

THE POSITION OF WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: AN ANALYSIS

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Abstract:

Women and development are closely related to Bangladesh because women are almost half of the population of the country. This study is based on the secondary data. The study aims at examining the position of women in Bangladesh. Statistical tools such as percentage, frequency table and chi-square statistic were applied for analyzing data. The study reveals that only 6.33% women parliament members are elected in direct parliament election in 2008. A poor number (13.04%) women ministers are in the present cabinet. Only 30.77% women are in the presidium members of Bangladesh Awami-League. Only 10.53% women are in National Standing Committee of BNP. The number of women in higher education is very poor. The number of women in central administration and field administration is also poor. As a whole, the position of women is in a nascent stage. This paper draws some recommendations to overcome this situation.

Key words: Position, Education, Administration, Politics, Economic Activity, Violence

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Introduction:

The position of women in Bangladesh is much lower than that of men. Women represent a half of the country's human resources and thus a half of its potential. The development of any country is not possible keeping this huge majority of people neglected. The position of women in our country is unfortunate. The women especially who live in the rural areas are passing inhuman life. Rights and liberty is the dream to them. The number of women is not enough in our administration. Very few women are involved in politics. The political status of our women is not satisfactory. Participation of the women in our economic activities is also very poor. They are legally ignored and technologically deprived. In other words, women are neglected in almost all the spheres of their life. However, in recent years many steps have been taken so as to increase the participation of women in the political system. Now women have successfully challenged social and religious prejudices. They are now playing a vital role in various sectors in the public arena. From the dawn of the civilization women and men worked together to make the future brighter. Some socially determined factors created a cultural hemisphere, which pushed the civilization not to think women as equal to the men. This cultural phenomenon must be changed. Jawaharlal Nehru said "You can tell the condition of the nation by looking at the status of women". Participation of the women in development is very essential for the socio-economic development of a country. Our national poet kazi Nazrul Islam wrote-the good done by the civilization, half created by man and rests by the woman. This is an eternal statement about the development of human civilization. Not only the government but also various non-governmental organizations have done a lot so as to improve the status of women in our society. Employment opportunities have been stronger for women than for men in the last decade. Women in decision making level are increasing day by day. Mainstreaming and women empowerment is central to human development. Empowerment of women could only be achieved if their economic and social status is improved. We are hopeful women in Bangladesh now participate in all activities such as education, politics, media, art and culture, service sectors, science and technology, etc. The women of Bangladesh can now look forward with pride and hope for having some outstanding and significant moments that have taken place in the last two decades for their all out development.

However, the socio-economic conditions are not in favor of outstanding status of our women. Moreover religious ignorance and narrowness is one of the most important causes of suppression

of women. In present world woman rights is the burning issue. Women's rights are central to achieving gender equity. Many organizations and NGOs are working in our country to protect and preserve the women's rights and welfare. Mobilizing for such rights is an important strategy which women's rights organizations often adopt (Nazneen 2011). It is in this context it is very necessary to know the position of women in our country. This study will help a lot to understand the position of women in Bangladesh. The study aims at examining the position of women in Bangladesh.

Review of Related Literature:

(Abdullah, 2008) made a study on "Women of Bangladesh in Economic Development: Some illustrations of Gender inequality, challenges and its possible Remedies". In this study she showed that the adult literacy rate of women in 2003 is only 31.4 and youth literacy rate of women in 2003 is 41.1%. In the same period male rate is 62% and 71% that is; the status of women education is far behind the status of men education. She also showed that there is discrimination in higher education between male and female. Gender disparity remains between male and female in terms of economic activities. Women are more under privileged than men in terms of the quality of nutrition and health care. Dowry system still exists in the society. Physical violence against women is the most common factor in Bangladesh. 835 cases of rape and attempted rape and 130 cases of acid attacks on women reported in the media in 2005. She also showed that poverty is larger in case of the female headed family. In this study she draws some suggestions like awareness program, arranging workshops and seminars, equal access to health care, quality education at all levels, vocational guidance, employment, wages and removal of all forms of violence against women.

