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ANNUAL
REPORT
1973

Janata Bank, Head office: 1, Dilkusha Commercial Area, Dacca-2 Bangladesh
P.O.Box. 468 Telex. 840 Cable: Janatabank

OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR AND CHAIRMAN

We have pleasure in presenting our Annual Report and Balance Sheet together with Profit and Loss Account for the year ending 31st December, 1973.

During this period the Bank made significant progress in all areas of operation. Traditional services were expanded not only to meet growing demands and needs of customers but also to attract new clientele.

The year 1973 had been one of proud progress for the Bank. Our progress at the close of the year, which was the second year of our operations, had made us the largest Bank in the country.

✓ In 1972, The Central Bank of Bangladesh evaluated the efficiency of all commercial banks in the country, among other things, by how much of deposits the bank can mobilise as a result of 1% rise in the advances of the banking system. Analytically this is known as the elasticity of deposits to advances which measures responsiveness of banks' deposits with respect to advances. The Central Bank of Bangladesh which undertook the exercise to "Measure the elasticity of deposits to advances of each individual bank and also for all banks taken in aggregate i. e. responsiveness of total deposits to total advances," JANATA BANK was rated to be the top-most commercial bank of Bangladesh. Similar analysis was also undertaken by the Central Bank in 1973. We are glad to say that we have been able to maintain the same position.

The year's operational highlights are as follows :

Capital : Our Paid-up Capital was increased to Taka 30 million during 1973 as against Taka 15 million on 31st December, 1972.

Reserve Fund : Our Reserve Fund as on 31st December, 1973 was raised to Taka 13 million.

Profit : Operational results during the period under review was neatly summed up in a tremendous increase of Net Profit. The Net Profit of the bank as on 31st December, 1973 was Tk. 46.6 million, which was an increase of approximately 340% over the profit of Tk. 10.6 million as on December, 1972. This profit has been appropriated in the following manner :

(a) Transferred to Reserve Fund	—	Tk. 11 million
(b) Provision for taxation	—	" 24.6 "
(c) Transferred to Staff Gratuity Fund	—	" 0.5 "
(d) Balance of Profit paid to the Government	—	" 10.5 "

Investment : During the period under consideration, we have invested Tk. 235 million in Government Treasury Bills and Tk. 27.5 million in Debentures of different Government-owned Corporations, out of which Tk. 12.5 million in Sugar Mills Corporation and Tk. 10 million in Shilpa Bank and Tk. 5 million in Shilpa Rin Sangstha to enable them to offer loans to different Industrial Sectors.

Deposits : Throughout the year there was a progressive increase in deposits and our Bank's deposits increased to Tk. 2,285.6 million at the end of 1973, as against Tk. 1,576.9 million as on December, 1972. The increase of Tk. 708.7 million means an increase of 44.95%.

Advances : In step with the increase of deposits during the period under consideration our Advances rose by 38% to Taka 1564.4 million as on 31st December, 1973 as against Taka 1132 million on 31st December, 1972.

The break-up of our advances in important sectors during 1973 is as follows :

(a) Jute Sector	—	Tk. 667 million
(b) Tanneries	—	Tk. 56.07 "
(c) Sugar Industry	—	Tk. 15.52 "
(d) Textile	—	Tk. 12.19 "
(e) Transport	—	Tk. 32.62 "
(f) Steel Industry	—	Tk. 58.24 "
(g) Tea Industry	—	Tk. 8.03 "
(h) Petroleum Trade	—	Tk. 13.34 "
(i) Balance was advanced to other trades and industries		

Jute & Jute Industry : This major commercial and Industrial export commodity of the country received the maximum financing from Banks in Bangladesh. The total financing of the Banks in the Jute Trade was Tk. 1398 million and in the Jute Industry Tk. 1403 million making a total of Tk. 2801 million. Our share of advance in this sector was Taka 307 million to the Industry and Tk. 363 million to the Trade making a total of Tk. 667 million as on December, 1973 as against Tk. 513 million as on December, 1972.

