



Quarterly Human Rights Report

April-June 2025

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Foreword

Since its founding in 1994, Odhikar has consistently documented and raised awareness of human rights violations committed by the state. Guided by a commitment to justice over political affiliation, the organisation has stood with victims, working to safeguard their rights and promote accountability. In the wake of the killing of at least 1,400 individuals during the student-led mass movement of July 2024, a mass uprising deposed Sheikh Hasina's authoritarian government on 5 August 2024. In response, an interim administration headed by Dr. Yunus pledged to restore democratic principles, reinforce respect for human rights, and lay the groundwork for free and fair elections. Political violence and criminalization remain significant barriers to fulfilling these commitments.

In its April–June 2025 quarterly report, Odhikar documents reported incidents of human rights violations and urges the state to put an end to such practices. The report offers critical analysis and cautions against the broader consequences of continued violation of human rights. Furthermore, Odhikar underscores the potential of the National Human Rights Commission to play a pivotal role in addressing human rights violations. However, it notes that the current legal framework significantly limits the Commission's mandate and effectiveness. To ensure a more robust response to human rights violations, Odhikar advocates for legislative reform aimed at transforming the Commission into an independent and effective state institution capable of upholding human rights.

Due to credible allegations of serious human rights violations, human rights activists have long called for the dissolution of the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB). The interim government must take action on this matter. Moreover, there has been no significant progress in bringing to justice the senior military officials accused of involvement in enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings and other human rights violations, particularly those who fled the country following the fall of the authoritarian Awami League government, led by former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. The interim government should initiate measures in this regard.

In 2016, the then-authoritarian government enacted the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulations Act to exert control over non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Sections 14 and 15 of the Act stipulate punitive measures if any NGO or its official makes adverse or indecent remarks about the Constitution or constitutional institutions. If the government finds that adverse or indecent comments have been made regarding Parliament, the Judiciary, the Law Commission, the Election Commission, or the Attorney General, it has the authority to cancel or suspend the NGO's registration.¹ This legislation

¹ Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act, 2016 (In Bangla. No official English version of the act is available):

effectively hampered the operations of NGOs—particularly human rights organisations working on civil and political rights and advocating for justice for victims. To date, the interim government has not revoked the repressive provisions of this law.

The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) continues to kill and torture Bangladeshi citizens along the Bangladesh-India border. In addition, the Indian authority is illegally pushing into Bangladesh, Rohingya and other Muslim populations from border areas into Bangladesh.

This quarterly human rights report by Odhikar draws upon accounts provided by affiliated human rights defenders and information published across diverse media sources.

https://legislativediv.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/legislativediv.portal.gov.bd/page/db174165_ab20_468c_ba5a_3616f0527ae9/Act%20No%2043%20of%202016.pdf.

An unofficial English version of the law is available here:

https://ngoab.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/ngoab.portal.gov.bd/page/c2b974f0_dfd2_4013_8deb_90fd2d36759b/2024-06-02-05-01-8b0892067f464033c41631c8c436159d.pdf

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Statistics on Human Rights Violations:

Interim Government Period													
Statistics: 09 August 2024 - June 2025*													
Type of Human Rights Violation		09-31 August '24	September '24	October '24	November '24	December '24	January '25	February '25	March '25	April '25	May '25	June '25	Total
	Tortured to death	0	5	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	11
	Shot to death	0	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	2	13
	Beaten to death	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	5
	Total	0	9	1	1	1	5	3	1	1	4	3	29
Death in Jail		4	5	4	3	4	6	6	7	12	5	5	61
Death Penalty	Sentenced to death	18	10	38	8	0	7	11	6	14	42	6	160
Human rights violations by Indian BSF	Bangladeshis Killed	1	2	2	0	5	2	3	1	5	3	1	25
	Bangladeshis Injured	2	0	1	2	1	3	5	1	1	4	0	20
	Push in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1136	647	1783
	Total	3	2	3	2	6	5	8	2	6	1143	648	1828
Attack on journalists	Injured	5	2	3	5	3	7	20	20	5	23	2	95
	Assaulted	0	0	2	2	2	4	1	5	3	3	10	32
	Attacked	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	5
	Threatened	3	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	9	2	0	22
	Sued	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	0	11
	Total	8	5	6	10	7	11	25	30	22	28	13	165
Political violence	Killed	33	19	19	10	9	14	13	44	30	22	20	233
	Injured	467	843	459	256	453	470	632	900	768	425	484	6157
	Total	500	862	478	266	462	484	645	944	798	447	504	6390
Dowry related violence against women	Killed						1	5	2	3	3	5	19
	Physically Abused						1	0	4	3	1	4	13
	Total Suicide						0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	2	5	7	6	4	9	33
Rape	Girl under the age of 18						24	39	101	52	28	29	273
	Women						6	12	45	24	22	32	141
	Age could not be determined						18	14	21	8	6	7	74
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	48	65	167	84	56	68	488
Sexual harassment /Stalking of females							0	4	10	7	6	1	28
Public lynching		14	17	12	3	10	6	13	14	7	8	4	108
* Odhikar documentation													

List of Abbreviations

AL	: Bangladesh Awami League
BCL	: Chatra League, the student wing of the AL
BGB	: Border Guard Bangladesh
BNP	: Bangladesh Nationalist Party
BS	: Border Security Force [India]
DB	: Detective Branch of Police
JCD	: Jatiyotabadi Chatra Dal, the student wing of the BNP
JD	: Jubo Dal, the Youth wing of the BNP
JI	: Jamaat I Islami
JL	: Jubo League, the Youth wing of the AL
JP	: Jatiya Party
NCP	: National Citizens Party
RAB	: Rapid Action Battalion
SAD	: Students Against Discrimination

The Report

This report is divided into specific sections. The first section is concerned with matters of civil and political rights that are to be guarded by the three organs of the State – the Executive, Judiciary and the Legislature. These matters include the right to a fair trial, right to life, to dignity and freedom from torture and degrading treatment.

The second part of the report comprises of a record of hinderances to or attacks on the enjoyment of rights, but not directly by state actors or due to their involvement. Mob violence, political violence, attacks on assemblies and gatherings by rivals and attacks on journalists are some examples. These are matters that need more attention, and corrective measures must be applied by the government.

The third part focuses on issues pertaing to violence against women, followed by seperate sections on the rights of workers and members of minority communities. Prior to the section on recommendations, the report contains a section on the highly sensitive Bangladesh-India border.

I. The State and Human Rights

The International Crimes Tribunal

1. On 1 June, Chief Prosecutor Tazul Islam formally charged former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, and former Inspector General of Police Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun before the International Crimes Tribunal, citing genocide and crimes against humanity. For the first time, Sheikh Hasina faces legal accountability, with the charge sheet explicitly naming her as the mastermind and superior commander behind the atrocities.²
2. With Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun already in custody, the Tribunal—led by Justice Md. Golam Murtaza Majumder—took cognizance of five counts of crimes against humanity and issued arrest warrants for Hasina and Kamal. The proceedings were broadcast live via the state-run channel Bangladesh Television and official social media handles of the International Crimes Tribunal, marking the first-ever public transmission of a judicial trial in Bangladesh's history—an important milestone for transparency and public access to justice.³
3. However, justice remains under threat. The Chief Prosecutor told the media on 3 April, that key figures who benefited from the former Awami League regime and who are in hiding, have enlisted a UK-based lobbying firm with vast resources to obstruct the investigation and derail judicial proceedings. Simultaneously, coordinated disinformation is being propagated across social media, targeting prosecutors and attempting to discredit the ongoing pursuit of justice and accountability. There are also documented attempts by Sheikh Hasina's loyalists to destroy crucial evidence following the fall of her regime.⁴
4. On 16 June, the International Crimes Tribunal ordered the publication of a newspaper notice summoning former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, to appear before the Tribunal. The summons relates to allegations of crimes against humanity during the July 2024 mass uprising. On 17 June, the court ordered both individuals to present themselves no later than 24 June.⁵ If they do not appear within seven days of the notice being published, the trial will proceed in their absence.⁶

² <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/hasina-ordered-july-uprising-killings-ict-probe-report>

³ হাসিনার বিচার শুরু, Amar Desh, 2 June 2025; <https://eamardesh.com/2025-06-02>, শেখ হাসিনার বিরুদ্ধে গ্রেফতারি পরোয়ানা, Jugantor, 2 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-firstpage/961391>

⁴ ট্রাইব্যুনালের বিচারপ্রক্রিয়া বাধাগ্রস্ত করতে লবিং ফার্ম নিয়োগ: চিফ প্রসিকিউটর কার্যালয়, Prothom Alo, 10 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/cs0ttfq6ng>

⁵ শেখ হাসিনাকে হাজির হতে বিজ্ঞপ্তি প্রকাশের নির্দেশ, Prothom Alo, 17 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/41q2khvncm>

⁶ জুলাই গণহত্যা মামলা: শেখ হাসিনার বিরুদ্ধে অভিযোগ গঠনের আদেশ ১০ জুলাই, Ittefaq, 7 July 2025; <https://www.ittfaq.com.bd/740235/>

5. Odhikar asserts that a fair and transparent trial process—rooted in international legal standards—is essential for delivering genuine justice to victims and their families. The Organisation underscores that safeguarding due process is not merely a national obligation but a universal moral imperative. It calls on governments worldwide to support Bangladesh’s pursuit of justice and stand in solidarity with those whose rights have been violated.

Extrajudicial Executions

6. In an effort to reinforce law and order, the interim government deployed a ‘Joint Force,’ composed of multiple security agencies. However, despite this initiative, reports continue to surface, implicating law enforcement personnel in serious acts of misconduct—including acts of torture and extrajudicial killings.
- On 21 April, in Uzirpur, Barisal, a college student named Siam Molla was fatally shot during an anti-narcotics operation by the Joint Force. His cousin, Rakib Molla—a Secondary School Certificate (SSC) candidate—was also shot in the abdomen and was receiving treatment at Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital. On 21 April, the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) filed a case regarding the incident, registering Siam’s age as 22 and Rakib’s as 21 in its official documentation. However, birth registration records confirm that both victims were 17 years old at the time. This apparent manipulation of age data in the official filing has raised serious concerns regarding transparency and institutional accountability. In response, local residents formed a human chain in protest, demanding justice and a credible investigation into the incident.⁷
 - On 19 June, Sheikh Jewel—a BNP activist and internet service provider—died in custody at the Bangara Bazar Police Station in Muradnagar, Cumilla. According to police statements, Jewel was arrested along with four others during a raid at a suspected drug peddler’s residence in the Bangara Bazar area. Later that night, while in custody, Jewel reportedly complained of chest pain and was declared dead by doctors after he was taken to Muradnagar Upazila Health Complex. However, Jewel’s wife, Shilpi Begum, clearly denied the drug-related allegations, claiming her husband had no ties to drug use or trafficking. She alleged that her husband was tortured to death while in police custody. The inquest report recorded multiple signs of physical trauma on his body, including two half-inch scratch on the wrist of his right hand, an injury approximately 1.5 inches long on

⁷ যৌথ বাহিনীর মাদকবিরোধী অভিযানে গুলিতে যুবক নিহত, Samakal, 21 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/barisal/article/291550/>

the right side of his back, a 3-inch scratch on the left side of his waist, minor blood-stained wounds on his left leg and a three-inch scratch across his back.⁸

- It was reported that on 23 June, in Hatiya under the Dirai subdistrict of Sunamganj, a reported gunfight broke out between members of the Joint Force and alleged miscreants during a weapons recovery operation, leaving a sanitary mechanic named Abu Sayeed shot dead.⁹

7. Between April and June 2025, it has been reported that at least eight individuals have been victims of extrajudicial killings. Of these, five were allegedly carried out by the police, one by RAB, one was by coast guard, one by joint force. Among the total victims, two were reportedly tortured to death, five were killed by gunfire, and one was beaten to death.

Torture and Deaths in Custody

8. The deposed authoritarian regime systematically weaponized law enforcement agencies to entrench its power at the cost of the weakening democratic institutions. This has led to a culture of impunity, where law enforcement personnel were shielded from accountability while engaging in various forms of misconduct. Although the regime fell amid the July 2024 uprising, reports of torture and deaths in custody continued.

