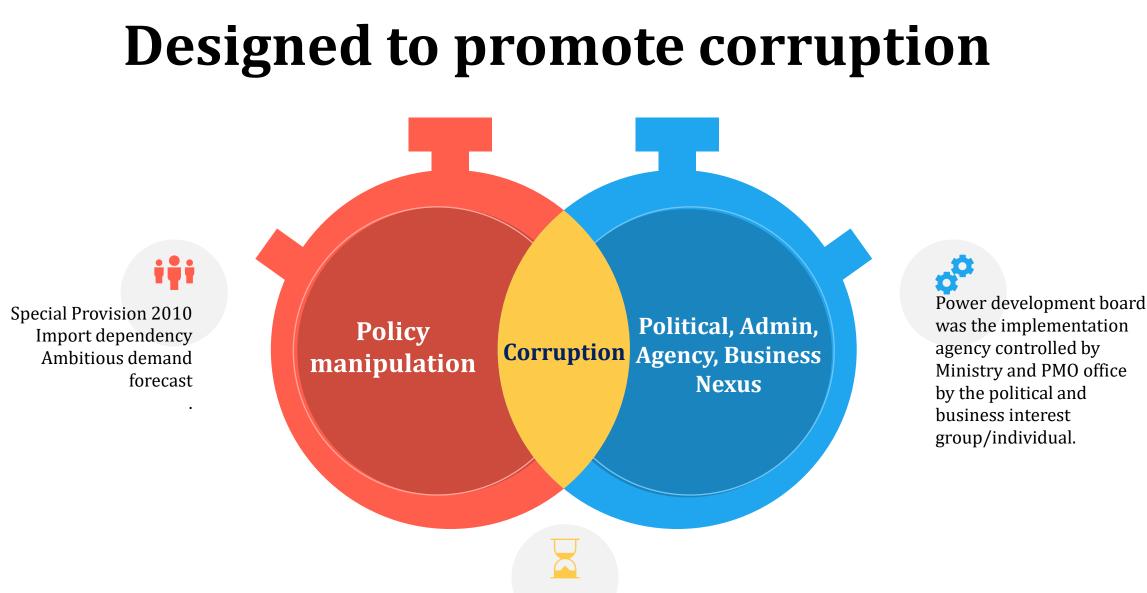
Energy and Power Sector Challenges

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Symposium on White Paper and Thereafter Economic Management, Reforms and National Budget Dhaka: Saturday, 18 January 2024

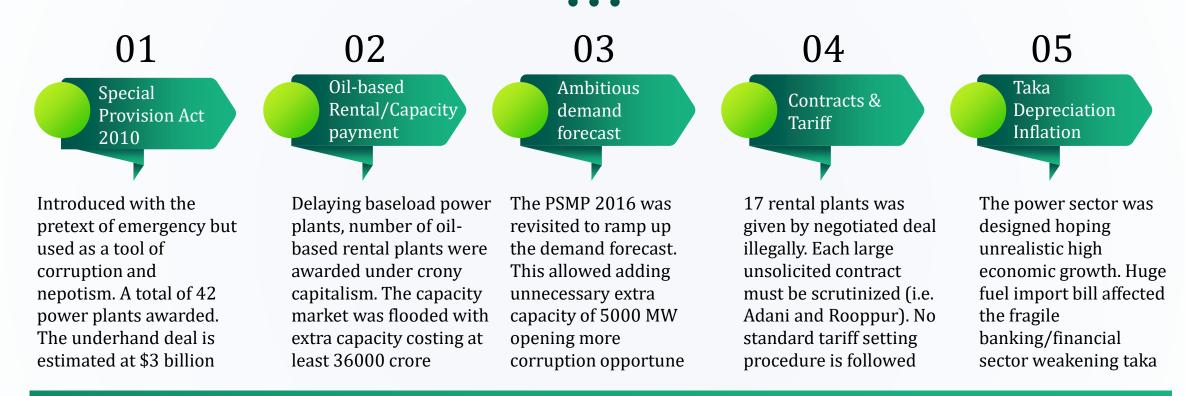


The power nexus manipulated policy for corruption. Maximum illegal transaction took place through underhand dealing. Geopolitical influence in project approval

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Power Sector

Mired by rampant political intervention and corruption





BPDB being the single buyer, planner, executioner, upstream regulator, and producer was easily controlled and manipulated by the ministry and political masters.

Energy Sector

Neglected and mismanaged by poor leadership





Petrobangla being a highly technical organization has been led by bureaucrats for years who has been revolving frequently. The lack of continued technical leadership and trained manpower reduced its capacity to bare minimum.

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Way Forward

Evaluation of current status and a prudent transition plan needed to ensure energy security

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Rigorous onshore/offshore exploration

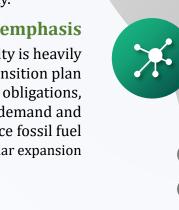
Both onshore and offshore drilling for gas exploration should be opened for international bidding. BAPEX only policy has failed. Coal extraction may be re-examined. Adequate budgetary allocation for gas production maximization is required.

Restructuring power and energy sectors

The concentrated authority of planning, executing, purchasing, upstream regulating make both BPDB and Petrobangla easy target of political manipulation. The planning part must be separated through an independent body.

Transition plan with renewable emphasis

The current power generation capacity is heavily dependent on fossil fuel. A transition plan considering the existing contractual obligations, grid integration, regional and national demand and resources must be taken to reduce fossil fuel dependency. Govt land needed for solar expansion



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Reduce system loss

Gas system loss can only be reduced through new policy adaptation. Metered gas connection at import price may be introduced. Grid upgrading will reduce power system loss.

Cross Border Trading

Import from Indian exchange, Bhutan, Nepal and Myanmar will be beneficial for Bangladesh. Preference may be given to renewable sources. G2B contract like Adani must be reviewed and renegotiated, especially coal price.

Operational efficiency

Proper utilization of base, intermediate and peak load plants along with daytime solar operation will reduce generation cost. The NLDC (system operator) needs modernizing and being independent. BERC must be fully functional according to its mandate

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Thank You



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