



বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা (বাসস) BANGLADESH SANGBAD SANGSTHA (BSS)

National News Agency of Bangladesh

স্মারক নং- ১৫.৬১.০০০০.০০৫.১৬.৫৭৬(অংশ-১).১৪ ৪৬৮

তারিখঃ ০১ জুলাই ২০২৪

সিনিয়র সচিব
তথ্য ও সম্প্রচার মন্ত্রণালয়
বাংলাদেশ সচিবালয়
ঢাকা।

দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণঃ উপসচিব, প্রেস-২ শাখা, তথ্য ও সম্প্রচার মন্ত্রণালয়।

বিষয়ঃ বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা (বাসস)-এর তথ্য অধিকার বিষয়ে ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থবছরের বার্ষিক (জুলাই-২০২৩ থেকে জুন-২০২৪ পর্যন্ত) এর সূচক-২.৩.১ বাস্তবায়ন বিষয়ক প্রতিবেদন প্রেরণ প্রসঙ্গে।

জনাব

উপর্যুক্ত বিষয়ের পরিপ্রেক্ষিতে আপনার অবগতির জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বাংলাদেশ সংবাদ সংস্থা (বাসস)-এর তথ্য অধিকার বিষয়ে ২০২৩-২০২৪ অর্থবছরের বার্ষিক (জুলাই-২০২৩ থেকে জুন-২০২৪ পর্যন্ত) এর সূচক-২.৩.১ অনুযায়ী ৩৪ টি প্রচার কার্যক্রম সম্পন্ন করা হয়েছে যা প্রমাণকসহ অত্রসাথে সংযুক্ত করে প্রেরণ করা হলো।

ধন্যবাদান্তে

আবুল কালাম আজাদ
ব্যবস্থাপনা পরিচালক
ও প্রধান সম্পাদক

সংযুক্তিঃ বর্ণনা মোতাবেক (০১ থেকে ৩৫ পাতা)।



Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)

National News Agency of Bangladesh

President for creating awareness at grassroots on proper use of RTI Act

24 Sep 2023, 15:50 | BSS



DHAKA, Sept 24, 2023 (BSS) - President Mohammed Shahabuddin today asked the Information Commission, Bangladesh (ICB) to take necessary measures for creating awareness at the grassroots so that the people can know about the proper use and enforcement of the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

"Access to information is a basic human right... Besides, the free flow of information expands public welfare and curtails corruption," the President told an ICB delegation as it submitted 'Annual Report 2022' to him.

Led by Chief Information Commissioner Dr. Abdul Malek, the four-member delegation included Information Commissioners - Shahidul Alam Jhinuk and Masuda Bhatti, and ICB Secretary Zubeda Nasreen.

The President suggested the ICB authorities to involve people at all levels, including, the administration and representatives of civil society members, to enhance the implementation of the RTI,

President's Press Secretary Md Joyнал Abedin told BSS after the meeting.

"If the Right to Information Act is widely implemented, it will help reduce corruption in society," the Head of State said.

During the meeting, President Shahabuddin was apprised by the chief information commissioner of the overall activities of the ICB, particularly in providing information to the public.

Dr. Malek told the President that in 2022, the amount of payable information is about 97 percent compared to the required information. Besides, he informed the President about the overall activities of the commission, including infrastructure development.

Secretaries concerned were present during the meeting.



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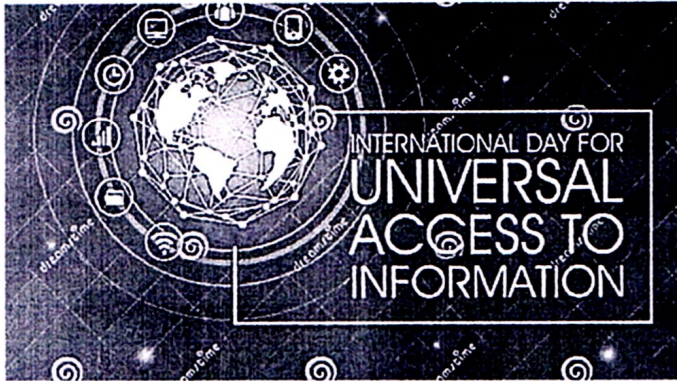


Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha (BSS)

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International Day for Universal Access to Information tomorrow

27 Sep 2023, 18:05 | BSS



DHAKA, Sept 27, 2023 (BSS) - International Day for Universal Access to

Information will be observed in the country tomorrow like elsewhere across

the globe with the theme 'Importance of internet in free flow of information'.

