

Monthly Human Rights Observation Report

January, 2016



**HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT CENTER
(HRSC)**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In January 2016, the most significant human rights problems were killings, torture, political violence, abduction and discrimination against women. Further human rights problems encompassed exploitations by security forces; they were alleged to be responsible for the abduction, custodial deaths, arbitrary arrest and indiscriminate detention. The government controlled freedom of assembly and encourage politically motivated violence in a mundane way. Violence against women and children remained to be going to worsen way, as numbers of incidences have occurred for a silly matter. Discrimination against persons especially women has been considered as a serious problem for the last January 2016.

Human Rights Supports Center (HRSC) was formed to monitor & promote human rights situation in Bangladesh. It works to raise awareness among the youths as well as mass people about human rights violations and encourages their involvement through various human rights related activities. As part of our mission, we are regularly publishing this monthly report on the basis of 12 prominent daily newspapers of Bangladesh and fact-finding report from our regional representative of the country.

Human rights violation is also continued in January 2016, as like before. In this month, extra-judicial killing, violence against women, abduction and an arbitrary arrest has been increased tremendously specifically the rate of rape, gang rape and child rape increased to the first-time extent.

Human rights violation is also continued in January 2016, as like before According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), an estimated 12 people were killed extra judicially in 2016. Moreover, HRSC report found that in January 2016, around 51 women were raped and among them 01 were killed after rape. A total of 10 women were killed for dowry, 14 females were sexually harassed and 07 have become victims of Acid violence.

On the other hand, 03 Bangladeshi citizens were killed by BSF and 04 were injured, at the same time, 57 were killed in the violent attack. A total of 24 people have been abducted, among them 14 were rescued and 07 were killed after the abduction.

In addition to this, 07 journalists have been seriously injured. Furthermore, 05 people in total were killed in political violence. At least 03 people were killed by public lynching. Remarkably, there were 76 incidents of violent attack, of them 57 men were killed and 61 were injured.

However, we hope that this report will help mass people, civil society as well as international communities to realize the current dreadful and degrading human rights situation of Bangladesh. We are deeply concerned about debasing human rights situation in our beloved country. We also urge national and international human rights organizations as well as every citizen to raise their voice to protect and promote human rights in Bangladesh.

Finally, we want to acknowledge the contribution and pay our thanks to those people who have assist and encourage us that will help us to make this monthly report more qualitative and encourage us to keep a vibrant role in human rights sector.

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INTRODUCTION

Human rights are based on mankind's increasing demand for a better life in which the inherent dignity and worth of each human being will receive respect and protection. Human rights are sometimes called fundamental rights or basic rights or natural rights. Fundamental rights cannot, rather must not, be taken away by any legislature or any act of the government and are often set out in a constitution. Human rights are protected and upheld by international and national laws and treaties. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is the foundation of the international system of protection for human rights. It was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on December 10th, 1948.

Whatever, their political and religious identity, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, language, or any other status and position. All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and right without any kinds of discrimination. Human rights advocates agree that, sixty months after its issue, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights is still more a dream than reality. Violations exist in every part of the world.

The state is the defender of all sorts of human rights. As the Constitution of Bangladesh recognize all forms of human rights i.e. civil and political rights, social, economic and cultural rights. Civil and political rights are recognized as 'fundamental rights' which are directly justiciable, meaning a person can file a petition before the High Court in case there is a violation of fundamental rights. While economic, social and cultural rights are recognized as 'Fundamentals Principle of state policy' which is not judicially enforceable but these rights are the guidelines to the State in the enactment of new laws and policies as well as interpretation of the Constitution and other laws.

In the foreword of the Bangladesh Constitution it is declared "Further pledging that it shall be a fundamental aim of the state to realize through the democratic process to socialist society, free from exploitation-a society in which the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice, political, economic and social, will be secured for all citizens".

In spite of having such national and international obligation, human rights are drastically violated in Bangladesh. In the month of January'16, human rights have been infringed specifically violence against women, abduction, attack on a journalist and extra-judicial killings. The situation reached to such abysmal state that even the mass people feel insecure inside their homes and pedestrian plus commuters doubt if they will be back safe to their beloved ones at the fall of dusk.

Massive corruption in state machinery, the politicization of administration, a weak judiciary, and culture of impunity degrading law and order situation, political patronization and shelter of criminals etc. lead to an extreme human rights violation in Bangladesh. In addition, lack of democratic values in every incumbent government, limited people's participation in decision-making and implementation process and lack of transparency and accountability make the situation more intricate.

This report is an attempt to spectacle the degrading human rights situation in Bangladesh without any kinds of biasness to any groups or parties.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

“Violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women, which have led to domination over and discrimination to domination over and discrimination against women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women.¹Violence against women conflicts with the basic Human Rights established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948 and other documents like the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Such as:

violence denies women the right to life (ICCPR Article 6); right to be free from discrimination; right to health; right to bodily integrity; right to privacy; the right not to be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (ICCPR article 7); the right to liberty and security of person (ICCPR article 9); and the right to be free from all kinds of violence’s including sexual violence. Early marriage and pregnancy are also violations of the rights of the girl child to equal opportunities in education and training.

Violence against women in Bangladesh is an extensive and political impact; governmental failure and lack of social conflict and implementation of laws are the main causes that lead to the criminals going free. HRSC faithfully screens the whole condition of women and girls in Bangladesh and documents the issues relating to violence against women, Some main acts of violence committed against women include dowry killings, rape, sexual harassment and stalking, acid attacks, physical and mental abuse and sex trafficking. it has been continued and increasing day by day. Rape, sexual harassment, acid violence are increasing on a greater extent because of corrupted judicial and administrative system. Most of the perpetrators of violence are out of punishment with taking ruling parties shelter. the government should take a step proper protective measures to stop violence against women.

According to source of HRSC in January 2016, incident of violence against women are-

Rape: *Total numbers of 51 females were reportedly raped. Among them, 01 female were killed after the rape, among total raped about 18 children who were below the age of 16. Of the women, 10 were victims of gang rape.*

Sexual Harassment: *a total of 14 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment. Of them, 09 were assaulted and 05 were stalked.*

Dowry Related Violence: *21 incident of dowry-related violence reported on a daily newspaper. 10 were killed because of dowry and 11 women were physically abused over dowry demands.*

Acid Violence: *07 female have become victims of acid violence.*

¹ The United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, General Assembly Resolution, December 1993

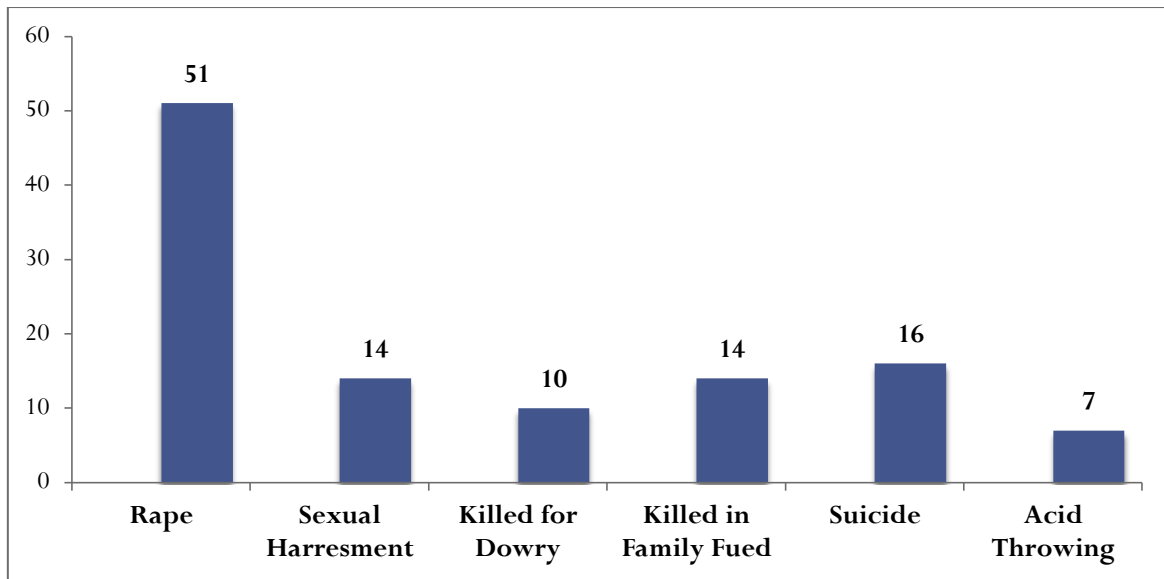


Figure 1: Violence against Women

Numbers of vital cases are mentioned below: On January 04, 2016 a woman committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her house following a quarrel with her husband in Chandgaon area of Chittagong city. The deceased was Shahin Akther, 25, of Satkania Upazila.²

On January 4, 2016, Miscreants threw acid on a housewife at her house at Mohammadpur Geneva Camp in the capital. The victim was Sony Akter, 28, wife of Rony who works in a salon. She was undergoing treatment at the burn unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Partha Sankar Pal, the resident surgeon of the hospital burn unit, said she received burns on different parts of her body including two hands, back and waist. The victim's husband said Sony was waiting for him outside his house around 4:00 am. Three local goons Aziz, Anwar, and Sarwar were stalking Sony and threw acid, he alleged.³

On January 10, 2016, a housewife was killed allegedly by her husband over dowry at Jhatibunia village in Mirzaganj Upazila of the district of Patuakhai. The dead is Ruma Begum, 20, wife of Md Rubel Sikder of the village, and daughter of Habibur Rahman, a rickshaw puller of nearby Rampur village in the Upazila. Ruma's father alleged that his daughter was killed by Rubel and his family members following an altercation over dowry.⁴