(Begum, 1994) wrote an article on "The Issue of Literacy and Women's Role in the Development Process". She showed in her article that there is a positive impact of mother's literacy on child-health, family planning adoption and education of children. Socio-economic development of a country depends very much on women's participation in the development process. Therefore, women's literacy is essential. But a major constraint to the provision of women's literacy lies on economic and social hindrances in various societies. This is why state alone can not solve this problem without the cooperation of the society and the family. So it is necessary to take steps to transform society at both micro (household) and macro (community)

levels. In this regard everybody (like state, NGO, civil society, political party, women organization or any other organization) can play an important role for the women's participation in the development process.

(Chowdhury, 1994) wrote an article entitled "Women in Politics". In her article she discussed about the Forward-looking Strategies and Fourth World Conference on Women on the issue of women's political participation. She further showed women's political participation in Bangladesh in her article. In Bangladesh women's movement is in a nascent stage. There are many women's organizations and groups engaged, basically, in research, mobilization and development oriented activities. Again she told in her article women is in minor position in decision making level or any highest position of work places. Work places have been traditionally male-centered and male-dominated. In this study she put some suggestions like fix a minimum quota for nomination of women as candidates for seats in the parliament through direct election, Encourage women to contest local level elections, promotion of women's education and so on.

(Hossain and Matubber, 1998) made a study on "Socio-Economic Characteristics of Rural Women Entrepreneurs in Bangladesh: A Case Study Of Kushtia District". They saw that rural women entrepreneurs were mostly young in age, less experienced and have poor level of education. All were married and their average monthly income was TK. 2056.00. They also saw that most of the respondents entered into business without prior training and their motivation for going into business was to bring financial solvency for their needy families. Capital size of majority ventures was TK.4000.00, which was supplied mostly by Non-governmental Organization's (NGOs). The rural female entrepreneurs are facing some problems such as shortage of capital; lack of integrated package assistance; absence of proper training facilities; lack of information; socio-cultural constraints etc. These problems stand on the way of rural entrepreneurship development. In this study they put some recommendations like adequate financial support, separate credit fund allocation, need oriented training program, entrepreneurship development training program etc.

Objectives of the Study:

The study was undertaken with a view to achieving the following objectives:

1. To identify the position of women in education in Bangladesh

2. To examine the position of women in administration.
3. To investigate the position of women in decision making level.
4. To study the position of women in politics.
5. To identify the position of women in economic activities.
6. To study the violence against women in Bangladesh.

Methodology:

The information of this article is collected from secondary source. The sources are Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Labor Force Survey, Monitoring of Employment Survey, Welfare Monitoring Survey, Bangladesh Garments Manufacturing Exporting Agency, Ministry of Education, Bangladesh Bureau of Educational Information and Statistics, Election Commission of Bangladesh, Ministry of Public Administration of Bangladesh, Cabinet Division of Bangladesh, Ministry of Social Welfare and Women's Affairs of Bangladesh, Police Head Quarters, Ministry of home, Human Development Report, Related Websites, Journals, Publications, Research Works etc. In this study analysis of data (results) is presented using the software Ms-word and calculator. Statistical tools such as percentage, frequency table and chi-square statistic were applied for analyzing data. Where $\chi^2 = \sum \frac{O - E}{E}$ with degrees of freedom (df) = N-1 Here N, is the number of classes or Groups.

Analysis and Findings:

The position of women in education:

Women of our country are mostly dependent on the males for economical, social and family purposes. Freedom of women can not be ensured without educating our women. Empowerment of women mostly depends on freedom of women. So we should ensure education of women.

Table 1: General Education

Type of Institutions, Teachers and Enrolment

Type of I	Teachers				Enrolment			
	Men	%	Women	%	Men	%	Women	%
P.S.	213004	58.21	152921	41.79	7919837	49.49	8081768	50.51

S. S.	162708	77.67	46788	22.33	3158291	46.31	3661457	53.69
College	69442	79.17	18273	20.83	1034823	55.77	820810	44.23
U	9779	77.70	2806	22.30	293795	75.83	93638	24.17

Source: BANBEIS 2008

[Here (1) Two public universities that is National University and Open University are non-teaching university. Enrolment of these universities is not included. (2) Here Govt. & Non- Govt. Institutions are included. Where I=Institution, P.S. =Primary School, S.S. =Secondary School, U=University]

Table 1 reveals that there are 22.30 % female teachers and 24.17 % female enrolment in university education. If we want to ensure women empowerment we should ensure higher education of women. Primary education of women is higher than that of men. Secondary education of women is also higher than men. Status of our women in the higher education (like college education and university education) is not satisfactory. Here status of male is better than female status. Male teachers are more than female teachers in every sector of education. In secondary and higher education the number of female teachers is very poor (BANBEIS 2008). Without it, according to BBS (WMS-2009) female literacy rate is 50.4% and male literacy rate is 58.9%. So status of women in education is not satisfactory.

