

3.2 DESCRIPTION OF AGENCIES INVOLVED IN TELECOMMUNICATION ACTIVITIES OF BANGLADESH

3.2.1. The Bangladesh Telegraph And Telephone Board (BTTB)

The World Bank, from 1969, had been pursuing the erstwhile Pakistan Telegraph and Telephone Department to reorganize the Department into an autonomous body, so as to provide the services on a commercial basis and achieve autarky in administration and finance. BTTB was converted into a Body Corporate in 1975, but, because of difficulties and complexities of Governmental financial and administrative regulations, the performance of this organization did not improve. Consequently, the present Bangladesh Telegraph and Telephone Board (BTTB) was constituted in April, 1979. Ownership and management of Telecom services is vested in BTTB. The Government through the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, appoints the Chairman, four full-time Members and three part-time Members and the Board functions as a Government organization. The set-up of the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications and BTTB along with the two manufacturing installations, namely the Telephone Shilpa Sangstha Ltd. (TSS), previously TIC, and the Bangladesh Cable Shilpa Ltd. (BCS), is shown in **Figure 3.1**.

The Head Office of the BTTB is situated at Telejogajog Bhaban, 36/1 Mymensingh Road, Dhaka. The Board is divided into 4 (four) wings - Administration, Finance, Planning & Development and the Maintenance & Operation. Each wing is headed by a Member. The set-up of the BTTB is shown in **Figure 3.2**.

Canadian enterprises which are serious in participation in BTTB contracts, should meet with the individuals in the Planning and Development (P&D) wing and Procurement Division of the Maintenance & Operation (M&O) wing.

Keeping in line with the economic policies of the government, the P&D conceives various projects, makes feasibility studies and surveys, if necessary, on the basis of which the economic and financial analysis is made. The Board evaluates the project and, when it is found justifiable, the Planning and Development wing of BTTB prepares the Project Proforma in prescribed form of the Planning Commission. This is forwarded for approval by the appropriate authority through the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication.

Approved projects are included in the government's Annual Development Program of the relevant financial year (July to June every year). The Planning and Development wing of BTTB undertakes the task of implementation of the project through the respective project division. Detailed specifications are prepared by the concerned project division, and actual procurement is done by the Procurement Division. Physical works, construction works, installation of equipment and machineries are performed under the direct supervision of the relevant Project Director. Installation, testing and commissioning of systems are usually done under turn-key contracts with the suppliers. In case of semi-turn-key contracts, all these works are performed by the BTTB personnel and the manufacturer/supplier provides the supervisory services for