Transport : During 9 months war of Liberation the loss and damage caused to various types of transports was tremendous. For this reason the transport net work of the country was severely disrupted. Generous advances from the banks helped early normalisation in this sector. We advanced a little over Taka 32 million for purchase of trucks, buses and barges.

Foreign Trade : Our share in the financing of Foreign Trade during 1973 was substantial. We handled Import Bills to the extent of Tk. 1546 million and Export Bills to the extent of Tk. 775 million as against the total Import worth Tk. 4089 million and total Export worth Tk. 2764.2 million of the country.

Agriculture : Hitherto finances were made available to the Agricultural Sector of the country by the Agricultural Bank, but due to paucity of staff and inadequate number of branches their services can not be availed of by a very large section of our agricultural community. In order to help bridge this gap a new scheme has been undertaken by us. This scheme provides not only for extending agricultural loans on easy terms but also for extending and making available to the growers modern technology and guidance to achieve better and larger yields. Experts in this field have already been recruited to man this new division of the Bank.

Overseas Operations : The results of our Overseas operations which have been amalgamated in our Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account have been gratifying. Total operations of the two branches in U. K. yielded handsome profits.

Home Remittance : To attract an additional in-flow of Foreign Exchange the Government had introduced a Scheme whereby nationals of this country who are earning abroad can send remittances to their dependents in Bangladesh at a preferential rate. This has resulted in an additional in-flow of Tk. 22 million through our branch during 1973 as against a total amount of Tk. 49.2 million which was remitted to Bangladesh during the year. Our shares in this has been slightly less than 50%.

Food Procurement & Jute Purchase : We offered our services and acted as agents of the Government in the Government Food Procurement and Jute Purchase Schemes through our branches and through special booths opened in areas where no banks were functioning.

Premises : In order to meet the growing space requirement of the Head Office of our Bank, which has been housed with much difficulty in its present premises, we have purchased a multistoried building in Dacca opposite the Central Bank at a cost of Tk. 3.9 million. Work is in progress to shift the Head Office to the new premises.

Expansion : During 1973 our network of the branches was further enlarged by opening of 24 new branches in the country and a foreign branch in Birmingham, U. K. resulting in a total of 286 branches as on 31st December, 1973. Arrangements have been finalised to open our third Overseas branch in one of the European countries by first week of July, 1974.

Staff : As a result of the increase in the deposits, advances and consequent increase of business, an additional 918 employees were recruited during 1973. A training scheme for Officers has been undertaken by the Central Bank and also individually by us to impart proper training and guidance to our newly recruited Officers. Apart from this, the Officers and other recruits are receiving on-the-job training.

At the end of 1973 we have a total of 4326 member of the Staff including top-management as against 3408 in December, 1972.

We take this opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all our employees, whose loyalty and hard work had contributed to the success of 1973.

Before concluding, it may be worthwhile to dwell upon some issues which are of utmost importance to us. Our bank which emanated from nationalisation and amalgamation of private banks of the pre-liberation period is based on the same foundations and on the same structure as in the pre-liberation days. The socio-political changes in the country have so far not altered the structure of our bank.

The goal of this nation is Socialism. Article 10 in the Fundamental principles of State Policy says that in Bangladesh "the Socialistic economic system shall be established with a view to ensuring attainment of a just and egalitarian society free from exploitation of man by man". Needless to say the restructuring and nationalisation of the pre-liberation private commercial banks was apparently in pursuance of this objective. Nationalisation although a pre-requisite, is, by no means sufficient for ushering in Socialism. On the contrary, if nationalisation leads to inefficiency it may hurt the prospects of Socialism. It is, therefore, necessary to determine the role of the banking system in a society with Socialism as the ultimate objective.

