

World Bank Review Mission Holds Meeting on SPFMS Progress



An introductory meeting of the World Bank (WB) Review Mission with Dr. Ziaul Abedin, Additional Secretary (Budget-1) and National Program Director of the Strengthening Public Financial Management Program to Enable Service Delivery (SPFMS), was held on 13 October 2025 at the Finance Division, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka. The meeting aimed to review the progress of the SPFMS progress.

The World Bank team was represented by Suraiya Zannath, Lead Governance Specialist, and Khuram Farooq, Senior Governance Specialist. The meeting was attended by Program Executives and Coordinators (PECs) Md. Rafiqul Islam, Dr. Abdur Rahim, Tanima Tasmin, Dr. Mahfuza Begum, and Md. Firoz Khan, along with Implementation Support Consultants and other technical experts associated with SPFMS. Ashek Md. Joglul Abedin, Implementation Support Consultant (ISC), delivered a detailed presentation highlighting the achievements of the disbursement-linked results (DLRs), the current status of implementation, and the upcoming plans and challenges. The WB mission members and other participants actively engaged in the discussion and provided observations to further strengthen program implementation and ensure improved governance and service delivery outcomes.



Later, a series of scheme-wise presentations were made by the Program Implementation Teams (PITs) under the SPFMS program. These included the schemes on Improvement of Fiscal Forecasting through the Development of a Macroeconometric Model, Strengthening the Capacity of the Treasury and Debt Management Wing of the Finance Division, Improving the Budget Process through Capacity Development of Budget Management Committees (BMCs) and Budget Working Groups (BWGs), Improving the Pension Management System and Enhancing the Quality and Timeliness of Financial Reporting, Strengthening the Governance of State-owned Enterprises, and Internal Audit and Audit Follow-up.

The meeting was PIT Head Rahima Begum, Director General (Additional Secretary), PIT members Homayra Begum, Additional Secretary, Nasima Parvin, Additional Secretary, Mohammad Azad Sallal, Joint Secretary, Muhammad Faruq-Uz-Zaman, Joint Secretary, Mahedi Masuduzzaman, Joint Secretary and Mohammad Kabir Hossain, Additional Controller General of Accounts (Accounts), Office of the Controller General of Accounts attended the meeting and made the presentation on the respective scheme.

The session concluded with an interactive discussion where both the Finance Division and the World Bank mission reaffirmed their joint commitment to strengthening Bangladesh's public financial management systems to enhance fiscal transparency, accountability, and service delivery efficiency.