On January 05, 2016 a housewife was allegedly beaten to death by her husband and the husband's relatives over dowry at Hajrapur village under Sadar Upazila here. The deceased was identified as Nargis Akter, 22, daughter of Babu Matbor of Charbajitpur village in the Upazila. Sujon Matbor, the brother of the deceased, said his sister was married to Sentu Khan, son of Shamsu Khan of Hajrapur village around 10 months ago. Since then, her husband and the relatives used to torture her, demanding Tk 2.5 lakh as dowry.⁵

² <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/ctg-woman-commits-suicide-197254>

³ <http://newagebd.net/190507/acid-attack-on-housewife-child-raped-in-city/#sthash.SpaQ3Aml.dpuf>

⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-killed-dowry-199504>

⁵ <http://www.observerbd.com/2016/01/05/129348.php#sthash.ImFo0Cs0.dpuf>

On January 11, 2016, a housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband for dowry at Sonaton kathi village under Sharsha Upazila of Jessore district. The deceased was identified as Sheuli Khatun, 22, wife of Md Rashed Ali of the village.⁶

On January 12, 2016, a housewife allegedly committed suicide in Dimla Upazila of the district Nilphamari. The dead is Lucky Begum, 25, wife of Ziarur Islam, 28, of Khaga Kharibari village in the Upazila. Locals and family sources said Lucky married day labourer Ziaur seven months ago but they have no children in their long conjugal life. Lucky took her life by hanging herself from the ceiling of her room out of mental agony.⁷

On January 13, 2016, a woman sustained burn injuries in an acid attack by her ex-husband in Joypurhat town. The victim is Nargis Akhter, 20, daughter of late Shafiullah of Bulupara village under Sadar Upazila, and a 2nd-month degree student at Joypurhat Shaheed Zia College.⁸

On January 20, 2016, a girl reportedly committed suicide by hanging herself with the ceiling fan of her room at a house of Western Para in Bhola town. The deceased was identified as Amena, 15; she worked as the domestic help of the house of one Babul of the area. Bhola Police officer-in-charge Khairul Kabir said they recovered the body and sent it to Bhola Sadar Hospital morgue for post-mortem examinations.⁹

On January 20, 2016, a woman was burnt allegedly by her husband at Sher Shah Colony under Baizid police station in Chittagong city. The victim was identified as Laily Begum, 24, wife of Md Yosuf, 26, a resident of the area. Baizid police officer-in-charge Md Mohsin, quoting local people, said Yosuf set fire to Laily following a family feud.¹⁰

On January 24, 2016, a college girl allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself in Puratan Koshba area in Jessore town. The deceased was identified as Tahsin Mim, 17, daughter of Abdul Mannan and a second-month student of Jessore Government College. Police said Mim committed suicide in her room after a quarrel with her mother and younger sister around 11:00 pm.¹¹

On January 25, 2016, a schoolgirl was beaten up by a boy for not accepting his love proposal at Sathani Bridge in Adakhola area under Rajapur Upazila. The girl is a Class VII student of Adakhola High School in the Upazila. "Two boys from my neighbourhood, Saiful and Ujjal, have been making unwanted advances towards me for a long time, and threatened to kill me if I did not accept," she said.¹²

On January 29, 2016, after fighting for life for 28 days, Bogra acid attack victim Purnima died at Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital. Purnima Khatun, 20, of Dinajpur was undergoing treatment at the hospital since her husband Sumon Mia, 34, and mother-in-law Sultana Begum threw acid on her face for dowry on January 01, said police.¹³

⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-beaten-death-dowry-200440>

⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-commits-suicide-200857>

⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/acid-attack-woman-ex-husband-201436>

⁹ <http://newagebd.net/195369/girl-commits-suicide-in-bhola/#sthash.PgVoxGKV.dpuf>

¹⁰ <http://www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2016/jan/22/woman-burnt-death-chittagong>

¹¹ <http://newagebd.net/196583/college-girl-kills-self-in-jessore/#sthash.N7W11fxc.dpuf>

¹² <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/schoolgirl-beaten-refusing-love-proposal-207265>

¹³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/acid-victim-dies-after-28-days-209518>

RAPE:

Rape is one of the cruelest forms of violence against women in Bangladesh. In a culture that holds a woman's chastity sacred, rape is particularly injurious to a woman's self-identity and social future as well as her physical and psychological wellbeing. The increasing rate of rape is an alarming phenomenon and it depicts the diminishing value of women in society. In Bangladesh rape is also an offense. As section 376 of the penal code states: "whoever commits rape shall be punished with imprisonment for life". It may be mentioned that sometimes rape is followed by murder, particularly when gang rape takes place.

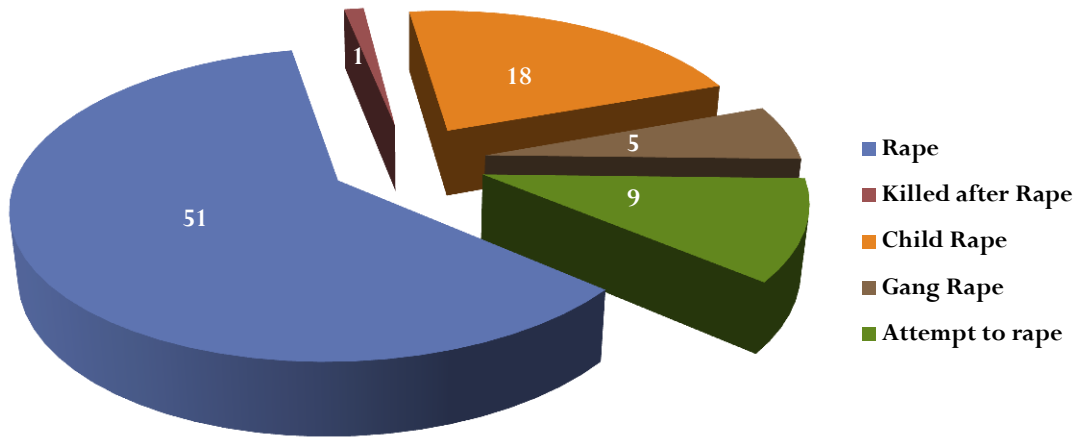


Figure 2: Statistics of Raped in January 2016

Numbers of vital cases are mentioned below: On January 1, 2016, two sisters were allegedly raped by a group of youth at Gorapur in Noakhali sadar. The victims were taken to Noakhali Abdul Malek Ukil Medical College and Hospital for medical tests, said Anwar Hossain, officer-in-charge of Sudharam police station.¹⁴

On January 14, 2016, a 15-month-old girl with speech disorder was allegedly raped in a shanty in Mirpur. While relatives said the girl was raped for two days by Siddique, a van driver, police said Siddique and the girl were married. The victim lives with her younger brother and sister in a slum at Benarashi Palli.¹⁵

On January 06, 2016 a driver allegedly raped a 19-month-old girl inside a bus in Mymensingh's Nandail intersection area on the Mymensingh-Kishoreganj road. Police arrested Alamgir Hossain, 25, the driver who hails from Pumbail in the district's Gouripur Upazila.¹⁶

On January 17, 2016, a girl was raped in Shatrumardon area under Dakkhin Sunamganj Upazila of Sunamganj district. Al-Amin, OC of Dakkhin Sunamganj Police Station said two youths Faruq and Bablu of the area intercepted the girl while she was returning home from a haor after collecting grass. They took her to a place in the area and raped her, he added.¹⁷

¹⁴ <http://www.daily-sun.com/printversion/details/103580/2-sisters-gang-raped-in-Noakhali-1-held>

¹⁵ <http://www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2016/jan/15/speech-impaired-girl-raped#sthash.1BDmLlo.dpuf>

¹⁶ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA5NjU2&s=Mw>

¹⁷ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/01/17/186931#sthash.utUN4sWX.dpuf>

EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLING

The term “extrajudicial killing” means execution without justice. This is an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply a murder. An extrajudicial killing is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process.¹⁸ Bangladesh has earned notoriety in carrying out extrajudicial killings. ‘Crossfire’ or ‘encounter’ and gunfight are very common terms used by the law enforcing agencies to hide their crime and avoid the liabilities of extra-judicial killing. After killing in a pre-planned and cool head, the police and RAB¹⁹ authorities have informed the media that the victims died to engage in the crossfire. These extra-judicial killings are depriving the people of their rights to lives and right to get justice in neutral open court. Extra-judicial killing totally diminishes public faith in the judicial system²⁰.

The government of Bangladesh has been violating the constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights day after day since 2002 especially when did the operation clean heart starts. Now the situation is becoming more complex day by day. According to UN General Comment No.35; “States parties have the duty to take the appropriate measures to protect the rights to liberty of persons against deprivations by third parties”. States parties must protect individuals against abduction or detention by individual criminals or irregular groups, including armed or terrorist groups, operating within their territory. They must also protect individuals against wrongful deprivation of liberty by lawful organizations, such as employers, schools, and hospitals.

In Bangladesh, the law says minimum force should be applied to arrests and every person has the right to seek a trial. In the cases of "crossfire or encounters," however, we find that these legal provisions are being totally ignored:

Article 31²¹ of the constitution of Bangladesh²² states: *"To enjoy the protection of law, and to be treated in accordance with law, is the inalienable right of every citizen, wherever he may be, and of every other person for the time being within Bangladesh, and in particular, no action detrimental to the life, liberty, body, reputation or property of any person shall be taken except in accordance with law."*

The given pie chart provides information about the extra-judicial killing scenario in January 2016: According to human rights support center (HRSC) report, the given pie chart shows information about the extra-judicial killing in the month of January 2016, a total of 12 persons alleged to kill extra-judicially. Out of them, 05 people were killed in the name of ‘crossfire/ encounters /gunfights’, one was torture to Death, 03 were shot to death and 03 have died in the custody.