What should be our guiding principles? Should we maximise profit as we used to do before Independence? How can we best promote equity and establish an egalitarian society? Should we relax the requirements of security and collaterals to encourage larger in-flow of funds to agriculture or to small businessmen? How should the risk of non-payment in such cases be weighed with the concept of profitability if that is the primary aim or overriding consideration of the nationalised banks? The Company Laws which governed the private banks in pre-liberation days are still in force in management and administration of the banks. Do these old laws require re-examination to restructure the banking system to conform to the new aspirations and needs of the society? *

The Central Bank of the country in those days had to use "carrot and stick" policy because the commercial banks in private sector were engaged in profit maximisation. If the nationalised banks now have the social welfare as their objective what pattern of relationship between the Central Bank and the commercial banks is desirable? Are the pre-liberation regulatory laws by which the Central Bank used to control and regulate the private commercial banks applicable now in the new context? These are some of the questions which are agitating our minds who are entrusted with the task of managing the banks.

We feel clearly that since Independence the new social objectives have added a new dimension to the management principles of the nationalised banks and it is necessary to spell out the efficiency criteria of the nationalised banks and the principles of management worked out elaborately.

Since Independence, we have been engrossed in tackling day-to-day problems and facing one emergency after another with the result that while the work has considerably increased, recruitment and training of the staff has not at all kept pace with the growing requirements. The time has, therefore, come to consolidate the position in various spheres of the bank before it takes new leap which it will surely be called upon to do with the gathering momentum of economic development of our country. ,

We are fully conscious of the fact that what has been achieved by us possibly falls short of all that should have been actually done or we wanted during the period. We place on record our problems, difficulties and weaknesses. We tried to accomplish our task, inspite of our limitations and we have to do better progressively in future every year.

In conclusion, we wish to express our gratitude to the Bangladesh Bank and the Ministry of Finance, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, for the continued guidance we have received from them in the day-to-day affairs of the Bank.

Dacca, 7th May, 1974

KHAIRUL KABIR
Managing Director and Chairman

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS

We have audited the annexed Balance Sheet of the Janata Bank as at 31st December, 1973 together with the Profit and Loss Account of the Bank for the year ended 31st December, 1973 in which are incorporated the certified returns of all the Branches and report that :

- (a) We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, were necessary for the purpose of our audit and these have been found to be satisfactory.
- (b) In our opinion, proper books of account as required by law, have been kept by the Bank so far as it appears from the examination of the books and proper returns adequate for the purpose of audit have been received from all the branches of the Bank.
- (c) The Transactions of the Bank which have come to our notice have been within the powers of the Bank.
- (d) In our opinion and according to the best of our information and explanations given to us and as shown by the books of the Bank :
 - i) The annexed Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account have been drawn up in conformity with the law.
 - ii) The Profit and Loss Account shows a true balance of Profit and Loss for the period covered by such account.
 - iii) Such Balance Sheet read in conjunction with our report to the Ministry of Finance, Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh exhibits a true and correct view of the state of affairs of the Bank.

KHAN, WAHAB & CO.
Chartered Accountants
Dacca, 23rd March, 1974

RAHMAN, RAHMAN, HUQ & CO.
Chartered Accountants



BALANCE SHEET AS

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES

As at 31st December, 1972			As at 31st December, 1973	
Taka	Taka		Taka	Taka
	5,00,00,000	Authorised Capital	5,00,00,000	
1,50,00,000		Paid-up Capital		3,00,00,000
—		Reserve Fund		1,30,00,000
		DEPOSITS & OTHER ACCOUNTS :		
	19,07,22,588	Fixed Deposits	72,28,86,940	
	39,11,46,847	Savings Bank Deposits	50,36,36,341	
1,57,69,07,002	99,50,37,567	Current Accounts, Contingency Accounts etc.	1,05,90,97,654	2,28,56,20,000
		BORROWINGS FROM OTHER BANKING COMPANIES, AGENTS ETC.		
	4,97,00,000	(i) In Bangladesh (From Bangladesh Bank)	5,66,00,000	
5,85,61,951	88,61,951	(ii) Outside Bangladesh	1,93,13,166	7,59,13,000

