



Quarterly Human Rights Report

July-September 2025

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Preface

Since its founding in 1994, Odhikar has consistently documented incidents of human rights violations perpetrated by the state. As Odhikar publishes its July–September 2025 quarterly report, the interim government, which was formed following a mass uprising that ended 15 years of authoritarian rule, has completed over one year in office. As in previous reporting periods, this quarter witnessed continued violations of human rights. This report presents a comprehensive account of these violations and calls upon the State to uphold its obligations and refrain from further violations of human rights.

On 5 August 2024, in the face of a student-led mass uprising, authoritarian ruler Sheikh Hasina, widely accused of grave human rights violations, including enforced disappearances, was forced to step down, and fled to India. Subsequently, the activities of her party, the Awami League, were banned by the interim government¹, formed on 8 August 2024. From exile, Sheikh Hasina and AL leaders and activists who fled with her have engaged in conspiracies to destabilise Bangladesh. These activities have perceptibly contributed to a rise in criminal offenses across the country. Furthermore, the Indian government continues to ignore the notices from the Bangladesh government calling for extradition of the deposed Prime Minister².

In 2016, the former authoritarian government enacted the Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act to impose control over non-governmental organisations (NGOs). Sections 14 and 15 of this law stipulate punitive measures against any NGO or its personnel who make ‘adverse’ or ‘indecent’ remarks about the Constitution or constitutional institutions. Under this provision, if the government deems that an NGO has made such remarks about the Parliament, Judiciary, Law Commission, Election Commission, or Attorney General, it may suspend or cancel the organisation’s registration.³ This law is widely perceived to have been designed to suppress the activities of NGOs, particularly human rights organisations working to uphold civil and political rights and seek redress for victims of injustice. The interim government, formed through a popular uprising, must urgently amend this law to restore democratic space and protect freedom of expression.

The National Human Rights Commission is an institution that can play a vital role in addressing human rights violations. However, under the current legal framework, its mandate remains limited and its independence hampered. To effectively respond to incidents of human rights abuse, it is imperative to reform the relevant legislation and ensure transparent appointments, enabling the Commission to evolve into a strong and effective state institution dedicated to safeguarding human rights.

Incidents of custodial torture and deaths continue. This persistence is largely attributed to the longstanding culture of impunity enjoyed by law enforcement and the failure to implement the Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, 2013.

On 17 July 2025, the interim government ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture (OPCAT). It is a significant milestone that reflects the interim government’s commitment to

¹ <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/5/11/bangladesh-bans-activities-of-awami-league-the-party-of-ousted-pm-hasina>

² <https://www.bssnews.net/news-flash/298853>

³ 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

human rights. For over three decades, Odhikar remained a vocal proponent of OPCAT ratification, and its efforts are now reflected in this long-awaited policy breakthrough. It is now the responsibility of the government to form National Preventive Mechanisms (NPM) under the OPCAT to ensure the welfare of those incarcerated and detained.

Additionally, the interim government last year acceded to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, which was applauded throughout the international human rights community. However, the IG should also now withdraw its reservations on Article 2(c) and Article 16(1) of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).

There has been no noticeable progress in bringing to justice the senior military officials accused of enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, and other human rights violations during the authoritarian rule of Sheikh Hasina, particularly those who fled the country following her overthrow.

Despite credible allegations of grave human rights abuses, the long-standing demand by human rights defenders to dissolve the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) remains unmet.

The Indian BSF continues to perpetrate killings and abuses against Bangladeshi citizens along the Bangladesh–India border while Indian ruling establishment is reportedly pushing Rohingya and other Muslim communities across the border into Bangladesh unlawfully. The interim government must take a firm and proactive stance on this issue and strengthen the borders as well.

This report has been prepared based on reports from human rights defenders affiliated with Odhikar, as well as information and data published across various media outlets.

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Since 25 August 2017, Myanmar's military and extremist Buddhist groups have reportedly carried out systematic acts of genocide and forced displacement targeting the Rohingya population. These operations have included enforced disappearances, gang rape, arson attacks on homes, and other

grave forms of violence and persecution. These circumstances forced the Rohingya people to flee to Bangladesh to save their lives.27

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Human Rights Violations during the Interim Government Period																
09 August 2024 – 30 September 2025*																
Type of Human Rights Violation		August' 24	September' 24	October' 24	November' 24	December' 24	January' 25	February' 25	March' 25	April' 25	May' 25	June' 25	July' 25	August' 25	September' 25	Total
Extra-Judicial Killing	Tortured to death	0	5	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	14
	Shot to death	0	4	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	2	5	0	1	19
	Beaten to death	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	7
	Total	0	9	1	1	1	5	3	1	1	4	3	6	3	2	40
Death in Jail		4	5	4	3	4	6	6	7	12	5	5	11	11	5	88
Death Penalty		18	10	38	8	0	7	11	6	14	42	6	46	31	5	242
Human rights violations by the Indian BSF	Bangladeshis Killed	1	2	2	0	5	2	3	1	5	3	1	6	4	0	35
	Bangladeshis Injured	2	0	1	2	1	3	5	1	1	4	0	4	8	2	34
	Push in	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1136	653	315	138	91	2333
	Total	3	2	3	2	6	5	8	2	6	1143	654	325	150	93	2402
Attack on journalists	Injured	5	2	3	5	3	7	20	20	5	23	2	6	16	12	129
	Killed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Assaulted	0	0	2	2	2	4	1	5	3	3	10	1	0	10	43
	Attacked	0	0	1	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	5
	Threatened	3	0	0	1	2	0	3	2	9	2	0	3	2	4	31
	Sued	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	0	2	5	7	8	33
	Total	8	5	6	10	7	11	25	30	22	28	15	15	26	34	242
Political violence	Killed	33	19	19	10	9	14	13	44	31	22	21	19	12	15	281
	Injured	467	843	459	256	453	470	632	900	767	425	489	579	658	300	7698
	Total	500	862	478	266	462	484	645	944	798	447	510	598	670	315	7979
Dowry-related violence against women	Killed	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	2	3	3	7	2	2	2	27
	Physically Abused	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	3	1	5	3	2	0	20
	Suicide	-	-	-	-	-	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	7	6	4	12	5	4	3	49
Rape	Girl under the age of 18	-	-	-	-	-	24	39	101	52	28	29	40	38	33	384
	Women	-	-	-	-	-	6	12	45	29	26	33	21	32	24	228
	Age could not be determined	-	-	-	-	-	18	14	21	8	7	7	0	0	0	75
	Total	-	-	-	-	-	48	65	167	89	61	69	61	70	57	687
Stalking of women		-	-	-	-	-	0	4	10	7	7	2	5	1	2	38
Public lynching		14	17	12	3	10	6	13	14	7	8	4	12	15	18	153
* Odhikar documentation																

List of Acronyms

ADSM: Anti-Discrimination Student Movement.

AL: (Bangladesh) Awami League.

BCL: Bangladesh Chhatra League. Student wing of Awami League.

BGB: Border Guard Bangladesh.

BDT: Bangladeshi Taka.

BJI: Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami.

BNP: Bangladesh Nationalist Party.

BSF: Border Security Force (India).

BUET: Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology.

CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

DB: Detective Branch. A law enforcement unit.

DC: Deputy Commissioner.

DGFI: Directorate General of Forces Intelligence: A military intelligence agency.

EPZ: Export Processing Zone.

GOP: Gono Odhikar Parishad.

ICT: International Crimes Tribunal. Judicial body prosecuting crimes against humanity.

ICS: Islami Chhatra Shibir.

JCD: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal.

JSS: Jana Samhati Samiti: Ethnic minority political group from Chittagong Hill Tracts.

JD: Jubo Dal. Youth wing of the BNP.

JL: Jubo League. Youth wing of the Awami League.

KNF: Kuki-Chin National Front: Ethnic minority armed outfit operating in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

NCP: National Citizen Party. A new political party was formed after the July 2024 mass uprising by key figures of the uprising.

NGO: Non-Governmental Organisation.

NHRCB: National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh. Established under the National Human Rights Commission Act, 2009.

NPM: National Preventive Mechanism (under OPCAT).

OPCAT: Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture. Ratified by the interim government in July 2025.

PBI: Police Bureau of Investigation. Agency linked to custodial deaths.

RAB: Rapid Action Battalion. Law enforcement unit widely accused of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings and disappearances.

UPDF: United People's Democratic Front: Rival ethnic minority group to JSS.

UNGA: United Nations General Assembly.

UNO: Upazila Nirbahi Officer, the chief of civil administration in an upazila (sub-district).

WGEID: UN Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances.

About this report

This report is structured into distinct sections. The first section highlights issues related to civil and political rights, whose protection is entrusted to the three principal organs of the State: the Executive, the Judiciary, and the Legislature (in its absence, the current interim government). These rights include the right to a fair trial, the right to life, the right to dignity, and protection from torture and degrading treatment.

The second section presents incidents that obstruct or attack the exercise of rights, where state authorities were not directly involved. Examples include violence by mobs, political violence, attacks on gatherings by rival groups, and attacks on journalists. Authorities need to be more diligent in finding means to ensure the safety and security of ordinary citizens in this regard.

The third section highlights violence against women, followed by two sections separately addressing issues related to the rights of working people and people from minority communities. A section on Bangladesh–India border issues precedes the section on recommendations.