- On 7 May, in Morelganj, Bagerhat, law enforcers allegedly beat a man named Shafayat to death during an operation to arrest a warrant-listed suspect.¹⁰
- On 25 June, reports emerged that Nasir Mia, a businessman from Sunamganj, was forcibly detained by members of the DB over a commercial dispute. He was allegedly tortured at the DB office in Dhaka, coerced into handing over BDT 574,000, and compelled to sign a bond prior to his release.¹¹

9. The persistent recurrence of custodial torture and inhumane treatment by various law enforcement and intelligence agencies is rooted in a longstanding culture of impunity. The failure to effectively implement the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, 2013 has only allowed this abuse to continue unchecked.

⁸ ‘পুলিশ হেফাজতে’ ব্যবসীর মৃত্যু, কর্মী দাবি বিএনপি-আ. লীগের, Samakal, 21 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/301288/>, Businessman dies in police custody, family alleges torture: <https://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/ca5f75fab464>

⁹ সুনামগঞ্জে যৌথ বাহিনী-সন্ত্রাসী গোলাগুলি, Manab Zamin, 24 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=167321>.

¹⁰ মোরেলগঞ্জে আসামি গ্রেফতারকালে পিটিয়ে হত্যার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 7 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/950601>

¹¹ বিএনপি কর্মীকে আওয়ামী লীগ তকমা দিয়ে ডিবি অফিসে নির্যাতন, Manab Zamin, 30 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=168283#gsc.tab=0>

Degrading Treatment and Lack of Accountability

10. During this reporting period, law enforcement agencies have faced a growing number of serious allegations, including filing trumped up drug charges¹² and engaging in drug trafficking,¹³ attempting to commit rape and engaging in extortion,¹⁴ accepting bribes¹⁵ and harassing a doctor under the pretext of recovering illegal arms,¹⁶ detaining businessmen to extract money¹⁷ and looting cash and jewellery,¹⁸ refusing to file complaints,¹⁹ threatening a businessman after an audio recording leaked,²⁰ and arresting and imprisoning individuals solely due to name similarities with accused.²¹
11. Moreover, several officials and staff members of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) Prosecution Division were accused of bribery, transferring officials in exchange for money, and providing unauthorized privileges to detainees in court custody.²²

Enforced Disappearance

12. On 4 June, the National Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances submitted its second interim report to the Chief Adviser. The report outlines the operational structure through which enforced disappearances were allegedly carried out under a three-tiered “pyramid model.” At the top tier was the “strategic leadership” which included key figures from the former Awami League government, including deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, former Defense Adviser Tarique Ahmed Siddique, and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal, alongside other senior government officials. High-ranking officials from various law enforcement and intelligence agencies constituted the second tier. At the third tier were operational officers and field-level personnel who executed the directives issued from above.²³

¹² মিথ্যা মাদক মামলা দেওয়ার অভিযোগে ভৈরব থানার এসআই ক্লোজড, Samakal, 5 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288680/>

¹³ আশুগঞ্জ থানার ওসির নেতৃত্বে মাদক ব্যবসা, Jugantor, 5 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/958002>

¹⁴ গৃহবধূকে ধর্ষণচেষ্টা ও চাঁদাবাজির অভিযোগ পাংশা থানার ওসি, এএসআইসহ ৩ জনের বিরুদ্ধে মামলা, Prothom Alo, 6 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/yamm3c2a2d>

¹⁵ বেসামাল নরসিংদীর এসপি, Jugantor, 6 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/crime/937473>

আখাউরায় এএসআইয়ের বিরুদ্ধে ঘুস নেওয়ার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 8 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/938651>

¹⁶ খুলনায় তল্লাসীর নামে বাড়ি তছনছের অভিযোগ চিকিৎসক নেতার, Prothom Alo, 8 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/85wuyfk1e4>

¹⁷ ব্যবসায়িকে তুলে নিয়ে টাকা আদায়ের অভিযোগ ডিবি’র বিরুদ্ধে, Manab Zamin, 10 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155911>

¹⁸ এএসআইয়ের বিরুদ্ধে টাকাসহ স্বর্ণালঙ্কার লুটের অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 19 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/943101>

¹⁹ ফরিদপুরে যুবককে কুপিয়ে জখম, থানায় মামলা না নেওয়ার অভিযোগ পরিবারের, Samakal, 22 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/dhaka/article/291670/%E0%A6%AB>

²⁰ তোমার নানাকে বইলো লাখ পাঁচেক টাকা দিতে, Jugantor, 21 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/944263>

²¹ বাবার নামে মিল, জেল খাটছেন প্রবাসী সাদ্দাম, Manab Zamin, 29 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=168125>

²² পুলিশ কর্মকর্তার নেতৃত্বে ঘুষের গোপন মিশন, যুগান্তর ২৯ এপ্রিল ২০২৫ <https://www.jugantor.com/national/947563>

²³ ভিন্নমত প্রকাশকে ‘নিরাপত্তা হুমকি’ দেখত হাসিনা সরকার, Jugantor, 18 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/national/966953>

13. The report implicates members of the police, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), Detective Branch (DB) of Police, and the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit in approximately 67% of the documented cases of enforced disappearance. In several instances, multiple agencies were reportedly involved in the same incident. Particularly disturbing is the evidence of widespread illegal detention at RAB-1's Taskforce Intelligence (TFI) Cell, where over a thousand individuals were held for extended periods—with their eyes and hands bound. Many of these detainees never returned, and available records suggest they were killed.²⁴
14. The Commission documented cases across 36 of Bangladesh's 64 districts, underscoring the nationwide reach of this practice.²⁵
15. The report reveals a secret and unlawful prisoner exchange between the intelligence agencies of Bangladesh and India.
- In late April 2022, Bangladesh's alleged top criminal, Subrata Bain—previously imprisoned in India—was reportedly handed over to the intelligence wing of the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB). In exchange, an unidentified Bangladeshi citizen was transferred to Indian intelligence via RAB's intelligence unit. Disturbingly, the individual transferred to India was reportedly disappeared into the TFI Cell. Bain, upon arrival in Bangladesh, was likewise subjected to enforced disappearance and detained within the same facility.²⁶
16. During the Hasina administration, many individuals were forcibly disappeared after being labeled as militants.
- A youth, named Tareq, labelled as a militant, was taken from his home by RAB on 14 June 2017. He was blindfolded and subjected to extreme torture for 24 hours. After being held in a secret detention facility for four years, he was finally shown as arrested on 20 June 2020, in a trumped-up case alongside an Islamic scholar named Dr. Mamun Madani, and sent to court through the Fulbaria police station.²⁷
17. Women were also victims of enforced disappearance. It has been reported that many women, who were subjected to abuse inside secret detention cells operated by the

²⁴ ৬৭ শতাংশ গুমের ঘটনায় জড়িত পুলিশ, র‍্যাব, ডিবি-সিটিসিসি, Samakal, 11 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/law-justice/article/299694>
Police, RAB, DB, CTTC among prime enforced disappearance perpetrators: Inquiry commission, <https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/police-rab-db-cttc-among-prime-enforced-disappearance-perpetrators-inquiry-commission-reports>

²⁵ ৩৬ জেলায় গুমের ঘটনার তথ্য পেয়েছে কমিশন, Prothom Alo, 5 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/02f5789a4d>

²⁶ ২০২২ সাল থেকে র‍্যাবের গোপন সেলে ছিলেন সুব্রত বাইন, The Daily Star, 5 June 2025; <https://bangla.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news-677916>

²⁷ আয়নাঘরের অন্ধকার কুঠুরিতে তারেকের দুঃসহ ১৪৬৬ দিন, Nayadiganta, 24 April 2025; https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/printed-edition/JI72fFuLd9nf?fbclid=IwY2xjawLf955leHRuA2FlbQIxmABicmlkETFSZWIRbG9nem85bkUyYkRXAR6UWXXrmwG51UM8zgI61_z9sWibgkeN0CDeAkL2lQMUD9FCq_T787Fbjvg2A_aem_K3C7ROyJpcApr2vivUzOlg

Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit, were left permanently disabled with most losing consciousness during the ordeal. Allegations further indicate that members of law enforcement agencies were incentivized with cash rewards for their involvement in the incidents of enforced disappearance and acts of abuse.²⁸

18. On 19 June, the Commission of Inquiry on Enforced Disappearances revealed during a press conference that the names of military officials serving across various agencies had surfaced in connection with cases of enforced disappearance.²⁹
19. To date, 140 complaints concerning enforced disappearances perpetrated during the Hasina regime have been reported to the International Crimes Tribunal. These submissions collectively implicate over a thousand suspected individuals. Most of the complaints have been forwarded to the Tribunal's investigation unit, which is currently verifying their authenticity. Upon completion of this process, officials are expected to file formal charges with the prosecution.³⁰
20. On 15 June, the Vice-Chair and member of the UN Human Rights Council's Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID), Grazina Baranauska and Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez, visited Bangladesh. The WGEID had long expressed interest in investigating incidents of enforced disappearance carried out by Bangladeshi law enforcement and intelligence agencies. Since 2013, repeated requests were made to the then Awami League government for access, but those appeals went unanswered. The June 2025 WGEID visit resulted in a report and recommendations, based on findings of the Working group members.³¹



Odhikar , UVED and HRSS meeting with UN Human Rights Council's Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances (WGEID), Ms.Grazina Baranauska and MsAna Lorena Delgadillo Pérez, at UN Office, Dhaka. Photo: Odhikar, 15 June 2025

²⁸ নির্যাতনের ভয়াবহতা দেখে কাঁদতেন নারী কর্মকর্তারাও, Amar Desh, 29 June 2025; <https://www.dailyamardesh.com/amar-desd-special/amdytinrrquxf>

²⁹ গুমের ঘটনা সেনাবাহিনীর না জানার সুযোগ নেই, Prothom Alo, 20 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/apjk2vty9> , Some armed forces officers, not institutions, involved in disappearance; <https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/267702/some-armed-forces-officers-not-institutions-involved-in-disappearance>

³⁰ ট্রাইব্যুনালে জমা পড়েছে ১৪০ গুমের অভিযোগ, Samakal, 16 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/300637>

³¹ Technical advice on Bangladesh, Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, 25 June 2025: [wgeid-technical-advice-bangladesh-june-2025.pdf](https://www.wgeid.org/technical-advice-bangladesh-june-2025.pdf)

21. Following the assumption of office by the interim government, Bangladesh signed and ratified the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, without any reservations, on 29 August 2024. Prior to signing the Convention, there was no specific legal framework in place to prosecute cases related to enforced disappearance. However, the ratification has now created a legal obligation for Bangladesh to adopt domestic legislation addressing such crimes.³²
22. No reported incidents of enforced disappearance were received during this reporting period.

Capital Punishment

23. The death penalty remains in force within Bangladesh's criminal justice system. The country's lower courts have a tendency to sentence individuals to death, despite the availability of alternative punishments. This pattern mirrors sentencing practices observed during the former authoritarian regime.
- On 27 May, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court acquitted JI leader A.T.M. Azharul Islam, who had previously received a death sentence for crimes against humanity allegedly committed during the Liberation War in 1971. He was arrested on 22 August 2012, and the International Crimes Tribunal delivered him a death sentence on 30 December 2014. He was sent to a condemned cell after the verdict was delivered. After spending 11 years on death-row, Azharul Islam was released.³³
24. Between April and June of the current year, lower courts across the country sentenced 62 individuals to death.

Prison Conditions and Prisoner Rights

25. Over the past three months, police have arrested numerous individuals affiliated with the AL and its associated organisations, alongside suspects in various criminal cases. Bangladesh currently operates 69 prisons with a combined official capacity of 42,887 inmates. However, as of 1 June 2025, the prison population stood at 73,006—comprising 70,417 men and 2,589 women.³⁴ Notably, Chattogram Central Jail reportedly housed three times its intended capacity during this reporting period.³⁵ As a result, prisons across the country are operating under severe overcrowding.

