

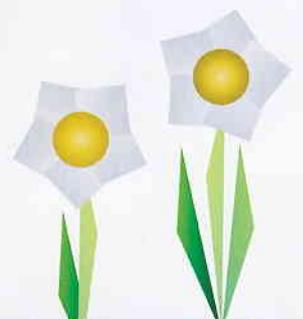
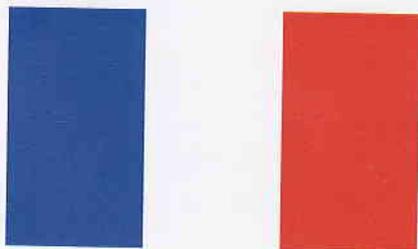
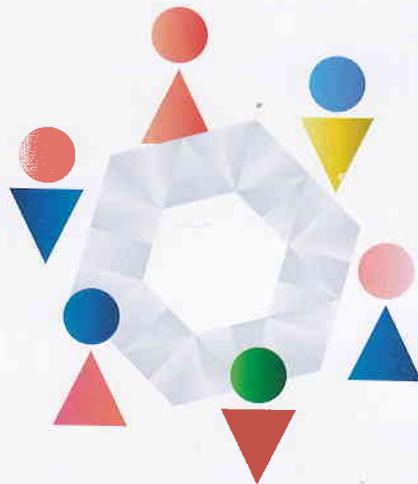
# 共同参画



## 内閣府

Special Feature

特集／各国の駐日大使からのメッセージ  
(各国の男女共同参画の取組)



## 特集 各国の駐日大使からのメッセージ(各国の男女共同参画の取組)

Bangladesh, Canada, France, New Zealand, Sweden, UK  
 6か国の駐日大使より、男女共同参画の取組に寄せたメッセージをご寄稿いただきました。

# Bangladeshにおける男女平等について 駐日 Bangladesh大使 ラバブ・ファティマ閣下 からのメッセージ



### 女性の変革と発展の推進者

私は女性初の駐日 Bangladesh大使です。私の国では、現在、数多くの「女性初」が起きています。政治、行政、司法、民間企業の要職に就くだけでなく、へき地で起業する女性も急激に増えています。伝統的な道徳規範は、女性の活躍を促進する現実的な政策に置き換わっています。女性は人口の半分以上を占めます。国が経済発展や貧困からの脱却を果たす中で、誰一人取り残されない経済発展が必要です。

私たちは、国の経済発展の中で女性の主流化を最優先事項と捉えており、女性の教育と経済的・社会的自立を重要課題としています。そのため、女性のための意欲的かつ大胆な開発戦略を策定し、ジェンダー予算を採用しました。女性の起業家は用地を提供され、金融機関から無利子の融資を受けられます。また、農村の女性や恵まれない女性の経済活動を支援する資金もあります。

Bangladeshは貧困や困難を抱える女性を対象としたマイクロファイナンスの先駆けであり、その成功は世界に広く知られています。女性には融資先としての信用力があり、ビジネスの才覚があることを証明し、女性に対する社会の伝統的な考え方を変えました。そして、経済的自立を通じて、女性は自分や家族に関する問題に積極的な役割を果たすことができるようになりました。

経済的・社会的自立には教育が重要であり、女性が教育を受けられるよう、多額の投資をしています。女性は高等教育までを無償で受けられます。教科書も無償で、奨学金を受けられます。小学校教員の60%を女性に割り当てています。初等教育就学

率はほぼ100%で、初等・中等教育では男女間の格差が解消され、この分野の平等指数は世界のトップです。

女性の経済的な地位向上は、男女平等の実現に大きく寄与します。そのため、安全で女性が働きやすい職場づくりに力を入れ、託児施設を用意しています。Bangladeshは世界第2位の既製服の輸出国で、縫製産業で働く労働者400万人の90%が女性です。また、公共サービス、司法機関、軍隊、国連PKOの指揮官、外交官その他の専門職やジャーナリスト、スポーツ界などでも女性が進出し、活躍しており、さらに、世界各地で働き、外貨獲得に貢献しています。



