

# Non-Performing Loans Portfolio in the Banking Sector of Bangladesh and Recovery Status: A Study on Rangpur Region

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## Abstract

Non-performing loan (NPL) is the recent burning issue and great challenge for the banking sector. Banks play very important role for economic enhancement of a country. They provide funds to the deficit units for business, production development activities. But when banks fail to recover loan, then it becomes to non-performing loan. In Bangladesh, state owned commercial banks (SOCBs) are the worst and private commercial banks are least sufferers from non-performing loan. This paper tries to represent the non-performing loan status of banks operating in seven districts under Rangpur division. This study is descriptive and based on secondary sources. The aim of this paper is to present the non-performing loan scenario and recovery status of the mentioned area and to provide recommendations for mitigating non-performing loan in Rangpur region.

**Index terms**— non-performing loan (NPL), economic enhancement, state owned commercial banks (SOCBs),

## 1 Introduction

on-performing loans refer to those loans from which banks no longer receive interest and/or installment payments as scheduled. It is a loan for which the principal or interest payment remained overdue for a period of time. A NPL is either in default or close to being default. A loan is non-performing when payments of interest and principal are past due by 90 days or more, or at least 90 days of interest payments have been capitalized, refinanced or delayed by agreement, or payments are less than 90 days overdue, but there are other good reasons to doubt that payments will be made in full (IMF 2005). NPLs are known as Non-performing because the loan ceases to "perform" or generate income for the bank. Choudhury (2002) stated that the non-performing loan is not a "uniclass" but rather a "multiclass" concept, which means that NPLs can be classified into different varieties usually based on the "length of overdue" of the said loans. NPLs can be viewed as a typical byproduct of financial crisis. They are not a main product of the lending function but rather an accidental occurrence of the lending process, one that has enormous potential to deepen the severity and duration of financial crisis and to complicate macroeconomic management (Woo, 2000).

The performance of the financial sector of our country heavily depends on the performance of banks. It is known to all that the entire non-performing loans shrink the profitability of banks. NPL don't contribute to the income of the banks, rather these loans decrease the loan able fund of the banks. NPL also stops the recycling banking business.

A poor banking system can't help the economic development of a country. Despite massive injection of loans to the national economy, the contribution of financial sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) remained at dismal level. This laden loan contributes to GDP by unhealthy and inefficient financial situation. Non-professional handling of assets both by SOCBs and PCBs was reported as the main reasons for the accumulation of loan default problem in Bangladesh (Alam and Jahan, 1999).

Bangladesh Bank (BB) as a central regulatory authority of banks in Bangladesh plays important role in monitoring and supervision by providing guidelines, circulars and circular letters time to time. BB provides

circular on single borrower exposure limit, syndicate financing, bridge financing etc. Now banks are not permitted to approve large loans in favor of any individual or group of borrowers in excess of 50 percent of their total capital. Loans, which have been classified as bad/loss for 5 years or more that must be written off by the banks in order to clean the defaulted loan from their affairs. Hundred percentage provisions have been kept against that write off loan.

## 2 II.

Literature Review Banik and Das (2015) concluded that though percentage of classified loan is increasing among commercial banks, the amount of POCL is higher in state-owned commercial banks than that of private commercial banks. Islam (2012), in a study on Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation found that 97.6 percent of the variability in the volume of classified loans can be explained by total advances, provisions, legal charges and spread. The variable legal charge was found to be statistically insignificant. Parvin (2011) stated that NPLs in Bangladesh reveals that the banking sector of Bangladesh is yet to get out of its NPL mess, although substantial improvement has been noticed recently. Adhikary (2006) found immediate consequence of large amount of NPLs in the banking system is bank failure as well as economic slowdown. The causes of non-performing loans are usually attributed to the lack of effective monitoring and supervision on the part of banks, lack of effective lenders' recourse, weakness of legal infrastructure, and lack of effective debt recovery strategies. Ezaz (2006) revealed their study that the loan default is quite enormous in the banking sector. They analyzed the issues governing the recovery rate and procedure with respect to Islamic Banking while comparing with the conventional banking principles amongst NCBs, PCBs and ICB. You (2001) argued that there is no global standard to define non-performing loans at the practical level variations exist in terms of the classification system, the scope, and contents. Such problem potentially adds to disorder and uncertainty in the NPL issues. Non-performing loans have non-linear negative effect on banks' lending behavior.

