



September 1, 2011

Human Rights Monitoring Report:

August 1-31, 2011

Political violence increases

Attack on a meeting organised by the National Committee for the protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port, at Sunamganj

Supreme Court lawyer died in police custody following his arrest

Five people shot dead by RAB at Uttara, Dhaka

Torture in custody for extracting information

Disappearance of persons and recovery of the dead after being picked up by law enforcement agencies

RAB threatens to pick up the complainant for filing a case against them for killing his son

Vagrant Act passed in Parliament, curtailing fundamental freedom

Freedom of the media

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Violence against Women

Lack of transparency in the India-Bangladesh Agreements

Odhikar defends the civil, political, social, economic and cultural rights of the people and as part of its mission, observes reports and analyses the human rights situation of Bangladesh. Odhikar documents and records violations of human rights and receives information from its network of local human rights defenders and by monitoring media reports in twelve national daily newspapers. Odhikar conducts detailed fact-finding missions into incidents of serious human rights violations.

In line with this campaign, an account of the human rights situation of Bangladesh covering the month of August 2011, is presented below:

Political violence increases

Attack on the motorcade of Acting Secretary General of BNP¹

1. On August 1, 2011, a group of Awami League supporters attacked the motorcade of the Acting Secretary General of BNP, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, in Laxmipur. At least 20 people, including 3 journalists were injured in this attack. Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir and his associates were returning after attending a meeting organised by Laxmipur District unit BNP in protest of the President's clemency to A H M Biplob, a son of Laxmipur Municipality Chairman and Awami League leader Abu Taher, who was accused in the murder of Advocate Nurul Islam. Supporters of Awami League attacked them near Awami League leader Abu Taher's house, when they were on their way to the house of BNP Parliamentarian, Shahid Uddin Chowdhury Annie. Twenty people including former MP and Joint Secretary General of BNP Mohammad Shahjahan; Sahab Uddin Chowdhury, Senior reporter of Radio Today; Tareque Salman, Staff Reporter of the daily Amader Shomoy; and Mohammad Mohsin, staff reporter of 24.com were injured.²

Teachers of Bangladesh Agricultural University attacked by Chhatra League

2. On August 7, 2011 two university students named Noor Mohammad and Arif were caught by security officers and handed over to police when they were snatching mobile phones from people at the Botanical Gardens of Bangladesh Agricultural University in Mymensingh. For this reason, a group of Awami League-backed Chhatra League activists attacked the car of Proctor Abu Hadi Nur Ali and the residence of a university teacher at 10.00 PM the same day. In protest of this incident, teachers brought out a procession on August 8 under the banner of Teachers Association. An altercation broke out between teachers and Awami League-backed Chhatra League activists when the procession reached Jabbar Mor in the campus. Chhatra League activists chased teachers with knives, iron rods and sticks and also threw bricks at them. Furthermore, Professor Mostafizur Rahman, the University's student affairs advisor and Mahbubul Protik Siddiqui, Assistant Professor of the Microbiology and Hygiene Department, were assaulted by Chhatra League activists. After being attacked by Chhatra League activists, Dr. Shubas Chandra Das, Associate Professor of the Poultry Science Department, was admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital with injuries.³

¹ BNP: Bangladesh Nationalist Party. The main Opposition party.

² The daily Amar Desh/ <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2011/08/02/96715>
Manabzami, 02/08/2011,

http://www.mzamin.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=15760:2011-08-01-16-29-21&catid=48:2010-08-31-09-43-22&Itemid=82 /Fact finding report of Odhikar

³ The daily Jugantor, 09/08/2011, <http://jugantor.us/enews/issue/2011/08/09/news0841.htm>, Amader Shomoy, 09/08/2011, <http://www.amadershomoy1.com/content/2011/08/09/news0636.htm>

3. According to information gathered by Odhikar in August 2011, 09 persons were killed and 847 injured in political violence. 24 incidents of internal violence in the Awami League and 09 in the BNP were also recorded during this period. In addition to this, 259 people were injured in Awami League internal conflict and 167 were injured in BNP internal conflict.

