

Review of Research Studies on Corporate Social and Environmental Accounting in Bangladesh

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Abstract: In Bangladesh research on Corporate Social and Environmental Accounting (CSEA) started in 1997 and since then numerous studies have been undertaken. Yet, the adoption of CSEA in Bangladesh is in infancy level. The present attempted to review the past research works on CSEA on Bangladesh for exploring the nature, methodology and major findings of the past research works. The study found that almost 90% research studies were on corporate social and environmental disclosures (CSED) and most of them used content analysis method. There are few studies on stakeholder's views on CSEA and CSED. The study will help the present and future researchers in defining research problems accurately and methodology for doing research on CSEA on Bangladesh. The study will assist future researchers as the source of studies in Bangladesh on CSER/CSED. The concerned authority will get information in making policy and guidelines in this regard of Bangladesh.

Key words: Social and environmental accounting in Bangladesh, past research studies, nature, methodology and findings of past studies, studies need for Bangladesh.

Introduction: Social accounting is the process of communicating the social and environmental effects of organizations' economic actions to particular interest groups within society and to society at large. As such it involves extending the accountability of organizations (particularly companies), beyond the traditional role of providing a financial account to the owners of capital, in particular, shareholders (Gray, 1987). In Bangladesh this concept came to the academicians in 1997 through a study of A. R. Belal in 1997 and since then many studies have been completed by different scholars. The core objective of the study is to explore the nature, methodology, findings and suggestions of past research work on CSEA and to recommend what kinds of research we need for better adoption of CSEA in Bangladesh. The study confined to published research works on different national and international research journals and unpublished thesis. The researcher review the studies on three aspects: viz.(i) area/objective(s) of studies; (ii) method(s) used in the studies (iii) findings and suggestions of the studies.

Advancement of Researches of CSEA in Bangladesh: An in depth search of related journals and websites of CSEA witnessed that research on CSEA started in Bangladesh in 1997 and since then the efforts of scholars are continuing. The year wise number of research studies is given below:

Table-1: Year-wise research studies on CSEA in Bangladesh

Sl. No.	Year	No of studies	Cumulative No of studies	Sl. No.	Year	No of studies	Cumulative No of studies
1	1997	1	1	10	2006	2	17
2	1998	1	2	11	2007	1	18
3	1999	5	7	12	2008	2	20
4	2000	2	9	13	2009	4	24
5	2001	1	10	14	2010	5	29
6	2002	0	10	15	2011	5	34
7	2003	1	11	16	2012	6	40
8	2004	0	11	17	2013	12	52
9	2005	4	15	18	Total	52	52

Table- 1 clarified that total 52 research studies have been undertaken by different researchers on different aspects on CSEA in Bangladesh. The trend is given in Figure-1

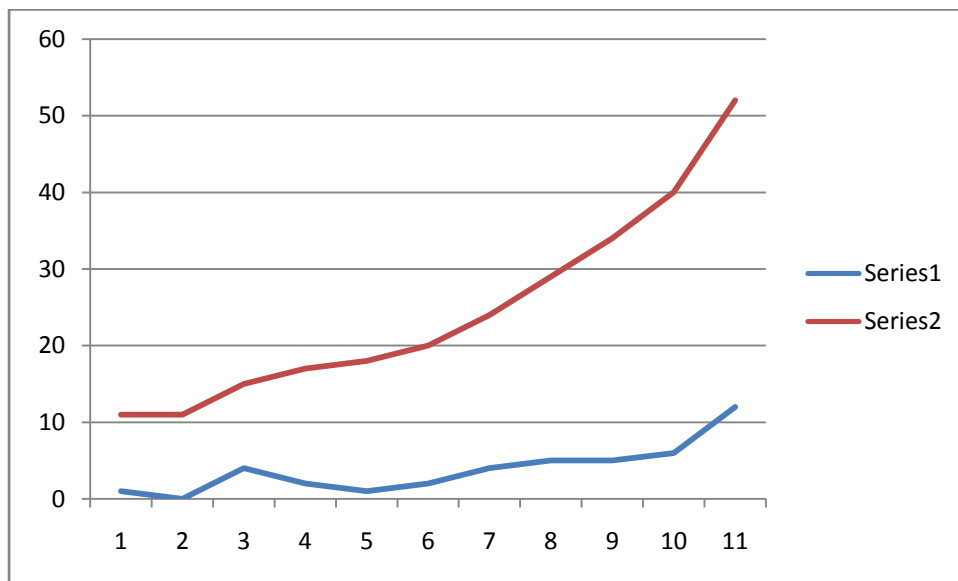


Fig-1: Trend of past studies in Bangladesh

Review of Past Research Works: Under this part the past research works on CSEA have been reviewed on four aspects-(i) Areas of research ; (ii) methods used by the researchers; (iii) findings of the research and (iv) suggestions of the researchers. The study period has been divided into six intervals for easy understanding.