Afroz & Uddin (2010) found in their empirical study that from the views of employees of the banks those steps taken to prevent loan classification and provisioning requirements are not sufficient; due to lack of persuasion the rate of willful defaulters is high. Hassan & Reza (1997) prepared a study on comparison of commercial Banks of Bangladesh in respect to several dimension of deposit, they identified, in 1983 PCBs were allowed to start the banking activities for the betterment than the services of NCBs. Moti et al. (2012) conducted a study on credit management and found that a key requirement for effective credit management is the ability to intelligently and efficiently manage customer credit lines. Sikder et al. (2006) studied on the operational performance of the Bangladesh Krishi Bank and evaluated in terms of some indicators viz. deposit mobilization, loan disbursement, loan recovery and profit and found that the operational performance of the bank is very poor due to some lending procedural drawbacks reaching the profit target fixed by the authority concerned.

Lots of researches have been made on nonperforming loan. Researchers identified some variables which are related to non-performing loan. Research on comparative study between SOCBs and PCBs are made as well. In this paper researcher will try to highlight NP Lsscenario of banks operating seven districts of Rangpur division. The present paper has given attention more to select Rangpur division because lots of research has been conducted but exclusively for Rangpur division yet no research has been done. For availability of data seven districts of Rangpur has been chosen. The study tries to show the present status through a descriptive analysis relating to NPLs of the selected area.

## 3 III.

### 4 Objectives of the Study

The major objective of this study is to represent the overall scenario of total loan disbursement, NPLs& recovery status of banks in the seven districts of Rangpur region. This study also attempts to achieve the following specific objectives:

### 5 Methodology

This paper has been made based on secondary sources like research works of individuals, different publications, journal of different institutions, Bangladesh Bank survey etc. Forty one commercial banks both from state owned and private have been selected purposively from the seven districts of Rangpur division except Gaibandha district to represent the NPLs and their recovery system.

V.

## 6 Discussion, Analysis and Findings

Rangpur, a district of northern region, has economic value for its contribution to the development of Bangladesh by supplying valuable resources. There are approximately 41 banks operating in Rangpur division. Most of the banks do have several branches. The data used here are consolidated data of the bank branches of those 41 banks. Here data are categorized in various ways and a discussion has been given after the data is captured in a table. In terms of NPL, RAKUB is at the top position whereas Sonali and Rupali Bank is at the second and third position. RAKUB's NPL amount is 64356.67lac, Sonali Bank's NPL amount is 24541.00 lac and Rupali

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Bank has 14114.99lac taka. But percentage of NPL in terms of total loan disbursement, BDBL is at the top position whereas Bangladesh Commerce bank (BCB) is at the second and BASIC Bank is at the third position.

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Volume XX Issue I Version I Year 2020 ( ) C BDBL, BCB and Basic bank's classified loan is almost 73.40%, 59.45% and 51.42% respectively.

In the above table, few banks have no NPL because they newly operating in Rangpur division. They newly disburse loan to the clients. For being NPL, time is most important factor. Status of law-suit of Banks (in lac taka) Table ??:

