

Legal FAQ's For Bangladesh

1. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FAQs

Q: How to file a domestic violence complaint in Bangladesh?

A: Steps to File Domestic Violence Complaint: 1) Go to nearest police station or court 2) File First Information Report (FIR) under Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2010 3) Collect medical certificates if injured 4) Gather evidence like photos, witness statements, medical reports. Required Documents: National ID card, marriage certificate if applicable, medical reports of injuries, photos of injuries or damaged property, witness statements. Legal Process: Police will register the case, investigation will be conducted, court proceedings will begin, protection orders can be requested immediately. Helplines: National Emergency 999, Women and Children Helpline 109, Legal Aid contact local legal aid societies.

Q: What protection orders are available for domestic violence victims?

A: Protection Orders Available: Emergency protection orders valid for 10 days, interim protection orders until final hearing, final protection orders up to 1 year renewable. Types of Protection: Restraining order against perpetrator, exclusive possession of shared residence, maintenance and compensation orders, child custody and visitation arrangements. How to Obtain: Apply to Family Court or Metropolitan Sessions Court, can be filed with or without lawyer, court must decide within 60 days, violation of protection order is punishable by imprisonment.

Q: What is the punishment for domestic violence in Bangladesh?

A: Under Domestic Violence Prevention and Protection Act 2010: Imprisonment up to 2 years, fine up to 1 lakh taka, or both. Additional penalties under Penal Code 1860: Physical assault carries imprisonment up to 2 years, grievous hurt carries imprisonment up to 7 years, dowry-related violence carries imprisonment up to 5 years. Civil remedies: Compensation to victim, maintenance orders, custody arrangements, property rights protection.

Q: How to get legal aid for domestic violence cases?

A: Legal Aid Sources: National Legal Aid Services Organization NLASO provides free legal assistance, District Legal Aid Committees in all districts, Upazila Legal Aid Committees at sub-district level, specialized women's legal aid organizations. Eligibility: Annual income below poverty line, women and children get priority, disabled persons eligible, senior citizens above 65 years eligible. Services

Provided: Free legal advice, court representation, document preparation, mediation services, awareness programs.

Q: What evidence is needed for domestic violence cases?

A: Physical Evidence: Medical certificates showing injuries, photographs of injuries and damaged property, hospital records and treatment documents, police reports if filed. Documentary Evidence: Written threats or abusive messages, financial documents showing economic abuse, witness statements from neighbors or family members, marriage certificate and related documents. Digital Evidence: Text messages, emails, audio recordings, social media posts, call records. Expert Evidence: Medical expert testimony, psychological evaluation reports, social worker assessments.

2. CYBERCRIME & DIGITAL SECURITY FAQs

Q: How to report cybercrime in Bangladesh?

A: Online Reporting: Visit www.cid.police.gov.bd, fill out cybercrime complaint form, upload supporting evidence. Offline Reporting: Visit nearest police station, go to CID Cyber Crime Investigation Division, file complaint at Cyber Tribunal. Required Information: Details of incident, screenshots and evidence, financial loss details if any, suspect information if known. Contact Points: CID Cyber Crime Hotline +88-02-9362633, Email cyber@police.gov.bd, Emergency 999. Investigation Process: Police will register FIR, digital forensics investigation, court proceedings under Digital Security Act 2018.

Q: What are the penalties for online harassment under Digital Security Act?

A: Section 25 Offensive False Information: Imprisonment up to 3 years, fine up to 3 lakh taka, or both. Section 26 Cyber Stalking: Imprisonment up to 5 years, fine up to 10 lakh taka, or both. Section 28 Religious Communal Hatred: Imprisonment up to 5 years, fine up to 10 lakh taka, or both. Aggravating Factors: Repeat offenses carry doubled penalties, using fake identity increases punishment, targeting minors results in enhanced penalties. Additional Consequences: Criminal record, compensation to victims, possible civil lawsuits.

Q: What constitutes cyberbullying and how to handle it?

A: Definition: Repeated hostile behavior online intended to harm, intimidate or harass. Examples: Sending threatening messages, posting embarrassing photos without consent, spreading false rumors online, creating fake profiles to defame someone. Legal Provisions: Digital Security Act 2018 Section 25 for defamation, Section 26 for stalking, Information and Communication Technology Act for harassment. How to Handle: Document all evidence, report to platform

administrators, file complaint with cyber crime unit, seek legal advice, inform school or workplace if relevant.

