

# 15 demands from the Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement

*The Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement (BDERM) has presented the following 15 demands to the President of the Election Manifesto Preparation Committee – for inclusion in the country's final Election Manifesto.*

1. Stop all kinds of discrimination and untouchability against Dalit and Excluded community. To declare untouchability as a punishable crime.
2. In order to develop socio-economic condition of Dalit and Excluded people in Bangladesh, form a special Dalit Commission. We also demand to create a special cell in the newly formed National Human Rights Commission to oversee the affairs of Dalit and Excluded people.
3. In government school and college, create especial quota for Dalit and Excluded students. To ensure employment of educated Dalit people as per their competence.
4. To promote status of Dalit women, form a special cell in the Children and Women Affairs Ministry as well as in local level government bodies for the development of Dalit community.
5. Cleaner's job in the municipality must be reserved for the Dalit. We are demanding this as we have limited scope to get other jobs. Dalits are traditionally doing this job.
6. To ensure equal rights of Dalit women in inheritance rights.
7. Dalit colony under every City Corporation and municipality should be allotted permanently among present Dalit inhabitants as well as provide sufficient electricity, gas and water supply.
8. To build Dalit village/colonies in government owned (khas) land and give permanent allotment.
9. Dalit freedom fighters should get proper recognition from the government.
10. To establish free primary health care center in every Dalit village/colonies.
11. To allocate elderly allowance for old age people of Dalit community
12. To create opportunity for every Dalit and Excluded community to have primary education with their own language
13. To lease public toilet of every city corporation and municipality to the Dalit sweepers.
14. To create quota for Dalit and Excluded people in all government and non-government services
15. To ensure Dalit representatives in all committees of political parties at national and local level.