Area covered in the research studies: - During 1997-1999: Four researchers conducted seven studies during this period. The first study was undertaken by Belal (1997) on CSEA to explore the status and practices of green reporting in Bangladesh in the global context. Belal *et al.* (1998) identified the adverse of environmental impacts from industrial pollution in Bangladesh. Belal (1999) made

an empirical study on corporate social and environmental disclosure (CSED) in Bangladesh in the annual reports to identify the relationship between CSED and financial performance of the enterprises. In another study Belal (1999,b) investigated the CSED practices in Bangladesh. Solaiman and Belal (1999) explored the sustainable development process in Bangladesh to identify the major challenges for this process and to found the motivating factors behind this. Imam (1999) conducted a study on CSR practices in Bangladesh through analyzing the annual reports of listed companies in SEC of Bangladesh. Khan and Belal (1999) critically reviewed the environmental protection act 1995 of Bangladesh to find out the gap between speechifying and the real performance of the environmental institutions. Therefore, during the period 1997-99 most of the research activities were on empirical and focused on the status of CSR, CSEA and CSED. A single study was done Khan and Belal in 1999 to clarify the gap between oratory and the real performance of the environmental institutions in Bangladesh. **During 2000-2002:** Total three studies were undertaken by two scholars during this period. Belal (2000) contributed an empirical evidence on environmental reporting practices of developing countries with special reference to Bangladesh taking annual reports of 30 pc companies for the year 1996. Imam (2000) explored the corporate social reporting practices in Bangladesh under the hypothesis that the companies are socially aware to emancipation their social obligations for the well being of the society. Belal(2001)made another explorative study on corporate social disclosures in Bangladesh based on small sample in order to provide a preliminary indication of the quantity and nature of CSR practices in Bangladesh and to investigate the background in which social disclosures are taking place . Therefore all the studies were empirical and emphasized on the state of affairs of CSED in Bangladesh. It is notable that studies during 1997-to-1999 and 2000-2002 are almost same in nature. **During 2003-2005:** During this period five studies were conducted on CSED in Bangladesh. Bala and Yusuf (2003) made an empirical comprehensive study on the environmental reporting practices in Bangladesh taking the annual reports of 249 companies for the year 2001. Shil and Masum (2005) examined the practices of CSED of listed companies in DSE using annual reports of 121 companies. Islam et al (2005) examined the CSED of Bangladeshi public limited companies to explore a very recent environmental disclosure practices in Bangladeshi public traded companies and to investigate differences in the quality of environmental disclosure between industry types and between company sizes. Rahman and Muttakin (2005) surveyed the annual reports for the year 200-04 of 125 manufacturing companies listed on the CSE as on May 7, 2005 to find out the CSED practices. Islam (2005) aimed to explore the differences in quality of CSED in terms of types and size of industry. Therefore, all the studies during the period are almost similar in nature. All of them have given emphasis on CSED practices by listed companies in Bangladesh in their studies and there are no fundamental differences from the previous studies during 1997-2002.**During 2006-2008:** There were five studies during this period. Hossain et al (2006) conducted an explorative study on CSED of developing countries with reference to Bangladesh to investigate the nature and extent of CSED made by Bangladeshi companies in their annual reports. They examined the relationship between CSED and several corporate financial and managerial attributes. Bose (2006) found the environmental reporting status in Fossil Fuel Sector in Bangladesh. Belal and Own (2007) made an empirical study on the views of corporate managers on the current state of, and future prospects for, social reporting in Bangladesh to examine the perception of a group of senior managers towards the emerging phenomenon of CSR in Bangladesh. Dutta and Bose (2008) made an explorative study to investigate the utilization of corporate websites for