Attack on a meeting organised by the National Committee for the protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port, at Dhorompasha in Sunamganj

4. A group of 15-20 Awami League backed Jubo League and Chhatra League activists attacked the meeting organised by the ‘National Committee for the protection of Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port’ at Badshaganj under Dhorompasha Upazila in Sunamganj District on August 14, 2011. Local Jubo League and Chhatra League⁴ activists led by Jitu and Anwar attacked the meeting when the Member-Secretary of the Central Committee, Professor Anu Mohammad was addressing the meeting at Temuki area in Badshaganj. Seven people, including the daily Shomokal local correspondent, Enamul Huq were injured. Police were allegedly found to be inactive during this attack. Professor Anu Mohammad said that the programme was scheduled at Paikorhati of Dhorompasha a week before the actual meeting in order to protest against the handing over the gas fields to a multinational company. But the local administration imposed Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure when the local Awami League called a meeting deliberately at the same place, at the same time. He alleged that the activists of the ruling party attacked them in presence of policemen.⁵
5. Odhikar condemns the incident since it violates Constitutional rights. Article 38 and 39 of the Constitution guarantee the rights of the citizens to organise meetings and peaceful processions. Any citizen of the State has the right to form groups or organisations and carry out activities through peaceful means and also criticise the Government.

Extrajudicial killings

Supreme Court lawyer dies in police custody, following his arrest

6. On August 26, 2011, Momtaz Uddin Ahmed, an Advocate of the Supreme Court, died at the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Square Hospital while he was in police custody. Earlier, Advocate Momtaz Uddin Ahmed was admitted to the National Heart Institute in a critical condition after being allegedly tortured by Detective Branch (DB) police. It is to be mentioned that an altercation broke out between

⁴ Youth and student wing of the Awami League respectively

⁵ Fact finding report of Odhikar’s HRD Aminul Islam from Sunamganj, 14/08/2011

lawyers of the ruling (Awami League) and opposition (BNP) party on August 2, 2011 in the High Court Division Bench comprising of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury and Justice Gobinda Chandra Thakur over a remark doubting the patriotism of the leader of the Opposition Begum Khaleda Zia, during the hearing of a petition filed against Islami Oikkyojote leader Mufti Fazlul Huq Amini. Disrespectful behaviour towards Court also took place during this time. Detective Branch (DB) of Police also filed a case against 13 pro-BNP lawyers for obstructing their duty. On August 11, 2011, at 3.30 am, police arrested Advocate Momtaz Uddin Ahmed from his apartment and took him to the DB police office. In the same morning, his family was informed that Momtaz Uddin Ahmed had been admitted to the National Heart Institute in a serious condition. Later he was shifted to Square Hospital. His wife Shelina Ahmed alleged that her husband was tortured in custody, which resulted in his death. Shelina Ahmed sued the Home Minister Sahara Khatun; Attorney General Mahbubey Alam; the Home Secretary; Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner; Detective Branch Deputy Commissioner; and Officer-in-Charge of Shahbagh Police Station on the charge of killing Momtaz Uddin Ahmed. A First Information Report was submitted to the Ramna Police Station on August 26, 2011 but the police did not record the complaint as a case.⁶

7. Allegation of torturing a Supreme Court lawyer in police custody and his consequent death is a grave indication of human rights abuse that can seriously destabilise the political situation. Odhikar demands an independent and impartial investigation into the death of Advocate Momtaz Uddin Ahmed.

