

Bangladesh Land Port Authority

OVERVIEW

Bangladesh Land Port Authority (BLPA) came into being under Bangladesh Sthala Bandar Kartipaksha Act, 2001 (Act 20 of 2001) to facilitate and improve import and export between Bangladesh and neighbouring countries. Since inception, Bangladesh Land Port Authority has been functioning under the Ministry of Shipping. So far 23 Land Customs Stations have been declared as Land Ports. Of the declared land ports, 5 namely Benapole, Bhomra, Burimari, Akhaura and Nakugaon are being operated by own management of BLPA. On the other hand, Sonamosjid, Hili, Teknaf, Bibirbazar and Banglabandha Land Ports are being operated by Private Port Operators on BOT (Build, Operate and Transfer) basis. A Private Port Operator has also been appointed to develop and operate Birol Land Port. The development of the remaining 12 land ports (Tamabil, Darshona, Belonia, Gobrakura-Koroitoli, Ramgarh, Sonahat, Chilahati, Tegamukh, Daulatganj, Sheola, Dhanua Kamalpur, Balla) is under process. The total number of approved manpower for BLPA is 315.

Vision: Facilitating export-import through land routes.

Mission: Infrastructure development, efficient cargo handling, improvement of storage facilities, fostering public-private partnership for effective and better service delivery.

Activities of BLPA:

- (1) Formulating policy for development, management expansion, operation and maintenance of all land ports;
- (2) Engaging operators for receiving, maintaining and dispatching cargoes at land ports;
- (3) Preparing schedule of tariffs, tolls, rates and fees chargeable to the port users having prior approval of the government;
- (4) Executing contracts with any person to fulfill the objectives of the Act.
- (5) Exchanging opinions and communicating with the related countries with the land ports and developing infrastructures as well as extending trade through co-operation of the organizations concerned to national and international trades for developing and running the port activities smoothly.

Land Ports at a glance

Operated by BLPA

1. Benapole Land Port

Bangladesh side:	Benapole, Sharsha, Jessore
Indian side:	Petrapole, Bongaon, 24-Parganas, West Bengal, India
Operator:	Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration:	12/01/2002
Date of operation:	February 01, 2002
Storage capacity:	40,000 MT
Total land area:	61.7052 Acre

Infrastructure:	Warehouse-32, Warehouse-cum-yard-5, Open stack yard-2, Transshipment yard-1, Transshipment Shed-2, Truck Terminal (import & export)-2, Weighbridge scale-1 (50 MT), Weighbridge scale-2 (30 MT) & Weighbridge scale-3 (100 MT), International Passenger Terminal, International Bus Terminal, Administrative and residential buildings, fire brigade, standby power generator, Observation towers, Lighting and water supply & sewerage system in operational areas, Security posts, Boundary wall. Warehouse-2 Nos under construction Transshipment Shed- 4 Nos under construction
Manpower:	Administrative personnel 123 Security personnel: 242 (APBN: 22; Ansar: 149; Private security: 71) Handling labour (manual) 2,000
Handling capacity:	Manual 1.20 mln MT (yearly) Equipment 0.80 mln MT (yearly) Total 2.00 mln MT (yearly) (by crane and forklifts of various capacities)
Principal Imports:	Cotton, chemical, motor car, motor cycle, tyre-tube, machinery & spare parts, food grains, fish, spices, sugar, egg, aluminum, refrigerator, paper etc.
Principal exports:	Jute & jute goods, fish, soap, plastic goods, battery, construction materials etc.
Problems:	On an average daily 200-250 Nos. of trucks carrying export goods are assembled at Benapole Land Port under Jessore District. But generally 100-150 Nos. of trucks are cleared by the Indian side leaving the rest trucks tail backed at our end. This causes heavy traffic congestion at the port area. Except this, the cost of export is increased due to demurrage charges by the transport agencies for the delayed delivery of export cargoes.

2. Burimari Land Port

Bangladesh side:	Burimari, Patgram, Lalmonirhat
Indian side:	Changrabandha, Mekhaliganj, West Bengal, India
Operator:	Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration:	12/01/2002
Date of operation:	April 09, 2010
Storage capacity:	2,000 MT
Land area:	11.15 Acre
Infrastructure:	Warehouse-2, Transit Shed-1, Transshipment Shed- 2 (under construction), Pavement-1, Drainage system (under construction), Fire hydredent system 1 unit, Open stack yard-2, Transshipment yard-1, Weigh bridge scale-1 Administrative buildings, Labour shed, Standby power generator, Observation towers, Lighting and water supply & sewerage system in operational areas, Security posts, Boundary wall
Manpower:	Administrative personnel 11 Security personnel 19 Handling labour (manual) 800
Handling capacity:	0.50 mln MT (manual-yearly)
Principal Imports:	Goods are mainly imported from Bhutan. Under a mutual arrangement the Bhutanese trucks are allowed to ply through India to Burimari zero line to unload goods. Imported items are rice, wheat, lentil, onion, fruits, tobacco, stone, railway concrete slipper etc.
Principal exports:	Waste fabrics, glass sheet, food products, medicine, net fabrics, battery etc.