¹⁸ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.

¹⁹ <http://www.lawteacher.net>

²⁰ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.

²¹ http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/pdf_part.php?id=367

²² http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/pdf_part.php?id=367

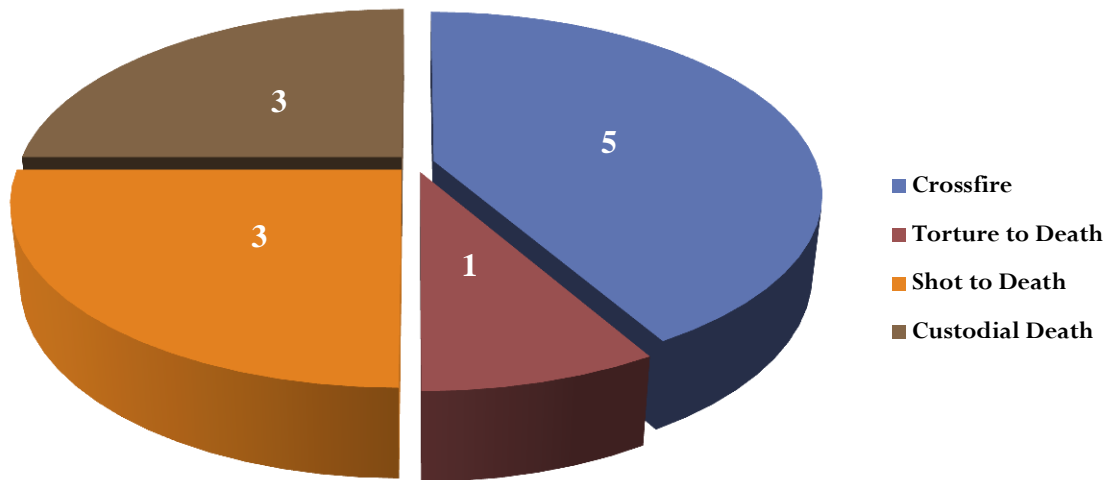


Figure 3: Extra-Judicial Killing

Some important cases are mentioned below:

On January 2, 2016, a suspected criminal was killed in a 'gunfight' with Rapid Action Battalion at Eastern Housing area of Rupnagar in Dhaka. The deceased was identified as Al Amin alias Kala Jony alias Jony Sarkar.²³

On January 3, 2016, a suspected robber was killed in a reported gunfight with Rapid Action Battalion at Magurata in Tangail. The deceased was identified as Md Mostofa, 35, son of Tofiluddin of Sholakuri in Madhupur.²⁴

On January 06, 2016 an alleged drug peddler was killed in a "gunfight" with police in Gazipur Sadar Upazila. The dead is Monir Khan, 35, son of Kabir Khan of Haldoba village under the Upazila. Monir was shot dead while trying to flee from police custody, said the SI.²⁵

On January 13, 2016, two alleged banned militant outfit Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) militants have been killed in an encounter with law enforcers at Hazaribagh in Dhaka, detectives say. The dead are Abdullah alias Noman, 35, national operations commander of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh, and Kamal alias Hiran, 30, Dhaka regional commander of the outfit, said police.²⁶

On January 30, 2016, two people were killed as members of Border Guard Bangladesh opened fire on a group of cattle traders along Jaluli border in Maheshpur Upazila during a clash. Lt Col Jahangir Hossain, commanding officer of BGB battalion-26 in Jessore, told The that some 50-60 traders along with the cattle brought from India were crossing Matila village near the border. The traders swooped on a BGB patrol team with sharp weapons the moment they were stopped there, prompting the BGB personnel to fire shots in self-defence, he said. Rafiqul Islam, 35, owner of a local tea stall, died on the spot, said Jadabpur Union Parishad Chairman Azizur Rahman. Lt Col Jahangir said one Feroz Hossain, 28, succumbed to his wounds at Jhenidah Upazila Health Complex later.²⁷

²³ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/national/2016/01/03/644>

²⁴ <http://newagebd.net/190190/robber-killed-in-gunfight-with-rab-in-tangail/#sthash.Tr911Nma.dpuf>

²⁵ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/733381>

²⁶ <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/85227#sthash.ulvM5KTo.dpuf>

²⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/two-killed-bgb-firing-210079>

ATTACK ON JOURNALIST

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) contains, *in Article 19, the first and most widely recognized statement of the right to freedom of expression: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”*²⁸

The UDHR is not a binding treaty but a recommendatory resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly. Through time and universal acceptance, however, much of the UDHR has risen to the level of customary international law, including Article 19, and is, therefore, binding on all states.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) was meant to elaborate the UDHR and contains a more detailed but very similar statement about freedom of expression (again in Article 19):²⁹

- 1. Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference.*
- 2. Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.*

The UN’s Human Rights Committee, the body that is mandated to monitor states’ implementation of the ICCPR, has clarified that law which criminalizes the expression of opinions about historical facts are incompatible with the obligations on states to respect freedom of expression and opinion. As a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), all of Bangladesh’s branches of governmental authority, including the judiciary, must respect and protect freedom of expression.

Freedom of expression is a precondition for working democracy, creating peace and public participation in decision-making. Regrettably Freedom of expression was seen to limited in every aspect in Bangladesh in 2016. Individuals are not always able to disparage the government publicly without the fear of reprisal and the government often attempted to impede criticism by prohibiting or dispersing as well as shutting out many electronic and print media due to the silly matter of publishing real but against to government reports.

Even the social media was banned for two times. The government applied indirect pressure to coerce to different news agencies constantly. Moreover in Bangladesh, attacks on journalists are very frequent incidents; assaulting, threatening and disrupting in their professional duties have become very mundane matter.

²⁸ UDHR-1948, article 19

²⁹ ICCPR-1966, article 19

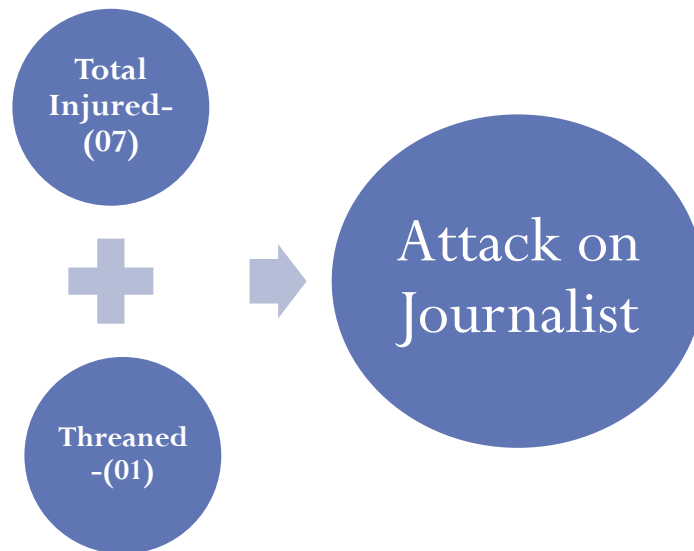


Figure 4: Attack on Journalist

The journalists and the media constant were to be victims of attacks, physically assaulted, threaten and intimidated from different powerful quarters, especially from the government and the ruling party leaders and activists. In January 2016: According to HRSC’s documented statistics, 07 journalists were injured and one was threatened.

Selected cases are as described here:

On 07th January 2016, an incident regarding the attack on journalist has occurred in Jossor district. On this incidence, two journalists were injured and three were harassed physically. The victims were Ripon Hosen, cameraman of 24 TV channel; Evan Akram sports journalist and their car driver Alauddin. The witness said that when journalist bearing car was crashed with a microbus bearing some terrorists, journalist protested against such wrong driving. At this stage, the terrorists attacked them and left them as injured. At this incidence police detained Abdur Rahman Kakon, general secretary of Shoinic Leag.³⁰

A journalist was alleged to beaten severely by a Jubo Leag leader at Gurudashpur in Nator on 9th January 2016. The victim was Rashidul Islam, reporter of Daily Ittafak. The witness said that Kamruzzaman Milon, general secretary of Power Juboleag beat the journalist for a silly matter by using the power of his mother. His mother is the vice chairman of Upozilla parishod. The victim was taking treatment in Gurudashpur general hospital.³¹

Srikanto Das (35), the journalist of a nongovernment TV channel “Desh TV” was beaten severely due to collect the news of a clash regarding the land related issue in Hobigonj on 25th January 2016. The victim was taking treatment in hospital. Police detained several people in the Hobigonje region. Witness and local said that when Srikanto Das came to the hospital to see the clash related victim, Chittorongon along with 30-35 people attacked him and left as injured.³²

³⁰ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/735091>

³¹ <http://www.jugantor.com/bangla>

³² <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/745990>

ATTACK ON MINORITIES

Article 27 of The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states that “In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with the other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practice their own religion, or to use their own language”. The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights mentions explicitly in article 2 (2) that “the States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in the present Covenant will be exercised without discrimination of any kind as to race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

According to information gathered by HRSC in the month of January 2016, there have been 04 attacks on the minority community, their home and temple. 10 persons were injured.

