

Press release

Bangladesh: A rally was held in Dhaka demanding tax justice

Thursday 26 January 2023, by [BKE](#), [KHAN Zayed Iqbal](#) (Date first published: 20 January 2023).

Today 20 January 2023, Friday, at 11 am in front of the National Press Club, a rally is held demanding "Tax justice".

Under the chairmanship of Comrade Badrul Alam, President of Bangladesh Krishok Federation, and under moderation of Zayed Iqbal Khan, General Secretary of Bangladesh Krishok Federation, freedom fighter labor leader Abul Hossain, Central Leader of Workers Party of Bangladesh, AAM Fayez Hossain, General Secretary, Bangladesh Workers Federation, labor leader Baharane Sultan Bahar, Jago Bangladesh Garment Workers Federation, Sramik Netri Lovely Yasmin, President, Readymade Garments Workers Federation, Asha Moni, Publicity Secretary, Bangladesh Kishani Sabha, Rehena Begum, Vice-President, Bangladesh Krishok Federation, Shahabuddin Matubbar and Jahangir Hossain, President and General Secretary respectively, Dhaka City Unit of Bangladesh Krishok Federation, student leader of Kabi Nazrul University College, Masud Paravez, student leader of Darul Najad Chiddikia Kamil Madrasa KM Mohiuddin Helali, among others, addressed the rally.



In the gathering, Comrade Badrul Alam stressed the importance of making the tax system of Bangladesh fair and said that the entire tax system should be adjusted to make the transition from the existing backward tax system to the progressive tax system. By progressive taxation he means higher taxes on those with higher incomes and lower taxes on those with lower incomes. Moreover he laid emphasis on widening and strengthening the scope of taxation by imposing wealth tax. He termed Value Added Tax (MUSAC) or VAT as unfair, saying that VAT has been imposed on everyone universally and at different levels due to which the rich get special benefits and the poor suffer. He demanded an end to the unfair VAT system. Speakers present at the rally said that the unfair tax system has brought great disaster to public life. People are becoming pauperized by paying taxes at every level of the buying and selling and supply chain. This unfair tax system is reproducing poverty and hunger in the society. They urged the government to exempt women and children from taxation.

Leaders call on the United Nations to promulgate a universal tax justice charter.

The leaders also demanded an end to tax evasion and tax holidays by domestic and international companies. They also said that the big companies and the super rich did not stop with tax evasion, they also illegally smuggled the country's wealth abroad and built cars and homes. Malaysia's MSH (My Second Home) and Canada's Begum Para are prime examples. The leaders demanded an end to money laundering through so-called tax havens.

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