



**Secretary**  
**Ministry of Youth and Sports**  
**People's Republic of Bangladesh**

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**To Whom It May Concern**

I am very pleased to inform that I had a long connection with Bangladesh Industrial Technical Assistance Center (BITAC). It is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Industries. The main job of this institute is to produce efficient manpower for the industry sector. Training is the principal component of BITAC mandate. Apart from some regular courses BITAC is implementing Self Employment and Poverty Alleviation (SEPA) project focusing women who are getting special preference for securing enrollment in different training programs.

SEPA project is a very successful in the context of its implementation status. The project starts functioning in July 2009 and till date the implementation rate is 100% in each year whereas the average implementation status of development project in Bangladesh is roughly 65% to 70%. The financial statement revealed that the aggregate achievement of the target is more than 95% and it is expected that 100% will be completed at the end of the project by June 2019.

BITAC initiated Self Employment and Poverty Alleviation (SEPA) project in 2009 to execute the policy decision taken by the Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to create jobs in each household. The main thrust of the project is giving priority for women employment as they are the most vulnerable in the country. It worth mentioning that more than 24000 youths (male and female) has been trained and more than 7500 trainees are employed just immediate after training completion. The numbers of employment offered are always higher than the number of trainees. Thus no trainee remains unemployed under this project. Many of them became entrepreneurs with small and medium enterprise.

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Under the project usually, less educated, under privileged and vulnerable youths (particularly women) are selected from the rural areas for providing training in different trades. Both theoretical and hands on practical sessions are the mode of training. BITAC made a very good relation with many industries and organize job fair. The beauty of the project is training certificate and employment letters are handed over simultaneously at the end of the training course. I myself was also present in two closing sessions to handover training certificate and employment letter together. I must say this is an excellent and extraordinary initiative in the context of scarce job market in Bangladesh.

. Hands on technical training including physical exercise, motivation session for mental grooming are also included in the training program. Therefore, SEPA project became one of the most successful projects in Bangladesh for last 10 years. I am very happy to inform you that inter-ministerial evaluation committee has recommended for the extension of this project.

It is my sincere acknowledgement that SEPA project is contributing a lot in skills development, job creation and poverty reduction; entrepreneurship development; women empowerment through income generation and confidence building; gender balancing and so on. SEPA project has immense contribution towards achieving Vision 2021 (middle income country), SDG 2030 and Vision 2041 (rich and developed country).

I strongly recommend BITAC SEPA project to consider for the United Nations Public Service Awards 2019. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions and queries.



  
27.11.2018

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