Selected cases are as described here:

On the 2nd January 2016, four member of a minority family (Hindu) were alleged to seriously injure by dagger attack due to land property related clash at Tarakanda in Moimonshingh. The victims were Montosh Chonro Sharker, his brother Niloy Chonro Sharker, cousin Ajoy chonro shorker and nephew Shumon Chonro shorker. According to a police source, Abdul lot (their rival) along with his people went to capture the land of Montosh Chonro Sharker, when he came to protect them, Abdul lotif injured him along his relatives by a dagger. Police detained Abdul lotif due to this matter.³³

A minority family (Hindu) in Sylhet was alleging to threaten to capture a piece of land on 19th January. The victim was Ronojit das. This family alleged in a press conference that some miscreants in his area are trying to capture his land by forming a fake document. Additionally, this issue was tried to spread in another direction by arranging another press conference by Mohibur Rahman. However, the religious organization ‘Antrojatic Krishno Vabamorty Shongho’ expresses serious concern regarding the issue.³⁴

A violent attack on Roshi plli has been alleged to occur at Monirumpur in Jossor due to the project of teasing by the member of this polli on 01st January 2016. Two houses were burnt and 15 were injured. Among the injured 6 were got admitted Monirumpur Shastho Complex. Local said that some girls of this polli were subjected regular teasing by Ibrahim and Mamun and so on. When these girls complained to school committee, Ibrahim along with other attacked on the Roshi polli with indigenous arms. Police said that they are taking preparation to file a case against the culprits.³⁵

³³ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA4OTg0&s=OQ>

³⁴ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTEjNjc0&s=OQ>

³⁵ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/755659/>

BORDER DISPUTE

Human rights are also extremely violated in the border area of Bangladesh by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF). Human rights violations by BSF have been going on for a long time along these borders between Bangladesh and India. Examples of BSF shooting, murder, tormenting and abducting unarmed Bangladeshi civilians in the border areas violate international norms and treaties. Members of the BSF also illegally enter Bangladesh territory and attack people residing along the border, shoot and kidnap Bangladeshis. The India-Bangladesh border is probably the most helpless and goriest border in the world. In 2010, Human Rights Watch (HRW) issued an 81-page report which brought up uncountable abuses of the BSF. The report stated that over 1000 Bangladeshi citizens were killed during the first decade of the 21st century.³⁶

However, we have frequently observed that India has been violating treaties, shooting at anyone seen near the border or anyone trying to cross the border, which is a pure violation of the international act and human rights.

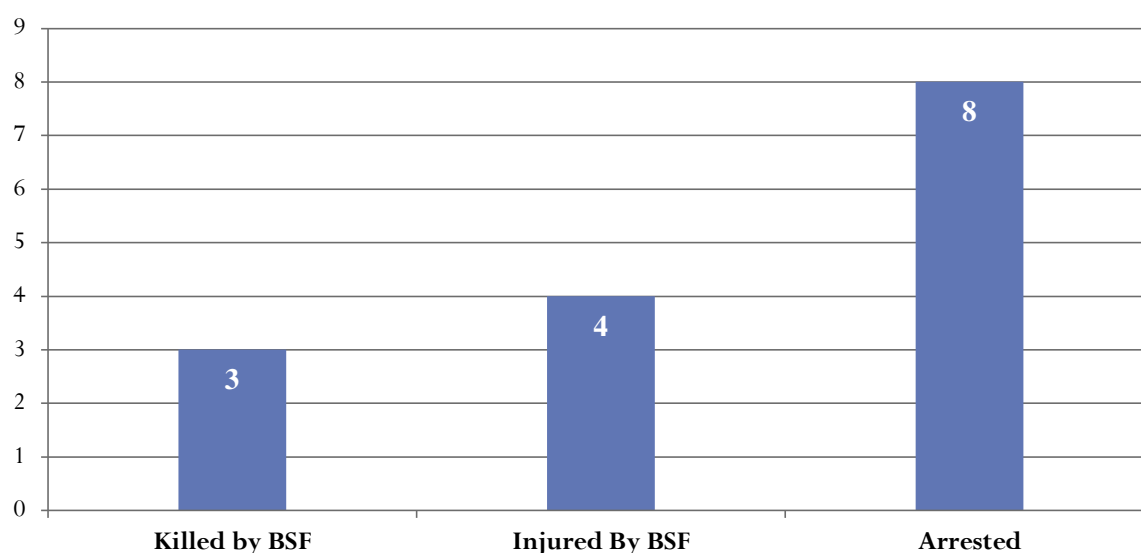


Figure 5: Border Dispute

The given chart gives data on the border dispute. According to the source of Human Rights Support Center (HRSC) in January 2016, an estimated 03 Bangladeshis citizen were killed by the BSF and 04 were injured by BSF as well as 08 were arrested by BSF.

Some important cases are mentioned below;

On January 01, 2016 Members of Indian Border Security Force shot dead a Bangladesh national near the Borogram border in Dinajpur. The dead, Mohammad Nuruzzaman, 30, was the son of Sahidur Rahman of Borogram village under Sadar Upazila. Lt Col Korban Ali, commanding officer of BGB-29 Battalion in Phulbari, said the BSF men of Elenbari camp

³⁶ "India/Bangladesh: Indiscriminate Killings, Abuse by Border Officers". Human Rights Watch. Archived from the original on 21 January 2011.

under 41 BSF Battalion in Dakkhin Dinajpur of West Bengal shot Nuruzzaman as he entered the Indian territory around 5:00 am, leaving him critically injured.³⁷

On January 04, 2016 Indian Border Security Force (BSF) picked up a Bangladeshi national from Sharifpur frontier under Kulaura Upazila of Moulvibazar district. The victim is Hira Miah, 60, son of late Arjan Miah of Morajan village under Kamalganj Upazila of the district. A Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) official said the Indian border guards arrested the man as he mistakenly reached near the zero line.³⁸

On January 16, 2016, Members of Indian Border Security Force picked up two Bangladeshi nationals from Burimari land port area in Patgram Upazila of Lalmonirhat district. The victims were identified as Milon Hossain, 27, son of Safiar Rahman, and Abdus Salam, 34, son of Abdul Aziz of the Upazila. The victims' family members alleged that the BSF took them to their camp and tortured them.³⁹

On January 18, 2016, A Bangladeshi national was physically tortured to death by Indian Border Security Force at Shaljhor frontier under Bhurungamari in Kurigram. The deceased was identified as Abdul Gani, 50, of village South Dhaldanga under Silkhuri union of the Upazila. BGB and local sources said Abdul Gani along with 8/10 others went to the Kaziar Char frontier of Shaljhor to bring cattle. BSF members of Jhululi camp captured Abdul Gani, 50, Ala Uddin, 30, and Raich Uddin, 25. Abdul Gani was beaten to death by BSF men near International main pillar no 988.⁴⁰

On January 23, 2016, A Bangladeshi national was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force at Adataala border point in Sapahar Upazila, Naogaon. The dead, Joynal Abedin, 40, was a cattle trader from South Patari village in the Upazila. Witnesses said BSF members from Rangamati camp opened fire on a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders around 5:30 am, leaving Joynal dead on the spot. Lt Col Rafiqul Hasan, commanding officer of Border Guard Bangladesh Battalion-14, confirmed the incident.⁴¹

³⁷ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/727615>

³⁸ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/731260/>

³⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/741955>

⁴⁰ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/print-edition/country/2016/01/19/96501.html>

⁴¹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/748846/>

VIOLATION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

The violation of child rights is a common problem in Bangladesh. The children have basic rights to education, balance diet, health and nutrition, protection, participation, recreation, safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Most of the children of Bangladesh are deprived of these basic rights.

Children have rights as members of society. This has been recognized by the international community in recent times. As a signatory to U.N. Declaration on the Rights of the Child in 1990, there is an upsurge of awareness of rights of children.⁴² The rights of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral, and social development".⁴³ In our country the family attends to care and protection of the children. In the extended family, the duties and responsibilities of parents are shared by other members of the family. The well-being and welfare of the children are a matter of general concern. Everything needed by the child could be provided by the family or the local community which was integrated. Life has become more complex and strains on the family have become more severe today⁴⁴.

According to HRSC report, In January 2016, 04 children's were killed and 10 children's have been critically injured in a total of 10 incidents of violation of child rights

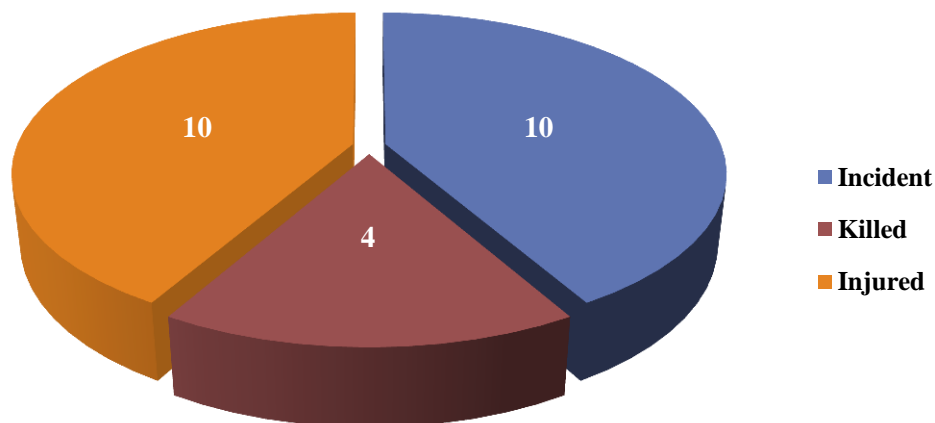


Figure 6: Child Rights Violence

Some important cases are mentioned below;

A man was alleged to give to police due to burn killing his three nephews at Shoilokupa in Jossor on 02nd January 2016. The killed Childs were Amin (8), Shafin (10) and Mahin (14). Local said that as a consequence of land-related conflict drunk Iqbal Hussein beat his nephews at first then poured flammable material on than extinguish. Among them, Amin and shafin were dead at spot and Mahin were dead at the hospital. Police said that they were taking preparation for filing a case.⁴⁵

⁴² Abdul Halim, Constitution, Constitutional Law & Politics Bangladesh Perspective, 3rd ed p. 53.