On the eve of the day, President Mohammed Shahabuddin and Prime Minister

Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages wishing all programmes of the day a success.

In his message, the President said the 'Right to Information Act, 2009' was formulated to ensure the free flow of information and people's right to information.

"The citizens of the country are now getting access to information by this act (the RTI act)," he said, adding that the act has created a path for establishing good governance along with ensuring transparency and accountability in the activities all government and non-government organisations.

He said Bangladesh is going ahead to be a Smart Bangladesh from Digital Bangladesh under the dynamic leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and utilization of ICT in Bangladesh has created an example in the world. Internet has been playing an important role in ensuring people's access to information, he added.

Noting that the Information Commission has been working relentlessly to reach benefits of the RTI Act to the doorsteps of people, the President said, adding that it is urgent to join all stakeholders including government entities, electronic and print media in creating awareness among people about the RTI.

In her message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said Awami League in its election manifesto in 2008 declared to formulate Right to Information Act and after coming to power, the government passed the RTI Act, 2009 in the first session of the ninth Jatiya Sangsad and formed the Information Commission as per its electoral pledge.

Information Commission (IC) was formed on July 1, 2009 and newly constructed IC Bhaban was inaugurated on August 20, 2023, she said, adding: "As a result, the right of the people and the media to get the necessary information has been increased."

The premier said: "Apart from Bangladesh Television (BTV), BTV World and Sangsad Television, we have given permission to 45 private television channels and 28 FM radio stations and 32 community radio stations to expand the free flow of information further, which made the publication and publicity system easier."

"The government has set up world's largest web portal to reach information at doorstep through increasing the use of internet," she said, adding that the importance of internet in increasing the use of RTI is undeniable.

With cooperation of the government, the IC has been working relentlessly to reach the benefits of the RTI to the people, she said, adding that RTI has been playing role in reducing corruption and establishing good governance through ensuring accountability and transparency in the activities of all.

"I hope the Information Commission will be more active in establishing 'Sonar Bangla' as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman," the Premier added.

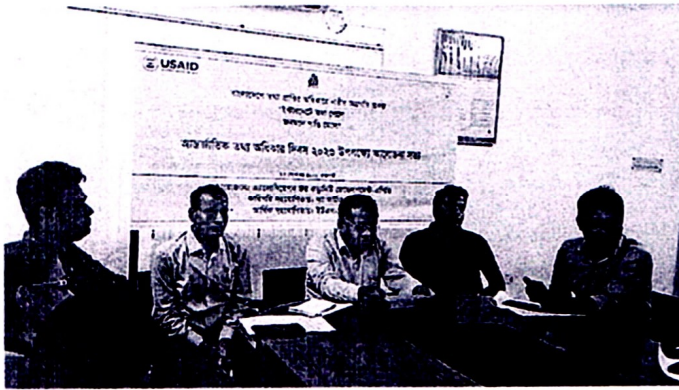


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RTI can be milestone towards women progress

25 Sep 2023, 15:04 | BSS



RAJSHAHI, Sept 25, 2023 (BSS) - The Right to Information (RTI) Act can be the crucial means of boosting the level of confidence of the marginalized women side by side with achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Living and livelihood conditions of the grassroots marginalized women can be improved immensely after the best uses of the RTI which is also helpful towards ensuring climate change adaptation, justice and social accountability.

So, all the government, non-government and other stakeholders, particularly the local government institutions, should come forward and work together to attain the cherished goal.

Government officials, journalists and development activists came up with the observation while addressing a participatory discussion to mark the Rights to International Information Day 2023 here today.

Association for Community Development (ACD) hosted the meeting at its office conference hall under the "Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh" project supported by the Carter Centre and funded by USAID.

ACD Project Coordinator Subrata Kumar Paul gave an illustration on the issue related to RTI during his concept paper presentation, while Information Friend of the Carter Centre Sabrina Naz highlighted the significance of the RTI Day. Divisional Director of the Department of Mass Communication Farhad Hossain and journalists Kazi Shahed, Rashidul Haque and Moudud Rana spoke on the occasion as resource persons disseminating their expertise on the issue.

The discussants unanimously viewed that successful implementation of the RTI act can be the best way of supplementing the government efforts of achieving the SDGs by 2030.

Full-length implementation of the RTI act with unhindered flow of information by all government and non-government organizations concerned needs to be ensured for expediting development and ensuring good governance everywhere in the society.