## 8 Number Number Number

Table ?? depicts the law-suit status of banks for recovery of defaulted loan from their defaulted borrower, how many suits are settled and how many new suit made and what is the claim amount of those suit. Banks made suit against their default borrower for recovering classified loan. Different types of suits can be made under different laws and act like certificate suit and orthor in suit. As per the categories of the loan banks made different suits. Banks made lots of suits for recovering their defaulted loan except BCB, Premier, One, Meghna, NRB, First Security, Union and South Bangla Agriculture & Commerce bank. At the end of the second quarter in2017, RAKUB has 8774 suits which is highest in number among all of the banks and its claim amount is 10518.73 lac taka. RAKUB gives a large number of agricultural loans to the farmers. The size of this loan is very small. For recovery of those loans RAKUB made a large number of suits. From the above table it is clear that state owned commercial banks have large number of suit compare to the private commercial banks. But by the few suits private commercial banks claim huge amount of taka. Private commercial banks loan portfolio is smaller in number than state owned commercial banks but they financed more than SOCBs. That's why when PCBs loans become classified and they suit a file against them the claim amount is very high. Table 5 represents the amount of total loan disbursement, NPL of those banks who have NPL more than 10%.At the end of the second quarter of 2017, 15 banks have NPL more than 10% of their total loan outstanding. BDBL has the maximum NPL which was 73.40% and Dhaka Bank has the minimum NPL which was10.65%. RAKUB has the highest amount of NPL and Premier Bank has the lowest amount of NPL. Table 6 represents the amount of total loan disbursement, NPL of those banks have NPL less than 10%. At the end of the second quarter in 2017, 26 banks have classified loan less than 10%. Southeast Bank has the maximum NPL which was 9.77%. Few banks newly started their operation in Rangpur division that's why they don't have any NPL like Meghna Bank, NRB commercial Bank, First security Islami Bank, Union Bank and South Bangla Agriculture & commerce bank. RAKUB has the highest amount of NPL and Premier Bank has the lowest amount of NPL. Sonali Bank is at the top in terms of amount of NPL which was 24541. 00 lac taka. Table 7 provides the scenario of the top ten defaulters at the end of June 2017.The highest amount of NPLis given by Basic Bank Ltd. to its top ten borrowers which is Taka. 10232.16 lac and 95.12% and lowest amount given by Karmosangsthan Bank which is Taka. 69.99 lac and 6.39%.

Figures in Table 7 expose the figures of total loan disbursement of banks, amount of classified loan among those disbursements and how much taka is centralized to the top ten defaulters of the banks. It appears that the highest amount of classified loan is given by Sonali Bank Ltd. which is Taka.5943lac and lowest amount is from One bank Ltd. which is Taka.5.07 lac. The highest percentage of credit hold by top ten borrowers of the banks is 100%, that means those banks all classified loan is concentrated to only ten borrowers. Bangladesh Commerce Bank, Premier Bank, AB Bank, One Bank and Social Is lami Bank have 100% credit to their ten borrowers. The classified loan is highest 100% and lowest is 24.21% respectively.

## 9 VI.

## 10 Findings

Major findings are given below:

? NPL is very high in SOCBs rather than PCBs in Rangpur region (

## 11 Recommendations

Banks play vital role in the economy of Bangladesh. Non-performing loan and other obstacles face by banks create barrier to making profit. From this study it was found that t reasons behind non-performing loans are pressure from political parties, poor monitoring & controlling system of SOCBs, improper management, concentration on a particular area, improper sanctioning, lack of timely action, delay in disbursement of credit, unwillingness of borrowers etc. On the basis of these problems some recommendations are given by the researcher for mitigating nonperforming loan to the commercial banks operating in Rangpur region. Those are given below: So SOCBs also gives special focus to all credit like PCBs and try to reduce huge number of credit line.

? For huge number of credits, default cases also in huge in number compared to PCBs. For recovery of those default credits, SOCBs file large number of law-suit but their volume is lower than PCBs. It is very much difficult to operate those law-suit and most of the cases it is not viable. ? Large loan default case is much higher in PCBs than SOCBs. This happens when PCBs managers try to catch a big fish. For fulfilling their yearly target in

loan disbursement and profit earnings, they gives loan in higher amount to the another banks customers. Here an unhealthy competition has grown as lots of PCBs newly started but new entrepreneurs are not grown. PCBs should avoid this unhealthy competition and try to find out more reliable entrepreneurs. They should invest in versatile business such as small and cottage industries.