3. Akhaura Land Port

Bangladesh side:	Akhaura, Brahmbaria
Indian side:	Ramnagar, Agartala, Tripura, India
Operator:	Bangladesh Land Port Authority

Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
 Date of operation: August 13, 2010
 Storage capacity: 2,000 MT
 Total land area: 15.00 Acre
 Infrastructure: Warehouse-1, Open stack yard-1, Transshipment yard-1, Weigh bridge-1 (100 (MT), Standby power generator, Administrative semi-pucca building, Standby power generator, Lighting, Security posts, Boundary wall etc.
 Manpower: Administrative personnel 09
 Security personnel 7
 Handling labour (manual) 200
 Handling capacity: 500,000 MT (manual-yearly)
 Principal Imports: Bamboo, Turmeric, Watch, Ginger, Marble slab, Fruits etc.
 Principal exports: Processed Stone, Bricks, Tiles, Fish, Cement, Battery, Furniture, Glass sheet, etc.
 Problems: The quality of export items are being checked at Shillong causing undue delay. If the arrangement is made to check the quality of the export items at Agartala, it will help save time in exporting Bangladeshi goods.

4. Bhomra Land Port

Bangladesh side: Sadar Upazila, Satkhira
 Indian side: Gojadanga, 24-Parganas, West Bengal, India
 Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
 Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
 Date of operation: 19 May, 2013
 Total land area: 15.7298 Acre
 Handling labour (manual): 1,800 Persons
 Infrastructure: The development works of the port has been completed under a development project of costing Tk. 2085.00 lakh under ADP. The present structures are: Warehouses-2, Transshipment Shed-1, Open stack yard-4, Transshipment yard-1, Weighbridge-2 (100 (MT), Standby power generator, Administrative building, Barrack, Lighting, Security posts, Observation tower, Boundary wall, Drainage etc.
 Manpower: 07
 Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through on transshipment basis. The authority is very much optimistic that with the increase of volume of trade the importers avail the storage facilities available at the port.

5. Nakugaon Land Port

Bangladesh side: Nalitabari, Sherpur
 Indian side: Dalu, Barangapara, Meghalaya, India
 Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
 Date of declaration: 30/09/2010
 Date of operation: 18/06/2015
 Land area: 13.46 Acre
 Infrastructure: Warehouse-1, Office building-1, Dormitory-1, Barack-1, Power house-1, Transshipment yard-1, Open yard-1, Toilet complex-1, Watch tower-3.
 Manpower: Post creation is under process
 Current status: The port has started its operation from 18th June 2015.

6. Tamabil Land Port

Bangladesh side: Goainghat, Sylhet
 Indian side: Dauki, Shillong, Meghalaya, India
 Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority

Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
Date of operation: Yet to start
Land area: 14.72+9.00 = 23.72 Acre
Infrastructure: A development project is under implementation construction of boundary wall, yard, warehouse and land development is under the project.
Manpower: 10
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station (LCS) on transshipment basis.

7. Darshana Land Port

Bangladesh side: Damurhuda, Chuadanga
Indian side: Gede, Krishnanagar, West Benga, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Step has not been taken to develop infrastructure as there is no road linkage with the port and hence seems to be not feasible to make it operational. Final decision is awaited.
Manpower: 08
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station (LCS) by railway.

8. Belonia Land Port

Bangladesh side: Belonia, Feni
Indian side: Belonia, Tripura, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 23/02/2009
Land area: Land acquisition is under process)
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure of BLPA. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after the completion of land acquisition.
Manpower: 08
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station.

9. Gobrakura-Karaitali Land Port

Bangladesh side: Haluaghat, Mymensingh
Indian side: Gachhuapara, Tura, Meghalaya, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 14/06/2010
Land area: a) Gobrakura: 22.95 Acre (acquisition is under process)
b) Karaitali: 14.73 Acre (acquisition is under process)
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure as soon as the possession the land is handed over to the port authority after completing all necessary formalities with regard to the acquisition.
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station.

