Dalit leaders urge govt to ensure human rights

Staff Correspondent

Leaders of Bangladesh Dalit and Excluded Rights Movement (BDERM) yesterday urged the government to ensure their human rights as committed in the election manifesto of the grand alliance.

They made the demand at their second general council at YWCA auditorium in the city.

The leaders also called upon their community people to work unitedly to ensure their basic rights including accommodation, education, healthcare services and employment.

They also called for inclusion of the representatives of Dalit community in National Human Rights Commission and enactment of an anti-racial law in parliament.

Representatives from 60 district units of BDERM took part in the council, and elected a national executive committee for one year.

Mukul Sikdar and B Soloman were elected president and general secretary of the 15-member national committee of BDERM at the end of the council.

Other executive members are Babul Robi Das, Guru Charan Das, Moni Rani Das, Sajal Dibedi, Uttam Kumar Vakta, Master Kanailal Rabi Das, Sunil Mridha, Bibhutosh Roy, Swaraj Kumar Sarkar, Sanu Rani Das, Banani Biswas, Devid Raju and Rekha Rani Basfor.
Banani Biswas, David Raju and Rekha Rani Basfor.

The election was held after the national council held at the YWCA auditorium in the city on Friday. Representatives from 60 districts participated in the council and took part in the election.

Ali Arsalan, representative of Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research, Farzana Islam, professor of anthropology department of Jahangirnagar University, among others, expressed solidarity with the BDERM at the inaugural session which was presided over by Master Kanailal Rabidas, said a press release.