³² গুম বিষয়ে আইন করার উদ্যোগ, Prothom Alo, 17 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/2v99o607vv>

³³ মৃত্যুদণ্ড থেকে খালাস পেলেন জামায়াত নেতা আজহারুল, Prothom Alo, 27 May 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/skbut1ccm8>

³⁴ তিন লাখ ৫৯ হাজার গ্রেপ্তার, Samakal, 1 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/298473/>

³⁵ ৩ গুনের বেশী বন্দি, জমি পাওয়া যাচ্ছে না নতুন কারাগারের, Prothom Alo, 28 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/5o2yvu3i0t>

26. In addition to overcrowding, there is a shortage of medical personnel in the prisons. When inmates become seriously ill and require specialised treatment, they must navigate lengthy bureaucratic procedures. This often leads to preventable deaths due to lack of timely medical care.
- On 15 June, Saidur Rahman Sujon—a former chairman of the Birulia Union Parishad (the lowest tier of local government in Bangladesh) in Savar and an AL leader—who was held for allegedly using firearms during the July 2024 mass uprising, died at Dhaka Central Jail. Prison authorities stated that he committed suicide using a towel to strangle himself, but his family maintains that his death resulted from medical neglect. They said permission for proper treatment was denied.³⁶
27. From April to June, 22 individuals reportedly died in prison. 21 died due to ‘illnesses and one allegedly committed suicide.

Repressive Criminal Laws and Arrests

The Cyber Security Ordinance 2025

28. On 21 May, the interim government formally published the Cyber Security Ordinance as a gazette notification. According to the revised Ordinance, the previous Cyber Security Act lacked adequate provisions for the protection of citizens, thereby enabling misuse and repression, and restricting the freedom of expression and other fundamental rights. Consequently, the Cyber Security Act was repealed and replaced with this Ordinance. Nine sections from the previous Act were dropped while some of the provisions from those sections were reintroduced within the new Ordinance.
29. Prior to its issuance, the United Nations provided several recommendations in March 2025. However, the revised Ordinance appears to sidestep certain UN suggestions. Sections 23(d), 23, 25, 26, and 27 contain ambiguous definitions, raising concerns about potential misuse. Expression of opinion is still categorized as a “crime,” and the Ordinance provides for harsh penalties that may deter individuals from exercising freedom of speech.
30. In addition, the Ordinance establishes a powerful, centralised administrative structure controlled by executive authority, with no judicial oversight or monitoring. The United Nations previously noted that the government had made a clear commitment to uphold international standards on freedom of expression. However, these commitments are

³⁶ গণঅভ্যুত্থানে অস্ত্র নিয়ে হামলায় অভিযুক্ত সাভারের সেই চেয়ারম্যান সুজনের কারাগারে মৃত্যু, পুলিশ বলছে আত্মহত্যা, Dhaka Post, 15 June 2025; <https://www.dhakapost.com/national/372624>

absent from the Cyber Security Ordinance.³⁷ Prior to the Ordinance's enactment, legal cases and arrests under the former Cyber Security Act had continued.

- Ebadul Islam, a mosque imam, was accused of making vulgar and indecent remarks on Facebook against BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia. In response, Ataur Rahim, a local Jubo Dal leader, filed a case under the Cyber Security Act at Ashulia Police Station in Dhaka district. On Monday, 8 April police arrested Ebadul Islam from his residence in Barisal.³⁸
- On 17 April, Kamruzzaman Jewel, office secretary of Mirzaganj Upazila BNP in Patuakhali district, filed a case under the Cyber Security Act at the Barisal Cyber Tribunal against three individuals following some news coverage. The accused include Mufti Salah Uddin, Patuakhali district correspondent for the daily *Samakal*; M.K. Rana, Patuakhali district correspondent for Channel 24; and local resident Masum Hawlader of Mirzaganj subdistrict.³⁹
- On 25 April, in Rangpur, police arrested three teenagers under the Cyber Security Act, alleging that they had posted derogatory content on Facebook about the holy city of Madinah, thereby offending the religious sentiments of Muslims.⁴⁰

The Special Powers Act 1974

31. Allegations have surfaced against the interim government regarding its use of Section 3(2) of the repressive Special Powers Act, 1974. Police have reportedly submitted proposals to the government recommending the preventive detention of 390 individuals.⁴¹ The proposed detainees include professional criminals, masterminds, politicians, and individuals active on social media platforms.⁴²

- On 9 April, police arrested model Meghna Alam, and produced her before the Chief Metropolitan Court in Dhaka the following day. The court ordered her detention for 30 days and sent her to prison.⁴³

³⁷ জাতিসংঘের কিছু সুপারিশ মানা হয়নি সাইবার সুরক্ষা অধ্যাদেশে, প্রথম আলো ১৪ জুন ২০২৫; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/afusxvmk6r>

³⁸ ফেসবুকে খালেদা জিয়ার উদ্দেশে কুরুচীপূর্ণ মন্তব্য, সাইবার নিরাপত্তা আইনে গ্রেপ্তার ১, Prothom Alo, 8 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/pclhn0tho5>

³⁹ ডিজিটাল নিরাপত্তা আইনে দুই সাংবাদিকের বিরুদ্ধে বিএনপি নেতার মামলা, Samakal, 25 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/barisal/article/292283/>

⁴⁰ রাজশাহীতে মহানবী (সা.) কে কটুক্তির অভিযোগে যুবক গ্রেপ্তার, Prothom Alo, 23 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/5u1mtzpo0j>

⁴¹ Under Section 3(2) of the Special Powers Act, 1974, a person can be detained for a period of up to 30 days, which can be extended upon the government's approval.

⁴² ৩৯০ জনকে ডিটেনশনে নেওয়ার প্রস্তাব, Jugantor, 30 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/947949>

⁴³ ডিটেনশন আইনের প্রয়োগ, Samakal, 12 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/289804/>

Draft of the Personal Data Protection Ordinance

32. On 3 June, the Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology announced in a press release that the government had drafted the Personal Data Protection Ordinance, 2025. The draft is reportedly in its final stages, following the incorporation and revision of feedback submitted by various institutions. Upon review, concerns have emerged that the Ordinance could enable surveillance, suppression of dissent, and political misuse. If the Ordinance lacks strong safeguards and alignment with international human rights standards, it risks becoming a tool for censorship, increased surveillance and repression.
33. Furthermore, the Ordinance does not provide adequate protections against data misuse. It fails to separately identify sensitive categories of information—such as political opinion, health information, or biometric data—which could allow for discriminatory profiling or surveillance targeting journalists, human rights defenders, and ordinary citizens.⁴⁴

II. Violations to/ Attacks on People's Rights

34. Given below are other instances where peoples' rights have come under threat or have been attacked. These include attacks on the freedoms of assembly, association, media, expression and due to political association.

Harassment and trumped up criminal charges

35. Following the July 2024 mass uprising, numerous individuals had been implicated in murder and attempted murder cases. In one instance, as many as 735 people were listed as accused in a single case.⁴⁵ Allegations suggest that many of those named—beyond genuine suspects—were targeted due to personal enmity, business rivalries, or financial motives (including efforts to extort money from the accused).
36. In these cases, while some individuals have been credibly accused or are genuine suspects, many others appear to have been wrongfully implicated as part of deliberate efforts to harass them. These people include traders, professionals residing elsewhere, and individuals with no political affiliation.⁴⁶ During ongoing investigations, plaintiffs

⁴⁴ উপাত্ত সুরক্ষা অধ্যাদেশের খসড়ায় নজরদারির সুযোগ রয়েছে, Prothom Alo, 15 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/1wk5yg0l1p> , Draft data law gives unfettered power to cops;

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/draft-data-law-gives-unfettered-power-cops-3917941>

⁴⁵ বাতিঘরের দীপঙ্করকে জিজ্ঞাসাবাদ পুলিশের, Manab Zamin, 29 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=168107>

⁴⁶ ঢালাও আসামীর নেপথ্যে বাণিজ্য, বিদ্বেষ, দ্বন্দ্ব, Prothom Alo, 27 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/lqdc4cooo5>

across the country have repeatedly petitioned the courts to remove names from the list of accused, or submitted affidavits stating that individuals were listed “by mistake.”⁴⁷

- In a striking example of legal misuse following the July 2024 mass uprising, on 27 August 2024, Mustafa Kamal filed a case before the Dhaka Metropolitan Court, alleging that his younger brother, Selim, had been shot dead during a student-led protest on 3 August near Kajla Petrol Pump in Shanir Akhra of Jatrabari. The complaint named 41 individuals as accused and claimed that Selim’s body had been recovered and buried beside the Ramakrishna Mission. Acting on court orders, police registered the case at Jatrabari Police Station on 30 August. However, investigations later revealed that Selim was alive and residing in his village. Authorities indicated that Kamal had filed the case to unlawfully seize his brother’s property.⁴⁸
- On 27 July 2024, Dulal Rabidas of Kishoreganj reportedly died of a brain hemorrhage. However, on 29 November, a case was filed with the Kishoreganj Sadar Model Police Station falsely alleging that he had been killed during the July 2024 protests. The complaint named 768 individuals as accused, including 600 unidentified persons.⁴⁹
- Mahmudul Haque—a faculty member at Begum Rokeya University in Rangpur and vocal supporter of the student-led mass uprising—was arrested on 19 June in connection with the alleged killing of grocery shop owner Shomes Uddin during the 2024 protests.⁵⁰ However, subsequent statements by Uddin’s wife, Amena Begum, indicated that, on 2 August, 2024, during the mass uprising, her husband Uddin had died of a stroke after collapsing in fear when police was chasing to hold him.⁵¹ Haque was granted bail on 22 June.⁵²

Attacks on Accused Persons at the Court Premises

37. During this period, several former ministers and members of parliament from the deposed Sheikh Hasina government—arrested or under threat of arrest in connection with incidents from the student-led uprising—faced physical assault by agitated crowds, including pro-BNP lawyers, both inside courtrooms and on court premises. Even after

⁴⁷ ৬৭৫ আসামির নাম বাদ দিতে বাদীর আবেদন, Prothom Alo, 27 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/ggutuyflwh>

⁴⁸ জীবিত ভাইকে জুলাই আন্দোলনে ‘মৃত’ দাবি করে মামলা, Prothom Alo, 1 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/lcpw86480m>

⁴⁹ ঢালাও আসামির নেপথ্যে বাণিজ্য, বিদ্বেষ, দ্বন্দ্ব, Prothom Alo, 27 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/lqdc4cooo5>

⁵⁰ হার্ট অ্যাটাকে মৃত্যুর ১০ মাস পর গণঅভ্যুত্থানের শহীদ দাবি করে হত্যা মামলা, বেরোবি শিক্ষকসহ গ্রেপ্তার ২, Samakal, 20 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/301242/>

⁵¹ জুলাই অভ্যুত্থানে প্রতিবাদী শিক্ষক কেন কারাগারে, Prothom Alo, 22 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/da8ql6rvne>

⁵² জামিনে মুক্ত বেরোবি শিক্ষক মাহমুদুল হক, Samakal, 23 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/rangpur/article/301661/>

being granted bail, many were reportedly subjected to public humiliation and further attacks.