⁴³ Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, Art. 27.

⁴⁴ The Daily Star (1st March, 2010).

⁴⁵ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/01/03/183891#sthash.jVpZt8kD.dpuf>

A madrasa student was tortured allegedly by three teachers on a theft charge in Bagharpara Upazila of Jessore district on 11th January 2016. The victim was Abdul Kader (14), son of Shahidul Islam of Dadupur village in the Upazila, and a student of Darul Ulum Sautul Madrasa (Qawmi) in Khajura Bazar area. The victim's mother filed a case with Bagharpara Police Station against the madrasa superintendent and two other teachers in this connection. Soyoruddin Ahmed, officer-in-charge of Bagharpara Police Station, said they arrested two of the accused teachers Abdul Gaffar and Asaduzzaman after the case was filed.⁴⁶

A man tied three children to a straw stack for five hours for “stealing two potatoes” from his field in Kangaish village of Hajiganj Upazila of Chadpur district on 15th January 2016. The children were Zidan (12), son of Mainuddin; Siam (11), son of Billal Hossain; and Siam's cousin Subarna (11), of the village. Zidan said they got two potatoes in the field of Mizan Mia when they went to his potato field to collect snail. Mizan caught them from the spot and took them to his house and verbally abused them.⁴⁷

⁴⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/two-teachers-held-torturing-madrasa-boy-200449>

⁴⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/three-children-tortured-202522>

PUBLIC LYNCHING

Lynching is an extrajudicial punishment by an informal group. It is most often used to characterize informal public executions by a mob, often by hanging, in order to punish an alleged transgressor, or to intimidate a minority group. It is an extreme form of informal group social control. In Bangladesh due to lack of respect for law, distrust of the police and instability in the country people are taking the law into their own hands, fearing that they will not get justice any other way. As the result, the incidence of public lynching became a banal matter. HRSC believes that everyone has right to be considered as innocent until proven guilty by the court.

In January 2016, According to human rights support center (HRSC) information, an estimated 03 people were killed in a total of 02 incidents of the public lynching.

Some important cases are given below-

A suspected cow lifter was beaten to death by a mob at Nilakchandi village in Gangachara Upazila of Rangpur on 6th January 2016. The deceased was Abdus Salam (35), son of Aminul Islam of Sadullapur Upazila in Gaibandha. The mob also injured two suspected cow lifters. They are Abdul Malek (40), son of Abir Ali of Gangachara, and Moshiar Rahman (35), son of Alam Mia of Kishoreganj Upazila in Nilphamari district. Locals said they chased the three while they were taking away a cow from the cowshed of Dharani Chandra Mohanta of the village.⁴⁸

A cow lifter was beaten to death by a mob at Ramgonje in Lokhipur on 6th January 2016. The rest of four were beaten and handover to police. This incidence occurred at late night in immigrant Bachu Dawan house. The dead person was identified as Muslim (30), son of late Sikander Ali of this village. Local said that when a group of thief entered into the home of Bachu, then the dweller of surrounding area rushed to this place and beating them severely and left them injured.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/cow-lifter-killed-mob-beating-198007>

⁴⁹ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/01/07/184722#sthash.E0tZ6eIF.dpuf>

ABDUCTION

Abduction is an atrocious violation of human rights. The numbers of victims, according to HRSC report is increasing day by day. In January 2016, the occurrences of abduction increased all over the country. Most of the incidents are still unsolved and a very few people are rescued successfully by the law enforcing forces. However, in most of the abduction cases family members, relatives and friends of the victim triggered their assertion towards law enforcement agencies and specifically, they suspect and alleged that people wearing civil dress introduce them as member of Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), Police, or Detective Branch (DB) are arresting and forcefully bringing the victim with them. But there are provisions regarding kidnap & abduction in our Penal Code. According to section 362 of the Penal Code, 1860 a person is said to commit the offence of abduction when he by force compels or by any deceitful means induces any other person to go from one place to another. Article 3 & 9 Of Universal declaration of human Rights declared that “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person”. The line graph provides information about the total deduction in the month of 2016.

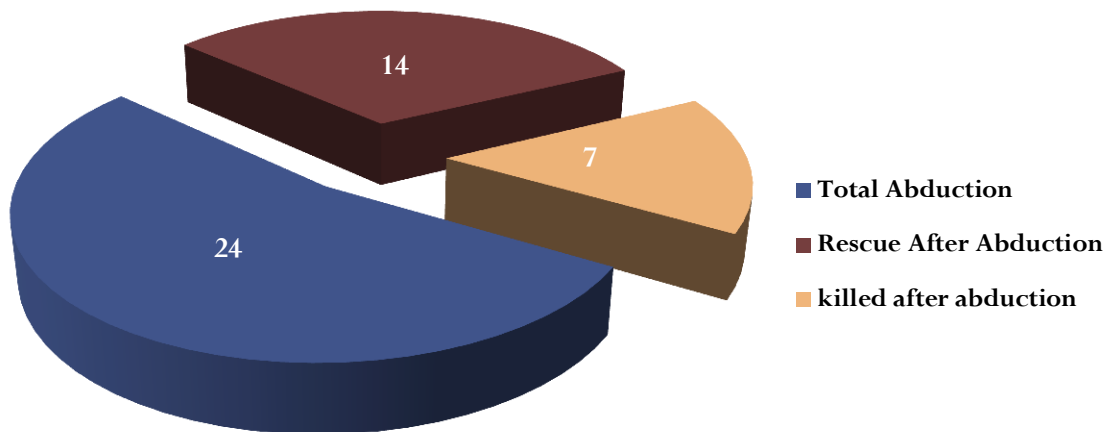


Figure 7: Abduction

The supplied pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in January 2016 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 24 people were abducted, among them, 07 were killed after the abduction. On the other hand, 14 people were rescued by law enforcement agencies after the abduction.

Selected cases are as follows:

On January 01, 2016 a girl, who was kidnapped six days ago, was found murdered in a jute sack near her Dinajpur town home. Locals first noticed the decomposing body of Mahfuza Mimi, 8, daughter of Mahbubur Rahman of Dinajpur Satellite Town, in a dried up pond. Her father said criminals demanded Tk 8 lakh as ransom over a cellphone on Sunday a day after his child had been abducted.⁵⁰

⁵⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/dinajpur-abducted-girl-found-killed-195703>

On January 02, 2016 Law enforcers' recovered the body of a man from Shidhui Jiri area in Alikadom Upazila of the Bandarban district, two days after his alleged abduction. The deceased is Borhan Uddin, 55, of Pan Bazar area in the Upazila. Quoting victim's family members, Alikadom Zone Commander Lt Col Sarwar of Bangladesh Army said armed criminals abducted Borhan from the Upazila headquarters. Locals spotted Borhan's body in a ditch beside Thanchi-Alikadom road and informed the police.⁵¹

On January 05, 2016 an abducted madrasa girl was found dead in Jessore district. The law enforcers recovered the body of the girl from Singher Kajura village in Monirampur Upazila of Jessore, three days after her abduction. The deceased is Lima Khatun, 14, daughter of Shahidul Islam, and a Class IX student of Nengurahat Women's Madrasa in the area. Family sources said a gang abducted Lima. Later, her father filed a general dairy with Monirampur Police Station in this connection. Local people found the body hanging from a tree in a bamboo cluster in the village and informed the police.⁵²

On January 20, 2016, two minor brothers were killed by abductors at Borobil village under Gorjonia, a hilly union of Ramu Upazila of the district, after their parents refused to Taka four lakh in ransom. The deceased were identified as Mohammad Hasan Sakil, 10, and Mohammad Hossain Kajol, 8, son of Mohammad Forkan. Inflamed mobs torched three houses of suspected muggers after the incident. Mohammad Hasan Sakil was a student of class-III of Baisari Saha Nuruddin Madrassah and Mohammad Hossain Kajol was a student of Class-III of Borobill government primary school.⁵³

On January 22, 2016, unidentified criminals kidnapped a private bank official from the city's Sultanabad area. Akhtaruzzaman, suspended manager of Exim Bank's Rajshahi branch, was abducted in a microbus around 1:30 pm, said victim's father Afsaruddin in a case statement filed with Boalia Police Station. Around six people in a microbus went to the spot, and the vehicle sped away after Akhtaruzzaman was taken inside the microbus. His mobile phone was found switched-off since the incident, said Afsar. Akhtaruzzaman, a resident of the city's Seroil Mothpukur, was then having tea sitting at a printing press at Sultanabad, said his father.⁵⁴

On January 30, 2016, two minor boys were found dead at Haora Kamarpara village of Mirzapur Upazila in Tangail, two days after they were 'kidnapped'. The deceased were identified as Imran, 11, son of Abu Bakar and Shakil, 10, son of Delwar Hossein of Char Chauhat village of Dhamrai Upazila in Dhaka. Both were students of Class IV at Balia BRAC primary school under Dhamrai Upazila. Mirzapur police station officer-in-charge Main Uddin said that on information from locals police recovered the bodies at a lemon orchard at Haora Kamarpara near Haria High School. He also said, 'Imran and Shakil were kidnapped on January 27 when the boys went to Haria High School for watching a cultural function. Later, the kidnappers called their families and demanded Tk 100,000 in ransom.'⁵⁵

⁵¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-man-found-dead-196075>

⁵² <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-madrasa-girl-found-dead-jessore-197434>

⁵³ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/01/20/187614#sthash.okVKSPZ4.dpuf>

⁵⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bank-official-kidnapped-rajshahi-205843>

⁵⁵ <http://www.dailyayadiganta.com/detail/news/89611#sthash.Sf1cY31f.dpuf>

VIOLENT ATTACK

Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security. So the state is obliged to protect the citizens from all kinds of criminal attack to them. 'The obligation of protection' requires the state to prevent violations of rights of citizens by third parties. This obligation also implies that State has to exercise due diligence to prevent, punish, investigate or redress the harm caused by acts of private persons or entities. In spite of growing concern of criminal attack, the number of incidences is gradually increasing day by day. HRSC try to detect and divulged all kinds of violent attack in January 2016.

