

P R E F A C E

Energy planning plays a key role in the economic development of any developing country. Bangladesh Government has also been making plans every five-year for its future development since its independence. The authority emphasised the need to minimize the gap between the production and consumption of gas and electricity. The plans are required to provide some estimated figures of the consumption of energy for the next five-years for convenience of production strategy. In all earlier plans no method as such for estimation/prediction planning has been seemingly utilised. The 'thumb rule' procedure always led to a significant gap between prediction and the actual consumption. This weakness in the planning scenario of our country must be removed. With this aim I have undertaken works on efficient forecasting of the energy consumption in Bangladesh. My ceaseless endeavors over the last few years, that have culminated into the present dissertation, would be worthwhile if the concerned authorities make practical use of the results during future planning.

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This work is humbly dedicated to my eldest brother Sri Bimal Chandra Paul, a school teacher in Chittagong, who raised us after the early demise of our father in 1971.

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