A. The State and Human Rights

The International Crimes Tribunal

1. Proceedings remain underway at the International Crimes Tribunal concerning charges of mass killings against former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and other accused individuals of her Awami League Government. On 2 July, the International Crimes Tribunal–1 sentenced Sheikh Hasina to six months’ imprisonment in a contempt of court case linked to allegations of mass killing and crimes against humanity. In the same case, AL leader Shakil Akand Bulbul, from Gobindaganj in Gaibandha District, received a two-month prison sentence. Both convictions were issued under the International Crimes Tribunals (Amendment) Ordinance, 2024, for obstructing judicial proceedings, including intimidation of plaintiffs and witnesses, and issuing threats.⁴
2. During the July 2024 mass uprising, many individuals injured by tear gas shells and bullets fired by law enforcement agencies, received treatment at the National Institute of Ophthalmology and Hospital in Dhaka. Among them, 11 people permanently lost vision in both eyes, while 493 others lost sight in one eye. In this matter, Dr. Zakia Sultana, Assistant Professor in the Retina Department of the Institute, testified as the 21st witness in the case against Sheikh Hasina at the International Crimes Tribunal, allegedly for crimes against humanity committed during the uprising.⁵
3. On 4 and 5 August 2024, the majority of individuals admitted to the National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital in Dhaka came with gunshot injuries to the head, chest, face, and neck. A total of 167 persons, all critically wounded during the student-led mass movement, received treatment at the facility. These details were formally confirmed by Dr. Md. Mahfuzur Rahman, Associate Professor at the National Institute of Neurosciences and Hospital, during his deposition before the International Crimes Tribunal–1 on 20 August.⁶
4. On 20 August, Dr Hasanul Banna, Associate Professor in the Department of Surgery at Ibn Sina Medical College Hospital in Kallyanpur, Dhaka, testified before the International Crimes Tribunal–1 on events that transpired on 19 July 2024. According to his statement, leaders and activists affiliated with the AL and its youth wing, the JL, blockaded the hospital entrance throughout the day, effectively preventing the movement of patients and ambulances. Dr Banna further stated that party members obstructed emergency medical treatment for Mostakin Billah, the husband of a staff member of the Hospital, who had sustained a gunshot wound to the head. As a result, Mostakin succumbed to his injuries.⁷
5. In the opening statement of a case concerning crimes against humanity, specifically the killing of six individuals in Dhaka’s Chankharpul area during the July uprising, Chief Prosecutor Mohammad Tazul Islam stated on 11 August that deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had called for the execution of those involved in the movement. To substantiate this claim, he submitted a transcript of a recorded telephone conversation between Sheikh Hasina and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Dhaka, Professor A.S.M. Maksud Kamal.⁸

⁴ Jugantor. 3 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/national/973124>

⁵ Prothom Alo, 25 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/gnh66dwpix>

⁶ Prothom Alo, 21 August 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=218275d55ea&eid=1&imageview=0&epedate=21/08/2025&sedId=1>

⁷Prothom Alo, 21 August 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=218275d55ea&eid=1&imageview=0&epedate=21/08/2025&sedId=1>

⁸Prothom Alo, 12 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/lezfwk6r9w>

6. On 5 August 2024, the day the government of Sheikh Hasina was overthrown, six individuals were reportedly shot dead in the Ashulia area. According to testimony presented before the International Crimes Tribunal, members of the police force subsequently removed the bodies and set them ablaze. On 18 August 2025, three witnesses, including Enab Najez Jaki, the father of the student activist As-Sabur, one of those killed, testified against Sheikh Hasina and two other accused in this case concerning crimes against humanity.⁹
7. During the AL's trial of war criminals in 2012, Sukhranjan Bali was forced to testify against BJI leader Delwar Hossain Sayeedi.¹⁰ However, as he was to testify in favour of Sayeedi on 5 November 2012, and came as a witness for the defense, he was abducted by police in plainclothes, physically tortured, disappeared, and later detained in an Indian prison for an extended period. This time, in 2025, he submitted formal allegations to the Chief Prosecutor of the International Crimes Tribunal against 32 individuals, including Sheikh Hasina, former Chief Justice S.K. Sinha, former Law Minister Shafique Ahmed, and former Prosecutor Rana Dasgupta.¹¹
8. On 2 September 2025, former Inspector General of Police (IGP) Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun appeared before International Crimes Tribunal-1 as a prosecution witness¹². In his deposition, he stated that excessive force had been deployed under government orders to suppress the July-August 2024 Anti-discrimination Student Movement, resulting in widespread injuries and fatalities. Expressing remorse and seeking forgiveness, he noted that his decision to testify was driven by a profound sense of guilt and moral accountability for the brutality and killings that ensued. He further testified that the mass killings were executed under the directives of then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal. According to his statement, orders for abduction, enforced disappearance, and extrajudicial killings carried out by the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) were issued directly from the Prime Minister's Office.¹³

Torture and Extrajudicial Killings

9. On 10 July, the Council of Advisers approved Bangladesh's proposed accession to the OPCAT and acceded to it on 17 July. Meanwhile, during this reporting period, members of law enforcement agencies have been accused of committing acts of torture and extrajudicial killings.
 - On 21 July 2025, a joint force conducted an operation in Mirpur-1, Dhaka, during which three leaders and activists of the JD, the youth wing of BNP, were arrested, along with a reported seizure of 30 rounds of ammunition. As per reports, the detainees were initially taken to a military camp in the Science Laboratory area for interrogation, and subsequently transferred to Shah Ali Police Station. When the detainees fell ill while in police custody, they were moved to Shaheed Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital, where one of them, Asif Shikdar, was declared dead by attending physicians. Asif Shikdar's family alleged he died as a result of torture.¹⁴
 - On 1 August 2025, law enforcers picked up businessman Nazrul Islam Molla (aged 43) and his wife, Aklima Begum, from their residence in Sipahibagh, Khilgaon, Dhaka, on

⁹ Jugantor, 19 August 2025

¹⁰ <https://www.tbsnews.net/bangladesh/court/sayeedi-case-witness-sukhranjan-bali-files-disappearance-torture-charges-against>

¹¹ Amar Desh, 22 August 2025; <https://eamardesh.com/2025-08-22/edition-2/1/76766>

¹² Former IGP Mamun pleads guilty, becomes state witness, Prothom Alo English, 10 July 2025; <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/5lrhswxsur>

¹³ Manabzamin, 3 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=178463>

¹⁴ Jugantor, 22 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/980825>

allegations of involvement in drug trafficking, and took them to a local police camp. As per reports, Nazrul was subjected to physical assault at the local camp, resulting in loss of consciousness. The officers subsequently handed Aklima BDT 2,000 and instructed her to transport Nazrul to Mugda Hospital. Nazrul Islam Molla died there while undergoing treatment on 2 August.¹⁵



Picture 1: Workers with the body of their comrade who was killed during clashes with law enforcers over garment factory shutdown and layoffs on 2 September at Uttara EPZ, Nilphamari. (The Daily Samakal, 3 September 2025)

- On 2 September 2025, workers at the Uttara EPZ in Nilphamari staged demonstrations and blockaded the Nilphamari–Saidpur highway, protesting against factory closures and mass layoffs. During clashes that erupted between protestors and law enforcement and security personnel, a worker named Habibur Rahman was shot and killed.¹⁶

10. Between July and September 2025, it has been reported that at least 11 individuals have been victims of extrajudicial killings. Of these, three were allegedly carried out by police, one by the Army personnel, and seven by joint forces. Among the total victims, three were reportedly tortured to death, six were killed by gunfire, and two were beaten to death.

Abusive Conduct, Lack of Accountability Among Law Enforcement Personnel:

11. In its efforts to remain in power, the now-ousted authoritarian regime had systematically instrumentalised members of law enforcement and security agencies to serve partisan interests, thereby undermining the integrity and functionality of these institutions. The administration unlawfully appointed party loyalists to key positions within the police and other enforcement bodies. Acting on orders, these appointees committed widespread repression and abuse against opposition political activists and other dissenting voices over the past 15 years and accumulated significant wealth in the process.¹⁷ This, unfortunately, is nothing new in the political history of Bangladesh. Use of police to do the bidding of the party in power is a common tool used by governments.

Most recently, under Sheikh Hasina’s orders, law enforcement and security personnel committed mass killings during the July 2024 uprising. Although the uprising led to the fall of her government, many loyalists remain embedded within these agencies. It is alleged that they continue to shield individuals implicated in the former regime’s human rights abuses.

¹⁵Samakal, 3 August 2025; <https://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2025-08-03/16/755>

¹⁶Samakal, 3 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/313832/>

¹⁷Jugantor, 28 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/995806>

- On 1 July 2025, in Patiya, Chattogram, student activists affiliated with the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement concluded their July Day programme at the Shaheed Minar¹⁸ and proceeded toward the intersection near the local police station. There, they saw a gathering led by Dipankar, a leader of the BCL from Rangamati District unit. Suspecting an attempt to disrupt the event, the students detained Dipankar and sought to hand him over to the police. However, law enforcement personnel responded by attacking the students and charging at them with batons. In protest, the agitated activists returned to the police station at midnight, where law enforcers again resorted to baton charges, resulting in injuries to 25 students.¹⁹



Picture 2: 40-45 NCP men were injured as police alleged attacked leaders and activists of NCP and ADSM in Patiya Police Station premises. (Dhaka Post, 2 July 2025)

12. During this reporting period, law enforcers faced multiple allegations, including framing individuals in false narcotics cases,²⁰ releasing detainees after drug-related arrests,²¹ demanding BDT 400,000 in exchange for dropping charges,²² extorting money from the family of a child who was killed,²³ and committing acts of theft.²⁴



Picture 3: In a press conference in Rajshahi, one Tabibur Rahman Suman accused police of implicating him in a false case after arresting him (The Daily Jugantor, 20 July 2025)

Deaths in Police Custody

13. During this reporting period, four individuals reportedly died while in police custody. In the majority of cases, police authorities claimed that the deceased had taken their own lives by hanging inside detention cells. However, as investigations in cases of deaths in police custody are typically conducted by the police themselves, the actual circumstances surrounding these fatalities remain obscured.

- Tanvir Chowdhury, an accused in a murder case, died while in the custody of RAB-9 in Sylhet on 15 September, and on the same day, Mukaddas, another murder suspect, died in the custody of the Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI) in Moulvibazar. Both agencies claimed the individuals committed suicide by hanging.²⁵

¹⁸ Language Movement martyrs monument.