Position of women in administration in Bangladesh:

10% quota for gazette, 15% quota for non-gazette posts and 60% quota for women in primary teacher's recruitment are reserved.

Table 2: The position of women in Central Administration

Type	Men	%	Women	%	χ^2	P
Secretary	63	95.45	03	4.55	54.54	<.01
Additional Secretary	124	96.88	4	3.12	112.5	<.01
Joint Secretary	506	90.52	53	9.48	367.10	<.01
Deputy Secretary	1400	90.67	144	9.33	1021.72	<.01

Source: Ministry of Public Administration, Public Administration Computer Centre 2011. [Here DF=1 (one-tailed test), DF= Degrees of freedom]

Table 2 shows that according to the Ministry of Public Administration in 2011(as on 27 March 2011) only 3 secretaries are women that mean only 4.55% secretaries are women in central administration. There are only 4 additional secretaries, only 53 joint secretaries and 144 deputy

secretaries are women that mean only 3.12% additional secretaries, 9.48% joint secretaries and 9.33% deputy secretaries are women respectively. Although two women prime Ministers have headed the Government during the last 18 years (+2years Caretaker Government=20 years) and the leaders of the opposition in Parliament were also women, this does not reflect the gender composition of participation in highest level administration. There is significant difference between men and women in central administration.

Table 3: Women in Field Administration

Type	Male	%	Female	%	χ^2	P
Divisional Commissioners	07	100	00	00	7	<.01
Additional Divisional Commissioners	16	100	00	00	16	<.01
Deputy Commissioners	62	96.88	02	3.12	56.25	<.01
Upazila Nirbahi officers	410	91.52	38	8.48	308.90	<.01

Source: Ministry of Public Administration, Public Administration Computer Centre 2011 [Here DF=1 (DF= Degrees of freedom) [one tailed test]

Table 3 indicates that women in field administration are very poor (as on 27 March 2011). There is no female Divisional Commissioners and Additional Divisional Commissioners in our country. Only 2 Deputy Commissioners and 38 Upazila Nirbahi officers are women in our country that mean 3.12%Deputy Commissioners and 8.48% Upazila Nirbahi officers are women in our country (Ministry of Public Administration, Public Administration Computer Centre 2011). There is significant difference between men and women in field administration.

Table 4: Employment status of Women in Administration (%)

Outcome/ Impact Indicator	Source	Year	Men	W	χ^2	P
Percentage of women in first class government service	MoE	2007	88.4	11.6	58.98	<.01
Percentage of women in class- 11	MoE	2006	91.6	8.4	69.22	<.01

[Here DF=1 [one tailed test]; W =Women

Table 4 presents employment status of women is not good. Government, NGO's, women's organizations and civil society organizations should be very active to improve the employment status of women.

Table 5: Women's participation in civil administration (%)

Designation	1999		2006	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
Secretary	98.0	2.0	98.4	1.6
Additional Secretary	98.2	1.8	100	00
Joint Secretary	98.5	1.5	93.2	6.8
Deputy Secretary	98.9	1.1	88.3	11.7
Senior Assistant Secretary	91.0	9.0	84.3	15.7
Assistant Secretary	85.7	14.3	77.3	22.7
Total	91.5	8.5	85.0	15.0

Source: Human Development Report 2009

Table 5 presents that in 1999, 2% of secretaries are women and 1.8% of additional secretaries are women. The percentage of women in the following posts are joint secretary 1.5%; deputy secretary 1.1%; senior assistant secretary 9%; assistant secretary 14.3%; but in 2006, secretary 1.6%; additional secretary 0% ; joint secretary 6.8%; deputy secretary 11.7%; senior assistant secretary 15.7%; assistant secretary 22.7%. Therefore, the high level position of women in administration (secretary, additional secretary) is very poor. But the low level position of women in administration (assistant secretary to joint secretary) has developed if we compare between 1999 and 2006 (Human Development Report 2009).