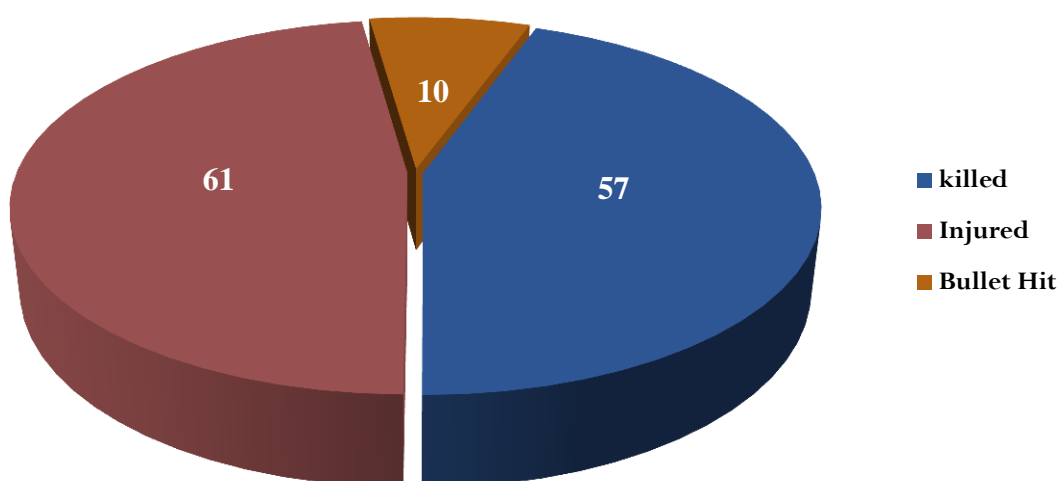


Figure 8: violent attack

The pie chart provides information regarding the violent attack on armless civilian. According to the data in Human Rights Support Centre in the month of January 2016, a total 76 incidents of violent attack have happened and 57 were killed in these attacks, 61 were seriously injured, at least, 10 people were bullet hit.

Selected cases are as analysed: On January 06, 2016 unidentified criminals shot dead a primary schoolteacher and injured his younger brother inside their house in the district's Ramu Upazila. The dead, Mohammad Nurusafa, 35, was an assistant teacher of Boro Bil Govt Primary School in Ramu. He was the son of Abdur Mabud of Mohammad Sharif Para village. The victim's family alleged that Nurusafa was killed over a land dispute with his co-villager Mohiuddin.⁵⁶

On January 12, 2016, A folk singer was hacked to death by some unidentified miscreants at Peyarabagan in Narayanganj. The deceased was identified as Faysal Ahmed Tutul, 30, son of Sobhan Miah, a resident of Pagla Nayamati, reports United News of Bangladesh. Sub-inspector of Fatullah Model Police Station Swapan Kumar Das said some miscreants stabbed Tutul indiscriminately while he was returning home in the morning, leaving him dead on the spot.⁵⁷

⁵⁶ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA5NTE2&s=MQ>

⁵⁷ <http://newagebd.net/192712/folk-singer-hacked-to-death-in-narayanganj/#sthash.cK18Oo3t.dpuf>

On January 07, 2016 a woman was killed allegedly by a rival over filling up soil at a madrasa in Pachgaon village under Rajnagar Upazila of the district Moulvibazar. The deceased was identified as Alekzan Bibi, 55, wife of late Jambura Miah, and aunt of Abdul Hannan, principal of MSJ Dakhil Madrasa. There was a longstanding conflict between Hannan and Abdul Basir, president of the madrasa managing committee.⁵⁸

On January 08, 2016 two employees of a Banoful sweetmeat factory were stabbed to death and another injured in an attack in Khadimnagar area of Sylhet city. The dead are Raju Mia and Tapu Mia. Their further details could not be known immediately. The injured, Russell, 22, was rushed to the MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital. His condition was critical, police said.⁵⁹

On January 09, 2016 A Jubo League leader was shot dead by unidentified criminals at Padua intersection on Dhaka-Sylhet highway in Chaudagram Upazila of the district Comilla. The deceased, Jamal Uddin, 38, son of Ali Ahmed of Kulasar village, was president of Alkora union unit of Jubo League, the youth wing of the ruling Awami League.⁶⁰

On January 11, 2016, a man was hacked to death in his residence in the capital's Pallabi Millat Bihari Camp. Sirajul Islam Vutta, 45, used to run a makeshift tea stall in the area. Police detained his wife Sabina Yesmin for quizzing. She told police that miscreants hacked Sirajul when she went to an outside toilet. Police sent the body with multiple hack injuries to Dhaka Medical College morgue.⁶¹

On January 16, 2016, police recovered five bodies inside a house on the ground floor of a five-storey building in the city's Baburail area of Narayanganj. Several stab wounds were found in the bodies and heads of Taslima Begum, 35, her son Shanto, 10, her daughter Sumaiya, 5, brother Morshedul, 22, and sister-in-law Lamia, 25. The children were strangled to death while the grownups had their throats slit.⁶²

On January 20, 2016 Criminals hacked a young man to death at Birpur village in Narsingdi Sadar Upazila. Deceased Abu Faruk, 28, son of Abul Kashem, was a resident of the village. Officer-in-Charge (OC) Abul Kashem of Sadar Police Station said criminals called Faruk out of his house around 9:00 pm. They hacked Faruk indiscriminately with sharp weapons and later slit his throat and left the scene. He died instantly.⁶³

On January 26, 2016, Miscreants robbed, at least, Tk 2, 00,000, shooting at a bKash agent on his leg, at Khalil Sardar Krisi market of Hazaribagh area in the city. The injured agent was identified as Sohag Hossain Anik, 22, of Savar. Victim's colleague Jahir said four men, on two motor-bikes, attacked Sohag when he came out of the market around 10:30 am on Tuesday. Sohag was shot when he was in a tussle with the muggers to save his money, Jahir added. Sohag was taken to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital.⁶⁴

⁵⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/woman-murdered-198778>

⁵⁹ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2016/01/08/50463.html>

⁶⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/jubo-league-leader-shot-dead-comilla-199510>

⁶¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/man-hacked-death-capital-200707>

⁶² <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTEzMj0&s=Mg==>

⁶³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/youth-hacked-death-narsingdi-204781>

⁶⁴ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2016/01/26/188916#sthash.qjdlBJz.dpuf>

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

Political violence in Bangladesh is a banal phenomenon. The role and way of democratic politics have been subjected to a great question due to the considerable number of political classes among the parties as well as intra parties. At present, it has been considered a sign of an immature or even immoral political class.⁶⁵ After assuming state power by Awami League Government through 5th January 2014 by controversial election, political violence is still continued. But due to limited space for opposition parties, now political violence are mostly intra-factional clashes of ruling party over the issues of supremacy, tender and possession of power, collecting subscription, grabbing land etc. The activist of opposite political parties is being tortured, killed by the activist of ruling parties in every corner of the country.

In January 2016, According to Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) information, a total of 05 people were killed and 378 people were injured due to political related issues. Most of the political violence occurred among the sub-organization of ruling party on the supremacy of power or tender.

Selected cases are as follows:

On January 2, 2016, At least 50 people were injured as supporters of two groups of the local unit of Awami League locked in a clash in Raipura of Narsingdi on Sunday morning. Officer-in-charge of Raipura police station Azharul Islam said two groups of local AL one led by Mosharaf Hossain, president of Mirzapur union unit of the ruling party, and another led by Asad Miah, vice-president of the same unit had been at loggerheads over establishing supremacy in the area.⁶⁶

On January 3, 2016, At least 10 people were injured in a factional clash between two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League Chittagong city unit at the celebration of its founding anniversary at Chittagong Saheed Minar. The clash took place between the senior and junior activists around 1:30 pm over a trivial matter, said officer-in-charge of Kotwali police station Jashim Uddin. Durin the agitation two groups threw chair, stones at each other injuring at least 10 of them, OC said.⁶⁷

On January 08, 2016 two factions of the Omargani MES University College unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League clashed on Chittagong city's Zakir Hossain Road near the campus, injuring 10 people. Of the injured, Sabbir, Sajjad and Moqbul were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Around 100 activists of the two groups attacked each other with sharp weapons and sticks, said Nizam Uddin, officer-in-charge of Khulshi Police Station. The BCL unit's dissolved committee president Md Wasim and general secretary Arshadul Alam Bachchu did not receive phone calls when The Daily Star tried to contact them.⁶⁸

⁶⁵ Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2016,

⁶⁶ <http://newagebd.net/189873/50-injured-in-al-infighting-in-narsingdi/#sthash.nX3atz28.dpuf>

⁶⁷ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA5MzM0&s=Mw==>

⁶⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/10-hurt-bcl-factional-clash-198724>