¹⁹ Prothom Alo, 2 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/el4msr3nx7>

²⁰ Jugantor, 20 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/980294>

²¹ Jugantor, 26 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/995196>

²² Jugantor, 19 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/992089>

²³ Samakal, 1 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/313601/>

²⁴ Ittefaq, 11 July 2025; <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/741010/>

²⁵ Jugantor, 16 September 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-news/1003769>

- On 26 September, Mozzafar (26), an accused in a theft case, died while on remand at Bagerhat Sadar Police Station. Police claimed he died of a heart attack.²⁶

Enforced Disappearances

14. During the tenure of the former authoritarian government, enforced disappearances were reportedly orchestrated by senior officials within the AL administration, including then Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Defence Adviser Tariq Ahmed Siddiq, and the former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan Kamal.²⁷ Throughout this period, secret detention facilities were established across the country to illegally detain opposition political activists, dissenters, and individuals labelled as “militants.” Victims held in these facilities were reportedly subjected to both physical and psychological torture.

Women were among those reportedly tortured in these secret detention centers. Veiled women, accused of militancy, were allegedly suspended with their arms bound in a crucifix-like position, stripped of their scarves, and exposed to degrading remarks by male law enforcement personnel.²⁸

15. Under the pretext of countering militancy, the AL government allegedly disappeared numerous students. Those fortunate enough to return were subsequently imprisoned for extended periods under trumped-up charges, destroying their academic trajectories.

- On 8 January 2020, law enforcers detained two students from Khulna University—Nur Mohammad Anik, a student of the Human Resource Management department, and Mojahidul Islam, a student of the Statistics department—labeling them as militants. They were subjected to enforced disappearance for 17 days, where they endured torture. On 25 January 2020, they were formally charged under the Explosive Substance Act and sent to prison through judicial proceedings. Both remained incarcerated at Khulna District Jail for five years before being granted bail on 7 July 2025.²⁹

16. Over 200 individuals who returned from enforced disappearance during Sheikh Hasina’s 15-year rule have submitted written complaints stating that police, in collaboration with magistrates, coerced confessions from them. Most of these survivors reported being tortured and forced to sign pre-written confessional statements during their disappearance.³⁰

17. Individuals who have returned after being subjected to enforced disappearance are reportedly facing renewed intimidation. Allegations have emerged that, during the tenure of the Hasina regime, religious Muslims were initially abducted and forcibly disappeared, only to be later presented to the media as militants apprehended through staged counterterrorism operations.

- Two such survivors, Mufti Md Zayedur Rahman and Iqbal Hossain Sarkar, have reported receiving threatening phone calls from unidentified numbers, warning them not to speak out or pursue legal action regarding their disappearance.³¹

18. In June 2025, a delegation from the WGEID visited Bangladesh. The delegation published a report outlining existing concerns regarding enforced disappearances in the country, along with recommendations to address them. As part of their recommendations for security sector reform,

²⁶ Samakal, 26 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/317573/>

²⁷ Jugantor, 18 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/national/966953>

²⁸ Amar Desh, 9 July 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/national/amdfbpendgvww>

²⁹ Amar Desh, 8 July 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/bangladesh/khulna/amdeosyf0naqq>

³⁰ Amar Desh, 27 August 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/amar-desh-special/amdqtjk3f5qn>

³¹ Amar Desh, 27 July 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/amar-desh-special/amdwayakii1jo>

WGEID strongly urged the government to disband the RAB. The report also called for returning RAB personnel, who were not implicated in acts of forcible disappearances, to their respective units. Additionally, they recommended that the DGFI be limited only to military intelligence operations, with its legal mandate clearly defined and limited.³²

19. No allegations of enforced disappearance were reported during the period from July to September.

Capital Punishment and Human Rights

20. In December 2024, at the UNGA vote on a moratorium for the death penalty, Bangladesh abstained for the first time. The previous position had always been to vote against a moratorium. This is very encouraging, however, more needs to be done.

21. Over the past three months, lower courts have handed down death sentences to numerous individuals. Despite the existence of alternative sentencing provisions under domestic law, the prevailing tendency to impose capital punishment reflects patterns observed during the tenure of the previous authoritarian regime. Due to prolonged delays in appellate proceedings, those sentenced to death remain confined in condemned cells for extended periods, awaiting final adjudication.

22. Between July and September 2025, 82 individuals were sentenced to death by lower courts. No death sentence was reported to be executed during the reporting period.

Prison Conditions and Rights of Prisoners

Across Bangladesh, the combined inmate capacity of 74 prisons stands at 43,157. However, as of 30 September 2025, the number of incarcerated individuals had risen to 77,024.³³ During the July 2024 mass uprising, the prison population peaked at approximately 88,000.³⁴ Following the fall of Sheikh Hasina's government on 5 August, a wave of bail releases temporarily reduced the figure to 49,000 by 12 August. Nonetheless, as arrests continued in connection with casualties linked to the uprising, the prison population began to rise again from October 2024 onward.³⁵

A significant number of detainees remain incarcerated for years without trial,³⁶ contributing to severe overcrowding across the prison system. On 15 July, Kanu Mia, a mentally ill individual, was released on bail from Habiganj District Jail after spending 30 years in custody without trial or conviction.³⁷ Many others in similar circumstances continue to be held for extended periods. At present, approximately 2,000 prisoners have been detained for over 20 years. Under the existing Jail Code, the government reserves the authority to release such individuals on grounds of special consideration.³⁸

³² Samakal, 9 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/304428/>; Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances Technical advice on Bangladesh, 25 June 2025, wgeid-technical-advice-bangladesh-june-202.pdf

³³ Md Jahangir Kabir, Additional Inspector General of Prisons, Headquarters, Department of Prisons. Over 77,000 inmates as prisons capacity exceed by 180pc, Prothom Alo English <https://en.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/gad5odrdth>

³⁴ Ibid

³⁵ Prothom Alo, 2 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/hv2u4tvo11>

³⁶ Samakal, 4 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/308809/>

³⁷ Amar Desh 15 July 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/bangladesh/sylhet/amdauudadimh>

³⁸ Samakal 16 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/315891/>

Prisoners across Bangladesh are receiving daily meals that fall significantly short of required nutritional



Picture 4: Kanu Mia (wearing white prayer cap) was released from Habiganj District Jail after 30 years in prison without trial or conviction (The Daily Prothom Alo, 15 July 2025)

standards. The quantity and quality of food provided are inadequate, leading to weakened immunity and increased vulnerability to illness.³⁹ There is also a severe shortage of medical personnel in prisons. Each prison is equipped with a hospital facility. Across these facilities, there are 148 sanctioned permanent medical posts. However, only two doctors are currently appointed to these positions. In various prisons, 99 doctors are serving on a temporary basis, commuting from outside to fulfil their duties.⁴⁰ When detainees become seriously ill and require advanced treatment, they must navigate lengthy bureaucratic procedures.

- On 17 July, Van Lal Rual Bom, detained on suspicion of affiliation with the KNF⁴¹, died in custody at Chattogram Jail. Allegations suggest he died due to a lack of medical treatment.⁴² On 21 September, AL leader Abu Bakkar Siddiq died in a hospital after falling ill in Gaibandha District Jail. His son, Soumik, alleged that Siddiq was initially arrested in connection with arson and vandalism of a BNP office. Although granted bail in that case, he was re-arrested at the jail gate under a separate charge. Despite his deteriorating health, he was denied proper medical care. Family members were also prevented from visiting him.⁴³
23. Allegations have emerged that prison authorities are extending preferential treatment to former ministers and Members of Parliament affiliated with the AL in exchange for financial inducements. Ekramul Karim Chowdhury, former MP representing the constituency Noakhali-4, is currently incarcerated at Noakhali District Jail. He has reportedly been granted division status and has unlawfully renovated his cell with tiled flooring. Despite regulations prohibiting air conditioning within prison facilities, an AC unit has allegedly been installed in his cell. He is said to receive daily food deliveries from external sources. Although monetary transactions are strictly prohibited within prison premises, Ekramul reportedly distributed BDT 1,000 to each of 770 inmates and detainees as tips during Eid-ul-Adha, and arranged for the slaughter of two cows to facilitate communal meals for the prison inmates.⁴⁴
24. Between July and September 2025, 27 individuals reportedly died in jail custody. Among all of their deaths were attributed to illness.

B. Attacks on Citizens

Filing of Fabricated Cases:

25. Following the July 2024 uprising, numerous individuals, including actual suspects, business persons, professionals, and ordinary citizens, have reportedly been implicated in murder and

³⁹ Jugantor, 24 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/994107>

⁴⁰ Samakal 30 September 2025, <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/318143>

⁴¹ KNF:

⁴² Samakal, 2 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/308541/>

⁴³ Manabzamin, 23 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181305>

⁴⁴ Manabzamin, 26 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181823>

attempted murder cases in an arbitrary and harassing manner. Allegations have emerged that, during ongoing investigations, law enforcement officials have exploited these cases for financial gain, frequently targeting individuals based on personal enmity, business rivalries, or commercial interests.

- Mohammad Monirul Islam, Officer-in-Charge of Dhamrai Police Station in Dhaka district, allegedly accepted a bribe of BDT 800,000 from a rival party to implicate agent banking entrepreneur Mizanur Rahman, who has no political affiliation, in the murder of Ariful Islam Saad, a leader of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement. On 22 July, police arrested Mizanur and falsely presented him in court as a BCL member.⁴⁵
- Anwara Begum (67), a businesswoman and supporter of the BNP, was falsely labelled an AL leader by her own son, Touhid Anwar Abhik, who allegedly sought to seize her property. She was subsequently implicated in four murder cases related to the July uprising and sent to jail through court proceedings.⁴⁶
- In Ashulia, Dhaka district, a property dispute reportedly led to the false implication of businessman Amir Hossain Sarkar (age 54) in a murder case. His elder brother, Emarat Hossain, allegedly accused him of involvement in the death of furniture shop worker Mujahid, who died during the anti-discrimination student movement. On 14 August, the Dhaka District Detective Branch of Police arrested Amir in connection with the case.⁴⁷

Right to Assembly

26. Over the past three months, the right to peaceful assembly has been repeatedly violated. During this period, police obstructed rallies and demonstrations organised by political parties and civil society groups, raising various demands. Additionally, BNP activists reportedly attacked members of rival political parties.