## VIII.

## Conclusion

As a small country, Bangladesh already has 57 scheduled banks. There are many non-scheduled banks and financial institutions also operated their businesses. Rangpur, a new division, does not have massive industrialization for its geographic location. Although few new industries has been established but not in large number. In these circumstances, new entrepreneurs are not commencing to start a large scale business. Recently new number of commercial banks have been started their business to disburse big-volume-loan in the study area and searching those kinds of enterprises for lending. Therefore, unhealthy competition begins among the managers of PCBs rather than SOCBs as they required to fulfill their yearly targets. Banks should be more cautious in selecting entrepreneurs by scrutinize the previous history and ability. Banks business mostly depends on the smooth recovery of the loan. SOCBs are in deep water by NPL by losing their capital. A very few number of banks NPL are more than 50%. This is alarming for the bank industry. Government tries to keep running banks by injecting fund every year. If PCBs face this problem severely, the situation may be worsening. Necessary precaution, real time solution and sufficient guidelines should be taken for make over the situation. Bangladesh bank can play a vital role in mitigating this problem. Government should have taken positive initiative to make new industries as well as entrepreneurs in Rangpur region so that banks find new opportunities for investment.

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S.N	Name of the Bank	Total Disbursement	Loan	Amount of Classified loan	Classified loan %
1	AB Bank	37437.65		503.74	1.35%
2	Agrani Bank	100816.56		9712.73	9.63%
3	Al-ArafahIslami Bank	32837.83		2622.52	7.99%
4	Bank Asia	6938.02		302.18	4.36%

Figure 1: Table 1 :

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S.N	Name of the Bank	Last quarter (January-March/2017)			%	Present quarter (April-June/17)		
		Total Loan	Classified loan			Total Loan	Classified loan	
1	Sonali	262916	24792		9.43%	271558	24541	9
2	Agrani	96285.68	11088.23	11.52%		100816.56	9712.73	9
3	IFIC	24577.98	1728.61		7.03%	18210.81	1062.2	5
4	AB	39408.79	373.4		0.95%	37437.65	503.74	1
5	One	4196.57	3.46		0.08%	5038.81	5.07	0
6	Trust	28027.32	554.98		1.98%	30615.89	625.56	2
7	DBBL	6200.94	155.24		2.50%	4877.63	120.11	2
8	Brac	15492	728.97		4.71%	35797.6	1399.75	3
9	Mercantile	23497.82	927.68		3.95%	25385.12	998.32	3
	Standard	31256.57	1052.96		3.37%	43288.62	1741.35	4
	Meghna	2454.74	0		0.00%	4419.49	0	0
	EBL	3858.65	51.54		1.34%	4141.02	119.26	2
	Bank Asia	6277	278.19		4.43%	6938.02	302.18	4
	Prime	11992.33	620.43		5.17%	13497.95	645.19	4
	Uttara	31043.76	2709.26		8.73%	34806.29	3071.38	8
	MTBL	18460.56	1098.09		5.95%	18011.7	1234.33	6
	NBL	37088.19	2799.62		7.55%	37510.29	2790.59	7
	Southeast	7764.01	953.31	12.28%		8341.34	815	9
	UCBL	8174.65	825.3	10.10%		7388.01	659.43	8
	South	4669.25	0		0.00%	6256.8	0	0
	Bangla							
	NRB Com-	1047.65	0		0.00%	953.61	0	0
	mercial							
	Islami	192430	2179.7		1.13%	210634.8	2610	1
	Al-	35196.39	2685.22		7.63%	32837.83	2622.52	7
	ArafahIslami							
	Social	16307.47	243.48		1.49%	18688.25	457.53	2
	Islami							
	First Secu-	1293.99	0		0.00%	1297.6	0	0
	rity							
	Union	101.81	0		0.00%	1051	0	0
	Janata	72613	9492.85	13.07%		75089.48	8442.53	1
	Rupali	59325.16	12558.1	21.17%		64557.62	14114.99	2
	RAKUB	223625.51	44399.06	19.85%		235743.77	64356.67	2
	Kormoshantar	8888.35	1088.44	12.25%		8989.54	1096.14	1
	Basic	20841.48	9598.25	46.05%		20918.71	10757.07	5
	BDBL	12905.92	9125.28	70.71%		12526.62	9193.92	7
	Jamuna	23199.92	2189.66		9.44%	21106.07	2984.91	1
	The City	17281.35	1623.47		9.39%	19662.66	2817.66	1
	Dhaka	12539.34	1529.96	12.20%		13458.91	1432.95	1

Figure 2: Table 2 :

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Figure 3: Table 2

3

Non-Performing Loans Portfolio in the Banking Sector of Bangladesh and Recovery Status: A Study on

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S.N 1 Name of the Bank Sonali Bank Ltd.

