The role of productivity as a factor in the economic development is universally recognized. The economic achievement of some of the developed economies is attributed more to increased productivity than to anything else. Changes in productivity become all the more significant for the developing economies where the resources are limited in supply and the social opportunity cost is very high. Productivity growth is, hence, an absolute requirement in the developing countries. It is a fundamental requisite in any form of planning irrespective of the stage of development of economic and social system.

The textile industry has served as the prime mover and catalyst for industrialization in many countries viz., England, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Hong Kong. In Bangladesh, with the growth of population, the local demand for fabrics is gradually increasing. It has now become essential and crucially necessary for the Government of Bangladesh to expand the textile industry on a priority basis for meeting the local demand as well as for ensuring supply of fabrics to the export-oriented RMG industry. Textile industry is most important industry in Bangladesh, which is mainly concerned with meeting the demand for cloth, a basic necessity of life and more labour-intensive than other industry. It plays an important role in providing employment opportunity to the unemployed and under employed work force. The contribution of the textile sector is more than one-third of the total value added of the industrial sector, about 5 per cent of national income comes from foreign exchange earnings through exports.

Quite a good number of textile mills of public sector have been privatized in Bangladesh with the announcement of investment policy of 1975. Presently there are 14 public sector textile mills, which are running at a loss. During 1978-2002, five year plans were launched. All these plans placed the textile industry in the priority sector. The textile policy of 1995, however, accorded considerably exclusive emphasis on the growth and development of the
textile industry. The main objective of the textile policy of 1995 was to achieve self-reliance in textiles for meeting local demand as well as for supplying fabrics to the RMG industry by establishing necessary backward linkage through the development of the private sector.

The present study has been undertaken by the Researcher to measure the productivity performance of the public and the private sector textile units of Bangladesh covering the period from 1990 to 2000. The Research Scholar has formulated some relevant hypotheses and has accordingly tested these hypotheses through appropriate and related statistical tools to determine the factors affecting productivity. Productivity improvement strategy for the public and the private sector textile units of Bangladesh have been carved out based on the findings of the study. Suggestions and recommendations have been proffered by the Research Scholar for the government, planners and the private sector executives alike for overall improvement in productivity performance of the public and the private sector textile units of Bangladesh.

**Scheme of Chapterization - A Preview:**

The present study is divided into eight chapters. A brief description regarding each chapter is made as under:

The first chapter entitled, “A Perspective on Textile Industry in Bangladesh”, deals with the background of the textile units in historical perspective dividing the time span into British, Pakistan and Bangladesh period. The second chapter entitled, “Concepts and Models of productivity Measurement-A Review”, presents detailed outlines with regard to the concepts of productivity and productivity measurement models.

The third chapter entitled, “Review of Literature and Approach to the Study”, presents statement of the problem, review of literature, research gap, scope, objectives, research methodology, data collection, selection of samples, data tabulation, statistical tools and techniques of productivity measurement approach besides the limitations of the study. The Researcher in this chapter has set the hypotheses and has elaborated the methods of testing these
hypotheses. Furthermore, a suitable framework for the measurement of productivity performance of the textile industry of Bangladesh has been chosen for the study.

The fourth chapter entitled, “Productivity Performance Evaluation of Public Sector Textile Units of Bangladesh” presents evaluation of productivity performance of overall and the selected public sector textile units. The productivity performance of overall and selected public sector textile units has been evaluated under labour productivity, assets productivity, value added productivity, surrogate productivity, financial productivity and total productivity. It also examines the reasons for declining productivity in textile industry of Bangladesh.

The fifth chapter entitled, “Productivity Performance Appraisal of Private Sector Textile Units”, has been prepared to examine the productivity of overall and selected private sector textile units under six broad heads, viz., labour productivity, assets productivity, value added productivity, surrogate productivity, financial productivity and total productivity with reasons for changes of productivity according to the average and growth rate.

The sixth chapter entitled, “Public and Private Textile Units- A Comparative Analysis of Productivity performance and Testing of Hypotheses”, presents an analytical description with regard to productivity performance of overall and selected public and private sector textile units of Bangladesh. The seventh chapter entitled, “Strategy for Productivity Improvement in Textile Units of Bangladesh”, analyses implications for productivity performance of public and private sector textile units. The chapter also deals with the productivity improvement models and productivity improvement strategy for textile units of Bangladesh.

The Eighth chapter entitled “Findings and suggestions” summarizes the findings of the study and offers suggestions and recommendations for the concerned authorities like government of Bangladesh, planners and researchers for overall improvement of productivity performance of textile industry of Bangladesh. This chapter also identifies areas for further study.