- On 19 July in Chakaria, Cox's Bazar, activists of BNP and JCD, its student wing, allegedly attacked and dismantled a stage prepared for a street rally organised by the National Citizen Party (NCP).⁴⁸
- On 20 August, approximately 40 to 50 dismissed teachers staged a peaceful protest in Ukhiya, Cox's Bazar. Upon



Picture 5: NCP's street rally stage was allegedly vandalised and BNP and JCD in Chakarai (The Daily Prothom Alo. 19 July 2025)

⁴⁵ Jugantor, 7 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/987295>

⁴⁶ Manabzamin, 24 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=176902>

⁴⁷ Amar Desh, 26 August 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl3_row2_date_26-08-2025_edition_2_page2_975396_954709_updated_watermarked_3ffed38a-2f1c-4e81-935e-81cfe4b66837.jpg

⁴⁸ Prothom Alo, 20 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/pv13w50286>



Picture 6: Police arrests ADSM Cox's Bazaar Coordinator Zinia Sharmin Riya during the teacher demonstration (The Daily Prothom Alo, 20 August 2025)

arrival, the police instructed the demonstrators to disperse. When the teachers declined to comply, law enforcement personnel conducted baton charges and detained 10 individuals, including student representatives.⁴⁹

Freedom of the Press

Over the past three months, multiple incidents of repression targeting journalists were reported. One journalist was allegedly killed by extortionists. Others faced physical assault and legal harassment following the publication of reports on extortion, implicating leaders and activists of BNP and its affiliated organisations.⁵⁰ Additional allegations include arbitrary detention by the administration,⁵¹ public humiliation,⁵² vandalism of press association offices,⁵³ the filing of retaliatory cases,⁵⁴ and threats directed at media professionals.⁵⁵

- On 6 August, journalist Anwar Hossain Sourav of *Dainik Bangladesher Alo*, based in Gazipur, was severely beaten near the Gazipur Metropolitan Sadar Police Station by local extortionists over his reporting of extortion. He was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital in a critical condition.⁵⁶
- On 31 July, Asaduzzaman Tuhin, a staff reporter for *Dainik Protidiner Kagoj*, went live on Facebook to expose alleged extortion activities taking place on public footpaths. A week later, on 7 August, he was reportedly hacked to death by armed assailants in front of Masjid Market at Chandana Chowrasta, Gazipur.⁵⁷
- On 10 August, Mahbub Ali Rashed, Joint Convener of BNP's Sadar Upazila unit in Cumilla, filed a case in the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court against *Amar Desh* district correspondent M Hasan. The case was allegedly lodged in retaliation for Hasan's reporting on extortion-related activities.⁵⁸
- On 19 September, Shakil Hossain, *Manabzamin's* correspondent for Niamatpur Upazila in Naogaon district, was attacked while performing his professional duties. The

⁴⁹ Nayadiganta, 20 August 2025; <https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/Dvy5cv9IT0RM>

⁵⁰ Amar Desh, 24 July 2025;

<https://www.dailyamardesh.com/bangladesh/rangpur/amd1nlypnybpz>

⁵¹ Jugantor, 15 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/978312>

⁵² Nayadiganta, 12 July 2025; <https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/hCr3Ddqge7Gh>

⁵³ Nayadiganta, 1 July 2025; <https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/education-campus/1IIfyqHKVwAh>

⁵⁴ Manabzamin, 26 August 2025; <https://m.mzamin.com/news.php?news=177179>

⁵⁵ Prothom Alo, 29 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/egp98p55ko>

⁵⁶ Manabzamin, 8 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=174450>

⁵⁷ Manabzamin, 8 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=174467>

⁵⁸ Amar Desh, 10 September 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl2_row1_date_10-09-2025_edition_2_page15_740195_175789_updated_watermarked_5bfcb161-964b-4a55-af23-c2a3de414531.jpg

assault was reportedly led by JD leader Enamul Haque. The attackers reportedly destroyed Shakil's camera during the incident.⁵⁹

27. According to data compiled by Odhikar, between July and September, one journalist was killed, 34 were injured, 11 were assaulted, and nine received threats while carrying out their professional responsibilities. Further, 20 journalists were sued.

Public Violence and Killings

28. During this reporting period, there has been a marked rise in the incidents of public violence, with unruly groups reportedly taking the law into their own hands. Following Sheikh Hasina's flight to India on 5 August 2024, the police force, left without instructions, reportedly became institutionally weakened, with a significant decline in morale. As a result, the law enforcement agency has struggled to contain public violence, leading to further casualties and unrest.

- Between July and September 2025, multiple incidents of fatal mob violence were reported across the country. On 12 July in Hakimpur, Dinajpur, a young man named Russel was dragged from his home and beaten to death over an alleged theft.⁶⁰ On 22 July in Kaliganj, Gazipur, a man named Shanto was killed on suspicion of cattle theft.⁶¹ On 10 August in Taraganj, Rangpur, Rup Lal Das and his niece's husband Pradeep Das were beaten to death over suspicions of rickshaw-van theft.⁶² On 11 August in Magura Sadar, Sajal Molla was similarly killed for suspicion of theft.⁶³
- On 22 August in Fatikchhari, Chattogram, three teenagers were tied to a bridge and beaten over allegations of theft. One of them, Mohammad Rihan Mahin (15), died as a result.⁶⁴ On 6 September in Siddhirganj, Narayanganj, a youth with disabilities, named Sajjad Hossain, was killed by a mob over suspicions of robbery.⁶⁵ On 10 September in Mohammadpur, Dhaka, an angry crowd fell upon four youths over similar suspicions, killing two of them – Hanif and Sujon.⁶⁶ On 13 September, Mozammel in Kapasia, Gazipur, and Monsur Ahmed in Feni Sadar were killed in separate public beatings under suspicions of theft.⁶⁷

29. Between July and September, 45 lives were reportedly lost to public lynching.

⁵⁹ Manabzamin, 2 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=180993>

⁶⁰ Samakal, 13 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/305086>

⁶¹ Manabzamin, 23 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=171834>

⁶² Samakal, 11 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/309993/>

⁶³ Samakal, 12 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/310099/>

⁶⁴ Prothom Alo, 23 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/xcr7abra8h>

⁶⁵ Samakal, 8 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/314496/>

⁶⁶ Prothom Alo, 11 September 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=11940b91988&eid=1&imageview=0&epedate=11/09/2025&sedId=1>

⁶⁷ Samakal, 15 September 2025; <https://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2025-09-15/16/3661>

Political Organisations and Criminalisation of Politics

30. During the last three months, incidents of political violence and criminalisation continued. Numerous allegations of extortion have been reported against activists affiliated with BNP,⁶⁸ the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement, and BJI. Victims of these extortions reportedly include individuals ranging from small-scale traders⁶⁹ to large business owners. Extortionists have allegedly threatened to hand over leaders and affiliates of AL, whose activities are currently banned, to law enforcement authorities unless payments are made.⁷⁰

- In one reported incident, scrap dealer Lal Chand (alias Sohag) was lured into Old Dhaka and publicly murdered by activists affiliated with JD, JCD, and Swechchhasebak Dal, who beat him with bricks and stones over an extortion dispute.⁷¹ In Chattogram, leaders of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement have been accused of disrupting wedding ceremonies of children of AL leaders to demand money.⁷² In Dhaka's Jatrabari area, a JD leader allegedly led attacks on buses bound for Shariatpur and assaulted transport workers after extortion demands were refused.⁷³
- In Lalmonirhat, following the sentencing of two extortionists to one month in jail by the Upazila administration, BNP activists allegedly attacked and vandalised Patgram Police Station and took away the convicted individuals.⁷⁴ In Kushtia, activists of the BNP and the BJI reportedly clashed over extortion-related issues.⁷⁵ In Chattogram, clashes between BNP and ICS reportedly injured 20 individuals.⁷⁶
- Five activists of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement were arrested by police while allegedly attempting to extort money from the Gulshan residence of former AL MP Shammi Ahmed.⁷⁷ In Ahmadpur Bazar, Baraigram Upazila, Natore, four individuals, including a BJI leader, were arrested for locking up and attempting to occupy ten shops after extortion demands were refused.⁷⁸
- Between 5 August 2024 and 11 July 2025, BNP reportedly took disciplinary action against approximately 4,500 of its activists across the country in response to their alleged involvement in extortion, land grabbing, and criminal misconduct.⁷⁹

⁶⁸ Manabzamin, 10 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=155874>, Samakal, 3 April 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/288264/>

⁶⁹ Manabzamin 6 July 2025; <https://m.mzamin.com/news.php?news=169222>

⁷⁰ Samakal, 8 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/index.php/capital/article/304222/>

⁷¹ Prothom Alo, 12 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/4o9z2gn0aq>

⁷² Jugantor, 6 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/974440>

⁷³ Amar Desh, 13 July 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl528_row14_date_13-07-2025_edition_2_page2_671577_884535_edited_watermarked_c965993a-74aa-40a1-a354-2871dbf802a3.jpg

⁷⁴ Amar Desh, 4 July 2025; ; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl15_row14_date_04-07-2025_edition_2_page1_697783_334530_updated_watermarked_1cf6f8fc-8406-4900-8323-1ea2ba1de3eb.jpg, https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl2_row1_date_04-07-2025_edition_2_page15_450558_862634_updated_watermarked_ce4e814c-26ed-40ed-bb16-c073983cb3ef.jpg

⁷⁵ Manabzamin, 17 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=170862>

⁷⁶ <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=171872>

⁷⁷ Jugantor, 27 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/todays-paper/983003>

⁷⁸ Prothom Alo, 30 July 2025; <https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=307c5485b86&eid=1&imageview=0&epedate=30/07/2025&sedId=1>

⁷⁹ Manabzamin, 12 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=170094>

- During this period, BNP and its affiliated organisations have faced several allegations, including threats against UNOs,⁸⁰ physical assault on students and female officials inside educational institutions,⁸¹ illegal sand extraction,⁸² drug trafficking,⁸³ land grabbing,⁸⁴ and violent attacks on university students after branding them as BCL.⁸⁵ There have also been reports of BJI activists being beaten for refusing to join political marches.⁸⁶
31. Under the previous AL administration, neighborhood-based juvenile gangs emerged under political patronage, engaging in murder, extortion, rape, sexual harassment, and other criminal activities. Similar allegations have now surfaced against BNP-backed youth gangs.