communicating corporate environmental information by the listed companies of Bangladesh of 104 companies for three month period. Islam and Degan (2008) made a study on motivations for an organization to report social responsibility information in Bangladesh in order to describe and explain CSED practices of major garment export organization of Bangladesh. Therefore three studies have considered the CSED practices in Bangladesh and almost same in nature while two studies extended view of CSED in Bangladesh and they have considered the corporate managers' view and motivation for practicing CSED. **During 2009-11:** There were fourteen studies during this period. Sobhani *et al.* (2009) explored the practices of CSED and the state of CSED in Bangladesh after reviewing the socio-economic and political scenario of Bangladesh. Deegan and Islam (2009) investigated how social and environmental NGOs used the news media to create changes in the operations and associated accountabilities of multinational companies operating in or sourcing products from Bangladesh. Islam and Mathews (2009) disclosed the Grameen Bank's social performance disclosure to identify the responses to a negative assessment by Wall Street Journal in late 2001. Islam (2009) completed his Ph. d on social and environmental reporting practices of organizations operating in or sourcing products from Bangladesh. He explored the CSED practices of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA) and examined how the media strategically used to create change in CSED practices. Islam (2010) made a study focusing on social and environmental accounting research to identify major contributions and future directions for developing countries. Belal and Roberts (2010) examined the stakeholder perception of CSED to identify the recent works on stakeholders' theory and CSR reporting and to observe the perception of divers set of non managerial stakeholders in the context of a developing country particularly in Bangladesh. Belal and Cooper (2010) identified the causes of unwillingness of senior executives to data on the three particular eco-justice issues- viz. child labor, equal opportunities and poverty alleviation. Belal *et al.* (2010) made a study on corporate environmental and climate change disclosures in Bangladesh to examine the nature and the extent of corporate environmental and climate change disclosures. Haider (2010) reviewed the literature of CSER in the developing countries including Bangladesh and focused on the theoretical explanations in order to provide a coherent and systematic framework for investigating, understanding and developing CSER. He has focused on the factors influencing CSER and their theoretical interpretations. Islam and Dellaportas (2011) elicited the perceptions of accountants on corporate social and environmental accounting and reporting practices in Bangladesh. Belal *et al.* (2011) undertaken an in depth longitudinal examination of the social reporting practices of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited (IBBL) covering the period 1983-2009. Rouf (2011) made an empirical investigation on responsibilities of management regarding corporate voluntary disclosure of information in the annual reports of listed companies in Bangladesh. Azim et al (2011) explored the corporate social disclosure in the finance sector of Bangladesh to investigate the extent of CSR by listed finance companies on the stock exchange in Bangladesh. Khan *et al.* (2011) examined the tendencies of sustainability reporting by major commercial banks in Bangladesh in comparison to global sustainability reporting indicators outlined in the GRI framework together with banks' preference toward reporting 16 GRI financial service sector. Therefore most of the studies emphasized on the state of and practices of CSED in Bangladesh. Two studies highlighted the role social NGOs using news media to change the operations of the corporate and the studies were on awareness of stakeholders on CSED. **Period 2012 and onward:** Total eighteen studies have been undertaken by different researchers. Alom (2012) looked at the causes of poor

corporate disclosure empirically. Masud and **Hossain** (2012) identified the environmental reporting practices CSR of listed banks in Bangladesh. Suffian(2012)looked into the association between corporate characteristics CSED in annual reports of listed nonfinancial companies in Bangladesh. Saha and Akter (2012) investigated the extent and nature of environmental reporting of the corporate annual reports of listed companies and examined the relationship between corporate environmental reporting and disclosure and corporate financial performance. Nazrul *et al.*(2012) measured the attitudes of the corporate through the disclosure of social accounting information in the annual reports of 25 manufacturing company and 25 non-manufacturing company of DSE. Nazrul and Tofayel(2012) explored the level and determinants of CSED of all (30) listed private commercial banks. Chowdhury and Kowser (2013) analyzed the present status of Corporate Environmental Accounting of private sector textile mills of Bangladesh. Sufian and Zahan (2013) examined the association between corporate ownership structure variables and CSED. Belal and Owen (2013) examined drivers for the development and the subsequent discontinuation of individual CSR reporting in a multinational subsidiary in Bangladesh. Hossain *et al.* (2013) investigated the drivers and barriers of CSER in Bangladesh. Masud *et al.* (2013) explored the real scenario of present CSR practices by multinational companies of Bangladesh. Haque and Sharif (2013) focused on environmental cost accounting to give a comprehensive idea about environmental cost accounting system along with its application and importance in managerial decision making. Uddin *et al.* (2013) studied on human resource (HR) disclosure practices by listed companies in Bangladesh to identify the nature of voluntary disclosures HR in the annual reports of Bangladesh companies. Ali and Rizwan(2013) identified the factors influencing CSED practices in the developing countries in order to know the theories behind CSED practices and the factors of CSED in developing countries. Islam (2013) explored the nature of CSR disclosure by the listed of financial institutions (FIs) in Bangladesh. Haider *et al.* (2013) review the academic literature on reassurance in sustainability reporting. Kamal and Deegan(2013) investigated the social and environmental related governance disclosure practices of sampled textile and garments industry in Bangladesh. Nazrul and Masud (2013) explored the current state of affairs of CSER in Bangladesh and assessed the determinants of CSED taking 178 listed companies in Bangladesh. The total studies in terms of areas are summarized in table -2.

