

Road drama and discussion meetings were held demanding the 'Abolition of Discrimination Act' to establish the rights of Dalits and backward community

President of Bangladesh Dalit and Deprived People Rights Movement (BDERM) and General Secretary of Dalit Women Forum Mani Mahila Das organized by BDERM, Citizen Initiative and Dalit Women Forum on last October 9, 2021 (Saturday): Dalit rights road drama and discussion meeting was held in front of Bangladesh National Museum at 3.00 pm.

BDERM's Co-Organizing Secretary Kailash Rabi Das was present at the conduction of BDERM's Advisor and Chief Executive of Civil Initiative Zakir Hossain, General Secretary of BDERM Uttam Kumar Bhakt, Organizational Secretary Bhimpalli David Raju, President of Moulvibazar Branch Parimal Singh Baraik, Dhaka District Organizational Secretary U. K Nandan Joy, Civil Initiative Development Worker Nadira Parveen, ABM Anisuzzaman, Foundation for People Representative Sajjad Khan, Basanti Saha of Darpan, Gender Advisor Mushfiqa Laizu, Third Gender Representative-Ivan Ahmed Kotha, Sex Worker Setwork Representative Reena Akter Pramukh.

The National Human Rights Commission finalized the draft of a new law named 'Abolition of Discrimination Act 2018' in 2018, speakers said at the rally. The draft was later sent from the Human Rights Commission to the Ministry of Law and Social Welfare. Earlier on April 2014, 29, the Law Commission had sent another draft named 'Abolishing Discrimination Act' to the Ministry of Law. But even after so many years, this law has not been passed to get the rights of the Dalit class people of the society.

The general secretary of the Dalit Women's Forum and the president of Bangladesh Dalit and Deprived People's Rights Movement (BDERM), Mani Rani Das said in the rally, " Our children cannot study in any good school. We can't eat at a good hotel and restaurant. We don't get our fair rights. We want to teach our children in good schools, we want to eat in good hotels-restaurants, we want our fundamental rights, let's pass the discrimination law. "

While reading his written speech at the assembly, Sonu Rani Das said, " There are about 65 lakh people in Bangladesh who are victims of discrimination and deprivation due to birth and profession, known as Dalits. There are about 80 communities in Bangladesh based on the occupation and birth identity of the Dalit community, who are victims of discrimination in different sectors of society and state. Also other backward communities of Bangladesh are discriminated in different fields due to their social identity and position. Notable among them are plain indigenous tea workers, third gender, vedas, physically and mentally disabled communities, neutral and religious minorities, sex workers and people of different sexual diversity.

He also said, " The Law Commission report mentioned about 23 types of Dalit class people including Muchi, Methor, Sweeper, Jola, Ravidas, Dom, Domar, Baghdi, Bede, Bawali, Rishi who were victims of social atrocities and untouchability. Those who are deprived outside of Dalit class people have been proposed to be brought under the protection of law such as: transgender, sex workers, physically and mentally disabled, dalits including moral and religious minority communities are in economic backwardness, many do not eat together just for their caste-religion identity Doesn't sit, doesn't give job, doesn't take children to school. This untouchability and casteism discrimination are so not only a waste of our promise to achieve social justice but a big blow to our humanitarian perception.

" The Law Commission introduced a draft of the Abolition of Discrimination Act in 2014, giving special importance to the rights of the Dalit community. The Law Commission discussed with various stakeholders of the civil society during the draft making. The final draft law sends to the Ministry of Law. Then various International Human Rights Forums-recommend the Bangladesh Government to implement the Disparity Act. In addition, the Hon ' ble Law Minister has made promises on the implementation of this law on behalf of the government several times. But so far there has been no

significant progress on passing the law. So our only demand from this rally today-the 'Abolition of Discrimination Act' should be passed very quickly. "

In the rally, a drama was presented by the Dalit boys and girls by the direction of Mahmub Akhter, highlighting the deprivation of the Dalit caste.

Report in formation -
Kailash Rabidas
Co-Organizing Secretary
BDERM

Translation Assistance

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