According to ministry of Public Administration 2011 (as on 27 March 2011) there are no female vice- chancellors in any public universities. The only Bangladeshi female high commissioner is prof. Selina Mohsin in the maldives, the only female ambassador is Ismat Jahan in Belgium and the only deputy high commissioner is Mashfi imte Shams in Delhi. Here status of women is totally ignored. The first female deputy inspector general (DIG) is Fatema Begum. She is currently the only female DIG in Bangladesh. There are four female additional deputy inspector generals in Bangladesh. It is really good news for us in 2009, Bangladesh became the first Muslim nation to commit an all-female UN peacekeeping mission (Arzu et al 2010). Women in the bar-council are 9.4% and men are 90.6 % (Bar Council Report-2008).

Political and Administrative Position of women:

Women have been more politically stable in the last two decades. A quota has ensured women's presence in the National Parliament. However three of the nation's most important political posts are held by women-they are Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Leader of the Opposition Khaleda

Zia and Deputy Leader of the House Sayeda Sajeda Chowdhury. According to the Cabinet Division as on 19 December 2011, there are four female Cabinet Ministers and two state ministers in the 46 member cabinet of Bangladesh. 19 women in the present parliament were elected from general seats (EC 2008). The number of reserved seats for women in the parliament is 50. Now 69 women parliament member is in the 9 Jatiya Sangsad. According to Bangladesh Election Commission 2008 sixty women out of total 1538 candidates contested in the 9 parliamentary elections in Bangladesh. This figure exceeded the records of women candidates in previous parliamentary elections in the country.

Table 6: Present and Previous Parliamentary Elections Result

YEAR	MEN	%	WOMEN	%	χ^2	P
1996(7 th Parliament)	293	97.67	07	2.33	272.66	<.01
2001(8 th Parliament)	294	98	06	2	276.48	<.01
2008(9 th Parliament)	281	93.67	19	6.33	228.82	<.01

SOURCE: Bangladesh Election Commission. 2008 (Here DF=1) [One tailed test]

Table 6 shows that women winners in the direct parliament election are increasing. Therefore, the position of women in the parliament is increasing. It is a significant change in politics. But higher percentages of men are elected in the direct parliament election. There is significant difference between men and women in the parliamentary election result.

Table 7: Women Ministers in the Cabinet

Time	Men Minister	%	Women Minister	%	χ^2	P
1996---2001	34	89.47	04	10.53	23.68	<.01
2001---2006	56	93.33	04	6.67	45.06	<.01
2008-----	40	86.96	06	13.04	25.13	<.01

Source: Cabinet Division Bangladesh 2011 (Here DF=1) [one tailed test]

Table 7 indicates that the number of women ministers is increasing. This increasing is very slow. But higher percentages of men ministers are in the cabinet (Cabinet Division Bangladesh as on 19 December 2011). There is significant difference between men and women ministers in the cabinet

Women's participation in local government:

Women's participation in politics at local level is very much needed to strengthen democracy. Earlier participation of women in local level is very poor. Local government has initiated

different Programs to encourage women's participation in governance. Women are becoming very concerned about their rights and unnecessary cases. Local governments are compelled to facilitate their rights. Women were first elected to local bodies in 1973 .The Union Parishad Election of 1997 is a milestone in the history of political empowerment of women in Bangladesh. The Government of Bangladesh enacted a law for direct elections to reserve seats for women in local level elections. In 1997 through an act, the government reserved three seats for women in the union parishad where women members are elected from each of the three respective wards. Apart from the reserved seats women can also contest for any of the general seats. According to ADB Country Briefing Paper: Women in Bangladesh (2001); around 12828 women were elected as members in the 1997 local level elections .A total of 20 and 110 women were elected as chairpersons and members respectively for general seats .The Government has already issued different executive orders to ensure women members' participation in various decision making committees. The majority of women representatives regularly attended parishad meetings, but only a few of them participated in the deliberations and decisions.

The position of women in Political Parties:

Women's participation in politics at national level and at local level is very much needed to strengthen democracy. Our political environment is not favorable for our women .So the women do not feel interest to participate in our politics. The present position of our women in politics is not so respectable. There is limited female involvement in party hierarchical structures. However; women occupy the top leadership positions in each of the two largest parties.