PARTICULARS OF ABOVE

3,77,00,000	(i) Counter Finance Facilities obtained from Bangladesh Bank against advances made to Public Sector	5,66,00,000
1,20,00,000	(ii) Bills Re-discounting facilities obtained from Bangladesh Bank against advances made to Private Sector	Nil
Nil	(iii) Borrowings from Bangladesh Bank against Bangladesh Govt. Securities	Nil
88,61,951	(iv) Unsecured	1,93,13,166

1,65,04,68,953

Carried Over

2,40,45,34,000

PROPERTY AND ASSETS

As at 31st December, 1972		As at 31st December, 1973	
Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka
53,60,70,246			84,43,95,911
		Brought Forward	
		ADVANCES : (Other than bad and doubtful debts for which provision has been made to the satisfaction of the auditors)	
		(1) Loans, Cash Credit, Overdrafts, etc. (Note 1)	
		(a) In Bangladesh	
	86,89,57,050	(i) To Clients	1,30,99,34,684
	5,00,95,309	(ii) To Public Sector against which Counter Finance Facilities have been obtained from Bangladesh Bank	9,10,38,875
	62,50,000	(iii) To Private Sector against which Bills rediscounting facilities have been obtained from Bangladesh Bank	Nil
	<u>42,20,434</u>	(b) Outside Bangladesh	<u>1,63,98,829</u>
	92,95,22,793		141,73,72,388
		(2) Bills Discounted and Purchased :	
	11,86,35,009	(a) Payable in Bangladesh	6,56,02,579
1,13,20,89,403	8,39,31,601	(b) Payable outside Bangladesh	8,14,23,545
			14,70,26,124
			1,56,43,98,512

PARTICULARS OF ADVANCES		
1,02,47,90,574	(i) Debts considered good in respect of which the Bank is fully secured	1,32,21,43,482
7,00,28,708	(ii) Debts considered good for which the Bank holds no other security than the debtors personal security	12,25,22,766
3,72,70,121	(iii) Debts considered good secured by the personal liabilities of one or more parties in addition to the personal security of the debtors	11,97,32,264
Nil	(iv) Debts considered doubtful or bad not provided for	Nil
<u>1,13,20,89,403</u>		<u>1,56,43,98,512</u>

1,66,81,59,649

Carried Over

2,40,87,94,423



PROPERTY AND ASSETS

As at 31st December, 1972		As at 31st December, 1973	
Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka
1,66,81,59,649			2,40,87,94,423
	Brought Forward		
6,95,373	(v) Debts due by Directors or officers of the Bank or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons	7,92,064	
Nil	(vi) Debts due by Companies or Firms in which the Directors of the Bank are interested as Directors, Partners or Managing Agents or in the case of Private Companies as members	Nil	
7,04,702	(vii) Maximum total amount of advances, including temporary advances made at any time during the year to Directors or Managers or officers of the Bank or any of them either severally or jointly with any other persons	10,00,504	
Nil	(viii) Maximum total amount of advances including temporary advances granted during the year to the Companies or Firms in which the Directors of the Bank are interested as Directors, Partners, or Managing Agents, or in the case of Private Companies, as members	Nil	
Nil	(x) Due from Banking Companies	Nil	
	BILLS RECEIVABLE BEING BILLS FOR COLLECTION AS PER CONTRA :		
4,24,03,000	(i) Payable in Bangladesh	8,20,83,168	
11,44,18,594	(ii) Payable outside Bangladesh	5,57,61,256	13,78,44,424
	CONSTITUENTS' LIABILITIES FOR ACCEPTANCES, ENDORSEMENTS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS AS PER CONTRA :		1,27,95,55,379
	24,42,58,059 (i) Letter of Guarantee 26,63,93,029		
	81,89,97,391 (ii) Letter of Credit 1,01,31,62,350		
1,06,32,55,450			
2,84,58,33,693	Carried Over		3,82,61,94,226