10. Ramgarh Land Port

Bangladesh side: Ramgarh, Khagrachhari
Indian side: Sabroom, Tripura, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 07/11/2010
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process

Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructures as yet. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure as soon as the possession the land is handed over to the port authority after completing all necessary formalities with regard to the acquisition.
Current status: The Indian authority yet to finalize the site for construction of bridge over the river Feni to connect Ramgarh Land Port. The Bangladesh authority is in close touch with the Indian side in the matter.

11. Sonahat Land Port

Bangladesh side: Bhurungamari, Kurigram
Indian side: Sonahat, Dhubri, Assam, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 25/10/2012
Land area: 14.68 Acre
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure has been built has yet. A development project costing Tk. 3650.00 lac is under implementation.
Current status: The LC station was declared as land port on October 25, 2012.

12. Tegamukh Land Port

Bangladesh side: Tegamukh, Barkal, Rangamati
Indian side: Demagri, Mizoram, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 30/06/2013
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after completing all necessary formalities with regard to land acquisition.
Current status: The LC station has just been declared as land port on 30/06/2013. The import and export activities are halted by the Customs authority since long. Step is taken to lift the ban on import and export through this port.

13. Chilahati Land Port

Bangladesh side: Chilahati, Domar, Nilphamari
Indian side: Holdibari, Cooch Behar, West Bengal, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 28/07/2013
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after completing all necessary formalities with regard to land acquisition.
Current status: The LC station has just been declared as land port on 28/07/2013. The import and export activities are halted by the Customs authority since long. Step is taken to lift the ban on import and export through this port.

14. Daulatganj Land Port

Bangladesh side: Daulatganj, Jibon Nagar, Chuadanga
Indian side: Mazdia, Nadia, West Bengal, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 31/07/2013
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after completing all necessary formalities with regard to land acquisition.

Current status: The LC station has just been declared as land port on 31/07/2013. The import and export activities are halted by the Customs authority since long. Step is taken to lift the ban on import and export through this port.

15. Dhanua Kamalpur Land Port

Bangladesh side: Bokshigonj, Jamalpur
Indian side: Mohendragonj, Ampoti, Meghalaya, India
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 21/05/2015
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after completing all necessary formalities with regard to land acquisition.
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station.
A DPP is under process for approval.

16. Sheola Land Port

Bangladesh side: Sheola, Bianibazar, Sylhet
Indian side: Sutarkandi, Karimganj, Assam
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 30/06/2015
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after completing all necessary formalities with regard to land acquisition.
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station.
A DPP is under process for approval.

17. Balla Land Port

Bangladesh side: Balla, Chunarughat, Hobiganj
Indian side: Paharmura, Khoai, Tripura
Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority
Date of declaration: 23/03/2016
Land area: Acquisition of land is under process
Date of operation: Yet to start
Infrastructure: No infrastructure. Steps will be taken to develop infrastructure after the approval of DPP
Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station
A DPP is under process for approval.

Operated under BOT (Build, Operated & Transfer) basis

1. Sonamasjid Land Port

Bangladesh side:	Shibganj, Chapai Nawabganj
Indian side:	Mahadipur, Maldah, West Bengal, India
Operator (on BOT basis):	Panama Sonamosjid Port Link Ltd.
Date of declaration:	12/01/2002
Date of operation:	December 27, 2006
Date of signing of Concession Agreement with the Operator:	October 09, 2005
Commercial Operation Date (COD):	May 20, 2010
Royalty from operator:	Fixed: Tk. 30,00 lakh Variable: 49% of gross revenue income
Storage capacity:	1,000 MT
Land area:	19.13 Acre
Infrastructure:	Warehouse-5, Transshipment Shed-1, Warehouse-2, RCC Road & Barack Building-1 are under construction Open stack yard-2, Transshipment yard-2, Weigh bridge-3 (100 (MT), Standby power generator, Administrative building, dormitory, Standby power generator, Lighting, Security posts, Observation tower, Boundary wall etc.
Handling capacity:	2.0 mln MT (manual-yearly)
Principal imports:	Rice, Wheat, Onion, Fruits, Fly ash etc.
Principal exports:	Jute & Jute goods, Cement, Battery, etc.
Problems:	There is ample opportunity of exporting agri-products through Sonamosjid Land Port. But due to absence of quarantine facilities at the Indian side, Bangladeshi exporters face difficulties in exporting agri-products.
Manpower:	10