- On 14 August in Bauphal, Patuakhali, members of a juvenile gang allegedly patronized by BNP leader Ali Azam Chowdhury, abducted and assaulted a transport supervisor named Sumon.⁸⁷



Picture 7: A group of individuals led by Banani unit JD leader Monir allegedly attacked Zakaria Hotel after being denied booking of VIP rooms, assaulting two women (The Daily Amar Desh, 4 July 2025)

- On 1 July in Mohakhali, Dhaka, a group led by BNP's Banani unit JD leader Monir allegedly attacked Zakaria Hotel after being refused a booking of its VIP room, assaulting two women during the incident.⁸⁸

On 2 July in Patgram, Lalmonirhat, a mobile court sentenced two employees of a stone quarry leaseholder to two months' imprisonment for extortion under the guise of royalty collection. In

retaliation, BNP activists reportedly attacked and vandalised Patgram Police Station and forcibly freed the convicted individuals. When police from Hatibandha Police Station attempted to assist their colleagues, they were allegedly surrounded and obstructed by local BNP activists.⁸⁹

- On 3 July in Muradnagar, Cumilla, Roksana Begum (53), her son Russel Mia (35), and daughter Taspia Akter were brutally killed. On 28 July, Shah Alam Sarkar, Joint Convener of Muradnagar Upazila BNP, was arrested in connection with the murders.⁹⁰ On 12 July in Rangpur Sadar Upazila, BNP leaders, including Mezbabul Haque, the Member Secretary of the local Fisheries Wing of BNP, were accused of setting fire to a home built on abandoned government land by a landless family, allegedly attempting to burn the occupants alive.⁹¹
- On 26 September, Mohammad Bayezid Ahmed Kalu, Joint Convener of Rangabali Upazila JD in Patuakhali, reportedly vandalised the Chhoto Baishdia Union Parishad office after being denied extortion from government projects and rice allocated for fishermen's assistance.⁹²

32. During this reporting period, clashes have been reported between BNP activists and members of BJI as well as the NCP. Additional incidents of altercations occurred between NCP and the AL

⁸⁰ Samakal, 1 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/308212/>

⁸¹ Manabzamin, 2 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=168548>

⁸² Amar Desh, 10 August 2025; <https://www.dailyamardesh.com/bangladesh/dhaka/amd77guzi5qxl>

⁸³ Prothom Alo, 12 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/7svgd2i6c1>

⁸⁴ Manabzamin, 11 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=169933>

⁸⁵ Jugantor, 11 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/campus/976308>

⁸⁶ Amar Kotha, 8 August 2025; <https://www.dailyamarkotha.com/country-1647>

⁸⁷ Samakal, 16 August 2025; <https://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2025-08-16/5/4289>

⁸⁸ Prothom Alo, 4 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime/ummw1fzh5v>

⁸⁹ Prothom Alo, 5 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/gf4wpibwng>

⁹⁰ Prothom Alo, 29 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/n303oa3ui9>

⁹¹ Amar Desh, 13 July 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl5_row4_date_13-07-2025_edition_2_page10_197667_442240_updated_watermarked_c5a33fbf-d313-4aa2-aa3d-fl1b0d798d4f.jpg

⁹² Manabzamin, 27 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181883>

(whose activities have been banned), and between the Gono Odhikar Parishad and the Jatiya Party.

- On 13 July in Cox's Bazar, BJI activists attacked and killed BNP leader Rahim Uddin Sikder.⁹³ On 10 July in Patharghata, Barguna, over a reported dispute between ICS and JCD, JCD leader Amit Hasan Shuvo and his associates violently assaulted BJI's municipality unit Ameer (president) Bazlur Rahman and activist Nasir Uddin Chowdhury.⁹⁴
- On 16 July, the NCP organised a rally at the Poura Park in Gopalganj district headquarters. To obstruct the event, activists of the AL and its affiliates reportedly staged processions, blocked roads with felled trees, and attacked vehicles and installations, including police transports, the UNO's car, the rally venue, the DC's residence, and the district jail compound. Police managed to partially control the situation, allowing NCP leaders to proceed with the rally. However, while leaving the venue after the rally, the NCP leaders were reportedly attacked and besieged by AL activists. The ensuing city-wide clashes between law enforcement, military personnel, and AL activists resulted in four deaths and over fifty injuries. NCP leaders later left Gopalganj under armed escort.⁹⁵
- On 30 July in Muradnagar, Cumilla, a clash over political dominance between BNP and NCP activists left 65 individuals injured.⁹⁶ On 7 August in Jhenaidah, a dispute over school committee formation led to clashes between BNP and BJI activists, leaving nine injured.⁹⁷ On 27 August in Banskhali Upazila, Chattogram, 15 individuals were injured in another dominance-related clash between BNP and BJI activists.⁹⁸
- On 29 August, a clash erupted in front of the central office of the Jatiya Party in Kakrail, Dhaka, as a procession by GOP passed by. During the altercation, law enforcement and military personnel reportedly resorted to baton charges against GOP activists, including its president, Nurul Haque Nur, who sustained serious injuries.⁹⁹ In response, on 30 August, coordinated attacks, vandalism, and arson were reported at Jatiya Party offices in Dhaka, Rajshahi, Thakurgaon, Gaibandha, Khulna, and several other districts.¹⁰⁰ The unrest escalated further on 5 September, when GOP activists returned with another procession and allegedly vandalised and set fire to the Jatiya Party's central office.¹⁰¹
- It needs to be noted that following the abolition of the caretaker government system, a national election, widely regarded as highly controversial, was held on 5 January 2014 under the AL administration. While most political parties boycotted the election, the Jatiya Party participated and subsequently held positions both within the cabinet and as the formal opposition in parliament, contributing to what many observers described as an anomalous and ineffective legislature. The party also contested in the disputed national elections of 2018 and 2024 under AL rule. In the aftermath of Sheikh Hasina's departure from office, various political groups and civil society organisations have continued to call for a formal ban on the Jatiya Party, citing its role as a collaborator in legitimising undemocratic practices.

⁹³ Samakal, 16 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/305588/>

⁹⁴ Amar Desh, 12 July 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl7_row6_date_12-07-2025_edition_1_page11_842384_868314_watermarked_c2837c9c-0430-48cb-9508-55d5144c6d7b.jpg

⁹⁵ Prothom Alo, 17 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/3x8hs9iao9>

⁹⁶ Jugantor, 31 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/984440>

⁹⁷ Manabzamin, 8 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=174449>

⁹⁸ Samakal, 28 August 2025; <https://epaper.samakal.com/nogor-edition/2025-08-28/4/7975>

⁹⁹ Samakal, 30 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/politics/article/313128/>

¹⁰⁰ Samakal, 31 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/313295/>

¹⁰¹ Samakal, 6 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/politics/article/314226/>

- On 27 July in Dighinala, Khagrachhari district, a violent clash between two ethnic minority political groups—JSS and UPDF—resulted in the deaths of four individuals.¹⁰²
- On 23 September, following allegations of rape of a Marma adolescent girl in Khagrachhari Sadar, demonstrators under the banner of Jumma student-citizens reportedly attacked a convoy of security forces.¹⁰³ In connection with the same incident, a blockade on 27 September, convened by the ethnic minority groups, led to confrontations and vandalism between members of ethnic minority groups and Bengalis. Although Section 144¹⁰⁴ was imposed in Sadar Upazila and the municipality area, pickets, organised widespread unrest on 28 September. In Ramsu Bazar, Guimara Upazila, tensions escalated between the ethnic minority and Bengali communities. When army personnel intervened, a clash reportedly broke out between the army and ethnic minority people, and three individuals from the ethnic minority groups were shot dead.¹⁰⁵

Internal Conflict within BNP

33. During this reporting period, internal conflicts within BNP intensified significantly. Clashes reportedly erupted over territorial dominance,¹⁰⁶ a sand quarry control,¹⁰⁷ shop seizures,¹⁰⁸ ferry terminal lease allocations,¹⁰⁹ committee formation,¹¹⁰ and party conferences.¹¹¹ Firearms were reportedly used in these clashes,¹¹² killing both ordinary citizens¹¹³ and party activists.¹¹⁴ Intra-party clashes led to vandalism and arson of the BNP offices¹¹⁵ and the homes of party leaders.¹¹⁶ There were allegations of hired assassins being used to kill rival leaders within the party¹¹⁷ and convoys of BNP leaders being attacked by their own party members.¹¹⁸ In many areas, authorities were compelled to impose Section 144 to contain the tension.¹¹⁹ In another incident in

¹⁰² Samakal, 27 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/307361/>

¹⁰³ Jugantor, 27 September 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/1008595>

¹⁰⁴ Section 144 of the CrPC empowers a magistrate to issue urgent orders to prevent threats to life, health, safety, or public peace, and to avoid obstruction or harm. It may restrict gatherings, meetings, or carrying arms for up to two months, and can be imposed without notice in emergencies.

