13 of this Act, s/he shall be deemed to have committed a crime under this Act and shall be punishable with a maximum term of 1 (one) month or a fine not exceeding taka 10,000 (Ten thousand) or both.
- Cognizance and Bailability of Crime** 19. Offenses under this Act shall be Non-cognizable and Bailable.
- Implementation of Act V of 1898** 20. Unless there is anything repugnant in this Act, the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act V of 1898) shall apply to the filing, investigation, trial and settlement of a crime.

- Budget** 21. The Bureau shall submit the annual budget statement for the next fiscal year to the Government for approval in the form prescribed by the Government within the time fixed by the Government each year, and the amount of money required by the Bureau for that fiscal year will be specified thereon.
- Delegation of Power** 22. The Director General may, if necessary, delegate any powers or duties entrusted with him to any officer or employee of the Bureau under this Act, by written order, and shall notify the Government as soon as possible.
- Public Servant** 23. The Director General, officers and employees of the Bureau and any person authorized to act on behalf of the Bureau, while acting under this Act, shall be deemed to be a public servant as per the meaning defined in Section 21 of the Penal Code, 1860 (Act XLV of 1860).
- Annual Report** 24. (1) The Director General shall submit to the Government an Annual Report containing the details of their activities done in an year ending in December 31, each year within March 31.
(2) The Government may direct the Bureau to send any report or statement or statistics thereof to it at any time, and upon receiving such direction the Bureau shall be obliged to send it to the Government.
- Publication of English Text etc.** 25. (1) After the enactment of this Act, the Government may, if required, by notification in the Official Gazette, publish an Authentic English Text of this Act.
(2) The Bengali text shall prevail in any dispute between Bengali and English text of this Act.
- Power of Formulating Rules** 26. For the purpose of this Act, the Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, formulate Rules.

**Power for
Formulating Policy**

27. For the purposes of clause (E) of section 6 of this Act, the Bureau may, with the prior approval of the Government, formulate a policy, by notification in the Official Gazette.

**Repeal and
Preservation**

28. (1) With the establishment of the Bureau under this Act, the notification No.-4/25/72-Rules, hereinafter referred to as the said notification, issued on the 26th of August, 1974 by the Cabinet Division, shall be repealed.

(2) With the repeal of the said notification-

(A) Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics constituted under the said notification, hereinafter referred to as the Abolished Bureau, shall abolish;

(B) Regarding the demolished Bureau-

(I) All its assets, rights, powers, authority, privileges and all immovable and immovable property, cash and bank deposits and all other claims and rights shall be transferred to the Bureau and the Bureau shall be entitled to those;

(II) All lawsuits filed against or by it shall be deemed to be suits against the Bureau or by the Bureau;

(III) All debts, liabilities and responsibilities shall be treated as the debts and liabilities of the Bureau;

(IV) All officers and employees shall be transferred to the Bureau and they shall be deemed to be officers and employees appointed by the Bureau, and they shall be engaged in service of Bureau on the same terms and conditions as they were employed in the service before such transfer, unless they are replaced by the Bureau or withdrawn by the conveying authority;

(V) All committees shall be abolished and the activities conducted by the abolished committee, the decisions made, etc. shall be deemed to be the activities and decisions made by the committee constituted under this Act, and if any decision remains unexecuted or any of its activities is obsolete, the same will run and continue view to executing and completing such decisions in a manner as if the committees were not abolished;

- (VI) All records, files, documents, information and data shall be transferred to the Bureau and the records, files, documents, information and data transferred thereby shall be stored in such a manner as if the Bureau has not been abolished;
 - (VII) The activities of the regional, upazila and thana offices under it shall continue remaining in effect as if they were established under this Act until the branch offices are established under this Act;
 - (VIII) All orders, policies, directions, national statistical procedures, etc., issued, subject to compliance with this Act, shall run, continue and remain in effect in such a manner as if the Bureau were not abolished until further orders, policies, directions, national statistical procedures are issued.
- (3) With the commencement of this Act, the National Statistical Council constituted by the Government Order No. 1/NSC/77 (200) dated August 13, 1977 shall be abolished and the activities and decisions taken by the abolished Council, subject to compliance with this Act., shall be implemented in such a manner as if the Council were not abolished.