- On 8 April, following his release on bail, former Member of Parliament for Sirajganj-3, Abdul Aziz, was assaulted allegedly by a group of students and citizens at the gate of Sirajganj District Jail. He was subsequently rescued by the military, who are supporting the civil administration in law enforcement, and handed over to police custody.⁵³
- On 28 April, during a court appearance in connection with a murder case related to the student uprising, former Law Minister Anisul Haque was reportedly punched by pro-BNP lawyers inside a Narayanganj courtroom following the hearing.⁵⁴
- On 22 May, former MP Momtaz Begum, summoned to the Manikganj Chief Judicial Court in separate cases of murder and sabotage, was pelted with eggs and shoes by angry demonstrators and BNP supporters while being escorted to the prison van following her hearing. That same day, Dharendra Devnath Shambhu, president of the Barguna District AL, faced similar attacks from members of the public and pro-BNP lawyers while being transferred from the courtroom to prison custody.⁵⁵

Freedom of Assembly

38. Over the past three months, the right to peaceful assembly was repeatedly violated. Police reportedly obstructed gatherings, protests, and marches organised by political parties and different organisations advocating for rights. Violence was also perpetrated by individuals affiliated with movements such as the “Students and People Alliance” and the “Anti-Shahbagh Alliance,”⁵⁶ with BNP supporters allegedly attacking activists from other political parties. Additionally, internal conflicts within the BNP resulted in clashes among its own members during several marches.⁵⁷

⁵³ জামিনে মুক্তির পর সাবেক এমপিকে হেনস্তা-মারধর Samakal, 9 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/289225/>

⁵⁴ নারায়নগঞ্জের আদালতে সাবেক আইনমন্ত্রী আনিসুলহককে কিলঘুঘি, Prothom Alo, 28 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/d15xsei4pm#>; Ex-law minister Anisul Huq assaulted at Narayanganj court; <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/local-news/drqphgpyo8>

⁵⁵ আদালত প্রাঙ্গণে মমতাজ ও শম্ভুর ওপর ডিম নিক্ষেপ, Jugantor, 23 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/957177>

⁵⁶ রাবিতে বাম ছাত্র জোটের মিছিলে হামলা, আহত ৫, Jugantor, 28 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/campus/959317>; Several injured as leftist, Shibir-linked groups Several injured as leftist, Shibir-linked groups clash at RU after Azharul acquittal; <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/382441/several-injured-as-leftist-shibir-linked-groups>

⁵⁷ কালিয়াকৈরবিএনপিরদুইপক্ষেরসংঘর্ষেরঘটনায়মামলাএকনেতাপ্রেম্ভার, Prothom Alo, 16 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/w0f2qgcx9l>

- On 29 May, during a protest rally in Chattogram organised by the Democratic Student Alliance⁵⁸ against the Supreme Court’s decision to overturn the death sentence of Jamaat-e-Islami leader Azharul Islam, members of the Anti-Shahbagh Alliance⁵⁹ reportedly attacked the rally, injuring 12 protestors.⁶⁰
- On 31 May, Islami Chhatra Shibir (student wing of the JI) set up a help desk at Chittagong Commerce College, to assist students applying to the National University entrance examination and their guardians. Activists from the JCD allegedly obstructed the initiative. When Shibir continued its programme, JCD members reportedly attacked the help desk, leaving three individuals injured.⁶¹
- On 12 June, in Kaukhali, Rangamati, the Hill Women’s Federation⁶² organised a rally demanding justice on the 29th anniversary of the enforced disappearance of Kalpana Chakma, a prominent leader of the Hill Women’s Federation. While returning from the event, human rights activist Marzia Prova, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh faculty member Oliur Sun, and Dhaka University unit president of the Revolutionary Students' Unity, Nuzia Haseen Rasha, were reportedly attacked by a group of assailants who intercepted their scooter at Betchari area. Three of the individuals allegedly involved in the incident have been identified as members of the Kaukhali Degree College unit of the JCD.⁶³

Freedom of Expression

39. The July 2024 mass uprising was widely anticipated to give the people back their freedom of expression. However, during this reporting period, such freedoms were also attacked.

- Artist Manbendra Ghosh created a piece titled “Face of Fascism”⁶⁴ for Dhaka’s Bengali New Year procession. On 15 April, in the middle of the night, his home in Chandhar Village, Manikganj Sadar, was set on fire—allegedly by activists of the AL (whose activities at the time had not yet been suspended) and their now-

⁵⁸ A coalition of left-leaning student organisations (Prothom Alo English, 28 May 2025; <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/agrw2bmukw>)

⁵⁹ The Anti-Shahbagh Unity is an informal student-led group that emerged in opposition to the 2013 Shahbagh movement, which demanded capital punishment for war criminals—particularly leaders of JI. The group gained momentum following the 2024 student-led mass uprising that toppled Sheikh Hasina’s government.

⁶⁰ ছাত্র জোটের কর্মসূচীতে নারীসহ দুজনকে লাথি মারার অভিযোগ, Prothom Alo, 30 May 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/c61v2umq4s> Prothom Alo, 30 May 2025;

‘Chhatra Shibir’ attacked left-leaning students in Rajshahi-Chattogram, Prothom Alo English, 28 May 2025; <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/agrw2bmukw>

; ⁶¹ চট্টগ্রামে শিবিরের হেপ্তাভেদে ছাত্রদলের হামলা, আহত ৩, মানবজমিন ১ জুন ২০২৫ <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=163934>

⁶² Established in 1988 by young women affiliated with Parbatya Chattagram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS), a political group advocating for self-determination in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), it serves as a platform for CHT women to advocate for their rights, cultural preservation, and political autonomy.

⁶³ Attack on activists demanding justice for Kalpana conemned, New Age, 14 June 2025;

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/country/267227/>

⁶⁴ In the form of an effigy of the deposed Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina.

banned student wing, BCL. Manbendra had reportedly been receiving threats for several days and filed a general diary (GD) with the Manikganj police station that same evening. The fire destroyed all of his artworks.⁶⁵ Police have since arrested eight individuals, including six AL activists.⁶⁶



the 'Face of Fascism' float under construction (left) and burnt to the ground (right).

Photo : 13 April, BSS



A group of miscreants set fire to the house of sculptor Manabendra Ghosh in the Garpara Bazar area of Manikganj Sadar Upazila at midnight. The house and more than 30 artworks were burnt down.

Photo: Samakal, 17 April 2025

- Nadira Yasmin, an assistant professor at Narsingdi Government College and a women's rights activist, was reportedly targeted by the Islamist group Hefazat-e-Islam for publishing a “controversial” article in the magazine *Hisyā* (meaning ‘share’). The group demanded her removal within 48 hours. On 26 May, she was

^{৬৫} সন্ধ্যায় জিডি শিল্পীর, মধ্যরাতে বাড়িতে আগুন, Samakal, 17 April 2025;

<https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/290674/>

^{৬৬} আওয়ামী লীগ ও নিষিদ্ধ ছাত্রলীগের ৬ নেতা গ্রেফতার, BSS News, 18 April 2025; <https://www.bssnews.net/bangla/news-flash/191896>

transferred to Satkhira Government College,⁶⁷ but before the order could be executed, she was redirected to Saadat Government College in Tangail. Later on, she was transferred from Saadat Government College to the Department of Secondary and Higher Education. According to reports, she has continued to face online threats following the incident.

Freedom of Media

40. Over the past three months, journalists have faced various forms of repression. Reports emerged of attacks and humiliation,⁶⁸ lawsuits,⁶⁹ convictions,⁷⁰ threats of abduction,⁷¹ and other abuses targetting journalists—primarily from political operatives of the BNP and JI, government authorities, narcotics dealers,⁷² and land grabbers.⁷³

- On 3 April, Mohammad Mohiuddin, Karnafuli correspondent for the daily *Azadi*, was attacked while covering a clash between two BNP factions in Karnafuli, Chattogram. The assailants reportedly seized his mobile phone and physically assaulted him.⁷⁴
- Following the publication of an investigative report titled “*Bribery: Open Secret*” in the daily *Jugantor*, which exposed corruption inside Dhaka’s judicial custody facilities, Bangladesh Police summoned journalist Mohiuddin Rifat via an official letter on 8 April.⁷⁵
- On 20 April, in Shibchar, Madaripur, Global TV’s district correspondent Kaiyum Sheikh was allegedly attacked by a group led by former Shibchar subdistrict Chhatra Dal joint convener Rubel Munshi, in retaliation for a published report.

⁶⁷ হেফাজতের হুঁশিয়ারির পর শিক্ষক নাদিরার বদলি, Prothom Alo, 27 May 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/gmq8hklzgn>, Nadira Yeasmin's transfer: A dangerous surrender; <https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/views/news/nadira-yeasmin-transfer-dangerous-surrender-3906501>

⁶⁸ শ্যামনগরে জামায়াত নেতাকর্মীদের হাতে দুই সাংবাদিক লাঞ্চিত, Samakal, 9 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/289358/>

⁶⁹ ফেনীতে একাধিক সাংবাদিকের বিরুদ্ধে চাঁদাবাজির মামলা, প্রতিবাদে মানববন্ধন-সমাবেশ, Prothom Alo, 24 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/fi2r2npg24>

⁷⁰ তথ্য জানতে চাওয়ায় কারাদণ্ড, সাতক্ষীরায় জামিন পেলেন সাংবাদিক টিপু সুলতান, Prothom Alo, 24 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/9359qhefql>

⁷¹ চুয়াডাঙ্গায় সাংবাদিককে তুলে নেয়ার হুমকি দিলেন বিএনপি নেতা, Jugantor, 25 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/945715>

⁷² সিংগাইরে সাংবাদিকের ওপর সন্ত্রাসী হামলা, Manab Zamin, 16 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156681>

⁷³ সিংগাইরে সাংবাদিকের ওপর সন্ত্রাসী হামলা, Manab Zamin, 16 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156681>

⁷⁴ কর্ণফুলীতে সংঘর্ষের ছবি তুলতে গিয়ে হামলার শিকার সাংবাদিকরা, Manab Zamin, 4 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155020>

⁷⁵ দুর্নীতির সংবাদের জেরে সাংবাদিককে তলব, নিন্দায় সিআরইউ, Jugantor, 22 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/national/944615>

Shibchar Police Station's Officer-in-Charge, Mohammad Ratan Sheikh, rescued Kaiyum Sheikh and admitted him to the hospital.⁷⁶

- On 20 April, in Tarail subdistrict of Kishoreganj, land grabbers reportedly attacked *Jugantor* correspondent Mukramin Khan while he was collecting news, severely hacking and injuring him.⁷⁷
- On Tuesday, 24 April, Tipu Sultan, the *Kaler Kantho* correspondent for Tala Upazila in Satkhira district, visited the site of the Tala Upazila Complex construction to gather information on alleged irregularities and corruption. While investigating, M.M. Mamun Alam, an assistant engineer from the Upazila Engineering Department assaulted him. When Tipu reported the incident to Upazila Nirbahi Officer (the chief public executive of a subdistrict) Sheikh Mohammad Rasel, the officer arrived on site and—after hearing only one side of the story from the engineer and contractors—sentenced Tipu to 10 days of simple imprisonment and fined him BDT 200.⁷⁸

41. According to data collected, between April and June, 30 journalists were injured, 16 were assaulted, 11 journalists received threats while carrying out their professional duties.

Lynching and mob violence

42. During this reporting period, Bangladesh experienced a marked increase in mob-led unrest and violence, with citizens frequently taking the law into their own hands. The limited capacity of law enforcement agencies to effectively contain such disorder has resulted in many injuries and fatalities. This pattern—rooted in the dysfunctional judicial environment fostered under the previous authoritarian regime—continues to persist at an alarming level.

- On 29 April, actor Siddikur Rahman, who had opposed the July 2024 student-led mass protests, was assaulted by a group of youths on the street. They tore his clothes and handed him over to police.⁷⁹
- On 22 June, KM Nurul Huda, the Chief Election Commissioner during the farcial 2018 national elections, was forcibly dragged out of his home in Uttara by angry

⁷⁶ শিবচরে সংবাদ প্রকাশের জেরে সাংবাদিকের ওপর হামলা, Manab Zamin, 22 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=157531>

⁷⁷ শিশু সন্তানের সামনে যুগান্তর প্রতিনিধিকে কুপিয়ে জখম, Jugantor, 20 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/943790> , Jugantor journalist attacked in Tarail, The Country Today, 21 April 2025:

<https://www.dailycountrytodaybd.com/story/jugantor-journalist-attacked-in-tarail>

⁷⁸ তথ্য জানতে চাওয়ায় কারাদণ্ড, সাতক্ষীরায় জামিন পেলেন সাংবাদিক টিপু সুলতান, Prothom Alo, 24 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/9359qhefql> , Kaler Kantho journalist gets bail in Satkhira, The Daily Sun, 24 April 2025; <https://www.daily-sun.com/post/801913>

⁷⁹ অভিনেতা সিদ্দিককে মারধর করে পুলিশের সোপর্দ, Manab Zamin, 30 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=158868>

citizens, who placed a garland of shoes around his neck and publicly humiliated him.⁸⁰

- On 10 April, in Sylheti Bazar, Kamrangirchar, Dhaka, locals fatally assaulted two men named Masud and Nadim over allegations of extortion.⁸¹
- On 31 May, two individuals—Tanvir and Fahim (alias Tepa)—were killed in Darussalam, Dhaka, by a mob on suspicion of robbery.⁸²