¹⁰⁵ LvMovQwo#Z Ae#iva, Av_b ,wj#Z wbnZ 3, Manabzamin, 29 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=182284>

¹⁰⁶ Jugantor, 17 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/979161>

¹⁰⁷ Samakal, 31 July 2025, Amar Desh, 13 August 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl7_row6_date_13-08-2025_edition_2_page2_315063_786256_updated_watermarked_b1610414-6e60-4d8d-b5ae-8601c4c6fd4e.jpg

¹⁰⁸ Manabzamin, 22 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181126>

¹⁰⁹ Samakal, 19 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/306065/>

¹¹⁰ Manabzamin, 14 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=175317>

¹¹¹ Jugantor, 13 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-second-edition/977344>

¹¹² Amar Desh, 19 August 2025, <https://dailynayadiganta.com/bangladesh/country-news/1GdEmKcHV0sk>; Amar Desh, 6 September 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/6izwzha9yj>

¹¹³ Jugantor, 15 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/3pk8132n5h>

¹¹⁴ Manabzamin, 20 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=180868>

¹¹⁵ Manabzamin, 1 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=178055>

¹¹⁶ Prothom Alo, 23 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/rmtjfuice2>

¹¹⁷ Amar Desh, 11 September 2025; <https://www.dailyamardesh.com/amar-desh-special/amdjsmdhla7da>

¹¹⁸ Amar Desh, 30 July 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl9_row8_date_30-07-2025_edition_2_page16_418672_182492_updated_watermarked_2c265eb3-f9c0-4642-b0df-7095db5aaf20.jpg, https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl4_row3_date_30-07-2025_edition_2_page15_876401_104711_updated_watermarked_fc6f2c51-30c0-40bd-9d1f-9b0b4b3d831c.jpg

¹¹⁹ Manabzamin, 14 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=175385>; Manabzamin, 20 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=180900>

Paikgacha, Khulna, BNP leader Mosharraf Hossain allegedly committed suicide after being assaulted by fellow party activists during a dispute over conference arrangements.¹²⁰

Criminalisation and Destabilisation Attempts by AL

34. Despite a formal ban on all activities of the AL and the activities of its affiliated, associate, and fraternal organisations,¹²¹ reports indicate that its activists continue to engage in violent acts across various regions of the country.¹²² Allegations also emerged that AL leaders currently in hiding in India are involved in conspiracies aimed at destabilising Bangladesh.¹²³

- As part of these ill efforts, on 8 July, a secret meeting was reportedly held at KB Convention Center in Bashundhara Residential Area, Dhaka, involving AL activists, affiliated organisations, and retired government officials. The meeting reportedly resolved to mobilise supporters nationwide, occupy Shahbagh intersection in Dhaka, and create widespread panic to facilitate the return of ousted former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. It is further alleged that a military officer with Major rank named Sadik provided sabotage training to participants. Police arrested 22 individuals in connection with the incident, and Major Sadik was taken into military custody.¹²⁴
- On 22 July, two BCL leaders—Mehedi Hasan Arif and Arifur Rahman Raja—were arrested in Gulistan while allegedly preparing to detonate handmade bombs.¹²⁵
- On 11 August, AL activists reportedly staged a flash procession in Chattogram, and repeatedly hacked Sub-Inspector Abu Sayeed Rana while he was trying to stop the procession.¹²⁶
- On 15 September in Bhanga, Faridpur, a group of miscreants allegedly attacked and looted the Upazila Parishad (subdistrict office) and police station in protest of electoral constituency delimitation. During the attack, vehicles were set ablaze while the vandals shouted the slogan “Joy Bangla” (a political slogan used by AL), and important government documents were looted.¹²⁷

¹²⁰ Manabzamin, 22 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181205>

¹²¹ Through a gazette notification, the interim government—invoking the powers granted under Section 18(1) of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2009 and the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Ordinance, 2025—has declared a prohibition on all activities of the Bangladesh Awami League and its affiliated, associate, and fraternal organisations until the completion of judicial proceedings against their leaders and activists in the International Crimes Tribunal.

¹²² Jugantor, 20 September 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/1005688>

¹²³ Jugantor, 7 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/politics/987367>

¹²⁴ Prothom Alo, 1 August 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=184607fb46&eid=1&imageview=0&epedate=01/08/2025&sedId=1>

¹²⁵ Amar Desh, 24 July 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl13_row12_date_24-07-2025_edition_2_page3_539502_873904_updated_watermarked_6a89787b-af5b-499e-9262-5fbb3d63dca4.jpg

¹²⁶ Policeman injured during raid after Awami League flash procession in Chittagong: <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/388792/police-sub-inspector-seriously-injured-in-attack>; Jugantor, 12 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/989419>

¹²⁷ Amar Desh, 17 September 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl9_row8_date_16-09-2025_edition_2_page1_477356_389340_updated_watermarked_c177b478-0717-4ba3-83e9-2ab7d54b3455.jpg, https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl9_row8_date_16-09-2025_edition_2_page2_870253_609062_updated_watermarked_8500554d-05cf-457d-8c57-813bfd683b9f.jpg

- On 16 September in Shyamoli, Dhaka, AL activists allegedly detonated hand bombs during a procession to demand the release of detained AL members.¹²⁸
 - On 22 September, while Chief Adviser Dr. Muhammad Yunus was attending the UNGA in New York, local AL activists and supporters staged unruly demonstrations. They threw eggs at the NCP's Member Secretary and verbally harassed members of the delegation, including a female member.¹²⁹ Previously, AL activists reportedly also attacked and vandalised the Bangladesh Consulate in New York in an attempt to harm Information Adviser Mahfuz Alam, one of the key student figures organising the July 2024 movement.
35. Between July and September of this year, at least 46 individuals were killed and 1537 individuals were injured in incidents of political violence. During this three-month period, 82 internal clashes within the BNP and 1 within the AL were recorded.
- BNP's internal conflicts reportedly resulted in eight deaths and 740 injuries.
 - AL's internal conflicts reportedly led to 12 injuries.

C. Violence Against Women

36. During this reporting period of July to September 2025, incidents of violence against women continued across the country.

Rape

37. Rape continues to be a persistent and deeply disturbing concern in Bangladesh. The culture of impunity and prolonged judicial processes often encourage perpetrators. During this period, one woman reportedly sustained serious injuries after jumping from a two-storey building to escape gang rape.¹³⁰ Additional incidents include the rape and murder of a child,¹³¹ the rape of a woman with mental health issues,¹³² rape involving death threats to a child,¹³³ and the rape and murder of a woman following the killing of her father-in-law.¹³⁴ Allegations also include police misconduct aimed at weakening rape case charges,¹³⁵ the rape of a female police officer by a male colleague inside a police barrack,¹³⁶ the unlawful release of an accused rapist from custody,¹³⁷ and the forced marriage of a rape survivor to her assailant through informal village arbitration.¹³⁸
38. Over the past three months, 188 women and children have reportedly been subjected to rape. Among them, 77 were adult women and 111 were girl children (below the age of 18). Of the 77

¹²⁸ Manabzamin, 17 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=180420>

¹²⁹ Samakal, 24 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/317229/>

¹³⁰ Manabzamin, 25 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=177023>

¹³¹ Prothom Alo, 17 July 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=177a2cd79d2&cid=1&imageview=0&epedate=17/07/2025&sedId=1>

¹³² Jugantor, 8 September 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/1000106>

¹³³ Jugantor, 6 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/974498>

¹³⁴ Jugantor, 10 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/975870>

¹³⁵ Prothom Alo, 24 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/ayc9mk3n6b>

¹³⁶ Manabzamin, 21 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=176427>

¹³⁷ Manabzamin, 22 July 2025; <https://m.mzamin.com/news.php?news=171681>

¹³⁸ Manabzamin, 21 August 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=176394>

women, 18 were victims of gang rape, and two were killed following the assault. Among the 111 girl children, 13 were gang raped, and six were killed after being raped.

Sexual Harassment and Gender-Based Violence

39. Incidents of sexual harassment and stalking against women continued during the reporting period. Women from diverse backgrounds were subjected to harassment by men from various social and professional backgrounds. Widespread allegations emerged against teachers in schools, colleges, and universities¹³⁹ for harassing female students. Political leaders also faced accusations of sexually harassing female colleagues.¹⁴⁰ During this period, two women were reportedly killed for protesting against sexual harassment¹⁴¹ In another incident, a female student was assaulted and thrown off a bus by five assailants, including the bus driver's assistant.¹⁴²
- In Islampur, Bogura, a student of class ten, named Bonna, was repeatedly harassed with romantic advances by a youth named Saikat Hossain. After Bonna refused a proposal for an affair and her family rejected a marriage proposal, Saikat and his associates attacked her at home on 16 July. When Bonna's aunt Habiba Yasmin and grandmother Laili Begum tried to intervene, they were hacked to death.¹⁴³
 - On 27 July in Sandwip Colony, Hathazari, Chattogram, a student of class eight was reportedly abducted and forcibly married by Rifat, a construction worker from Subarnachar, Noakhali. On 1 August, during a village arbitration convened to resolve the matter, the dispute escalated, and the girl's father, Fakhrul Islam, was beaten to death.¹⁴⁴
 - In Golachipa Government College, Patuakhali, a student named Daina Akter was reportedly harassed by Saimun Matobbar, son of local Ward level BNP leader Rezaul Matobbar and president of the Chormonai Union JCD. When Daina protested, Saimun allegedly struck her on the head with an iron rod. Her 70-year-old father, Rahim Khan, was also assaulted when he tried to protect her.¹⁴⁵
40. Between July and September, a total of 8 women and girl children were subjected to sexual harassment (stalking). Additionally, two men were injured and three women were killed while protesting against such harassment targeting women and children.