Five people shot dead by RAB at Uttara, Dhaka

8. Compared to one reported incident of extrajudicial killing in July 2011, reports show that eight people have been allegedly killed extra judicially in August 2011. On August 12, 2011, five youths were shot dead by Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) at the Jonopad Sarak area at Uttara in the capital. RAB officials claim that all the deceased were ‘muggers’, who died in exchange of firing between both sides.⁷ Salma Begum, wife of deceased Shahidul Islam, said that they live in Kodalkuchi village under Nalitabari Thana in Sherpur District. Her husband was a farmer. She, and her two children, came to her father’s house at Nirashpara in Tongi 15 days ago. On August 12, her husband Shahidul Islam had come to Tongi to take them back home. Shahidul went out in the evening after Iftar⁸. They started searching for him when he did not return home. Later, after hearing about the deaths from their neighbour, on August 14 she identified the body of her husband at Dhaka Medical

⁶ New Age, 27/08/2011

⁷ The daily Prothom Alo, 13/08/2011, <http://www.prothom-alo.com/detail/date/2011-08-13/news/177793>

⁸ Iftar- the meal that breaks the fast at sunset during Ramadan

College Hospital morgue. Salma stated that there was no case or any record of General Diary against her husband.⁹

9. Odhikar urges the government to take action against the perpetrators following an independent and impartial investigation.
10. In August 2011, according to information gathered by Odhikar, 08 persons were allegedly killed in the hands of law enforcement agencies. Of them, 03 were killed by police and 05 by RAB.

Types of death

Crossfire/encounter/gun fight:

11. It has been alleged that 06 persons were killed in ‘crossfire/encounters/gun fights’. Of these deaths, 05 were killed in the hands of RAB and 01 in the hands of police.

Death due to torture:

12. Of the deceased, 02 persons allegedly died due to torture by police.

Identities of the deceased

13. Of the 08 deceased, 01 was a former Deputy Attorney General and an Advocate of the Supreme Court; 01 was a plaintiff in a dacoity case and 06 were alleged to be criminals.

Death in jail

14. In August 2011, it was reported that 05 persons died in jail due to ‘sickness.’

Public lynching

15. The recent rise in mob violence has a direct social impact, and each death amounts to an extrajudicial killing. If anyone is found to be suspicious or is committing a crime he is likely to be badly beaten, rather than being handed over to police. This signifies a desperate situation where people have lost confidence in the law and institutions in charge of maintaining law and order; and have taken to protecting themselves by all means possible.
16. During the month of August 2011, a total of 09 persons were killed by mob violence. Odhikar believes that the tendency to take the law into one’s own hands proves lack of public confidence in the criminal justice delivery system.

⁹ The daily Amader Shomoy, 15/08/2011, <http://www.amadershomoy1.com/content/2011/08/15/news0500.htm>

Torture

Torture in police custody for extracting information

17. On August 3, 2011 Abdul Karim Gazi, son of Rahmat Gazi and a resident of Bhangamari village under Kaliganj Upazila in Satkhira District, was arrested by the Officer-in-Charge of Kaliganj Police Station, Syed Farid Uddin and Sub Inspector Rafiqul Islam and taken to the police station, while he was on way to the mosque. It was alleged that Abdul Karim Gazi was shown as an accused person in a motorcycle jacking case filed by GM Kishmatul Arefin of Nolta Union, on June 30, 2011 and was tortured several times by police for extracting a confessional statement. He was also detained for 5 days in the police station without being produced before the Court. He was brutally beaten by police and hung him upside down from the ceiling. On August 7, Abdul Karim Gazi was produced before the Magistrate, where he refused to give a statement. As a result, police became angry and prayed to the court for placing him on remand and showed him as arrested in some other under-trial cases. He was allegedly also tortured at the court premises by police.¹⁰
18. As per law, an arrested person accused of any offence has to be produced before the Magistrate within 24 hours of arrest and Article 35(5) of the Constitution says that ‘No person shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman, or degrading punishment or treatment.’
19. In August 2011, a total of 04 persons were allegedly tortured by police.
20. Odhikar observes with concern that torture in police custody for confessional statements, after being arrested by law enforcement agencies, are continuing without producing arrestees before the court within 24 hours, which is a clear violation of law. Torture during interrogation in remand is not only a criminal offence but also a serious violation of human rights. Odhikar is alarmed by the fact that despite ‘zero tolerance’ on torture, the government has not taken any effective step to stop acts amounting to torture by law enforcement agencies; rather the law enforcement agencies are operating with full impunity.