2. Hili Land Port

Bangladesh side:	Hili, Hakimpur, Dinajpur
Indian side:	Hili, South Dinajpur, West Bengal, India
Operator (on BOT basis):	Panama Hili Port Link Ltd.
Date of declaration:	12/01/2002
Date of operation:	November 26, 2007
Date of signing of Concession Agreement with the Operator:	October 09, 2005
Commercial Operation Date (COD):	January 01, 2012
Royalty from operator:	Fixed: Tk. 14.25 lakh/per annum (from 3 rd anniversary of COD) Variable: 49% of gross revenue income
Storage capacity:	2,000 MT
Land area:	21.86 Acre
Infrastructure:	Warehouse-4, Open stack yard-1, Transshipment yard-1, Truck terminal-1, Weigh bridge-1, Standby power generator, Administrative building, Standby power generator, Lighting, Security posts, Observation tower, Boundary wall etc.
Handling capacity:	1.00 mln MT (manual-yearly)
Principal imports:	Rice, Wheat, Onion, Fruits, Fish, Maize etc.
Principal exports:	Molases, Cement, Battery, etc.
Manpower:	10

3. Banglabandha Land Port

Bangladesh side: Tetulia, Panchagarh
Indian side: Fulbari, Jalpaiguri, West Bengal, India
Operator (on BOT basis): Banglabandha Land Port Ltd.
Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
Date of signing of
with the Operator: October 09, 2005
Concession Agreement

Partial Commercial

Operation Date (PCOD): January 22, 2011

Commercial

Operation Date (COD): January 01, 2014

Royalty from operator: Fixed: Tk. 5.00 lakh/per annum (from 1st anniversary of COD)
Variable: 31.26% of gross revenue income

Storage capacity: 500 MT

Total land area: 10.4822 Acre

Infrastructure: Warehouse-2, Open stack yard-1, Truck terminal-1, Weighbridge scale-2, Standby power generator, Administrative building, Dormitory building, Barrack house, Standby power generator, Lighting, Security posts, Boundary wall etc. Transshipment shed-1 under construction.

Handling capacity: 0.5 mln MT (manual-yearly)

Principal imports: Imported items are Lentil, Wheat, Onion, Fruits, etc.

Principal exports: Jute, Glass sheet, Medicine, Food products etc.

SOP: Under the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) signed between the two countries, the loaded trucks of both countries are allowed to unload goods crossing the zero line.

Problem: There is no immigration through this port, although all necessary facilities are available at this end.

It will be very helpful for the travelers of both countries, if the immigration facilities are provided at this point from both sides.

Manpoer: 10

4. Teknaf Land Port

Bangladesh side: Teknaf, Cox's Bazar
Myanmar side: Mungdu, Myanmar
Operator (on BOT basis): United Land Port Teknaf Ltd.

Date of declaration: 12/01/2002

Date of operation: November 01, 2006

Date of signing of
Concession Agreement

with the Operator: August 31, 2006

Commercial Operation

Date (COD): July 01, 2012

Royalty from operator: Fixed: Tk. 10.00 lakh/per annum (from 1st anniversary of COD)
Variable: 28.09% of gross revenue income

Storage capacity: 1,000 MT

Total land area: 24.00 Acre

Infrastructure: Warehouse-2, Open stack yard-1, Transit shed-1, Truck parking yard-2, Weighbridge scale-1, Standby power generator, Administrative building (three storied), Barrack house, Dormitory (four storied), Passenger jetty, Passenger terminal, Cargo jetty-5, Pontoon-3, Cold storage, Standby power generator, Lighting, Rest house, labour shed, canteen, mosque, boundary wall etc.

Handling capacity: 300,000 MT (manual-yearly)

Principal imports: Lentil, spice, fish, wood, shoe, bamboo, leather, umbrella, betel nut etc.

Principal exports: Cement, readymade garments, potato, egg, hair, aluminum products, plastic goods etc.

Problems: The tourist ships plying to and from Teknaf and St. Martin using the own built jetties instead of the jetty constructed by the Port for this purpose. This ultimately deprives the Port and government from its due revenue. The DC Cox's Bazar may direct the ship operators to use the passenger jetty of the Teknaf port.

