

Chapter-44

Ministry of Liberation War Affairs

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Liberation war is the most significant event in our national history. We became independent on 16 December, 1971. This freedom is achieved by the blood shading of million martyred maximum sacrifice and forgiveness of the freedom fighters and losing the chastity of our thousands mother and sister. Establishment of democracy, demolish of exploitation and deception, achievement of economic progress, self-dependency and worthy nation in the world are the sprits of great liberation war. Dignified the dignity of liberation war though the revived spirit of great liberation war overall Ministry of Liberation War Affairs is doing work diligently for the maintenance and construction of a unique memorable installation of great liberation war, provide different benefits to the freedom fighters, the great son of nation as their attainable honor.

2.0 Major Functions

- ❖ Preparation of the list of freedom fighters, publication in the gazette and preservation of declared list;
- ❖ Formulation of acts, rules and guidelines related to rights and benefits of the freedom fighters.
- ❖ Providing allowances and other benefits to the freedom fighters;
- ❖ Preparation of guidelines for preserving the history and of liberation war;
- ❖ Upholding the real history to the present and future generations;
- ❖ Ensuring of quota for freedom Fighters and their children in government, autonomous and semi- autonomous bodies;
- ❖ Construction of Independence Tower and preservation and maintenance of the burial sites/mass graves, front war points of liberation war;
- ❖ Celebration of the Independence and National day in appropriate manner including Mujibnagar Day, Shahid intellectual Day and Victory day.

3.0 Strategic objectives of the Ministry and their Relevance with Women's Advancement and Rights

3.1 **Ensure overall welfare of the freedom fighters:** Various self-employment generating training and micro finance facilities to the female members of the

freedom fighters, families will create opportunities for them to become self-reliant this will ensure their socio-economic security and their empowerment.

3.2 Inspire the ideals and spirit of liberation war among the present and future generations and strengthening patriotism: Making and screening of documentary films based on liberation war for displaying the true history of liberation war among the new generation, registration and control of organizations based on liberation war and providing grants and exalted the ideals and sprit of liberation war among the future generations is unimpeded though celebrating the national days with honor. It plays a vital role in ensuring the equal rights for men and women in these deeds.

3.3 preservation of history and memorials of liberation war: Development, preservation and maintenance of historical sites and mass graveyards, burial sites, confronted battlefields and construction of memorial tower, graveyards of martyrs etc; the preservation of memorial and history of liberation war is unimpeded through the development of different infrastructures including the preservation and eshibition of memorial/mementos of liberation war in museum. Women's participation alongside with men in these deeds is siren up day after day.

4.0 Role of Ministry of Liberation War Affairs on women's advancement and rights:

4.1 In spite of constitutional obligations there is an inequality of men and women in employment, facilities of easing, sights on wealth, rights of education and health service, rights of participation in social and political activities and many different fields. Women empowerment is the women self dependency, it will be possible to take discussion in family-society state. Women empowerment begins through the rights, competence, self-confidence when makes an women conscious. The Ministry of Liberation War Affairs has a vital role on this women empowerment. Taking self employment generating training the freedom fighters/their defendants will be able to contribute to the development of the society though micro-finance facilities. This will contribute to the socio-economic security, to become self-reliant and standard living of the female members of the freedom fighters families.

5.0 Priority Spending Areas and Benefits for Women's Advancement

Serial No.	Priority Spending Areas/Programmes	Impact on Women Development (direct/indirect)
1	2	3
1.	Provide different benefits to wounded freedom fighters and families of the martyrs of	Different state honorarium, medical allowance, ration etc. are provided to freedom fighters, wounded freedom fighters, families of martyrs of liberation war.

Serial No.	Priority Spending Areas/Programmes	Impact on Women Development (direct/indirect)
1	2	3
	liberation war including honorarium for freedom fighters.	About 50% of freedom fighters family members are female. So it has an impact on women development. To rehabilitate freedom fighters and their family members, trainings, micro-credits are provided. A good number of female participants are there. It ensures socio-economic uplift of women by creating job and income generation.
2.	Preservation of war fields, mass graveyard, graveyard of martyrs freedom fighters and monuments.	Identifying the places of war and reflecting the heroic deeds of freedom fighters the future generations are made aware of the great liberation war. Preservation and maintenance of mass graveyard, graveyard of martyrs of freedom fighters are in the priority of the ministry. It has not direct impact on women development.
3.	Programme inspiring the spirit of liberation war and preserve and promote history of liberation war.	“Mujibnagar memorial centre”, and “Inspiring the spirit of liberation war, and collection and presentation of their history of liberation war” programme plays an active role in spreading the spirit of liberation war and sense of patriotism among the new generation.
4.	Construction of freedom fighter complex building in District and Upazila level and providing housing facilities for landless and insolvent freedom fighters.	For the overall socio-economic welfare of freedom fighters District and Upailla level freedom fighters complex building is constructed. There will be office, freedom fighters library and commercial installations in each complex. Housing facility under housing project will enhance that socio-economic condition of freedom fighters with particular emphasis on women development.

6.0 Women’s Share in Ministry’s Total Expenditure

(Taka in Crore)

Description	Budget 2017-18			Revised 2016-17			Budget 2016-17		
	Budget	Women Share Women percent		Revised	Women Share Women percent		Budget	Women Share Women percent	
Total Budget	400266	112019	27.99	317174	86586	27.3	340605	92781	27.24
Ministry Budget	3986	284	7.13	2983	221	7.41	3012	1257	41.74
Development	420	98	23.35	235	72	30.54	466	130	27.88
Non-Development	3566	186	5.22	2748	149	5.44	2545	1127	44.28

Source: RCGP database

7.0 Success in Promoting Women's Advancement

7.1 Ministry of Liberation Affairs has taken several initiatives for the welfare of the Freedom fighters and families. Among them about 50% incumbent are women and girls. Through these activities, economic and social empowerment of women widens. As a result, participation of women in development activities increased which accelerated national development

- ❖ Number of Gazettes of real freedom fighter's (Beerangana) has been published during 16-17 financial year where 75 names of war heroines are included.
- ❖ Policy for the treatment of the wounded freedom fighters has been enacted so that a freedom fighter can get maximum tk 8 lakh for treatment abroad.
- ❖ Honorarium allowances for insolvent freedom fighters including women members are improving their living standards as well as ensuring their social security.
- ❖ The Ministry is providing training and micro-credit through BRDB to create employment for the freedom fighters and to improve the standard of their lives.
- ❖ A low priced ration scheme has been given the 7838 families of wounded and martyred freedom fighters.
- ❖ To rehabilitate freedom fighters, projects to construct freedom fighters complex are being implemented in every district and upazilla. Part of these complexes will be rented out for commercial use and the money received from that rent will be spent to rehabilitate the freedom fighters and their families.
- ❖ A project named "Construction of Residential cum commercial Building for Wounded Freedom Fighters at Gaznabi Road in Dhaka" is being implemented. To ensure accommodation facilities to the landless and insolvent freedom fighters. A project named 'construction of Housing for Landless & Underprivileged Freedom fighters' has been undertaken.
- ❖ Efficiency development training has been introduced for freedom fighters as well as their family members to enhance their skills for employment.

8.0 Recommendations for Future Activities:

- ❖ A comprehensive database for the women freedom fighters can be prepared also a special programme can be included to widely publicize the glorious stories of the women freedom fighters during the liberation war.