Table 8: Bangladesh Awami League:

Member	Men	%	Women	%	χ^2	P
Presidium Members	09	69.23	04	30.77	1.92	<.25
Member of Secretaries	28	90.32	03	9.68	20.16	<.01

Sources: Bangladesh Awami League council 2009 (Here DF=1)

Table 8 shows that only 30.77% women are in presidium members and only 9.68% women are in member of secretaries of Bangladesh Awami-League. There are no females in its 20- member's advisory council (Bangladesh Awami League council 2009).There is significant difference between the status of men and women.

Table 9: Bangladesh Nationalist Party:

Committee	Men	%	Women	%	χ^2	P
National Standing Committee	17	89.47	02	10.53	11.84	<.01
National Executive Committee	113	93.39	8	6.61	91.12	<.01
Executive Committee	227	85.66	38	14.36	134.80	<.01

Source: Bangladesh Nationalist Party Council 2009 (Here DF=1) [one tailed test]

Table 9 indicates that only 10.53% women are in National Standing Committee, 6.61% women are in National Executive Committee and 14.36% women are in Executive Committee of BNP. There are no women in the chairperson's advisory council (Bangladesh Nationalist Party Council 2009). There is significant difference between the status of men and women. There are no women in the chairperson's advisory council.

Table (8 and 9) indicates that the number of women in our political parties is not satisfactory. Actually political parties never show the interests to put the women in the vital posts of the parties. From Table 9 and 10, there is significant difference between the status of men and women.

Social status of women in Bangladesh:

Social status of women is deep rooted in the mind set of a society, which contents in women and men both. In true sense social position of women depends on the progressiveness of state, society and individuals. It needs a movement to overcome social barriers, which already been started in our society.

Women in Decision Making Level:

True empowerment will only be reached when women take part actively in the decision making process of our country. Voting system is one of the measurements of decision making. For this we have to see the position of women's voting right. Historically Women's voting right was established long ago but women's participation in the political and national movement has been negligible. Women are still subordinated to men in many cases but they are coming out. Gradually women's participation is increasing. According to election commission of Bangladesh as on 31 december 2008 women voters constitute a little over a half of the total voters, but their representation in the parliament is not proportionate to the number of female voters. Of the total 81 Million voters, 41 million are women (EC-2008).

Table 10: Women in Decision Making Level

Outcome	S	Year	Male	F	χ^2	P
Proportion of national & local level elected person	E C	2008	70	30	16	<.01
Percentage of women in decision making positions in public sector	MoE	2008	82	18	40.96	<.01
proportion of female and male headed households with own house beneficiary	BBS	2007	69.39	30.61	15.04	<.01
Proportion of female & male headed households with own house non-beneficiary	BBS	2007	81.88	18.12	40.65	<.01

Here DF=1[one tailed test], S=Source, F=Female

Table 10 shows that women are in good position .Gradually women are increasing in decision making level. Now they are playing a vital role in decision making .The ratio of woman in decision making is not so bad but it is not satisfactory. However, women have the very minimum influence in decision making. Women are still under-represented in governance and decision making positions. There is significant difference between men and women in decision making.

Table 11: Women Participation in household decision making (%)

Gender	%	χ^2	P
Husband	20.1	64.62	<.01
Wife	9.2		
Husband-Wife together	70.7		
Total	100		

Source: BBS (WMS-2009), Here DF=2[one tailed test]

Table 11 reveals that women are in good position. But status of women is less than men. There is significant difference between observed frequency and expected frequency in household decision making.

The position of women in mainstream economic activities:

Economical status of the women in our country is not at all satisfactory. We can see the very minimum participation of our women in the national economic activities. Economical status of

women remains with the involvement of women in economic activities. This initiative is already been started in the frame of our state and society. Somehow women are dependent on others for the economic purposes. Recently the women of our country are coming out to work in various sectors for lessening the dependency. Employment, self-employment and entrepreneurship are the main segments of economic activities.