Table-2: Area and number of research studies

Area of Studies	No.
Status and practices of CSED/CSER/CSR in Bangladesh considering different forms of sample	22
Impacts of environmental pollution	02
Relationship between the volume of CSED and the financial and managerial characteristics of the companies	05
Views of senior executives of the companies towards the current state of and the future prospects of CSER in Bangladesh	04
Motivational factors of CSER in Bangladesh	01
Socioeconomic, political and legal scenario in Bangladesh in respect of CSER	01
Role of news media as a pressure for CSER in Bangladesh	03
Causes of poor CSER in Bangladesh	02
Theoretical explanations for framework of CSER in Bangladesh	02
Longitudinal explanations of CSER on particular companies	01
Management responsibilities of CSER	02
challenges, Drivers and factors of influencing CSER in Bangladesh	03
Gap between environmental laws and CSER	02
GRI Comparison	01
Environmental cost accounting	01
Total number of studies	52

The table-2 clarified that studies on status and practices of CSED/CSER/CSR in companies of Bangladesh considering different forms of sample ranked first (22 or 42% of total studies) following the studies on relationship between the volume of CSED and the financial and managerial characteristics of the companies second (5 or 10%). The studies on challenges, drivers and factors of influencing CSER in Bangladesh, gap between environmental laws and CSER, GRI comparison and environmental cost accounting are very few. During the latest period 2010-13 most of the studies were on management responsibilities regarding CSER, challenges of CSER and gap between environmental laws and CSER and GRI Comparison. It evidences that the studies on CSER are changing toward the root of CSER.

Research Methodology used in the Past Studies: The methodology used in the above research works are:- **Content analysis method:** it has been defined as “a technique of gathering data that consists of codifying qualitative information in anecdotal and literary form, into categories in order to derive quantitative scales of varying levels of complexity” (Abbott and Mosen, 1979, p.504). Under this method the researchers have counted the number of word lines or page or paragraph used to disclose CSER information in the annual reports of descriptive non financial information. Further the researchers have classified the CSED into different categories such as employee related, environment related, social related, ethical related etc and again they divided the category into different subdivision. The content analysis has been used in different category –wise and sub category wise.

Disclosure index: The researchers have developed un-weighted disclosure index in their studies by different ways. The researchers first prepared a master list of items to be disclosed in the annual reports based on related literature about CSEA and based on experts' opinions and suggestions. Then they scored the item of information disclosed in the annual reports on dichotomous basis. They awarded "1" for an item disclosed and "0" for not disclosed. Finally they computed disclosure index for each sample firm in terms of percentage of master list of items of disclosure. **Structured and semi structured interview with corporate executives and others stakeholders:** Here the researchers interviewed with the corporate executives and others stakeholders like buyers and suppliers to understand the views as regards the causes of poor CSED and suggestions for improvement of CSEA in Bangladesh. **Review of related literature and policy:** Under this method the researchers have described the relevant laws and regulations of the country regarding CSER and stated the practice of CSER. Further the researchers have explained the socioeconomic factors influencing CSER in Bangladesh. **Correlation and multiple regressions:** In analyzing data the researchers have found correlation between disclosure index and selected attribute of the company. Further they showed association between disclosure index and selected experimental variables. The selected attributes are- total assets, total sales, board size, audit committee, percentage of independent director, percentage of equity, return on assets, return on equity etc. **Sample selection and size of sample-**There are two types of sample- size of company and size of respondent in interview. The number of companies used by the researchers varied between 29 to 268 and the number of respondents varied between 10 and 50. In determining sample the researcher used convenient sampling as well as stratified sampling both in selecting company as well as selecting respondents. **Sources of Data:** The secondary sources of data of the studies were the related books, journals and research works while the respondents of stakeholders and companies annual reports and web sites and other publications of the company were the primary source.