Dowry-Related Violence

41. Dowry-related violence against women persisted during this reporting period. Reports emerged that women had their throats slit,¹⁴⁶ they were beaten,¹⁴⁷ strangulated,¹⁴⁸ and burnt¹⁴⁹ as dowry

¹³⁹ Manabzamin, 6 July 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=169148>

¹⁴⁰ Jugantor, 10 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-city/975883>

¹⁴¹ Amar Desh, 18 July 2025; ; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl10_row9_date_18-07-2025_edition_2_page3_13738_270951_updated_watermarked_05e445d4-df8f-4e74-86c1-bdc097921efa.jpg

¹⁴² Samakal, 23 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/311923/>

¹⁴³ Amar Desh, 18 July 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl10_row9_date_18-07-2025_edition_2_page3_13738_270951_updated_watermarked_05e445d4-df8f-4e74-86c1-bdc097921efa.jpg

¹⁴⁴ Samakal, 3 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/308605/>

¹⁴⁵ Manabzamin, 27 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=181894>

¹⁴⁶ Jugantor, 4 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/973685>

¹⁴⁷ Jugantor, 6 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/987064>

¹⁴⁸ Manabzamin, 25 April 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=158030>

¹⁴⁹ Jugantor, 16 June 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-bangla-face/965997>

demands were not met. Several victims were reportedly pregnant at the time of their assault or death.

- On 6 August, in Lakshmipur Sadar Upazila, a woman named Fatema Begum was allegedly killed by her husband, Hasan, a leader of the Swechchhasebak Dal, the volunteer wing of BNP, after she failed to provide a dowry of BDT 100,000. Following the incident, police arrested Hasan, but the General Secretary of the Lakshmipur District unit of JD, Syed Rashidul Hasan Linkon, reportedly intervened at the police station and secured Hasan's release.¹⁵⁰
 - On 11 September, in Kalmegha Union of Patharghata Upazila, Barguna, a woman named Kaituri was killed by her husband, Hanif Mia, allegedly due to her inability to meet his dowry demand.¹⁵¹
42. Over the past three months, a total of 12 women have been subjected to dowry-related violence. Among them, six women were killed due to dowry demands, five others faced various forms of abuse and oppression, and one committed suicide.

D. Ready-Made Garment Workers' Conditions

43. During Sheikh Hasina's tenure, numerous garment factory owners were reportedly implicated in large-scale financial misconduct, including embezzlement and capital flight. Following the fall of her government, several of these individuals were either arrested or fled abroad. As a consequence, many ready-made garment factories shut down or stopped operating, resulting in widespread job losses among workers across the sector.

Even in factories that remain operational, many were reportedly unable to pay wages and benefits on time. During this period, workers organised protests, rallies, and road blockades demanding payment of arrears, reopening of factories, and in response to layoffs¹⁵² and physical assaults by management.¹⁵³

E. The Religious and Ethnic Minority Communities

44. During this three-month period, religious bigots and politically influential persons reportedly committed oppressive behavior and violence against members of religious and ethnic minority communities.
- On 26 July in Gangachara, Rangpur, a Hindu adolescent was arrested under the Cyber Security Act for allegedly making derogatory remarks about the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on

¹⁵⁰ Jugantor, 11 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/index.php/tp-news/988850>

¹⁵¹ Manabzamin, 29 September 2025; <https://mzamin.com/news.php?news=182200>

¹⁵² Jugantor, 15 September 2025; https://epaper.jugantor.com/storage/2025-09-15/12/link_img_second_ed_1757895994_8.jpg

¹⁵³ Jugantor, 13 July 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/977541>

Facebook. Following the arrest, local residents organised a protest demanding punishment, which escalated into attacks on the boy's home and other residences belonging to Hindu families. According to the Upazila (subdistrict) administration, at least 15 Hindu minority households were vandalised and looted. Local residents alleged that police failed to take preventive measures at the initial stage against the attacks.¹⁵⁴ Subsequently, when another attempt at violence was made, clashes erupted between assailants and police.¹⁵⁵ Police and military personnel later intervened to restore order. A case was filed against 1,200 unidentified individuals in connection with the incident.¹⁵⁶

- In Baghsara village of Paba Upazila, Rajshahi, twelve households from the Santal, Dhangar, and Rabi Das communities had been residing in makeshift homes along the banks of the Barnai River, on land belonging to the Water Development Board. Adjacent to this area lies property owned by Babul, an individual reportedly affiliated with BNP. Babul allegedly did not like the presence of families from ethnic minority groups near his land. On 30 July, over a minor incident, Babul's associates reportedly launched two separate attacks on the homes of these ethnic minority residents, resulting in vandalism and looting. In the aftermath, the affected families fled their homes in fear.¹⁵⁷
- On 23 August, Nurul Haque, popularly known as Nural Pagla, passed away in Goalanda, Rajbari district. His followers buried him in an elevated grave, which infuriated the local "Iman-Aqidah Protection Committee", a group with the express commitment to 'protect Islamic beliefs and values', and instigated tensions between the followers of Nural Pagla and "Iman-Aqidah Protection Committee."

On 4 September, members of the committee reportedly attacked Nural Pagla's spiritual centre called Darbar Sharif, triggering clashes between the two groups. During the clashes, the committee members allegedly broke through the gate, vandalised the premises, and set parts of it on fire. They also damaged vehicles belonging to the police and the UNO. Military forces later intervened to restore order. However, in a second wave of violence, members of the committee exhumed Nural Pagla's body and set it on fire. The incident left 22 individuals injured and resulted in the death of a man named Rasel.¹⁵⁸

- It has been alleged that on 17 September in Homna, Cumilla, a man named Mohsin posted derogatory remarks about the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) on Facebook. The following day, local residents reportedly vandalised and set fire to the homes of Mohsin's family. In a subsequent escalation, local residents attacked the mazar¹⁵⁹ of Mohsin's grandfather, Kofil Uddin Shah, along with four other mazars.¹⁶⁰

¹⁵⁴ Prothom Alo, 1 August 2025;

<https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=183be3e46a&cid=1&imageview=0&epedate=01/08/2025&sedId=1>

¹⁵⁵ Prothom Alo, 29 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/mry7wlg1xj>

¹⁵⁶ Prothom Alo, 30 July 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/x68ot36h14>

¹⁵⁷ Jugantor, 5 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/986392>

¹⁵⁸ Samakal, 6 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/314228/>

¹⁵⁹ Tomb or shrine.

¹⁶⁰ Amar Desh, 19 September 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl10_row9_date_19-09-2025_edition_2_page16_206734_473737_updated_watermarked_fa49ed0c-c07c-424b-9625-27c76ca8e753.jpg, https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl16_row15_date_19-09-2025_edition_2_page15_211658_649958_updated_watermarked_5db5e0b3-02fb-4bcb-a9a0-856eda50d588.jpg

F. Indo-Bangladesh Border

Killings and Torture by Indian BSF

45. Alongside India's economic dominance and political interference in Bangladesh, the BSF of India has continued its pattern of indiscriminate killings, torture, and abuse of Bangladeshi citizens along the border. Every year, Bangladeshi nationals residing in border areas are falling victim to gunfire or physical assault, resulting in deaths and injuries.
46. Between July and August 2025, the following incidents, committed by BSF, were reported:
- On 2 July, Ibrahim was killed at the Damurhuda border in Chuadanga.¹⁶¹
 - On 12 July, Askar Ali was killed at Haripur border in Thakurgaon, and Shafiqul at Baganbari in Dowarabazar, Sunamganj.¹⁶²
 - On 24 July, Mohammad Liton and Mohammad Millat Hossain were killed at the Parshuram border in Feni.¹⁶³
 - On 31 July, Soiyebur Rahman was killed at the Chapainawabganj border.¹⁶⁴
 - On 2 August, Shafiqul Islam and Selim Reza were killed at the Shibganj border in Chapainawabganj.¹⁶⁵
 - On 29 August, Abdur Rahman was killed at the Dana border in Kanaighat, Sylhet.¹⁶⁶
 - On 17 July, three Bangladeshi youths—Sohag Mia, Masuk Ali Monturi, and Sipar Ahmed—were reportedly abducted by BSF personnel while fishing near the Haripur border in Kulaura, Moulvibazar.¹⁶⁷
47. From 25 to 28 August, a high-level border conference between the Directors General of BGB and BSF took place at the BGB headquarters in Dhaka. At the meeting, BGB Director General Major General Mohammad Ashrafuzzaman Siddiqui expressed deep concern over the continued killing and injuring of Bangladeshi nationals by BSF personnel along the border. In response, BSF Director General Daljit Singh Chaudhary remarked that nighttime smuggling and illegal crossings pose security risks for border guards. He claimed that BSF personnel issue warnings and attempt to deter intrusions, resorting to gunfire only as a last measure. Disagreeing with this justification, the BGB Director General pointed out that a young Bangladeshi citizen was

¹⁶¹ Amar Desh, 3 July 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl8_row7_date_03-07-2025_edition_2_page15_517526_356244_updated_watermarked_be063402-a41f-463c-b6f5-797ddc440b6c.jpg

¹⁶² Amar Desh, 13 July 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl11_row10_date_13-07-2025_edition_2_page16_556681_130737_updated_watermarked_48ca2376-b4b7-4226-b465-d1e2375ffa1e.jpg

¹⁶³ Prothom Alo, 26 July 2025; <https://epaper.prothomalo.com/Home/ShareArticle?OrgId=26777ed1005&eid=1&imageview=0&epdate=26/07/2025&sedId=1>

¹⁶⁴ Amar Desh, 2 August 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl7_row6_date_02-08-2025_edition_2_page16_964552_828737_updated_watermarked_3b35ee6f-2485-46e4-97aa-93158acaf471.jpg, https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl4_row3_date_02-08-2025_edition_2_page15_854076_48774_updated_watermarked_80896045-2fb9-4bd8-8fc2-0c63f9574183.jpg

¹⁶⁵ Jugantor, 3 August 2025; <https://www.jugantor.com/tp-lastpage/985550>

¹⁶⁶ Samakal, 31 August 2025; <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/313308/>

¹⁶⁷ Amar Desh, 19 July 2025; https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl10_row9_date_19-07-2025_edition_2_page16_463649_334753_updated_watermarked_e162eea2-6f2b-4bd0-b37b-557ae400cc01.jpg, https://images.dailyamardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl10_row9_date_19-07-2025_edition_2_page15_225595_188993_updated_watermarked_4e18c041-89ab-4bf4-ac1c-840196961446.jpg

recently shot dead in broad daylight, emphasising that such killings are occurring during daytime, and even children are among the victims.¹⁶⁸

48. Between July and September, 10 Bangladeshi nationals were reportedly killed and 14 injured by BSF gunfire. Among the deceased, seven were allegedly shot dead, and three were killed through physical torture. 10 injured individuals were reportedly wounded by gunfire, and four were physically tortured.