43. Between April and June, 19 individuals were reportedly killed in mob beatings.

Political Association

44. During the reporting period, surges in violence and extortion were reported nationwide. Numerous allegations were leveled against leaders and activists of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)⁸³ in connection with these activities. Although the operations of the AL and its affiliated, associated, and aligned groups were officially suspended through a gazette notification issued on 12 May, members of these entities were reportedly involved in violent incidents and political thuggery. Allegations also surfaced implicating the NCP,⁸⁴ JI and the SAD.⁸⁵

45. This reporting period witnessed repeated clashes between leaders and activists of the BNP and those affiliated with the JI,⁸⁶ NCP,⁸⁷ SAD,⁸⁸ and the AL.⁸⁹

- In response to escalating tensions between BNP and the Gono Odhikar Parishad over competing political programmes, authorities were compelled to impose Section 144 to prevent further violence.⁹⁰
- Allegations also emerged implicating BNP members in attacks on residences belonging to a JI⁹¹ and an AL leader, as well as vandalism at the Rangpur home of

⁸⁰ সাবেক সিইসি নুরুল হুদাকে 'জুতার মালা' দিয়ে পুলিশে সোপর্দ, Ittefaq, 22 June 2025; <https://www.ittfaq.com.bd/737552/>

⁸¹ কামরাঙ্গীরচরে চাঁদাবাজির অভিযোগে গণপিটুনি, নিহত ২, নয়াদিগন্ত ১০ এপ্রিল ২০২৫;

<https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/crime/y5upJEH6J8dG> Nayadiganta, 10 April 2025

⁸² মাইকে ঘোষণা দিয়ে দুই যুবককে পিটিয়ে হত্যা, Samakal, 1 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/capital/article/298354/>

⁸³ রাঙ্গাবালীতে বিএপি নেতার বিরুদ্ধে চাঁদাবাজির অভিযোগ, Manab Zamin, 10 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155874>, যুবদল নেতার বিরুদ্ধে চাঁদাবাজির অভিযোগ, Samakal, 3 April 2025;

<https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288264/>

⁸⁴ এনসিপির কর্মসূচিতে বৈষম্যবিরোধী ছাত্র নেতাকে হাতুড়িপেটা, Jugantor, 26 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/970316>

⁸⁵ বৈষম্যবিরোধী ছাত্রনেতার বিরুদ্ধে চাঁদা দাবির অভিযোগ, Prothom Alo, 31 May 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/7bp4891xs3>

⁸⁶ বিএনপি-জামায়াত পাল্টাপাল্টা হামলা, আহত ৭, Samakal, 25 May 2025; <https://samakal.com/index.php/whole-country/article/297389/>

⁸⁷ রূপনগরে তুচ্ছ ঘটনার জেরে বিএনপি-এনসিপি সংঘর্ষ, Samakal, 16 April 2025;

<https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/290455/>

⁸⁸ বৈষম্যবিরোধী ছাত্র ও বিএনপি কর্মীদের সংঘর্ষ, আহত ১০, Jugantor, 16 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/941774>

⁸⁹ সালথায় আ. লীগ বিএপি সংঘর্ষে আহত ১২, Jugantor, 5 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/936845>

⁹⁰ বিএনপি-গণঅধিকার পাল্টাপাল্টা কর্মসূচি ১৪৪ ধারা জারি, Samakal, 14 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/300109/>

⁹¹ মান্দারায় জামায়াত কর্মীর বাড়িতে হামলা লুটপাট, Jugantor, 5 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/936996>

JP Chairman GM Quader—allegedly carried out by NCP and SAD activists.⁹² When a JP representative attempted to file a case on behalf of Quader, the Kotwali police reportedly declined to register the complaint.⁹³

- In Faridpur's Saltha, a local dispute escalated into violent clashes between AL and BNP supporters, resulting in arson and the destruction of homes on both sides.⁹⁴ In Jashore Sadar, JI leader Khabir Khan and his followers allegedly attacked and looted the homes of 14 extremely poor and homeless families in an attempt to seize their land.⁹⁵
- In Chaudagram of Cumilla, members of the Islami Chhatra Shibir (student wing of the JI) were accused of vandalizing and setting fire to the home of former Railways Minister Mujibul Haque.⁹⁶
- In Dhaka's Bangla Motor area, unidentified individuals reportedly threw a homemade bomb near the central office of the NCP, targeting the party's Member Secretary, Akhtar Hossain. While Akhtar Hossain escaped unharmed, three others sustained injuries.⁹⁷

46. Over the past 15 years, individuals linked to the authoritarian Sheikh Hasina government reportedly amassed vast wealth through unchecked corruption and systemic looting.⁹⁸ In certain cases, it has been alleged that these illicit assets are now being managed by members of the BNP.⁹⁹ In some instances, BNP activists have also been accused of perpetrating violence and intimidation against ordinary citizens.

- In Bhola's Char Fasson, a local leader of the Swechchhasebak Dal (volunteer wing of the BNP), Al-Amin, and his associates allegedly attacked the home of a businessman named Masud and killed him.¹⁰⁰
- In Kishoreganj's Mithamain subdistrict, a BNP leader was accused of forcibly harvesting approximately 223945 kilogrammes of rice from the land of 13 farmers.¹⁰¹

⁹² রংপুরে জিএম কাদেরের বাড়িতে হামলা, Prothom Alo, 30 May 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/bprvg47jvl>

⁹³ মামলা নেয়নি পুলিশ, প্রতিবাদে বিক্ষোভ সমাবেশ জাপার, Prothom Alo, 1 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/91j7kuk6m3>

⁹⁴ ফরিদপুরে আওয়ামী লীগ ও বিএনপির সমর্থকদের মধ্যে সংঘর্ষ, বাড়িঘর ভাঙচুর, Prothom Alo, 3 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/ee174w1015>

⁹⁵ ১৪ বাড়িতে হামলা-লুট, মামলা জামায়াত নেতা-কর্মীর নামে মামলা, Samakal, 16 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/290412/>

⁹⁶ চৌদ্দগ্রামে সাবেক রেলমন্ত্রী বাড়িতে হামলা, অভিযোগ শিবিরের বিরুদ্ধে, Prothom Alo, 5 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/9iqojldmce>

⁹⁷ আখতারকে লক্ষ্য করে ককটেল নিক্ষেপ, আহত ৩, Jugantor, 24 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/capital/969299>

⁹⁸ হাছান মাহমুদ ও তার স্ত্রীর ব্যাংক হিসাবে ৭২২ কোটি টাকার লেনদেন, Manab Zamin, 6 April 2025;

<https://www.jugantor.com/national-others/937821>

⁹⁹ অটেল সম্পদ পাহারায় বিএনপি নেতার ছেলে, Jugantor, 26 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/958425>

¹⁰⁰ চরফ্যাশনে স্বেচ্ছাসেবক দল নেতার হামলায় ব্যবসায়ী নিহত, Kaler Kantho, 5 April 2025;

<https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2025/04/05/1500179>

¹⁰¹ বিএনপি সভাপতির বিরুদ্ধে ৬ হাজার মন ধান লুটের অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 23 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/944722>



Mithamoin Upazila BNP President Zahidul Alam Jahangir has been accused of looting and beating 13 farmers by cutting 6,500 maunds of ripe Boro paddy. The victims held a press conference. Photo: Jugantor 23 April 2025

- In Narayanganj's Sonargaon, a BNP leader allegedly seized land from a vulnerable family.¹⁰²
- Sajedul Islam—college teacher and editor of local newspaper *Dainik Prantajan*—was assaulted allegedly by BNP affiliates.¹⁰³



Sajedul Islam, a lecturer at Chandrakala College and editor of local daily Prantjan. Photo: Prothom Alo

- In Lalmonirhat, a group reportedly led by BNP's Mahfuzur Rahman, attacked toll plaza staff at the Teesta Bridge over a dispute, injuring employees and seizing BDT 1.4 million in cash.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰² সোনারগাঁয়ে বিএনপি নেতার বিরুদ্ধে জমি দখলের অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 23 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/945025>

¹⁰³ নাটোরে পত্রিকার সম্পাদকের দুই হাত ভেঙ্গে দেওয়ার অভিযোগ বিএনপির কর্মীদের বিরুদ্ধে, Prothom Alo, 6 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/tmv0uidvia>

- In Narayanganj's Rupganj, a BCL leader named Sabbir Hossain Khoka was held by students and locals. When former district JCD leader Zahidul Islam attempted a violent rescue, he allegedly opened fire indiscriminately, killing local businessman Mamun Bhuiyan.¹⁰⁵
- In Sonagazi, Feni, JD leader Iqbal Hossain and his associates allegedly attacked the chamber of eye specialist Dr. Golam Rasul Suman over extortion demands, injuring three.¹⁰⁶
- In Osmaninagar, Sylhet, the Upazila JD's First Joint Convener, Ahbab Hossain, reportedly announced through a mosque loudspeaker a planned attack on the home of a USA-based expatriate Bangladeshi, Golam Rabbani Sohel, resulting in property destruction and theft of cash and jewellery.¹⁰⁷
- In Madaripur's Rajoir, when Mahsin Fakir, a member of NCP's district coordination committee, and his pregnant wife Jannatul Zara Nipa attempted to stop illegal sand dredging, they were reportedly assaulted by the Hossainpur Union JD leader, Enamul Sheikh and his followers. The injured couple was later hospitalised.¹⁰⁸

47. During this reporting period, several incidents emerged implicating BNP leaders and activists in attacks on law enforcement personnel and threats against government employees.¹⁰⁹

- In Singair, Manikganj, Mohammad Shafiqul Islam Sarkar Jibon—Member Secretary of the municipal unit of JD—and Mohammad Shafiqul Islam, a ward-level JD activist, were arrested after allegedly entering the local police station in an intoxicated state and threatening to kill a police officer.¹¹⁰
- In Pabna, BNP activists reportedly attacked police personnel inside the courtroom after being prevented from filming a court hearing.¹¹¹ In Bogura,

¹⁰⁸ তিস্তা সেতুর টোল প্রাজায় বিএনপি নেতার নেতৃত্বে হামলা, আহত ৫, ১৪ লাখ টাকা ছিনতাই, Prothom Alo, 24 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/jswpl8u2ym>

¹⁰⁹ ছাত্রলীগ নেতাকে ছাড়িয়ে নিতে ছাত্রদল নেতার গুলি, যুবদল কর্মীর মৃত্যু, Manab Zamin, 12 June 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=165224>

¹⁰⁶ ফেনীতে চাঁদা না পেয়ে চিকিৎসকের চেম্বারে যুবদল নেতার হামলা আহত ৩, Manab Zamin, 15 June 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=165670>

¹⁰⁹ ওসমানীনগরে মাইকে ঘোষণা দিয়ে প্রবাসীর বাড়িতে হামলা, মালামাল লুট, Manab Zamin, 15 June 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=165675>

¹⁰⁸ এনসিপি নেতা ও তার স্ত্রীকে মারধরের অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 25 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/970058>

¹⁰⁹ 'কথা না শুনলে ওসি ও ইউএনওগিরি ছাড়তে হবে, Jugantor, 17 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/966244>

¹¹⁰ মদ খেয়ে থানায় ঢুকে পুলিশ সদস্যকে হত্যার হুমকি, Manab Zamin, 7 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155398>

¹¹¹ আদালতের এজলাসেই পুলিশকে মারধর, বিএনপির ৬ নেতা-কর্মী আটক Kaler Kantho, 15 April 2025;

<https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2025/04/15/1504614>

members of the JD allegedly assaulted police officers while they were attempting to rescue an abducted truck driver.¹¹²

- In Natore, JCD activists forcibly freed a detained party member from the custody of Lalpur police station.¹¹³
- In Kachua, Bagerhat, BNP activists allegedly attacked police officers in an attempt to free a named suspect from custody.¹¹⁴

Intra-party Conflicts in the BNP

48. During the reporting period, internal tensions within the BNP escalated significantly. Conflicts over territorial control,¹¹⁵ committee appointments,¹¹⁶ party conferences,¹¹⁷ and dominance over local drug¹¹⁸ and scrap trading¹¹⁹ markets triggered widespread clashes among BNP leaders and activists. In some instances, firearms were reportedly used,¹²⁰ resulting in casualties among both party members and ordinary people.¹²¹ These internal rivalries also led to acts of vandalism, with BNP activists allegedly ransacking their own party offices¹²² and the homes of fellow party leaders.¹²³