BALANCE SHEET AS AT

CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES

As at 31st December, 1972		As at 31st December, 1973	
Taka	Taka	Taka	Taka
2,96,97,09,197			3,95,48,18,410
	Brought Forward		
	CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		
	I) Money for which the Bank is contingently liable :		
	a) Contingent Liabilities in respect of Guarantees given favouring —		
14,08,78,230	i) Government	14,66,05,136	
6,44,59,418	ii) Bank and other financial Institutions	6,17,96,551	
3,89,20,411	iii) Others	5,79,91,342	
24,42,58,059		26,63,93,029	
Nil	II) Liability on account of outstanding forward exchange contracts	4,59,22,286	
	Total		3,95,48,18,410

2,96,97,09,197

S. A. SHAKOOR
Assistant General Manager

BAZAL AHMED
General Manager

KHAIRUL KABIR
Managing Director and Chairman

Dacca, 23rd March, 1974



PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE

For the period ended 31. 12. 72
(i. e. from 1. 4. 72 to 31. 12. 72)

Taka

7,70,49,336

1,44,95,156

45,72,822

96,722

11,86,810

26,875

17,59,157

15,85,512

Nil

* 47,34,266

* 45,73,651

* 1,05,84,180

EXPENDITURE

For the period ended 31. 12. 73
(i. e. from 1. 1. 73 to 31. 12. 73)

Taka

Interest paid on Deposits, Borrowings etc.

13,39,28,395

Salaries, Allowances and Provident Fund
(including Ta. 60,000 to Managing Director)

2,29,00,868

Rent, Taxes, Insurance, Lighting etc. (This includes
Ta. 31,93,228 as provision for Tax for London
Branch)

1,32,44,401

Law Charges

3,26,160

Postage, Telegrams, Telephone and stamps

31,17,234

Auditors Fees

54,200

Depreciation on and Repairs to
Banking Company's Property

27,42,615

Stationery, Printing and Advertisements etc.

34,13,575

Loss from Sales of or dealing with
Non-Banking Assets

Nil

Computer Bureau and other expenditure
(This includes Ta. 2,59,721 on account
of depreciation)

73,58,715

Loss/Damage of Property and Assets
during last liberation War

Nil

Balance of Profit carried to Balance Sheet

4,66,45,485

Exp. 12,06,64,487.

Total

23,37,31,648

S. A. SHAKOOR
Assistant General Manager

BAZAL AHMED
General Manager

KHAIRUL KABIR
Managing Director and Chairman

Dacca, 23rd March, 1974

KEY INDICATORS : JANATA BANK

(Taka in million)

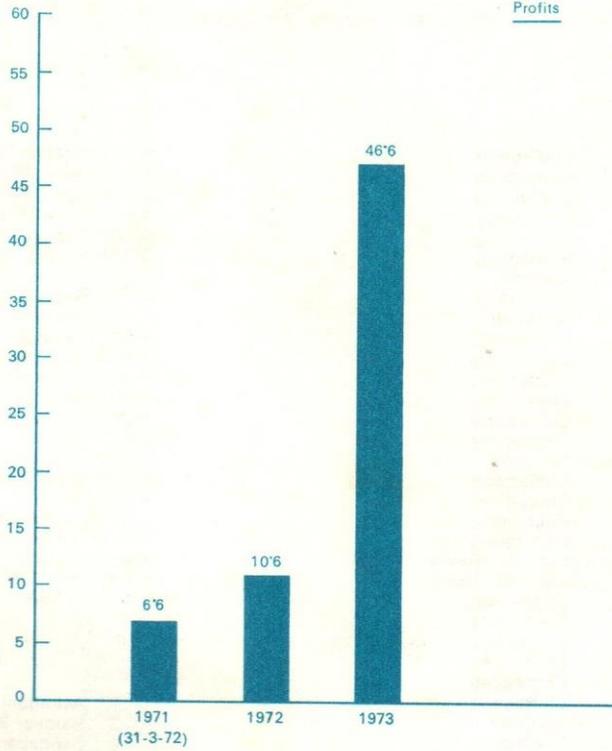
	1972	1973	% of increase
DEPOSITS	1576.9	2285.6	44.95
ADVANCES	1132	1564.4	38
INVESTMENTS	204.1	472.2	131
PROFIT	10.6	46.6	340