The empirical data showed following the results: **Period from 1997-1999:** The studies used content analysis of the published annual reports of different sample size of companies (Belal,1997; Belal, 1999; Belal, 1999b and Imam, 1999) while the studies (Belal et al, 1998; Solaiman and Belal,1999 and Khan and Belal,1999) reviewed the literature policy and acts of environment and statistical information on industrial environmental pollution and its impact on environment, population, food security economic development and industrial growth. **Period from 2000-2002:** The studies used content analysis of the published annual reports of different sample size of companies (Belal ,2000; Imam ,2000; Belal,2001). **Period from 2003-2005:**The studies (Bala and Yusuf,2003; Shil and Masum,2005; and Rahman and Muttakin,2005 and Islam ,2005) used content analysis method while Islam et al(2005) used index rating given by J. Wiseman (1982) which have been used for Mann-Whitney U test. **Period from 2006-2008:** The study (Bose, 2006) used content analysis while the study (Dutta and Bose, 2008) used disclosure index and the study (Belal and Own, 2007) used semi structured interview method. The study (Hossain et al, 2006) employed both the content and disclosure index while the study (Islam and Deegan, 2008) used the combination of interview and content analysis methods lastly the study (Islam and Deegan, 2008b) used legitimacy theory. **Period from 2009-11:** The studies (Sobhani et al, 2009, Islam and Mathews , 2009; Islam and Deegan, 2009, Belal et al, 2010 Azim et al, 2011; Khan et al, 2011)used content analysis while the study(Belal et al, 2011) used both documentary and content analysis methods. The study (Sobhani et al, 2009) used disclosure index while the study(Rouf, 2011) applied first disclosure index

and then found correlation between disclosure index and the selected financial and managerial attributes of the company. The studies (Islam, 2010; Haider, 2010) review the literature on CSER of developing countries focusing the factors influencing CSER. The studies (Deegan and Islam, 2009; Islam, 2009; Belal and Roberts, 2010; Belal and Cooper, 2010; Dellaportas, 2011) structured and semi-structured interview with the executives of the corporate and the members of ICMAB to determine their perceptions on CSED or CSER. **Period from 2012 and onward:** The studies (Masud and Hossain, 2012; Suffian,2012; Nazrul *et al.*,2012; Nazrul and Masud,2012; Sufian and Zahan,2013; Masud et al , 2013; Uddin et al,2013; Nazrul and Tofayel,2012; Islam M.T., 2013 and Kamal and Deegan,2013) used content analysis. The studies (Alom, 2012; Chowdhury and Kowser, 2013; Belal and Owen,2013; Hossain et al, 2013); used structured and semi structured interview method. The studies (Haque and Sharif,2013 and Ali and Rizwan2013) theoretically discussed the CSER practices of Bangladesh. Haider et al (2013) reviewed the some past works in developing countries on CSER including Bangladesh. Therefore total 27(52%) studies out of 52 used content analysis methods while 10 studies (19%) used primary data collected structured and semi structured questionnaire methods on the causes of low CSED in Bangladesh.

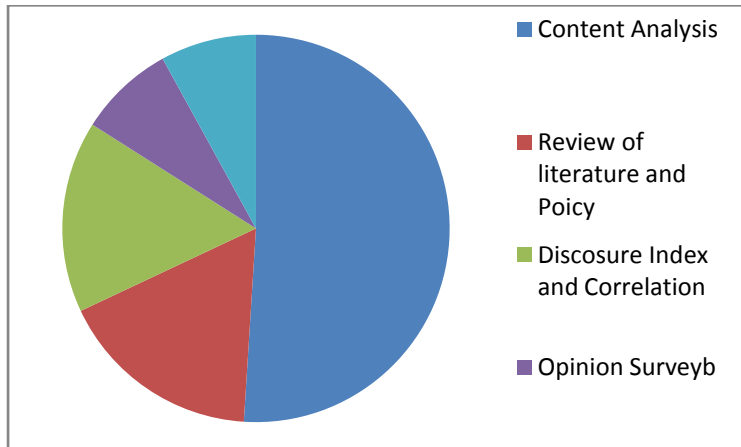
The methods used in the studies in different period can be summarized as follows in Table -3:

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Table -3: Methods used in the Studies

Methods	Period						Total
	1997-99	2000-02	2003-05	2006-08	2009-11	2012 onward	
Content Analysis	4	3	4	1	5	10	27
Review of related Literature and Policy	3				2	4	9
Development of Disclosure Index and Establishment of Correlation and multiple regressions with selected variables			1	1	2	4	8
Structured and semi structured interview with corporate executives and others stakeholders					4		4
Both the content and disclosure index				1			01
Combination of interview and content analysis				1			01
Legitimacy theory				1			01
Documentary and content analysis methods					1		01
Total	7	3	5	5	14	18	52

