

রেজিস্টার্ড নং ডি এ-১ “জাতির পিতা বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমানের
জন্মশতবার্ষিকী উদ্‌যাপন সফল হোক”



অতিরিক্ত সংখ্যা
কর্তৃপক্ষ কর্তৃক প্রকাশিত

মঙ্গলবার, অক্টোবর ২৭, ২০২০

Government of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh
Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
Legislative and Parliamentary Affairs Division

NOTIFICATION

Dated : 21 October 2020

S.R.O. No. 278-Law/2020.—In exercise of the powers conferred by section 11 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 2018 (Act No. XXXIX of 2018), the Government is Pleased to publish the following English Text of the Act to be called the Authentic English Text of the Act :

**The Dowry Prohibition Act, 2018
Act No. XXXIX of 2018**

**An Act to repeal and, in response to the needs of time, make afresh
the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980 related to prohibition of taking
or giving dowry at the time of, or before, the marriage or
during the existence of marital relationship**

WHEREAS it is expedient and necessary to repeal and , in response to the needs of time, make afresh the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980 (Act No. XXXV of 1980) related to prohibition of taking or giving dowry at the time of, or before, the marriage or during the existence of marital relationship;

THEREFORE, it is hereby enacted as follows :—

(১০৭৩৫)

মূল্য : টাকা ৪.০০

1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) This Act may be called the Dowry Prohibition Act, 2018.

(2) It shall come in to force at once.

2. **Definitions.**—In this Act, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context,—

- (a) **“Party”** means, for the purposes of this Act, the bride or the bridegroom of the marriage or the parent of the bride or bridegroom or, in the absence of the parent of the bride or the bridegroom, the legal guardian thereof or any other person directly involved in the marriage from the side of the bride or the bridegroom; and
- (b) **“Dowry”** means money or any other asset demanded, directly or indirectly, or given or agreed to be given by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage, as the consideration for the marriage at the time of, or before, the marriage or during the existence of marital relationship as the precondition of marriage, or on condition of continuing the marriage, but does not include dower or mehr in the case of persons to whom the Muslim Personal Law (Shariat) applies or the presentation given to the either party to a marriage at the time of the marriage by the relatives, friends or well-wishers of the parties to the marriage.

3. **Penalty for demanding dowry.**—If any party to a marriage demands, directly or indirectly, dowry from other party to the marriage, it shall be an offence under this Act and for that reason, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 (five) years, but not less than 1 (one) year, or with fine not exceeding 50,000 (fifty thousand) Taka, or with both.

4. **Penalty for giving or taking dowry, etc.**—If any party to a marriage gives or accepts dowry, or abets to give or take dowry, or makes agreement for giving or taking dowry, such act shall be an offence and for that reason, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 (five) years, but not less than 1 (one) year, or with fine not exceeding 50,000 (fifty thousand) Taka, or with both.

5. **Agreement on dowry to be void.**—For carrying out the purposes of this Act any agreement for giving or taking of dowry shall be void.

6. **Penalty for filing false case, etc.**—If any person, with intent to affect another person, files or causes to file a case or makes or causes to make a complaint against the person knowing that there is no just or legal ground for filing a case or making a complaint, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 (five) years, or with fine not exceeding 50,000 (fifty thousand) Taka, or with both.

7. **Offences to be cognizable, non-bailable, etc.**—The offences committed under this Act shall be cognizable, non-bailable and compoundable.

8. **Trial of offence, etc.**—The Provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (Act No. V of 1898) shall apply to the investigation, trial, appeal and other concerned matters of the offences committed under this Act.

9. **Power to make rules.**—For carrying out the purposes of this Act, the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, make rules.

10. **Repeal and savings.**—(1) Upon the commencement of this Act, the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980 (Act No. XXXV of 1980), hereinafter referred to as the said Act, is hereby repealed.

(2) Notwithstanding such repeal under sub-section (1), if any case, filed under the said Act, is pending, or under investigation or ongoing, it shall continue as if the said Act had not been repealed.

11. **Publication of Authentic English Text.**—(1) After the commencement of this Act, the Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, publish an Authentic English Text of this Act.

(2) In the event of conflict between the Bangla and the English text, the Bangla Text shall prevail.

By order of the President

মুহঃ জাকির হোসেন
যুগ্মসচিব (লে.অ.)।