BRANCHES

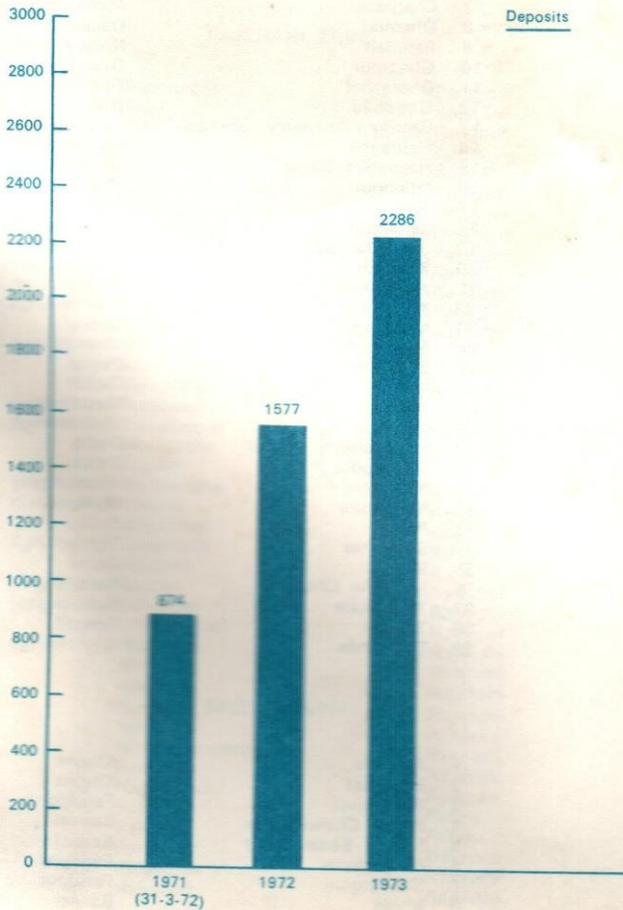
	1972	1973
BANGLADESH	260	284
OVERSEAS	1	2

PROGRESS IN 2 YEARS

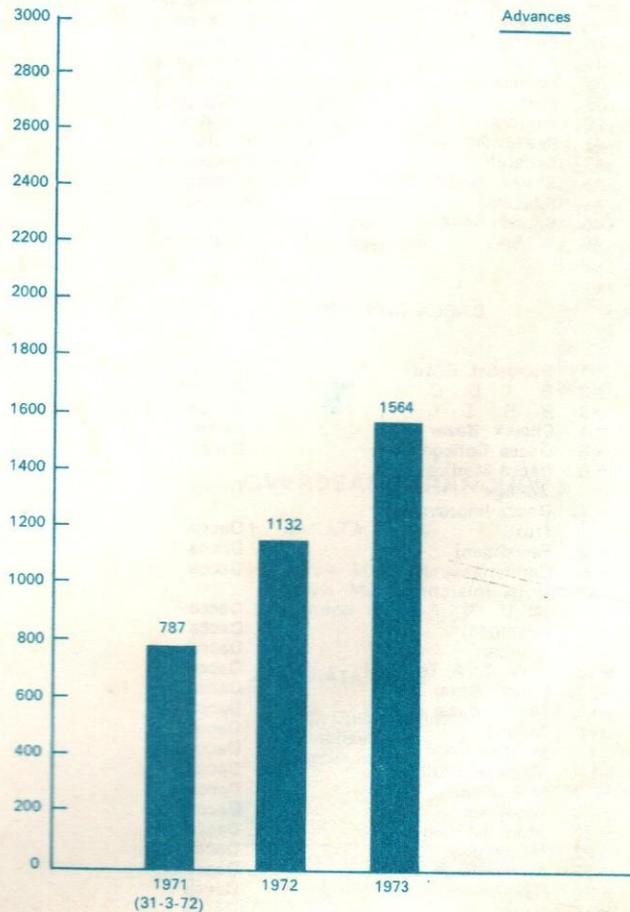
Taka in Million



Taka in Million



Taka in Million



LIST OF BRANCHES

(Total 286 including 2 overseas Branches)

