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Poverty reduction rate slows down

Hardcore poor drops to 12.9pc of population from 17.6pc in 2010

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Bangladesh's rate of poverty reduction has slowed down in recent years.

The yearly average rate of poverty reduction has dropped from 1.7 percent, between 2005 and 2010, to 1.2 percent, between 2010 and 2016.

The average poverty reduction rate has been calculated from the data to be revealed through a flagship BBS (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics) report today, officials told The Daily Star.

Experts noted with concern that a slower growth in agriculture was largely contributing to this slowdown and immediate policy interventions were needed to give the poverty reduction efforts momentum.

Year	% of people in poverty	% of ultra poor
2016	24.3	12.9
2010	31.5	17.6
2005	40.0	25.1
2000	48.9	34.3

They also spoke of a drop in remittance, lack of job opportunities, wealth inequality and challenges of reaching the hard-to-reach poor people.

According to the BBS' preliminary Household Income and Expenditure Survey. (HIES) Report 2016, 24.3 percent of the population is now living in poverty, down from 31.5 percent in 2010.

And the percentage of the ultra poor also SEE PAGE 2 COL 1