G. Illegal Push-In

49. Since 7 May 2025, the Indian authorities have reportedly engaged in provocative and unlawful push-in operations, forcibly sending Bangladeshi nationals, Rohingya refugees,¹⁶⁹ and Indian Muslim citizens¹⁷⁰ across the border into Bangladesh. These operations have continued throughout the reporting period. Most individuals subjected to push-in were reportedly coerced through inhumane treatment to cross the zero line.

Ahead of the 2026 Assam Legislative Assembly elections, hundreds of Muslim men, women, and children reportedly took shelter in camps near the Bangladesh border. Thousands of homes, mostly, belonging to Muslim families, were bulldozed, and the displaced populations are being pushed into Bangladeshi territory.¹⁷¹

¹⁶⁸ Amar Desh, 29 August 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl11_row10_date_29-08-2025_edition_2_page16_34228_739933_updated_watermarked_5ddd96c-4ec4-40de-9fb2-f8a556026cf5.jpg, https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl3_row2_date_29-08-2025_edition_2_page15_375914_456405_updated_watermarked_f9cda74e-1b8e-42c8-9936-beaaabb26878.jpg

¹⁶⁹ Bangla Tribune, 28 July 2025; <https://www.banglatribune.com/country/sylhet/908990/>

¹⁷⁰ Samakal, 26 July 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/307314/>

¹⁷¹ Amar Desh, 29 July 2025; https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl7_row6_date_29-07-2025_edition_2_page16_254911_987565_updated_watermarked_57b5b44b-f2af-4714-8743-19c19fe8262c.jpg, https://images.dailymardesh.com/cropped-images/image_sl3_row2_date_29-07-2025_edition_2_page15_76086_799163_updated_watermarked_b3abe2a1-a2f9-428f-a23d-9536f8a82422.jpg



Picture 8: Rohingya people forcibly pushed into Bangladesh by Indian BSF (The Bangla Tribune, 28 July 2025)

On 26 September, the Kolkata High Court overturned a central government order to forcibly push two labourer families from Birbhum, West Bengal, into Bangladesh. The court also rejected the government's appeal seeking a stay on the ruling.¹⁷²

50. According to reports from various media outlets and human rights defenders affiliated with Odhikar and other organisations working in border regions, between July and September 2025, a total of 544 individuals, including women, children, and elderly persons, were forcibly pushed into Bangladesh.¹⁷³

Apparent Position of the Indian Authority on Bangladesh and the Interim Government

51. Following the fall of the authoritarian AL-led government, through a student-led mass uprising, the Indian authorities have actively sought to discredit the movement and undermine the legitimacy of the interim government formed thereafter. They have issued politically motivated statements concerning Bangladesh's internal affairs. Independent fact-checking has proved many of India's claims false.¹⁷⁴ International media outlets such as BBC and Al Jazeera have also identified and documented instances of misinformation.¹⁷⁵

Despite allegations against her of mass killing and crimes against humanity, the Indian government has reportedly granted asylum to Sheikh Hasina, violating bilateral prisoner exchange agreements by refusing to repatriate her for trial. Instead, she has been accorded special privileges, including travel documents enabling her international movement.¹⁷⁶ From India, she has been communicating with her party members, participating in virtual gatherings, and disseminating provocative, false,

¹⁷² Prothom Alo, 28 September 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/world/india/38v6gocqeu>

¹⁷³ Amar Desh, 18 June 2025; <https://www.dailymardesh.com/amar-desh-special/amdl23jbyoyte>

¹⁷⁴ Prothom Alo, 14 January 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/ps9txo9y9e>

¹⁷⁵ The far-right videos distorting the truth of Bangladesh minority attacks, BBC, 18 August 2025; <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cx2n8pzk7gzo.amp>

¹⁷⁶ Ousted Bangladesh PM Hasina still in India, gets travel document; New Age, 15 October 2024; <https://www.newagebd.net/post/politics/247780/>

and destabilising messages aimed at disrupting Bangladesh's law and order situation.¹⁷⁷ Additionally, fugitive AL leaders¹⁷⁸ and senior officials¹⁷⁹ implicated in crimes against humanity and political repression are reportedly residing in safe havens across West Bengal and other Indian cities. It is alleged that these individuals are engaged in conspiracies to destabilise Bangladesh and obstruct democratic transition.

Human Rights of the Rohingya Community

Since 25 August 2017, Myanmar's military and extremist Buddhist groups have reportedly carried out systematic acts of genocide and forced displacement targeting the Rohingya population. These operations have included enforced disappearances, gang rape, arson attacks on homes, and other grave forms of violence and persecution. These circumstances forced the Rohingya people to flee to Bangladesh to save their lives.

Over the past eight years, Rohingya refugees have continued to enter Bangladesh and remain confined to camps under increasingly dire conditions. Their situation is exacerbated by economic hardship, declining international aid, and the closure of educational centres for Rohingya children. Many have also fallen victim to transnational human trafficking networks. Despite these challenges, the Rohingya community continues to express a strong desire to return to their homeland. Multiple repatriation initiatives have been attempted but remain unsuccessful, while new arrivals persist.

The situation in Myanmar's Rakhine State has grown increasingly unstable. Renewed persecution of the remaining Rohingya population reportedly began in November 2023. In December 2024, the Arakan Army seized control of the Western Military Command in Rakhine, intensifying the conflict. In an attempt to flee the violence, thousands of Rohingya gathered along the western banks of the Naf River, seeking refuge in Bangladesh. However, drone and artillery attacks by the Arakan Army reportedly resulted in deaths of hundreds of Rohingya people.¹⁸⁰ Sporadic clashes between the Arakan Army and armed Rohingya factions continue, leading to further displacement and prompting additional attempts to cross the border into Bangladesh.¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁷ Bangladesh foreign ministry asks India to stop Hasina from making false remarks, Daily Star, 7 February 2025; <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/news/stop-hasina-making-false-remarks-3817666>

¹⁷⁸ Amar Desh, 1 October 2025; <https://eamardesh.com/2025-10-01>

¹⁷⁹ Amar Desh, 29 September 2025; <https://eamardesh.com/2025-09-29>

¹⁸⁰ Samakal, 3 September 2025; <https://samakal.com/bangladesh/article/313831/>

¹⁸¹ Prothom Alo, 25 August 2025; <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/xpcica96u5>

J. Recommendations

1. Transparency, impartiality, and due process in the proceedings of the International Crimes Tribunal must be ensured and maintained. Justice and reparations must be guaranteed for victims, affected parties, and families of the disappeared, thereby restoring their dignity and contributing to national reconciliation.
2. Members of law enforcement agencies involved in extrajudicial killings, torture, and other inhumane acts must be brought to justice. RAB must be disbanded.
3. The Torture and Custodial Death (Prevention) Act, 2013, must be effectively enforced. Ensure full implementation of the directives issued by the High Court Division in 2003, and subsequently upheld by the Appellate Division, in the landmark BLAST vs. Bangladesh case, which prohibits custodial torture.
4. Enact a specific law criminalising enforced disappearances, aligned with international human rights standards. Individuals responsible for such acts must be identified and prosecuted. Affected families must be provided with compensation, psychosocial support, and appropriate rehabilitation. The State must disclose the fate and whereabouts of those who remain missing, ensuring truth, justice, and accountability.
5. Political parties and their members and affiliates must refrain from violence, intimidation, and criminal activities. They must instead commit to advancing the country through peaceful, democratic means. Those who have committed crimes must be brought to justice. Mere ousting from the party is not enough.
6. Allegations of misconduct, negligence, and corruption by prison officials must be subject to a thorough, impartial investigation, with legal action taken against those found responsible. All forms of torture and other violations against detainees in all places of custody must be unequivocally prohibited. Adequate medical care must be ensured, in accordance with national standards and international obligations. National Preventive Mechanisms need to be established as per the guidelines contained in OPCAT.
7. Freedom of expression and media independence must be guaranteed. All harassment-based cases filed against journalists must be withdrawn, and incidents of violence against media professionals must be subject to impartial investigation. Perpetrators must be held accountable through fair and transparent legal processes.
8. The Special Powers Act of 1974 and the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009, must be repealed. Legislative reform is essential to ensure that national security measures do not undermine civil liberties, freedom of expression, or democratic participation.
9. The Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act must be amended to prevent the misuse and repression of human rights organizations and activists.
10. A law protecting victims and witnesses, and one protecting human rights defenders, have become pressing needs, in order to ensure that justice is served effectively and that human rights defenders are protected and continue to work towards ensuring good governance for all.
11. Ensure effective prosecution of perpetrators of violence against women and children. Informal arbitration (salish) in cases involving rape and gender-based violence – indeed any act defined as a crime under law - must be strictly prohibited. Lift the reservations on CEDAW.
- 12.** All forms of human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings and torture, allegedly committed by India's BSF against Bangladeshi citizens at the border, must stop. The unlawful push-in operations must stop. Through appropriate diplomatic channels, arrangements should be made for the safe and dignified repatriation of Bangladeshi nationals residing illegally in India.