Table 12: Women in economic activities:

Outcome/Impact Indicator	Source	Gender	Base Year	Year Value	Current Year	Year Value
Labor force participation rate	LFS	Female	2005	29.2	2009	31.5
	MES	Male	2005	86.8	2009	87.2
Unemployment rate	LFS	Female	2005	7.0	2009	7.5
	MES	Male	2005	3.4	2009	4.3
Share of self – employed to total employed	LFS	Female	1999	26.6	2005	15.86
	BBS	Male	1999	51.4	2005	50.04
Wage rate by gender for non agriculture worker	BBS	Female	-	-	2009	161
		Male	-	-	2009	172
Wage rate by gender for agriculture worker	BBS	Female	-	-	2009	107
		Male	-	-	2009	148
Employment in garments industry by gender	BGM	Female	2001	75	2007	85
	EA	Male	2001	25	2007	15

The results in the table 12 indicate that female labors of our country are mainly concentrated in our garments industries (BGMEA 2007). There are a few female labors working in other industries. It is very unfortunate that the wages of these female workers are very low. Security and facilities of these female workers are very poor. However, the land owned by a household is mainly owned by men and women are deprived of this right. Land provides social status and political power as well as economic security. Women's landlessness reduces women's power in the household.

Violence against Women:

Violence against women is difficult to quantify because of unreliable statistics.

Table 13: Violence against Women

Year	Rape	Acid throwing	seriously injured	Others	Total
2005	2556	183	568	7561	10871
2006	2453	145	1205	7421	10622
2007	3345	147	676	9084	13244

Source: Police Head Quarter, Ministry of Home 2008

Table 13 indicates that violence against women is widespread. Rape and acid throwing are the most serious and frequently occurred form of violence against women. It is also found that violence against women is increasing day by day. In 2005 total 10871 incidents have been recorded. Thus 10622 and 13244 incidents have been recorded in 2006 and 2007 respectively. In 2007, 3345 women have been victimized by rape and 147 incidents of acid throwing have been recorded (Police Head Quarter, Ministry of Home 2008). Besides dowry related violence is one of the most important social problems of Bangladesh. There are many kinds of unpleasant customs in Bangladesh. Dowry is the most common unpleasant custom of those. It is against the success of our country. According to the statistics of Bangladesh Society for Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) 2011, 196 women were killed and 87 others tortured due to dowry related violence from January to October 2011. The socio-economic and cultural factors like criminalization of public arena, cultural-ideological factors, increasing unemployment, lawlessness, ineffective legal system etc. which have contributed to the increased violence against women. Integrated program (like National anti violence movement, support services, political commitment, legal reforms, extension of literacy program etc.) to accelerate status of women in the society is a must to combat violence against women.

Recommendations:

On the basis of the findings in this study, the following recommendations may be drawn

1. Ensuring women participation in decision making
2. Gender-neutral investments in health and education
3. Change of our mentality
4. Implementation of laws

5. Political commitment
6. Help civil society organizations and NGO's for the development of women.
7. Women should be provided enough safety and support to work.
8. Involving the women in national policy making.
9. To oppose women torture.
10. Research about women and gender equality.
11. Increasing social consciousness.
12. Parliamentary committee must be formed for women development.
13. Women development establishment and evaluation committee must be formed
14. Increasing the participation of women in administration.

Conclusion:

Twenty first century is ushering in an era of new hopes and aspirations for the women folk. Many women have already proven their skills and perfection in various sectors. Now a day women are working in our defense sector but their number is very few. From the above discussion it is clear that the number of women is not enough in our administration. The political status of our women is not satisfactory. Participation of the women in our economic activities is also very poor. They are legally ignored and technologically deprived. Violence against women still remains in our society. It is also found that 6.33% women member is in present parliament under the direct parliament election. 13.04% women minister in the present cabinet. The number of women in higher education is very low. At present only 4.55% secretaries 3.12% additional secretaries, 9.48% joint secretaries, 9.33% deputy secretaries are women. The number of women in field administration is very poor. Only 11.6% women are in first class government service but only 8.4% women are in 2nd class government service. Only 9.68% women are in member of secretaries and 30.77% women are in presidium members of Bangladesh Awami League. Only 10.53% women are in National Standing committee and 6.61% women are in National Executive committee of BNP. However, status of women in our country is increasing but not satisfactory. The active cooperation between men and women is a must for real development of a country, In this regard; collective efforts by government, NGOs and International organization can only accelerate the pace of women development and their deserved status in Bangladesh. Finally

women are playing a vital role in the economy of our country, so we need to ensure stable position of women in Bangladesh.

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