Disappearance

Disappearance of persons and recovery of the dead after being picked up by law enforcement agencies

21. On August 5, 2011, the bodies of Mizanur Rahman (25) and Jewel Rana (20) with bullet wounds were recovered by police from Nagda bridge located at Narayanpur bypass lane of Pubail in Gazipur district. The body of Rajib was recovered from the Dhaka-Mawa highway at Nimtola under Sirajdikhan Upazila in Munshiganj district

¹⁰ Report from Odhikar’s human rights defender Shukumar Das Bachchu at Stakhira, 08/08/2011

the same day. Rajib was the cousin of the deceased Jewel Rana. The families of the three deceased men alleged that they were arrested by Detective Branch (DB) of Police on July 31, 2011 from Shorot Gupto Road and beaten in front of local inhabitants and taken away in a microbus with handcuffs. Later their bodies were found in Gazipur and Munshiganj. Monir, elder brother of Mizanur, said that they went to Gandaria Police Station under Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) soon after hearing of Mizanur's arrest but police could not inform about him about his brother's whereabouts. The next day he went to the same police station to file a General Diary but police did not accept it. He was told from the police station that they were arrested by DB police.¹¹

22. On August 3, 2011 Tapon Das, a businessman of old Dhaka, was allegedly picked up by the DB police from KB Road at Gandaria. Gobinda Das, a friend of Tapon Das, informed Odhikar that he and Tapon were on a rickshaw returning home to Faridabad at around 8.00 pm. A white microbus stopped them. A man came out from the microbus and asked Tapon his name. The same person asked Gobinda to confirm whether Tapon's name was correct. Later they were picked up in a microbus and blindfolded and taken in front of the DB police office. Gobinda was asked to leave. Later the microbus went inside the DB police office with Tapon. The family of Tapon Das alleged that the whereabouts of Tapon remains unknown since then.¹²
23. According to victims' families, many people have 'disappeared' after being detained by men claiming to be members of law enforcement agencies. The families of the victims' claim that it is the members of the law enforcement agencies who are making the arrests and the whereabouts of the missing people remain unknown and sometimes their bodies have found in different places.
24. In August 2011, 04 persons were allegedly disappeared by the Detective Branch of Police.
25. Odhikar expresses deep concern over such incidents of arrests followed by enforced disappearances and demands that the Government should arrange for the search and rescue of lost persons and also take action against those involved in perpetrating this crime.

¹¹ Fact-finding report of Odhikar/ the daily Jai Jai Din, 09/08/2011, <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2011/08/09/98250>

¹² Fact-finding report of Odhikar, 13/08/2011

RAB threatens to pick up a complainant for filing a case against them for killing his son