Q: How to protect yourself from online fraud?

A: Prevention Measures: Never share personal information online, use strong unique passwords, verify websites before making payments, be cautious of unsolicited emails or calls, regularly monitor bank statements. Red Flags: Urgent payment requests, too-good-to-be-true offers, poor grammar in official communications, requests for advance payments, unverified websites or apps. If Victimized: Immediately contact your bank, report to cyber crime unit, preserve all evidence, change all passwords, monitor credit reports, file police complaint with all documentation.

Q: What are the privacy rights under Digital Security Act?

A: Privacy Protections: Section 27 prohibits unauthorized access to personal data, Section 30 protects against illegal surveillance, Section 32 prevents unauthorized collection of personal information. Data Protection Rights: Right to know what data is collected, right to correct inaccurate information, right to delete personal data, right to restrict processing, right to data portability. Violations and Penalties: Unauthorized data collection carries imprisonment up to 3 years, illegal surveillance carries imprisonment up to 5 years, data breach notification required within 72 hours.

3. PROPERTY & LAND LAW FAQs

Q: How to verify land ownership in Bangladesh?

A: Document Verification: Check original deed and title documents, verify at Sub-Registrar Office, check mutation records at Union Parishad or Municipality, review land survey records. Online Verification: Visit land.gov.bd, use plot number and mouza information, check RS SA BS survey records, verify current owner name. Physical Verification: Visit land location, check boundary markers, talk to neighbors, verify with local UP or Municipal office. Required Documents: Original sale deed, mutation documents, tax receipts, survey settlement papers. Warning Signs: Multiple sale deeds for same land, missing mutation records, disputed ownership claims, pending court cases.

Q: What is the process for buying land in Bangladesh?

A: Pre-Purchase Steps: Verify ownership documents, check for any encumbrances or disputes, ensure proper mutation and tax payments, confirm zoning and land use permissions. Legal Documentation: Preparation of sale deed, registration at Sub-Registrar Office, payment of registration fees and stamp duty, mutation of ownership records. Required Documents: Original title

documents, mutation certificates, tax clearance certificates, NOC from relevant authorities, survey records and maps. Post-Purchase: Update mutation records, transfer tax liability, obtain new ownership documents, register with local authorities.

Q: How to resolve land boundary disputes?

A: Initial Steps: Gather all land documents, conduct fresh survey if needed, attempt negotiation with neighbor, seek mediation through local leaders. Legal Options: File case in Assistant Commissioner Land Revenue Court, appeal to District Collector if unsatisfied, final appeal to High Court Division. Evidence Required: Original survey documents, boundary stone locations, witness statements from old residents, aerial photographs if available, expert surveyor testimony. Alternative Resolution: Village arbitration through shalish, mediation through local government, settlement through compromise deed.

Q: What are the inheritance laws for property in Bangladesh?

A: Muslim Inheritance: Governed by Muslim Personal Law, specific shares for heirs defined in Quran, male heirs get double share of female heirs, maximum one-third can be willed to non-heirs. Hindu Inheritance: Governed by Hindu Succession Act, equal rights for sons and daughters, widow gets one-third share, property can be willed freely. Christian and Other Communities: Governed by Succession Act 1925, complete freedom to will property, equal inheritance rights regardless of gender. Legal Process: Obtain succession certificate from court, prepare deed of partition among heirs, register inherited property, update mutation records.

Q: How to register property purchase in Bangladesh?

A: Registration Process: Prepare sale deed with lawyer assistance, both parties appear before Sub-Registrar, pay stamp duty and registration fees, registration completed within same day. Required Documents: Original title documents of seller, NOC from relevant authorities, tax clearance certificate, identity documents of both parties, photographs and witness information. Fees and Costs: Stamp duty varies by property value, registration fee 1% of property value, lawyer fees typically 1-2% of property value, survey and verification costs. Timeline: Document preparation 7-15 days, registration appointment within 3-7 days, mutation update 15-30 days.

4. FAMILY LAW FAQs

Q: How to file for divorce in Bangladesh?