CHITTAGONG ZONE

1. Amir Market	Chittagong
2. Asadganj	Chittagong
3. Barabkund	Chittagong
4. Cantonment	Chittagong
5. Chakaria,	Chittagong
6. Chaktai	Chittagong
7. Chowmohani	Noakhali
8. Cox's Bazar	Chittagong
9. Dagon Bhuiya,	Noakhali
10. Dewanhat	Chittagong
11. Dohazari	Chittagong
12. Dost Building	Chittagong
13. E. I. C. House	Chittagong
14. Fatehpur	Chittagong
15. Fatikchari	Chittagong
16. Feni	Noakhali
17. Hathazari	Chittagong
18. Jubilee Road	Chittagong
19. Kadamtali	Chittagong
20. Kalurghat	Chittagong
21. Kaptai	Ctg. Hill Tracts
22. Kataltali, Rangamati	Ctg. Hill Tracts
23. Khatunganj	Chittagong
24. Korbaniganj	Chittagong
25. Kumira	Chittagong
26. Kutubdia	Chittagong
27. Lakarchar	Chittagong
28. Laldighi East	Chittagong
29. Maizdi Court	Noakhali
30. Mirsarai	Chittagong
31. Municipality	Chittagong
32. Naikkanchari	Ctg. Hill Tracts
33. Nazirhat	Chittagong
34. New Market	Chittagong
35. Pahartali	Chittagong
36. Patenga Road	Chittagong
37. Patiya	Chittagong
38. Pomara	Chittagong
39. Port	Chittagong
40. Raipura	Noakhali
41. Reazuddin Bazar	Chittagong
42. Sadarghat Road	Chittagong
43. Sheikh Mujib Road	Chittagong
44. Sitakund	Chittagong
45. Strand Road	Chittagong
46. WASA	Chittagong

DACCA CITY ZONE

-1. Bangshal Road.	Dacca
✓2. B. I. D. C.	Dacca ✓
✓3. B. R. T. C.	Dacca
✓4. Chawk Bazar	Dacca
✓5. Dacca College Gate	Dacca
-6. Dacca Medical College	Dacca
✓7. Dacca Improvment Trust	Dacca
✓8. Farashganj	Dacca
✓9. Gandaria	Dacca
-10. Hotel Intercontinental	Dacca
-11. Imamganj	Dacca
-12. Islampur	Dacca
✓13. I. W. T. A. Terminal	Dacca
✓14. Luxmi Bazar	Dacca
✓15. Magh Bazar	Dacca
✓16. Mirpur	Dacca
✓17. Mitford Road	Dacca
✓18. Mohammadpur	Dacca
✓19. Mohakhali	Dacca
✓20. Motijheel	Dacca
✓21. Mouchak Market	Dacca
✓22. Mugdapara	Dacca
✓23. Mymensingh Road	Dacca
✓24. Nawabganj	Dacca
✓25. Nawabpur	Dacca

DACCA CITY ZONE

✓26. Nazimuddin Road	Dacca
✓27. New Market	Dacca
✓28. Opposite G. P. O.	Dacca
✓29. Outside New Market	Dacca
✓30. Postha	Dacca
✓31. Purana Paltan	Dacca
✓32. Ramna	Dacca
-33. Raza Chamber, Motijheel	Dacca
-34. Sadarghat	Dacca
-35. Sailpurhat	Dacca
-36. Satmasjid Road	Dacca
✓37. Shantinagar	Dacca
✓38. Tajmahal Road	Dacca
✓39. Tejgaon	Dacca
✓40. Thatari Bazar	Dacca
✓41. Tipusultan Road	Dacca
✓42. Tongi	Dacca
✓43. Topkhana	Dacca
✓44. University Campus	Dacca
✓45. Victoria Park	Dacca
✓46. WAPDA	Dacca
✓47. WASA	Dacca