On January 08, 2016 A Jubo League leader was killed and around 25 others injured as the activists of Awami League and its associate bodies clashed with Jatiya party men at Shantahar municipality in Bogra. Locals said the incident happened over establishing supremacy in the area. The dead, Shafiqul Islam, 36, of Adamdighi Upazila, was the secretary of Shantahar union Jubo League and also a brother of Rashedul Islam Raja, AL-backed mayoral aspirant in the recent municipal polls. Of the injured, Badsha, the deceased's brother suffered critical injuries. He was undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College and Hospital. The rest were admitted to Adamdighi and Naogaon Sadar Hospital.⁶⁹

On January 11, 2016, Brahmanbaria: A madrasah student, who received injuries in a clash over a trifling matter in the town, died on Tuesday morning. The deceased was identified as Hafez Masudur Rahman, son of Hafez Mawlana Ilias, a resident of Vadugar in Brahmanbaria municipality. Following the death of the madrasah student, a tense situation is prevailing in the municipality area. At least 20 people, including Masudur Rahman, were injured in a triangular clash between local madrasah students, businessmen and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League over a trifling matter at Zila Parishad Market in TT Road area on Monday evening.⁷⁰

On January 14, 2016 At least eight people were injured as two factions of the local unit of Awami League (AL) clashed at Balunda village under Benapole Police Station. Apurba Hasan, officer-in-charge of Benapole Police Station, said the two groups, one led by Md Biswas and the other led by Aulia, had been at loggerheads over establishing supremacy in the area. Supporters of both groups locked in an altercation over the issue at Balunda village around 12:30 am.⁷¹

On January 29, 2016, A local leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League was hacked to death and two others were injured in a factional clash between two groups of BCL activists at Falia Para in Ukhiya Upazila, Cox's Bazar. The deceased was identified as M Shaeen, 22, son of M Kalu, a resident of the area. Shahin was the joint convener of Ukhiya Degree College unit of BCL. Two groups of the Upazila unit of BCL had been at loggerheads over establishing dominance at a fair organised by Upazila Tanti League, said officer-in-charge of Ukhiya police station M Habibur Rahman.⁷²

On January 16, 2016, Activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, ruling Awami League backed-students' wing, beat up two fellows at Rajshahi University over the previous feud. The injured BCL men Anik Mahmud Boni and SM Sazzad Hossain were taken to university medical centre from where Boni was referred to Rajshahi University Medical College. Campus sources said RU unit BCL vice-president Atiqur Rahman, Mehedi Hasan (expelled) and joint secretary Mahbbur Rahman Polash (expelled) with their aids beat up Sazzad in front of Shere-Bangla Hall around 3:00 pm following an altercation. They also beat up Sakibul Islam Baki as he went to help Sazzad.

⁶⁹ <http://www.dailymayadiganta.com/detail/news/83840#sthash.lDRxSG7a.dpuf>

⁷⁰ <http://www.theindependentbd.com/post/30085>

⁷¹ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTEwNzg2&s=OQ==>

⁷² <http://newagebd.net/198022/bcl-leader-killed-in-cox-bazar-factional-clash-2/#sthash.4BPSa7q.dpuf>

RECOVERY OF DEAD BODY

Security of life is the foremost right for enjoyments of all others human rights. In Bangladesh, due to worsening law and order situation recovery of the dead body from the different place of the country has been regular incidents. Most of the killers of these incidents are not identified on the other hand sometimes dead bodies' identities are not found.

The presented the chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body. According to information gathered by HRSC in the month of January 2016, a total of 51 dead bodies were found in the different area of the country, among them 16 bodies were male, 12 bodies were female and 23 bodies were unidentified.

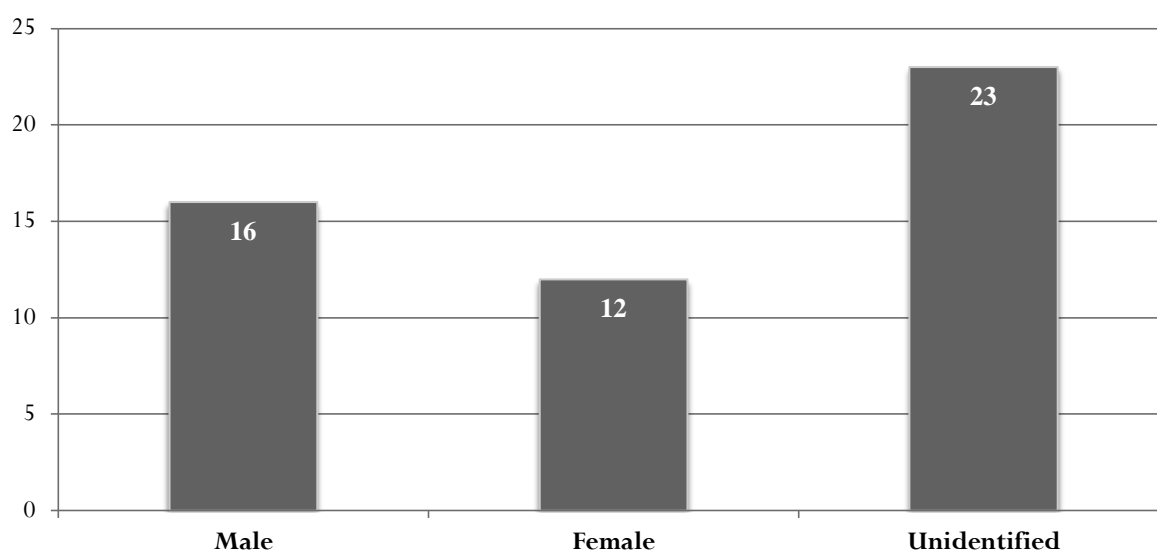


Figure 9: Recovery of Dead Body

Selected cases are as follows:

On January 01, 2016 two members of an alleged criminal gang were found dead near Thanchi-Alikadom road in the district's Alikadom Upazila. One of the dead is Singlok Mro, 21, of Thanchi's Aung Goaing Para. The name of another victim, aged around 23, who belongs to Tripura community, could not be known immediately. On information, army personnel went to Tero mile area around 6:00 am and recovered the two bullet-hit bodies.⁷³

On January 03, 2016 Police recovered the body of a youth from Chowhati village in Parbatipur Upazila of the district of Dinajpur. The deceased is Zakirul Islam Jaku, 35, son of late Sairuddin of Anandabazar village in the Upazila. Police said locals spotted Juku's body in a paddy field near Bornomala School and College in the Upazila around 3:30 pm and informed the police.⁷⁴

⁷³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/2-criminals-shot-dead-bandarban-195355>

⁷⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/body-recovered-196501>

On January 03, 2016 the body of an unidentified man, aged around 45, was found beside a potato field in Uttar Sheikhpara area of Rangpur city. Locals spotted the body around 8:30 am and informed police. After recovering the body, police sent it to Rangpur Medical College Hospital morgue for an autopsy. The body did not have any injury mark, said officer-in-charge of Rangpur Kotwali Police Station Md Abdul Quadrer Jilani.⁷⁵

On January 9, 2016, Police recovered the body of an unidentified youth, aged around 24, from a tin-roofed house at Concord Rainbow Town in Aukpara of Ashulia, outside the capital. Police said the hands and legs of the youth were tied with ropes and a suffocation mark was found on his throat. The body also bore several injury marks in different parts, said police. The body was sent to Dhaka Medical College morgue for autopsy.⁷⁶

On January 21, 2016, Police recovered the charred bodies of two unidentified men from a wheat field near the bank of the River Karotoa in Gobindaganj Upazila of the district of Gaibandha. Police said locals found the bodies in the field and informed the police. The law enforcers then rushed to the spot recovered the bodies and sent them to a hospital morgue for autopsy.⁷⁷

On January 27, 2016, a college student was found dead near a students' mess in Bezpara area of Jessore town. He was identified as Kamolesh Roy, 20; a first month honours student of Jessore Government MM College and son of Gobinda Roy of Bayerkhola village under Monirampur Upazila of the district. Palash Roy, the cousin of Kamolesh, said the body was found hanging from a tree near the mess at around 7:00 am. Being informed, police went to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Jessore Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.⁷⁸

On January 27, 2016, a woman was found dead at her residence at Bank colony in Savar, outside the capital. Sultana Khatun 28, of Tangail, was the owner of Raisa Beauty Parlour beside her house. On information, police recovered the body from her flat, which was locked from outside, on the 5th floor of a building. She used to live there with her husband Amir Hosen. She might have been strangled by her husband who was absconding, said police.⁷⁹

On January 28, 2016, Police recovered the body of a man, aged around 65, beside rail tracks at Postar Park area near Chittagong Railway Station. The deceased Bibuti Bhusan Boiddo, a jewellery shop worker, was a resident of Dewanbazar of the city. Family members said he went outside home in the morning and did not return. Later, around 11:00 pm police found his body. Police said the man might have been killed by a train.⁸⁰

⁷⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/mans-body-found-rangpur-198643>

⁷⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youth-found-dead-ashulia-199561>

⁷⁷ <http://www.observerbd.com/2016/01/22/132283.php>

⁷⁸ <http://www.jugantor.com/bangla-face/2016/01/28/7207>

⁷⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/woman-found-dead-savar-208453>

⁸⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/mans-body-found-ctg-208918>

INHUMAN TORTURE AND SHOOTING BY LAW ENFORCERS

Although the constitution and law prohibit torture at any level in custody or interrogation cell, local and international human rights organizations and the media always reported security forces especially RAB and police execute severe torture and physical and psychological abuse during arrests and interrogations. Violating all rules and regulation security forces used cruel behavior, indiscriminate beatings, pouring boil water, removing the nail and electric shock and so on. The newest but barbaric one is making someone cripple forever through shooting from the blank point.