A: For Muslims under Muslim Family Laws Ordinance 1961: Talaq - husband pronounces divorce with 90-day waiting period, Khula - wife seeks divorce

through court, Mubarat - mutual consent divorce. For Non-Muslims: File petition in Family Court, grounds include cruelty desertion adultery, court proceedings and hearings required. Required Documents: Marriage certificate, National ID cards, proof of grounds for divorce, financial documents, children's birth certificates if applicable. Legal Process: File petition in appropriate court, serve notice to other party, court hearings and mediation, final decree of divorce. Financial Settlements: Alimony and maintenance, child support, property division, dower mehr for Muslim marriages.

Q: What are the child custody laws in Bangladesh?

A: Muslim Law: Custody of young children typically with mother, custody of boys transfers to father at age 7, custody of girls transfers to father at puberty, court considers child's best interest. Non-Muslim Law: Court decides based on child's welfare, no gender-based automatic custody rules, both parents have equal rights, child's preference considered if mature enough. Factors Considered: Financial stability of parents, moral character and conduct, child's educational needs, emotional attachment, domestic environment quality. Modification: Custody orders can be modified, change in circumstances required, court hearing necessary, child's welfare remains paramount.

Q: How to get maintenance for wife and children?

A: Legal Basis: Muslim Personal Law for Muslims, Family Courts Ordinance for all communities, Domestic Violence Act for protection cases. Types of Maintenance: Interim maintenance during proceedings, permanent maintenance after divorce, child support until majority, medical and educational expenses. Calculation Factors: Husband's income and assets, wife's financial needs, children's requirements, standard of living during marriage, duration of marriage. Enforcement: Family Court can attach salary, seize assets for non-payment, imprisonment for willful default, garnishment of bank accounts, contempt of court proceedings.

Q: What is the legal age for marriage in Bangladesh?

A: Current Legal Age: 18 years for girls, 21 years for boys under Child Marriage Restraint Act 2017. Penalties for Child Marriage: Imprisonment up to 2 years, fine up to 1 lakh taka, punishment for parents, guardians, and marriage officiator. Prevention Measures: Birth registration mandatory, verification of age required, social awareness programs, role of local government. Legal Remedies: Child marriage can be declared void, compensation for victims, protection and rehabilitation services, counseling and support services.

Q: How to adopt a child legally in Bangladesh?

A: Legal Framework: Guardian and Wards Act 1890, Muslim Personal Law prohibits adoption allows guardianship, Hindu Adoption and Maintenance Act for Hindus. Process for Guardianship: Apply to District Judge Court, home study and background verification, court hearing and evaluation, appointment of guardian with court supervision. Required Documents: Application with grounds, financial statements, character certificates, medical fitness certificates, home study report. Rights and Obligations: Legal guardianship not full adoption, child retains original family name, inheritance rights limited, guardian responsible for child's welfare, court supervision until majority.

5. CRIMINAL LAW FAQs

Q: How to file a criminal case in Bangladesh?

A: Types of Cases: Cognizable offenses - police can arrest without warrant, Non-cognizable - requires court permission, Bailable vs Non-bailable offenses. Filing Process Police Station for cognizable offenses: File First Information Report FIR, police investigation follows, charge sheet submitted to court. Direct Court Filing: File complaint case in Magistrate Court, for non-cognizable offenses, court issues process to accused. Required Documents: Written complaint with details, evidence and witness list, medical reports if applicable, photos and documents supporting case. Court Process: Charges framed, examination of witnesses, arguments by both sides, judgment and sentencing.

Q: What are the rights of an arrested person?

A: Fundamental Rights: Right to know grounds of arrest, right to legal representation, right to remain silent, right to be produced before magistrate within 24 hours, right to bail in bailable offenses. During Arrest: Police must inform family members, medical examination if requested, no torture or cruel treatment, female arrested by female officer if possible. Legal Protections: Right against self-incrimination, right to fair trial, right to appeal, right to compensation for wrongful arrest, right to interpreter if needed. Remedies for Violation: File writ petition in High Court, complaint to Police Headquarters, human rights commission complaint, compensation suit for damages.

Q: What is the bail process in Bangladesh?