26. RAB attempted to pick up Abdur Rahman, father of Mohammad Afzal Khan who was tortured to death by RAB in Shariatpur. This was because he filed a case against RAB members in Shariatpur Court for killing his son. Abdur Rahman has now gone into hiding. On August 8, 2011, a man identifying himself as a Major of the RAB-8 office called Abdur Rahman's cell phone from number 01714093606 and told him to meet him at the RAB-8 office in Barisal. Abdur Rahman wanted to meet him at Shariatpur instead of Barisal. August 10, 2011 was the date for hearing of Afzal Khan's murder case. He went to Shariatpur District Court on that day. A RAB vehicle came to the Court and a person called his cell phone from number 01743093611, claiming to be a RAB member and told Abdur Rahman to meet them, otherwise he will be picked up and taken to Madaripur RAB camp. Hearing this Abdur Rahman got frightened and went to his house in Charerkandi village at Binodpur of Sadar Upazila. Later, five RAB members went to his house at 1.10 pm on three motorbikes to pick him up. Abdur Rahman left the area sensing the RAB presence. Furthermore, RAB members met with Abdur Rahman's brother Mansur Khan and asked him to present his brother. When Mansur Khan refused to present his brother to RAB he was also intimidated. Finally they left the place at 2.10 pm.
27. It is to be mentioned that Md. Afzal Khan (21), a resident of the village of Binodpur Charerkandi at Shariatpur district was arrested by a team of RAB-8 on March 18, 2008. He later fell ill allegedly due to torture by RAB and died on March 20, 2008 while undergoing treatment at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.
28. With the help of Odhikar, Abdur Rahman filed a case at the Court of the Shariatpur Chief Metropolitan Magistrate on May 25, 2009 accusing 16 RAB members, which was numbered GR 173/2009. The Court discharged the case on February 28, 2010 after 10 hearings.
29. On March 30, 2010, Abdur Rahman filed a *Naraji* (objection) Petition at the Court of Shariatpur Chief Metropolitan Magistrate against the discharge order. He lodged a Criminal Revision Petition at the Shariatpur District Session Judge Court while the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court refused to grant his *Naraji* on April 20, 2011. After hearing the petition, the Court ordered the accused to appear before it on August 11, 2010. Despite the Court Order, no accused has appeared before the Court till date. On May 29, 2011, the Court again issued summons against the accused persons.

30. After receiving summons from the Court, the accused persons had proposed to Abdur Rahman to settle the matter. Abdur Rahman had been intimidated when he refused their proposal and finally the move to pick him up was arranged by RAB.¹³
31. Odhikar condemns and regrets such acts and also demands that the government ensure the safety and security of Abdur Rahman.

Border killing by the Border Security Force

32. According to information gathered by Odhikar, in August 2011, along the India Bangladesh border, the BSF reportedly killed 01 Bangladeshi, allegedly by throwing stones at him. Furthermore, 01 person was injured by BSF firing.

Vagrant Act passed in Parliament, curtailing fundamental freedoms

33. On August 23, 2011, the Vagrants and Floating People (Rehabilitation) Bill 2011 was passed in the Parliament with a provision for the punishment of people engaged in forcing others to seek alms/beg, which will give law enforcers excessive power to make arbitrary arrests. In the definition of the Act, it says, that people who have no shelter to pass the night or who loiter around to disturb people are termed 'vagrants'. There are possibilities of abuse of this law and making arrests merely based on 'suspicion' under this Act. However, the law mentions that people collecting food or money for religious purposes or welfare causes will not be considered 'vagrants' under the law. Moreover, the law keeps a provision for punishment of three months imprisonment on a charge of fleeing the shelters without the permission of the authorities.
34. Bypassing the State's responsibility to provide food, shelter and necessary safety to the marginalised poor, the State is promulgating laws to punish them, which is a violation of human rights.
35. Odhikar expresses grave concern over such an Act, which is against human rights and urges the government to create a social safety net for disadvantaged and poor people by repealing this law.

Freedom of the media

36. On August 10, 2011, a Division Bench of the High Court Division, comprising of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury and Justice Gobinda Chandra Thakur, issued a rule for Contempt of Court against two discussants and the anchor of Ekushey Television talk show 'Ekushey Raat'. Advocate Ahmed Azam Khan, Advisor of BNP Chairperson and Razekuzzaman Ratan, a leader of Bangladesher Somajtantrik Dol and Anjan Roy, the anchor of the programme were held in contempt for

¹³ Fact-finding report of Odhikar, 08/08/2011

commenting on the High Court Division Bench.¹⁴ On August 18, 2011, Advocate Ahmed Azam Khan, Razekuzzaman Ratan and Anjan Roy appeared before the Court and appealed for time to explain their statements. The Court fixed October 17, 2011 for hearing of this matter.¹⁵