- On 5 April, in Badarganj, Rangpur, a violent clash broke out between supporters of BNP leaders Shahidul Haque and Mohammad Ali Sarkar over local dominance and control of a business establishment. The incident led to the death of a brick kiln owner, Lavlu Mia,¹²⁴ and injuries to at least 40 individuals, including a journalist.¹²⁵

¹¹² অভিযানকালে যুবদল নেতার নেতৃত্বে পুলিশের ওপর হামলা, গ্রেপ্তার, Samakal, 9 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/289386/>

¹¹³ লালপুর থানা থেকে আসামী ছিনতাই ছাত্রদলের, Prothom Alo, 8 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/yonihn6gee>

¹¹⁴ ভোলা ও লাখাইয়ে বিএনপি নেতাসহ পিটিয়ে হত্যা ২, Jugantor, 3 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/936328>

¹¹⁵ রায়পুরে বিএনপি'র দু'পক্ষের সংঘর্ষে নিহত ১, আহত ১৫, Manab Zamin, 8 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155627>

¹¹⁶ মোরেলগঞ্জে দু'পক্ষের সংঘর্ষে ইউনিয়ন বিএনপি'র সম্মেলন স্থগিত, আহত ৩০, Manab Zamin, 16 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=165863>

¹¹⁷ মেহেরপুরে সংঘর্ষে জেলা বিএনপি'র সদস্য সচিবসহ আহত ২০, Manab Zamin, 24 May 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=162676>

¹¹⁸ সীতাকুণ্ডে দুই গ্রুপের সংঘর্ষে স্বৈচ্ছাসেবক দল নেতা নিহত, Manab Zamin, 30 May 2025; <https://m.mzamin.com/news.php?news=163693>

¹¹⁹ বুট ব্যবসা নিয়ে বিএনপি'র দু'পক্ষের সংঘর্ষ, Samakal, 29 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/302757/>

¹²⁰ নরসিংদীতে বিএনপি নেতার সমর্থক ও ছাত্রদলের সংঘর্ষ; গুলিবিদ্ধ ১, Jugantor, 16 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/966025>

¹²¹ রূপগঞ্জে ছাত্রদল ও যুবদলের সংঘর্ষে গার্মেন্টসকর্মী গুলিবিদ্ধ, Jugantor, 18 June 2025; <https://www.banglatribune.com/country/dhaka/903319/>

¹²² নাটোরে তুচ্ছ ঘটনায় বিএনপি'র দুই পক্ষের সংঘর্ষে আহত ৬, কার্যালয় ভাঙচুর Prothom Alo, 1 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/wehso6kmp8>

¹²³ তিন জেলায় বিএনপি'র সংঘর্ষে আহত ২৬, Jugantor, 5 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/937127>

¹²⁴ রংপুরে বিএনপি'র সংঘর্ষে নিহত ১, আহত ১৫, Samakal, 6 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288715/>

¹²⁵ বদরগঞ্জে বিএনপি'র দু'পক্ষের সংঘর্ষে নিহত ১, সাংবাদিকসহ আহত ৪০, Manab Zamin, 6 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155252>

- On 21 June, in the river port area of Narayanganj, a dispute over control of a local tempo and battery-run autorickshaw stand and associated drug trade escalated into violence between rival BNP factions. The clash resulted in the deaths of 70-year-old Abdul Kuddus and a young man named Mehedi Hasan.¹²⁶

Intra-party Conflicts in the Awami League

49. On 12 May, the interim government issued a gazette notification invoking Section 18(1) of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009—along with its 2025 amendment—to ban all political activities of the AL and its affiliated, associated, and like-minded organisations. The ban will remain in effect pending the conclusion of legal proceedings at the International Crimes Tribunal concerning these groups.¹²⁷
50. In spite of the ban, during this reporting period, allegations continue that AL leaders and activists were coordinating efforts to destabilize the country.¹²⁸ Reports of sustained political criminality included serious accusations against party affiliates—ranging from attempted rape¹²⁹ and land grabbing from day labourers¹³⁰ to illegal construction of a building on the land of the Department of Roads and Highways.¹³¹ Attacks and abductions targeting BNP activists,¹³² harassment of ordinary citizens,¹³³ mutilation of a BNP leader's arm,¹³⁴ and the forceful extraction of a party member from police custody¹³⁵ make up the list of other crimes allegedly committed by Awami League leaders and activists.¹³⁶

¹²⁶ টেম্পোস্ট্যান্ড দখলে বিএনপির দুপক্ষে সংঘর্ষে নিহত ২, Amar Desh, 23 June 2025;

https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl5_row4_date_23-06-2025_edition_2_page2_158360_449539_updated_watermarked_c4794cdd-7da9-4a5b-bad5-28ae206d3096.jpg

¹²⁷ Govt issues gazette notification imposing ban on AL's activities;

<https://www.newagebd.net/post/Country/264690/>

¹²⁸ চট্টগ্রামে ব্যবসা প্রতিষ্ঠানে ভাঙচুরে ছাত্রলীগের সম্পত্তি পুণ্ডি, Samakal, 9 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/289332/>

¹²⁹ রাঙ্গামাটিতে ধর্ষণ মামলায় ছাত্রলীগ নেতা গ্রেপ্তার, Manab Zamin, 24 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=157905>

¹³⁰ রায়পুরে আ. লীগ নেতার বিরুদ্ধে জমি দখলের অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 8 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/938614>

¹³¹ সওজের জায়গা দখল করে আ. লীগ নেতার ভবন নির্মাণ, Jugantor, 10 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/939642>

¹³² সিদ্ধিরগঞ্জে অপহরণ করে স্বেচ্ছাসেবক দল নেতাকে নির্যাতন, Jugantor, 5 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/index.php/tp-city/937096>

¹³³ ফেনীতে আ'লীগ নেত্রীর নেতৃত্বে প্রতিপক্ষের ওপর হামলায় আহত ৫, নয়াদিগন্ত ২৬ এপ্রিল ২০২৬;

<https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/IGuluhksW4Sf>

¹³⁴ লোহাগড়ায় বিএনপি নেতার কজি বিচ্ছিন্ন, Manab Zamin, 23 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=157727>

¹³⁵ বড়লেখায় পুলিশের থেকে ছাত্রলীগ নেতাকে ছিনিয়ে নেয়ার অভিযোগ, গ্রেপ্তার ৪, Manab Zamin, 14 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156483>,

¹³⁶ শ্রমিক লীগ নেতার বিরুদ্ধে ধর্ষণচেষ্টার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 6 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/937838>

- On 2 April, in Maijdee, Noakhali Sadar, a group of assailants—allegedly led by JL leader Piyas—violently attacked BNP leader Zakir Hossain Alo using sharp weapons, resulting in severe injuries.¹³⁷
- In Amtali, Barguna, AL leader Israfil Molla allegedly attacked and looted the home and business premises of a trader named Siddiq Khan, reportedly in retaliation for his refusal to pay extortion money. The incident resulted in injuries to five individuals.¹³⁸
- On 5 April, in Jazira, Shariatpur, a violent clash broke out between rival AL factions over territorial control. The confrontation involved the widespread use of crude explosives and resulted in injuries to 15 individuals, including women.¹³⁹
- On 23 April, in Nasirnagar, Brahmanbaria, when JI organised a public procession, AL activists allegedly attacked them with traditional weapons, leaving JI leader Jasim Uddin critically injured.¹⁴⁰
- On 24 April, in Gazaria, Munshiganj, a violent confrontation occurred between BNP and AL supporters over sand extraction from a river. Both sides reportedly used firearms during the clash.¹⁴¹

51. Between April and June of this year, at least 72 individuals were killed and 1677 injured in incidents of political violence. During this three-month period, a total of 105 internal clashes were recorded within the BNP and 04 within the AL.

52. Intra-party conflicts within the BNP reportedly resulted in 19 deaths and 973 injuries, while internal clashes among AL members led to 02 deaths and 24 injuries.

III. Violence against Women

53. Violence against women continued across Bangladesh throughout April to June 2025. Inadequate social protection system and the failure of the justice system are widely perceived as key reasons for perpetrators of gender-based violence enjoying impunity. As a result, victims are consistently denied justice.

¹³⁷ বিএনপি নেতাকে কোপাল যুবলীগ-ছাত্রলীগ, Samakal, 2 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288257/>

¹³⁸ আ. লীগ নেতার বিরুদ্ধে হামলার অভিযোগ, নারীসহ আহত ৫, Jugantor, 4 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/936866>

¹³⁹ শরীয়তপুরে দু'পক্ষের সংঘর্ষের ঘটনায় ৮৮ জনের বিরুদ্ধে মামলা, প্রেক্ষার ৭, Samakal, 6 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288837/>

¹⁴⁰ নাসিরনগরে আওয়ামী লীগের হামলায় জামায়াত নেতা আহত, Nayadiganta, 23 April 2025; <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/Kg5Yk0VgTBCs>

¹⁴¹ গজারিয়ায় বিএনপি ও আওয়ামী লীগের সমর্থকদের মধ্যে থেমে থেমে গোলাগুলি আতঙ্ক, Prothom Alo, 25 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/x7zs45d7jq>

Rape

54. Bangladesh continues to struggle in containing the crime of rape. Delays in the judicial process and, in many instances, the entrenched culture of impunity embolden perpetrators. Between April and June, numerous incidents of rape were reported—ranging from assaults on children to the rape of elderly women, including one victim aged 80.¹⁴² Cases were documented involving pregnant women¹⁴³ and even assaults occurring inside moving buses.¹⁴⁴

- The atrocities committed during this period were deeply disturbing: a child survivor was attacked with acid;¹⁴⁵ another was murdered post-assault and her face burned;¹⁴⁶ in one instance, after rape, the victim's hair was forcibly cut and her home looted.¹⁴⁷ Additional reports include failed rape attempts followed by murder,¹⁴⁸ killing after rape,¹⁴⁹ victims taking their own lives out of trauma,¹⁵⁰ an accused abducting the victim after being released on bail,¹⁵¹ and intimidation of victims and asking for the withdrawal of the case.¹⁵² In one case, a police officer reportedly threatened the husband of a rape survivor for pursuing justice.¹⁵³ There was also a report of perpetrator's family setting fire to the home of a survivor.¹⁵⁴ Moreover, a number of rapists allegedly filmed the rape and later

¹⁴² ৮০ বছরের বৃদ্ধাকে ধর্ষণের পর হত্যার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 20 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/943763>

¹⁴³ অন্তঃসত্ত্বা পোশাকশ্রমিককে ধর্ষণ, বাড়িওয়ালা কারাগারে, Aker Patrika, 23 April 2025;

<https://www.ajkerpatrika.com/bangladesh/dhaka/ajp6lffidcnkv>
সাতারে অন্তঃসত্ত্বা নারী শ্রমিককে ধর্ষণের পর হত্যা, Manab Zamin, 28 April 2025;
<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=158506>

¹⁴⁴ চলন্ত বাসে ধর্ষণের অভিযোগে চালক গ্রেফতার, Prothom Alo, 17 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/rvuthmw3c5>

¹⁴⁵ ধর্ষণের পর শিশু জুই'র মুখ এসিড দিয়ে পুড়িয়ে দেয়া হয়, Manab Zamin, 18 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=157034>

¹⁴⁶ স্কুলছাত্রীকে ধর্ষণ, হত্যার পর ঝলসানো হয় মুখ, Samakal, 16 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/290475/>

¹⁴⁷ ধর্ষণের পর কেটে দেয়া হলো গৃহবধূর চুল, Jugantor, 20 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/943491>

¹⁴⁸ কুলাউড়ায় ধর্ষণে ব্যর্থ হয়ে স্বাসরোধে স্কুলছাত্রীকে হত্যা, Manab Zamin, 17 June 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=166106>

¹⁴⁹ চন্দনাইশে তরুণীকে 'ধর্ষণের পর হত্যা', মানবজমিন, ১০ এপ্রিল ২০২৫; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155933>

¹⁵⁰ ধর্ষণের শিকার জুলাই আন্দোলনে শহীদের মেয়ের আত্মহত্যা, Samakal, 27 April 2025;

