



NATIONAL INITIATIVES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG4 INDICATOR 4.6.1 IN YOUR COUNTRY

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OUTLINES

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- Challenges in producing LAS indicators
- The coverage, comparability, and uses of the assessments
- Skills and Scoring Criteria in Bangladesh LAS
- Percentage distribution of respondents (11-45 years) by functional literacy level, residence and sex in LAS 2011
- Functional literacy at four levels of literacy skill
- Way Forward

BACKGROUND

- Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) had been generating the traditional reported/self declared literacy based on verbal response of the question “Can the family member write a letter?” from any responsible household member
- BBS, for the first time in 2008 with technical and financial support from the UNESCO successfully conducted the Literacy Assessment Survey over 11+ years population based on functional literacy
- BBS conducted the 2nd Literacy Assessment Survey of the similar nature in 2011 over 11-45 years population
- In 2014, Literacy Assessment Survey has been included in National Strategy for the Development of Statistics (NSDS) as a ‘Core Survey’ of BBS and planned to be conducted in every 3 years
- Inclusion of functional literacy in SDG indicator 4.6.1, opened a new era for BBS to way forward

CHALLENGES IN PRODUCING LAS INDICATORS

- 🌍 Functional literacy has been adopted in policy documents in Bangladesh but it has not been positioned in the mind of the users and policymakers widely
- 🌍 Non-continuation of conducting the survey for last 7 years led to mainstreaming in the policymakers mind
- 🌍 Results from self-declared literacy is higher than functional literacy, which is also a big challenge in positioning functional literacy
- 🌍 Unavailability of budget has become the main challenge in continuation of the survey

THE COVERAGE, COMPARABILITY, AND USES OF THE ASSESSMENTS

- ☀ In the both rounds in 2008 and 2011, LAS covered the all 64 districts of Bangladesh
- ☀ In 2008, population aged 11 years and above were covered whereas in 2011, population of 11-45 years was covered in the assessment
- ☀ The results are comparable both in national and international level as BBS followed the internationally agreed standard and guidelines
- ☀ The Assessment was used to evaluate the country's adult literacy programme implemented by Ministry of Primary and Mass Education