A: Types of Bail: Police bail for minor offenses, court bail for serious cases, anticipatory bail before arrest, bail during trial proceedings. Bailable Offenses: Automatic right to bail, police or court can grant, reasonable bail amount, cannot be denied except special circumstances. Non-Bailable Offenses: Court discretion required, prosecution given opportunity to oppose, compelling reasons needed, conditions may be imposed. Bail Conditions: Regular appearance in court, not to

influence witnesses, surrender passport if applicable, local surety or bond, cash security if required.

Q: How to file a complaint against police misconduct?

A: Internal Mechanisms: Complaint to Station Officer, application to Superintendent of Police, complaint to Range Deputy Inspector General, petition to Inspector General of Police. External Oversight: National Human Rights Commission complaint, complaint to Deputy Commissioner, petition to High Court, complaint to Ombudsman office. Required Information: Details of misconduct incident, officer identification if possible, witness information, supporting evidence, date time and location. Legal Remedies: Departmental action against officer, compensation for damages, criminal prosecution if applicable, disciplinary measures, transfer or suspension.

Q: What are the procedures for witness protection?

A: Legal Framework: Witness protection under Criminal Procedure Code, special provisions for vulnerable witnesses, protection during investigation and trial. Types of Protection: Physical security arrangements, identity concealment measures, relocation assistance, financial support, psychological counseling. Application Process: Request through investigating officer, application to court, assessment of threat level, approval by designated authority. Protection Measures: Safe houses for accommodation, police protection, change of identity documents, secure transportation, closed circuit testimony, video conferencing for court appearance.

6. CONSUMER RIGHTS FAQs

Q: What are consumer rights in Bangladesh?

A: Basic Rights: Right to safety from harmful products, right to information about products and services, right to choose from variety of products, right to be heard in consumer forums, right to redressal of grievances, right to consumer education. Legal Framework: Consumer Rights Protection Act 2009, National Consumer Rights Protection Directorate, District Consumer Rights Protection Committees. Prohibited Practices: False advertising, adulteration of products, overcharging, substandard products, unfair trade practices, monopolistic behavior.

Q: How to file a consumer complaint?

A: Filing Process: Complaint to manufacturer or service provider first, escalate to district consumer protection officer, file case in consumer court if unsatisfied. Required Documents: Purchase receipt or proof of transaction, product warranty or guarantee, correspondence with seller, evidence of defect or poor service.

Remedies Available: Replacement of defective product, refund of purchase price, compensation for damages, correction of defects, discontinuation of unfair practice.

7. LABOR LAW FAQs

Q: What are the basic labor rights in Bangladesh?

A: Fundamental Rights: Right to fair wages, right to safe working conditions, right to form unions, right to collective bargaining, right to strike, protection from discrimination. Working Hours: Maximum 8 hours per day, 48 hours per week, overtime payment for extra hours, weekly holiday mandatory, annual leave entitlement. Termination Protection: Notice period required, compensation for termination, protection from arbitrary dismissal, right to hearing before termination.

Q: How to file a labor complaint?

A: Filing Process: Complaint to factory inspector, application to labor court, complaint to Department of Labor, petition to High Court. Types of Complaints: Wage disputes, working condition violations, unlawful termination, discrimination cases, workplace harassment, safety violations. Required Documents: Employment contract or appointment letter, salary statements and payment records, evidence of violation, witness statements, medical reports if applicable.

8. TAXATION FAQs

Q: What are the tax obligations for individuals in Bangladesh?

A: Income Tax: Annual income above exemption limit subject to tax, tax rates vary by income slab, mandatory filing of tax return, payment by specified deadlines. VAT: Value Added Tax on goods and services, registration required for businesses above threshold, monthly VAT return filing, input tax credit available. Other Taxes: Advance Income Tax on various transactions, withholding tax on salary and payments, property tax to local authorities.

Q: How to file income tax return in Bangladesh?

A: Online Filing: Visit online.nbrct.gov.bd, register for taxpayer identification number, fill return form online, upload supporting documents, submit and pay tax online. Required Documents: TIN certificate, salary certificates, bank statements, investment proofs, expense receipts, previous year assessment if applicable. Deadlines: Individual taxpayers by November 30, corporate taxpayers by December 31, extension possible with penalty, late filing carries additional charges.