<https://samakal.com/capital/article/292541/>

¹⁵¹ ধর্ষণ মামলায় জামিনে মুক্ত হয়ে ভুক্তভোগীকে অপহরণ, খোজ মেলেনি ছাত্রী, Manab Zamin, 11 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156055>

¹⁵² রায়পুরায় দুই স্কুল ছাত্রী ধর্ষণে মামলা, পরিবার নিরাপত্তাহীনতায়, Samakal, 11 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/289793/>

¹⁵³ মেহেন্দিগঞ্জে ধর্ষণের শিকার নারীর স্বামীকে ওসির হুমকি, Manab Zamin, 16 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156709>

¹⁵⁴ ধর্ষিতার বাড়িতে আগুন দেওয়ার অভিযোগ ধর্ষকের পরিবারের বিরুদ্ধে, Jugantor, 5 April 2025;

<https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/937412>

used the footage to blackmail the victims—either to coerce them into repeated sexual violence or extort money.¹⁵⁵

- There were widespread allegations of rape against leaders and activists of the then-ruling Awami League. Although Hasina has been deposed, similar allegations have surfaced against members of the BCL,¹⁵⁶ the now-banned student wing of AL as well as activists of BNP's affiliated organisations.¹⁵⁷ There are also reported allegations of rape against senior police officials.¹⁵⁸

55. Despite a directive from a bench of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court instructing necessary action to prevent arbitration or informal settlements in rape cases, many incidents are still being resolved through extrajudicial means. Local influentials and political leaders are allegedly profiting from these settlements by extorting large sums of money.¹⁵⁹

- On 14 May, in Savar, Dhaka district, a woman named Lata was allegedly raped and then strangled to death by her father-in-law, Masud Mia, after a dispute over unpaid dowry. Locals reportedly detained Masud Mia, assaulted him, and handed him over to police.¹⁶⁰
- On 29 June, in Tajumuddin upazila of Bhola district, a housewife was reportedly gang-raped. The accused include Mohammad Farid Uddin, Joint General Secretary of the Tajumuddin subdistrict unit of the labour wing of BNP, along with several activists from the JD and JCD. Prior to the assault, her husband was allegedly beaten over a demand for extortion.¹⁶¹

56. In the past three months, 208 women and female children have reportedly been subjected to rape. Among them, 78 were women, 109 were female children, and the age of 21 victims was not determined. Of those women, 20 were victims of gang rape and three were murdered after rape. Among the children, 13 were gang-raped and three were murdered following rape.

¹⁵⁵ নান্দাইলে নারীকে ধর্ষণের ভিডিও ধারণ, ছবি প্রকাশ, Jugantor, 5 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/937205>

¹⁵⁶ কলেজছাত্রীকে ধর্ষণ ও ভিডিও ধারণ, ভাইরালের হুমকি ছাত্রলীগ নেতার, Samakal, 24 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/291996/>

¹⁵⁷ বন্ধুকে ছাত্রলীগ বলে পুলিশে দিয়ে হবু বউকে ধর্ষণ, ছাত্রদল নেতা গ্রেপ্তার, Manab Zamin, 1 May 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=159005>

¹⁵⁸ এএসপির বিরুদ্ধে ধর্ষণের অভিযোগে মামলা, Jugantor, 22 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/national/956272>

¹⁵⁹ প্রতিবন্ধী ছাত্রীকে ধর্ষণচেষ্টা, সালিশ করে লক্ষাধিক টাকা হাতিয়ে নেওয়ার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 10 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/939677>

¹⁶⁰ সাভারে পুত্রবধূকে ধর্ষণের পর হত্যার অভিযোগে শ্বশুর গ্রেফতার, Manab Zamin, 15 June 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=165673>

¹⁶¹ তজুমদ্দিনে স্বামীকে নির্যাতনের পর গৃহবধূকে দলবদ্ধ ধর্ষণের অভিযোগে মামলা, Prothom Alo, 30 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/9n9jar7ihk>

Sexual Harassment and Stalking

57. Incidents of harassment and sexual abuse against women continued during this period.

Women were subjected to sexual harassment by men from various socio-economic backgrounds. In one instance, a father was murdered for protesting against the sexual harassment of his daughter.¹⁶² A female journalist was reportedly assaulted and then defamed publicly.¹⁶³

- In Bogura, Jitu Islam, assistant secretary of the district unit of the Swechchhasebak Dal¹⁶⁴, allegedly proposed marriage to the daughter (a student of class 8) of a rickshaw puller named Shakil Mia, who lived in the city's Shibbari area. When Shakil refused to marry off his underage daughter, Jitu began harassing her. After Shakil protested, Jitu and his associates reportedly attacked and killed him on 14 June.¹⁶⁵
- In Nagarkanda, Faridpur, on 30 May, activist Baishakhi Islam—who leads a student movement against discrimination—filed a general diary (GD) with the police after her sister was harassed. On her way back from the police station, she was allegedly assaulted by local BNP joint secretary Badiuzzaman Tara Molla and his son along with their group. When a case was filed and police went to arrest the accused, they were attacked in retaliation. Three police officers were injured, and six suspects were subsequently arrested.¹⁶⁶
- In Singair, Manikganj, a youth named Al Amin had reportedly been harassing the granddaughter (a student of class 3) of a tea seller named Ajgar Ali as she commuted to and from school. On 28 April, Ajgar Ali filed a written complaint against Al Amin at the local police station. The next day, 29 April, Al Amin and his accomplices allegedly dragged Ajgar Ali out of his shop and brutally hacked him to death.¹⁶⁷

58. Between April and June, a total of 14 women and girl children were reportedly subjected to sexual harassment. Furthermore, three men were killed and seven men were injured while protesting against sexual harassment of women and children.

¹⁶² উত্ত্যক্তের প্রতিবাদ করায় বাবাকে হত্যা, Jugantor, 18 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/942508>

¹⁶³ নারী সাংবাদিকের শ্রীলতাহানির পর রটানো হচ্ছে কুৎসা, Samakal, 4 April 2025;

<https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/288465/>

¹⁶⁴ Volunteer wing of the BNP

¹⁶⁵ ২২ ক্যাডার নিয়ে চলতেন স্বচ্ছসেবক দলের জিৎ, Samakal, 16 June 2025; [https://samakal.com/whole-](https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/300496/)

[country/article/300496/](https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/300496/)

¹⁶⁶ বৈষম্যবিরোধী নেত্রীর ওপর হামলা, Jugantor, 1 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/961031>

¹⁶⁷ থানায় নাতনিকে উত্ত্যক্তের অভিযোগ করায় নানাকে হত্যা, Manab Zamin, 1 May 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=159037>

Dowry-Related Violence

59. Violence against women driven by dowry demands persisted during the three-month reporting period. In several cases, women were killed,¹⁶⁸ beaten,¹⁶⁹ suffocated,¹⁷⁰ and even burnt¹⁷¹ for failing to meet dowry expectations. Several of the victims of these killings and assaults were reportedly pregnant.

- On 9 May, in Borovairab village of Ullapara subdistrict of Sirajganj district, a recently married woman named Rabeya Khatun was allegedly murdered by her husband Hridoy Hossain Bokul over dowry-related disputes.¹⁷²
- On 8 June, in Rangpur, a woman named Rezwana was allegedly burned to death by her husband, Abdul Karim, after she failed to meet dowry demands amounting to five hundred thousand Bangladeshi Taka.¹⁷³

60. During this three-month period, a total of 19 women were subjected to dowry-related violence. Among them, 11 were reportedly killed and eight experienced various forms of abuse.

IV. Workers and their Rights

61. There have been allegations that the country's leading export-earning sector—the ready-made garments industry—is being deliberately destabilized. A quarter of garments factory owners have allegedly been engaged in laundering large sums of money abroad. They have been accused of deliberately spreading rumours to incite discontent among workers. During this reporting period, workers held protest rallies, and road blockades demanding wage increases, payment of arrears, reopening of factories, and in response to layoffs¹⁷⁴ and physical abuse of workers.¹⁷⁵

- During this period, two garment workers reportedly took their own lives in response to unfair and inhumane treatment by the authorities. In one case, Idris Ali—a worker at Montreems Limited in Gazipur—reportedly consumed chemicals inside the factory while on duty, in protest against alleged management

¹⁶⁸ যশোরে গৃহবধূকে গলা কেটে হত্যা, লাপান্তা স্বামী-সতিন; Ittefaq, 28 April 2025; <https://www.ittfaq.com.bd/729431/>

¹⁶⁹ যৌতুকের জন্য স্ত্রীকে হত্যার অভিযোগ, Jugantor, 14 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/953645>

¹⁷⁰ যৌতুকের বলি রেশমা, Manab Zamin, 25 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=158030>

¹⁷¹ রংপুরে যৌতুক না পেয়ে গৃহবধূকে পুড়িয়ে হত্যা, Jugantor, 15 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/965997>

¹⁷² উল্লাপাড়ায় যৌতুকের জন্য স্বামীর হাতে স্ত্রী খুন, Jugantor, 9 May 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/951590>

¹⁷³ রংপুরে গৃহবধূকে পুড়িয়ে হত্যার অভিযোগ, মামলা করতে ১২ ঘণ্টা ধরে থাকায় পরিবার, Prothom Alo, 14 June 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/udb8txxlix>

¹⁷⁴ শ্রমিক ছাটাইয়ের প্রতিবাদে মহাসড়ক অবরোধ, Prothom Alo, 24 April 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/d682e27qk7>

¹⁷⁵ শ্রমিক বিক্ষোভে মহাসড়ক অবরোধ, Bangladesh Journal, 26 April 2025; <https://www.bd-journal.com/bangladesh/287883/>

irregularities. Prior to his death, he published a Facebook status detailing his grievances and accusations against factory authorities.¹⁷⁶

- At Jinnat Knitwear in Sripur, Gazipur, a worker named Zakir Hossain had taken one day of leave due to illness. When he returned to the factory on 2 June, senior officials humiliated him by forcing him to hold his ears and squat repeatedly in front of colleagues as punishment. Unable to bear the disgrace, Zakir jumped from the eighth floor of the factory building. He was critically injured and later died after being taken to the hospital.¹⁷⁷
- At RobiNtex Bangladesh Limited, a garment factory in Rupganj, Narayanganj, the factory authorities declared a closure before Eid al-Fitr, having only partially paid workers' wages and bonuses. Several workers were dismissed without prior notice. When the factory reopened on 8 April following the Eid holiday, workers raised a series of demands, including the reinstatement of laid-off employees. When management refused to meet their demands, on 9 April, the workers took to the streets and blocked the Dhaka–Sylhet highway in protest. A violent clash ensued with joint forces, leaving at least fifty people injured, including workers, police, and military personnel.¹⁷⁸
- On 4 June, in Sripur, Gazipur, the management of DesignTex Knitwear and BBS Cable factories dismissed ten workers and posted the dismissal notice at the factory gate. After returning from Eid-al-Adha holidays, workers protested the terminations on 14 June. This led to a clash between workers and joint forces, who baton-charged the workers and arrested 45 individuals from the protest site.¹⁷⁹

V. Minority Rights

62. Over the past three months, several reports from across the country documented obstacles, threats, and attacks—including vandalism—targeting religious minorities.

- On 7 April, in Pangsha Upazila of Rajbari district, a rally protesting Israeli brutality in Gaza marched past the prayer centre of the Ahmadiyya Jamaat. During this time, a group of alleged miscreants reportedly attacked the prayer centre, vandalizing property and breaking doors and windows.¹⁸⁰
- On 13 June, a large religious congregation was scheduled at Kheturi Dham in Godagari, Rajshahi, organised by the Hindu, Buddhist, Christian Welfare Front.

