outsourcings into the biggest income source for young peoples.

Establishing e-governance is one of the top priorities of the ICT ministry. But the absence of proper infrastructure to ensure e-governance to the people is still a huge challenge. At the same time the Section 57 of the ICT Act 2013 is still a much-talked about issue in the country. The cabinet approved the draft of the ICT (Amendment) Act-2013 on August 19 proposing to empower law enforcers to arrest any person without warrants and to increase the highest punishment of cyber crime perpetrators to a minimum of 14 years from 7 years. Many, however, claim that this law will only serve the purposes of the ruling party. The country is now waiting to see how Palak overcomes the flaws of the act, and other current issues pertaining to e-governance and the Telecommunication and Information Technology ministry to ensure our path forward to the promised Digital Bangladesh.

Last year, the country earned $20 million from outsourcing jobs of the trainees.



Amatul Kibria Keya – dedicated to find women freedom fighters.

While Palak is yet to prove his credibility as a state minister, there is one MP who has gone out of the way to fulfil her promise of "upholding the spirit of the liberation." Amatul Kibria Keya, a daughter of a slain freedom fighter, passionately discusses her ideas about honouring women who fought in the liberation war. Women who suffered unspeakable torture at the hands of the Pakistani Army and their collaborators were given the title of Birangona. While this recognised their sacrifice in the struggle for freedom it also led to social ostracism. Keya persistently works to give them the title they deserve – that of freedom fighters.

Her hair tied tightly back, Keya resembles the images of the strong women of the liberation war who we only see in pictures or as sculptures but who are hardly ever talked about in terms of their active participation in the war. Apart from being a member of the parliament, Keya is a lawmaker and secretary general of Chetana '71 Habiganj, a platform dedicated to documenting the history of the war.

After Keya's long campaign, six women have so far been recognised as freedom fighters through a gazette notification by the government. Understandably, these women freedom fighters were sceptical about such recognition: they had after all, lived in extreme poverty and total oblivion for the last four decades. Keya took it upon herself to find these women who had been forgotten by the people of their own country.

"I faced serious hurdles when I first demanded benefits for these women in 2006", says Keya. "The ministry concerned said that they did not have any policy in this regard."

"The Ministry of Liberation War Affairs did not provide me with any data. In fact, they don't have anything on women freedom fighters. I started to look for women freedom fighters in my own village and finally succeeded on December 9, 2013."

Although the government had established the Ministry of Liberation War Affairs in 2001 and updated the list of freedom fighters several times, it has never sought to find out the names of women freedom fighters in a proper manner. Recent statistics show the number of people who fought in the Liberation War to be no less than 177,000, albeit without a single mention of any woman freedom fighter. Keya is working hard to change this; she knows that a country can never look forward unless it has acknowledged the active participation of everyone in the war that gave us our independence.