According to UDHR Article 5, No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. In the ICCPR Article No 14 (2) everyone charged with a criminal offence shall have the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law. International Convention against Torture (CAT) has also been declared torture as the punishable offence. As a signatory state of this convention, Bangladesh is bound to comply with this convention.

According to HRSC report, in the month of January 2016, total 05 reportedly injured in Inhuman Torture by Law Enforcement Agency.

On January 01, 2016 a union level BNP leader was shot in the leg during an arrest in Feni. Ali Ahmad, 45, general secretary of Matigonj union BNP in Sonagazi Upazila, is under treatment at Feni Sadar Hospital. Relatives and locals, who claimed to have witnessed the incident, said police shot Ali while he was fleeing from them. Following the incident, people gathered in the area and locked in a clash with the law enforcers. Police then fired several blanks to bring the situation under control, they said.⁸¹

On January 9, 2016, sub-inspector Masud Shikder picked up Golam Rabby from Tajmahal Road in Mohammadpur and tortured him demanding Tk 5 lakh threatening to kill him in the name of crossfire. Masud also Tk 10,000 and a debit card from Rabby and told him to call relatives for the money, he alleged. Rabby also filed a complaint with Mohammadpur police on January 10 and Masud was withdrawn from the police station. Later she was suspended.⁸²

On January 16, 2016, Cops allegedly beat up a Dhaka South City Corporation cleaning inspector in the city's Jatrabari area in the capital. The victim, Bikash Chandra Das, 40, was admitted to Labaid Hospital with severe injuries to the nose, face, neck, back and thighs. Bikash's brother Liton Chandra Das told that Bikash still remained unconscious. The physicians at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, where Bikash was admitted in the morning, said his condition was critical and nothing could be said within 24 hours.⁸³

⁸¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/feni-bnp-leader-shot-during-arrest-195826>

⁸² <http://newagebd.net/194270/writ-filed-seeking-judicial-probe-into-police-torture-on-rabby-tk-3-crore-compensation/#sthash.QeA6iEso.dpuf>

⁸³ <http://newagebd.net/193911/cops-beat-dscc-official/#sthash.NcGShJeR.dpuf>

AT A GLANCE HUMAN RIGHT SITUATION OF BANGLADESH (JANUARY'16)

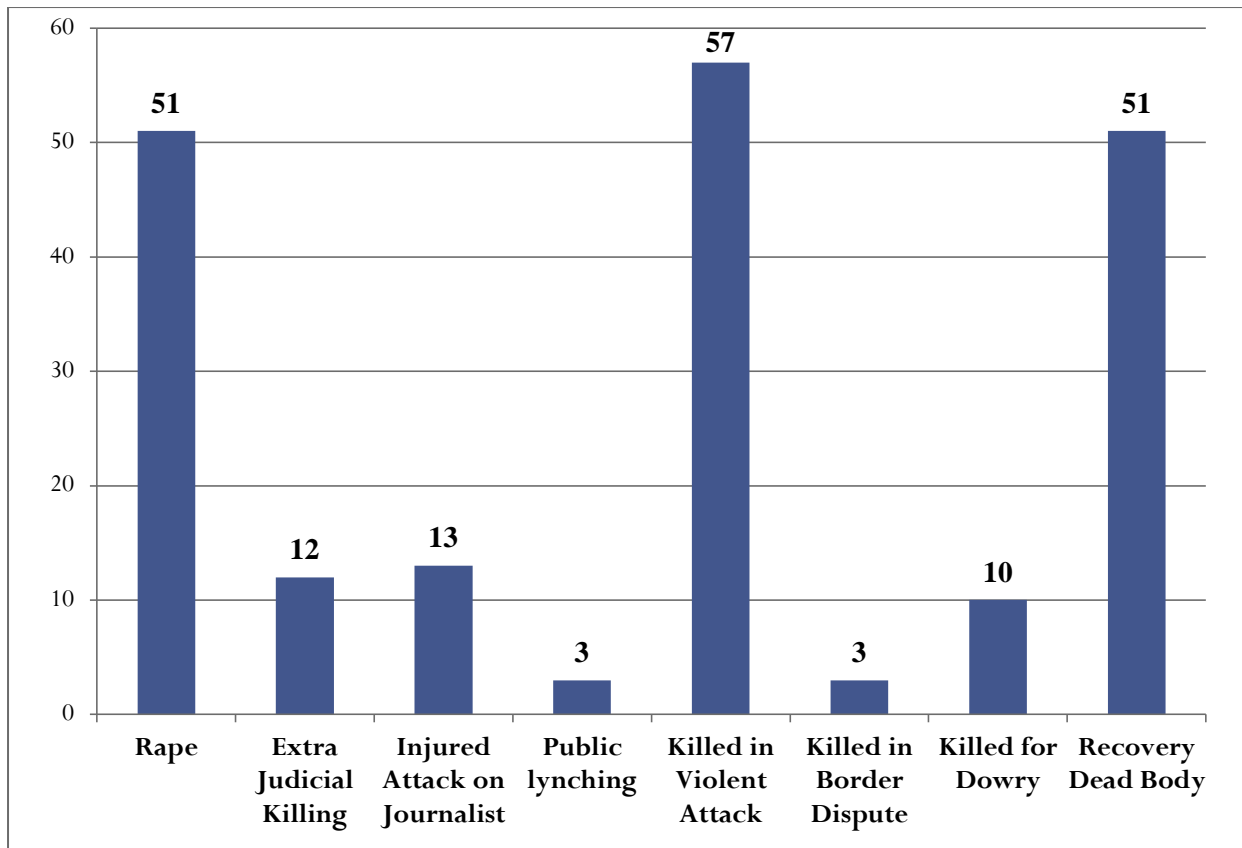


Figure 10: At a glance Human Right Situation of Bangladesh

CONCLUSION

Every citizen shall have the right to assemble and to participate in public meetings and processions peacefully and without arms, subject to any reasonable restrictions imposed by law in the interests of public order or public health (BD Constitution article 37);

In short, it is said that the picture of Bangladesh's regarding human rights related problems in January 2016 was pitiful as in maximum cases the country was unable to meet the be regulation of treaties. In some extent police and other security forces have failed to ensure their responsibilities as a protector and caretaker of the citizens' interest. In addition, higher unemployment rate, massive corruption in the administration, lack of democratic values and transgresses of the rule of law have intensified this situation more complicated and pathetic.

There was no action of law enforcement agency other than rescuing the dead body of abducted people. Sometimes, it signs surrounding the incidence such as crossfire and enforced disappearance indicated that the member of the law enforcer's agency was directly or indirectly involved in abduction and killing. The incidence regarding torture, oppression, and arbitrary arrest by law enforcement agencies are increasing in such a way seems to be banal matter in Bangladesh. The government authority, civil servants, and law enforcing agencies have legitimized power and randomly abusing of power as well as committing torture over the common people for articulating their self-desire as well as securing the vested interest of the ruling party which is totally unexpected. The government was found not taking any effective measures to improve the situation rather blaming oppositions to avoid their responsibilities.

Domestic violence, rape, extra-judicial killings & custodial deaths were also proving the gradual decay of human rights situation in Bangladesh in January 2016. Political turmoil between rival political parties even among groups of ruling party was found to notably increase. Without allegation, many innocent citizens were facing different forms of suppression, discrimination and exploitation by different vested quarters even by LEA. The harassment of general people by LEA was mainly due to the snatch of money and sometimes these reports were brought to light in different daily newspapers. But the matter of regret was the tendency of government to avoid cleverly all sorts of responsibility.

The law and order situation will be declined day by day. In that situations government will be unable to ensure the basic and fundamental rights of the citizens. Then entire human rights situation in 2016 was not satisfactory rather in maximum cases deteriorated very severely which would bring uprising among the common people and lead to undisciplined, unstable underdeveloped Bangladesh.

In this circumstances, Human Rights Support Center (HRSC) call to every conscious citizen, journalist, political person, national and international human rights organizations & UN agencies to be more vocal against these sorts of deplorable human rights situations in our country.

RECOMMENDATION

- Arbitrary arrests of persons with opposite ideology must be stopped. The Government should immediately retract the repressive special powers act of 1974 and the Information and Communication Technology Act 2006 (Amended 2013).
- The Government needs to establish a special and independent agency as an approach to investigate the real scenario behind the violation of human rights such as extra-judicial killings. The judicial investigation needs to carry out in every case of regarding the involvement of law enforcement agency.
- The state should explain all incidents of enforced disappearance, killings, torture, and abduction which are allegedly perpetrated by law enforcement agencies. We believe that victims of disappearance should be handed back to their families. HRSC urges the government to abide by the agreements of International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance, adopted by the UN on December 20, 2006.
- The authority should ensure the judiciary process in a right way as it where the victim can get justice. The state should ensure the judiciary system in such a way that convict must be punished regardless the member of LEA, ruling party members even the person involve in judgment. Compensation should be provided to the victim's families and give proper security of their normal life.
- The respective authority should carry out dialogue with BSF (Indian border security force) and find out the proper way to reduce the killing in the border by BSF. Government adequate compensation for the families of the victims and trial and punishment for the offenders.
- The government should be flexible in the matter of freedom of expression. All types of print and electronic media should be enjoyed fearless opportunity from the government to express their news even against the government.
- The Government should take immediately all necessary steps to stop violence against women especially in the case of rape, gang rape, and child rape issues. Criminal of such incidents must be fetched before the law.
- Political violence should be stopped with continuing dialogue with all political parties. The Government should take unbiased and effective legal action against criminal acts.
- The state should respect all national and international human rights rules, regulations and treaties to protect human rights. Also follows the instruction of United Nation Human Rights Mechanism System which is working for human rights.