2 Agrani Bank  
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 IFIC Bank AB Bank One Bank Trust Bank Dutch Bangla Bank Brac Bank Mercantile Bank  
10 11 12 13  
14 15

16 Mutual Trust Bank  
17 National Bank  
18 Southeast Bank  
19 UCBI

Figure 4: Table 3 :

### 3

74 lac taka, which is 6.74% of its NPL. Agrani Bank is at the second position. Agrani Bank recovers 2443.45 lac taka which is 25.16% of its NPL. Sonali Bank hold the third position in recovering classified loan and it is 2255.00 lac, which is 9.19% of its total NPL. Highest percentage of recovery done by Premier bank and it is 242.93 lac taka out of 335.96 lac taka. A very few number of banks recover double digit percentage while others recovery performance is single digit. The lowest amount of recovery done by AB Bank Limited which is 0.03% of its total NPL.

Figure 5: Table 3

### 5

S.N	Name of the Bank	Total Loan	Classified loan	%
1	Janata	75089.48	8442.53	11.24%
2	Rupali	64557.62	14114.99	21.86%
3	RAKUB	235743.77	64356.67	27.30%
4	Kormoshantan	8989.54	1096.14	12.19%
5	Basic	20918.71	10757.07	51.42%
6	BDBL	12526.62	9193.92	73.40%
7	Jamuna	21106.07	2984.91	14.14%
8	The City	19662.66	2817.66	14.33%
9	Dhaka	13458.91	1432.95	10.65%
10	NCC	10982.58	2243.66	20.43%
11	Pubali	36071.63	5006.08	13.88%
12	Commerce	2219.76	1319.67	59.45%
13	Premier	2943	335.96	11.42%
14	Shahjalal Islami	17310.4	2537.18	14.66%
15	Exim	12124.4	2662.46	21.96%

Source: Quarterly review, BB 2017

Figure 6: Table 5 :

6

S.N	Name of the Bank	Present quarter(April-June/17)	Total Loan	Classified loan	%
1	Sonali	271558.00	24541.00		9.04%
2	Agrani	100816.56	9712.73		9.63%
3	IFIC	18210.81	1062.2		5.83%
4	AB	37437.65	503.74		1.35%
5	One	5038.81	5.07		0.10%
6	Trust	30615.89	625.56		2.04%
7	DBBL	4877.63	120.11		2.46%
8	Brac	35797.6	1399.75		3.91%

Figure 7: Table 6 :

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S.N. Name of the Bank Total Outstanding 1 Sonali 271558.00 2 Agrani 100816.56 3 IFIC 18210.81 4 AB 37437.65 5 One 5038.81 6 Trust 30615.89 7 DBBL 4877.63 8 Brac 35797.6

11	Meghna	4419.49
12	EBL	4141.02
13	Bank	6938.02
	Asia	
14	Prime	43497.95
15	Uttara	34806.29

Figure 8: Table 7 :

VII.

Figure 9:



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? Loan recovery is very much important for banks. If banks fail to recover its credit, then banks losses its assets as well as its earnings. PCBs loan recovery status is much higher than SOCBs. This may happen for PCBs management's responsibilities levied by them. PCBs management's responsibilities are much higher than SOCBs managements because PCB's management jobs duration depends on their performance. For that reason, PCBs managements scrutinize all the steps in giving loan from the beginning. It starts from proper borrower selection. It reduces the chance of being defaulted. Second step is Proper documentation. Proper documentation is essential for loan disbursement. Without proper documentation, it is not possible for banks to recover loan by taking legal action. Faulty documentation creates faulty credit line for banks. So documentation must be needed for smooth supervision and efficient lending.

? SOCBs given lots of credit in diversified area compared to the PCBs. This high number of credit makes difficulties for proper supervision and monitoring.

Figure 10:



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