Table -3 clarified that 27(51%) studies followed content analysis method while studies on review of review of related literature and policy are 9(17%) and studies using disclosure index are 8(16%) and studies on structured and semi structured interview are 4(8%) and the others are 4(8%). Therefore most of the studies used content analysis methods. The used methods is given in fig-2



Research Findings of the Past Studies: The findings of the research works can be classified as follows:

Reporting the Corporate Social and Environmental Disclosure Practice by the Companies: In this regards the researchers through their research activities revealed that how many companies made CSED and how much CSED the companies made in annual reports? They also made known about the nature and types of CSED and the influencing factors on the level of CSED. Further some researchers also identified the causes of poor CSED in Bangladesh. The findings of the research works have been summarized under the following heads: (i) number of companies discloses CSED; (ii) level of CSED by companies; (iii) nature and types of CSED ;(iv) Factors influencing CSED and (iv) causes of poor CSED. **Views of Corporate Executives and others stakeholders regarding CSER of Bangladesh:**

Under this broad theme the researchers have furnished their research findings on (i)the need of CSER;(ii) opinions of the key stakeholders on CSER; (iii) relevancy of social accounting standard and (iv) future prospects of CSER in Bangladesh. The empirical data showed the following results.

Period 1997-1999: Belal (1997) found that a very number of companies in Bangladesh made environmental disclosure and the disclosures are limited to narrative statement only. Industrial pollution is the most tarnished and serious environmental hazard for Bangladesh. Belal *et al.* (1998) established that the level of CSED and philosophical discussion on CSEA were given emphasis on financial research during 1990s in the same time Belal(1999,b) found that 90% companies made some environmental disclosure, 97% made employee made disclosure and 77 pc made some ethical disclosure in Bangladesh. Imam (999) found that all companies listed in SEC made some form of HR disclosure; 25% community disclosures, 22.5% environmental and 10% consumer disclosure. Solaiman snd Belal(1999) established that population stabilization, food security, efficient utilization of ecological resources and economic development and industrial growth are the issues for sustainable development in Bangladesh. Khan and Belal (1999) found that environmental protection Act 1995 of Bangladesh does not reflect in practice of environmental management of the country. **Period from 2000-2002:** Belal(2000) found that companies in Bangladesh made very limited

environmental information although 90% companies made some environmental disclosures and 20% companies disclosed environmental information but disclosures regarding expenditure on energy usage are excluded totally. Imam (2000) found that that most of the listed companies in Bangladesh did not provide any information regarding the environment, HR, community, and consumers though some progressive companies disclosed some inadequate and poor information. Belal(2001) classified the CSED into: (i) purely descriptive; (ii) non financial; and (iii) financial and this three types again classified for reporting purpose as (i) employee;(ii) ethical and (iii) others and found that all company made employee disclosures following ethical disclosures 86% and other disclosures with poor of information. **Period 2003-2005:** Bala and Yusuf (2003) found that 10% companies disclosed environmental information and the places of disclosure were in the director's and chairman's message ,in the annual report and the information disclosed are qualitative in nature and the companies did not follow any specific standard format of reporting environmental information. Shil and Masum(2005) revealed that only 11% of environmental sensitive companies disclosed environmental related information and the type of information only in qualitative in nature in Bangladesh. Islam *et al.*(2005) found that 40% companies made environmental disclosures general and more descriptive in nature while 16% companies disclosed environmental information under a separate heading in annual report and there is a statistical significant difference in sales revenue and employee sizes between companies having environmental disclosures and companies not having environmental disclosures and there are no significant differences in the quality of disclosures between textile and garments industries and between pharmaceuticals industries and others industries. Rahman and Muttakin (2005) found that 4% companies disclosed environmental information in descriptive in nature. They also found that the environmental information was disclosed in different places in the annual reports and there was no standard environmental reporting framework. **Period from 2006-2008:** Hossain *et al.* (2006) found that total sales, total assets, rate of return on assets, net profit margin, multi-nationality, industry type, size of the audit firm and international link of the audit firm have significant positive relationship with the level of CSED. Bose(2006) found that only 45.45% and 63.63% in 2000-01and during 2001-2003 only 81.81% companies of Petrobangla (Bangladesh oil, gas and mineral corporation) disclosed environmental information and the information disclosed was qualitative and descriptive in nature. He also found that reporting companies did not try to quantify the environmental information rather the companies provided only positive information and ignored negative information and companies provided information only regarding the protection of environment, pollution control, plantation and such kind of information and did not provide any information on waste generation, conservation of energy, and water wastage, recycling of waste and noise nuisance. Belal and Own (2007) found that the main motivation behind current reporting practice of corporate environmental reporting lies in the desire on the part of corporate management to manage powerful stakeholder groups and perceived pressure from external forces, notably parent companies' instructions and demands from international buyers. Dutta and Bose (2008) showed that out of 104 companies only 17 companies disclosed environmental information on their websites and the average reporting score of 17 companies is 3.06 points on 4 point scale and concluded that the web-based corporate environmental reporting in Bangladesh is still in at infancy. Islam and Degan (2008) found that particular stakeholder groups have placed pressure on the Bangladeshi clothing industry in terms of its social performance. This pressure is directly related to the expectations of the global community, in turn drives the