37. On August 14, 2011 15-20 Awami League backed Chhatra League activists, including Ruhul Amin Babu, Abdul Alim, Kamal and Arafat attacked Sardar Hasan Tamim, a journalist of the local daily Lal Golap, for collecting information about the recovery of hand made bombs from Syed Amir Ali Hall¹⁶ of Rajshahi University. Tamim was severely beaten by Chhatra League activists and left seriously injured.¹⁷
38. In August 2011, according to information gathered by Odhikar, 14 journalists were injured, 02 threatened, 05 journalists attacked and 03 journalists assaulted. During this period, Shamnagar Press Club in Satkhira was locked by Awami League activists as journalists of Shamnagar Press Club reported in different newspapers that the Awami League had hung a signboard on the land of the post office of Ramjannagar at Shamnagar of Satkhira. They also beat up a journalist and threatened the president and secretary of the press club.¹⁸

Human rights situation of the religious minority groups

39. Recently Gopalganj City Awami League Joint General Secretary, Mahbubur Rahman Digol; and Shohel and Shohag, sons of District Awami League President Raja Mia, occupied 2 decimals of land of Saint Mathuranath AG Mission and 6 decimals of land of Babul Biswas, son of Nirmol Biswas of Christianpara. They also occupied and locked up the house of Babul Biswas. On August 2, 2011, both parties appeared at the police station when Sub Inspector Masudur Rahman asked them to come for settlement. However, Christian Fellowship leaders alleged that Shohel assaulted Miapara AG Church Supervisor Reverend Josef Pandey and beat Christian Fellowship leader Mitul Bala in front of the police.¹⁹
40. Odhikar expresses deep concern over the failure of the state to protect the rights of the religious minority communities.

Violence against women

41. In August 2011, several incidents of rape, dowry related violence, acid attacks, sexual harassment and stalking took place during this period.

¹⁴ The Daily Ittefaq, 11/08/2011, <http://new.ittfaq.com.bd/news/view/34831/2011-08-11/2>

¹⁵ The daily Amar Desh, 19/08/2011, <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2011/08/19/100295>

¹⁶ Residential hall for students

¹⁷ The daily Amar Desh, 15/08/2011, <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2011/08/15/99452>

¹⁸ The daily Jugantor, 07/08/2011

¹⁹ The Daily Ittefaq, 03/08/2011, <http://new.ittfaq.com.bd/news/view/32918/2011-08-03/2>

Sexual harassment and stalking:

42. Limon Mishra was killed on May 04, 2011 as he had protested the stalking of his wife. The same gang, led by 'Ajoy', allegedly abducted her and she was missing since August 16, claimed her father. Police could not arrest the main accused as Ajoy yet.²⁰
43. During the month of August 2011, according to information gathered by Odhikar, a total of 41 girls and women were victims of sexual harassment. Among those 41 females, 05 were injured 08 assaulted and 01 abducted. To protest against sexual harassment against women, 02 men were killed and 06 men were injured by the stalkers. During this time another 01 woman was assaulted as she protested against the sexual harassment of her daughter.

Rape:

44. On August 7, 2011 a 17-year old girl, Mina Rani Das, was killed after being raped in Gangkolpara under Nasirnagar Upazila in Brahmanbaria District. Her body was found hanging from a tree. The place of occurrence was only 100 yards from the police station.²¹
45. In August 2011, a total of 51 women and girls were reportedly raped. Among them, 18 were women and 33 were girls. Of the adults, 04 were killed after being raped and 10 were victims of gang rape. Out of 33 child victims, 02 children were killed after being raped and 15 were victims of gang rape.

Dowry-related violence:

46. During the month of August 2011, a total of 46 women and 01 child were subjected to dowry related violence. Of the women, it has been alleged that 30 women were killed because of dowry, 14 were ill-treated in various other ways for dowry demands and 02 women committed suicide and among those two, one mother killed her two year old daughter and committed suicide as she was subjected to dowry related violence.

Acid violence:

47. According to information gathered by Odhikar, during August 2011, it was reported that 12 persons were victimised due to acid violence. Of these affected persons, 07 were women, 02 were men, two were girls and a boy.

