

Gender Equality and Gaps in Income: An Approach to Explore the Status of Bangladesh

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This paper seeks to illustrate the synopsis of gender equality and the gaps in income in the prospect Bangladesh's initiatives to meet the UN Sustainable Development Goal SDG-5. In this study the secondary data sources from different organizations, published academic journal articles and reports related to the area have been analyzed to explore the objectives of this research.

This study analyzes data from 2006 to 2016 to explore the gender inequality gaps in income in Bangladesh. The analyzed data reveal that in terms of score of male-female ratio of labor force participation, Bangladesh's position in last ten years in an improving trend while in terms of score of wage equality for similar work the value confess and decreasing trends which indicates the demotion of Bangladesh. Moreover, in terms of male-female ratio of legislators, senior officials, and managers the trends for Bangladesh during the mentioned period also reveal demotion continuity. Furthermore, the male-female ratio of professionals and technical workers shows that Bangladesh's score during the period kept a steady increase.

However, based on the findings it is suggested that urgent measures are needed to tackle gender and other inequalities in Bangladesh, which result in women's lower economic status. These include implementing living wages, increasing access to social protection, putting in place progressive tax policies that will finance good quality universal public services and recognizing, reducing and redistributing unpaid care work. These actions should take into account consideration of how to extend benefits to the informal economy where many women are concentrated. Decent work, one of the Sustainable Development Goals, can be one of the principal solutions to growing inequality, if those in power drive the transformation of 'low road' jobs to 'high road' jobs.