industry's social policies and related disclosure practices. Islam and Deegan (2008,b) found that corporations react by providing positive social and environmental disclosures only for those issues which are given the greatest amount of negative media attention. **Period 2009-2011:** Sobhani *et al.* (2009) found that all companies disclosed at least one item of human resources while 47% companies' community involvement, 23% consumer related, 19% companies' environment related and 18% companies others. Islam (2009) after reviewing the prior research found that the major contributions were related to the motivations for social and environmental disclosure in Bangladesh. Deegan and Islam (2009) showed that social and environmental NGOs strategically used the news media to effect change in the operating and disclosure policies pertaining to corporate labor practices and the news media representatives. They also showed that the media agenda has been responsible for creating improvements in working condition within Bangladesh. Islam and Mathews (2009) found that community poverty alleviation disclosures account for the highest proportion of total social disclosures in the period 1997-2005. Islam and Deegan(2009) showed that the disclosure practices of BGMEA are driven by the changing expectations of multinational buying companies, and other powerful stakeholders, rather than by local expectations and the expectations of the multinational buying companies could turn be directly related to the expectations of the societies in which they operate. Belal and Roberts(2010) found that the interviewees generally believed the motivation and practice of CSR reporting in Bangladesh in response to pressure from international markets and producing largely cosmetic response and the premature adoption of strict CSR reporting may lead to increased corruption and other unintended consequence. Belal(2010) found that the main reasons for non-disclosure of corporate social data are lack of resources, the profit imperative, lack of legal requirements, lack of awareness, poor performance and the fear of bad publicity. Belal *et al.* (2010) found that the level of environmental and climate change disclosures is very low in Bangladesh though 91% of companies made disclosures in at least one category. Most of the companies disclosed mandatory information only on the "energy usage" category but fewer companies made disclosures on climate change. No disclosure was made GHG emissions and only 5% companies disclosed on effluent treatment plant whilst most of the disclosures are positive and descriptive in nature. Haider (2010) found that corporate characteristics, general contextual factors, country of origin, culture and religion, economic development, politics and government influence the CSER practices in Bangladesh. Islam and Dellaportas(2011)found that the accountants have positive attitudes toward CSEA progress . Belal *et al.* (2011) found that there was an overall increase in social disclosures during the study period (1983-2009) of Islamic Bank Bangladesh Limited but a significant increase in recent years and the bank focused more on positive disclosures to build its image than other categories. Rouf (2011) revealed that the firms having the higher percentage of shares held by institutional shareholders, the senior management's decision has higher positive relationship with the level of voluntary disclosure and has positive relationship with the board audit committee and board leadership structure. On the other hand, firms having a higher management of ownership structure the senior management's decision are negatively related to the level of voluntary disclosure. The board composition, board size and firm's size have no significant influence on senior management's decision in this area. Azim *et al.* (2011) revealed that 40.90% of listed finance companies in Bangladesh made some kind of CSR disclosure and 55.56% of disclosures are generalized quantitative statements. The director's report contained the major (61.11%) CSR. Khan *et al.* (2011) showed that information on society is addressed most extensively with

