

Recognise women's household work: MJF

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF) yesterday said the government must recognise women's domestic work to achieve gender equality (SDG 5).

In a statement, the rights group said recognition of women's economic and non-economic work in family and society will uphold their dignity. As a result, discrimination and violence against them will go down.

Welcoming the recently published "Time Use Survey" of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, MJF called upon the government to include the survey's outcome in the GDP.

The BBS survey, published on Monday, says women spend eight-fold more time than men doing domestic and care work.

According to "Time Use Survey 2021", men spend around 1.6 hours a day doing domestic and care work, while for women it is 11.7 hours, about half the day.

These kinds of work are not deemed as productive, and so, they remain unpaid and unrecognised, the report says.

In the statement, MJF Executive Director Shaheen Anam said, "... If a country wants to undertake a further realistic labour and employment policy, women's non-economic work has to be evaluated in light of the labour market and economy."



A child is being fed a Vitamin A capsule at Moghbazar Community Hospital yesterday. The campaign to give children, aged between six months and five years, the capsules started nationwide on the day.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

'Uphold religious harmony' Say 17 eminent citizens

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

In a joint statement, 17 prominent citizens have called upon all to maintain harmony by upholding religious values and respecting all religions.

They said this following the protests against derogatory comments made by two leaders of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in India.

The statement said the comments have provoked strong reactions from Muslims and well-thinking people of the world, including the Indian subcontinent. The protests of ordinary Muslim devotees have been thwarted many times, and taking advantage of this situation, militant groups have resorted to various acts of violence.

"We never condone insulting any religion. Believing in religious harmony, Bangladesh... expects Muslims to reject insulting remarks about their beloved Prophet and treat all religions with respect," it said.

The signatories are Prof Anupam Sen; actors Syed Hasan Imam, Ramendu Majumdar and

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MEDIA EMPLOYEES BILL JS committee to sit with stakeholders

RASHIDUL HASAN

The parliamentary standing committee on information ministry will sit with stakeholders before finalising the much debated "Mass Media Employees (Services Conditions) Bill 2022".

Hasanul Haq Inu, chairman of the parliamentary watchdog, told this to The Daily Star yesterday, after emerging from the committee's meeting at Jatiya Sangsad.

Information Minister Hasan Mahmud placed the bill in parliament on March 28. It was later sent to the committee for scrutiny.

Various journalist organisations and owners' associations as well as Transparency International Bangladesh have seriously opposed various sections of the proposed law.

Inu said, "Journalist leaders have already talked to me about the bill. But I have requested them to place their proposal before the committee in written form."

He said the committee would hold meetings with Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists, Dhaka Union of Journalists, Newspaper Owners' Association of Bangladesh, Association of Television Channel Owners and newspaper employees' association.

He also said there may be a meeting with Dhaka Reporters Unity.

The Editors' Council (Sampadak Parishad) in a statement on April 19 said the space for independent media will shrink further if the bill is passed.

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'Lighthouse of our generation'
Say speakers on Sardar Fazlul Karim, marking his 8th death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Philosopher Sardar Fazlul Karim was a lighthouse of knowledge. His life experience made him a communist and he set an example by dedicating his entire life to the future generations, said speakers at a programme yesterday marking the eighth death anniversary of the academic.

The event was organised by Sardar Fazlul Karim Smriti Parishad at Jatiya Press Club in the capital.

"His extraordinary wisdom and fearlessness have inspired me and many others. His contributions to the country's politics and culture are unparalleled," said Mujahidul Islam Selim, former CPB president.

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Former CPB president

Bangladesh Mahila Parishad's president Fauzia Moslem said he set an example by living a simple and down-to-earth life.

"Sardar Fazlul Karim is the lighthouse of our generation as a teacher and a philosopher," she added.

"He was the sole philosopher I have ever seen in my entire life," said Prof Kaberi Gayen of Dhaka University.

Deputy Director of National Academy for Educational Management Swapan Nag, Udcchi President Badir Rahman, playwright Kazi Tamanna, Anisur Rahman of Prothoma Publication and students of Dhaka and Jagannath universities also spoke at the event.

It was moderated by DU Prof Shantanu Majumder.

PRAYER TIMING JUNE 16

	Fazr	Zohr	Asr	Maghrub	Esha
Azan	4:05	12:45	5:00	6:50	8:15
Jamaat	4:40	1:15	5:15	6:55	

SOURCE: ISLAMIC FOUNDATION

NEWS

Rain worsens

Govt mulls fuel price hike

FROM PAGE 12

The Sarigowain river on the other hand was flowing 55cm above the danger level at Sarighat point in Sylhet's Jaintiapur upazila while the Someswari river at Netrokona's Kalmakanda point was flowing 39cm above the danger level.

He told reporters that the BPC is making a loss of about Tk 100 crore every day due to the price hike of fuel in the international market.

"The fuel prices have increased abnormally in the international market ... We are working on a pricing model [for the domestic market]..." he added.

According to a BPC official, the diesel price crossed \$170 per barrel in the global market this week.

At the same time, 812mm of rainfall was recorded in Sylhet's Jaintiapur in the 24 hours till yesterday 9:00am while 225mm at Lalakhal in Sylhet and 120mm in Laurerghar in Sunamganj was recorded.

According to the FFWC, 238mm of rainfall was recorded in Sylhet's Jaintiapur in the 24 hours till yesterday 9:00am while 225mm at Lalakhal in Sylhet and 120mm in Laurerghar in Sunamganj was recorded.

At the same time, 812mm of rainfall was recorded in Sylhet's Jaintiapur in the 24 hours till yesterday 9:00am while 225mm at Lalakhal in Sylhet and 120mm in Laurerghar in Sunamganj was recorded.

Earlier on May 11, a flash flood was triggered in the districts affecting all 13 upazilas in Sylhet and 5 upazilas in Sunamganj.

price started rising again and stood at \$115-\$120 a barrel yesterday, according to oilprice.com, an energy news site.

PURCHASE OF ESSENTIALS FROM LOCAL MARKET

Following the meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Government Purchase, Zillur Rahman Chowdhury, additional secretary of the Cabinet Division, said the government will buy lentils, sugar and edible oil from the local market to sell those to one crore families through "family cards" at low prices before the Eid-ul-Azha.

The committee approved a proposal for buying 13,500 tonnes of lentils (Tk 117 per kg), 15,000 tonnes of sugar (Tk 81 per kg), and 1,92 crore litres of soybean oil (Tk 201 per litre).

BLACK MONEY

Kamal said those who have plots of land or flats possess black money. "Everyone who owns a plot of land, a house or a flat has black money. The government is responsible for this. Our system is responsible."

Explaining this, he said, "If you buy a piece of land, you will have to get it registered at a price lower than the purchase price. As the price of land has been fixed [by the authorities concerned] in every mouza, it cannot be registered at a higher price. Such a practice generates black money."

The fact is that a flat which is registered at Tk 3 crore is actually worth Tk 10 crore. This additional amount turns into black money."

He, however, said he will not backtrack on his decision to allow legalising laundered money in the upcoming fiscal year despite growing criticism.

"I will do what I have said. You know about me. I won't leave it halfway."

He argued that the government faced criticism when it decided to give incentives to remitters.

"But remittance earnings received a huge boost, thanks to the incentives."

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DAG Sarwar, however, could not share the details of the rape case.

Speaking to The Daily Star, Deputy Attorney General Sarwar Hossain Bappy said he will be enquiring the Women and Children Repression Prevention Tribunal in Nilphamari regarding the rape case and the acquittal.

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