The meeting was told that the project is being implemented in Ward Number 5 and 6 of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) and Gogram and Matikata unions of Godagari upazila, Chanduria and Saranjai unions of Tanore upazila and Damkura and Haripur unions of Rajshahi district.

As a whole, the project is intended to create an enabling environment where women, especially Dalit and Marginalized are able to enjoy Right to Information from government and non-government agencies for protecting their fundamental Rights.

Farhad Hossain said the present government under the prudent and visionary leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has adopted diversified steps to attain the goals within stipulated time.

"Implementation of RTI act has become crucial for the sake of establishing good governance in the society and enhancing transparency and accountability in all tiers of public services," he added.



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Two information commissioners appointed

24 Aug 2023, 20:22 | BSS



DHAKA, Aug 24, 2023 (BSS)- The government has appointed two information commissioners today.

The newly appointed two information commissioners are journalist Masuda Bhatti and retired Inspector General Registration Shahidul Alam Jhinuk.

The President appointed the information commissioners under section 15 (1) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, 2009, an official release said.

Masuda Bhatti will replace former Information Commissioner Suraiya Begum while Shahidul Alam Jhinuk will replace to the position of Dr Abdul Malck who was appointed as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) on March 21, 2023.



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RTI can improve marginalized women's living conditions enormously

20 Jul 2023, 17:50 | BSS



RAJSHAHI, July 20, 2023 (BSS)- Living and livelihood conditions of the grassroots marginalized women can be improved immensely after the best uses of the Right to Information (RTI).

The RTI is also helpful towards ensuring climate change adaptation, justice and social accountability.

So, all the government, non-government and other stakeholders, particularly the local government institutions, should come forward and work together in this field.

Government officials, public representatives and development activists unanimously came up with the observation while addressing an advocacy meeting on the issue at Hotel Warisan in the city today.

On behalf of the "Advancing Women's Right of Access to Information in Bangladesh" project, the Association for Community Development (ACD) organized the meeting supported by the Carter Centre.

Director of the Department of Mass Communication Farhad Hossain, Additional Chief Engineer of Barind Multipurpose Development Authority Dr Abul Kashem and its Superintending Engineer Shariful Haque addressed the meeting as focal persons with ACD Executive Director Salima Sarwar in the chair.

Programme Manager of the Carter Centre Rokhsana Afroz and ACD Project Coordinator Subrata Kumar Paul illustrated the aims, objectives and implementation strategy of the project.

Deputy Director of the Department of Agriculture Extension Mozder Hossain, District Education Officer Nasir Uddin, Editor of the Daily Sonar Desh Akbarul Hassan Millat and Union Parishad Chairman Mujibur Rahman also spoke.

The meeting was told that the project is being implemented in Ward Number 5 and 6 of Rajshahi City Corporation (RCC) and Gogram and Matikata Unions of Godagari upazila, Chanduria and Saranjai Unions of Tanore upazila and Damkura and Haripur Unions of Rajshahi district.

As a whole, the project is intended to create an enabling environment where women, especially Dalit and Marginalized are able to enjoy Right to Information from government and non-government agencies for protecting their fundamental Rights.



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Self disclosure of information crucial to execute RTI act: CIC

20 Jul 2023, 19:45 | BSS



JASHORE, July 20, 2023 (BSS) – Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) Dr Abdul Malek today said self disclosure of information is very crucial to fulfill the expectation of the people as mentioned in the Right to Information Act (RTI).

Chief Information Commissioner said this while addressing a workshop of NGOs at Deputy Commissioner's conference room here today.

The workshop titled "RTI Act: NGOs Self disclosure of Information" was arranged by district administration with the support of NGOs.

With Deputy Commissioner of Jashore Md Tamizul Islam Khan in the chair, the workshop was addressed, among others, by NGO Affairs Bureau Director General Sheikh Md Moniruzzaman as special guest,

the release added.

Hasibur Rahman Mukur, executive director of the Management Resource Development Initiative (MRDI), discussed the Right to Information Act.

A total of 76 NGO representatives from eight upazilas of Jashore district participated in the workshop.

Describing the Right to Information Act as one of the tools of good governance, transparency and accountability, Dr Malek said, "The RTI act was passed in the parliament in April, 2009 to ensure people's right to information."

Proper execution of the act would help ensure good governance, transparency and accountability at all level of national spheres.

The CIC underscored the need for ensuring availability of the information from government offices, departments, organizations as well as foreign funded NGOs.

Abdul Malek also gave emphasis on ensuring everyone's right to receive the aforesaid information.



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