国連PKOに参加する女性兵士

一方、社会的包摂の実現を図るため、障害のある女性や高齢の女性、離婚女性、未亡人、母子家庭などの社会的に恵まれない女性を対象とした強力な社会的セーフティネットプログラムを開始しました。「一家庭、一農地」など、母子家庭を優先する画期的なプログラムでは、これまでに250万人余りの農村女性が直接恩恵を受けています。こうした政策は女性に対する伝統的な考え方や偏見を確実に変え、女性の地位を向上させています。

女性の政治参加と指導的立場での登用も進んでいます。1991年以来、総選挙で女性が首相に選出されています。国会では、初めて、議長、院

内総務、野党代表が女性です。女性国会議員は72名で、そのうち50席が女性への割り当て議席です。各政党は2020年までに党委員会に占める女性割合を33%以上にすることが義務付けられています。地方自治体の女性割当議席は3分の1(33%)で、12,500名以上の女性議員がいます。2017年のGGIは、政治分野が7位で、総合評価では47位。周辺諸国や多くの先進国をも上回っています。シェイク・ハシナ首相は、女性支援の取組により、「Global Women's Leadership Award」など、数々の国際的な賞を受賞しています。



国会で答弁するシェイク・ハシナ首相

私が今あるのはBangladeshが変わったおかげです。国が発展と進歩を遂げる中、女性が然るべき地位を占めるようになってきました。私自身、教育の役割や機会の大切さを実感しています。機会があったからこそ、今の私があるのです。私の世代は、女性の権利と発展を推進する強力かつ大胆なリーダーシップがあるという幸運に恵まれました。それでも、新たな障壁を毎日打ち壊し続けながらも、なすべきことはまだまだ多いと感じています。根強く残る文化や社会の壁は撤廃しなければなりません。労働市場で女性がさらに活躍するための措置も必要です。男女平等は憲法に規定されたものであり、全ての場面で男女の50:50の参加が実現するまで、私たちは頑張ります。

## **Women in Bangladesh: *agents of change and development***

**Rabab Fatima**  
**Ambassador of Bangladesh to Japan**

I am the first Bangladeshi woman ambassador to Japan. There are many such 'firsts' happening to women in Bangladesh. For the first time there is a woman speaker, leader of the house, deputy leader of the house and the leader of the opposition in the nation's parliament. Successively since 1991, women have been elected as prime minister through popular voting. Women's political advancement is a reflection of the change in society as a whole. Women's participation in every sector has grown – from the highest echelons of the government, judiciary, and corporate houses, to the burgeoning self-employed women entrepreneurs in the remotest villages. Traditional societal mores have given way to pragmatic policies facilitating women's active participation in development. After all, half the population of the country cannot be left out of the development process and the ambitious plans to lift the country out of poverty towards a self-reliant, progressive Bangladesh. As Bangladesh advances, we are making sure that no one is left behind.

We have placed highest priority to mainstream women in the country's development process, prioritizing on women's education, and economic and social self-reliance. We have an ambitious and bold pro-women development strategy, which aims at ensuring equal opportunity for women. To support such measures, we have adopted gender responsive budgets. Women entrepreneurs receive industrial plots and funds at concessional rates from banks and non-bank financial institutions to set up business. Special funds are set aside to support income generating activities for rural and marginalized women. Bangladesh's success in pioneering microfinance programmes targeting the poor and marginalized women is globally recognized. These programmes have shown the credit worthiness and business acumen of women, and contributed significantly to changing the traditional mindset about the perceived role of women in society. Economic self-reliance have made them play a more active role on matters related to their lives and that of their families.

We believe that access to education is key to ensuring economic and social self-reliance. With that objective, we have invested heavily in girls and women's education. Education up to the tertiary level is free for girls and women. They receive free textbooks and stipends. We have earmarked 60% of teaching positions at the primary school level for women. These proactive policies and measures for girls' education have led to almost 100 percent enrolment rate at primary school and gender parity at primary and secondary school levels. In fact, literacy rate of women at 78% surpass that of men which is 75%. Bangladesh has topped the Global Gender Gap Index<sup>1</sup> in the primary and secondary education category.