¹⁷⁶ ফেসবুকে পোস্ট দিয়ে কারখানাতেই শ্রমিকের 'আত্মহত্যা', ছুটি ঘোষণা, Prothom Alo, 18 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/0x6etr5mo9>

¹⁷⁷ শ্রীপুরে শ্রমিক পুলিশ সংঘর্ষে শতাধিক আহত, Jugantor, 4 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/962446>

¹⁷⁸ রূপগঞ্জে শ্রমিকদের সড়ক অবরোধ, যৌথ বাহিনীর সঙ্গে সংঘর্ষে আহত ৫০, Prothom Alo, 9 April 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/a7hl483544>

¹⁷⁹ শ্রমিক ছাঁটাইয়ের প্রতিবাদে গাজীপুরে বিক্ষোভ, নয়াদিনগন্ত, Nayadiganta, 15 June 2025;

<https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/FYZACP69iEGK>

¹⁸⁰ Attack on prayer centre of Ahmadiyas condemned, New Age, 9 April 2025; <https://www.newagebd.net/print/post/261900>

Preparations had been made to distribute mahaprasad (food offered to the deity before being offered to the devotees) among approximately twelve thousand devotees. However, on 12 June, local BNP leader Ehsanul Kabir Tuku and his followers allegedly stormed the venue and assaulted a devotee named Sahadev Kumar Panna, forcibly removing him from the temple premises. The incident led to the disruption and eventual cancellation of the entire event.¹⁸¹

VI. Indo-Bangladesh Border Issues

Killing and Torture by BSF

63. Alongside political and economic intrusion, India's Border Security Force (BSF) has continued its indiscriminate killing, torture, and persecution of Bangladeshi citizens. Every year, people living near the Bangladesh–India border face death or injury due to BSF shootings or torture.

- On 8 April, in the Bijoynagar border area of Brahmanbaria, BSF personnel allegedly detained and tortured to death a Bangladeshi farmer named Muradur Rahman Munna while he was checking his paddy field.¹⁸²
- On 13 April, at the Maheshpur border in Jhenaidah, BSF troops reportedly tortured and killed a young Bangladeshi named Wasim, whose body was then thrown into the Ichamati River.¹⁸³
- On 27 April, at the same border point, BSF forces shot and killed another Bangladeshi youth named Obaidur Rahman.¹⁸⁴
- On 16 April, in Hatibandha, Lalmonirhat, BSF allegedly opened fire on Bangladeshi farmers cutting grass, injuring a farmer named Hasinur. BSF members then reportedly entered Bangladeshi territory, tortured Hasinur with bayonets, killed him, and took the body away.¹⁸⁵
- On 4 May, a young Bangladeshi named Sakib was reportedly killed by BSF gunfire at the Madla border in Kasba subdistrict in Brahmanbaria.¹⁸⁶
- Nasir Uddin, a Bangladeshi citizen, who was wounded by BSF fire at Maheshpur border in Jhenaidah on 17 May, died at Chuadanga Hospital on 29 May while under treatment.¹⁸⁷

¹⁸¹ বিএনপি নেতার হামলায় সনাতনীদেও অনুষ্ঠান পণ্ডের অভিযোগ, Samakal, 14 June 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/300277>

¹⁸² বাংলাদেশকে পিটিয়ে হত্যা করল বিএসএফ, Jugantor, 10 April 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/939340>

¹⁸³ মহেশপুর সীমান্তে বিএসএফ'র পিটুনিতে যুবকের মৃত্যু, Manab Zamin 13 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=156318>

¹⁸⁴ মহেশপুর সীমান্তে বিএসএফের গুলিতে বাংলাদেশি নিহত; The Mirror Asia, 27 April 2025; <https://bangla.themirrorasia.net/news/2025/04/27/10747>

¹⁸⁵ বিএসএফের গুলিতে বাংলাদেশি কৃষক নিহত, Samakal, 16 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/290602/>

¹⁸⁶ কসবায় বিএসএফের গুলিতে বাংলাদেশি নিহত, Samakal, 5 May 2025; <https://samakal.com/chittagong/article/293926/>

¹⁸⁷ বিএসএফের গুলিতে আহত মহেশপুরের নাসিরের মৃত্যু, Samakal, 31 May 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/298177/>

- On 31 May, BSF allegedly shot and killed a Bangladeshi youth named Pradip Baidya at the Kulaura border in Moulvibazar.¹⁸⁸
- On 15 June, BSF reportedly shot and killed a Bangladeshi citizen named Raju Islam at the Ghagra border in Sadar subdistrict of Panchagarh district.¹⁸⁹

64. From April to June, nine Bangladeshis were reportedly killed and five injured by BSF. Among the deceased, seven were allegedly shot and killed, while two were tortured to death. All five were reportedly wounded by gunfire.

Indian Propaganda against Bangladesh

65. Since the fall of the authoritarian Sheikh Hasina regime, India's ruling establishment has allegedly engaged in various efforts aimed at harming Bangladesh's domestic stability and undermining the interim government. Several Indian media outlets have published false and fabricated reports about Bangladesh.¹⁹⁰ However, fact-checking investigations have proven the majority of these claims to be false. International media outlets such as BBC, Al Jazeera, AFP Fact Check and New York Times have also revealed evidence that substantiates these disinformation campaigns.¹⁹¹

- During this reporting period, Bangladeshi English-language daily *The Daily Star* published what was later deemed a fabricated and false report, regarding the alleged abduction and murder of Bhabesh Chandra Roy, a member of the Hindu minority community.¹⁹² Indian media outlets reportedly used this report to fuel propaganda against Bangladesh. As tensions escalated between Bangladesh and India following the publication, India's Ministry of External Affairs issued a statement claiming that Bhabesh Chandra Roy had indeed been abducted and murdered.¹⁹³ Subsequently, when multiple stakeholders challenged the authenticity of the report, *The Daily Star* retracted the story, issuing an apology for disseminating incorrect information.¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁸ বিএসএফের গুলিতে বাংলাদেশি নিহত, Prothom Alo, 1 June 2025;

<https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/vrq0c825s8>

¹⁸⁹ পঞ্চগড়ে বিএসএফের গুলিতে আহত গরু ব্যবসায়ীর মৃত্যু, Jugantor, 16 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/965936>

¹⁹⁰ ফের অন্তর্বর্তী সরকারের সমালোচনায় ভারত, কালের কণ্ঠ, ৮ মার্চ ২০২৫;

<https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/national/2025/03/08/1489541>

¹⁹¹ আলজাজিরা, ৯ আগস্ট ২০২৪; <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/8/islamophobic-alarmist-how-some-india-outlets-covered-bangladesh-crisis>; AFP Fact Check, 10 January 2025:

<https://factcheck.afp.com/doc.afp.com.36T33HX>; AFP Fact Check, 24 December 2024:

<https://factcheck.afp.com/doc.afp.com.36QP8JD>; New York Times, 24 December 2024:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2024/12/24/world/asia/bangladesh-hindus.html>; বিবিসি, ১৮ আগস্ট ২০২৪;

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2n8pzk7gzo.amp>

¹⁹² Hindu community leader 'beaten to death after abduction' in Dinajpur, Daily star, 18 April 2025; <https://tds-images.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/hindu-community-leader-beaten-death-after-abduction-dinajpur-3874331>

¹⁹³ একই বিষয়ে আরো ভারতের নিন্দা জানিয়ে বিবৃতি, Manab Zamin, 20 April 2025;

<https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=157320>

¹⁹⁴ The Daily Star retracts story on Dinajpur death, Daily Star 20 April 2025;

<https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/the-daily-star-retracts-story-dinajpur-death-3874331>

Illegal Push-ins

66. Since May 7, in violation of international law and fundamental human rights, the Indian ruling establishment has forcibly pushed Bangladeshi nationals, Rohingya refugees, and Indian Muslim citizens—many under the cover of night—across the border into Bangladesh. Many of those subjected to this “push-in” were coerced across the zero line through inhumane treatment. Reports claim that BSF personnel confiscated their belongings and cash.¹⁹⁵

- On 22 May, five members of Mohammad Omed Ali’s family entered Bangladesh via Ramgarh border in Khagrachari. The BSF reportedly picked them up from Haryana, took them to Tripura, and threw them into the river with their hands and feet tied. Fortunately, the family survived and crossed the Feni River into Bangladesh, where Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) took them into custody.¹⁹⁶
- On 27 May, BSF allegedly pushed 14 individuals across the Kurigram border, including Khairul Islam, a school teacher from Assam.¹⁹⁷

67. According to human rights activists operating near border regions and reports from various news outlets, 1783 individuals—including women, children, and the elderly—had been forcibly pushed into Bangladesh during this period.¹⁹⁸

Indian Occupation of Bangladesh Territory

68. India’s ruling establishment allegedly offered absolute support to Bangladesh’s authoritarian Sheikh Hasina led government, in pursuit of its own strategic interests, extracting considerable benefit during her regime.¹⁹⁹ At various border points in Sadar, Tetulia, and Boda subdistricts of Panchagarh district, more than 730 acres of disputed land—documented as belonging to Bangladesh—were reportedly seized by India. The land encroachment is said to have begun after Sheikh Hasina assumed power in 2009, with the final takeover completed in 2015 through actions carried out by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) personnel.²⁰⁰

¹⁹⁵ ‘বিএসএফ আমাদের সব টাকা রেখে দিয়েছে’ Jugantor, 12 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-firstpage/964173>

¹⁹⁶ বাংলাদেশ সীমান্তে হাত-পা বেঁধে পাঁচজনকে নদীতে ফেলো দিলো বিএসএফ, Nayadiganta, 22 May 2025;

<https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/XcU6ilzYUbMt>

¹⁹⁹ আসামের মুসলিম শিক্ষককে পুশ ইন বাংলাদেশে, Amar Desh, 29 May 2025;

<https://www.dailymardesh.com/world/amd4b6gwqvkmx>

¹⁹⁸ সীমান্তে অব্যাহত পুশ ইন, জাতিগত দাঙ্গার উসকানি, Amar Desh, 18 June 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/amar-desh-special/amd123jbyoyte>

¹⁹⁹ ভারতের আবদারে রামগড়ে স্থলবন্দর, বাংলাদেশের হাজার কোটি টাকা গচ্ছা, Amar Desh, 10 January 2025; <https://eamardesh.com/2025-01-10>

²⁰⁰ হাসিনার আমলে বিরোধপূর্ণ সব জমি দখলে নেয় ভারত, Amar Desh, 16 June 2025; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=swu1bumyVi8>

VII. Recommendations:

1. It is imperative to ensure that the proceedings of the International Crimes Tribunal are conducted transparently and impartially. Justice and reparations must be guaranteed for the victims, affected parties and families to uphold their dignity.
2. Members of law enforcement agencies and those responsible for any place of custody, involved in extrajudicial killings, torture, and inhumane treatment must be tried under the relevant laws of the land.
3. The Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, 2013 must be effectively enforced in cases of abuse. The directives issued by the Supreme Court's High Court Division in 2003, and later upheld by the Appellate Division, in the case of BLAST vs. Bangladesh concerning prevention of custodial torture during remand must be executed. Alongside, the government must ratify the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention Against Torture.
4. A specific law must be adopted to criminalize and punish enforced disappearances and give justice to victim families. Victim families must be compensated and rehabilitated, and the government must disclose the fate of those who still remain unaccounted for.
5. The leadership and activists of political parties, must commit to ending political violence and other criminal involvement, and work proactively to steer the country forward through democratic means.
6. Allegations of misconduct, negligence, and corruption against prison authorities must be investigated, and appropriate legal action must be taken. All forms of human rights violations—including torture and abuse of inmates—must be stopped, and adequate medical care for ill prisoners must be ensured.
7. Freedom of expression and media must be guaranteed at all levels. All lawsuits against journalists intended for harassment must be dropped, and perpetrators of attacks against journalists must be held accountable through independent and impartial investigations.
8. All repressive laws—including the Special Powers Act of 1974 and the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009 must be repealed. The Cyber Security Ordinance must be revised and amended to ensure checks and balances to prevent abuse of the law.
9. Informal arbitration in cases of rape or violence against women must be prohibited. Police must properly investigate these cases, arrest the accused, and ensure prosecution. The legal definition of sexual harassment—as determined by the court in the 2010 matter of BNWLA Vs. Bangladesh—must be reflected in the law.
10. All human rights violations—such as killings and torture of Bangladeshi citizens by India's BSF at the border—must be stopped. The Indian government must cease illegal push-ins and repatriate Bangladeshi citizens currently in India through proper diplomatic channels. India must stop pushing its own citizens and Rohingya refugees into Bangladesh and end its dominance and aggressive behavior toward the country.

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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.
3. Odhikar conducts detailed fact-finding investigations into some of the most significant violations, with assistance from trained local human rights defenders.
4. Odhikar is consistent in its human rights reporting and is committed to remain so.