

# A Presentation on FERB

**SAFEJ Seminar**  
**October 19-22, 2003**  
**Dhaka, Bangladesh**



# Forum for Energy Reporters, Bangladesh FERB

- Bangladesh energy sector is resourceful, but faces problem.
- Like other developed and developing countries it deserves due priority.
- Free flow of energy information is not available although the sector needs to be presented properly.

- Energy journalists find it difficult to aware people of optimum utilization of energy resources due to lack of information.
- FERB was formed on November 27, 2000 with the commitment to enrich the journalists with energy information and related issues.

- FERB attained the attention of civil society through developing public opinion on energy issues.
- FERB brought a change in the mindset of policy level.

# Objective and Goal

- Organize short & mid term training program on energy reporting.
- Develop skill for objective and analytical report on energy issues.
- Improve the skill of energy journalists and encourage them to contribute for greater national interest.

- Disseminate information among themselves, strengthen their internal and external relationship.

# Organizational Structure

- Office : Dhaka
- Chairman : 1
- Vice Chairman : 1
- Executive Director : 1
- Directors : 4
- Executive Members : 2

- Executive Committee is formed for two years in general meeting through direct vote.
- Members : 55

# Chronological Development

- Formation on November 27, 2000.
- A 9-member convening committee headed by Mr. Kashem Humayun drafted the constitution and organized the first GM on February 10, 2002.

## The nine member executive committee elected in the GM

Chairman	:	Mr. Badiul Alam, News Today
Vice Chairman	:	Mr. Akram Hossain Khan, Ittefaq
Executive Director	:	Mr. Mollah Amzad Hossain, Energy & Power
Director (Research & Training)	:	Mr. Sagor Sarwar, Ittefaq
Director (Finance & Dev.)	:	Mr. Serajul Islam Qadir, Manab Zamin
Director (Data Bank)	:	Mr. Zahid Nawaz Jewel, UNB
Director (Entertainment & Welfare)	:	Mrs. Shahnaj Begum, Independent
Executive Members	:	Mr. Kashem Humayan, Sangbad Mr. Masumur Rahman Khalili, Inqilab

# FERB Activities

February 19, 2002

- FERB exchanged views with Mr. AKM Mosharraf Hossain, State Minister for Energy on gas export issue. The minister explained government position on the highly sensitive agenda.

May 24, 2002

FERB exchanged views with Mr. Iqbal Hassan Mahmood, State Minister of Power on the problems & prospects of Bangladesh power sector.

October 7, 2002

FERB organized a day long workshop on Gas Resource and Economic Development concentrating on export issue. Government leaders, opposition politicians, economists, energy experts, noted journalists & academicians participated in the workshop.

February 18, 2003

BP & FERB jointly organized a workshop on Fuel Quality.

March 10, 2003

Decision taken in Extra Ordinary General Meeting of FERB to register it under Company Act.

April 9, 2003

FERB organized a workshop on Energy Security of Bangladesh in the context of Middle East war. State Ministers for Energy and Power explaining government preparedness.

May 1, 2003

FERB organized “Energy Night” as a get together of energy journalists and other energy sector stake holders.

## May 20, 2003

FERB & BP jointly organized a discussion meeting on Energy Regulatory Commission. State Minister for Energy and energy experts participated in lively discussion.

## June 15, 2003

BP & FERB organized a discussion meeting on restructuring and other issues of power sector.

September 2, 2003

Organized a daylong training workshop on Reporting of Power Sector Issues.

September 21, 2003

BP & FERB organized a workshop on Deepwater Drilling. Experts of ONGC, India presented a paper on their practical experience.

# FERB Way Forward

FERB is working on a energy data bank. Primarily on Bangladesh and eventually on South Asia and beyond

FERB endeavoring for greater co-operation among of South Asian Energy Journalists for setting up of a dynamic energy reporters forum

The forum would ensure free flow of information regarding energy resources, infrastructures, projected demand, enhanced efficiency, transparency and accountability, organize regional seminars