Economic empowerment of women can make significant contributions to achieving gender equality. And for that we are laying emphasis on creating a conducive work environment for women by ensuring their security, providing them with accommodation facilities, as needed, and with crèche facilities, in and around their work places. Six months paid maternity leave are given for women in the public service. According to the World Bank, labour force involvement rate of women in Bangladesh stands at 57.60%<sup>2</sup>.

Bangladesh is the second largest exporter of readymade garments in the world and women represent 90% of the 4 million strong workforce in that crucial sector. Participation of women is also growing in other sectors and professions, including in the civil service, the judiciary, armed forces and other technical professions. The print and electronic media are now vibrant with the presence of many women journalists. We have sportswomen excelling in cricket, football and even scaling the world's highest peak, Mount Everest. Women from Bangladesh are serving in UN peacekeeping operations, including in command positions; women are diplomats; fighter pilots; and leading business entrepreneurs.

Bangladeshi women are making important contribution to foreign exchange earnings through their remittance as women migrant workers in various parts of the world. Nearly 700,000<sup>3</sup> such women are working abroad sending hard-earned remittances which is going towards educating their children and running their

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<sup>1</sup> World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Index 2017

<sup>2</sup> Bangladesh: Leading in Women Empowerment, Centre for Research and Information 2017

<sup>3</sup> Bureau of Manpower, Employment & Training (BMET), Government of Bangladesh

families. Women in Bangladesh are truly breaking all barriers and are now active development agents in the nation-building process.

Strong social safety nets programmes have been initiated to ensure social inclusion, especially of the marginalized and vulnerable women, such as those with disabilities, aged, divorced women, widows or women-headed households. Innovative programmes such as, “One House, One Farm” have been launched which gives priority to female headed households, directly benefitting over 2.5 million rural women since it was initiated. These measures are certainly changing traditional mindsets and prejudices against women and empowering them.

Political empowerment is another area where we have made remarkable strides. We have some outstanding political role models in the country. Bangladesh is perhaps the only country in the world today that has a woman prime minister, and women holding the position of speaker, leader of the opposition, and leader and deputy leader of the parliament. In the current parliament, there are 72 women members of parliament, including the 50 reserved seats for women. It has been made mandatory for all political parties to ensure 33% women membership in their party committees by the year 2020. One-third or 33% seats are reserved for women in the local government bodies, with over 12,500 women serving in such bodies. These measures have led to an increase in women’s participation in politics and leadership roles, and earned global recognition. Bangladesh is ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in terms of political empowerment of women out of 144 countries in the Global Gender Gap (2017)<sup>4</sup>. Overall, Bangladesh’s ranking is 47<sup>th</sup>, outperforming its neighbours and many advanced economies and societies.

Our efforts have not gone unnoticed. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina received a number of international awards, such as the ‘Global Women’s Leadership Award’ (2017) for her outstanding leadership for the advancement in women’s education and entrepreneurship, and the ‘Planet 50-50 Champion’ and ‘Agent of Change Award’ (2016) for her role in women’s empowerment. UNESCO honoured her with the ‘Tree of Peace’ (2014) award which was given for promoting girls’ education and empowerment.

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<sup>4</sup> World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report 2017

I am a product of the transformative Bangladesh where women are taking their rightful place in the development and progress of the country. I recognize the importance of the role of education and having access to opportunities which made my achievements possible. My generation has been fortunate to have strong and bold leadership that advanced women's rights and development. As we continue to break new barriers every day, we also recognize that much still remains to be done. Lingering cultural and social barriers need to be done away with. Further measures need to be taken to prioritize women in the labour market and into the mainstream workforce. Gender equality is a constitutional commitment for us, and our endeavours will continue until we achieve 50:50 participation of women alongside men in every sphere of life.