Manpower: 08

5. Bibirbazar Land Port

Bangladesh side: Sadar Upazila, Comilla
Indian side: Srimantapur, Sunamura, Agartala, Tripura
Operator (on BOT basis): Shefferd Comilla Land Port Ltd.
Date of declaration: 18/11/2002
Date of operation: April 23, 2009
Date of signing of Concession Agreement with the Operator: October 09, 2005
Commercial Operation Date (COD): August 29, 2010
Royalty from operator: Fixed: Tk. 6.65 lakh/per annum (from 3rd anniversary of COD)
Variable: 15.01% of gross revenue income
Storage capacity: 500 MT
Land area: 10.00 Acre
Infrastructure: Warehouse-1, Open stack yard-1, Administrative building, Barrack house, Lighting, labour shed, boundary wall etc.
Handling capacity: 0.5 mln MT (manual-yearly)
SOP: Under the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) signed between two countries, the loaded trucks of both countries are allowed to unload goods crossing the zero line.
Principal imports: Spices, sanitary ware, leather, machinery, fabric, fruit etc.
Principal exports: Crashed stone, cement, drinks, PVC, furniture, knit fabrics, plastic door, ceramic tiles, cotton sharee, plastic goods etc.
Manpower: 08

6. Birol Land Port

Bangladesh side: Birol, Dinajpur
Indian side: Radhikapur (Goura), West Bengal, India
Operator (on BOT basis): Birol Land Port Ltd.
Date of declaration: 12/01/2002
Date of signing of Concession Agreement with the Operator: October 22, 2006
Land area: 17.54 Acre
Date of land handed over: October 22, 2006
Royalty from operator: Fixed: Tk. 5.00 lakh/per annum (from 3rd anniversary of COD)
Variable: 7.77% of gross revenue income
Infrastructure: No infrastructure
Present status: Port development activities not yet started by the port operator as there is no railway and road communication facility. About 3.5 km road link is needed to be constructed for functioning of the land port.
Manpower: 06

Proposed Land Ports

1. Mujibnagar Land Customs Station

Bangladesh side: Mujibnagar, Meherpur

Indian side: Hridoypur, Chapra, Nadia, West Bengal

Current status: The National Board of Revenue (NBR) has declared it (erstwhile Baidyanathtala) as LC station through a notification of 11 June, 2009. But the LC Station could not start its operation due to imposition of ban by NBR on import and export of some specific goods through this gateway. However, recently NBR has been requested to lift the said ban and take up the matter with the Indian side to establish LC Station at their side. BLPA will go ahead to declare the same as land port and take steps to acquire land and development project for constructing infrastructure facilities with a view to start operation as a full fledged port.

2. Pragpur Land Customs Station

Bangladesh side: Daulatpur, Kushtia

Indian side: Shikarpur, Karimpur, South Dinajpur

Current status: Presently there is no Land Customs Station (LCS) at this point NBR has been requested to check the feasibility of opening LCS at Pragpur. If NBR agrees to open LCS at this point and issue SRO to this effect, BLPA will go ahead to declare the same as land port and take steps to acquire land and development project for constructing infrastructure facilities with a view to start operation of the port.

Nakugaon Land Port

Bangladesh side: Nalitabari, Sherpur

Indian side: Dalu, Barangapara, Meghalaya, India

Operator: Bangladesh Land Port Authority

Date of declaration: 30/09/2010

Date of operation: Yet to start

Land area: 10.55 Acre

Infrastructure: The development works of the port has been completed recently under a development project costing Tk. 156.8 mln under ADP.

Current status: Presently the imports and exports are done through Land Customs Station (LCS) on transshipment basis. The port has been set to start its operation from 18th June 2015.

Development Activities

On going Project:

Sl. No.	Project Name	Implementation	Project Cost (In lac taka)	Progress (%) / In lac taka up to June	Current Year allocation (In lac taka)	Current year progress
1	Development of Tamabil Land Port	July'14 to June'17	6926.24	28.90% (2002.00)	2000.00	-
2	Development of Sonahat Land Port (Special revised)	July'15 to June'18	3943.26	11.31% (446.00)	900.00	-
3	SASEC Road Connectivity of Bengapole & Burimari	July'13 to December'16	16803.710	7.74% (1301.00)	2300.00	149.84

	Land Port					
4	Construction of Head Office Building of Bangladesh Land Port Authority at She-e-Banglanagar, Agargaon, Dhaka	July'17 to December'18	3450.00	-	5.00	-

Proposed Projects:

Sl. No.	Project Name	Implementation	Project Cost	Present Status
1.	Development of Belonia Land Port	July'16 to June'19	3285.50	The Project is now in under approval proecess at Planning Commission
2.	Development of Balla Land Port	July'16 to June'19	6000.00	Do
3.	Development of Gobrakura-Koroitoli Land Port	July'16 to June'19	6738.68	Do
4.	Development of Dhanua Kamalpur Land Port	Oct'16 to June'19	2490.00	Do
5.	Bangladesh Regional Connectivity Project: Development of Sheola & Bhomra Land Port and Safety Security and Automation of Benapole Land Port	July'17 to June'21	39297.18	Do