²⁰ The Daily Star, 19/08/11

²¹ The daily Amar Desh, 09/08/2011, <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2011/08/09/98154>

Lack of transparency in the India-Bangladesh Agreements

48. Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohon Singh will visit Bangladesh on September 6-7, 2011. It has been learnt that some bilateral agreements will likely be signed during this visit. However, the people of Bangladesh are yet to be informed about these agreements and their contents.
49. Odhikar demands to the Government of Bangladesh that all agreements between India and Bangladesh must be made public before the Indian Premier's visit. Lack of transparency with regard to bilateral agreements will undermine the relation between the two neighbouring States.

Statistics: January 01 - August 31, 2011*										
Type of Human Rights Violation		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	Total
Extra-judicial killings	Crossfire	7	15	5	3	2	5	1	6	44
	Tortured to death	0	1	3	2	4	0	0	2	12
	Beaten to death	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Shot	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Total	7	17	8	5	7	5	1	8	58
Human rights violations by Indian BSF	Bangladeshis Killed	4	1	0	5	4	3	3	1	21
	Bangladeshis Injured	3	6	21	12	1	6	1	1	51
Deaths in Jail		4	10	12	7	15	13	9	5	75
Attack on journalists	Injured	8	8	4	9	6	36	13	14	98
	Threatened	4	6	10	0	14	0	3	2	39
	Assaulted	4	1	5	3	1	5	3	3	25
Political violence	Killed	14	10	6	8	14	13	7	9	81
	Injured	664	1015	848	1229	630	1127	1247	847	7607
Disappearances		0	1	0	1	7	1	1	4	15
Acid violence		6	7	17	7	14	4	6	12	73
Dowry related violence		24	37	46	30	48	34	59	47	325
Rape		34	52	61	63	58	53	80	51	452
Sexual harassment /Stalking of women		54	88	72	58	46	34	63	41	456
Public lynching		8	18	12	18	11	8	20	9	104

* Odhikar's Documentation

Note: Some monthly data has been updated after receiving information in August.

Recommendations

1. The Government must take effective action in order to stop political violence. The law enforcement agencies need to be proactive to stop violence and carry out their duty in an accountable and unbiased manner.
2. The Government should refrain from shrinking the democratic space and also abstain from repression on opponent political activists.
3. Extra-judicial killings, torture and enforced disappearances must come to an end. The Government must bring all involved in extrajudicial killings before justice through proper and independent investigation.
4. Torture during remand and other forms of custodial violence must end. The Government should follow 'zero tolerance' in terms of torture as promised in the UN Human Rights Council.
5. The Government should accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearances, which was adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 18, 2009.
6. All perpetrators, who attacked teachers and journalists and hid under political shelter, should be brought to justice immediately.
7. The Vagrant and Floating People (Rehabilitation) Bill 2011 passed in Parliament should be withdrawn and a revised law relating to the human rights needs of the underprivileged should to be enacted to protect the poor and shelter less people, through public discussion.
8. The Bangladesh Government should investigate all the incidents of killings and torture of Bangladeshi citizens by the BSF and demand the trial and punishment for the perpetrators as well as adequate compensation from the Indian Government for the families of the victims. The Government should also ensure the security of the Bangladeshi citizens residing at the border areas.
9. The Government should ensure the rights of the religious minority communities and also protect their property.
10. The Government must take appropriate measures to stop all kinds of violence against women and the offenders must be brought under the purview of the law to ensure that justice is served. Public awareness regarding the rights of women, prevention of violence against women and children as well as related laws must be incorporated into the primary, secondary and higher secondary school books.
11. Victim and Witness Protection law should be enacted immediately.
12. All agreements between India and Bangladesh should be presented in Parliament and made public.

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Notes:

1. Odhikar seeks to uphold the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights of the people.
2. Odhikar documents and records violations of human rights and receives information from its network of human rights defenders and monitors media reports in twelve national daily newspapers.
3. Odhikar conducts detailed fact-finding investigations into some of the most significant violations.
4. Odhikar is consistent in its human rights reporting and is committed to remain so.