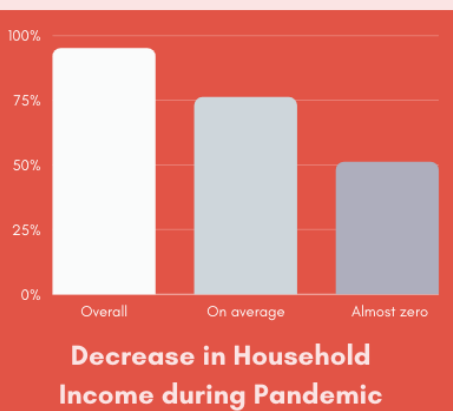


# SIGNIFICANCE OF ENHANCING SOCIAL SAFETY NET PROGRAMS

A COVID-19 Series by BIPSS



Social Safety Net Programs (SSNPs) are predominant social protection strategy to address different vulnerabilities, poverty reduction and socio-economic risks. The twin health crisis and economic shocks due to COVID-19 Pandemic have enhanced the necessity of SSNPs more in Bangladesh.



Budget Allocation for Social Safety Net Sector:  
**FY21: 955.74 Billion**  
Increased by 2.8%

16.83% of Total Proposed Budget  
3.01% of GDP.



**79 Lakh** Beneficiaries at present.  
**16.25 Lakh** more to be added next year.

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT DURING PANDEMIC: WHY SOCIAL SAFETY NET IS ESSENTIAL?



Increase in Child Marriage & Violence against Women



Social Instability: Urban to Rural shifting



Increase in Child labour & drop-out rate in Education sector.



Increase of discrimination towards social class minority.



Loss of Employment



Decrease in Household expenditure



Decrease in Quality of Livelihood



Rise of "New Poor": many people under Poverty Line

## Recommendation



Proper access to Health-care facilities for all.



Rethinking the scope of vulnerable targeting.



Inclusive & Productive Employment Opportunities



Recovery & Rehabilitation plans for the "New Poor".



Stimulus incentives with Blanket Coverage policy.



Educational relief aid to vulnerable student population