regard to the extent of reporting decent works and labor practices and environmental issues. Furthermore, the disclosures of product responsibility information and the information for human rights are rather scarce in banks' reporting and only seven items out of 16 are disclosed by all banks. **Period 2012-onward:** Alom (2012) found that weak legal system in the country and in the market are the main cause of poor disclosure following weak and less transparent corporate governance second, weakness of monitoring authority third under developed capital markets and fourth poor understanding of the spirit of disclosure reporting. Masud and Hossain (2012) found that 100 % banks reports their CSR activities but 60% banks follows the prescribed CSR areas as per fiancé acts. Suffian(2012) found that the mean score of CSRD is five and 75% companies disclose 7 items voluntarily which is 20% of total disclose-able items. Saha and Akter (2012) showed that the environmental disclosure in Bangladesh is very poor and there is a positive relationship between environmental disclosure and financial performance of the companies. Nazrul *et al.* found that 56% listed companies expressed their positive attitude towards SEAR through some volunteer statements in their annual reports. Nazrul and Tofayel (2012) found that there is no significant relationship between the corporate financial characteristics and the volume of CSED in banking sector of Bangladesh. Nazrul and Masud (2013) found that there is no consistency in practices of CSER in Bangladesh and companies of service sector made high volume of CSED than that of manufacturing further there is significant relationship between the level of CSED and the financial characteristics of companies in Bangladesh. Chowdhury and Kowser (2013) revealed that managers of textile industries are positive about environmental issues and financing constraints, high maintenance costs, absence of direct benefits, reduction of profit due to increase revenue costs; lack of qualified employee and unskilled workers, absence of standard framework of CFA, unwillingness of owners, unavailability of pollution preventive local equipments, flexibility of government rules regarding CFA, problem of small and medium size enterprises, infrastructural problem, fuel and electricity problem and unemployment problem are the causes of non adoption of CEA . Sufian and Zahan(2013) revealed that the mean score of CSRD is 6.41 and 75% companies disclose seven items voluntarily which is 16% and 20%of total disclose-able items respectively and the ownership concentration of firm has a positive association with CSRD but there is no association of other variables of ownership structure such as number of shareholders, foreign ownership and board size on CSRD. Belal and Owen (2013) stated that at the starting of CSR the process corporate interviewees were very interested and positive of this initiative and repeated that it would not be a one off exercise. Hossain et al (2013) revealed that motivations for CSER mainly derived from management leadership, regulators, external stakeholder pressure, branding corporate image, poverty alleviation motive and social obligation motive in Bangladesh. Masud *et al.*(2013) found that CSR practices is not spread properly in Bangladesh and some organization are trying their best, but in the most of cases organization are not aware about that. Haque and Sharif (2013) argued that for sustainable development, optimum utilization of natural resources with minimum wastage are required and an environmental cost accounting may address this issue by tracing out the monetary impact of environmental resources. They concluded that environmental cost are not a minor cost that can be pooled together with other cost rather it should be identified separately and managed properly in relation to the management decision making tools with a link of overall business strategies. Uddin *et al.*(2013) revealed that the average HR disclosure scores ranges from 28% to 88% and on average 60.75% and the average HR disclosure score by banking

companies(63.15) is more than non banking companies(58.89%) in Bangladesh. Ali and Rizwan (2013) argued that institutional theory is more sophisticated than others theory to explain the practices of CSED in Bangladesh. Islam (2013) revealed that Financial Institutions (FIs) are very much prone to disclose shareholders' information and only 5% FIs miserly disclose 90% and above and 60% FIs reports below 60%. The study found that a strong positive correlation is in between the pages in the annual reports and dedicated CSR reporting. Haider *et al.*(2013) showed that extent literature dominantly concentrates on the quality of assurance statement and found that there is variation, inconsistencies and ambiguities in assurance statements within the countries as well as across the countries. Kamal and Deegan (2013) found that the governance disclosures on corporate social and environmental in textile garments industry in Bangladesh is still poor against the expectation of international community.

Suggestions by researchers: Among the researchers only two researchers have given suggestions in their studies: (i)an integrated environmental management approach for Bangladesh would minimize the use of scarce raw materials through the minimize emissions and effluents for minimizing waste and the following strategies should be adopted: (i) indigenous technology development; (ii) development of village based entrepreneurship; (iii) build up the skill of the poor; (iii) integrated environmental strategy and (iv) strong legal environment for sustainable development in Bangladesh(Soliaman and Belal,1999).Belal (2000) suggested for further research to improve CSED in Bangladesh.

What do we need: After reviewing available studies on CSEA in Bangladesh the following questions arise to the researcher: (i) what will be the strategy for house management of CSEA? (ii) What are the causes of legitimacy weaknesses in corporate environmental management in Bangladesh? (iii) What is the possible framework of social accounting to improve corporate social and environmental accounting? (iii) what are causes of weak implementation of environmental rules and acts in Bangladesh ?(iv) what is the gap between practices and legal environment of CSEA in Bangladesh?

Limitation of the Study: The major limitation of the study is that the researcher could not entered some international journals due to scarcity of fund where few articles may be published on CSEAR on Bangladesh.

Conclusion: - The previous discussion concludes that studies in CSEA in Bangladesh are yet in a babyhood level. The country must need a social accounting framework for improvement in CSEA.

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