DACCA ZONE

1. Ashuganj	Comilla
-2. Baidyar Bazar	Dacca
-3. Bangabandhu Road	Narayanganj
✓4. Betka	Dacca
✓5. Bhagyakul	Dacca
6. Bhairab Bazar	Mymensingh ✓
7. Charpara	Mymensingh ✓
✓8. Dhamrai	Dacca
✓9. Fatullah	Narayanganj
✓10. Ghazipur	Dacca
✓11. Ghorashal	Dacca
✓12. Goodnail	Dacca
13. Gouripur Academy Centre.	Mymensingh ✓
14. Haluaghat	Mymensingh ✓
✓15. Hasnabad Bazar	Dacca
16. Islampur	Mymensingh ✓
17. Itna	Mymensingh ✓
18. Jamalpur	Mymensingh ✓
19. Jaria Janjail	Mymensingh ✓
20. Kathiadi	Mymensingh ✓
21. Kishorganj	Mymensingh ✓
22. Kuliarchar	Mymensingh ✓
✓23. Manikganj	Dacca
24. Mohanganj	Mymensingh ✓
✓25. Munshiganj	Dacca
✓26. Murapara	Dacca
✓27. Mymensingh	Mymensingh ✓
28. Nandina	Mymensingh ✓
✓29. Narayanganj Bandar	Dacca
✓30. Narsingdhi	Dacca
✓31. Netaiganj	Narayanganj
32. Netrokona	Mymensingh ✓
✓33. Palash	Dacca
34. Sararchar	Mymensingh ✓
✓35. Shibpur	Dacca
✓36. Syed Ali Chamber	Narayanganj
✓37. Tan Bazar	Narayanganj
38. Tangail	Tangail
39. Tarakanda	Mymensingh ✓

KHULNA ZONE

1. Asasuni	Khulna
2. Bagerhat	Khulna
3. Baliakandi	Faridpur
4. Barisal Chowk Bazar	Barisal
5. Barisal Sadar Road	Barisal
6. Bhojeshwar	Faridpur
7. Bhedarganj	Faridpur
8. Bhola	Barisal

NUMBER OF BRANCHES OF JANATA BANK IN DIFFERENT DISTRICTS OF BANGLADESH



BASIC FACTS ABOUT BANGLADESH

Bangladesh lies between 20°-30' and 26°-45' North latitude and 92°-56' East longitude having an area of 55,126 square miles.

Of the total population of 71 million people 85% is Muslim. Hindus, Buddhists and Christians constitute the rest.

Density of population per square mile in Bangladesh is 1361. The percentage of literacy is 22. Ethnically Bengalees belong to Austro-Mongolian-Dravidian stock.

There are three Topographical Regions here : (1) Hilly and Foothill Region. (2) Coastal Region and (3) Lower Gangetic Region.

The average annual rainfall in Bangladesh varies from 50 inches to 200 inches.

Agriculture is the mainstay of the country's economy. About 80% of the working population is engaged in agriculture. The total area of arable land here is 2,35,51,315 acres of which 2,24,29,865 acres are under cultivation. The principal crops are : Rice, Jute, Tea, Sugarcane, Wheat, Tobacco and various Oil seeds.

Forests cover an area of 5.5 million acres of land in Bangladesh which equals to 16.12% of total area of the country. The Sundarbans form the major portion of the Forestry. In the Sundarbans there are innumerable species of wild life of which the Royal Bengal Tiger and the Spotted Deer deserve special mention. This forest provides 4 Million Tons of Timber and 12 Million Tons of fire wood annually.

Besides the Sundarbans, there are Forests in the districts of Sylhet, Mymensingh and Chittagong Hill Tracts.

Dacca is the capital city of the country with a population of about 2 million. Two seaports, one at Chittagong and the other at Khulna handle the entire import and export cargo. Internal transportation depends on 6000 miles of waterways and approximately 3000 miles of railways. About 14000 buses and trucks which ply on metalled and semi metalled roads also carry men and goods throughout the year. There are 8 airports, 66,000 telephones and 25 daily newspapers in Bangladesh.