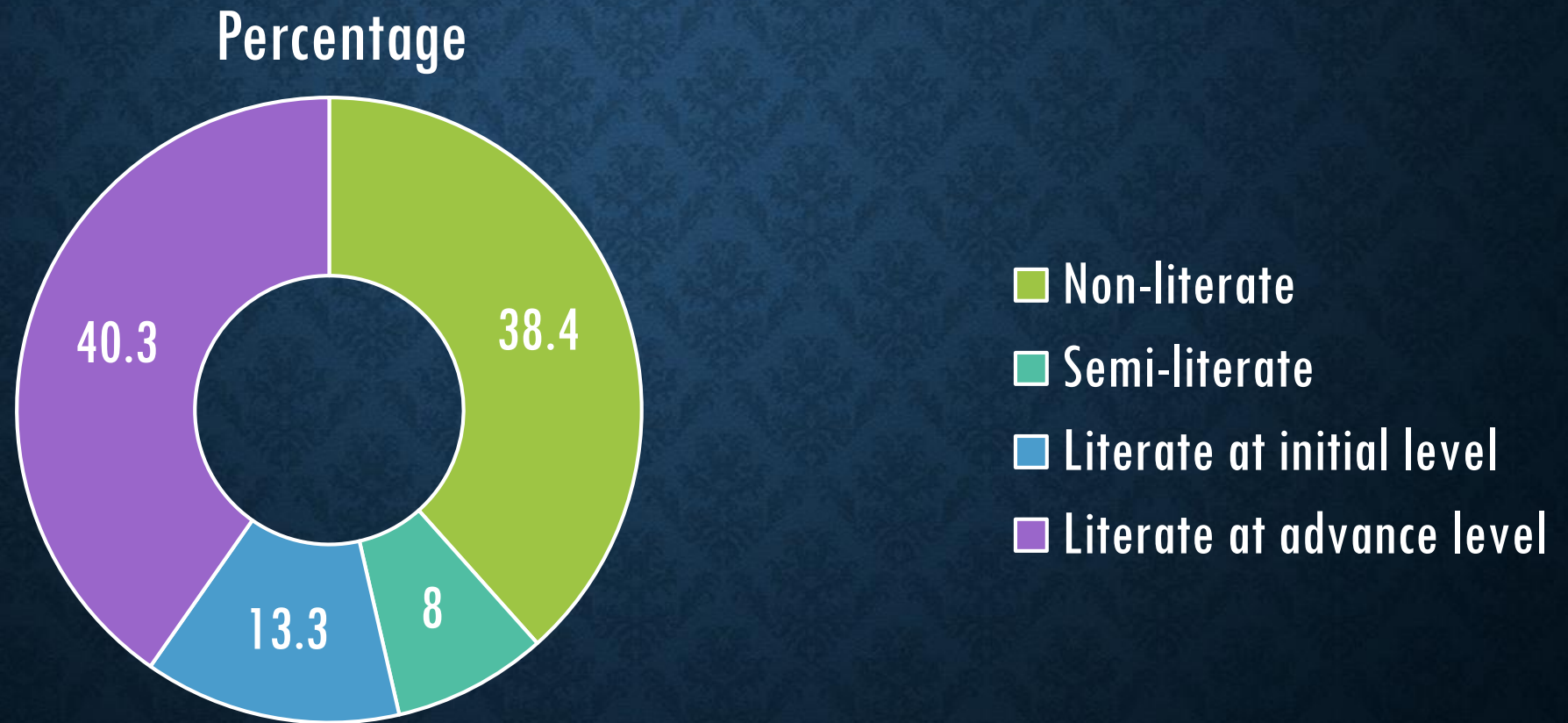
SKILLS AND SCORING CRITERIA IN BANGLADESH LAS

Level of Literacy	Area of Skill	Score Range
Non-literate	Lack of ability to decode alphabet, recognize words/numbers and count money/objects	0-24.99
Semi-literate	Ability to recognize and write some words, to count objects and numbers at a very basic level	25-49.99
Literate at initial level	Ability to read and write simple sentences in a familiar context; possessing four basic rules of arithmetic; limited use of these abilities and skills in familiar context in life situations	50-74.99
Literate at advanced level	Ability to read and write with fluency in varying contexts; competency of four arithmetic rules and mathematical reasoning; ability to use these skills in everyday life and independently in future learning	75-100

PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF RESPONDENTS (11-45 YEARS) BY FUNCTIONAL LITERACY LEVEL, RESIDENCE AND SEX IN LAS 2011

Functional Literacy level	Rural			Urban			National		
	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both	Male	Female	Both
Non-literate (Test score 0-24.99)	38.7	43.7	41.1	25.1	30.9	27.9	35.9	41.1	38.4
Semi-literate (Test score 25.00-49.99)	07.5	9.2	8.4	6.2	6.8	6.5	7.3	8.8	8.0
Literate	53.8	47.1	50.6	68.8	62.2	65.6	56.9	50.2	53.7
Literate at initial level (Test score 50.00-74.99)	12.9	14.3	13.6	12.4	12.2	12.3	12.8	13.9	13.3
Literate at advanced level (Test score 75.00-100)	40.9	32.8	37.0	56.4	50.0	53.3	44.1	36.3	40.3

FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AT FOUR LEVELS OF LITERACY SKILL



WAY FORWARD

- Functional Literacy need to be address in National Development plan in light of SDGs
- Sensitizing the Policymakers for functional literacy
- Need to secure fund for regular conduct of Literacy Assessment Survey by BBS
- Including other relevant SDG-4 Indicators in Literacy Assessment Survey
- Capacity Building of BBS Officials in conducting Literacy Assessment Survey

THANK YOU

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